



PFC PREVIEW WEEK # 3

By Tom Hallick, PFC Media Coordinator

WINNIPEG RIFLES (1-1) AT EDMONTON HUSKIES (0-2) SEPTEMBER 5TH, NOON MDT

The lone Week 3 match-up is the second half of a back-to-back set. The two clubs served up an offensive shootout last Sunday at Winnipeg's Canad Inns Stadium, with the Rifles surviving a Huskie comeback to pull out a 43-36 victory.

From a Winnipeg standpoint, the Green Gunners were happy to get the win, but defense along with special teams are two major concerns. The defense surrendered 438 yards in net offense, including 386 yards passing from rookie Edmonton pivot Ben Gorniak. The special teams conceded a 55-yard punt return touchdown to Braedon Kopernick to open the scoring.

Kienan Lafrance had a monster game in his season debut, galloping for 291 yards and scoring 3 touchdowns. The 291 yards established a new single-game club record for rushing yards and was also unofficially, the 8th best single-game performance in conference history.

The Huskies, however, should be very encouraged from last Sunday's effort. As mentioned previously, Ben Gorniak had a sensational game and probably deserved a better fate than what he was dealt. Receivers Anthony Barrett (4 catches, 96 yards), Sam Schwab (6 grabs, 81 yards) and Zach Wilkie (3 catches, 57 yards) got chances to shine.

A win for either side on Sunday would create a rarely seen scenario. A Rifles win would vault them into a 3-way-tie for first with Regina and Saskatoon. Should the Huskies snap their long, 18-game losing streak, they would move past their co-tenant, the Edmonton Wildcats into fifth spot, leaving the defending PFC champions looking up at the rest of the conference.