



PROFILE

Fellows hopes to get on track

Improved line should be difference

For Barlow quarterback Bill Fellows, the 1981 season ended not with a bang, but with a snap.

Playing against Putnam in the season finale — a 14-13 Barlow win — Fellows tried to tackle a Kingsmen ballcarrier.

"I was playing defensive back and a guy came over the middle," he recalls. "I went to tackle him and got two of my fingers caught in his shirt. It bent them back. At first I thought they were just jammed."

No such luck. Instead, Fellows had two broken bones in his left hand. With his hand in a cast, he missed basketball season but returned to action for the Barlow baseball team. From March until his American Legion team was knocked out of the state playoffs three weeks ago, the closest Fellows came to making a tackle was breaking up a double play.

Now, with football back in the picture, Fellows is back in the swing of things, throwing the pigskin instead of the horsehide.

"It wasn't any trouble adjusting (to throwing a football)," he says. "The spiral came back pretty fast. What took a couple of days was getting used to hitting guys on the run again."

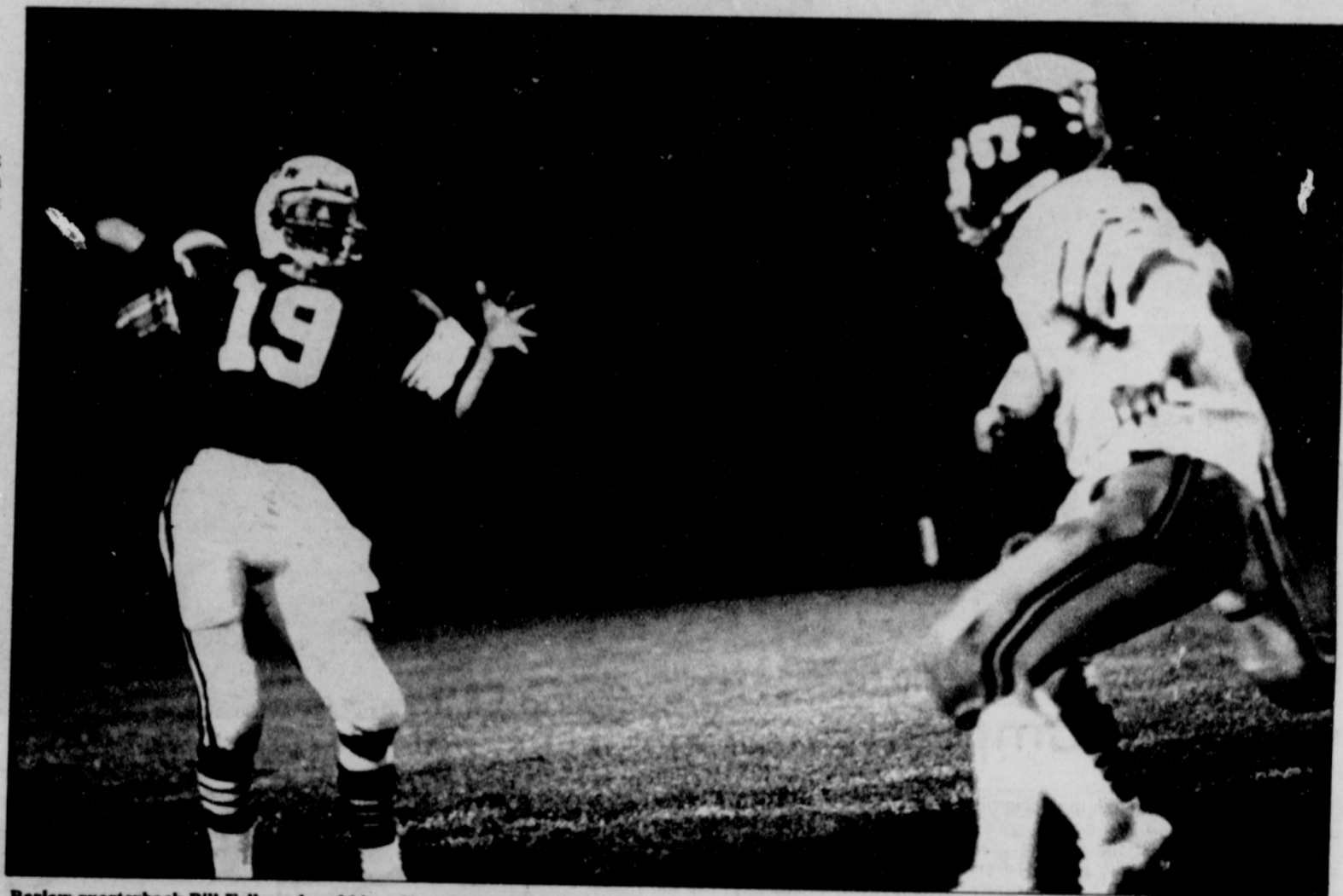
Fellows had something else to get used to last season — losing. The Bruins' 3-6 record was their first sub-500 campaign since 1976. What made it all the more frustrating was the fact that it started out with wins over Milwaukie and Centennial.

Things are different this time around, Fellows notes.

"Last year, we had guys that just didn't care about winning," he says. "Most of them are gone this year. I doubt that (a losing season) will happen this year."

Certainly not if Fellows has a say in things. A gifted all-around athlete, Fellows is also intelligent and more, according to Bruin coach John Harrington.

"He's not only smart, he's also athletic-smart," says Harrington. "There's a dif-



Barlow quarterback Bill Fellows found himself on the run a lot last year.

ference."

Doubtless something to do with doing the right thing at the right time.

Fellows is also considered to be potentially the top passer in the league with a strong, accurate arm. His passing ability wasn't evident in his 1981 statistics (37.1 percent completion percentage for 738 yards and four touchdowns) but it's difficult to compile impressive numbers while you're trying to escape a pass rush. Fellows' protection last year was sometimes a good deal less than airtight.

Still, he is the top returning passer from the old Wilco League schools.

"We have some good size in our offensive line," he says. "And the discipline looks a little more promising."

That, Fellows hopes, will give him a little more time to set up on his drops and will make his sprint-outs more than an escape route.

"When you get hit by one of those defensive ends, you really feel it," he says, ad-



Bill Fellows

ding with a laugh, "When I'm playing quarterback, I like to try and avoid any contact."

The Bruins are not only looking for a winning season this year, but are also planning on taking one of the Mt. Hood Conference's four state playoff positions.

"I think we can do that," says Fellows. "We have a lot of guys with experience back and our JV team went 8-1."

All of which, he hopes, will get Barlow back on the trail.

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