

## **NEWS RELEASE**



**GENO EFFLER**Director of Public Relations

15205 Wicks Blvd. San Leandro, CA 94579 (415) 352-9700 BILL GLAZIER
Director of Publicity

7850 Edgewater Drive Oakland, CA 94621 (415) 638-6900

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## INVADERS OPEN REGULAR SEASON AT COLISEUM vs. DENVER GOLD

With high hopes and great expectations, the Oakland Invaders open the 1985 USFL season in the Oakland Coliseum Sunday, Feb. 24, against the Denver Gold. Kickoff is set for 1 p.m. PST.

Head Coach Charlie Sumner, debuting as a head coach after 21 years as an assistant, has spent four weeks at training camp in Mesa, Ariz., bringing together a talented group of players. Sumner and his coaching staff saw training camp come to a close on Feb. 17 with a 31-13 preseason win over the Arizona Outlaws in Fresno.

Sumner has chosen Bobby Hebert over Fred Besana to start at quarterback against the Gold, a choice Sumner said was not easy.

"They're very talented quarterbacks and it wasn't a decision I came to lightly,"

Sumner said. "I thought they both played well against Arizona and, for the most part,

they put the ball right where it was supposed to be.

"I started leaning toward Hebert during the last week of camp, but it wasn't until Monday morning that I made up my mind. I don't believe in a two-quarterback system.

If Bobby digs a hole, he'll have a chance to climb out of it."

Hebert, the USFL's top-rated passer in 1983 and MVP of the 1983 USFL Championship Game while with the Michigan Panthers, said, "I'm excited. It's a sad situation for Fred. He's a good guy."

Against the Outlaws, Hebert played the first half and completed 8 of 11 passes for 121 yards with 1 touchdown and 2 interceptions. Besana completed 6 of 8 for 105 yards.

"We used a three-wde receiver offense a good deal of the time against Arizona,"

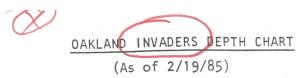
Sumner said. "I like a wide open game, so don't be surprised to see us in that formation a lot."

The three wide receivers Sumner speaks of are Anthony Carter, Gordon Banks and Derek Holloway--all very dangerous, exciting players.

Carter has a career reception average of 19.1 yards and has caught 13 touchdown passes in the 24 regular season games he's played. Banks is one of only two receivers to have caught a pass in all 36 USFL regular season games and Holloway is the USFL's career leader with a 20.1 average per catch.

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0	F	F	E	N	S	E

WF	ζ -	 1	Anthony Carter	85	Mike Shumann		
LT	Γ.	 74	Ray Pinney	70	Steve Wright		
LC	G -	 62	Jeff Wiska	65	Reggie Irving		
(	С.	 63	Jim Leonard	56	Tom Turnure		
RO	G .	 64	Tracy Franz	65	Reggie Irving		
R	Τ.	 72	Dale Markham	70	Steve Wright		*
TI	E	 81	Brian Williams	86	Lewis Gilbert	89	Doug Cozen
WI	R	 88	Gordon Banks	29	Derek Holloway	80	Wes Howell
Q	В	 11	Bobby Hebert	14	Fred Besana	15	J Torchio
Н	В	 43	John Williams	28	Shawn Faulkner		
F	В	 45	Tom Newton	32	Albert Bentley	23	Otis Brown

## DEFENSE

LE	 91	Monte Bennett	96	Carl Sullivan	99 Doug Hollie
NT	 92	Tim Moore	77	Ruben Vaughan	
RE	 73	Dave Browning	79	Larry Bethea	
OLB	 48	Tim Lucas	52	Thomas Carter	
ILB	 51	Gary Plummer	57	Randy McClanahan	
ILB	 50	Ray Bentley	57	Randy McClanahan	
OLB	 58	David Shaw	52	Thomas Carter	59 Angelo Snipes
LC	 36	Vito McKeever	7	Daryl Hart	
RC	 24	Derrick Martin	7	Daryl Hart	
SS	 40	Marcus Quinn	21	Oliver Davis	31 David Greenwood
		John Sullivan	21	Oliver Davis	The second second

## SPECIALISTS

P	 10	Stan Talley	31	David Greenwood
K	 3	Novo Bojovic	10	Stan Talley
Н	 14	Fred Besana	11	Bobby Hebert
PR	 28	Shawn Faulkner	88	Gordon Banks
KR	 28	Shawn Faulkner	23	Otis Brown
PC	 56	Tom Turnure	63	Jim Leonard
KC	 56	Tom Turnure	63	Jim Leonard