



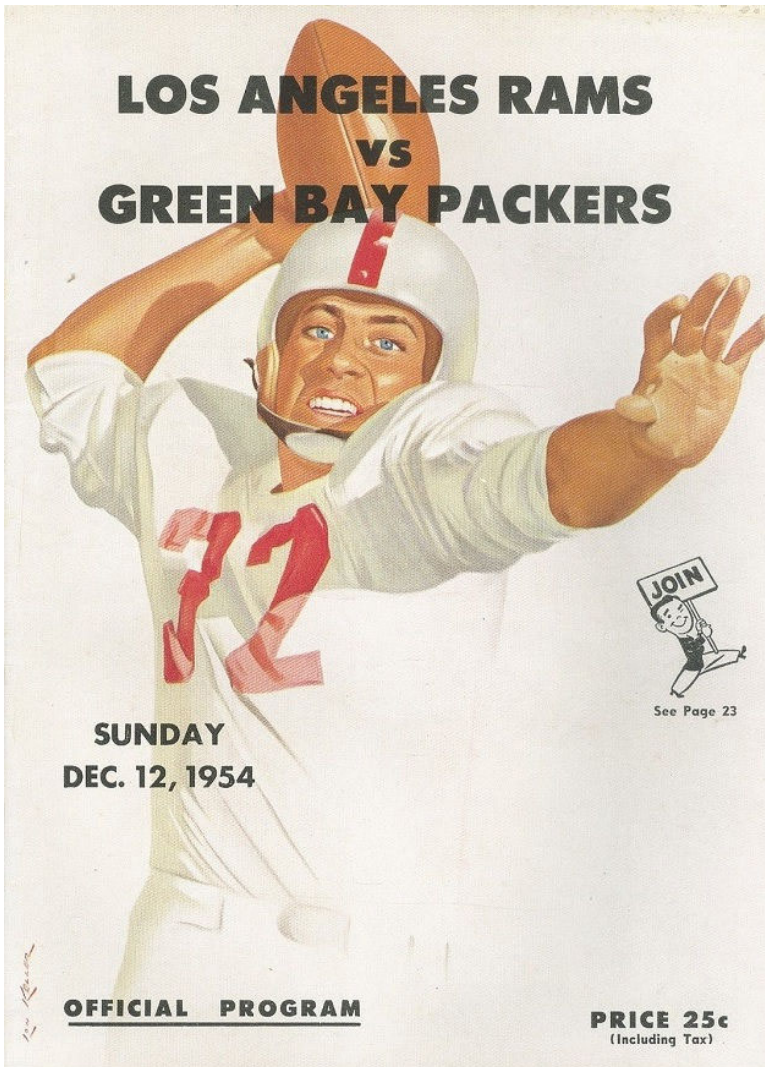
Los Angeles Rams (6-5-1) 35, Green Bay Packers (4-8) 27
Sunday December 12th 1954 (at Los Angeles)

Crippled Packers Lose Finale to LA Rams 35-27

Injuries to Rote, Ferguson, Reid Handicap Bays' Offense

GAME RECAP (GREEN BAY PRESS-GAZETTE)

(LOS ANGELES) - The land of sunshine and heat in the wintertime must be bad for the Packer defense - one of Green Bay's cooler weather specialties. The Packers closed out their 1954 schedule with their second straight 35-point give in the Coliseum here Sunday afternoon, falling before the Los Angeles Rams, 35 to 27. A week ago in Frisco they lost to the 49ers 35 to 0. Before the West Coast invasion, the Packers had held foes to less than 20 points a game. They averaged 35 permissions in the last two games, and closed out the season with four straight losses - first two being four-point setbacks to Detroit. Unlike Frisco when the Bays were out of the game in the first quarter, the Packers had themselves a touch-and-go fracas on their hands before 38,839 fans and stood a good chance to win until the Rams broke into a 28-20 lead on a successful touchdown off a fourth down faked punt. "Any bit of defense in the first half would have helped us win," Coach Liz Blackbourn remarked after the game, "but the Rams were catching us in the spots where we were hurting." The Rams actually had a field day - one that made you wonder how they scored only 35 points. They rolled up 570 yards - 163 by rushing and 434 by passing, for the biggest liberty taken with the Packer defense all season...Maybe this just wasn't the Packers' day. Actually, it was a special day for Elroy Hirsch, the Rams' great pass catcher who is closing out his career, and captain and linebacker Don Paul, both of whom received new Oldsmobiles between halves. Hirsch, while he had the misfortune of fumbling away a touchdown in the end zone, caught five passes for 119 yards and figured somewhere in four of the Rams' five touchdowns. While injuries to defensive players have played hob with the Packers in the last four games, they received some damaging offensive blows early in the game. Breezy Reid went out with a knee in the back in the first



quarter and fullback Howie Ferguson did the same with a hip bruise. Most damaging was a damaged little finger - it may have been broken - on Tobin Rote's throwing hand. He suffered the injury when he hurled a TD pass shortly before the end of the half to Joe Johnson. Rote was below par in the crucial third quarter when the Bays failed to make a first down and finally gave way to Bobby Garrett, who QB'ed the Bays to their last TD in the fourth period...The Packers held two different

leads - 7 to 0 on Rote's 16 yard run climaxing a six-play, 70-yard march with the opening kickoff and 20-14 on Rote's eight-yard toss to Johnson, winding up a nine-play, 80-yard march. After the Packers made it 7-0, the Rams scored in four plays, with Dan Towler banging over for the first of three TDs from the one. Before the first frame ended, the Rams went 51 yards in eight plays for a 14-7 edge. Rote's 22-yard pass to Max McGee after Bobby Dillon's interception gave Green Bay a 14-all knot to start the second frame. After Johnson's TD and Fred Cone's blocked extra point, the Rams made it 21-20 just before the half on an 80-yard march and Towler's third TD plunge. With fourth down at midfield and nine to go, Van Brocklin, in punt formation, passed to Andy Robustelli straight over the line for the touchdown. To make it worse, Robustelli broke away from three Packer tacklers around the Bay 25. The Rams went 71 yards in nine plays for their fifth TD, with Les Richter booting the last of five extra points. Near the end, Garrett labored 55 yards in 15 plays for the Bays' last touchdown, Switzer recovering Garrett's fumble in the end zone for the score...Thus, the Packers, in their windup, figured in their highest scoring game of the '54 league season - a total of 62 points. The setback left the Bays with a 4-8 record. The Packers defended the Rams for their passing but both Van Brocklin and Billy Wade were throwing strikes and rarely were rushed bad enough to cause a wild pitch. Wade, who worked the last three quarter, completed 18 out of 28 for 290 yards with Van Brocklin completing five out of eight in the first frame. Rote completed 16 out of 26 for 178 and Garrett six of 11 for 46. Oddly enough, all four pitchers bettered 50 percent and three, Rote, Van Brocklin and Wade, topped 60. The two clubs together gained 658 yards by passing - which says little for the defenses of either team...The Packer defense wasn't in the best of condition, what with Val Joe Walker not being up to par due to his bad knee. Veryl Switzer was used on defense throughout. Clayton Tonnemaker, bothered with bad knees, was used only for rushing the passer the defense and managed to make two interceptions, on one of which he bumped Hirsch out of the way and took the pass intended for the star receiver. McGee had his best day in pass catching and punting. Max caught nine for 105 yards, one for a touchdown, and booted six times for an average of 48.3...It was almost 90 degrees on the floor of the stadium. And the Packers substituted frequently in the first half to keep the boys fresh for the late stages. As it turned out, injuries forced more substitutions than the heat. At one stage, both fullbacks, Ferguson and Cone, were hurt and Carmichael moved into the position. The Packers' first touchdown was a thing of beauty. Getting good protection and staying in the pocket, Rote hurled to McGee for nine to the left and then to Howton for 24 to the left. Ferguson hit for five and Reid seven to the Ram 25. After hurling to McGee for nine to the left, Rote broke around right tackle, faked a lateral to Reid and went in standing up. Cone's boot made it 7-0. Not to be outdone, the Rams scored in four plays from their own 33. Van Brocklin found Boyd for 40 yards and Hirsch for 20 to the three. Towler cracked over in two tries and it was an even game...The Packers made like they'd go again as Ferguson gained 14 yards off left tackle but two passes later Sherman intercepted a Rote throw on the Ram 49. LA didn't wait to score from that point. Van Brocklin threw to Howton for 14 and to Quinlan for 17 to the Packers 20. Quinlan carried to the seven in two tries, and Hirsch, trying for the first time from scrimmage in years, lugged wide to the two and Towler went over to put the Rams ahead, 14-7. After the Packers were forced to punt, McGee getting off a 54-yarder into the end zone, Dillon bumped Hirsch and intercepted Van Brocklin's throw on the Ram 37 and returned to the 22. On first down, Rote passed to McGee on the five and Max went in to tie it up again. The Rams, with Wade at QB, moved from their own 26 to the Packer two but were left without a TD on a weird play.

Windup

NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE

Western Conference						
	W	L	T	Pct	PS	OP
Detroit	8	2	1	.800	323	179
Chicago Bears	8	4	0	.667	301	279
San Francisco	7	4	1	.636	313	251
Los Angeles	6	5	1	.545	314	285
GREEN BAY	4	8	0	.333	234	251
Baltimore	3	9	0	.250	131	279

Eastern Conference						
Cleveland	9	2	0	.812	326	14
Philadelphia	7	4	1	.636	284	230
New York	7	5	0	.583	293	184
Pittsburgh	5	7	0	.417	219	263
Washington	3	9	0	.250	207	432
Chicago Cards	2	10	0	.167	183	347

Sunday's Results

Chicago Bears 28, Detroit 24
 Cleveland 42, Pittsburgh 7
 Philadelphia 49, New York 14
 Los Angeles 35, Green Bay 27

Saturday's Result

San Francisco 10, Baltimore 7

The Lineups

GREEN BAY

Ends—Elliott, Knutson, Marinkovic, Knafele, McGee, Howton, White.

Tackles—Szafaryn, Hunter, Heluain, Hanner, Zatkoff, Afflis.

Guards—Ruzich, Brown, Barry, Teteak, Forester.

Centers—Ringo, Stephenson, Wonnemaker.

Backs—Rote, Garrett, Reid, Switzer, Self, Cone, Ferguson, Johnson, Carmichael, Dillon, Walker, Psaltis.

LOS ANGELES

Ends—Fears, Miller, Boyd, Robustelli, Wardlow.

Tackles—Lipscomb, Cross, Dahms, Toogood, Hauser.

Guards—Richter, Thompson, West, McFaen, Putnam.

Centers—McLaughlin, Paul, Griffin.

Backs—Wade, Van Brocklin, Lewis, Quinlan, Haynes, McCormick, Dwyer, Towler, Hirsch, Bowers, Sherman, Doll, Hughes.

Green Bay 7 13 0 7-27
 Los Angeles 14 7 7 7-35

Scoring: Green Bay: Touchdowns—Rote, McGee, Johnson, Switzer. Extra Points—Cone 3.

Los Angeles: Touchdowns—Towler 3, Robustelli, Fears. Extra Points—Richter 5.

Officials: Referee—Harry Brubaker; Umpire—Cletus Gardner; Head Linesman—Jacques Grenier; Back Judge—Ray Brown; Field Judge—Rawson Bowen.

Team Statistics

	P	R
Total yardage gained	85	163
Yards lost running	11	27
Yet yardage gained	74	136
Passes attempted	37	36
Passes completed	22	23
Passes had intercepted	2	2
Yards intercepted	34	13
Total yardage gained	224	434
Yards lost at passing	29	0
Net yardage gained	195	434
Total net yards gained	269	570
First downs running	8	12
First downs passes	11	18
First downs penalties	0	0
Total first downs	19	30
No. of kickoff returns	6	5
Yardage of kickoff ret.	188	104
Number of punts	6	2
Average of punt returns	48.33	37.00
No. of punt returns	2	2
Total yardage of punt ret	32	0
No. of penalties against	2	6
Yds lost on penalties	10	50
Number of fumbles	2	1
Own fumbles recovered	0	1
Ball lost on fumbles	2	0

Individual Statistics

Rushing:

Green Bay: Ferguson gained 15 yards in 3 attempts, Reid 11 in 3, Johnson 10 in 2, Carmichael 9 in 5, McGee 9 in 1, Cone 5 in 2, Switzer 7 in 2.

Los Angeles: Quinlan gained 49 yards in 11 attempts, Towler 43 in 14, McCormick 20 in 3, Lewis 12 in 2, Hirsch 6 in 1, Wade 6 in 5.

Passing:

Green Bay: Rote attempted 26 completed 16 for 178 yards, 2 intercepted; Garrett attempted 11, completed 6 for 46 yards.

Los Angeles: Van Brocklin attempted 8, Completed 5 for 144 yards, 1 intercepted; Wade attempted 28, completed 18 for 290 yards, 1 intercepted.

Pass Reception:

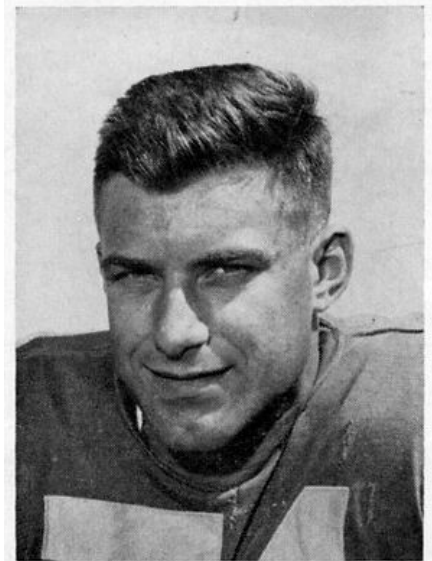
Green Bay: McGee caught 9 for 105 yards, Johnson 6 for 33, Howton 3 for 46, Ferguson 2 for 16, Carmichael 1 for 14, Knafele 1 for 10.

Los Angeles: Fears caught 6 for 74, Hirsch 5 for 119, Boyd 4 for 106, Quinlan 3 for 50, Towler 3 for 20, McCormick 1 for 16, Robustelli 1 for 49.



JOE JOHNSON
No. 40 — Halfback

First year in professional football...Drafted by the Packers two years ago...One of the finest backs in Boston College history...Was captain of the 1953 team...Played in the East-West game last season...Majored in marketing at college...Swedish descent... Residence: New Haven, Connecticut.



ROGER ZATKOFF
No. 55 — Guard

Second year in professional football...One of the outstanding rookies in the NFL last year...Logical veteran to succeed the departed Bob Forte as linebacker...Also saw service as defensive end last season...All-American tackle and linebacker on the University of Michigan team...Rugged performer and bone crushing tackler...He is considered one of the greatest players in Michigan's history... Member of the 1953 College All-Star squad... Degree in Physical Education...Married and father of two children...Employed by Public School System in Detroit during off season... Russian descent...Residence: Detroit, Mich.

Hirsch, the hero of the day, took Wade's throw from the 39 but fumbled as he crossed the goal line, Jim Psaltis recovering in the end zone for a touchback...This break served to inspire Green Bay to a touchdown, though they received a McGee-break along the way. Starting from their own 20, the Bays moved 10 on Rote's pass to Carmichael but the attack stalled and McGee went back on fourth down to punt, needing five for a first. Jim Ringo's pass from center was high so McGee took off like a run had been planned and raced 14 yards for a first down on the 44. Four Rote passes later the Packers were in front, 20-14. Rote hurled to McGee for 19, Ferguson for 12, Johnson for 17, Johnson for eight and finally to Johnson again for the touch. Cone's kick was blocked by Griffin and it was 20-14. After Dillon and Haynes exchanged interceptions, the Rams went on an 80-yard touchdown trip, scoring with four seconds left in the half. Wade threw passes to Fears and Towler for 25 yards to

put the ball in Green Bay territory on the Packer 41 from where Fears took Wade's pass for a 13-yard gain and then lateraled to Quinlan who ran 28 more to the 13. On a keeper, Wade circled right end to the one and Towler bulled over for his third TD of the first half...The third quarter was defense personified compared to the first half. The two clubs actually exchanged punts after failing to gain a first down to start the session. The Rams moved past midfield on Wade passes to Fears and Hirsch but the Packers saved a possible TD when Switzer recovered Boyd's fumble on the Bay 18. McGee had to punt after Johnson was thrown for a five-yard loss and the Rams started to move again. Quinlan made seven and Wade threw to Boyd for 19 to the Packer 35. A personal foul on the Rams forced Van Brocklin to step back for a punt. The crafty quarterback threw a pass to Robustelli, a defensive end, who slipped out of four Packers en route to a 49-yard touchdown. Richter's boot made it 28-20. Green Bay couldn't move again, but the Rams could, flying chiefly on Wade passes to Hirsch and Fears, to the Packer 17 where they lost the ball on downs on the last play of the third quarter...On the first play of the fourth frame, Rote made his last first down of the season and the first in the second half, passing to McGee for 11 yards to the Pack 28. McGee had to punt four plays later and the Rams went on a TD drive from their own 29 in nine plays, the payoff going 13 yards from Wade to Fears, with the receiver slipping out of Switzer's grasp on the two and rolling in. Garrett took over for the Packers and moved the Bays 55 yards in 15 long passes for a touchdown. Carmichael started it off with a three-yard crash, Garrett hurled to McGee for six and Carmichael banged one for the first down. The next first down came easy. Garrett hurled to Johnson, who lateraled to Carmichael for seven and then Switzer ran left tackle for six to the 31. After Cone made five, Garrett hit Knafelc for 10 yards to the 16 on a fourth down throw. The Packers drew their first penalty of the game on an eight-yard pass to Johnson but Garrett hit McGee for 13 and Carmichael ran five to the three. After Johnson and Carmichael pushed to the one, Garrett tried right guard and fumbled into the end zone where Switzer recovered for a touchdown. That was about it - for 1954!

GREEN BAY - 7 13 0 7 - 27
LOS ANGELES - 14 7 7 7 - 35

	<u>GREEN BAY</u>	<u>LOS ANGELES</u>
First Downs	19	30
Rushing-Yards-TD	21-74-1	36-163-3
Att-Comp-Yd-TD-Int	37-23-224-2-2	36-23-434-2-2
Sacked-Yards	3-29	0-0
Net Passing Yards	195	434
Total Yards	269	570
Fumbles-lost	1-0	2-2
Turnovers	2	4
Yards penalized	2-10	6-50

SCORING

1st - GB - Tobin Rote, 16-yard run (Fred Cone kick) GREEN BAY 7-0
 1st - LA - Dan Towler, 1-yard run (Les Richter kick) TIED 7-7
 1st - LA - Towler, 1-yard run (Richter kick) LOS ANGELES 14-7
 2nd - GB - Max McGee, 22-yard pass from Rote (Cone kick) TIED 14-14
 2nd - GB - Joe Johnson, 8-yard pass from Rote (Cone kick blocked) GREEN BAY 20-14
 2nd - LA - Towler, 1-yard run (Richter kick) LOS ANGELES 21-20
 3rd - LA - Andy Robustelli, 49-yd pass from Norm Van Brocklin (Richter kick) LOS ANGELES 28-20
 4th - LA - Tom Fears, 12-yard pass from Van Brocklin (Richter kick) LOS ANGELES 35-20
 4th - GB - Veryl Switzer recovered Bobby Garrett's fumble in the end zone (Cone kick) LOS ANGELES 35-27

RUSHING

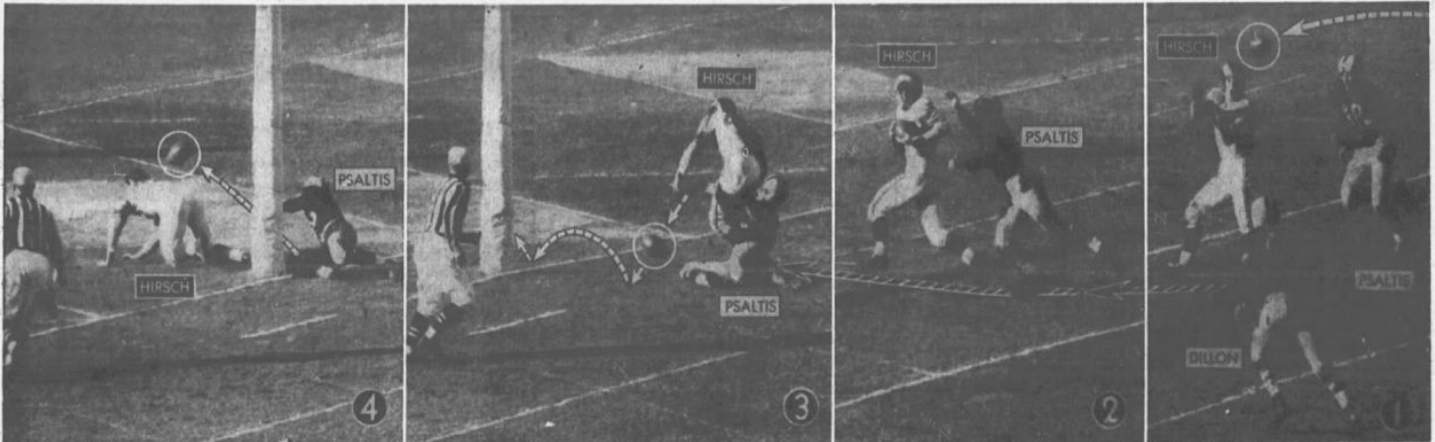
GREEN BAY - Howie Ferguson 3-15, Breezy Reid 3-11, Joe Johnson 2-10, Max McGee 1-9, Al Carmichael 5-9, Tobin Rote 3-8 1 TD, Veryl Switzer 2-7, Fred Cone 2-5
LOS ANGELES - Skeets Quinlan 11-49, Dan Towler 14-43 3 TD, Tom McCormick 3-20, Woodley Lewis 2-12, Billy Wade 5-6, Elroy Hirsch 1-6

PASSING

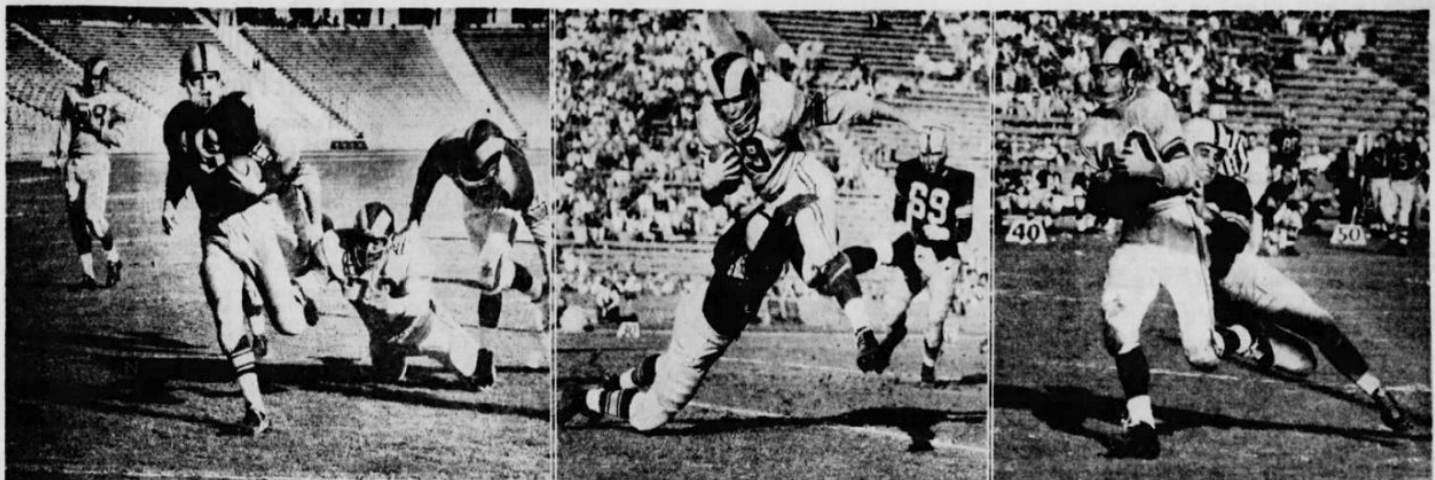
GREEN BAY - Tobin Rote 26-16-178 2 TD 2 INT, Bobby Garrett 11-6-46
LOS ANGELES - Billy Wade 28-18-290 1 TD 1 INT, Norm Van Brocklin 8-5-144 1 TD 1 INT

RECEIVING

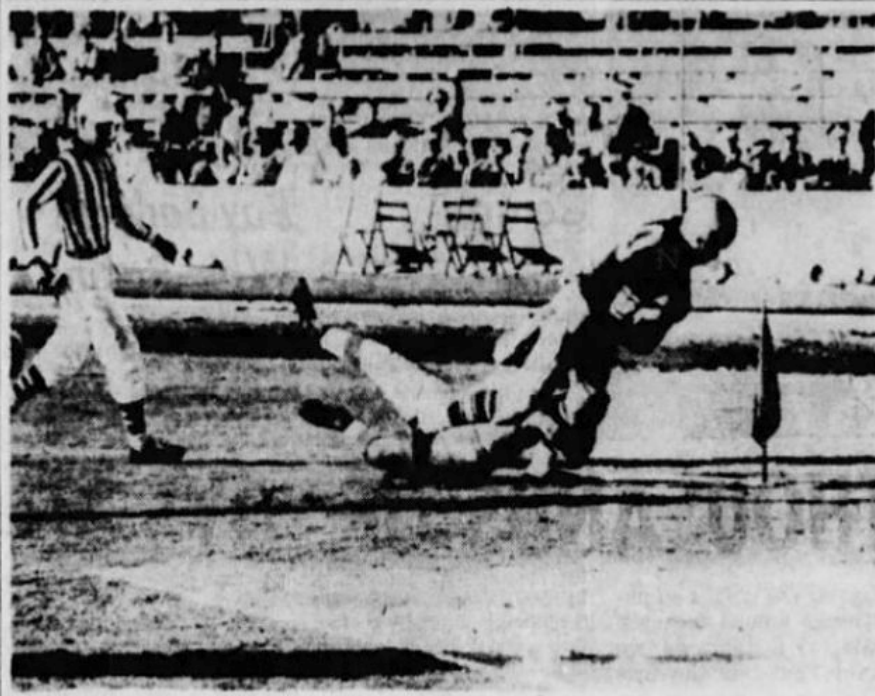
GREEN BAY - Max McGee 9-105 1 TD, Joe Johnson 6-33 1 TD, Billy Howton 3-46, Howie Ferguson 2-16, Al Carmichael 1-14, Gary Knafelc 1-10
LOS ANGELES - Tom Fears 6-74 1 TD, Elroy Hirsch 5-119, Bob Boyd 4-106, Skeets Quinlan 3-50, Dan Towler 3-20, Andy Robustelli 1-49 1 TD, Tom McCormick 1-16



GOAL LINE FOLLY—Rams' Elroy Hirsch takes pass on Green Bay 8-yard line between Packer defenders Bobby Dillon (44) and Jim Psaltis (48) in second quarter of game yesterday at Caliseum, Psaltis tackled Hirsch on 2 where Elroy fumbled into end zone. Psaltis finally fell on ball in end zone for automatic touch-back to deny Hirsch a touchdown in the final game of his career. Rams beat Packers in seesaw game, 35-27. Times Mirror Co. photos by Julius Nathans



Who Scored the Touchdown?—One of the three football carriers in the pictures above is in the process of scoring a touchdown. The fortunate individual is Packer Quarterback Tobin Rote who is shown stepping across goal line with TD that gave Bays a 7-0 lead over Rams in first quarter in Los Angeles Sunday. At right Tackle Gene Lipscomb (on knees) and Halfback Hall Haynes try to catch Rote. In center, Ram Quarterback Bill Wade is brought down by Veryl Switzer after gaining 15 yards in second quarter. In background is Packer Bill Forester (69). In right panel, Elroy Hirsch is shown fumbling what looked like sure touchdown as he crossed goal line while Packer Jim Psaltis tackled him. Psaltis recovered ball in end zone for touchback. Rams won 35 to 27. (AP Photos)



Can't Hold Joe—Don Paul, Ram linebacker, tries to stop Joe Johnson, without success, as Packer halfback falls over goal line for Packers' second touchdown in second quarter of game in Los Angeles Sunday afternoon. Johnson scored after taking pass from quarterback Tobin Rote. Rams won 35-27. (AP Wirephoto)



Carmichael Brought Down After 8-Yard Gain by Rams' Griffin With Sheriff's (44) Aid

RAMS' ASSISTANTS QUIT; SAUER GETS CITADEL JOB

DECEMBER 13 (Los Angeles) - The Los Angeles Rams lost all five assistant coaches and one of their star players, Elroy (Crazylegs) Hirsch, lost his shirt Sunday. The five coaching aides confirmed that they would leave the Rams, as had been unofficially reported earlier in the week. Hirsch was relieved of his jersey, shoes, and socks by a mob of hundreds of admirers as he left the field in Memorial Coliseum in his farewell game in football. Hirsch, an outstanding player for 17 years, dating back to high school in Wausau, WI, the Universities of Wisconsin and Michigan, El Toro Marines, Chicago Hornets, and the last five years with the Rams, retired from the game. He and Captain Don Paul, the Rams' popular linebacker, were honored between halves of the game with Green Bay here Sunday. They were presented with automobiles by admiring members of the Ram Fan Club and others. In the dressing room later it was announced that the five coaches, John Sauer, Howard (Red) Hickey, Dick Voris, Ralph (Buck) Weaver) and Bill Battles had tendered their resignation to President Dan Reeves at a meeting at the owner's home earlier in the day. Head coach Hampton Pool was also present, and he confused his critics in praising the five as "the finest in the profession" and wishing them the best of luck. Actually, Hickey, Voris, Weaver and Battles notified Pool last October 11 in Milwaukee that they could not serve with him after the season ended. Since then, and even Sunday, no ill feeling appeared on the surface. It has been known, however, that the coaching situation was not all it should have been. Sauer, 29, who starred on Army's national football champions of 1944-45, Monday accepted a five-year contract to coach football at the Citadel. Sauer will

succeed John McMillan, whose teams won four games in two season. McMillan and his four assistants were told a week ago that their contracts would not be renewed for 1955. Sauer, who played quarterback for the Black Knights, also assisted Coach Earl Blaik two years before going to the University of Florida as assistant backfield coach in 1950. After three seasons with the Gators, Sauer joined the Rams in 1953.



—United Press Telephoto

Keys to new automobiles were presented to Elroy Hirsch (left) and Capt. Don Paul of the Rams at Sunday's game with the Green Bay Packers in Los Angeles. Bob Waterfield (cen-

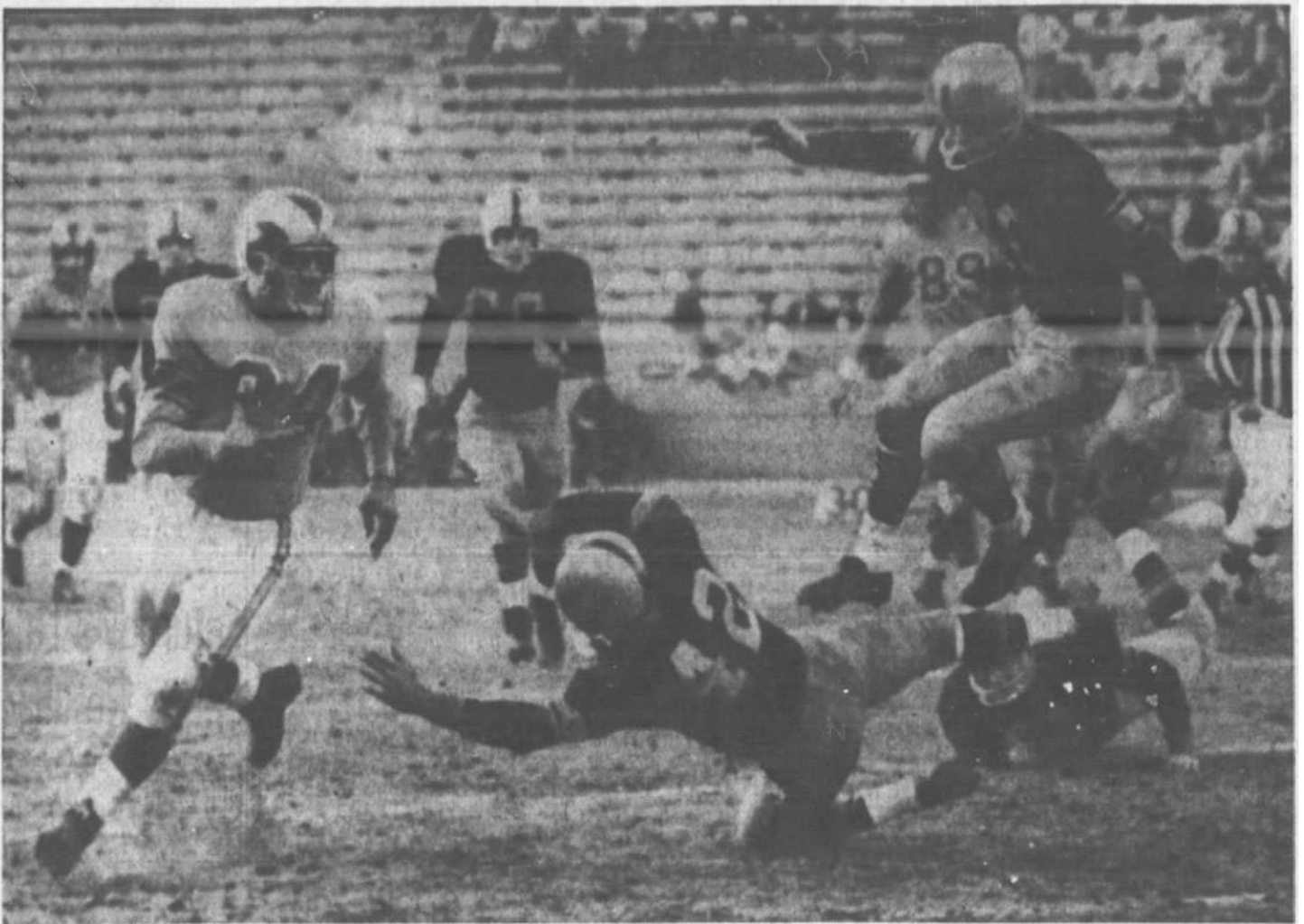
ter), former star Ram quarterback, made the presentation on behalf of fans. Hirsch, former star at Wisconsin and Michigan, ended a 17 year football career in Sunday's game.



After taking a pass from quarterback Tobin Rote, Joe Johnson falls over the goal line for the Green Bay Packers' second touchdown in the second quarter of Sunday's professional football game with the Rams in Los Angeles. Line backer

Don Paul tackles the speedy halfback, but too late to stop him. The Rams won the final game of the season for both teams, 35-27, before a crowd of 38,839 at the Coliseum, avenging an earlier defeat.

—AP Wirephoto



SURPRISE—Andy Robustelli (84), Ram end, evades Packers' Al Carmichael (42) and Joe Johnson (40) as he rumbles past 20-yard line en

route to TD after catching pass from Norm Van Brocklin in third quarter. Van fooled Green Bay by passing to Andy on fourth down..

Times photo by Art Rogers