



Green Bay Packers (1-0) 30, Philadelphia Eagles (0-1) 13
Sunday September 15th 1968 (at Green Bay)



Opportunity, Starr Knock Philadelphia, 30-13

GAME RECAP (GREEN BAY PRESS-GAZETTE)

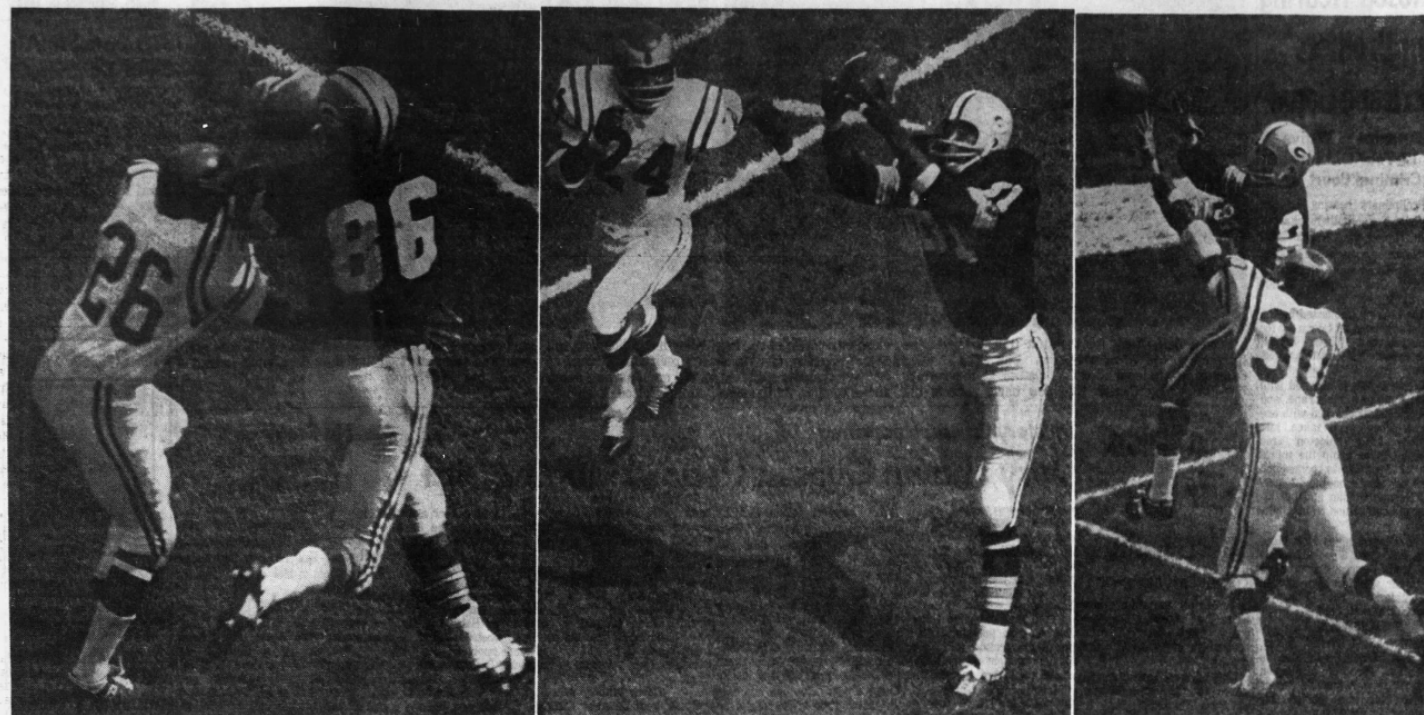
(GREEN BAY) – "Those onside kicks," Phil Bengtson was saying, "aren't as simple (to handle) as they look." "That's the second one (Francis) Winkler's got, so I guess you'd have to say he's conditioned for 'em," he facetiously appended. Whatever the merits of this last may be, that second quarter Philadelphia gamble loomed large in the final accounting as the Packers launched their pursuit of a fourth straight NFL championship with a solid 30-13 decision over the Eagles at Lambeau Field Sunday afternoon in brilliant, 80-degree weather. Husbanding a still precarious 14-6 lead at that point, the world champions made quick capital of the opportunity which developed when Winkler smothered Sam Baker's spinning kick at the Packer 45-yard-line. Quarterback Bart Starr, noted for unleashing the bomb at the most productive moment, couldn't have chosen a better time. He took aim at elongated Boyd Dowler, churning down the western sidelines. There was a slight "delay enroute," occasioned when defender Al Nelson appeared to intercept, but Dowler ultimately won a tipping contest and cantered into the end zone with Nelson in tow. Jerry Kramer's third consecutive conversion, at 10:32 of the period, upholstered the Packers' bulge to 21-6. From that point on, the home forces were in control of the situation as they completed a happy NFL head coaching debut for Bengtson by collecting nine second half points via three Kramer field goals while permitting the Pennsylvanians a consolation touchdown in the last quarter. Sidetracked by an early interception, which allowed the Eagles to mount a 3-0 lead with a 27-yard Baker field goal,

the Packers had rebounded with admirable dispatch, charging to a 14-3 lead within the space of 8 ½ minutes. Jim Grabowski registered the first of these, bolting over the left side from six yards out behind incisive blocks by Capt. Bob Skoronski, left guard Gale Gillingham, center Ken Bowman and his running mate, left halfback Donny Anderson, at 13:20 of the first quarter to cap a 50-yard drive. A Bob Jeter interception keyed the subsequent push, which began at the Green Bay 36. This time, the Packers swept 64 yards in nine plays, the final maneuver an artistic, 12-yard Starr-to-Carroll Dale collaboration at 6:53 of the second period. The Eagles, keyed by King Hill's 58-yard pitch to flanker Ben Hawkins, retaliated with a 17-yard Baker field goal before Coach Joe Kuharich elected to attempt that ill-fated onside kick. Starr, who seldom has been sharper, delighted a shirt-sleeved sellout with his shrewd selection and dazzling marksmanship, completing 14 of 18 passes for 220 yards and two touchdowns. Equally impressive, however, was another explosive indication that the Packers' ground game, awesome in the days of Jim Taylor and Paul Hornung, but generally less imposing in recent years, is on the way back. Responsible for 168 yards in last weekend's final pre-season victory over the Browns, it produced 185 this time, the rapidly rising Anderson leading the charge with 92 in a dozen attempts. Old pro Elijah Pitts, apparently his quick, hard-hitting self once again after shaking knee and thigh injuries, came off the bench to add 45 in nine thrusts and Grabowski contributed 37 in 12. Grabo was a key figure on that first TD drive, collecting 20 yards in six carries – including the final 6 – after Herb Adderley's 50-yard kickoff return had provided the Pack with excellent field position. Dowler and Dale, who caught 8 passes for 183 yards between them, were prominent on the second push as Starr switched the pitch. Six of the nine plays were passes, including 16 and 11-yard strikes to Dowler, the last of which carried to the Eagle 13. After Anderson made a yard at right end, Starr fired to Dale, who maneuvered free with a picture move to elude defender

PACKERS vs. EAGLES

FIFTY CENTS / LAMBEAU FIELD - GREEN BAY, WIS. • SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 1968 / 1:00 P.M.





The Philadelphia Eagles were unable to cope with the Packers' aerial circus Sunday in the National Football League opener at Green Bay. In the left-hand

photo, Boyd Dowler (86) outflights the Eagles' Al Nelson (26) for the ball and turns the play into a second-quarter 55-yard touchdown. In the center photo, Marv

Fleming grabs a first-quarter pass to set up Green Bay's first touchdown. Nate Ramsey (24) is on defense. At the right, Carroll Dale beats Alvin Haymond (30)

to score a second-period TD. The Packers won, 30-13. (Post-Crescent News Service Photos)

Alvin Haymond, in the left corner of the end zone. Less than four minutes later, Mr. Quarterback collaborated with Dowler to mount that 21-6 margin, but the Eagles weren't quite ready to concede. They were highly incensed, in fact, when the halftime gun sounded as Baker lined up to attempt a 35-yard field goal. They swarmed around the officials, protesting they had called a timeout after the previous play with nine seconds showing on the clock. Referee Pat Haggerty ruled, however, that the Eagles had not called time and that, of course, was that. A 42-yard excursion, the longest run from scrimmage of his three-year professional career, led to Kramer's first field goal in the third quarter, a 17-yard effort. The second, a 22-yard kick, came on the heels of a 50-yard Starr bomb to Dale, who sprinted to the Philadelphia 28 before being run out of bounds by Nelson. Now down 27-6, the Eagles suddenly asserted themselves by driving 72 yards in 12 plays for their only touchdown of the afternoon. The Birds might have come away empty-handed but were given new life, after Dave Robinson batted a fourth down Hill pass to the ground, by an offside penalty on the Packers. On the next play, Hill hit split end Gary Ballman, ridden to the goal line by Willie Wood, in the right flat for the touchdown. With Pitts hammering out 34 yards on the ground and adding 12 more on a pass from Starr, the Pack drove to the Philadelphia 28 with the following kickoff, then settled for a 35-yard field goal by Kramer, a floater which wafted over the crossbar at 7:59.

PHILADELPHIA - 3 3 0 7 - 13
GREEN BAY - 7 14 6 3 - 30

	<u>PHILADELPHIA</u>	<u>GREEN BAY</u>
First downs	15	18
Rush-yards-TDs	19-91-0	37-185-1
Comp-Att-Yd-TD-INT	16-35-196-1-1	14-18-220-2-1
Sacked-yards	1-9	2-27
Net pass yards	187	193
Total yards	278	378
Fumbles-lost	0-0	1-0
Turnovers	1	1
Penalties-yards	4-36	5-48

SCORING

1st - PHIL - Sam Baker, 27-yard field goal PHILADELPHIA 3-0
 1st - GB - Jim Grabowski, 6-yard run (Jerry Kramer kick) GREEN BAY 7-3
 2nd - GB - Carroll Dale, 12-yard pass from Bart Starr (Kramer kick) GREEN BAY 14-3
 2nd - PHIL - Baker, 17-yard field goal GREEN BAY 14-6
 2nd - GB - Boyd Dowler, 55-yard pass from Starr (Kramer kick) GREEN BAY 21-6
 3rd - GB - Kramer, 17-yard field goal GREEN BAY 24-6
 3rd - GB - Kramer, 22-yard field goal GREEN BAY 27-6
 4th - PHIL - Gary Ballman, 2-yard pass from King Hill (Baker kick) GREEN BAY 27-13

4th - GB - Kramer, 35-yard field goal GREEN BAY 30-13

RUSHING

GREEN BAY - Donny Anderson 12-92, Elijah Pitts 9-45, Jim Grabowski 12-37 1 TD, Travis Williams 3-11, Bart Starr 1-0

PHILADELPHIA - Tom Woodeshick 11-48, Izzy Lang 8-43

PASSING

GREEN BAY - Bart Starr 18-14-220 2 TD 1 INT

PHILADELPHIA - King Hill 35-16-196 1 TD 1 INT

RECEIVING

GREEN BAY - Boyd Dowler 5-110 1 TD, Carroll Dale 3-73 1 TD, Marv Fleming 2-19, Elijah Pitts 2-18, Donny Anderson 2-0

PHILADELPHIA - Tom Woodeshick 5-55, Ben Hawkins 4-85, Gary Ballman 3-17 1 TD, Fred Hill 2-22, Izzy Lang 2-17

'Flip' Was Funny, Lucky: Dowler

'FLIP' WAS FUNNY, LUCKY: DOWLER

SEPT 16 (Green Bay Press-Gazette) - Altitudinous Boyd Dowler, who presents an ideal target, has been catching Packer passes for 10 years, man and boy. But few of his 377 receptions have been more delightfully complex, he admits, than the one he tipped from the grasp of Philadelphia defender Al Nelson en route to a touchdown at Lambeau Field Sunday afternoon. Still smiling about that one as he held forth for the press corps in the dressing room, the 6-foot-5 Dowler recalled, "I got a tip like that over in Minneapolis last year, tipped it a couple of limes and finally caught it." Dowler, who ranks second only to legendary Don Hutson in career receptions in the Packers' all-time receiving table, grinned again and added, "I think this one was just as funny...I was a little lucky." Reconstructing Sunday's bizarre bomb, a 55-yard collaboration with Bart Starr, the 31-year-old veteran explained, "The wind was against the ball and it didn't get over Nelson. He kind of touched the ball and it looked like he had it. I flipped it, then he got it again. I flipped it again and that time I got it. He kept trying to get the ball instead of trying to tackle me and we wound up in the end zone together. I just fell down when he got to the goal line," he laughed, "and he fell down with me." Nelson, the Eagles' 24-year-old defensive back from Cincinnati, was still a bit mystified by Dowler's touchdown as he thought about it in the Eagles' dressing room. "I thought I had it. We bumped and it popped out. He got it and it popped out again and he bobbled it about until he got it. It was all screwed up," he said. Dowler had it on the 10 and went the final 10 yards with Nelson on his back, prompting Nelson to say, "his momentum carried him into the end zone and he's 6-foot-5 and 225 pounds you know." Nelson is 5-11 and 186 pounds. Dowler's fellow receiver, long ball artist Carroll Dale, was typically, more concerned with the one that got away than he was with his successes. Discussing an Eagle interception of a first quarter pass intended for him, Dale confided, "I ran too deep. I'm supposed to go 15 yards and I went 17 or 18. What I'm saying is you should run your routes right. On that play, the weak safety was playing the quarterback and, by going deep, I let him get inside me. It was a good play on Scarpatti's (Eagle defender Joe) part...NICEY THROWN PASS: Turning to a more pleasant topic, he reported, "The pass I caught for the touchdown was a square out. It was very nicely thrown by Bart." He didn't say so, but it also was complemented by a superb "inside" fake on his part. "The long one I caught in the second half was the old play action," Dale said. "I just ran a sneaky post." "Scarpatti stayed with Boyd for a while on that one, then he picked up the quarterback. So Bart had to lay it between the two defenders...Mine weren't exactly great catches." Cat-quick Bob Jeter, whose second quarter interception triggered the Pack's second touchdown drive, soberly revealed, "I almost misjudged that one...BALL TOOK OFF: "I saw the ball thrown and I backed off," he explained. "It's hard to keep your eye on the ball. I thought it was going to drop and, at the last minute, it took off. If I had gone straight up and tried to catch it, I probably would have missed it. I went back like this (he imitated an outfielder hastily retreating for a catch) to get it." Later, in the fourth quarter, he just missed an end zone interception which could have prevented Philadelphia's lone touchdown. "I was moving to my right on that one," the all-NFL cornerback reported, "and I only got one hand on it. I couldn't get my body around - I was going away from the ball." Jeter had made a valiant attempt to intercept on the previous play, then slammed a hand on the ground in disgust, but now admitted, "the one before that was pretty low." Fullback Jim Grabowski, sporting a fat lip, conceded, "They got to me a little bit."...BLOCKED REAL WELL: Discussing his first quarter touchdown, a 6-yard burst which lifted the Packers into a permanent 7-3 lead, Grabowski observed, "The halfback (Donny Anderson) the guard (Gale Gillingham) and the tackle (Bob Skoronski) all blocked real well on the play. Bowman (center Ken), too."



Defensive end Willie Davis (87) puts pressure on Philadelphia quarterback King Hill (10). At right, defensive end Lionel Aldridge (82) is blocked by Eagles center Gene Ceppetelli (54).

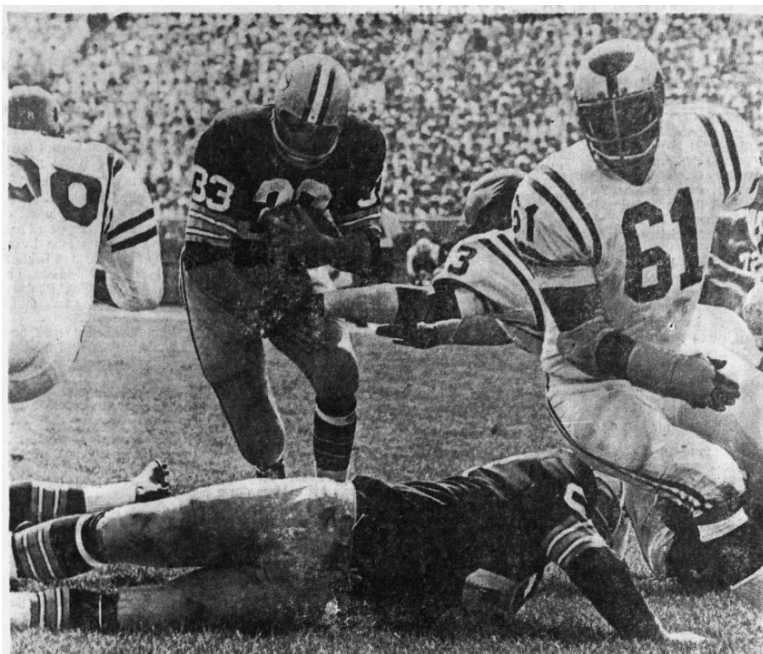
Rookie Francis (Bubba) Winkler, who enveloped Sam Baker's onside kick in the second quarter, informed, "I really wasn't surprised to see them try that at that point. I almost thought they were going to try it, for some reason or other. "As soon as I saw the ball, it was just react - just fall on it. Winkler grinned and added, "I got into the record book the second time. I got one of those in Dallas, too...But I haven't returned 'em very far-zero yardage." Effervescent Elijah Pitts, chuckling about downing a Donny Anderson punt on the Eagle one-yard line in the fourth quarter, quipped, "It was bouncing around down there looking at me." "The safetymen saw all the young fellows coming down," he laughed, "and they figured let the old man go."

PHIL 'NOT HAPPY WITH DEFENSE; PRAISES EAGLES

SEPT 16 (Green Bay Press-Gazette) - The Philadelphia Eagles needed a "fifth down" play in the fourth quarter to score their only touchdown against the Packers in Sunday's NFL opener in Lambeau Field. And even then Gary Ballman managed to lunge only inches into the end zone, with Willie Wood dragging him down, after taking a quick pass from King Hill. Other than that, the Eagles managed only a pair of field goals. But Packer Coach Phil Bengtson wasn't entirely...or even very...pleased with his defense in the solid 30-13 victory. "We weren't particularly happy with it but we think it's coming," he said while holding court in his dressing room office after the fray...WASN'T SMILING: He wasn't smiling over his first regular season coaching victory. He was, as a matter of fact, a bit grim. "The defense hasn't played as much together this year (in exhibition games) as in the past," he explained. "But there was some bad tackling on some of Woodeschick's (Tom) runs." Bengtson, molder of the great Packer defenses under his predecessor, Vince Lombardi, conceded, however, that the Eagles were a much improved team over their early performances. They played real well. They're a real respectable team. The interior of their line did much better than we expected. They did a real good job on Kos (Ron Kostelnik) and Henry (Jordan). "They ran some plays and completed some passes I think we should have stopped."...DOUBLY CONCERNED: Though the lone Eagle touchdown in itself apparently pained him, Bengtson was doubly concerned about the circumstances that allowed it. With a first down on the five, the Eagles ran for no gain and then threw two passes, both of which were nearly intercepted by Bob Jeter. On fourth down, they tried another pass, which fell incomplete. But the Packers were detected offside and the visitors had a fifth opportunity, this time from the 212 yard line. And this time Hill and Ballman teamed for the six points. "That penalty was called for lining up offside," Bengtson grimaced. Overall, the coach acknowledged, "I thought we showed signs of a pretty good effort, particularly on offense though we weren't as consistent as I'd like to see us be...SATISFIED WITH SWEEPS: Donny Anderson "looked good" and the running game is "starting to develop," the straight-spined strategist declared. He made it clear he was exceptionally satisfied with the sweeps, which were employed even more than usual. "It looked like we were within an inch of breaking all the way on a couple of them," he said, allowing a small smile to crease his face. But he praised the Eagle defense for its "real fine pursuit and hustle getting over to cut those plays off." Some of the Philadelphians defenses were "strange," Bengtson admitted, "strange meaning not what we expected." Bart Starr was "real sharp," in the coach's words but he added, "the receivers ran real well and made some big catches. That one of Dowler's (Boyd) was sure a big catch."...Though this was his first league game as head coach of the world champions, Bengtson said he did not tell his team anything "unusual" before the rumble. "I just told them this is the first of 14 games that really count. If you want to have a good record, you start off by winning the first one."... Early in the second period, the Eagles picked up a first down on the Packer 33. On the next play, Tom Woodeschick was stopped for what appeared to be a loss and the Eagles were called for offside. But the Packers elected to take the penalty. "We thought first and 15 was better defensive position than second and nine," Bengtson explained the decision and noted that Woodeschick had gained a yard. Defensive Capt. Willie Davis later added that he took the penalty because "we wanted to get them out of field goal range and with first and 15 we figured they would go to the pass. A situation like that gives you some predictability about



Donny Anderson carries the ball against the Philadelphia Eagles
(Photo by Focus on Sport/ Getty Images)



Jim Grabowski (33) crashes over from six yards out Sunday. Arunas Vasys (61) is the only identifiable defender for the first Packer touchdown against Philadelphia fender. (Post-Crescent News Service Photo)



The Famed Packer Sweep accounted for big yardage Sunday against the Eagles. Here, Donny Anderson (44) follows Jerry Kramer (64) and Gale Gillingham (68) for a 9-yard gain in the second quarter. No. 58 is defensive end Mel Tom.

what they will do." Interestingly, on the next play, Bob Jeter intercepted a Hill pass on the seven and returned to the 36...Concerning Philadelphia's use of the onside kick after its second field goal and the Packers holding a 14-6 lead in the second quarter, Bengtson said he interpreted the move as "being because of Adderley (Herb) and Williams (Travis)." He also said it was not completely unexpected and that it is a "dangerous weapon."

HAPPY ANDY PONDER'S BIG DAY ON TURF

SEPT 16 (Green Bay Press-Gazette) – Glare-reducing greasepaint still visible beneath his eyes (it had been an exceedingly bright afternoon), a relaxed Donny Anderson tilted his chair back against his locker in the Packer dressing room and quietly reveled in the moment. "Ninety-two yards?" the Golden Palomino echoed. "I didn't think I had that many." Locker-mate Jim Grabowski, also his roomie in training camp and on the road, beamed. "I told you," he reminded Donny. "I told you you had at least 80." But the multi-talented Texan, who had just completed his best rushing performance in three seasons as a professional during the Packer's 30-13 conquest of the Philadelphia Eagles Sunday, now was concerned about another point. "How long," he casually inquired, "was that last punt." Informed it had been 54 yards, he smiled faintly and replied, "I thought it was 60."...**'FUNNY DEFENSES':** "The best thing about it," Grabowski interposed, "was the backspin." (The punt had been downed at the Eagle one-yard line by Elijah Pitts). Asked if his rushing total had been his best as a pro, Anderson grinned and rejoined, "I don't get too many yards - it must be my best." "The line's blocking was the key - they were coming off the ball. The Eagles were giving us some funny defenses, which makes it a little tricky...That's the secret, coming off the ball." It had appeared, it was suggested, that he had been on the verge of breaking away on several occasions. The 25-year-old Texas Tech alumnus nodded and explained, "On the sweeps I got caught a couple of times trying to get outside. Got my legs tangled up." Pressed for a further explanation by a Philadelphia writer, Anderson grinned and observed, "No speed. I'm about 4.6 in the 40, I guess, but I don't have great speed..."**QUICKNESS, NO SPEED:** "Grabo and I always say the ball weighs a lot," he cracked, then added, "I have quickness, but no particular speed. My speed is for about three steps - I'm up to full speed by that time." General Manager Vince Lombardi arrived at this point and, beaming, slapped Anderson on the shoulder and applauded, "Fine game there, Donny." He then leaned over to whisper in Anderson's ear before moving on. "Had there been much pregame tension in the Packer dressing room under a new coach (Phil Bengtson), a Philly scribe wanted to know.

TEACHER DAVIS, PUPIL BROWN FIGHT TO TIE
SEPT 16 (Green Bay Press-Gazette) – Both teacher and pupil were happy to call their personal bout a tie. The infighting between Willie Davis and Bob Brown in Lambeau Field Sunday was a delight for anybody who focused a pair of binoculars on them. It was the first time



Donny Anderson

—Press-Gazette Photo

1

STARR (P)

SKORONSKI (P)

WELLS (E)

2

HAYMOND (E)

DALE (P)

GOAL LINE



The Eagles' Gary Ballman dragged the Packers' Willie Wood to the goal line for his team's only touchdown in the final quarter. Ballman took a short pass from quarterback King Hill.
—AP Wirephoto

the Packers' first score while Dowler (Boyd) managed to turn a bobbling ball into a 55-yard touchdown and Pitts (Elijah) snared a crucial third down pass to keep a fourth period drive alive that resulted in a field goal. Late in the third period, with the Packers driving, quarterback Bart Starr flipped a pass out to the left side to tight end Fleming and the ball bounced up but Fleming managed to hold onto it for a 10-yard gain and a first down on the Eagle six-yard line...GRABOWSKI SCORES: On the very next play, Packer fullback Jim Grabowski bolted through a hole on the left side and scored to bring the Pack from three points down to a 7-3 lead, a lead they never relinquished. The major point of concern for Kuharich was Dowler's 55-yard touchdown pass with less than five minutes left in the half which put the Packers ahead 21-6. It came after the Eagles had narrowed the margin to 14-6 on a Sam Baker field goal and tried an onside kick which failed. On the first play, Dowler streaked down the right sideline, battled the Eagles' Al Nelson for the ball, got it on the 10 and dragged Nelson into the end zone...CRUCIAL PLAY: In the fourth period, the Eagles narrowed the margin to 27-13 but the Packers came back and Starr, on a crucial third down and 10 play, passed up the middle to Pitts who snared the pass for a 12-yard gain that put the ball on the Eagle 46. The Packers then moved in for the final points, a field goal by Jerry Kramer from the 35. Despite the final point spread, the Eagles were only out-gained by an even 100-yards, 378-278, and Kuharich had praise for his team, especially in the second half...DIDN'T GET ENOUGH: "We had much better execution in the second half than in the first," the former Notre Dame coach said and continued, "In the first half we moved out well at times but we lacked the continuity of execution. We were deep in their territory three times and had to settle for two field goals and lost the ball on an interception. These are the things you should convert into touchdowns. We just aren't a smooth executing football team yet. We have improved the last three weeks but we still have a ways to go." It was the first time the Eagles have faced the Packers since they started their championship years and Kuharich had

praise for the reigning titlists. "They have a solid football team, a fine engineer in Starr, fine receivers, strong runners, good linebackers...just a well balanced club. When they get 17 points on you they just keep hammering away and picking at you," Kuharich said...CONTROVERSIAL PLAY: One thing Kuharich wasn't happy about was a controversial play at the end of the first half when time ran out as the Eagles were attempting to pass. "There had to be a misunderstanding," Kuharich said, "Both our captains called time out from what they told me but the official is the boss man." Kuharich isn't conceding anything to the Packers though as he concluded, "It will be an interesting season for everybody. Every Sunday is a new Sunday." Quarterback King Hill, who hit on 16 of 35 passes for 196 yards, was not overly pleased with his performance...BLITZ GOT HILL: "I stayed with the same count a little too long," Hill surmised, "Just before the half I went on a two count twice in a row and then they blitzed and got me." Lee Roy Caffey, a former Eagle made the stop, throwing Hill for a nine-yard loss. Hill also thought he played it a little too cautious, saying, "We went out of our way to avoid interceptions. I threw it away a couple of times. We wanted to avoid interceptions and fumbles, that's what really kills you." Another unhappy ball player was defensive back Joe Scarpati who along with Nelson was victimized by a 50-yard Starr to Carroll Dale pass. "He (Dale) just sort of split between myself and the Wing (Nelson) more support. I should have given him (Nelson) more support," Scarpati said.

Golden Getaway as Packers Launch 50th Season

EXPERIENCE MAKES VIKINGS FORMIDABLE PACKER FOE

SEPT 17 (Green Bay Press-Gazette) — More than a few eyebrows were elevated hereabouts over the Minnesota Vikings' 47-7 manhandling of the Atlanta Falcons over the weekend. It is, after all, basically the same team which struggled to a 3-8-3 record and last place in the NFL's Central Division a year ago. Or is it? There have been several changes in the offensive platoon, chiefly the replacement of receivers Paul Flatley, Jim Phillips and Marlin McKeever by Gene Washington, Tom Hall and ex-Bear Billy Martin, but these have not been primarily responsible for the Minnesotans' upsurge. It is largely traceable to that mundane but highly important commodity, experience, which promises to make them even more formidable adversaries for the Packers in Milwaukee Sunday afternoon than they were a year ago. And the world champions, it should be noted, do not have fond memories of that confrontation. It saw the Vikings, frustrating the Packers at their own possession game, squeeze out a 10-7 victory in the misty gloom of County Stadium. Customarily, the reference to experience and the improvement it normally brings is confined to the players, but not in the case of the Vikings...ONE YEAR EXPERIENCE: "Last year, our coaching staff had a total of one year's experience in the NFL," Minnesota Publicity Director Bill McGrane points out. "Of our five coaches, including Bud Grant, only Jimmy Carr, who coaches our defensive backfield, had experience in the league. "Carr had coached one year under Van Brocklin in 1966." Norm Van Brocklin resigned at the end of that season and was succeeded by Grant, a former University of Minnesota end who had gained a coaching reputation with the Winnipeg Blue Bombers in



The Packers' Jerry Kramer is the picture of concentration as he kicks a third-quarter field goal against the Eagles in last Sunday's game. Defenders include Arunas Vasys (61) and Gary Pettigrew (88). Kramer kicked three field goals in the 30-13 Green Bay victory. (Post-Crescent News Service)

up," Starr fired a pass to Boyd Dowler and came right back without another completion - to Marv Fleming before sending Jim Grabowski on the 6-yard TD run. The Packer aerial game was dynamic, as usual, and the famed Packer sweep was a thing of beauty at times. And, of course, Jerry Kramer's field goal kicking left absolutely nothing to be desired. After four years of competitive inactivity as a kicker, Kramer has shown remarkable form...The Packers two top challengers for the Central Division crown ran into "lost weekends." The Bears' loss to Washington was a downright upset, while the Lions' defeat at Dallas wasn't entirely unexpected but the size of the score (59-13) was. The NFL's four leading contenders for a Super Bowl berth - Green Bay, Dallas, Los Angeles and Baltimore - all came through their openers without too much difficulty...For years, the Bears were bemoaned their inability to open at home (because of the length of the baseball season) and claimed other teams got the jump on them. This year, the Bruins finally arranged for a season opener at Wrigley Field, and they "blew" it. Not only did the Bears lose the game, but they also lost about \$25,000 in revenue because extra bleachers cannot be set up until the Cub season is over. The game also helped answer the question, "Whatever happened to Pat Richter?" The former Wisconsin star who was relegated to Redskin punting duty for several seasons, came into his own as a tight end with three receptions of touchdown passes.

DEADLY STARR, PACKERS TO FACE EVEN DEADLIER VIKING AERIALS

SEPT 18 (Green Bay Press-Gazette) - The Packers, with Bart Starr devastatingly precise, completed 14 of 18 passes en route to decisioning the Philadelphia Eagles in their inaugural, a lustrous 77.7 percentage. Minnesota's Vikings, the world champions' imminent

challengers, mounted an even deadlier air assault in their 47-7 debut against Atlanta, which saw quarterbacks Joe Kapp and Gary Cuozzo connect on 19 of 23 attempts. This figures out to a bulging 82.6 reading, sufficient to give the Packer defense pause as it awaits Sunday afternoon's exchange in Milwaukee County Stadium. The match which will temporarily determine possession of the NFL's Central Division penthouse...**PONDERS PROBLEM:** It is, obviously, of particular concern to the Pack's secondary, which will find it necessary to adjust to a "new" set of Viking receivers. Split end Jim Phillips, flanker Paul Flatley and tight end Marlin McKeever all have departed the Minnesota scene and been succeeded by sophomore Gene Washington, returnee Tom Hall and ex-Chicago Bear Billy Martin, respectively. Pondering this problem following Tuesday's practice, an enthusiastic, lighthearted session, elder statesman Willie Wood noted, "We've had the opportunity to play against Billy Martin when he was with the Bears and we saw a lot of this kid Washington when he was a rookie last season. So, in that sense, facing them this Sunday will not be anything new."...**CONFIDENCE IN MARTIN:** "However, we have to realize," he soberly added, "Washington has improved tremendously. Also his speed, and the confidence he has gained with his year's experience. "As to Martin, I really don't know what to expect of him," the Packers' accomplished free safety continued. "When he was with Chicago, they didn't throw to him too much. And last year, at Atlanta, he shared the tight end duties. "But just from the scouting report, they have gone to him quite often, which indicates they have confidence in his receiving ability." Hall, a Viking from 1962 through 1966, was not with the Minnesotans a year ago. But the Packers have reason to remember Tom, sent to New Orleans in the expansion draft last year and reacquired by the Vikings following the 1967 season. It was Hall who ran under one of Fran Tarkenton's extemporaneous bombs to trigger a game-winning field goal by Fred Cox which brought the Vikings a 24-23 decision over the Packers, their first ever at Green Bay's expense, at Lambeau Field in 1964. Reflecting upon the task ahead, Wood pensively observed, "I think we have our work cut out for us." Then, returning to his analysis, he said, "They seem to be the type of team that will go to the tight end or the flanker in a clutch situation. Of course, they throw a lot to their fullback, Bill Brown, too. "The thing they do different than a lot of other clubs is they throw a lot of play action passes. And this means you have to concentrate more on what you are doing, particularly because they do it very well...If you're assigned to a guy, you have to stay with him."...**PACKER PATTERN:** The Packers eased into their physical preparations for the Vikings Tuesday with a relatively light workout, a standard Tuesday custom. It was spiced by the Offense's victory over the Defense in the weekly touch football game between the rival lines, four touchdowns to one. All-pro tackle Forrest Gregg, more accustomed to clearing the way for his backfield colleagues, starred for the winners, scoring two TDs and passing for another...Following practice, the champions heard a detailed scouting report on the Vikings from their chief game scout, Wally Cruice...Property Manager Dad Braisher told Elijah Pitts, who recently shook knee and thigh injuries, "Your legs didn't seem to bother you at all against the Eagles." Pitts chuckled and replied, "Out there, you've got a lot more to worry about than your legs"...Sophomore Clint Jones has proved a more than adequate replacement for the Vikings' injured Dave Osborn. He rolled up 101 yards in 17 carries in Minnesota's opening 47-7 triumph over Atlanta last Saturday night. Bill Brown added 38 in 15 thrusts and caught six passes for 65 yards. Martin, who apparently

has taken over as the Vikes' punter following the departure of Bobby Walden for the Pittsburgh Steelers, averaged 44.3 yards on three kicks. Backup quarterback Gary Cuozzo has a 1.000 passing percentage. He hit three for three against the Falcons, after Joe Kapp weighed in with 16 for 20.

FLEMING SKIPS PUGILISM

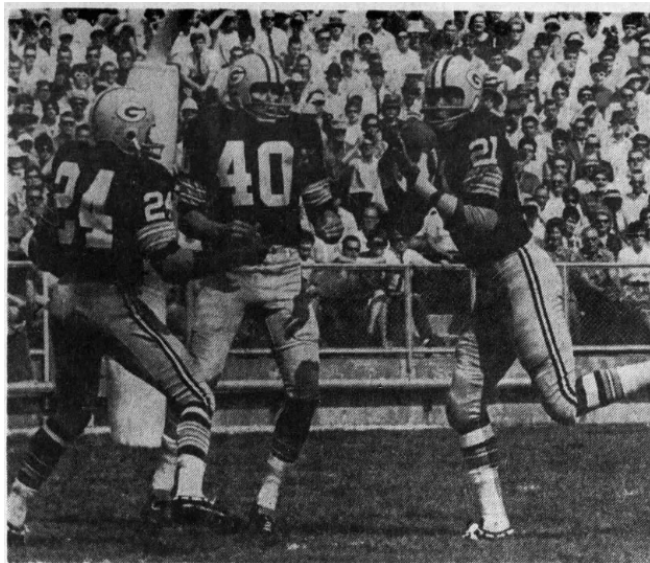
SEPT 18 (Green Bay Press-Gazette) – Marv Fleming has no pugilistic ambitions, at the moment at least, but the Packers' veteran tight end is training like a prizefighter these days. "I've been jumping rope, like the boxers do, for agility," the huge Californian informed as he skipped, with surprising rhythm and precision for one of his dimensions, in the empty visitors' dressing room at Lambeau Field. "I did it occasionally in the past but now I'm concentrating on being good at it," said Fleming, obviously filled with a new sense of dedication. "It really builds up the calf muscles. Francis Peay and I have been doing it together every day. He's been around a lot of boxers - he knows how to do it. I've been doing it every morning for about 10 minutes before I go out to practice. It loosens you up. When I'm not tired, I've done it for two and a half minutes without stopping." "That," Marvelous Marv, as he candidly prefers to be known, added with a grin, "is a long time." Fleming, who evinced impressive agility in two timely catches against the Eagles in Sunday's opening triumph, is hopeful the additional exercise will pay important dividends. "When a guy is as big as I am (6-foot-5 and 235 pounds), if you keep skipping rope, maybe some day you can get away." A smile overspread his mobile features and he joked, "I might get away on a 20-yarder." "My primary purpose, though, was to strengthen the tendon, which I hurt playing basketball about a month before I came to camp last year. It was stretched but, fortunately, it wasn't severed completely. I was lucky," he soberly appended. "I've known other players who have had the same injury and they haven't been able to run at full speed again. It took me until the last month of last season before I could run full speed again. The tendon is so important, you know, because this is where you have your leverage - an injury there makes it hard to drive, to push off, to turn, even to stop. When you have an injury like that, you just can't forget about it." This last documented by Vince Lombardi in a post-season discussion of Fleming's 1967 performance. "It took a lot of courage on Marv's part," he said, "to play with an injury like he had." The tendon, Fleming was asked, no longer bothers him? "No, not at all," he reported, quipping, "The only thing that bothers me now is linebackers." As suggested earlier, the 26-year-old Los Angeles resident is more serious about his career than ever. Marv, who bears more than a passing resemblance to comedian Bill Cosby, says, "I'm putting more time into observing my opponent on film - I'm doing a little more homework. I'm watching the films with Bart (Starr) and Zeke (Bratkowski) after everybody else has left. By doing this, I can coordinate better with Bart. I have a better knowledge of what to expect in a given situation." What has prompted his increased devotion? "I want to play a bigger part," he replied with obvious sincerity, "in the Packers' success."

PACKERS RANK THIRD IN NFL ON OFFENSE

SEPT 18 (New York) - The Dallas Cowboys appear to be the offensive powerhouse of the NFL after the first week of play, with the Minnesota Vikings second and the Green Bay Packers third. Dallas, with Don Meredith at the controls for only a bit more than half of the game, rolled up 542 yards against the Detroit Lions who pride themselves on a tight defense. Minnesota scored 47 points against Atlanta, wracking up 404 yards total offense...BALTIMORE FOURTH: The Packers who dumped Philadelphia 30-13, picked up 378 yards offense. Baltimore was fourth at 346. Cleveland showed the best opening day defense, holding the New Orleans Saints to 208 yards but once again Minnesota was in second place, yielding only 234 yards and seven points to the Falcons. Green Bay was ranked seventh, giving up 278 yards, 187 of them through the air. The Cowboys gave up the least yardage on the ground, 68, in their opener, and St. Louis shut down on the Low Angeles Rams' air game, permitting only 84 yards and nine completions in 22 attempts.

STINGY DEFENSE LATEST ADDITION TO VIKI THREAT

SEPT 19 (Green Bay Press-Gazette) – The emphasis, in most recent assessments of the ascendant Minnesota Vikings, has been on the explosive properties their offense. And it has not been misplaced, since Sunday's Pack opponents have averaged better than 33 points per game in 1968, including last weekend's 47-7 rumble over Atlanta in their NFL baptismal. But the Vikings, it would be prudent for the world champions to remember, also own a highly representative defense, a unit which permitted the opposition a meager average of 13 during those same six appearances...GRANT'S APPRAISAL: This would suggest there has been some improvement over 1967, when the Minnesotans finished a respectable seventh in the NFL in the matter of points allowed, obviously the most important defensive yardstick. It is, moreover, Coach Bud Grant's appraisal of the situation. "But feels it should be better, if only because of added experience,"



There Isn't a Philadelphia Eagle in sight as the Packers' Bob Jeter (21) in-clude Tom Brown (40) and Willie Wood tercepts a King Hill pass in Sunday's game at Lambeau Field. Onlookers in-clude Tom Brown (40) and Willie Wood (24). (Post-Crescent News Service Photo)

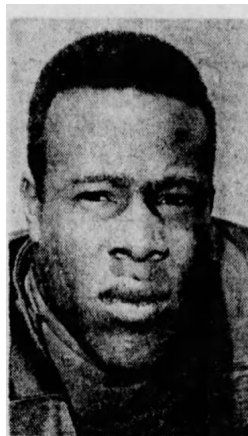
TEAM OFFENSE			
Team	Yards	Rushing	Passing
Dallas	542	161	381
Minnesota	404	186	218
Green Bay	378	185	193
Baltimore	346	161	185
Cleveland	338	153	185
Washington	337	74	263
New York	331	165	166
Pittsburgh	324	130	194
Chicago	316	165	151
Philadelphia	278	91	187
San Francisco	272	83	189
Detroit	257	68	189
St. Louis	244	75	169
Los Angeles	238	154	84
Atlanta	234	81	153
New Orleans	208	85	-23

TEAM DEFENSE			
Team	Avg. Yards	Avg. Rushing	Avg. Passing
Cleveland	208	85	123
Minnesota	234	81	153
St. Louis	238	154	84
Los Angeles	244	75	169
Dallas	257	68	189
Baltimore	272	83	189
Green Bay	278	91	187
Washington	316	165	151
New York	324	130	194
Pittsburgh	331	165	166
Chicago	337	74	263
New Orleans	338	153	185
San Francisco	346	161	185
Philadelphia	378	185	193
Atlanta	404	186	218
Detroit	542	161	381

Publicity Director Bill McGrane, presently a Titledown visitor, says. "Alan Page, for one should be an improved player in his second year. Page (late of Notre Dame) got his indoctrination against the Packers last year (a 10-7 Viking victory at Milwaukee, scene of next Sunday's struggle). That was his first start...INTERCEPTION LEADER: "But probably the biggest difference has come in the addition of Paul Krause (two-time NFL interception leader acquired from Washington in exchange for tight end Marlin McKeever) at free safety." "We've had some good people in our secondary," McGrane explained, "but we haven't had anybody with good hands who can pick off the ball. Krause can do that." To illustrate his point, the Minnesota publicist reported, "One day during training camp, Paul said, 'I wonder if Kapp (Joe) and Cuozzo (Gary) would let me get in the line of receivers. I've been watching and I'd like to try it.'...SUCCEEDS HACKBART: "They let him do it and started throwing to him. The first two or three they threw were easy passes, but then they began to throw him everything, ups and flies, and so forth. Between the two of them, they must have thrown him 15 balls, and he didn't drop a ball. He has great hands." Krause, an All-NFL choice as a rookie in 1964 when he led the league in interceptions, has succeeded ex-Packer Dale Hackbart in the Viking secondary. "He's a different kind of free safety than Hackbart," McGrane informed. "He's not as strong a tackler as Hack. But as Grant points out, this isn't an important thing at his position. He tells Krause, 'Just don't let 'em get beyond you, because you're the last man.' Krause is like a centerfielder - he ranges well. A good example is the second pre-season game against Denver. The score was tied 3-3 and he went in on a safety blitz. He ran into the quarterback, Steve Tensi, and the fullback, Floyd Little - the ball was snapped and he was in their backfield, that's how fast it was...BLITZ STRONG SAFETY: "Tensi fumbled, we recovered on the 15 and scored on the next play. On the first play following the kickoff, we blitzed with our strong side safety, Karl Kassulke. Tensi passed into the area Kassulke had just vacated and Krause picked it off and ran it back 29 yards for a touchdown. It wasn't a missed throw - Krause went in there and took the ball away from the intended receiver. All of this happened in the space of 12 seconds, I might add." Suddenly out front 17-3, the Vikings surged from there to a 39-16 victory, the first of three in five grapefruit league ventures...ELLER IMPROVES: Grant's prediction of defensive improvement also is based upon the pre-season performance of veteran end Carl Eller. "He's been sort of in-and-out in his first four seasons," Mc Grane reported, "but this year he's just looked great. He's asserting himself." The former University of Minnesota athlete has considerable to assert, it might be added. A king-sized 6-foot-6 and 265 pounds, he also is blessed with spectacular speed. "Osborn (Dave), Jones (Clinton) and Washington (Gene) are the only ones on the squad," Bill informed, "who will beat Eller by a step at forty yards."...PACKER PATTEN: Although Hackbart is no longer a starter, he is not leading a sedentary life, McGrane informed. "He plays as much as he did before," he said. "Hack plays behind Krause at free safety and, on obvious passing situations when we go to five defensive backs, he plays weak side linebacker replacing Kirby (John). Fortunately, with him, he's bigger than most defensive backs at 6-4 and 215. They'll try to cross you up sometimes and run on you, and Hackbart does a pretty good job against that"...Willie Davis, Packer defensive captain, missed Wednesday's rain-spattered practice because of what he described as "persistent headaches and dizziness". He was feeling "much better" Wednesday night after treatment for an apparent sinus blockage by team physician Dr. Eugene Brusky and Trainer Carl (Bud) Jorgensen. "I thought for a minute I might have had a slight concussion," Willie confessed, "because it had been bothering me since Sunday night". He expected to rejoin the squad today...The Packers will conclude their home preparations for the Vikings with Friday morning's workout. They will leave for Milwaukee by bus at 9:30 Saturday morning and practice at County Stadium upon arrival.

PRACTICE MAKES KRAMER PERFECT-SO FAR

SEPT 20 (Green Bay Press-Gazette) - Practice does make perfect. It has, at least, for Jerry Kramer presently sporting a gaudy 1.000 batting average as the Packers' placement artist. The wide-shouldered guard, who punctuated the world champions' inaugural 30-13 verdict over the Eagles last Sunday by toeing three field goals in as many attempts, credits his early season success to increased concentration on the kicking art. "I'm putting in a lot of time on it," the NFL's reigning Blocker of the Year reported in the wake of another crisply consistent session Thursday...USED TO LUNGE: Kramer, who has been both more accurate and artistic than he was in 1963 when he was the Pack's regular placekicker, admits, "I'm hitting it well. I'm hitting consistently from the 47 in practice. I used to lunge when I tried one from there." The difference? "It's just timing and confidence." Kramer, whose potent right foot obviously could figure prominently in Sunday's collision with the Minnesota Vikings at Milwaukee, whimsically observed, "I used to have what you'd call a



Williams—23

Running Back—Arizona State
Height 6-1, Weight 212
Born in Richmond, Calif., Jan. 14, 1946

Second year . . . drafted fourth in 1967 in Redskins place as part of Ron Rector trade in 1966 . . . Junior College 100 yard dash champion running 100 in 9.3 . . . runs 40 in gear in 4.3 . . . attended Contra Costa Jr. College before entering Arizona State . . . saw first action in '67 returning kickoffs against Cards in 7th game of season . . . returned 1 for TD vs. Cards, 2 vs. Browns and 1 vs. Rams in for 41.1 yard ave. and 4 TDs . . . led team in rushing last two games of season and W. Div. Playoff against Rams . . . 2 TDs rushing against Rams in play-off, one on 46 yard sprint to tie score . . . UPI All-Rookie Team 1967. Residence: Richmond Calif.

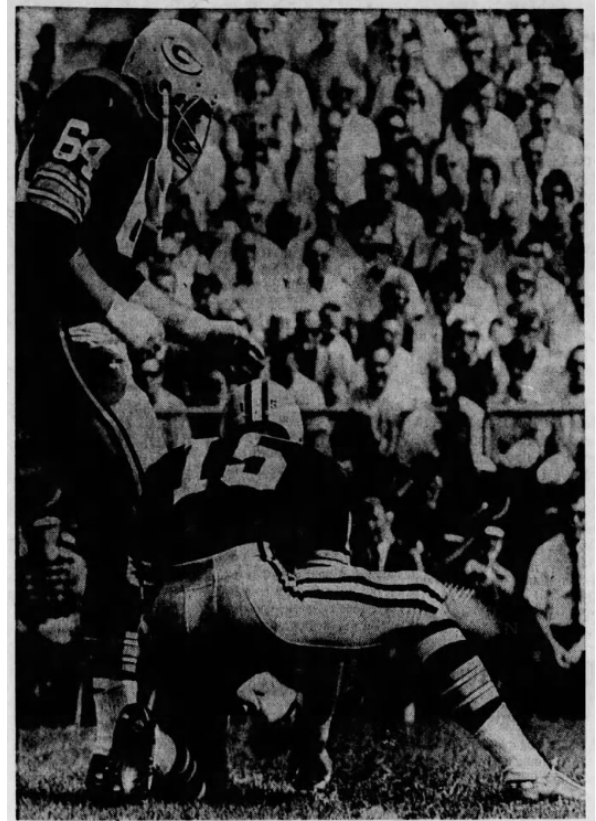


Jeter—21

Defensive Cornerback — Iowa
Height 6-1, Weight 200
Born in Union, S.C., May 9, 1937

Sixth season in NFL . . . Business Administration Major . . . Packers second round draft choice in 1960 but decided to play in Canada . . . Sat out 1962 season and joined Packers in 1963 . . . Backed up McGee and Dowler as receiver in 1964 . . . Got starting chance against Browns in 1965 Title game . . . Started every game at right corner in 1966 and 1967 . . . Scored on 46 yard interception against Colts in League opener and on 75 yard interception against Rams in season finale in 1966 . . . Over- all, had 5 interceptions for 142 yards and a 28.4 yard average per theft . . . Unanimous All-Pro 1967 . . . Pro Bowl in 1967 . . . During off-season works with youth at Pittsburgh Social Center. Residence: Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

smooth, well-coordinated lunge. "The difference now is just confidence, and a lot of time. Every day, I kick 35 to 45 kicks and I'm getting that rhythm. I could use a few more - 45 to 50 probably would be about right."...**LEADING SCORER:** Kramer, who was the Packers' leading scorer in '63 with 91 points when he kicked 43 conversions to set a club record, also credits predecessor Don Chandler with an assist. "Don helped me a lot," he informed. "He improved my kicking tremendously. Don helped me with my technique and my problems. We kicked together in practice for three years and he was watching me all the time. He'd tell me what I was doing wrong." Kramer has no illusions, of course, about maintaining his present perfection....**35-YARD FLOATER:** "I don't think that's going to last too long," he said dryly, then observed, "There is no reason it can't last - there's no law that says you can't make 'em all, although it's highly unlikely." His final Sunday effort (a 35-yarder) had been a floater rather than an "orthodox" end-over-end type, it was noted. Kramer nodded and explained, "I hit it a little high, I guess, although I had real good distance. It doesn't take too much to be off. If you hit it low, it takes off with a fast spin. If you hit it high, it floats and if you hit it square, it goes end over end, right through." What does he consider his maximum range? "It depends on the breeze," Jerry replied. "I was kicking before the Bear game in Milwaukee and I made one from 52. There was a little breeze, but not too much. With any breeze at all, I wouldn't be afraid to try anything from 52 to 55 yards. Of course, the chances of making one from the 50 obviously are not as great as from the 30. And there are chances of getting it blocked, and you have to worry about that at that position on the field. As a result, you have a tendency to press a little. You're not concerned about making it or not making it, but just getting it up over the line so it doesn't get blocked."...**PACKER PATTERN:** Defensive Capt. Willie Davis, who missed Wednesday's workout because of a heavy sinus blockage, rejoined the squad Thursday and reported feeling "fine". He and his colleagues toiled against the anticipated Viking offense to cap the session, with Zeke Bratkowski and Bill Stevens alternating in quarterback Joe Kapp's role...Deral Teteak, a Packer linebacker from 1952 through 1956, was a practice visitor. Teteak, a former Oshkosh High School and University of Wisconsin star, is now a Green Bay resident, having become a partner in a school supply firm last month. He had been a member of the UW coaching staff from 1957 through 1967...Former Packer Coach Gene Ronzani will undergo open heart surgery at Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn., a week from Friday, he has informed Charley Brock, president of the Packer Alumni Association in reply to an invitation to attend the annual Packer Homecoming Sept. 28-29. "The best news I can have," he wrote, "is a victory over the Lions (the Packers] homecoming opponent)."...The Packers will leave for Milwaukee by bus at 9:30 Saturday morning and practice at County Stadium upon arrival, after which they will check in at the Pfister Hotel.



Kramer Scores Against Eagles

—Press-Gazette Photo

KAPP NO SURPRISE TO FINKS

SEPT 20 (Green Bay Press-Gazette) — If the Minnesota Vikings make significant strides this season or, unthinkable as it may be in these partisan precincts, win the NFL's Central Division championship, Coach Bud Grant will have to credit General Manager Jim Finks with a major assist. The former Pittsburgh Steeler quarterback, it develops, is the man who engineered the highly involved transaction which last year brought the Vikings their current field general, Joe Kapp, who leads the surging Minnesotans against the Packers in Milwaukee Sunday. Since accomplished quarterbacks are so vital to a pro football team's success and always in short supply, the potential of Finks' contribution is obvious, should Kapp continue to perform as he has thus far in the '68 season. Joe, who escorted the Minnesotans to a 3-2 pre-season record with a 58 per cent completion mark, was even more effective in last weekend's opening 47-7 decimation of the Atlanta Falcons, hitting 16 of 20 passes for 191 yards and three touchdowns. This has not been any particular surprise to Finks, who as general manager of the Calgary Stampeders of the Canadian League, signed Kapp off the University of California campus in 1959. The ex-Golden Bear later was hampered by a knee injury and, Finks told columnist Sid Hartman of the Minneapolis Tribune, "At the time, we were convinced that Kapp wouldn't be as productive any more so we traded him to Vancouver for three outstanding Canadian players and one American, who incidentally made our Calgary team a contender..." **WON NATIONAL TITLE:** "Joe went on to Vancouver in 1962 and 1963 where he threw the ball as well as any quarterback I've seen in the NFL. He quarterbacked Vancouver to the western division title in 1963 and Grey Cup (national championship) in 1964." Finks set about re-acquiring his former hireling, with Grant's approval, after Kapp had contract difficulties with Vancouver following the 1966 season. Bud had reason to remember Joe, Hartman points out, "having lost a few games to Kapp while coaching at Winnipeg." Gaining the disgruntled signalist's services proved somewhat sticky, however. "The first thing we had to do was to make a deal with Vancouver for Kapp's rights," Finks told Hartman. "Step No. 2 was to get all eight teams in the Canadian League to waive on him. We had to make a few promises to the Canadians for this favor and we have kept our word. Step No. 3 was to get a contract Kapp had signed with Houston of the American League thrown out. It was illegal and football commissioner Pete Rozelle ruled in our favor. Step No. 4 was to get Kapp signed." Hartman went on to explain, "Finks had to deal with John Elliott Cook, the same lawyer who negotiated the million dollar deal for John Brodie of the San Francisco 49ers..." **NEGOTIATE FIVE**

WEEKS: "These negotiations took about four to five weeks. Had they been completed earlier, Kapp might have been in the Viking training camp last summer. Had this happened, the deal for quarterback Gary Cuozzo might not have been made and the Vikings would be two first draft choices richer today. However, Finks and Grant are happy with the Cuozzo deal since they feel an NFL team must have two top quarterbacks. The Viking owners, who in some quarters have been accused of not spending money to sign players, had to shell out in six figures to sign Kapp. Finks has really never gotten the credit he deserves for swinging this Kapp deal - one that most NFL owners thought was too complicated to complete."

GRANT GIVES HIS VIKINGS GOOD RATING

SEPT 20 (Green Bay Press-Gazette) - Minnesota Viking Coach Bud Grant offers this report on the offensive team the Packers will have to stop in their battle for the NFL Central Division lead in Milwaukee Sunday: Center Mickey Tingelhof - Good quickness and intelligence. Guards Larry Bowie and Jim Vellone - Young veterans, durable and aggressive. Left Tackle Grady Alderman - Not big but knows his position and techniques needed to handle bigger opponents. Right Tackle Doug Davis - Young veteran with good size and ability. Tight End Billy Martin - Good receiver and improving blocking. Split End Gene Washington - 200 per cent improved over last year. Flanker Tom Hall - Steady, good hands, good competitor. Quarterback Joe Kapp - More familiar with Viking system, decisive, strong arm. Back Bill Brown - Can do it all. Back Clint Jones - Faster than he looks with exceptional balance...From Jerry Burns, former Packer defensive coach now Vike offensive backfield coach: "Give me my choice of any team to pick against the field to win the league championship and the Super Bowl and it would be Green Bay. It's the finest team in football. I think Bengtson is the finest defensive coach there is. And if Lombardi was admired as head coach, talk to Packers like Henry Jordan about what they think of Bengtson. He'll be great as head coach, too."... While Burns went from Green Bay to Minneapolis, Tom McCormick moved from Viking assistant to Packer offensive backfield coach a year ago. And, ironically, both head coaches, Phil Bengtson and Bud Grant, played their college ball under Bernie Bierman at Minnesota...The George Halas-George Allen feud is continuing with new Bear Coach Jim Dooley subbing for Halas. According to Chicago Tribune sportswriter Cooper Rollow, Dooley publicly suggested that the Rams' Fearsome Foursome uses hands like Sonny Liston. And Allen retorted, "If you want to see illegal tactics, I'd like to put out a 10-minute training film on holding, featuring the Chicago offensive line."...Baltimore News-American Sports Editor John Steadman was slightly enthused by the Colts' 27-10 win over San Francisco last week. He wrote: "It was the kind of performance that would be highly acceptable in late December, the season riding on the outcome and the Baltimore Colts faced with a win or be exterminated situation. The Colts yesterday put on what was akin to a flawless effort. Professional in every respect."... Whether it helped or not, the Redskins upset the Bears or not, the blackboard in the Washington coaches' dressing room carried the message: "Success always comes when a man is dedicated enough to make that second effort. V.L." Assistant Coach Ray Mathews admitted writing the message but declared, "I don't know who added the initials."...FOOTNOTES: There is a story around that the Colts agreed to pay Timmy Brown's asking price when the Rams began showing interest in the fleet back....Four of the five times the Rams have won their division or conference title, they have captured their home opener. They open their home schedule against the Steelers Sunday...Dallas linebacker Lee Roy Jordan, commenting on the Cowboys nailing Detroit quarterback Greg Landry five times, said, "Blitzing isn't our style but we know he would have trouble picking up the linebackers. That's the price a rookie has to pay."...The Redskins are hailing Pat Richter not only for his pass catching but for his improved blocking...The Jets have abandoned the traditional pre-game steak in favor of letting the players order anything they want. Many are eating the once-frowned-on pancakes or waffles because of the carbohydrates they provide.

NITSCHKE PREDICTS MAJOR CHALLENGE IN ALL-AROUND FULLBACK BILL BROWN

SEPT 21 (Milwaukee-Green Bay Press-Gazette) - Raymond Ernest Nitschke, a man who thrives on challenge, anticipates one of major proportions here Sunday afternoon. The Vikings' Bill Brown, whom he calls "one of the best, if not the best, all-around fullbacks in the league," will be his primary responsibility in the Packers' important exchange with Minnesota. Analyzing his sabbath assignment, the Packers' great middle linebacker described Brown as "an outstanding football player...He does everything well." The 5-foot-11, 230-pound linebuster, who goes into action as the NFL's scoring co-leader with 18 points, "is not only a hard runner but a great receiver," Nitschke continued. "He has great hands - plays the ball real well. They used him a lot in their patterns. And he blocks extremely well. So we consider him to be one of the best, if not the best, all-around fullbacks in the league. He's a real determined football player."



Grabowski -33

Fullback - Illinois

Height 6-2, Weight 220

Born in Chicago, Ill., Sept. 9, 1944

First round draft choice from Lions in Ron Kramer trade... Third year in pro ball... Sporting News Co-Player of the Year in 1965... Consensus All-American at Illinois... Finance Major... Broke all Red Grange's records at Illinois and 6 Big Ten marks... Gained 2,878 yards in 3 years... gained more than 125 yards in 6 of ten games senior year and 1,258 yards overall... Gained 239 yards vs. Wisconsin for career high in 1964... Academic All-American... Started in 1967 and despite being sidelined after eighth game with knee injury was still leading Packer ground gainer for 1967... Set club record for most rushing attempts with 32 carries against Bears. Residence: Chicago, Ill.



Starr--15

Quarterback — Alabama
Height 6-1, Weight 200
Born in Montgomery, Ala., Jan.
9, 1934

Twelfth year in pro ball . . .
Drafted by Packers in 17th
round in 1956 . . . Broke in under
Tobin Rote in 1957 . . . Shared
position with Babe Parilli and
Lamar McHan in 1958 . . . Start-
ed last 4 games in 1959 . . .
Regular in 1960 . . . Winningest
QB in pro football . . . 57 per
cent completion average over
career . . . Quarterbacked Pack-
ers to Western Division Titles in
1961, 1962, 1965 and 1966 . . .
World Titles in 1961, 1962, 1963
and 1966 . . . High School All-
American . . . History Major . . .
Has completed higher percent-
age of passes in career than
any other NFL player and has
lowest percentage interceptions
. . . holds NFL record of 294 con-
secutive passes without an inter-
ception . . . NFL leading passer
1962, 1964 and 1966 . . . Most Val-
uable Player in NFL 1966 . . .
Voted MVP in AFL-NFL Super
Bowl 1967 and 1968 . . . Played in
Pro-Bowl 1961, 1962, 1963 and
1966 . . . All-Pro AP, UPI, and
NEA 1966 . . . Jim Thorpe
Award winner 1966 . . . Has
gained over 2,000 yards passing
6 of last 7 years . . . Missed 5
games in 1963 with broken hand
and 4 in 1967 with shoulder, rib
and hand injuries . . . During
off-season does sales promotion.
Residence: Green Bay, Wiscon-
sin.

You have to respect him because he puts out all the time. Each time you play him, you gain a little more respect for him." "In his attitude, he reminds me so much of Jim Taylor when he was playing with the Packers," Nitschke mused. "He gives you 100 per cent every game." "I have my job cut out for me," the 10-year veteran summed up. "It's quite a challenge...PACKER PATTERN: The statistics support Nitschke's estimate of Brown. In 11 appearances against the Packers, he has amassed 723 yards - 501 of them rushing in 161 attempts. He also has caught 24 passes for 222 yards and scored a total of 7 touchdowns...The Packers' sterling split end, Boyd Dowler, has had even more spectacular success against the Vikings. He has speared 55 passes for 1,111 yards, a 22-yard average, and 8 touchdowns in 14 games. His fellow long ball artist, Carroll Dale, and quarterback Bart Starr also have compiled lustrous records against the Vikings. Starr has completed 147 of 242 passes for 2,256 yards, 21 touchdowns and a plush 60.7 percentage in 12 appearances. Dale has averaged a dazzling 31.8 yards per reception for 8 catches, good for 255 yards and 3 touchdowns...Brown has not yet signed a Minnesota contract and when newsmen brought up this point at a Twin Cities luncheon this week, Coach Bud Grant joked to General Manager Jim Finks, "For heaven sakes don't sign him if he plays so well without a contract"...A Starr admirer, Grant says the Packer field general "is the greatest in our books. He beats the computer - you can't rely on his tendencies because he's experienced and works so well with his alternate receivers. He can hurt you even though you've covered every area." The Viking headmaster also paid tribute to the Packer defense. "The key to the Packers' defense is their outstanding linebackers," he says. "Their rush line beats you with experience. They don't give you the headlong rush of Los Angeles or other huge lines, but they stay in their routes, raise their arms and finesse your linemen."...Fred Cox, the Vikes' placekicking specialist, takes a 12-game success string into Sunday's match. He kicked field goals in each of the Minnesotans' last 11 games of the 1967 season and their first league outing this year - the 47-7 rout of Atlanta last weekend...Art Powell, a long time AFL star with San Diego and Buffalo, is understudying the Vikings' Tom Hall at flanker.

VIKINGS IMPRESSIVE TO BENGTON

SEPT 21 (Milwaukee) — The Green Bay Packers and the Minnesota Vikings battle for the Central Division lead in Milwaukee County Stadium Sunday afternoon. And, it's only the second week of the NFL season. Both clubs won their openers last week as Minnesota crushed Atlanta 47-7 and Green Bay toppled Philadelphia easily, 30-13. Chicago and Detroit, the other members of the Central Division, stumbled to Washington and Dallas, respectively. The Vikings will bring a lot of credentials to Milwaukee. Their flurry last week was a Viking point record as quarterback Joe Kapp hit 16 of 20 passes, including 11 in a row, for 191 yards and three touchdowns. Running back Clint Jones' 17 carries accounted for 101 yards as Minnesota balanced its attack with 186 yards rushing and 218 passing...PRAISES PERFORMANCE: "They look good, very good," Packers coach Phil Bengtson said. "Kapp seems to be a little smoother this year." Last year, Kapp completed only two passes, but the Vikings upset Green Bay 10-7 when Fred Cox booted a 12-yard field goal with eight seconds remaining in the game. The Packers evened the count the second time the two clubs met, 30-27, when Don Chandler kicked a 19-yard field goal, also with eight seconds showing on the clock. Gene Washington "is a much improved receiver," Bengtson said of the big (6-foot-3 by 218 pounds) Minnesota split end. "They have a good running attack with (Bill) Brown and Jones. And they have a good passing game, too." "We will have to stop their big threats," the Packer coach said. "We're going to have more consistency defensively to do that."...BACKS SHINE: While Minnesota was rewriting its record book last week, the Packers were adding to theirs. Donny Anderson rushed for 92 yards, his best ever as a pro, and Elijah Pitts, fully recovered from a knee injury, added 45 yards. Veteran quarterback Bart Starr connected on 14 of 18 passes for 220 yards, and receiver Boyd Dowler hauled in five aerials for 110. In the 14 meetings between the two clubs. The Packers have won 11. Green Bay has been extremely successful against Minnesota through the air. Dowler has scored eight touchdowns, flanker Carroll Dale three and tight end Marv Fleming two. But, the Vikings have almost throttled Green Bay's "Road Runner," Travis Williams. The speedster averaged only 21.3 yards on kickoff returns against Minnesota in his rookie season last year while terrorizing the rest of the league.

PACKER-VIKING TILT FIRST KEY TEST

SEPT 22 (Milwaukee-Green Bay Press-Gazette) — It was Monday morning, following the Packers' highly successful inaugural against the Eagles, and Phil Bengtson was pleased to observe, "It's nice to be on top, even though there's been only one game played." Nothing if not eminently realistic, the Packers' imperturbable field leader obviously was alluding to the practical aspects of the situation - namely the 13 more weeks of NFL skirmishing which lie ahead to determine a Central Division champion. But, early

though it may be, Bengtson and his reigning NFL top brass are profoundly aware a potentially critical assignment awaits them in County

Stadium this afternoon. Offensive Capt. Bob Skoronski, in fact, unreservedly terms their 1 o'clock showdown (WNFL) against Minnesota's burgeoning young Vikings "a key game." "It's a team in our division, which means we've got to put a loss on them," he pointed out, "and win one ourselves...A GOOD TEST: "Another thing, they've got a real good football team, so it will be a good test for us, a good test to evaluate our own title chances. First place is at stake (the Vikings also are 1-0) and, if we want to win our division, we've got to beat the contenders...We have to bear in mind that a victory for them could give them a lot of confidence," he said. Both teams will come into their confrontation, which finds the Packers favored by eight points, with substantial momentum. The Vikings smothered Atlanta's Falcons, 47-7, in their debut while the Packers, although less spectacular, were highly effective in dispatching the Eagles, 30-13. Bengtson had a word of caution, it should be added, for those who might be inclined to downgrade the Vikings' performance against Atlanta, which may be the NFL's weakest entry...OFFENSE IS POWERFUL: "When you look at the points they've scored - I don't care who they scored them against," he insists, "it shows they've got a powerful offense." He had reference, he indicated, to the Minnesotans' pre-season efforts, which included a 52-10 thumping of the Eagles and 39-16 conquest of the AFL's Denver Broncos, as well as their rout of the Falcons. Evincing deep respect for the Vikings, Bengtson flatly declaimed, "They figure to be contenders, and those are the teams you've got to beat."...PACK HARD PUT: The recent record of the neighborhood rivals' series is hardly conducive to over-confidence. Although the Packers have won 11 of the 14 previous meetings, four of their last five encounters have been decided by from three to five points. For example, our heroes were hard put to outlast Norm Van Brocklin's tireless tigers, 24-19, in their second 1965 collision in Lambeau Field. A year later, nomadic Fran Tarkenton keyed the invaders to a 20-17 victory on the same soil with two touchdowns by fullback Bill Brown and two Fred Cox field goals. The Packers exacted 28-16 revenge for this indignity in the Twin Cities three weeks later, although an interception by Herb Adderley was required to thwart a fourth quarter Viking threat with Green Bay holding a somewhat tenuous 21-16 lead. Last year, the Vikings were even more anti-social, forging a 10-7 victory in their first meeting here when they sabotaged the Bays with their own ball control weapon, then dueled the Pack to a virtual standoff in Minnesota before submitting, 30-27...BROWN RETURNS: Brown, a major villain in that '66 piece, will be in the Vikings' cast this afternoon, along with quarterback Joe Kapp, who had just joined them from Canada in time to engineer last year's upset, plus a new threat. He is sophomore halfback Clint Jones, the former Michigan State luminary who is filling in - admirably, it might be added - for the injured Dave Osborn. More of a long range artist than the blockbusting Osborn, Jones amassed 101 yards rushing, in 17 attempts, in last weekend's annihilation of Atlanta...HITS 16 OF 20: Kapp, a 58 per cent passer during the preseason who compiled a glittering 16-for-20 mark against the Falcons, will pose a major and complementary problem for the Packer secondary with such talented targets as Gene Washington, a home run type, Tom Hall and ex-Bear Billy Martin available. The Packers can counter with a formidable arsenal of their own, of course, with quarterback Bart Starr, a highly artistic 14-for-18 against the Eagles, throwing to Boyd Dowler, Carroll Dale and Marv Fleming, among others...TIGHTFISTED DEFENSE: They also own a rapidly developing ground game, paced by youthful Donny Anderson and Jim Grabowski plus veteran Elijah Pitts, which rolled up 185 yards against Philadelphia. That figure may be difficult to duplicate, however, against Minnesota's tightfisted defense, keyed by the 6-foot-6, 265-pound Carl Eller, sophomore Alan Page and middle linebacker Lonnie Warwick. It restricted the Falcons to 234 yards, including an anemic 81 rushing. There is a distinct possibility this one, like 1967's two struggles, will be decided by a field goal. If so, both combatants are well equipped, the Vikings with their longtime specialist, Cox, and the Packers with a vastly improved Jerry Kramer. Cox now has kicked field goals in the Minnesotans' last 12 league games, including the final 11 of 1967, and Kramer was a perfect 3-for-3 against the Eagles (17, 22 and 35 yards) after connecting on 3 of 6 attempts during the grapefruit season.

Battle Lines

Probable Starting Lineups: OFFENSE

MINNESOTA		GREEN BAY
Washington	SE	Dowler
Alderman	LT	Skoronski
Vellone	LG	Gillingham
Tinglehoff	C	Bowman
Bowie	RG	Kramer
Davis	RT	Gregg
Martin	TE	Fleming
Kapp	QB	Starr
Jones	LH	Anderson
Hall	FL	Dale
B. Brown	FB	Grabowski

DEFENSE

MINNESOTA		GREEN BAY
Eller	LE	Davis
Page	LT	Kostelnik
Larsen	RT	Jordan
Marshall	RE	Aldridge
Winston	LLB	Robinson
Warwick	MLB	Nitschke
Kirby	RLB	Caffey
Mackbee	LH	Adderley
Sharockman	RH	Jeter
Kassulke	LS	T. Brown
Krause	RS	Wood

Packer-Viking Series

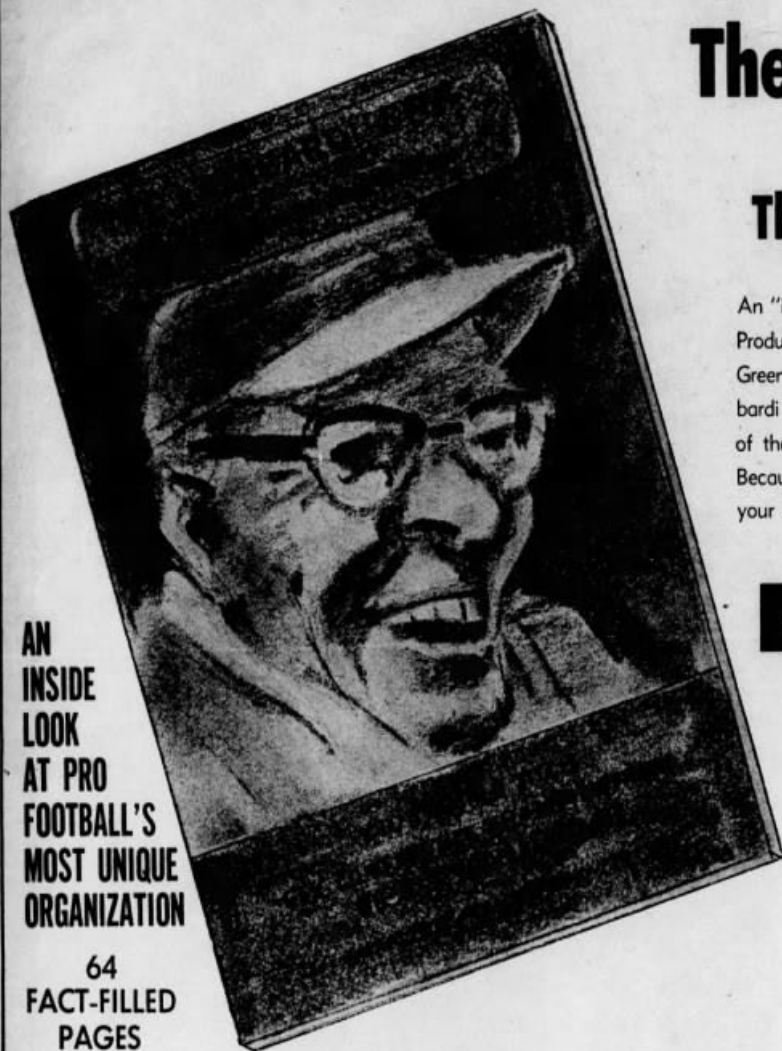
Packers won 11, Vikings won 3. Points
— Packers 417, Vikings 222.

Packer-Viking Tilt First Key Test

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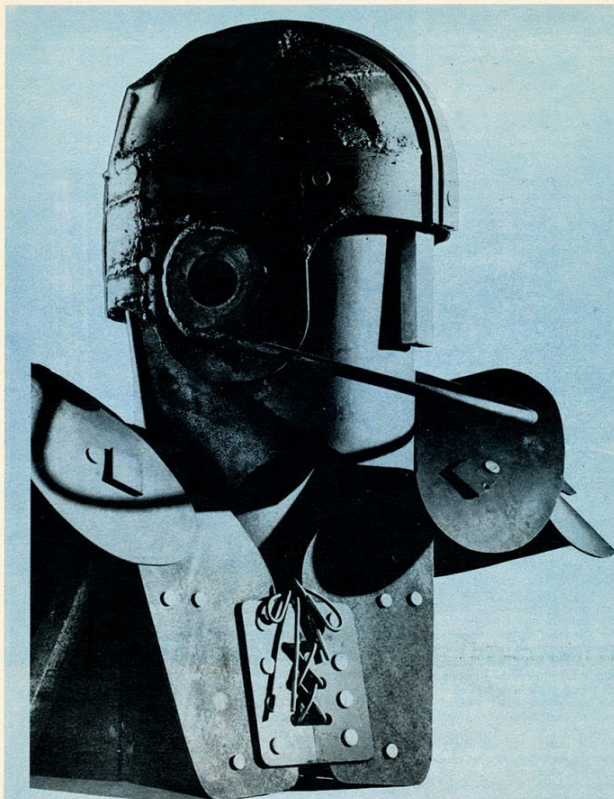
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PRO FOOTBALL 1968

CRACKS IN THE GOLDEN FACADE

by TEX MAULE

Professional football, approaching its 50th year on the American sports scene, has reached early middle age in enviable condition. In 1968 it appears sound, solvent and secure. More than three million people will have watched exhibition games ever before the season gets under way, and another eight or nine million will crowd the nation's stadiums before Super Bowl ends the show in January.

Season ticket sales have boomed in both leagues, and the NFL, having played to more than 88% of park capacity in 1967, will near season-long sellouts in all of its parks this year. The AFL, spurred by the surprising success of its clubs against the older league in the preseason games, will probably enjoy an even healthier increase in season attendance. Television networks have vied with one another in showering money on the teams for the privilege of saturating the sets of the nation with pro football.

The National Football League even operates its own concessions, in effect, with NFL Properties, an organization which licenses toy franchises and product endorsements on a league-wide scale. The money goes to the league and to the players. It does not amount to much, but every little bit helps. All in all, the empire Commissioner Pete Rozelle surveys from a corner office in Rockefeller Center seems sounder than the gold standard, with a future assured of continuing success.

"Seems" is the operative word. For the fact is pro football could conceivably become a victim of that very success. Capacity crowds and TV's top dollar are, oddly enough, portents of fiscal difficulty. The player strike that slowed NFL teams in their preparation for the 1968 season (and probably accounted for the early success of the better-prepared AFL clubs in preseason games against the NFL) cost the NFL several sacks of gold in added pension benefits, pay for exhibition games and higher payrolls.

The Los Angeles Rams, coming off a 1967 season which was by all odds the most successful in the club's history, cleared less than \$300,000 on a business worth over \$10 million. The Rams, while one of the more generous teams in salaries, scouting expenditures and general expense, are not out of line with the rest of pro football. The squeeze put on by the players hurt them, and it will hurt the rest of pro football, too.

The problem, of course, is that while expenses—for players, pensions, scouting and travel—are going up steadily, income is nearing a ceiling. Seat sales and TV returns are reaching the sticking point. Unlike most businesses, pro football clubs are in the unfortunate position of not being able to manufacture more of their product to meet increased demand.

Practically, there are only three avenues to more income, none of them palatable to the general public. The clubs can 1) raise ticket prices, or 2) cut their squads severely, and by so doing reduce the quality of the game or 3) try to squeeze more money from the networks. The only way the networks can afford to pay more money is by proliferation of TV games. The AFL, in its opening week of league play, put games on the home screen on Friday night, Sunday afternoon and Monday night; if the NFL matches that programming, pro football will compete with old movies for total TV time, a situation devoutly not to be desired.

The hangover from the war between the AFL and the NFL accounts for most of the current headache. Players were paid exorbitant bonuses, salaries skyrocketed and a player standard of living was created which may be difficult for the owners to maintain—let alone improve. While it is doubtful that the newly militant player association will relax its demands for more money, more benefits and bigger pensions in the near future, this may finally be pro football's only alternative to pricing itself out of business. The players are concerned with a brief 5-to-10-year earning span and, understandably, want as much as they can get. The owners have to live with the increasing payrolls year after year. The time may come eventually when the costs will be too high.

Maybe the answer lies in the formation of more clubs like Green Bay, a civically owned, nonprofit club in which all money earned is plowed back into the franchise and the operation is truly a sport, not a business. Or maybe the players will have to look forward even beyond their pensions—to the survival of the game.

TURN PAGE FOR SCOUTING REPORTS BY TEX MAULE
AND EDWIN SHRAKE ON ALL 26 MAJOR PRO TEAMS

51

Here's a look at how the NFL saw the prospects for the Green Bay Packers in 1968. Vince Lombardi had stepped down to the GM role, naming longtime assistant Phil Bengston as head coach. Would they challenge for a fourth straight title? Read the season preview as it was presented in *Sports Illustrated* that September 16, 1968.

(Source: Packerville, USA Blog - <https://packerville.blogspot.com/2014/05/1968-packers-season-preview.html>)

NFL: THE WEST

CENTRAL DIVISION

Improvement among the Lions, Bears and Vikings should make things tougher for the Packers, but not much

★ GREEN BAY PACKERS

When Vincent Lombardi, having achieved all that any professional football coach could hope to achieve, decided to leave the field for the front office after the Super Bowl, he said, seriously, "The greatness of this team lies ahead of it."

Since the Green Bay Packers had just finished winning their third straight NFL championship and their second straight Super Bowl game, Lombardi might reasonably be accused of hyperbole. Actually, he was speaking the truth.

On Thursday afternoons early in the training season this year, Lombardi played golf; when he came out to practice to watch Phil Bengtson drive the club as hard as he himself did, he sat on a special bench in the sun and acquired a tan, biting his tongue. He did not interfere with Bengtson, who spent nine years as his assistant and who has not varied the Lombardi routine. Lombardi appropriated a green park bench for his own and asked equipment man Bob Noel, "Where's my bench?" whenever he appeared. Once, when he had taken off his shirt only to see a cloud hide the sun, he demanded, "Where's my sun?" No one doubts that it reappeared at once.

The team Bengtson inherited may be the best of the long series of exemplary Packer clubs. It is essentially the same as the 1967 version and, given only a normal run of injuries, it should be much better. Last season Bart Starr, playing with a swollen thumb and rib injuries in the early games, threw nine interceptions in the first two, or three times as many as he did in all of 1966. Healed, he settled down to his usual pace and threw only eight more in the next 12 games. In midseason the Pack lost its two starting running backs within five minutes when Elijah Pitts and Jim Gra-

As a runner, as a pass receiver and as a punter, Donny Anderson is beginning to give the Packers \$600,000 worth of football player.



bowski were both injured against the Baltimore Colts. Travis Williams, who returned two kickoffs for touchdowns against Cleveland, got a late start because of tonsillitis, but he is recovered now and with a year's experience should have a strong season. Herb Adderley played defensive halfback for most of last season with a separated bicep in his right arm. Minus such injuries, the Packers figure to improve on their 1967 performance. And there are other significant pluses.

At quarterback, Starr is in a class reserved for him and for John Unitas. They are the best in the business and seem likely to remain so through 1968. Behind Starr, Zeke Bratkowski is the most efficient No. 2 extant. He and Starr are close friends and spend much of their free time watching Packer movies together so that in football philosophy (and, oddly enough, in physique and personality) they are almost carbon copies. For one not familiar with the club, it would be difficult to differentiate between Starr and Brat.

In the third slot probably will be rookie Bill Stevens. "We'll carry three quarterbacks," Bengtson says. "In this day I can't conceive of getting along with fewer." Stevens is the young man sitting in the wings in the Lombardi system, a system in which there is a young man waiting quietly behind almost every veteran.

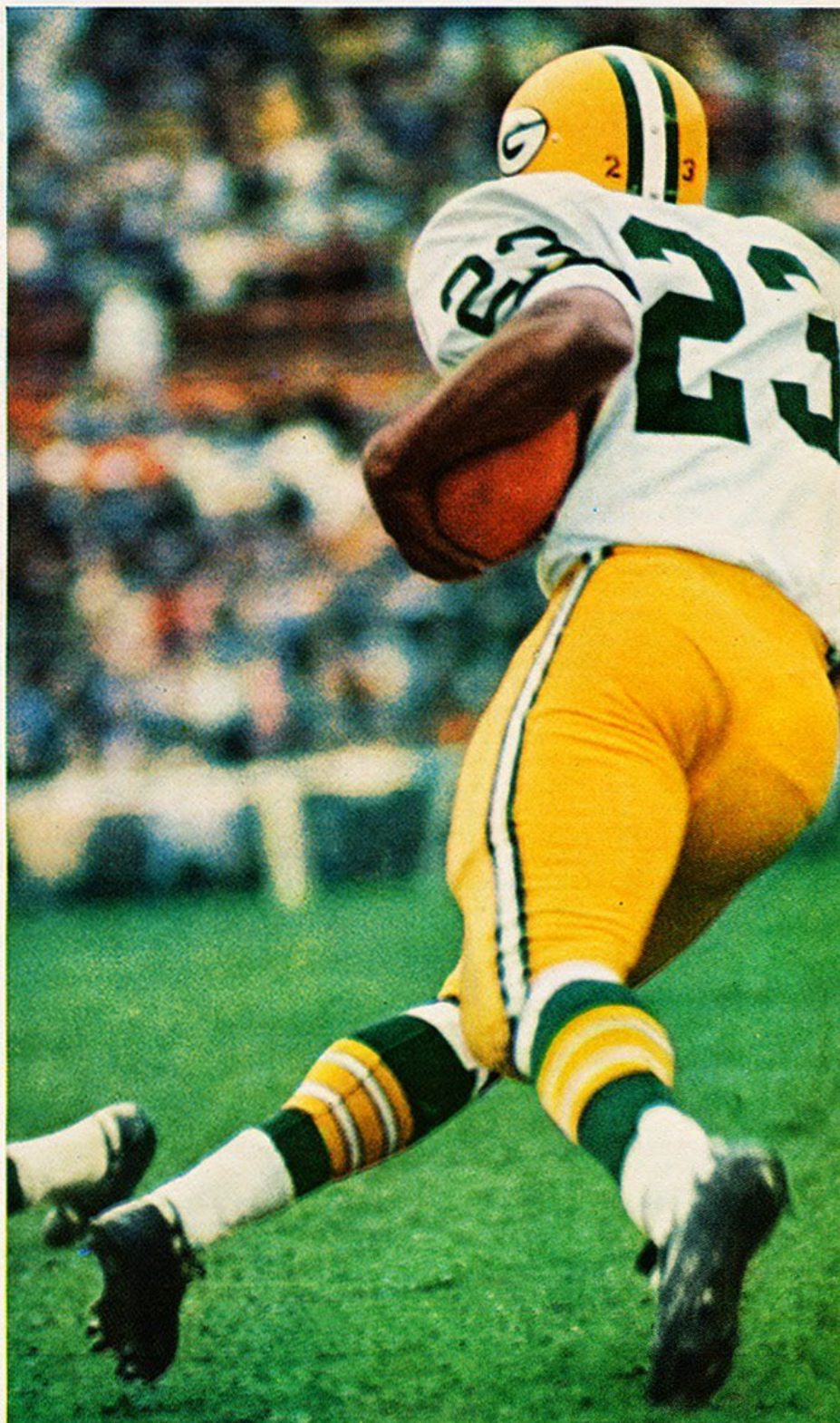
The young men have stepped up at the running-back spot, where Green Bay has what must be the strongest set of backs in all of pro football. Donny Anderson moved ahead strongly during 1967 and is running with more confidence and with the same long, loping stride which gives him such speed and maneuverability. Grabowski has lost none of his quickness since his injury. He and Anderson probably will be the Packer starters, backed up by Pitts, Williams and Chuck Mercein. Ben Wilson, acquired from the Rams, is recuperating from a March knee operation but might be healthy enough to add depth to the offensive backfield.

The receivers have not changed. Boyd Dowler, Carroll Dale and Marv Fleming started in 1967, should again in 1968, although there is more pressure on them

than on the runners. Bob Long, a promising young receiver, was traded to the Atlanta Falcons since the Packers already had Dave Dunaway and Claudis James backing up Dale and Dowler. Fleming will have to contend with the bid of Fred Carr, Green Bay's No. 1 draft

choice. Carr could force Fleming into playing up to a potential he has never reached, or replace him late in the season. Max McGee has retired and he will be missed, but, if Bengtson feels he needs another deep receiver, he can always call on Anderson and relieve the

continued



Already loaded with runners, the Packers got a dividend in Travis Williams, whose kickoff returns have proved a touchdown threat.

congestion at running back. Blanton Collier, the Cleveland coach, says, "Anderson is not a good receiver. He's a great one."

An indication of the importance Lombardi and Bengtson have placed on the offensive line over the years is evidenced in the fact that a majority of the blocking linemen on the Packer team were first draft choices. Second-year man Bob Hyland, who is pressing Center Ken Bowman, was a first in 1967; Gale Gillingham, Francis Peay (obtained from the Giants in an off-season trade for Linebacker Tommy Crutcher and Tackle Steve Wright) and rookie Bill Lueck have all been firsts at one time or another.

Gillingham and All-NFL Jerry Kramer are set at guard, with Lueck available to back them. Veteran Offensive Tackles Bob Skoronski and Forrest Gregg will get welcome relief from Peay. Fuzzy Thurston has retired to a thriving restaurant business, but he spent most of last year behind Gillingham. As usual, the Packer offensive line is good.

The defensive line is no different. Henry Jordan and Willie Davis, the All-NFL defensive tackle and end, are growing older, but, as Davis says, they both seem to gain a step with age instead of losing one. Davis has a master's degree in marketing and a doctorate in dumping quarterbacks. Lionel Aldridge, the other end, is younger and bigger than Willie and is on his way to being as smart. Ron Kostelnik plays beside Henry Jordan at tackle and has for several years, long enough to add wisdom to his size and speed. If any of this formidable foursome should falter, Bengtson can call on 6' 7" Jim Weatherwax at tackle or massive Bob Brown at defensive end, although Brown broke his arm in practice and will miss some of the early games.

The Packer backers, led by big, balding Ray Nitschke, still rank as the best trio in pro football. Nitschke is flanked by Dave Robinson and Lee Roy Caffey, mighty good company. Behind this trio there is Phil Vandersa, who well might be a starter if he were on any team except Green Bay, and Jim Flanigan, the Pack's second draft choice in 1967. Vandersa has returned after a year with the Saints.

In the defensive backfield, three of the starters have been on one or another All-NFL team in recent years. They are Cornerbacks Adderley and Jeter and

Safety Willie Wood. The fourth regular is Tom Brown, only a cut below the others, and the fifth man is Doug Hart, who was a starter until Bob Jeter beat him out.

If there is any weakness on this club, it could be a lack of depth in the offensive line and among the receivers, but this is only a relative weakness. Most teams would be glad to trade offensive line or receiver strength with Green Bay.

Don Chandler, who gave the team good punting and placekicking, has retired. Last year Donny Anderson did most of the punting. He wasn't long, but his towering boots were seldom run back, and this year he has added length to height. To replace him, the Packers experimented with Fernando Souza, a Brazilian soccer player, but Souza, though he got length to his kicks, was unable to get the ball up fast enough to be a field-goal kicker. This means the Packers will probably fall back on Jerry Kramer, who once won a championship for Green Bay by kicking three field goals, a league record. The other possibility is Chuck Mercein.

The big question, of course, is how much difference the loss of Lombardi will make. "I haven't had as many ice breaks as this in years," Pitts said at one practice, sucking on a mouthful of chopped ice. "But we work just as hard."

They will miss Lombardi, no doubt. But not enough to make any difference on the field.



Jim Dooley has replaced George Halas as coach of the Chicago Bears and this could be the most exciting team in football to watch this season, if not the best. Not that the Halas-coached Bears were dull; they were not. But Dooley is one of the brightest and most inventive of the new crop of coaches, and his plans for a total offense for the Chicago club should give the Bears the most varied attacking stances in the league.

Halas, of course, is still very much present. The venerable owner tooled around training camp in his golf cart, but it was Dooley, with an electric loudspeaker, who ran the toughest, most demanding Bear training camp of recent years. He was the boss, and the players became aware of it quickly.

Said Johnny Morris, the little flanker who retired after 10 years with the club: "There has been more hitting in this camp than in any I have ever been in." Dooley had the club butting heads at an accelerated pace, but, when the day's work was done, he proved a somewhat more permissive master than Halas.

"He said he didn't mind if we had a couple of beers after workout," one veteran said. "Just so he didn't catch us drinking too much. And he let us stay out until midnight on Saturday instead of 11:00. Those may seem like little things, but they mean something to us."

Dooley, who had been Halas' assistant for five years, has simplified the Bear offensive system by cutting down on the options on assignments. "Where a player may have had four ways to carry out his assignment, he now has two," Dooley says. "We think this will improve our execution. We'll do more things, but we'll do them easier."

Last year as defensive coach, Dooley invented the Dooley Shift, sending in an extra defensive back in place of a linebacker in obvious passing situations. It worked out so well that the Bears held their opponents to a league low of 42.7% passes completed and, during the second half of the season, cut that to an amazing 36.7%. In the last seven games the Bears won five, tied Minnesota and lost (by four points) to Green Bay.

One of Dooley's major problems is at quarterback, where Jack Concannon has taken over from Larry Rakestraw and Rudy Bukich. Concannon is a big, rawboned young man who runs very well for a quarterback but has not yet shown that he can pass well enough. If he were a tested quarterback, Dooley's imaginative sets and spreads could be effective enough to move the Bears up into Packer class.

Gale Sayers is, in effect, the Bear running attack. Dooley has plans to use him as a flanker, slot man, wide end or fullback in special situations—everything but center—so that he will be as strong a threat in every situation as he is on the few occasions when defenses can't gang up on him. But what Sayers really needs is another quality running back to diversify the Bear running attack. Ronnie Bull, Andy Livingston, Brian Piccolo, Ralph Kurek and Gary Lyle are the other backs.

Concannon has good enough receivers. Morris, who once set a league pass-