

SPORTS

Cowboys Rule For Fifth Time

The Dallas Cowboys are Super Bowl champions for a record-tying fifth time.

The Cowboys used two clutch interception returns Sunday by Larry Brown to set up touchdown runs by Emmitt Smith and defeated the Pittsburgh Steelers, 27-17, in Super Bowl XXX at Tempe, Ariz.

Brown's performance earned him the Most Valuable Player Award. The Cowboys' fifth Super Bowl victory and their third in the last four years tied them with the San Francisco 49ers for the most championships.

The Steelers lost their first Super Bowl after capturing their first four.

Brown, who has been lost in the publicity frenzy over fellow defensive back Deion Sanders despite leading the Cowboys with six interceptions this season, had returns of 44 and 33 yards to set up Smith's touchdowns. A 12th round pick who was the 320th player taken in the 1991 draft, Brown set a Super Bowl record for interception return yardage and Smith set a Super Bowl mark with his fourth and fifth career touchdowns.

The Cowboys built a 13-0 lead and appeared to have the game in hand when they surged ahead, 20-7, after three quarters. But the Steelers stormed back to cut the lead to 20-17 with just over six minutes left before Brown sealed the

game with his second interception.

Smith ran over from the four with 3:43 left in the game to end Pittsburgh's hopes for a comeback. Brown is the first defensive player to win the Super Bowl MVP Award since Richard Dent of the Chicago Bears in 1986 and only the second defensive back, joining Jake Scott, who won playing for Miami in 1973.

Despite his two record-setting scores, Smith was held in check by the Steelers. He carried 18 times for only 49 yards, including 23 on one run early in the game.

The NFC has won the last 12 Super Bowls, with the Los Angeles Raiders the last AFC team to win in 1984. Three of the wins have been by the Cowboys, who also defeated Buffalo twice. The Cowboys were making their record eighth Super Bowl appearance and were 4-3 in their previous appearances.

Barry Switzer of Dallas joins predecessor Jimmy Johnson as the only coaches to win a Super Bowl and a college national championship. Switzer led the University of Oklahoma to three national titles. The Cowboys also are the first team to win a Super Bowl under three different coaches — Switzer, Johnson and Tom Landry. Troy Aikman threw a three-yard touchdown pass

to tight end Jay Novacek and Chris Boniol kicked two field goals to give Dallas a 13-0 lead before the Steelers cut the lead to 13-7 with 13 seconds left in the half on Neil O'Donnell's six-yard scoring strike to Yancey Thigpen.

Brown's 43-yard interception return midway through the third period set up Smith's one-yard touchdown plunge that gave Dallas a 20-7 lead with 6:42 left in the quarter. Pittsburgh cut the lead to 20-10 on Norm Johnson's 46-yard field goal with 11:20 left in regulation and used a surprise onside kick to set up Bam Johnson's one-yard touchdown run with 6:36 left to cut the Cowboys' lead to 20-17.

On the opening drive of the game, Aikman threw a 20-yard pass to Michael Irvin and Smith raced 23 yards to the Steelers' 28 on the next play. The drive stalled and Boniol kicked a 42-yard field goal just 2:55 into the game for the 3-0 lead.

On their next possession, the Cowboys marched 75 yards in eight plays to take a 10-0 lead. Aikman completed a 47-yard pass to Deion Sanders to the Steelers' 14 to set up a three-yard touchdown pass to Novacek with 5:23 left in the opening period.

Wesson Excels At S.C. State

Jefferson Grad Earns Honor

South Carolina State freshman K'Zell Wesson, a former Jefferson High standout, has been honored as the Rookie of the Week in the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference.

Wesson, a 6 foot 7, 245 pound forward, had 24 points and 21 rebounds in three Bulldog victories.

He was good on 50 percent of his shots from the field during the string, which pushed S.C. State's winning streak to eight and gave the Bulldogs a 12-4 overall worksheet and a 7-0 conference mark to tie for the top spot in the league.

Wesson got his first start of the season on Saturday at Florida A & M when he filled in for an injured Miguel Burns.

The Jefferson High graduate had eight points and eight rebounds in 22 minutes of play in a 56-47 victory.

The former USA Today Honorable Mention All-American, was scheduled to get his second start Monday when the Bulldogs play at Bethune-Cookman in Daytona Beach, Fla.

For the season, Wesson is averaging 4.8 points and 4.3 rebounds.

He has played in all but one of his team's 16 games, averaging just over 14 minutes per outing.

Mel Renfro To Hall Of Fame



Portland's Mel Renfro, wears number 20 for the Dallas Cowboys

(See related story, front page)

Mel Renfro of northeast Portland will be headed to Canton, Ohio this summer to be inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame.

At 6 feet and 192 pounds, Renfro played cornerback and safety for 14 seasons and 174 games, from 1964-1977, with the Dallas Cowboys.

At the University of Oregon he was an All-America halfback and superb track star. He was the Cowboys' second-round pick in 1964 draft. Renfro started his career as safety, but switched to cornerback in fifth season, 1968. He also excelled as punt and kickoff return specialist early in career. He had an outstanding rookie season culminated by a Pro Bowl selection.

Renfro earned Pro Bowl berths in his first 10 seasons in the NFL. He was All-NFL in 1965 and 1969; All-Pro in 1971 and 1973; and All-NFC in 1970, 1971, and 1973. He played in four Super Bowls and eight NFL/NFC championship games. His interception set up the winning touchdown in the 1970 NFC title win over the San Francisco 49ers.

His career record included 52 interceptions for 626 yards, three TDs; 109 punt returns for 842 yards and one TD, 85 kickoff returns for 2,246 yards, a 26.4-yard average and two TDs.

Renfro is tied for 16th among career interceptors and 12th among career kickoff returns. He led the NFL in interceptions in 1969 and punt returns and kickoff returns in 1964. Injuries limited his playing time in last four seasons. He played his last NFL game in a Dallas victory in Super Bowl 12. He was born Dec. 30, 1941 in Houston, Texas.

MAGIC JOHNSON RETURNS TO LAKER LINEUP

Magic Johnson is returning to the National Basketball Association after a four-year absence.

Johnson, who has flirted with the idea of returning to the NBA many times since retiring in 1991 after contracting the HIV virus that causes AIDS.

The Lakers host Michael Jordan and the Chicago Bulls Friday. Johnson announced Monday that he has signed a contract to come out of retirement and return to the NBA. The contract, worth a reported \$2.5 million, is for the remainder of the 1995-96 season.

"It's definitely now or never," Johnson said. "I think now is the perfect time. I want my son and daughter to see me play. I didn't think I went out the way I wanted the last time."

The 36-year-old Johnson retired in 1991 after contracting HIV, the virus that causes AIDS. He attempted a comeback in October 1992 and played in five pre-season games for the Lakers. Some players expressed concern about competing against someone who has HIV, but it is believed that Johnson will be more

warmly received this time and many top players have supported Johnson's return.

Johnson, who has competed against current NBA players in summer workouts, said he is not worried about negative reaction.

"(Commissioner) David Stern has done a wonderful job of educating the players," Johnson said. "The players have educated themselves and the time was right. If you played against the players all summer, it shouldn't matter now."

Utah forward Karl Malone expressed concern about the comeback four years ago, but said this weekend that Johnson's return would be good for the NBA.

Johnson dismissed a lukewarm response over the weekend from Philadelphia guard Vernon Maxwell. "He's never cared about anybody," Johnson said. Stern, who began a program to educate NBA personnel about HIV after Johnson's retirement, welcomed him back Monday.

"Even after his retirement from the NBA, he continued to bring joy to millions of fans around the world through his global travels," Stern said.

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