Colts Capture Western Division Professional Football Mantle

NFL STANDINGS

Eastern Division

	W	L	T	Pct.	PF	PA
Cleveland	8	2	0	.800	271	190
New York	7	3	0	.700	214	156
Pittsburgh	6	4	0	.600	209	195
Washington	3	7	0	.300	180	254
Philadelphia	2	7	1	.222	221	265
Chicago Cards	2	7	1	.222	226	288

Western Division

	W	L	T	Pct.	PF	PA
x—Baltimore	9	1	0	.900	341	152
Los Angeles	6	4	0	.600	280	230
Chicago Bears	6	4	0	.600	247	200
Detroit	4	5	1	.444	228	236
San Francisco	4	6	0	.400	188	291
Green Bay	1	8	1	.111	152	300

x—Clinched division title.

Sunday's Results

Cleveland 21, Washington 14
New York 24, Philadelphia 10
Pittsburgh 24, Chicago Bears 10
Baltimore 35, San Francisco 27
Los Angeles 20, Chicago Cards 14
Only games scheduled)

By EARL WRIGHT
United Press International

The Colts, Baltimore's biggest sports find since Babe Ruth, have won their first pro football division title and will play the Cleveland Browns or New York Giants for the National league championship Dec. 28.

The Colts proved their class Sunday by scoring 28 points in the second half to erase a 27-7 San Francisco Forty-Niner lead and clinch the Western division title with a 35-27 triumph. Each NFL club has two more games and no team has won the Western race so easily since the league assumed its current setup in 1950 with the Browns, Forty-Niners and Colts entering from the All-America conference.

Such stars as John Unitas, Lenny Moore and Alan Ameche probably could be elected mayor of Baltimore this week but the Colts and their rabid rooters also owe a vote of thanks to the league's hottest current club, the Pittsburgh Steelers.

Steelers Defeat Bears

The Steelers, playing in 16-degree weather at Pitt stadium, were as hot as a blast furnace while whipping the Chicago Bears–only club that had much hope of catching the Colts, 24-10. The victory, the first the Steelers ever scored against the Bears in 14 tries, enabled the Colts to boost their margin to three games with only two to play.

Cleveland put basketball shoes on quarterback Milt Plum in the final period and maintained its one-game margin over New York in the Eastern race. Plum's passes, plus the receiving of Ray Renfro and Lew Carpenter's running, enabled the Browns to rally and defeat the Washington Redskins, 21-14, while the Giants defeated the Philadelphia Eagles, 24-10.

Rams Beat Cards

Billy Wade's two touchdown passes to Leon Clarke in the last 20 minutes gave the Los Angeles Rams a 20-14 victory over the Chicago Cardinals in the other games. The Detroit Lions scored a 24-14 victory over the Green Bay Packers Thursday and those two clubs did not play Sunday.

The Steelers, who have swept their last five starts, trail the Browns by two games and the Giants by one but don't get another crack at the two leaders. The Browns visit the Eagles next Sunday while the Lions entertain the Giants. The Giants then play host to the Browns Dec. 14 in the game which probably will decide the Eastern race unless Cleveland and Detroit win Sunday.

Ruth went on from Baltimore to become baseball's greatest slugger but it's doubtful if even the mighty Babe ever caused as much sports excitement in the Maryland city as the frisky Colts.

Things looked black Sunday when Y. A. Tittle, the bald-headed quarterback who once played for the Colts, scored twice to spark the Forty-Niners to a 27-7 halftime lead. But Coach Weeb Ewbank's Colts reacted like thoroughbreds in the last 30 minutes.

Colts Daze 49'ers

Passes by Unitas set up two one-yard scoring blasts by Ameche and cut the Forty-Niner lead to 27-21. Then the sellout crowd of 57,557 in Baltimore's Memorial stadium got its big chance to cheer. Moore raced 73 yards to score.

The dazed Forty-Niners appeared to have him trapped at least four times as he galloped down the sideline, then cut back to midfield en route to the fourth period touchdown that climaxed the rally. Steve Myhra's conversion made it 28-27. Unitas followed with a short pass to Ray Berry for Baltimore's last touchdown.

Washington held Jim Brown, Cleveland's record-busting rusher, to a season low of 12 yards on 11 tries and took a 14-7 lead into the final period after Eddie LeBaron's third–period touchdown toss to Sid Watson. Plum, wearing basketball shoes to get better footing on Cleveland's frozen turf, then passed to Renfro and Pete Brewster to move the ball 88 yards to the Washington three.

Carpenter plunged for the tying touchdown. Plum, Renfro and Carpenter then led an 80-yard march. Plum then plunged for the winning touchdown after running 22 for a first down in a third-and-20 situation on his 41.

Giants Beat Eagles

Norm Van Brocklin's 14-yard pass to Bob Walston gave the Eagles a 7-3 first quarter lead at New York in 22-degree temperature but the Giants went in front to stay when Frank Gifford's six-yard dash ended a 75-yard second period march. Don Heinrich threw passes to Bob Schnelker and Kyle Rote for the other New York touchdowns.

Bobby Layne, Tom Tracy and Jim Orr were Pittsburgh's offensive stars against the Bears in 16-degree weather. Tracy scored on runs of 30 and 18 yards. Orr, who set up one Tracy touchdown by covering 59 yards with a Layne pass, scored Pittsburgh's other touchdown on a 38-yard Layne pass.

Green Bay Selects Duncan in Pro Draft

Philadelphia – (UPI) – All-American Randy Duncan, star passer who led Iowa to the Big Ten championship and the Rose Bowl, was the first choice today of the Green Bay Packers as the National Football League opened its early player selection meeting.

Duncan, a 21-year-old six-foot 180-pound quarterback from Des Moines, Iowa, accounted for 1,406 yards as he completed 57 per cent of his passes this year and threw 11 touchdowns.

He was the Big Ten leader in total offense.

The Philadelphia Eagles' first choice previously was traded to Los Angeles and the Rams picked up halfback Dick Bass from the College of the Pacific.

Backfield men continued to be the choice of the club owners as the Chicago Cardinals took Bill Stacy, quarterback of Mississippi State; the Washington Redskins took Don Allard, quarterback and defensive star of Boston college, and the San Francisco Forty Niners selected Dave Baker, back from Oklahoma.

The Detroit Lions elected Nick Pietrosante, Notre Dame fullback as their first choice.

The Chicago Bears' first selection was Don Clark, Ohio State halfback.

Pittsburgh, which traded away its first four choices, had its first round the property of San Francisco and the Forty Niners chose Dan James, Ohio State center. Los Angeles, on its own choice, selected tackle Paul Dickson, Baylor, and the New York Giants took Lee Grosscut, quarterback of Utah.

Cleveland took pass-receiver Rich Kreitling, an end from Illinois, and the first round selections were ended when Baltimore took linebacker Jackie Burkett of Auburn.

Sweetwater Clifton To Play With Harlem Stars Here on Dec. 9

Sweetwater Clifton, one of the stars with Goose Tatum's Harlem Stars, is no stranger to the basketball court. He will be with the globe girdling Stars when they meet Hawkinson Tire of the Southern Oregon Independent league at Hedrick Junior high school gym Tuesday, Dec. 9, at 8 p.m.

Clifton started his basketball with a Chicago high school team and upon graduation spurned professional offers and entered Southern University, a top Negro school. After making All-American for three consecutive years, he turned professional and finally wound up as a star with the Harlem Globetrotters.

After playing with the Globetrotters for two years, he was sold to the New York Nicks for $35,000. The colored ace was one of the standouts for the Nicks for seven years and during that time was the only player in the league able to hold the great George Mikan under 20 points a game regularly.

Tatum surprised the basketball world last season by luring Clifton away from the Nicks. Since joining the Stars he has been an outstanding crowd-pleaser with his clever ball handling and trick shooting.

Tickets will go on sale at Lamport's sporting goods store, 226 East Main st., Tuesday morning.

Grudge Battle On Ring Card At Grants Pass

Grants Pass–Kurt von Poppenheim will meet Luigi Macera in a grudge match this Tuesday night at the Josephine fairgrounds arena.

Kurt, the rugged German, defeated Macera here three weeks ago and last Tuesday they really tangled after the referee was knocked out of the action.

Poppenheim ended up with a bad cut on his forehead and he was irked at what he called "outside interference" from Macera. He challenged Macera to meet him in a "winner take all" match and Macera accepted immediately providing that the match was with "no time limit."

Well Known

Both of these men are well known here and there is a lot of interest in this match. They are trying to get a chance at Ed Francis and the Northwest Heavyweight belt. Poppenheim is a mat veteran of many years and knows all the tricks. He is a sound basic wrestler who likes the rough going and he proved his ability last year by wrestling several top matches in New York's Madison Square garden.

Macera, the popular French-Italian, knows that he must win this one to keep his main event status and to keep in title contention.

The semi-final, which is down for one hour or the best two falls out of three, will match Eric (The Great) Pederson against newcomer Seymour Freeman.

Eric lost a close one to Luther Lindsey here three weeks ago. Freeman is a younger brother of Herb.

Matches will get underway at 8:30 p.m.

OSAA To Study Realignment of Athletic Areas

Portland –(UPI)– Two things became apparent here over the weekend as the Oregon School Activities association met and discussed realigning school districts.

When Portland's 11th high school opens its doors in 1960 the Portland Interscholastic league probably will drop out of the prep playoffs. Portland high school principals are reported to be opposed to the playoffs by a 9-1 margin.

Secondly a committee on reclassification of Portland schools went on record opposing that a new Metropolitan league, made up of schools with 1000 or more students, be formed at this time.

A committee also was named to study realignment problems in prep athletic districts over a three-year period. The original committee named a year ago to study realignment recommended a status quo on prep districts.

TO BE WELCOMED

Washington –(UPI)– Houston, Dallas and Fort Worth officialy were to be welcomed into the American association today as the newest members of a 10-game league barring some unforeseen, last-minute hitch. The presidents of both leagues involved, Ed Doherty of the triple A American association and Dick Butler of the Double A Texas league, were "highly confident" the new realignment setup would be adopted.

Billy Caspar Havana Victor

Havana – (UPI) – Billy Casper of Apple Valley, Calif., turned in a great front-running performance in walking off with the Havana International Golf championship.

The steady-stroking Californian gained the lead in the first round and never relinquished it, finishing the 72-hole tournament with a 278, one stroke ahead of Bo Wininger of Odessa, Tex.

Doug Sanders of Miami, Fla., finished third with a 281, one stroke ahead of Tony Lema of San Leandro, Calif., bracketed at 283 were Wes Ellis of Aldercress, N.J., Dick Mayer of St. Petersburg, Fla., Doug Ford of Paradise, Fla., and Mike Fetchick of Yonkers, N.Y.

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Rams Have 2nd Place Opportunity

Los Angeles–(UPI)–A measure of satisfaction and second place in the Western division of the National Football league were all the Los Angeles Rams had to look forward to today.

Although the Rams defeated the Cardinals 20-14, at Chicago yesterday, they were a sad lot when they returned home Sunday night because Baltimore's comeback win over the Forty Niners clinched the division crown for the Colts.

The satisfaction and the chance to remain in the running for second place comes Saturday when the Colts invade Los Angeles for a game which the Rams will seek revenge for their defeat at Baltimore.

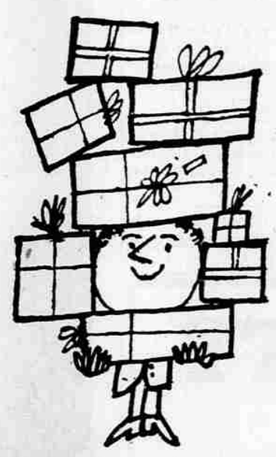
Determined Band

Tied with the Bears for second, the Rams will be out to beat the Colts Saturday and the Packers the following week.

At Chicago Sunday the Rams ran into a determined band of Cardinals using a new spread formation that for a time puzzled the Los Angeles club. But the Cards made an untimely fumble in the fourth period to give the Rams the scoring chance they needed.

End Gern Nagler made the bobble after catching a pass and Dick Daugherty recovered on the Card's 32. Jon Arnett then worked the ball to the seven and Billy Wade hit Leon Clarke with the winning touchdown.

The Cards fought back and twice were in scoring territory on the Rams' 11 and 22-yard line but failed to push over a touchdown.



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SPORTS

Baltimore Burns Hot On Cold Day

Baltimore, Md. – (UPI) – The Baltimore coaching staff had one explanation today for the Colts' sensational come-from-behind 35-27 win over San Francisco, but most observers felt that was only a small part of the story.

The Forty Niners led 27-7 at half-time. But in the second half, according to assistant coach Charlie Winner, "We moved our line-backers wider and had them come up faster to stop the wide stuff."

But many felt the real story of Baltimore's win began 10 years ago when the Colts entered pro football. The first years were ones of disaster and defeat; the recent years ones of near misses, almosts and late-season collapse.

Early in the second half Sunday it was announced that Pittsburgh had downed the Chicago Bears. A win would give Baltimore its first Western division title.

Explosion!

With a hysterical packed house of 57,577 egging them on, the Colts burned hot in the sub-freezing weather. They exploded for 28 points to bury the luckless San Franciscans.

For the Forty Niners, it marked one of the best showings in a disappointing year. They had gone into the lair of the league's top team and nearly pulled off the upset.

"I was proud of them," said coach Frankie Albert, "dog-gone proud. In fact, I was proud of everything but the final score."

The first half was the Forty Niners' best effort of the year. They outgained the Colts 231 yards to 83 as quarterback Y. A. Tittle and fullback Joe Perry ran wild.

Tittle scored twice and Hugh McElhenny once from a few yards out to climax long drives. Matt Hazeltine lugged an intercepted pass 13 yards for the other tally.

But in the second half, the title-hungry Colts roared back for 313 yards to San Francisco's 82. Four interceptions and a peerless performance by the Colts boyish-looking quarterback John Unitas turned the tide.

NWC PLEA REAFFIRMED

Portland –(UPI)– Representatives of the Northwest conference met here Saturday and athletic directors reaffirmed their desire to recommend changes to faculty representatives that NWC teams be allowed to compete in NCAA and NAIA tournament games if desired. Faculty representatives said they would submit the question to presidents of the member schools. The Northwest conference track, golf and tennis championships will be held in Salem, May 16-17.

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