

Forty Niners Go All-Out Against Packers, But Lose Out By 28-7 Count

SAN FRANCISCO (UP)—Coach Red Strader said today his San Francisco Forty Niners "put out a very fine effort" against the Green Bay Packers—but he had to admit "it just isn't there."

The statistics showed Strader's boys were in there fighting. They led the Packers 20-13 in first downs, 169 to 85 yards in rushing and had ball control 82 plays to 49.

And halfback Hugh McElhenny turned in the best performance of the game, carrying the ball 18 times for a total net yardage of 83.

All this was fine, but the Packers won the ball game, 28 to 7. They handed the Forty Niners their fifth straight loss and the eighth of the season against three wins.

"It just isn't there," Strader mused. "We're not even getting across the goal line now. You can't give away a blocked punt, a long punt return and four intercepted passes and expect to win in this league."

Fullback Joe Perry joined Strader in declaring that the turning point of the game came early in the third quarter. The Forty Niners, behind 21-7, drove with the second half kickoff to a first down on the Green Bay two.

Perry then slammed inside left tackle and was hit by linebacker Bill Forester, who played a brilliant defensive game for the Packers.

"I was a yard deep in the end zone," Perry said, "and still had possession of the ball. Then I fumbled. It was a touchdown. And even after the touchdown Mc-

Elhenny recovered first." McElhenny said he was "sitting on the ball and then somebody wrestled it away from me." He meant Packer halfback Val Joe Walker. The referee disallowed the touchdown and put the ball on the half-yard line.

"If we had that one," Strader said, "it might have turned the game inside out. We would have been up to 21-14 and breathing down their necks."

The Forty Niners' lone touchdown came in the first quarter when end Charley Powell recovered a fumble on the Packers' 24. Quarterback Y. A. Tittle passed into the end zone to end Billy Wilson from the 12 for the score. Gordon Soltau converted.

In the second quarter, the Packers scored three touchdowns. The first came on Tobin Rote's plunge from the one after a 67-yard march. A few minutes later, Pat O'Donohue blocked Bobby Luna's punt. End Len Szalarsky picked up the ball on the San Francisco 36 and scored.

Shortly after, Vercy Switzer returned a punt 38 yards to the San Francisco seven. Breezy Reid plunged over from the seven three plays later for the Packers' third score.

In the next period, Rote, standing on his own 40, passed 20 yards to Reid who took the ball and outraced the Forty Niners to the goal line.

And in the last period, a group of Forty Niner fans began chanting: "Strader's gotta go...let's go home..."

Cleveland Browns To Face Rams Or Bears In Defense Of National Grid Crown

By EARL WRIGHT
United Press Sports Writer
The fabulous Cleveland Browns, one of the most successful teams in the history of professional sports, will defend their National Football League championship Dec. 26 against the Los Angeles Rams or Chicago Bears.

Cleveland, getting a vital assist from the New York Giants, won the league's Eastern Division title for a record sixth straight time Sunday by whipping the Pittsburgh Steelers, 30-7. New York erased Cleveland's only remaining challenger when it defeated the Washington Redskins, 27-20.

While the Browns qualified for a league championship for the 10th time in as many tries, the tight Western Division race narrowed down to the Rams and Bears. Los Angeles held its half-game lead by downing the Baltimore Colts, 20-14. The Bears remained close behind by rallying to edge the Detroit Lions, 21-20.

Los Angeles knocked Baltimore out of contention and the Green Bay Packers also bowed out although they whipped the San Francisco Forty-Niners, 28-7.

The Philadelphia Eagles, who will help decide the Western champion by visiting the Bears as the regular season ends next Sunday, downed the Chicago Cardinals in Sunday's other game, 27-3.

Los Angeles winds up its regular campaign by entertaining the Packers. The Bears-Eagles game will be over before the West Coast game begins so Coach Sid Gill-

man's Rams will know what they have to do when they take the field. Cleveland will end its regular campaign in a home game with the Cardinals.

Quarterback Otto Graham and tackle Lou Groza led the Browns' offense at Pittsburgh. Graham, who will be 34 Tuesday, threw

touchdown passes to Ray Renfro and Pete Brewster and scored himself on a four-yard lunge. Groza, who will be 32 in January, kicked field goals of 17, 21 and 42 yards and three extra points.

But Cleveland did not clinch the title until halfback Herb Rich of the Giants intercepted an Eddie LeBaron pass in the New York end zone with 66 seconds remaining at Washington, New York, which lost

a 14-0 lead when Joe Scudero led a 20-point second-quarter Washington rally with a 94-yard scoring dash with a kickoff, won on Charlie Conerly's 26-yard TD pass to Kyle Rote in the final period.

Fullback Tank Younger, who scored on a one-yard plunge and got the decisive TD on an 11-yard bolt through the Colts in the final minutes at Los Angeles, was the Ram hero.

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College Basketball Gets Off To Start With Leaders Set

By ED WILKS
The Associated Press

The collegians hop off on their first six-day week of the basketball season tonight with NCAA champion San Francisco, Kentucky, Iowa and North Carolina State already setting the pace and a surprising number of past giants seemingly headed for long, cold winters.

Duquesne, the NIT champ, makes its bid to join the front-runners this week, opening against Carnegie Tech tonight and then joining Pitt, Geneva and Westminster (Pa.) in the Steel Bowl Tournament at Pittsburgh Friday. The big question for Coach Duddy Moore's club is whether Jumpin' St. Green can carry a double load now that All America Dick Rickitts has graduated.

San Francisco still has its All America, big Bill Russell, and an expected the Dons have had no trouble with their first two foes. They've whipped little Chico State 70-39 and big-time Southern California 53-42 for 28 straight victories.

Col. Adolph Rupp's Kentuckians were pressed a bit, but kept control to win their Saturday debut against Louisiana State 62-52. Iowa, again the team to beat in the Big Ten, also was up to snuff

in defeating Nebraska 60-51. North Carolina State, meanwhile, has walked through two games, running its winning string to 14 games by beating Penn State 78-42 Saturday.

None of the four were extended in getting the 1955-56 schedule underway. But others of last year's top teams have discovered this is another season.

LaSalle and new Coach Jim Pol-land got the news Saturday from Muenberg 69-58.

Arkansas hasn't won yet, losing first to Southeastern Oklahoma, then to Tulsa 33-45 Saturday. Texas Christian, even with high-scoring Dick O'Neal netting 67 points, is only 1-1 for two games, losing to Texas Tech 76-64 Saturday.

UCLA had two cracks at Brigham Young, and missed on both, losing 75-58 and 67-65.

The week doesn't hold much of a threat for the Big Four, but it may bring the over-all picture into sharper focus. San Francisco has just one game, against San Francisco State tomorrow; Kentucky puts the test to Temple, marked a corner in the East, Saturday; Iowa meets Southern Methodist Friday; and North Carolina State plays Wake Forest in an Atlantic Coast Conference game tomorrow and Eastern Kentucky Saturday.

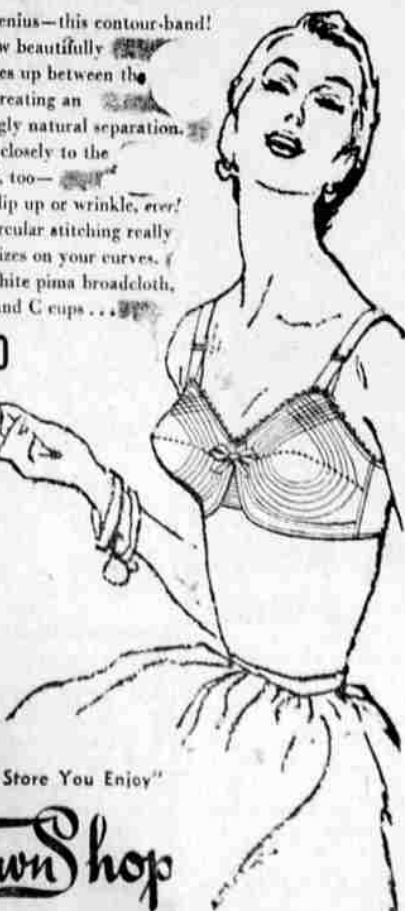
Unbeaten SMU may have the toughest road, moving on to Minnesota and Wisconsin after invading Iowa.

Sports Cont'd
From Page 9

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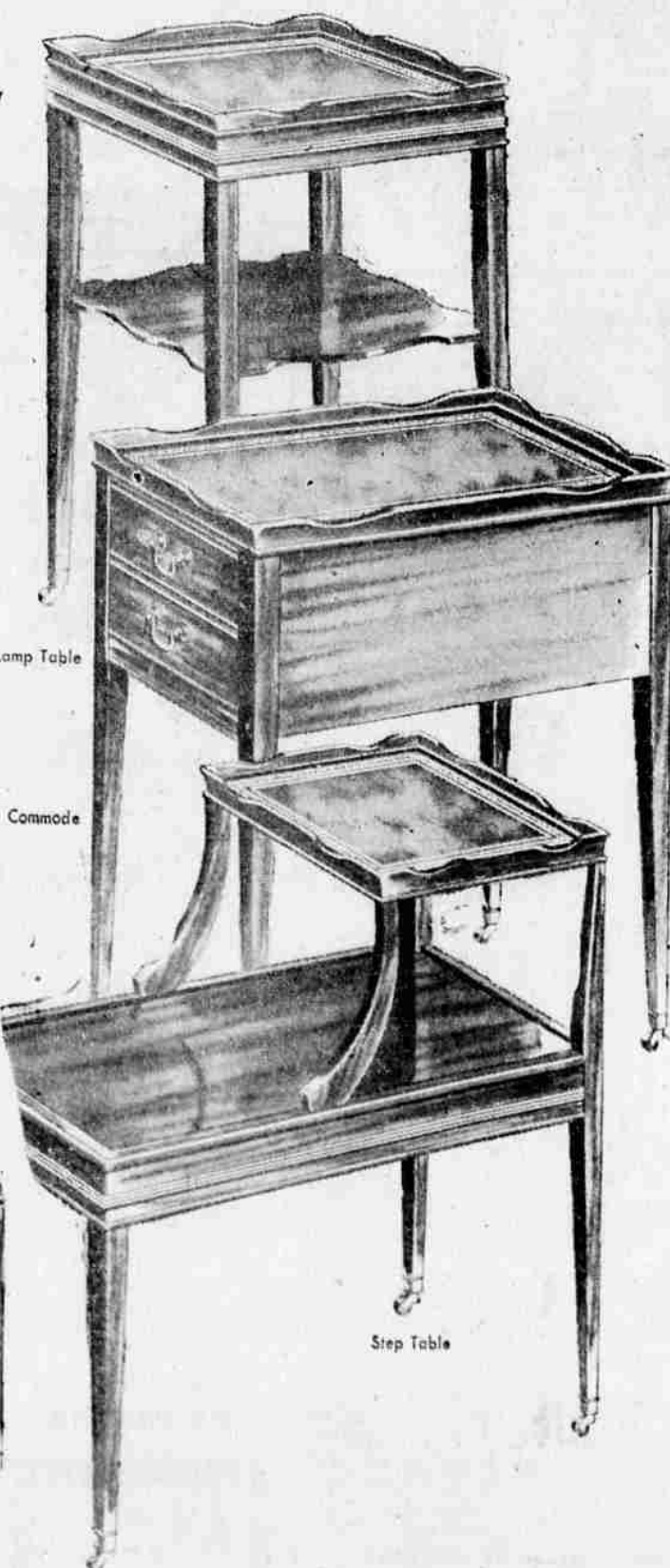
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