



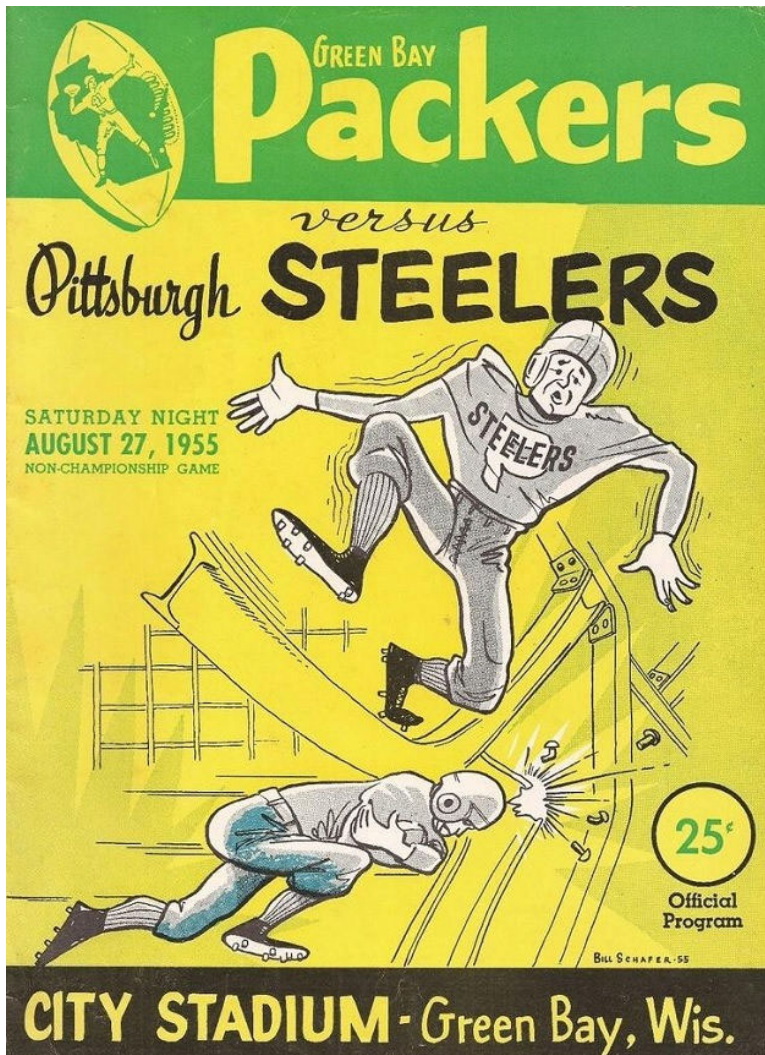
**Preseason: Pittsburgh Steelers 16, Green Bay Packers (1-2) 14**  
**Saturday August 27th 1955 (at Green Bay)**

# Things Happen Late! Pitt's FG Dumps Pack 16-14

## Three Defensive Lapses, Poor Passing Brings Loss

### GAME RECAP (GREEN BAY PRESS-GAZETTE)

(GREEN BAY) - Things really happen to the Packers in the last minute! Two weeks ago, they whipped the New York Giants 31 to 24 in the last 45 seconds. One week ago, they muffed a chance to beat the Cleveland Browns 14-13 by failing - with 1:41 left - to move one yard in two downs on the Browns' four-yard line, finally losing 13-7. Saturday night, the Packers lost to the Pittsburgh Steelers, 16-14, on a 14-yard field goal by Art Michalik with 1:05 left in the game at City Stadium before 16,912 paying guests. Thus, in the short space of 211 seconds, the Packers came out of the first half of their non-championship schedule with a 1-2 record against three Eastern division foes. With one more yard in the Brown game and 1:05 less against Pitt, the Pack might be resting with 3-0 this day. And speaking about 3-0, the Packers' next foe has that fancy record - the Philadelphia Eagles, who earlier beat Baltimore, Detroit and Chicago Bears. The Bays and Eagles fire away in Charleston, W.Va., Saturday night. The Packers, in losing their sixth straight game at City Stadium since 1953, didn't exactly set the ancient arena on fire. Offensively, they gave quarterbacks Tobin Rote and Charles Brackins little or no protection, thus rendering their potent air game virtually useless. Defensively, they had three serious lapses which resulted in there long Jimmy Finks pass completions - two to Ray Mathews for touchdowns and one to Ed Bernet to set up the winning field goal. The Packers made only one concerted drive all night - a 14-play, 83-yard blast at the start of the second half for a 14-7 lead, with Rote sneaking over from the two for the score. The TD campaign showed up the Packers' difficulty upstairs since the entire distance was covered on the ground, five Rote throws going haywire and one just missing Billy Howton's fingertips as he sped untouched toward the goal. In the drive, fullback Howie Ferguson lugged



56 yards in four trips. The 14-7 edge was one of three leads the Bays held until the last 1:05. Val Joe Walker helped the Pack to a 7-0 advantage in the first 10 minutes when he swiped Finks' aerial on the Pack 12 and returned 69 yards to the Steeler 19. Al Carmichael blasted around right end for the last five yards for the score and Fred Cone converted. The Steelers knotted the count with less than two minutes left in the half, sailing 80 yards in seven plays. The payoff was a 49-yard Finks pass to Mathews who ankled behind Veryl Switzer under the goal posts for a 7-7 score as Michalik converted with 15



seconds left in the half. Pitt threatened to knot the count again late in the third quarter when Mathews moved behind Bobby Dillon for a 41-yard aerial TD. The night was saved when Doyle Nix broke through the block Michalik's try for the point, leaving it 14-13. The teedee took place on the first play after Dick Doyle recovered Switzer's second fumble. The Steelers moved 62 yards for the winning field goal, a 36-yard Finks to Bernet pass setting the drive off. Two more Finks passes brought the pigskin to the 10 and the Bays finally held on the eight when Michalik stepped back on the 14 for the clincher. The Packers might have burned a bit more along the way but for one of the greatest exhibitions of punting in City Stadium in years. Young Dick Deschaine, the Menominee, Mich., booting expert who joined the Packers just two weeks ago today, outpunted league champion Pat Brady by a wide margin. Dick booted eight times for an average of 49.8 while Brady had 34 in 7 kicks. Deschaine constantly kept the Steelers out of range, although his first boot of the night, which sailed 59 yards, was returned 57 by Lynn Chandnois. The no-college expert averaged 54.6 on five kicks in the first half; Brady 38.3 on 3. Deschaine had punts of 59 yards in the first quarter, 52, 37, 62 and 62 in the second, 53 in the third and 47 and 45 in the fourth. The only Deschaine punt returned was the first - for 57 yards. While the Packers were victimized by three long passes, they managed to give Finks and his aide, Vic Eaton, a rugged time, intercepting four passes in the first half - three off Finks. Walker grabbed two and Deral Teteak and Switzer one each. On the other side of the ledger, the Steelers recovered three Packer fumbles - two by Switzer and one by Ferguson, and intercepted one of Rote's passes. The Packers outdid the Steelers on the ground, 151 yards to 106, but the Steelers had the edge in the air, 239 to 116. Finks, whose passes helped beat the Pack 21-20 in the league opener here last year, completed 18 out of 33 for 239 yards. Rote settled for seven out of 24 for 81 yards and Brackins completed three out of five for 35. Both teams threatened midway in the first quarter but the Packers made it count. Chandnois' 57-yard punt return gave the Steelers a shot from the Packer 41 but on the second play Walker grabbed Finks' deflected pass and raced 67 to the Steeler 19. From that point, Ferguson made one, Breezy Reid five, Ferguson three and Rote one for a first down on the five. Reid slammed to the five and Carmichael blasted through three Steelers outside right end for the score. Just before the quarter, Switzer intercepted Finks' pass and returned 33 yards to the Steeler 22. A chance for another TD was lost on the first play when Ferguson fumbled and Flanagan recovered. Twice in the second frame, the Steelers matched two first downs but in each case an interception stopped them, Walker getting one on the Packer 20 and Teteak nailing the other on the Bay 17. The Steelers weren't to be denied late in the half. Mathews ran 13 and Finks hurled to Nickel for 17, to Chandnois for 7 and finally to Mathews for 39 and the tying touch. The Packers received the second half kickoff and launched their second and final TD drive from the 17. Here's how it went: Carmichael hit left tackle for six and Reid went around left end for eight. After Rote hit the dirt with a pass aimed at Reid, Ferguson pounded 34 yards to the Steeler 35. An offside penalty moved it to the 40, but Rote carried 13 and Ferguson five to the 22. A Rote pass missed but Ferguson smashed to the nine. Ferguson and Reid hit the left side to the two and Rote sneaked it over. Brackins took over after Brady was forced to punt and completed a 20-yard pass to Gary Knafelc. After an exchange of punts, Switzer fumbled and Finks unloaded his second TD pass to Mathews. Nix flew in from the left side to block the kick. Brackins stayed in and presided for two first downs, passing to Joe Johnson for 14 and handing off to Ferguson for 12 before Brady and Deschaine traded punts. Midway in the fourth quarter, Doyle grabbed Rote's pass on the Packer 26. The Bays held tight and Michalik missed a field goal from the 30. The Packers launched what seemed like a game-saving drive as Rote hit Johnson for 23 yards to the Pack 40 and Johnson again for 15 to the Pitt 45, but a holding penalty set the Bays back to the 29. Deschaine got off a 45-yard punt which Mathews, signaling

# Ouch!

NATIONAL GRAPEFRUIT LEAGUE (Western Peeling)					
	W	L	Pct.	PS	OP
San Francisco	3	1	.750	101	62
Los Angeles	2	1	.667	86	72
Green Bay	1	2	.333	52	53
Detroit	1	2	.333	41	45
Baltimore	0	1	.000	7	21
Chicago Bears	0	2	.000	26	48

NATIONAL GRAPEFRUIT LEAGUE (Eastern Peeling)					
	W	L	Pct.	PS	OP
Philadelphia	3	0	1.000	62	35
Chicago Cardinals	2	0	1.000	38	22
Cleveland	1	1	.500	27	24
Pittsburgh	1	2	.333	54	109
New York	1	2	.333	69	71
Washington	1	2	.333	51	52

**Saturday Night's Result**  
PITTSBURGH 16, GREEN BAY 14

**Sunday's Results**  
San Francisco 17, Cleveland 14  
Cardinals 17, Detroit 16  
Los Angeles 23, New York 17  
(overtime)

**The Lineups:**  
**PITTSBURGH**  
Ends - McClair, Bernet, Butler, O'Donahue, Zombek, Nickel, O'Brien, McConnell, McPeak.  
Tackles - Gaona, Gimini, Ferry, R. Modzelewski, Varrichione, McCaug, Palmer.  
Guards - Huges, Werl, Reger, Schweder, Maier.  
Centers - Broussard, Tepe, Michalik.  
Backs - Finks, Eaton, Mathews, Schields, Flanagan, Soltis, Chandnois, Calvin, Harkey, Butler, Brady, Staudemaler, McCabe, Doyle, Kissell.  
**GREEN BAY**  
Ends - Knafelc, Peringer, Tillary, Martinkovic, McCants, Howton, Jennings, Deschaine, Temp, Borden, Knutson.  
Tackles - Szafaryn, Ruzich, Helluin, Dahms, Hanner, Bove.  
Guards - Spinks, Skibinski, Teteak, Bullough, Brown, Averno, Zatkoff.  
Centers - Ringo, Timberlake, Forster, Bettis.  
Backs - Rote, Brackins, Reid, Johnson, Nix, Capuzzi, Carmichael, Switzer, Multhead, Self, Bookout, Dillon, Ferguson, Cone, Clemens.

**Pittsburgh** 0 7 6 3-16  
**Green Bay** 7 0 7 0-14  
Scoring: Pittsburgh: Touchdowns - Mathews 2, Extra Points - Michalik 2. Field Goal - Michalik.  
**Green Bay:** Touchdowns - Rote, Carmichael, Extra Points - Cone 2. Officials: Referee - Robert Austin. Umpire - Gilbert Castree, Head Linesman - Sam Cooperman, Back Judge - James Hamer, Field Judge - William Grimberg.  
**TBAM Statistics:**

	Pack	Pitt
First downs rushing	8	5
First downs passing	6	11
First downs penalties	0	0
<b>TOTAL FIRST DOWNS</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>16</b>
Yards gained rushing	151	106
Yards gained passing	116	239
<b>TOTAL YARDS GAINED</b>	<b>267</b>	<b>345</b>
PASSES: Attempted	29	34
Completed	10	18
Intercepted by	4	1
Yards intercepted passes returned	123	7
Yards lost attempting to pass	54	8
<b>PUNTS:</b> Number by	8	7
Average distance punts	49.8	34
Number of punts returned by	5	5
Yards punts returned	34	57
<b>KICKOFFS:</b> Number returned by	3	1
Yards kickoffs returned	74	28
<b>FUMBLES:</b> Number by	4	1
Ball lost by fumbles	3	0
<b>PENALTIES:</b> Number against	4	3
Yards lost by penalties	48	15

**Individual Statistics:**  
**Rushing:**  
Pittsburgh: Rogel gained 56 yards in 16 attempts, Mathews 36 in 7, Chandnois 12 in 7, Eaton 2 in 1.  
**Green Bay:** Ferguson gained 74 yards in 13 attempts, Reid 31 in 7, Rote 19 in 6, Carmichael 13 in 5, Switzer 12 in 4, Johnson 1 in 3, Brackins 1 in 1.  
**Passing:**  
Pittsburgh: Finks attempted 33, completed 18 for 239 yards, 2 touchdowns, 3 intercepted. Eaton attempted 1, 1 intercepted.  
**Green Bay:** Rote attempted 24, completed 7 for 81 yards, 1 intercepted. Brackins 5, completed 3 for 35 yards.  
**Pass Reception:**  
Pittsburgh: Bernet caught 4 for 88 yards, Nickel 4 for 51, Chandnois 4 for 21, Rogel 4 for 0, Mathews 2 for 79.  
**Green Bay:** Johnson caught 2 for 37 yards, Knafelc 2 for 30, Ferguson 2 for 14, Reid 2 for 4, Howton 1 for 18, Carmichael 1 for 13.

for a fair catch, fumbled on the Steeler 30. A flock of Packers and Steelers piled after the ball and the officials, after unpeeling the players, ruled it was Pitt's ball. From the 30, the Steelers went on their field goal drive. The Bays went down passing four plays after Michalik's three-pointer.

**PITTSBURGH - 0 7 6 3 - 16**  
**GREEN BAY - 7 0 7 0 - 14**

	<u>PITTSBURGH</u>	<u>GREEN BAY</u>
First Downs	16	14
Rushing-Yards-TD	31-106-0	37-151-2
Att-Comp-Yd-TD-Int	34-18-239-2-4	29-10-116-0-1
Total Yards	345	267
Fumbles-lost	1-0	4-3
Turnovers	4	4
Yards penalized	3-15	4-48

**SCORING**

1st - GB - AL Carmichael, 5-yard run (Fred Cone kick) GREEN BAY 7-0  
 2nd - PIT - Ray Mathews, 38-yard pass from Jim Finks (Art Michalik kick) TIED 7-7  
 3rd - GB - Tobin Rote, 2-yard run (Cone kick) GREEN BAY 14-7  
 3rd - PIT - Mathews, 41-yard pass from Finks (Kick failed) GREEN BAY 14-13  
 4th - PIT - Michalik, 14-yard field goal PITTSBURGH 16-14

**RUSHING**

**GREEN BAY** - Howie Ferguson 13-74, Breezy Reid 7-31, Tobin Rote 6-19 1 TD, Al Carmichael 5-13 1 TD, Veryl Switzer 4-12, Joe Johnson 1-3, Charlie Brackins 1-1  
**PITTSBURGH** - Fran Rogel 16-56, Ray Mathews 7-36, Lynn Chandnois 7-12, Vic Eaton 1-2

**PASSING**

**GREEN BAY** - Tobin Rote 24-7-81 1 INT, Charlie Brackins 5-3-35  
**PITTSBURGH** - Jim Finks 33-18-239 2 TD 3 INT, Vic Eaton 1-0-0 1 INT

**RECEIVING**

**GREEN BAY** - Joe Johnson 2-37, Gary Knafelc 2-30, Howie Ferguson 2-14, Breezy Reid 2-4, Bill Howton 1-18, Al Carmichael 1-13  
**PITTSBURGH** - Ed Bernet 4-88, Elbie Nickel 4-51, Lynn Chandnois 4-21, Fran Rogel 4-0, Ray Mathews 2-79 2 TD



**ROTE'S QUESTION MARK ARM HOLDS KEY TO PACKER HOPES**

AUG 28 (Milwaukee Sentinel) - Coach Liz Blackburn emphatically believes his Packers can better last season's 4-8 league mark IF quarterback Tobin Rote snaps out his doldrums and IF another offensive end can be found. Take Saturday night's 16-14 loss to the Pittsburgh Steelers for example. Rote turned in one of his most dismal performances, completing seven of 24 passes for 81 yards. Ends Billy Howton and Gary Knafelc combined their catching know-how for three receptions, certainly a modest pro football figure. "Rote was like a pitcher who couldn't get the ball over the plate," was Blackburn's picture of his six-year veteran Sunday. "I can't figure it out, he's been like that all week. Generally, we look better as a club this season. The big question is if we can get our quarterback going. And you know we're wanting at left end." Charles Brackins, the Negro quarterback from Prairie View A&M, might be given a starting chance if Rote fails to click. "We'll have to do that," said Liz, "and he could turn out to be a good one." Brackins looked good the short time he was in against the Steelers, completing three of five aerials for 35 yards. And his kickoffs were more than adequate, going deep in the end zone where no returns materialized. "If Rote had been on, I'm sure we would have scored enough to win easily," added Blackburn. "We certainly had enough chances." Blackburn said the turning point of the game was the holding penalty which cost the Packers the ball on Pittsburgh's 44 near the end of the fourth quarter. The penalty moved Green Bay back to its 28 and a punt was necessary. The Steelers swiftly moved down for their winning field goal. Blackburn pointed out that Finks didn't "pass us to death" like he did beating the Packers, 21-20, in a league affair last year. "Our defense did a hell of a job, except for three costly lapses. Bobby Dillon fell asleep on the first Pittsburgh scored. Ray Mathews was all alone in the end zone when Finks hit him for a 38-yard touchdown in the second quarter. Veryl Switzer slipped, letting Mathews get

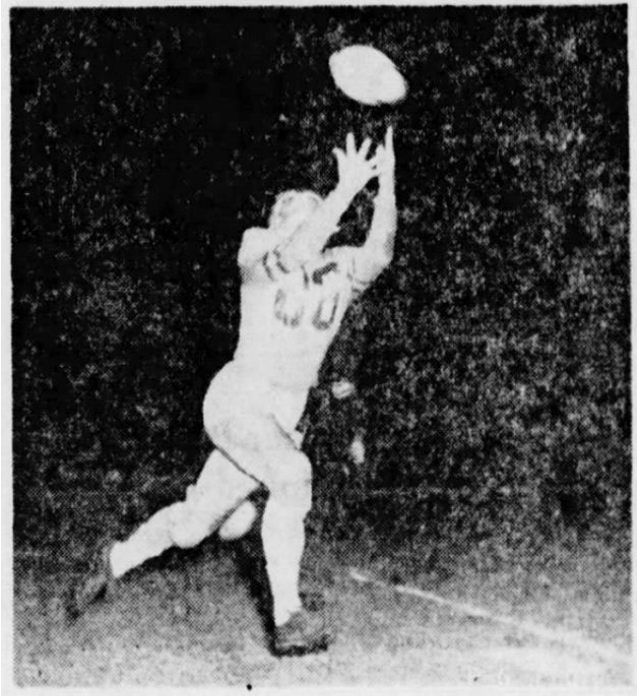


into the clear for his 41-yard touchdown catch from Finks in the third quarter. And the last one which set up the winning points resulted when Pitt's Ed Bernet had a step on Billy Bookout, moving the ball 36 yards." Blackburn singled out cornerback Doyle Niz, end John Martinkovic and safetyman Val Joe Walker for their alertness on defense. Dick Deschaine, the lad from the sandlots of Menominee, MI, thrilled the 16,912 fans with his remarkable ability, averaging 49.8 a boot. "He certainly can kick, can't he," quipped Liz. "But, I'm not sure if he'll stick. He's not much use for us outside of his punting ability. Pittsburgh uses Pat Brady almost exclusively as a punter but he can go in as a quarterback if the occasion arises." Howie Ferguson was the game's best runner, picking up 74 yards in 13 attempts. But he got little assistance. Breezy Reid carried 31 yards on seven tries, Rote 19 on six attempts, Al Carmichael 13 on five and Switzer 12 on four. Blackburn hustled his Packers back to their Stevens Point hideaway Sunday afternoon, hoping to inject a winning frame of mind before the club heads east for an engagement with the sizzling Philadelphia Eagles next Saturday at Charleston, WV

**'COULD HAVE GONE EITHER WAY,' WALT; LIZ CITES THREE REDSKINS**

AUG 29 (Green Bay) - Realistic Walt Kiesling, who had just made good in his one-time hometown for the second straight year, was not inclined to be smug over the Pittsburgh Steelers' last minute victory at City Stadium Saturday night. Kies, Packer guard in 1935 and line coach from 1945-48, observed that this one, reminiscent of the Steelers' 21-20 come-from-behind verdict in the 1954 NFL opener here a year ago, "could have gone either way."

Walt, a man of few words, had no trouble deciding what had made the difference for the Smoky City athletes. "It was those two passes to Mathews, no doubt about it." Hadn't that first touchdown strike to Mathews been the same play the Steelers had employed to beat the Packers in '54? Kiesling smiled and hesitated briefly before admitting, "Practically the same play." The victory did nothing to diminish Kiesling's respect for the Packers, he indicated. "They will have a good ball club," Kies opined. "Ferguson sure made it rough for us. On the other hand, Rote didn't have a good night but, of course, he was rushed pretty good." Having met and lost to two other Western Division entries, San Francisco and Los Angeles, how would he compare the Packers with the 49ers and Rams? Kiesling answered this one indirectly, "The 49ers (they beat the Steelers 60-14) have a tough ball club," he said. "They've got a hell of a backfield." As for his Steelers, Walt felt "we showed improvement over our first two games. Our defense, in particular, was improved but I thought the game as a whole was a little ragged and we were a little ragged offensively."...All was quiet in the Packer dressing room where Liz Blackburn's weary athletes made no attempt to conceal their chagrin over a sixth straight loss before the home fans. A stop at John Martinkovic's locker revealed that the blocked extra point following the Steelers' second touchdown, which left the Packers ahead 14-13 until the final 90 seconds, was no accident. "That was a play," big Jawn explained, "I pulled the end and Helluin blocked the tackle and Nix went through the opening to block the kick. I thought it would work again on that field goal but it didn't. They held tight."...THREE MAJOR REASONS: Blackburn, contending a gloomy post-mortem with aides Tom Hearden, Lou Rymkus, Scooter McLean and Jack Vainisi, felt there were three major reasons for what had just transpired: "Our coverage on long passes, inability to protect our passer and quarterback Rote's inability to hit receivers in the first half. Our fumbles, of course, hurt us, too. But when you come right down to it, lack of protection for the passer probably hurt us more than anything." At the same time, Liz conceded that "some phases of play were very good. Our pass defense looked very good all night except for those three long ones and Deschaine's punting was very good." He also expressed satisfaction with the work of a pair of rookies, defensive halfback Doyle Nix and quarterback Charlie (Choo-Choo) Brackins... The Eagles, who have found the Packers obnoxious in recent years, made sure they'll have a "book" on the local prides for next Saturday night's engagement in Charleston, W. Va. - they had a battery of four scouts in the press box. Chuck Drulis, Eagle line coach and a former Packer assistant, headed the delegation, which also included another ex-Packer, Carl Schuette, George Istvan and John Titnus. "The Packers are the only team we fear, no fooling," Drulis said. "We've had more trouble with them than anybody in the last couple of years and we figure we have to beat them to finish the grapefruit season undefeated." Also scouting the Packers were Gene Ronzani, working for the Washington Redskins, and the Bears' ever-present Pete Halas. Two other "private eyes", the Detroit Lions' Russ Thomas and Ed Barber, were on hand to analyze the Steelers... WISE DECISIONS: Blackburn, twice faced with deciding whether to call for a field goal or shoot



Missed TD—Packer Quarterback Tobin Rote was having a rough time trying to hit his receivers and the picture above shows one of his passes just over the fingertips of Billy Howton on the Pittsburgh Steelers' 10-yard line in the third quarter at City stadium Sunday night.

for a first down on short yardage situations deep in Pittsburgh territory, came out with a perfect batting average. In the first quarter, with fourth down and one on the Pittsburgh 10, he said, "Let 'em go." Rote sneaked for the first down and two plays later Al Carmichael scored. Again with fourth and one on the Steeler 26 early in the third period, he barked, "Go for it." This time, Ferguson blasted for four and a first down on the 22. Four plays later, Rote sneaked over the Packers' second and final touchdown...**HAND AND FOOT**: The game produced two unscheduled player skirmishes and the Packers' normally peace-loving Jerry Helluin were involved in both of them. Early in the second quarter, the Steelers' Chet Gaona threw a block into Big G after the whistle. Helluin retaliated with a haymaker and they wrestled across the prostrate form of Bill Forester, shaken up on the play, before order was restored. Just before the half, Helluin and Jim (Popcorn) Brandt exchanged hot words near the Packer bench and when Brandt called Jerry an unprintable name, Helluin planted a shoe on the trousers of the retreating Steelers. Unfortunately, the officials saw only Helluin's action and the Packers were assessed 15 yards for "kicking."...**SHADES OF 'LEW'**: Dick Deschaine, the Packers' punting sensation from Menominee, drew a large gallery to the sidelines before the game to see his booming boots, that consistently carried from 60 to 70 yards. Many of the railbirds were heard to murmur, "I haven't seen anything like that since Lewellen's days." Deschaine didn't disappoint in action, either, averaging a robust 49.8...**CHOO-CHOO SCORES**: Brackins was accorded an enthusiastic welcome when he made his Green Bay debut at quarterback midway in the third quarter. Like Deschaine, he didn't disappoint, completing his first pass to Gary Knafelc for a 23-yard gain...**SOMEBODY GOOFED**: Under the rules, officials must signal both benches two minutes before the end of the second and fourth quarters. Saturday night, they went the rule book one better, Referee Bob Austin informing Blackburn, "Two minutes, two minutes," just before the close of the third quarter. "Two minutes, two minutes to what?" Liz shot back. "It's only the third quarter."...**HISTORIC TRIO**: All three head coaches the Packers have known were present for the local 1955 premiere. In addition to Blackburn on the sidelines and Gene Ronzani in a scouting capacity, founder Curly Lambeau also was on hand in the press box in a spectator's role.

#### **FOUR ON WAIVERS**

AUG 29 (Green Bay) - The Packers asked waivers on four players today, reducing the squad to 41. Cut loose were Howard McCants, defensive tackle from Washington State; Sisto Averno, offensive guard and five-year pro veteran with Baltimore; Allen Muirhead, offensive halfback from Mississippi; and Win Tillery, offensive end from North Carolina A. and M.

#### **BLACKBURN UNHAPPY AT WAY PACKERS LOST**

AUG 29 (Milwaukee Journal) - Lisle Blackburn was a sick guy Saturday night after what happened to his Green Bay Packers in their home debut against the Pittsburgh Steelers and the more he thought about it over the weekend, the worse he got. A field goal by Art Michalik with a minute and five seconds left beat his young hopefuls, 16-14. The licking in itself was bad enough for Blackburn really wanted this game in the first appearance before the folks at home who pay the freight.



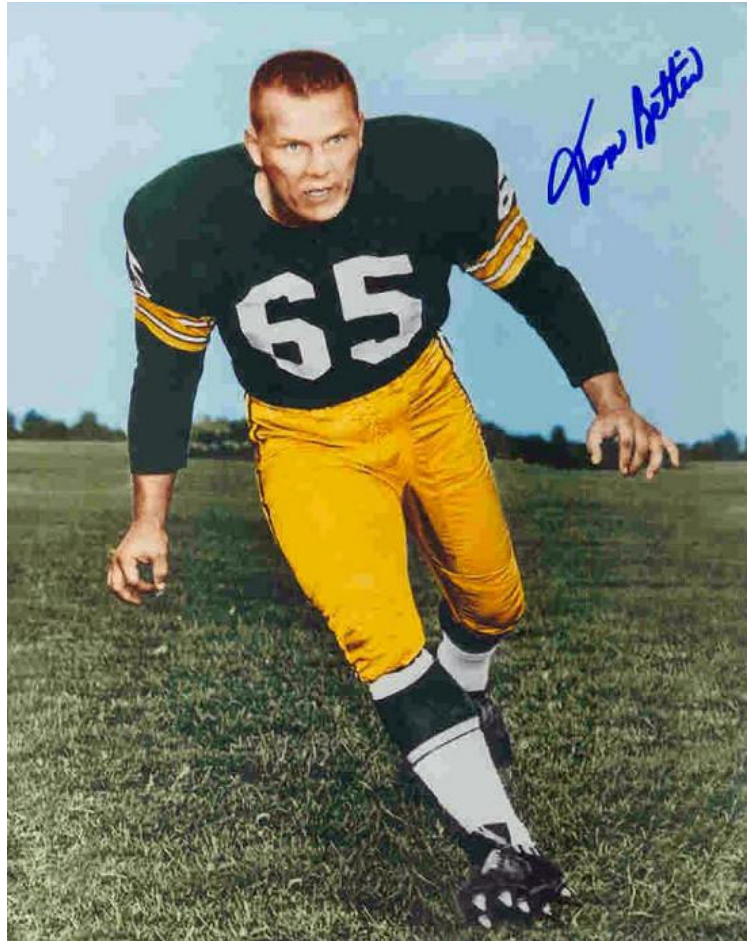
**Down You Go**—Packer defensive halfback Veryl Switzer pulls Pittsburgh fullback Fran Rogel down by the head in this first quarter action in Pitt-Packer game at City stadium Saturday night. Others are Steeler Bob Gaona (72) and Packers Val Joe Walker (47) and Roger Zatkoff (74). Pitt won 16-14.



**Fancy Stepper**—Packer fullback Howie Ferguson makes like a toe dancer in this action captured during the Packer-Pittsburgh game at City stadium Saturday night. Reaching on the ground under Ferguson is Dick Flanagan. Howie is trying to dance inside the sideline just before half. Pitt won 16-14.



The way Pittsburgh slapped it down was just a little agonizing. And the football some of his men played after two fairly satisfying performances in earlier exhibitions (New York and Cleveland) was worst of all. Most disturbing was the performance of Tobin Rote, who on one of the coldest nights of his pro career completed only seven out of 24 passes. It figures out to 29 percent and whenever has a pro football club won a game with a passing percentage like that? "I thought our defense was pretty good, except for a few bad lapses, and our rushing pretty good, too," Blackbourn said Monday, "but our passing was just plain awful. Rote didn't always get the protection he needed, and that will need some jacking up, too, but worse than that he just had a real bad night." What to do about it? Rote is too good a football player to have very many nights like Saturday's. Something like that can happen to the best of the them. For the moment, though, Blackbourn indicated he would give more attention to Charlie Brackins, the Prairie View A&M rookie - probably even start him and go along with him most of the way in the next game with Philadelphia at Charleston, WV, next Saturday night. "He hasn't looked bad so far," Blackbourn said. Against the Steelers Brackins played only briefly completing three of five pases. Blackbourn also indicated Monday morning that the temp of work would be increased this week. "We weren't completely satisfied with our physical condition Saturday night either - petered out a little in the fourth quarter, it seemed," he said. "Maybe we eased off a little too much in that hot weather."



#### **EAGLES' TRIMBLE PLANS TO POLISH RUNNING ATTACK; AERIAL GAME SET**

AUG 29 (Philadelphia) - Satisfied his passing game is satisfactory for this time of season, Jim Trimble, Eagles' head coach, went back to work on the running game today. Against the Chicago Bears in Philadelphia last Friday, the Eagles' twin passers, Adrian Burk and Bobby Thomason, threw a total of 36 aerials, completing 22 for 283 yards. The Birds ran the ball only 29 times for 92 yards...521 TO 396: In three preseason games, all of which the Birds have won, they have picked up 521 overhead and 396 yards on the ground. The running attack was ahead of the passing arm until the Bears' battle. On Saturday night in Charleston, W. Va., when the Eagles face the Green Bay Packers, Coach Trimble expects to spend more time on the ground attack, albeit he'll be hampered by injuries to two stars, Jim Parmer and Toy Ledbetter. Parmer's leg was cleat-gashed last Friday and he is now walking on crutches. Ledbetter was hurt against Detroit in Dallas and sat out the Bears' game. He is a doubtful player for Saturday night. Trimble also is confident his rookie sensation, Ted Wegert, needs only a few more games to learn the running tricks of pro football. Wegert wound up with a net nothing in four tries against the Bears but the rookie was bothered by a severe head cold. Ralph Goldston, who ground out 31 yards, and Dick Bieslki, with 24, will get more running against the Packers.

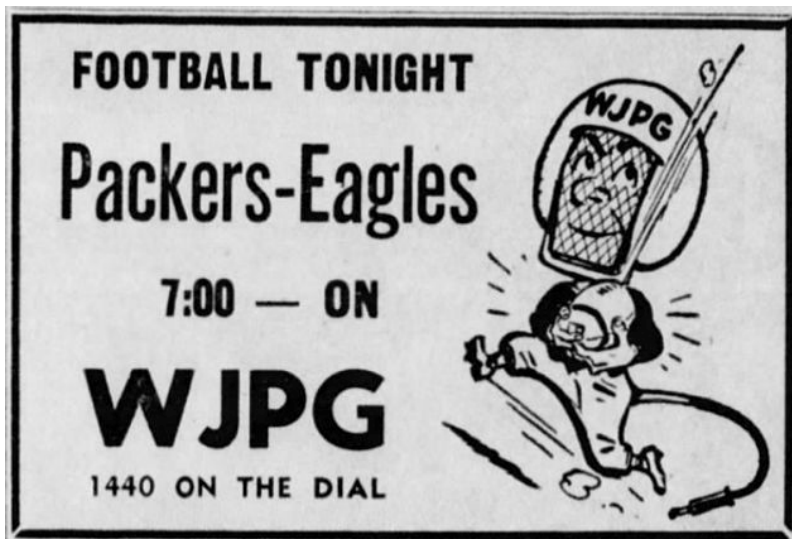
#### **POINTS! PACK POUNDS OFFENSE**

AUG 30 (Stevens Point-Green Bay Press-Gazette) - Packer Coach Liz Blackbourn hopes to find out more about the Packer offense this week. Or, to be more specific, why it isn't producing more points! The Packers scored 52 points in their first three non-championship games - an average of 17.3 per start. That average would have lost the opener to New York but also would have produced victories in the next two against Cleveland and Pittsburgh. Of the 52 points, however, 31 came in the 31-24 win over New York, 7 in the 13-7 loss to Cleveland and 14 in the 16-14 loss to Pittsburgh. Blackbourn feels that a little more offense in the two losses might easily have turned the tide in favor of the Bays. In the two setbacks, the Packers made three sustained drives - the first production a touchdown against Cleveland, the second falling four yards short of a winning TD vs the Browns, and the third scoring a TD against Pitt. Blackbourn feels that a little controlled scrimmage this week is needed in an effort to correct possible flaws in timing and blocking in the line. In addition, as Blackbourn pointed out almost immediately after the loss to Pittsburgh, "there'll be plenty of work on pass protection." Quarterback Tobin Rote and Charlie Brackins were pretty well rushed although, to make matters worse, Rote was having trouble hitting his mark. Blackbourn indicated today that Brackins will be given more action against the Philadelphia Eagles in Charleston, W. Va., Saturday night, with the possibility that he may be given the starting assignment. Brackins completed

three out of five passes against Pitt while Rote completed three out of five passes against Pitt while Rote completed seven out of 24. Also due to get a good trial in the Eagles game will be big Bob Clemens, the fullback from Georgia who has been hobbled with injuries. Clemens also had been tested as a linebacker – a position he handled in college. Defensively, Veryl Switzer will be worked this week at the right corner back position, exchanging with Billy Bookout and Clarence Self. Switzer toiled last week as a safety on defense as Blackbourn prepared the young star for a two-way role during the league season. He likely will be chiefly an offensive player but the preparation now will make him ready to switch in case of necessity. The Packers were dead serious and perhaps still bitterly disappointed Monday about their showing at home Saturday night. The squad regained its enthusiasm today as work went ahead for the Eagle game - probably the toughest on the schedule thus far. The Eagles seem anxious to close out the exhibition season with a 6-0 record and, what's more, they'd like to gain revenge for the plastering the Packers gave them in a league game in Philly last fall. That loss just about knocked the Eagles out of contention. The Packers came out of the Pittsburgh game without any serious injuries. The Bays will end 44 days of occupation and practice here Thursday when they fly out of Oshkosh for Charleston. The last big practice is scheduled Wednesday. They'll remain in the east, going down to Winston-Salem, N.C., after the Eagles game to prepare for a battle with the Washington Redskins. The non-league season closes with the Shrine production in Milwaukee, featuring the Chicago Cardinals, in Marquette Stadium Sept. 17.

### **PACKERS GO 89 ON GROUND! RUSHING GAME IMPROVED?**

AUG 30 (Green Bay) - The Packers had lots of trouble keeping Steeler linemen off the backs of Tobin Rote and Charlie Brackins Saturday night. But, strangely, they managed to split the same Steeler line for 151 yards rushing. That isn't a fantastic total, but it was 52 more than they gained against the Cleveland Browns a week ago. Green Bay had its best time on the ground at the start of the third quarter, rolling 89 yards, including a five-yard penalty loss, for a touchdown. Four Rote passes were attempted in the drive and all four went haywire - the first aimed at Breezy Reid landing in the grass, the second inches off the fingertips of touchdown-bound Billy Howton, the third high to Howie Ferguson on a screen and the fourth high to Al Carmichael. While the Pack's passing woes persisted in the drive, it's rare in pro ball to travel most of the field strictly on the ground. Coach Liz Blackbourn said recently that he expected the Packer ground game to improve some over a year ago when it finished eighth in the league. That one drive might have been an indication. The advance was made (in order) on runs of 6 by Carmichael, 8 by Reid, 34 by Ferguson, 4 by Reid and 2 by Rote for the touchdown...One of the bright lights for the Packers was Dick Deschaine, the Menominee, Mich., punter, who came out with a fantastic 49.3 average on eight boots. The National League punting champion, Pitt's Pat Brady, averaged 34. Deschaine had two close calls (that is they were almost blocked) and in each case he fell below 40 yards. He got off kicks of 59, 52, 37, 62, 62, 33, 47 and 45 yards. Incidentally, one of the last previous punters to approach Deschaine's booting in City Stadium was Bob Waterfield of the Los Angeles Rams in '48. Bob let loose the longest punt in league history that day, 88 yards, but finished up with a 48-yard average. Brady averaged 48 yards in the Packers' loss to Pitt in the league opener last year. The league punting average record for one season is 48.7, set by Washington's Sammy Baugh in 1942. The Sunday after Waterfield set the one-punt mark here, Jack Jacobs of the Pack and Baugh each averaged 53 yards in a game in Milwaukee...The last ditch field goal Saturday night by Steeler guard Art Michalik settled a debt which has been standing for five years. In 1950, Michalik was the star lineman on the St. Ambrose College Bees, under Moon Mullins. The Bees lost only one football game that season, a 17-13 decision to St. Norbert College, with the edge of victory coming on a field goal by Knight John Ritchay. As Michalik well remembers, Packer defensive backfield coach Tom Harden was the mentor of the Knights which turned the 1950 trick.



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### **HALAS CALLS EAGLES 'ONE OF GREATEST'**

AUG 30 (Milwaukee Sentinel) - Coach George Halas of the Chicago Bears very seldom passes out superlatives about an opponent which has beaten his club. But when the Bruins lost, 27-20, to the Philadelphia Eagles Saturday night, Papa George was extremely generous in calling the winners "one of the greatest clubs in the league this season." The "hot weather" league record proves the Eagles are the hottest club at the moment, winning three straight exhibitions. The Eagles are "winging" and they're saying "this is the year" in Philadelphia. The Packers get the next crack at the Eagles. And if Green Bay is thinking about any redemption after its lackluster play against Pittsburgh, the time is Saturday night in Charleston, WV.



Truly, it's the Packer's toughest exhibition this season. They said the Bears weren't as far advanced as the Eagles, and the Bears were the early season choice. The Eagles' win over the Bears brought out that Adrian Burk had advanced beyond that area of merely fine quarterbacking and tracer-bullet passing into that lonely realm of the truly great. It wasn't simply that he hit Pete Pihos with profitable passes. Pihos had made a quarterback look good by catching improbable and sometimes rather impossible passes. No longer is the Eagles' aerial attack a Burk-to-Pihos monopoly. Adrian was spreading the Bear defense with telling tosses to every eligible receiver. All told, Burk completed 15 of 22 passes for 218 yards. Eagle Coach Jim Trimble, of course, was very pleased with the victory. "I wasn't too worried with the Bears began to catch up at the end," he said. "I had 80 percent of the rookies in there at the time." Halas came back with "we're improving. The Eagles had a far better team than the Cardinals (who beat the Bears, 21-6), and we played a much better game against the Eagles than the Cardinals." Coach Liz Blackbourn, aware of what's in store for his club, stepped up the tempo at the Stevens Point camp. "I guess we've been a little lax up here during the hot weather," he said. But maybe the Packers will get hot against the Eagles. They've certainly had success in the past, beating them in 12 league games and losing one. Blackbourn singled out Doyle Nix, defensive end John Martinkovic and defensive halfback Val Joe Walker as outstanding contributors in the generally good defensive performance. Four more boys were cut after Saturday's bringing the squad down to 42. Latest to go were Sisto Averno, offensive guard who had been picked up as a free agent from the Baltimore Colts; Allen Muirhead, fleet Mississippi back who had trials both as a defensive man and an offensive back, also a free agent; Howard McCants, giant Negro end, a fugitive from Canadian football, and Win Tillery, an offensive end picked up a free agent from the Philadelphia Eagles.

#### **PIHOS HITS PEAK IN EAGLES DRILL**

AUG 30 (Hershey, PA) - At the age of 31, when most pros are ready to call it quits, Pete Pihos is hardier than ever and from all indications better than ever. The celebrated Eagles' end, the finest in football today, has trimmed down to a svelte 207 and has started his ninth season in the NFL with a spark that is amazing. Pihos, who will celebrate his 32nd birthday, Oct. 22, is pointing towards his best season. Already, in three preseason games, Pete has snared 17 passes for 207 yards and three touchdowns. He had his big night last Friday in the Inquirer classic when against the Bears' vaunted defense he caught 10 passes for 134 yards and two TDs. It was an unofficial record for "Mr. Pro". In NFL play, his mark is nine in one game and that was against Washington last year...TIRELESS WORKER: With the remainder of the Eagles getting ready for the Green Bay Packers in Charleston, W. Va., on Saturday night, Pihos works out here as hard as any rookie. His drive is contagious and it has helped Coach Jim Trimble keep the squad's morale at such a high pitch. Two years ago, Pihos won the league pass reception title with 63 for 1,049 yards and 10 TDs. Last year, he tied with the 49ers' Billy Wilson, each grabbing 60. This year, Pete, in the finest physical condition of his career, is headed for greater heights. "I just want to be better than the other guy who is seeking my job," explained Pihos when asked what kept him going at top speed year after year. A marked man in every game he plays, Pihos thrives on fooling the defender.

# Blackbourn Has 25 Days To Mull Over Case of Deschaine

#### **BLACKBOURN HAS 25 DAYS TO MULL OVER CASE OF DESCHAIINE**

AUG 31 (Stevens Point-Green Bay Press-Gazette) - One of Coach Liz Blackbourn's many little worries these days is Dick Deschaine, the punter. What to do with the Menominee, Mich., booting ace isn't a right-now problem since Liz has 25 more days to mull it over. But it keeps popping up - especially since Deschaine averaged a shade under 50 yards on eight kicks in the 16-14 loss to Pittsburgh in Green Bay Saturday night. "We may have to go with three halfbacks if we keep Dick," Blackbourn said yesterday, and added thoughtfully, "but that kid sure can kick the hell out of that ball." Blackbourn isn't



## The Stadium and the Future

Editor, Press-Gazette: Perhaps you could explain to me the reason why the Packers plan on building their new stadium on the present location of City Stadium.

Two of the bad points about the location are:

1. The Stadium should be built with a lot of parking space because people do not like to walk great distances to their cars, as some have to now.

2. There are not enough roads leading to and from the Stadium as the East River bounds two sides and East High on the other.

It seems to me that the people who are at the head of the new stadium project would look to the future a little bit and build where there is room to park a lot of cars.

A Bewildered Packer-Backer  
Green Bay, Wis.

saying that he intends to shelve Deschaine once the league season starts but he explained, "maybe we can carry him for a couple of games under the new All Star rule." The rule allows a club two extra players for the first two league games. Deschaine is an end and he's presently competing in that phase of play against Bill Howton, Gary Knafelc, Bob Peringer and Jim Jennings. Blackburn called Dick a "good worker in practice. He goes out there and catches his passes and doesn't look too bad doing it." He practice his punting along with Bill Forester, Jim Capuzzi and Peringer after every drill. Deschaine has no college experience but played some service and semi-pro ball after a brilliant Menominee High school career. Actually, the league has only one out-and-out punting specialist - Pat Brady, the left-footed booter of the Pittsburgh Steelers. Brady is a quarterback and Coach Walt Kiesling, who is training the Steelers at St. Norbert College this week, said "we only use him there in practice." Brady came up in 1952 and threw three passes that season. He threw one in '53 and didn't pass at all in '54. Jimmy Finks handled the pitching last season with Paul Held, who threw 73 times, in reserve. This season, the Steelers are working four quarterbacks, not including Brady. Horace Gillom, the Cleveland Browns' ace punter, is Paul Brown's third end, but played little. He caught five passes in '54, seven in '53, four in '52, 11 in '51 and two in '50, when the Browns joined the NFL. Thus, in five seasons, Gillom has caught 29 passes as compared to 49 for Dante Lavelli and 44 for Darrell Brewster in one season (1954). Brady and Gillom were the two top punters in the league in '54. All of the other regular booters in '54 were regulars in other phases - Norm Van Brocklin of the Rams, Tom Landry of the Giants, Zeke Bratkowski of the Bears, Max McGee of the Packers, Jug Girard of Detroit, Adrian Burk of the Eagles, Charley Trippi of the Cardinals, Pete Brown of the Forty Niners and Cotton Davidson of the Colts. That about explains the problem. Solving of it likely will depend on the advancement of the players in the various positions - plus Deschaine's own development. He has booted 12 times against National league

foes for 570 yards - an average of 47.5...The Packers closed out training here this afternoon with a big scrimmage. "It'll be the last one because once we get on the road and as the season gets closer we'll have to cut down on the scrimmages," Liz pointed out. A special eye will be kept on tackle Bill Lucky, the former Cleveland Brown who will be taking his first hard bumps since undergoing an appendectomy one month ago yesterday. Liz also plans to use him against the Eagles in Charleston, W. Va., Saturday night. Also due to be tested will be Bob Clemens, the Georgia fullback, who has been asked to learn the assignments of left and right halfback as well as fullback. He worked some at right half in practice. Practice yesterday was highlighted by the passing accuracy of veteran quarterback Tobin Rote, who has one of his best days in camp. The battling Texan has been off the mark for the past two weeks, which period included two games. The Packers pull out of camp at 7:30 Thursday morning by bus. They'll board a chartered Capital airliner at Oshkosh and fly to Charleston where they'll drill Thursday afternoon. They'll fly to Greensboro, N.C., after the game to prepare for the exhibition against Washington in Winston-Salem Saturday night, Sept. 10. The Packers then will fly back to Green Bay to get set for the final non-looper against the Chicago Cardinals in Milwaukee and the league season.

### TRAFFIC GROUP OPPOSES STADIUM ON PRESENT SITE

AUG 31 (Green Bay) - The proposal to build new steel stands on the site of the present City Stadium met head-on without rousing opposition Tuesday night when the Green Bay Traffic Commission went on record as being unanimously opposed to the plan. The commission, after hearing a report on the stadium situation from Ald. Leonard Jahn, said it would advise the City Council immediately that it could not possibly sanction such a plan because of "severe traffic and parking problems at the site of the present stadium." Commissioner said they would call the council's attention to General Ordinance Number 30-54 of the city of Green Bay which states that "no stadium, ball park, or other sports arena shall be constructed unless one parking space is provided for every five seats in the stadium."...JAHN READS ORDINANCE: The ordinance, read to the commission by Jahn, continued: "Such parking area or any portion thereof shall not be more than 800 feet to the nearest corner of the property on which the place of assembly (stadium) is located." (City Attorney Clarence Nier said today a determination would have to be made whether the city government's functions would be bound by the ordinance and whether the City Stadium improvement would be classified as a new structure subject to the ordinance. A clause of the ordinance provides that when parking potential is increased by 15 percent, the requirements of the ordinance becomes effective. On the basis of adding 10,000 seats at the stadium and one space being provided for every five seats, 2,000 parking spaces would have to be provided.) After hearing Jahn's report on the stadium situation and his reading of the ordinance, Commission Chairman Charles McFarland told the group: "We should tell the council that we consider it definitely out of line to spend thousands of dollars on a new stadium at the present site when there is no chance in the world of improving

the traffic and parking situation out there." The discussion of the stadium and Jahn's appearance before the commissioner was part of a discussion of traffic problems expected during the Packer football games this fall. Commissioners suspended their rules to hear from Jahn, who informed them that 73 acre will soon be available for a new stadium on the west side. "Forty acres already have been purchased at Military Avenue and Boland Road as a new stadium site on which the Park Board has an option," Jahn declared. "Thirty-three additional acres have been recommended for purchase this year, which means the city would have 73 acres available for a new stadium. And these 73 acres would be a perfect location from the traffic standpoint."...**IDEA OF SPORTS PLAZA:** Jahn said this is true because "at least three main highway arteries are available to carry the traffic load." He added that the widening of West Mason Street also first perfectly into the plan for building a stadium in the Military-Boland Road area. "Without a doubt, the new stadium should be erected on this West Side location," Jahn told the commission. "You have perfect access and egress to and from the stadium," he declared. Jahn also called the commission's attention to current plans for building a war memorial arena which he said could be erected on the same site. "Construction of a new stadium and arena there would give Green Bay a sports plaza second only to the one Frank Lloyd Wright is planning for the city of Madison," Jahn declared. Jahn labeled as false a newspaper story which said the Board of Education was in favor of building the new stadium on the present Baird Street site. "Supt. of Schools Fred Wandrey has informed me that the board does not favor rebuilding the stadium," Jahn declared. "Wandrey told me the board indicated only that it would favor a new track and lighting system so it could keep the stadium for its own use," Jahn added...**CAN'T USE JOANNES PARK:** Jahn said it was his opinion that no parking or traffic problems had been considered in plans for building a new stadium on the present site. "By moving the stadium not at the present location, you can only decrease already inadequate parking facilities," Jahn said. He added that Joannes Park cannot be used for parking because of an agreement made when the park was purchased stipulating that the park can be used only for recreational facilities. "There simply is no way to defeat the parking problem at the present stadium site," Jahn declared. Jahn said the city would also be \$235,901.46 better off by building at Military and Boland because Dr. Clarence Del Marcella, late Green Bay sports enthusiast, left that much in his will to provide for the building of a new stadium on the West side. The remainder of the estate was left for stadium purposes after the death of all survivors, and the city attorney's 1954 report listed six remaining survivors between the ages of 55 and 76. Jahn said he has received a legal opinion from City Atty. Clarence Nier stating that the city could write a bond issue for that amount and then could eventually "be reimbursed for said amount." Jahn concluded his remarks to the commission by stating that "a West side stadium would be better from every standpoint - from the standpoint of traffic - from the standpoint of safety - from the standpoint of quality - from the standpoint of economy," the speaker concluded...**BULTMAN SUPPORTS VIEW:** Lt. Harry Bultman of the Police Dept. traffic division agreed with Jahn's opinion that a West side stadium would be better from a traffic standpoint. "The fact is it would be a traffic man's dream," Bultman declared. "It would pull traffic out of a four-lane highway and would disperse it much more quickly than we can disperse it now. There just wouldn't be any comparison." Bultman said it takes an average of 22 minutes to clear out the stadium area at the present time. "If that's the case, how much longer would it take to clear out the stadium when there are 8,000 more people to consider," Jahn asked Bultman. "It goes without saying that the job of the police department would be even tougher than it is now," Bultman replied.



**Form Same, Average Longer**—The punting form of Packer Dick Deschaine seems no different than any other punter but the Menominee, Mich., star's average is "slightly" different. He averaged a shade under 50 yards in eight kicks against Pittsburgh Saturday night.

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#### **PACKERS BREAK SUMMER CAMP**

**AUG 31 (Stevens Point)** - The Green Bay Packers ended their 44-day encampment at this training site Wednesday with a rousing drill, hoping to create a winning frame of mind against the Philadelphia Eagles at Charleston, WV Saturday night. The Packers will fly out Thursday. After the game the squad flies to Greensboro, NC for a week long drill before playing





**Gangway, There's a Breeze Blowing**—Packer halfback Breezy Reid takes a three-yard pass from Tobin Rote in first quarter and is dumped by Pittsburgh's Jack Butler in front of Packer bench at City stadium Saturday night. Racing out of action at right is Lee Rummel of the Press-Gazette and watching with towel is Clarke Lewellen. Pitt won 16-14.

the Washington Redskins at Winston-Salem, NC. Green Bay ends its exhibition schedule against the Chicago Cardinals in the annual Shrine game at Marquette Stadium, Milwaukee. While the Packers have beaten the New York Giants and bowed to the Cleveland Browns and Pittsburgh Steelers, Philadelphia has won three straight exhibitions. For the first time this season, the Packers will be at full strength. Tackle Bill Lucky, sidelined because of an appendectomy, should be ready for his season's debut. The first rookie to win a starting berth with the Packers this season is Doyle Nix. Operating on the left side of the secondary, Nix had starred in all three starts. Coach Liz Blackburn rates Jack Spinks, the converted fullback, as one of the fastest offensive guards in the league. A 240 pounder, Spinks was with the Steelers and Cardinals as a fullback before the Packers picked him up in the offseason. A shortage of offensive guards and the physical qualifications of Spinks prompted the Packer coaching staff to experiment with the former Alcorn A&M giant. The experiment proved so successful that Spinks is now vested as a starter at left guard.

#### **EAGLES DEPART FOR PACKERS**

AUG 31 (Hershey, PA) - Philadelphia's touring Eagles will fly out of nearby Harrisburg airport tomorrow morning to start the last half of their preseason schedule. The Birds will leave shortly after breakfast for Charleston, W. Va., where on Saturday night they tangle with the Green Bay Packers in the fourth of six non-championship games. The squad of 42 players plus the coaches, General Manager Vince McNally, etc., will be feted and paraded in the West Virginia capital for two days. They will be guests at luncheons tomorrow and Friday. Charleston fans plans a big welcome for three Eagles who are favorites in the West Virginia city. They are Gene Lamone, rookie guard from West Virginia; Dean Dugger, rookie end who starred at Charleston's Stonewall Jackson High School, and Norman (Wild Man) Willey, former football and basketball luminary at Marshall College in West Virginia...LEDBETTER MAY PLAY: Lamone may not play in Charleston. His left knee, twisted against Detroit at Dallas, still is bothering him. Lamone did not see any action against the Chicago Bears last Friday night in Philadelphia. Neither did halfback Toy Ledbetter who was also hurt in Dallas. Ledbetter probably will see some action against the Packers. Also a casualty is Jim Parmer, whose 28-yard burst up the middle was the longest gain for the Birds last Friday. Parmer suffered a deep cleat gash on his left foot and four stitches were required to close the wound. He is not expected to play Saturday.

# Jennings New Soltau? It's 'Melody' to Liz

# '54 Repeat?

## NATIONAL GRAPEFRUIT LEAGUE (Western Peeling)

	W	L	T	Pct	PS	OP
Los Angeles	3	1	0	.750	124	93
San Francisco	3	1	0	.750	101	62
Detroit	2	2	0	.500	65	45
<b>GREEN BAY</b>	1	2	0	.333	52	53
Baltimore	0	1	1	.000	35	49
Chicago Bears	0	2	0	.000	26	48

## (Eastern Peeling)

	W	L	T	Pct	PS	OP
Philadelphia	3	0	0	1.000	62	35
Chicago Cardinals	2	0	0	1.000	38	22
Cleveland	1	2	0	.333	48	62
New York	1	2	0	.333	69	71
Washington	1	2	1	.333	79	80
Pittsburgh	1	3	0	.250	54	133

## Friday Night's Results

Los Angeles 38, Cleveland 21.  
Detroit 24, Pittsburgh 0.

## Tonight's Games

**GREEN BAY** vs. Philadelphia at  
Charleston, W. Va. (7:00, WJPG).

Washington vs. Bears at Memphis,  
Tenn.

## Sunday's Game

Cardinals at San Francisco.

## Probable Offensive Lineups

<b>GREEN BAY</b>		<b>PHILADELPHIA</b>
Knafelc	LE	Walston
Szafaryn	LT	Lansford
Spinks	LG	Kilroy
Ringo	C	Kelly
Brown	RG	Husfold
Dahms	RT	Snyder
Howton	RE	Pihos
Rote	QB	Burk
Reid	LH	Norton
Carmichael	RH	Johnson
Ferguson	FB	Bielski*

## JENNINGS NEW SOLTAU? IT'S 'MELODY' TO LIZ

SEPT 1 (Stevens Point-Green Bay Press-Gazette) - Some of the boys were saying along the sidelines, "that's how Soltau looked when he first came up." All of which was something of a McGee Melody to Coach Liz Blackburn - this comment on Jim Jennings, the Packers' rookie end who displayed considerable pass catching talent in the final big scrimmage here Wednesday afternoon. The non-competing players compared Jennings to San Francisco's Gordon Soltau because Jennings handled himself like Soltau off the line and in going up after the ball - chiefly the feet-spread-wide leap. What's more, the two athletes are built about the same - 195 and around 6-2. Blackburn worked Jennings at both right and left end behind Billy Howton and Gary Knafelc, and the Missouri ace, purely a

darkhorse when drills opened July 16, caught six passes, one going for about 40 yards, another 30 and two others about 20. Jennings came into his own about a week ago and has seen practically no action against the Giants, Browns and Steelers. Blackburn plans to give Jim an acid test against the Philadelphia Eagles in Charleston, W. Va., Saturday night. While Jennings was handling himself like a veteran, Knafelc was cavorting with new life, catching a number of passes and constantly being on the lookout for somebody to knock down...PASS

## Forester To Miss; Son Polio Victim

The Packers will be without the services of middle guard Bill Forester when they face the Philadelphia Eagles tonight. Forester left the squad Friday at Charleston, W. Va., for Green Bay after learning that his eight-months-old son, Michael William, had been stricken with polio. The infant's condition was reported as satisfactory today. "The doctor thinks he is over the worst of it," Forester said.

PROTECTION!: Thus, Blackburn felt a lot better yesterday about left end. He had said earlier in the week, "we'll really miss that McGee." While the Packers may still miss Max McGee, the 1954 left end now in the air corps, yesterday's workout might have been the start of curing one of the last big problems left over from '54. You may have gathered - from the report that some passes were caught - that pass protection was better in scrimmage than it was against Pittsburgh Saturday night. You are right. It was! Every little flaw was noted as coaches Ray McLean, Lou Rymkus and Blackburn stood behind the offensive team and prodded the guards and tackles and backs when the defensive unit, prodded by Coach Tom Hearden, barged in. Jack Spinks and Hank Bullough handled most of the offensive guard work and Len Szafaryn and Tom Dahms toiled mostly at offensive tackle. Also working into the picture was Bill Lucky, getting his first rough work since an appendectomy July 30. The big tackle, carrying 250 pounds, showed quite a bit of speed but it was too early to tell how tough he'll be holding for the passer. On his first play, he pulled out on an end run and knocked down a defensive halfback...VERYL IN BEST RUN: Steve Ruzich and John Bove handled all of the defensive tackle duty and veteran Steve had himself a good afternoon, breaking in - especially up the middle - to bother passers Tobin Rote and Charlie Brackins. The two quarterbacks, incidentally, was hitting well under pressure. Giving them good protection was fullback Bob Clemens, who seems to specialize in belting down defensive ends. The best spot of running was turned in by Veryl Switzer. Bobby Dillon intercepted a pass and lateraled to Veryl, who zig-zagged what seemed like 100 yards from his own 35 to about the other 10, where Clemens brought him down. The run prompted Blackburn to remark with a grin, "guess maybe the offensive specialists had better learn to tackle," adding, "that Veryl sure can run." Fortunately, there were no injuries but Blackburn admitted "that I was worried all through it." Billy Bookout got the wind knocked out of him when he was bent backwards in a pile of defensive players ganging up on Fred Cone. Bookout went back in after a few plays...The Packers took their last meal here this morning, ending a 45-day stay at the state college. They boarded a bus at 7:30 this morning and went to Oshkosh from where they flew in a chartered Capital Airliner for Charleston. They'll remain in the east to prepare for the Washington Redskins in Winston-Salem, N.C., a week from Saturday night, and then return to Green Bay Sunday, Sept. 11. Forty-one players made the trip and Blackburn said he expects to give all of them a "good shot" in the two games. Leaving camp yesterday was Jan Smid, the Illinois middle guard, who had been undergoing treatment for a back injury at St. Michael's Hospital. He had been placed on waivers earlier. Scout Jack Vainisi will join the club in Charleston. He was in Baltimore Tuesday night to work the Baltimore-Washington game.

## SINGLE PACKER GAME TICKETS ON SALE

SEPT 1 (Green Bay) - The sale of single game tickets for Packer home games in Green Bay and Milwaukee has been started today, Ticket Director Carl Mraz announced. Season tickets, however, are still available at the Packer ticket office, 349 S.



Washington, Mraz said. He explained that single game tickets will be sold for the opener against the champion Detroit Lions Sept. 25, the middle game against the Chicago Bears Oct. 2, and the windup against Chicago Cardinals Nov. 13. Packer games in Milwaukee County Stadium are Baltimore Oct. 8, Los Angeles Oct. 16 and San Francisco Nov. 20.

### START 'DOLLARS AND CENTS' GRID STADIUM ARGUMENTS

SEPT 1 (Green Bay) - The unanimous stand of the Traffic Commission Tuesday against expanding City Stadium because of parking and traffic problems was countered today with renewed "dollars and cents" arguments by those favoring the project. Gathering behind an effort for a new stadium, several west side aldermen propose building a new Packer home on land purchased by the city at Military Avenue and Boland Road, a plan discarded by the Council early this year in authorizing drafting of plans for increased City Stadium seating. The commission, in endorsing the idea, said it could not agree with the enlarging project because of "severe traffic and parking problems at the site of the present stadium." While this view is conceded to a degree by persons behind the City Stadium improvement, they point out that comparative costs are the most important point in providing a new stadium. At the present time, architect Ed Berners is compiling a cost estimate, for a proposed bond issue, based on constructing steel stands to seat between 32,000 and 33,000 persons at the

present site on Baird Street. The plans have been approved by the Board of Education, which supervises City Stadium, as meeting its needs, and the subject will reach the City Council's Finance Committee once the cost estimate is completed...**MOST ON PRESENT TURF:** Original rough estimates for the stadium improvements were between \$750,000 and \$1,000,000, and it was pointed out that the proposed project would make use of existing facilities except for seating at City Stadium. While the playing field itself would be located further to the north, most of it would remain on present turf. A new stadium, of course, would include costs for seating plus all facilities now present at City Stadium, such as the field, press box, dressing rooms, ticket offices, walls and restrooms. To the total cost of these items and the seating would have to be added the cost of preparing the other site for construction and the cost of leveling and graveling the parking lot listed as an advantage for the west side location. The Packer Corp. last fall took notes of proposals of a new stadium at Military Avenue and Boland Road, now called E.J. Perkins Park, when it submitted a report of its needs to the City Council. "The Packers are of the opinion that there are certain advantages to a new stadium as increased parking facilities and the lure of a new stadium. But there also would be an increase in cost to replace present facilities as the field itself, ticket windows, gates, walls or fences, concession stands, toilet facilities, dressing rooms and the press box," the report said. The Council later authorized the Board of Public Works to hire an architect to prepare sketches of



the City Stadium improvement...**"COST ACCOUNTING":** Those favoring improvement of City Stadium take a position that "cost accounting" as well as total cost should be considered in comparing it with an entirely new stadium. That is, the cost should be within reason since its total capacity will be used only four times a year. In addition, City Stadium's location makes its use convenient for East High School and for conventions headquartered in the downtown hotels as well as a variety of mass meetings and high school track meets. Since West High School has its own stadium and Premontre High School plans on building its own field, a new stadium at Perkins Park might have to justify its existence with only four Packer games a year. Proponents of a new stadium predict that West High would move its home games, but the distance from the school would remain as a disadvantage. The same frequency of use question would have to be asked about preparing the parking lots mentioned as part of the new west side stadium. In pointing out the comparative costs, Mayor Otto Rachals also emphasized that two other points should be considered. Present increased seating requirements for the Packers to maintain their status in the NFL, the mayor believes, make it imperative that expanded facilities become a reality before the time required to plan and build a new stadium...**20-FOOT "BOWL":** The mayor's view is that parking and traffic

problems of persons attending Packer games at City Stadium are no worse, if as bad, as those facing persons driving to games at other NFL parks. Walking across gravel parking lots or driving out of a lot with limited exits also has disadvantages, he points out. The 38-acre tract under discussion at Military and Boland has hills near its southwest corner and near its southeast corner with a creek bed leading to a lower area to the north. Marshall Simonds, park superintendent, has proposed that a 20-foot "bowl" for recreation department and spectator events could be constructed by digging down 10 feet and making use of present 10-foot slopes. The 38-acre tract was purchased by the city this year for a \$30,500 down payment plus \$27,500 to be paid in five years with 4 1/2 percent interest. Ald. Leonard Jahn told the Traffic Commission that 33 adjoining acres also were available for purchase.

### PACKERS QUIT CAMP, GO EAST FOR GAMES

SEPT 1 (Milwaukee Journal) - "What have been the principal developments in camp?" The question was an obvious one as the Green Bay Packers left their Stevens Point base Thursday morning after 44 days there and headed east on which they will meet the Philadelphia Eagles at Charleston, WV Saturday night and the Washington Redskins at Winston-Salem, NC September 10. Lisle Blackburn pondered the question for a moment. "Developments?" he repeated slowly. "I sometimes wonder." But he forced a laugh as he said it, and his thoughts were still clearly of the fourth quarter collapse against the Pittsburgh Steelers in Green Bay last Saturday night which was certainly no laughing matter. The Packers lost, 16-14. He got serious quickly, though. "We feel that we're at least 25 percent stronger than last year and perhaps 50 percent ahead of last year's development," he said. "We've shifted material around in a way that we feel panned out well - Jack Spinks to guard from fullback, Doyle Nix from end to defensive halfback, Gene Knutson from end to tackle, George Timberlake from linebacker to offensive center. We feel we've found some new boys who are going to help up. That Nix is going to be a dandy. So is Billy Bookout (defensive halfback). Spinks, if he ever learns to be a little fierce, could become one of the better guards in the league. He does a fine job protection on passes right now. Brackins at quarterback has a fine potential. Temp at end is big and strong, although he's just beginning to come around now as we want him to play the position. Bettis (No. 1 draft choice and linebacker) has a tendency to roam all over the field in his eagerness, but he is coming. Bullough is one of the best blocking guards we have, although he's a little light. Clemens could stick as a fullback or linebacker and Jennings as an end. We fell some of our veterans have improved a lot - John Martinkovic certainly at end, Veryl Switzer at halfback, Jim Ringo at center, Joe Johnson at halfback. Johnson is one of our most improved boys. A couple of the deals we made we feel will help us ultimately. Bill Lucky (tackle) scrimmaged today (Wednesday) for the first time since his appendectomy and showed he has speed. Dahms (tackle) has looked fair. Joe Skibinski (guard) is probably the best of the new men, although he has an ankle injury which is healing very slowly." So far, so good. And have there been any disappointments? Blackburn didn't hesitate here. "Rote hasn't played the ball we expected of him at all," he said. "A big disappointment so far (Rote completed 7 out of 24 passes for a 29 percent efficiency mark against the Steelers last Saturday). Today in scrimmage he looked a lot better, though. He went to see an osteopath Monday about his shoulder which had been bothering him a bit and apparently he got help. We certainly hope so. Forester hasn't been the middle guard we thought he would be, either. He's been overweight. Hanner and Helluin must still improve on the rush they put on the passer. All in all, though, I think we're at least 25 percent better off than last year - on defense most of all. But Rote must start coming through on offense. He's the mainspring." The Packers had one of their heaviest drills of the 44 days in camp before they called it quits Wednesday.

### CHARLESTON FANS GIVE EAGLES ROYAL WELCOME

SEPT 1 (Charleston, WV) - Charleston opened its arms to the Philadelphia Eagles today with two lengthy motorcades and a civic luncheon. The touring Birds arrived here this morning to play the Green Bay Packers Saturday night in Laidley Field.

### Let's Keep a Punter

Editor, Press-Gazette: Finally the Packers discover a punter or a punter offers his service to the Packers, and what a punter! Not since Lewellen punted have the fans seen such punting. They almost hoped the Packers wouldn't make a first down, just so they could watch Deschaine boot another long towering punt; another interesting part was Charlie Brackins' kickoffs, none returned which is an advantage for the kicking team, but know what— Coach Liz says Deschaine may not stay, because other than punting he is no help to the team. Ye gods, isn't that enough — he gains more yards punting than the whole backfield does running. Just get a defensive line and Deschaine will keep them in a hole with his punting. Sure Brady can play quarterback if necessary but he hasn't played that yet, only punted, and Deschaine beat the leading punter by over 16 yards average, and you (Mr. Blackburn) may leave him go. Why? Because you think he may not be able to do

anything else. Well for me and a lot more Packer fans, that's enough. Maybe he can play end or quarterback like Brady, who knows? You sure can't find out letting him sit on the bench. You only had him two weeks. I hope Mr. Lewellen has something to say before Deschaine is left go. Another team is sure to pick him up and his punting will probably beat the Packers when they meet that team. Cone has been on the roster for quite some time. What does he do? Field goals and points after, his kickoffs are all returned for good yardage, not Brackins. Surely Brackins can kick field goals as far as Cone, points after are only 10 yards out, Brackins shouldn't miss, yet Cone who's kept for over two years to kick points after. I've been a Packer fan for over 24 years, not a radio fan but a season ticket fan, also a Milwaukee and Chicago fan, but leave a punter like Deschaine go and the Packer Corporation will lose a lot of season ticket fans I am sure.

A Packer backer until?

A. K.

West De Pere, Wis.



City dignitaries, game committee members and just plain fans greeted the Eagles at the airport and escorted them in 38 open cars all the way through town to their hotel, the Daniel Boone. Then, after they checked in, the Birds were winging again in a parade through town to another hotel for a luncheon by the Exchange Club. Jim Trimble, personable head coach, introduced each member of the squad to the lucheoneers. Tonight, under the lights of Laidely Field, the Birds drilled for one hour with the gates thrown open to the public.

### **PACKERS, EAGLES IN EXHIBITION**

SEPT 2 (Charleston, WV) - The Philadelphia Eagles have the dubious honor of being beaten more often by the Green Bay Packers than any other NFL team. However, Saturday night, the "winging" Eagles are 6 1/2 point favorites to turn the tide here. Green Bay's mastery over Philadelphia shows 12 wins in 13 league games. Philadelphia enters the kickoff with three consecutive exhibition wins. With its serial artistry being painted by quarterback Adrian Burk, the Eagles have soared over the Chicago Cardinals, 21-6; the Detroit Lions, 14-8, and the Chicago Bears, 27-20. The Packers jumped out to a 31-24 start against the New York Giants and then bowed to the Cleveland Browns, 13-7, and Pittsburgh Steelers, 16-14. Last season the Packers romped over the Eagles, 37-14, in a league game. Coach Liz Blackburn brought his 41 man squad here Friday and immediately directed a workout. The Packer mentor indicated that veteran quarterback Tobin Rote would start but his understudy, Charles Brackins, would see plenty of action. The Packers will be without the services of middle guard Bill Forester, who left the squad Friday morning to be with his 11-year old son, hospitalized with polio.

### **PACK, EAGLES HONORED GUESTS**

SEPT 2 (Charleston, WV) - The Packers of Green Bay, Wis., and the Eagles of Philadelphia, Pa., were honored guests today in this community of 80,000 potential fans. The 80-odd football players of the two clubs took part in a parade today. The downtown program was part of a fantastic \$100,000 game promotion, with proceeds going toward building a new YMCA here. The Eagles were guests at a big luncheon Thursday and the Packers, who arrived by plane yesterday, were honored this noon at a luncheon. A crowd of 14,000 fans - absolute capacity of the local high school field - will view the game Saturday night. Donations for the new building and the ticket sale were promoted together. Coach Liz Blackburn sent the Packers through a workout Thursday afternoon and they were scheduled to drill under the lights tonight. The Eagles had benefit of the arcs Thursday night. The Packers have 41 players bunking at the Hotel Daniel Boone, and Blackburn plans to give all of them a chance to cavort, including tackle Bill Lucky, back in shape again after an appendectomy. Blackburn listed veteran Tobin Rote as his starting quarterback today, but he expects to give rookie QB Charlie Brackins a good whirl. There's even a chance Liz might change his mind and start Brackins... "DOESN'T SEEM RIGHT": Starting in place of Rote "just doesn't seem right", in the opinion of Brackins, who has been a devoted Rote fan ever since he saw Rote play for Rice against North Carolina in the Cotton Bowl. Brackins was 18 at the time and Rote impressed him so much that he has tried to pattern his style of play after the fellow Texan. Another tossup starting position is left end, where veteran Gary Knafelc is ticketed to open. However, Blackburn is toying with the idea of starting Jim Jennings, the rookie from Missouri who has looked so good in practice. Other Packer starters are likely to be Bill Howton at right end, Len Szafaryn and Tom Dahms at tackles, Jack Spinks and Buddy Brown at guards, Jim Ringo at center, Breezy Reid and Al Carmichael at halfback and Howie Ferguson at fullback. Eagle Coach Jim Trimble plans to start one rookie - fullback Dick Bielski, the Maryland star who out-sparkled Wisconsin's Alan Ameche in the North-South game. Adrian Burk will open at QB. Both teams will enter the game in good physical condition. The Eagles will be going for their fourth straight victory, already having beaten Baltimore, Detroit and the Chicago Bears. The Packers will be out to square their record at 2-2. They beat New York, but lost to Cleveland and Pittsburgh.

### **EAGLES EYE 4TH IN ROW, PLAY PACKERS TONIGHT**

SEPT 2 (Charleston, WV) - Philadelphia's unbeaten Eagles go after their fourth straight along the preseason trail tomorrow night here in Laidley Stadium, meeting the twice-beaten Green Bay Packers. Kickoff time is 9:00 p.m., Philadelphia time. The Birds, who arrived here Thursday to set off a two-day celebration of parades, speeches, luncheons, etc., are slight favorites because of victories over the Baltimore Colts (21-7); the Detroit Lions (14-8), and the Chicago Bears (27-20). The Packers also arrived Thursday to take part in the festivities. They beat the New York Giants (31-24) in their non-championship opener and then lost to Cleveland (13-7) and Pittsburgh (16-14)...1ST GAME SINCE '38: The game here will be the first professional test in the West Virginia capital in 17 years. The Eagles won that last one in 1938. The Birds, then under command of Bert Bell, present commissioner of the NFL, defeated the Pittsburgh Steelers (14-7) in a league game. A sellout is predicted for the 14,000-capacity stadium with proceeds going to a YMCA building fund.

### **PACKERS TEST UNBEATEN EAGLES; ANOTHER 'MIRACLE'?**

SEPT 3 (Charleston, WV-Green Bay Press-Gazette) - The Green Bay Packers may have whipped the Philadelphia Eagles 37-14 in a NFL game in Philly last fall, but they won't be favored to perform any such miracle in a non-loop test here tonight. The Eagles are favored to down the Packers by about seven points and the main reason is that the Philadelphias swept through all of their exhibitions thus far, while the Packers won one and lost two. The Eagles downed Baltimore 21-7, Detroit 14-8 and the Chicago Bears in their first three while the Packers downed New York 31-24 and lost to Cleveland 13-7 and Pittsburgh 16-14. A capacity crowd of 14,000 is expected for tonight's tussle and cool, clear weather is predicted. Kickoff

is set for 7 o'clock, Green Bay time. Proceeds of the game will go towards building a new YMCA here. Coach Liz Blackburn expects the Packers to do an about-face tonight - at least score a few more points than in the two previous tests. Liz feels that the Bay defense held up well against the Browns and Steelers and expects a similar performance again tonight. While the Packers are anxious to make their record 2-2, Blackburn is anxious to see some of his new boys under Eagle pressure - especially Charlie Brackins, the quarterback; end Jim Jennings; and fullback-halfback Bob Clemens. Brackins was tested briefly in the first three games but Jennings and Clemens had been held back. Most of the other newcomers have seen considerable action. Blackburn plans to lead off with a veteran team, with Tobin Rote, Breezy Reid, Al Carmichael and Jack Spinks, Jim Ringo, Buddy Brown, Tom Dahms and Billy Howton in the line. Coach Jim Trimble will open with a veteran team, with one exception - fullback Dick Bielski, the former Maryland flash. Dick will be playing before a lot of home folks. The east will get its first look at the Packers' punting sensation - Dick Deschaine, the no-colleger from Menominee, Mich. Dick will be out to improve or maintain the 49.3-yard average he provided in the Pittsburgh game. The Packers probably will receive their stiffest test what with Adrian Burk and Bobby Thomason pitching to Bobby Walston and Pete Pihos, the Eagles' veteran ends. The Packers will relax after the game at the Hotel Daniel Boone tonight and on Sunday morning will fly to Greensboro, N.C., where they'll spend next week preparing for an exhibition against Washington in Winston-Salem, N.C., a week from tonight. At Greensboro, the Packers will stay at the Oakes Motor Court. After the Washington game, the Packers return to Green Bay to ready themselves for the Shrine game against the Chicago Cardinals in Milwaukee Sept. 17 and the league opener against Detroit Sept. 25.

### **BURLY PACKERS ALMOST COST 'POINT' FOOTBALL PROSPECT**

SEPT 3 (Green Bay) - The standard crack among the rail birds at the Pittsburgh Steeler practice in Minahan Stadium this week was: "My, my, St. Norbert sure is going to have a big team this year." Which reminds us of a story we heard up in Stevens Point, training base for the Packers. A 180-pound guard from out east, a freshman at that, came in a few days early to acquaint himself with the town, meet the coach and get himself bedded down for higher learning and football. He walked down Fremont Street in front of Delzell Hall where the Packers were staying and saw a half dozen 240-pound giants passing the time of the day. The freshman went straight to Coach John Roberts and told him that he'd better enroll elsewhere because he wouldn't have a chance against such big men. Roberts promptly informed him that the Packers were training at the Point and that said giants were members of the Packer squad. The 180-pounder was George DePuey of Edgewood, Md., who was recommended to State by the Packers' Bob Kennedy, the former Wisconsin flash now in service. They played together in service. Speaking about Stevens Point, that community is virtually free of polio during the polio season. Dr. F.W. Reichardt, who attended the Packers during their 45 days there, said only five cases were reported in Stevens Point in July and August - the polio months...READER'S CORNER: Sports Illustrated, the slick magazine, pulled one that must have struck Green Bay readers funny. Alfred Wright, in his story "The Pros Hit the Clover", reviewed each team and, in his paragraph on the Packers, wrote this sentence: "Coach Lisle Blackburn took over last year and converted this last stronghold of the single wing to the T," etc. The last time the Packers used the single wing, Alfred, was in 1946. They switched to the "T" in '41 and have used it ever since. Wright picks Detroit and Cleveland to play in the championship game again and places the Packers ahead of Baltimore...Clarence Self received a letter the other day from Stretch Elliott, the Packer traded to Los Angeles for Tom Dahms, and Stretch wrote that he expected to make the team. Elliott, shortly before leaving the Packer camp, said he was worried about making it...Tobin Rote, featured in a story entitled "The Uncrowned King of Quarterbacks" in Sports Review, may have been off on his passing in the last two games but he's still ahead of his pitching in the first three exhibitions a year ago. In the first three in '55, he completed 37 out of 81 for 539 yards. In the same span a year ago, he completed 31 out of 75 for 479 yards.

## **Packers Test Unbeaten Eagles; Another 'Miracle?'**



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## WESTERN CONFERENCE

This is the tough half of the league, and no matter what the statistics may show, it is always a dogfight between the Lions, the Bears, the Rams and the 49ers. Running into each other week after week with only occasional breathers against the two tailenders, no team can possibly win them all. The one with the reserves or, to put it another way, the team least depleted by injuries, winds up in front. For the past three years it has been Detroit. Before that it was the Rams. This year a lot of football astronomers see George Halas' Bears—the Monsters of the Midway—renewing the reign of terror they held over the league in the days of Bronko Nagurski and Sid Luckman. Whoever wins, the Western Conference should again provide not only the best football but the real payday crowds. Without any confidence whatsoever, SI picks this division to end in the following order for the following reasons:

**Detroit Lions.** Buddy Parker has proved himself the most resourceful coach in his division. He also has Bobby Layne, a pugnaciously determined quarterback who can raise a team out of apparent defeat; Doak Walker, the best all-round pro back in the business; an awesome defensive line flanked by 250-pound Leon Hart; an impressive roster of big rookie linemen to fill up holes caused by retirement and the inevitable migrations to Canada.

**Chicago Bears.** After 35 years in pro football—he coached and played end for the Bears before the NFL was formed in 1921—Coach George Halas has never learned to suffer defeat gladly. In recent years when his material was low and his attack somewhat dated, Halas kept the Bears a threat by his unquenchable desire to win, and no team played the Bears without taking home an impressive collection of scars and bruises. This year Halas has a fine young crop of novitiates plus Harlon Hill, a stringbean of an end who was such a whiz on the long pass last year that he had old fans talking in terms of Don Hutson. The Halas monsters will lose a few, but the kind of rough, tough football Halas teaches may be just what is needed to win this nip-and-tuck division.

**San Francisco 49ers.** The greatest running backfield in football history—Hugh McElhenny, Joe Perry and John Henry Johnson—belongs to this club.

They say you can't win by running in pro ball, but with Y. A. Tittle to throw passes the 49ers have had the most versatile and explosive attack in the game for the past several years when inspired. The trouble was they couldn't stay inspired for 60 minutes, and they had a way of dawdling over their big first-half leads and letting them expire towards the end of the game. This year they hope that Red Strader, their new coach, will cure the fault without losing the offense. If he does, the 49ers will lead the division for the first time.

**Los Angeles Rams.** For years they have had the finest football talent in the league, but no coach could keep them happy and unified. For three of the last five years Quarterback Norm Van Brocklin has led the league in passing, which is the backbone of the Ram attack. Even without Elroy (Crazy Legs) Hirsch, the Rams will again have at least three of the league's best receivers but the running attack and defense are still questionable. Coach Sid Gilman, a young newcomer from the college ranks (Cincinnati) will have to cure these defects before the Rams can regain the top.

**Green Bay Packers.** These are the dog days for the once-great Packers. Coach Lisle Blackbourn took over last year and converted this last stronghold of the singlegew to the T, and Tobin Rote, his quarterback, showed great promise. But the Packers needed a thorough rebuilding, and Blackbourn is now giving it to them. Despite the retirement of Clayton Tonnemaker, an Olympian linebacker, the Packers will have the kind of defense that will hurt better clubs, but the scoring punch just isn't there yet.

**Baltimore Colts.** Here is about the best defensive line in either league with five men averaging 258 pounds from end to end. There is also Coach Weeb Eubank, an able Paul Brown disciple now in his second year with the Colts. Then there is little (5 feet 4 inch, 170-pound) Buddy Young, a scatback who sometimes makes the big pros look like stone statues. After that, it is purely a question of whether Eubank's prize plums from the draft—especially Fullback Alan (The Horse) Ameche, and Quarterback George Shaw from Oregon—will provide the nucleus for the kind of wide-open attack the Colts need to hoist them from the cellar.



BOBBY LAYNE OF DETROIT FAKES A PASS



HILL OF CHICAGO BEARS TAKES A PASS



McELHENNY OF SAN FRANCISCO WRIGGLES



VAN BROCKLIN OF LOS ANGELES LETS FLY