Eagles Break Jinx, Finally Defeat Green Bay; Cards Win

GAME RECAP (GREEN BAY PRESS-GAZETTE)

(PHILADELPHIA) - The Philadelphia Eagles blacked out two jinxes Sunday as they whipped the Green Bay Packers, 28-14, and gained a tie for the Eastern division championship of the NFL before 26,716 at Shibe Park. The Eagles beat Green Bay for the first time in 10 league attempts and finally evaded that crucial game lump that has forced them to take second honors in the NFL's Eastern division for the past three years. Of course, the Birds still must beat the Pittsburgh Steelers at Pittsburgh next Sunday to qualify for the loop's championship playoff against the Chicago Cardinals on Dec. 28 in Chicago, but the squad feels it can make the grade. The Packers, with no championship at stake, nevertheless played a rough and all out football game and were a constant threat to Eagle title aspirations to the last minute. So vicious was the play that the Packers lost the services of Irv Comp, who suffered a severely bruised hip early in the contest. Larry Craig was expelled from the game for unsportsmanlike conduct and Ted Fritsch was forced to the sidelines with a minor hurt at one juncture. The thorn in the Packer side - and he's been one for all NFL opponents - was Steve Van Buren, who scored three touchdowns and established a new league ground gaining record of 1,008 yards in 217 carries. The old mark of 1,004 yards was set in 1934 by Beattie Feathers of the Chicago Bears. Van Buren barreled across from the one yard line in the first period; smashed two yards into paydirt in the second quarter and ripped 38 yards through the entire Packer team in the third session. He gained 96 yards for the day on 23 running attempts and his total number of carries for the year of 217 wiped out the mark of 216 set by Cliff Battle of the Washington Redskins in 1937.

EAGLES

PACKERS

DECEMBER 14, 1947   TWENTY-FIVE CENTS

BoBrown
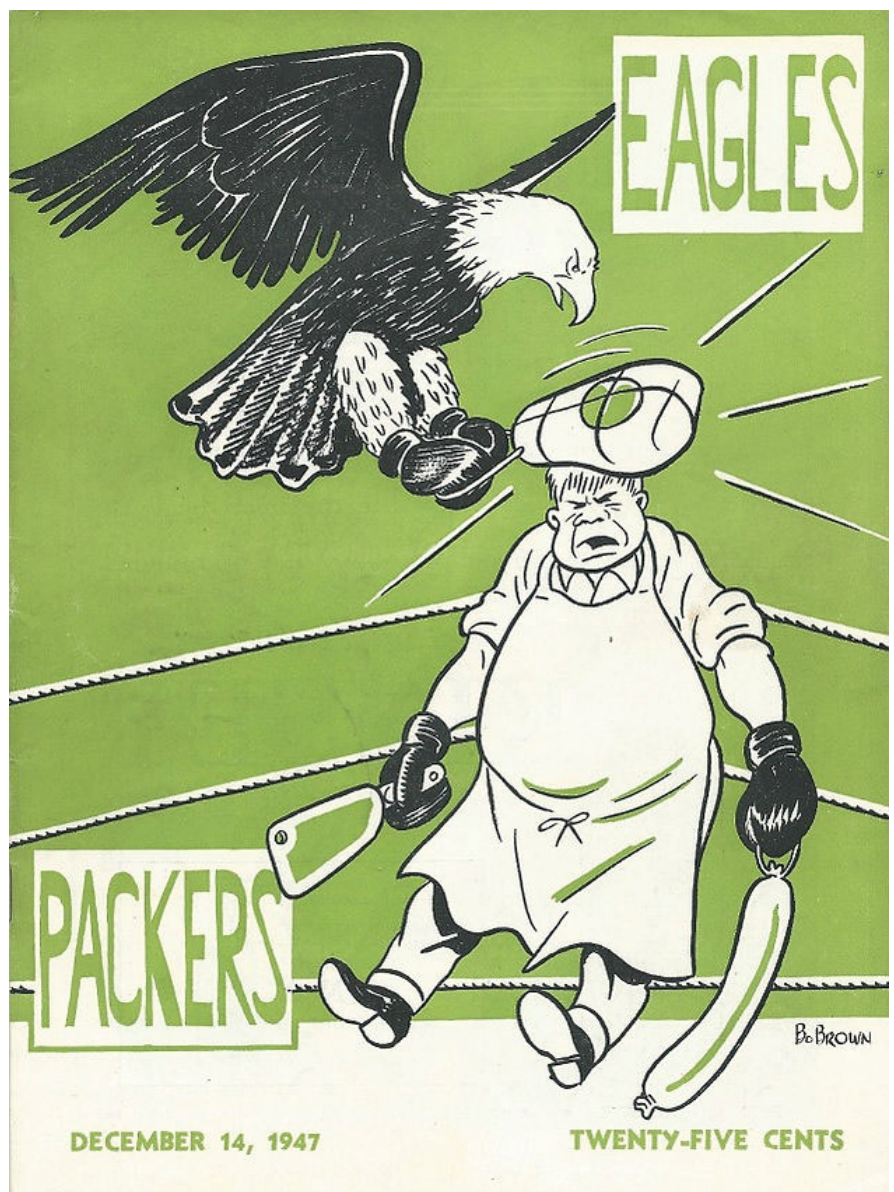
66 YARD PASS PLAY

The Eagles' final touchdown came on a 66-yard pass play from quarterback Tommy Thompson to end Pete Pihos. Cliff Patton converted four extra points from placement. The Packers registered both of their six pointers on passes from Indian Jack Jacobs. Jacobs pitched 17 yards to Nolan Luhn in the first period to tie the score at seven, and hurled a strike to Clyde Goodnight from the 11 in the third period. Fritsch converted the first point after touchdown with Roy McKay booting the second to extend the Packers' conversion record to 33 without a miss for the 1947 season. The Eagles realized that was "the" game for them and capitalized on every opportunity to top the six and a half point favored Green Bay team. This was evident in the first minutes of the game when Patton burst through from left guard and blocked a Jacobs punt - the first boot blocked on the Indian this season. Vic Sears recovered the ball for the Eagles on the Green Bay three. Van Buren smashed twice and the Birds led 6 to 0. Patton quickly converted and it was 7 to 0. The Packers struck back in the second quarter to tie the score. After Jim Gillette returned an Eagle punt 15 yards to his 45 and picked up five yards off tackle, Jacobs passed to Gillett for a first down on the Eagle 14. Bob Forte gained 2; Jacobs passed incomplete and Forte was held for no gain forcing Fritsch to try a 31 yard field goal that bounced out on the Eagle 2. Muha punted back to Herman Rohrig, who

1947 Finale

NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE

Western Division

	W	L	T	Pct	PS	OP
Chi. Cardinals	9	3	0	.750	306	231
Chicago Bears	8	4	0	.667	363	241
GREEN BAY	6	5	1	.545	274	210
Los Angeles	6	6	0	.500	259	214
Detroit	3	9	0	.250	231	305

Eastern Division

	W	L	T	Pct	PS	OP
Pittsburgh	8	4	0	.667	240	259
Philadelphia	8	4	0	.667	308	242
Boston	4	7	1	.364	168	256
Washington	4	8	0	.333	295	367
New York	2	8	2	.200	190	309

Sunday's Results

PHILADELPHIA 28, GREEN BAY 14.
Chicago Cardinals 30, Chi. Bears 21.
Washington 40, Boston 13.
Los Angeles 34, New York 10.

Next Sunday's Game

Philadelphia at Pittsburgh
(Eastern Division Playoff).

The Starting Lineups:

PACKERS	EAGLES
Craig, le	le, Ferrante
Ray, lt	lt, McDowell
Wildung, lg	lg, Patton
Brock, c	c, Wojciechowicz
Tassos, rg	rg, Kilroy
Lipscomb, lt	lt, Wistert
Luhn, re	re, Pihos
Keuper, qb	qb, Prescott
Canadea, lhb	lhb, Craft
Forte, rhb	rhb, Steele
Fritsch, fb	fb, Muha

Replacements

Green Bay: Ends — Wells, Wilson, Skoglund. Tackles — Odson, Croft. Guards—Neal, A. Forte, Bell, Davis, Clemons. Centers—Gatewood, Flowers. Backs—Jacobs, Rohrig, Cody, Comp, Schlinkman, Gillette, Smith.
Philadelphia: Ends—Pihos, Humbert, Green, Cabrelli, Armstrong. Tackles — Sears, Douglas, Talcott, Kekeris. Guards—Wyhonic, Weedon. Centers—Lindskog, Harding. Backs—McHugh, Van Buren, Kish, Maciosczzik, Sherman, Jritchard.

Score By Periods

Green Bay	0	7	7	0—14
Philadelphia	7	7	14	0—28

The Scoring

Green Bay: Touchdowns — Luhn, Goodnight. Point after touchdown—Fritsch, McKay (placements). Philadelphia: Touchdowns—Van Buren 3, Pihos. Points after touchdown—Patton 4 (placements)..

Team Statistics

	Eagles	Packers
First downs rushing	8	6
First downs passing	5	10
First downs by penalty	4	1
Total first downs	17	17
Yards gained rushing, net	178	167
Yards gained passing	220	220
Yards gained laterals, net	0	0
Total yards gained, net	298	387
Forward passes attempted	19	39
Passes completed	12	16
Passes intercepted by	6	1
Yards inter. returned by	55	7
Yards lost attempt. passes	0	30
Punts	5	4
Average distance	47	31.2
Punts returned by	4	4
Yards punts returned by	16	59
Kickoffs returned by	3	2
Yards kickoffs ret. by	52	50
Penalties	10	7
Yards penalized	120	67
Fumbles	4	1
Opp. fumbles recovered	0	1

returned 21 yards to the Eagle 19. Canadeo gained two and Jacobs stepped back and pitched to Luhn in the end zone. Fritsch converted and the score was tied 7-7. Back came the Eagles with a 76 yard drive to regain the lead. After Pat McHugh accepted a fair catch on the Eagle 24, the Birds set sail for paydirt. Pritchard raced wide for 19 yards and a first down on the 43. A 15 yard penalty for roughing advanced the ball to the Packer 43. Thompson passed to Pihos for 20 yards and another first down on the 23 and another roughness penalty against Green Bay moved the pigskin to the Packer 8. Van Buren picked up four yards in two smashes and, after Thompson passed to Ferrante for three, Van Buren bolted into the end zone. Patton converted and the Eagles were ahead 14 to 7. That's the way the half ended. Midway through the third period, Jacobs punted out on the Eagle 8. Van Buren picked up three and Muha 10 for a first down on the 21. McHugh then galloped 43 yards to the Packer 38 and on the next play through clutching Packers' hands for a touchdown. Patton again converted and the Eagles led 21 to 7. The Packers were far from through. After Muha kicked off over the end zone and the Packers put the ball in play from the 20, Jacobs engineered a passing attack that brought a touchdown five plays later and 80 yards away. Bruce Smith started the attack in motion as he raced 30 yards to midfield. Jacobs passed to Forte for a first down on the Eagle 30 and then to Luhn for another first down on the 11. The big Indian then pitched to Goodnight, who, after doing a juggling act with the ball clasped to his chest, for 6 points. McKay converted and the Eagles' lead was only 21 to 14. But the Eagles, playing with his knowledge that they had just had to win, stormed back for a fourth touchdown and clinched the game for a few moments later. Van Buren picked up four yards and Muha three before Thompson stepped back and teamed with Pihos on a 66 yard touchdown pass play. Patton converted and the Eagles were in 28 to 14. Earlier the Eagles had two touchdowns called back, one a brilliant 101 yard return of a kickoff by the Louisiana flash, Van Buren. The Eagles were detected clipping on this one. Late in the fourth quarter Ernie Steele galloped 34 yards for a touchdown but the Eagles were holding on the play.

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GREEN BAY      -  0  7  7  0 - 14
PHILADELPHIA - 7  7 14  0 - 28
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SCORING

1ST - PHIL - Steve Van Buren, 1-yard run (Cliff Patton kick) PHILADELPHIA 7-0
2ND - GB - Nolan Luhn, 17-yard pass from Jack Jacobs (Ted Fritsch kick) TIED 7-7
2ND - PHIL - Van Buren, 2-yard run (Patton kick) PHILADELPHIA 14-7
3RD - PHIL - Van Buren, 38-yard run (Patton kick) PHILADELPHIA 21-7
3RD - GB - Clyde Goodnight, 11-yard pass from Jacobs (Roy McKay kick) PHILADELPHIA 21-14
3RD - PHIL - Pete Pihos, 66-yd pass from Tommy Thompson (Patton kick) PHILADELPHIA 28-14

THERE GOES VAN BUREN, NATIONAL LEAGUE'S CHAMPION GROUND-GAINER

Supersonic Steve gains for Eagles in first period yesterday at Shibe Park. Crouched between him and Green Bay's Bruce Smith (42) is Vic Lindskog, Eagles center. Other Packers are Milburn Croft (75) and Don Wells (43). Steve scored three touchdowns in 28-14 victory which tied Eagles with Pittsburgh for Eastern title. He boosted his yardage to 1008, breaking record of 1004 set in 1934 by Chicago Bears' Beattie Feathers.

There is more than one way to take to the air in football, the Packers' Bruce Smith proves in this unusual action shot. Halfback Pat McHugh of the Philadelphia Eagles is shown making a short gain against the Packers in the first period of their National Football league game in Philadelphia Sunday as Smith misses a lunge for the tackle after evading a block thrown by an unidentified Eagle. The Eagles won 28-14. (AP Wirephoto)