1925 All-Pros

By John Hogrogian

The NFL made a lot of history in 1925. It expanded into New York with the birth of the Giants. The Chicago Cardinals and Pottsville Maroons squabbled over the championship in the league’s most famous title dispute. Most importantly, Red Grange joined the Chicago Bears in November to spark an avalanche of headlines, customers, and money.

Amidst these events, two panels chose all-pro teams. A group of “sports editors of the leading papers in the pro league area” responded to the annual poll conducted by the Green Bay Press-Gazette. This syndicated feature dropped the third team which had been chosen in 1923 and 1924. G.W. Calhoun of the Press-Gazette wrote an article which accompanied the selections.

first team

1. Charlie Berry, Pottsville
2. Ed Lynch, Rochester
3. Ed Healey, Chicago Bears
4. Gus Sonnenberg, Detroit
5. Art Carney, New York
6. Jim McMillen, Chicago Bears
7. Ralph Claypool, Chicago Cardinals
8. Joey Sternaman, Chicago Bears
9. Paddy Driscoll, Chicago Cardinals
10. Dave Noble, Cleveland

second team

1. Red Maloney, Providence
2. Lynn Bomar, New York
3. Duke Slater, Rock Island
4. Dick Stahlman, Akron
5. George Abramson, Green Bay
6. Duke Osborn, Pottsville
7. Dolph Eckstein, Providence
8. Jim Robertson, Akron
9. Verne Lewellen, Green Bay
10. Cy Wentworth, Providence
11. Tex Hamer, Frankford

Sources: Green Bay Press-Gazette, Dec. 18, 1925; Canton Repository, Dec. 18, 1925; Rock Island Argus, Dec. 18, 1925

The first team contained nine players from the major cities of New York, Chicago, Detroit, and Cleveland – a major shift away from the NFL’s traditional base in smaller midwestern cities.

Another collaborative effort appeared in the Ohio State Journal, a daily paper in Columbus. The sports staff of the paper chose two teams and an honorable mention after consultation with a group of notables. These experts included Jim Thorpe, some other NFL papers, former Ohio State All-American Chic Harley, famous referee Jim Durfee, and three other game officials. The result was an interesting blend that included Red Grange as second-team quarterback and a healthy delegation from the winless Columbus Tigers.

first team

1. Charlie Berry, Pottsville
2. Gene Mayl, Dayton
t - Walt Ellis, Columbus
t - Gus Sonnenberg, Detroit
g - Al Nesser, Akron
g - Jim McMillen, Chicago Bears
c - Ralph Claypool, Chicago Cardinals
q - Paddy Driscoll, Chicago Cardinals
h - Walter French, Pottsville
h - Goldie Rapp, Columbus
f - Jack McBride, New York

second team

e - Tillie Voss, Detroit
e - Joe Little Twig, Rock Island
t - Ed Healey, Chicago Bears
t - Wilbur Henry, Canton
g - George Abramson, Green Bay
g - Swede Youngstrom, Buffalo
c - Dolph Eckstein, Providence
q - Red Grange, Chicago Bears
h - Dave Tynes, Columbus
h - Hinkey Haines, New York
f - Tex Hamer, Frankford

honorable mention

e - Ed Lynch, Rochester; Red Maloney, Providence; Paul Goebel, Columbus, Lynn Bomar, New York; Duke Hanny, Chicago Bears
t - Duke Slater, Rock Island; Dick Stahlman, Akron; Boni Pettcoff, Columbus; Cub Buck, Green Bay
g - Art Carney, New York; Duke Osborn, Pottsville; George Berry, Akron
c - Larry Conover, Cleveland; Andy Nemecek, Columbus
b - Joey Sternaman, Chicago Bears; George Sullivan, Frankford; Dave Noble, Cleveland; Barney Wentz, Pottsville; John Bryan, Milwaukee; Dick Vick, Detroit; Dinger Doane, Detroit

Source: Ohio State Journal, Dec. 20, 1925