

THE DULUTH CONNECTION

By David Neft

Every once in a while you see one of those surveys of where all the NFL players come from. Or where all the major league baseball players come from. No one knows why they make those surveys. Maybe so Cal-ifornians can laud it over Rhode Islanders. If someone had taken a survey of the NFL sometime in the mid-1920s, they'd have gotten a scoop. Everyone came from Duluth!

Well, not everyone, but an amazing number. David Neft came across this information while researching player info for new edition of PRO FOOTBALL: THE EARLY YEARS. The following 1920s NFL players played high school or sandlot football (mostly both) in or around Duluth.

Johnny Blood	Bill McNellis
Bob Bratt	Russ Method
Eddie Bratt	Tom Murphy
Walt Buland	Ernie Nevers
Gene Carlson	Dick O'Donnell
Herb Clow	Wally O'Neill
Fred Denfield	Bill O'Toole
Joe DuMoe	Cobb Rooney
Billy DuMoe	Joe Rooney
Rod Dunn	Bill Rooney
George Engstrom	Porky Rundquist
Paul Flinn	Dewey Scanlon
Wally Gilbert	Bill Stein
Ken Harris	Leif Strand
Art Johnson	Ray Suess
Doc Kelley	Red Sullivan
Howard Kieley	Tarzan Taylor
Mike Koziak	Jack Underwood
Joe Kraker	Roy Vexall
Allen MacDonald	Dick Vick
Bobby Marshall	Doc Williams
Mickey McDonnell	

That's 43 as nearly as we can figure. Maybe it was something in the water.