

THE COFFIN CORNER: Vol. 10, No. 3 (1988)

WORLD FOOTBALL LEAGUE FINAL STANDINGS 1974

| Eastern Division | W | L | T | Pct. | PF | PA |
|----------------------------|----------|----------|----------|-------------|-----------|-----------|
| Florida Blazers | 14 | 6 | 0 | .700 | 419 | 280 |
| New York/Charlotte Stars + | 10 | 10 | 0 | .500 | 467 | 350 |
| Philadelphia Bell * | 9 | 11 | 0 | .450 | 493 | 413 |
| Jacksonville Sharks # | 4 | 10 | 0 | .286 | 258 | 358 |

| Central Division | W | L | T | Pct. | PF | PA |
|-------------------------|----------|----------|----------|-------------|-----------|-----------|
| Memphis Southmen | 17 | 3 | 0 | .850 | 629 | 365 |
| Birmingham Americans * | 15 | 5 | 0 | .750 | 500 | 394 |
| Chicago Fire | 7 | 13 | 0 | .350 | 446 | 602 |
| Detroit Wheels # | 1 | 13 | 0 | .071 | 209 | 358 |

| Western Division | W | L | T | Pct. | PF | PA |
|-------------------------|----------|----------|----------|-------------|-----------|-----------|
| Southern California Sun | 13 | 7 | 0 | .650 | 486 | 441 |
| Hawaiians * | 9 | 11 | 0 | .450 | 413 | 422 |
| Portland Storm | 7 | 12 | 1 | .368 | 264 | 426 |
| Houston Texans | | | | | | |
| -Shreveport Steamers@ | 7 | 12 | 1 | .368 | 240 | 415 |

- * Wild Card qualifier for playoffs
- + Franchise transferred after Sept. 24 game
- # Operations suspended after Oct. 2 game
- @ Franchise transferred after Sept. 11 game

Divisional Playoffs: Florida 18, Philadelphia 3
Hawaii 32, So. California 14

Semi-Finals: Florida 18, Memphis 15
Birmingham 22, Hawaii 19

World Bowl: Birmingham 22, Florida 21

Gary Davidson, who earlier created the American Basketball Association and the World Hockey Association, became involved with football this season. franchises sold for \$100,000 to \$500,000. Franchises in Toronto, Mexico City, Tokyo, and Rome were discussed but did not materialize.

An unconverted touchdown in the W.F.L. was worth seven points. The conversion, or "action point," added one more point, but the ball had to be run or passed over the goal line -- it could not be kicked. Also, the W.F.L. anticipated the NFL in providing for an overtime period in games tied after the regulation 60 minutes.

FLORIDA (Orlando) BLAZERS 1974

Coach: Jack Pardee

Record: 14-6-0 .700 1st WFL-E

| DATE | AT | FL | OPPONENT | OP | R |
|-------------|-----------|-----------|-----------------|-----------|----------|
| J-11 | H | 8 | Hawaii | 7 | W |
| J-17 | A | 18 | Detroit | 14 | W |
| J-24 | H | 15 | Houston | 3 | W |
| J-31 | A | 6 | Houston | 7 | L |
| A- 7 | A | 46 | Chicago | 21 | W |
| A-14 | H | 33 | Jacksonville | 26 | W |
| A-21 | H | 11 | Portland | 7 | W |
| A-28 | H | 18 | Memphis | 26 | L |

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| | | | | | |
|-----------------|---|----|-------------------------|----|---|
| S- 2 | A | 7 | Birmingham | 8 | L |
| S- 6 | A | 17 | New York | 15 | W |
| S-11 | H | 14 | Detroit | 15 | L |
| S-18 | H | 24 | Philadelphia | 21 | W |
| S-26 | H | 29 | Chicago | 0 | W |
| O- 2 | A | 30 | Philadelphia | 7 | W |
| O- 8 | A | 45 | Chicago | 17 | W |
| O-16 | A | 15 | Memphis | 25 | L |
| O-23 | H | 15 | Charlotte | 11 | W |
| O-30 | H | 18 | Birmingham | 26 | L |
| N- 7 | A | 23 | Portland | 0 | W |
| N-14 | A | 27 | So. California | 24 | W |
| Playoffs | | | | | |
| N-21 | H | 18 | Philadelphia (Division) | 3 | W |
| N-29 | A | 18 | Memphis (Semi-Final) | 15 | W |
| D- 5 | H | 21 | Birmingham (World) | 22 | L |

A Washington W.F.L. franchise was purchased by E. Joseph Wheeler, then sold to a group headed by Rommie L. Loudd, which moved it to Orlando. The Blazers played in the Tangerine Bowl.

NEW YORK/CHARLOTTE STARS 1974

Coach: Babe Parilli

Record: 10-10-0 .500 2nd WFL-E

| DATE | AT | NY | OPPONENT | OP | R |
|-------------|-----------|-----------|-----------------|-----------|----------|
| J-11 | A | 7 | Jacksonville | 14 | L |
| J-17 | H | 29 | Birmingham | 32 | L |
| J-25 | A | 17 | Philadelphia | 15 | W |
| J-31 | H | 24 | Jacksonville | 16 | W |
| A- 7 | A | 11 | So. California | 8 | W |
| A-14 | H | 38 | Portland | 16 | W |
| A-21 | H | 43 | Houston | 10 | W |
| A-28 | A | 11 | Houston | 14 | L |
| S- 2 | H | 24 | Philadelphia | 16 | W |
| S- 6 | H | 15 | Florida | 17 | L |
| S-11 | A | 34 | Portland | 15 | W |
| S-18 | A | 14 | Hawaii | 17 | L |
| S-24 | H | 37 | Detroit | 7 | W |
| O- 3 | A | 41 | Chicago | 30 | W |
| O- 8 | H+ | 23 | Memphis | 27 | L |
| O-16 | H+ | 27 | Chicago | 0 | W |
| O-23 | A | 11 | Florida | 15 | L |
| O-30 | H+ | 25 | So. California | 34 | L |
| N- 6 | A | 14 | Shreveport | 19 | L |
| N-13 | A | 22 | Memphis | 28 | L |

+ Played at Charlotte, NC

Originally intended for Boston, the New York franchise was owned by Robert Schmertz and Howard Baldwin. The team played at Downing Stadium. Upton Bell bought the team and moved it to Charlotte after 13 games. Charlotte home games were played at American Legion Memorial Stadium.

PHILADELPHIA BELL 1974

Coach: Ron Waller

Record: 9-11-0 .450 3rd WFL-E

| DATE | AT | PH | OPPONENT | OP | R |
|-------------|-----------|-----------|-----------------|-----------|----------|
| J-11 | H | 33 | Portland | 8 | W |

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| | | | | | |
|-----------------|----|----|---------------------|----|---|
| J-17 | A | 0 | Houston | 11 | L |
| J-25 | H | 15 | New York | 17 | L |
| J-31 | A | 25 | Portland | 7 | W |
| A- 7 | H | 46 | Memphis | 15 | W |
| A-14 | A | 29 | Chicago | 32 | L |
| A-21 | H | 28 | So. California | 31 | L |
| A-28 | H | 27 | Detroit | 23 | W |
| S- 2 | A | 16 | New York | 24 | L |
| S- 5 | A | 30 | Jacksonville | 34 | L |
| S-11 | H | 41 | Jacksonville | 22 | W |
| S-18 | A | 21 | Florida | 24 | L |
| S-25 | A | 21 | Hawaii | 16 | W |
| O- 2 | H | 7 | Florida | 30 | L |
| O- 8 | H | 22 | Hawaii | 25 | L |
| O-16 | H | 25 | Shreveport | 30 | L |
| O-23 | A | 45 | So. California | 7 | W |
| O-31 | H | 37 | Chicago | 31 | W |
| N- 6 | A | 23 | Birmingham | 26 | L |
| N-13 | -- | 2 | Chicago (forfeit) | 0 | W |
| Playoffs | | | | | |
| N-21 | A | 3 | Florida(divisional) | 18 | L |

Owned by John B. Kelly, Jr., then by John Bosacco. The Bell played at JFK Stadium.

JACKSONVILLE SHARKS 1974

Coach: Bud Asher/Charlie Tate

Record: 4-10-0 .286 4th WFL-E

| DATE | AT | JA | OPPONENT | OP | R |
|------|----|----|----------------|----|---|
| J-11 | H | 14 | New York | 7 | W |
| J-17 | A | 22 | Chicago | 25 | L |
| J-24 | H | 19 | So. California | 22 | L |
| J-31 | A | 16 | New York | 24 | L |
| A- 8 | H | 21 | Hawaii | 14 | W |
| A-14 | A | 26 | Florida | 33 | L |
| A-21 | H | 14 | Birmingham | 15 | L |
| A-25 | A | 14 | Hawaii | 8 | W |
| S- 2 | H | 13 | Memphis | 16 | L |
| S- 5 | H | 34 | Philadelphia | 30 | W |
| S-11 | A | 22 | Philadelphia | 41 | L |
| S-18 | H | 17 | Portland | 19 | L |
| S-25 | A | 7 | So. California | 57 | L |
| O- 2 | A | 19 | Memphis | 47 | L |

The Sharks suspended operations after 14 games. The team was owned by Fran Moraco and played in the Gator Bowl.

MEMPHIS SOUTHMEN 1974

Coach: John McVay

Record: 17-3-0 .850 1st WFL-C

| DATE | AT | ME | OPPONENT | OP | R |
|------|----|----|----------------|----|---|
| J-11 | H | 34 | Detroit | 15 | W |
| J-18 | H | 16 | Portland | 8 | W |
| J-24 | A | 33 | Birmingham | 58 | L |
| A- 1 | H | 25 | So. California | 15 | W |
| A- 7 | A | 15 | Philadelphia | 46 | L |

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|-----------------|---|----|----------------------|----|---|
| A-14 | A | 37 | Detroit | 7 | W |
| A-21 | H | 60 | Hawaii | 8 | W |
| A-28 | A | 26 | Florida | 18 | W |
| S- 2 | A | 16 | Jacksonville | 13 | W |
| S- 7 | H | 45 | Houston | 0 | W |
| S-11 | H | 46 | Birmingham | 7 | W |
| S-18 | A | 25 | Chicago | 7 | W |
| S-25 | A | 17 | Shreveport | 3 | W |
| O- 2 | H | 47 | Jacksonville | 19 | W |
| O- 8 | A | 27 | Charlotte | 23 | W |
| O-16 | H | 25 | Florida | 15 | W |
| O-24 | A | 25 | Portland | 26 | L |
| O-30 | A | 33 | Hawaii | 31 | W |
| N- 7 | H | 49 | Chicago | 24 | W |
| N-13 | H | 28 | Charlotte | 22 | W |
| Playoffs | | | | | |
| N-29 | H | 15 | Florida (Semi-Final) | 18 | L |

Originally the Toronto Northmen, the Southmen were moved to Memphis before the start of the season after the Canadian Government refused to allow box-office competition with the C.F.L. John Bassett of Toronto was the owner. Liberty Bowl.

BIRMINGHAM AMERICANS 1974

Coach: Jack Gotta

Record: 15-5-0 .750 2nd WFL-C

| <u>DATE</u> | <u>AT</u> | <u>BI</u> | <u>OPPONENT</u> | <u>OP</u> | <u>R</u> |
|-----------------|-----------|-----------|-------------------|-----------|----------|
| J-11 | H | 11 | So. California | 7 | W |
| J-17 | A | 32 | New York | 29 | W |
| J-24 | H | 58 | Memphis | 33 | W |
| J-31 | A | 21 | Detroit | 18 | W |
| A- 7 | H | 28 | Detroit | 22 | W |
| A-14 | H | 39 | Hawaii | 0 | W |
| A-21 | A | 15 | Jacksonville | 14 | W |
| A-29 | A | 22 | Chicago | 8 | W |
| S- 2 | H | 8 | Florida | 7 | W |
| S- 7 | H | 41 | Chicago | 40 | W |
| S-11 | A | 7 | Memphis | 46 | L |
| S-20 | H | 42 | Shreveport | 14 | W |
| S-25 | A | 21 | Portland | 26 | L |
| O- 2 | A | 8 | Hawaii | 14 | L |
| O- 9 | H | 30 | Portland | 8 | W |
| O-16 | A | 25 | So. California | 29 | L |
| O-23 | H | 0 | Shreveport | 31 | L |
| O-30 | A | 26 | Florida | 18 | W |
| N- 6 | H | 26 | Philadelphia | 23 | W |
| N-13 | A | 40 | Shreveport | 7 | W |
| Playoffs | | | | | |
| N-27 | H | 22 | Hawaii (Semi-Fin) | 19 | W |
| D- 5 | H | 22 | Florida (World) | 21 | W |

Ownership was headed by Bill Putman & Carol Stallworth. The Americans played at Legion Field.

CHICAGO FIRE 1974

Coach: Jim Spavital

Record: 7-13-0 .350 3rd WFL-C

| <u>DATE</u> | <u>AT</u> | <u>CH</u> | <u>OPPONENT</u> | <u>OP</u> | <u>R</u> |
|-------------|-----------|-----------|-----------------|-----------|----------|
|-------------|-----------|-----------|-----------------|-----------|----------|

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| | | | | | |
|------|----|----|-----------------------|----|---|
| J-11 | H | 17 | Houston | 0 | W |
| J-17 | H | 25 | Jacksonville | 22 | W |
| J-24 | A | 29 | Portland | 22 | W |
| J-29 | A | 53 | Hawaii | 29 | W |
| A- 7 | H | 21 | Florida | 46 | L |
| A-14 | H | 32 | Philadelphia | 29 | W |
| A-22 | A | 35 | Detroit | 23 | W |
| A-29 | H | 8 | Birmingham | 22 | L |
| S- 2 | A | 32 | So. California | 22 | W |
| S- 7 | A | 40 | Birmingham | 41 | L |
| S-11 | H | 28 | So. California | 31 | L |
| S-18 | H | 7 | Memphis | 25 | L |
| S-26 | A | 0 | Florida | 29 | L |
| 0- 3 | H | 30 | Charlotte | 41 | L |
| 0- 8 | H | 17 | Florida | 45 | L |
| 0-16 | A | 0 | Charlotte | 27 | L |
| 0-23 | H | 17 | Hawaii | 60 | L |
| 0-31 | A | 31 | Philadelphia | 37 | L |
| N- 7 | A | 24 | Memphis | 49 | L |
| N-13 | -- | 0 | Philadephia (forfeit) | 2 | L |

The Chicago franchise was purchased by Nick Mileti, then sold to Tom Origer. The fire played at Soldier Field.

DETROIT WHEELS 1974

Coach: Dan Boisture

Record: 1-13-0 .071 4th WFL-C

| DATE | AT | DE | OPPONENT | OP | R |
|------|----|----|----------------|----|---|
| J-11 | A | 15 | Memphis | 34 | L |
| J-17 | H | 14 | Florida | 18 | L |
| J-21 | A | 16 | Hawaii | 36 | L |
| J-31 | H | 18 | Birmingham | 21 | L |
| A- 7 | A | 22 | Birmingham | 28 | L |
| A-14 | H | 7 | Memphis | 37 | L |
| A-22 | H | 23 | Chicago | 35 | L |
| A-28 | A | 23 | Philadelphia | 27 | L |
| S- 2 | A+ | 7 | Portland | 18 | L |
| S- 6 | H | 7 | So. California | 10 | L |
| S-11 | A | 15 | Florida | 14 | W |
| S-18 | A | 24 | So. California | 29 | L |
| S-24 | A | 7 | New York | 37 | L |
| O- 2 | H | 11 | Shreveport | 14 | L |

+Played at London, Ont.

Detroit suspended operations after 14 games of their 20- game schedule. Home games had been played at Rynearson Stadium, Ypsilanti. The team was owned by a large group of investors headed by Louis R. Lee and Coleman Young. It was the first major-league sports franchise with predominantly black ownership.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (Anaheim) SUN 1974

Coach: Tom Fears

Record: 13-7-0 .650 1st WFL-W

| DATE | AT | SC | OPPONENT | OP | R |
|------|----|----|------------|----|---|
| J-11 | A | 7 | Birmingham | 11 | L |

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| | | | | | |
|-----------------|---|----|-------------------|----|---|
| J-17 | H | 38 | Hawaii | 31 | W |
| J-24 | A | 22 | Jacksonville | 19 | W |
| A- 1 | A | 15 | Memphis | 25 | L |
| A- 7 | H | 8 | New York | 11 | L |
| A-15 | A | 18 | Houston | 7 | W |
| A-21 | A | 31 | Philadelphia | 28 | W |
| A-28 | H | 45 | Portland | 15 | W |
| S- 2 | H | 22 | Chicago | 32 | L |
| S- 6 | A | 10 | Detroit | 7 | W |
| S-11 | A | 31 | Chicago | 28 | W |
| S-18 | H | 29 | Detroit | 24 | W |
| S-25 | H | 57 | Jacksonville | 7 | W |
| O- 2 | A | 26 | Portland | 22 | W |
| O-10 | H | 25 | Shreveport | 23 | W |
| O-16 | H | 29 | Birmingham | 25 | W |
| O-23 | H | 7 | Philadelphia | 45 | L |
| O-30 | A | 34 | Charlotte | 25 | W |
| N- 6 | A | 8 | Hawaii | 29 | L |
| N-14 | H | 24 | Florida | 27 | L |
| Playoffs | | | | | |
| N-20 | H | 14 | Hawaii (division) | 32 | L |

Larry G. Hatfield formed the Southern California Sun. The team played in Anaheim Stadium.

HAWAIIANS 1974

Coach: Mike Giddings

Record: 9-11-0 .450 2nd WFL-W

| DATE | AT | HI | OPPONENT | OP | R |
|-----------------|----|----|---------------------------|----|---|
| J-11 | A | 7 | Florida | 8 | L |
| J-17 | A | 31 | So. California | 38 | L |
| J-21 | H | 36 | Detroit | 16 | W |
| J-29 | H | 29 | Chicago | 53 | L |
| A- 8 | A | 14 | Jacksonville | 21 | L |
| A-14 | A | 0 | Birmingham | 39 | L |
| A-21 | A | 8 | Memphis | 60 | L |
| A-25 | H | 8 | Jacksonville | 14 | L |
| S- 1 | H | 33 | Houston | 15 | W |
| S- 6 | A | 8 | Portland | 15 | L |
| S-11 | A | 24 | Houston | 17 | W |
| S-18 | H | 17 | New York | 14 | W |
| S-25 | H | 16 | Philadelphia | 21 | L |
| O- 2 | H | 14 | Birmingham | 8 | W |
| O- 8 | A | 25 | Philadelphia | 22 | W |
| O-16 | A | 0 | Portland | 3 | L |
| O-23 | A | 60 | Chicago | 17 | W |
| O-30 | H | 31 | Memphis | 33 | L |
| N- 6 | H | 29 | So. California | 8 | W |
| N-13 | H | 23 | Portland | 0 | W |
| Playoffs | | | | | |
| N-20 | A | 32 | So. California (division) | 14 | W |
| N-27 | A | 19 | Birmingham (Sem-Fin.) | 22 | L |

The franchise was originally owned by Danny Rogers, then sold to Chris Hemmeter and Sam Battisone. Home games were played in Honolulu Stadium.

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PORTLAND STORM 1974

Coach: Dick Coury

Record: 7-12-1 .368 3rd WFL-W

| DATE | AT | PO | OPPONENT | OP | R |
|------|----|----|----------------|----|---|
| J-11 | A | 8 | Philadelphia | 33 | L |
| J-18 | A | 8 | Memphis | 16 | L |
| J-24 | H | 22 | Chicago | 29 | L |
| J-31 | H | 7 | Philadelphia | 25 | L |
| A- 7 | H | 15 | Houston (OT) | 15 | T |
| A-14 | A | 16 | New York | 38 | L |
| A-21 | A | 7 | Florida | 11 | L |
| A-28 | A | 15 | So. California | 45 | L |
| S- 2 | A+ | 18 | Detroit | 7 | W |
| S- 6 | H | 15 | Hawaii | 8 | W |
| S-11 | H | 15 | New York | 34 | L |
| S-18 | A | 19 | Jacksonville | 17 | W |
| S-25 | H | 26 | Birmingham | 21 | W |
| O- 2 | H | 22 | So. California | 26 | L |
| O- 9 | A | 8 | Birmingham | 30 | L |
| O-16 | H | 3 | Hawaii | 0 | W |
| O-24 | H | 26 | Memphis | 25 | W |
| O-31 | A | 14 | Shreveport | 0 | W |
| N- 7 | H | 0 | Florida | 23 | L |
| N-13 | A | 0 | Hawaii | 23 | L |

+Played at London, Ont.

This franchise had originally been intended for New York. It was owned by Bruce Gelker and played in Civic Stadium. Gelker had originally wanted a team in Mexico City.

HOUSTON TEXANS/SHREVEPORT STEAMER 1974

Coach: Jim Garrett/ ?

Record: 7-12-1 .368 4th WFL-W

| DATE | AT | HO | OPPONENT | OP | R |
|------|----|----|----------------|----|---|
| J-11 | A | 0 | Chicago | 17 | L |
| J-17 | H | 11 | Philadelphia | 0 | W |
| J-24 | A | 3 | Florida | 15 | L |
| J-31 | H | 7 | Florida | 6 | W |
| A- 7 | A | 15 | Portland (OT) | 15 | T |
| A-15 | H | 7 | So. California | 18 | L |
| A-21 | A | 10 | New York | 43 | L |
| A-28 | H | 14 | New York | 11 | W |
| S- 1 | A | 15 | Hawaii | 33 | L |
| S- 7 | A | 0 | Memphis | 45 | L |
| S-11 | H | 17 | Hawaii | 24 | L |
| S-20 | A | 14 | Birmingham | 42 | L |
| S-25 | H+ | 3 | Memphis | 17 | L |
| O- 2 | A | 14 | Detroit | 11 | W |
| O-10 | A | 23 | So. California | 25 | L |
| O-16 | A | 30 | Philadelphia | 25 | W |
| O-23 | H+ | 31 | Birmingham | 0 | W |
| O-31 | H+ | 0 | Portland | 14 | L |
| N- 6 | H+ | 19 | Charlotte | 14 | W |
| N-13 | H+ | 7 | Birmingham | 40 | L |

+Played at Shreveport, La.

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Franchise transferred to Shreveport after Sept. 11 game. Steve Arnold owned the team, which had originally been intended for Tokyo, then Memphis. The Texans played in the Astrodome. In Shreveport, played at Louisiana State Fair Stadium.

PHILADELPHIA STORY

The WFL's credibility suffered badly from the actions of the Philadelphia Bell. The team reported an attendance of 55,534 for its opening game against Portland and then announced 64,719 for its game against New York. Such NFL- like figures were calculated to make the older league sit up and take notice. Unfortunately, they were also calculated out of smoke. A club official eventually admitted that the actual paid figures were 13,800 and 6,200. Any others in the stands were "freebies."

From then on fans and media looked at any WFL attendance figures with suspicion and former "friendlies" turned wary. The franchise shifts and failings that followed underlined the Philadelphia duplicity.

WORLD FOOTBALL LEAGUE FINAL STANDINGS 1975

| <u>Eastern Division</u> | <u>W</u> | <u>L</u> | <u>T</u> | <u>Pct.</u> | <u>PF</u> | <u>PA</u> |
|--------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|-------------|-----------|-----------|
| Birmingham Vulcans | 9 | 3 | 0 | .750 | 257 | 186 |
| Memphis Southmen (Grizzlies) + | 7 | 4 | 0 | .636 | 254 | 206 |
| Charlotte Hornets | 6 | 5 | 0 | .545 | 225 | 199 |
| Jacksonville Express | 6 | 5 | 0 | .545 | 227 | 247 |
| Philadelphia Bell | 4 | 7 | 0 | .364 | 195 | 237 |

| <u>Western Division</u> | <u>W</u> | <u>L</u> | <u>T</u> | <u>Pct.</u> | <u>PF</u> | <u>PA</u> |
|-------------------------|----------|----------|----------|-------------|-----------|-----------|
| So. California Sun | 7 | 5 | 0 | .583 | 354 | 341 |
| San Antonio Wings + | 7 | 6 | 0 | .538 | 364 | 268 |
| Shreveport Steamer | 5 | 7 | 0 | .417 | 276 | 313 |
| Portland Thunder | 4 | 7 | 0 | .364 | 213 | 239 |
| Hawaiians | 4 | 7 | 0 | .364 | 210 | 281 |
| Chicago Winds | 1 | 4 | 0 | .200 | 67 | 125 |

+ First half winner

In spite of new big-name N.F.L. talent, the replacement of many of the original teams with new franchises, and a plan dedicating a percentage of total revenue to players' and coaches' salaries, the W.F.L. was not able to complete its projected 18-game schedule. A new and unique playoff system had been adopted, in which the seasonal division champion, the remaining team with the best record in the first half-season, and the remaining team with the best record in the second half of the season would enter the playoffs, the overall winner receiving a first-round bye. The playoffs, of course, were never held, as the league folded October 22, two-thirds of the way through the season.

BIRMINGHAM VULCANS 1975

Coach: Marvin Bass

Record: 9-3-0 .750 1st WFL-E

| <u>DATE</u> | <u>AT</u> | <u>BI</u> | <u>OPPONENT</u> | <u>OP</u> | <u>R</u> |
|-------------|-----------|-----------|-----------------|-----------|----------|
| J-12 | H | 25 | *Portland | 9 | w |
| J-19 | A | 31 | *Shreveport | 30 | w |
| A- 2 | H | 10 | Chicago | 0 | W |
| A- 9 | H | 23 | Philadelphia | 17 | W |
| A-16 | A | 11 | Jacksonville | 22 | L |
| A-23 | H | 25 | So. California | 35 | L |

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| | | | | | |
|------|---|----|--------------|----|---|
| A-30 | H | 21 | Shreveport | 8 | W |
| S- 6 | A | 26 | Portland | 8 | W |
| S-13 | H | 33 | San Antonio | 24 | W |
| S-21 | H | 22 | Charlotte | 16 | W |
| S-27 | A | 18 | Jacksonville | 26 | L |
| O- 4 | A | 29 | +Hawaii | 16 | W |
| O-12 | A | 18 | Memphis | 14 | W |
| O-19 | H | 21 | Memphis | 0 | W |

**Non-league game*

+Final game of summer season

Owned this season by Ferd Weil. Birmingham applied for N.F.L. membership after the failure of the W.F.L. The application was not acted on. Played at Legion Field.

MEMPHIS SOUTHMEN (GRIZZLES) 1975

Coach: John McVay

Record: 7-4-0 .636 2nd WFL-E

| DATE | AT | ME | OPPONENT | OP | R |
|------|----|----|-----------------|----|---|
| J-14 | A | 16 | *So. California | 47 | l |
| J-19 | | 0 | *San Antonio | 7 | l |
| J-26 | A | 14 | *Shreveport | 7 | W |
| A- 2 | H | 27 | Jacksonville | 26 | W |
| A- 9 | H | 23 | Charlotte | 11 | W |
| A-23 | A | 18 | Philadelphia | 22 | L |
| A-30 | H | 31 | Chicago | 7 | W |
| S- 7 | H | 37 | Hawaii | 17 | W |
| S-14 | H | 34 | Shreveport | 23 | W |
| S-21 | A | 16 | Portland | 3 | W |
| S-28 | A | 17 | San Antonio | 25 | L |
| O- 5 | H | 37 | +So. California | 33 | W |
| O-12 | H | 14 | Birmingham | 18 | L |
| O-19 | A | 0 | Birmingham | 21 | L |

**Non-league game*

+Final game of summer season

Three N.F.L. stars -- Paul Warfield, Jim Kiick, and Larry Csonka -- jumped to the Southmen from the Dolphins in 1975. Memphis was one of the few W.F.L. teams still able to meet its obligations when the league dissolved. The Southmen remained together pending a decision by the N.F.L. on their application for membership, but the N.F.L. took no action on the application. Games played at Liberty Bowl.

CHARLOTTE HORNETS 1975

Coach: Bob Gibson

Record: 6-5-0 .545 3rd WFL-E

| DATE | AT | CH | OPPONENT | OP | R |
|------|----|----|----------------|----|---|
| J-12 | A | 14 | *Hawaii | 32 | l |
| J-19 | A+ | 22 | *Chicago | 21 | w |
| J-26 | A | 10 | San Antonio | 27 | L |
| A- 9 | A | 11 | Memphis | 23 | L |
| A-16 | H | 27 | San Antonio | 20 | W |
| A-30 | A | 33 | Jacksonville | 14 | W |
| S- 6 | H | 10 | Philadelphia | 0 | W |
| S-14 | A | 30 | So. California | 22 | W |
| S-21 | A | 16 | Birmingham | 22 | L |

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| | | | | | |
|------|---|----|----------------|----|---|
| S-27 | H | 17 | So. California | 24 | L |
| O- 5 | A | 39 | #Shreveport | 14 | W |
| O-12 | H | 22 | Jacksonville | 15 | W |
| O-18 | A | 10 | Philadelphia | 18 | L |

**Non-league game*

+Played at Winston-Salem, NC

#Final game of summer season

Played at American Legion Memorial Stadium.

JACKSONVILLE EXPRESS 1975

Coach: Charlie Tate

Record: 6-5-0 .545 4th WFL-E

| DATE | AT | JA | OPPONENT | OP | R |
|------|----|----|--------------|----|---|
| | | 34 | *Chicago | 23 | w |
| J-26 | H | 19 | *Hawaii | 7 | w |
| A- 2 | A | 26 | Memphis | 27 | L |
| A-16 | H | 22 | Birmingham | 11 | W |
| A-23 | H | 26 | San Antonio | 19 | W |
| A-30 | H | 14 | Charlotte | 33 | L |
| S- 6 | A | 22 | Shreveport | 15 | W |
| S-14 | A | 15 | Hawaii | 33 | L |
| S-20 | H | 16 | Philadelphia | 10 | W |
| S-27 | H | 26 | Birmingham | 18 | W |
| O- 4 | H | 32 | +Portland | 29 | W |
| O-12 | A | 15 | Charlotte | 22 | L |
| O-19 | A | 13 | Portland | 30 | L |

**Non-league game*

+Final game of summer season

The franchise was owned by Earl Knabb. Played at the Gator Bowl.

PHILADELPHIA BELL 1975

Coach: Ron Waller/Joe Gardi/Willie Wood

Record: 4-7-0 .364 5th NFL-E

| DATE | AT | PH | OPPONENT | OP | R |
|------|----|----|-----------------|----|---|
| J-19 | H | 8 | *So. California | 23 | l |
| J-27 | A | 30 | *Portland | 21 | w |
| A- 2 | H | 21 | Hawaii | 15 | W |
| A- 9 | A | 17 | Birmingham | 23 | L |
| A-16 | A | 3 | Shreveport | 10 | L |
| A-23 | H | 22 | Memphis | 18 | W |
| A-29 | A | 39 | So. California | 58 | L |
| S- 6 | A | 0 | Charlotte | 10 | L |
| S-13 | H | 10 | Portland | 25 | L |
| S-20 | A | 10 | Jacksonville | 16 | L |
| O- 4 | H | 42 | +San Antonio | 38 | W |
| O-11 | A | 13 | Hawaii | 14 | L |
| O-18 | H | 18 | Charlotte | 10 | W |

**Non-league game*

+Final game of summer season

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Willie Wood became the first black head coach of a major-league football team. The team moved from JFK Stadium to Franklin Field.

SO. CALIFORNIA (ANAHEIM) SUN 1975

Coach: Tom Fears

Record: 7-5-0 .583 1st WFL-W

| DATE | AT | SC | OPPONENT | OP | R |
|------|----|----|---------------|----|---|
| | | 36 | *San Antonio | 31 | w |
| J-14 | H | 47 | *Memphis | 16 | w |
| J-19 | A | 23 | *Philadelphia | 8 | w |
| A- 3 | H | 21 | Portland | 15 | W |
| A- 9 | A | 22 | San Antonio | 54 | L |
| A-16 | A | 37 | Hawaii | 19 | W |
| A-23 | A | 35 | Birmingham | 25 | W |
| A-29 | H | 58 | Philadelphia | 39 | W |
| S- 7 | A | 8 | San Antonio | 30 | L |
| S-14 | H | 22 | Charlotte | 30 | L |
| S-20 | A | 29 | Shreveport | 38 | L |
| S-27 | A | 24 | Charlotte | 17 | W |
| O- 5 | A | 33 | +Memphis | 37 | L |
| O-12 | H | 39 | Shreveport | 30 | W |
| O-19 | H | 26 | Hawaii | 7 | W |

*Non-league game

+Final game of summer season

Pat Haden, Daryle Lamonica and Anthony Davis played for the Sun in 1975. Games played at Anaheim Stadium.

SAN ANTONIO WINGS 1975

Coach: Perry Moss

Record: 7-6-0 .538 2nd WFL-W

| DATE | AT | SA | OPPONENT | OP | R |
|------|----|----|-----------------|----|---|
| | | 31 | *So. California | 36 | l |
| J-19 | | 7 | *Memphis | 0 | w |
| J-26 | H | 27 | Charlotte | 10 | W |
| A- 2 | H | 19 | Shreveport | 3 | W |
| A- 9 | H | 54 | So. California | 22 | W |
| A-16 | A | 20 | Charlotte | 27 | L |
| A-23 | A | 19 | Jacksonville | 26 | L |
| A-30 | H | 22 | Portland | 0 | W |
| S- 7 | H | 30 | So. California | 8 | W |
| S-13 | A | 24 | Birmingham | 33 | L |
| S-21 | H | 30 | Hawaii | 11 | W |
| S-28 | H | 25 | Memphis | 17 | W |
| O- 4 | A | 38 | +Philadelphia | 42 | L |
| O-12 | A | 25 | #Portland (OT) | 28 | L |
| O-19 | A | 31 | Shreveport | 41 | L |

*Non-league game

+Final game of summer season

#7:07 OT

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Formerly the Florida Blazers. The franchise this season was owned by Norm Bevan. They played in Alamo Stadium.

SHREVEPORT STEAMER 1975

Coach: Marshall Taylor

Record: 5-7-0 .417 3rd WFL-W

| DATE | AT | SH | OPPONENT | OP | R |
|------|----|----|----------------|----|---|
| J-19 | H | 30 | *Birmingham | 31 | l |
| J-26 | H | 7 | *Memphis | 14 | l |
| A- 2 | A | 3 | San Antonio | 19 | L |
| A- 9 | H | 38 | Chicago | 18 | W |
| A-16 | H | 10 | Philadelphia | 3 | W |
| A-23 | A | 24 | Portland | 33 | L |
| A-30 | A | 8 | Birmingham | 21 | L |
| S- 6 | H | 15 | Jacksonville | 22 | L |
| S-14 | A | 23 | Memphis | 34 | L |
| S-20 | H | 38 | So. California | 29 | W |
| S-28 | H | 32 | Hawaii | 25 | W |
| O- 5 | H | 14 | +Charlotte | 39 | L |
| O-12 | A | 30 | So. California | 39 | L |
| O-19 | H | 41 | San Antonio | 31 | W |

*Non-league game

+Final game of summer season

Owned by John B. Atkins, Jr. Played at Louisiana State Fair Stadium.

PORTLAND THUNDER 1975

Coach: Greg Barton/Bob Brodhead/Joe Gardi

Record: 4-7-0 .364 5th WFL-W

| DATE | AT | PO | OPPONENT | OP | R |
|------|----|----|-------------------|----|---|
| J-12 | A | 9 | *Birmingham | 25 | l |
| J-27 | H | 21 | *Philadelphia | 30 | l |
| A- 3 | A | 15 | So. California | 21 | L |
| A- 9 | H | 24 | Hawaii | 25 | L |
| A-16 | A | 18 | @Chicago (OT) | 25 | L |
| A-23 | H | 33 | Shreveport | 24 | W |
| A-30 | A | 0 | San Antonio | 22 | L |
| S- 6 | H | 8 | Birmingham | 26 | L |
| S-13 | A | 25 | Philadelphia | 10 | W |
| S-21 | H | 3 | Memphis | 16 | L |
| O- 4 | A | 29 | +Jacksonville | 32 | L |
| O-12 | H | 28 | #San Antonio (OT) | 25 | W |
| O-19 | H | 30 | Jacksonville | 13 | W |

@7:34 OT #7:07 OT

*Non-league game

+Final game of summer season

The team was owned by Richard V. Bayless, Portland Attorney. It played in Civic Stadium.

HAWAIIANS 1975

Coach: Mike Giddings

Record: 4-7-0 .364 4th WFL-W

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| DATE | AT | HA | OPPONENT | OP | R |
|------|----|----|----------------|----|---|
| J-12 | H | 32 | *Charlotte | 14 | w |
| J-26 | A | 7 | *Jacksonville | 19 | l |
| A- 2 | A | 15 | Philadelphia | 21 | L |
| A- 9 | A | 25 | Portland | 24 | W |
| A-16 | H | 19 | So. California | 37 | L |
| A-23 | H | 28 | Chicago | 17 | W |
| S- 7 | A | 17 | Memphis | 37 | L |
| S-14 | H | 33 | Jacksonville | 15 | W |
| S-21 | A | 11 | San Antonio | 30 | L |
| S-28 | A | 25 | Shreveport | 32 | L |
| O- 4 | H | 16 | +Birmingham | 29 | L |
| O-11 | H | 14 | Philadelphia | 13 | W |
| O-19 | A | 7 | So. California | 26 | L |

*Non-league game

+Final game of summer season

Edward Sultan, Jr. was the owner of the reorganized Hawaiians. Played at Aloha Stadium.

CHICAGO WINDS 1975

Coach: Babe Parilli/Abe Gibron

Record: 1-4-0 .200 6th WFL-W

Franchise revoked September 2.

| DATE | AT | CH | OPPONENT | OP | R |
|------|----|----|----------------|----|---|
| | | 23 | *Jacksonville | 34 | l |
| J-19 | A+ | 21 | *Charlotte | 22 | l |
| A- 2 | A | 0 | Birmingham | 10 | L |
| A- 9 | A | 18 | Shreveport | 38 | L |
| A-16 | H | 25 | #Portland (OT) | 18 | W |
| A-23 | A | 17 | Hawaii | 28 | L |
| A-30 | A | 7 | Memphis | 31 | L |

#7:34 OT

*Non-league game

+Played at Winston-Salem, NC

Eugene Pullano owned the Winds. Played at Soldier Field.