A Few More Loose Ends

1922

By PFRA Research

Bill Harley was at the Cleveland meeting, still looking for a Chicago franchise. He figured that with the Bears playing at Cub Park (Wrigley Field) and the Cardinals at Normal Park, he could finagle a franchise to play in Comiskey Park. President Carr took it under advisement. He probably gave it twenty or thirty seconds' consideration before deciding that three teams in Chicago was one too many.

An oddity of the Cleveland meeting was that no Cleveland franchise operated in 1922. Jim O'Donnell, who'd been scraping by in Cleveland since 1919 before there was a league, wasn't sure at the time whether he could struggle through another year. It turned out he couldn't. The \$1,000 guarantee got him.

It also was too much for Muncie, Cincinnati, Detroit, Tonawanda and New York, along with the previously mentioned Washington. Actually, some of those wouldn't have operated had the guarantee been ten cents.

At one point, a motion was made that the Washington franchise be forfeited because Lyons still didn't have his \$800. Wait a minute, somebody said, there's still a chance of collecting. They gave Washington thirty more days. However, as a practical consideration, a motion carried that five hours' notice before the departure of trains had to be given in canceling a contract on account of inclement weather. That was the crux of the Rochester-Washington dispute. The Jeffersons insisted the field was unplayable but they'd already made the trip. Washington refused to pay a guarantee, saying they'd play on a snow-covered field before near-empty stands.

All sorts of interesting things came out of the meeting. For one, they gave an insurance agent fifteen minutes to make his spiel on an accident policy, certainly a step toward becoming "big-time responsible." They also guaranteed the salary of the referee, who was to be appointed by the president, whether the game the man was assigned to was played or not. They even set the length of the 1922 season -- from Oct. 1 to Dec. 10 -- along with a stipulation that a team had to play at least seven but no more than thirteen games to be listed in the final standings.

Joe Carr, who had in his varied experiences served as a minor league baseball executive, borrowed one of the diamond's most clever ideas. He included the famous reserve clause in the standard player contract. This little section "reserved" a player's services for the following year, preventing his moving to another team if he got a better offer.

Halas and Sternaman ran afoul of the clause at the June meeting. They'd offered Paddy Driscoll of the Cardinals a share in their Bears, and all he had to do was bring his exceptional talents to the Bruin backfield. Everybody liked the idea except Chris O'Brien of the Cards, who really had very little going for his team except Driscoll. The motion was made, seconded and passed that "the management of the Chicago Bears be notified that 'Paddy' Driscoll is the property of the Chicago Cardinals and shall not be tampered with until he receives his release from the Cardinals." Driscoll didn't get to the Bears until 1926, and then as an employee rather than a partner.

The league made a really cute move to stop players from jumping their contracts and playing for any of the many independents across the country, some of them paying better salaries than league teams. A resolution was passed that 15 percent of a player's salary was to be withheld until the season ended. The best part of that, although no one wanted to admit it, was that the longer some teams held on to that 15 percent, the less likely it was that their players would ever see it.

HALAS FINALLY LOSES ONE

The moguls ratified the new constitution with only a few small changes. One part of the constitution included the salary cap. Apparently they settled on \$1,800 per week as the proper figure; that had been the most acceptable number back in January. Whether they included hotel accommodations, meals, traveling expenses or band-aids in the \$1,800 isn't known, but probably they didn't. Buffalo and the Chicago Bears, the two teams that advocated including traveling costs and hotel bills at the winter meeting, practically never left their friendly home fields. On the other hand, some teams, such as the Oorang Indians, the Louisville Brecks and the Columbus Panhandles, played nearly all their games on the road. Including railroad fare in the salary cap would have given the Bears, for one, a big advantage; they could have paid their players more than some other team that traveled a lot. Presumably, then, the best players would have signed with the Bears.

The Bears and a few others were deprived of a potential advantage by a rule that required playing-managers to carry themselves on the player payroll at \$100 per game. Halas and Sternaman had done that in '21, but this made it mandatory. Otherwise, in a pinch the Bears could have put eighteen players on the field and split the \$1,800 among sixteen player salaries, with George and Dutch taking their money as team managers.

Obviously, at this early date the league was looking for some sort of parity among its teams. But no matter how they sliced it, there

was no way the crowds in Dayton, Akron, or the other "small" cities were ever going to match the crowds possible in Chicago.

It's interesting to see how things had changed after only two seasons. We should remember that the American Professional Football Association had been formed in 1920 primarily to stop players from jumping from team to team, to discourage the use of college-eligible players, and to hold down salaries. As such, the 1920 organization was willing to admit nearly any team to membership at almost no cost so long as it abided by those three principles.

By 1922, there had been one actual expulsion and several rules on the book that promised that same drastic action for particular transgressions, including a second-time use of college players and a first-time playing of men under false names. Team jumping by players within the league was no longer a problem, and here they were putting a cap on salaries. Although a team could still buy a franchise for a nominal sum, the necessity of posting a \$1,000 quarantee pushed out the real pikers.

In two years, the league had gone from a flabby group of poormouths desperately trying to get independent teams to join up to a moderately muscular bunch, tough to get into and tougher still (on paper) to stay in.

But the bottom line was still money. Had George Halas had carnal knowledge of a goal post on the corner of Dearborn and Michigan at high noon, the Chicago Bears would not have been thrown out of the league. Those Chicago crowds paid too many bills for the visiting teams.

Even though the league needed the Chicago Bears as much as the Bears needed the league -- or more -- it almost seemed like the other team managers enjoyed shoving it to George Halas whenever they got the chance. Perhaps this was because one-on-one Halas could carry nearly any point he wanted. But when they could gang up on him

At the June meeting, they blocked his pirating of Paddy Driscoll. At a meeting in Dayton on Aug. 20, they gutted the '21 champion Staleys. Technically, all the Staley players were free agents because that franchise had ceased to exist. Nevertheless, most fans thought of the Bears as simply the Staleys with a new name. In August, the league demonstrated the difference.

First, there was the ever-present Bill Harley. This time he wanted a franchise in Toledo. Although another contender sought the same franchise, Harley got it, perhaps as a consolation prize for his two earlier failures. That was no big deal until the league said he could also have for his Toledo Maroons his brother Chic, Pete Stinchcomb and Tarzan Taylor -- all Staleys in 1921. Actually, though, none of them ever played for Toledo. Harley retired, the victim of physical and mental ills that eventually destroyed his life; Taylor played in Canton; and Stinchcomb, perhaps the most valuable of the three, ended up back with Halas for the 1922 season. Still, the affair was of some annoyance to Papa Bear.

But the one that hurt was Guy Chamberlin. Just about everyone agreed that Chamberlin was the greatest end since "they lived happily ever after." For two years he'd paired with Halas, no slouch

himself, to keep the Staley flanks the best in the league. But Ralph Hay in Canton had a once-great team that was slumping in the middle of the standings. He needed a charismatic leader capable of returning the Bulldogs to the top. Chamberlin had played as a pro with Canton in 1919 and was a natural choice. As a free agent, he was available. Hay figured the end justified his means and signed Chamberlin out from under Halas's nose. And the league said it was OK.

Aside from the Staley free agents, the all-day Dayton meeting didn't do much for the players. First, the salary cap was cut by a third, down to \$1,200 per game. Two league members wanted to see it dropped to \$1,000!

Then they voted to insert a clause in the standard player's contract that he would not be paid if a game was canceled "for reasons unavoidable or beyond the control of the management." On the face of it, that seemed only reasonable -- no play, no pay. However, it must have made it awfully tempting for a team owner looking at a subpar attendance to run for cover at the first snowflake.

Of course, all the games weren't on the field. That \$1,200 salary cap must have been a godsend to teams struggling to stay afloat like Louisville and Rochester. No doubt, Aaron Hertzman and Leo Lyons abided by it, telling their players, "Sorry, boys, that's all the league will let me pay." Substitute guards all over the league probably heard the same refrain.

But an All-American halfback who was really coveted by a team with some money in the bank could be told, "Look, we'll just put down \$100 on the contract we file with the league, but after the game we'll slip you an extra hundred." Supposedly, such arrangements were common.

Another way around the limit was to make a star a coach, pay him \$100 for playing, and pay for "coaching" whatever it took to keep him playing. In 1922, only three teams in the league did NOT list playing coaches. And those were only the head coaches. The possiblities of "assistant coaches" were endless.

The league was not yet creating its own playing rules, instead following those of the colleges. An important change in the substitution rule this year allowed a player taken out during the first half to return during the second and not necessarily at the beginning of the period. Of course, because pro squads had far fewer men than most college squads, they'd been making "adjustments" in this rule for years. If an injury occurred, a team could hardly play the last quarter with only ten men on the field. One by-product of the new rule was that a team could actually get by with fewer players. Although mention was made of 18-player squads when the salary cap was discussed, league teams carried only 16 in 1922. The subs were usually one extra end, an all-purpose lineman and three backs.

A NEW ERA IN CANTON

After all the off-season maneuvering, the actual playing of football games for 1922 finally arrived, and an old and honorable team returned to the top after two lackluster seasons. Under veteran owner Ralph Hay and new coach Guy Chamberlin, the Canton

Bulldogs unloaded most of the mediocre squad from 1921 and rebuilt.

Chamberlin began with one marvelous player, roly-poly Wilbur "Pete" Henry. At 5-11 and 245 pounds, Henry looked like an amiable pudding until the ball was snapped. Then his surprising speed, agility and strength made him by nearly all accounts the best tackle of the day. A bulldozing blocker and bone-crushing tackler, he could slip into the backfield to become an occasional powerhouse line-smasher or zip downfield as a surprise receiver on tackle-eligible plays. On top of all that, he was an outstanding punter and deadly dropkicker.

To man the opposite tackle, Chamberlin added fellow University of Nebraska alumnus Roy "Link" Lyman, another who was to enjoy a long and storied NFL career. Lyman was a "finesse" player, generally credited with pioneering defensive tackle play along more sophisticated lines with his shifting, sliding style. Both Lyman and Henry are enshrined in the Pro Football Hall of Fame.

Former Staley Tarzan Taylor and rookie Bob "Duke" Osborn gave the Bulldogs a brace of strong guards. Osborn added a colorful touch in that he usually wore a baseball cap instead of a helmet. Two players split time at center: rookie Bill Murrah from Texas A&M and ageless Norman "Dutch" Speck, nearing 40 but still capable.

At one end, Elmer "Bird" Carroll was rated by his coach as one of the best. Chamberlin should have known -- he was THE best! No doubt Coach Chamberlin's most valuable player was himself. On offense, he could block with the anyone and showed a real knack for catching key passes. On defense, he was unmatched at his position. But more than anything, he could inspire his team. In 1922 he began a streak that marks him as the most successful player-coach in NFL history -- four championships in five years and a career winning percentage of .780.

The Canton backfield, however, looked weak at the start of the season. After experimenting with a few combinations, including himself at wingback, Chamberlin settled upon rookie Walcott "Wooky" Roberts from Navy as his blocking back, converted tackle Ed Shaw into a fullback, and used second-year man Harry Robb at wingback and journeyman Norb Sacksteder at tailback. Later in the season, the Bulldogs added backfield strength in veterans Cecil "Tex" Grigg and Lou "The Hammer" Smyth and rookie Wallace "Doc" Elliott. This essentially undistinguished group of backs combined with the strong line to form a granite-hard defense and a steady ground-oriented attack.

After beating the weak Louisville Brecks 38-0 to open the season, the Bulldogs were held to a scoreless tie by the Dayton Triangles, raising doubts as to the championship caliber of the team. But on Oct. 15 the 'Dogs got back on the track with a 14-0 win over the Oorang Indians. The big play for the Bulldogs was a punt return touchdown by Norb Sacksteder.

The first hard test of the season came a week later when Chamberlin's men traveled to Akron to take on the Pros, the 1920 champs and a strong contender in 1921. However, the Pros' squad had changed greatly. Gone were all-pro backs Fritz Pollard and Rip King and standout linemen Russ Bailey and future singer and Marxist Paul Robeson. Canton made it four shutouts in a row by

blanking Akron 22-0, holding them to no first downs. Sacksteder threw a touchdown pass and broke loose for a 38-yard touchdown dash.

Next on the Bulldog agenda was a trip to Wrigley Field in Chicago to take on the still-undefeated Bears. Big tackle Hugh Blacklock and Halas were line vets for the Bruins; Pete Stinchcomb had rejoined Dutch Sternaman in the backfield. New Bears included Dutch's kid brother Joey Sternaman and Laurie Walquist, two of the Illinois players sacked over the Taylorville scandal. In the line, Notre Dame's Hunk Anderson was a rugged guard as well as a brilliant defensive innovator. In his later coaching career he developed any number of clever ways to stop an opponent, but in 1922 he came up with a new blocking wrinkle that was to become a standard. Against Akron, he found himself having trouble with a much larger opponent. Apparently, then and there he ad-libbed the cross-body block and used it successfully for the rest of the game.

The Bears were generally thought of as the Staleys, and a Canton win would mean they'd topped the '20 champs at Akron and the '21 titlists at Chicago within eight days. The 'Dogs launched a first-quarter drive against the Bears that culminated in a touchdown plunge by Shaw. Most of the yardage came on two passes to Bird Carroll by Sacksteder, who enjoyed his third starring performance in a row. Shaw's extra point made the score 7-0.

The Bears made no headway against the stout Canton defense until the fourth quarter. Then Walquist's passes spurred a drive that brought them steadily down the field. At last, Joey Sternaman nipped across the goal line for the touchdown, the first points by a Bulldog opponent all season.

A new rule for 1922 allowed teams to try for the extra point with a pass, but the Bears elected to go with Joey Sternaman's usually reliable dropkicking. The Bulldogs put on a heavy rush with Henry, Lyman, Chamberlin, and the rest coming full tilt. Hurried, Joey's kick went wide. When the Bears could muster no more scoring, Canton had the win, 7-6.

FINISHING WITH A FLOURISH

Canton fans sensed a championship in the making, but their spirits were considerably dampened Nov. 5 when Bill Harley's unheralded Toledo Maroons came to town and held them to a scoreless tie. The Maroons had virtually no offense -- the closest they came to scoring was a 45-yard field-goal try -- but they stopped the Bulldogs when they had to, once only a yard from a touchdown. Canton helped out with a ton of errors. By the fourth quarter, when it was obvious that any Canton score would win the game, quarterback Wooky Roberts called for no fewer than five field-goal attempts. Because of Bulldog blunders, two never got into the air, and the other three -- all by Shaw -- missed.

A week later, the 'Dogs struggled before a 30-yard Shaw field goal gave them a 3-0 squeaker over visiting Buffalo. The All-Americans almost pulled the game out with a pass from Ockie Anderson to Luke Urban that traveled 50 yards. Chamberlin saved the day by catching Urban from behind at the 22, and the Bulldogs finally took over on downs at the one-yard line.

Only Canton, Toledo and the Chicago Cardinals were still undefeated on Nov. 19, when the Bulldogs traveled again to

Chicago to take on the Cards at Comiskey Park. Chris O'Brien had moved his team into the big ballpark this year and had given Paddy Driscoll some support. In the backfield, along with Paddy, who set a new league high with eight field goals, the Cards featured Arnie Horween, a Harvard grad and future Crimson coach, and former Notre Damer Johnny Mohardt. More important, the improved line included big Fred Gillies, Willis Brennan, Nick McInerney, Garland Buckeye and another ex-South Bend star, Eddie Anderson.

Although the Cards couldn't penetrate beyond Canton's 25-yard line at any time during the game, they held off the Bulldogs equally well. Fred Gillies was particularly outstanding in a great matchup with Link Lyman. But the 'Dogs pulled the game out in the final quarter on a 35-yard touchdown pass from Lou Smyth to Sacksteder.

The 7-0 Canton win knocked the Cards out of the unbeaten ranks, but a week later they came to Canton for a second meeting with the Bulldogs. Chicago led 3-0 in the fourth quarter and appeared on the way to an upset. Then Chamberlin took charge and turned the contest around. He blocked a punt deep in Cardinal territory, leading to a Roberts plunge for a touchdown a few plays later. When the Cards got the ball back, Chamberlin picked off a pass by Mohardt and returned it 20 yards for another touchdown. Then, on the first play after the next kickoff, Mohardt passed again and Chamberlin intercepted again, carrying the ball 15 yards into the end zone to cap an amazing defensive sequence. The resulting 20-3 verdict left the Bulldogs undefeated through nine games.

Bill Harley's Toledo Maroons hadn't lost either, but their schedule left a lot to be desired. Their victims included such weaklings as the Evansville Crimson Giants, Hammond Pros, Louisville Brecks and Columbus Panhandles. They'd managed a narrow win over the good Racine club and a tie with Milwaukee, but the one gem on their slate was the surprise scoreless tie at Canton on Nov. 5. Aside from tackle Clarence "Steamer" Horning and the Stein brothers, Russ and Herb, at tackle and guard, respectively, the Maroons didn't look much like a championship outfit. Nevertheless, if they continued undefeated and the Bulldogs slipped, Toledo would take the title.

On Thanksgiving Day, Chamberlin continued producing points with defense. In the first quarter against Akron, he blocked a punt and returned it ten yards for a touchdown. The Bulldogs went on to a well-deserved 14-0 win before their hometown fans. Meanwhile, in Toledo, the Maroons managed only a scoreless tie with the local Meccas, a non-league team of little reputation.

On Dec. 3, Toledo took on the Bears at Cub Park while the Bulldogs hosted the Milwaukee Badgers. Led by black stars Fritz Pollard and Paul Robeson, the Badgers had proved surprisingly tough. They were a grab-bag outfit with a number of veterans brought in from different sources.

At tackle they had rugged John Alexander, the man who first stood up and moved off the line to become an outside linebacker. Before Alexander, linebacking consisted of the center roving around somewhere in the middle. At Rutgers in 1919 big John had looked at the defensive linemen with their heads down and their tails up and decided he had a better chance of stopping the opposition if he could see what was coming. Encouraged by his coaches, he took a

step back from the line of scrimmage and a step out toward the end. The results were so good that eventually other teams copied his method, but in 1922 it was a new wrinkle for the pros -- so new, in fact, that newspapers didn't know how to explain it. One Milwaukee report of a game said Alexander "introduced a new style of play that should work wonders," but cautioned that "it appeared a bit strenuous and tiring". Readers who hadn't seen the game were left to wonder just what in the world he was doing.

Neither Pollard nor Robeson was available for the Canton game, but the Badgers signed star halfback Jim Conzelman, tackle Fred "Duke" Slater, and guard Emmett Keefe from the Rock Island team, which had disbanded for the season. They also brought in the famous Centre College All-American Alvin "Bo" McMillin to quarterback and veteran Ben Winkleman to play end. Clearly they were loading up.

Canton was loading down. Wingback Harry Robb was unable to play because of an arm injury, although he served as linesman for the game. A far greater loss was tackle Pete Henry, out with a sore leg. His absense hurt the Bulldogs where they couldn't afford it -- in the line. Ralph Hay tried to talk 1921 tackle Belford West into coming back for the game. When West proved unavailable, Hay imported 225-pound Dan Batchellor from Grove City College. The young man hadn't played in competition for several years, and now he found his entire NFL career wrapped up in this one key game with the championship on the line. Happily, he acquitted himself well.

Conzelman served as Milwaukee coach for the game. While splitting time in 1922 between Rock Island and Milwaukee, he set an odd record by leading the league in rushing touchdowns with seven and TD passes with a modest three. Although Conzelman later made the Pro Football Hall of Fame as a coach, John Alexander always blamed his play-calling and mishandling of the players for what turned out to be an inept Badger performance at Canton. Despite their star-studded lineup, the Badgers showed no offense and very little defense as they were bombed 40-6. An alternate explanation was that Milwaukee simply fielded too many men inexperienced in playing together.

Meanwhile, in Chicago, the Bears whipped the Maroons 22-0.

Hay and Chamberlin could have disbanded at that point and had no worries that the championship might be voted to another team. Not only were the Bulldogs the league's lone undefeated team, but they'd risked their record by meeting every serious contender.

However, they'd only tied the Maroons a month before. In Toledo, Bill Harley was making noise -- mainly for publicity purposes -- that the tie entitled the Maroons to a share of the title. Canton and Toledo had a game scheduled for Dec. 10, and though the Bulldogs could have gotten out of it easily, they went to Toledo to risk the championship they'd really already won.

The league would have faced an embarrassing decision in the event of a Toledo victory, but the Maroons didn't come close. Sacksteder threw a pass for one touchdown, Elliott plunged for another, and Henry, showing no sign of the leg injury that kept him out of the Milwaukee game, kicked a pair of field goals. The 19-0 win established beyond even the most outlandish doubt that the

Bulldogs were the best team in the league. For once the vote at the league meeting would be a formality.

George Halas and Guy Chamberlin chose All-NFL teams after the season. Even though neither saw every league team in action and both showed a slight bias toward their own players, their selections include most of the top players for 1922.

Halas's choices looked like this:

Ends: Guy Chamberlin, Canton; Luke Urban, Buffalo. Tackles: Hugh Blacklock, Bears; Wilbur Henry, Canton. Guards: Ed Healey, Rock Island-Bears; Herb Stein, Toledo.

Center: Joe Alexander, Rochester. Quarterback: Tommy Hughitt, Buffalo.

Halfbacks: Paddy Driscoll, Cardinals; Pete Stinchcomb, Bears.

Fullback: Rip King, Akron.

Chamberlin named this squad:

Ends: Eddie Anderson, Cardinals; Bird Carroll, Canton. Tackles: Wilbur Henry, Canton; Steamer Horning, Toledo. Guards: Duke Osborn, Canton; Herb Stein, Toledo.

Center: Joe Alexander, Rochester. Quarterback: Harry Robb, Canton.

Halfbacks: Paddy Driscoll, Cardinals; Pete Stinchcomb, Bears.

Fullback: Doc Elliott, Canton.

The National Football League gave out no awards in 1922 except for the tiny gold football watch fobs the members of the champion Canton Bulldogs received after the season. And if the struggling league wasn't going to invest in any trophies for individuals, it was certain that the wire services who gave the NFL scant coverage weren't about to crown a Player of the Year as they now do. If they had, they might have given the nod to Paddy Driscoll, the Chicago Cardinals' great triple-threat. Other likely candidates might have been Racine's Hank Gillo, who scored the most points, or player-coach Guy Chamberlin, the Canton leader.

But of all the achievements of 1922, the one that boggles the mind is Canton's record of allowing only 15 points in a dozen games. And although that was obviously the result of a team effort, one man stood above the other Canton defenders in both reputation and performance. If anyone had seriously considered naming a Player of the Year, he couldn't have done much better than to choose Wilbur Henry, Canton's magnificent tackle.

With the league's strongest lineup, Canton couldn't have kept its payroll below \$1,200 per game by any stretch of the imagination.

Whether Ralph Hay planned to sacrifice his own money for the honor of his city or really expected to pay the bills out of the gate receipts, the simple fact was the Bulldogs were winners on the field and losers in the ledger. Despite near-filled stands at Canton's Lakeside Park, the small capacity meant the 'Dogs usually made more money -- though not enough -- by playing on the road.

In contrast, the Chicago Bears turned a modest profit of \$1,476.92 for Halas and Sternaman. Included in that tally was the \$200 the Bears shelled out to Rock Island to buy the contract of tackle Ed Healey in one of the league's earliest player deals.

Although the Evansville Crimson Giants were the only league team to go under between the end of the 1922 season and the beginning of the 1923 season, few teams other than the Bears finished in the black. In Green Bay, Curly Lambeau was driven to insolvency by a lot of bad weather and very few paying customers. The Packers' miraculous rebirth gave every indication of being only a temporary rally. Although the "new" National Football League had gained in stature in 1922 and produced its first great team in the Canton Bulldogs, the money situation still made pro football a very shaky affair.

However, it must have sold quite a few puppies out in LaRue during the season. The Oorang Indians were coming back for 1923.

FINAL STANDINGS: NFL 1922

| Team | W | L | T | PF-PA |
|----------------------------------|----|---|---|---------|
| Canton Bulldogs | 10 | 0 | 2 | 184- 15 |
| Chicago Bears | 9 | 3 | 0 | 123- 44 |
| Chicago Cardinals | 8 | 3 | 0 | 96- 50 |
| Toledo Maroons | 5 | 2 | 2 | 94- 59 |
| R.I. Independents | 4 | 2 | 1 | 154- 27 |
| Racine Legion | 6 | 4 | 1 | 122- 56 |
| Dayton Triangles | 4 | 3 | 1 | 80- 62 |
| Green Bay Packers | 4 | 3 | 3 | 70- 54 |
| Buffalo All-Americans | 5 | 4 | 1 | 87- 41 |
| Akron Pros | 3 | 5 | 2 | 146- 95 |
| Oorang Indians | 3 | 6 | 0 | 69-190 |
| Milwaukee Badgers | 2 | 4 | 3 | 51- 71 |
| Minneapolis Marines | 1 | 3 | 0 | 19- 40 |
| Louisville Brecks | 1 | 3 | 0 | 13-140 |
| Rochester Jeffersons | 0 | 4 | 1 | 13- 76 |
| Hammond Pros | 0 | 5 | 1 | 0- 69 |
| Evansville Crimson Giants | 0 | 3 | 0 | 6- 88 |
| Columbus Panhandles | 0 | 8 | 0 | 24-174 |