

# Starting from the Bottom

More 'other' leaguers who worked their way to the top

Compiled by Steve Brainerd

Here's another installment in the list of players who graduated from pro football's minor leagues or independent teams (or in some cases, outlaw major leagues) to the majors – that is, the NFL, the AFL of the 1960s, or the AAFC of 1946-49.

The teams listed for a given player are the last minor league or independent team he played with before moving to the majors, and then his first major league team after that. The great majority of these guys also played quite a few more years in one classification or the other, if not both.

<b>Player</b>	<b>Pos</b>	<b>College</b>	<b>Teams</b>
John Schmitt	C	Hofstra	64 Jersey City Giants 65 New York Jets
LeRoy Schneider	T	Tulane	47 Wilmington Clippers 47 Chicago AAFC
Bill Schroeder	HB	Wisconsin	46 Oakland Giants 47 Chicago AAFC
Steve Schubert	WR	Massachusetts	73 Boston Colonials 74 New England
Karl Schuelke	FB	Wisconsin	39 Newark Bears 39 Chicago Bears
Dick Schweidler	HB	St. Louis	39 Newark Bears 46 Chicago Bears
Bob Schweikert	RB	Virginia Tech	66 Jersey City Jets 67 New York Jets
Ray Seals	DE	none	87 Syracuse Express 90 Tampa Bay
Mike Sebastian	HB	Pittsburgh	36 Passaic Red Devils 37 Cleveland Rams
Nick Sebek	QB	Indiana	50 Brooklyn Brooks 50 Washington
John Seedborg	K	Arizona State	64 Joliet Explorers 65 Washington
Earl (Red)Seick	G	Manhattan	39 Union City Rams 40 New York Giants
Clarence Self	DB	Wisconsin	53 Racine Raiders 54 Green Bay
Ed Shedlosky	HB	Tulsa	42 New London DieSels 45 New York Giants
Bill Shockley	K	W. Chester St.	67 Hartford 68 Pittsburgh
Fred Shook	C	TCU	40 Long Island Indians 41 Chicago Cards
Dom Sigillo	T	Xavier (Ohio)	41 Columbus Bullies 45 Detroit
Sigurd Sigurson	E	Pac. Lutheran	46 Tacoma Indians 47 Baltimore AAFC
Jerry Simmons	WR	Tulsa	65 Omaha Mustangs 66 Pittsburgh
Milt Singer	C	Syracuse	40 Jersey City Giants 41 Cleveland
Otis Sistrunk	DT	none	71 Norfolk Neptunes 72 Oakland
Leo Skladany	E	Pittsburgh	49 Paterson Panthers 50 New York Giants

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George Small	G	N.C. A&T	79 Pittsburgh Wolfpak 80 New York Giants
Bronko Smilanic	HB	Arizona	39 Cincinnati Bengals 39 Cleveland Rams
Ben Smith	E	Alabama	36 Pittsburgh Amerks 37 Washington
Dave Smith	RB	Ripon	59 Racine Raiders 60 Houston
Ed Smith	HB	NYU	37 Newark Tornados 37 Green Bay
George Smith	C	California	46 Hollywood Bears 47 San Francisco
Joe Smith	E	Texas Tech	48 Erie Vets 48 Baltimore AAFC
John Smith	K	none	73 Boston Colonials 74 New England
Milt (Snuffy) Smith	E	UCLA	45 Hollywood Bears 45 Philadelphia
Reggis Smith	KR	N.C. Central	79 Charlotte Chargers 80 Atlanta
Bob Snyder	HB	Ohio U.	36 Pittsburgh Amerks 37 Cleveland Rams
Albert (Hank) Soar	HB	Providence	36 Boston Shamrocks 37 New York Giants
Jack Sommers	C	UCLA	46 L.A. Bulldogs 47 Washington
Ed (Butch) Songin	QB	Boston College	50 Erie Vets 60 Boston Patriots
Al Sparkman	T	Texas A&I	49 Richmond Rebels 49 Los Angeles AAFC
Willie Spencer	RB	none	73 Hartford Knights 76 Minnesota
Ken Stabler	QB	Alabama	68 Spokane Shockers 70 Oakland
Ben Starrett	QB	St. Mary's	41 Wilmington Clippers 42 Green Bay
Stan Stasica	HB	South Carolina	46 Paterson Panthers 46 Miami AAFC
Bill Steinkemper	T	Notre Dame	37 Cincinnati Bengals 43 Chicago Bears
Harold Stephens	QB	Hard.-Sim.	61 Louisville Raiders 62 New York Titans
Jack Stofa	QB	Buffalo	66 Lakeland Brahman 67 Cincinnati
Jesse Stokes	DB	Corpus Christi	67 San Antonio Toros 68 Denver
Sims Stokes	WR	N. Arizona	67 Oklahoma City 67 Dallas
Anton (Butch) Stolfa	QB	Luther	39 Newark Bears 39 Chicago Bears
John Stonebraker	T	USC	41 Hollywood Bears 42 Green Bay
Woody Strode	E	UCLA	45 Hollywood Bears L.A. Rams
Mike Stromberg	LB	Temple	67 Mt. Vernon Bulls 68 New York Jets
Ken Strong	FB	NYU	38 Jersey City Giants 39 New York Giants
Joe Sulatis	HB	none	46 Jersey City Giants 47 New York Giants

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Jim Sullivan	DE	Lincoln	69 Richmond Saints 70 New Orleans
Earl (Bud) Svendsen	C	Minnesota	42 Springfield 43 Brooklyn Dodgers
Terry Swanson	P	Massachusetts	66 Nashua Colts 67 Boston Patriots
Karl Sweetan	QB	Wake Forest	65 Pontiac Arrows 66 Detroit
Phil Swiadon	T	NYU	42 Springfield 43 Brooklyn Dodgers
Rich Szaro	K	Harvard	73 Bridgeport Jets 75 New Orleans
Bob Tarrant	E	Pittsburg St.	36 Boston Shamrocks 36 New York Giants
Ken Talton	RB	Cornell	79 Pittsburgh WolfPak 80 Kansas City
Joe Taylor	DB	N.C. A&T	66 Toronto Rifles 67 Chicago Bears
Lionel Taylor	E	N.M. Highlands	58 Bakersfield Spoilers 59 Chicago Bears
Tony Teresa	HB	San Jose St.	57 Salinas Packers 58 San Francisco
H. Theofiledes	QB	Waynesburg St.	67 Virginia Sailors 68 Washington
Jim Thilbert	LB	Toledo	64 Toledo Tornadoes 65 Denver
Jim Thrower	DB	E. Texas St.	70 Pottstown Firebirds 71 Philadelphia
Bobby Thomason	QB	VMI	50 Richmond Rebels 51 Green Bay
Rich Thomaselli	RB	W.Va. Wesleyan	80 Charleston Rockets 81 Houston
Gary Thompson	DB	Redwoods	81 San Jose Tigers 83 Buffalo