

## QUIZ: NOTORIOUS NON-ACHIEVERS

1. By the late 1970s, some teams had started to have their quarterbacks kneel down to kill the clock at the end of games. But it didn't become a universal practice until Nov. 19, 1978, when the Giants botched a handoff on what would have been the game's final play and saw a 11-12 victory turned into a 19-17 loss when Philadelphia cornerback Herman Edwards grabbed the loose ball and ran it back for a touchdown. Do you remember the Giants' QB and running back whose foulup made the kneel-down *de rigeur* in the NFL? The running back's earlier exploits with another team earned him a spot in the Hall of Fame, but the QB will really be rough.

2. The Colts took this Ohio State quarterback in the first round of the 1982 draft. But he showed little, lost the starting job to a less-heralded rookie, Mike Pagel, and was suspended during the offseason for running up big gambling losses. He returned for two more seasons with the Colts, never managed to win a starting job, and was sent packing after the '85 season.

3. The Bears won the Western Division title in 1956 by defeating the Lions in the season finale, 38-21. The key play came early in the game when Bobby Layne was kayoed by a very late hit from what Chicago defensive end?

4. Though many in Washington, and some in New York, swore the kick was good, this Auburn rookie's missed field goal with seconds left in the final game of the 1939 season cost the Redskins a 10-9 victory over the Giants and the Eastern Division title. A tackle when he wasn't kicking, he played only one more season and tried only one more field goal – which he made.

5. In the second game of 1978, the Raiders escaped with a 21-.20 win over San Diego by scoring a touchdown on the final play. What bothered the Chargers was the way they scored: Hit in the backfield, the quarterback tossed the ball forward before he went down, and the tight end dribbled the "fumble" into the end zone before falling on it for a touchdown. The play resulted in a rule against forward fumbles in the closing minutes of each half. Who were the two Raiders who helped to rewrite the rulebook?

6. Two of the NFL's top stars missed the 1963 season when they were suspended for betting on games. One was a running back and kicker with the Packers, the other a defensive tackle with the Lions. The tackle starred for several years after the suspension, but the back was never the same.

7. Known as one of the greatest "money players" ever, this Hall of Fame quarterback took his team to three straight championship games in the early '50s, plus a divisional playoff in one of those years. His team won three of those four games, but despite his reputation for clutch performances, he managed only

one touchdown pass while throwing twelve interceptions.

8. With seconds to go in Super Bowl XXV, who missed a 47-yard field goal attempt that would have given the championship to Buffalo? Instead, the Giants escaped with a 20-19 win.

9. In 15 years with the Cardinals he set standards for tight ends with 480 receptions for 7,918 yards, But in his 16th season, with the Cowboys, he dropped a sure touchdown pass in the Super Bowl against the Steelers. The Cowboys lost 35-31, and for many fans the memory of that one dropped pass wiped out a terrific career. Who was this star-crossed star?

10. Trying to improve his team's winning percentage in a bid for the 1925 championship, Chicago Cardinal owner Chris O'Brien hastily scheduled two games for the second week of December with Milwaukee and Hammond, two teams that had disbanded for the year. Hammond was able to reassemble a competitive team, and dropped a 13-0 decision to the Cardinals. When Milwaukee ran into trouble, a Cardinal back offered to help and recruited four players who took part in the 59-0 debacle. Unfortunately, they were high school kids, and when league president Joe Carr found out, he banned the Cardinal player for life and ordered the Milwaukee owner to sell his team. You're doing great if you can name either one of them.

11. Here's an easy one: Frank Gifford sat out the whole 1961 season after being blindsided by this Eagle linebacker in a key late-season game in 1960.

12. A lot of folks in Baltimore still say their team was robbed in the 1965 Western Division playoff when the officials called this veteran Packer kicker's game-tying field goal good. Green Bay won in sudden death, but diehard Colt fans still say it should have been over in regulation. Hint: The kicker doubled as a punter, and had spent the previous nine years with the Giants.

13. In five years with the Browns he rushed for more than 2,500 yards and caught more than 200 passes, but he's remembered in Cleveland for his fumble that cost them a game-tying touchdown in the final minutes of the 1987 AFC championship game. Finally sent packing by the Browns, he bounced back to have a pair of 1,000-yard seasons with the Redskins.

14. Two members of the New York Giants were barred from the NFL for life for not reporting a bribe offer before their 1946 championship game with the Bears. One was a fullback from Mississippi, the other a tailback-turned-quarterback, They went to Canada and kept after the NFL until the QB was finally reinstated in 1950 and the fullback in 1954.

15. Throwing 30 interceptions in a season is every quarterback's nightmare. It's happened eleven times, but the guys who did it weren't a bunch of bums. Three are in the Hall of Fame, including the only man to do it twice. I'll list the team each QB played for, the season and the number of passes he had picked off; see if you can fill in their names.

- a. 1947 Bears, 31
- b. 1960 Broncos, 34
- c. 1961 New York Titans, 30
- d. 1962 Oilers, 42
- e. 1965 Oilers, 30
- f. 1967 Cardinals, 30
- g. 1968 Chargers, 32
- h. 1978 Vikings, 32
- i. 1978 Raiders, 30
- j. 1980 Jets, 30
- k. 1988 Buccaneers, 35

**ANSWERS:** 1. Larry Csonka and QB Joe Pisarcik. 2. Art Schlichter. 3. Ed Meadows. 4. Bo Russell. 5. Ken Stabler and Dave Casper. 6. Paul Hornung and Alex Karras. 7. Bobby Layne. 8. Scott Norwood. 9. Jackie Smith. 10. Art Folz of the Cardinals, and Milwaukee owner Ambrose McGuirk. 11. Chuck Bednarik. 12. Don Chandler. 13. Earnest Byner. 14. Fullback Merle Hapes and quarterback Frank Filchock. 15. a. Sid Luckman. b. Frank Tripucka. c. Al Dorow. d. George Blanda. e. Blanda again. f. Jim Hart. g. John Hadl. h. Fran Tarkenton. i. Ken Stabler. j. Richard Todd. k. Vinnie Testaverde.