

1966A Kansas City • DEFENSE

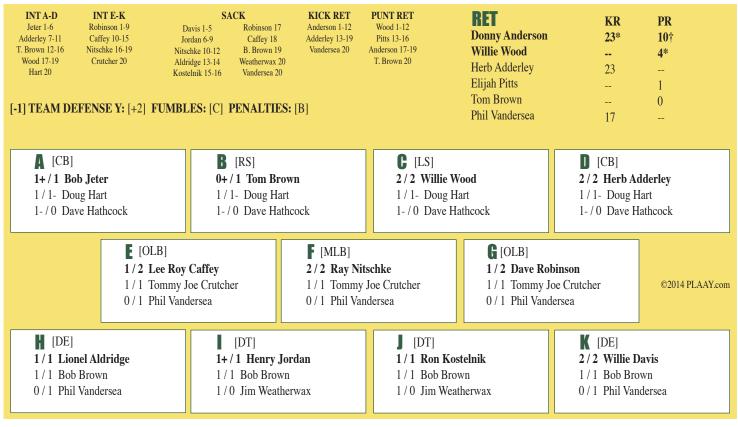
† Mike Garrett scores TOUCHDOWN on any PUNT RETURN over 40 yards.

1966A Kansas City • OFFENSE

 \dagger Len Dawson is given a Y grade of 3 in the second half and has \Box yards added to all OU run gains; Pete Beathard has \Box yards added to all OU run gains.

TA [OT] 1+/2 Jim Tyrer 0/0+ Tony DiMi 0/1- Dennis Biod		GA [G] 1/2 Ed Budde 0/1 Al Reynolds 1/0 Dennis Biodrowski			CE [C] 0/1 Wayne Frazier 0/1 Al Reynolds 0/1- Jon Gilliam			GB [G] 0/1 Curt Merz 0/1 Al Reynolds 1/0 Dennis Biodrowski			TB [OT] 1/1- Dave Hill 0/0+ Tony DiMidio 0/1- Dennis Biodrowski			
[WR] 1/0+ Chris Burfo 1-/0 Frank Pitts 0/1- Tommy Broo		R 13* (11) 		QB [QB] 1+/1 → L 0/1 → Pet		CMP C F	X 8 4	Y 4† 4	14	OU AAA† AAAA†	0/1 R	TE] Fred Arbanas Reggie Carolan Tommy Brooke	R 14 (22) r	
SB [RB] 1/2- Mike Garre 0+/1 Bert Coan 0/0+ Gene Thoma		IN A C (C)	OU AA AA (AA	12 7	0+/1 E	B] irtis McClint Bert Coan Gene Thomas	ton	IN C C (C)	OU D AA (AAA	R 15 7)	1/0 F	WR] Otis Taylor rank Pitts errell Wilson	R 22*[!] (11) (7)	
PK Mike Mercer Tommy Brooker [+2] TEAM OFFE	XP A AA	FG A A UMBLI	LFG +30[AA] +30[D] ES: [C] P]	D	INSIDE Garrett 1-5 McClinton 6-1 Coan 19-20	OUTSIDE Garrett 1-8 8 Coan 9-18 McClinton 19 Thomas 20	SC-SH Taylo Burford Arbanas McClinto Coan Garre Carola Wilso Pitts	r 1-6 17-12 5 13-14 5 13-16 17-18 tt 19 an 20 n 20	LONG Taylor 1-12 Buford 13-15 Arbanas 16-17 McClinton 18-1 Carolan 20	7		AVG 44	D2014 PLAAY.com RET COF BLK D C B B] PUNT COV [B] PLAAY.com	

Sports Simulation Board Games



1966N Green Bay • DEFENSE

† Donny Anderson scores TOUCHDOWN on any PUNT RETURN over 25 yards.

1966N Green Bay • OFFENSE

† Paul Hornung is given an OU grade of C on first three carries; **Donny Anderson** is given an OU grade of B on first two carries; **Jim Grabowski** is given an IN grade of B on first two carries.

TA [OT] 1/2- Bob Skoronski 1/1- Gale Gillingham 1/0 Steve Wright	GA [G] 1+/1 Fuzzy 7 1/1- Gale Gi 1/1- Ken Bov	illingham	1/0 1/1	CE [C] 1/0+ Bill Curry 1/1- Ken Bowman 1/1- Gale Gillingham			[G] Jerry Krame Gale Gillingl Ken Bowman	TB [OT] 2/2 Forrest Gregg 1/1- Gale Gillingham 1/0 Steve Wright					
 [WR] 1/1 Marv Fleming 1/0 Max McGee 1/0 Bill Anderson 	R 12 (22) (8)	2/2	B [QB] 2 → Bart S 1 → Zeke I		CMP B [?] D	3 1	Y Q 1 13 3 14	OU A E	1/0 M	TE] C arroll Dale fax McGee Allen Brown		R 24* (22) 	
SB [RB] 1/1 Elijah Pitts 1/1- Paul Hornung 0/1- Donny Anderson	IN D E E	OU C E† E†	R 18 14 (17)	FB [FB] 1/1 Jim Taylor 0/0+ Jim Grabov 0/1- Red Mack		IN C ^a D ^a	* D*	D* 8*		[WR] Boyd Dowler Bob Long Bill Anderson		R 14 (23) (8)	
PK XP Don Chandler A [+2] TEAM OFFENSE FU	FG C JMBLE	+30[D] I	D F	INSIDE Taylor 1-11 Pitts 12-16 Hornung 17-19 Grabowski 20	OUTSIDE Taylor 1-9 Pitts 10-15 Horning 16-19 Anderson 20	SC-SH-MED Taylor 1-4 Dale 5-8 Fleming 9-11 Dowler 12-14 Pitts 15-17 Horning 18 Grabowski 18 McGee 19 Long 19	LONG Dale 1-11 Fleming 12- Dowler 15- Hornung 18- McGee 20 Long 20 D. Anderson B. Anderson	14 Don Ch 17 Donny A	Anderson	AVG 41 45 CKOFF COV	PLA	COF B D UNT (AY.co	BLK A A COV [B]

1966 Pro Football Championship Game 1966N Green Bay vs. 1966A Kansas City, Sunday, January 15, 1967

I hope you enjoy re-creating the very first "Big Game" using SECOND SEASON Pro Football Game and these player and team ratings for Green Bay and Kansas City, created especially for this edition of the PLAAY Games Newsletter.

I'm confident you'll get a realistic result from these teams. In 1966, the merger of pro the two rival pro football leagues had just been announced, and players, coaches and fans were still getting used to the idea. The establishment of a common college draft would quickly draw even the talent level of the two leagues, but in 1966 there was still a noticeable gap. The common belief--voiced after the game by Green Bay coach Vince Lombardi--was that the better teams from the upstart league could perhaps be competitive with the poorer teams from the established league, but that new league, as a whole, offered an inferior brand of football.

I've rated the teams accordingly.

My sense is that when the new league started in 1960, it was perhaps half the strength of the established league. Gradually, the league found its footing and started signing some top players. It was that bidding war for talent that produced the merger of the two leagues that was announced in 1966. By then, the "talent gap" had shrunk from 50% to perhaps 75%. That's the standard by which Kansas Clty is rated for this game--assuming 75% parity between the two leagues.

Of course, the talent gap would disappear entirely by the time the merger was consummated in 1970, with the common draft providing the teams from the new league a steady, uncontested stream of the best available college players. While it seemed shocking at the time, in retrospect, it's not so surprising that the final two games of the true inter-league championship series were won by teams from the junior league. For the 1967 game, however, you'll find it more difficult for the upstart league's entry, Kansas City, to stay in the ball game. Difficult-but not impossible. Turnovers will be key, as they always are in any pro football game. If Kansas City can get its ground game un-tracked and isn't forced to rally from a couple touchdown deficit, they'll have a chance.

If you'd like to re-create this game as it was played, you'll need to swap out Green Bay's Boyd Dowler (in box EC) with Max McGee at some point. In the real game, Dowler went out with a separated shoulder on Green Bay's opening drive, setting the stage for McGee's unlikely heroics. McGee caught just four passes all season, did not expect to see any action during the game, and had gone bar-hopping the night before the game, in violation of the team's curfew. When Vince Lombardi sent McGee into the game, he had to borrow someone else's helmet--he'd left his in the locker room! On only an hour's sleep, and fighting off a nasty hangover, McGee scored the first touchdown of the game, on a 37-yard pass from Bart Starr, and wound up catching seven passes for 138 yards and two touchdowns. The stuff of legends, for sure.

If you're using the finder columns, give Dowler's range to McGee. Or, if you're using the stamina rules, give Dowler's usage asterisk to McGee.

Also, Paul Hornung was not active for this game for Green Bay, so his carries and catches will also have to be re-distributed, should you want to stick to purely historical guidelines. Of course, feel free NOT to! It's not like having Hornung in the lineup will make Green Bay unbeatable--he had really lost a step by the '66 season, and he and FB Jim Taylor would both shortly be sent to New Orleans in the '67 expansion draft.

As I mentioned in the newsletter, it's mind-boggling to think about the current state of hype surrounding football's Big Game, and then realize that for this, the inaugural game of the series, about a third of the tickets went un-sold. For this reason, I recommend that neither team be given the home field advantage--when the game book calls for it, simply assume that the offense is NOT the home team, regardless of who has the ball. (This will also help Kansas City stay in the game, I think.)

There are plenty of statistics and recollections of the game to be found online, so I won't rehash them here. Instead, I'll simply close with my wish that these teams will provide you with an afternoon or evening of reminiscing about what pro football was like fifty years ago! Please feel welcome to let me know how the game turns out on your tabletop, the e-mail address is info@plaay.com.

Keith Avallone PLAAY Games January, 2014