

Mini Bio: Sonny Jurgensen

At Duke University, quarterback Jurgensen ran a run-oriented offense, and, in his first four seasons with the Philadelphia Eagles (1957-60), he was a seldom-used backup. But, in 1961 when Norm Van Brocklin retired, Sonny suddenly emerged to prove himself a superb passer and team leader.

In 1964, after three seasons as the Eagles' quarterback, the 6-0, 203-pound Jurgensen was traded to Washington and spent eleven seasons as a Redskin.

In spite of numerous injuries, he compiled an exceptional passing record. His career totals: 2,433 completions, 32,224 yards, 255 touchdowns, and an 82.6 passer rating according to the NFL's formula. He won three NFL individual passing titles. In five seasons, he surpassed 3,000 yards gained. He had 25 300-yard games and five of more than 400.

Jurgensen was named to the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 1983.

Mini Bio: Bobby Mitchell

Mitchell switched positions in mid-career, going from a very good player to a great player in the process. Drafted by Cleveland out of the University of Illinois, he paired at halfback with the great Jim Brown to give the Browns a dynamic one-two punch. Blessed with exceptional speed, balance and faking ability, he reeled off numerous long runs. The Browns, however, decided to look for a back bigger than the 6-0, 195-pound Mitchell and traded him to Washington in 1962 for the rights to Syracuse All-America Ernie Davis.

The Redskins moved him to flanker and Mitchell immediately led the NFL in pass receptions. In six different seasons, he caught more than 50 passes, but his greatest gift was his ability to run with a pass once he'd caught it. Twice All-NFL, he played in four Pro Bowls.

His career statistics included 521 pass receptions, eight kick return touchdowns, 91 total TDs, and 14,078 combined yards.

Mitchell was inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 1983.

Mini Bio: Paul Warfield

Warfield was a fine running back at Ohio State, but the Cleveland Browns drafted him as their first pick in 1964 to be a wide receiver. The 6-0, 188-pound speedster quickly became one of the best in NFL history.

His signature was running super-smooth, super-precise pass patterns. Traded to Miami in 1970, he proved to be a key element in the Super Bowl champions of 1972-73. His presence on the field opened up defenses to the Dolphins' bone-crushing rushing attack. He might catch only one or two passes in a game, but each would be important to victory.

After spending 1975 in the World Football League, Warfield returned to the Browns for two final seasons. All-NFL five years and seven times a Pro Bowler, he retired after the 1977 season with 427 catches, good for 8,565 yards and 85 touchdowns. Most impressive: his 20.1 yards-per-catch.

He was inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 1983.

Mini Bio: Willie Brown

Few players seemed more unlikely to achieve pro football success when they began than Brown. Undrafted out of Grambling, he tried out with the Houston Oilers and was cut! He caught on with the bottom-dwelling Denver Broncos in 1963. By the next season, he was chosen All-AFL as a cornerback.

In 1967, he was traded to the Oakland Raiders. The 6-1, 210- pound Brown played 16 seasons, winning All-AFL/AFC honors seven times. He played in five AFL All-Star Games and four AFC-NFL Pro Bowls.

Fast, mobile and aggressive, Brown intercepted 54 passes over his career. He played in nine title games and two Super Bowls with the Raiders, and his 75-yard interception for a touchdown was a highlight of Super Bowl XI.

Brown was named to the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 1984.

Mini Bio: George Musso

Big George Musso typified the "Monsters of the Midway" Bears of the 1930's and early '40s -- hardnosed, combative and rugged. At 6-2 and 270 pounds, he was huge for his time, and he used his bulk to anchor the center of Chicago's defensive line for 12 great seasons. A 60-minute performer, he began as a tackle on offense and won All-NFL honors there in 1935. In his fifth season, he switched to guard to take advantage of his surprising speed in pulling out of the line as a lead blocker. In 1937, he became the first player to be selected all-league at two positions.

Musso signed with the Bears in 1933 for \$90 per game. Out of little Millikin, he was the rawest of rookies and on the edge of being cut. But he was a fast learner and soon became an important part of the Bears' championship team.

An inspirational leader, he was the Bears' captain for his final nine seasons. Musso played in seven NFL championship games and was on the winning side in four of them.

Musso was inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 1982.

Mini Bio: Merlin Olsen

At 6-5 and 270 pounds, big Merlin Olsen had the size to become a great defensive tackle. As a Phi Beta Kappa scholar, he had the smarts. Add in courage and a relentless work ethic. Olsen is generally regarded as one of the four best defensive tackles ever to play in the NFL.

At Utah State, he was a consensus All-America in 1961 and won the Outland Trophy as the nation's top lineman. The Los Angeles Rams drafted him on the first round.

Big, fast, agile and smart, Olsen won Rookie of the Year honors in '62 and went on to be chosen to a record 14 straight Pro Bowls. He was All-NFL from 1966-70 and All-NFC in 1973. He was the stabilizing leader of the Rams famed Fearsome Foursome defensive line.

Olsen was inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 1982. Since his retirement in 1972, he has followed a television career as an actor on several series, as a pitchman in ads, and as a pro football analyst.

Bobby Bell

Bell was such a talented athlete he might have excelled at any position. An all-state prep quarterback, an All-America tackle at Minnesota, and a defensive end in his first pro season, he was named to the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 1983 as an outside linebacker. The 6-4, 225-pound Bell was the fourth player who began his career in the American Football League to be named to the Hall.

Versatile, rugged, fast and smart, he starred for the Kansas City Chiefs from 1963 through 1974, and was named All-AFL/AFC nine times. He played in the last six AFL All-Star games and three AFC-NFC Pro Bowls. He had 25 career interceptions and scored eight touchdowns, one on an onside kickoff return.

Bell was a key defender for the Chiefs 1966 team that appeared in the first Super Bowl. Three years later, as the Chiefs won Super Bowl IV, he helped the defense shut down the Minnesota Vikings.

Mini Bio: Sid Gillman

Gillman was an All-America end at Ohio State and played in the first College All-Star Game in 1934, but it was as a dynamic and innovative coach that he won his greatest fame. Widely recognized as the leading authority on passing theories and tactics, he became one of the most influential pro football coaches of all time.

After exceptional success on the college level, Gillman became Los Angeles Rams head coach in 1955, winning the divisional title in his first year. In 1960, he was named head coach of the Los Angeles Chargers of the first-year American Football League. His presence was important in gaining the new league respect, and it was with the Chargers (who moved to San Diego in 1961) that he had his greatest success. His team won the AFL championship in 1963 and the division title in five of the AFL's first six years. Among the players he developed were Ron Mix, Lance Alworth, Keith Lincoln, Paul Lowe, and John Hadl.

In 18 seasons as a pro coach, Gillman compiled a 123-104-7 record.

Gillman was enshrined in the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 1983.