

Quiz : Forgotten Fill Ins

1. Bill Dudley's 1946 season may still be the best ever by a Steeler back. He led the league in rushing yardage, punt return yardage and interceptions and won the MVP award as the Steelers finished 5-5-1. After the season Dudley vowed that he'd never play again for coach Jock Sutherland, and as a result he was traded to Detroit. Oddly enough, the Steelers improved to an 8-4 record in 1947, as Dudley's successor ran for 670 yards (second in the league and 66 more than Dudley's 1946 total) and passed for 1,004 more. Though they lost to the Eagles in a playoff for the Eastern Division title, it was Pittsburgh's best season until the 1970s. Who was the unheralded SMU grad who filled in so well for the departed superstar?
2. Continuing on the same theme: Frankie Sinkwich won the 1944 MVP award while leading the Detroit Lions to a 6-3-1 record and a tie for second place in the Western Division. When Sinkwich went into the service in the offseason, things looked bad for Detroit; but the Lions went 7-3-0 in 1945 and finished in second place all by themselves this time. What former UCLA tailback took over for Sinkwich and kept the Lions in contention?
3. What veteran punter/kicker took over the placekicking chores for the Cleveland Browns in 1960 when Lou Groza tried retirement for a year? Groza's stand-in finished fourth in the NFL in scoring, and stayed around to do the Browns' punting when Lou returned in 1961.
4. When Archie Manning sat out the 1976 season with a shoulder injury, the Saints "improved" from 2-12 to 4-10, but that was probably due to the arrival of coach Hank Stram and running backs Chuck Muncie and Tony Galbreath, because the two QBs who replaced Manning combined to throw a total of eight touchdown passes and average less than six yards per pass attempt. Four years earlier, though, one of them had set an NFL record – but not with his passing. Can you name either of Manning's stand-ins?
5. When the Redskins won their first Super Bowl after the 1982 season, they did it without Art Monk, who was hurt just before the playoffs started. His little-known replacement turned into a playoff star, with 15 catches, 244 yards and five TDs. He started the next season the same way, catching 25 passes in the early going before Monk finally returned to the lineup. Over the rest of his five-year career this super sub caught a grand total of 10 passes, including playoff games. Who was he? (Big hint: Howard Cosell was referring to him when he made his infamous remark, "That little monkey gets open, doesn't he?")

ANSWERS: 1. Johnny Clement. 2. Chuck Fenenbock. 3. Sam Baker. 4. Bobby Scott and Bobby Douglass, who rushed for 968 yards, a record for quarterbacks, with the 1972 Bears. 5. Alvin Garrett.