

1942 NFL CHAMPIONSHIP: SWEET REVENGE

by Bob Carroll

Two years earlier, the Chicago Bears had crushed the Washington Redskins, 73-0. If anything, this edition of the Monsters of the Midway was even stronger, having rolled through a season of eleven straight one-sided wins. Their lowest margin of victory was 14 points. Oddsmakers made them as much as 20-point favorites to continue their mastery over the 'Skins.

Signs posted in the Washington dressing room urged the players to remember the 73-0 humiliation. Reminders were unnecessary; the players who'd been with the team then would never forget.

The first quarter was scoreless -- certainly an improvement for Washington over the 1940 game. But a little over a minute into the second quarter, Bears tackle Lee Artoe scooped up a Redskins fumble and rambled 52 yards for a touchdown. Although he missed the extra point, it looked like the beginning of another rout.

Washington refused to fold. Midway through the quarter, Sammy Baugh hit Wilbur Moore on a 39-yard touchdown pass. Bob Masterson's successful PAT gave the Redskins a 7-6 lead at the half.

The Redskins continued to hold off the more and more frustrated Bears in the second half. In the third quarter, Washington put on an 80-yard drive with fullback Andy Farkas carrying the ball on ten of twelve plays. His tenth carry was for only one yard but it put him in the end zone. Masterson added his second PAT to make the score 14-6.

Despite the Bears best efforts, they couldn't get untracked in the final quarter, and Washington had its revenge for the 73-0 game. Instead of a replay of the 1940 championship game, this one was most like the 1934 title tilt when another perfect Chicago season was ruined by an upset loss in their final outing. But in that famous tilt, the Bears were bested by a combination of an icy field and basketball shoes worn by their opponent. This round, their defeat could only be blamed on a determined Redskins effort.

Griffith Stadium, Washington, D.C., December 13, 1942

Attendance: 36,006

WASHINGTON REDSKINS 14		CHICAGO BEARS 6	
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Bob Masterson	LE	Ed Kolman	
Willie Wilkin	LT	Bob Nowaskey	
Dick Farman	LG	Danny Fortmann	
Ki Aldrich	C	Bulldog Turner	
Steve Slivinski	RG	Ray Bray	
Bill Young	RT	Lee Artoe	
Ed Cifers	RE	George Wilson	
Ray Hare	QB	Sid Luckman	
Sammy Baugh	LH	Ray Nolting	
Ed Justice	RH	Hugh Gallarneau	
Andy Farkas	FB	Gary Famiglietti	

Washington Redskins	0	7	7	0	-	14
Chicago Bears	0	6	0	0	-	6

Second Quarter:

- ChiB: Artoe, 52-yard fumble return 1:22
- XP: Artoe kick failed
- Was : Moore, 39-yard pass from Baugh 8:56
- XP: Masterson

Third Quarter:

- Was : Farkas, 1-yard run 7:25
- XP: Masterson

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Substitutions:

WASHINGTON - T: Ed Beinor, Fred Davis; G: Clem Stralka, Clyde Shugart; B: Cecil Hare, Wilbur Moore, Dick Todd, Bob Seymour.

CHICAGO BEARS - E: John Siegal, Hamp Pool; T: Joe Stydahar, Al Hoptowit; G: Chuck Drulis, Len Akin; George Musso; B: Charlie O'Rourke, Harry Clark, Frank Maznicki, Ray McLean, John Petty, Bill Osmanski.

Statistics	Was	ChiB		Was	ChiB
First Downs	9	10	Passes Int. By	2	3
Rushing Yardage	101	69	Punting	6-52.5	6-42
Passing Yardage	65	130	Fumbles Lost	1	1
Passing	5-13	10-20	Yards Penalized	26	47

Referee: Ronald Gibbs; Umpire: Carl Brubaker; Head Linesman: Charles Berry; Field Judge: Chuck Sweeney.

Each Redskin received \$965.89; each Bear \$637.56