

HAY AND ROSS AWARD WINNERS ANNOUNCED

Seymour Siwoff and **Keith McClellan** have been named winners of PFRA's annual achievement awards.

Siwoff, through his Elias Sports Bureau, has not only kept careful track of each season's statistics and introduced new measuring formulae, but also he has not been content to simply let pre-Elias (pre-1960) NFL statistics rest unchallenged. Elias has gone back, double- and triple-checked past records and corrected many errors.

Because of his unswerving efforts to get the records correct, both past and present, Mr. Siwoff and the Elias Sports Bureau has been named the 1998 winner of PFRA's **Ralph Hay Award**, given for lifetime achievement in pro football research and historiography.

Past Hay Award Winners

1997 Total Sports
1996 Don Smith
1995 John Hogrogian
1994 Jim Campbell
1993 Robert Van Atta
1992 Richard Cohen
1991 Joe Horrigan
1990 Bob Gill
1989 Joe Plack
1988 David Neft

McClellan is the author of *The Sunday Game* (The University of Akron Press, \$19.95), an intricately detailed account of pro football efforts in the midwest during the seasons of 1915-17. He traces each important (and some not-so-important) team of the period. The inclusion of rosters and extensive notes are major plusses.

McClelland is the recipient of the **1998 Nelson Ross Award** given for recent achievement in pro football research and historiography.

Past Ross Award Winners

1997 Tod Maher & Bob Gill
1996 JohnHogrogian
1995 Phil Dietrich
1994 Rick Korch
1993 Jack Smith
1992 John M. Carroll
1991 Tod Maher
1990 Pearce Johnson
1989 Bob Gill
1988 Bob Braunwart

This year brought an unusual number of strong candidates for both awards. The PFRA Executive Director and current officers (excluding the Board of Directors) are not eligible for either award.

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PFRA WRITING AWARDS

The awarding of the first annual PFRA Writing Awards for 1998 contains at least one surprise. As announced last spring, awards were to be given for articles written originally for *The Coffin Corner* in two categories: pre-1970 and post-1970. However, several judges noted that personality features did not seem to fit comfortably into either category and urged the creation of a third award. Belatedly, their idea was accepted.

Although we will not reveal the number of votes each winner received, it should be noted that no fewer than six articles received votes in each of the first two categories while there were five different personality features mentioned by judges.

The Winners:

Pre-1970: *First* - Tom Farley for "1960 NFL Conference Races;" *Second* - James Quirk for "The Minneapolis Marines."

Post-1970: *First* - Mike Sparrow for "The All-Time Non-Pro Bowl Team;" *Second* - Mark Speck for "World Bowl I ... and Only."

Personality Feature: *First* - Ed Gruver for "Remembering Ray Nitschke;" *Second* - Jim Sargent for "George Hughes."

First place winners will receive a certificate and a one-year extension of their PFRA membership. Second place winners will receive a certificate and a six-month extension of their memberships.

SWICK IS NEW DIRECTOR

Veteran PFRA Member Bob Swick has been elected to the PFRA Board of Directors in a close election. Members were asked to send in write-in candidates for the unexpired term of the late Pearce Johnson which had temporarily been filled by John Hogrogian.

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