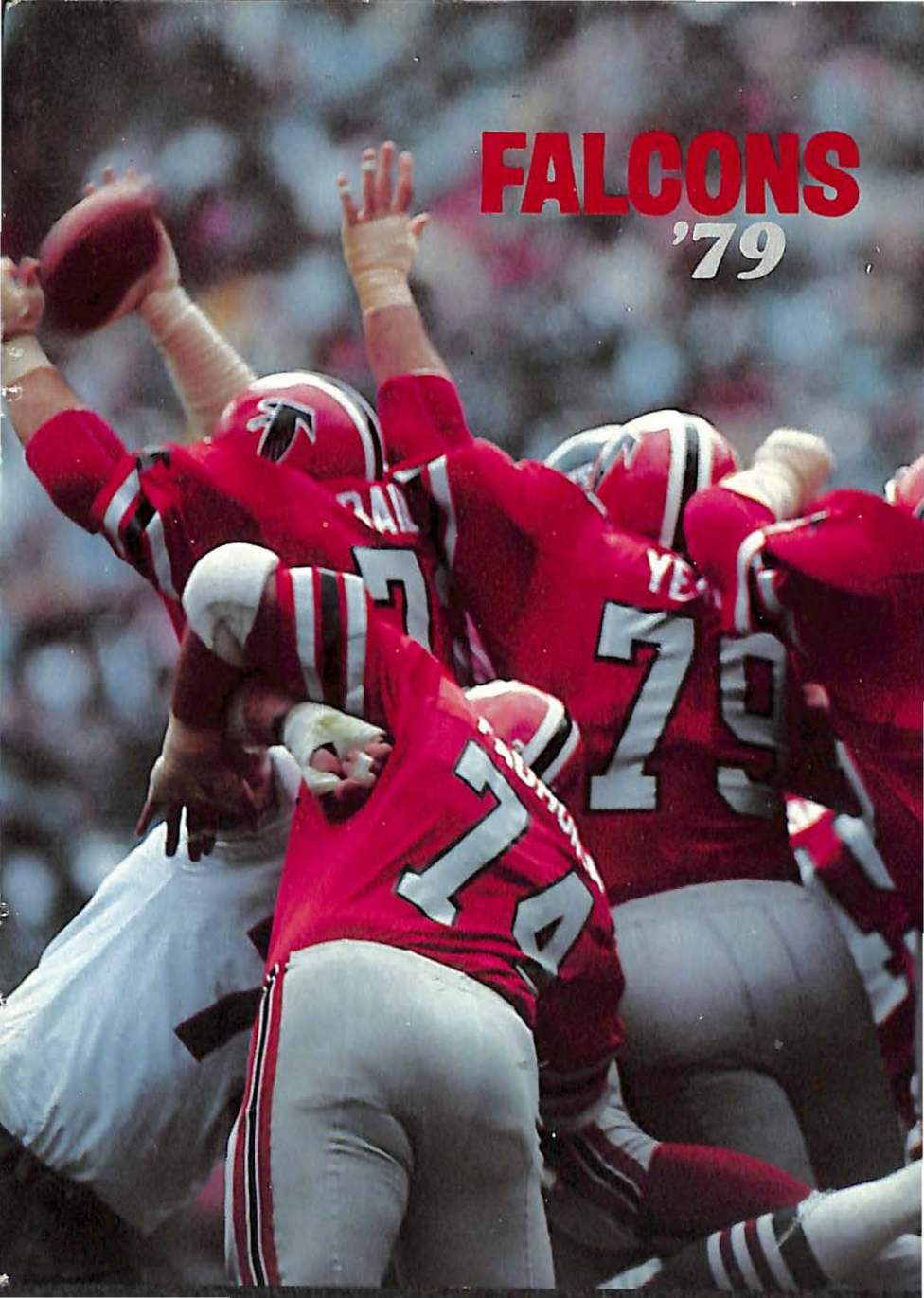

FALCONS
'79

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1979 SCHEDULE

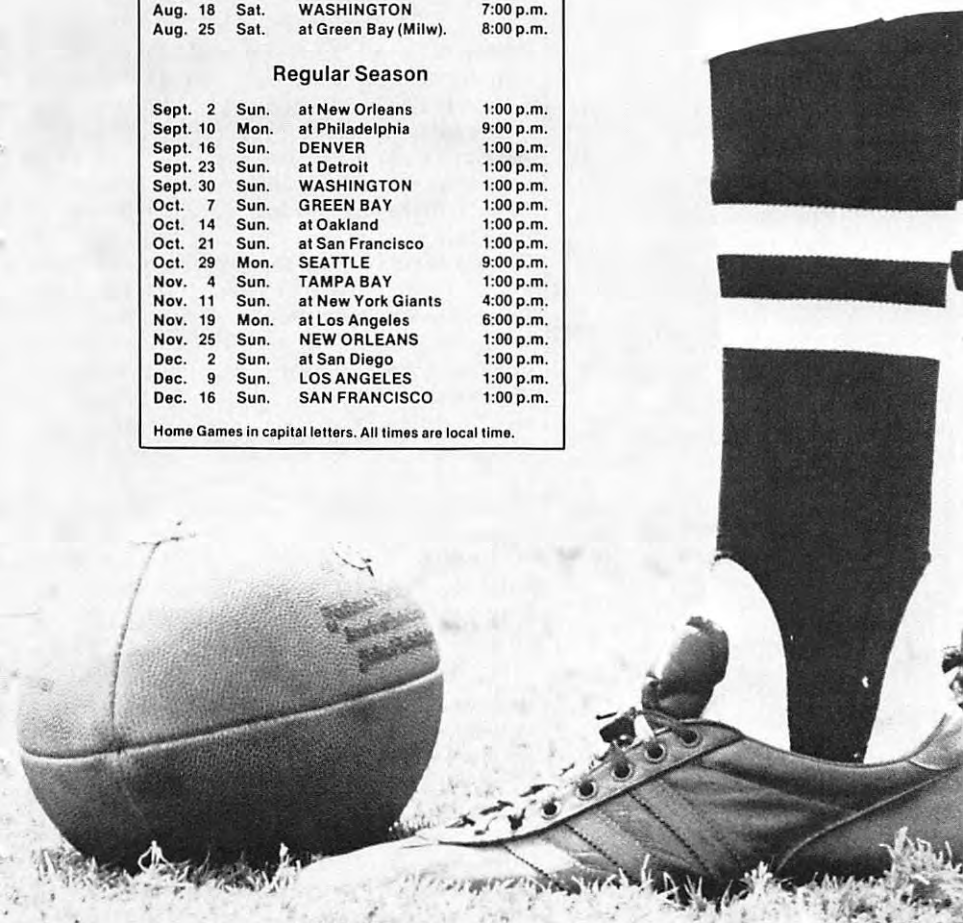
Preseason

Aug. 4	Sat.	NEW ENGLAND	7:00 p.m.
Aug. 9	Thur.	at St. Louis	7:30 p.m.
Aug. 18	Sat.	WASHINGTON	7:00 p.m.
Aug. 25	Sat.	at Green Bay (Milw).	8:00 p.m.

Regular Season

Sept. 2	Sun.	at New Orleans	1:00 p.m.
Sept. 10	Mon.	at Philadelphia	9:00 p.m.
Sept. 16	Sun.	DENVER	1:00 p.m.
Sept. 23	Sun.	at Detroit	1:00 p.m.
Sept. 30	Sun.	WASHINGTON	1:00 p.m.
Oct. 7	Sun.	GREEN BAY	1:00 p.m.
Oct. 14	Sun.	at Oakland	1:00 p.m.
Oct. 21	Sun.	at San Francisco	1:00 p.m.
Oct. 29	Mon.	SEATTLE	9:00 p.m.
Nov. 4	Sun.	TAMPA BAY	1:00 p.m.
Nov. 11	Sun.	at New York Giants	4:00 p.m.
Nov. 19	Mon.	at Los Angeles	6:00 p.m.
Nov. 25	Sun.	NEW ORLEANS	1:00 p.m.
Dec. 2	Sun.	at San Diego	1:00 p.m.
Dec. 9	Sun.	LOS ANGELES	1:00 p.m.
Dec. 16	Sun.	SAN FRANCISCO	1:00 p.m.

Home Games in capital letters. All times are local time.



TICKET INFORMATION

For details on Falcon game tickets, call (404) 325-2667. Tickets to all Atlanta games are $7 and $9. The Falcon ticket office is located at 1739 Life of Georgia Tower.

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DIRECTORY

Chairman of the Board . . Rankin M. Smith, Sr.
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General Manager ..... Eddie LeBaron
Financial Vice President & Treasurer ..... Frank E. Wall
Assistant General Manager and Director of Administration ... Curt Mosher
Director of Player Personnel..... Tom Braatz
Pro Scout..... Bill Jobko
College Scouts ..... Bob Riggle, Jon Jelacic, Bill Striegel, Bob Cygalsky
Director of Public Relations . . Charlie Dayton (Home 475-4889)
Administrative Assistant ..... Taylor Smith
Ticket Manager..... Bill Brokaw
Assistant Ticket Manager .... Ken Grantham
Trainer ..... Jerry Rhea
Assistant Trainer..... Jay Shoop
Equipment Manager..... Whitey Zimmerman
Assistant Equipment Manager..... Horace Daniel
Entertainment Director..... John Demos
Cheerleader Director..... Cynthia Hicks
Photography..... Bob Verlin, Bill Mount

COACHING STAFF

Head Coach..... Leeman Bennett
Defensive Line ..... Jim Champion
Defensive Co-ordinator ..... Jerry Glanville
Offensive Backs..... John North
Receivers..... Ted Plumb
Linebackers..... Doug Shively
Offensive Line ..... Bill Walsh
Quarterbacks..... Dick Wood
Film and Strength Coach ... Mike McDonnell

* * * *

Ticket Offices ..... 17th Floor, Life Of Georgia Tower (404) 325-2667
Administrative Offices ..... (404) 588-1111
Preseason Training Camp..... (404) 588-1111

RANKIN M. SMITH, Chairman of the Board



No one has played a more significant role in the upward swing of Atlanta Falcon fortunes than Rankin Smith. He has spared no expense in securing the best people and then providing them with facilities that are second to none in the National Football League.

He found the people two years ago when he hired Eddie LeBaron as general manager and Leeman Bennett as head coach.

Prior to the 1978 season, Smith gave his support to the construction of the Atlanta Falcon Training Complex in Suwanee, Ga. Construction on the year-round complex began in April, and the club moved into the facility following the preseason training camp.

"We owe it to our fans to play winning football, and hopefully, give them a championship," says Smith. "No fans in football deserve that more. That knowledge is now—and will continue to be—foremost in the minds of everyone connected with our organization."

Certainly, Smith is also deserving of a championship as well. While his role in the Falcon organization is not as active as in past years, Smith has stood behind his employees while earning a reputation throughout the organization for fairness.

Smith has also exhibited a strong penchant for perseverance. He refused to break during the not-so-good early years of the club. It is the same perseverance that has spelled success in all of his endeavors, beginning as a debit agent in Hot Springs, Ark., for the Life Insurance Company of Georgia. He eventually moved all the way to the presidency of the company, which his grandfather had co-founded.

His football interests reach back to his childhood, and he played the game at Bolles Academy in Jacksonville, Fla., before going to the University of Georgia. World War II interrupted any thoughts of playing for the Bulldogs, and he spent the war years as an Air Force combat pilot in the Western Pacific.

On June 30, 1965, Smith became owner of the Falcons when he was awarded the National Football League franchise for $8.5 million. The corporate name of the Falcons—The Five Smiths, Inc.—is in honor of his children: Rankin, Jr., 31, President of the Falcons; Mrs. Donald (Carroll Christine) Walraven, 30; Mrs. John O. (Dorothy Ann) Knox, 27; Taylor, 26, Administrative Assistant with the Falcons; and Nancy Karen, 21. There is also a new generation of which Smith is very proud, and that's his four grandchildren, John O. and Bryan Knox, ages 8 and 6, respectively, Caroline Smith, one year, and Ryan Smith, six months. Smith is married to the former Charlotte Topping.

RANKIN M. SMITH, JR., President



Rankin Smith, Jr. is entering his third year as President of the Atlanta Falcons, and it is not coincidence that the Falcons have enjoyed their greatest success during that period.

He has been in professional football almost his entire life, beginning as a teenager at the club's inception in 1966.

Since that time Smith worked in almost every capacity for the Falcons in preparation for his move to the team's top position.

When the vacancy for the general manager position was open, it was Smith, along with Director of Player Personnel Tom Braatz, who supplied a list of available candidates, headed by Eddie LeBaron.

Since Smith assumed the presidency of the club, the Falcons have moved into a year-round training facility in Suwanee, Ga., and made the NFL playoffs for the first time in the club history.

"I feel that I know about football and the National Football League after spending nearly fifteen years in one capacity or another," says the 31 year old Smith.

Not only has he experienced football from the front office side, Smith also had a taste of the game as a player during high school when he played on two state championship finalist teams while at Lovett High School. He has not forgotten the lessons he learned.

"We were small and disciplined and very well coached," recalls Smith, who has played a significant role in instilling that same discipline in the Atlanta front office.

"It's got to start at the top," he continues. "If the players have confidence in what is happening in the front office, it is reflected in their performance on the field."

In addition to his preparation from the football side, Smith majored in business at the University of Georgia, and gained added experience while employed by Life of Georgia Insurance. For the Falcons, his duties included directing the program advertising sales, assisting in the bookkeeping and finance operation, working in the ticket office, and handling team travel.

"The challenge before us was big two years ago and that has not changed," says Smith. "We have made progress, but our ultimate goal is a championship. Our fans have been tremendous over the years, and I hope we can reward them with a franchise that is a winner.

Smith is married to the former Rebecca Robinson and they reside in Atlanta. The Smiths are the proud parents of a daughter, Caroline, one year.

EDDIE LEBARON, General Manager



It has not taken Eddie LeBaron long to show why he was referred to as "The Little Magician" during his NFL quarterback career. In only two years, he has inspired the Atlanta Falcons to new levels of accomplishment in the National Football League.

As always, LeBaron has gone about his work in a most quiet, professional manner. In recognition of his achievements with the Falcons, the Georgia State Hall of Fame has selected LeBaron as its "Sportsman of the Year" in 1977 and 1978. Yet, success is something Eddie LeBaron has learned to live with quite comfortably in a lifetime of beating the odds.

At 5-5, he was regarded as too small to play major college football, but eventually ended his college career by quarterbacking the College All-Stars to an upset victory over the Philadelphia Eagles. At 5-9, all the scouts said he was too small to be effective as a professional quarterback, but when he retired in 1962, LeBaron had amassed 13,330 yards passing in an eleven-year career. Those figures would have been even more impressive if he had not missed several years in order to serve in the Korean Conflict. Even there he was exceptional, winning several medals for bravery.

LeBaron started his career as a 135-pound high school tailback. He attended the College of Pacific, playing his freshman year under the legendary Alonzo Stagg. Selected as a Little All-American three times and guiding Pacific to an unbeaten 1948 season, LeBaron capped his college career with the All-Stars' upset of the Eagles. Most of his professional career was spent with Washington, but he's also remembered as the man Tom Landry picked as his first quarterback for the expansion Dallas Cowboys. During his career, LeBaron never stopped working on his law degree and eventually opened up a practice in Reno, Nev., at the conclusion of his playing days.

Later he moved to Las Vegas, but during his 14 years as a lawyer, he always kept a hand in football, either serving as a part-time coach at the University of Nevada at Las Vegas or color analyst for television.

Now, he is playing for higher stakes, but that's not the reason for his return to football on a full-time basis. "The pay is good, but it wasn't that significant in my decision," says LeBaron. "Primarily, I wanted to get back to something I love—football."

LeBaron and his wife, Doralee have three sons, Edward Wayne III, 24, William, 23, and Richard, 12.

LEEMAN BENNETT, Head Coach



By his own admission, Falcon head coach is still learning every day he is in the National Football League. However, his accomplishments in Atlanta are impressive for a man who has been a head coach only two years.

In that time, he has molded the Falcons into a spirited, competitive aggregation. As a result, the Falcons have compiled a 17-15 overall record under his tenure while making the first playoff appearance in the club's history during 1978.

Two years ago, the Falcons established a new modern day record for fewest points allowed in a single season when they limited their opponents to just 129 points.

In 1977, he was recognized as National Football Conference Coach of the Year by United Press International as well as the Kansas City 101 Club. Last year, The Football News selected Bennett as its NFC Coach of the Year.

Yet, the philosophy of Leeman Bennett never waivers.

"The consistent winners in this league are the teams which have remained consistent in leadership through good times and bad," says Bennett. A coach has to be consistent in the way he treats his players and the way he reacts to things."

And while Bennett knows the Falcons were narrow winners in many of their 1978 victories, he sees another side as well.

"Those are the kind of games good teams win, and we worked hard to instill an attitude of winning," says Bennett. "As I have said in the past, people play the game, not X's and O's."

Bennett's theories and philosophy were developed over 14 years as an assistant coach, both on the college level and in the NFL. He played college football at Kentucky, but was never an outstanding athlete by his own admission. Starting in 1960 as a graduate assistant under Blanton Collier, Bennett has worked under some of the top coaches in America, during his apprenticeship. The only break in that training was a two-year Army stint in 1963-64.

His college stops include a year at Kentucky, a season at Pittsburgh (1966), two years at Cincinnati (1967-68), and a year at the U.S. Naval Academy.

Bennett's professional coaching career began at St. Louis in 1970 and he remained with the Cardinals throughout the following season. In 1972, he joined the Detroit Lions, but moved to Los Angeles when Chuck Knox, another Ram assistant, was named head coach. Bennett served as the Los Angeles receiver coach for four years.

Bennett is married to the former Patricia Parrott and they have two sons, Paul, 13, and Greg, 10.



Champion



Glanville

Assistant Coaches

Jim Champion, Defensive Line

It is no accident that the Falcons have established new records for quarterback sacks during each of Jim Champion's first two years as defensive line coach. Nor is it by chance that the rushing average of Falcon foes dropped from 4.5 an attempt two years ago to less than 3.6 per try the last two seasons. Champion has a wealth of coaching experience, beginning at Greenwood, Miss., High School in 1953. In 1957, he went to his alma mater, Mississippi State, and served with the Bulldogs until 1961. In 1962, Champion moved to Vancouver of the Canadian Football League, but switched to the NFL as a member of the St. Louis Cardinal staff in 1966. He returned to Vancouver a year later, as head coach, and remained there until 1970 before going back to the NFL to stay. During the last nine years, Champion has worked for the New Orleans Saints ('71-'72), St. Louis Cardinals ('74-'75), New York Jets (1976) as well as the Falcons ('77-'79). Champion played for the New York Yankees and Dallas Texans professionally. Jim and his wife, Sara Jane, have three sons, Greg, 26, Keith, 25, and Joseph, 15.

Jerry Glanville, Defensive Coordinator and Secondary

Glanville enters his first season as defensive coordinator after handling the Falcon secondary the past two years. Once again he will also be in charge of the secondary, which has earned the reputation as one of the hardest hitting units in the NFL under Glanville. Two years ago, the Falcons established a record for most passes intercepted in a season while limiting opponents to less than 100 yards per game passing. His first college coaching assignment came at his alma mater of Northern Michigan. Other college stops included a year's stay at Western Kentucky (1967) and six years at Georgia Tech (1968-73). While he was at Georgia Tech, the Rambling Wreck made three bowl appearances. He moved to the professional ranks as a member of the Detroit Lions' staff, and remained there until joining the Falcons in '77. Glanville is married, and he and his wife, Brenda, reside in North Atlanta.



North



Plumb



Shively

John North, Offensive Backfield

Veteran coach John North is beginning his 15th year as a National Football League coach. He came into the NFL as an assistant with the Detroit Lions in 1965, and remained there until joining New Orleans in 1973. North spent three years as head coach of the Saints. Prior to his professional experience, John coached at three colleges, Tennessee Tech (1953-56), Kentucky (1956-62), and Louisiana State (1962-64). While serving at Kentucky under Blanton Collier, two of North's players were Leeman Bennett and Doug Shively, linebacker coach of the Falcons. Following his graduation from Vanderbilt, North had a three-year professional career with Baltimore. He and his wife, Dell, have two children.

Ted Plumb, Receivers

Plumb came to the Falcons from the New York Giants. His coaching career started in 1963 at Raymonville High School and he worked his way up the coaching ladder step by step. His next stop was Lubbock High School and then came two years at Cerritos Jr. College. Plumb moved to the major college level when he went to Texas Christian in 1969 and played a role in developing Norm Buliach and Ross Montgomery during his three seasons with the Horned Frogs. Other college assignments were Tulsa (1971) and Kansas (1972-73) before reaching the professional level. He may have reached that level as a player 15 years earlier had it not been for an injury during a tryout with the Buffalo Bills. He had earned that chance with an outstanding career as a receiver at Baylor, playing in the Gator and Gotham Bowls. He and his wife, Marianna, have three children, Loyal Thomas 17, John Alan, 16 and Molly, 10.

Doug Shively, Linebackers

Shively has handled the linebackers in the Falcons defense the past two years and will once again have the same responsibility in 1979. A former college roommate of head coach Leeman Bennett, Shively is regarded as one of the top young assistant coaches in professional football. The son of former Kentucky Director of Athletics, Bernie Shively, Doug's first professional assignment was with the New Orleans Saints (1974-76). Prior to pro-



Walsh



Wood

fessional coaching, he spent 14 years as a college assistant, beginning at Virginia Tech in 1960. From there he returned to his alma mater, Kentucky, for three years, and then coached at Clemson (1970-72). After spending one season at North Carolina, Shively joined the Saints. When new Saints coach Hank Stram took over the club, Shively was the one coach he retained. He and his wife, Patsy, have three children, Chip, 17, David, 16, and Kelly, 13.

Bill Walsh, Offensive Line

Walsh is the overseer of the development of the young talent drafted along the offensive line. The Falcons feel there could not be a better man in charge of the responsibility. It was Walsh who constructed the offensive line of the 1970 Super Bowl Champion Kansas City Chiefs, and molded the careers of such stars as Ed Budde, Jim Tyrer and Jack Rudnay. Walsh served a total of 15 years for the Chiefs, and is beginning his fifth season in Atlanta. A native of Phillipsburg, N.J., Walsh attended Notre Dame and followed his college career as a member of the Pittsburgh Steelers for six seasons (1949-54), earning All-Pro honors on two occasions. Before going into professional coaching, he served as a college assistant at Notre Dame ('55-'58) and Kansas State (1959). He and his wife, Shirley, have six children: Mrs. Al (Sharon) Trivillini, 30; Patricia, 28; Cheryl 23; Mike, 21; Kelly, 18; and Christine, 13.

Dick Wood, Quarterbacks

The development of quarterback Steve Bartkowski can be closely traced to the arrival of Dick Wood last season. Wood has played a role in the careers of NFL quarterbacks such as Ken Stabler and Archie Manning, and his expertise was evident on Bartkowski. Wood is a native of Lanett, Ala., and played collegiately at Auburn University. Following his graduation in 1959, Wood played seven years of professional football. He was the understudy to Johnny Unitas for the Colts in 1960-61 and also played with San Diego, Denver, New York Jets, Oakland, and Miami. His coaching career has included stops at Georgia (1967-68) and Mississippi (1971-73) on the college level and Oakland (1969-70), Cleveland (1974), and New Orleans (1976-77) on the professional level. Dick and his wife, Peggy, have two children, Bart, 21, and Rhonda, 19.



McDonnell



Braatz

Mike McDonnell, Strength Coach

McDonnell is head coach Leeman Bennett's right hand man, and last winter assumed responsibility for the Falcon weight training program among his duties. Under McDonnell's guidance, nearly the entire Atlanta offensive line reached the 400 pound plateau in the bench press and the overall strength of the squad improved significantly. McDonnell also is in charge of the film exchange program with other NFL teams. Mike played linebacker for Drake University, graduating in 1974. The following season he worked as a graduate assistant at Ohio State University and recently received a masters degree in athletic administration from that school. In 1976 he served with the Los Angeles Rams in special assignments before coming to Atlanta in 1977.

Tom Braatz, Director of Player Personnel

Fifteen drafted players from the last two drafts were on the Atlanta roster at the end of last season, and that is further tribute to the watchful eye of Tom Braatz. Braatz has been with the Falcons since 1966, beginning as a personnel scout and assuming the director of player personnel duties two years later. His experience in the National Football League dates back to his playing days with Washington and Dallas. At both stops, he was a teammate of Falcon General Manager Eddie LeBaron. Upon retirement in 1961, Braatz worked as an arms demonstrator for the Ithica, N.Y. Gun Co. He and his wife, Jeri, have two sons, Tommy, 18, and Jon, 13.

Serving as scouts under Braatz are Bill Jobko, a former Falcon player, Jon Jelacic, also a former Falcon, Bob Riggle, who is remembered by Falcon fans for a brilliant rookie season before a knee injury ended his career, Bill Striegel, who joined the Falcons from United Scouting Combine last year, and Bob Cygalsky, who came to the Falcons in the spring from San Francisco.



Rhea



Zimmerman

Jerry Rhea, Trainer

If there is one man in a football organization who is expected to have all of the answers, it is usually the trainer. It's a position that requires great patience and his competency can determine the success or failure of a season. The Falcons are fortunate to have one of the best in Jerry Rhea. The Texas A&M graduate is entering his ninth year with the club as head trainer, after serving his apprenticeship with the Los Angeles Rams. In addition to his regular season duties of looking after all Falcon injuries, Rhea oversees the team's off-season rehabilitation program. He was born Sept. 12, 1935, in Ennis Texas. He and his wife, Beverly, have one son, John, 20. Rhea is assisted by former Furman University head trainer Jay Shoop, 31. Shoop is in his fourth year with the Falcons and he and his wife Anne, have a daughter, Farrah, two, and a son, James Lynn, six months.

Whitey Zimmerman, Equipment Manager

His title is equipment manager, but he could also be regarded as the club historian since he has served with the team since its inception in 1966. He is the first person to the Falcon training complex everyday during the season, and more often than not, he's the last person to leave. His duties are extensive. In addition to maintaining all equipment and uniforms, his opinions are heavily weighed when it comes time to order new uniforms and he has the last say on all equipment orders. No one is more experienced or qualified to make those decisions than Whitey Zimmerman. Prior to coming to the Falcons, he was an equipment man for the football Cardinals. Zimmerman was born July 25, 1929, in St. Louis, Mo. He and his wife, Shelia, have five children: Jerry, 26; Terri 21; Larry 18; Gregg 14; and Scott 11. Almost as long as Zimmerman in his tenure is assistant Horace Daniel. The native Atlantan was born May 7, 1938. He and his wife, Shirley, have two children, Kim 12 and Kennon 10.

How The 1978 Falcons Were Built

Year	Draft	Trades	Free Agents
1968 (2-12)	LB Greg Brezina (11)		
1969 (6-8)	C Jeff Van Note (11) TE Jim Mitchell (4)		
1970 (4-8-2)			DT Mike Lewis
1971 (7-6-1)			
1972 (7-7)	DB Ray Easterling (9)*		P John James
1973 (9-5)			DB Rolland Lawrence
1974 (3-11)	C Paul Ryczek (10)	RB Haskel Stanback (from Cincinnati)	DB Rick Byas
1975 (4-10)	QB Steve Bartkowski (1) RB Mike Esposito (7) T Brent Adams (8)* LB Fulton Kuykendall (6) DE Jeff Merrow (11)	WR Wallace Francis (from Buffalo)	WR Alfred Jenkins*
1976 (4-10)	RB Bubba Bean (1) T Dave Scott (3) DB Frank Reed (8) T Phil McKinnely (9)	DT Jim Bailey (from Cleveland)	QB Scott Hunter LB Dewey McClain DE Jeff Yeates %
1977 (7-7)	T Warren Bryant (1A)* DT Wilson Faumuina (1B) G R. C. Thielemann (2) DE Edgar Fields (3) WR Billy Ryckman (10)		QB June Jones DB Tom Moriarty LB Robert Pennywell LB Ron McCartney #
1978 (9-7)	T Mike Kenn (1) LB Steve Stewart (2) LB Brian Cabral (4)* WR Dennis Pearson (5) WR Alfred Jackson (7) TE James Wright (7B) DB Tom Pridemore (9) RB Ricky Patton (10A) RB Ray Strong (10B)	DB Ernie Jackson (from N.O.)	K Tim Mazzetti DB Bob Glazebrook RB George Franklin T Marv Montgomery TE Lewis Gilbert

%Waivers from Buffalo
#Waivers from Los Angeles
*Injured reserve at conclusion of 1978 season

Players





Brent Adams • 61

OFFENSIVE TACKLE • UT-CHATTANOOGA • 4th YEAR
HT: 6-5 • WT: 256 • BORN: 6/26/53

OBTAINED: Draft, 8th round, 1975

PRO: A preseason knee injury sidelined Adams for the entire 1978 season. Prior to his injury, Adams had started 28 consecutive games for the Falcons at left tackle (alternating on every play with Phil McKinnely in '77). "He's going to give you his best every play," says Bennett. Experience is a big plus. Only reserve center Paul Ryczek has more NFL experience along offensive line. Has earned his way in NFL with hard work and great desire. Games: 1975 (13), 1976 (14), 1977 (14), 1978 (0).

COLLEGE: Adams played collegiately at UT-Chattanooga, earning Most Valuable Player honors as a senior, and majoring in psychology.

PERSONAL: A native of Elberton, Ga., Adams is one of two NFL players from that town. The other is Clark Gaines of the New York Jets. Born: Elberton, Ga. Residence: Norcross, Ga. Married (Karen).



Jim Bailey • 72

DEFENSIVE TACKLE • KANSAS • 10th YEAR
HT: 6-5 • WT: 260 • BORN 6/9/48

OBTAINED: Trade, Cleveland, 1976

PRO: Bailey has been one of the most unsung Falcons during the past two years. "His first responsibility is stopping the run, and he has done everything we have asked," says Bennett. Nevertheless, Bailey reaches the quarterback on occasions (2 sacks in '77, one in '78). "He's smart, tougn, and has experience," concludes Bennett. It is ironic, Bailey is enjoying his greatest success late in his career. After coming into the NFL as a high draft choice in 1970, Jim moved from Baltimore to the New York Jets and then the Cleveland Browns before coming to Atlanta in 1976. Has started 30 consecutive games since missing the second half of the '76 season with a broken leg. Played with Baltimore's Super Bowl Champions in 1971. Games: 1970 (10), 1971 (13), 1972 (14), 1973 (14), 1974 (14), 1975 (14), 1976 (7), 1977 (14), 1978 (16).

COLLEGE: Jim was an All-Big Eight performer at the University of Kansas and was selected in the second round of the 1970 draft by Baltimore.

PERSONAL: Off the field, Bailey is one of the most successful Falcons. He maintains a sizeable personal farm and heads his own construction company. Born: Kansas City, Mo. Residence: Lawrence, Kansas. Married (Cindy), two children.

Steve Bartkowski • 10



QUARTERBACK • CALIFORNIA • 5th YEAR
HT: 6-4 • WT: 210 • BORN: 11/12/52

OBTAINED: Draft, 1st round, 1975

PRO: Injury-free season of '78 enabled Bartkowski to reach vast potential with extremely productive year. Benched for first two games before playing against Cleveland in third game. First start in fourth game vs. Tampa Bay. Finished season with Falcon season records for most passes attempted (369), most yards (2,489), and most completions (187). Compiled a 9-5 record as Falcon starting QB. Had seven 200-yard plus games (N.Y. Giants, San Francisco, New Orleans (twice), Chicago, St. Louis, and Philadelphia). Most brilliant performance was 15 of 20 day, 256 yards and a touchdown at San Francisco. Explosiveness reflected in 11 of 19 performance and 171 yard fourth quarter at New Orleans to lead "miracle" finish. "Bart matured greatly last season," says Bennett. "He has learned that a quarterback can decide a game quicker than any player on the field, and he is making the big play without making the big mistake. That comes only with experience, and now Bart has some." Entering last season, Bart had played only 21 of a possible 42 games during his first three years (missed three games with elbow injury as rookie, last nine games with knee in '76, first seven games with knee in '77). Maturity reflected in ability to take club length of field in closing seconds. Four times had game-winning or tying pass in final possession (at San Francisco, 59-yard TD pass to Ryckman; at New Orleans, 57 TD pass to Alfred Jackson; NO at home, one yard pass to Jim Mitchell; and vs. Philadelphia, 37 yard pass to Wallace Francis). vs. Saints at home, drove club 72 yards for game—winning score in 53 seconds with no timeouts. Passed for 1662 yards as rookie, earning Bert Bell Memorial Trophy as offensive rookie of the year as well as the Sporting News Rookie of the Year Award. Games: 1975 (11), 1976 (5), 1977 (8), 1978 (14).

COLLEGE: During final year at Cal, Bart compiled 182 of 325 passes for 2,580 yards and 12 touchdowns. Atlanta obtained the right to draft him first in 1975 by trading tackle George Kunz to Baltimore.

PERSONAL: A solid religious conviction provides basis for Bart's off-the-field activities. One of the quietest players on squad, Bart devotes efforts to helping children in the Atlanta area. Born: Des Moines, Iowa. Residence: Atlanta, Ga. Single.

		PASSING							RUSHING				
Year	Club	Att.	Comp.	Yds.	Pct.	Int.	Avg. gain	TD	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	Long	TD
1975	Atlanta	255	115	1662	45.1	15	6.5	13	14	15	1.1	5	2
1976	Atlanta	120	57	677	47.5	9	5.5	2	8	-10	-1.3	2	1
1977	Atlanta	136	64	796	47.1	13	5.8	5	18	13	0.7	8	0
1978	Atlanta	369	187	2489	50.7	18	6.7	10	33	57	1.7	8	2
TOTALS		880	423	5,624	48.0	55	6.4	30	73	75	1.0	8	5

BARTKOWSKI PLAYOFF RECORD

		PASSING							RUSHING				
Year	Club	Att.	Comp.	Yds.	Pct.	Int.	AG	TD	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	Long	TD
1978	Atlanta	55	26	338	47.3	5	6.1	3	2	3	1.5	3	0

BART'S BEST DAYS

		Att.	Comp.	Yds.	TDs	Int.
1.	Dec. 14, 1975 vs. SF	37	19	305	2	0
2.	Dec. 7, 1975 vs. Wash	26	14	281	3	3
3.	Nov. 26, 1978 vs. N.O.	43	23	266	1	2
4.	Dec. 17, 1978 at St. L.	32	16	257	1	2
5.	Oct. 22, 1978 at S.F.	20	15	256	1	0
6.	Dec. 24, 1978 vs. Phila.	32	18	243	2	2
7.	Dec. 11, 1977 at L.A.	28	15	230	1	1
8.	Oct. 1, 1978 vs. N.Y.G.	26	14	226	1	0
9.	Dec. 21, 1975 vs. GB	34	13	219	1	2
10.	Nov. 12, 1978 at N.O.	33	16	218	1	1
11.	Nov. 19, 1978 at Chicago	32	16	215	1	1
12.	Oct. 3, 1976 vs. Phil	32	18	212	1	2



Bubba Bean • 44

RUNNING BACK • TEXAS A&M • 3rd YEAR
HT: 5-11 • WT: 195 • BORN: 1/26/54

OBTAINED: Draft, 1st round, 1976

PRO: With the confidence of a healthy season under his belt, Bean could have his finest year in 1979. Not that last year was bad. Bean's 707 yards rushing led the club, and he averaged 71 yards per game during the last four contests. "It wasn't until his final few games that Bubba really regained his confidence," says Bennett. Bean's best day was a 93-yard performance in Atlanta against New Orleans, but it did not surpass his 98-yard day as a rookie (1976) against Detroit. During that rookie year, Bean gained 303 yards in his first five games, before being relegated to the bench after a coaching change. He missed the entire 1977 season with a knee injury before returning last year. Made sensational debut with club, taking a 50-yard touchdown pass in first professional game. Bean's 1,135 yards are good for seventh place on Falcon all-time rushing list. Games: 1976 (14), 1977 (0, Injured Reserve), 1978 (15).

COLLEGE: Bean earned his number one draft status with 2,846 yards rushing as a four-year starter at Texas A&M.

PERSONAL: One of the most private players on the squad, Bubba returns to his native Kirbyville in the offseason. Born: Kirbyville, Tex. Residence: Kirbyville, Tex. Married (Kathy), one child.

	RUSHING					PASS RECEIVING				
Year Club	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	Long	TD	No.	Yds.	Avg.	Long	TD
1976 Atlanta	124	428	3.5	30	2	16	148	9.3	50	1
1977 Atlanta		None						None		
1978 Atlanta	193	707	3.7	25	3	31	209	6.7	38	1
TOTALS	317	1135	3.6	30	5	47	357	7.6	50	2

	PASSING						
Year Club	Att.	Comp.	Pct.	Yds.	TD	Long	Int.	Avg.Gain
1976 Atlanta	1	1	100.0	49	1	49	0	49.0
1977 Atlanta				None				
1978 Atlanta	1	0	0.0	0	0	0	1	0.0
TOTALS	2	1	50.0	49	1	49	1	24.5

BEAN PLAYOFF RECORD

		RUSHING					PASS RECEIVING				
Year	Club	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	Long	TD	No.	Yds.	Avg.	Long	TD
1978	Atlanta	26	86	3.3	14	1	4	44	11.0	19	0

Greg Brezina • 50



LINEBACKER • HOUSTON • 12th YEAR
HT: 6-1 • WT: 215 • BORN: 1/7/46

OBTAINED: Draft, 11th round, 1968

PRO: The only member of the Falcons to have played under every coach in the franchise's history, Brezina enjoyed his finest season in 1978. When most players are enjoying retirement, Brezina participated in over 1,000 plays, led the team in sacks with 10, and won the club's Most Valuable Player Award. "He was an inspiration in every sense of the word," says Bennett. And the fire is not waning. "The sensation, the enjoyment, the satisfaction of playing football are hard to describe," says Greg. Most of his career was spent in the shadow of defensive teammates Tommy Nobis and Claude Humphrey, but Brezina has had the spotlight the past two years. "He knows half the plays before they're even run," says linebacking mate Fulton Kuykendall. During the past two seasons, Brezina has recorded 15½ sacks in the Falcon gambling defensive style of play. His best day came in a losing cause when he recorded three sacks against Cleveland plus causing a fumble. Despite his accomplishments, Brezina was overlooked by most of the post-season all-star squads. "A player becomes labeled early in his career, but I promise no linebacker in the league could have been more effective than Greg last season," says Bennett. Games: 1968 (11), 1969 (14), 1970 (0, Injured Reserve), 1971 (14), 1972 (14), 1973 (14), 1974 (14), 1975 (14), 1976 (11), 1977 (14), 1978 (16).

COLLEGE: No one would have ever predicted the course Brezina's career would take when he entered the University of Houston as a quarterback.

PERSONAL: Nearly every minute of Brezina's offseason time goes into his religious work. He completed work during the winter on a Christian retreat, plus keeping an ever-busy schedule as a speaker. "I used to live on the glory of fans, on ego, and pride," says Greg. "Now I play for the glory of Christ." His 1971 conversion was spurred by a pregame talk given by former Olympic weightlifter Russ Knipp. Born: Sinton, Tex. Residence: College Park, Ga. Married (Connie), three children.

		INTERCEPTIONS					FUMBLE REC.			
Year	Club	No.	Yds.	Avg.	Long	TD	No.	Yds.	Long	TD
1968	Atlanta	None					None			
1969	Atlanta	1	2	2.0	2	0				
1970	Atlanta	Injured, did not play					5	0	0	0
1971	Atlanta	3	22	7.3	11	0	Injured, did not play			
1972	Atlanta	None					3	8	8	0
1973	Atlanta	3	51	17.0	36	0	None			
1974	Atlanta	1	9	9.0	9	0	None			
1975	Atlanta	4	11	2.8	8		1	0	0	0
1976	Atlanta	None					None			
1977	Atlanta	None					None			
TOTALS		12	95	7.9	36	0	9	8	8	0



Warren Bryant • 66

OFFENSIVE TACKLE • KENTUCKY • 3rd YEAR
HT: 6-6 • WT: 270 • BORN 11/11/55

OBTAINED: Draft, 1A Round, 1977

PRO: A knee injury in the season's thirteenth week cut Bryant's season short, but his potential remains among the best in the NFL. "He's still learning, and has a chance to be among the best in the league," says Bennett. Bryant was voted NFL All-Rookie honors after the 1977 season when he not only started every game, but did not miss a single play. Consistency continues to be the only thing standing between Bryant and stardom. "He's got to learn that every play is important," says Bennett. "When he learns that, he will be one of the very best." The Falcons were 8-5 at the time of Bryant's injury, and he played a large role in the development of Steve Bartkowski. Games: 1977 (14), 1978 (13).

COLLEGE: Bryant was a three-time all-Southeastern Conference selection as well as a consensus All-American.

PERSONAL: Warren's entire offseason was devoted to rehabilitation of his injured knee. Born: Miami, Fla. Residence: Roswell, Ga. Single.



Rick Byas • 38

CORNERBACK • WAYNE STATE • 6th YEAR
HT: 5-10 • WT: 185 • BORN: 10/19/50

OBTAINED: Free Agent, 1974

PRO: After a three-year apprenticeship as a reserve and special teams player, Byas has been a two-year starter for the Falcons. Byas has intercepted five passes during his stay at the Falcon corner, the most spectacular was a 72-yard touchdown theft against New Orleans in 1977 at the Superdome. However, his value does not end with the secondary. He had two blocked punts, one of which he recovered for a touchdown at San Francisco and the second set up a touchdown in the Falcons' crucial 20-17 victory over Washington. Special teams earned his way early in his career. "Special teams helped me." Games: 1974 (14), 1975 (14), 1976 (14), 1977 (14), 1978 (16).

COLLEGE: His coach at Wayne State sent the Falcons some footage of Rick, and he was signed as a free agent only a few days before the opening of training camp.

PERSONAL: The offseason finds Rick most successful as he runs his own construction company, and stays in shape running cross country. Born: Detroit, Mich. Residence: Detroit, Mich. Married (Schera), two children.

	KICKOFF RETURNS				INTERCEPTIONS				
Year Club	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
1974 Atlanta	5	136	27.2	0			None		
1975 Atlanta	5	94	18.8	0			None		
1976 Atlanta	12	270	22.5	0			None		
1977 Atlanta	None				3	132	44.0	72	1
1978 Atlanta	None				2	37	18.5	32	0
TOTALS	22	500	22.7	0	5	169	33.8	72	1

Brian Cabral • 55



LINEBACKER • COLORADO • 1st YEAR
HT: 6-0 • WT: 210 • BORN: 6/23/56

OBTAINED: Draft, 4th round, 1978

PRO: A preseason knee injury took Cabral out of the picture his rookie season, but he enters '79 fully recovered. Until his injury, Cabral had been most impressive, and Bennett liked what he saw of him in May's mini-camp. "He could be a perfect linebacker in our scheme," says Bennett. "He's mobile, tough, and is a hitter." Prior to his injury in the second preseason game, Cabral had already recorded two sacks. Games: 1978 (0, injured reserve).

COLLEGE: Cabral enjoyed an outstanding career at Colorado, where he earned all-Big Eight honors.

PERSONAL: Cabral devoted his offseason to work with the Georgia Special Olympics as well as rehabilitation of his injured knee. Born: Honolulu, Hawaii. Residence: Doraville, Ga. Married (Becky), one child.

Ray Easterling • 32



SAFETY • RICHMOND • 6th YEAR
HT: 6-0 • WT: 190 • BORN: 9/3/49

OBTAINED: Draft, 9th round, 1972

PRO: The value of a player is sometimes not realized until he is gone. Such is the case of Ray Easterling. With Easterling as the defensive "quarterback" for the Falcons, the club established a team record 26 interceptions in 1977. Easterling sustained a dislocated elbow in the second game of the season at Los Angeles. "We realized just how important he is when we didn't have him," says Bennett. In addition to his interceptions, Easterling blitzes, and is one of the hardest hitters in football. Consider a 1977 performance against Chicago when he made two interceptions, caused a fumble, and made five tackles when he was the final man between the ball carrier and the goal. Games: 1972 (8), 1973 (1), 1974 (14), 1975 (14), 1976 (14), 1977 (14), 1978 (2).

COLLEGE: Ray earned All-American honors at the University of Richmond after going to the school as a walk-on.

PERSONAL: Off season rehabilitation required much of Easterling's offseason time, but he also found time to maintain his heavy speaking schedule at Christian-oriented banquets and events. Born: Richmond, Va. Residence: Richmond, Va. Married (Mary Ann).

		INTERCEPTIONS				
Year	Club	No.	Yards	Avg.	Long	TD
1972-74						
1975	Atlanta	3	32	10.7	15	0
1976	Atlanta	3	33	11.0	19	0
1977	Atlanta	4	46	11.5	36	0
1978	Atlanta	1	1	1.0	1	0
TOTALS		11	112	10.2	36	0



Mike Esposito • 26

RUNNING BACK • BOSTON COLLEGE • 5th YEAR
HT: 6-0 • WT: 186 • BORN: 2/24/53

OBTAINED: Draft, 7th round, 1975

PRO: Although used sparingly, Esposito always remained ready throughout 1978. "He gets the utmost out of his ability," says Bennett. That determination is now carrying Espo into his fifth NFL season, and his savvy has provided some important moments for the Falcons. In 1976, he starred by scoring the winning touchdown and rushing 82 yards as the Falcons stunned heavily-favored Dallas 17-10. In 1977, his special teams interception turned around the momentum in the Falcons' 35-7 season ending triumph over New Orleans. Twice he has been waived, only to be called back, and contribute to the club. Games: 1975 (0, Injured Reserve), 1976 (10), 1977 (14), 1978 (16).

COLLEGE: Espo enjoyed an excellent career at Boston College where he rushed for 2,765 yards in just over three seasons.

PERSONAL: Mike opened a health club during the offseason and devotes his time to managing his new business venture. Born: Wilmington, Mass. Residence: Atkinson, N.H. Married (Lee), two children.

		RUSHING					RECEIVING				
Year	Club	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	Long	TD	No.	Yds.	Avg.	Long	TD
1975	Atlanta	None									
1976	Atlanta	60	317	5.3	36	2	17	88	5.2	13	0
1977	Atlanta	34	101	3.0	23	0	1	-1	-1.0	-1	0
1978	Atlanta	7	21	3.0	7	0	3	10	3.3	4	0
TOTALS		101	439	4.3	36	2	21	97	4.6	13	0

ESPOSITO PLAYOFF RECORD

		RUSHING					PASS RECEIVING				
Year	Club	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	Long	TD	No.	Yds.	Avg.	Long	TD
1978	Atlanta	2	6	3.0	6	0	1	7	7.0	7	0



Wilson Faumuina • 74

DEFENSIVE TACKLE • SAN JOSE STATE • 3rd YEAR
HT: 6-5 • WT: 270 • BORN: 8/11/54

OBTAINED: Draft, Round 1B, 1977

PRO: For two seasons, Faumuina has played the "fifth man" role along the Falcon defensive line. His role has been to come in as the nose guard on passing situations and go for the quarterback. "Throwing the quarterback is like a running back going 100 yards for a touchdown. It's sweet," says Faumuina. "It's my job to freak out the centers." His job could be expanded this season. Possibly the most talented athlete on the squad, Faumuina could move into a starting role and start reaching his vast potential. So far, he has logged 3½ sacks in '77 and 3 in '78. "He's got enough talent to pass those totals by midseason," says Bennett. "He's got tremendous physical ability. It's just going to be a question of how badly he wants it." Games: 1977 (14), 1978 (16).

COLLEGE: He was named All-West Coast as a junior and senior and was a third team All-American as a senior.

PERSONAL: The son of a Samoan Chieftain, Faumuina came to the United States at age six with his mother, who died soon afterwards. "The one thing I have left from by Samoan heritage is pride," says Wilson. Born: Samoan Islands. Residence: Los Angeles, Calif. Single.

		INTERCEPTIONS				
Year	Club	No.	Yds.	Avg.	Lg.	TD
1977	Atlanta			None		
1978	Atlanta	1	7	7.0	7	0
TOTALS		1	7	7.0	7	0

Wallace Francis • 89



WIDE RECEIVER • ARKANSAS AM&N • 7th YEAR
HT: 5-11 • WT: 190 • BORN: 11/7/51

OBTAINED: Trade, Buffalo, 1975.

PRO: For four years, all Wallace Francis wanted was a chance. He has got it the past two years and responded with 71 catches, including 45 last season, tying the record for a Falcon wide receiver. And that doesn't count another 12 in the playoffs. No Falcon wide receiver has enjoyed such a season. When the Falcons were 1-3, it was a seven-catch, 153-yard performance by Francis that keyed a 23-20 victory over the New York Giants. When the Falcons beat Washington 20-17, Francis showed six catches for 72 yards. In the playoff game against Philadelphia, he had six catches for 135 yards, including a 37-yard game winner with 1:42 remaining. However, success has not been sudden. He began his career with Buffalo when the Bills had such receivers as Ahmad Rashad and J. D. Hill. Francis was used only on special teams, but his 29.9 yard average as a rookie led the AFC in kickoff returns in 1973 and included a 101 yarder and two for touchdowns. Prior to 1975 he was traded to the Falcons, but played a backup role, catching only 13 passes, four of which were touchdowns. 1976 was spent as a reserve behind John Gilliam, but with first-year coach Leeman Bennett in '77, Francis got his chance. In first start, he caught five passes for 69 yards as the Falcons upset Los Angeles 17-6. Only in his final game, when a first quarter spleen injury took him out, did Francis fail to catch at least one pass. He enters 1979 in sixth place on the all-time Falcon receiving chart, 18 catches behind Paul Flatley. Games: 1973 (12), 1974 (14), 1975 (14), 1976 (14), 1977 (14), 1978 (16).

COLLEGE: While obtaining his bachelor of science degree in recreation, Wallace was a standout in both football and track at Arkansas AM&N.

PERSONAL: Outgoing and unselfish with his time, Wallace devoted his off-season to the youth in the Atlanta area. Born: Franklin, La. Residence: Marietta, Ga. Married (Ruby), one child.

	KICKOFF RETURNS					RECEIVING				
Year	Club	No.	Yds.	Avg.	Long	TD	No.	Yds.	Avg.	Long	TD
1973	Buffalo	23	687	29.9	101	2			None		
1974	Buffalo	37	947	25.6	78	0			None		
1975	Atlanta	14	265	18.9	32	0	13	270	20.8	67	4
1976	Atlanta	9	156	17.3	30	0	2	24	12.0	12	0
1977	Atlanta	1	22	22.0	22	0	26	390	15.0	32	1
1978	Atlanta			None			45	695	15.4	54	3
TOTALS		84	2077	24.7	101	2	86	1379	16.0	67	8

FRANCIS PLAYOFF RECORD

	RECEIVING				
Year	Club	No.	Yds.	Avg.	Long	TD
1978	Atlanta	12	201	16.8	45	2



Edgar Fields • 77

DEFENSIVE TACKLE/END • TEXAS A&M • 3rd YEAR
HT: 6-2 • WT: 255 • BORN: 3/10/54

OBTAINED: Draft, 3rd round, 1977

PRO: Edgar was one of the most pleasant surprises of the 1978 season when he stepped into the starting lineup late in the year to replace the injured Jeff Merrow. This year, he will be battling for the starting job from the beginning. "He's proven that he can play in the league, and we expect a great year from him," says Bennett. Fields' touchdown-saving tackle on a fake punt against Washington may have been the difference in the Falcons making the playoffs. However, he had already demonstrated a penchant for the big play as a rookie when he blocked a punt to set up Atlanta's only score in a 7-0 victory at San Francisco. He also blocked a punt in a near upset of New England in '77. Despite his limited play, Fields has shown an ability to reach the quarterback, recording three sacks in two years. Games: 1977 (14), 1978 (16).

COLLEGE: Fields split his college years between Navarro Junior College and Texas A&M, where he made several all-American teams.

PERSONAL: Edgar devoted his offseason to preparation for 1978, working daily in the Falcon training complex. Born: Austin, Tex. Residence: Roswell, Ga. Single.



George Franklin • 40

RUNNING BACK • TEXAS A&I • 2nd YEAR
HT: 6-3 • WT: 226 • BORN: 7/5/54

OBTAINED: Waivers, 1978 (St. Louis)

PRO: Summer camp will more than likely determine role for the vastly talented Franklin. "He has the potential to be one of the best running backs in the National Football League," says Bennett. "We will have to find out in camp if we can help him reach that potential." After being drafted in second round by St. Louis in 1977, he missed entire season due to preseason knee injury. Was tried as a tight end

in Cardinal preseason camp last year before being released. Claimed by Falcons and saw limited action until play off contest against Dallas when he carried 10 times for 30 yards. Games: 1977 (0, injured reserve), 1978 (14).

COLLEGE: During college, George played for three consecutive NAIA National Champions at Texas A&I and averaged 6.6 yards per carry as a senior.

PERSONAL: Franklin moved to the Atlanta area during the offseason, spending his time in preparation for '79 campaign. Born: Seguin, Tex. Residence: Atlanta, Ga. Married (Amaryllis).

Lewis Gilbert • 88



TIGHT END • FLORIDA • 2nd YEAR
HT: 6-4 • WT: 225 • BORN: 5/24/56

OBTAINED: Free Agent,1978

PRO: Gilbert spent the preseason with the Detroit Lions before being claimed as a free agent by the Falcons during the middle of last season. Saw limited action on short yardage situations and special teams. He will enter training camp as one of only three veteran tight ends on club. "The preseason will tell the story for Lewis," says Bennett. "He worked hard during the offseason, but we cannot really evaluate him until going through preseason drills." Games: 1978 (4).

COLLEGE: Lewis went to college as a fullback before moving to tight end.

PERSONAL: Lewis was serving as a graduate assistant when he was called by the Falcons. He returned to Gainesville in the offseason to coach and resume work on his graduate degree. Born: Naples, Fla. Residence: Gainesville, Fla. Married (Claudia).

Bob Glazebrook • 36



DEFENSIVE BACK • FRESNO ST. • 2nd YEAR
HT: 6-1 • WT: 200 • BORN: 3/7/56

OBTAINED: Free Agent, 1978

PRO: Another question mark until training camp. Spent the '78 preseason with Oakland before being released late in camp. Signed by Falcons during season and used primarily on special teams. "He showed us he had good hands and we know he's got excellent strength," says Bennett. Games: 1978 (8).

COLLEGE: Bob remained in his native city to attend Fresno State University.

PERSONAL: Conditioning received all of Glazebrook's offseason attention. One of strongest players on squad, bench pressing nearly 400 pounds. Born: Fresno, Calif. Residence: Buford, Ga. Married (Sharon).



Scott Hunter • 16

QUARTERBACK • ALABAMA • 8th YEAR
HT: 6-2 • WT: 210 • BORN: 11/19/47

OBTAINED: Free Agent, 1976

PRO: For two years in a row, Scott Hunter answered the call. Last year, there was no call, but Hunter was prepared as always. "You have to get yourself prepared," says Hunter. "If you can't step right in and win, you have no business being here." With Steve Bartkowski injured the first half of 1977, Hunter started seven games and won four times. The previous season he led the Falcons to a stirring 17-10 upset over Dallas. However, his most brilliant performance was when he came off the bench to complete 10 of 11 passes for 138 yards and rally the Falcons to a 23-20 victory over New Orleans. When pitted against the heavily-favored Rams and Joe Namath in the 1977 season opener, it was Hunter who emerged victorious as he completed 10 of 17 attempts. All of this coming after he spent the 1975 season out of football, running for county commissioner and managing his appliance store. Ironically, his most impressive day came in a losing cause as Hunter completed 16 of 33 passes for 269 yards in a 10-6 loss at Washington. During his first quarterback career, Hunter was also successful as he led Green Bay to its only division championship since the Lombardi era in 1972 after going to the Packers in '71 as a sixth round draft choice. Games: 1971 (13), 1972 (14), 1973 (8), 1974 (1), 1975 (DNP), 1976 (8), 1977 (7), 1978 (0).

COLLEGE: Hunter was brilliant during his career at Alabama, completing 56.8 per cent of his passing attempts (382 of 672), and he led the Crimson Tide to three consecutive bowl appearances. He still holds more passing records than any other Alabama quarterback.

PERSONAL: Interest in a political career as well as co-owning an appliance store keep Hunter busy in the offseason, but this year he also found time to run in marathons. Born: Mobile, Ala. Residence: Daphne, Ala. Married (Debbie), two children.

PASSING

Year	Club	Att.	Comp.	Pct.	Yards	TD	Long	Int.	Pct. Int.
1971	Green Bay	163	75	46.0	1210	7	177	17	7.42
1972	Green Bay	199	86	43.2	1252	6	49	9	6.29
1973	Green Bay	84	35	41.7	442	2	30	4	5.26
1974	Buffalo				None				
1975					DNP				
1976	Atlanta	110	51	46.4	633	5	34	5	4.5
1977	Atlanta	151	70	46.4	898	2	49	3	1.99
1978	Atlanta				None				
TOTALS		707	317	44.8	4435	22	177	38	5.4

RUSHING

Year	Club	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	Long	TD
1971	Green Bay	21	50	2.4	16	4
1972	Green Bay	22	37	1.7	12	5
1973	Green Bay	8	13	1.6	1	1
1974	Buffalo			None		
1975				DNP		
1976	Atlanta	14	41	2.9	16	1
1977	Atlanta	28	70	2.5	18	1
1978	Atlanta			None		
TOTALS		93	211	2.3	18	12

Alfred Jackson • 85



WIDE RECEIVER • TEXAS • 2nd YEAR
HT: 5-11 • WT: 184 • BORN: 8/3/55

OBTAINED: Draft, 7A round, 1978

PRO: Auspicious rookie debut with average of better than 20 yards per catch for 26 receptions. Biggest moment was "miracle reception" of Big Ben Right vs. Saints at Superdome, good for 57 yards and game-winning score. Finest overall performance came at San Francisco, four catches good for 113 yards. Also had 102 yard performance on five catches against St. Louis, thus becoming first Falcon rookie to ever have two 100 yard games receiving. Twenty-two of 26 receptions came in final nine games of regular season. Games: 1978 (15).

COLLEGE: Finished as the leading pass receiver in Texas history with 70 receptions for 1,411 yards despite the fact that he entered college as a defensive back.

PERSONAL: Alfred returned to Texas to complete work on his degree. Born: Dallas, Tex. Residence: Austin, Tex. Single.

	RECEIVING					KICKOFF RETURNS				
Year Club	No.	Yds.	Avg.	Lg.	TD	No.	Yds.	Avg.	Lg.	TD
1978 Atlanta	26	526	20.2	71	2	11	225	20.5	30	0
TOTALS	26	526	20.2	71	2	11	225	20.5	30	0

	PUNT RETURNS					
Year Club	No.	FC	Yds.	Avg.	Lg.	TD
1978 Atlanta	11	6	89	8.1	32	0
TOTALS	11	6	89	8.1	32	0

	JACKSON PLAYOFF RECORD				
Year Club	No.	Yds.	Avg.	Long	TD
1978 Atlanta	1	4	4.0	4	0

Ernie Jackson • 30



DEFENSIVE BACK • DUKE • 8th YEAR
HT: 5-10 • WT: 176 • BORN: 4/11/50

OBTAINED: Trade, New Orleans, 1978

PRO: Secured by Falcons prior to last season to provide depth at cornerback. Paid big dividends in Wildcard Playoff against Philadelphia with great defensive play in end zone to save touchdown in final minute. Played primarily on special team units. "Ernie did what we wanted," says Bennett. Games: 1978 (16).

COLLEGE: He is the only player in Atlantic Coast Conference history to be honored as both offensive and defensive player of the week during the same season.

PERSONAL: When not playing football, Jackson sharpens his athletic skills with a top notch tennis game. Born: Hopkins, S.C. Residence: Fayetteville, Ga. Married: (Ora).

	INTERCEPTIONS			
Year Club	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TD
1972-77 New Orleans	15	187	12.5	
1978 Atlanta		None		
TOTALS	15	187	12.5	0



John James • 6

PUNTER • **FLORIDA** • **8th YEAR**
HT: 6-2 • **WT: 205** • **BORN: 1/21/49**

OBTAINED: Free Agent, 1972

PRO: On the surface, it was a bad year—but only by John James standards. While his gross punting average dropped under 40 yards per kick for the first time, consider several other facts. His net average of 34.0 remained among the highest in the NFL. He trapped the opposition inside its own 20-yard line 24 times, second in the NFC, and less than half of his punts (49.5%) were returned, and those only for 5.4 yard average (and a long of 21 yards). Indeed, an off-year for John James is excellent for many kickers. However, James is a perfectionist. His idea of a good game came in the season opener against Houston when he pinned the Oilers inside their 10-yard line four times while averaging 42.7 yards per kick. Or against Chicago in 1977 when his punting was so impressive that the Bears eventually declined a penalty against the Falcons after a James punt went out of bounds at the 12-yard line. In each of the last three seasons, James has punted over 100 times, and he has only had one of those kicks blocked. His 109 punts last season were the most anybody has ever kicked in a single season in the NFL. For three consecutive years (1975-1977) he was named the Pro Bowl punter for the NFC, and it wasn't just because he could kick the ball far. In the last two years, he has had 45 kicks inside the 20-yard line. The primary reason is his "Poocher" punt. "Good things can happen with the Pooch if you do it right," explains James. "Kick it to the corner and the guy can mishandle it. Or he can get hit right there. Or we can down it. That's a 75 per cent chance. About the worst thing is it can go into the end zone." Games: 1972 (14), 1973 (14), 1974 (14), 1975 (14), 1976 (14), 1977 (14), 1978 (16).

COLLEGE: In storybook fashion James walked out of the Florida student body and made the team as a junior after never playing high school football. However, there was precedent. His father is a former Gator grid hero.

PERSONAL: The offseason is no time for rest for James. He works with real estate in the Gainesville area, has his own pecan farm, and an excellent golf game. Born: Panama City, Fla. Residence: Gainesville, Fla. Married (Bunnie), three children.

		PUNTING			
Year	Club	No.	Yards	Avg.	Long	Blkd.
1972	Atlanta	61	2609	42.8	59	0
1973	Atlanta	63	2682	42.6	72	0
1974	Atlanta	96	3891	40.5	61	1
1975	Atlanta	89	3696	41.5	75	0
1976	Atlanta	101	4253	42.1	67	0
1977	Atlanta	105	4349	41.4	61	0
1978	Atlanta	109	4227	38.8	57	1
TOTALS		624	25707	41.2	75	2

JAMES PLAYOFF RECORD

		PUNTING			
Year	Club	No.	Yards	Avg.	Long	Blkd.
1978	Atlanta	13	457	35.2	49	0

Alfred Jenkins • 84



WIDE RECEIVER • MORRIS BROWN • 4th YEAR
HT: 5-10 • WT: 170 • BORN: 1/25/52

OBTAINED: Free Agent, 1975

PRO: It took a broken collar bone to do what the NFL could not—stop Alfred Jenkins. However, even that could not break his consecutive game streak. The injury came in the season opener last year against Houston, however, Jenkins caught two passes before being sidelined and entering the '79 season, he has caught passes in 41 consecutive games. Only once in his career in Atlanta, has he failed to catch at least one pass in a game. He is already the fourth leading receiver in Falcon history and needs only 18 more catches to tie Art Malone for third place. Only Ken Burrow has caught more balls at wide receiver. However, nobody in Falcon history has averaged better than Jenkins' 18.2 yards per catch average. The figures are even more impressive when one considers that Jenkins has never had the luxury of a healthy Steve Bartkowski. In fact, during his streak, Jenkins has caught passes from five different quarterbacks and has never had the same QB for more than seven consecutive games. Not bad for a guy who was supposed to be too small for the NFL. He was cut after an initial NFL tryout at Houston, but later caught on with Birmingham of the World Football League. He was the sensation of the league as the club won the first—and only—World Bowl championship in 1974. Seven times he has had more than 100 yards receiving in a single game. Games: 1975 (14), 1976 (14), 1977 (14), 1978 (1).

COLLEGE: Despite a brilliant career at Atlanta's Morris Brown, there were no calls for Jenkins during the 1972 draft. He won letters in four different sports.

PERSONAL: Offseason rehabilitation occupied most of Jenkins time, but he also worked as a television commentator for a local Atlanta station. Born: Hogansville, Ga. Residence: Atlanta, Ga. Married (Carolyn).

ALFRED'S 100 YARD DAYS

	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TD
Sept. 25, '77 at Washington	7	152	21.2	0
Dec. 14, '75 vs San Francisco	7	147	21.0	2
Nov. 30, '75 at Oakland	4	106	26.5	0
Nov. 23, '75 vs. Denver	6	106	17.7	2
Nov. 2, '75 at New Orleans	4	102	25.5	0
Nov. 28, '76 at Houston	5	102	20.4	1
Dec. 12, '76 vs Green Bay	6	101	16.8	0

		RECEIVING					KICKOFF RETURNS				
Year	Club	No.	Yds.	Avg.	Long	TD	No.	Yds.	Avg.	Long	TD
1975	Atlanta	38	767	20.2	68	6	1	24	24.0	24	0
1976	Atlanta	41	710	17.3	34	6			None		
1977	Atlanta	39	677	17.4	73	4			None		
1978	Atlanta	2	28	14.0	22	0			None		
TOTALS		120	2182	18.2	73	16	1	24	24.0	24	0



June Jones • 14

QUARTERBACK • PORTLAND STATE • 3rd YEAR
HT: 6-4 • WT: 200 • BORN: 2/19/53

OBTAINED: Free Agent, 1977

PRO: Jones proved his worth last season, beating two of the best teams in the NFL in Houston and Los Angeles. He earned the starting job during preseason, guiding the Falcons to victories over the New York Jets and Washington. Stepped in after Bartkowski injured on Monday Night game against Los Angeles and led come-from-behind victory. Worked during offseason to improve strength in throwing arm. His savvy impresses Falcon coaches. "I'm not the fastest or strongest guy in the world," says Jones. "The main thing is, June doesn't make mistakes," says Bennett. His only touchdown pass of season was 38-yard completion to Bubba Bean that proved to be difference in 20-14 victory over Oilers. Was 7 for 11 and 87 yards in relief of Bartkowski against Rams. Also started games against Los Angeles (away) and Cleveland. The previous season, Jones' only action came in final series of downs in season finale against New Orleans. Was cut during the 1977 preseason, but resigned before opening game. Games : 1977 (1), 1978 (7).

COLLEGE: Jones stayed busy during college, attending Oregon, Hawaii before getting an opportunity to play at Portland State. When given the chance, he responded by throwing for 3,518 yards and 25 touchdowns during his senior season.

PERSONAL: Jones has a degree in business, but also expresses an interest in coaching. The low-keyed Jones also enjoys spending time on the golf course, where he has a five handicap. Born: Portland, Oregon. Residence: Portland, Oregon. Married (Diane), one child.

		PASSING						
Year	Club	Att.	Comp.	Yds.	Pct.	Avg.	TD	Int.	LG
1977	Atlanta	1	1	-1	100.0	-1.00	0	0	-1
1978	Atlanta	79	34	394	43.0	5.0	1	4	38
TOTALS		80	35	393	43.7	4.9	1	4	38



Mike Kenn • 78

OFFENSIVE TACKLE • MICHIGAN • 2nd YEAR
HT: 6-6 • WT: 257 • BORN: 2/9/56

OBTAINED: Draft, 1st round, 1978

PRO: Kenn's first season was most successful in the eyes of Falcon coaching staff. Came in and started immediately at left tackle, never missing a starting assignment. "He showed a lot of poise for a first year player," says Bennett. "He's got the kind of frame that will enable him to get stronger and stronger as he gets older without losing quickness." Gained national attention with strong performance against Cowboys' Harvey Martin in NFC playoffs. First year efforts earned Kenn a place on Football Writers 1978 All-NFL Rookie squad. Games: 1978 (16).

COLLEGE: Mike went to Michigan as a lean tight end before earning All-American honors as a senior at the left tackle position.

PERSONAL: Marriage highlighted Mike's offseason. He also spent time working out and dabbing in his father's business. Born: Evanston, Ill. Residence: Morton Grove, Ill. Married (Joanie).

Fulton Kuykendall • 54



LINEBACKER • UCLA • 5th YEAR
HT: 6-5 • WT: 225 • BORN: 6/10/53

OBTAINED: Draft, 6th round, 1975

PRO: Although he has not gained the recognition, the Falcon coaching staff does not feel there is a better linebacker in the National Football League. Was shunned in last year's Pro Bowl voting despite Leading Falcon defensive unit in tackles with 284 (98 unassisted, 186 assists). Most outstanding performance came at New Orleans when he had 11 unassisted stops and 15 assists as well as causing two fumbles. Also enjoyed excellent game at Tampa Bay with 10 unassisted tackles and 10 more assists. His play also included four regular season sacks plus another against Dallas during playoffs. In NFC Wildcard playoff game, he recovered two fumbles and was credited with four caused fumbles during regular season. Reckless style of play on Falcon special teams earned him nickname of "Captain Crazy" and endeared him to Falcon fans in 1975. Next two seasons were cut short due to injuries. A back injury halted his season midway through 1977 and a broken arm in the fifth game of 1978 sent him to injured reserve. "We sincerely do not feel there is a better linebacker in the league," says Bennett. Games: 1975 (14), 1976 (7), 1977 (5), 1978 (16).

COLLEGE: Injuries also slowed down Kuykendall's collegiate career, but he served as captain during his senior season.

PERSONAL: Kuykendall completed work on his college degree in kinesiology during the offseason before returning to Atlanta to begin working out for the season. Born: Coronado, Calif. Residence: Los Angeles, Calif. Single.



Rolland Lawrence • 22

CORNERBACK • TABOR • 7th YEAR
HT: 5-10 • WT: 179 • BORN: 3/24/51

OBTAINED: Free Agent, 1973

PRO: For a man who had to talk his way into the NFL, Rolland Lawrence has had quite a career. Although he missed repeating as an All-NFC player last season, he still led the Falcons with six interceptions marking the fourth consecutive year he has led the club. His career total of 30 is only one shy of Ray Brown's career record of 31. Lawrence saved his best for the biggest moment as he picked off two passes in Atlanta's Monday Night victory over Los Angeles. Three of his six interceptions came against the Rams. Lawrence also is the Falcon career holder in punt returns with 106 (only one in '78) and 745 yards, and 7.0 yard average rates third best in club history. Has also served as kickoff return man. His 24.8 yards average in 1976 is fourth best mark in team history. Was named All- NFC in 1977 when he intercepted seven passes for 19.7 average despite having three touchdown returns (two interceptions, one fumble recovery) nullified because of penalties. Excellent season came after his mother died two days before regular season opener and Lawrence dedicated year to her memory. Despite size, he has yet to miss a game during his career, playing in 86 consecutive regular season games and two playoff contests. Games: 1973 (14), 1974 (14), 1975 (14), 1976 (14), 1977 (14), 1978 (16).

COLLEGE: Lawrence played collegiately at tiny Tabor College (Hillsboro, Kansas) where he gained over 4,000 yards as a running back as well as playing in the secondary.

PERSONAL: Lawrence got an early feel for competition from a family that included 10 boys and four girls. His hobbies include golf, fast-pitch softball, and basketball. Born: Franklin, Pa. Residence: Franklin, Pa. Single.

		KICKOFF RETURNS					INTERCEPTIONS			
Year	Club	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG
1973	Atlanta	3	71	23.7	28	0	1	81	81.0	81
1974	Atlanta		None				1	0	0.0	0
1975	Atlanta	4	80	20.0	24	0	9	163	18.1	t87
1976	Atlanta	21	521	24.8	36	0	6	43	7.2	22
1977	Atlanta	1	13	13.0	13	0	7	138	19.7	36
1978	Atlanta		None				6	76	12.7	44
TOTALS		29	685	23.6	36	0	30	501	16.7	t87

		PUNT RETURNS				
Year	Club	No.	FC	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
1973	Atlanta	None					
1974	Atlanta	None					
1975	Atlanta	None					
1976	Atlanta	54	5	376	7.0	24	0
1977	Atlanta	51	10	352	6.9	37	0
1978	Atlanta	1	1	17	17.0	17	0
TOTALS		106	16	745	7.0	37	0

LAWRENCE PLAYOFF RECORD

Year	Club	No.	Yds	Avg.	LG
1978	Atlanta	1	0	0.0	0

Mike Lewis • 69



DEFENSIVE TACKLE • ARKANSAS AM&N • 10th YEAR
HT: 6-4 • WT: 260 • BORN: 7/14/49

OBTAINED: Free Agent, 1970

PRO: A mainstay along the Falcon defensive line for years, Lewis has enjoyed great success in past two years. "He's not a headline guy, but he's there play after play," says Bennett. Although not a headliner, Lewis has now been in the NFL for 10 years, plugging gaps all the while. Since 1971 season, he has missed only two games of a possible 82. During the past two years, he has alternated with Wilson Faumuina, depending on whether it is passing or running situation. Looking back, it has been a remarkable performance for a man who came in as an unheralded free agent. "The first year is the toughest," says Mike. "That's when you've got to make the team and to make it you've got to have a good camp." However, it was the second year of his career that saw him temporarily leave the NFL when he was waived. "A couple of players got hurt and instead of letting me go, the Falcons recalled me and I got another reprieve. You have to have those kind of breaks at the beginning if you are a free agent. After that, you make it on your own." Games: 1970 (14), 1971 (9), 1972 (14), 1973 (14), 1974 (14), 1975 (14), 1976 (12), 1977 (14), 1978 (16).

COLLEGE: Mike had an outstanding career as a linebacker in college and recalls his early impressions of the "nutcracker" drill. "I was strong enough to hold off the blocker, and I was plenty fast then," says Mike. "They had a hard time stopping me."

PERSONAL: Backgammon (I'd be number one seed if we had a tournament), movie going, and basketball give Mike plenty to do during the winter months. Born: Houston, Tex. Residence: Atlanta, Ga. Married (Darlene), one child.

Ron McCartney • 56



LINEBACKER • TENNESSEE • 4th YEAR
HT: 6-1 • WT: 223 • BORN: 7/29/54

OBTAINED: Waivers, 1977 from Los Angeles

PRO: Ron played primarily on Falcon special teams last season after rejoining the team in the season's second week. Although his play has been limited during his two years in Atlanta, he has displayed a nose for the ball, recovering three fumbles in 1977 and another last season. Was originally a third round draft choice by Los Angeles, but missed his entire rookie year in '76 due to injuries. Games: 1976 (0), 1977 (14), 1978 (15).

COLLEGE: Ron played defensive end for Volunteers, and was chosen the outstanding defensive player in the Liberty Bowl as a junior.

PERSONAL: McCartney spent the offseason completing work on his degree at Tennessee. Born: Charleston, W. Va. Residence: Knoxville, Tenn. Single.



Tim Mazzetti • 4

PLACEKICKER • PENNSYLVANIA • 2nd YEAR
HT: 6-1 • WT: 175 • BORN: 2/1/56

OBTAINED: Free Agent, 1978

PRO: Mazzetti's story may have been the most dramatic of the entire 1978 NFL season as he moved from obscurity to the hero of Walter Mittys' throughout the country. Joined the Falcons in the season's seventh week (Atlanta, 2-4 at time) and played large role in club's playoff drive. His points proved to be difference in five regular season victories as well as Wild Card decision over Philadelphia. Regular season field goal percentage of 81.3 (13 of 16) was best in the NFC (third best in NFL). Also added two more field goals in playoffs to finish 15 of 19 for year. Converted 18 extra points without a miss. In addition, his touchback rate of 10.5% on kickoffs was the sixth-best rate in the NFC. His 57 points led club in scoring. Records included most consecutive field goals without a miss, nine, best field goal percentage for season, and most field goals in a single game, five (tied club mark). His five field goals came before Monday Night TV audience to provide all points in Atlanta's 15-7 decision over Los Angeles. He twice hit field goals on final play of game to win (29 yard field goal with :01 remaining at San Francisco and 32 yard field with :00 remaining against Washington). His points were also difference in both victories over New Orleans (20-17 each time). Prior to coming to Falcons, Mazzetti had kicked for Eagles during the preseason and had tryouts with New Orleans and Dallas. His greatest admirer may be his holder, John James, "He's a cool one. Nothing seems to bother him. He has ice water in his veins." Games: 1978 (10).

COLLEGE: Mazzetti proved accurate when given the opportunity at Penn. plus setting a school record with a 53-yard field goal. Also played for nationally ranked Quaker soccer team.

PERSONAL: A native American, Mazzetti moved to Brazil at the age of three and lived there until going to Penn at age of 18. Born: Greenwich, Conn. Residence: Atlanta, Ga. Single.

		SCORING				
Year	Club	XP.	XPA	FG	FGA	Points
1978	Atlanta	18	18	13	16	57
TOTALS		18	18	13	16	57

MAZZETTI PLAYOFF RECORD

		SCORING				
Year	Club	XP	XPA	FG	FGA	Points
1978	Atlanta	4	4	2	3	10

Dewey McClain • 52



LINEBACKER • E. CENTRAL UNIVERSITY • 4th YEAR
HT: 6-3 • WT: 230 • BORN: 4/24/54

OBTAINED: Free Agent, 1976

PRO: The big play is Dewey's game, and last year he had plenty of them. Despite playing only in passing situations, there were 7½ sacks (two in the opening win against Houston), two fumble recoveries, and three caused fumbles. "That's the kind of athlete Dewey is," says Bennett. "He can make things happen." Came to Atlanta as a free agent, but role has grown larger each season. Is the biggest member of the Falcon linebacking corps. Games: 1976 (14), 1977 (13), 1978 (16).

COLLEGE: McClain played both football and basketball in college and earned his degree in history.

PERSONAL: Dewey devotes his offseason to helping the youth of his native town. "I want to take time to help them just as people took time to help me," says Dewey. Born: Okmulgee, Okla. Residence: Okmulgee, Okla. Married (Linda), two children.

Phil McKinnely • 73



OFFENSIVE TACKLE • UCLA • 4th YEAR
HT: 6-4 • WT: 250 • BORN: 6/8/54

OBTAINED: Draft, 9th round, 1976

PRO: A forgotten man until late in the season, McKinnely was invaluable to Falcons during club's playoff drive. His opportunity came in the season's 12th week when starting right tackle Warren Bryant sustained a knee injury. McKinnely started remaining games as well as playoff contests against Philadelphia and Dallas. "His performance under pressure was super," says Bennett. Prior to last year, McKinnely had alternated at left tackle every play with Brent Adams during '77 season after serving as backup during rookie year. Games: 1976 (14), 1977 (14), 1978 (14).

COLLEGE: McKinnely turned down numerous college basketball offers to play football for Bruins of UCLA.

PERSONAL: Phil returned to his native Oakland for the offseason Born: Oakland, Calif. Residence: Oakland, Calif. Single.



Jeff Merrow • 75

DEFENSIVE END • WEST VIRGINIA • 5th YEAR
HT: 6-4 • WT: 250 • BORN: 7/11/53

OBTAINED: Draft, 11th round, 1975

PRO: Spirit and competitiveness blend perfectly with Falcon defensive scheme. "He's a street fighter," says Bennett. "He's probably got more tenacity than any athlete we have." Defensive line coach Jim Champion puts it another way, "He likes this life, and he's not going to let any one beat him out of it." Was thrown to the fire early in career when then-starter Claude Humphrey went down with knee injury in 1975. Merrow moved in as rookie starter. A year later he also received late notice of starting position when Falcons sent John Zook to St. Louis in a trade. Enjoyed great season in 1977 when he tied with Humphrey for club lead in sacks with 10. Last year, injuries slowed Merrow down considerably, but he still enjoyed fine season as he started all but two games. Games: 1975 (12), 1976 (14), 1977 (14), 1978 (14).

COLLEGE: The memory of his 11th round selection still lingers with Merrow. "I was offended," he recalls. "I was also perturbed, disappointed, and disgusted. What's ability? I see people with tons of ability and they can't play worth a flip." Actually Merrow probably would have gone much higher had it not been for nagging injuries during junior and senior seasons.

PERSONAL: The purchase of a boat led Jeff to Atlanta's nearby lakes daily during the offseason. Born: Akron, Ohio. Residence: Douglasville, Ga. Single.



Marv Montgomery • 71

OFFENSIVE TACKLE • SOUTHERN CAL • 9th YEAR
HT: 6-6 • WT: 255 • BORN: 2/8/48

OBTAINED: Free Agent, 1978

PRO: Signed as late season addition when Warren Bryant suffered knee injury. A former number one selection by Denver in 1971, and has also played with New Orleans. Games: 1971 (12), 1972 (14), 1973 (10), 1974 (3), 1975 (14), 1976 (12), 1978 (1).

COLLEGE: Marv made several All-American squads after transferring to USC from Los Angeles Valley Junior College.

PERSONAL: Montgomery returned to Colorado for the offseason. Born: Torrence, Calif. Residence: Aurora, Colo. Single.

Jim Mitchell • 86



TIGHT END • PRAIRIE VIEW • 11th YEAR
HT: 6-1 • WT: 235 • BORN: 10/19/47

OBTAINED: Draft, 4th round, 1969

PRO: This durable veteran enjoyed a comeback last season when he caught 32 passes and broke a two-year drought in touchdown receptions. The total was nearly as many as he had caught during the past two seasons combined, but two were the biggest. His catch of a one-yard pass from Steve Bartkowski defeated New Orleans in Atlanta, and his grab of a 19-yard pass against Philadelphia put the Falcons in position to win. In the process, Mitchell surpassed the 4,000-yard mark in career receiving yards and should pass another milestone this year, needing only 11 catches to reach the 300 catch plateau. Many of his Falcon records will not be touched for years. During his career he has missed only three of a possible 144 games, holding the club record for most games played. His 289 career catches for 4,230 yards and 26 touchdowns are all easily team records. His touchdown total of 27 (26 pass receiving, one rushing) is another club record. He was voted Player of the Year in 1970 after catching 44 passes for 650 yards and six touchdowns. Enjoyed his best day in three seasons in a losing cause against Chicago when he caught five passes for 65 yards and a touchdown. Also had four catches vs. New Orleans in Atlanta. Games: 1969 (14), 1970 (14), 1971 (13), 1972 (14), 1973 (14), 1974 (14), 1975 (14), 1976 (14), 1977 (12), 1978 (16).

COLLEGE: Mitchell was a four letter winner in both football and baseball at Prairie View.

PERSONAL: Jim remained in Atlanta during the offseason and played with the Falcon basketball team. Born: Shelbyville, Tenn. Residence: Atlanta, Ga. Married (Marjorie), two children.

		RECEIVING					RUSHING				
Year	Club	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
1969	Atlanta	22	339	15.4	t42	4	5	77	15.4	40	0
1970	Atlanta	44	650	14.8	t51	6	5	23	4.6	t12	1
1971	Atlanta	33	593	18.0	43	5	4	25	6.3	24	0
1972	Atlanta	28	460	16.4	t40	4	2	19	9.5	18	0
1973	Atlanta	32	420	13.1	50	0	5	34	6.8	13	0
1974	Atlanta	30	479	16.0	52	1	3	21	7.0	15	0
1975	Atlanta	34	536	15.8	32	4			None		
1976	Atlanta	17	209	12.3	39	0	1	−6	−6.0	−6	0
1977	Atlanta	17	178	10.5	17	0	1	−6	−6.0	−6	0
1978	Atlanta	32	366	11.4	24	2			None		
TOTALS		289	4230	14.6	52	26	26	187	7.2	40	1

MITCHELL PLAYOFF RECORD
RECEIVING

Year	Club	No.	Yds.	Avg.	Long	TD
1978	Atlanta	3	35	11.7	19	1



Tom Moriarty • 45

DEFENSIVE BACK • BOWLING GREEN • 3rd YEAR
HT: 6-0 • WT: 185 • BORN: 4/7/53

OBTAINED: Free Agent, 1977

PRO: Although he has played sparingly in Falcons secondary, Moriarty's special teams play has been spectacular during the past two seasons. His recovery of a blocked punt against Houston in season opener proved to be the difference in a 20-14 Atlanta victory. His coverage is also a large reason the Falcon's have ranked among league's net punting leaders. "He is the best special teams player I've ever seen," says punter John James. "Just the fact that he's there breeds confidence." "Special teams are a part of the game where you can make things happen in a split second and change the trend of the game," says Tom. "It's like a bowling ball hitting tenpins." While not being doubled and tripled team in his special team efforts, Moriarty serves as the Falcon backup at strong safety. Games: 1977(14), 1978 (14).

COLLEGE: Moriarty's all-out hustle at Bowling Green earned him a tryout with the Dallas Cowboys in 1976, but proved unsuccessfull.

PERSONAL: A devoted family man, Tom spends his offseasons working in his hometown of South Euclid, Ohio. Born: South Euclid, Ohio. Residence: South Euclid, Ohio. Married (Cindy). One child.



Robert Pennywell • 59

LINEBACKER • GRAMBLING • 3rd YEAR
HT: 6-1 • WT: 222 • BORN: 11/6/54

OBTAINED: Free Agent, 1977

PRO: Steady play at middle linebacker played large role in 1978 Falcon success. Was slated for a backup role until beating out incumbent Ralph Ortega in preseason and started every regular season contest. Had 6½ sacks for season, all coming in final ten games. Had a sack and fumble recovery in key matchup against Washington and also had a sack and caused a fumble in Wild Card game against the Eagles. Two years ago, he was also slated for second line position, but gained starting job when Fulton Kuykendall was injured and played very well (three sacks, two pass interceptions, and a fumble recovery). Not a bad two years for a man who had quit the game in '76. "At the time, I thought it was the best thing to do," recalls Robert. "I wasn't mentally prepared for the game any more." Was originally a sixth round draft choice of the San Francisco 49ers. Game: 1977 (14), 1978 (16).

COLLEGE: Pennywell was the leading tackler at Grambling as a senior.

PERSONAL: Robert is one of several Pennywells to play for Grambling. His cousin, Carlos, is a Grambling graduate and is currently playing for New England. Born: Shreveport, La. Residence: Norcross, Ga. Married (Debra). One child.

		INTERCEPTIONS				
Year	Club	No.	Yds.	Avg.	Lg.	TD
1977	Atlanta	2	30	15.0	20	1
1978	Atlanta		None			
TOTALS		2	30	15.0	20	1

Ricky Patton • 33



RUNNING BACK • JACKSON ST. • 2nd YEAR
HT: 5-11 • WT: 185 • BORN: 4/6/54

OBTAINED: Draft, 10th round, 1978

PRO: Ricky surprised many people when he made the team as a late round draft selection, and spent most of the season in a backup role. "He's got outstanding speed, and should improve with the experience he gained last season," says Bennett. Patton's biggest day came at home against San Francisco when he rushed 10 times for 33 yards. Games: 1978 (16).

COLLEGE: As a senior, Ricky rushed for 640 yards and had a 5.6 yards per carry average, but most impressive was the style in which he scored his seven touchdowns. Five of the runs were better than 40 yards.

PERSONAL: Ricky spent the offseason in Atlanta in preparation for 1979. Born: Flint, Mich. Residence: Gautiar, Miss. Single.

Dennis Pearson • 81



WIDE RECEIVER • SAN DIEGO STATE • 2nd YEAR
HT: 5-11 • WT: 177 • BORN: 2/9/55

OBTAINED: Draft, 5th round, 1978

PRO: Dennis Pearson established himself as the best kickoff return man in the history of the Falcons during his rookie year. His 26.7 yard average was second in the NFC and the best ever for a Falcon while his 100 yard kickoff return against St. Louis also set a team mark. His play at wide receiver was primarily as a back up man, but he managed five receptions. Is again expected to play a key role in special teams, serving as punt returner as well as kickoff return specialist. Game: 1978 (16).

COLLEGE: Enjoyed excellent senior season after transferring to San Diego State from Washington State. He caught 49 passes for 964 yards and had five touchdown grabs.

PERSONAL: Dennis spent the offseason in Washington, but returned to Atlanta in May to acclimatize to the Southern climate. Born: Seaside, Calif. Residence: Seattle. Single.

		RECEIVING					KICKOFF RETURNS				
Year	Club	No.	Yds.	Avg.	Long	TD	No.	Yds.	Avg.	Long	TD
1978	Atlanta	5	71	14.2	17	0	25	662	26.7	100	1
TOTALS		5	71	14.2	17	0	25	662	26.7	100	1

	RUSHING				
Year Club	No.	Yards	Avg.	Long	TD
1978 Atlanta	1	1	1.0	1	0
TOTALS	1	1	1.0	1	0

PEARSON PLAYOFF RECORD

	KICKOFF RETURNS				
Year Club	No.	Yds.	Avg.	Lg.	TD
1978 Atlanta	4	107	26.8	36	0



Tom Pridemore • 27

FREE SAFETY • WEST VIRGINIA • 2nd YEAR
HT: 5-10 • WT: 186 • BORN: 4/29/56

OBTAINED: Draft, 9th round, 1978

PRO: Pridemore's year as an understudy suddenly turned into a year of on-the-job training last season when an injury to Ray Easterling thrust him into the starting lineup in the season's third week. It was a tough indoctrination, but he responded by leading the entire secondary in tackles. His biggest day came in a 14-0 whitewash of Detroit when he made a fourth-down tackle at the Atlanta goal and then recorded a sack on a fourth down play at the Falcon 12-yard line. "For a rookie, he did a remarkable job under extremely difficult circumstances," says Bennett. "He's smart, tough, and not afraid to hit you." When the year began, he was slated for special teams duty. His blocked punt was recovered for the game-winning score in victory over Houston. Games: 1978 (16).

COLLEGE: Pridemore finished his career at West Virginia as the fifth all-time leader in NCAA interception return yardage.

PERSONAL: In a most unusual offseason occupation, Pridemore worked as a page in the West Virginia legislature. Born: Ansted, W. Va. Residence: Ansted, W. Va. Single.

		INTERCEPTIONS					KICKOFF RETURNS				
Year	Club	No.	Yds.	Avg.	Long	TD	No.	Yds.	Avg.	Long	TD
1978	Atlanta	1	0	0.0	0	0	4	71	17.8	20	0
TOTALS		1	0	0.0	0	0	4	71	17.8	20	0

PRIDEMORE PLAYOFF RECORD

KICKOFF RETURNS

Year	Club	No.	Yards	Avg.	Long	TD
1978	Atlanta	2	36	18.0	20	0



Frank Reed • 28

STRONG SAFETY • WASHINGTON • 4th YEAR
HT: 5-11 • WT: 193 • BORN: 5/13/54

OBTAINED: Draft, 8th round, 1976

PRO: Rebounded from sophomore slump of '77 with excellent season last year. Won starting job at safety during preseason after playing corner first two years. Five fumble recoveries tied club record set by Greg Brezina in '69 and Ralph Ortega in '77. Enjoyed biggest game of season against LA on Monday Night when he recorded two sacks. Only interception of year came at home against San Francisco. Special teams ability reflected in blocked punt last season against Tampa Bay. Also blocked punt at New Orleans during '77. Was starter as rookie in '76 but beaten out by Rick Byas after third game of '77 season. Started every game last season. Games: 1976 (14), 1977 (14), 1978 (16).

COLLEGE: Frank spent three years as a starter in the Huskie secondary after going to Washington as a receiver.

PERSONAL: One of eleven children, Frank had two brothers that also played professional football, and four children in the family played collegiately. Born: Seattle, Wash. Residence: Decatur, Ga. Single.

		INTERCEPTIONS			
Year	Club	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TD
1976	Atlanta	3	48	16.0	0
1977	Atlanta		None		
1978	Atlanta	1	38	38.0	0
TOTALS		4	86	21.5	0

Billy Ryckman • 82



WIDE RECEIVER • LOUISIANA TECH • 3rd YEAR
HT: 5-11 • WT: 172 • BORN: 2/28/55

OBTAINED: Draft, 10th round, 1977

PRO: "The best hands I've ever seen," says Falcon GM Eddie LeBaron. Many agree after remarkable '78 season in which he caught 45 passes. Was given starting opportunity when Alfred Jenkins sustained a broken collar bone in season opener. Failed to catch a pass in only one game (LA in Atlanta), and had high of eight catches (one shy of club record) for 107 yards vs. Chicago. Made diving reception with seconds remaining to set up game-winning field goal against Washington. Also caught 59-yard game-tying touchdown pass with less than a minute remaining to set up Falcon victory at San Francisco. Caught three or more passes in seven different games. Had 24-yard touchdown catch for first score in 14-0 win over Detroit. Also served as punt return specialist, returning 28 kicks for 227 yards. "I'm so slow that it fools all those guys after chasing people like Rick Upchurch," deadpans Ryckman. Games: 1977 (14), 1978 (16).

COLLEGE: Ryckman spent most of his career on the bench behind such notables as Roger Carr (Baltimore) and Pat Tilley (St. Louis) before getting a chance to play as a senior. He then caught 77 passes for 1,382 yards to lead the nation in receiving.

PERSONAL: One of the most colorful Falcons with boyish features and impish grin. "A girl will come up to me and ask me what I do. I tell them," says Billy. "They don't believe me. So nine of ten times, I tell 'em I'm a fireman." Offseason activities included an abbreviated trip to Europe. Born: LaFayette, La. Residence: Norcross, Ga. Single.

		RECEIVING					KICKOFF RETURNS				
Year	Club	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
1977	Atlanta	1	5	5.0	5	1	1	0	0.0	0	0
1978	Atlanta	45	679	15.1	59	2			None		
TOTALS		46	684	14.8	59	3	1	0	0.0	0	0

		PUNT RETURNS					
Year	Club	No.	FC	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
1977	Atlanta	7	2	40	5.7	20	0
1978	Atlanta	28	17	227	8.1	38	0
TOTALS		35	19	267	7.6	38	0

RYCKMAN PLAYOFF RECORD

		RECEIVING					PUNT RETURNS				
Year	Club	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD	No.	Yds.	Avg.	Long	TD
1978	Atlanta	2	27	13.5	22	0	5	14	2.8	13	0



Paul Ryczek • 53

CENTER • VIRGINIA • 6th YEAR
HT: 6-2 • WT: 239 • BORN: 6/25/52

OBTAINED: Draft, 1974, 10th round.

PRO: Again slated for snapping duty on Falcon special team units unless he unseats incumbent Jeff Van Note. Excellent snapper, who never failed under pressure of 1978. Also ranks as one of top down-field coverage men on special teams. Only starting assignment came in final four games of 1976 when Van Note was injured. Played key role in Atlanta's 17-10 upset of Dallas Cowboys. Games: 1974 (14), 1975 (14), 1976 (14), 1977 (14), 1978 (16).

COLLEGE: Paul attended Virginia where he was All-Atlantic Coast Conference.

PERSONAL: Brother, Dan, is special teams center for Rams. Captains Falcon basketball team during offseason, and other interests include marathon running and racquetball. Born: Mentor, Ohio. Residence: Roswell, Ga. Married (Carol), two children.



Dave Scott • 70

OFFENSIVE TACKLE • KANSAS • 4th YEAR
HT: 6-4 • WT: 275 • BORN: 12/26/53

OBTAINED: Draft, 3rd round, 1976

PRO: Consistency is the only thing separating Scott from stardom in the NFL, and Bennett feels he saw much progress in that area last season. "He's got great ability," says Bennett. "He's just got to utilize it on every play." His best day may have come in the final game of the season against the Cowboys when he was matched against Randy White of Dallas. Dave has started every game at left guard for past two seasons. Other than consistency, Scott's greatest obstacle is a constant battle with his weight, but a vigorous offseason training program is helping him win that battle also. Games: 1976 (13), 1977 (14), 1978 (16).

COLLEGE: Despite his size, Scott was one of the fatest offensive linemen in the country, earning All-American honors at Kansas.

PERSONAL: Working, going to school, speaking, and offseason training did not leave Scott much time for leisure during the offseason. Born: Hackensack, N.J. Residence: Decatur, Ga. Married (Clarice).

Haskel Stanback • 24



RUNNING BACK • TENNESSEE • 6th YEAR
HT: 6-0 • WT: 210 • BORN: 3/19/52

OBTAINED: Trade, 1974

PRO: Consistency and durability have lifted him to near the top of every Falcon rushing category. Twenty rushing touchdowns is club record while 692 attempts and 2,460 yards rushing rank only behind career record holder Dave Hampton. His 85 receptions also rank among club career leaders in 7th place. Enjoyed best season in '77 with 873 yards rushing and 30 receptions for 261 yards. Last season, Stanback's biggest day was a 112-yard performance against rugged Tampa Bay defense. Other highlights included nine-yard game winning touchdown run with 1:52 remaining against the New York Giants. One-yard touchdown run at New Orleans put Falcons in position to win on "Miracle Reception." His 129-yard performance in season finale against Saints in '77 is third highest single game total for any Falcon back. "I'm not the fastest guy around, but it took me all season to learn to run as a halfback in 1977," says Haskel, who has also started at fullback during his career with Falcons. "He's a true workman," says Bennett. "Nothing flashy, but he'll get the job done for you." Stanback was originally drafted in the fifth round of the 1974 draft by Cincinnati, but came to the Falcons in a preseason trade. Games: 1974 (13), 1975 (14), 1976 (14), 1977 (14), 1978 (15).

COLLEGE: Stanback accounted for 1,730 yards while at Tennessee scoring 20 touchdowns. His biggest day was a 133-yard performance against Alabama.

PERSONAL: Haskel spent the offseason working in car sales and working out for the 1979 season. Born: Kannapolis, N. C. Residence: Marietta, Ga. Married (Doris).

		RUSHING					RECEIVING				
Year	Club	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD	No.	Yds.	Avg.	Long	TD
1974	Atlanta	57	235	4.1	23	1	8	39	4.9	18	0
1975	Atlanta	105	440	4.2	26	5	14	115	8.2	14	0
1976	Atlanta	95	324	3.4	30	3	21	174	8.3	28	1
1977	Atlanta	247	873	3.4	35	6	30	261	8.7	36	0
1978	Atlanta	188	588	3.1	26	5	12	108	9.0	20	0
TOTALS		692	2460	3.5	35	20	85	697	8.2	36	1

STANBACK PLAYOFF RECORD

		RUSHING					RECEIVING				
Year	Club	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD	No.	Yds.	Avg.	Long	TD
1978	Atlanta	25	120	4.8	14	0	2	7	3.5	7	0



Steve Stewart • 58

LINEBACKER • MINNESOTA • 2ND YEAR
HT: 6-2 • WT: 217 • BORN: 5/1/56

OBTAINED: Draft, 2nd round, 1978

PRO: Steve's rookie year was spent in an apprenticeship role in the Falcons' deep linebacking corps. "He's got the ability," says Bennett. "It's a matter of him making up his mind to be a good NFL linebacker." Biggest play of season was eight yard sack against Cardinals in season finale. Offseason knee operation is expected improve mobility and strength in upcoming season. Games: 1978 (12).

COLLEGE: Stewart had the distinction of being selected as Most Valuable Player on a Gopher defensive unit that had three linebackers chosen in the second round of the 1978 draft.

PERSONAL: Steve spent the offseason rehabilitating in Minnesota. Born: Richfield, Minn. Residence: Eden Prairie, Minn. Single.



Ray Strong • 25

FULLBACK • NEVADA-LAS VEGAS • 2nd YEAR
HT: 5-9 • WT: 184 • BORN: 5/7/56

OBTAINED: Draft, Round 10B, 1978

PRO: A late-round selection who earned his way on squad and played contributing role in 1978 success. Finished as team's fourth leading rusher with 99 yards, and caught seven passes for 56 yards. Best day was 24-yard performance at Chicago on six carries. "He's as tough as they come and never stops coming at you," says Bennett. Games: 1978 (14).

COLLEGE: Strong was a two-way threat at Las Vegas, gaining 843 yards rushing as a senior (5.9 yard average) and 416 yards pass receiving.

PERSONAL: Off season rehabilitation dominated Strong's winter activities, as he dedicated himself to coming back from a knee injury sustained in the NFC Wildcard playoff game against Philadelphia. Born: Berkeley, Calif. Residence: Norcross, Ga. Married (Janine) two children.

		RUSHING					RECEIVING				
Year	Club	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD	No.	Yds.	Avg.	Long	TD
1978	Atlanta	30	99	3.2	14	2	7	56	8.0	21	0
TOTALS		30	99	3.2	14	2	7	56	8.0	21	0

	KICKOFF RETURNS			
Year Club	No.	Yds.	Avg.	Lg.	TD
1978 Atlanta	3	50	16.7	23	0
TOTALS	3	50	16.7	23	0

R. C. Thielemann • 68



GUARD • **ARKANSAS** • **3rd YEAR**
HT: 6-4 • **WT: 250** • **BORN: 8/12/55**

OBTAINED: Draft, 2nd round, 1977

PRO: Thielemann begins his third year with the club and appears to be destined to be one of the best linemen in Falcon history. "He never stops working," says Bennett. R. C. enjoyed another excellent season last year after earning NFL All-Rookie honors in 1977 when he did not miss a single play the entire season. A knee injury forced him to miss part of the game at Cincinnati last year, but he has yet to miss an entire game. Possesses excellent strength and balance. The strength has come through an exhaustive weightlifting program that now finds R. C. bench pressing over 425 pounds. "He has the good balance and that is something you can't teach," says line coach Bill Walsh. "It's endowed." Games: 1977 (14), 1978 (16).

COLLEGE: It wasn't unusual that Thielemann was a two-time All-SWC selection while at Arkansas, but he made it as a guard during his junior year and then as a center as a senior.

PERSONAL: Weightlifting and training consumed Thielemann's offseason time. Born: Houston, Tex. Residence: Norcross, Ga. Single.

James Wright • 83



TIGHT END • **TEXAS CHRISTIAN** • **2nd YEAR**
HT: 6-3 • **WT: 240** • **BORN: 9/1/56**

OBTAINED: Draft, Round 7B, 1978

PRO: An early season ankle injury prevented Wright from ever showing his full ability during his rookie season, but the Falcon coaches were encouraged by what they saw. "We were impressed, but it will be training camp before we can fully evaluate him," says Bennett. Wright injured his ankle in the season opener against Houston and missed the next month of the season. He returned as an understudy to veteran Jim Mitchell, but played sparingly, catching only two passes for 26 yards. Games: 1978 (13).

COLLEGE: Wright played primarily a blocking role while at TCU, but still caught 27 passes in two years after attending junior college.

PERSONAL: A religious man, Wright devotes most of his free time to social work and youth development. Born: Fort Hood, Tex. Residence: Brenham, Tex.

		RECEIVING					KICKOFF RETURNS				
Year	Club	No.	Yds.	Avg.	Long	TD	No.	Yds.	Avg.	Long	TD
1978	Atlanta	2	26	13.0	18	0	2	31	15.5	31	0
TOTALS		2	26	13.0	18	0	2	31	15.5	31	0



Jeff Van Note • 57

CENTER	•	KENTUCKY	•	11th YEAR
HT: 6-2	•	WT: 247	•	BORN: 2/7/46

OBTAINED: Draft, 11th round, 1969

PRO: Although he did not make All-Pro as he did 1974 and '75, it would be hard to convince Falcon coaches Van Note played any better in his career than last season. "He was a great inspiration for our young offensive line," says Bennett. However, Van Note's contribution was more than inspirational. "He played the best I had ever seen him play," says offensive line coach Bill Walsh. Once again, Van Note started every game and missed few plays. "There isn't much glory there," says Van Note of the line. "We have to stick together and take our pride in getting a 1,000 yard back. After all, it all starts up front." For ten years, that has meant Van Note. He has missed only four games during the past 10 years. "What little he may have lost in quickness, he more than adequately makes up with experience" says Walsh. Games: 1969 (1), 1970 (14), 1971 (14), 1972 (14), 1973 (14), 1974 (14), 1975 (14), 1976 (10), 1977 (14), 1978 (16).

COLLEGE: Ironically, Van Note never played offensive line at Kentucky where he went as a running back and played four years as a linebacker.

PERSONAL: Van Note has spent his off seasons selling frozen food containers in preparation for after his playing days are complete. It's been a thorough process, learning to run a tool and dye machine for three years, working on the production line for two years, and most recently in sales. Born: South Orange, N.J. Residence: Louisville, Ky. Married (Dee). Four children.



Jeff Yeates • 79

DEFENSIVE END	•	BOSTON COLLEGE	•	8th YEAR
HT: 6-3	•	WT: 248	•	BORN: 8/3/51

OBTAINED: Waivers, Buffalo, 1976

PRO: The man who replaced Claude Humphrey proved that he could stand on his own last season. Yeates was thrust into the starting role with the retirement of Humphrey four games into the season, and the results were outstanding. "He's as tough of a competitor in the league," says Bennett. "He did everything we asked of him." Yeates certainly displayed the ability to make the big play. Twice against New Orleans it was his clutch tackles that enabled the Falcons to get the football back for game-winning drives. He was an unlikely hero after being claimed on waivers from Buffalo two years ago. Originally, Yeates was a fourth-round draft choice by Buffalo in 1973. Games: 1973 (0, injured reserve), 1974 (10), 1975 (13), 1976 (5—3 Buffalo, 2 Atlanta), 1977 (14), 1978 (16).

COLLEGE: Yeates earned All-East honors while playing in the middle of the defensive line at Boston College.

PERSONAL: Jeff returned to Buffalo for the offseason. Born: Buffalo, N.Y. Residence: Roswell, Ga. Married (Sue). One child.



Smith



Howell

1979 Draft Choices

Don Smith • DE • Miami (Fla.)

HT: 6-5 • WT: 250 • Born: 5/9/57 • D1

Combines speed with strength to give Falcons strong pass rusher . . . never missed a game in three years at Miami, recording 17 quarterback sacks . . . "Sporting News" 1st team All-American . . . American Football Coaches 1st Team All American . . . "Playboy" Preseason All-American . . . All-South Independent Football team . . . participated in Blue-Gray Classic, Hula Bowl, and Senior Bowl . . . selected Miami's 1977 MVP over All-American Don Latimer (Broncos) . . . one in long line of Hurricane pass rushers (Rubin Carter, Ted Hendricks, Eddie Edwards) . . . comes from athletic family, father played football for Navy and later a member of the baseball Orioles . . . outstanding high school basketball player, once scoring 46 points in a game . . . enjoys water skiing and trap shooting . . . majored in physical education.

Pat Howell • OG • Sou. Cal.

HT: 6-5 • WT: 255 • Born: 3/12/57 • D2

A surprise selection for Falcons . . . expected by many to go in first round after outstanding career at Southern California . . . named 1st team AP All-American . . . Walter Camp 1st team A-A . . . American Football Coaches 1st Team . . . Football Writers 1st Team . . . "College and Pro Football Newsweekly" 1st Team . . . "Playboy" Preseason All-American . . . UPI 1st Team All-West Coast . . . 1st Team All-PAC 10 . . . participated in 1979 Hula Bowl . . . played most minutes of any USC offensive lineman in 1978 . . . regarded as excellent pass blocker and pulling guard . . . "We really had not intended to take an offensive lineman real high, but we felt that Howell was simply too good to overlook," says Bennett.



Mayberry



Andrews



Cain

James Mayberry • RB • Colorado

HT: 5-11 • WT: 212 • Born: 11/5/57 • D3A

Could be the key to success of 1979 draft . . . has potential to be outstanding NFL runner . . . enjoyed excellent junior season . . . rushed for 100 yards or more seven times, including 250 yard effort vs. Oklahoma . . . gained 1,299 yards as junior and 920 as a senior . . . durable, holds Colorado record of most carries in one game (40 vs. Kansas State in 1977) . . . scored 22 touchdowns during final two years (nine as junior, 13 as a senior) . . . AP honorable mention All-American as senior . . . participated in East-West Shrine game and Senior Bowl . . . third on all-time Colorado rushing list . . . "There are many scouts who feel that Mayberry has first round potential, and we hope that he will come to camp and play to that potential," says Bennett.

William Andrews • RB • Auburn

HT: 6-0 • WT: 200 • Born: 12/25/55 • D3B

Senior season was severely hampered by injuries . . . value is not reflected in rushing statistics, but devastating blocking ability . . . best season was junior year when he gained 635 yards while averaging 4.6 yards per carry . . . enjoyed outstanding 1977 performance against Georgia with 142 yards in 25 attempts . . . effort earned him UPI Offensive Player of the Week . . . selected Auburn's "Most Outstanding Offensive Player" as a junior . . . hampered by shoulder injury . . . averaged 5.1 yards per carry as a senior, but only carried ball 72 times . . . nicknamed "Juice" by teammates for his number 32 and running ability . . . before injury plagued college career, he enjoyed brilliant high school career at Thomasville, Ga., where he rushed for 4,339 yards and scored 61 touchdowns . . . "We see a lot we like in him," says Bennett. "He had an unfortunate time with injuries in college, but has the raw potential to help our football team."



Johnson



Zele



Moroski

Lynn Cain • FB • Sou. Cal.

HT: 6-1 • WT: 205 • Born: 10/16/55 • D4A

Has power and quickness to be effective as both fullback and halfback . . . gained 887 yards while averaging 5.1 yards per attempt as a senior . . . that yardage total was the highest ever by a Southern Cal fullback . . . was also used as a punt returner and kickoff return man by Trojans . . . enjoyed good Rose Bowl with 90 yards in 14 attempts against Michigan . . . was the California Junior College Player of the Year in 1974 before going to USC . . . averaged 5.6 yards per carry while gaining 1,666 yards and scoring 19 touchdowns during final year of JC ball . . . attended East Los Angeles Junior College . . . "He's a versatile player with great running instincts," says Bennett. "He could surprise a lot of people."

Charles Johnson • DB • Grambling

HT: 5-10 • WT: 180 • Born: 5/5/56 • D4B

Will be one of the fastest players in Falcon training camp with reported 4.4 speed in 40 . . . will get strong look at cornerback . . . intercepted 11 passes in final two seasons (seven as junior, four as senior) while earning Mutual Black Radio All-American honors . . . was also a "Sporting News" honorable mention All-American . . . excelled as a punt returner during '78 . . . returned nine kicks for 131 yards and a 15.2 yard average (one touchdown) . . . has great ability on pass coverage.

Mike Zele • DT • Kent State

HT: 6-3 • WT: 250 • Born: 7/3/56 • D5

Battled back from bout with ulcerative colitis to earn All-MAC honors for second year in row . . . lost more than 50 pounds during illness, and played '78 season at lean 230 pounds . . . led the MAC in tackles-for-losses with 19 (65 yards) and finished career with 55 tackles-for-losses . . . outstanding quickness and strength . . . was named MAC player of the week two consecutive weeks for play against Ohio University (13 solo tackles, 6 assists) and Western Michigan (16 solo tackles and 7 assists) . . . extremely intelligent . . . "Due to his illness, he was not at full strength last year, and we were still very impressed," says Bennett.



Westlund



Miller



Parkin

Mike Moroski • QB • Cal-Davis

HT: 6-3 • WT: 195 • Born: 9/4/57 • D6

Highly regarded Division II quarterback with impressive credentials ... completed 58.0 per cent of passing attempts as senior and 54.9 per cent for career ... had 17 touchdown passes in '78 while throwing only nine interceptions ... most impressive statistic was his 8.2 yards per attempt ... was Associated Press honorable mention college division All-American ... 1st team All-Far Western Conference ... 2nd team academic All-American ... played in 1979 East-West Shrine Game ... co-winner of Northern California Player of the Year (College Division) ... also stars for Cal-Davis baseball team.

Roger Westlund • OT • Washington

HT: 6-4 • WT: 246 • Born: 2/2/57 • D7

Regarded by scouts as outstanding athlete with great quickness and agility for a big man ... very intelligent player ... shows fine balance on pass blocking, but still needs improvement since Huskies played primarily a running game ... scouts feel he has strong drive blocking ability ... played tackle in college, but has the mobility to be an offensive guard ... staunch fishing and hunting enthusiast ... majored in Fisheries.

Keith Miller • LB • Northeast Okla.

HT: 6-1 • WT: 220 • Born: 8/30/57 • D8

Hard hitting linebacker from Oklahoma Intercollegiate Conference, the same league that produced current Falcon linebacker Dewey McClain ... was a four-year starter at Northeast Oklahoma ... started first two seasons as a defensive tackle and nose guard before moving to linebacker ... was named conference defensive player of the year in 1977 and 1978 ... selected National NAIA player of the week for play against Central State ... holds school single season record with 101 unassisted tackles ... played prep football at Valdosta.



Beekley



Leer



Walker

Dave Parkin • DB • Utah State

HT: 6-0 • WT: 190 • Born: 1/7/56 • D9

Caught the eye of Falcon scouts in the Blue-Gray game with his hard- hitting, aggressive style of play . . . excellent hitter and tireless worker . . . excellent against the run . . . was leading tackler in Utah State secondary with 98 stops . . . also had three interceptions . . . majored in Commercial Art and is a talented illustrator.

Bruce Beekley • LB • Oregon

HT: 6-1 • WT: 227 • Born: 12/15/56 • D10

Came on strong at end of season . . . described by scouts as a "one hundred per center" . . . style of play could fit in well with Falcon defensive system . . . good speed for size . . . led Oregon in tackles with 100 unassisted stops and 90 assists . . . also had two pass interceptions . . . best performance came against Southern Cal when he recorded 15 unassisted tackles . . . also had great game against California with 14 solo tackles and 11 assists . . . recorded 170 tackles as junior . . . very active linebacking style makes him good candidate.

Bill Leer • C • Colorado St.

HT: 6-4 • WT: 256 • Born: 5/21/57 • D11

Described as stable, steady performer by Falcon scouts . . . played center as senior, but can also play guard . . . excellent long snapper (.8) . . . can also pull and runs well . . . might have gone earlier, but played senior season on weakened leg that was broken in spring . . . very bright . . . was business major at Colorado State.

Stuart Walker • LB • Colorado

HT: 6-2 • WT: 200 • Born: 1/9/57 • D12

Rugged and tough performer . . . has excellent quickness . . . made 24 stops behind the line of scrimmage during college career . . . has mobility to play strong safety as well as linebacker . . . was a defensive end in college . . . played on a high school team that never lost a game (39-0) . . . majored in communications.

Falcon Draft Choices

1966

1. TOMMY NOBIS, lb ..... Texas
   RANDY JOHNSON, qb ... Texas A&I
2. Nick Rassas, s..... Notre Dame
   Jerry Jones, t ..... Bowling Green
3. Mike Dennis, rb ..... Mississippi
   Phil Sheridan, te ..... Notre Dame
4. Ken Reaves, cb..... Norfolk State
   Bill Asbury, rb ..... Kent State
5. Bill Wolski, rb ..... Notre Dame
   Martin Kahn, t..... No. Texas State
6. Charlie Casey, wr ..... Florida
7. Bill Johnson, rb ..... Suwanee
8. Bill Goss, lb ..... Tulane
9. Bob Sanders, c ..... No. Texas State
10. Mike Bender, g..... Arkansas
11. Steve Sloan, qb..... Alabama
12. Ken Hollister, t ..... Indiana
13. Bob Collins, t..... South Carolina
14. Steve Ecker, p .. Shippensburg State
15. Tommy Tolleson, wr ..... Alabama
16. Jim Vining, g ..... Rice
17. Lurley Archambeau, c..... Toledo
18. Doug Korver, c.... State Col. of Iowa
19. Walt Mainer, cb-s ..... Xavier
20. Bob Riggle, s ..... Penn. State

1967

1. Choice traded to San Francisco
2. Leo Carroll, de ..... San Diego State
3. Jimmy Jordan, rb ..... Florida
4. Choice traded to Cleveland
5. Bill Delaney, te ..... Amer. Internat'l
   Randy Matson, de ..... Texas A&M
   (from San Francisco)
6. Choice traded to Baltimore
   Gene Snipes, wr..... Elizabeth City
   (from Los Angeles)
   Martine Bercher, cb-s ..... Arkansas
   (from Baltimore)
7. Corey Colehour, qb ... North Dakota
8. Choice traded to Washington
9. Bob Moten, wr ..... Bishop, Tex.
10. Dick Schafroth, t..... Iowa
11. John Walker, lb ..... Jackson State
12. Bill Gentry, lb .. North Carolina State
13. Sandor Szabo, k ..... Ithaca
14. Tom Bryan, rb ..... Auburn
15. Al Nicholas, rb ... Sacramento State
16. Larry Chester, cb-s..... Allen
17. Bill Buckner, qb ..... Delta State

1968

1. CLAUDE HUMPHREY, de .. Tenn. St.
2. Carlton Dabney, dt .... Morgan State
   John Wright, wr ..... Illinois
   (from Green Bay through Los Angeles)
3. Choice traded to Chicago
4. Choice traded to St. Louis
5. Choice traded to Washington
6. Jim Hagle, rb ..... So. Methodist
   Joe Wynns, cb-s .. So. Carolina State
   (from Pittsburgh)
   Rick Eber, wr ..... Tulsa
   (from Baltimore)
7. Choice traded to Minnesota
8. Ray Jeffords, te ..... Georgia
9. Henry Holland, c.... No. Texas State
10. Mike Tomasini, dt ... Colorado State
11. Greg Brezina, lb ..... Houston
12. A. J. Vaughan, rb ..... Wayne State
13. Bill Harris, rb ..... Colorado
14. Joe Polk, rb ..... Livingstone, N.C.
15. Don Bean, wr..... Houston
16. Roy Hall, t..... San Jose State
17. Jim Schmidt, cb-s.... San Francisco

1969

1. GEORGE KUNZ, t ..... Notre Dame
2. Paul Gipson, rb..... Houston
3. Malcolm Snider, g ..... Stanford
   Jon Sandstrom, g ..... Oregon State
   (from N.Y. Giants thru Los Angeles)
4. Jim Mitchell, te ..... Prairie View
   Dicky Lyons, rb ..... Kentucky
   (from Baltimore)
5. Choice traded to Minnesota
   Tony Pleviak, dt..... Illinois
   (from Dallas through Baltimore)
6. Choice traded to Los Angeles
   Wally Oyler, cb-s..... Louisville
   (from Detroit)
7. Dick Enderle, g ..... Minnesota
   Ted Cottrell, lb ..... Delaware Valley
   (from Detroit)
8. Jim Callahan, wr..... Temple
9. Choice traded to Baltimore
10. Jeff Stanciel, rb..... Miss. Valley
11. Jeff Van Note, c..... Kentucky
12. Denver Samples, de .. Texas-El Paso
13. Harry Carpenter, g . Tennessee State
14. Billy Hunt, cb-s..... Kansas
15. Jim Weatherford, s..... Tennessee

16. Ed Hughes, rb . . . . . Texas Southern
17. Paul Williams, wr . . . . . California

1970

1. JOHN SMALL, lb . . . . . Citadel
2. Art Malone, rb . . . . . Arizona State
3. Andy Maurer, g . . . . . Oregon
   Todd Snyder, wr . . . . . Ohio U.
   (from N.Y. Giants)
4. Paul Reed, t . . . . . Johnson C. Smith
   (from Philadelphia)
   Choice traded to St. Louis
5. Bruce Van Ness, rb . . . . . Rutgers
   (from Philadelphia thru N.Y. Giants)
   Ken Mendenhall, c . . . . . Oklahoma
6. Mack Herron, rb . . . . . Kansas State
   Jade Butcher, wr . . . . . Indiana
   (from Washington)
   Randy Marshall, de . . . . . Linfield
   (from Los Angeles)
7. Choice traded to Los Angeles
   Gary Orcutt, wr . . . . . So. California
   (from N.Y. Giants)
8. Larry Brewer, te . . . . . Louisiana Tech
   (from N.Y. Giants)
   Seth Miller, s . . . . . Arizona State
9. Roy Robinson, cb-s . . . . . Montana
10. Jim Hatcher, cb-s . . . . . Kansas
11. Mike Brunson, wr-rb . . . Arizona State
12. Lonnie Holton, rb Northern Michigan
13. Rick Stepanek, dt . . . . . Iowa
14. Chuck Wald, wr . . . . No. Dakota State
15. Keith Mauney, cb-s . . . . . Princeton
16. Steve Parnell, wr . . . . Massachusetts
17. Bill Bell, k . . . . . Kansas

1971

1. JOE PROFIT, rb . . . . . N.E. Louisiana
2. Ken Burrow, wr . . . . . San Diego State
3. Leo Hart, qb . . . . . Duke
4. Mike Potchad, dt . . . Pittsburgh State
5. Ray Jarvis, wr . . . . . Norfolk State
6. Tom Hayes, cb . . . . . San Diego State
   Ray Brown, s . . . . . West Texas State
   (from N.Y. Giants)
7. Wes Chesson, wr . . . . . Duke
8. Dennis Havig, g . . . . . Colorado
9. Alvin Griffin, wr . . . . . Tuskegee
10. Faddie Tillman, de . . . . . Boise State
11. Larry Shears, cb-s . . . . . Lincoln, Mo.
12. Ronny Lowe, wr . . . Fort Valley State
13. Dan Crooks, cb-s . . . . . Wisconsin
14. Deryl Comer, te . . . . . Texas
15. Wallace Clark, rb . . . . . Auburn
16. Lindsey James, rb-te . . San Diego St.
17. Willie Martin, rb . . Johnson C. Smith

1972

1. CLARENCE ELLIS, s . . . Notre Dame
2. Pat Sullivan, qb . . . . . Auburn
   (from Philadelphia thru Detroit)
   Steve Okoniewski, t . . . . . Montana
   (from Detroit)
   Roosevelt Manning, dt . . . . N.E. Okla.
3. Les Goodman, rb . . . . . Yankton, S. D.
4. Andy Howard, dt . . . . . Grambling
5. Bill Taylor, rb . . . . . Michigan
   (from Buffalo)
   Ralph Cindrich, lb . . . . . Pittsburgh
6. Mike Perfetti, p-s . . . . . Minnesota
   (from New England thru N.Y. Giants)
   Fred Riley, wr . . . . . Idaho
   (choice reacquired from New Orleans)
7. Lance Moon, rb . . . . . Wisconsin
8. Hank Brandon, rb . . . . . Southern U.
9. Ray Easterling, s . . . . . Richmond
10. Choice traded to St. Louis
11. Jack Phillips, wr . . . . . Grambling
12. Larry Mialik, te . . . . . Wisconsin
13. Henry Sovio, te . . . . . Hawaii
14. Tom Chandler, lb . . . . . Minnesota
15. Oscar Jenkins, cb . . . . Virginia Union
16. Larry Butler, lb . . . . . Stanford
17. Bill Holland, rb . . . . . So. California

1973

1. Choice traded to Houston
2. Greg Marx, dt . . . . . Notre Dame
3. Choice traded to San Diego through Oakland
4. Thomas Geredine, wr . N.E. Mo. State
5. Choice traded to Washington
6. Nick Bebout, t . . . . . Wyoming
7. George Campbell, cb . . . . . Iowa St.
8. Tom Reed, g . . . . . Arkansas
9. Russ Ingram, c . . . . . Tex. Tech
10. Nick Mike-Mayer, k . . . . . Temple
11. Byron Buelow, db . . . LaCrosse, Wis.
12. Mike Samples, dt . . . . . Drake
13. Chris Stecher, t . . . . Claremont-Mudd
14. John Madeya, qb . . . . . Louisville
15. Tom Gage, db . . . . . Lamar Tech
16. Rufus Ferguson, rb . . . . . Wisconsin
17. Jim Hodge, wr . . . . . Arkansas

1974

1. Traded choice and quarterback Bob Berry to Minnesota for veterans Bob Lee, a quarterback, and linebacker

Lonnie Warwick.
2. Gerald Tinker, wr. . . . . Kent State
3. Kim McQuilken, qb . . . . . Lehigh
Maurice Spencer, db . . . . N. Carolina Central
4. Vince Kendrick, rb . . . . . Florida
5. Henry Childs, te . . . . . Kansas State
Monroe Eley, rb . . . . . Ariz. State
6. Doyle Orange, rb . . . . Southern Miss.
7. James Coode, t . . . . . Michigan
8. Choice to Green Bay through New Orleans
9. Larry Bailey, dt. . . . . Pacific
10. Paul Ryczek, c . . . . . Virginia
11. Eddie Wilson, wr . . . . . Albany State
12. Vic Koegel, lb . . . . . Ohio State
13. Ralph Powell, rb . . . . . Nebraska
14. John Givens, g. . . . . Villanova
15. Willie Jones, wr. . . . . Iowa State
16. Sylvester McGee, rb . . . Rhode Island
17. Al Davis, g-t . . . . . Boise State

1975

1. STEVE BARTKOWSKI, qb . California
2. Ralph Ortega, lb . . . . . Florida
3. Woody Thompson, rb. . . . . Miami
4. John Nessel, g . . . . . Penn. State
5. Greg McCrary, te . . . . . Clark
6. Fulton Kuykendall, lb . . . . . UCLA
Doug Payton, g . . . . . Colorado
7. Mike Esposito, rb . . . Boston College
8. Brent Adams, t . Univ. Tenn./C'nooga
9. Brad Davis, rb . . . . . LSU
10. Marshall Mills, wr. . . . . West Virginia
11. Jeff Merrow, dt . . . . . West Virginia
12. Alonza Pickett, t . . . . Texas Southern
13. Carl Russ, lb . . . . . Michigan
14. Steve Robinson, dt. . . . . Tuskegee
15. Jimmy Robinson, wr . . Georgia Tech
16. Steve Knutson, g . . . . . Southern Cal.
17. Mitch Anderson, qb. . . Northwestern

1976

1. BUBBA BEAN, rb. . . . . Texas A&M
2. Sonny Collins, rb . . . . . Kentucky
3. Dave Scott, t . . . . . Kansas
4. Walt Brett, de . . . . . Montana
5. Traded to Minnesota
6. Stan Varner, dt . . . . . Brigham Young
7. Karl Farmer, wr . . . . . Pittsburgh
8. Frank Reed, db . . . . . Washington
9. Phil McKinnely, t. . . . . UCLA
10. Selection
11. Chuck Brislin, t . . . Mississippi State
12. Pat Bolton, k . . . . . Montana State
13. Mike Williams, t. . . . . Florida
14. Mark Husfloen, de Washington State
15. Ron Olson, db. . . . . Washington
16. Pat Curto, lb. . . . . Ohio State
17. Tony Green, db. . . . . Texas Tech

1977

1. WARREN BYRANT, ot . . . . Kentucky
Wilson Faumuina, dt . San Jose State
2. R. C. Thielemann, og-c . . . . Arkansas
3. Edgar Fields, dt-de . . . . . Texas A&M
4. Allan Leavitt, ks . . . . . Georgia
5. Shelton Diggs, wr . . . . . Southern California
6. Keith Jenkins, db . . . . . Cincinnati
7. No selection.
8. Walter Packer, wr. . Mississippi State
9. John Maxwell, ot . . . Boston College
Robert Speer, de . . . . Arkansas State
10. Billy Ryckman, wr . . . Louisiana Tech
11. Dave Farmer, rb . Southern California
12. Don Parrish, de . . . . . Pittsburgh

1978

1. MIKE KENN, ot . . . . . Michigan
2. Steve Stewart, lb . . . . . Minnesota
3. Stan Waldemore, og . . . . . Nebraska
4. Brian Cabral, lb . . . . . Colorado
5. Dennis Pearson, wr . . . San Diego St.
6. Rodney Parker, wr. . . . Tennessee St.
7. Alfred Jackson, wr . . . . . Texas
James Wright, te . . . Texas Christian
8. David Adkins, lb. . . . . Ohio St.
David Williams, db Tennessee-Martin
9. Tom Pridemore, db. . . . West Virginia
10. Ricky Patton, rb . . . . . Jackson St.
Ray Strong, rb . . . Nevada-Las Vegas
11. Milton "Scooter" Reed, db . . . Baylor
12. Daria Butler, lb . . . . . Oklahoma St.

1979

1. DON SMITH, de. . . . . Miami
2. Pat Howell, og . . Southern California
3. James Mayberry, rb . . . . . Colorado
William Andrews, rb. . . . . Auburn
4. Lynn Cain, rb . . . Southern California
Charles Johnson, db. . . . . Grambling
5. Mike Zele, dt . . . . . Kent State
6. Mike Moroski, qb . . . . . Cal-Davis
7. Roger Westlund, ot . . . . Washington
8. Keith Miller, lb . . . . . NE Oklahoma
9. Dave Parkin, db . . . . . Utah State
10. Bruce Beekley, lb . . . . . Oregon
11. Bill Leer, c. . . . . Colorado St.
12. Stuart Walker, lb . . . . . Colorado

Atlanta Fulton County Stadium



Ground Breaking: April 15, 1964
Approximate Cost: $14,250,000
Access: Located adjacent to Interstate 75-85 North-South and I-20 East-West.
Capacity: 60,763
Lower Level: 25,623
Club Level: 2,796
Upper Level: 25,800
Field Level: 4,942
Ground Level: 1,602
Parking Capacity: 4,000 Parking Spaces
Construction: Lower level consists of poured in place concrete. Club and Upper levels are basic steel construction with pre-cast concrete in seating areas.
Turf: Bermuda Grass Field
Concession Facilities: 33 concession stands (20 lineal feet per stand).
Rest Room Facilities: 46
Lighting: Over 200 foot candles over most of the field.

Training Complex

The Atlanta Falcons made a permanent move to the Atlanta Metro Area in August of 1978 with the completion of a permanent training complex in Suwanee, Ga. The training facility is the year round home of the Falcons, housing both the administrative and football operations of the team.

Construction of the facility, began April 3, 1978 and the permanent move was made in August. The facility includes three practice fields, locker room facilities, weight room as well as housing all of the administrative offices.

Equipping the weight room is a full set of Nautilas equipment, and a players lounge is included in the locker area.

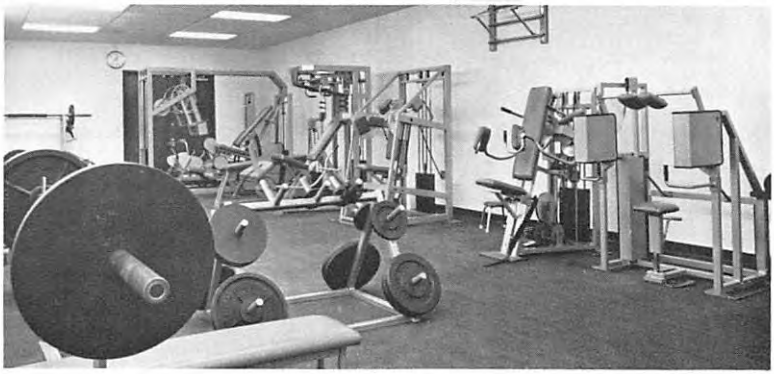
Prior to coming to Atlanta, the Falcons trained at Furman University for eight years and previously used East Tennessee State University in Johnson City, Tenn., and Black Mountain, N.C., as preseason training sites.

"Our search for a site took a good deal of time because we had to find a unique setting which included an area for a practice facility as well as a motel that could house our players in preseason training," says General Manager Eddie LeBaron.









Atlanta Falcons Veteran Roster

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Birth-date	College	NFL Exp.
61	*Adams, Brent	T	6-5	256	6/2/52	UT/C'nooga	5
72	Bailey, Jim	DE	6-5	260	6/9/48	Kansas	10
10	Bartkowski, Steve	QB	6-4	213	11/12/52	California	5
44	Bean, Bubba	RB	5-11	195	1/26/54	Texas A&M	3
50	Brezina, Greg	LB	6-1	221	1/7/46	Houston	12
66	*Bryant, Warren	T	6-6	270	11/11/55	Kentucky	3
38	Byas, Rick	DB	5-9	180	10/19/50	Wayne St.	6
51	*Cabral, Brian	LB	6-0	209	6/23/56	Colorado	1
32	*Easterling, Ray	S	6-0	192	9/3/49	Richmond	8
26	Esposito, Mike	RB	6-0	183	4/24/53	Boston College	4
74	Faumuina, Wilson	DT	6-5	275	8/11/54	San Jose St.	3
77	Fields, Edgar	DT-DE	6-2	255	3/10/54	Texas A&M	3
89	Francis, Wallace	WR	5-11	190	11/7/51	Arkansas AM&N	7
40	Franklin, George	RB	6-3	226	7/5/54	Texas A&I	2
88	Gilbert, Lewis	TE	6-4	225	5/24/56	Florida	2
36	Glazebrook, Bob	DB	6-1	200	3/7/56	Fresno St.	2
16	Hunter, Scott	QB	6-2	205	11/19/47	Alabama	9
85	Jackson, Alfred	WR	5-11	176	8/3/55	Texas	2
30	Jackson, Ernie	CB	5-10	176	4/11/50	Duke	8
6	James, John	P	6-3	200	1/21/49	Florida	8
84	*Jenkins, Alfred	WR	5-10	172	1/25/52	Morris Brown	5
14	Jones, June	QB	6-4	200	2/19/53	Portland St.	3
78	Kenn, Mike	T	6-6	257	2/9/56	Michigan	2
54	Kuykendall, Fulton	LB	6-5	225	6/10/53	UCLA	5
22	Lawrence, Rolland	CB	5-10	179	3/24/51	Tabor	7
69	Lewis, Mike	DT	6-4	261	7/14/49	Arkansas AM&N	9
4	Mazzetti, Tim	K	6-1	175	2/1/56	Pennsylvania	2
56	McCartney, Ron	LB	6-1	220	7/29/54	Tennessee	3
52	McClain, Dewey	LB	6-3	236	4/25/54	E. Central Univ.	4
73	McKinnely, Phil	T	6-4	248	7/8/54	UCLA	4
75	Merrow, Jeff	DE	6-4	230	7/11/53	West Virginia	5
86	Mitchell, Jim	TE	6-1	236	10/19/47	Prairie View	11
71	Montgomery, Marv	T	6-6	255	2/8/48	USC	9
45	Moriarty, Tom	S	6-0	185	4/7/53	Bowling Green	3
33	Patton, Ricky	RB	5-11	185	4/6/54	Jackson St.	2
81	Pearson, Dennis	WR	5-11	177	2/9/55	San Diego St.	2
59	Pennywell, Robert	LB	6-1	222	11/6/54	Grambling	3
27	Pridemore, Tom	S	5-10	186	4/29/56	West Virginia	2
28	Reed, Frank	DB	5-11	193	5/13/54	Washington	4
82	Ryckman, Billy	WR	5-11	172	2/28/55	Louisiana Tech	3
53	Ryczek, Paul	C	6-2	230	6/25/52	Virginia	6
70	Scott, Dave	T	6-4	285	12/26/53	Kansas	4
24	Stanback, Haskel	RB	6-0	210	3/19/52	Tennessee	6
58	Stewart, Steve	LB	6-2	217	5/1/56	Minnesota	2
25	Strong, Ray	RB	5-9	184	5/7/56	Nevada/Las Vegas	2
68	Thielemann, R. C.	G-C	6-4	247	8/12/55	Arkansas	3
57	Van Note, Jeff	C	6-2	247	2/7/46	Kentucky	11
83	Wright, James	TE	6-3	240	9/1/56	Texas Christian	2
79	Yeates, Jeff	DT	6-3	248	8/3/51	Boston College	8

*Injured Reserve at conclusion of 1978.

Rookie Roster

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Birth-date	College	NFL Exp.
31	Andrews, William	RB	6-0	200	12/25/55	Auburn	D3B
94	Arnett, Scott	TE	6-4	225	11/9/57	Indiana	FA

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Birth-date	College	How Acq.
91	Barr, Calvin	LB	6-2	228	5/2/55	Minnesota/Duluth	FA
98	Beekley, Bruce	LB	6-1	227	12/15/56	Oregon	D10
96	Bess, William	LB	6-2	230	9/12/57	Missouri	FA
87	Beyer, Ron	TE	6-4	233	4/10/57	Arizona	FA
3	Black, William	WR	5-8	164	3/11/57	Carson-Newman	FA
94	Boskey, Tom	LB	6-2	225	6/26/57	Iowa State	FA
37	Bradley, Henry	S	6-2	200	12/14/55	VIP	FA
43	Brooks, Randy	DB	6-0	192	10/2/53	Texas A&I	FA
80	Bryant, Jimmy	WR	5-10	178	1/31/57	Mt. San Jacinto	FA
42	Bryant, Ken	DB	6-1	200	12/10/55	Oregon	FA
37	Butler, William	RB	6-2	212	9/15/50	Bridgeport	FA
21	Cain, Lynn	RB	6-1	205	10/16/55	USC	D4A
41	Calabrese, Russell	CB	6-1	185	12/16/56	Missouri	FA
48	Choate, Putt	LB	6-0	230	12/11/56	SMU	FA
47	Clemons, Mike	DB	6-0	188	12/3/56	Iowa State	FA
49	Crossen, David	LB	6-2	215	3/22/57	Wisconsin/Madison	FA
95	Diehl, Bud	LB	6-2	230	7/2/55	Kentucky	FA
71	Donahue, Johnnie	DT	6-4	260	10/3/55	Texas A&M	FA
20	Duncan, Bobby	CB	5-11	191	3/2/57	Texas/El Paso	FA
33	Freeman Clifford	CB	6-0	178	1/13/55	Grambling	FA
21	Gaffney, Warren	DB	6-1	198	9/7/56	Florida	FA
8	Garcia, Frank	P	6-0	200	6/5/57	Arizona	FA
91	Gaustad, Stephen	TE	6-4	223	2/26/57	Pittsburgh	FA
98	Guest, Mack	T	6-4	260	6/25/57	Georgia	FA
73	Heath, Eddie	DE	6-5	243	3/29/57	Texas A&M	FA
92	Hobbs, Darrell	DE	6-5	240	7/4/57	Iowa	FA
95	Holm, Allen	T	6-5	238	12/27/56	Concordia Coll.	FA
64	Howell, Pat	G	6-5	253	3/12/57	USC	D2
31	Hunt, Kevin	CB	5-11	175	12/7/55	SE Missouri St.	FA
62	Janes, Kit	TE	6-4	240	11/13/56	S. Utah St.	FA
29	Johnson, Charles	CB	6-1	182	5/ /56	Grambling	D4B
11	Jones, Spike	P	6-2	190	7/9/47	Georgia	FA
93	Keune, Arden	G	6-5	245	4/2/57	Northwestern	FA
63	Krug, Mark	G	6-4	260	11/17/55	TCU	FA
97	Lee, Jeffrey	LB	6-0	210	9/8/57	Colorado	FA
99	Leer, Bill	C	6-4	256	5/21/57	Colorado St.	D11
97	Lukas, Don	WR	5-11	181	12/17/56	Michigan Tech	FA
39	Mayberry, James	RB	5-11	210	11/5/57	Colorado	D3A
92	Mikeska, Russell	TE	6-3	225	9/10/55	Texas A&M	FA
55	Miller, Keith	LB	6-1	220	8/30/57	NE Oklahoma	D8
34	Miller, William	RB	5-9	189	1/3/57	Ouachita Baptist	FA
15	Moroski, Mike	QB	6-4	200	9/4/57	Cal-Davis	D6
39	Murry, Dedrick	DB	5-10	192	4/29/57	Arkansas/Pine Bluff	FA
35	Parkin, Dave	S	5-11	191	1/7/56	Utah St.	D9
34	Patterson, Don	CB	5-11	175	10/31/57	Georgia Tech	FA
23	Reed, Scotter	S	5-9	174	10/30/55	Baylor	FA
96	Siljendahl, Jack	WR	6-2	195	7/16/56	Minnesota/Morris	FA
65	Smith, Don	DE	6-5	248	5/9/57	Miami	D1
67	Sullivan, Mark	DE	6-4	235	7/20/57	Ohio State	FA
90	Turner, Godfrey	WR	5-11	186	3/14/56	Texas Tech	FA
17	Walker, Jerry	P	6-1	185	10/8/56	Texas/El Paso	FA
77	Walker, Leonard	G	6-2	265	5/2/56	Virginia Tech	FA
93	Walker, Stuart	LB	6-1	227	1/9/57	Colorado	D12
62	Washington, Willie	DT	6-3	250	11/25/54	Northwestern St.	FA
67	Westlund, Roger	G	6-4	246	2/2/57	Washington	D7
46	Young, Charles	RB	6-1	215	10/13/52	North Carolina St.	FA
63	Zele, Mike	DT	6-3	236	7/3/56	Kent State	D5

Falcons Honors

FALCON PLAYER OF THE YEAR

1966—Tommy Nobis, linebacker. 1967—Junior Coffey, running back. 1968—Tommy Nobis. 1969—Jim Butler, running back. 1970—Jim Mitchell, tight end. 1971—Don Hansen, linebacker. 1972—Dave Hampton, running back. 1973—Bob Lee, quarterback. 1974—Ray Brown, Safety. 1975—Dave Hampton. 1976—Claude Humphrey. 1977—Rolland Lawrence. 1978—Greg Brezina.

ALL-PRO

1967—Tommy Nobis, linebacker, Associated Press first team. 1971—Claude Humphrey, defensive end, Newspaper Enterpirse Association, first team. 1972—Humphrey, Associated Press, Pro Football Weekly, Football News, Newspaper Enterprise Association, Football Digest, Professional Football Writers Association, first teams. George Kunz, tackle, Newspaper Enterprise Association, first team. 1973—Humphrey, Associated Press, Pro Football Weekly, Professional Football Writers Association, Football News, Computer Kick-Off, first teams. Nick Mike-Mayer, Pro Football Weekly, first team. Mike Tilleman, defensive tackle, National Star News Service, first team. 1974—Humphrey, Newspaper Enterprise Association. Rolland Lawrence, Associated Press, Pro Football Writers Association.

ALL-NATIONAL CONFERENCE

1970—Claude Humphrey, defensive end, United Press International, first team. 1971—Humphrey, UPI, first team. 1972—Humphrey, UPI, Associated Press, The Sporting News, Football Digest, Football News, first teams. John James, punter, All-NFC Rookie Team, Pro Football Weekly, Football Digest, first teams. Dennis Havig, guard, UPI, Football Digest All-Rookie team, first team. Willie Germany, safety, All-Rookie team, Football Digest, first team. 1973—Humphrey, Pro Football Weekly, UPI, The Sporting News, Associated Press, UPI, first teams. Kunz, Pro Football Weekly, UPI, first team. Nick Mike-Mayer, kicker, Pro Football Weekly, The Sporting News, Associated Press, first teams. 1977—John James, The Sporting News, Rolland Lawrence, UPI, The Sporting News.

PRO BOWL

Jan. 22, 1967—Tommy Nobis, linebacker. Jan. 21, 1968—Tommy Nobis. Jan. 19, 1969—Tommy Nobis. Jan. 18, 1970—Jim Butler, running back. Added to West squad: Bob Berry, quarterback; Greg Brezina, linebacker; Bob Etter, kicker; George Kunz, tackle; Jim Mitchell, tight end; Ken Reaves, cornerback. Jan. 24, 1971—Claude Humphrey, defensive end; Kunz, Mitchell, Nobis. Jan. 20, 1974—John Zook, defensive end; Nick Mike-Mayer, kicker; Kunz, Humphrey. Jan. 20, 1975—Jeff Van Note, center; Humphrey. Jan. 26, 1976—Van Note, John James, punter. Jan. 17, 1977—John James, punter. Jan. 23, 1978—John James, punter; Claude Humphrey, defensive end; Rolland Lawrence, defensive back.

Falcon opponents



Games 1 & 13

NEW ORLEANS SAINTS

Sept. 2 - 1:00 PM—Louisiana Superdome
Nov. 25 - 1:00 PM—Atlanta-Fulton County Stadium

President: John W. Mecom, Jr.
Executive Vice President: Eddie Jones
Office Telephone: (504) 733-0255
Director of Public Relations: Jerry Wynn
Assistant: Greg Suit, Home: (504) 283-4637
Stadium: Louisiana Superdome (71,330) Astro Turf
Team Colors: Old Gold, Black and White

Dick Nolan
2nd Year: 7-9-0

1978 Results (7-9)
Finish: Third, NFC West

31	Minnesota	24
17	at Green Bay	28
17	Philadelphia	24
20	at Cincinnati	18
20	Los Angeles	26
16	Cleveland	24
14	at San Francisco	7
10	at Los Angeles	3
28	New York Giants	17
14	at Pittsburgh	20
17	ATLANTA	20
7	at Dallas	27
17	at ATLANTA	20
24	San Francisco	13
12	Houston	17
17	at Tampa Bay	10
281		298

1978 TEAM LEADERS

Rushing

	Att	Yds	Avg	TD
Galbreath	186	635	3.4	5
Muncie	160	575	3.6	7

Passing

	Att	Comp	Yds	TD	Int
Manning	471	291	3416	17	16
Scott	5	3	36	0	0

Receiving

	No	Yds	Avg	TD
Galbreath	74	582	7.9	2
Childs	53	869	16.4	4

Game 2

PHILADELPHIA EAGLES

Sept. 10 - 9:00 PM—Veterans Stadium

President: Leonard H. Tose
General Manager: Jim Murray
Office Telephone: (215) 463-5500
Director of Public Relations: Jim Gallagher, Home: (215) 279-7989
Assistant: Chick McElrone, Home: (215) 544-9226
Stadium: Philadelphia Veterans Stadium (66,052) Astro Turf
Team Colors: Kelly Green, Silver and White

Dick Vermeil
4th Year: 18-26-0
1978 Results (9-7-0)
Finish: Second NFC Eastern

14	Los Angeles	16
30	at Washington	35
24	at New Orleans	17
17	Miami	3
17	at Baltimore	14
14	at New England	24
17	Washington	10
7	at Dallas	14
10	St. Louis	16
10	Green Bay	3
17	New York Jets	9
19	at New York Giants	17
14	at St. Louis	10
27	at Minnesota	28
13	Dallas	31
20	New York Giants	3
270		250

1978 TEAM LEADERS

Rushing

	Att	Yds	Avg	TD
Montgomery	259	1220	4.7	9
Hogan	145	607	4.2	4

Passing

	Att	Comp	Yds	TD	Int
Jaworski	398	206	2487	16	16
Engles	1	1	-2	0	0

Receiving

	No	Yds	Avg	TD
Carmichael	55	1072	19.5	8
Montgomery	34	195	5.7	1

Game 3

DENVER BRONCOS

Sept. 16 - 1:00 PM—Atlanta-Fulton County Stadium

President: Allan R. Phipps
General Manager: Fred Gehrke
Office Telephone: (303) 623-8778
Director of Public Relations: Bob Peck, Home: (303) 986-0772
Assistant: Jim Saccomano, Home: (303) 288-1182
Stadium: Mile High Stadium (75,086) Natural Grass
Team Colors: Orange, Blue and White

Robert (Red) Miller
3rd Year: 22-8-0
1978 Results (10-6)
Finish: First AFC West

14	Oakland	6
9	at Minnesota	12
27	San Diego	14
23	at Kansas City	17
28	Seattle	7
23	at San Diego	0
16	Chicago	7
6	at Baltimore	7
20	at Seattle	17
28	New York Jets	31
19	at Cleveland	6
16	Green Bay	3
14	at Detroit	17
21	at Oakland	6
24	Kansas City	3
17	Pittsburgh	21
282		198

1978 TEAM LEADERS

Rushing

	Att	Yds	Avg	TD
Perrin	108	455	4.2	4
Keyworth	112	444	4.0	3

Passing

	Att	Comp	Yds	TD	Int
Morton	267	146	1802	11	8
Weese	87	55	723	4	5

Receiving

	No	Yds	Avg	TD
Odoms	54	829	15.4	6
Moses	37	744	20.2	5

Game 4

DETROIT LIONS

Sept. 23 - 1:00 PM—Pontiac Silverdome

President: William Clay Ford
Executive Vice President and General Manager: Russ Thomas
Office Telephone: (313) 335-4131
Director of Public Relations: Don Kremer, Home: (313) 625-4035
Assistant: Brian Muir, Home: (313) 852-8274
Stadium: Pontiac Silverdome (80,638) Astro Turf
Team Colors: Honolulu Blue & Silver

Monte Clark
2nd Year: 7-9-0
1978 Results (7-9)
Finish: Third NFC Central

7	Green Bay	13
15	at Tampa Bay	7
0	Chicago	19
16	at Seattle	28
14	at Green Bay	35
19	Washington	21
0	at ATLANTA	14
31	San Diego	14
21	at Chicago	17
7	at Minnesota	17
34	Tampa Bay	23
17	at Oakland	29
14	at St. Louis	21
45	Minnesota	14
33	San Francisco	14
290		300

1978 TEAM LEADERS

Rushing

	Att	Yds	Avg	TD
Bussey	225	924	4.1	5
King	155	660	4.3	4

Passing

	Att	Comp	Yds	TD	Int
Danielson	351	199	2294	18	17
Landry	77	48	452	1	1

Receiving

	No	Yds	Avg	TD
Hill, D.	53	633	11.9	4
King	48	396	8.3	2

Game 5

WASHINGTON REDSKINS

Sept. 30 - 1:00 PM—Atlanta-Fulton County Stadium

President: Edward Bennett Williams
General Manager: Bobby Beathard
Office Telephone: (703) 471-9100
Director of Public Relations: Joe Blair, Home: (301) 589-6883
Assistant: Charlie Taylor, Home: (703) 476-4677
Stadium: Robert F. Kennedy Memorial (55,031) Natural Grass
Team Colors: Burgundy and Gold

Jack Pardee
2nd Year: 8-8-0
1978 Results (8-8)
Finish: Third NFC Eastern

16	at New England	14
35	Philadelphia	30
28	at St. Louis	10
23	New York Jets	3
9	Dallas Cowboys	5
21	at Detroit	19
10	at Philadelphia	17
6	at New York Giants	17
38	San Francisco	20
17	at Baltimore	21
16	New York Giants	13
17	St. Louis	27
10	Dallas	37
0	Miami	16
17	at ATLANTA	20
10	Chicago	14
273		283

1978 TEAM LEADERS

Rushing

	Att	Yds	Avg	TD
Riggins	248	1014	4.1	5
Thomas	160	534	3.3	3

Passing

	Att	Comp	Yds	TD	Int
Theismann	395	187	2593	13	18
Kilmer	46	23	3.6	4	3

Receiving

	No	Yds	Avg	TD
Buggs	36	575	16.0	2
Thomas	35	387	11.1	2

Game 6

GREEN BAY PACKERS

Oct. 7 - 1:00 PM—Atlanta-Fulton County Stadium

President: Dominic Olejniczak
Vice President: Richard Bourguignon
Office Telephone: (414) 494-2351
Director of Public Relations: Chuck Lane, Home: (414) 866-2545
Publicity Director: Lee Remmel, Home: (414) 432-0609
Stadium: Lambeau Field (56,267) Natural Grass
Team Colors: Green and Gold

Bart Starr
5th Year: 21-36-1
1978 Results (8-7-1)
Finish: Tied First NFC Central

13	at Detroit	7
28	New Orleans (Milw.)	17
3	Oakland	28
24	at San Diego	3
35	Detroit (Milw.)	14
24	Chicago	14
45	Seattle (Milw.)	28
7	at Minnesota	21
9	Tampa Bay	7
3	at Philadelphia	10
14	Dallas (Milw.)	42
3	at Denver	16
10	Minnesota	10
17	at Tampa Bay	7
0	at Chicago	14
14	at Los Angeles	31
249		269

1978 TEAM LEADERS

Rushing

	Att	Yds	Avg	TD
Middleton	284	1116	3.9	11
Smith	154	567	3.7	4

Passing

	Att	Comp	Yds	TD	Int
Whitehurst	328	168	2093	10	17
Sproul	13	5	87	0	0

Receiving

	No	Yds	Avg	TD
Lofton	46	818	17.7	6
Smith	37	256	6.9	0

Game 7

OAKLAND RAIDERS

Oct. 14 - 1:00 PM—Oakland-Alameda County Coliseum

Managing General Partner: Al Davis
Executive Assistant: Al LoCasale
Office Telephone: (415) 562-5900
Director of Public Relations: John Herrera, Home: (415) 829-2381
Assistant: Bill Glazier, Home: (415) 938-0918
Stadium: Oakland-Alameda County Coliseum (54,615) Natural Grass
Team Colors: Silver and Black

Tom Flores
First Season
1978 Results (9-7)
Finish: Second AFC Western

6	at Denver	14
21	at San Diego	20
28	at Green Bay	3
14	New England	21
25	at Chicago	19
21	Houston	17
28	Kansas City	6
7	at Seattle	27
23	San Diego	27
20	at Kansas City	10
34	at Cincinnati	21
29	Detroit	17
16	Seattle	17
6	Denver	21
6	at Miami	23
27	Minnesota	20
311		283

1978 TEAM LEADERS

Rushing

	Att	Yds	Avg	TD
Van Eeghen	270	1080	4.0	9
Whittington	172	661	3.8	7

Passing

	Att	Comp	Yds	TD	Int
Stabler	406	237	2944	16	30
Humm	26	14	151	0	1

Receiving

	No	Yds	Avg	TD
Casper	62	852	13.7	9
Branch	49	709	14.5	1

Games 8 & 16

SAN FRANCISCO FORTY NINERS

Oct. 21 - 1:00 PM—Candlestick Park
Dec. 16 - 1:00 PM—Atlanta-Fulton County Stadium

President: Edward J. DeBartolo, Jr.
Vice President/Administration: John Ralston
Office Telephone: (415) 365-3420
Director of Public Relations: George Heddleston, Home: (408) 725-0859
Assistant: Brian Billick, Home: (415) 595-5956
Stadium: Candlestick Park (61,246) Astro Turf
Team Colors: Forty Niner Gold and Scarlet

Bill Walsh
First Season
1978 Results (2-14)
Finish: Fourth in NFC West

7	at Cleveland	24
13	Chicago	16
19	at Houston	20
10	at New York Giants	27
28	Cincinnati	12
10	at Los Angeles	27
7	New Orleans	14
17	ATLANTA	20
20	at Washington	38
10	at ATLANTA	21
10	St. Louis	16
28	Los Angeles	31
7	Pittsburgh	24
13	at New Orleans	24
16	Tampa Bay	3
14	at Detroit	33
219		349

1978 TEAM LEADERS

Rushing

	Att	Yds	Avg	TD
Simpson	161	593	3.7	1
Ferrell	125	471	3.8	1

Passing

	Att	Comp	Yds	TD	Int
DeBerg	302	137	1570	8	22
Bull	121	48	651	1	11

Receiving

	No	Yds	Avg	TD
Solomon	31	458	14.8	2
MacAfee	22	205	9.3	1

Game 9

SEATTLE SEAHAWKS

Oct. 29 - 9:00 PM—Atlanta-Fulton County Stadium

Managing General Partner: Herman Sarkowsky
General Manager: John Thompson
Office Telephone: (206) 827-9777
Director of Public Relations: Don Andersen, Home: (206) 641-3807
Public Director: Gary Wright, Home: (206) 821-6091
Stadium: Kingdom (64,752) Astro Turf
Team Colors: Bule, Green and Silver

Jack Patera
4th Year: 16-28-0
1978 Results (9-7)
Finish: Tied Second AFC West

20	San Diego	24
10	at Pittsburgh	21
24	at New York Jets	17
28	Detroit	16
7	at Denver	28
29	Minnesota	28
28	at Green Bay (Milw.)	45
27	Oakland	7
17	Denver	20
31	at Chicago	29
14	Baltimore	17
13	at Kansas City	10
17	at Oakland	16
47	Cleveland	24
10	at San Diego	37
23	Kansas City	19
345		358

1978 TEAM LEADERS

Rushing

	Att	Yds	Avg	TD
Smith	165	805	4.9	6
Sims	174	752	4.3	14

Passing

	Att	Comp	Yds	TD	Int
Zorn	443	248	3283	15	20
Myer	22	11	94	0	2

Receiving

	No	Yds	Avg	TD
Largent	71	1168	16.5	8
McCullum	37	525	14.2	3

Game 10

TAMPA BAY BUCCANEERS

Nov. 4 - 1:00 PM—Atlanta-Fulton County Stadium

President: Hugh F. Culverhouse
Director of Administration: Dick Beam
Office Telephone: (831) 870-2700
Director of Public Relations: Bob Best, Home: (813) 961-2827
Assistant: Rick Odioso, Home: (813) 971-5605
Stadium: Tampa Stadium (72,112) Natural Grass
Team Colors: Florida Orange, White with Red Trim

John McKay
4th Year: 7-37-0
1978 Results (5-11)
Finish: Fifth NFC Central

13	New York Giants	19
7	Detroit	15
16	at Minnesota	10
14	ATLANTA	9
7	Minnesota	24
30	at Kansas City	13
14	at New York Giants	17
33	Chicago	19
7	at Green Bay	9
23	at Los Angeles	26
23	at Detroit	34
31	Buffalo	10
3	at Chicago	14
7	Green Bay	17
3	at San Francisco	6
10	New Orleans	17
241		259

1978 TEAM LEADERS

Rushing

	Att	Yds	Avg	TD
Bell	185	679	3.7	6
Davis	97	370	3.8	3

Passing

	Att	Comp	Yds	TD	Int
Williams	194	73	1170	7	8
Rae	118	57	705	4	7

Receiving

	No	Yds	Avg	TD
Owens	32	640	20.0	5
Giles	23	324	14.1	2

Game 11

NEW YORK GIANTS

Nov. 11 - 4:00 PM—Giants Stadium

President: Wellington T. Mara
Vice President and Treasurer: Timothy J. Mara
Office Telephone: (201) 935-8111
Director of Public Relations: Ed Croke, Home: (914) 631-1631
Director of Promotion: Tom Power, Home: (201) 842-7599
Stadium: Giants Stadium (76,891) Astro Turf
Team Colors: Bule, Red and White

Ray Perkins
First Season
1978 Results (6-10)
Finish: Fifth NFC East

19	at Tampa Bay	13
24	Dallas	34
26	Kansas City	10
27	San Francisco	10
20	at ATLANTA	23
3	at Dallas	24
17	Tampa Bay	14
17	Washington	6
17	at New Orleans	28
10	at St. Louis	20
13	at Washington	16
17	Philadelphia	19
17	at Buffalo	41
17	Los Angeles	20
17	St. Louis	0
3	at Philadelphia	20
264		298

1978 TEAM LEADERS

Rushing

	Att	Yds	Avg	TD
Kotar	149	625	4.2	1
Hammond	131	554	4.2	1

Passing

	Att	Comp	Yds	TD	Int
Pisarcik	301	143	2096	12	23
Dean	39	19	188	1	3

Receiving

	No	Yds	Avg	TD
Robinson	32	620	19.4	2
Perkins	32	514	16.1	3

Games 12 & 15

LOS ANGELES RAMS

Nov. 19 - 6:00 PM—Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum
Dec. 9 - 1:00 PM—Atlanta-Fulton County Stadium

President: Steve Rosenbloom
Executive Vice President and General Manager: Don Klosterman
Office Telephone: (213) 277-4700
Director of Public Relations: Jerry Wilcox, Home: (714) 894-0920
Director of Promotions: Jack Geyer, Home: (213) 822-2519
Stadium: Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum (71,414) Natural Grass
Team Colors: Royal Blue, Gold and White

Ray Malavasi
2nd Year: 12-4-0
1978 Results (12-4)
Finish: First NFC West

16	at Philadelphia	14
10	ATLANTA	0
27	Dallas	14
10	at Houston	6
26	at New Orleans	20
27	San Francisco	10
34	at Minnesota	17
3	New Orleans	10
7	at ATLANTA	15
26	Tampa Bay	23
10	Pittsburgh	7
31	at San Francisco	28
19	at Cleveland	30
20	at New York Giants	17
19	Cincinnati	20
31	Green Bay	14
316		245

1978 TEAM LEADERS

Rushing

	Att	Yds	Avg	TD
Bryant	178	658	3.7	7
Cappelletti	174	604	3.5	3

Passing

	Att	Comp	Yds	TD	Int
Haden	444	229	2995	13	19
Ferragamo	20	7	114	0	2

Receiving

	No	Yds	Avg	TD
Miller	50	767	15.3	5
Jessie	49	752	15.3	4

Game 14

SAN DIEGO CHARGERS

Dec. 2 - 1:00 PM—San Diego Stadium

President: Eugene V. Klein
General Manager: John R. Sanders
Office Telephone: (714) 280-2111
Director of Public Relations:
Rick Smith, Home: (714) 566-9252
Assistant: Rick Schloss,
Home: (714) 280-7550
Stadium: San Diego Stadium
(52,552) Natural Grass
Team Colors: Blue, Gold and White

Don Coryell
1st Full Year: 8-4-0
1978 Results (9-7)
Finish: Tied Second AFC West

24	at Seattle	20
20	Oakland	21
14	at Denver	27
3	Green Bay	24
23	at New England	28
23	Denver	0
21	Miami	28
14	at Detroit	31
27	at Oakland	23
22	Cincinnati	13
29	Kansas City	23
13	at Minnesota	7
0	at Kansas City	23
40	Chicago	7
37	Seattle	10
45	at Houston	24
355		309

1978 TEAM LEADERS

Rushing

	Att	Yds	Avg	TD
Mitchell	214	820	3.8	3
Woods	151	514	3.4	3

Passing

	Att	Comp	Yds	TD	Int
Fouts	381	224	2999	24	20
Harris	88	42	518	2	9

Receiving

	No	Yds	Avg	TD
Mitchell	57	500	8.8	2
Jefferson	56	1001	17.9	13



Series Results vs. '79 Opponents

Series Results vs. Rams (4-19-2)

1966	Atlanta	14	LOS ANGELES	19	H
1967	Atlanta	3	LOS ANGELES	31	H
1967	Atlanta	3	LOS ANGELES	20	A
1968	Atlanta	14	LOS ANGELES	27	A
1968	Altanta	10	LOS ANGELES	17	H
1969	Atlanta	7	LOS ANGELES	17	A
1969	Atlanta	6	LOS ANGELES	38	H
1970	Atlanta	10	Los Angeles	10	A
1970	Atlanta	7	LOS ANGELES	17	H
1971	Atlanta	20	Los Angeles	20	A
1971	Atlanta	16	LOS ANGELES	24	H
1972	ATLANTA	31	Los Angeles	3	H
1972	Atlanta	7	LOS ANGELES	20	A
1973	Atlanta	0	LOS ANGELES	31	A
1973	ATLANTA	15	Los Angeles	13	H
1974	Atlanta	0	LOS ANGELES	21	A
1974	Atlanta	7	LOS ANGELES	30	H
1975	Atlanta	7	LOS ANGELES	22	H
1975	Atlanta	7	LOS ANGELES	16	H
1976	Atlanta	14	LOS ANGELES	30	H
1976	Atlanta	0	LOS ANGELES	59	A
1977	ATLANTA	17	Los Angeles	6	H
1977	Atlanta	7	LOS ANGELES	23	A
1978	Atlanta	0	LOS ANGELES	10	A
1978	ATLANTA	15	Los Angeles	7	H

Series Results vs. Redskins (1-5-1)

1966	Atlanta	20	WASHINGTON	33	A
1967	Atlanta	20	Washington	20	H
1969	Atlanta	20	WASHINGTON	27	A
1972	Atlanta	13	WASHINGTON	24	A
1975	Atlanta	27	WASHINGTON	30	H
1977	Atlanta	6	WASHINGTON	10	A
1978	ATLANTA	20	Washington	17	H

Series Results vs. Giants (5-1-0)

1966	ATLANTA	27	New York	16	A
1968	ATLANTA	24	New York	21	H
1971	Atlanta	17	NEW YORK	21	H
1974	ATLANTA	14	New York	7	A
1977	ATLANTA	17	New York	3	H
1978	ATLANTA	23	New York	20	H

Series Results vs. 49'ers (11-14-0)

1966	Atlanta	7	SAN FRANCISCO	44	H
1967	Atlanta	7	SAN FRANCISCO	38	A
1967	Atlanta	28	SAN FRANCISCO	34	H
1968	Atlanta	13	SAN FRANCISCO	28	A
1968	Atlanta	12	SAN FRANCISCO	14	H
1969	ATLANTA	24	San Francisco	12	H
1969	ATLANTA	21	San Francisco	7	A
1970	ATLANTA	21	San Francisco	20	H
1970	Atlanta	20	SAN FRANCISCO	24	A
1971	ATLANTA	20	San Francisco	17	H
1971	Atlanta	3	SAN FRANCISCO	24	A
1972	Atlanta	14	SAN FRANCISCO	49	H
1972	Atlanta	0	SAN FRANCISCO	20	A
1973	Atlanta	9	SAN FRANCISCO	13	H
1973	ATLANTA	17	San Francisco	3	A
1974	Atlanta	10	SAN FRANCISCO	16	H
1974	Atlanta	0	SAN FRANCISCO	27	A
1975	ATLANTA	17	San Francisco	3	A
1975	ATLANTA	31	San Francisco	9	H
1976	Atlanta	0	SAN FRANCISCO	15	A
1976	ATLANTA	21	San Francisco	16	H
1977	ATLANTA	7	San Francisco	0	A
1977	Atlanta	3	SAN FRANCISCO	10	H
1978	ATLANTA	20	San Francisco	17	A
1978	ATLANTA	21	San Francisco	10	H

Series Results vs. Lions (2-9-0)

1966	Atlanta	10	DETROIT	28	A
1967	Atlanta	3	DETROIT	24	A
1968	Atlanta	7	DETROIT	24	H
1969	Atlanta	21	DETROIT	27	A
1971	Atlanta	38	DETROIT	41	A
1972	Atlanta	23	DETROIT	26	H
1973	Atlanta	6	DETROIT	31	A
1975	Atlanta	14	DETROIT	17	H
1976	Atlanta	10	DETROIT	24	A
1977	ATLANTA	17	Detroit	6	H
1978	ATLANTA	14	Detroit	0	H

Series Results vs. Saints (14-6-0)

1967	Atlanta	24	NEW ORLEANS	27	A
1969	ATLANTA	45	New Orleans	17	H

1970	ATLANTA	14	New Orleans	3	A
1970	ATLANTA	32	New Orleans	14	H
1971	ATLANTA	28	New Orleans	6	H
1971	ATLANTA	24	New Orleans	20	A
1972	ATLANTA	21	New Orleans	14	A
1972	ATLANTA	36	New Orleans	20	H
1973	ATLANTA	62	New Orleans	7	A
1973	ATLANTA	14	New Orleans	10	H
1974	Atlanta	13	NEW ORLEANS	14	A
1974	Atlanta	3	NEW ORLEANS	13	H
1975	ATLANTA	14	New Orleans	7	H
1975	Atlanta	7	NEW ORLEANS	23	A
1976	Atlanta	0	NEW ORLEANS	30	A
1976	ATLANTA	23	New Orleans	20	H
1977	Atlanta	20	NEW ORLEANS	21	A
1977	ATLANTA	35	New Orleans	7	H
1978	ATLANTA	20	New Orleans	17	H
1978	ATLANTA	20	New Orleans	17	H

Series Results vs. Buccaneers (1-1-0)

1977	ATLANTA	17	Tampa Bay	0	A
1978	Atlanta	9	TAMPA BAY	14	A

Series Results vs. Broncos (2-1-0)

1970	Atlanta	10	DENVER	24	A
1972	ATLANTA	23	Denver	20	H
1975	ATLANTA	35	Denver	21	H

Series Results vs. Eagles (2-3-1)

1966	Atlanta	20	PHILADELPHIA	23	A
1967	Atlanta	7	PHILADELPHIA	38	H
1969	ATLANTA	27	Philadelphia	3	A
1970	Atlanta	13	Philadelphia	13	A
1973	ATLANTA	44	Philadelphia	27	A
1976	Atlanta	13	PHILADELPHIA	14	H

Series Results vs. Raiders (1-1-0)

1971	ATLANTA	24	Oakland	13	H
1975	Atlanta	34	OAKLAND	37	A

Series Results vs. Packers (3-7-0)

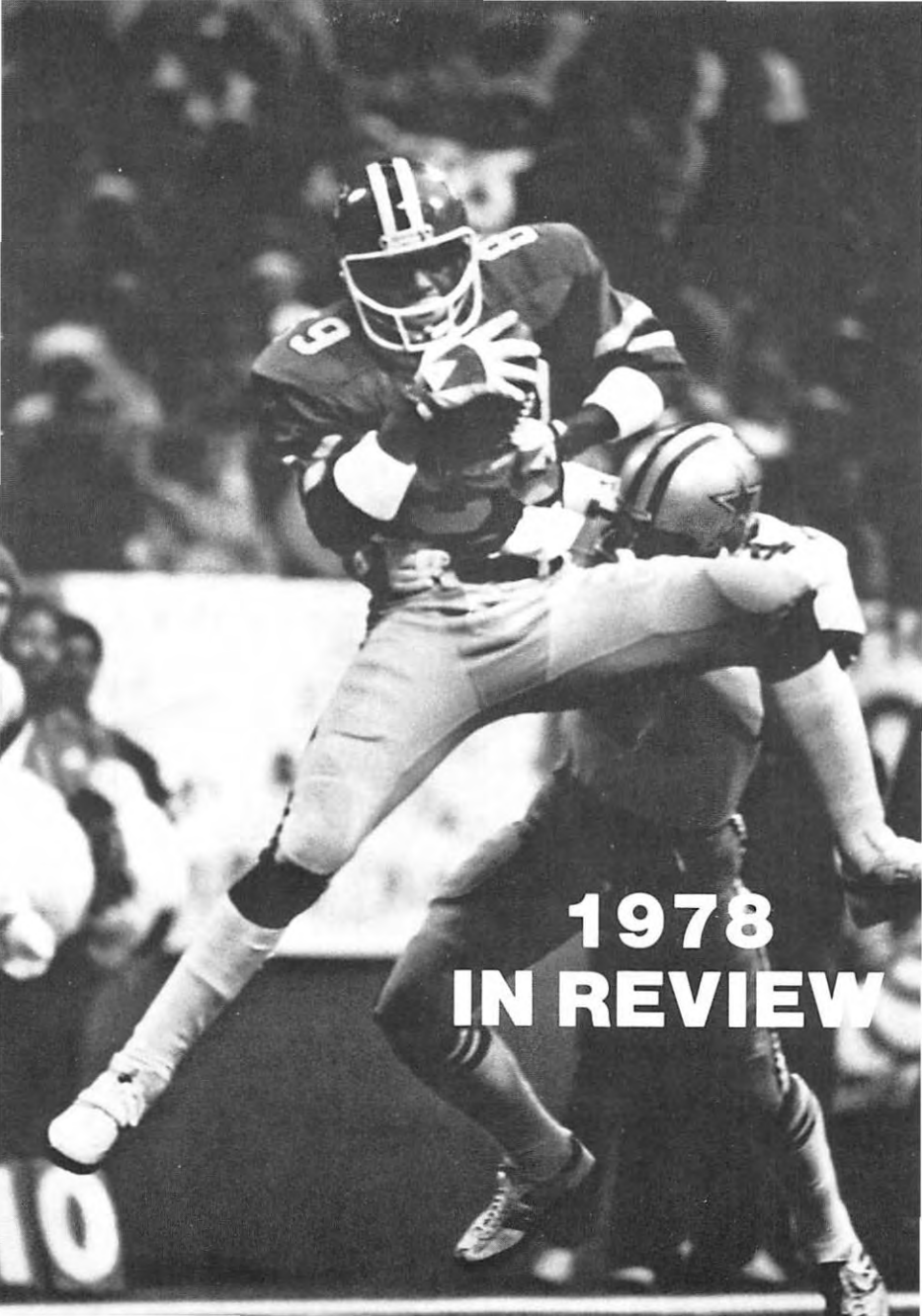
1966	Atlanta	3	GREEN BAY	56	A
1967	Atlanta	0	GREEN BAY	23	A
1968	Atlanta	7	GREEN BAY	38	H
1969	Atlanta	10	GREEN BAY	28	A
1970	Atlanta	24	GREEN BAY	27	A
1971	ATLANTA	28	Green Bay	21	H
1972	ATLANTA	10	Green Bay	9	A
1974	ATLANTA	10	Green Bay	3	H
1975	Atlanta	13	GREEN BAY	22	A
1976	Atlanta	20	GREEN BAY	24	H

Series Results vs. Chargers (1-0-0)

1973	ATLANTA	41	San Diego	0	A

Series Results vs. Seahawks (0-1-0)

1976	Atlanta	13	SEATTLE	30	A



1978 IN REVIEW

Game 1

Atlanta 20, Houston 14

Atlanta-Fulton County Stadium, 57,328

Special teams proved to be the difference as the Falcons won their second consecutive season opener under head coach Leeman Bennett. After surprise quarterback starter June Jones had overcome a dazzling 73-yard run by Earl Campbell with a 38-yard TD toss to Bubba Bean, the Falcon special team units took charge. Late in the second quarter rookie Tom Pridemore blocked an Oiler punt and teammate Tom Moriarty fell on the football in the end zone for a touchdown. Early in the second half the Oilers tied the score, but Atlanta countered with two field goals (30 and 48 yards) by Fred Steinfort to take a 20-14 decision. In addition to the blocked punt for a score and two field goals, the Falcons special teams downed three punts inside the 10-yard to leave Houston with miserable field position throughout the afternoon. Punter John James averaged 42.7 yards per kick on nine punts, including four In-20 kicks.

Atlanta	0	14	3	3—20
Houston	7	0	7	0—14

Hou. – Campbell 73 run (Fritsch kick)
Atl. – Bean 38 pass from Jones (Steinfort kick)
Atl. – Moriarty recovered blocked punt in end zone (Steinfort kick)
Hou. – Caster 8 pass from Pastorini (Fritsch kick)
Atl. – FG Steinfort 30
Atl. – FG Steinfort 48

	Falcons	Oilers
First downs	11	13
Net yards gained	171	261
Rushing yardage	100	156
Passing yardage	71	105
Passes – Comp. – had int.	23-10-0	36-19-2
Punts	9-42.7	10-33.4
Fumbles – lost	3-1	4-2
Penalties	8-75	7-52

Rushing

Falcons – Bean 14 for 55; Stanback 17 for 31; Patton 2 for 10; Strong 1 for 5; Jones 1 for – 1.
Oilers – Campbell 15 for 137; Wilson 6 for 19.

Passing

Falcons – Jones 10 of 23 for 104, 1 TD.
Oilers – Pastorini 19 of 36 for 136, 1 TD.

Receiving

Falcons – Bean 3 for 37, Jenkins 2 for 28, Francis 2 for 17, Ryckman 1 for 12, Mitchell 1 for 6, Jackson 1 for 4.
Oilers – Burrough 6 for 56, Caster 5 for 44, Coleman 4 for 45, Campbell 2 for – 8, Renfro 1 for 3, Carpenter 1 for 4.

Game 2

Los Angeles 10, Atlanta 0

Los Angeles Coliseum, 46,201

In a close and costly game, the Falcons failed to manage enough offense to take advantage of a superlative defensive effort in losing to the Rams. Once again, June Jones opened at quarterback, but the Falcons offense could muster only 71 yards under his direction. Nevertheless, Atlanta trailed only 3-0 until late in the fourth quarter when the Rams scored their only touchdown of the day. Despite the optimism generated by Atlanta's season opening victory over Houston, the loss in Los Angeles still left the Falcons winless in the city. Even more costly than the defeat was the loss of free safety Ray Easterling for the season. The premier defensive back was lost for the year when he sustained a disclocated elbow. The prior week, the Falcons had lost their outstanding wide receiver, Alfred Jenkins, with a broken collarbone.

Los Angeles	0	3	0	7—10
Atlanta	0	0	0	0— 0

L.A. – FG Corral 19
LA. – Bryant 1 run (Corral kick)

	Falcons	Rams
First downs	7	23
Net yards gained	71	358
Rushing yardage	70	142
Passing yardage	1	216
Passes – Comp. – had int.	15-5-1	36-19-2
Punts	10-38.8	7-29.9
Fumbles – lost	5-2	3-2
Penalties	10-76	9-78

Rushing

Falcons – Patton 13 for 24, Bean 8 for 19, Jones 4 for 18, Strong 3 for 9.
Rams – Cappelletti 17 for 57, Bryant 15 for 45, Jodat 5 for 13, Phillips 4 for 11, Tyler 4 for 9, Haden 1 for 7.

Passing

Falcons – Jones 5 of 15 for 38, 0 TD
Rams – Haden 19 of 36 for 237, 0 TD.

Receiving

Falcons – Patton 3 for 19, Ryckman 1 for 15, Strong 1 for 4.
Rams – Jessie 6 for 61, Miller 4 for 88, Waddy 3 for 45, Cappelletti 3 for 8, Nelson 2 for 32, Jodat 1 for 3.

Game 3

Cleveland 24, Atlanta 16

Atlanta-Fulton County Stadium, 56,648

A missed extra point proved to be crucial in the Falcons' only home loss of the season, spoiling a dramatic return to action by quarterback Steve Bartkowski. Cleveland led 17-10 in the fourth quarter when Bartkowski made his first appearance of the season, and he promptly drove the Falcons for a touchdown to close the gap to 17-16. However, Atlanta got no closer when Fred Steinfort missed the extra point, and the Falcons could not regroup to stop another Cleveland score. Bart finished his first appearance with a 7 for 15, 126 yard performance, giving Atlanta much hope for the future despite the loss.

Cleveland	0	17	0	7—24
Atlanta	7	7	0	6—16

Atl. – FG Steinfort 24
Cle. – FG Cockroft 43
Cle. – Newsome 2 pass from Sipe (Cockroft kick)
Atl. – Stanback 15 run (Steinfort kick)
Cle. – Rucker 27 pass from Sipe (Cockroft kick)
Atl. – Strong 2 run (kick failed)
Cle. – Sipe 2 run (Cockroft kick)

	Falcons	Browns
First downs	17	17
Net yards gained	234	308
Rushing yardage	87	110
Passing yardage	147	198
Passes – Comp. – had int.	28-11-4	35-20-0
Punts	7-43.7	8-38.3
Fumbles – lost	3-0	5-3
Penalties	14-113	13-133

Rushing

Falcons – Stanback 7 for 31, Patton 7 for 23, Strong 5 for 19, Bean 10 for 14, Bartkowski 1 for 0.

Browns – Pruitt 15 for 65, Miller 7 for 24, Rucker 1 for 9, Collins 5 for 7, Newsome 1 for 6, Sullivan 3 for 2, Sipe 2 for – 3.

Passing

Falcons – Jones 4 of 13 for 62, 0 TD, Bartkowski 7 of 15 for 126, 0 TD.

Browns – Sipe 20 of 35 for 219, 2 TD

Receiving

Falcons – Ryckman 3 for 48, Mitchell 3 for 42, Francis 2 for 61, Pearson 1 for 17, Jackson 1 for 13, Patton 1 for 7.

Browns – Logan 5 for 63, Rucker 4 for 60, Newsome 4 for 19, Feacher 3 for 57, Miller 2 for 13, Parris 1 for 4, Pruitt 1 for 3.

Game 4

Tampa Bay 14, Atlanta 9

Tampa Stadium, 58,073

A lightning storm that delayed the start of the game proved to be a bad omen for the Falcons, who suffered their third consecutive defeat. The game was played in a driving rainstorm, and the kicking game proved to be the undoing of the Falcons. Tampa Bay scored its first touchdown when the Buccaneers returned a blocked field goal for a touchdown. Atlanta came back in the second half behind the passing of Bartkowski to reclaim the lead, but a fourth quarter score by the Bucs spelled defeat for Atlanta. About the only bright spot on the otherwise dreary afternoon was the running of Haskel Stanback, who gained 112 yards on the slippery turf to become the only back to gain 100 yards against the Buc defense during the 1978 season.

Tampa Bay	7	0	0	7—14
Atlanta	2	0	7	0— 9

Atl. – Team safety, blocked punt
T.B. – Washington 79 return, blocked FG (O'Donoghue kick)
Atl. – Jackson 5 pass from Bartkowski (Steinfort kick)
T.B. – Obradovich 15 pass from Williams (O'Donoghue kick)

	Falcons	Buccaneers
First downs	13	10
Net yards gained	217	176
Rushing yardage	148	94
Passing yardage	69	82
Passes – Comp. – had int.	24-12-3	25-7-0
Punts	8-42.8	10-38.9
Fumbles – lost	1-0	2-1
Penalties	6-55	9-73

Rushing

Falcons – Stanback 23 for 112, Bean 10 for 29, Patton 3 for 6, Bartkowski 4 for 1.

Buccaneers – Bell 18 for 50, Dubose 11 for 50, Davis 1 for 2, Williams 4 for – 8.

Passing

Falcons – Bartkowski 12 of 24 for 81, 1 TD.

Buccaneers – Williams 6 of 24 for 74, 1 TD, Carter 1 of 1 for 21, 0 TD.

Receiving

Falcons – Ryckman 4 for 23, Bean 4 for 23, Jackson 2 for 19, Stanback 1 for 13, Esposito 1 for 3.

Buccaneers – Hagins 4 for 45, Obradovich 2 for 36, McKay 1 for 14.

Game 5

Atlanta 23, New York Giants 20

Atlanta-Fulton County Stadium, 47,765

The retirement of the veteran Humphrey had stunned the Falcons early in the week, and then they fumbled the opening kickoff to set up a Giant score. Minutes later, the Giants returned a blocked field goal for a touchdown. Yet, the Falcons fought back to score on a Bartkowski to Wallace Francis TD pass and closed the game to 14-9 with a safety. Atlanta finally took the lead with a one-yard Bartkowski run, but the Giants came right back to reclaim the lead with a field goal. Facing the moment of truth on their final possession Bartkowski drove Atlanta 77 yards for a game winning touchdown. The scoring play was nine yard TD run by Haskel Stanback with 1:52 remaining. The 153 yards receiving by Francis was the third highest total ever by a Falcon receiver.

Atlanta	0	9	7	7—23
New York	14	0	0	6—20

N.Y. – Csonka 6 run (Danelo kick)
N.Y. – Martin 11 run w/blocked kick after lateral from Kelley; total play 83 yds. (Danelo kick)
Atl. – Francis 54 pass from Bartkowski (Steinfort kick)
Atl. – McClain tackled Pisarcik in end zone for safety
Atl. – Bartkowski 1 run (Steinfort kick)
N.Y. – FG Danelo 23
N.Y. – FG Danelo 46
Atl. – Stanback 9 run (Steinfort kick)

	Falcons	Giants
First downs	22	8
Net yards gained	350	135
Rushing yardage	152	76
Passing yardage	198	59
Passes – Comp. – had int.	26-14-0	21-7-0
Punts	3-31.3	5-42.6
Fumbles – lost	3-3	3-1
Penalties	8-68	10-63

Rushing

Falcons – Stanback 19 for 51, Bean 11 for 50, Patton 7 for 29, Esposito 5 for 16, Bartkowski 8 for 12, Francis 1 for – 6.

Giants – Doornink 8 for 55, Hammond 4 for 22, Csonka 4 for 17, Taylor 7 for – 9, Spencer 2 for – 9.

Passing

Falcons – Bartkowski 14 of 26 for 226, 1 TD.
Giants – Pisarcik 7 of 21 for 86, 0 TD.

Receiving

Falcons – Francis 7 for 153, Mitchell 3 for 54, Bean 2 for 1, Ryckman 1 for 15, Patton 1 for 3.

Giants – Dixon 2 for 45, Perkins 2 for 19, Csonka 1 for 8, Doornink 1 for 8, Taylor 1 for 6.

Game 6

Pittsburgh 31, Atlanta 7

Three Rivers Stadium, 48,202

The Steelers ruled the day as they jumped to a 31-0 lead before the Falcons could finally get on the board late in the fourth quarter. Pittsburgh dominated while amassing 387 yards, but the Falcons might have made it closer had it not been for a couple of quandered field goal opportunities. The misses of 31 and 34 yards proved to be the end for erratic placekicker Fred Steinfort, who was released the next day. There were few bright spots for Atlanta, which fell to 2-4 and appeared completely out of the playoff picture.

Pittsburgh	3	14	7	7—31
Atlanta	0	0	0	7— 7

Ptsbg. – FG Gerela 21
Ptsbg. – Bleier 8 run (Gerela kick)
Ptsbg. – Bradshaw 6 run (Gerela kick)
Ptsbg. – Bleier 2 run (Gerela kick)
Ptsbg. – Stallworth 11 pass from Bradshaw (Gerela kick)
Atl. – Francis 11 pass from Bartkowski (Steinfort kick)

	Falcons	Steelers
First downs	20	28
Net yards gained	257	387
Rushing yardage	113	181
Passing yardage	144	206
Passes – Comp. – had int.	33-17-2	18-13-0
Punts	3-34	2-35.5
Fumbles – lost	3-2	4-3
Penalties	4-38	8-74

Rushing

Falcons – Bean 17 for 48, Stanback 12 for 38, Patton 3 for 20, Bartkowski 2 for 7.

Steelers – Harris 20 for 104, Bleier 13 for 46, Thornton 8 for 30, Bradshaw 2 for 3, Maxson 1 for – 2.

Passing

Falcons – Bartkowski 17 of 33 for 188, 1 TD.
Steelers – Bradshaw 13 of 18 for 231, 1 TD.

Receiving

Falcons – Ryckman 5 for 88, Francis 4 for 58, Bean 3 for 11, Esposito 2 for 7, Pearson 1 for 12, Mitchell 1 for 7, Patton 1 for 5.

Steelers – Stallworth 6 for 114, Swann 3 for 64, Cunningham 2 for 28, Grossman 1 for 16, Thornton 1 for 9.

Game 7

Atlanta 14, Detroit 0

Atlanta-Fulton County Stadium, 51,172

The Falcons completely shut down the Detroit rushing game while recording their first shutout ever in Atlanta-Fulton County Stadium. The Falcon defensive unit limited the Lions to just 22 yards on the ground, but the game was not decided until late in the fourth quarter on a daring safety blitz by rookie Tom Pridemore. On a fourth down situation at the Falcon 12-yard line, Pridemore sacked quarterback Gary Danielson while causing a fumble. The Falcons then put the game away as they marched down field to score on a 25-yard run by Bubba Bean. After losing the first nine games against the Lions, the Falcons recorded their second consecutive victory over Detroit. Going unnoticed in the game, was the debut of placekicker Tim Mazzetti, who converted two extra point attempts.

Atlanta	0	7	0	7—14
Detroit	0	0	0	0— 0

Atl. – Ryckman 24 pass from Bartkowski (Mazzetti kick)
Atl. – Bean 25 run (Mazzetti kick)

	Falcons	Lions
First downs	15	13
Net yards gained	248	169
Rushing yardage	126	22
Passing yardage	122	147
Passes – Comp. – had int.	17-11-0	29-14-2
Punts	8-40.3	6-48.1
Fumbles – lost	0-0	3-1
Penalties	10-72	10-80

Rushing

Falcons – Bean 15 for 78, Stanback 10 for 25, Patton 5 for 23, Bartkowski 4 for 5, Francis 1 for – 5.

Lions – King 11 for 20; Danielson 1 for 2, Bussey 14 for 0.

Passing

Falcons – Bartkowski 11 of 17 for 162, 1 TD.
Lions – Danielson 14 of 29 for 195, 0 TD.

Receiving

Falcons – Ryckman 3 for 41, Francis 3 for 36, Bean 2 for 15, Patton 1 for 32, Pearson 1 for 23, Stanback 1 for 15.

Lions – Scott 4 for 76, Thompson 3 for 42, Hill 2 for 27, Bussey 2 for 24, King 2 for 22, Blue 1 for 4.

Game 8

Atlanta 20, San Francisco 17

Candlestick Park, 34,133

The Falcons exploded for 17 points in the final minutes, including a game winning field goal by Tim Mazzetti with :01 remaining. The Falcons played catch up throughout the day, and appeared to be dead when they took over possession at their own 20 yard line with only five minutes remaining in the game. A 71 yard pass from Bartkowski to Alfred Jackson ignited the comeback as Mazzetti kicked a 21-yard field goal to close the gap to 17-10. When the Falcons regained possession, Bartkowski drove the club 80 yards, capping the drive with a 59 yard scoring pass to Billy Ryckman. Again the Atlanta defense held to give the Falcons ball possession once more. This time it was Mazzetti's turn as he kicked a 29-yard field goal in only his second professional game. Bartkowski was brilliant as he finished the game 15 of 20 for 256 yards and a touchdown.

Atlanta	7	0	0	13—20
San Francisco	7	7	0	3—17

S.F. – Simpson 13 run (Wersching kick)
Atl. – Byas 2 run blocked punt (Mazzetti kick)
S.F. – Bull 15 run (Wersching kick)
S.F. – FG Wersching 35
Atl. – FG Mazzetti 21
Atl. – Ryckman 59 pass from Bartkowski (Mazzetti kick)
Atl. – FG Mazzetti 29

	Falcons	Forty-Niners
First downs	16	21
Net yards gained	330	259
Rushing yardage	114	206
Passing yardage	216	53
Passes – Comp. – had int.	20-15-0	22-8-0
Punts	7-38.7	7-31.4
Fumbles – lost	5-2	3-2
Penalties	8-79	5-40

Rushing

Falcons – Stanback 14 for 65, Bean 12 for 35, Bartkowski 2 for 5, Strong 2 for 5, Patton 4 for 4.

49ers – Simpson 18 for 96, Ferrell 18 for 90, Bull 2 for 13, DeBerg 3 for 7, Boykin 3 for 0.

Passing

Falcons – Bartkowski 15 of 20 for 256, 1 TD.
49ers – DeBerg 8 of 22 for 79, 0 TD.

Receiving

Falcons – Jackson 4 for 113, Mitchell 3 for 37, Francis 3 for 24, Ryckman 2 for 66, Bean 2 for 15, Stanback 1 for 1.

49ers – Solomon 5 for 46, Boyd 2 for 25, MacAfee 1 for 8.

Game 9

Atlanta 15, Los Angeles 7

Atlanta-Fulton County Stadium, 57,250

It was the Falcons' first Monday Night appearance in four years and it may never be forgotten in Atlanta. The game started innocently enough as the Rams moved down field in the opening quarter to take a 7-0 lead. The Falcons then unknowingly set the tone for the evening by completing a drive with a 21-yard field goal by Tim Mazzetti. A separated shoulder to quarterback Steve Bartkowski in the second quarter appeared to dim Atlanta hopes of an upset, but June Jones came off the bench to guide the Falcons to another three-pointer just before the half. Atlanta did not score again until the fourth quarter—again on a Mazzetti field goal. The next score was also a Mazzetti FG. And the next. Meanwhile the Falcon Defensive unit showed the nation why it was referred to as the "Gritz Blitz" while holding the Rams scoreless. When it was over, Mazzetti had tied a club record with five field goals and the Falcons had upset the Rams 15-7.

Atlanta	0	6	0	9—15
Los Angeles	0	7	0	0— 7

L.A. – Jessie 10 pass from Haden (Corral kick)
Atl. – FG Mazzetti 21
Atl. – FG Mazzetti 37
Atl. – FG Mazzetti 30
Atl. – FG Mazzetti 26
Atl. – FG Mazzetti 37

	Falcons	Rams
First downs	9	14
Net yards gained	187	234
Rushing yardage	100	94
Passing yardage	87	140
Passes – Comp. – had int.	17-8-1	27-15-3
Punts	7-40.3	5-31.2
Fumbles – lost	4-1	4-2
Penalties	5-42	2-10

Rushing

Falcons – Stanback 21 for 51; Bean 15 for 44, Bartkowski 1 for 7, Jones 2 for – 2.

Rams – McCutcheon 12 for 50, Bryant 6 for 17, Ferragamo 1 for 12, Haden 2 for 7, Cappelletti 10 for 6, Phillips 2 for 2.

Passing

Falcons – Bartkowski 1 of 6 for 16, 0 TD; Jones 7 of 11 for 87, 0 TD.

Rams – Haden 13 of 23 for 130, 1 TD; Ferragamo 2 of 4 for 50, 0 TD.

Receiving

Falcons – Jackson 2 for 40, Bean 2 for 19, Mitchell 2 for 16, Stanback 1 for 16, Francis 1 for 12.

Rams – Jessie 4 for 44, Waddy 3 for 50, Miller 3 for 46, Scales 2 for 34, Nelson 2 for 12, McCutcheon 1 for – 6.

Game 10

Atlanta 21, San Francisco 10

Atlanta-Fulton County Stadium, 55,468

Quarterback Steve Bartkowski returned from his shoulder injury to lead the Falcons to a 21-10 decision over the stubborn 49ers. Aside from the Atlanta victory, the game may be most remembered for the barrage of penalty flags—a record 17 against the Falcons for 125 yards. The Falcons sputtered most the day, leading 7-3 at halftime, before assuming command with two second half touchdowns. The big play of the day was a 37 yard touchdown pass from Bartkowski to Francis when Atlanta was facing a 3rd and one situation. The victory was the third in a row for the Falcons, their longest winning streak under head coach Leeman Bennett, and lifted the club over the 500 mark for the first time since the opening week.

Atlanta	0	7	7	7—21
San Francisco	3	0	0	7—10

S.F. – FG Wersching 19
Atl. – Bartkowski 1 run (Mazzetti kick)
Atl. – Francis 37 pass for Bartkowski (Mazzetti kick)
Atl. – Bean 1 run (Mazzetti kick)
S.F. – Hofer 1 run (Wersching kick)

	Falcons	49ers
First downs	16	13
Net yards gained	246	168
Rushing yardage	62	118
Passing yardage	184	50
Passes – Comp. – had int.	29-16-1	21-6-1
Punts	8-37.0	10-38.9
Fumbles – lost	3-2	3-2
Penalties	17-125	7-66

Rushing

Falcons – Patton 10 for 33, Stanback 8 for 28, Bean 5 for 7, Bartkowski 2 for 7, Strong 3 for 6, Esposito 2 for 5, Franklin 1 for – 8, Jones 3 for – 16.

49ers – Ferrell 18 for 63, Hofer 11 for 34, Simpson 5 for 15, DeBerg 4 for 4, Boykin 1 for 2.

Passing

Falcons – Bartkowski 14 of 26 for 164, 1 TD; Jones 2 of 3 for 46, 0 TD.

49ers – DeBerg 6 of 20 for 75, 0 TD; Solomon 0 of 1 for 0 TD.

Receiving

Falcons – Francis 4 for 75, Ryckman 3 for 59, Mitchell 3 for 24, Bean 3 for 11, Jackson 2 for 22, Franklin 1 for 19.

49ers – Harrison 2 for 63, Solomon 2 for 13, Seal 1 for 6, Boyd 1 for – 7.

Game 11

Atlanta 20, New Orleans 17

Louisiana Superdome, 70,323

The Falcons simply call the play "Big Ben Right." Others have referred to it as a miracle, but it was The Play of the 1978 season. Trailing 17-13 with 19 seconds remaining, Bartkowski hurled a bomb into a cluster of intended receivers and defenders. Wallace Francis deflected the pass and it landed in the hands of Alfred Jackson who stepped into the end zone to give Atlanta an astonishing victory. With 2:23 remaining, Atlanta trailed 17-6 and had the ball on its own 20 yard line. Under the guidance of Bartkowski, the Falcons marched 80 yards to score with only 59 seconds on the clock. The defense held and Bartkowski, Francis, and Jackson did the rest. For Bartkowski, it was an amazing fourth quarter as he completed 11 of 19 passes for 171 yards.

Atlanta	0	3	3	14—20
New Orleans	3	14	0	0—17

N.O. – FG Mike-Mayer 21
Atl. – FG Mazzetti 22
N.O. – Galbreath 1 run (Mike-Mayer kick)
N.O. – Childs 14 pass from Manning (Mike-Mayer kick)
Atl. – FG Mazzetti 32
Atl. – Stanback 1 run (Mazzetti kick)
Atl. – Jackson 57 pass from Bartkowski (Mazzetti kick)

	Falcons	Saints
First downs	16	22
Net yards gained	279	347
Rushing yardage	74	166
Passing yardage	210	181
Passes – Comp. – had int.	33-16-1	31-17-0
Punts	6-36.3	4-43.2
Fumbles – lost	2-0	4-2
Penalties	6-44	7-72

Rushing

Falcons – Bean 8 for 45, Stanback 13 for 29, Bartkowski 1 for 0.

Saints – Muncie 18 for 67, Galbreath 17 for 54, Strachan 8 for 28, Manning 3 for 16, Jones 1 for 1, Scott 1 for 0.

Passing

Falcons – Bartkowski 16 of 33 for 218, 1 TD.

Saints – Manning 14 of 25 for 169, 1 TD; Muncie 0 of 1 for 0, 0 TD; Scott 3 of 5 for 36, 0 TD.

Receiving

Falcons – Ryckman 4 for 68, Bean 3 for 6, Strong 2 for 28, Mitchell 2 for 24, Francis 2 for 23, Jackson 1 for 57, Wright 1 for 8, Stanback 1 for 4.

Saints – Chandler 7 for 117, Harris 4 for 46, Childs 2 for 27, Galbreath 2 for 6, Muncie 1 for 5, Jones 1 for 4.

Game 12

Chicago 13, Atlanta 7

Soldier Field, 46,022

It was the only time in 1978 that the Falcon comeback script failed to succeed as the Falcons drove the length of the field in the final minutes, only to stall at the Chicago seven yard line. It started well enough for Atlanta as the Falcons grabbed a 7-0 on a touchdown pass from Bartkowski to Jim Mitchell. However, two Bear field goals cut the margin to one, and a blocked punt set up the only Chicago touchdown of the day. Ironically, it was the first time punter John James had sufferred a blocked punt in five years, but it was costly since Chicago recovered on the Atlanta 11-yard line. The Falcons gained 341 yards compared to just 183 for Chicago, but could never get into the end zone for the winning score. Enjoying a brilliant day was wide receiver Billy Ryckman, who had eight catches for 107 yards.

Chicago	0	3	10	0—13
Atlanta	0	7	0	0— 7

Atl. – Mitchell 7 pass from Bartkowski (Mazzetti kick)
Chi. – FG Thomas 32
Chi. – Payton 2 run (Thomas kick)
Chi. – FG Thomas 37

	Falcons	Bears
First downs	21	13
Net yards gained	341	183
Rushing yardage	146	111
Passing yardage	195	72
Passes – Comp. – had int.	32-16-1	14-7-0
Punts	5-23.6	7-29.1
Fumbles – lost	3-1	0-0
Penalties	8-74	3-30

Rushing

Falcons – Bean 17 for 61, Stanback 15 for 39, Strong 4 for 24, Patton 4 for 17, Bartkowski 2 for 5.

Bears – Harper 11 for 43, Payton 20 for 34, Evans 3 for 17, Phipps 4 for 10, Avellini 4 for 7.

Passing

Falcons – Bartkowski 16 of 32 for 215, 1 TD.

Bears – Phipps 4 of 8 for 38, 0 TD; Avellini 3 of 6 for 57, 0 TD; Evans 0 of 0 for 0, 0 TD.

Receiving

Falcons – Ryckman 8 for 107, Mitchell 5 for 65, Jackson 1 for 18, Bean 1 for 17, Francis 1 for 8.

Bears – Richards 3 for 30, Payton 2 for 40, Harper 1 for 19, Scott 1 for 6.

Game 13

Atlanta 20, New Orleans 17

Atlanta-Fulton County Stadium, 55,121

In some respects, it may have been Steve Bartkowski's finest hour as a professional. The Falcons trailed 17-13 with only 53 seconds remaining when Atlanta took over at its own 28 yard line. Bartkowski took charge and when it was over, the Falcons had won 20-17, thanks to a one-yard pass to Jim Mitchell with only :05 remaining. Atlanta marched the length of the field on its first possession to score. Then came an interception and a Mazzetti field goal attempt. However, he sustained his first miss in ten tries and the Saints came charging back. Just when it appeared the Saints had revenge for the "Miracle" at New Orleans, lightning struck again in the form of Bartkowski, who finished the day with 266 yards passing and one big touchdown.

Atlanta	7	3	0	10—20
New Orleans	7	7	3	0—17

Atl. – Stanback 3 run (Mazzetti kick)
N.O. – Hardy 71 pass from Manning (Mike-Mayer kick)
Atl. – FG Mazzetti 39
N.O. – Muncie 28 run (Mike-Mayer kick)
N.O. – FG Mike-Mayer 18
Atl. – FG Mazzetti 28
Atl. – Mitchell 1 pass from Bartkowski (Mazzetti kick)

	Falcons	Saints
First downs	25	13
Net yards gained	385	339
Rushing yardage	130	134
Passing yardage	255	205
Passes – Comp. – had int.	44-23-3	24-13-1
Punts	5-42.0	6-41.2
Fumbles – lost	2-1	3-1
Penalties	6-45	6-74

Rushing

Falcons – Bean 19 for 93, Stanback 11 for 27, Patton 3 for 7, Bartkowski 1 for 2, Pearson 1 for 1.

Saints – Muncie 17 for 67, Galbreath 13 for 46, Harris 1 for 22, Blanchard 1 for 0, Manning 1 for – 1.

Passing

Falcons – Bartkowski 23 of 43 for 266, 1 TD; Bean 0 of 1 for 0, 0 TD.

Saints – Manning 13 of 24 for 241, 1 TD.

Receiving

Falcons – Ryckman 4 for 69, Jackson 4 for 55, Francis 4 for 53, Mitchell 4 for 24, Bean 3 for 35, Stanback 3 for 18, Pearson 1 for 12.

Saints – Chandler 4 for 31, Owens 4 for 16, Childs 3 for 100, Hardy 1 for 71, Harris 1 for 23.

Game 14

Cincinnati 37, Atlanta 7

Riverfront Stadium, 25,336

Playoff talk was alive in Atlanta, but the new experience threw the Falcons as the slumbering Bengals finally awakened. The result was a 37-7 thrashing by the Bengals, who had won just one of their previous 13 games. As in Tampa, the game was played in a driving rainstorm that hampered the pass oriented Falcons. Quarterback Steve Bartkowski suffered through his worst day of the season, as he had two passes intercepted and returned for touchdowns. However, the defeat could not be blamed on Bart. Cincinnati churned out 223 yards on the ground and had 360 yards total offense. The only bright spot in the long afternoon was the punting of John James, who averaged 47 yards on five punts.

Cincinnati	3	7	13	14—37
Atlanta	0	7	0	0— 7

Cin. – FG Bahr 32
Atl. – Patton 1 run (Mazzetti kick)
Cin. – Johnson 3 run (Bahr kick)
Cin. – Perry 39 interception return (kick failed)
Cin. – Jauron 24 interception return (Bahr kick)
Cin. – Johnson 50 run (Bhar kick)
Cin. – T. Davis 32 (Bhar kick)

	Falcons	Bengals
First downs	10	20
Net yards gained	174	360
Rushing yardage	83	223
Passing yardage	91	137
Passes – Comp. – had int.	29-10-3	30-14-0
Punts	8-46.5	5-47
Fumbles – lost	0-0	2-0
Penalties	8-85	8-68

Rushing

Falcons – Bean 15 for 71, Patton 6 for 11, Stanback 1 for 1.

Bengals – Griffin, 16 for 87, Johnson 9 for 74, Davis 5 for 21, Dinker 1 for 20, Elliott 3 for 16, Anderson 2 for 5, Turner 1 for 4, Bass 1 for – 4.

Passing

Falcons – Bartkowski 9 of 25 for 124, 0 TD; Jones 1 of 4 for 2, 0 TD.

Bengals – Anderson 7 of 17 for 77, 0 TD; Griffin 1 of 1 for 18, 0 TD; Reaves 6 of 12 for 58, 0 TD.

Receiving

Falcons – Francis 3 for 23, Jackson 2 for 70, Patton 1 for 16, Pearson 1 for 7, Ryckman 1 for 6, Bean 1 for 2, Strong 1 for 2.

Bengals – McInally 4 for 32, Bass 3 for 40, Brooks 2 for 40, Griffin 2 for 10, Corbett 1 for 18, Curtis 1 for 15, Johnson 1 for 2 – 2.

Game 15

Atlanta 20, Washington 17

Atlanta-Fulton County Stadium, 54,178

Once again the Falcons went for a Hollywood script as they almost guaranteed their first ever playoff appearance with thrilling 20-17 victory over the Redskins. It had been a remarkable turn of events for the two clubs since Washington had started the season 6-0 while Atlanta was 2-4. Again, it was placekicker Tim Mazzetti, given a reprieve when a blocked field goal was nullified by a penalty, who proved to be the hero as he kicked a 32 yard field with no time remaining on the clock for the Atlanta victory. However, Mazzetti's heroics would not have been possible had it not been for a diving catch by Billy Ryckman seconds earlier to set up the field goal try.

Atlanta	7	3	7	3—20
Washington	0	10	0	7—17

Atl. – Stanback 1 run (Mazzetti kick)
Wash. – Riggins 1 run (Moseley kick)
Wash. – FG Moseley 21
Atl. – FG Mazzetti 21
Atl. – Bean 1 run (Mazzetti kick)
Wash. – Thomas 1 run (Moseley kick)
Atl. – FG Mazzetti 32

	Falcons	Redskins
First downs	17	15
Net yards gained	253	311
Rushing yardage	113	146
Passing yardage	140	165
Passes – Comp. – had int.	37-16-0	34-13-0
Punts	12-31.8	10-29.5
Fumbles – lost	1-0	2-2
Penalties	7-65	6-52

Rushing

Falcons – Bean 17 for 58, Stanback 11 for 45, Bartkowski 5 for 6, Strong 1 for 4.

Redskins – Riggins 18 for 64, Malone 8 for 56, Theismann 4 for 26, Thomas 4 for 0.

Passing

Falcons – Bartkowski 16 of 37 for 190, 0 TD.

Redskins – Theismann 12 of 33 for 144, 0 TD; Bragg 1 of 1 for 56, 0 TD.

Receiving

Falcons – Francis 6 for 72, Stanback 3 for 32, Ryckman 2 for 33, Mitchell 2 for 23, Bean 2 for 17, Jackson 1 for 13.

Redskins – Buggs 6 for 67, McDaniel 3 for 46, Anderson 1 for 56, Riggins 1 for 21, Fugett 1 for 17, Thomas 1 for – 7.

Game 16

St. Louis 42, Atlanta 21

Busch Memorial Stadium, 40,022

The suspense of the final weekend was erased early when the Redskins lost on Saturday to insure the Falcons their first playoff berth in the history of the club. The only thing left to be decided was whether Atlanta would host the NFC Wildcard game. That was decided when Green Bay lost to Los Angeles, and that was the only good news for Atlanta that day. Otherwise, the Falcons took a 42-21 beating from the loose Cardinals. There were few reasons for optimism. Kick returner Dennis Pearson established a club record when he returned a kickoff 100 yards for a score, and another rookie, wide receiver Alfred Jackson, caught five passes for 102 yards.

St. Louis	0	28	7	7—42
Atlanta	7	7	7	0—21

Atl. – Strong 1 run (Mazzetti kick)
St. L. – Stief 37 pass from Hart (Bakken kick)
St. L. – Chandler 12 pass from Hart (Bakken kick)
Atl. – Pearson 100 ko return (Mazzetti kick)
St. L. – Tilley 26 pass from Hart (Bakken kick)
St. L. – Hart 2 run (Bakken kick)
St. L. – Jones 3 run (Bakken kick)
Atl. – Patton 8 pass from Bartkowski (Mazzetti kick)
St. L. – Hart 9 run (Bakken kick)

	Falcons	Cardinals
First downs	18	24
Net yards gained	311	427
Rushing yardage	41	79
Passing yardage	270	348
Passes – Comp. – had int.	42-21-3	42-23-1
Punts	4-34.8	6-38.0
Fumbles – lost	3-3	1-1
Penalties	5-27	6-45

Rushing

Falcons – Strong 11 for 27, Stanback 6 for 15, Patton 1 for – 1.

Cardinals – Otis 13 for 27, Bell 7 for 23, Harrell 7 for 12, Hart 2 for 11, Jones 6 for 9, Pisarkiewicz 1 for – 3.

Passing

Falcons – Bartkowski 16 of 32 for 257, 1 TD; Jones 5 of 10 for 55, 0 TD.

Cardinals – Hart 22 of 40 for 333, 3 TD; Wood 1 of 1 for 29, 0 TD; Pisarkiewicz 0 of 1 for 0, 0 TD.

Receiving

Falcons – Jackson 5 for 102, Francis 3 for 80, Mitchell 3 for 44, Ryckman 3 for 29, Strong 3 for 22, Patton 2 for 8, Wright 1 for 18, Stanback 1 for 9.

Cardinals – Stief 9 for 183, Tilley 7 for 105, Chandler 4 for 48, Jones 2 for 17, Bell 1 for 9.

Game 17

NFC WILD CARD PLAYOFF GAME

Atlanta 14, Philadelphia 13

Atlanta-Fulton County Stadium, 49,447

In their playoff debut, the Falcons again used a dramatic come back script to rally for a 14-13 victory over the Philadelphia Eagles. With less than eight minutes remaining, Atlanta trailing 13-0 in a contest that was played in a driving rainstorm. The Falcon rally was ignited when Bartkowski hit Wallace Francis on a 49 yard pass, and minutes later he found tight end Jim Mitchell on a 19-yard touchdown pass to make it 13-7. The Atlanta defense held, and the Falcons regained control. Bartkowski took his club downfield until he climaxed the drive with a 37-yard TD pass to Francis with 1:42 remaining. Only this time the game was not over, Philadelphia, behind quarterback Ron Jaworski, marched until the Eagles were in field goal range. A 34 yard attempt sailed no more than a foot wide and the Falcons sailed in to the second round of the NFC playoffs against Dallas.

Atlanta	0	0	0	14—14
Philadelphia	6	0	7	0—13

Phl. – Carmichael 13 pass from Jaworski (kick failed)
Phl. – Montgomery 1 run (Michel kick)
Atl. – Mitchell 20 pass from Bartkowski (Mazzetti kick)
Atl. – Francis 37 pass from Bartkowski (Mazzetti kick)

	Falcons	Eagles
First downs	14	15
Net yards gained	298	217
Rushing yardage	75	53
Passing yardage	223	164
Passes – Comp. – had int.	32-18-2	35-19-0
Punts	7-33.1	9-33.7
Fumbles – lost	3-3	3-2
Penalties	6-63	5-60

Rushing

Falcons – Stanback 16 for 58, Bean 9 for 14, Bartkowski 2 for 3.

Eagles – Hogan 14 for 31, Montgomery 16 for 19, Jaworski 1 for 3, Campfield 1 for 0.

Passing

Falcons – Bartkowski 18 of 32 for 243, 2 TD.

Eagles – Jaworski 19 of 35 for 190, 1 TD.

Receiving

Falcons – Francis 6 for 135, Bean 4 for 44, Mitchell 3 for 35, Stanback 2 for 7, Pearson 1 for 13, Jackson 1 for 4, Ryckman 1 for 5.

Eagles – Smith 7 for 108, Carmichael 5 for 45, Osborne 3 for 15, Middlebrook 1 for 11, Pane 1 for 10, Hogan 1 for 6, Montgomery 1 for – 5.

Game 18

NFC DIVISIONAL PLAYOFF GAME

Dallas 27, Atlanta 20

Texas Stadium, 60,338

The Falcons entered the game as a 14-point underdog, but controlled play in the first half before eventually bowing to the Super Bowl bound Cowboys. It was Bubba Bean who got Atlanta rolling with a 14 yard touchdown run and Bartkowski found Francis for a touchdown. Yet, the most important play came when Cowboy quarterback Roger Staubach was knocked unconscious and had to leave the contest. Danny White, his replacement brought the Pokes back to within 20-13 at the half. The Dallas Cowboys got two second half scores to take the lead in the fourth quarter. The Falcons made one last effort. Bartkowski drove Atlanta to the Cowboy 32 yard line where Atlanta faced a fourth-and-one as George Franklin was stopped short of a first down and Dallas regained the ball and the game.

Dallas	10	3	7	7—27
Atlanta	7	13	0	0—20

Dal. – FG Septien 34
Atl. – Bean 14 run (Mazzetti kick)
Dal. – Laidlaw 13 run (Septien kick)
Atl. – FG Mazzetti 42
Dal. – FG Septien 48
Atl. – Francis 17 pass from Bartkowski (Mazzetti kick)
Atl. – FG Mazzetti 22
Dal. – Smith 2 pass from White (Septien kick)
Dal. – Laidlaw 1 run (Septien kick)

	Falcons	Cowboys
First downs	16	26
Net yards gained	216	369
Rushing yardage	164	148
Passing yardage	52	221
Passes – Comp. – had int.	23-8-3	37-17-1
Punts	6-37.5	3-36.0
Fumbles – lost	0-0	6-3
Penalties	7-69	7-65

Rushing

Falcons – Bean 17 for 72, Stanback 9 for 62, Franklin 8 for 24, Esposito 2 for 6.

Cowboys – Laidlaw 17 for 66, Dorsett 14 for 65, DuPree 1 for 20, Staubach 1 for 3, Pearson 1 for – 2, White 3 for – 4.

Passing

Falcons – Bartkowski 8 of 23 for 95, 1 TD.

Cowboys – White 10 of 20 for 127, 1 TD; Staubach 7 of 17 for 105, 0 TD.

Receiving

Falcons – 6 For 66, Ryckman 1 for 22, Esposito 1 for 7.

Cowboys – DuPree 5 for 59, Pearson 4 for 75, Smith 3 for 38, Hill 3 for 36, Laidlaw 1 for 15, Dorsett 1 for 9.

1978 Team Statistics

RESULTS (9-7-0)

FALCONS				OPPONENTS
(W) 20	HOUSTON	14	H	*57,328
(L) 0	LOS ANGELES	10	A	46,201
(L) 16	CLEVELAND	24	H	*56,648
(L) 9	TAMPA BAY	14	A	58,072
(W) 23	NY GIANTS	20	H	47,765
(L) 7	PITTSBURGH	31	A	*48,202
(W) 14	DETROIT	0	H	51,172
(W) 20	SAN FRANCISCO	17	A	34,133
(W) 15	LOS ANGELES	7	H	*57,250
(W) 21	SAN FRANCISCO	10	H	*55,468
(W) 20	NEW ORLEANS	17	A	*70,323
(L) 7	CHICAGO	13	A	*46,022
(W) 20	NEW ORLEANS	17	H	*55,121
(L) 7	CINCINNATI	37	A	25,601
(W) 20	WASHINGTON	17	H	*54,178
(L) 21	ST. LOUIS	42	A	40,022

*Sellout

	ATL	OPP
TOTAL FIRST DOWNS	253	267
Rushing	90	117
Passing	133	113
Penalty	31	37
Third-down Made/Att.	78/238	89/259
Third-down Efficiency	32.8	34.4

TOTAL NET YARDS	4059	4431
Avg. Per Game	253.7	276.9
Total Plays	1038	1069
Avg. Per Play	3.9	4.1
NET YARDS RUSHING	1659	2067
Avg. Per Game	103.7	129.2
Total Rushes	533	578
NET YARDS PASSING	2402	2364
Avg. Per Game	150.1	147.8
Tackled/Yards Lost	56/481	47/425
Gross Yards	2883	2789
Attempts/Completions	449/221	444/215
Pct. of Completions	49.2	48.4
Had Intercepted	23	12
PUNTS/AVERAGE	110/38.4	107/37.0
NET PUNTING AVERAGE	34.0	32.1
PENALTIES/YARDS	130/1083	116/1010
FUMBLES/BALLS LOST	42/18	45/25
TOUCHDOWNS	27	36
Rushing	13	21
Passing	11	11
Returns	3	4
TOTAL POINTS	240	290

SCORE BY QUARTERS

ATLANTA	33	80	41	86	— 240
OPP	54	117	47	62	— 290

1978 Individual Statistics

RUSHING

Player	No.	Yds.	Avg.	Long	TD
Bean	193	707	3.7	25	3
Stanback	188	588	3.1	26	5
Patton	68	206	3.0	15	1
Strong	30	99	3.2	14	2
Bartkowski	33	57	1.7	8	2
Esposito	7	21	3.0	7	0
Pearson	1	1	1.0	1	0
Jones	10	-1	-0.1	17	0
Franklin	1	-8	-8.0	-8	0
Francis	2	-11	-5.5	-5	0
Atl. Total	533	1659	3.2	26	13
Opp. Total	578	2067	3.6	73	21

RECEIVING

Player	No.	Yds.	Avg.	Long	TD
Francis	45	695	15.4	54	3
Ryckman	45	679	15.1	59	2
Mitchell	32	366	11.4	24	2
Bean	31	209	6.7	38	1
A. Jackson	26	526	20.2	71	2
Stanback	12	108	9.0	20	0
Patton	10	90	9.0	32	1
Pearson	5	71	14.2	17	0
Strong	7	56	8.0	21	0
Esposito	3	10	3.3	4	0
Franklin	1	19	19.0	19	0
Jenkins	2	28	14.0	22	0
Wright	2	26	13.0	18	0
Atlanta Total	221	2883	13.0	71	11
Opp. Total	215	2789	13.0	71	11

INTERCEPTIONS

Player	No.	Yds.	Avg.	Long	TD
Lawrence	6	76	12.7	44	0
Byas	2	37	18.5	32	0
Reed	1	38	38.0	38	0
Faumuina	1	7	7.0	7	0
Easterling*	1	1	1.0	1	1
Pridemore	1	0	0.0	0	0
Atlanta Total	12	159	13.3	44	0
Opp. Total	23	252	11.0	46	2

1978 Individual Statistics (con't)

KICKOFF RETURNS

Player	No.	Yds.	Avg.	Long	TD
Pearson	25	662	26.7	100	1
A. Jackson	11	225	20.5	30	0
Franklin	11	258	23.5	33	0
Pridemore	4	71	17.8	20	0
Strong	3	50	16.7	23	0
Mitchell	1	14	14.0	14	0
Wright	2	31	15.5	31	0
Fields	2	21	10.5	21	0
Atlanta Total	52	1138	21.9	00	0
Opp. Total	46	1062	23.1	60	0

PUNT RETURNS

Player	No.	FC	Yds.	Avg.	Long	TD
Ryckman	28	17	227	8.1	38	0
A. Jackson	11	6	89	8.1	32	0
Byas	2	0	12	6.0	12	0
Lawrence	1	1	17	17.0	17	0
Glazebrook	0	1	0	0.0	0	0
Downed	1	0	0	0.0	0	0
Atlanta Total	43	25	345	8.0	38	0
Opp. Total	56	19	305	5.4	21	0

FIELD GOALS

	1-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+	Tot.
Steinfort	0-0	1-2	1-5	1-3	0-0	3-10
Mazzetti	0-0	8-9	5-7	0-0	0-0	13-16
Opp.	3-3	4-5	4-6	2-9	0-0	13-23

SCORING

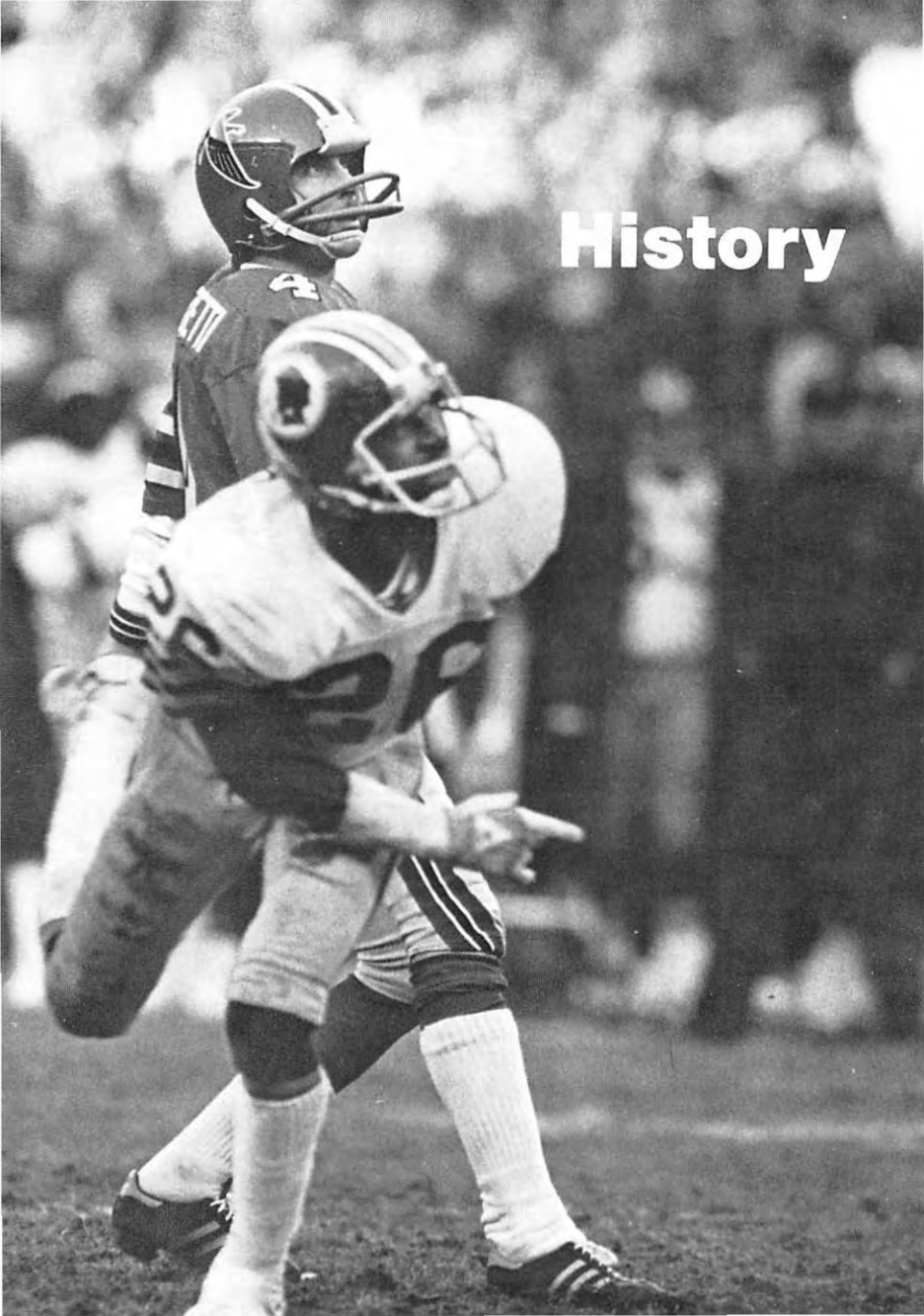
Player	Tdr	Tdp	Tdrt	Pat	FG	Saf	TP
Mazzetti	0	0	0	18	13	00	57
Stanback	5	0	0	00	0	00	30
Bean	3	1	0	0	0	00	24
Francis	0	3	0	0	0	00	18
Steinfort	0	0	0	8	3	0	17
Mitchell	0	2	0	0	0	0	12
Bartkowski	2	0	0	0	0	0	12
A. Jackson	0	2	0	0	0	0	12
Ryckman	0	2	0	0	0	0	12
Strong	2	0	0	0	0	0	12
Patton	1	1	0	0	0	0	12
Moriarty	0	0	1	0	0	0	6
Pearson	0	0	1	0	0	0	6
Byas	0	0	1	0	0	0	6
McClain	0	0	1B	0	0	1	2
Team	0	0	0	0	0	1	2
Atl. Total	13	11	3	26	16	2	240
Opp. Total	21	11	4	35	12	0	290

PUNTING

Player	No.	Yds.	Avg.	Tb	In 20	Lg	Blk.
James	109	4227	38.8	9	25	57	1
Atl. Total	110	4227	38.4	9	25	57	1
Opp. Total	107	3958	37.0	9	22	63	5

PASSING

Player	Att.	Comp	Yds.	Pct.	Avg. Att.	TD	Pct. TD	Int.	Pct. Int.	LG	Lost Att.
Bartkowski	369	187	2489	50.7	6.7	10	2.7	18	4.9	71	39/349
Jones	79	34	394	43.0	5.0	1	1.3	4	5.1	38	17/132
Bean	1	0	0	0.0	0.0	0	0.0	1	100.0	0	0/0
Atl. Total	449	221	2883	49.2	6.4	11	2.4	23	5.1	71	56/481
Opp. Total	444	215	2789	48.4	6.3	11	2.5	12	2.7	71	47/425



History

13 YEAR ROSTER

Absher, Dick (LB), Maryland 1967-68
Acks, Ron (LB), Illinois 1968-71
Adams, Bob (TE), Pacific 1976
Adams, Brent (T), UT at C'nooga 1975-78
Allen, Grady (LB), Texas A&M 1969-72
Anderson, Taz (TE), Georgia Tech 1966-67
Auer, Joe (RB), Georgia Tech 1968
Bailey, Jim (DT), Kansas 1976-78
Bailey, Larry (DT), Pacific 1974
Barnes, Gary (WR), Clemson 1966-67
Bartkowski, Steve (QB), California 1975-78
Bean, Bubba (RB), Texas A&M 1976-78
Bebout, Nick (T), Wyoming 1973-75
Bell, Bill (PK), Kansas 1971-72
Belton, Willie (RB), Maryland St. 1971-72
Benson, Duane (LB), Hamline 1972-73
Berry, Bob (QB), Oregon 1968-72
Bleick, Tom (S), Georgia Tech 1967
Bosley, Bruce (G), W. Virginia 1969
Bowling, Andy (LB), Virginia Tech 1967
Bramlett, John (LB), Memphis St. 1971
Breitenstein, Bob (G-T), Tulsa 1969-70
Brett, Walt (G), Montana 1976
Brezina, Greg (LB), Houston 1968-69, 71-78
Brown, Ray (S), W. Texas State 1971-78
Brunson, Mike (WR-RB), Arizona St. 1970
Bryant, Charles (RB), Allen 1969
Bryant, Warren (T), Kentucky 1978
Burke, Vern (WR), Oregon St. 1966
Burrow, Ken (WR), San Diego St. 1971-75
Burson, Jimmy (CB-S), Auburn 1968
Butler, Jim (RB), Edward Waters 1968-71
Byas, Rick (DB), Wayne St. 1974-78
Cahill, Dave (DT), Northern Arizona 1969
Calland, Lee (CB), Louisville 1966-68
Campbell, Sonny (RB), North Arizona 1970-71
Cash, Rick (DE), N. E. Missouri 1968
Cavness, Grady (CB), Texas-El Paso 1970
Cerne, Joe (C), Northwestern 1968
Childs, Henry (TE), Kansas St. 1974
Chesson, Wes (WR), Duke 1971-73
Claridge, Dennis (QB), Nebraska 1966
Coffey, Junior (RB), Washington 1966-67, 69
Cogdill, Gail (WR), Washingotn St. 1969-70
Coia, Angelo (WR), USC 1966
Collins, Sonny (RB), Kentucky 1976
Condren, Glen (DT), Oklahoma 1969-72
Cook, Ed (G), Notre Dame 1966-67
Cope, Jim (LB), Ohio 1976
Cordill, Olie (WR), Memphis St. 1968
Cottrell, Ted (LB), Delaware Valley 1969-70
Crowe, Larry (DB), Tex. Southern 1975
Dabney, Carlton (DT), Morgan St. 1968
Davis, Brad (RB), LSU 1975
Dodd, Al (WR), N.W. Louisiana St. 1973-74
Donohoe, Mike (TE), San Francisco 1968, 1970-71
Duich, Steve (G), San Diego St. 1968
Dunaway, Dave (WR), Duke 1968
Dunn, Perry Lee (RB), Mississippi 1966-68
East, Ron (DT), Montana St. 1976
Easterling, Ray (S), Richmond 1972-78
Eber, Rick (WR), Tulsa 1968
Eley, Monroe (RB), Arizona St. 1975-78
Ellis, Clarence (CB), Notre Dame 1972-74
Enderle, Dick (G), Minnesota 1969-71
Esposito, Mike (RB), Boston College 1976-78
Etter, Bob (K), Georgia 1968-69
Farmer, Karl (WR), Pittsburgh 1976-77
Faumuina, Wilson (DT), San Jose St. 1977-78
Ferguson, Jim (C), USC 1969
Fields, Edgar (DT), Texas A&M 1977-78
Fitzgerald, Mike (CB-S), Iowa State 1967
Flatley, Paul (WR), Northwestern 1968-69
Francis, Wallace (WR) 1975-78
Franklin, George (RB), Texas A&I 1978
Freeman, Mike (CB-S), Fresno St. 1968-70
Fritsch, Ted (C), St. Norbert 1972-74
Gallagher, Frank (G), N. Carolina 1973
Garcia, Jim (DE), Purdue 1968
George, Steve (DT), Houston 1976
Geredine, Thomas (WR), NE Missouri St. 1973-74
Germany, Willie (S), Morgan St. 1972
Gilbert, Lewis (TE), Florida 1978
Gilliam, John (WR), South Carolina St. 1976
Gipson, Paul (RB), Houston 1969-70
Glass, Glenn (WR), Tennessee 1966
Glazebrook, Bob (DB), Fresno St. 1978
Gotshalk, Len (T), Humboldt St. 1972-76
Goodwin, Doug (RB), Maryland St. 1968
Grimm, Dan (G-C), Colorado 1966-68
Halverson, Dena (LB), Washington 1970
Hampton, Dave (RB), Wyoming 1972-75
Hansen, Don (LB), Illinois 1969-75
Harmon, Tom (G), Gus. Adolphus 1967
Harris, Bill (RB), Colorado 1968
Hart, Leo (QB), Duke 1971
Hawkins, Alex (WR), South Carolina 1966-67
Havig, Dennis (G), Colorado 1972-75
Hayes, Tom (CB), San Diego St. 1971-75
Heck, Ralph (LB), Colorado 1966-68
Herron, Mack (RB), Kansas St. 1975
Hettema, Dave (T), New Mexico 1970
Hilton, Roy (DE), Jackson St. 1975
Holmes, Rudy (DE), Drake 1974
Hudlow, Floyd (CB-S), Arizona 1967-68
Hughes, Bob (DE), Jackson St. 1967-69
Humphrey, Claude (DE), Tenn. St. 1968-74, 76-78
Hunter, Scott (QB), Alabama 1976-78
Hutchinson, Tom (WR), Kentucky 1966
Jackson, Alfred (WR), Texas 1978
Jackson, Ernie (CB), Duke 1978
Jackson, Larron (G), Missouri 1975-76
James, John (P), Florida 1972-78
Jenke, Noel (LB), Minnesota 1972
Jenkins, Alfred (WR), Morris Brown 1975-78
Jarvis, Ray (WR), Norfolk St. 1971-72
Jobko, Bill (LB), Ohio St. 1966
Johnson, Randy (QB), Texas A&I 1966-70
Johnson, Rudy (RB), Nebraska 1966
Jones, Bob (WR), San Diego St. 1969
Jones, Bob (DB), Virginia Union 1975-76
Jones, Jerry (DT), Bowling Green 1966
Jones, June (QB), Portland St. 1977-78
Kay, Rick (LB), Colorado 1977
Kendrick, Vince (RB), Florida 1974-75
Kenn, Mike (T), Michigan 1978
Kindle,Gregg (G), Tennessee St. 1976
Kirouac, Lou (G-K), Boston College 1966-67
Koeper, Rich (T), Oregon State 1966
Kuechenberg, Rudy (LB), Indiana 1971
Kunz, George (T), Notre Dame 1969-74
Kupp, Jake (G), Washington 1967
Kuykendall, Fulton (LB), UCLA 1975-78
Lamb, Ron (RB), S. Carolina 1972
Lavan, Al (S), Colorado St. U. 1969-70
Lawrence, Kent (WR), Georgia 1970
Lawrence, Rolland (DB), Tabor 1973-78
Ledbetter, Monte (WR), N.W. Louisiana 1969
Lee, Bob (WR), Minnesota 1969
Lee, Bob (QB), Pacific 1973-74
Lee, Dwight (RB), Michigan St. 1968

Lemmerman, Bruce (QB), San Fernando Valley 1968-69
Lens, Greg (DT), Trinity, Texas 1970-71
Lewis, Mike (DT), Arkansas AM&N 1971-78
Linden, Errol (T), Houston 1966-68
Long, Bob (WR), Wichita St 1968
Lothridge, Billy (P-S), Georgia Tech 1966-71
Mabra, Ron (DB), Howard 1975-76
Mack, Red (WR), Notre Dame 1966
Mallory, John (S), W. Virginia 1967
Malone, Art (RB), Arizona St 1970-74
Mankins, Jim (RB), Florida St 1967
Manning, Rosie (T), N.E.Oklahoma 1972-75
Marchlewski, Frank (C), Minnesota 1966-68
Marshall, Randy (DE), Linfield 1970-71
Marshall, Rich (DT), Stephen F. Austin 1966
Martin, Billy (TE), Georgia Tech 1966-67
Marx, Greg (DT), Notre Dame 1973
Matlock, John (C), Miami 1970-71
Matthews, Henry (RB), Michigan St. 1973
Maurer, Andy (G), Oregon 1970-73
Mazzetti, Tim (K), Pennsylvania 1978
McCarthy, Brendan (RB), Boston College 1968
McCartney, Ron (LB), Tennessee 1977-78
McCauley, Tom (S-WR), Wisconsin 1969-71
McClain, Dewey (LB), E. Central Univ. 1976-78
McCrary, Greg (TE), Clark 1975-77
McDermott, Gary (RB), Tulsa 1969
McDonald, Tommy (WR), Oklahoma 1967
McGee, Molly (RB), Rhode Island 1974
McInnis, Hugh (TE), So. Mississippi 1966
McIntyre, Secedrick (RB), Auburn 1977
McKinnely, Phil (T), UCLA 1976-78
McQuilken, Kim (QB), Lehigh 1974-77
Merrow, Jeff (DE), W. Virginia 1975-78
Mialik, Larry (TE), Wisconsin 1972-74
Mike-Mayer, Nick (K), Temple 1973-77
Miller, Jim (G), Iowa 1971-72, 74
Mitchell, Ken (LB), Nevada-Las Vegas 1973-74
Mitchell, Jim (TE), Prairie View 1969-78
Montgomery, Marv (T), USC 1978
Moore, Tom (RB), Vanderbilt 1967
Moriarty, Tom (S), Bowling Green 1977-78
Morris, Larry (LB), Georgia Tech 1966
Neal, Louis (WR), Prairie View 1973-74
Nobis, Tommy (LB), Texas 1966-76
Nofsinger, Terry (QB), Utah 1967
Norton, Jim (DT-DE), Washington 1967-68
Ogden, Ray (TE), Alabama 1967-68
Ortega, Ralph (LB), Florida 1975-78
Palmer, Dick (LB), Kentucky 1974
Patton, Ricky (RB), Jackson St 1978
Pearson, Dennis (WR), San Diego St. 1978
Pennywell, Robert (LB), Grambling 1977-78
Piper, Scott (WR), Arizona 1976
Plummer, Tony (S), Pacific 1971-73
Poage, Ray (TE), Texas 1971
Pridemore, Tom (S), West Virginia 1978
Pritchett, Billy Ray (RB), W. Texas St. 1976-77
Profit, Joe (RB), N.E. Louisiana 1971-73
Rassas, Nick (S), Notre Dame 1966-68
Ray, Eddie (RB), LSU 1972-74
Reaves, Ken (CB), Norfolk St 1966-73
Rector, Ron (RB), Northwestern 1966-67
Redmond, Rudy (CB), Pacific 1969-71
Reed, Frank (DB), Washington 1976-78
Reed, Oscar (RB), Colorado State U. 1975
Reese, Guy (DT), SMU 1966
Richards, Bobby (DE), LSU 1966-67
Richardson, Jerry (CB-S), W. Texas St. 1966-67
Ridlehuber, Preston (RB), Georgia 1966
Riggle, Bob (S), Penn State 1966-67
Roberts, Gary (G), Purdue 1970
Roberts, Guy (LB), Maryland 1976
Rubke, Karl (DT), USC 1966-67
Rushing, Marion (LB), So. Illinois 1966-68
Russ, Carl (LB), Michigan 1975
Ryckman, Billy (WR), Louisiana Tech 1977-78
Ryczek, Paul (C), Virginia 1974-78
Sabatino, Bill (DT), Colorado 1969
Sandeman, Bill (T), Pacific 1967-73
Sanders, Bob (LB), N. Texas St 1967
Scales, Charlie (RB), Indiana 1966
Schmidt, Roy (G-T), Long Beach St 1969
Scott, Dave (T), Kansas 1976-78
Shay, Jerry (DT), Purdue 1968-69
Shears, Larry (CB), Lincoln, Mo 1971
Sherlag, Bob (WR), Memphis St 1966
Shiner, Dick (QB), Maryland 1971-73
Sidle, Jimmy (TE-RB), Auburn 1966
Sieminski, Chuck (DT), Penn State 1966-67
Silvestri, Carl (CB-S), Wisconsin 1966
Simmons, Jerry (WR), Bethune-Cookman 1967-69
Simon, Jim (G-T), Miami 1966-68
Sloan, Steve (QB), Alabama 1966-67
Small, John (DT), Citadel 1970-72
Smith, Ralph (TE), Mississippi 1969
Smith, Ron (CB-WR), Wisconsin 1966-67
Smith, Royce (G), Georgia 1974-76
Snider, Malcolm (G), Stanford 1969-71
Snyder, Todd (WR), Ohio U 1970-72
Sobocinski, Phil (C), Wisconsin 1968
Spiller, Phil (S), Cal. State-L.A 1968
Spiva, Andy (LB), Tennessee 1977
Stanback, Haskel (RB), Tennessee 1974-78
Stanciel, Jeff (RB), Miss. Valley 1969
Steinfort, Fred (PK), Boston College 1977-78
Stewart, Steve (LB), Minnesota 1978
Strahan, Art (DT), Tex. Southern 1968
Strong, Ray (RB), Nevada/Las Vegas 1978
Suchy, Larry (CB), Mississippi College 1968
Sullivan, Jim (DE), Lincoln, Mo. 1970
Sullivan, Pat (QB), Auburn 1972-75
Szczecko, Joe (DT), Auburn 1966-68
Talbert, Don (T), Texas 1966-68
Ten Napel, Garth (LB), Texas A&M 1978
Thielemann, R. C. (G-C), Arkansas 1977-78
Thompson, Woody (RB), Miami 1975-77
Tilleman, Mike (DT), Montana 1973-76
Tinker, Gerald (WR), Kent State 1974-75
Tolleson, Tommy (WR), Alabama 1966
Traynham, Wade (K), Frederick 1966-67
Van Note, Jeff (C), Kentucky 1969-78
Vinyard, Kenny (K), Texas Tech 1970
Wages, Harmon (RB), Florida 1968-71, 73
Walker, Chuck (DT), Duke 1972-75
Walker, Cleo (LB), Louisville 1971
Warwick, Lonnie (LB), Tenn. Tech 1973-74
Washington, Joe (RB), Illinois St 1973
Waskiewicz, Jim (C), Wichita St 1969
Weatherford, Jim (S), Tennessee 1969
Weatherley, Jim (C), None 1976
Wheelwright, Ernie (RB), So. Illinois 1966-67
Whitlow, Bob (C), Arizona 1966
Williams, Sam (DE), Michigan St 1966-67
Wilson, Jim (C), Georgia 1967
Windauer, Bill (DT), Iowa 1976
Winkler, Randy (G), Tarleton St 1968
Wolski, Bill (RB), Notre Dame 1966
Wood, Bo (DE), N. Carolina 1967
Wright, James (TE), Texas Christian 1978
Wright, John (WR), Illinois 1968
Wright, Nate (S), San Diego St 1969
Yeates, Jeff (DT), Boston College 1976-78
Zook, John (DE), Kansas 1969-75

Year-By-Year Leaders

SCORING

Year	Player	TD	XP	XPA	FG	FGA	TP
1966	Lou Kirouac	0	19	24	9	18	46
1967	Wade Traynham	0	22	22	7	18	43
1968	Bob Etter	0	17	19	11	21	50
1969	Bob Etter	0	33	33	15	30	78
1970	Kenny Vinyard	0	23	26	9	25	50
1971	Bill Bell	0	29	33	13	21	68
1972	Bill Bell	0	31	31	16	30	79
1973	Nick Mike-Mayer	0	34	34	26	38	112
1974	Nick Mike-Mayer	0	12	12	9	16	39
1975	Nick Mike-Mayer	0	30	33	4	10	42
1976	Nick Mike-Mayer	0	19	19	10	21	49
1977	Haskel Stanback	6	00	00	00	00	36
1978	Tim Mazzetti	0	18	18	13	16	57

PASSING

Year	Player	Att.	Comp.	Pct.	Yds.	TD	Int.
1966	Randy Johnson	295	129	43.7	1,795	12	21
1967	Randy Johnson	288	142	49.3	1,620	10	21
1968	Bob Berry	153	81	52.9	1,433	7	13
1969	Bob Berry	124	71	57.3	1,087	10	2
1970	Bob Berry	269	156	58.0	1,806	16	13
1971	Bob Berry	226	136	60.2	2,005	11	16
1972	Bob Berry	277	154	55.6	2,158	13	12
1973	Bob Lee	230	120	52.2	1,786	10	8
1974	Bob Lee	172	78	45.3	852	3	14
1975	Steve Bartkowski	255	115	45.1	1,662	13	15
1976	Steve Bartkowski	120	57	47.5	677	2	9
1977	Scott Hunter	151	70	46.4	898	2	3
1978	Steve Bartkowski	369	187	50.7	2,489	10	18

RUSHING

Year	Player	Att.	Yards	Avg.	LG	TD
1966	Junior Coffey	199	722	3.6	37	4
1967	Junior Coffey	180	722	4.0	+20	4
1968	Jim Butler	94	365	3.9	+60	2
1969	Jim Butler	163	655	4.0	39	3
1970	Jim Butler	166	636	3.8	33	0
1971	Jim Butler	186	594	3.2	19	2
1972	Dave Hampton	230	995	4.3	+56	6
1973	Dave Hampton	263	997	3.8	25	3
1974	Dave Hampton	127	464	3.7	34	2
1975	Dave Hampton	250	1002	4.0	22	5
1976	Bubba Bean	124	428	3.5	30	2
1977	Haskel Stanback	247	873	3.4	35	6
1978	Bubba Bean	193	707	3.7	25	3

RECEIVING

Year	Player	No.	Yards	Avg.	LG	TD
1966	Alex Hawkins	44	661	15.0	42	2
1967	Tommy McDonald	33	436	13.2	+75	4
1968	Jerry Simmons	28	479	17.1	61	0
1969	Paul Flatley	45	834	18.5	+71	6
1970	Jim Mitchell	44	650	14.8	51	6
1971	Art Malone	34	380	11.2	+46	2
1972	Art Malone	50	585	11.7	+57	2
1973	Jim Mitchell	32	420	13.1	50	0
1974	Ken Burrow	34	545	16.0	48	1
1975	Alfred Jenkins	38	767	20.2	68	6
1976	Alfred Jenkins	41	710	17.3	34	6
1977	Alfred Jenkins	39	677	17.4	73	4
1978	Wallace Francis	45	695	15.4	54	3
1978	Billy Ryckman	45	679	15.1	59	2

INTERCEPTIONS

Year	Player	No.	Yards	Avg.	LG	TD
1966	Jerry Richardson	5	68	13.6	20	0
1967	Ken Reaves	7	153	21.9	42	0
1968	Jim Burson	4	100	25.0	+73	1
1969	Rudy Redmond	5	50	10.0	32	0
1970	Ken Reaves	6	44	7.3	28	0
1971	Ken Reaves	6	43	7.2	31	0
1972	Tom Hayes	5	10	2.0	8	0
1973	Ray Brown	6	99	16.5	24	0
1974	Ray Brown	8	164	20.5	+59	1
1975	Rolland Lawrence	9	163	18.1	+87	1
1976	Rolland Lawrence	6	43	7.2	22	0
1977	Rolland Lawrence	7	138	19.7	36	0
1978	Rolland Lawrence	6	76	12.7	44	0

PUNTING

Year	Player	No.	Yards	Avg.	LG	Blkd.
1966	Billy Lothridge	73	2968	40.7	60	0
1967	Billy Lothridge	87	3801	43.7	62	0
1968	Billy Lothridge	75	3324	44.3	70	0
1969	Billy Lothridge	69	2846	41.2	57	0
1970	Billy Lothridge	76	2944	38.7	59	0
1971	Billy Lothridge	44	1639	37.3	58	1
1972	John James	61	2609	42.8	59	0
1973	John James	63	2682	42.6	72	0
1974	John James	96	3891	40.5	61	1
1975	John James	89	3696	41.5	75	0
1976	John James	101	4253	42.1	67	0
1977	John James	105	4349	41.4	61	0
1978	John James	109	4227	38.8	57	1

PUNT RETURNS

Year	Player	No.	Yards	Avg.	LG	TD
1966	Ron Smith	11	80	7.3	23	0
1967	Ron Smith	20	92	4.6	26	0
1968	Jim Burson	11	56	5.1	17	0
1969	John Mallory	13	42	3.2	15	0
1970	John Mallory	17	203	11.9	+75	1
1971	Willie Belton	30	163	5.4	32	0
1972	Willie Belton	17	110	6.5	34	0
1973	Ray Brown	40	360	9.0	57	0
1974	Al Dodd	27	344	12.7	57	0
1975	Mack Herron	10	94	9.4	24	0
1976	Rolland Lawrence	54	376	7.0	24	0
1977	Rolland Lawrence	51	352	6.9	37	0
1978	Billy Ryckman	28	227	8.1	38	0

KICKOFF RETURNS

Year	Player	No.	Yards	Avg.	LG	TD
1966	Ron Smith	43	1013	23.6	80	0
1967	Ron Smith	39	976	25.0	+99	1
1968	Jim Butler	37	799	21.6	42	0
1969	Charlie Bryant	21	407	19.4	39	0
1970	Jim Butler	14	284	20.3	29	0
1971	Willie Belton	28	706	25.2	58	0
1972	Dave Hampton	25	535	21.0	52	0
1973	Joe Washington	20	432	21.6	30	0
1974	Gerald Tinker	29	704	24.3	59	0
1975	Gerald Tinker	13	307	23.6	33	0
1976	Rolland Lawrence	21	521	24.8	36	0
1977	Karl Farmer	23	466	20.3	30	0
1978	Dennis Pearson	25	662	26.7	100	1

Falcons Statistical History

Greatest Falcon Performances

RUSHING YARDAGE

161—Dave Hampton vs. Los Angeles, Oct. 1, 1972, 29 attempts (AS)

135—Dave Hampton vs. St. Louis, Sept. 21, 1975, 23 attempts

129—Haskel Stanback vs. New Orleans, Dec. 18, 1977, 22 attempts (AS)

127—Jim Butler vs. San Francisco, Oct. 4, 1970, 17 attempts (AS)

123—Woody Thompson vs. New Orleans, Nov. 20, 1977, 24 attempts

117—Junior Coffey vs. Cleveland, Oct. 30, 1966, 17 attempts (AS)

114—Jim Butler vs. New Orleans, Oct. 24, 1971, 20 attempts (AS)

112—Haskel Stanback vs. Tampa Bay, Sept. 24, 1978, 23 attempts

107—Sonny Collins vs. San Francisco, Nov. 14, 1976, 31 attempts (AS)

106—Dave Hampton vs. Denver, Nov. 23, 1975, 26 attempts (AS)

103—Art Malone vs. Los Angeles, Oct. 1, 1972, 18 attempts (AS)

101—Dave Hampton vs. New Orleans, Oct. 5, 1975, 25 attempts (AS)

100—Sonny Collins vs. Seattle, Nov. 7, 1976, 17 attempts

PASSING YARDAGE

309—Bob Berry vs. Detroit, Oct. 3, 1971, 13 of 23

305—Steve Bartkowski vs. San Francisco, Dec. 14, 1975, 19 of 37 (AS)

302—Bob Berry vs. Green Bay, Sept. 27, 1970, 28 of 44

301—Bob Berry vs. Los Angeles, Sept. 26, 1971, 15 of 22

282—Bob Berry vs. Pittsburgh, Nov. 3, 1968, 15 of 26 (AS)

281—Steve Bartkowski vs. Washington, Dec. 7, 1975, 14 of 26 (AS)

269—Bob Berry vs. New Orleans, Dec. 19, 1971, 18 of 27

269—Scott Hunter vs. Washington, Sept. 25, 1977, 16 of 33

266—Steve Bartkowski vs. New Orleans, Nov. 26, 1978, 23 of 43 (AS)

263—Randy Johnson vs. San Francisco, Dec. 10, 1967, 14 of 34 (AS)

257—Steve Bartkowski vs. St. Louis, Dec. 19, 1978, 16 of 32

256—Steve Bartkowski vs. San Francisco,Oct. 22, 1978, 15 of 20

RECEIVING YARDAGE

190—Ken Burrow vs. Detroit, Oct. 3, 1971, 6 receptions

190—Ken Burrow vs. New Orleans, Dec. 19, 1971, 8 receptions

153—Wallace Francis vs. New York Giants, Oct. 1, 1978, 7 receptions

152—Alfred Jenkins, vs. Washington, Sept. 25, 1977, 7 receptions
147—Alfred Jenkins vs. San Francisco, Dec. 14, 1975, 7 receptions (AS)
144—Alex Hawkins vs. Philadelphia, Sept. 18, 1966, 9 receptions
143—Jim Mitchell vs. Los Angeles, Sept. 26, 1971, 4 receptions
120—Wes Chesson vs. Los Angeles, Nov. 5, 1972, 7 receptions
120—Paul Flatley vs. Philadelphia, Dec. 14, 1969, 4 receptions
113—Alfred Jackson vs. San Francisco, Oct. 22, 1978, 4 receptions
113—Paul Flatley vs. Los Angeles, Sept. 28, 1969, 6 receptions
110—Paul Gipson vs. Los Angeles, Nov. 22, 1970, 5 receptions (AS)
109—Jim Mitchell vs. Los Angeles, Dec. 1, 1974, 7 receptions (AS)
108—Billy Ryckman vs. Chicago, Nov. 19, 1978, 8 receptions
106—Alfred Jenkins vs. Oakland, Nov. 30, 1975, 4 receptions
106—Alfred Jenkins vs. Denver, Nov. 23, 1975, 6 receptions (AS)
105—Harmon Wages vs. New Orleans, Dec. 7, 1969, 3 receptions (AS)
102—Alfred Jenkins vs. New Orleans, Nov. 2, 1975, 4 receptions
102—Alfred Jenkins vs. Houston, Nov. 28, 1976, 5 receptions
102—Alfred Jackson vs. St. Louis, Dec. 17, 1978, 5 receptions
101—Paul Flatley vs. Baltimore, Oct. 5, 1969, 3 receptions
101—Alfred Jenkins vs. Green Bay, Dec. 12, 1976, 6 receptions (AS)

Longest Falcon Plays

LONG RUNS FROM SCRIMMAGE (50 yards or more)

t66—Harmon Wages vs. New Orleans, Dec. 7, 1969 (AS)
65—Ernie Wheelwright vs. Los Angeles, Sept. 11, 1966 (AS)
t60—Jim Butler vs. Detroit, Dec. 8, 1968 (AS)
56—Dave Hampton vs. Los Angeles, Oct. 1, 1972 (AS)

LONG PASS COMPLETIONS (75 yards or more)

t88—Bob Berry to Harmon Wages vs. New Orleans, Dec. 7, 1969 (AS)
84—Bob Berry to Ken Burrow vs. New Orleans, Dec. 19, 1971
t82—Randy Johnson to Ray Ogden vs. San Francisco, Dec. 10, 1967 (AS)
t75—Tom Moore to Tommy McDonald vs. Baltimore, Nov. 12, 1967 (AS)

LONG PUNTS (60 yards or more)

75—John James vs. Oakland, Nov. 30, 1975
72—John James vs. New Orleans, Sept. 16, 1973

70—Billy Lothridge vs. Cleveland, Oct. 27, 1968

67—John James vs. New Orleans, Oct. 31, 1976 (AS)

62—John James vs. Los Angeles, Sept. 12, 1976 (AS)

62—John James vs. Los Angeles, Dec. 4, 1976

62—Billy Lothridge vs. Baltimore, Sept. 17, 1967

62—Billy Lothridge vs. Green Bay, Oct. 6, 1968 (AS)

LONG FIELD GOALS (45 yards or more)

52—Nick Mike-Mayer vs. San Francisco, Oct. 28, 1973

49—Nick Mike-Mayer vs. Minnesota, Nov. 19, 1973 (AS)

49—Kenny Vinyard vs. New Orleans, Oct. 25, 1971 (AS)

48—Nick Mike-Mayer vs. Detroit, Oct. 1, 1973

48—Wade Traynham vs. Baltimore, Sept. 17, 1967

47—Nick Mike-Mayer vs. New Orleans, Oct. 20, 1974 (AS)

47—Nick Mike-Mayer vs. Green Bay, Dec. 15, 1974 (AS)

47—Lou Kirouac vs. Washington, Oct. 9, 1966

47—Lou Kirouac vs. St. Louis, Dec. 11, 1966 (AS)

46—Nick Mike-Mayer vs. San Francisco, Oct. 7, 1973 (AS)

46—Nick Mike-Mayer vs. Philadelphia, Oct. 3, 1976 (AS)

45—Nick Mike-Mayer vs. Philadelphia, Nov. 11, 1973

45—Wade Traynham vs. Los Angeles, Dec. 3, 1967

45—Nick Mike-Mayer vs. Chicago, Sept. 26, 1976

LONG INTERCEPTION RETURNS (60 yards or more)

t90—Ken Reaves vs. Los Angeles, Oct. 20, 1968

t87—Rolland Lawrence vs. Oakland, Nov. 30, 1975

81—Rolland Lawrence vs. San Diego, Oct. 21, 1973

t77—Lee Calland vs. Baltimore, Sept. 17, 1967

t73—Jimmy Burson vs. San Francisco, Dec. 15, 1968 (AS)

t72—Rick Byas vs. New Orleans, Nov. 20, 1977

t65—Tom Hayes vs. New Orleans, Sept. 16, 1973

t62—Bob Riggle vs. Minnesota, Dec. 4, 1966

LONG PUNT RETURNS (50 yards or more)

t77—Tom McCauley vs. New Orleans, Oct. 25, 1970 (AS)

t75—John Mallory vs. Minnesota, Dec. 20, 1970 (AS)

t72—Gerald Tinker vs. New Orleans, Sept. 29, 1974

57—Ray Brown vs. Philadelphia, Nov. 11, 1973

57—Al Dodd vs. Chicago, Oct. 13, 1974 (AS)

LONG KICKOFF RETURNS (50 yards or more)

t100—Dennis Pearson, vs. St. Louis, Dec. 17, 1978

t99—Ron Smith vs. Baltimore, Sept. 17, 1967

82—Jim Butler vs. Green Bay, Nov. 22, 1971 (AS)

80—Ron Smith vs. Chicago, Nov. 27, 1966

61—Jim Butler vs. Washington, Nov. 23, 1969

59—Gerald Tinker vs. San Francisco, Sept. 22, 1974 (AS)

58—Willie Belton vs. Cleveland, Oct. 31, 1971

LONG FUMBLE RETURNS (50 yards or more)

t74—Jim Weatherford vs. San Francisco, Oct. 19, 1969

t60—Tom Hayes vs. Oakland, Dec. 5, 1971 (AS)

t50—Jim Mitchell vs. New Orleans, Oct. 5, 1975 (AS)

Single Game Individual Records

Scoring

Most Points	15	Tim Mazzetti vs. Los Angeles 10/30/78
	15	Nick Mike-Mayer vs. Los Angeles 11/4/73
vs. Falcons	24	Dan Reeves, Dallas, 11/5/67 (4 TD)
	24	Roy Jefferson, Pittsburgh, 11/3/68 (4 TD) (AS)
Most Touchdowns	2	39 Times. Last time, Haskel Stanback vs. New Orleans 12/18/77 (AS)
vs. Falcons	4	Dan Reeves, Dallas, 11/5/67 (4 TD)
	4	Roy Jefferson, Pittsburgh, 11/3/68 (4 TD) (AS)
Most Points After Touchdown Attempted	8	Nick Mike-Mayer vs. New Orleans 9/16/73
vs. Falcons	8	Don Chandler, Green Bay, 10/23/66
	8	Tom Dempsey, Los Angeles, 12/4/76
Most Points After Touchdown	8	Nick Mike-Mayer vs. New Orleans 9/16/73
vs. Falcons	8	Don Chandler, Green Bay, 10/23/66
Most Field Goals Attempted	5	Nick Mike-Mayer vs. Los Angeles 11/4/73 (AS)
	5	Nick Mike-Mayer vs. Chicago 9/26/76

	5	Nick Mike-Mayer vs. Chicago 10/23/77
	5	Tim Mazzetti vs. Los Angeles 10/30/78
vs. Falcons	7	Jim Bakken, St. Louis, 12/11/66 (AS)
	7	Jim Bakken, St. Louis, 12/9/73 (AS)
Most Field Goals	5	Nick Mike-Mayer vs. Los Angeles 11/4/73 (AS)
	5	Tim Mazzetti vs. Los Angeles 10/30/78
vs. Falcons	7	Jim Bakken, St. Louis 12/9/73 (AS)

RUSHING

Most Touchdowns Rushing	2	16 Times. Last time Haskel Stanback vs. New Orleans 12/18/77 (AS)
vs. Falcons	3	Don Nottingham, Miami, 11/3/74
	3	Chuck Foreman, Minnesota, 11/9/75
	3	Lawrence McCutcheon, Los Angeles, 12/4/76
Most Attempts	31	Sonny Collins vs. San Francisco 11/14/76 (107 yds) (AS)
vs. Falcons	33	Lydell Mitchell, Baltimore, 11/17/74 (151 yds)
Most Yards Gained	161	Dave Hampton vs. Los Angeles 10/1/72 (29 att) (AS)
vs. Falcons	191	Greg Pruitt, Cleveland, 10/17/76 (26 att) (AS)
Highest Average Gain	9.10	Art Malone vs. San Francisco 12/10/72 (10-91)
vs. Falcons	10.4	Delvin Williams, San Francisco, 12/14/75 (10-104) (AS)

PASSING AND PASS RECEIVING

Most Passes Attempted	44	Bob Berry vs. Green Bay 9/27/70 (28 comp)
vs. Falcons	41	Sonny Jurgensen, Washington, 10/15/67 (28 comp) (AS)
Most Passes Completed	28	Bob Berry vs. Green Bay, 9/27/70 (44 Att)
vs. Falcons	28	Sonny Jurgensen, Washington, 10/15/67 (41 Att) (AS)
Highest Pass Percentage (20 Att.)	76.2	Bob Berry vs. San Francisco 9/19/71 (21-16) (AS)
	76.2	Bob Berry vs. Green Bay 11/22/71 (21-16) (AS)
vs. Falcons	85.0	John Unitas, Baltimore 11/12/67 (20-17) (AS)
	85.0	John Brodie, San Francisco 9/29/60
Most Yards Gained	309	Bob Berry vs. Detroit, 10/3/71 (23-13)
vs. Falcons	401	John Unitas, Baltimore, 9/17/67 (32-22)

Most Touchdown Passes	4	Randy Johnson vs. Chicago 11/16/69 (AS)
vs. Falcons	4	Frank Ryan, Cleveland, ? 1966 (AS)
	4	John Unitas, Baltimore, 11/12/67 (AS)
	4	Ken Stabler, Oakland, 11/30/75 (AS)
Most Passes Had Intercepted	5	Kim McQuilken vs. Minnesota 11/9/75
vs. Falcons	5	Bob Berry, Minnesota 12/4/66
	5	Archie Manning, New Orleans, 9/16/73

RECEIVING

Most Yards Gained	190	Ken Burrow vs. Detroit 10/3/71 (6)
	190	Ken Burrow vs. New Orleans 12/19/71 (8)
vs. Falcons	199	Roy Jefferson, Pittsburgh, 11/3/68 (11) (AS)
Most Touchdown Passes	2	18 Times. Last time, Alfred Jenkins vs. San Francisco 11/14/76 (AS)
vs. Falcons	4	Roy Jefferson, Pittsburgh, 11/3/68 (AS)
Most Pass Receptions	9	Alex Hawkins vs. Philadelphia 9/18/66 (144 yds)
	9	Harmon Wages vs. Baltimore 12/1/68 (56 yds)
	9	Paul Flatley vs. Los Angeles 11/22/70 (92 yds) (AS)
vs. Falcons	11	Dick Witcher, San Francisco 12/10/67 (186 yds) (AS)
	11	Roy Jefferson, Pittsburgh 11/3/68 (199 yds) (AS)
	11	Alvin Maxson, New Orleans 10/5/75 (71 yds) (AS)

INTERCEPTIONS

Most Interceptions	2	26 Times. Last time, Ray Easterling vs. Chicago, 10/10/77
Most Yards Gained Interceptions	90	Ken Reaves vs. Los Angeles 10/20/68 (1 Int)
Most Touchdown Interceptions	1	15 times. Last time, Rick Byas vs. New Orleans 11/20/77

PUNTING AND PUNT RETURNS

Most Punts	11	John James vs. Washington 12/10/78 (AS)
vs. Falcons	10	Eight Times. Last Time, Mike Bragg, Washington, 12/10/78 (AS)
Highest Punting Average (4 punts)	50.0	Billy Lothridge vs. Baltimore 9/17/67) (4)

vs. Falcons	50.8	Dave Chapple, Los Angeles, 11/4/73 (5)
Most Punt Returns	8	Rolland Lawrence vs. San Francisco 10/9/77
vs. Falcons	9	Ralph McGill, San Francisco, 10/29/72 (AS)
Most Fair Catches	3	Billy Ryckman vs. Los Angeles 10/30/78 (AS)
	3	Billy Ryckman vs. Chicago 11/19/78
	3	Jimmy Burson vs. Los Angeles 10/20/68
	3	Jimmy Burson vs. San Francisco 12/15/68 (AS)
	3	Ray Brown vs. Houston 12/3/72 (AS)
	3	Ray Brown vs. New Orleans 12/16/73 (AS)
Most Yards Gained Punt Returns	108	Al Dodd vs. Chicago 10/13/74 (6 ret)
vs. Falcons	109	Ralph McGill, San Francisco 10/29/72 (AS)
Highest Average (3 returns)	26.0	Ray Brown vs. Philadelphia 11/11/73 (4)
vs. Falcons	24.33	Chuck Latourette, St. Louis, 11/24/68
Most Punt Returns for Touchdowns	1	Tom McCauley vs. New Orleans 10/25/70 (AS)
	1	John Mallory vs. Minnesota 12/20/70 (AS)
	1	Gerald Tinker vs. New Orleans 9/29/74
vs. Falcons	1	Donny Anderson, Green Bay, 10/23/66
	1	Manfred Moore, San Francisco, 11/24/74
Most Kickoff Returns	7	Ron Smith vs. Green Bay 10/23/66
	7	Ron Smith vs. Baltimore 11/12/67 (AS)

Team Single Game

SCORING

Fewest Points	0	13 Times. Last time vs. Buffalo, October 16, 1977 (3-0)
vs. Falcons	0	5 Times. Last time vs. Detroit, October 15, 1978 (14-0) (AS)
Most Points	62	vs. New Orleans, Sept. 16, 1973
vs. Falcons	59	Los Angeles, Dec. 4, 1976
Most Points, Both Teams	90	Atlanta (33) vs. Pittsburgh (57), Dec. 18, 1966 (AS)

Fewest Points, Both Teams	3	Atlanta (0) vs. Buffalo (3), Oct. 16, 1977 (3-0)
Largest Margin of Victory	55	vs. New Orleans, Sept. 16, 1973 (62-7)
vs. Falcons	59	vs. Los Angeles, Dec. 4, 1976 (59-0)
Smallest Point Margin in Victory	1	vs. Minnesota, Oct. 29, 1967 (21-20) (AS)
	1	vs. San Francisco, Oct. 4, 1970 (21-20) (AS)
	1	vs. Green Bay, Oct. 22, 1972 (10-9)
vs. Falcons	1	New England, Sept. 24, 1972 (21-20)
	1	Philadelphia, Oct. 3, 1976 (14-13) (AS)
	1	New Orleans, Nov. 20, 1977 (21-20)
Most Points, First Half	31	vs. Chicago, Sept. 17, 1972
Most Points, Second Half	38	vs. New Orleans, Sept. 16, 1973
Most Points, One Quarter	24	vs. Chicago, Sept. 17, 1972
	24	vs New Orleans, Sept. 16, 1973
	24	vs. Philadelphia, Nov. 11, 1973
vs. Falcons	28	Minnesota, Sept. 14, 1968
Most Points, Both Teams, One Quarter	35	Atlanta (14) vs. Pittsburgh (21), Dec. 18, 1966 (3Q) (AS)
Most Points, Each Quarter 1st:	14	4 Times. Last time vs. Cleveland, Oct. 31, 1971
2nd:	24	vs. New Orleans Sept. 16, 1973
3rd:	21	vs. New Orleans, Sept. 16, 1973
	21	vs. Chicago, Oct. 14, 1973 (AS)
4th:	24	vs. Philadelphia, Nov. 11, 1973
vs. Falcons 1st:	24	Philadelphia, Oct. 8, 1967 (AS)
2nd:	28	Minnesota, Sept. 14, 1968
2nd:	28	St. Louis, Dec. 17, 1978
3rd:	21	Pittsburgh, Dec. 18, 1966 (AS)
	21	Green Bay, Oct. 6, 1968 (AS)
	21	Miami, Nov. 3, 1974
4th:	24	Los Angeles, Nov. 19, 1967 (AS)
Most Points, Both Teams, Each Quarter 1st:	34	Atlanta (13) vs. Oakland (21), Nov. 30, 1975
2nd:	35	Atlanta (7) vs. St. Louis (28), Dec. 17, 1978
3rd:	35	Atlanta (14) vs. Pittsburgh (21), Dec. 18, 1966 (AS)
4th:	31	Atlanta (24) vs. Philadelphia (7), Nov. 11, 1973
Most Touchdowns	8	vs. New Orleans, Sept. 16, 1973
vs. Falcons	8	Green Bay, Oct. 23, 1966
	8	Los Angeles, Dec. 4, 1976
Most Touchdowns, Both Teams	12	Atlanta (5) vs. Pittsburgh (7), Dec. 18, 1966 (AS)
Most PATS	8	vs. New Orleans, Sept. 16, 1973
vs. Falcons	8	Green Bay, Oct. 23, 1966

Most PATS, Both Teams	10	Atlanta (6) vs. Chicago (4), Nov. 16, 1969 (AS)
	10	Atlanta (5) vs. Detroit (5), Oct. 3, 1971
Most FGs Attempted	6	vs. San Francisco, Oct. 7, 1973 (AS)
vs. Falcons	7	St. Louis, Dec. 11, 1966 (AS)
	7	St. Louis, Dec. 9, 1973 (AS)
Most FGs Attempted, Both Teams	10	Atlanta (3) vs. St. Louis (7), Dec. 11, 1966 (AS)
Most FGs	5	vs. Los Angeles, Nov. 4, 1973 (AS)
		vs. Los Angeles, Oct. 30, 1978
vs. Falcons	6	St. Louis, Dec. 9, 1973 (AS)
Most FGs, Both Teams	7	Atlanta (5) vs. Los Angeles (2), Nov. 4, 1973 (AS)

FIRST DOWNS

Most First Downs	32	vs. New Orleans, Sept. 16, 1973
vs. Falcons	33	Oakland, Nov. 30, 1975
Fewest First Downs	2	vs. Los Angeles, Sept. 23, 1973
vs. Falcons	7	Green Bay, Nov. 22, 1971 (AS)
Most First Downs, Both Teams	53	Atlanta (20) vs. Oakland (33), Nov. 30, 1975
Fewest First Downs, Both Teams	14	Atlanta (5) vs. Minnesota (9), Dec. 21, 1969 (AS)
Most First Downs, Rushing	19	vs. New Orleans, Oct. 24, 1971 (AS)
vs. Falcons	19	Oakland, Nov. 30, 1975
	19	Los Angeles, Dec. 4, 1976
Fewest First Downs, Rushing	0	vs. Los Angeles, Dec. 1, 1974 (AS)
vs. Falcons	1	Los Angeles, Sept. 18, 1977 (AS)
Most First Downs, Passing	16	vs. San Francisco, Dec. 14, 1975 (AS)
	16	New Orleans, Nov. 26, 1978 (AS)
vs. Falcons	18	Washington, Dec. 7, 1975 (AS)
Fewest First Downs, Passing	0	vs. Los Angeles, Sept. 23, 1973
vs. Falcons	1	New Orleans, Oct. 15, 1972
	1	St. Louis, Dec. 9, 1973
Most First Downs, Penalty	4	7 Times. Last time vs. New Orleans, Oct. 10, 1976
vs. Falcons	6	San Francisco, Dec. 6, 1970

NEW YARDS GAINED

Most Yards Gained	496	vs. New Orleans, Sept. 16, 1973 (218-R, 278-P)
vs. Falcons	595	Baltimore, Nov. 12, 1967 (169-R, 426-P) (AS)
Fewest Yards Gained	44	vs. San Francisco, Oct. 23, 1976 (83-R, —39-P)
vs. Falcons	78	Tampa Bay, Nov. 27, 1977 (62-R, 16-P)
Most Yards Gained, Both Teams	868	Atlanta (462) vs. San Francisco (406), Dec. 14, 1975 (AS)

Fewest Yards, Gained, Both Teams	253	Atlanta (155) vs. San Francisco (97) Nov. 6, 1977 (AS)

RUSHING

Most Attempts	58	vs. Tampa Bay, Nov. 27, 1977
vs. Falcons	64	Minnesota, Nov. 9, 1975
Fewest Rushing Attempts	14	vs. Dallas, Nov. 5, 1967
vs. Falcons	15	New Orleans, Oct. 24, 1971 (AS)
Most Rushing Attempts, Both Teams	105	Atlanta (43) vs. Oakland (62), Nov. 30, 1975
Fewest Rushing Attempts, Both Teams	49	Atlanta (18) vs. Denver (31), Oct. 18, 1970
Most Yards Gained	297	vs. Los Angeles, Oct. 1, 1972 (AS)
vs. Falcons	299	Chicago, Nov. 27, 1966
Fewest Yards Gained	19	vs. Los Angeles, Dec. 1, 1974 (AS)
vs. Falcons	58	New Orleans, Oct. 24, 1971 (AS)
Most Yards Gained Rushing, Both Teams	436	Atlanta (150) vs. Oakland (286), Nov. 30, 1975
Fewest Yards Gained, Both Teams	164	Atlanta (56) vs. Baltimore (108), Dec. 1, 1968
	164	Atlanta (67) vs. New England (97), Dec. 4, 1977
Most Touchdowns	5	vs. San Diego, Oct. 21, 1973
vs. Falcons	7	Los Angeles, Dec. 4, 1976
Most Touchdowns Rushing, Both Teams	7	Atlanta (0) vs. Los Angeles (7), Dec. 4, 1976

PASSING

Most Passes Attempted	44	vs. Green Bay, Sept. 27, 1970 (28 comp)
	44	vs. New Orleans, Nov 26, 1978 (23 comp) (AS)
vs. Falcons	49	San Francisco, Dec. 14, 1975 (21 comp) (AS)
Fewest Passes Attempted	9	vs. Chicago, Sept. 17, 1972
	9	vs. Los Angeles, Oct. 1, 1972 (AS)
	9	vs. Los Angeles, Sept. 23, 1973
vs. Falcons	8	Green Bay, Nov. 22, 1971 (AS)
Most Passes Attempted, Both Teams	88	Atlanta (39) vs. San Francisco (49), Dec. 14, 1975 (AS)
Fewest Passes Attempted, Both Teams	21	Atlanta (9) vs. Chicago (12), Sept. 17, 1972
Most Passes Completed	28	vs. Green Bay, Sept. 27, 1970 (44-Att)
vs. Falcons	29	Washington, Oct. 15, 1967 (42-Att) (AS)

Most Passes Completed, Both Teams	47	Atlanta (18) vs. Washington (29), Oct. 15, 1967 (AS)
Fewest Passes Completed, Both Teams	10	Atlanta (6) vs. Minnesota (4), Dec. 21, 1969 (AS)
	10	Atlanta (6) vs. Chicago (4), Sept. 17, 1972
	10	Atlanta (8) vs. St. Louis (2), Dec. 9, 1973 (AS)
Most Yards Gained	362	vs. San Francisco, Dec. 14, 1975 (AS)
vs. Falcons	426	Baltimore, Nov. 12, 1967 (AS)
Most Yards Gained, Both Teams	623	Atlanta (291) vs. Pittsburgh (332), Dec. 18, 1966 (AS)
Fewest Yards Gained	-39	vs. San Francisco, Oct. 23, 1976
vs. Falcons	9	St. Louis, Dec. 9, 1973 (AS)
Fewest Yards Passing, Both Teams	37	Atlanta (—39) vs. San Francisco (76), Oct. 23, 1976
Most Times Tackled Attempting Passes	11	vs. St. Louis, Nov. 24, 1968
vs. Falcons	9	vs. New York Giants, Oct. 2, 1977
Most Times Tackled Attempting Passes, Both Teams	13	Atlanta (11) vs. St. Louis (2), Nov. 24, 1968
	13	Atlanta (10) vs. Detroit (3), Dec. 8, 1968
Most Touchdown Passes, Game	4	vs. Pittsburgh, Dec. 18, 1966 (AS)
	4	vs. Chicago, Nov. 16, 1969 (AS)
	4	vs. New Orleans, Dec. 7, 1969 (AS)
	4	vs. New Orleans, Sept. 16, 1973
vs. Falcons	6	Cleveland, Oct. 30, 1966 (AS)
Most Touchdown Passes, Both Teams	7	Atlanta (1) vs. Cleveland (6), Oct. 30, 1966 (AS)
	7	Atlanta (3) vs. Pittsburgh (4), Nov. 3, 1968 (AS)
Most Passes Had Intercepted	6	vs. Los Angeles, Oct. 1, 1972 (AS)
vs. Falcons	6	New Orleans, Sept. 16, 1973
Most Passes Had Intercepted, Both Teams	8	Atlanta (3) vs. Denver (5), Nov. 23, 1975 (AS)

PUNTING

Most Punts	12	vs. Washington, Dec. 10, 1978 (AS)
vs. Falcons	10	8 Times, Last Time, vs. Washington, Dec. 10, 1978
Fewest Punts	1	vs. Detroit, Oct. 3, 1971
vs. Falcons	1	By many teams

PUNT RETURNS

Most Punt Returns	8	vs. Chicago, Oct. 13, 1974 (AS)
	8	vs. San Francisco, Oct. 23, 1976
vs. Falcons	9	San Francisco, Oct. 29, 1972 (AS)
Most Fair Catches	3	Five Times
vs. Falcons	6	Minnesota, Nov. 28, 1971
Most Yards Gained	137	vs. New Orleans, Sept. 29, 1974
vs. Falcons	118	San Francisco, Nov. 24, 1974
Most Touchdowns	1	vs. New Orleans, Oct. 25, 1970 (AS)
	1	vs. Minnesota, Dec. 20, 1970 (AS)
	1	vs. New Orleans, Sept. 29, 1974
vs. Falcons	1	Green Bay, Oct. 23, 1966
	1	San Francisco, Nov. 24, 1974

KICKOFF RETURNS

Most Returns	10	vs. Pittsburgh, Dec. 18, 1966 (AS)
vs. Falcons	8	New Orleans, Sept. 16, 1973
	8	San Diego, Oct. 21, 1973
Most Yards Gained	209	vs. Pittsburgh, Dec. 18, 1966 (AS)
vs. Falcons	242	San Diego, Oct. 21, 1973

FUMBLES

Most Fumbles	7	vs. Los Angeles, Sept. 28, 1969
vs. Falcons	5	Five teams
Most Fumbles Lost	5	vs. New Orleans, Oct. 15, 1972
	5	vs. New Orleans, Oct. 10, 1976

PENALTIES

Most Penalties	17	vs. San Francisco, Nov. 5, 1978
vs. Falcons	13	Cleveland, Sept. 17, 1978
Fewest Penalties	1	Five times. Last time vs. Detroit, Sept. 19, 1976
vs. Falcons	0	Minnesota, Nov. 28, 1971
Most Yards	143	vs. Philadelphia, Nov. 15, 1970 (9 pen.)
vs. Falcons	135	Los Angeles, Nov. 19, 1970 (11 pen) (AS)

Individual Season Records

SCORING

Most Points	112	Nick Mike-Mayer, 1973 (34 PATS, 26 FG)
Most Touchdowns	11	Eddie Ray, 1973 (9-r, 2-p)
Most Points After Touchdown Attempted	34	Nick Mike-Mayer, 1973
Most Points After Touchdown	34	Nick Mike-Mayer, 1973
Most Goals Attempted	38	Nick Mike-Mayer, 1973
Most Field Goals	26	Nick Mike-Mayer, 1973

RUSHING

Most Attempts	263	Dave Hampton, 1973
Most Yards Gained	1002	Dave Hampton, 1975
Highest Average Gain (100 Attempts)	4.43	Art Malone, 1972 (180-798)
Most Touchdowns, Rushing	9	Eddie Ray, 1973

PASSING

Most Passes Attempted	369	Steve Bartkowski, 1978 (187 Completions)
Most Passes Completed	187	Steve Bartkowski, 1978 (369 Attempts)
Highest Pass Completion Percentage (140 Attempts)	60.2	Bob Berry, 1971 (226-136)
Most Yards Gained Passing	2489	Steve Bartkowski, 1978
Most Touchdowns Passing	16	Bob Berry, 1970
Fewest Passes Had Intercepted (140 Attempts)	3	Scott Hunter, 1977 (151 Attempts)
Most Passes Had Intercepted	21	Randy Johnson, 1966
	21	Randy Johnson, 1967

PASS RECEIVING

Most Pass Receptions	50	Art Malone, 1972 (585 yards)
Most Yards Gained Receiving	834	Paul Flatley, 1969 (45 receptions)
Highest Average Gain	22.5	Ken Burrow, 1971
Most Touchdown Passes	7	Ken Burrow, 1973

INTERCEPTIONS

Most Interceptions	9	Rolland Lawrence, 1975
Most Yards Gained Intercepting	164	Ray Brown, 1974
Most Interception Touchdowns	2	Tom Hayes, 1973

PUNTING

Most Punts	109	John James, 1978
Highest Punting Average (35 punts)	44.32	Billy Lothridge, 1968 (75)

PUNT RETURNS

Most Punt Returns	54	Rolland Lawrence, 1976
Most Fair Catches	17	Billy Ryckman, 1978
Most Yards Gained	376	Rolland Lawrence, 1976
Highest Average Punt Returner (14 Returns)	13.92	Gerald Tinker, 1974 (14)
Most Punt Returns for Touchdowns	1	Tom McCauley, 1970
	1	John Mallory, 1970
	1	Gerald Tinker, 1974

KICKOFF RETURNS

Most Kickoff Returns	43	Ron Smith, 1966

Most Yards Gained Kickoff Returns	1013	Ron Smith, 1966 (43 Returns)
Highest Average Kickoff Returns	26.7	Dennis Pearson, 1978 (25 returns)
Most Kickoff Returns for Touchdowns	1	Ron Smith, 1967
	1	Malcolm Snider, 1969
	1	Dennis Pearson, 1978

Team Season

Most Games Won	9	(1973, 1978)
Fewest Games Won	1	(1967)
Most Games Without Defeat	9	(1973)
Most Consecutive Games Without Defeat	7	(1973)
Most Consecutive Victories	7	(1973)

SCORING

Most Points	318	(1973)
Most Touchdowns	34	(1971, 1973)
Most PATs	34	(1973)
Most FGs Attempted	38	(1973)
Most FGs	26	(1973)
Most Points Allowed	437	(1966)
Fewest Points Allowed	129	(1977)
Fewest Touchdowns Allowed	15	(1977)
Most Touchdowns Allowed	53	(1967)

FIRST DOWNS

Most First Downs	253	(1978)
Fewest First Downs	174	(1968, 1974)
Most First Downs, Rushing	123	(1973)
Fewest First Downs, Rushing	68	(1967)
Most First Downs, Passing	133	(1978)
Fewest First Downs, Passing	80	(1977)
Most First Downs, Penalty	31	(1978)
Fewest First Downs, Penalty	9	(1968)
Fewest First Downs Allowed	192	(1977)
Most First Downs Allowed	302	(1968)
Most First Downs Allowed, Rushing	143	(1976)
Fewest First Downs Allowed, Passing	76	(1977)
Most First Downs, Allowed, Passing	157	(1968)

NEW YARDS GAINED

Most Yards Gained	4059	(1978)
Fewest Yards Gained	2800	(1974)
Fewest Net Yards Allowed	3242	(1977)
Most Yards Allowed	5531	(1967)

RUSHING

Most Rushing Attempts	582	(1977)
Fewest Rushing Attempts	344	(1967)
Most Yards Gained	2092	(1972)
Fewest Yards Gained	1303	(1967)
Highest Avg. Gain	4.5	(1969)
Most Touchdowns	18	(1973)
Fewest Yards Allowed	1722	(1970)
Most Yards Allowed	2579	(1976)
Fewest Touchdowns Allowed	5	(1977)
Most Touchdowns Allowed	22	(1976)

PASSING

Most Passes Attempted	449	(1978)
Fewest Passes Attempted	282	(1969)
Most Passes Completed	221	(1978) (449-Att)
Fewest Passes Completed	140	(1977) (297-Att)
Most Yards Gained Passing (Net)	2402	(1978)
Fewest Yards Gained (Net)	1307	(1974)
Most Times Tackled Attempting Passes	70	(1968)
Fewest Times Tackled Attempting Passes	31	(1971)
Most Touchdown Passes	20	(1969)
Fewest Touchdown Passes	4	(1974)
Fewest Net Yards Allowed	1384	(1977)
Most Net Yards Allowed	3392	(1967)
Most Sacks	47	(1978)
Fewest Touchdowns Allowed	9	(1971, 1977)
Most Touchdowns Allowed	31	(1967)

INTERCEPTIONS

Most Passes Intercepted	26	(1977) (Opp. att 320)
Fewest Passes Intercepted	12	(1978) (Opp. att 444)
Most Yards Gained	528	(1973) (22 Int.)
Most Touchdowns	2	(1967, 1968, 1973, 1977)

PUNTING

Most Punts	110	(1978)
Fewest Punts	60	(1971)
Highest Punting Avg.	44.32	(1968)

PUNT RETURNS

Most Punt Returns	60	(1976)
Most Fair Catches	25	(1978)

Fewest Fair Catches	3	(1974)
Most Yards Gained	635	(1974)
Most Touchdowns	2	(1970)

KICKOFF RETURNS

Most Kickoff Returns	82	(1966)
Most Yards	1737	(1966)
Highest Avg.	25.0	(1971)
Most Touchdowns	1	(1967, 1969)

FUMBLES

Most Fumbles	42	(1972, 1978)
Fewest Fumbles	20	(1967)
Most Fumbles Lost	24	(1974)
Fewest Fumbles Lost	9	(1977)

PENALTIES

Most Penalties	130	(1978) (1083 Yards)
Fewest Penalties	63	(1968) (659 Yards) (1969) (601 Yards)
Most Yards Penalized	1083	(1978) (130 Penalties)
Fewest Yards Penalized	593	(1973) (65 Penalties)

Consecutive Streaks

Most Games Scoring	26	Bill Bell, 1971-72
Most Consecutive Game Scoring Touchdowns	4	Jim Mitchell, 1975
	4	Dave Hampton, 1975
Most Consecutive Points After Touchdown	47	Nick Mike-Mayer, 1973-75
Most Consecutive Game Field Goals	8	Nick Mike-Mayer, 1973
Most Consecutive Field Goals	9	Tim Mazzetti, 1978
Most Consecutive Games Rushing Touchdowns	2	11 Times. Last time Dave Hampton, 1975
Most Consecutive Passes Completed	10	Randy Johnson vs. Detroit (6), 11/9/69; vs. Chicago (4) 11/16/69
vs. Falcons	12	John Unitas, Baltimore, 11/12/67 (AS)
Most Consecutive Games TD Passes	8	Bob Berry, 1970
Most Consecutive Passes Attempted, None Intercepted	113	Bob Berry, 1969
Most Consecutive Games Pass Receptions	41	Alfred Jenkins, 1975-78
Most Consecutive Games Touchdown Passes	6	4 Times. Last time, Alfred Jenkins, 1976

Most Consecutive Games Passes Intercepted		4	Ken Reaves (Last 3 games 1970, 1st Game, 1971)

Individual Career Records

SCORING

Most Points	1.	270	Nick Mike-Mayer, 1973-77
	2.	174	Jim Mitchell, 1969-78 (26 Pass, 1 Run, 2 Rets)
	3.	147	Bill Bell, 1971-72 (60 PATS, 29 FGS)
Most Touchdowns	1.	29	Jim Mitchell, 1969-78 (1 Run, 26 Pass, 2 Rets)
	2.	24	Art Malone, 1970-74 (18 Run, 6 Pass)
	3.	21	Ken Burrow, 1971-75 (21 Pass)
Most Points After Touchdown Attempted	1.	105	Nick Mike-Mayer, 1973-77
	2.	64	Bill Bell, 1971-72
	3.	52	Bob Etter, 1968-69
Most Points After Touchdown	1.	102	Nick Mike-Mayer, 1973-77
	2.	60	Bill Bell, 1971-72
	3.	50	Bob Etter, 1968-69
Most Field Goals Attempted	1.	104	Nick Mike-Mayer, 1973-77
	2.	51	Bill Bell, 1971-72
		51	Bob Etter, 1968-69
Most Field Goals	1.	56	Nick Mike-Mayer, 1973-77
	2.	29	Bill Bell, 1971-72
	3.	26	Bob Etter, 1968-69

RUSHING

Most Attempts	1.	885	Dave Hampton, 1972-76
	2.	692	Haskel Stanback, 1974-
	3.	609	Jim Butler, 1968-71
Most Yards Gained	1.	3490	Dave Hampton, 1972-76
	2.	2460	Haskel Stanback, 1974-
	3.	2250	Jim Butler, 1968-71
Most Games Over 100 Yards	1.	7	Dave Hampton, 1972-76
Highest Average Gain (100 Attempts per season)	1.	4.0	Art Malone, 1970-74 (532-2118)
	2.	3.9	Dave Hampton, 1972-76 (885-3490)
	3.	3.8	Junior Coffey, 1966-67, 69 (428-1612)
Most Touchdowns Rushing	1.	20	Haskel Stanback, 1974-
	2.	18	Art Malone, 1970-74
	3.	17	Dave Hampton, 1972-76

PASSING

Most Passes Attempted	1.	1049	Bob Berry, 1968-72 (598 completions)
	2.	904	Randy Johnson, 1966-70 (435 completions)
	3.	880	Steve Bartkowski, 1975- (423 completions)
Most Passes Completed	1.	598	Bob Berry, 1968-72 (1049 attempts)
	2.	435	Randy Johnson, 1966-70 (904 attempts)
	3.	423	Steve Bartkowski, 1975- (880 attempts)
Highest Passing Percentage (140 Attempts per season)	1.	57.0	Bob Berry, 1968-72 (1049-598)
	2.	49.3	Bob Lee, 1973-74 (402-198)
	3.	48.1	Randy Johnson, 1966-70 (904-435)
Most Yards Passing	1.	8489	Bob Berry, 1968-72
	2.	5624	Steve Bartkowski, 1975-
	3.	5538	Randy Johnson, 1966-70
Most Games 300 Yards or More Passing	1.	3	Bob Berry, 1968-72
Most Touchdown Passes	1.	57	Bob Berry, 1968-72
	2.	34	Randy Johnson, 1966-70
	3.	25	Steve Bartkowski 1975-
Fewest Passes had Intercepted (140 Attempts per season)	1.	22	Bob Lee, 1973-74 (402 attempts)
	2.	56	Bob Berry, 1968-72 (1049 attempts)
Most Passes Had Intercepted	1.	65	Randy Johnson, 1966-70
	2.	56	Bob Berry, 1968-72
	3.	42	Steve Bartkowski, 1975-

PUNTING

Most Punts	1.	624	John James, 1972-
	2.	424	Billy Lothridge, 1966-71
	3.	16	Bill Bell, 1971-72
Highest Punting Average	1.	41.3	Billy Lothridge, 1966-71
	2.	41.2	John James, 1972-
	3.	36.1	Bill Bell, 1971-72

PUNT RETURNS

Most Punt Returns	1.	106	Rolland Lawrence, 1973-
	2.	61	Ray Brown, 1971-77
	3.	46	Willie Belton, 1971-73
Most Yards Gained Punt Returns	1.	745	Rolland Lawrence, 1973-
	2.	540	Ray Brown, 1971-77
	3.	413	Al Dodd, 1973-74
Highest Average Punt Returns	1.	11.8	Al Dodd, 1973-74 (35)
	2.	8.9	Ray Brown, 1971-77 (61)
	3.	6.9	Rolland Lawrence (105)

Most Punt Returns for Touchdowns	1.	1	Tom McCauley, 1969-70
		1	John Mallory, 1969-70
		1	Gerald Tinker, 1974

KICKOFF RETURNS

Most Kickoff Returns	1.	82	Ron Smith, 1966-67
	2.	77	Jim Butler, 1968-71
	3.	49	Willie Belton, 1971-73
Most Yards Gained Kickoff Returns	1.	1989	Ron Smith, 1966-67 (82 Returns)
	2.	1860	Jim Butler, 1968-71 (77 Returns)
	3.	1147	Willie Belton, 1971-73 (49 Returns)
Highest Average Kickoff Returns (20 or more returns)	1.	24.3	Ron Smith, 1966-67 (82 Returns)
	2.	24.2	Jim Butler, 1968-71 (77 Returns)
	3.	24.1	Gerald Tinker, 1974-75 (42 Returns)
Most Touchdowns	1.	1	Ron Smith, 1966-67
		1	Malcolm Snider, 1969-72
		1	Dennis Pearson, 1978

PASS RECEIVING

Most Pass Receptions	1.	289	Jim Mitchell, 1969-
	2.	152	Ken Burrow, 1971-75
	3.	140	Art Malone, 1970-74
Most Yards Gained	1.	4230	Jim Mitchell, 1969-
	2.	2668	Ken Burrow, 1971-75
	3.	2182	Alfred Jenkins, 1975-
Most Touchdown Passes	1.	26	Jim Mitchell, 1969-
	2.	21	Ken Burrow, 1971-75
	3.	16	Alfred Jenkins, 1975-

INTERCEPTIONS

Most Interceptions	1.	31	Ray Brown, 1971-77
	2.	30	Rolland Lawrence, 1973-
	3.	29	Ken Reaves, 1966-75
Most Yards Gained, Interceptions	1.	574	Ray Brown, 1971-77
	2.	501	Rolland Lawrence, 1973-
	3.	439	Ken Reaves, 1966-75
Most Touchdowns, Interceptions	1.	2	Ray Brown, 1971-77
		2	Tom Hayes, 1971-75
		2	Tommy Nobis, 1966-76

Year-by-Year Scores

1967 (1-12-1)

Fourth Place, Coastal Division

Coach: Norb Hecker

	Atl.	Opp.		
Baltimore	31	38	(A)	56,715
San Francisco	7	38	(A)	30,207
Green Bay	0	23	(A)	49,467
Philadelphia	7	38	(H)	53,868
Washington	20	20	(H)	56,538
Detroit	3	24	(A)	50,601
Minnesota	21	20	(H)	52,859
Dallas	7	37	(A)	54,751
Baltimore	7	49	(H)	58,850
Los Angeles	3	31	(H)	56,871
New Orleans	24	27	(A)	83,437
Los Angeles	3	20	(A)	40,395
San Francisco	28	34	(H)	51,798
Chicago	14	23	(H)	54,107

1968 (2-12)

Fourth Place, Coastal Division

Coach: Norm Van Brocklin (2-9) Norb Hecker (0-3)

	Atl.	Opp.		
Minnesota	7	47	(A)	45,563
Baltimore	20	28	(H)	50,428
San Francisco	13	28	(A)	27,471
Green Bay	7	38	(H)	58,850
New York Giants	24	21	(H)	49,962
Los Angeles	14	27	(A)	54,443
Cleveland	7	30	(A)	67,723
Pittsburgh	21	41	(H)	47,727
Los Angeles	10	17	(H)	53,979
Chicago	16	13	(A)	44,214
St. Louis	12	17	(A)	43,246
Baltimore	0	44	(A)	60,238
Detroit	7	24	(H)	49,437
San Francisco	12	14	(H)	44,977

1969 (6-8)

Third Place, Coastal Division

Coach: Norm Van Brocklin

	Atl.	Opp.		
San Francisco	24	12	(H)	45,940
Los Angeles	7	17	(A)	58,031
Baltimore	14	21	(H)	57,806
Dallas	17	24	(H)	54,833
San Francisco	21	7	(A)	28,684
Green Bay	10	28	(A)	50,861
Los Angeles	6	38	(H)	58,850
Detroit	21	27	(A)	53,242
Chicago	48	31	(H)	53,722
Washington	20	27	(A)	50,345
Baltimore	6	13	(A)	60,238
New Orleans	45	17	(H)	51,021
Philadelphia	27	3	(A)	60,658
Minnesota	10	3	(H)	52,872

1970 (4-8-2)

Third Place, NFC Western Division

Coach: Norm Van Brocklin

	Atl.	Opp.		
New Orleans	14	3	(A)	77,042
Green Bay	24	27	(A)	56,263
San Francisco	21	20	(H)	58,850
Dallas	0	13	(A)	53,611
Denver	10	24	(A)	50,705
New Orleans	32	14	(H)	58,850
Chicago	14	23	(H)	58,850
Los Angeles	10	10	(A)	67,232
Philadelphia	13	13	(A)	55,425
Los Angeles	7	17	(H)	58,850
Miami	7	20	(H)	54,036
San Francisco	20	24	(A)	41,387
Pittsburgh	27	16	(H)	54,162
Minnesota	7	37	(H)	57,992

1971 (7-6-1)

Third Place, NFC Western Division

Coach: Norm Van Brocklin

	Atl.	Opp.		
San Francisco	20	17	(H)	56,990
Los Angeles	20	20	(A)	57,895
Detroit	38	41	(A)	54,418
St. Louis	9	26	(H)	58,850
Los Angeles	16	24	(H)	58,850
New Orleans	28	6	(H)	58,850
Cleveland	31	14	(A)	76,825
Cincinnati	9	6	(A)	59,604
New York Giants	17	21	(H)	58,850
Green Bay	28	21	(H)	58,850
Minnesota	7	24	(A)	49,784
Oakland	24	13	(H)	58,850
San Francisco	3	24	(A)	44,582
New Orleans	24	20	(A)	75,954

1972 (7-7)

Second Place, NFC Western Division

Coach: Norm Van Brocklin

	Atl.	Opp.		
Chicago	37	21	(A)	55,701
New England	20	21	(A)	60,999
Los Angeles	31	3	(H)	58,850
Detroit	23	26	(H)	58,850
New Orleans	21	14	(A)	66,294
Green Bay	10	9	(Mil)	47,967
San Francisco	14	49	(H)	58,850
Los Angeles	7	20	(A)	75,018
New Orleans	36	20	(H)	58,850
Washington	13	24	(A)	53,039
Denver	23	20	(H)	58,850
Houston	20	10	(H)	58,850
San Francisco	0	20	(A)	61,214
Kansas City	14	17	(H)	58,850

1973 (9-5)

Second Place, NFC Western Division

Coach: Norm Van Brocklin

	Atl.	Opp.		
New Orleans	62	7	(A)	66,428
Los Angeles	0	31	(A)	64,528
Detroit	6	31	(A)	45,519
San Francisco	9	13	(H)	58,850
Chicago	46	6	(H)	58,850
San Diego	41	0	(A)	41,527
San Francisco	17	3	(A)	56,825
Los Angeles	15	13	(H)	58,850
Philadelphia	44	27	(A)	63,114
Minnesota	20	14	(H)	58,850
New York Jets	28	20	(A)	61,327
Buffalo	6	17	(H)	58,850
St. Louis	10	32	(H)	58,850
New Orleans	14	10	(H)	58,850

1974 (3-11)

Fourth Place, NFC Western Division

Coach: Norm Van Brocklin (2-6)
Marion Campbell (1-5)

	Atl.	Opp.		
Dallas	0	24	(H)	57,322
San Francisco	10	16	(H)	47,686
New Orleans	13	14	(A)	62,273
New York Giants	14	7	(A)	50,415
Chicago	13	10	(H)	47,835
New Orleans	3	13	(H)	47,127
Pittsburgh	17	24	(A)	48,094
Miami	7	42	(A)	64,399
Los Angeles	0	21	(A)	70,056
Baltimore	7	17	(H)	41,278
San Francisco	0	27	(A)	45,435
Los Angeles	7	30	(H)	18,648
Minnesota	10	23	(A)	47,105
Green Bay	10	3	(H)	10,020

1975 (4-10)

Third Place, NFC Western Division

Coach: Marion Campbell

	Atl.	Opp.		
St. Louis	20	23	(A)	42,172
Detroit	14	17	(H)	45,218
New Orleans	14	7	(H)	29,444
San Francisco	17	3	(A)	44,043
Los Angeles	7	22	(A)	64,843
Cincinnati	14	21	(H)	45,811
New Orleans	7	23	(A)	49,342
Minnesota	0	38	(A)	43,751
Los Angeles	7	16	(H)	44,595
Denver	35	21	(H)	28,686
Oakland	34	37	(A)	50,860
Washington	27	30	(H)	52,809
San Francisco	31	9	(H)	38,501
Green Bay	13	22	(A)	56,267

1976 (4-10)

Fourth Place, NFC Western Division

Marion Campbell (1-4)
Pat Peppler (3-6)

	Atl.	Opp.		
Los Angeles	14	30	(H)	53,607
Detroit	10	24	(A)	50,840
Chicago	10	0	(A)	41,029
Philadelphia	13	14	(H)	45,535
New Orleans	0	30	(A)	51,521
Cleveland	17	20	(H)	33,364
San Francisco	0	15	(A)	50,240
New Orleans	23	20	(A)	34,127
Seattle	13	30	(A)	57,985
San Francisco	21	16	(H)	20,058
Dallas	17	10	(H)	54,992
Houston	14	20	(H)	25,838
Los Angeles	0	59	(A)	57,366
Green Bay	20	24	(H)	23,436

1977 (7-7)

Second Place, NFC Western Division

Coach: Leeman Bennett

	Atl.	Opp.		
Los Angeles	17	6	(H)	55,956
Washington	6	10	(A)	55,031
New York Giants	17	3	(H)	46,374
San Francisco	7	0	(A)	38,009
Buffalo	0	3	(A)	27,348
Chicago	16	10	(A)	49,407
Minnesota	7	14	(H)	59,257
San Francisco	3	10	(H)	46,577
Detroit	17	6	(H)	47,451
New Orleans	20	21	(A)	43,135
Tampa Bay	17	0	(A)	43,592
New England	10	16	(H)	57,911
Los Angeles	7	23	(A)	52,574
New Orleans	35	7	(H)	36,895

1978 (9-7)

Second Place, NFC Western Division

NFC Wildcard Team

Coach: Leeman Bennett

	Atl.	Opp.		
Houston	20	14	(H)	57,328
Los Angeles	0	10	(A)	46,201
Cleveland	16	24	(H)	56,648
Tampa Bay	9	14	(A)	58,072
New York Giants	23	20	(H)	47,765
Pittsburgh	7	31	(A)	48,202
Detroit	14	0	(H)	51,172
San Francisco	20	17	(A)	34,133
Los Angeles	15	7	(H)	57,250
San Francisco	21	10	(H)	55,468
New Orleans	20	17	(A)	70,323
Chicago	7	13	(A)	46,022
New Orleans	20	17	(H)	55,121
Cincinnati	7	37	(A)	25,601
Washington	20	17	(H)	54,178
St. Louis	21	42	(A)	40,022

Preseason Records

1966 (1-4)

Philadelphia at Atlanta (26,072) 7-9
St. Louis at St. Louis (34,303) 10-20
N.Y. Giants at Nashville (20,945) 7-14
Cleveland at Atlanta (48,548) 3-42
San Francisco at Columbia (21,780) 24-17

1967 (2-2-1)

N.Y. Giants at Ithaca (20,000) 10-10
Miami at Miami (50,822) 27-17
Cleveland at Atlanta (52,240) 34-31
Minnesota at Cleveland (1st game of doubleheader) (84,236) 3-16
N.O. at New Orleans (67,486) 14-27

1968 (1-4)

Washington at Tampa (42,180) 14-16
N.Y. Giants at Nashville (14,455) 13-17
N.Y. Jets at Birmingham (27,406) 12-27
N.O. at Atlanta (49,832) 16-10
Miami at Miami (36,122) 13-19

1969 (2-4)

Philadelphia at Portland (21,625) 13-7
Boston at Boston (24,084) 34-16
Washington at Atlanta (56,990) 7-24
N.O. at New Orleans (69,898) 17-21
K.C. at Kansas City (37,273) 10-14
Green Bay at Canton (17,411) 24-38

1970 (4-1)

N.Y. Jets at Winston-Salem (19,700) 33-7
Washington at Washington (35,186) 13-21
Kansas City at Atlanta (56,990) 22-17
Buffalo at Buffalo (30,869) 10-7
Miami at Miami (50,259) 20-17

1971 (3-2)

Kansas City at K.C. (37,403) 10-12
Denver at Memphis (22,474) 27-10
Buffalo at Atlanta (53,090) 35-24
New England at Foxboro (48,631) 45-35
San Diego at San Diego (32,555) 14-21

1972 (1-4)

San Diego at San Diego (41,404) 7-30
Pittsburgh at Atlanta (53,288) 17-31
Miami at Miami (75,372) 10-24
New York Jets at Atlanta (37,806) 3-9
Cincinnati at Cincinnati (55,804) 44-14

1973 (2-3)

Baltimore at Atlanta (57,122) 34-10
New England at Atlanta (56,238) 27-10
Cleveland at Knoxville, Tenn. (40,831) 17-20
Cincinnati at Atlanta (55,863) 20-31
Atlanta at Pittsburgh (50,350) 0-19

1974 (4-2)

Philadelphia at Philadelphia (15,379) 23-7
Oakland at Berkeley (34,319) 16-28
Cincinnati at Grant Field (44,127) 7-13
Houston at Houston (27,116) 10-6
Baltimore at Atlanta (50,085) 23-7
Denver at Denver (43,253) 20-14

1975 (3-3)

Washington Redskins at Washington (18,444) 16-14
Baltimore at Lincoln, Neb. (43,097) 10-3
Oakland at Atlanta (39,878) 7-22
N.Y. Jets at Atlanta (34,387) 13-16
Buffalo at Tampa, Fla. (41,212) 14-16
Philadelphia at Atlanta (28,675) 17-14

1976 (2-4)

Washington at Atlanta (38,808) 10-17
Cleveland at Stillwater, Okla. (24,227) 7-31
Tampa Bay at Jacksonville, Fla. (11,342) 3-17
New England at Atlanta (23,495) 17-28
Baltimore at Atlanta (24,986) 21-7
Green Bay at Milwaukee, Wisc. (54,989) 26-7

1977 (3-3)

St. Louis at St. Louis (24,667) 3-0
N.Y. Jets at Atlanta (28,954) 2-17
Denver at Atlanta (21,239) 2-10
Tampa Bay at Orlando (31,123) 30-21
Kansas City at Kansas City (22,748) 24-16
New England at New England (41,346) 10-29

1978 (2-2)

New York Jets at New York (31,480) 20-17
Pittsburgh at Pittsburgh (46,444) 7-13
Philadelphia at Atlanta (51,306) 7-24
Washington at Washington (29,487) 10-7

FALCON RED LETTER DATES

1964

April 15—Ground is broken for Atlanta-Fulton County Stadium.

1965

June 30—Rankin M. Smith, 41-year-old Executive Vice President of Life Insurance Company of Georgia, is awarded NFL franchise for approximately $8.5 million. **Aug. 20**—"Five Smiths, Inc.," so named for Smith's five children, is registered as corporate name for team. **Aug. 24**—Stockholders are listed as Lindsey Hopkins, Jr., Howard Dobbs, Jr., Cody Laird, Jr., I. M. Sheffield, III, Dorothy Laird Williams, W. Barrett Howell, and M. E. Kilpatrick. **Aug. 29**—Miss Julia Elliott, Griffin, Ga., school teacher is notified that her suggested nickname of the "Falcons" has been chosen to name the team. **Sept. 9**—Bob Paremore of Florida A&M and Gary Barnes of Clemson are the first players signed. **Nov. 27**—Tommy Nobis, All-American linebacker from Univ. of Texas, and quarterback Randy Johnson of Texas A&I are co-first round choices. **Dec. 24**—When season ticket sales reach 45,000, ticket sales are stopped.

1966

Jan. 26—Norb Hecker, a member of Vince Lombardi's staff at Green Bay, is named head coach. **Feb. 15**—Expansion draft finds Falcons selecting 42 players, three each from the 14 established teams. **March 26**—YMCA camp near Asheville, N.C., Blue Ridge Assembly, is named site of Falcons' first training camp. **June 8**—The NFL-AFL Merger announced. **June 14**—Frank Wall is named Vice President & Treasurer. **July 2**—Training Camp opens. **Aug. 1**—Falcons lose 9-7 to Philadelphia in first preseason game. **Sept. 11**—Los Angeles defeats Falcons 19-14 in first regular season game. A 53-yard pass from quarterback Randy Johnson to wide receiver Gary Barnes nets Atlanta its first touchdown. **Nov. 30.**—Atlanta defeats New York Giants 27-16 for its first victory. **Dec. 11**—Falcons defeat St. Louis, 16-10, for first Atlanta Stadium victory.

1967

Jan. 31—Frank Wall elevated to role of General Manager. **July 18**—Training camp site shifts to Johnson City, Tenn., and campus of East Tennessee State Univ. **Dec. 15**—Tommy Nobis named All-Pro, thus becoming Atlanta's first player to be honored.

1968

Jan. 22—Tom Braatz is promoted from scout to Director of Player Personnel. **May 13**—Team emblem is replaced on sleeve of jersies by stripes. **Oct. 1**—Norm Van Brocklin is named head coach, replacing Norb Hecker.

1969

Sept. 21—Falcons win first seasonal opener, beating San Francisco, 21-7. **Oct. 29**—Running back, Junior Coffey, last of the 42 original expansion draftees, is traded to N. Y. Giants. **Dec. 21**—Atlanta defeats Minnesota, 10-7, stopping Vikings 12-game winning streak and giving Falcons 6-8-1 record, best in club history.

1970

Jan. 6—Frank Wall raised to rank of team president, Rankin M. Smith to Chairman of the Board, and Van Brocklin adds title of General Manager. **Sept. 12**—Team concludes finest preseason (4-1) of its history with 20-17 conquest of Miami.

1971

Jan. 3—For first time in team history, ticket prices are raised. Most seats increase in price $6.00 to $7.50. **July 19.**—Furman University in Greenville, S.C., becomes the third home of Falcons' training camp. **Oct. 25**—Van Brocklin is given new multi-year contract. **Dec. 19**—Falcons post first winning season in history (7-6-1) after wide receiver Ken Burrow pulls in winning touchdown pass from quarterback Bob Berry in 24-20 victory over New Orleans.

1972

Oct. 1—Running back Dave Hampton scores two touchdowns and rushes for team record 161 yards as Falcons defeat Los Angeles, 31-3, for club's first victory ever over the Rams. Teammate Art Malone also rushes for 103 yards, marking first time in Atlanta's seven-year history that two backs have gained 100 yards or more rushing in one game.

1973

May 14—Falcons trade Bob Berry and a number one draft choice to Minnesota for veterans Bob Lee and Lonnie Warwick. **Sept. 16**—Smashing 35 team records, Falcons defeat New Orleans, 62-7, in season opener. **Nov. 4**—Nick Mike-Mayer kicks five field goals as Atlanta defeats Los Angeles, 15-13. **Nov. 17**—Falcon winning streak reaches a club record seven games with defeat of N.Y. Jets, 28-20.

1974

Nov. 5—Norm Van Brocklin fired as Head Coach/General Manager. **Nov. 6**—Marion Campbell, Atlanta's defensive coordinator, is named Head Coach.

1975

Jan. 9—Marion Campbell signed to new contract as head coach. **Jan. 27**—Falcons trade offensive tackle George Kunz and a draft choice to Baltimore for the number one pick in 1975 NFL draft. Atlanta also got Colts' sixth choice (used on Fulton Kuykendall). **Jan. 28**—Steve Bartkowski selected as No. 1 draft choice in the country. **Feb. 26**—Pat Peppler is named Falcon General Manager. **Dec. 21.**—Running back Dave Hampton becomes only Falcon to every gain 1,000 yards in season with 61 yards against Green Bay in final game of the year.

1976

Oct. 11—Marion Campbell is fired as head coach, and Pat Peppler named as interim head coach.

1977

Feb. 1.—Eddie LeBaron is named General Manager, while Rankin M. Smith, Jr., is named President of the Club. **Feb. 3**—Leeman Bennett named Falcon Head Coach. **Nov. 27**—Falcons limit Tampa Bay to only 78 yards in a 17-0 victory to establish a club record for fewest yards allowed in a single game. **Dec.18**—Falcons defeat New Orleans 35-7, thus limiting opponents to 129 points for the season, a modern-day record for a 14-game season.

1978

Apr. 3.—Ground broken for construction of new year-round training facility in Suwanee, Ga. **Aug. 19**—Falcons unveil new uniforms, which are currently worn by team. **Oct. 15**—Falcons record first ever shoutout in Atlanta-Fulton County Stadium with 14-0 defeat of Detroit. **Oct. 30**—Tim Mazzetti kicks five field goals to give Falcons 15-7 Monday Night victory over Los Angeles. **Dec. 16**—Falcons clinch first ever playoff berth when Chicago defeats Washington. Atlanta had beaten Redskins 20-17 previous week to move into playoff position. **Dec. 24**—Steve Bartkowski throws two touchdown passes in final eight minutes to spark 14-13 Atlanta victory over Philadelphia in NFC Wildcard Playoff Game. **Dec. 30**—Falcons lose closely-contested playoff contest 27-20 at Dallas after leading 20-13 at halftime.

1979 NFC Schedules

ATLANTA FALCONS

Sept. 2—at New Orleans
Sept. 10—at Philadelphia (Mon.)
Sept. 16—DENVER
Sept. 23—at Detroit
Sept. 30—WASHINGTON
Oct. 7—GREEN BAY
Oct. 14—at Oakland
Oct. 21—at San Francisco
Oct. 29—SEATTLE (Mon.)
Nov. 4—TAMPA BAY
Nov. 11—at New York Giants
Nov. 19—at Los Angeles (Mon.)
Nov. 25—NEW ORLEANS
Dec. 2—at San Diego
Dec. 9—LOS ANGELES
Dec. 16—SAN FRANCISCO

CHICAGO BEARS

Sept. 2—GREEN BAY
Sept. 9—MINNESOTA
Sept. 16—at Dallas
Sept. 23—at Miami
Sept. 30—TAMPA BAY
Oct. 7—at Buffalo
Oct. 14—NEW ENGLAND
Oct. 21—at Minnesota
Oct. 28—at San Francisco
Nov. 4—DETROIT
Nov. 11—LOS ANGELES
Nov. 18—NEW YORK JETS
Nov. 22—at Detroit (Thanks.)
Dec. 2—at Tampa Bay
Dec. 9—at Green Bay
Dec. 16—ST. LOUIS

DALLAS COWBOYS

Sept. 2—at St. Louis
Sept. 9—at San Francisco
Sept. 16—CHICAGO
Sept. 24—at Cleveland (Mon.)
Sept. 30—CINCINNATI
Oct. 7—at Minnesota
Oct. 14—LOS ANGELES
Oct. 21—ST. LOUIS
Oct. 28—at Pittsburgh
Nov. 4—at New York Giants
Nov. 12—PHILADELPHIA (Mon.)
Nov. 18—at Washington
Nov. 22—HOUSTON (Thanks.)
Dec. 2—NEW YORK GIANTS
Dec. 8—at Philadelphia (Sat.)
Dec. 16—WASHINGTON

DETROIT LIONS

Sept. 1—at Tampa Bay (Sat.)
Sept. 9—WASHINGTON
Sept. 16—at New York Jets
Sept. 23—ATLANTA
Sept. 30—MINNESOTA
Oct. 7—at New England
Oct. 14—vs. Green Bay (Milw.)
Oct. 21—at New Orleans
Oct. 28—BUFFALO
Nov. 4—at Chicago
Nov. 11—TAMPA BAY
Nov. 18—at Minnesota
Nov. 22—CHICAGO (Thanks.)
Dec. 2—at Philadelphia
Dec. 9—MIAMI
Dec. 15—GREEN BAY (Sat.)

GREEN BAY PACKERS

Sept. 2—at Chicago
Sept. 9—NEW ORLEANS (Milw.)
Sept. 16—TAMPA BAY
Sept. 23—at Minnesota
Oct. 1—NEW ENGLAND (Mon.)
Oct. 7—at Atlanta
Oct. 14—DETROIT (Milw.)
Oct. 21—at Tampa Bay
Oct. 28—at Miami
Nov. 4—NEW YORK JETS
Nov. 11—MINNESOTA (Milw.)
Nov. 18—at Buffalo
Nov. 25—PHILADELPHIA
Dec. 2—at Washington
Dec. 9—CHICAGO
Dec. 15—at Detroit (Sat.)

LOS ANGELES RAMS

Sept. 2—OAKLAND
Sept. 6—at Denver (Thurs.)
Sept. 16—SAN FRANCISCO
Sept. 23—at Tampa Bay
Sept. 30—ST. LOUIS
Oct. 7—at New Orleans
Oct. 14—at Dallas
Oct. 21—SAN DIEGO
Oct. 28—NEW YORK GIANTS
Nov. 4—at Seattle
Nov. 11—at Chicago
Nov. 19—ATLANTA (Mon.)
Nov. 25—at San Francisco
Dec. 2—MINNESOTA
Dec. 9—at Atlanta
Dec. 16—NEW ORLEANS

MINNESOTA VIKINGS

Sept. 2—SAN FRANCISCO
Sept. 9—at Chicago
Sept. 16—MIAMI
Sept. 23—GREEN BAY
Sept. 30—at Detroit
Oct. 7—DALLAS
Oct. 15—at New York Jets (Mon.)
Oct. 21—CHICAGO
Oct. 28—TAMPA BAY
Nov. 4—at St. Louis
Nov. 11—vs. Green Bay (Milw.)
Nov. 18—DETROIT
Nov. 25—at Tampa Bay
Dec. 2—at Los Angeles
Dec. 9—BUFFALO
Dec. 16—at New England

NEW ORLEANS SAINTS

Sept. 2—ATLANTA
Sept. 9—vs. Green Bay (Milw.)
Sept. 16—PHILADELPHIA
Sept. 23—at San Francisco
Sept. 30—NEW YORK GIANTS
Oct. 7—LOS ANGELES
Oct. 14—at Tampa Bay
Oct. 21—DETROIT
Oct. 28—at Washington
Nov. 4—at Denver
Nov. 11—SAN FRANCISCO
Nov. 18—at Seattle
Nov. 25—at Atlanta
Dec. 3—OAKLAND (Mon.)
Dec. 9—SAN DIEGO
Dec. 16—at Los Angeles

NEW YORK GIANTS

Sept. 2—at Philadelphia
Sept. 9—ST. LOUIS
Sept. 17—at Washington (Mon.)
Sept. 23—PHILADELPHIA
Sept. 30—at New Orleans
Oct. 7—TAMPA BAY
Oct. 14—SAN FRANCISCO
Oct. 21—at Kansas City
Oct. 28—at Los Angeles
Nov. 4—DALLAS
Nov. 11—ATLANTA
Nov. 18—at Tampa Bay
Nov. 25—WASHINGTON
Dec. 2—at Dallas
Dec. 9—at St. Louis
Dec. 16—BALTIMORE

PHILADELPHIA EAGLES

Sept. 2—NEW YORK GIANTS
Sept. 10—ATLANTA (Mon.)
Sept. 16—at New Orleans
Sept. 23—at New York Giants
Sept. 30—PITTSBURGH
Oct. 7—at Washington
Oct. 14—at St. Louis
Oct. 21—WASHINGTON
Oct. 28—at Cincinnati
Nov. 4—CLEVELAND
Nov. 12—at Dallas (Mon.)
Nov. 18—ST. LOUIS
Nov. 25—at Green Bay
Dec. 2—DETROIT
Dec. 8—DALLAS (Sat.)
Dec. 16—at Houston

ST. LOUIS CARDINALS

Sept. 2—DALLAS
Sept. 9—at New York Giants
Sept. 16—PITTSBURGH
Sept. 23—WASHINGTON
Sept. 30—at Los Angeles
Oct. 7—at Houston
Oct. 14—PHILADELPHIA
Oct. 21—at Dallas
Oct. 28—CLEVELAND
Nov. 4—MINNESOTA
Nov. 11—at Washington
Nov. 18—at Philadelphia
Nov. 25—at Cincinnati
Dec. 2—SAN FRANCISCO
Dec. 9—NEW YORK GIANTS
Dec. 16—at Chicago

SAN FRANCISCO 49ers

Sept. 2—at Minnesota
Sept. 9—DALLAS
Sept. 16—at Los Angeles
Sept. 23—NEW ORLEANS
Sept. 30—at San Diego
Oct. 7—SEATTLE
Oct. 14—at New York Giants
Oct. 21—ATLANTA
Oct. 28—CHICAGO
Nov. 4—at Oakland
Nov. 11—at New Orleans
Nov. 18—DENVER
Nov. 25—LOS ANGELES
Dec. 2—at St. Louis
Dec. 9—TAMPA BAY
Dec. 16—at Atlanta

TAMPA BAY BUCCANEERS

Sept. 1—DETROIT (Sat.)
Sept. 9—at Baltimore
Sept. 16—at Green Bay
Sept. 23—LOS ANGELES
Sept. 30—at Chicago
Oct. 7—at New York Giants
Oct. 14—NEW ORLEANS
Oct. 21—GREEN BAY
Oct. 28—at Minnesota
Nov. 4—at Atlanta
Nov. 11—at Detroit
Nov. 18—NEW YORK GIANTS
Nov. 25—MINNESOTA
Dec. 2—CHICAGO
Dec. 9—at San Francisco
Dec. 16—KANSAS CITY

WASHINGTON REDSKINS

Sept. 2—HOUSTON
Sept. 9—at Detroit
Sept. 17—NEW YORK GIANTS (Mon.)
Sept. 23—at St. Louis
Sept. 30—at Atlanta
Oct. 7—PHILADELPHIA
Oct. 14—at Cleveland
Oct. 21—at Philadelphia
Oct. 28—NEW ORLEANS
Nov. 4—at Pittsburgh
Nov. 11—ST. LOUIS
Nov. 18—DALLAS
Nov. 25—at New York Giants
Dec. 2—GREEN BAY
Dec. 9—CINCINNATI
Dec. 16—at Dallas



1979 AFC Schedules

BALTIMORE COLTS

Sept. 2—at Kansas City
Sept. 9—TAMPA BAY
Sept. 16—at Cleveland
Sept. 23—at Pittsburgh
Sept. 30—BUFFALO
Oct. 7—NEW YORK JETS
Oct. 14—HOUSTON
Oct. 21—at Buffalo
Oct. 28—NEW ENGLAND
Nov. 4—CINCINNATI
Nov. 11—at Miami
Nov. 18—at New England
Nov. 25—MIAMI
Dec. 2—at New York Jets
Dec. 9—KANSAS CITY
Dec. 16—at New York Giants

BUFFALO BILLS

Sept. 2—MIAMI
Sept. 9—CINCINNATI
Sept. 16—at San Diego
Sept. 23—NEW YORK JETS
Sept. 30—at Baltimore
Oct. 7—CHICAGO
Oct. 14—at Miami
Oct. 21—BALTIMORE
Oct. 28—at Detroit
Nov. 4—NEW ENGLAND
Nov. 11—at New York Jets
Nov. 18—GREEN BAY
Nov. 25—at New England
Dec. 2—DENVER
Dec. 9—at Minnesota
Dec. 16—at Pittsburgh

CINCINNATI BENGALS

Sept. 2—at Denver
Sept. 9—at Buffalo
Sept. 16—NEW ENGLAND
Sept. 23—HOUSTON
Sept. 30—at Dallas
Oct. 7—KANSAS CITY
Oct. 14—PITTSBURGH
Oct. 21—at Cleveland
Oct. 28—PHILADELPHIA
Nov. 4—at Baltimore
Nov. 11—SAN DIEGO
Nov. 18—at Houston
Nov. 25—ST. LOUIS
Dec. 2—at Pittsburgh
Dec. 9—at Washington
Dec. 16—CLEVELAND

CLEVELAND BROWNS

Sept. 2—at New York Jets
Sept. 9—at Kansas City
Sept. 16—BALTIMORE
Sept. 24—DALLAS (Mon.)
Sept. 30—at Houston
Oct. 7—PITTSBURGH
Oct. 14—WASHINGTON
Oct. 21—CINCINNATI
Oct. 28—at St. Louis
Nov. 4—at Philadelphia
Nov. 11—SEATTLE
Nov. 18—MIAMI
Nov. 25—at Pittsburgh
Dec. 2—HOUSTON
Dec. 9—at Oakland
Dec. 16—at Cincinnati

DENVER BRONCOS

Sept. 2—CINCINNATI
Sept. 6—LOS ANGELES (Thurs.)
Sept. 16—at Atlanta
Sept. 23—SEATTLE
Sept. 30—at Oakland
Oct. 7—SAN DIEGO
Oct. 14—at Kansas City
Oct. 22—at Pittsburgh (Mon.)
Oct. 28—KANSAS CITY
Nov. 4—NEW ORLEANS
Nov. 11—NEW ENGLAND
Nov. 18—at San Francisco
Nov. 25—OAKLAND
Dec. 2—at Buffalo
Dec. 8—at Seattle (Sat.)
Dec. 17—at San Diego (Mon.)

HOUSTON OILERS

Sept. 2—at Washington
Sept. 9—at Pittsburgh
Sept. 16—KANSAS CITY
Sept. 23—at Cincinnati
Sept. 30—CLEVELAND
Oct. 7—ST. LOUIS
Oct. 14—at Baltimore
Oct. 21—at Seattle
Oct. 28—NEW YORK JETS
Nov. 5—at Miami (Mon.)
Nov. 11—OAKLAND
Nov. 18—CINCINNATI
Nov. 22—at Dallas (Thanks.)
Dec. 2—at Cleveland
Dec. 10—PITTSBURGH (Mon.)
Dec. 16—PHILADELPHIA

KANSAS CITY CHIEFS

Sept. 2—BALTIMORE
Sept. 9—CLEVELAND
Sept. 16—at Houston
Sept. 23—OAKLAND
Sept. 30—at Seattle
Oct. 7—at Cincinnati
Oct. 14—DENVER
Oct. 21—NEW YORK GIANTS
Oct. 28—at Denver
Nov. 4—SAN DIEGO
Nov. 11—PITTSBURGH
Nov. 18—at Oakland
Nov. 25—at San Diego
Dec. 2—SEATTLE
Dec. 9—at Baltimore
Dec. 16—at Tampa Bay

MIAMI DOLPHINS

Sept. 2—at Buffalo
Sept. 9—SEATTLE
Sept. 16—at Minnesota
Sept. 23—CHICAGO
Sept. 30—at New York Jets
Oct. 8—at Oakland (Mon.)
Oct. 14—BUFFALO
Oct. 21—at New England
Oct. 28—GREEN BAY
Nov. 5—HOUSTON (Mon.)
Nov. 11—BALTIMORE
Nov. 18—at Cleveland
Nov. 25—at Baltimore
Nov. 29—NEW ENGLAND (Thurs.)
Dec. 9—at Detroit
Dec. 15—NEW YORK JETS (Sat.)

NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS

Sept. 3—PITTSBURGH (Mon.)
Sept. 9—NEW YORK JETS
Sept. 16—at Cincinnati
Sept. 23—SAN DIEGO
Oct. 1—at Green Bay (Mon.)
Oct. 7—DETROIT
Oct. 14—at Chicago
Oct. 21—MIAMI
Oct. 28—at Baltimore
Nov. 4—at Buffalo
Nov. 11—at Denver
Nov. 18—BALTIMORE
Nov. 25—BUFFALO
Nov. 29—at Miami (Thurs.)
Dec. 9—at New York Jets
Dec. 16—MINNESOTA

NEW YORK JETS

Sept. 2—CLEVELAND
Sept. 9—at New England
Sept. 16—DETROIT
Sept. 23—at Buffalo
Sept. 30—MIAMI
Oct. 7—at Baltimore
Oct. 15—MINNESOTA (Mon.)
Oct. 21—OAKLAND
Oct. 28—at Houston
Nov. 4—at Green Bay
Nov. 11—BUFFALO
Nov. 18—at Chicago
Nov. 26—at Seattle (Mon.)
Dec. 2—BALTIMORE
Dec. 9—NEW ENGLAND
Dec. 15—at Miami (Sat.)

OAKLAND RAIDERS

Sept. 2—at Los Angeles
Sept. 9—at San Diego
Sept. 16—at Seattle
Sept. 23—at Kansas City
Sept. 30—DENVER
Oct. 8—MIAMI (Mon.)
Oct. 14—ATLANTA
Oct. 21—at New York Jets
Oct. 25—SAN DIEGO (Thurs.)
Nov. 4—SAN FRANCISCO
Nov. 11—at Houston
Nov. 18—KANSAS CITY
Nov. 25—at Denver
Dec. 3—at New Orleans (Mon.)
Dec. 9—CLEVELAND
Dec. 16—SEATTLE

PITTSBURGH STEELERS

Sept. 3—at New England (Mon.)
Sept. 9—HOUSTON
Sept. 16—at St. Louis
Sept. 23—BALTIMORE
Sept. 30—at Philadelphia
Oct. 7—at Cleveland
Oct. 14—at Cincinnati
Oct. 22—DENVER (Mon.)
Oct. 28—DALLAS
Nov. 4—WASHINGTON
Nov. 11—at Kansas City
Nov. 18—at San Diego
Nov. 25—CLEVELAND
Dec. 2—CINCINNATI
Dec. 10—at Houston (Mon.)
Dec. 16—BUFFALO



SAN DIEGO CHARGERS

Sept. 2—at Seattle
Sept. 9—OAKLAND
Sept. 16—BUFFALO
Sept. 23—at New England
Sept. 30—SAN FRANCISCO
Oct. 7—at Denver
Oct. 14—SEATTLE
Oct. 21—at Los Angeles
Oct. 25—at Oakland (Thurs.)
Nov. 4—at Kansas City
Nov. 11—at Cincinnati
Nov. 18—PITTSBURGH
Nov. 25—KANSAS CITY
Dec. 2—ATLANTA
Dec. 9—at New Orleans
Dec. 17—DENVER (Mon.)

SEATTLE SEAHAWKS

Sept. 2—SAN DIEGO
Sept. 9—at Miami
Sept. 16—OAKLAND
Sept. 23—at Denver
Sept. 30—KANSAS CITY
Oct. 7—at San Francisco
Oct. 14—at San Diego
Oct. 21—HOUSTON
Oct. 29—at Atlanta (Mon.)
Nov. 4—LOS ANGELES
Nov. 11—at Cleveland
Nov. 18—NEW ORLEANS
Nov. 26—NEW YORK JETS (Mon.)
Dec. 2—at Kansas City
Dec. 8—DENVER (Sat.)
Dec. 16—at Oakland

1978 NFL Standings

AMERICAN FOOTBALL CONFERENCE

EASTERN DIVISION

	W	L	T	Pct.	Pts.	OP
New England	11	5	0	688	358	286
Miami*	11	5	0	688	372	254
N.Y. Jets	8	8	0	500	359	364
Buffalo	5	11	0	313	302	354
Baltimore	5	11	0	313	239	421

CENTRAL DIVISION

	W	L	T	Pct.	Pts.	OP
Pittsburgh	14	2	0	875	356	195
Houston*	10	6	0	625	283	298
Cleveland	8	8	0	500	334	356
Cincinnati	4	12	0	250	252	284

WESTERN DIVISION

	W	L	T	Pct.	Pts.	OP
Denver	10	6	0	625	282	198
Oakland	9	7	0	563	311	283
Seattle	9	7	0	563	345	358
San Diego	9	7	0	563	355	309
Kansas City	4	12	0	250	243	327

**AFC Wild Card Qualifiers*

NATIONAL FOOTBALL CONFERENCE

EASTERN DIVISION

	W	L	T	Pct.	Pts.	OP
Dallas	12	4	0	750	384	208
Philadelphia*	9	7	0	563	270	250
Washington	8	8	0	500	273	283
St. Louis	6	10	0	375	248	296
N.Y. Giants	6	10	0	375	264	298

CENTRAL DIVISION

	W	L	T	Pct.	Pts.	OP
Minnesota	8	7	1	531	294	306
Green Bay	8	7	1	531	249	269
Detroit	7	9	0	438	290	300
Chicago	7	9	0	438	253	274
Tampa Bay	5	11	0	313	241	259

WESTERN DIVISION

	W	L	T	Pct.	Pts.	OP
Los Angeles	12	4	0	750	316	245
Atlanta*	9	7	0	563	240	290
New Orleans	7	9	0	438	281	298
San Francisco	2	14	0	125	219	350

**NFC Wild Card Qualifiers*

FIRST ROUND PLAYOFFS

AFC — Houston 17, Miami 9, December 24 at Miami

NFC — Atlanta 14, Philadelphia 13, December 24 at Atlanta

DIVISIONAL PLAYOFFS

AFC — Pittsburgh 33, Denver 10, December 30 at Pittsburgh
Houston 31, New England 14, December 31 at Foxboro

NFC — Dallas 27, Atlanta 20, December 30 at Dallas
Los Angeles 34, Minnesota 10, December 31 at Los Angeles

CHAMPIONSHIP GAMES

AFC — Pittsburgh 34, Houston 5, January 7 at Pittsburgh

NFC — Dallas 28, Los Angeles 0, January 7 at Los Angeles

SUPER BOWL XIII — Pittsburgh (AFC) 35, Dallas (NFC) 31, January 21, 1979 at Orange Bowl, Miami, Florida

AFC-NFC PRO BOWL — NFC 13, AFC 7, January 29, 1979, at Memorial Coliseum, Los Angeles

1979 Falcon Radio Network

For the fourth consecutive year, WGST will serve as the flagship station for the Atlanta Falcon Radio Network. This year's network is expected to be one of the largest in the history of the club, including more than 50 stations.

Doing the play-by-play will be announcer Bob Neal, and he will once again be assisted by former Falcon running back Harmon Wages for the color commentary.

Below is a list of stations on the Falcons-WGST Radio Network for 1979. For information regarding the Falcon broadcasts in your area, consult your newspaper's listings or contact Arnold Katinsky, network coordinator, at (404) 231-0920.

1979 WGST/Atlanta Falcons Football Network

(as of July 15, 1979)

Market	Station	Frequency
Atlanta	WGST	920
Albany	WALG	1590
Americus	WISK	1319
Athens	WGAU	1340
	WNGC-FM	95.5
Augusta	WGUS	1380
Bainbridge	WAZA	1360
Blueridge	WPPL-FM	103.9
Brunswick	WMOG	1490
Carrollton	WBTR-FM	92.1
Cartersville	WBHF	1450
Columbus	WRCG	1420
Dalton	WTTI	1530
	WQMT-FM	99.3
Eastman	WUFF	1260
Eatonton	WXPQ	1520
Ellijay	WLEJ	1560
Fitzgerald	WBHB	1240
Gainesville	WDUN	1240
Glennville	WKIG-FM	106.3
Griffin	WKEU	1450
Hawkinsville	WCEH-FM	103.9
Jackson	WJGA-FM	92.1
Jesup	WLOP	1370
Louisville	WPEH	1420
Macon	WMAZ-AM	940
	WMAZ-FM	99.1
Madison	WYTH	1250
Milledgeville	WMVG	1450
Moultrie	WMGA	1130
Rome	WLAQ	1410
Savannah	WTOC-AM	1290
	WTOC-FM	94.1
Springfield	WGEC-FM	103.9
Sylvania	WSYL	1490
Thomson	WTHO	1530
Toccoa	WNEG	630
Valdosta	WGAF	910
Vidalia	WTCQ-FM	97.7
Warner-Robins	WRBN-FM	101.7
Waycross	WAYX	1230
Alabama		
Birmingham	WCRT	1260
Opelika	WJHO	1400
Florida		
Jacksonville	WJAX	930
North Carolina		
Charlotte	WSOC	930
South Carolina		
Aiken	WLOW-AM	1300
	WLOW-FM	95.9
Greenville	WMRB	1490
Tennessee		
Chattanooga	WDXB	1490
Nashville	WSM	1260



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Delta has the most nonstops to Los Angeles. Plus thru-jets to San Diego and nonstops to San Francisco.

Delta has the most Wide-Ride™ TriStars to Los Angeles. Also TriStars to San Diego and San Francisco.

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