



“**OLDEST RECORD IN BOOKS” SET 75 YEARS AGO**

On November 28, 1929 -- Thanksgiving Day -- Chicago Cardinals halfback **ERNIE NEVERS** produced one of the most memorable performances in NFL history. On a snow-covered field at Comiskey Park before 7,000 fans, Nevers scored all of the Cardinals’ 40 points, on six rushing touchdowns and four extra points, in their 40-6 win over the crosstown rival Chicago Bears.

“This was a game we just had to win,” said Nevers in the book Ernie Nevers, Football Hero. “We were in the throes of deep frustration. In the previous four games against our bitter crosstown rival, we hadn’t scored a single touchdown. Someone had to do something about it.”

Nevers certainly did. His records for rushing touchdowns in a game (6) and total points scored in a game (40) have never been broken, and stand as the oldest individual single-game records in league history. Only two other players in the history of the league have ever scored six total touchdowns in a game – Dub Jones of the Cleveland Browns in 1951 (four rushing and two receiving) and Gale Sayers of the Chicago Bears in 1965 (four rushing, one receiving and one punt return).

“The final score: Bears 6, Nevers 40!,” said Chicago Bears founder and then-coach **GEORGE HALAS** in his book Halas. “Nevers was properly cheered by the 8,000 or so people, including the entire Notre Dame team brought there by (**KNUTE**) **ROCKNE** for a postseason course.”

The previous week against the Dayton Triangles, Nevers had again scored all of his team's points in a 19-0 shutout. In two consecutive games, Nevers was responsible for all of the Cardinals’ 59 points.

Although the 40 points against the Bears was the highlight of his professional career, Nevers was an all-around player with many talents. He was a member of the Pro Football Hall of Fame’s inaugural class in 1963, and legendary football coach **POP WARNER** labeled Nevers as the greatest player he had ever coached, even superior to the great **JIM THORPE**.

“My test of a great player is that he must be able to do all things, and do them equally well,” said Warner. “Judged by this standard, the only man entitled to rank with Nevers is Thorpe, the most marvelous athlete the world has ever seen. Nevers’ great advantages, however, are my chief reasons for putting him above Thorpe. Nevers had an indomitable spirit and a great love for the game.”

Following are other impressive records that, like Nevers’, may never be broken:

WILL THEY EVER BE BROKEN?

<u>Player</u>	<u>Record</u>
George Blanda	26 seasons played.
Jim Brown	Eight career rushing titles.
Don Hutson	Eight seasons leading the league in touchdowns.
Dick “Night Train” Lane	14 interceptions as a rookie.
Dan Marino	48 touchdown passes in a season/5,084 passing yards in a season/61,361 career passing yards.
Jim Marshall	282 consecutive games played (see page 37).
Lenny Moore	18 consecutive games scoring a touchdown.
Jerry Rice	205 (and counting) career touchdowns.
Barry Sanders	14 consecutive 100-yard rushing games.
Gale Sayers	22 touchdowns as a rookie.
Johnny Unitas	47 consecutive games with a touchdown pass.



FIRST NFL TV GAME 65 YEARS AGO

In NFL television lore, the 1958 NFL Championship Game – a.k.a “The Greatest Game Ever Played” – and the “Heidi Game” in 1968 provided two of America’s most memorable moments. It was much earlier, however, that the first NFL game was televised.

On April 30, 1939, NBC televised President **FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT**’s speech in honor of the opening of the New York World’s Fair in Flushing Meadows. Six months later, professional football had its first televised game. On October 22, 1939, NBC televised the Philadelphia Eagles-Brooklyn Dodgers contest. The game was broadcast over RCA’s experimental television station, W2XBS, to the estimated 1,000 homes with TVs in New York.

“We had only eight people in the crew,” **ALLEN (SKIP) WALZ**, who announced the game, once recalled. “Nine if you count the guy who drove the mobile unit. I remember getting paid \$25 to do the game. I had no spotters, no monitors, no visual aids of any sort. It got sticky, particularly late in the game when it started to get dark.”

While the Philadelphia-Brooklyn matchup made NFL history, it was not the first football game telecast. On September 30, 1939, NBC aired a college football game between Fordham and Waynesburg (Pa.).