

## Football Findings

*Artifacts From The First 100 Years of  
American Football*

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### Pro Football Its Ups and Downs

Posted on [October 23, 2017](#) by [MM](#)

Several efforts to publicize professional football were launched in the 1930s – Joe Carr, President of the NFL, had made arrangements for publication of both a “National League Football Guide and Rule Book” and a “Who’s Who in Major League Football” magazine in 1935. But the year before Dr. Harry March of the New York Giants published “Pro Football Its Ups and Downs, a “Light-hearted History of the Post-Graduate Game.” Doc March had put together the meeting between Carr and Tim Mara that resulted in the New York Giants NFL franchise being established in New York in 1925. He served as Secretary to the Giants from 1925 – 1928, and as President until 1933. Certain facts in the book have been proven wrong, but it stands as the first attempt to tell the story of professional football and contains many wonderful early team photographs. Also, from a collector’s point of view, many copies have great autographs – either they were owned by players and management or given as gifts.

Here’s an ad for the book on a page of a 1934 Giants game program.

This is a letter from March to Lud Wray with March’s view on how the sales of the book are going on book letterhead

An inscription from Mel Hein to John Kieran, sportswriter for the New York Times

This copy is inscribed by Joe Carr to Dr. J. B. Eckstrom, former coach of Ohio State

Here’s one inscribed to my father.

This copy was signed by almost the entire Detroit Lions team

Another copy was owned by William Alfs, President of the Detroit Lions

This copy was owned by NFL player Harvey Levy, who corrected the spelling of his name in the text

And this copy was boldly inscribed by Art Rooney, owner of the Pittsburgh Steelers

From page 133 of the book – Dr. March on the right as Tim Mara presents Mayor James Walker with a check for the proceeds of a game between the Giants and the Notre Dame All Stars in December 1930 to benefit the Mayor’s Unemployment Fund

## SCHOLASTIC KICKING CONTEST

The fourth of a series of eliminations in the New York Giants scholastic place-kicking contest will take place today among representatives of the Manhattan-Richmond P. S. A. L. schools.

Previous eliminations were won by Guy Segatti of DeWitt Clinton, Bob Connolly of New Rochelle and Fritz Severud of Bogota, N. J., High. The final elimination will be held next Sunday between the halves of the Bears game, with the winners meeting in the final for the Giants' Trophy on November 25, when the Boston Redskins play at the Polo Grounds.

The kickers and their ball holders are as follows:

High School of Commerce—John Donaghy, kicker, and Mal Sanger, holder.

Textile High—Stan Rabezek, kicker, and Ivan McPherson, holder.

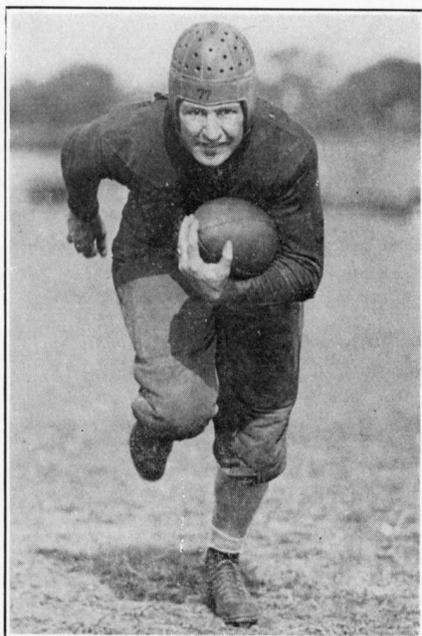
Curtis High—Joe Somma, kicker, and Buster Keegan, holder.

Seward Park High—Sam Levine, kicker, and Ben Friedlander, holder.

Contestants will draw for order of kicking. Announcement of the order of kicking will be made while the contest is being run off.

# THE GAME OF THE SEASON

## NEXT SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 1934



**RED GRANGE**

## NEW YORK FOOTBALL GIANTS

(Eastern Champions)

*vs.*

## CHICAGO BEARS

(World's Champions 1932, 1933)

*with*

**BRONKO NAGURSKI**

**BEATTIE FEATHERS**

**AT POLO GROUNDS**

Reserved Seats on sale at New York Giants office, 11 W. 42nd St., Room 1740

## PRO FOOTBALL

### *Its Ups and Downs*

A comprehensive and entertaining story of the pro game from its inception, written by Dr. Harry March, former president of the New York Giants and a member of the National Football League Executive Committee.

This book is now on sale and can be purchased at the office of the New York Football Giants, Room 1740, 11 West 42nd Street.

Price 75c. in Leather — \$1.00 in Binding



# PRO FOOTBALL Its "Ups" and "Downs"

Being a Light Hearted History of the Post Graduate Game from its Inception to the Present;

Published in Accord with King Features Syndicate—Book Out October 1st, 1934.

By DR. HARRY A. MARCH

235 West 103rd Street

Dear Lud:-

New York, ... Oct. . . 5th. . . . . 1934

I'm the enforced cutting down of the Giants today, Steve had to let put some very valuable men, one of whom, "Knuckles" Boyle, we would be mighty glad to locate with some good team which needs a fine line man. Boyle weighs over 200, is marrier and steady, as stong a line-man as we have and in every way desirable. He lives in Hazelton and is a coal miner by trade; we can not speak too highly of him e ither as a good fellow or as a player. His release is against my personal judgement---there are two boys I would have preferred to been let go but as you know, my word is no longer considered final as I have no financial interest in the Giants. "Knuckles" will probably play with Shenendoah Sunday but after that will be available for you if you need a high class, conscientious boy. His home address is

334 West Green Street, West Hazelton, Pa.

Thanks for the check; I inclose herewith receipted bill. I also am grateful for the kind words about the book; all foot ball men like it and it has been going very well considering my limited experiences in placing it with wholesalers and dealers.

Regards to Bert Bell. As ever

Sincerely  
*Harry A. March*  
Harry A. March, M.D.

Boyle plays either tackle or guard and is mighty hard to handle as the Pittsburg crew will tell you if you ask them.

*Boyle will be hard to handle if you need him. Always until Harry in my care*

Sincere Wishes to Mr. John Keenan  
From Mel Allen

Tr. Hon. J. B. Eckstrom  
One of the best fellows  
I have ever known.  
J. S. F. Carr.

To

Happy Sole Morn

With best wishes of

Harry A. March

Sept. 8, 1934.

Marc Randolph - Indiana  
 Glenn E. Russell - Nebraska  
 H. Mitchell - D. & C.  
 Robert E. Emack - Miami  
 Chas C. Duhl - Idaho  
 Dutch Clark - Colorado  
 Seaman J. Gwyer - Pied  
 Ed. S. G. - Detroit  
 John Schuller - Wisconsin  
 Morris Rodgers - Tulane  
 Chester Chapman - P. G. S. C.  
 Harry J. Ebbing - St. Marys  
 Tom Hodge - Alabama  
 Lewis C. Lewis - Univ of Va.  
 Frank Christensen - Utah  
 Sam. Knox - New Hamp.

Dr. C. E. Joseph - Ohio State  
 Ray F. L. Lumpkin - La. Tech.  
 Jack Johnson - Utah  
 Bob Rome - Colgate  
 Russ Lay - M. S. C.  
 Ernie Cadden - Stanford Univ.  
 George Christensen - Oregon  
 H. Corner "or" Emerson - U. of Texas  
 George P. Clark - U. of Ill.

Miss Anna

Harley S. Levy

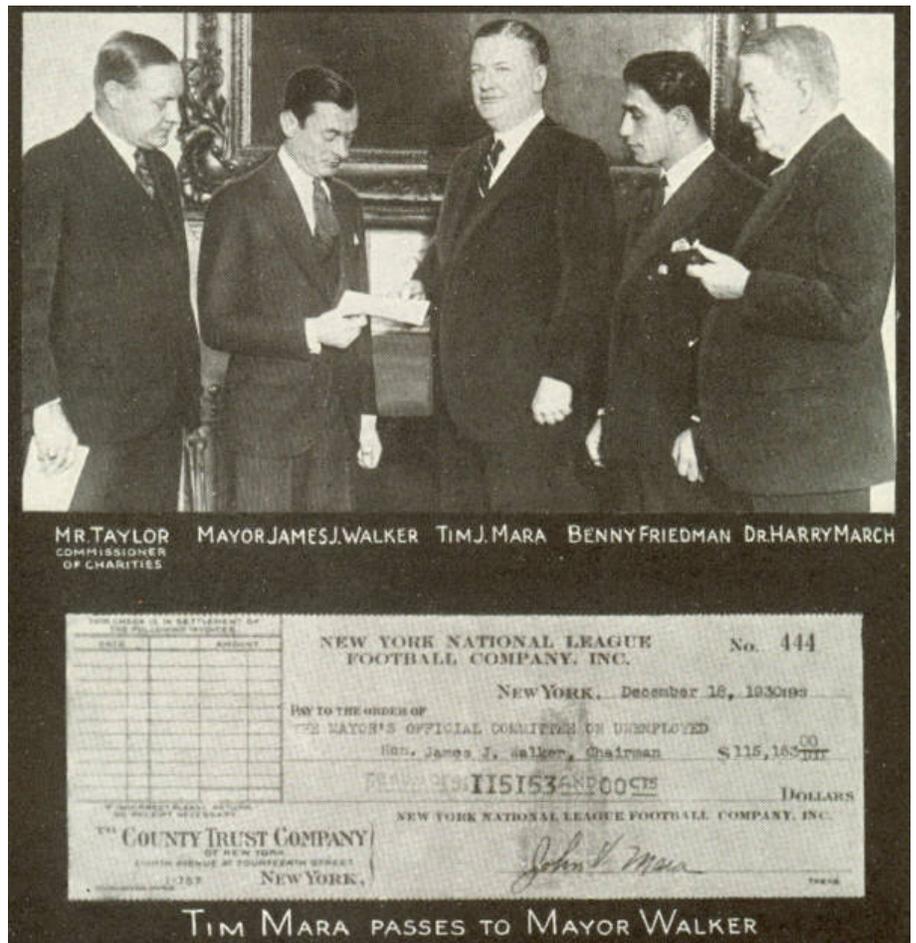
forces of Captain McEwan.

Three Jewish boys are making good with the Chicago "Cards," Moe, Lou Gordon and Handler. "Buckets" Goldenberg, of the Green Bay "Packers," is one of the most promising new backs in the Western Division. Satenstein, formerly with Stapleton and last year with the "Giants," has proven himself a most dependable lineman. ~~Harley~~ <sup>Harley</sup> Levy, of Syracuse University, played one successful year with Grange's New York "Yankees." John Alexander, not a relative of the famous Joe, was an excellent tackle for six or seven years. In appearance he was most pronouncedly Semitic of all Hebrew players. He specialized on defense and was a hard working, strenuous tackler. Bodinger, of the Detroit team is an exceptional guard.

To my friend

Chester Rowson

with sincere wishes  
as always



This entry was posted in [Uncategorized](#). Bookmark the [permalink](#).

## One Response to *Pro Football Its Ups and Downs*



[Alan March](#) says:

October 24, 2017 at 3:23 pm

An excellent introduction to a fun book! The autographs you show bring this collectible to life. Thank you for sharing.

[Reply](#)

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