

Bears vs. Redskins 3 p.m., WBBM-TV (Ch. 2)

At RFK Stadium



Tickets: None available. Sellout of 55,750.

TV-radio: CBS will show the game with Pat Summerall and John Madden. WGN-AM (720) will broadcast it, with Wayne Larrivee, Jim Hart and Hub Arkush.

The series: Washington is 0-3 at home against the Bears since blanking them 42-0 in 1974. The Bears lead the series 21-13-1.

What to watch: Bears quarterback Mike Tomczak will make his first start since being benched in favor of Jim Harbaugh a month ago. Tomczak rallied the Bears to three touchdowns in the final 2 minutes 57 seconds of last Sunday's 32-31 loss to Tampa Bay. Several Redskins rookies will be called upon to spell injured veterans, particularly in the secondary.

Matchups: Redskins WRs Ricky Sanders, Art Monk and Gary Clark vs. the Bears' secondary.

The Bears' defensive line of Richard Dent, Steve McMichael, William Perry and Trace Armstrong vs. the Redskins' fine offensive line.

Injuries: Redskins: CB Darrell Green (broken wrist), T Joe Jacoby (knee), G Mark May (knee), all out; RB Gerald Riggs (foot), questionable; QB Doug Williams (back), DE Charles Mann (ankle), probable. Bears: T Keith Van Horne (neck), DB Lemuel Stinson (ribs), probable.

Fred Mitchell

# For Redskins, like Bears, it's a year of struggling

By Fred Mitchell Chicago Tribune

WASHINGTON—Two of the National Football League's winningest teams in this decade will try to generate some momentum Sunday when the Bears (6-5) face the Washington Redskins (5-6) in RFK Stadium.

The Bears have dropped five of their last seven games and need a victory to remain at least a game behind the NFC Central-leading Minnesota Vikings, who play the Green Bay Packers Sunday in Milwaukee. The Bears travel to Min-

nesota next weekend. "To me, it is going to take one of my better games, because it is must. We've got to have it," said Bears defensive end Richard Dent.

The Redskins have lost three of their last four games.

"I think this is our biggest disappointment. Certainly mine and the other coaches,' said embattled Redskins coach Joe Gibbs, who has guided Washington to two Super Bowls and three NFC championships in the 1980s.

"Really, it has been almost two years now since we have played winning football and solid foot-

In addition to inconsistent play, the Redskins have been beset by injuries and drug suspensions.

"It has been a real disappointment for all of us," said Gibbs. "I've never been around a team that has had this many things happen in this short a period of time. It has been a struggle for all of us."

Stalwart defensive end Dexter Manley was asssessed a lifetime suspension by the NFL for violating the league's substance-abuse policy for the third time.

"When you lose a good player, it hurts your team," said Gibbs. "We not only lost Dexter, we lost Markus Koch [to injury], who was taking his place. It has made it extremely tough for us, and we have had to adjust."

Quarterback Doug Williams, who was the Super Bowl Most Valuable Player just two years ago, has not recovered completely from back surgery, and inconsistent Mark Rypien (172 of 310 passes for 2,338 yards, 14 TDs and 9 interceptions) is expected to start against the Bears.

"I think Doug is coming along. I felt like he could have played the other night [14-10 loss to Denver]," said Gibbs. "He was sore

Rosters in Scoreboard Depth chart in Scoreboard

during the week and wasn't able to practice. But I felt like when it came down to gametime, he could have played in a backup position, but we didn't need him.

"Mark [Rypien] had a heck of a first four games. He has made some big plays. He has turned the ball over, which has been a disappointment. But I think he is a solid guy, very smart and tough."

The NFL would prefer to chalk up the fall of the Bears and the Redskins to league parity. But Gibbs and Bears coach Mike Ditka are not amused by the seemingly inevitable decline of all teams.

"Maybe it is not inevitable. Maybe the 49ers are going to be a team that can go on and keep doing it," said Gibbs. "We would hope that we were going to be one of those. It seems like [adversity] gets everybody at some point.

"Several things contribute to it. This is the only game or business or anything else I know where if you do well, you're punished. In other words, you draft last, you play the toughest schedule and [you miss out on] all the supplemental picks. Most of the supplemental picks four or five years ago are now top players in the league. A lot of the top teams then, including us and the Bears, had absolutely no shot at those players."

"A case has been made around here that I let our team get too old. It's hard to defend that when you're losing football games. I don't think that's the case. Every guy we kept, we kept for a reason."

Since running back Gerald Riggs went on injured reserve with a foot injury, the Redskins have gained just 230 yards on 88 rushing attempts in the last three weeks for a 2.6-yard average. They have scored only two touchdowns in the last 12 quarters.

"I think it [Riggs] has certainly been a big loss," said Gibbs. "We started off our first three games of the season being No. 1 in the league in rushing. To go from that to where we are right now, struggling running the football . . . . We haven't had him there for five weeks or so, and we don't know when we will have him back. That's just one of the things we've had to overcome."

# Bounty talk from Ryan's players goes back to '85

Players coached by Buddy Ryan have talked of bounties before Thursday's incident in Dallas, when the Philadelphia Eagles were accused of putting a price on Luis Zendejas and Troy

In 1985, after Bears linebacker Otis Wilson knocked Dallas quarterback Danny White out of a game twice, cornerback Mike Richardson said players on the defense were offering to buy lunches for anybody who knocked out the quar-

"It was just conversation," coach Mike Ditka said. "I told Mike and everybody else that stuff like that sounds cute in the locker room, but if you expose it to everybody else, it makes us look like we're dirty."

Former Commissioner Pete Rozelle warned the Bears against such tactics.

Last season, Phoenix special teams ace Ron Wolfley said the Eagles told him they had a bounty on him. Wolfley called the Eagles the dirtiest team he had seen.

On Thanksgiving, Dallas coach Jimmy Johnson said one of Ryan's assistants told him Ryan put bounties on Cowboys kicker Zendejas, who is a former Eagle, and on quarterback Aikman.

One of the televised denials was by Eagles receiver Cris Carter, who said he attended all the meetings and didn't hear anything like that. All the defensive meetings? This is the same

Carter who pleaded guilty to obstruction of justice in the Norby Walters agent trial last year.

The reputation of the Eagles as a team of questionable sportsmanship needs no enhancing. They employ Andre "Dirty" Waters, a safety widely acin front of "Monday Night Football" cameras

On Pro Football

Don Pierson

while McKinnon was lying down in a pile. "It was out of frustration," Waters said.

Instant replay continues down the tubes.

"I don't think replay has a chance in hell of passing in any form, certainly not in its present form," Kansas City General Manager Carl Peter-

Peterson, a former United States Football League GM, has advocated the old USFL system of using replay only on appeal from a coach. If the play in question is not reversed, the coach is charged with a timeout. Peterson outlined the system for NFL owners at the behest of Chiefs owner Lamar Hunt last year, but it fell on deaf

"The initials 'USFL' makes some owners' hair stand on end, just like the AFL did for a lot of years," Peterson said.

In the Dallas-Miami game last Sunday, replay official L.T. Bonner stopped play 14 times for reviews. Only two calls were reversed: Two punts that were respotted a total of five yards.

Fans booed while referee Jerry Markbreit was repeating his litany, "After further review, the play

"I don't think I would vote in favor of replay. No matter what type of improvements are suggested and no matter what type of excuses are offered, it's not working this way," Dallas owner knowledged as football's bad boy. Waters is the Jerry Jones said. "It faces an uphill battle, and angel who kicked Bears receiver Dennis McKinnon this game will be one of the examples used as a negative. The thing I worry about are fans who

watch the game for entertainment. Our game has

to be crisp and exciting."

That long has been one of the arguments of Cincinnati's Paul Brown, who is concerned about the fans who pay to attend the game and don't even get the advantage of watching the replays during the delays.

The Minnesota Vikings get another chance to dispute their growing reputation as a warm-weather team Sunday against Green Bay in Mil-

The Vikings are 6-0 in domes this season, and 1-4 outside. Their only victory under the sky was in Tampa, where it was 80 degrees.

Since moving into the Metrodome in 1982, the

Vikings are 17-28 outdoors, 0-4 in Milwaukee. "They won't be in their living room this time," Packers linebacker Tim Harris said. "We'll be

playing them in our kind of weather." Green Bay's chances of winning the Super Bowl have jumped from 200 to 1 to 30 to 1, according to the Sands Hotel in Las Vegas. The preseason favorite Vikings have slipped from 5 to

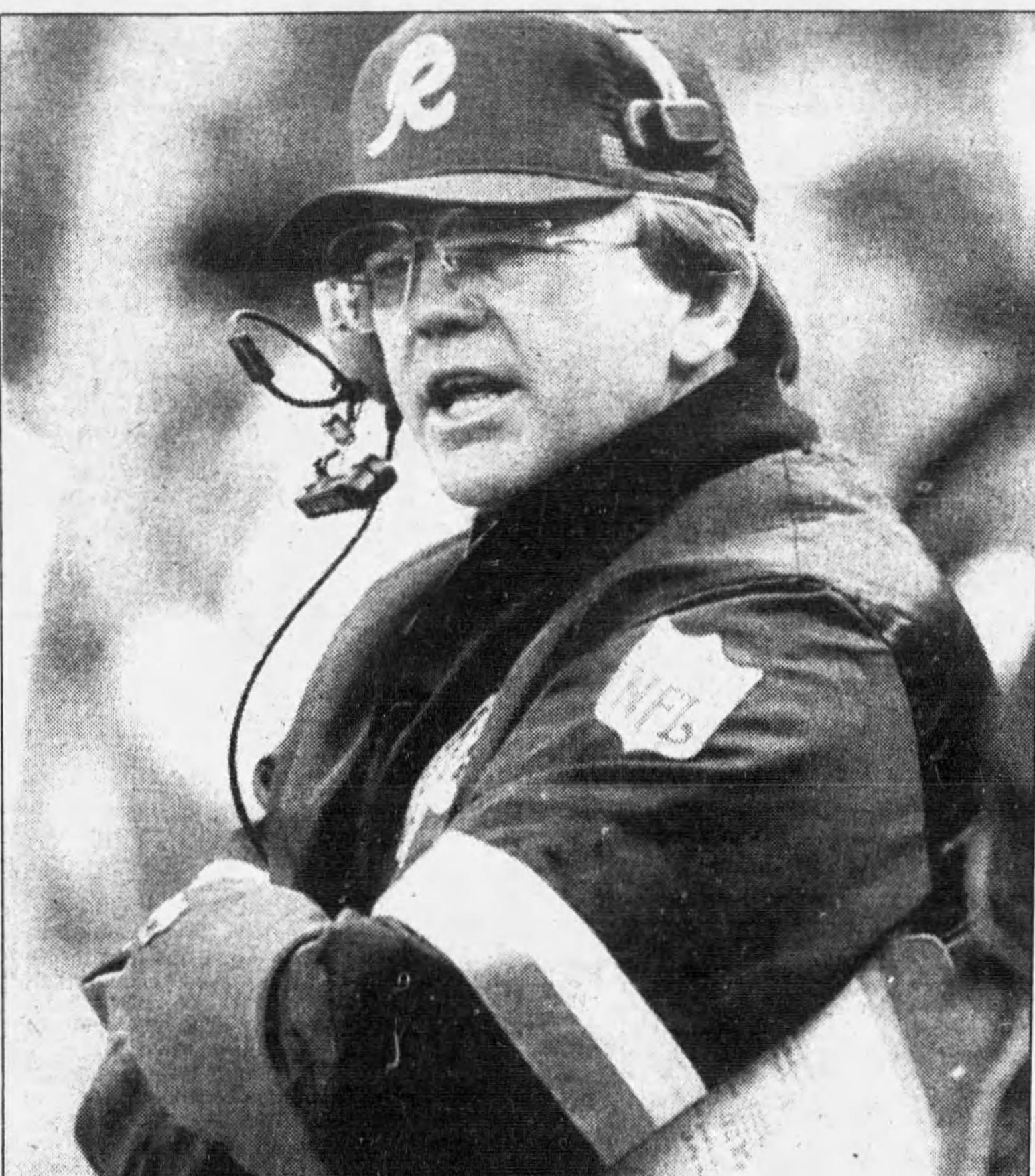
to 7 to 1. Other changing odds: the Bears have slipped from 10 to 1 to 18 to 1. The Denver Broncos have jumped from 20 to 1 to 4 to 1. The Miami

Dolphins have jumped from 50 to 1 to 15 to 1. Bo Jackson took himself out of the Raiders' game in Houston after feeling a twinge in his thigh. It was the third time he has removed himself during his 23-game NFL career. He has declared himself unfit to start two other times.

"Just to be on the safe side and be healthy the rest of the season," Jackson said.

"Anybody who says Bo is not tough is wrong," said Houston defensive end Sean Jones.

Packers take aim at the top



Complains Redskins coach Joe Gibbs: "Really, it has been almost two years now since we have played winning football and solid football."

# **Analyzing the Bears game**

The Tribune's Analyst of the Week is former NFL placekicker Mark Moseley.

Quarterback: Even. Mike Tomczak and Mark Rypien seem to suffer from a lack of confidence.

Running backs: Advantage Bears. Gerald Riggs has been injured, and Neal Anderson is having outstanding year.

Receivers: Advantage Redskins. It's be tough to top the trio of Gary Clark, Ricky Sanders and Art Monk.

Offensive line: Advantage Redskins. Most of their backups are good enough to be starters on other clubs. The Bears' line has been struggling. Defensive line: Advantage Bears. The Redskins have lost Markus Koch and Dexter Manley. Richard Dent and Steve McMichael are among the best. Linebackers: Advantage Bears. The Redskins' linebackers are playing

Secondary: Advantage Bears. The Redskins are pretty beat up. A lot of young players are in their secondary.

Special teams: Even. Punter Ralf Mojsiejenko has been outstanding. Chip Lohmiller has kicked an awful lot of field goals. Kevin Butler is hot now.

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well, but the Bears are stronger here.

AP Laserphoto

# THE ULTIMATE SPORTS EVENT!

Seattle (4-7) at Denver (9-2)— The Broncos can clinch the AFC

Packers-Vikings, Ch. 2, noon Bengals-Bills, Ch. 5, noon

By Don Pierson

Except in the AFC West Division, where Denver can clinch a title, all the other races have tightened since last week. In both Central Divisions, three teams are a game apart.

Must see

Minnesota (7-4) vs. Green Bay (6-5)—The Packers will be playing for first place when these teams meet in Milwaukee, and their record against the Vikings in the 1980s is

N.Y. Giants (9-2) at San Francisco (9-2)—Will this Monday night game be a NFC title game preview? They are clearly the two best teams in the conference.

#### Try to see

Cincinnati (6-5) at Buffalo (7-4)—A rematch of last season's AFC title game. The Bengals need it to stay close to the Oilers and the Browns. The Bills need it to stay even with the Dolphins.

## Worth seeing

L.A. Rams (7-4) at New Orleans (6-5)—The Rams are still two games behind the 49ers. The Saints are still in the wild-card picture.

## Wait and see

Rams-Saints, ESPN, 7

West and take December off.

Houston (7-4) at Kansas City (4-6-1)—The Oilers got a Thanksgiving gift with the Browns' loss, but can they win four in a row? Pittsburgh (5-6) at Miami (7-

4)—The surprising Dolphins can stay even with the Bills, and they face an easier schedule down the Bears (6-5) at Washington (5-

6)—The Bears are in a must-win phase. Can the Redskins be this

# See if you care

New England (4-7) at L.A. Raiders (5-6)—These teams haven't met since the 1985 playoffs, when the Patriots were on their way to meeting the Bears in the Super Bowl. It was the last playoff game for the Raiders. So long ago.

San Diego (4-7) at Indianapolis (5-6)—The Colts still have wild-card possibilities.

## Cover your eyes

Atlanta (3-8) at N.Y. Jets (2-9)—Deion Sanders has four personal foul penalties in his last two games. ESPN called him "Crime Time."



By Neil Milbert

The final race of national significance on the Chicago thoroughbred season was run Saturday at Hawthorne, and it was won by a horse from the nation's most powerful stable.

Captain Starbuck, a runner from trainer D. Wayne Lukas' coast-tocoast equine empire, overtook Bright Again and Lonely Girl approaching the wire to capture the \$105,250 Hawthorne Juvenile.

The gelding's margin of victory was 11/4 lengths, while 13/4 lengths separated Bright Again and the previously unbeaten filly Lonely Girl.

Bright Again and Lonely Girl, who'd won the only two prior races of her career at Hawthorne, feuded for the lead from the upper stretch until Captain Starbuck made his late winning move on the outside.

A dozen 2-year-olds contested the 1 1/16-mile race run in 1:46 <sup>3</sup>/<sub>5</sub> on a fast track. Captain Starbuck was 11th at the

start, 9th at the quarter and 6th at the half-mile call. According to jockey Aaron Gryder, "He was climbing a little on the first turn, so I just decided to drop my hands and let him place himself. After that he leveled out

during the run up the backstretch.

Then, I thought we had a tremen-

at dous se ot to win it. "I have to say that D. Wayne

Lukas and his assistants have done a super job with this horse, starting out in the maiden claimers and then coming on to win two stakes here this fall." Invading from Churchill Downs,

Captain Starbuck prefaced Satur-

day's victory with a triumph earlier

in the month in the \$52,825 Royal Glint Stakes on Hawthorne's grass "He's a versatile horse who has improved a lot from race to race," said Jeff Lukas, D. Wayne Lukas' son and chief assistant, speaking by

telephone from stable headquarters in California. When the son of Cure the Blues-Storm Star, by Storm Bird made his racing debut for Lukas and his owner-breeder W.T. Young in August at Arlington he ran in a \$35,000 maiden claiming race and

came in sixth. Captain Starbuck dropped down to the \$25,000 maiden claiming ranks for his next start and won by two lengths. That ended his sojourn in the claiming bargain basement. Lukas upgraded him to an allowance horse, then put him in stakes company, and he thrived on the competition.

In winning for the fourth time in seven starts, Captain Starbuck paid \$7.60, \$3.80 and \$3.40 and provided \$63,150 more in padding to the Lukas sable's 1989 bankroll that is approaching \$15 million.



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