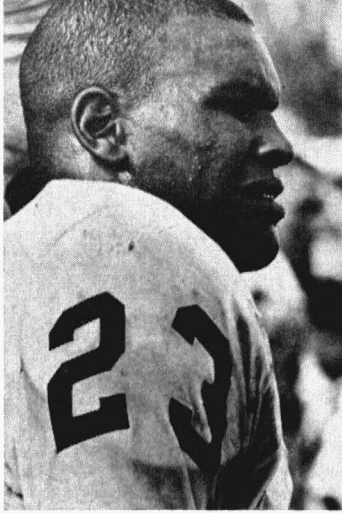




Guard Bruce VanDyke



Halfback Johnny Roland



Quarterback Gary Lane



Johnny Roland flies through the air in an all-out effort, playing brilliantly in spite of a 33-7 shellacking at the hands of the visiting Baltimore Colts at Busch Memorial Stadium in a pre-season game.—Photo by John Oidtman '66 for St. Louis Cardinals

# FROM ALL-AMERICANS



Tackle Francis Peay

*'Professional stars of tomorrow'  
is the prediction for these  
'65 Missouri football greats*

MISSOURI COACH DAN DEVINE is one of the nation's top college football coaches and several of his proteges already are on the threshold of greatness in the pro ranks as rookies. Indications are that Halfback Johnny Roland, Quarterback-Halfback Gary Lane and Tackle Francis Peay and Guard Bruce VanDyke will make the grade in their very first shot at the play-for-pay game following brilliant careers under Devine at Columbia. Few universities and colleges can boast such a crop of outstanding yearlings in pro football. Roland, Lane and Peay were near or on the top of every pro scout's list. VanDyke—a 12th round draft choice—has proved to be the real “sleeper” of the group.

A “YOUNG TURK” in the football Cardinals' camp is Johnny Roland, the Tiger All-America who earned plaudits on both offense and defense at M.U. The pre-season size-up by publicity man Joe Pollack of the Big Red's fourth-round draft choice from Corpus Christi, Tex., is that he has the size and speed to be an offensive starter—“to run inside or outside—can throw the running pass and has fine hands.”

The 6-2, 210-pounder owns many college offensive records despite playing mostly defense his last two years at Mizzou.

Johnny was one of the few bright spots in the Cardinals' disappointing 33-7 loss to the Baltimore Colts in a pre-season game. He caught four passes for 40 yards and picked up 23 yards on the ground, leading the team in both categories. But Roland wasn't happy, noting he hates to lose exhibition games just as much as any other games. His assessment of pro ball:

“The thing you notice first is the linemen. They're all big *and* fast, while in college they were usually one or the other.”

Roland, still wearing No. 23, as he did while a Tiger, says his blocking could stand a lot of improvement—especially “watching for those blitzing linebackers.”

In the Big Red's windup pre-season game, a 22 to 20 loss to the Bears in Chicago, Johnny made a good showing in place of the injured Willis Crenshaw. St. Louis



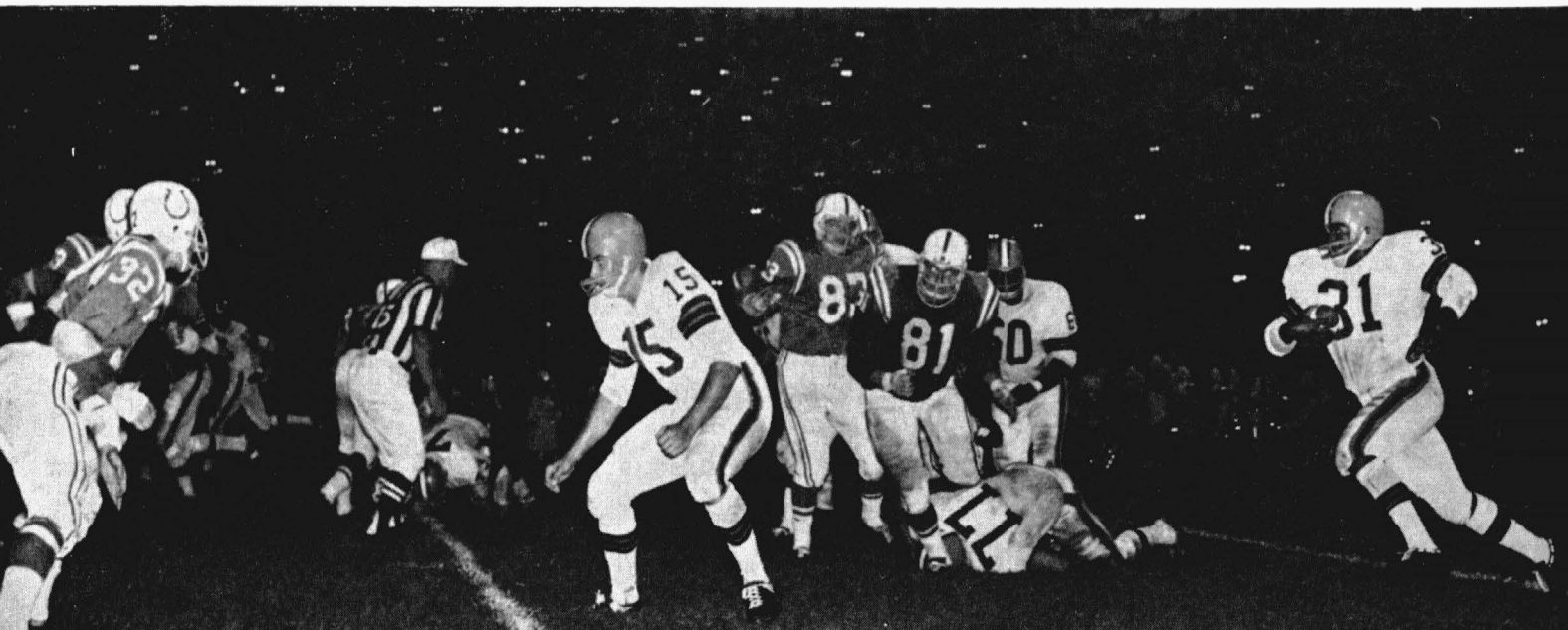
# TO ROOKIES

By JIM SCOTT



A real—and vital—chore for an offensive tackle is pass-blocking. Above, pro rookie Francis Peay has managed to keep out the Detroit Lions' Larry Hand (74) long enough to enable Giant Quarterback (11) to get his pass away. The action occurred in a pre-season game, with former Tiger star lineman Peay (6-5, 250 pounds) battling the veteran Hand (6-4, 252 pounds). In his third game of exhibition play, Francis had perhaps his best pre-season day pass blocking, working against the Philadelphia Eagles' 6-3, 250-pound Don Hultz, a four-year pro defensive lineman.—*Courtesy New York Giants*

Gary Lane (15) prepares to block for Charley Harraway (31) as the Cleveland Browns meet the Baltimore Colts in the second half of the Browns' annual doubleheader at Cleveland Stadium August 26.—*Courtesy Cleveland Browns*



## *Complex systems must be learned fast . . . or good-bye*

*Globe-Democrat* Sports Editor Bob Burnes labels the pair key men in the Big Red offense. After the Chicago game, Coach Charley Winner spoke of playing them in the same backfield, noting:

"We want to give Roland time to learn his plays at the fullback position, but he can run from either position in a split backfield right now because there's little difference in the plays."

The quiet, unassuming Roland was the first Negro named a football captain in the history of M.U. The '65 Tigers he helped lead wound up with a 7-2-1 regular-season record, finished just back of all-powerful Nebraska and went to the Sugar Bowl.

If Roland's pro debut is any indication of his future in the violent game for pay, Big Red foes will be in for many a busy Sunday afternoon trying to stalk this former Tiger. In the Cardinals' 16-13 squeaker over Philadelphia, Johnny led the team in rushing, caught two passes and was named NFL offensive player of the week. In the second game of the regular season, which the Cards won 23-7 over Washington, the rookie back rambled 22 yards for a touchdown. Said Winner about Roland:

"He is one football player who has lived up to his advance billing. He knows where the goal line is. But he's a real humble kid. The way he acts, you'd think he was a 20th draft choice."

**LEARNING THE SYSTEM:** That's one of a pro football rookie's toughest jobs, besides facing huge, agile giants who have been in the league for years and know the ropes.

Roland, Peay, Lane, VanDyke and company are in accord with one of the many fine prospects who just hasn't been able to make the Big Time yet—former Minnesota star quarterback John Hankinson, recently "farmed out" by the Minnesota Vikings. Said John shortly before he was cut from the squad by Coach Norm Van Brocklin:

"The offense is much more intricate than it was in college. I've got each play diagrammed in a book and there must be 200 plays in it. It's so heavy, I've been thinking about asking a lineman to carry it for me. We're given a certain number of plays one day and expected to know them the next. In college you get the plays at spring practice and had all summer to learn them.

"Also in college, freshmen and sophomores aren't expected to play much. So, you spend about two years learning the system. In the pros, if you don't grasp it

all quickly, it's good-bye."

As the pros cut their squads to the league maximum, Missouri fans across the nation could take satisfaction in the fact that many of the University's stars of '65 were not only retained, but were being regarded as the pro stars of tomorrow.

**"COULD BE ANOTHER PAUL HORNING."**

That's the assessment Coach Blanton Collier placed on Lane just before the Cleveland Browns kicked off the '66 season in defense of their Eastern National Football League championship.

The Browns haven't rushed Gary in his first year as a pro. They have been bringing him along patiently, slowly and have converted him from quarterback to a running halfback. The switch of Lane, reportedly the recipient of a \$300,000, three-year package deal after starring as an All-Big Eight signal-caller for three seasons at M.U., indicates Cleveland considers him a good run-and-pass prospect. In college, the field general from East Alton, Illinois, was most effective in running Devine's option or bootleg plays. One of the Tigers' fastest, most versatile backs, Gary was a conference total offense pace-setter, and a team top scorer, passer, rusher and punter.

Coach Devine commented that "while Lane may need additional training, either as a quarterback or halfback, to help the Browns in the future, he is a very gifted athlete, and I know that he will deliver."

When Lane signed with Cleveland it was announced that he would be used strictly at his familiar quarterback post, with the idea being he would eventually become signal-caller Frank Ryan's replacement. Then Fullback Jimmy Brown announced his retirement, and Lane was shifted to a running back.

According to Wallack, Lane—"if an emergency arose"—could play quarterback for the Browns. Ryan and Jim Ninowski have been the team's one-two punch at the position. Ol' Mizzou observers believe Gary Lane can do the job at QB, HB or you name it—emergency notwithstanding.

**ONE OF THE '65 TIGER STARS** who apparently is going to make the grade as a pro is Peay, the New York Giants' No. 1 draft pick. Peay, like Roland and other rookies, had a late start in his training because of being with the College All-Stars. Publicity Director Don Smith describes his progress in the first month with the New Yorkers as "very, very good." Reports Smith: "The greatest difficulty for any offensive rookie tackle is to

learn pass blocking as the pros play. In most instances, the rookie tackle is coming up against veteran defensive ends as big as he is, with great speed, strength and movement. Pass blocking for any tackle is a difficult job in that he must learn how to cope with both an inside rush and an outside rush, the frequencies of it and how to block within the seven-yard area of the quarterback's drop-back."

Smith told *Missouri Alumnus* that Peay had some trouble in his first pre-season game against five-year veteran Bobbie Richards of the Atlanta Falcons, a 6-3, 250-pounder, "but nonetheless earned the plaudits from the press for his doggedness and from that fact that while he was beaten a few times in the first half, worked even harder in the second half and gave Quarterback Earl Morrall some good protection from the right side. Insofar as blocking for running plays are concerned, Francis has shown great ability and strength in this area, especially in 'blocking down' against defensive tackles."

A unanimous All-America selection, the 22-year-old Pittsburgh resident weighs a solid 250 pounds and stands 6-5. His chief assets? Let the Giants detail them in their 1966 Press/Radio & Television yearbook:

"Francis has size, agility and second effort, all of which helped Missouri to a great season (in '65) and a Sugar Bowl berth where it scored a 20-18 victory over Florida. Peay's great power blocking produced most of the holes that enabled Missouri to roll up an average of 247 yards rushing per game during last season. He is rated a top pass blocker as well. Peay was a defensive tackle in his junior year at Missouri, but switched to offensive tackle in his senior year and became one of the Tigers' all-time greats in that position.

Peay and some other ex-Tiger standouts were given lucrative contracts when they signed on the dotted line to join the pros. St. Louis *Post-Dispatch* sportswriter Dave Lipman says Francis "commanded somewhere in the neighborhood of \$800,000 for a package covering just under 10 years." Roland's deal with the Big Red is

said to be less than that overall, under a shorter-term agreement—but plenty, nevertheless.

ANOTHER EX-TIGER SURVIVOR of the pre-season squad cuts as a pro football rookie is Bruce VanDyke, who hasn't gained the fanfare of some of his former Missouri teammates. Bruce was a 12th round draft choice of the Philadelphia Eagles. In college he played defensive tackle, offensive guard and was tri-captain on the Tigers' Sugar Bowl championship team. Bruce, of Buckner and Independence, Mo., was a three-year regular at Mizzou and was honored as an All-Big Eight lineman in his senior season. He was voted the best all-around lineman by teammates as both a junior and senior and played in the Hula Bowl.

The pre-season line on VanDyke was that he's an "excellent blocker, agile and quick."

Eagle publicity director Jim Gallagher told *Missouri Alumnus* that Bruce was hampered in early practice sessions by a pulled muscle in his right leg. Consequently, VanDyke was sidelined during the first two pre-season games and saw only limited action in a couple of others.

But then, reports Gallagher, Bruce recovered from his injury and got a starting shot against the Washington Redskins in the final pre-season tuneup contest when regular right offensive guard Jimmie Skaggs was out with injuries. VanDyke pleased both his head coach—Joe Kuharich—and line coach—Dick Stanfel—with his showing in the Washington game.

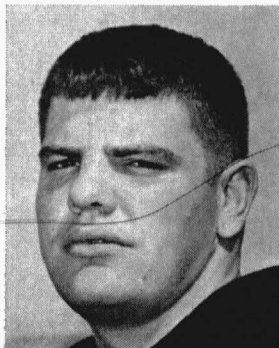
VanDyke came to the Eagle camp weighing about 225 pounds. But now his 6-2 frame has filled out to a solid 245 pounds and he has been holding his own in the violent man-to-man duels up front in pro ball.

Dan Devine, the man who coached the Tiger stars drafted by the pros, said he thinks very highly of them and observed:

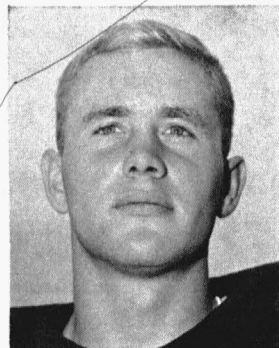
"All those boys are fine citizens, as well to top-notch football players. Fellows like Roland and Peay could see a lot of duty this year, while Lane may need additional training—either as a quarterback or halfback—to help the Browns in the future."

Other former Tiger gridgers who were given trials in pro football include:

Lineman Butch Allison, Number 2 draft choice of the Baltimore Colts. He and Peay comprised Missouri's bruising '65 blocking tandem of offensive tackles in the team's unbalanced line. Butch was an honorable mention All-America . . . Tackle Ron Snyder, free agent, with the Cardinals . . . Halfback Monroe Phelps, free agent, with the Buffalo Bills of the American Football League . . . End Jim Waller, also a free agent, with the NFL's Pittsburgh Steelers. □



Tackle "Butch" Allison



Tackle Ron Snyder