

DAVE BUTZ CAREER HIGHLIGHTS
Excerpts From
The Washington Redskins Press Guides

1982 Season

On the defense that gave up the fewest points (128) in the NFL last season, Dave Butz anchored it. He was unanimous "Why didn't he get picked for the Pro Bowl?" selection, as Dave had his best season as a pro. He led the defensive line with 55 regular season tackles and 19 post-season stops. The veteran, who now has played in 109 of 112 games since coming to the Redskins, also recorded 4-1/2 regular season sacks, forced one fumble, and recovered one fumble. In the playoffs, Dave forced two fumbles, and, of course, recovered David Woodley's Super Bowl fumble after Dexter Manley knocked the ball loose. That particular play brought out the experience of Dave Butz. A younger player might have tried to scoop it up and run and lose the ball, but Dave just made sure he was in bounds and had the ball. A Moseley field goal shortly followed. Dave has now played in 55 straight contests and has led the Redskin defensive line in tackles the last three seasons. He also was given a Timmie Award by the Washington Touchdown Club, his second (he won one in 1979). Games Played: 9 Games Started: 9

1983 Season

Some players have seasons to remember; others have specific games to remember. In 1983, Dave Butz had one of each. His season was, in a word, spectacular. In reaching the Pro Bowl for the first time in his career (an overdue honor), Dave made 69 tackles (2nd best among defensive linemen), piled up a team-leading 11-1/2 sacks, forced a team-best five fumbles, and even recovered one. He was the anchor of a defense which led the NFL in stopping the run (80.6 yards per game). And then there was the game. People in Texas Stadium that day will never forget the afternoon number 65 enjoyed at the expense of their celebrated heroes. Week 15. Redskins vs Cowboys for Eastern Division title. Dave is everywhere, getting 2-1/2 sacks, stopping three running plays for losses, and adding four more tackles for a total of 9-1/2, including even catching Tony Dorsett from behind on a screen pass. Final score: Washington 31, Dallas 10. Dave was well-rewarded for his hard work last year. Besides his trip to Hawaii, he was also named to the AP NFL all-Pro team, the Pro Football Weekly all-Pro NFL team, the UPI all-NFC Second Team, and the Sporting

News all-Pro NFL team. He also received awards from the Washington DC Touchdown Club, and the Kansas City 101 Club. Once again, Dave started all 16 games last year to increase his consecutive regular season streak to 71 games played, third-best on the team. Dave also contributed five tackles in the playoffs last year. Along with Darryl Grant, Dave was able to successfully clog the middle for the Redskins and stuff many an opponent running game.

Dave Butz Career Highlights/Redskins Press Guides

1984 Season

It used to be a big secret why the Redskins clogged the middle so well on defense. Now the reason is still big, but he's no secret. Dave stopped traffic again and again last year, on his way to being voted 2nd-Team all-NFL by AP. Thanks in large part to Dave, the Redskins finished second in the NFL in rushing yards allowed in '84, and the 89.9 yards average they've given up over the last two years is tops in the NFL. Quietly and by example, Dave is the leader. He has now played 143 of a possible 147 games for the Redskins. Last season, he finished with 72 tackles (50 solos), had 4-1/2 sacks, forced two fumbles, and recovered one fumble. On his forced fumble against the Giants (Week 3), Curtis Jordan scooped it up and raced 29 yards for a game-clinching TD. Playing on most every down, Dave tied Darryl Grant for second on the team with 13 quarterback hurries. He earned the team's Defensive Player of the Week against the Eagles. Dave also came up big in the first Dallas contest, making four tackles behind the line, one sack, and a team season-best five QB hurries. Against Atlanta, Dave had a sack and a forced fumble on the same play, the victim QB Mike Moroski. He had a regular season streak of 83 straight games played halted when he missed the Buffalo game with a severe flu, spending the day in the hospital. That must have been some strong flu to halt Dave. He was named as an alternate to the Pro Bowl squad.

1985 Season

The force was still with Dave in '85, as in forcing runners down-- 87 in all! Best among Redskin linemen (fifth-best on team). It was his best total since 1980; yes, better than his Pro Bowl '83 season and all-NFL '84 year. As usual, Dave was the "big" reason why 'Skins' defense ranked high: number three in NFL total defense,

less than 25 yards more per game than vaunted Bears. Opposing quarterbacks fell five times at Dave's hands last year, his 49 career sacks are third in team annals. Game highlights? Once again there were many. For starters--by the way, Dave was one of just 11 Redskins to start every game--he was named Defensive Player of the Week for performance against Houston (Week 3): five tackles, one sack and two hurries. His 10 quarterback hurries were third on team. Dave also got his big hands up in time to deflect four passes, two in Week 1 versus Cowboys. That game also saw him force a fumble. He has now forced eight fumbles over the last three years to lead the team in that span (14-1/2 on career). His fumble recovery in St. Louis Week 16 led the still playoff-hopeful Redskins to the go-ahead touchdown (Schroeder to Clark), and they never trailed again. Dave enjoyed his best tackle game against the Eagles Week 3 with 10. AND DID YOU KNOW THAT...Dave has now played in 159 of a possible 163 games as a Redskin, including 119 of 121 since 1978. His 159 games are seventh on the all-time Redskin list. As a Redskin, he has never missed more than two games in a season.

Dave Butz Career Highlights/Redskins Press Guides

1986 Season

Prior to last season, there were those people who thought that perhaps Dave was finally too old for football. Of course, those were the same people who were still convinced the world is flat. Until Week 1, that is. Yet, it took just a week for Dave to record eight tackles, two sacks, a third tackle behind the line, a hurry, and a forced deflection of a quick kick, almost single-handedly grounding the Eagles. That performance earned him the NFC Defensive Player of the week. Not a bad way to begin your team's 50th season. In all, Dave finished with 91 tackles, fifth on the team and first on the defensive line. His six sacks and 12 hurries were both third on the team. In Dallas, Dave had a season-high 10 tackles, and then vs Minnesota he led a defense that allowed just 55 yards rushing on 27 carries. In the chill of Green Bay, Dave had a season-high 13 tackles. He then was the team's Defensive Player of the Week against the 49ers, with three sacks of quarterback Joe Montana, and three more hurries. In the rout of Dallas, Dave and his defensive mates held Dorsett and Walker to 18 yards on 14 carries. For the third time, Dave was Defensive Player of

the Game. In the finale in Philly, Dave recorded 10 tackles. In three playoff games, the defense allowed an average of just over 12 points, with Dave as the anchor. That was most for any defender. Some things never change.

1987 Season

Dave led in every possible way last season. He checked out of Arlington Hospital hours before the game against the New York Jets, suffering with an intestinal parasite, and made a victory-saving sack. He set the tone for the playoffs in practice by pushing offensive linemen back as much as 10 yards during drills. He stood up in a team meeting the night before the NFC Championship Game and told the younger players how rare opportunities like the one they were facing are in the NFL. The following day, he tipped a Wade Wilson pass, which resulted in a key third-quarter interception by linebacker Mel Kaufman. The league's second oldest player (behind quarterback Joe Ferguson), Dave finished last season with 50 tackles, 11 quarterback hurries, four pass deflections and three sacks. His forced fumble against Philadelphia was the 15th of his career. He now ranks second on the Redskins' all-time sack list with 58.

THE NATURAL [with photograph] One look at Dave Butz's 14-year career in the NFL makes it clear: He was born to play football. Assuming Dave plays in 10 regular-season games this season, he will break the Redskins' service record for games played in a career (currently held by center Len Haus, 196).

Dave Butz Career Highlights/Redskins Press Guides & Yearbooks

[Published after his retirement, the 1989 Press Guide summarizes Dave's final contribution in the following categories:]

1988 Defense Statistics. Tackles: 29, Behind the Line: 9 (includes sacks), Asslsts: 21, Total: 59. Quarterback Hurries: 7. Pass Deflections: 8. Recovered Fumbles: 1.

Individual Records/Service. Post Seasons, Redskin: 14, 1975-88 [second after Sammy Baugh's 16, 1937-52]. Most Games Played, Redskin: 203, 1975-88 [Top 12 list ends with Pat Fischer's 126, 1968-77].

Excerpts From The Washington Redskins
Official Team Yearbooks

From the 1983 Yearbook:

September 12, 1982: Redskins 37 Eagles 34 (OT)

[Caption and cut-line with full-page photo]

FLASHING "SUPER" FORM IN PHILLY/Hit and Run: Dave Butz, the Redskins unheralded all pro, shows Eagle running back Wilbert Montgomery the way down during the Redskins dramatic overtime win.

November 21, 1982: Redskins 27 Giants 17

[Caption and cut-line with full-page photo]

STANDING TALL IN THE LAND OF THE GIANTS/Dee-fense! Dave Butz applies the pressure to New York Giant quarterback Scott Brunner.

SPOTLIGHT: Defensive Line/Perhaps the only unit on the Redskins without a nickname, these dependable linemen compiled the impressive statistics of the NFL's stingiest defense. Coach "Torgy" Torgeson blended the veteran stability of Dave Butz, Tony McGee, and Perry Brooks with the youthful hustle and aggressiveness of Dexter Manley, Darryl Grant, Mat Mendenhall, Todd Liebenstein and Pat Orgin. Here are their 1982 stats: #1 NFL Points Allowed; #2 NFC Total Yards Allowed; #4 NFC Rushing Yards Allowed; #1 NFC Most QB Sacks; #1 NFC Fewest TDs Allowed. Held 6 of the last 7 opponents to under 100 yards rushing, including all four playoff teams. Only one back in last 15 games has gained 100 yards. Held four opponents under 200 yards total offense. Have won 16 of last 17 games when they've had 3 or more quarterback sacks. Did not allow a point in the fourth quarter of any of the four playoff games.

From the 1988 Yearbook:

October 25, 1987: NY Jets 16 Washington 17

...With 10 minutes left, the fans at RFK were becoming restless.

Dave Butz Career Highlights/Redskins Yearbook

From the 1988 Yearbook (continued):

Their team was down 16-7 and struggling. But Washington rallied behind their three heroes of the day--quarterback Jay Schroeder, running back Kelvin Bryant and defensive tackle Dave Butz.... Butz came up with the defensive play of the day, sacking O'Brien at the 42 for a 9-yard loss. The play provided the Redskins with the inspiration they needed. After all, Butz had checked out of Arlington Hospital that morning after being treated for an intestinal parasite. He had lost 24 pounds and had received six quarts of fluid....

January 17, 1988: NFC Championship Game/Minnesota 10 Washington 17
It came down to one final gut-wrenching play. One play that stood between the Redskins and their third trip to the Super Bowl in six seasons....Without question, the defense was the hero of this victory. It made two touchdowns and a 28-yard field goal by Ali Haji-Sheikh stand up. Washington scored first--on a 43-yard pass from Doug Williams to Kelvin Bryant--and last--on a 7-yard pass from Williams to Gary Clark. In between, the defense sacked Wilson eight times, one shy of the playoff record set by the San Francisco 49ers in the NFC Championship. Defense tackle Dave Butz, the league's oldest lineman at 37, led the way with two sacks. He was a model of inspiration. He played the way he had practiced all week--like a wild man. Butz had led the way in a team meeting the night before the game, too. He was the first of several players to stand up and speak. "I just pointed out that if we didn't win this one, having gone this far, it would really stick in our stomachs," he said afterward. Butz's words stuck in each player's mind. The Redskins played like there was no tomorrow. Consequently, there was Super Bowl XXII in San Diego.

DAVE BUTZ: He made a critical sack against the New York Jets hours after checking out of the hospital....He set the tone in practice before the first-round playoff game against the Chicago Bears. He tipped a Wade Wilson pass that led to a crucial interception by Mel Kaufman in the third quarter of the NFC Championship Game against the Minnesota Vikings. In every possible way, Dave Butz was a team leader in 1987. He offered the experience of a 14-year veteran while playing with the heart of a rookie. "He's an amazing guy," defensive line coach Torgy Torgeson said. "He stepped forward last season as we were entering the playoffs and led by example." Dave's most impressive example came in the game against the Jets when he checked out of Arlington Hospital at 9 a.m., played the game at 1 p.m., and checked back into the hospital sometime that evening...."I thought it was important that

the young guys saw that I was here to play and that I was here to win," Dave said. Dave figured heavily on the victory. He had seven tackles (six solos) and sacked Jets' quarterback Jim O'Brien with less than five minutes remaining, taking New York out of field goal position. The Redskins won, 17-16....

Dave Butz Career Highlights/Super Bowl Publications

Super Bowl XVII

Dolphins vs Redskins/January 30, 1983/Rose Bowl, Pasadena, CA
An Official Publication of the National Football League

RUSHING DEFENSE [Chart comparing Miami and Washington with caption]
Redskins: consistent against the run.

...The 4-3 is a better deal for the Redskins for two reasons: personnel and situation substitution. Begin with tackle Dave Butz, who is one of the main cogs in the Redskins' ability to stop opposing rushers.

At 6 feet 7 inches and 295 pounds, Butz's mere presence might be intimidation enough. He fills holes and makes tackles in his immediate area, true. But when he moves laterally, the results are astounding. Ask Detroit's Billy Sims, who was held to 19 yards in six carries when Washington defeated the Lions in the opening round of the Super Bowl Tournament.

In the defensive line, Butz is the elder statesman. His 10 years' experience far exceeds that of his linemates, each of whom has played two years....

Washington 31, Detroit 7...The biggest turnover was a first-quarter interception by cornerback Jeris White, who returned it 77 yards for the game's first score.

"The goal line looked like a mirage," said White. "I could see it, but I couldn't believe it was there."

That's how it is with Washington: people can see where the Redskins are, but many can't believe it.

"Let's keep it that way," said defensive tackle Dave Butz.

"We're not out to prove anything. There's nothing fancy with this team. No damn dances in the end zone, or anything."

Super Bowl XVIII

Raiders vs Redskins/January 22, 1984/Tampa Stadium, Tampa, FL

An Official Publication of the National Football League

RUSHING DEFENSE/Washington Redskins: Against the Redskins, opposing teams usually go to the air early and often, due both to Washington's own explosive offense and its unyielding rushing defense, which ranked first in the NFL in 1983, giving up 80.6 yards per game.

The Redskins are one of only a handful of NFL teams that still use the 4-3 defense almost exclusively. The heart of that defense is a big, strong line, and the heart of the line is tackle Dave Butz, all 6 feet 7 inches, 295 pounds of him. An 11-year veteran who is both the physical and emotional leader of the Redskins' defense, and who was named to his first Pro Bowl this year, Butz is usually double-teamed; he's just too much for one player to handle.

Dave Butz Career Highlights/A Washington Publication

From Super Bowl XVIII (continued):

"Teams have finally realized that you can't run directly at Dave Butz," says Redskins defensive line coach LaVern Torgeson. "If you do that, you're going right at his strength. At the same time, his pursuit is simply amazing for a player of his size."

Surrounding Butz are left end Todd Liebenstein (6-6, 255) and right tackle Darryl Grant (6-1, 275), both of whom read offensive blocking combinations well and, like Butz, pursue relentlessly. They play for the most part only on running downs, being replaced by Tony McGee and Perry Brooks in likely passing situations. Right end Dexter Manley, the quickest, but smallest (6-3, 250) of the defensive linemen, remains in on all downs with Butz.

NEWSMAKERS [Photo and caption]

Defensive tackle Dave Butz led an inspired defensive effort that held Dallas to 33 yards rushing, and wide receiver Art Monk caught six passes for 119 yards and a touchdown in the Redskins' win at Dallas.

The Redskins' Route to the NFL Championship
The Impossible Dream
By the Staff of The Washington Times

[Half-page photo of Dave with caption]: Dave Butz sacks Eagle quarterback Ron Jaworski late in the game.

...said defensive end Dexter Manley,...This team is no fluke. We've got momentum, we've got confidence, we've got character and guys who dig down deep."...

On the Eagles' final possession, tackle Dave Butz sacked Jaworski at the Redskins' 29 to lock up the victory. "How does it feel to get a sack like that?" Butz [replied], "Maximum relief. They were knocking on our door. Somebody, anybody, had to bust through and get him."

The Giants game was yet another chapter in the Moseley saga.... [Mark] kicked a 42-yard field goal in the final four seconds to lift the Redskins to a 15-14 victory. The kick also broke Yepremian's record 20 straight field goals....[and was] doubly meaningful because it enabled Washington to clinch its first play-off berth since 1976....

Butz and Stark had been on Moseley's case all week about going for the record. "We kept telling him we were going to sit back and let the Giants block the [record-breaking] kick," Butz said. "And, on top of that, we told him we were going to make him kick one 70 yards!"

[Half-page photo of Dave with caption]: Dave Butz zeroes in on New Orleans Saint quarterback Guido Merkens for a sack, above.

Dave Butz Career Highlights/Various Publications

From The Impossible Dream (continued):

[Following the Super Bowl XVII victory] there was nothing but gut-busting joy as all of Washington hailed the Redskins. Thousands... poured into the streets...and screamed until they could scream no more. They were echoing the comments of tackle Dave Butz, who said in Pasadena, "If I were any higher than this, I'd be in heaven." Washington's celebration...didn't let up until that Wednesday when more than 500,000 people [soaked in a chilly rain] showed up for a parade downtown...

Never had a sports team united Washingtonians the way the Redskins did.

NFL Preview '84

Published Annually by Lexington Library, Inc.

REDSKI~S/Defense: Defensive chief Richie Petitbon directs a stunning, blitzing platoon which employed a 4-1-6 prevent that resulted in an NFL-high 34 interceptions and 51 QB-sacks.

A near-impregnable front line is anchored by All-Pro LT Dave Butz, the 6-7/305 lb. standout who amassed 11.5 sacks while also crushing blockers and runners alike in his area.

GameDay

An Official Pro! Publication

Alumni Weekend/Redskins vs. Eagles/Sept. 7, 1986

DAVE BUTZ: Defensive Tackle. St. Louis, 1973-74. Washington, 1975 to present. 6-7, 295 pounds. One of the most durable and reliable players in Redskins' history....He was an AFC-NFC Pro Bowl selection in 1983. [With photo catching the football from Cowboy #11]

1986 PRO Football Scouting Report

By Dick Vermeil et al.

Published by Mountain Lion, Inc.

Dave Butz is a mountain in the center of the Redskins' defense. Opponents spend nearly as much time trying to work a game plan around him as they do in preparing for the Cowboys' Randy White, because both are forces that must be countered if a running game is to be effective.

Butz is a strong player who can destroy blocking plans opposite him....He plays hard and is highly motivated even as his career winds down.

Butz almost demands combination blocking to get him moved, and this has allowed the other tackle, Dean Hamel, more freedom to make plays. About the only way opponents can chop him down when he starts in 1 direction is to cut-block him. He doesn't like it.

Opponents who try to run away from him find he can power through angle blocks and disrupt the blocking scheme.

Dave Butz Career Highlights/Various Publications

From the 1986 PRO Football Scouting Report (continued):

He is a power pass rusher and had 5 sacks in 1985, along with 87 tackles, fifth on the team. Butz collects many sacks when the ends push quarterbacks out of the pocket after he has constricted it by shoving the guard and/or center backward.

Braves on the Warpath

The Fifty Greatest Games in the History of
The Washington Redskins

By Alan Beall

Kinloch Books/Washington, D. C.

Eagles vs. Redskins/September 10, 1978 [Reference is to an earlier game, Patriots vs. Redskins]

...After seven years of working his way to the top, Joe Theismann began his 8-year reign as the Washington Redskins' starting quarterback on Opening Day against the New England Patriots. Although he performed adequately, Joe did not have the kind of game he had dreamed of, and the Redskins fell behind, 14-9. With 2-1/2 minutes left in the game, the Patriots were killing the clock with running plays when, suddenly, defensive tackle Dave Butz smeared halfback Horace Ivory, causing a fumble, which linebacker Brad Dusek scooped up at the 31 and carried into the end zone for the game-winning touchdown!

Cardinals vs. Redskins/November 11, 1979

[Full-page photo with cut-line]: Dave Butz (65) and Brad Dusek (59) wrestle Ottis Anderson to the ground.

...With the sellout crowd screaming for his head, Jim Hart returned to the field in quest of one final miracle. On first down, he completed an 8-yard pass to Anderson, but his next two throws fell incomplete. Fourth down. With 9 seconds left in the game, Hart faded back and fired again, but Dave Butz leapt into the air and batted the ball away, preserving Washington's shaky 30-28 victory!

Lions vs. Redskins/November 8, 1981

"You just figured whoever got the last chance would win it," said Coach Gibbs...

"The start was unbelievable," said Detroit's disappointed head coach, Monte Clark. "The worst I can remember"...By the end of

the game, though, the breaks had evened out. After an exchange of nine turnovers, seven touchdowns, five field goals, and 963 yards, Detroit linebacker Stan White couldn't believe what he had just seen. "I don't see how we lost it. It just seemed like we moved the ball all day, did a lot of good things, and, when it was over, we still lost."

In the closing moments, Redskins defensive tackle Dave Butz had only one concern. "The thing that got me," said Butz, "was how long it took for the referee to shoot off that little gun of his.

All I saw on the last play was one of their guys coming down with the ball, and that guy not shooting off his little gun." He finally did, though, and the victorious Washington Redskins ran off the field to the exultant cheers of 52,000 exhausted fans.

Redskins vs. Giants/November 15, 1981

A sack by defensive tackle Dave Butz squelched New York's next drive, and Washington took over at its 26 with 3:44 left in the first half....

After a quick exchange of punts, New York had one more shot from its 41. On first down, Simms went back to pass but was leveled by 300 pounds of Dave Butz and 250 pounds of Dexter Manley. The crushing tackle knocked Simms out of the game, replaced, to the quiet delight of the Redskins, by ice-cold Scott Brunner....

Redskins vs. Eagles/September 12, 1982

Dave Butz and Tony McGee wrecked the Eagles' plans for rapid retaliation by sacking Jaworski on third down....

Cowboys vs. Redskins/January 22, 1983

Although it wasn't receiving an equal share of publicity, Washington's defense was just as effective as its offense. The defensive line, anchored by tackles Dave Butz and Darryl Grant, specialized in repelling running backs and was reinforced by a matched set of tough linebackers: Mel Kaufman, Neal Olkewicz, and Rich Milot. All-pro strong safety Tony Peters headed a resourceful squad of defensive backs, the brains of which belonged to defensive signal-caller Mark Murphy.

Super Bowl XVII/Dolphins vs. Redskins/January 30, 1983

.. Taking over at their 38, the Dolphins looked unstoppable as they gained 25 yards on three consecutive running plays. On first and 10 at the Redskins 37, Woodley dropped back to pass again, but, just as he cocked his arm to throw, defensive end Dexter Manley crashed into his left side and jarred the football loose. The ball

skittered 25 yards toward the Washington bench and nearly went out of bounds, but Redskins defensive tackle Dave Butz gingerly corralled it at the Miami 46....

Redskins vs. Cowboys/December 11, 1983

...The Cowboys quickly discovered that the Washington defense was as well-prepared as the Washington offense. Defensive tackle Dave Butz sacked quarterback Danny White, then Dexter Manley turned a lateral to fullback Ron Springs into a 7-yard loss, forcing White to punt back to the ball-hungry Redskins....

Big Dave Butz ended Dallas' hope of putting together a nerve-settling drive when he sacked Danny White at the Cowboys 34....

Dave Butz Career Highlights/Various Publications

From Braves on the Warpath (continued):

Super Bowl XXII/Redskins vs. Broncos/January 31, 1988

[The first reference is to an earlier game]-

The Redskins defense saved some of its most heroic work for the NFC Championship game against the Vikings at RFK Stadium before a capacity crowd of 55,212 roaring fans. Early in the third quarter with the score tied, 7-7, defensive tackle Dave Butz, a 15-year veteran of NFL wars, tipped a Wade Wilson pass to linebacker Mel Kaufman, who intercepted and returned the ball to the Minnesota 17.

73,302 anointed fans who had paid between \$100 and \$2,500 per ticket squeezed into San Diego Jack Murphy Stadium to participate directly in the pageantry of Super Bowl XXII. No longer a grudge match between two competing leagues, the Super Bowl had evolved over 22 years into an unofficial national holiday, a celebration of American values: competitiveness, teamwork, and excellence. A global audience, including 105 million Americans and 1.5 million Washington area viewers, tuned in to witness the battle between the Broncos and the Redskins, a match that, when whittled down to its core, pitted Denver's artistry against Washington's strength....

At the center of the field in front of an American flag that sprawled for 40 yards, Herb Alpert trumpeted the National Anthem. As the crowd cheered the final notes, six Blue Angels roared overhead and the flag, made up of thousands of red, white, and blue balloons, rose skyward, unraveling like a gigantic DNA molecule.

Six Redskins co-captains--Charles Mann, Dave Butz, Mark May, Joe Jacoby, Reggie Branch, and Dean Hamel--met the Broncos' four co-captains at midfield. Dave Butz called "Heads" as Hall of Fame receiver Don Hutson flipped the specially-minted coin into the cool, dry air. "It is a head," announced the referee, Bob McElwee. "Washington has won the toss and will receive at this end. Good luck, men."

...on third and 3 at the Washington 6, Elway tried a quarterback draw, but 15-year veteran Dave Butz wasn't fooled and the Broncos had to settle for a field goal and a 10-0 lead....

...The 42-10 final score also reflected Washington's complete containment of John Elway, who was sacked five times, intercepted three times, and limited to only 66 yards passing in the second half....By the end of the game, the Redskins defense had bathed itself in glory. Alvin Walton: 7 tackles and 2 sacks. Dave Butz: 2 tackles and 2 blocked passes. Barry Wilburn: 3 tackles and 2 interceptions. Dexter Manley: 4 tackles and 1-1/2 sacks. Charles Mann: 3 tackles and a sack. Todd Bowles: 5 tackles. Darryl Grant: 2 tackles and a tipped pass. "We beat the best there was," said Butz. "That's all you can ask."

Dave Butz Career Highlights/The Washington Post

The Washington Post
Sports/August 19, 1989/Page D1
His Standbys Gone, Mann Keeping New Company
By Christine Brennan

CARLISLE, Pa., Aug. 18--For as long as Charles Mann has been a Washington Redskin, he has rubbed elbows, traded secrets and run sneaky plays with the biggest, smartest and most reliable teammate a guy ever had.

To most outsiders the news that veteran Dave Butz would not be back was a simple loss. One player was gone, another would replace him. It happens all the time. Except that in pro football, especially along the line, no man works alone. And now Charles Mann's co-worker was gone.

When Mann, the left defensive end, looks to his right during this training camp at Dickinson College, he sees a free agent or a rookie. He likes them both, defensive tackles Curtis Maxey and Tracy Rucker. But they're not Butz....

Six years with on-the-job buddies don't vanish overnight. Learn-

ing to depend on someone takes time. And it is dependence, for what Mann and Butz and Kaufman did many times for each other was simply to make up for one of the others' mistakes.

"I don't think you can achieve that with someone new in one year," Mann said today....after you've been playing with a guy for a while, there are kind of unwritten rules, things you don't have to communicate verbally. When you play well together with somebody, you mesh together.

"Sometimes Dave would take an inside move or something, and nine times out of 10 he would make a big play when he did that. The other one-tenth of the time I would cover for him. That would just be something I would do. And vice versa, when I stepped out to make the big play he would be there to cover me."

They ran stunts together, individually took on double-teams to let the other get a sack, filled gaps for each other,...just were doing their jobs.

"It's been great playing along side of him for six years," Mann said. "I've learned a lot. But you prepare each and every year for not having someone around. It's just like not having Mel alongside of me. Mel and I worked very well for years, and then to not have him there, you kind of count on a guy to be there when you make a mistake or miss something. You count on that guy to pick up your slack because he's always been there.

"I think it will be the same without having Dave there. I've counted on him to make plays for me, to do things out of the ordinary at times. Now, to not have him there, you don't expect those things to happen. But I'm sure they will. I'm sure we'll have a great ballplayer in there, whether it's Curtis Maxey or Tracy Rucker. But it's going to take a while for me to get comfortable enough to know that this guy is able, and is going to Mann Adjusting to New Company (continued):

take care of his position so I don't try to overcompensate."...

Some training camp, Mann won't be here, gone to TV or acting or a speaking tour or some other job.

But then somebody, perhaps a Curtis Maxey or a Tracy Rucker or a Ravin Caldwell, will miss Mann exactly the way he misses Dave Butz and Mel Kaufman now.

The Washington Post
Sports/June 20, 1990/Page B1
Retiring a Redskin: How to Say Goodbye?
By Christine Brennan

...So how does a team say goodbye to its superstars? It's a quan-

dary that his hit the Redskins especially hard the past few years. ...In the last five years, the Redskins have let go of some of the most beloved and charismatic stars in the history of the franchise: John Riggins, Mark Moseley, Dave Butz, Joe Theismann, George Starke, Mark Murphy, Neal Oklewicz and [Doug] Williams, among others. No other NFL team with such a hold over its town and its fans has had so much change in this period....

"I agonize over these decisions," Gibbs said in an interview....

"Is this the year? Or can this guy still play?"...

"Most of us don't believe our time is up," said Moseley, the kicker who was released in midseason 1986 in the midst of a slump, then finished the season with Cleveland, going to the conference finals. "We've all been taught to fight and not give up, even when things look their worst. So that carries over to our careers. It's not easy to listen to a coach tell you it's over. You naturally want to fight back."

"When you take a guy and sit down with him," Gibbs continued, "They're not ready to retire. They have champions' hearts....The first thing they say is, 'I can still play.'..."

The Washington Redskins
An Illustrated History
By Richard Whittingham
Simon and Schuster/New York/1990

From Chapter 11: The Great Defenders

[Full page photo of Dave with cut-line]:

The gargantuan Dave Butz (65) is double-teamed against the Green Bay Packers. As durable as he was powerful, Butz played in more games for Washington than any other Redskin in history other than Daryl Green, 216 between 1975 and 1988.

Dave Butz Career Highlights/Various Publications

The Washington Redskins/An Illustrated History
The Great Defenders (continued)

Over on Pennsylvania Avenue, Gerald Ford was in the White House when Dave Butz came to Washington in 1975. When the enormous tackle announced his retirement, George Bush was living there. At 6'7" and 295 pounds, with a 19-1/2" neck, Butz has always

captured attention wherever he went. An All-America defensive tackle from Purdue, he caught the eye of the St. Louis Cardinals, who drafted him in 1973, and he made himself visible enough to NFL official observers to land on that year's NFL All-Rookie team. After a year on injured reserve in 1974 and an ensuing contract dispute, with his option played out, Butz signed with the Redskins in 1975 for double the salary he had been paid in St. Louis. The league later decided that Washington had to give the Cardinals two first-round and one second-round draft choices for Butz, in what was one of the largest compensation deals in NFL history. Fourteen years later, having watched Butz, "The Master of Intimidation," disassemble offenses, pulverize running backs, terrorize quarterbacks, and display a seemingly endless endurance in Washington's front line, most Redskins fans agree he was easily worth the compensation.

George Allen loved him for his unsparing devotion to the game of defensive football. Joe Gibbs respected him for his total concentration, dedication, and durability....

In the Super Bowl season of 1982, Butz led the team with 55 tackles in the regular season and 19 in the playoffs. The following year he led the team with 11-1/2 sacks, forced a team-leading five fumbles, and made 69 tackles. An All-Pro, he was voted Defensive Lineman of the Year by the NFL Alumni Association. Defensive statistics with the Redskins were not logged before 1979, but since then Butz has always been at or near the top of all categories. His best year for tackles was 1986, when he gathered 91, and his 11-1/2 sacks of '83 was a career high. When Dave Butz retired after the 1988 season, he had recovered seven fumbles, and forced 15-1/2.