One thing that Browns have that the Ravens don't is a rich history. I'm too young to have any great stories about the Cleveland Browns, so I end up having to settle for some pretty good anecdotes and a lot of dreadful memories. That's just the way it is for someone my age; Jimmy Brown and the vintage Browns just aren't part of our story.

I don't know much about Paul Brown football.

I couldn't offer any original thought on Otto Graham, only what I've read in books and seen on television.

Frankly, I think about Milt Plum about as often as I think of Milt Palacio.

I know that, at some point, the Browns went all-in on a guy named Mike Phipps, and that history dictates he was a monumental bust. By the time I came into this world, towards the end of the 1970s, it was the era of Brian Sipe. The Browns MVP quarterback was a featured player in one of the earlier moments of the Cleveland sports misery montages, the infamous Red Right 88 play.

There are plenty of moments in that montage that still sting, but the Mike Davis interception doesn't compute the same way with me; it simply isn't a part of my history as fan.

Sam Rutigliano is just another name that coached the team, and I wouldn't even wager a guess as to whether Mike or Greg was the better Pruitt.

My history begins with Bernie Kosar taking over for Gary Danielson, the inception of the Dawg Pound at Cleveland Stadium, Marty Schottenheimer, and the cinematic treat, "Masters of the Gridiron". The Dawg Pound Era put the Kardiac Kids in the past tense, and Browns fans had an easy time getting behind a local guy who played the system in order to be a Cleveland Brown. I didn't have to distinguish between the Pruitts because Kevin Mack and Earnest Byner were memorable in their own right, even though I think it took me a few games get Curtis and Clarence Weathers right. Don't even get me started on the guy who played Apollo Creed. Of course, I also couldn't remember whether Jack Nicholson was the golfer from Ohio or the "Here's Johnny" dude from The Shining.

I was just a kid, give me a break on this one.

As everyone knows, they didn't win anything, but we looked forward to Sunday with that bunch.

Yes, there is only one team who does not lose their last game of the year, and the Browns were never that team, but I wouldn't have traded being a Browns fan for anything in the world, even the games with less than desirable results.

I remember that 10-9 loss in Pittsburgh, the first Browns game at Three Rivers that I remember seeing, and the final defeat of sixteen straight (the Browns reeled off four straight after that) in that concrete tomb.

I remember being made to feel bad by my father's friends when the Browns blew a halftime lead in a playoff game at the Orange Bowl because I wasn't wearing my Hutch Browns helmet when Marino put the final nail in the coffin. They were obviously messing with me, but what did I know?

Of course, there was Denver, and it's still difficult to stomach, but I can appreciate the journey to get there; the home playoff wins against the Jets and Bills will remain in my heart forever. It was a special time, but it didn't have to be the playoffs.

I lived for the Browns on Sunday, whether it was Ozzie Newsome being great or Eric Zeier being less than great.

Then, almost suddenly, it was all taken away.

I was 17, and that was literally a half a lifetime ago, but I never got it back.

It was devastating, even to sit here and think about it 17 years later. We lost our team, and really, we lost that 1995 season because of the distraction, but there were consolation prizes.

We'd get a new stadium and a team to play in it four years later, and Cleveland was insistent on keeping the Browns name, the colors, and the records.

I question how consoling those things are; so, the only thing we lost was the team that won the Super Bowl.

WEATHER
Mostly cloudy with a few snow flurries today. Hi 27. Low tonight 22.
Details on Page 10

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BROWNS CAPTURE CROWN, 27-0

Tshombe Puts Onus on Nasser

By ROBIN MANNOCK

LEOPOLDVILLE, The Congo (AP) — Premier Moise Tshombe has complained to the U.N. Security Council that Egyptian and Algerian officers are commanding "rebel hordes" all along the Congo's northeastern frontier.

He said the open aid being given to the Congolese rebels by the United Arab Republic and Algeria amounted to "a veritable declaration of war" against the Congo. He charged President Gamal Abdel Nasser and Algerian President Gerual Abdel Nasser have promised publicly to give military aid to the Communists a g a i n s t "Congolese People's Republic," Tshombe charged.

"AS A CONSEQUENCE, the Congolese Democratic Republic (the official title of the Leopoldville regime) considers these acts by these two countries are a veritable declaration of war," Tshombe charged in a letter to the president of the U.N. Security Council in New York.

Copies of the letter, released in Leopoldville yesterday, were also sent to Haile Selassie, secretary-general of the Organization of African Unity, and to 22 independent African states.

THSOMBE SAID his government h a d "irrefutable proof" that the rebels were receiving war material from the Communist bloc. He asked the Security Council to notify these added charges to The

Fullback Jim Brown, left, exchanges congratulations with quarterback Frank Ryan following the Browns' victory in the championship game.

Gary Collins, who scored three touchdowns and was voted the game's most valuable player, is hoisted by Browns' coach Blanton Collier. Collins was also named winner of a Chevrolet Corvair Act Modell.

Collins, Ryan Shock Colts

By CHARLES HEATON

There can't be any doubters left this morning.

The Browns are the National Football League champions after what well may be the best performance ever in the long history of this football club.

They stifled the Baltimore Colts, highest scoring team in the league, 27-0 before 79,544 on a windy, cold afternoon at the Stadium yesterday.

Underdogs by seven points at the kickoff, the Browns put 17 points on the board after a minute and a half of the second period. Ryan, in the final quarter as rushing gives his opponents" shook their heads and Baltimore outers packed their bagfes away and headed for the exits.

This was a Browns' team that decided it would prove something. And the players, who soon will be paid for their efforts on the best performers in pro football, did it with a team-wonderful team effort.

Gary Collins set a title game record with three touchdown catches in one game. Frank Ryan, a quarterback who has arrived, threw three passes in paving the way to the Browns' fourth title.

AND LOU GROZA, who's be celebrating his 39th birthday soon and has been on

Full page of Browns' photos on the Picture Page

(from other NFL title teams) kicked field goals of 42 and 19 yards.

Jim Brown established the Browns' rushing record by gaining 52 times and gaining 114 yards. The fullback, usually a good man but bubbling over so he accepted congratulations from straight three opposition passers.

These fellows were great and so was the offensive line but full measure of credit must go to the defense. It hadn't given up plenty of yardage

$54,000 in Bonds Stolen From Widow

Thieves made off with $54,000 in government bonds and three diamond rings from the home of a Rocky River widow Saturday night while she was out looking at Christmas lights.

Mrs. Albert W. Schwartz discovered the burglary when she returned to her home at 19877 Frazier Drive at 11 p. m. She told police she had left the house at 8:30.

Detective G. J. Jindra said the burglars forced a lock on the back door. They ransacked a bedroom and pried open the

Shoreway Crash Toll Rises to 3; Another Near Death

Memorial Shoreway's worst head-on crash in two years yesterday had cost three lives.

Police said a car traveling

DEAD WERE:

ROBERT FLOOD, 22, of 3577 W. 105th Street, driver of the southbound car.

MRS. AUDREY FLOOD, his wife, who was expecting a baby in March. She would have been 23 years old tonight. Flood died of in-

ROBERT IVANCIC, 22, of 3206 W. 65th Street, flame of Mike Hovanchak. He was in the northbound car and died with head cuts and a broken left leg.

The two women were killed

Only 9,000 Mourn

Frigid Welkin Rings With Fans' Whoops

By DON ROBERTSON

They made it look so easy. They made it look so terrible easy.

The cold weather? Forget it.

The wind? So what?

What was the point? Why not let Modell take it all with him? They weren't taking any Super

Bowl wins with them, and while the Super Bowl brand doesn't mean anything more to me than the NFL Championships of the pre-merger days, the lack of Super Bowl appearances lingered with even the pre-Raven Browns.

The Houston Oilers hadn't been to a Super Bowl either and they watched their freshly re-branded franchise participate in Super Bowl XXXIV as the Titans, but the NFL didn't reboot itself in Houston.

The Texans franchise is probably better off that way.

So, here we have this history that begins with All-American Football Conference domination for every year that the faction existed, followed by a solid decade-plus towards the top of the National Football League. The Browns do plenty to honor that era with their ring of honor, which includes such notables as Leroy Kelly, Lou Groza, Otto Graham, Bill Willis, Marion Motley, Gene Hickerson, and of course James Nathaniel Brown.

All respect due to Len Ford, Paul Warfield, and Frank Gatski, but Cleveland Browns history starts and ends with Jim Brown. If he isn't a part of the story of the Cleveland Browns, the story isn't worth telling. This is a dilemma that another professional sports franchise in Cleveland is going to have to deal with sooner or later, except Brown left Cleveland for Hollywood, not South Beach.

I often hear Browns fans my age tell me that Jim Brown doesn't mean anything to them, and it's a fair point.

Again, it's our parents' history, not ours.

To be blunt, there's no difference between the Browns drought dating back to Super Bowl XXII or 1964 on a personal level. I wouldn't have been able to see either one, not that it stops Steelers fans who were born in the early 80s for claiming that team of the 70s. With the way that today's game has rendered the past irrelevant, history, especially the meat and potatoes of the Browns success (the Championships), is just a bunch of stuff that happened a long time ago. Jim Brown's absence with the current Browns would be an afterthought if Brown chose to stay away, but there's an issue with image in Cleveland that goes far beyond the scope of losing a lot of games.

BROWNS