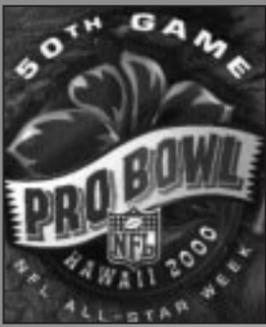


LIBERTY CALL



Pro Bowl



PHAA Robin Kropka photo

ABC football announcer and former NFL quarterback Boomer Esiason takes time for a photo with CINCPACFLT Sailors from left BM1(SW) Thomas McIntyre, BM2 Christopher Bender and EN2 Michael Bareiszis.



PH2 Michael Lewis photo

Indianapolis Colts quarterback Peyton Manning winds up to throw a strike during the Pro Bowl at Aloha Stadium. Manning was the starting quarterback for the AFC. He almost set another record in a day of broken records. He completed 17 of 23 passes for 270 yards and two touchdowns and two interceptions. Manning was only four yards short of setting a new record for passing yards. Unfortunately one of the interceptions that Manning gave up was returned for a touchdown, allowing the NFC to take the early lead and never look back.



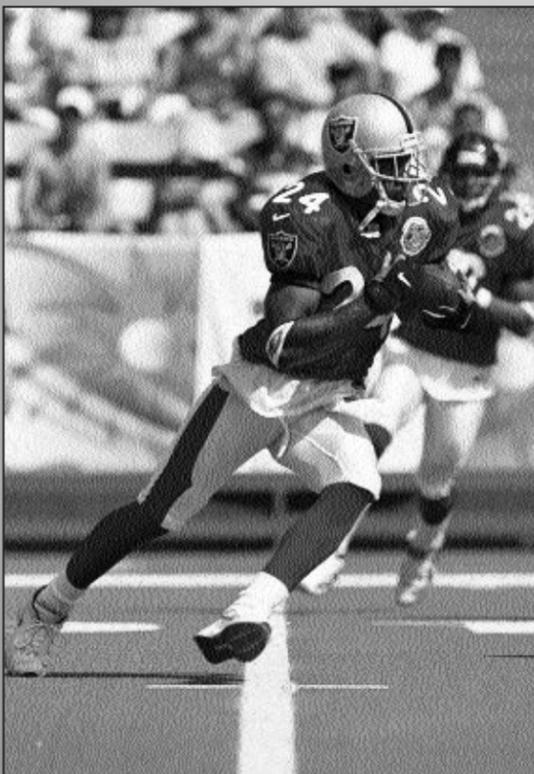
J02 Greg Cleghorne photo



PH2 Michael Lewis photo

Hall of Fame linebacker (top) Willie Lanier signs autographs at the NEX on Feb. 4 Lanier spent 13 years in the NFL with Kansas City Chiefs.

An Army parachutist (bottom) with the Golden Knights floats into Aloha Stadium to begin the Pro Bowl.



PH2 Michael Lewis photo

Oakland Raiders cornerback Charles Woodson returns a punt in the Pro Bowl at Aloha Stadium.

NFL's best puts on a record breaking show at the Pro Bowl

By PH2 Chad McNeeley
NAVY REGION HAWAII

There was an old-style shootout last Sunday between the National Football Leagues best in the Pro Bowl at Aloha Stadium. When the shooting stopped and the smoke cleared, the National Football Conference came away with a 51-31 victory over the American Football Conference in the highest scoring Pro Bowl in history. In a game typically showcasing offense, new Pro Bowl records were set on all sides of the ball both offensively, defensively and on special teams. The 82 points between the two conferences eclipsed the previous high by 18 points set in the first Pro Bowl ever played at Aloha Stadium in 1980.

The game started with a dramatic 62 yard interception return off Indianapolis Colts quarterback Peyton Manning by Arizona Cardinals cornerback Aeneas Williams for a touchdown. After a NFC field goal, the AFC drove down the field. A 5-yard strike from Mark Brunell to his Jacksonville Jaguar teammate wide receiver Jimmy Smith pulled the game closer 10-7 to end the first quarter of play.

Three seconds into the second quarter NFL Most Valuable Player Kurt Warner of the St. Louis Rams skillfully drove the NFC down the field. He capped off the 6-play, 71 yard drive with a one-yard handoff Tampa Bay Buccaneers fullback Mike Alstott for the score, putting the NFC ahead 17-7. Alstott had another touchdown run of 3 yards later in the second quarter to put the NFC ahead 24-14. Alstott finished with a Pro Bowl record 3 touchdowns and rushed 13 times for 67 yards.

The AFC came alive late in the first half with a 21-yard pass from Manning to Jimmy Smith,

to pull the AFC within three. Smith caught eight passes for 119 yards and set a new Pro Bowl record with three touchdowns. He would have set a new record for receptions if Minnesota Vikings receiver Randy Moss hadn't caught nine for more than 200 yards and a touchdown of his own. With that performance Moss was selected the Pro Bowl's MVP.

A 33-yard kickoff return after the Smith touchdown by Carolina Panther Michael Bates set up 51-yard field goal by Jason Hanson to end the first half. With the NFC leading 27-21, Bates and Chicago Bear Glyn Milburn combined for another new Pro Bowl record for kickoff returns with 232 yards on six returns for the NFC.

The second half started much like the first half ended with tremendous offense. Washington Redskin QB Brad Johnson started the third quarter by guiding the NFC offense to another touchdown. Another NFC field goal later in the quarter put them up 37-21.

The AFC started off the fourth quarter with a 33-yard field goal by Miami Dolphin kicker Olindo Mare. After an uneventful series by the NFC, the AFC looked to be making a run. However all hopes were dashed when Mark Brunell threw up the AFC's third interception of the game to Buccaneer Derrick Brooks for a 20-yard return for a touchdown. Each side threw one more touchdown apiece. One 52-yard reception from Manning to Smith, arrived for his third score of the day. By the time a 25-yard strike from Carolina Panther Steve Beuerlein to Moss was completed, the game had already been sealed. The NFC outlasted and outgunned a high-powered AFC offense and got a little help from premier defensive linebackers like Brooks to hold on and get the win.