

CUP HARDROCKS

JACK WEDLEY, who trotted on his first gridiron in a uniform he bought for twenty-five cents, has played on more Grey Cup championship teams than any other footballer—seven.

He shares another mark—appearing in eight finals—with three others, Ches McCance, Bert Iannone and Mel Wilson. The trio though, can't match Wedley's win record. McCance had three winners, Wilson two and Iannone one.

Wedley, a little guy by football standards, five feet 10½ inches and 160 pounds, made his first Cup appearance in 1937 when Toronto Argonauts edged Winnipeg Blue Bombers 4-3. He had five more winners with Argos, in 1938-45-46-47-50, and one with St. Hyacinthe-Donnacona in 1944.

An ironical touch to the Wedley story is that he went out a loser, in 1951, as Saskatchewan Roughriders bowed 21-14 to Ottawa Rough Riders. He hung up his gear after that game and now devotes full time to operating his Argo haberdashery shop in Toronto.

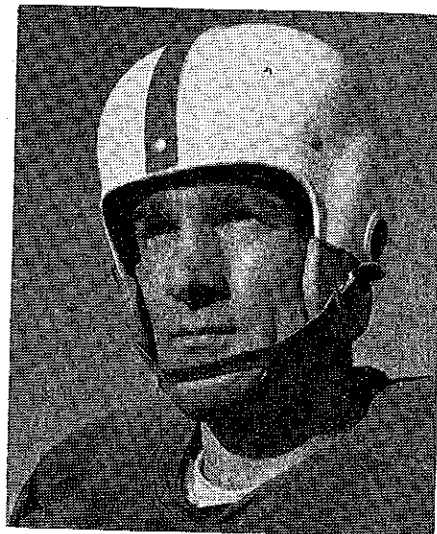
Jack has some wonderful memories and priceless mementoes of his football career. He treasures five watches, a dressing case, two rings, eight Canadian Rugby Union crests and a silver platter as Cup awards.

HARDROCK Bert Iannone played in eight Grey Cup finals, on only one winner—Calgary in 1948.

MEL WILSON played in eight Cup finals with Calgary and Winnipeg.

BILL ZOCK has a record all his own, six cup final appearances over 18 years.

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JACK WEDLEY was on seven Cup-winning teams in eight appearances.

He got the football bug when he was twelve. "I bought a uniform from the Salvation Army for a quarter—the step-in type with the laces down the middle of the jacket."

His team was Moss Park, a playground in Toronto's Cabbagetown, and it won the city championship. From there he went to Northern Vocational high school and then jumped to senior company as a centre for half a season with Toronto Balmy Beach in 1936.

He caught on with Argos in 1937 but was switched to end because, at 160 pounds, he was much too light for the heavy-duty work as snap.

The highlight of his Cup career came in 1944 when St. Hyacinthe beat Hamilton.

"We were a raggedy-behind club if ever there was one with only three players who had senior experience," Wedley recalls. "We had a lot of luck riding with us."

