

As we bring the first round of the tournament to a close, Jeff Ellis and Andrew Clayman move their attention to the Scarlet & Grey region of the bracket, where the voting proved considerably closer than in any other regional. If you'll recall, we're on a mission to narrow down the names of the greatest Browns, Indians, and Cavs players since the last Cleveland sports championship in 1964. In a few days, we'll be down to 32. Coincidentally, that's also the jersey number of our top seed in today's quarter of the draw, the legendary Jim Brown. Suffice it to say, he'll be moving on. But what about Julio Franco? Webster Slaughter? Cliff Lee?

***Bracket Breakdown, Round 1, Part 4***



By Andrew Clayman & Jeff Ellis

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[Click Here to Vote In the 64 Since '64 Bracket, If You Haven't Already](#)

So, here we go: the final eight match-ups of Round 1. I suppose our time might be better spent sharing our thoughts on the Browns' play calling or Delonte West's current whereabouts, but we'll stick to the pointless hypothetical crap instead. We know our limitations.

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### ***Round 1, Scarlet & Grey Regional***



**#1 Jim Brown vs #16 Leon Wagner**

**ANDREW CLAYMAN:** Let's attempt to forget the fact that Jim Brown is possibly the greatest football player of all-time and also a certified super badass. Some people are asking, quite fairly, whether members of the 1964 Championship team should really be in this tournament. Sure, Jim Brown won the MVP in 1965, but is he really tied to the Title Drought Era? I say "yes." In that '65 season, Brown's last, Cleveland returned to the NFL Championship Game, but fell to Vince Lombardi's Packers, 23-12, despite 100 all-purpose yards from Jim. A year later, something called the Super Bowl was invented, but with Brown retired, Green Bay suddenly had a much clearer path to NFL dominance. 45 years later, the Pack has its piece of Super Bowl history, and we're still waiting for our first crack at one. Incidentally, the fun of this matchup is that Leon "Daddy Wags" Wagner, who had 4 strong years as the Indians left fielder from 1964-67, followed Jim Brown's path into acting after his playing career was over. Shockingly, as further evidence of the Cleveland curse perhaps, neither man won an Oscar.

**JEFF ELLIS:** No need to read too much of Jim Brown's on-field resume yet. He doesn't need it for this game. That's no insult to Leon Wagner, though. When the charismatic left-fielder broke into baseball with the Giants, he played in maybe the best outfield ever assembled-- Willie Mays, Orlando Cepeda, Felipe Alou, and Bill White were all on the roster. Wagner learned from the best and became a very productive hitter for the Indians. Andy mentioned how both these athletes went on to Hollywood, but while they may not have won any Oscars, they did both star in films in which John Cassavetes *was* nominated for an Oscar (*The Dirty Dozen* and *A Woman Under the Influence*, respectively). What does that mean? I have no idea.







