



**1961**



THE  
**PACKERS CENTURY**

---

**P R O J E C T**

*ALL THE GAMES. ALL THE STORIES.*

---

**1919-2019**

BY JIM RICE

[packerscentury.com](http://packerscentury.com)



## 1961

---

**Record: 11-3-0 NFL Champions**

**Coach: Vince Lombardi**

- For the first-time, season ticket holders sold-out all home games. Lombardi adds the “G” to the helmet.
- The NFL began a 14 game schedule and signed a new TV contract with the CBS Television Network. Each team received \$644,000.
- After losing to the Eagles in the 1960 championship, the Packers were determined to win it all.
- Bart Starr led the league’s best offense. He threw for 2, 418 yards, a new Packer record.
- Paul Hornung, Jim Taylor and Tom Moore led the NFL in rushing, first downs and touchdowns. Hornung won the NFL MVP Award.
- Defensively, the Packers intercepted 29 passes, and only the Giants gave up fewer points.
- During the season, Paul Hornung, Ray Nitschke and Boyd Dowler fulfilled their military obligations in response to the Berlin Crisis.
- Vince Lombardi signed a new five-year contract in August.



DETROIT

**LIONS**

**PACKERS**

**17**

**13**

**9.17.1961**

### Shocking Start

A record crowd in Milwaukee saw Jimmy Taylor and Paul Hornung score all of Green Bay's points.

Jim Taylor's touchdown came on Green Bay's opening drive. Nick Pietrosante of the Lions matched Taylor's touchdown. He then put Detroit in front on a 15-yard touchdown pass from Earl Morrall before the break.

Paul Hornung's second field goal of the game made it 14-13 in the final quarter. It was matched by Jim Martin's 44-yarder to restore the four-point Lion lead. On Green Bay's final drive, Bart Starr was intercepted by Dick "Night Train" Lane after the ball had bounced off Gary Knafelc's fingers at the Detroit seven-yard line.

<b>Detroit</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>Green Bay</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>13</b>

**Attendance: 44,307**

**Milwaukee County Stadium**

*On the sellout crowd: "One member of the (ticket office) staff, Irene Silewski, reported: "When I would tell them we had a few upper box seats and standing room left, they would say 'Standing room? Where can we sit with that?'"* <sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Green Bay Press-Gazette, 9/18/1961, Rimmel, p. 18



SAN FRANCISCO

**49ers**

**PACKERS**

**10**

**30**

**9.24.1961**

### **Nice Bounce Back**

Bart Starr demonstrated that he was clearly, “reaching a peak as a top-flight pro quarterback.”<sup>1</sup> He led Green Bay’s 81-yard march the second time they had the ball and he scored from the one-yard line for 7-0 lead. After the Lions tied it, Willie Wood’s 39-yard punt return put the Packers in front to stay 14-7.

After taking the lead, three Paul Hornung field goals kept the pressure on the 49ers. The defense intercepted three passes. Ray Nitschke’s interception set up a one of Hornung’s field goal, and in the fourth quarter, linebacker Bill Forrester’s pick led to Bart Starr’s beautiful 23-yard touchdown pass to Max McGee that finished the scoring.

Starr played an excellent game (11-16-161-1-1) and the offense kept San Francisco off-balance as Taylor and Hornung ran 30 times for 114 yards.

<b>San Francisco</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Green Bay</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>Attendance:</b>	<b>38,669</b>				

1. [packershistory.net/1961 Packers](http://packershistory.net/1961 Packers)



CHICAGO

**BEARS**

**PACKERS**

**0**

**24**

**10.1.1961**

### **Packers Blank Bears**

As the Bears came onto the field, “the Packer Lumberjack Band prophetically swung into ‘It’s the Wrong Time and the Wrong Place,’<sup>1</sup> as the Bears appeared.”

Green Bay shut out the Bears for the first time since 1935. They did it by running the ball as the Bears limited the passing game. Green Bay ran for 198 yards, with Jim Taylor leading the way 130 yards and one touchdown. Taylor also set up Paul Hornung’s second-quarter field goal with a 53-yard run from scrimmage.

Green Bay’s defense picked off four passes to slow down Chicago. Two of the thefts led to directly to Packer points. The first by John Symank led to Starr’s touchdown pass to Boyd Dowler. In the fourth quarter, Dan Currie stole a pass and Starr connected with Ron Kramer for a touchdown six plays later.

<b>Chicago</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Green Bay</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>24</b>

**Attendance: 38,669**

<sup>1</sup> Green Bay Press-Gazette, 10/2/1961, Rimmel, p. 13



BALTIMORE  
**COLTS**  
**PACKERS**

**7**  
**45**  
**10.8.1961**

### Scoring Machine!

In an incredible game, Paul Hornung scored 33 points. He started the rout by ripping off a 54-yard touchdown run two minutes into the game. After the Colts tied it 7-7 on a Lenny Moore touchdown, they were shut out the rest of the way.

Baltimore turned the ball over eight times, including five Johnny Unitas interceptions. Hornung's points came on four touchdowns, one field goal and six extra points! He broke Don Hutson's team record of 31 points set against Detroit in 1945. *The Golden Boy's* record still stands today.

After the game, responding to reporters, Lombardi, of course, downplayed the individual performance. "It was a great team effort – on the part of both groups the offense and the defense. I don't see how you can single out any one player."<sup>1</sup>

<b>Baltimore</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Green Bay</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>45</b>
<b>Attendance:</b>	<b>38,669</b>				

*"Wherever the Packers went, Hornung was the player fans wanted to see. When the team got off the bus, children and adults too would ask, "Where's Hornung? "Has Hornung gone past yet? Is Hornung still on the bus?"<sup>2</sup>*

1 Green Bay Press-Gazette, 10/9/1961, Rempel, p. 13  
 2 Greatest Packers of All-Time, Johnson, p. 73



**PACKERS**

CLEVELAND

**BROWNS**

**49**

**10.15.1961**

**17**

### Four For Jimmy!

This is Green Bay's first win over the Browns *ever*. It was an offensive explosion with the Packers scoring over 40 points for the second game in a row. They scored the first three times they had the ball for a commanding 21-3 lead by halftime.

The second half started with Jimmy Taylor's 45-yard gallop from scrimmage. It was his third touchdown run of the game. He would run for another one in the fourth quarter to put the game completely out of reach 35-10.

Paul Hornung and McGee scored Green Bay's other touchdowns. Bart Starr completed 15 of 17 passes for 272 yards and two touchdowns. The Packers rolled over Cleveland with 482 total yards, and the defense held Jimmy Brown to 72 yards on the ground.

**Green Bay 14 7 7 21 49**

**Cleveland 0 3 7 7 17**

**Attendance: 38,669**

*"An estimated 1,000 fans were on hand at Austin Strabel Field to meet the Packers when they returned from their first road game of the year at Cleveland Sunday."*<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Green Bay Press-Gazette, 10/16/1961, p. 19



**PACKERS**

MINNESOTA

**VIKINGS**

**33**

**10.22.1961**

**7**

### The New Kids!

This is the first of back-to-back games against the new team from the north! Green Bay was a heavy favorite with an offense in high gear and an opportunistic defense.

Bart Starr struck first on Green Bay's first play from scrimmage with a 78-yard touchdown pass to Boyd Dowler. Tom Moore, who filled in for Paul Hornung who hurt his left knee, ran for 159 yards and completed a halfback option pass for 20 yards. Hornung continued to kick, and he converted four field goals and three extra points.

Rookie quarterback Fran Tarkenton threw three interceptions, including a pick-six to linebacker Dan Currie that topped-off the scoring. Minnesota turned the ball over seven times, and the Packers pounded their new neighbors with 467 yards!

<b>Green Bay</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>33</b>
<b>Minnesota</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Attendance:</b>	<b>42,007</b>				

*"This was Green Bay territory before Minnesota became a solid entrant in the league."<sup>1</sup>*

<sup>1</sup> Cold Wars, Mishler p. xii





MINNESOTA  
**VIKINGS**  
**PACKERS**

**10**  
**28**

**10.29.1961**

## Two Straight

In this rematch, the Packers picked up right where they left off last Sunday! They scored the first two times they had the ball. Paul Hornung scored on a one-yard run and his halfback option pass to big tight end Ron Kramer found paydirt for a 14-0 Packer lead. In the second quarter, Jimmy Taylor also chimed-in catching an 8-yard touchdown toss from Bart Starr.

Bart Starr was outstanding (18-24-311-2-0). He led touchdown drives of 67, 70, 69 and 33 yards in a physical battle that took out Jerry Kramer, Paul Hornung and Ron Kramer with injuries. Though the Packers fumbled three times, the Vikings couldn't capitalize. They outgained Minnesota 467-263 in what Viking coach Norm Van Brocklin called "the worst officiated game I've seen in 13 years."<sup>1</sup>

In their last six games, Green Bay outscored opponents 194-51!

<b>Minnesota</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Green Bay</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>28</b>

**Attendance: 44,116**

**Milwaukee County Stadium**

*Hornung, Nitschke and Dowler would soon report for military obligations.*

1. Green Bay Press-Gazette, 10/30/1961, Rempel, p. 13



**PACKERS**

BALTIMORE

**COLTS**

**21**

**11.5.1961**

**45**

## **JOHNNY U!**

After the Packers pounded the Colts in October, Johnny Unitas and company got revenge. Though Packer touchdowns by Bart Starr and Paul Hornung kept it close early, Lenny Moore's touchdown opened the floodgates.

Unitas heated-up in the second quarter and began his assault on the Green Bay secondary (22-35-218-4-1). Touchdowns were thrown to Alex Hawkins and Lenny Moore. Jimmy Orr caught two touchdowns in the second half as the Colts stretched it to 38-14. Fullback Joe Perry ran for two scores and 105 yards for an offense that clicked for 407 yards.

The Colts kept the Packers out of the end zone in the second half. Green Bay's only points came on a pick-six by Jesse Whittenton. Overall, Baltimore's defense held Starr to 64 yards passing and the Packers to 225 total yards.

<b>Green Bay</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>Baltimore</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>45</b>

**Attendance: 57,641**

*In the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter, Unitas waved off the field goal team and threw a touchdown pass to Jimmy Orr.*



**PACKERS**

CHICAGO

**BEARS**

**31**

**11.12.1961**

**28**

### **Nineteen for Paul!**

After the Bears got out to a 7-0 lead, they weren't heard from again until the third quarter when it was 31-7 Green Bay. The Packers scored 31 unanswered points behind three Bart Starr touchdowns passes. Starr threw two touchdowns to Ron Kramer and one to Paul Hornung. Hornung also scored on the ground. The *Golden Boy* also kicked a 51-yard field goal to push the lead to 31-7 in the third quarter. It was his 19<sup>th</sup> point!

A furious comeback by the Bears turned a likely blowout into an actual contest. After Hornung's third quarter field goal, Chicago's defense stiffened. The Packers didn't score in the final 20 minutes. Meanwhile, Chicago quarterback Billy Wade hooked-up with tight end Mike Ditka for two more touchdowns. A nine-yard touchdown run by the Bears' Rick Casares cut it to 31-28 Packers with 2:51 left.

Chicago got the ball back at their 36-yard line with 59 seconds left. The Packer defense stopped the Bears in four plays to preserve the Packers' first sweep of the rivalry since 1935.

<b>Green Bay</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>31</b>
<b>Chicago</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>28</b>

**Attendance: 49,711**

*"There were also signs exhorting the Packers to peak effort, including one (that) paraded up and down the field between halves by a pair of La Crosse fanatics."<sup>1</sup>*

1. Green Bay Press-Gazette, 11/13/1961, Rempel, p. 16



LOS ANGELES

**11.19.1961**

**RAMS** 17  
**PACKERS** 35

### Welcome Back!

This was the annual Homecoming Game for many former players and their families. Even though Paul Hornung was fulfilling his military obligations, but Bart Starr and Jim Taylor proved too much for the boys from Los Angeles.

The Rams took a 7-0 lead after a Lyndon Crow interception of Bart Starr. The pick set up Jon Arnett's 14-yard touchdown run. After that, the Packers unloaded. Jim Taylor's touchdown run tied the game, and in an eight-minute stretch of the second quarter, Bart Starr threw touchdown passes to Max McGee (2) and Boyd Dowler that stunned Rams and ignited the Packer Green Bay crowd.

In a relatively quiet second half, the teams traded fourth-quarter touchdowns. Frank Ryan's 17-yard pass to Ollie Matson made it 28-17 early in the fourth quarter. The Packers came right back on their next possession, and in six plays Jim Taylor scored his second touchdown of the game.

<b>Los Angeles</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>17</b>	
<b>Green Bay</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>Attendance:</b>
						<b>38,669</b>

*Before the game, "Miss Diane Anderson of Eau Claire, 1961 "Miss Wisconsin," was presented with a Packer football autographed by all the players and coaches."*<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Green Bay Press-Gazette, 11/20/61, Rempel, p. 20



**PACKERS**

DETROIT

**LIONS**

**17**

**11.23.1961**

**9**

## Happy Thanksgiving!

In a Thanksgiving Day mudbath, the Lions started the holiday gift-giving season by throwing four interceptions! But they also started the scoring with two field goals by Jim Martin on *Jim Martin Day* in Detroit.

Before halftime, Bart Starr marched the Packers 80-yards for a touchdown. On the drive's sixth play, Jim Taylor's one-yard dive made it 7-6 Green Bay.

After intermission, Jim Martin kicked his third field goal for a 9-7 Detroit lead. The game broke Green Bay's way late in the third quarter when #1 draft choice Herb Adderly intercepted a Jim Ninowski pass. A 40-yard drive followed that Taylor took into the end zone for his second touchdown. "On both (drives), I came right off of Fuzzy and both of them were good holes,"<sup>1</sup> said a smiling Taylor. Late in the game, Willie Wood's interception of Earl Morrall led to a Paul Hornung field goal that clinched it.

<b>Green Bay</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>17</b>	
<b>Detroit</b>		<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>9</b>

**Attendance: 55,662**

<sup>1</sup> Green Bay Press-Gazette, 11/24/61, p. 13



NEW YORK  
**GIANTS**  
**PACKERS**

**17**  
**20**

**12.3.1961**

### Can't Stop Taylor

The Press-Gazette called this game “without a doubt, one of the most exciting and unpredictable games in the history of pro football,”<sup>1</sup> High praise for a contest that saw Green Bay clinch its third straight Western Conference crown!

Lombardi defeated his former team for the first time. It was a brutal battle in the trenches with Green Bay holding the edge. The Packers ran for 270 yards, and fullback Jim Taylor set a franchise record at the time with 189 yards. He also scored both Green Bay touchdowns that capitalized on fumbles by the Giants.

Despite being outgained 404-262, the Giants led 17-13 early in the fourth quarter when Green Bay defensive back Jesse Whittenton stole the ball from Alex Webster. The Packers took over at the New York 30. Moments later, Taylor scored his second touchdown when he “shot like a cannon between Skoronski and Thurston”<sup>2</sup> for the winner.

The Packer defense was spectacular. They held Y. A. Tittle and the Giants to 262 total yards. The victory meant a lot to Lombardi, and his players carried him off the field!

<b>New York</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>Green Bay</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Attendance: 47,012</b>					
<b>Milwaukee County Stadium</b>					

*“Although the dressing room may have been more quiet than expected, the fans (who) crammed the corridors outside Milwaukee County Stadium jumped with zest. Several thousand delirious Packer*

*supporters were still hanging around the premises when the Packers finally left by bus for downtown Milwaukee.”<sup>3</sup>*

*“Green Bay has been proclaimed Titledown, U.S.A. More than 100 businessmen in Green Bay agreed to the idea with sharp applause and the singing of Titledown, U.S.A. to the tune of Mr. Touchdown at a breakfast to promote Title Week at the Beaumont Hotel this morning.”<sup>4</sup>*

*On Tuesday, December 5<sup>th</sup> after clinching in Milwaukee, “An aldermanic suggestion that the Packers play all their homes game in Green Bay”<sup>5</sup> was presented to the City Council and passed along to the Packers.*

1 Green Bay Press-Gazette, 12/4/61, Daley, p.8

a. Green Bay Press-Gazette, 12/4/61, Daley, . 11

2. Green Bay Press-Gazette, 12/4/61, Wagner, p. 8

4 Green Bay Press-Gazette, 12/6/61, p. 47

5 Green Bay Press-Gazette, 12/6/61, Bartelt, p. 47



**PACKERS**

SAN FRANCISCO

**49ers**

**21**

**12.10.1961**

**22**

### Safety & Field Goal Sink Packers

Quarterback John Brodie threw for 328 yards and two touchdown passes to lead San Francisco. The Packers battled back with two Max McGee touchdowns. The first came on a halfback-option pass from Tom Moore.

In between McGee's touchdowns, early in the second half, defensive end Charlie Krueger of the Niners sacked Bart Starr in the end zone for what proved to be a critical safety. After the safety, Green Bay scored 14 of the next 17 points. They moved ahead 21-19 on a four-yard touchdown run by Jim Taylor with 2:12 left.

A great kickoff return by Abe Woodson put the ball at the Packer 45-yard line. Brodie and company brought them to the 14 and Tommy Davis' field goal won it with 11 seconds left. "Army Pvts. Paul Hornung, Ray Nitschke, and Boyd Dowler left immediately after the game for their bases."<sup>1</sup>  
bases."<sup>1</sup>

<b>Green Bay</b>	<b>0</b>		<b>7</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>San Francisco</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>22</b>	
<b>Attendance: 55,722</b>						
<i>SF outgained GB 396-330</i>						

1. Green Bay Press-Gazette, 12/11/1961, Daley, p. 13





**PACKERS**

LOS ANGELES

**RAMS**

**24**

**12.17.1961**

**17**

In Paul Hornung’s absence, Tom Moore stepped up. He ran two yards for a touchdown, and he caught an eight-yard touchdown pass from Bart Starr to give Green Bay a 14-3 lead at the half.

After intermission, fullback Dick Bass struck twice for the Rams. He tore-off a 55-yard touchdown run to cut the Green Bay lead to 14-10. On their next possession, he returned a punt 90 yards to the end zone for 17-14 L. A. fourth-quarter lead.

But the Packers tied it with a Ben Agajanian field goal field goal early in the fourth quarter. In the final minutes of the game, Willie Wood picked-off former Packer Zeke Bratkowski to spark the winning touchdown drive. Bart Starr marched the Packers 66 yards in seven plays with Elijah Pitts streaking around left end for a 17-yard touchdown. “That was it – the Packers’ defense did the rest, halting the Rams twice in the final 2:53.”<sup>1</sup>

<b>Green Bay</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>Los Angeles</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>Attendance:</b>	<b>49,169</b>				

*“As the Packer plane circles the city before landing, residents will be asked to switch their porchlights on and off in welcome. After the twinkling of the lights, the fireworks will light the sky.”<sup>2</sup>*

<sup>1</sup> Green Bay Press-Gazette, Daley, p.17

<sup>2</sup> Green Bay Press-Gazette, p. 17



## 1961 NFL Championship Game

NEW YORK

**GIANTS**  
**PACKERS**

**0**  
**37**

12.31.1961

### Lombardi Wins First Title

Willie Davis framed it best when he said, “It was big Ol’ New York against Lil’ Ol’ Green Bay!”<sup>1</sup> This was the first NFL Championship Game ever played in Green Bay, and Titledown U.S.A. was ready. The city was decked out with signs, and the fans were ready for a great New Years Eve!

The game pitted the #1 offense of the Packers against the #1 defense of the Giants. Green Bay’s offense “functioned like a well-oiled machine, leading the league with 391 points, 23 more than the Giants. In points allowed, it was the opposite with the Giants edging the Packers 220-223.”<sup>2</sup>

Seventeen-degree temperatures greeted both squads. With 10mph winds, it felt more like six degrees. To keep warm, “a 72- foot dugout type structure was built behind each bench. Gas heaters emitted infrared rays that were reflected from the structure to the bench.”<sup>3</sup>

The Packers were at full strength with Ray Nitschke and Boyd Dowler *on leave* from their service obligations. For Paul Hornung to play, Lombardi had to call President Kennedy, an acquaintance of Lombardi’s, to help reschedule Hornung’s *leave* so he could play in the game. Kennedy did help and he explained, “Paul Hornung isn’t going to win the war on Sunday, but the football fans of this country deserve the two best teams on the field that day.”<sup>4</sup>

Lombardi was eager to show his New York friends what a great job he had done in Green Bay. After a scoreless first quarter, the Packers began to dominate the already frozen Giants. They took control on both sides of the ball and scored 24 unanswered points. They scored on the first play of the second quarter on Hornung’s dash off of right tackle. Bart Starr directed an unstoppable offense and threw touchdown passes to Boyd Dowler and Ron Kramer.

Hornung finished off the half with a field goal. The Giants went to the locker room shell-shocked and shaken.

The Packer defense had set the tone. Private Nitschke's interception led to a Bart Starr's touchdown pass to Private Dowler! After another interception by Hank Gremminger late in the third quarter, Starr threw his second touchdown pass to Ron Kramer.

In the second half, in hopes of igniting the offense, Giant coach Allie Serman stayed with veteran quarterback Charlie Conerly who had replaced Tittle in the second quarter. Conerly had little success as the Giants looked beaten and frozen. Overall, the Giants produced 31 yards on the ground and only six first downs. Y. A. Title was intercepted four times, and they generated a meager 130 yards of offense.

Hornung's second field goal made it 27-0, and when it was over, he had scored 19 points – one touchdown, three field goals, and four extra points. The powerful Packer ground game plowed over the Giants for 181 yards.

After the dust settled after the victory, Lombardi boasted that his 1961 Packers were the best team in NFL history!

<b>New York</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	
<b>Green Bay</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>Attendance:</b>
						<b>39,029</b>

***Richard "Ike" Eisenhower, Green Bay Packer Fan Hall of Famer***

*Going to this game on a chartered bus between Milwaukee and Green Bay was an adventure! The trip was nearly derailed by the snow and ice. The windshield wiper on the bus froze. Undeterred, Ike and his friends rigged a coat hanger to the windshield wiper so that the driver could manually clear the windows as he drove. To do so, he had to reach his arm outside the window to move the wiper! When they got to the game shortly after the Packers had begun their second quarter assault, they felt lucky to have arrived at all!\**

*"Rabid Packer fans who took the goal posts from City Stadium following the Packer victory Sunday used a cutting torch to divide the metal pipe – souvenirs of the first world championship game to be played in Green Bay."<sup>5</sup>*

*"As fans milled on the playing field, the Packer band paraded, sirens wailed, fireworks exploded, auto horns blared, and fans thumped one another's clothing padded backs. Briefly, the band played Auld Lang Syne,*

*and the crowd hesitated, paused for a few moments, and joined in the song.”<sup>6</sup>*

*“Downtown Green Bay was a sea of turmoil, cars bumper to bumper, horns blaring, highlights flickering, and people milling about. Most of the Titledown U.S.A. banners were missing. Youths climbed the Walnut Street Bridge to haul one down.”<sup>7</sup>*

*Paul Hornung: “It would have been a lot worse if Lombardi hadn’t called off the dogs. Hell, I wanted to match the 73-0 whipping that the Bears had put on the Redskins in the 1940 title game.”<sup>8</sup>*

\* Interview 2/27/16

1 Lombardi, Wiebusch, p. 118

2 Golden Ranking.com/NFL ChampionshipGame1961

3 Press-Gazette, 1/1/62, p. 2

4 Green Bay Packers: Traials, Triumphs, and Tradition, Povletich, 125

5 Press-Gazette, 1/2/62, p. 1

6 Milwaukee Sentinel, Kenny, p. 1

7 Press-Gazette, 1/1/62, p. 2

8 The Packers Experience, Freedman, p. 94



## 1961 Team Statistics

### FINAL STANDINGS - Western Division

	<u>W</u>	<u>L</u>	<u>T</u>	
Green Bay	11	3	0	
Detroit	8	5	1	
Baltimore	8	6	0	
San Francisco		7	6	1
Los Angeles	4	10	0	
Minnesota	3	11	0	

### TEAM LEADERS

Passing	Starr
Receiving	McGee
Rushing	Taylor
Scoring	Hornung
Interceptions	Symank, Wood, Whittenton, Gemminger w/4

### ALL PRO

Dan Currie	Linebacker
Bill Forester	Linebacker
Forrest Gregg	Offensive Tackle
Paul Hornung	Halfback
Henry Jordan	Defensive Tackle
Jerry Kramer	Guard
Jim Ringo	Center
Bart Starr	Quarterback
Jim Taylor	Fullback
Fuzzy Thurston	Guard
Jesse Whittenton	Cornerback

### NOTABLE DRAFT PICKS (Position & Round)

Herb Adderley (CB, 1)  
 Ron Kostelnik (DT, 20)  
 Elijah Pitts (HB, 13)  
 Nelson Toburen (LB, 14)



1919 - 2019

# **PACKERS CENTURY**

*with Jim Rice*

**NOTICE:**

You may print out a copy for your own personal use.  
Not for republication or resale.  
Do not forward.

©2019 Jim Rice / Packers Century Project  
All rights reserved.

[packerscentury.com](http://packerscentury.com)