

SEASON  
**12**

**1930**



THE  
**PACKERS CENTURY**

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**P R O J E C T**

*ALL THE GAMES. ALL THE STORIES.*

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**1919-2019**

BY JIM RICE

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



## 1930

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**Record: 10-3-1 NFL Champions**

**Coach: Curly Lambeau**

- Leland H. Joannes was elected president of the Green Bay Packer Corporation.
- The Green Bay Mill Company donated the new flagpole upon which the 1929 championship flag would be hoisted.
- With 10 new players, the Packers were not quite as strong. They scored 36 more points, but gave up 89 more.
- Rookie Arnie Herber, a graduate of Green Bay West High School, was the most important new addition. Herber went on to become one of the first great long passers in NFL history.
- With eight straight wins to start the season, the Packers extended their unbeaten streak to 23 games.
- Green Bay had the second-best offense in the NFL just behind New York. The Packers repeated as champions by just .004 over the Giants.



CHICAGO

**CARDINALS**  
**PACKERS**

**0**  
**14**

**9.21.1930**

### **The Champions!**

Green Bay raised the 1929 Championship Flag! After the ceremony, the Packers got the new season off to a good start.

The Packers used a balanced attack to handle the Cardinals. The first touchdown of the season came in the second quarter after Bo Molenda's interception. A 60-yard drive followed, and Verne Lewellen's run made it 7-0.

In the third quarter, rookie Arnie Herber impressed the Packer faithful with his first career touchdown pass. It was a 30-yard pass to Lavvie Dilweg who took it 20-yards to the end zone. After taking a 14-0 lead, Green Bay missed a field goal, and the Cardinals finally got inside the Packer 20-yard line just before time expired.

<b>Chicago</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Green Bay</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Attendance:</b>	<b>8,000</b>				



1919-2018

CHICAGO  
**BEARS**  
**PACKERS**

**0**  
**7**

**9.28.1930**

### **The Shutouts Continue**

Another strong Packer defensive effort gave up just 48 yards to the great Red Grange and the soon-to-be rookie sensation Bronco Nagurski. The only points in the game came in the second quarter when Johnny Blood's interception ignited the Packer offense.

Green Bay's 10-play touchdown drive had to be halted for several minutes when Johnny Blood and Red Grange collided. Grange was "knocked unconscious from the collision and had to be carried from the field. Red returned to the game late in the fourth quarter."<sup>1</sup> When play resumed, Verne Lewellen's 23-yard sprint took it down to the one-yard line, and he took it home three 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>0</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>

**Attendance: 10,000**

<sup>1</sup> Green Bay Press-Gazette, 9/29/30, p. 20



NEW YORK

**GIANTS**  
**PACKERS**

**7**  
**14**

**10.5.1930**

The top two teams of 1929 meet with both of them undefeated in 1930. Eleven thousand fans jammed City Stadium.

Turnovers played a crucial role. In the second quarter, an interception by Wuert Engelmann led to Green Bay's first touchdown. Verne Lewellen's touchdown pass to Tom Nash gave the Packers the lead. The Giants came back in the second quarter when they blocked a punt and scored seven plays later on Benny Friedman's touchdown pass to Len Sedbrook.

In the fourth quarter of a 7-7 game, the Packers scored the winner when Johnny Blood caught Red Dunn's pass in the flat and went on a wild, 55-yard touchdown run. Years later, Friedman commented about playing the Packers. "We had no problem with anyone else, but the Packers were special. They were so big, and yet they were so fast, that they almost won their games before they took the field."<sup>1</sup>

<b>New York</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Green Bay</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>14</b>

**Attendance: 11,000**

*"Judging from the licenses on automobiles at the City Stadium there were fans at the game from nearly every state in the Midwest."*<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Passing Game, Greenberg, p. 209

<sup>2</sup> Green Bay Press-Gazette, 10/6/30, 14



FRANKFORD YELLOW

**JACKETS**  
**PACKERS**

**12**  
**27**

**10.12.1930**

### **Jumping In Front!**

A 20-point first quarter by the Packers set the pace. They opened the game with a 34-yard Herdis McCrary touchdown run, and Red Dunn followed with a 20-yard touchdown pass. Before the first quarter was out, Lavvie Dilweg celebrated with a 51-yard pick six!

The Packers stepped off the gas in the third quarter and made several substitutions on both offense and defense. After Frankford woke up with two touchdown passes by rookie tailback Ab Wright, the Packers regrouped. In the final minutes, they ran the ball up the middle play after play and McCrary sealed the deal with a closing touchdown run.

<b>Frankford</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Green Bay</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>Attendance:</b>	<b>8,000</b>				



**PACKERS**  
MINNEAPOLIS RED  
**JACKETS**

**13**  
**0**

**10.19.1930**

With “freezing temperatures”<sup>1</sup> in mid-October, the Red Jackets were not only shutout, but they didn’t complete a pass all game.

The Packers took a quick the lead on their opening possession. A fake punt by Verne Lewellen kept the drive going, and three plays later he scored on a six-yard run. Throughout the contest, fullback Herdis McCrary was a thorn in the side of the Red Jacket defense.

Early in the final quarter, a fumble by Oran Pape was recovered by Green Bay on the Minneapolis 38-yard line. Bo Molenda’s touchdown run right up the middle settled the matter. In between the touchdowns, the Packers also won the punting duel. Lewellen’s punts kept pushing the Jackets back into their territory. He booted one that went out of bounds at their one-yard line and another at the two!

<b>Green Bay</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Minneapolis</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Attendance:</b>	<b>---</b>				

*GB used only four substitutions all game.*

<sup>1</sup> Green Bay Press Gazette, Cal, 10/20/30, p. 14



MINNEAPOLIS RED

**JACKETS**  
**PACKERS**

**0**  
**19**

**10.26.1930**

### **Back-to-Back Shutouts**

For the second straight game, Green Bay did not allow the Red Jackets in the end zone nor did they allow a completed pass!

The Packers scored the first time they had the ball even though quarterback Red Dunn was out injured. A long completion from Verne Lewellen to end Lavvie Dilweg set up Lewellen's touchdown run. Leading 6-0 in the second quarter, Green Bay took possession after a bad punt on the Minneapolis 37-yard line. Herdis McCrary, Cully Lidberg and Verne Lewellen led the charge on the ground to the three-yard line. Lidberg took it in over left guard for a 12-0 lead at halftime.

In the third quarter, rookie quarterback Arnie Herber excited the Packer crowd with a 30-yard touchdown pass to Paul Fitzgibbons to finish the scoring. The Packers move to 6-0.

<b>Minneapolis</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Green Bay</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>Attendance:</b>	<b>6,000</b>				

*"Homecoming" honored 16 former Packers.*





PORTSMOUTH  
**SPARTANS**  
**PACKERS**

**13**  
**47**

**11.2.1930**

**Final Home Game**

To date, this was the most points a Green Bay team had ever scored! It was a complete blowout by the Packers who punched the Spartans defense for 206 yards rushing. They got out to a 20-0 lead in the first half on three touchdown runs by Verne Lewellen (2) and one by Bo Molenda. The Spartans were held scoreless.

The second half started with a Packer interception by Boob Darling. Quarterback Red Dunn capitalized with a 38-yard touchdown to Herdis McCrary for a 27-0 lead. After Portsmouth scored, Lavvie Dilweg recovered a Spartan fumble to set up Dunn's second touchdown pass to McCrary to end all doubt.

<b>Portsmouth</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Green Bay</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>47</b>
<b>Attendance:</b>	<b>7,500</b>				



**PACKERS**

CHICAGO

**BEARS**

**13**

**11.9.1930**

**12**

### Close One!

The Packers controlled the airwaves with 101 yards passing while the Bears dominated on the ground game with 196 yards.

Green Bay struck first in the second quarter. A 10-play drive grabbed the lead on Verne Lewellen's 17-yard touchdown pass to Johnny Blood. The Bears tied it in the third quarter on Joey Sternaman's 32-yard sprint to the end zone. Big rookie Bronco Nagurski also bulldozed his way through the Packer defense all game for 109 of Chicago's 196 rushing yards.

Green Bay went right back in front after the Bears had tied it. The touchdown came on a 27-yard pass from Red Dunn to Lewellen. After his catch, the ever-versatile Lewellen got past "Sternaman with a clever sidestep"<sup>1</sup> before scoring. Dunn also kicked the critical extra-point.

With the Packers in front 13-6 with under four minutes left, they were forced to punt from their end zone. Another Chicago rookie, Carl Brumbaugh, returned the kick to the Green Bay 20-yard line. With two minutes left, Laurie Walquist's one-yard touchdown run cut the Green Bay lead to 13-12. When Walt Holmer missed the extra point, and the Packers stretched their unbeaten streak to 23 games!

<b>Green Bay</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Chicago</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>12</b>

**Attendance: 22,000**

*The Bears haven't beaten GB since 1927.*

*"Every train from Wisconsin on Saturday evening and early Sunday brought hundreds of Packer fans to Chicago. It was estimated that*

*more than 3,000 Wisconsin fans saw the game between the Packers and the Bears. Between halves the Lumberjacks marched out on the field forming a huge letter "P" and playing several numbers."*<sup>2</sup>

1 Green Bay Press-Gazette, 11/10/30, Bystrom, p. 14

2 Green Bay Press-Gazette, 11/10/30, p. 14



**PACKERS**  
CHICAGO  
**CARDINALS**

**6**  
**13**

**11.16.1930**

## The Steak Ends

This was Green Bay's first loss since November 2, 1928 when they lost to the Frankford Yellow Jackets 2-0. The streak had lasted 23 games, including three ties.

After a scoreless first quarter, Chicago's Ernie Nevers, a rising star with Wisconsin roots, began the upset with an early touchdown pass to Bunny Belden. Nevers missed the extra point attempt. The Packers tied it in the third quarter when Bo Molenda recovered a fumble on Chicago's 35-yard line. Herdis McCrary's scored from the two-yard line, but a missed extra point left it 6-6.

Late in the game, Nevers was at his best. Of the final 16 yards of the Cardinals' game-winning drive, Nevers gained 13 yards, and he scored the winning touchdown.

The Cardinals beat Green Bay with impressive defense. The Packers completed just three passes for 58 yards, and they managed only five first downs.

<b>Green Bay</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Chicago</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>13</b>

**Attendance: 12,000**

*"The Lumberjack Band and about 800 fans from Green Bay were on hand for the game. The band played between halves and at intermissions and was given a fine reception from the fans."<sup>1</sup>*

<sup>1</sup> Green Bay Press-Gazette, 11/17/30, p. 14



**PACKERS**

NEW YORK

**GIANTS**

**6**

**11.23.1930**

**13**

### **Another Loss**

This was a big game for the Giants who trailed Green Bay by one-half game in the standings. The home crowd was also excited with the debut of Army star Chris Cagle.

The Giants took the lead 7-0 on a Benny Friedman touchdown pass to rookie Red Badgro. They added to it in the third quarter when Hap Moran took off on a fake punt and blew through the Green Bay defense for 85 yards to set up Friedman's touchdown run.

Late in the third quarter, after Packer quarterback Red Dunn was intercepted on the Giant four-yard line, Green Bay got the ball back on a punt deep in Giant territory. A 30-yard completion from Dunn to Verne Lewellen brought it to the New York four-yard line. Lewellen scored around right end to narrow the New York lead to 13-6.

In the fourth quarter, five penalties were called against Green Bay. After one alleged infraction, Packer quarterback Red Dunn got into a physical altercation with one of the officials! Later in the quarter, a penalty reversed an apparent touchdown by Green Bay's Bo Molenda. Two plays later, on fourth down, Molenda was ruled just short of the end zone. The Giants took possession, and the Packers fell to 8-2-0.

This game helped spread the word about the excitement pro football was generating among the sporting public. The great sportswriter Grantland Rice cast his vote for the pro game with this review: "Those who happened to see the New York Giants upset the Green Bay Packers at the Polo Grounds saw more good football, on both sides, than they saw in any one game

this year. The game was not only a thriller but it was played with far greater skill than any of the college teams can show, which is only natural. The type of plays selected and the execution of these plays was almost as far above the average college standard as big league baseball is above college baseball. The game was played with a dash and a spirit that had 40,000 or more fans roaring most of the afternoon. The blocking, running and the tackling was all hard and clean and the passing was far above anything one sees in a college game.”<sup>1</sup>

<b>Green Bay</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>New York</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>13</b>

**Attendance: 37,000**

*Yards Penalized: GB-72 / NY-10*

<sup>1</sup> Green Bay Press-Gazette, 11/26/30, p. 14



**PACKERS**  
FRANKFORD YELLOW  
**JACKETS**

**25**  
**11.27.1930**  
**7**

**Dunn Throws For Three!**

Happy Thanksgiving! The Packers enjoyed feasting on six interceptions by the Yellow Jackets, and they controlled matters for most of the game. Two touchdown passes to Johnny Blood brought the offense back to life after two disappointing losses. The touchdowns were thrown by Red Dunn, Green Bay's veteran quarterback from Marquette.

Blood's first touchdown came after he took a short pass from Dunn and went 35 yards for a 45-yard score. A short time later in the second quarter, Blood caught his second touchdown for a 12-0 halftime lead.

After Frankford scored to make it 12-7, the fourth quarter went Green Bay's way. Two interceptions by Lawvie Dilweg led to Herdis McCrary's 33 yard touchdown gallop, and Red Dunn's third touchdown pass of the day to rookie Arnie Herber.

<b>Green Bay</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>Frankford</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Attendance:</b>	<b>5,000</b>				

*Red Dunn: "I threw a long lateral to John (Blood) on one play and he weaved some 50 yards down the field for the touchdown. About 10 minutes later, I called the same play and John, it seemed, could have gone all the way again. But he didn't. He just stood there an instant with a laugh and then threw the lateral back to me."<sup>1</sup>*

**John Gesser, Red Dunn's son-in-law \***

*Red Dunn's son-in-law confirmed this story about the Frankford game. "The story that Red told about it was that after a night out*

*socializing, "Blood was getting a little tired of throwing and running the ball. He told Red 'you throw me that ball one more time and I'm going to throw it right back at ya.'" And he did!*

1 Packers of the Past, Milwaukee Journal, 9/28-12/9/65, p. 4

\* Interview 11/19/2018





**PACKERS**

STATEN ISLAND

**STAPLETONS**

**37**

**11.30.1930**

**7**

The Packers suited up for another game three days later, and they put on a dominant performance. Fans “were treated to an air attack by the smooth clicking Badgers which had the onlookers pop-eyed.”<sup>1</sup>

Green Bay scored 18 unanswered points in the first half. Six different Packers found the end zone during the game including big Cal Hubbard. Hubbard, an outstanding lineman, replaced an injured Tom Nash at end and caught a 10-yard touchdown pass from Red Dunn. The Packer bench jumped for joy after Hubbard’s catch!

The Stapletons scored just before halftime on a 30-yard run from scrimmage by Ken Strong. In the second half, the Packers pulled away as Red Dunn threw for two touchdowns and rookie Arnie Herber threw his first touchdown pass to close out the scoring.

<b>Green Bay</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>37</b>
<b>Staten Island</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Attendance:</b>	<b>9,500</b>				

<sup>1</sup> Green Bay Press-Gazette, 12/1/30, Calhoun, p. 13



**PACKERS**  
CHICAGO  
**BEARS**

**0**  
**12.7.1930**  
**21**

## Ouch!

The rivals met for the third time in 1930, and it was no contest. With a chance to clinch a second straight NFL title, the Packers came up empty-handed. The Bears intercepted six passes. Red Grange made two of the interceptions. Both helped pave the way for rookie quarterback Carl Brumbaugh's two touchdown passes. Both of the touchdown passes went to Luke Johnsos.

<b>Green Bay</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Chicago</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>21</b>

**Attendance: 20,000**

*"Five hundred feet of film depicting the battle between the Green Bay Packers and the Chicago Bears played Sunday at Wrigley Field, will be shown at the Fox Theater this evening, tomorrow and Wednesday. Completing the 'home town' atmosphere the organist will play 'Temple of Jewels,' composed by Oliver Le Mieux of The Le Mirux School of Music, Green Bay."<sup>1</sup>*

<sup>1</sup> [packershistory.net/1930Packers](http://packershistory.net/1930Packers)



**PACKERS**  
 PORTSMOUTH  
**SPARTANS**

**6**  
**12.14.1930**  
**6**

After the loss to the Bears, the Packers needed at least a tie to clinch a second straight championship. They got it!

Since the Packers defeated Portsmouth convincingly in November, they were an inconsistent 3-3. Early in this game, Red Dunn threw a touchdown pass to Wuert Engelmann, but Dunn missed extra point attempt for a 6-0 lead. Portsmouth's halfback Roy "Father" Lumpkin led the Spartans downfield. Chuck Bennett's touchdown run tied it, but the Spartans missed their extra point as well.

In the final minutes, the Spartans drove to the Green Bay 14-yard line. Rather than kick a field goal, they were stopped on fourth down. The Packers took over and drove to the Portsmouth 20-yard line before two holding penalties took them out of field goal range. The second half remained scoreless, and the tie gave the Packers their second straight NFL Championship by .004 over New York.

<b>Green Bay</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Portsmouth</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6</b>

**Attendance: 4,500**

*3,000+ fans welcomed home the champs!*

*"As the world champions ride from De Pere to Green Bay, their way will be lighted by red flares, placed along the tracks while the Northwestern Depot will be gaily decorated and lighted as they step off the train and board the buses for the auditorium."<sup>1</sup>*

*"It was in every respect as warm a welcome as was tendered the Packers last year when they brought to Green Bay its first championship."<sup>2</sup>*

*“The crowd was spontaneous in its applause for every member of the squad. As the men were introduced, the applause began and continued for several seconds until the player got to his feet to say a few words.”<sup>3</sup>*

- 1 Green Bay Press-Gazette, 12/15/30, p. 1
- 2 Green Bay Press-Gazette, 12/16/30, p. 1
- 3 Green Bay Press-Gazette, 12/16/30, p. 2



## 1930 Team Statistics

### FINAL STANDINGS

	<u>W</u>	<u>L</u>	<u>T</u>
Green Bay	10	3	1
New York	13	4	0
Chi. Bears	9	4	1
Brooklyn	7	4	1
Providence	6	4	1
Staten Island	5	5	2
Chi. Cards	5	6	2
Portsmouth	5	6	3
Frankford	4	13	1
Minneapolis	1	7	1
Newark	1	10	1

### TEAM LEADERS

Passing TDs	Dunn
Receiving TDs	Blood
Rushing TDs	Lewellen
Scoring	Lewellen

### ALL-PRO

Blood	Back
Dilweg	End
Dunn	Quarterback
Kern	Tackle
Michalske	Guard
Nash	End



1919 - 2019

# **PACKERS CENTURY**

*with Jim Rice*

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