

SEASON
14

1932



THE
PACKERS CENTURY

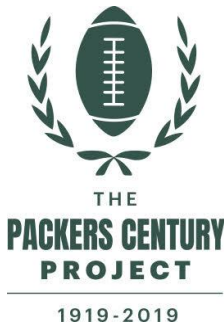
P R O J E C T

ALL THE GAMES. ALL THE STORIES.

1919-2019

BY JIM RICE

packerscentury.com



1932

Record: 10-3-1 (3rd Place)

Coach: Curly Lambeau

- The Packers began the hunt for a fourth straight NFL title.
- Red Dunn retired, and Arnie Herber took over as Green Bay's quarterback. Herber attended Green Bay West High School and Regis College. In his rookie season, he led the NFL with eight touchdown passes.
- Rookie Clarke Hinkle led the team in rushing. He was also an excellent linebacker, punter, and kicker.
- Green Bay's defense was without question the best in the league, but the offense wasn't nearly as productive as 1931.
- Veteran Johnny Blood and second-year man Hank Bruder tied for the team's scoring lead.
- This was one of the most disappointing seasons in franchise history. Though they won the most games in the league, a fourth straight title was not to be. In their final two games, they were shutout by both Portsmouth and Chicago and lost control of the top spot.



1919-2019

CHICAGO

CARDINALS

PACKERS

7
15 9.18.1932

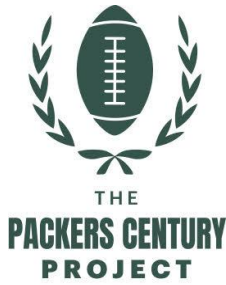
Fine start

Before the game, the Packers raised the championship flag honoring the three-time world champions! "One flag, with the lettering 1929, 1930 and 1931 Champions"¹ was hoisted instead three flags that might have had trouble fitting on the flagpole!

The Cardinals and Packers were evenly matched in a bruising battle in the rain and mud. Green Bay's defense carried the day and scored eight of their 15 points. Tom Nash started the scoring when he blocked a punt out of the end zone for a safety. Lineman Mike Michalske also blocked a punt, and in the third quarter, he also recovered a fumble in the end zone for a 15-0 lead. In between these defensive touchdowns, Arnie Herber threw his first touchdown pass of the season to Hank Burder.

Chicago	0	0	0	7	7
Green Bay	2	0	13	0	15
Attendance:	3,500				

¹ Green Bay Press-Gazette, 9/19/32, p. 12



1919-2019

CHICAGO
BEARS
PACKERS

0
0 9.25.1932

A defensive gem by both squads. The combined totals read: 18 yards passing, 13 first downs, and 26 punts.

Neither team came close to a touchdown as "big, towering linemen smashed down nearly everything thrown at them."¹ Bronco Nagurski and Clark Hinkle also had their first clash with both players dazed after the collision.

In the second half, both teams hoped that their punting would set up a winning field goal. In the final minutes, a field goal attempt by the Bears from the 23-yard line was foiled by a bad snap.

Chicago	0	0	0	0	0
Green Bay	0	0	0	0	0

Attendance: 13,000

¹ Green Bay Press Gazette, 9/26/32, Bystrom, p. 11



1919-2019

NEW YORK
GIANTS
PACKERS

0
13 10.2.1932

After three games against big city teams, the Packers were 2-0-1. Early in the first quarter, Jug Earp recovered a fumble that led to a 60-yard touchdown drive. Green Bay overpowered the Giants by running the ball to take a 7-0 lead.

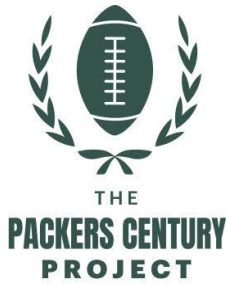
The Giants never got closer than Green Bay's 30-yard line. In the fourth quarter, the Packers put it away with "as pretty a play as has been seen (here) in a long time."¹ Herber's 40-yard bomb to a leaping Lavvie Dilweg put the ball on New York's two-yard line! Five plays later Hank Bruder took it in.

New York	0	0	0	0	0
Green Bay	7	0	0	6	13
Attendance:	5,500				

*"An excellent show was presented between halves by several military units. The Fond du Lac Fife and Drum Corp, the Beaver Dam Legion Band, (the) Green Bay Legion Band and local boy scouts took part in the ceremony."*²

¹ Green Bay Press Gazette, 10/3/32, p. 14

² Green Bay Press Gazette, 10/3/32, p. 14



1919-2019

PORTSMOUTH

SPARTANS
PACKERS

10
15 10.9.1932

Score settled

In what the Press-Gazette called "one of the greatest football games seen here in your day or mine,"¹ the Packers prevailed over the strong Spartans in the wind and rain. Many Packer-backers rejoiced as this victory was a rebuttal to the Spartan fans who claimed they would have beaten Green Bay in 1931 had they been given a chance.

Al Rose of the Packers blocked Dutch Clark's punt and fell on it in the end zone to start the scoring. After Portsmouth took the lead 10-7, they gambled to protect it. Early in the fourth quarter with the ball on their one-yard line, the Spartans took a safety rather than running three plays and possibly punting from their end zone. After the punt from the safety, the Packers took over on their 41-yard line. On fourth down from the 22, the Packers gave it to rookie Clark Hinkle. Hinkle went over left guard for 22 yards and the eventual winner. Johnny Blood's interception sealed the deal.

Portsmouth	0	0	10	0	10
Green Bay	7	0	0	8	15

Attendance: 5,500

"The Wisconsin Rapids High School Band braved the elements and put on an interesting parade and concert between halves."²

¹ Green Bay Press Gazette, 10/10/32, Bystrom, p. 11

² Green Bay Press Gazette, 10/10/32, p. 12



PACKERS

CHICAGO

BEARS

2

10.16.1932

0

Nash's safety

There were few scoring opportunities in this game. Both teams got inside the other's 20-yard line only once. In the second quarter, end Tom Nash of the Packers blocked Dick Nesbitt's punt out of the end zone for a safety. This was the fourth straight shutout suffered by the Bears.

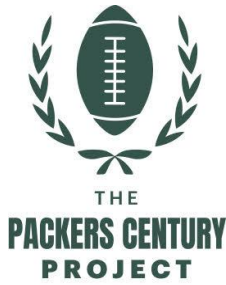
Chicago 0 0 0 0 0

Green Bay 0 2 0 0 2

Attendance: 17,500

"There were several thousand Wisconsin fans in the stands, many driving down while others poured in on special trains and buses. Several Green Bay fans were on the North Shore electric train which jumped the rails near North Chicago Sunday afternoon. No one was hurt, however."¹

¹ Green Bay Press Gazette, 10/17/32, p. 12



1919-2019

BROOKLYN

DODGERS
PACKERS

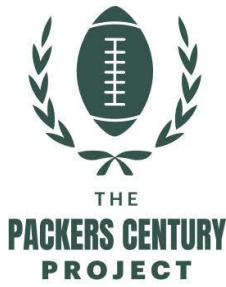
0
13 10.23.1932

Green Bay's defense corraled quarterback Benny Friedman and the Dodgers. It began early with a first-quarter pick-six by Al Rose. Rose dashed 22 yards for the score.

While the Dodgers ran the ball effectively, they only completed four of 17 passes for 50 yards. Whenever they threatened, Green Bay's defense stiffened. Late in the game, Dick Stahlman blocked a Dodger punt, and Tom Nash recovered it on the 22. A great catch by Johnny Blood brought the ball to the one-yard line. Arnie Herber went over right guard to finish off Brooklyn.

Brooklyn	0	0	0	0	0
Green Bay	6	0	0	7	13

Attendance: 5,000



1919-2019

STATE ISLAND

STAPLETONS
PACKERS

0 10.30.1932
26

It was Curly Lambeau Day at City Stadium, and also the annual Homecoming celebration for many former players. The guests were entertained by the current squad who dominated the Stapletons.

The Packers outgained Staten Island 282-61, and the Stapletons managed to get beyond their 30-yard line just twice!

Green Bay was led on both sides of the ball by their young quarterback, Arnie Herber. Herber had an incredible game. He threw for 117 yards and two touchdowns. Both of his touchdown passes went to halfback Roger Grove. The first, after a poor punt, went for 35 yards.

On defense, Herber also grabbed two interceptions! His 85-yard pick-six gave the Pack a 13-0 lead. Later in the third quarter, Herber's second interception led to his second touchdown pass to Grove. This 31-yard touchdown strike made it 20-0 Packers. The great football coach and innovator, Art Shaughnessy, said of Herber: "Herber's touchdown passes can be as demoralizing as a Ruthian home run."²

Staten Island	0	0	0	0	0
Green Bay	0	6	14	6	26
Attendance:	NA				

GB finishes season with 7 straight road games.

¹ The History of the Green Bay Packers, Names, Vol. 1, p. 106

² The Green Bay Packers, Johnson, p. 143



1919-2019

PACKERS
CHICAGO
CARDINALS

19
11.6.1932
9

The Packers moved to 7-0-1 with this victory. They did it behind two first-half touchdown passes from Arnie Herber to Johnny Blood. The first was a spectacular 57-yard bomb. After the second touchdown by Blood, the Cards cut the lead to 13-7. Rookie Tim Moynihan blocked a punt by Clark Hinkle and returned it 18 yards for a touchdown.

Green Bay's passing attack looked in sync all game. In the fourth quarter, another great catch by Blood highlighted a 72-yard drive that rookie Clarke Hinkle finished with a clinching touchdown run.

Green Bay	7	6	0	6	19
Chicago	0	7	2	0	9
Attendance:	11,000				



PACKERS
 BOSTON
BRAVES

21
11.13.1932
0

Road Trip

All of the points came in the first half. Arnie Herber took care of business for Green Bay with three quick touchdown passes.

A poor punt by the Braves gave Green Bay great field position and set up Herber's first touchdown to Roger Grove. His second touchdown, a 30-yard pass to Lewellen, completed a 78-yard drive. Herber's final touchdown came after Johnny Blood's interception. Blood also caught Herber's third touchdown pass.

The Braves threatened periodically, but they never inside Green Bay's 20-yard line. One Boston fan, on his way out of the park, left impressed by the Packers. "That Green Bay team had a heart. They could have made it 60 if they wanted to. Never in my life have I seen such a football team. It is the perfect eleven."¹

Green Bay	7	14	0	0	21
Boston	0	0	0	0	0
Attendance:	16,500				

¹ Green Bay Press Gazette, 11/14/32, Calhoun, p. 12



PACKERS
NEW YORK
GIANTS

0
11.20.1932
6

A three-game road trip to New York City began with Green Bay's first loss of the season. The Giants delivered the first blemish in the rain and on a muddy field. They scored the game's only points when Green Bay's Roger Grove fumbled a punt in the second quarter. The Giants recovered at midfield. A few plays later, quarterback Jack McBride threw a 33-yard touchdown pass to end Ray Flaherty.

After watching the Packers and Giants pay, one writer for United Press International, had this to say about pro football: "It had everything. For thrills, expert performance, and plain old-fashioned fight, it made your average college game seem like a church box lunch festival on a rainy Monday night."¹

Green Bay	0	0	0	0	0
New York	0	6	0	0	6

Attendance: 17,000

¹ Green Bay Press Gazette, UPI, 11/21/32, McLemore, p. 13



1919-2019

PACKERS

BROOKLYN

Dodgers

7

11.24.1932

0

Seventeen thousand Thanksgiving Day fans warmly welcomed the Packers to Ebbets Field.

The game's only points came in the second quarter when quarterback Arnie Herber, who also punted for the Packers, played it smart. Rather than punting from a slippery spot of the field, Herber took the snap dropped further back, and heaved the football 60 yards to the end zone. Brooklyn took over on its 20-yard line. Running back Ollie Sansen fumbled and Rudy Comstock recovered for Green Bay. Arnie Herber's touchdown pass to Hank Bruder soon followed. The lone touchdown stood up thanks to four interceptions by Green Bay.

The Packers did not escape unharmed, however. Six players were badly injured: Tom Nash, Nate Barrager, Verne Lewellen, Mike Michalske, Harry O'Boyle and Hurdis McCrary.

Green Bay	0	7	0	0	7
Brooklyn	0	0	0	0	0
Attendance:	17,000				

1 Green Bay Press Gazette, UPI, 11/21/32, McLemore, p. 13



PACKERS
 STATEN ISLAND
STAPLETONS

21
 11.27.1932
3

The Packers played again three days later to make it three games in eight days!

Staten Island's 3-0 lead vanished in the second half. After a 15-yard punt return by Arnie Herber, Green Bay went 40 yards in eight plays to take a 7-3 lead. They scored when Clarke Hinkle dove over two opponents to get into the end zone!

In the fourth quarter, two thefts by the Packers put the game away. Both were returned for scores. Big Wuert Engelmann's 55-yard touchdown rumble came first. Johnny Blood's pick-six, with one minute left, caused a near riot when he interacted with the crowd in the end zone. Several Stapleton fans jumped over the barrier and surrounded Johnny, "as if a scalping party was to be staged. A second or two later, the officials caught up with the parade, and reinforced by a detail of blue coats, the field was cleared."¹

Green Bay	0	0	7	14	21
Staten Island	0	3	0	0	3
Attendance:	3,500				

¹ Green Bay Press Gazette, 11/28/32, Calhoun, p. 9



PACKERS
 PORTSMOUTH
SPARTANS

0
12.4.1932
19

No 4th title

A stunning loss ended Green Bay's hopes for a fourth straight championship.*

In this highly anticipated game, Portsmouth dominated without substituting! They clearly held the upper hand, and "it seemed as if the Bay's front wall was on its heels, while the Spartan forwards were on their toes."¹ Green Bay's passing game had trouble handling the pressure from Portsmouth's stout defense. In 16 attempts, there were more interceptions (2) than completions (1).

For Portsmouth, quarterback Glenn Presnell and tailback Dutch Clark both ran for first-half touchdowns. After a punt-heavy third quarter, Presnell and Clark connected for a 28-yard touchdown pass to wrap up the scoring.

Green Bay	0	0	0	0	0
Portsmouth	7	6	0	6	19
Attendance:	10,000				

* Since ties were not counted in a team's record at the time, both the Bears (6-1-6) and the Spartans (6-1-4) had a better winning percentage than the Packers (10-3-1).

1 Green Bay Press-Gazette, 12/5/32, Calhoun, p.11



1919-2019

PACKERS

CHICAGO

BEARS

0

12.11.1932

9

Snow and wind kept the points off the scoreboard until the fourth quarter. Former Packer Tiny Engebretsen booted a 24-yard field goal for Chicago. Bronco Nagurski's 56-yard touchdown run clinched a tie between the Bears and Portsmouth for the NFL title.

Green Bay	0	0	0	0	0
Chicago	0	0	0	9	9
Attendance:	10,000				

Clarke Hinkle: After the season, (Johnny) Blood arranged a postseason excursion for the Packers in Hawaii. "We went over on a boat – it took us 5 ½ days – and played three games against Hawaiian teams. We stayed there 22 days. On the boat coming back from the islands one night, we couldn't find Johnny Blood. So, Milt Gantenbein and I walked out on the main deck and went back toward the stern. The sea was a little rough, and that ship was pitching. Johnny Blood was outside the safety railing, on the extreme stern end of the ship. He was hanging onto a flagpole. There he was, in the middle of that pitch-black night, with the ship pitching, and he was swinging around that flagpole."¹

¹ The Game That Was, Cope, p. 100



1932 Team Statistics

FINAL STANDINGS

	<u>W</u>	<u>L</u>	<u>T</u>
* Chicago Bears	6	1	6
* Portsmouth	6	1	4
Green Bay	10	3	1
Boston Braves	4	4	2
New York	4	6	2
Brooklyn	3	9	0
Chicago Cardinals	2	6	2
Staten Island	2	7	3

* Bears won a playoff game for the 1932 championship.

TEAM LEADERS

Passing TDs	Herber
Receiving TDs	Blood
Rushing TDs	Lewellen
Scoring	Blood/Bruder

ALL-PRO

Barrager	Center
Dilweg	End
Herber	Quarterback
Hinkle	Back
Hubbard	Tackle
Nash	End
Zeller	Guard



1919 - 2019

PACKERS CENTURY

with Jim Rice

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