

SEASON
15

1933



THE
PACKERS CENTURY

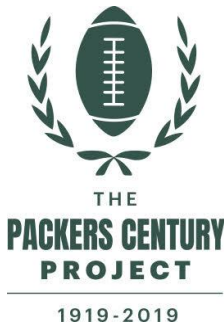
P R O J E C T

ALL THE GAMES. ALL THE STORIES.

1919-2019

BY JIM RICE

packerscentury.com



1933

Record: 5-7-1 (3rd Place)

Coach: Curly Lambeau

- Willard Bent, the fan who fell out of the stands in 1931, was awarded \$4,989.00. Since the Packers' insurance company went bankrupt, the team paid the claim which added to its debt. Packer President Lee Joannes loaned the club \$6,000 to pay the claim, and on August 15, 1933, the Packers were placed in financial receivership by the courts.
- Several rule changes made the game more exciting:
 - + Quarterbacks could now throw the ball from anywhere behind the line of scrimmage. Previously, they had to be five yards back.
 - + Goal posts were moved to the goal line to encourage field goals.
 - + Hash marks were put on the field to move the action away from the sidelines to give offenses more options.
 - + Partly in response to last season's championship controversy, teams were divided into the Eastern and Western divisions. Division winners would play for the NFL Championship.
- This was Green Bay's first losing season. Along with one tie, they lost two of their first three games. They struggled against the better teams, and they lost three in a row for the first time.
- Statistically, the defense was slightly better than the offense.



1919-2019

BOSTON
REDSKINS
PACKERS

7 9.17.1933
7

These two evenly-matched teams played a quiet first half. In the third quarter, the Packers broke the ice the second time they had the ball. Arnie Herber's quick pass to Al Rose finished a six-play drive.

Early in the fourth quarter, Herber was intercepted by Marger Apsit. Boston tied it on a 33-yard touchdown pass, one of just two passes Boston completed all game.

Boston	0	0	0	7	7
Green Bay	0	0	7	0	7
Attendance:	5,000				



CHICAGO
BEARS
PACKERS

14
7 9.24.1933

Ouch

For the first 55 minutes, the Packers outplayed the Bears. It was a brutal battle, especially between Clark Hinkle and Bronco Nagurski. In the first half, Hinkle became “the only man ever to knock Bronco Nagurski out of a game.”¹ It happened on a punt return, and Nagurski suffered a broken nose and several other injuries courtesy of Mr. Hinkle. Nagurski was carried from the field.

With Green Bay in front 7-0 with five minutes left in the game, the Bears blocked a field goal by Hank Bruder. The block energized the Bears, and their great end Bill Hewitt took over. The Bears ran an end-around play with Hewitt stopping to find Luke Johnsos wide open for a 46-yard touchdown pass. On Green Bay’s next series, they went three-and-out and were forced to punt. Hewitt blocked Arnie Herber’s punt on the five-yard line and ran it into the end zone for the win.

Chicago	0	0	0	14	14
Green Bay	0	0	7	0	7
Attendance:	12,000				

“ ‘What do you mean Depression?’ one woman asked her husband as she saw all the fans crowding around the gates before game time. Her husband admitted there seemed to be enough money in the world for thousands of tickets.”²

1 What a Game They Played, Whittingham, p. 91

2 Green Bay Press-Gazette, 9/25/33, p. 12



NEW YORK
GIANTS
PACKERS

10
7 10.1.1933

Wisconsin's team!

Playing games in Milwaukee* began at Borchert Field. Field conditions at the ballpark were so poor, however, that "Lambeau swore he would never return."¹ It was the only game the Packers ever played at Borchert, and it was a lackluster debut that didn't excite the Milwaukee crowd.

The Packers completed just six of 19 passes, and they fumbled the ball seven times, losing three. Ken Strong's field goal started the scoring for New York. Mel Hein of the Giants followed with an interception which led to their touchdown. The touchdown came on their only pass completion of the game! The Packers scored late in the game on Bob Monnett's 30-yard pass to Johnny Blood.

New York	3	7	0	0	10
Green Bay	0	0	0	7	7

Attendance: 12,467

Borchert Field, Milwaukee

** This was the first of 169 Packer games played in Milwaukee from 1933-94. Green Bay's record in Milwaukee: 105-61-3*

1 Lambeau: The Man behind the Mystique, Zimmerman, p. 109



PORTSMOUTH
SPARTANS
PACKERS

0
17 10.8.1933

Take down!

The winless Packers shutout the undefeated Spartans. A rainstorm made the conditions deplorable with mud inches deep. An outstanding defensive effort led by Cal Hubbard “with his great bulk”¹ helped keep the Spartans in check. Green Bay scored early in the game after a bad punt. They capitalized with Hank Bruder’s touchdown run to finish a short drive. A pick-six by Buckets Goldenberg put it away in the fourth quarter.

Portsmouth	0	0	0	0	0
Green Bay	7	0	3	7	17

Attendance: 5,200

“Al Rose got a laugh out of the crowd when he slid through a puddle of water at midfield late in the game. ‘Use the breaststroke’ one fan called.”²

“We were very well satisfied with the fine sportsmanship of the crowd and the officiating. I have no alibi. My team was beaten by a great Packer club.”

1 Green Bay Press-Gazette, 10/9/33, Bystrom, p. 11

2 Green Bay Press-Gazette, 10/9/33, p. 12

3 Green Bay Press-Gazette, 10/9/33, p. 12



PITTSBURGH
PIRATES
PACKERS

0
47 10.15.1933

The Packers trounced the Pirates in “the most one-sided score the Packers have ever run up.”¹ Everything worked for Green Bay. Though the ground game led the way (255 yards), the passing game was impressive completing 10 of 16 passes for 107 yards. The Pirates were outgained 368-102.

Most of the scoring was done by two rookies who both scored two touchdowns - Bob Monnett and Charles “Buckets” Goldenberg. Monnett ran for two touchdowns while carrying the ball 15 times for 93 yards. Buckets returned an interception 67 yards for six and ran a touchdown as well. The game was no contest as the Pirates were headed for a last-place finish in the Eastern Division.

Pittsburgh	0	0	0	0	0
Green Bay	7	20	13	7	47
Attendance:	4,000				

“Two little boys were standing the near hamburger tent when the Pittsburgh team filed back on the field for the second half. ‘Why don’t youse Pirates fight?’ one of them asked. Several of the players grinned, but no one answered the query.”²

“Off and on during the fray it drizzled, but to the fans it was just another one of those things and didn’t ‘dampen’ their ardor.”³

1 Green Bay Press-Gazette, 10/16/33, Bystrom, p. 9
 2 Green Bay Press-Gazette, 10/16/33, p. 10
 3 Green Bay Press-Gazette, 10/16/33, p. 10



PACKERS

CHICAGO

BEARS

7

10.22.1933

10

Again!

Another comeback. But compared to the five minutes it took in September, this one only took four.

Similar to the game in Green Bay, the Packers held the edge most of the game. They started the scoring in the second quarter with a 43-yard touchdown from quarterback Arnie Herber to Johnny Blood. Blood got behind defensive back Gene Ronzani and jumped to pull it in. This was all the scoring until the fourth quarter.

Bill Hewitt of the Bears was again a force on both sides of the ball the entire game. As the clock wound down, the Bears pulled even on a halfback option play. The great Red Grange took the lateral and lofted a pass into the arms of Luke Johnsos for a 22-yard touchdown. After the Packers were forced to punt, Chicago again drove into Green Bay territory on a 23-yard dash by rookie Jack Manders. The Minnesota rookie then kicked a 30-yard field goal to win it.

Green Bay	0	7	0	0	7
Chicago	0	0	0	10	10

Attendance: 19,000

Arnie Herber injured his foot in the 4th quarter.



PHILADELPHIA
EAGLES
PACKERS

9
35 10.2.1933

Buckets!

The game was closer than the score indicated. Green Bay put up 14 points in the first quarter, but they didn't score again until the fourth quarter. In between, it stayed close.

The Packers played without their starting quarterback Arnie Herber who injured his foot against the Bears. In a 14-7 first half, a touchdown run by Buckets Goldenberg and a pick-six by Wuert Engelmann provided Green Bay's points. The Packers' started strong and thwarted the Eagles' offense at every turn with seven interceptions!

The second half started with a safety for Philly when a bad snap trapped Clark Hinkle in the end zone. In the third quarter, Cal Hubbard put on quite a show for the Packers when it took three Eagles to bring him down after an interception. It stayed 14-9 until Green Bay exploded for 21 in the fourth quarter. Johnny Blood caught Bob Monnett's second touchdown pass, and Buckets Goldenberg scored two more touchdowns. The third touchdown by Buckets came late when he returned a punt that was blocked by Lavvie Dilweg for a touchdown!

Philadelphia	0	7	2	0	9
Green Bay	14	0	0	21	35

Attendance: 3,007

Total Yards: GB 242 PHI 220

"Green Bay's high school band played during the intermission and made a formidable appearance in a march across the gridiron."¹

¹ Green Bay Press-Gazette, 10/30/33, p. 14



PACKERS

CHICAGO

CARDINALS

14

11.5.1933

6

The Packers began their six-game road trip with two wins. But according to the headline in the Press-Gazette, this first win was more than just a football game.

“Packers Win Fight, Football Game, 14-6.”¹

A chippy and scoreless first half was followed by hostilities and a near riot in the second. When an official ruled that a punt had been touched by the Packers and the recovered by the Cardinals at the one-yard line, Cal Hubbard lost control. He grabbed an official, and both benches emptied. “Fans joined the crowd punching, shoving, and trying to swing. No one was hit, however, the crowd was too dense.”²

Later in the third quarter, the Cardinals turned Clark Hinkle’s short punt into a touchdown, but they missed the extra point. Hinkle bounced back to put the game on ice in the fourth quarter with an interception that he also took into the end zone seven plays later with a two-yard touchdown run!

Green Bay	0	0	7	7	14
Chicago	0	0	6	0	6
Attendance:	5,000				

¹ Green Bay Press-Gazette, 11/6/33, p. 14

² Green Bay Press-Gazette, 11/6/33, Bystrom p. 14



PACKERS
PORTSMOUTH
SPARTANS

0
11.12.1933
7

On a beautiful, sunny day, the Spartans delivered payback with this shutout. Portsmouth's defensive line set the tone with for the game with constant pressure in Green Bay's backfield.

In a scoreless game in the second half, punting and field position became paramount. In one exchange of punts, the Spartans took over on Green Bay's 30-yard line. Six plays later, Ernie Caddel went over left tackle for a 7-0 lead.

With under two minutes left in the game, Green Bay threatened and marched to Portsmouth's 12-yard line. On first down, Bob Monnett threw a pass into the end zone, which fell incomplete. According to the rules at the time, the ball was given over to the opponent after an incomplete pass in the end zone. Game over.

Green Bay	0	0	0	0	0
Portsmouth	0	0	7	0	7
Attendance:	7,500				



PACKERS

BOSTON

REDSKINS

7

11.19.1933

20

Boston moved the ball easily against Green Bay's defense, and fullback Jim Muisck of the Redskins scored the first and last touchdowns of the game. After his first touchdown, a pick-six by Ernie Pinckert pushed the Redskins lead to 13-0.

The Packers rallied when Bob Monnett returned the ensuing kickoff 75 yards to set up Clarke Hinkle's one-yard scoring plunge a few plays later. Muisck squashed Green Bay's comeback hopes with a fourth-quarter touchdown drive. He led the drive with 40 yards rushing, and he threw one pass for 24 yards. Curly Lambeau was certainly impressed: "We lost here Sunday to the hardest running backfield I have ever seen in professional football."¹

Green Bay	0	0	7	0	7
Boston	0	6	7	7	20
Attendance:	16,399				

¹ packershistory.net /1933 (News & Notes)



PACKERS

NEW YORK

GIANTS

6

11.26.1933

17

Not three

For the first time in their history, the Packers lost three straight games. It didn't help that the night before this game, Johnny Blood and his roommate partied well into the night with two nurses. Blood recalled in warm-ups the next day, "the first ball I kicked, I fell flat on my ass. Lambeau sent me back to the hotel. Well, the team played New York without me and lost."¹

Thirty-seven thousand fans saw the Giants take a 7-0 lead on Dale Burnett's 85-yard pick six of quarterback Arnie Herber. In the second half, a bad punt by Clarke Hinkle gave the Giants the ball on Green Bay's 36. New York capitalized when Clark Hinkle batted into the air a Harry Newman pass (intended for Dale Burnett) into the arms of Red Badgro for a touchdown. A field goal extended New York's lead, and Green Bay didn't score until the last two minutes.

Lambeau's comments about the game? "Most of the boys have played their hearts out for us, but it takes 11 men on the field fighting all the time and not nine or 10."²

Green Bay	0	0	0	6	6
New York	7	0	10	0	17

Attendance: 17,000

Blood was suspended for two weeks by Lambeau.

¹ The Game That Was, Cope, p. 67

² packershistory.net/1933 (News & Notes)



PACKERS
 PHILADELPHIA
EAGLES

10
12.3.1933
0

Bruder does it!

It was all Hank!

Near the end of the first half, an interception by Hank Bruder set up a Clarke Hinkle’s 32-yard field goal. In the fourth quarter, Arnie Herber’s 40-yard completion pass to Milt Gantenbein set up Bruder’s two-yard touchdown run that clinched it. In between, Philadelphia fans got a good look at Green Bay’s legendary passing game. Quarterback Arnie Herber entertained the crowd with 32 passes, nine completions, and 184 yards overall. The ground game was also impressive with Clark Hinkle pounding Philly for 116 yards and one touchdown.

Green Bay	0	3	0	7	10
Philadelphia	0	0	0	0	0
Attendance:	8,303				

On Tuesday after the game, Lambeau reported on two positive developments in 1933. “Our ability to go through the year without a financial loss.....and the attitude of the fans. Instead of a chorus of howls for losing games, we have been greeted with a spirit of cheerfulness and optimism.”¹

¹ Green Bay Press-Gazette, 12/5/33, p. 11



PACKERS

CHICAGO

BEARS

6

12.10.1933

7

Due to injuries suffered in a car accident, quarterback, Arnie Herber did not play, and the Packers finished with a losing record for the first time.

The Bears threatened once in the second quarter and they cashed-in. Gene Ronzani caught a touchdown pass from Keith Molesworth for a 7-0 lead. The Packers persevered with some of the "greatest bits of open field running ever seen on a football field"¹ by both Clark Hinkle and Bob Monnett. In the fourth quarter, 88-yard punt by Bob Monett zig-zagged its way to the end zone. It put the Packers on the board, but former Packer, Joe Zeller, blocked the decisive extra point.

Green Bay	0	0	0	6	6
Chicago	0	7	0	0	7
Attendance:	7,000				

*"The suit of clothing offered by M.E. Davis to a Packer player was won by Lon Evans, guard. Mr. Davis had offered one suit for every Packer touchdown, the winner or winners to be made by drawing."*²

¹ Green Bay Press-Gazette, 12/11/33, Bystrom, p. 13

² Green Bay Press-Gazette, 12/11/33, p. 15



1933 Team Statistics

FINAL STANDINGS

	<u>W</u>	<u>L</u>	<u>T</u>
Chicago Bears	10	2	0
Portsmouth	6	5	0
Green Bay	5	7	1
Cincinnati	3	6	1
Chicago Cardinals	1	9	1

TEAM LEADERS

Passing	Herber
Receiving	Grove
Rushing	Monnett
Scoring	Goldenberg

ALL-PRO

Dilweg	End
Hinkle	Back
Hubbard	Tackle



1919 - 2019

PACKERS CENTURY

with Jim Rice

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