

# THE POSSESSED THE

**PROJECT** 

ALL THE GAMES. ALL THE STORIES.

1919-2019

BY JIM RICE

packerscentury.com



### 1934

Record: 7-6-0 (3rd Place)

**Coach: Curly Lambeau** 

• Before the season, the Packers sold Johnny Blood to Pittsburgh. Cal Hubbard retired to begin coaching, but he returned in 1935-36 to play for the Packers, Pirates, and Giants!

- Green Bay won more than it lost, but it was eliminated from the division race in early November.
- The Packers led the league in passing, but defensively they had trouble stopping the pass.
- Games in Milwaukee were moved to State Fair Park in West Allis (a Milwaukee suburb). State Fair Park held 32,000 fans compared to 22,000 at City Stadium.
- On October 17, George Halas agreed to play an exhibition game in Milwaukee to help the Packers retire a portion of their debt. Ten thousand fans attended

#### Vivian Scherf-Laabs, Member, Packer Fan Hall of Fame \*

Happy Birthday! Vivian and her twin brother, Stewart, share a birthday, January 9, 1934, with the great BART STARR. Like many fans, Bart Starr is Vivian's favorite Green Bay Packer. She admires Starr's character and what a great player he was. She has communicated with Bart over the years, and Stewart was also an excellent high school quarterback at Cedarburg High School in Cedarburg, Wisconsin!

\* Interview: 11/16/17



9.16.1934 **19** 

In the opener, Green Bay had no trouble moving the ball on the ground or through the air. They outgained the Eagles 308-172 with Bob Monnett leading the way for Green Bay. He ran for two touchdowns in the first half, and on his second touchdown, he skirted several tackles on a 28-yard blast off right tackle. He also added a field goal and one extra point.

The first 30 minutes belonged to Green Bay, but in the second half, the Eagles held their own. They could not make a comeback, and their only points came on an 81-yard run by Tom "Swede" Hanson.

Philadelphia 0 0 6 0 6 Green Bay 3 13 3 0 19

Attendance: 5,000

"The Keshena Indian school band provided entertainment between Halves."1

Bears Tickets! Bears Tickets! "Although it is expected that a rush will develop within the next 48 hours, those who intend to witness the contest still have time to get good seats if they buy their tickets at once. Interest in the game is running high throughout the city and Wisconsin, and it is thought by game time Sunday another jammed house will see a continuation of the Packer-Bear rivalry that dates back into the dusty past." 2

<sup>2</sup> Green Bay Press-Gazette, 9/18/34, p. 11



**24** 9.23.1934

After a hard fought, 3-3 first half, Bronco Nagurski was unstoppable in the final 30 minutes. He started the second half with a touchdown pass to Bill Hewitt. After a Buckets Goldenberg touchdown tied the game for Green Bay at 10, Nagurski really took over. He ran for two fourth-quarter touchdowns to end all doubt. Nagurski's second touchdown run was a 34-yard gallop on a reverse that he took right down the sidelines to break Green Bay's back.

Chicago 3 0 7 14 24 Green Bay 0 3 7 0 10

Attendance: 12,582 Largest home crowd ever!

"Many fans came in the morning bringing their lunch to eat while waiting for the game to begin."1

Jim Joannes, grandson of Lee Joannes (Packer President 1930-47): "When he was President, my grandmother was the secretary-treasurer. The hat used to be passed to take in money. The big game of the year was always the Bear game where they collected about \$5,000. That was the big game. The small games were a lot less. You can see that everything was done on a shoestring during those days."2

<sup>1</sup> Green Bay Press-Gazette, 9/24/34, p. 14

<sup>2</sup> For Packers Fans Only!, Wolfe, p. 28



9.30.1934

An outstanding game for Green Bay. Their powerful offensive line opened holes in all directions, all game. They controlled the line of scrimmage, and the Packer backfield of Clark Hinkle, Roger Grove, and "Buckets" Goldenberg put up 166 yards!

The Packers "outsmarted and outplayed the Giants at nearly every stage of the game." 1 Most of the contest was played in New York territory even though Green Bay completed just one pass all game for three yards. Two field goals by Bob Monnett got the scoring started. Roger Grove cut back against traffic and went 22-yards for a touchdown.

Other than a late touchdown for New York that Buckets Goldenberg matched, the Giants threatened only one additional time. Green Bay's defense did its job holding the Giants to 26 yards on the ground.

 New York
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 6
 6

 Green Bay
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 3
 10
 7
 20

 State Fair Park, Milwaukee

"The Milwaukee Drum Corps put on a snappy exhibition between halves." 2



3 10.7.1934

The new Detroit Lions dominated this game despite scoring only three points. The Packers were outgained 172-123, and they turned the ball over four times.

In the second quarter, the Lions capitalized on a fumble. A 54-yard field goal by Glenn Presnell broke the ice. According to the Press-Gazette the next day, it was "probably the longest kick for a score in the record of (the) National professional football league competition."1

The Packers never got closer than Detroit's 36-yard line. That occurred in the first quarter, and when the drive stalled, Bob Monnett missed a field goal. As they tried to rally in the fourth quarter, they fumbled once and threw an interception.

Detroit 0 3 0 0 3 Green Bay 0 0 0 0 0

Attendance: 7,500

"The Green Bay-Fort Howard Kickers won from Appleton, 2-0, in a soccer game played between halves." 2

<sup>2</sup> Green Bay Press-Gazette, 11/8/34, p. 12



0 10.14.1934 **41** 

### **Easy Peasy!**

Three touchdown passes by Arnie Herber coupled with Hank Bruder's fantastic afternoon took care of the Cincinnati. Herber threw three touchdown passes to Bruder, Roger Grove, and Al Rose. Early in the second quarter, a 73-yard drive was capped off by Bruder's touchdown catch. Bruder then scored on the ground for a 14-0 Green Bay lead at halftime.

In the second half, Bruder's 55-yard pick-six made it 34-0, and he kicked four extra points as well! The Packers never looked back during this easy win, and they downed the winless Reds on their first visit to Wisconsin.

Cincinnati 0 0 0 0 0 0 Green Bay 7 7 6 21 41

Attendance: 3,000 Total Yards: GB 313 GB 152

"The Fond du Lac Eagles Drum & Bugle Corp Eagles entertained between halves with an excellent drill."1



0 10.21.1934

### **Two Straight Shutouts**

A physical and brutal contest that forced six players, three on each squad, to leave injured. The Packers rode the strong arm of Arnie Herber who struck early with a 69-yard touchdown bomb to Clarke Hinkle. Herber's accuracy kept Chicago off balance as he completed six of his eight passes for 161 yards and two touchdowns.

The defense held the Cardinals to 102 total yards and forced three turnovers. In the fourth quarter, Herber closed it out with a 74-yard drive. He covered the ground with three passes. He finished it off with a 10-yard toss to Roger Grove.

Chicago 0 0 0 0 0 0 Green Bay 7 0 0 8 15

Attendance: 4,000



1919-2019

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10.28.1934

"Special train excursions out of Green Bay plus the continuance of good weather probably will result in a large number of Packer fans following the team on its most crucial road appearance. After meeting the Bears at Wrigley Field Sunday, the Packers will head into Eastern territory for the decisive lap of the 1934 season." 1

In a tight first half, the teams traded touchdowns, and the Bears enjoyed a 10-7 lead at halftime.

The Bears ran roughshod over the Packers all game for 339 yards. Green Bay ran for 53. While rookie Beattie Feathers of the Bears accounted for nearly half of their rushing yardage (150), he opened the scoring with a 17-yard touchdown catch. He also closed the scoring with a 46-yard run behind the blocking of big Bronco Nagurski. Nagurski also ran for 79 yards as the Bears outgained the Packers 420-182. After the game, Lambeau said the Bears "had the greatest professional football team he had ever seen." 2

Green Bay 0 7 0 7 14 Chicago 7 3 7 10 27

Attendance: 11,000

1 Green Bay Press-Gazette, 10/23/34, p. 11 2 Green Bay Press-Gazette, 10/29/34, p. 13



The rain and mud made this a miserable day for the Redskins. Clark Hinkle wasn't bothered at all even when his 42-yard field goal had to be kicked out of the mud! Even some Boston fans applauded.

In the second half, a Boston punt that "nearly went nearly straight in the air" 1 set up the Packers on the Redskins' 11-yard line. Quarterback Arnie Herber capitalized with an 11-yard touchdown pass to Lavvie Dilweg for a 10-0 lead.

Though they were bigger and more aggressive than the Packers, the Redskins never got untracked offensively. Green Bay had no trouble with the Boston's passing game, and running back Cliff Battles couldn't do it alone.

Green Bay 0 3 7 0 10 Boston 0 0 0 0 0

Attendance: 23,722



The Packers dropped to 5-4 with this loss to the Giants.

New York's quarterback Harry Newman did it all. He carried the ball 38 times, and after a 3-3 first half, he scored both Giant touchdowns. Seven plays into the second half, Newman ran for a 12-yard score. A short time later, Clark Hinkle fumbled on Green Bay's 15-yard line. It took five plays, but Newman finally took it in from the one-yard line.

Green Bay 3 0 0 0 3 New York 0 0 14 0 14

Attendance: 22,00

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11.18.1934

A steady rain the day before and the morning of the game made it a mud pit at State Fair Park. After a few minutes, mud made it hard to read the numbers and distinguish between the teams.

The conditions had a big impact on performance. The Press-Gazette called it a "listless affair" after both offenses proved to be literally stuck in the mud. After no points were scored in the first half, Homer Griffith's 58-yard punt return gave the Cardinals a lead in the third quarter. Chicago intercepted three Arnie Herber passes to keep the Packers in check, and a field goal in the fourth quarter put the game beyond reach.

Chicago 0 9 0 0 **Green Bay** 0 0 0 0

Milwaukee: 3,000 Total Yards: GB 86 CHI 50



# PACKERS DETROIT LIONS

11.25.1934

### **Giant killer!**

After playing in mud pits for two of the past three weeks, a dry field was wonderful.....but it didn't help the offense. "It was an ideal day for football, with just enough snap in the air to keep everyone on tiptoes," the Press-Gazette reported.

The Packers bounced back from a flat performance against the Cardinals with a win over the undefeated Lions! It was quite an accomplishment given how Detroit started the season with seven straight shutouts. Their stunning loss to Green Bay began a three-game slide that opened the door for the Bears to take the division title.

Green Bay played with a renewed spirit and enthusiasm. Finally, after an interception in the fourth quarter, Clarke Hinkle booted a 47-yard field goal for the only points.

For the few remaining skeptics who still doubted the future of pro football, Detroit writer, W. W. Edgar, had this to say. "But in losing, Lions fans proved that there is spirit in pro football far beyond what many had believed there could be. More than 12,000 spectators who were limp at the finish of the losing battle with the Packers will attest to that."1

Green Bay 0 0 0 3 3 Detroit 0 0 0 0 0

Attendance: 12,000



## PACKERS CHICAGO CARDINALS

11.29.1934

6

On another muddy field, the Packers were shutout on Thanksgiving. Green Bay completed only three passes all game as the mud toyed with the timing of their passes. In passing yards, the Packers outgained the Cardinals 16-9!

Homer Griffith shocked Green Bay again with another long run. This time he took back the opening kickoff 97-yards for a touchdown. He scored the game's only points, and with 59 minutes left in the mud, the "Cardinals seemed to turn into super-demons on the defense whenever a Bay touchdown threat loomed." Green Bay generated just 121 total yards, and Chicago didn't do much better with 108.

Green Bay 0 0 0 0 0 0 Chicago 6 0 0 0 6

**Attendance: 1,738** *GB shutout for the 3<sup>rd</sup> time.* 

1 Green Bay Press-Gazette, 11/30/34, Calhoun, p. 13



## PACKERS ST. LOUIS GUNNERS

**21**12.2.1934

A three-game stretch in eight days brings the season to a close in St. Louis. The Gunners, the newest franchise in the league, played the Packers even statistically, but it wasn't enough.

An Arnie Herber touchdown pass to Joe Laws got the scoring started. Bob Monnett and Roger Grove also hooked up for the Packers before the halftime for a 14-0 lead. After the Gunners scored on their first series of the second half, Clark Hinkle scored the eventual winner for Green Bay. The Gunners scored a second touchdown on the ground later in the second half, but they had trouble holding onto the football with seven turnovers overall.

Green Bay 7 7 0 7 21 St. Louis 0 0 7 7 14 Attendance 6.300



### **1934 Team Statistics**

### **FINAL STANDINGS**

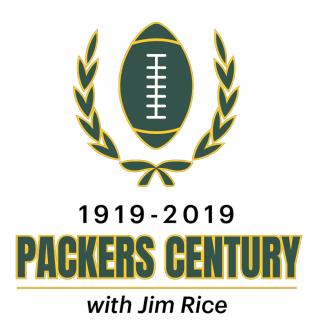
	W	<u>L</u>	<u> </u>
Chicago Bears	13	0	0
Detroit	10	3	0
Green Bay	7	6	0
Chicago Cardinals	5	6	0
St. Louis	1	2	0
Cincinnati	0	8	0

### **TEAM LEADERS**

Passing	Herber
Receiving	Hinkle
Rushing	Hinkle
Scoring	Monnett

### **ALL-PRO**

Barragar	Center
Hinkle	Back
Michalske	Guard



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