



**2013**



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)



## 2013

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**Record: 8-7-1 (1st – NFC North Champions)**

**Coach: Mike McCarthy**

- The renovation was underway to the Pro Shop, Hall of Fame, and the Oneida Gate. In August, the south end zone expansion was completed as well as video and sound systems upgrades.
- Donald Driver retired as the teams' all-time leading receiver. Greg Jennings signed with the Vikings while Johnny Jolly returned after a three-year absence.
- Aaron Rodgers broke his left collarbone on the first series against the Bears on November 4<sup>th</sup>. Including this game, the Packers were 2-5-1 without him.
- Though the offense wasn't the same without Rodgers, Matt Flynn served as a capable backup. The defense ranked in the lower third in points allowed and yards allowed.
- The Packers won three of their last four games, and they clinched a postseason berth in classic fashion against the Bears.



1919-2019

**PACKERS**

SAN FRANCISCO

**49ers**

**28**

**9.8.2013**

**34**

## **Old friends**

A rematch of last year's divisional playoff game didn't provide any measure of revenge for Green Bay. In last year's postseason divisional matchup, quarterback Colin Kaepernick embarrassed the Packers by rushing for a record of 181 yards. He scored two touchdowns and threw for two more.

This time, Kaepernick did all the damage with his arm. He completed 27 of 39 passes for 412 yards and three touchdowns. In a rivalry that was getting more chippy by the game, an early roughing the passer penalty on Clay Matthews led to a San Francisco touchdown. The 49ers also capitalized on a fumble by rookie Eddie Lacy for seven points.

In a 14-14 first half, both Kaepernick and Aaron Rodgers threw two touchdown passes. While Kaepernick stayed in the pocket more frequently, Green Bay couldn't stop the pass. He began the third quarter with his second touchdown pass to big Vernon Davis.

The Packers stormed back with touchdowns by Jordy Nelson and Eddie Lacy. They had the lead 28-24 with 8:26 left. With all eyes on the defense, Green Bay came up short. On second down, Kaepernick threw to Anquan Boldin for his 13<sup>th</sup> catch of the game. Boldin took it 43 yards, and Frank Gore scored three plays later to reclaim the lead 31-28.

After the game, McCarthy wasn't pleased with his team's performance nor a question posed by a reporter. "We came here to win the game. I don't know who the hell you think we are. We lost a game we were capable of winning today. We are

in the mindset of feeling the pain of losing. This is not what it's all about."<sup>1</sup>

<b>Green Bay</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>28</b>
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<b>San Francisco</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>34</b>
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**Attendance: 69,732**

*SF outgained GB 494-385*

<sup>1</sup> Green Bay Press-Gazette, 9/9/13, Vandermause, p. A3



1919-2019

WASHINGTON

**REDSKINS**  
**PACKERS**

**20**  
**38** 9.15.2013

Green Bay won its home opener with an impressive performance by Aaron Rodgers and the offense. It started ominously with Eddie Lacy's concussion on the first play from scrimmage. But they blew away the Redskins with 580 overall yards – the second most in franchise history. Rodgers also tied a franchise record with 480 yards passing (441 net).

The game got away from Washington quickly. In the first 30 minutes, Rodgers threw for 335 yards and three touchdowns! Touchdowns went to Randall Cobb, Jermichael Finley, and Jordy Nelson. Cobb and James Jones alone caught 20 passes for 301 yards.

Green Bay led 31-0 before Robert Griffin III, and Pierre Garcon connected for six. A touchdown run by James Starks soon followed that topped off his fine afternoon of 132 yards rushing.

<b>Washington</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Green Bay</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>38</b>

**Attendance: 70,020**

*Bart Starr and many others returned for Alumni Day!*



1919-2019

**PACKERS**

CINCINNATI

**BENGALS**

**30**

**9.22.2013**

**34**

The shifts of momentum were clear. Cincinnati scored the first 14 points and the Packers the next 30. The Bengals added the final 20, and the loss left the Packers at 1-2 going into an early bye week.

Cincinnati took the lead in the first quarter with the help of a fumbled kickoff by Jeremy Ross. Ross gave the ball back to the Bengals at the Packers' two-yard line. After the Bengals took a 14-0 lead, Green Bay scored 30 unanswered points (13 after Cincy turnovers). In the second half, after an Aaron Rodgers touchdown to James Jones, Green Bay led 30-14.

In the last 20 minutes, Cincinnati cut the lead to 30-27 with two touchdown passes by quarterback Andy Dalton. A. J. Green and Marvin Jones caught the scores. The Packers completed their collapse when rookie Johnathan Franklin, playing for an injured James Starks, had the ball punched from his arms by Michael Johnson. It bounced into the arms of Reggie Nelson who also lost it. Cornerback Terrance Newman picked it up and took off for a 58-yard sprint and a 34-30 lead with 3:47 left.

Starting from the 20-yard line and trying to salvage the game, the Packers marched to Cincinnati's 25. On both third and fourth downs, Rodgers' passes were batted down to put an end to a painful loss.

**Green Bay      0      16      14      0      30**

**Cincinnati    14      0      7      13      34**

**Attendance: 64,633**

*Jeremy Ross was cut.*

*In DePere, "a handful of Packer players, past and present, worked together with Humana Insurance on Tuesday to build a playground*

*at Braisher Park.”<sup>1</sup> Gerald “Dad” Braisher was the Packers’ equipment manager.*

*“Have an old cellphone? The Green Bay Packers, Verizon Wireless, and Bellin Health say they’ll take it. The organizations are working together to collect the old phones, and monetary donations, to support groups that fight domestic violence and advocate for victims. ‘Part of that starting over is making sure they can keep connected to their supports and also call for help if something were to happen.’ ”<sup>2</sup> Jordy Nelson represented the players.*

1 Green Bay Press-Gazette, 9/25/13, p. A3

1 Green Bay Press-Gazette, 9/25/13, Phelps, p. A3



1919-2019

DETROIT  
**LIONS**  
**PACKERS**

**9**  
**22** 10.6.2013

After the bye week, Mason Crosby led the Packers to a divisional win with five field goals. He kicked one in each quarter, with two coming in the final 15 minutes.

The Packers' ground game led by Eddie Lacy's return and Randall Cobb moved the ball easily (180 yards), but they couldn't get it into the end zone. Green Bay's only touchdown came on an 83-yard bomb from Aaron Rodgers to James Jones. Green Bay led 16-3 in the third quarter.

Without injured wide receivers Calvin Johnson and Nate Burleson, the Lions' offense was toothless. They ran for just 64 yards, and the Packers sacked quarterback Matthew Stafford five times. Green Bay outgained the Lions 449-286. Their only touchdown came with 2:06 left, and they lost in Wisconsin for the 23<sup>rd</sup> consecutive time!

<b>Detroit</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Green Bay</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>22</b>

**Attendance: 78,200\***

*Clay Matthews broke his thumb.*

*Detroit center Dominic Raiola admitted to 'jawing a bit' with a member of the Wisconsin Marching Band before the game. He issued an apology and said, "he would make 'a significant contribution' to the band."<sup>1</sup>*

*"The Green Bay Packers will pay the University of Wisconsin \$3 million to host the Badgers' 2016 home opener against LSU at Lambeau Field."<sup>2</sup>*

\* new Lambeau Field record

1 Green Bay Press-Gazette, 10/10/13, Vandermause, p. B3

2 Green Bay Press-Gazette, 10/12/13, p. A1





1919-2019

**PACKERS**

BALTIMORE

**RAVENS**

**19**

**10.13.2013**

**17**

The Packers upset the defending Super Bowl Champs on the road. They handed the Ravens only their fourth loss at home in the last 30 games.

A quiet first half with two Mason Crosby field goals (he kicked four) and a goal line stand by the Packers, gave Green Bay a 6-0 edge at intermission. Quarterback Aaron Rodgers struggled a bit as both James Jones and Randall Cobb left with injuries. The running game picked up the slack with 120 yards from Eddie Lacy, his best performance of the season. McCarthy praised his rookie fullback. "I'm very proud of Eddie. I thought Eddie did an excellent job of staying patient and driving his back foot and falling forward."<sup>1</sup>

Following an interception early in the second half, Rodgers settled down and completed six of his final nine passes. That included a 64-yard touchdown pass to Jordy Nelson for a 16-3 lead. Baltimore quarterback Joe Flacco threw two fourth-quarter touchdown passes to Jacoby Jones and Dallas Clark. But with the Packers shutting down the Ravens ground game (47yards), and Mason Crosby kicking two more three-pointers, it wasn't enough.

<b>Green Bay</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>Baltimore</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>17</b>

**Attendance: 71,319**

*A. J. Hawk: 3 sacks, 10 tackles (5 for losses)*



1919-2019

CLEVELAND  
**BROWNS**  
**PACKERS**

**13** 10.20.2013  
**31**

### **Blowout!**

Coming into this game, Green Bay's thin receiving corps had everyone concerned. Back-up Jared Boykin relieved the concerns with eight catches for 103 yards and a touchdown.

The outcome was never in doubt as Green Bay jumped in front quickly. Two touchdowns in the first quarter by Jermichael Finley and Eddie Lacy made it 17-3 lead at the break. Midway through the fourth quarter and leading 17-6, Rodgers lit up the Cleveland secondary to put the game away. He threw two touchdowns passes to Jordy Nelson and Jared Boykin to complete a nice comeback game (25-36-260-3-0) and put the Packers at 4-2-0.

<b>Cleveland</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Green Bay</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>31</b>

**Attendance: 77,804**

*Randall Cobb broke his leg.*

*"Fans at Lambeau Field on Sunday can donate food or cash for the Packers Women's Association and UnitedHealthcare's 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Food Drive for Paul's Pantry."<sup>1</sup>*

<sup>1</sup> Green Bay Press-Gazette, 10/18/13, A5



1919-2019

**PACKERS**

MINNESOTA

**VIKINGS**

**44**

**10.27.2013**

**31**

### Nice win

In their last game in the Metrodome, the Packers dominated and ran 66 offensive plays. They took 41 minutes off the clock, and the Vikings had the ball for only 19!

On the opening kickoff, Cordelle Patterson's 109-yard return gave Minnesota a 7-0 lead. Green Bay's offense clicked from the start, going 90 yards on their first drive. Rodgers "beat the Vikings' defense like a drum"<sup>1</sup> all night completing 24 of 29 passes for 285 yards. He threw two first-half touchdown passes to Jordy Nelson, and the second put the Packers in the lead to stay 17-10.

Just prior to halftime, Micah Hyde of the Packers returned a punt 93 yards for six more! With four seconds left in the half, the Vikings countered with Adrian Peterson's touchdown run. Green Bay went to the locker room leading 24-17.

The Packers took over in the second half as the ground game continued to balance out the offense (182 yards). In the second half, Eddie Lacy and James Starks ran for touchdowns for an insurmountable 38-17 lead. Minnesota's two touchdowns in the final five minutes didn't threaten the outcome, and Green Bay headed home sitting on top of the division at 5-2 and riding a four-game winning streak!

**Green Bay    7    17    7    13    44**

**Minnesota    7    10    0    14    31**

**Attendance: 64,134**

*Greg Jennings of the Vikings caught 1 pass for 9 yards.*

*“Packers fans take over Minneapolis” was the headline above a group of 22 Packer fans from Sheboygan partying their way to the Twin Cities by chartered bus.*

1 Green Bay Press-Gazette, 10/28/13, Vandermause, A3



1919-2019

CHICAGO  
**BEARS**  
**PACKERS**

**27** 11.4.2013  
**20**

## Broken

A devastating game for the Packers as Aaron Rodgers went down with a broken left collarbone on the last play of Green Bay's first series. Rodgers was sacked by linebacker Shea McClellin who landed on him on the Bears' nine-yard line.

Seneca Wallace stepped-in and did not do well. He finished 11 of 19 for 114 yards. He threw one interception and was sacked four times. For Chicago, quarterback Josh McCown, Jay Cutler's backup, was at the helm. He played well and threw for 272 yards and two touchdowns.

First-half touchdowns by Brandon Marshall and Matt Forte gave the Bears a 17-10 lead. Green Bay's only visit to the end zone came on a beautiful 32-yard run by James Starks. In the second half, Eddie Lacy's touchdown run tied the game, and Mason Crosby's kick gave the Pack a 20-17 third-quarter lead. From that point on, the game went Chicago's way. A touchdown pass from McCown to Alshon Jeffery put them back in front for good 24-20 with 2:41 left.

Asked how the team would keep going without Rodgers, center Evan Dietrich-Smith said, "Go out there and cram it down people throats, that's how we keep going."<sup>1</sup> The injury derailed Green Bay's season. Including this game, Rodgers missed eight games. The Packers were 2-5-1 without him.

<b>Chicago</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>Green Bay</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>20</b>

**Attendance: 78,122**

*Total Yards: GB 312 CHI 442*

*“The Packers are looking for the newest inductee to the Packers FAN Hall of Fame. The nomination phase for the 16<sup>th</sup> inductee runs through November 30<sup>th</sup>.”<sup>2</sup>*

*Receivers Jordy Nelson, James Jones, and Randall Cobb partnered with Bellin Health in The Best Hands Competition. This competition pairs a receiver and a surgeon to highlight to robot-assisted surgery machines. Charities that benefited from the event were Blessings in a Backpack, Love Jones 4 Kids, and Nelson’s Landing Golf Tournament, Poker Run, and Auctions.*

1 Green Bay Press-Gazette, 11/5/13, Woods, p. A5

2 Green Bay Press-Gazette, 11/6/13, p. A3



1919-2019

PHILADELPHIA

**EAGLES**  
**PACKERS**

**27** 11.10.2013  
**13**

An easy win for the Eagles. Green Bay back-up quarterback Seneca Wallace played one series before leaving with a groin injury. Scott Tolzien replaced him.

Philadelphia led the entire game. Quarterback Nick Foles threw three touchdown passes, and halfback LeSean McCoy ran for 155 yards. The two connected for a 55-yard strike in the first quarter for a 7-0 lead. Philadelphia led 20-3 before the teams traded touchdowns late in the third quarter.

Tolzien showed some promise (24-39-289-1-2) as he directed the offense for 396 yards. His first career touchdown pass went to Brandon Bostick, but his two interceptions were costly. One ended a touchdown drive in the end zone, and the other led to a Philly field goal.

<b>Philadelphia</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>Green Bay</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Attendance:</b>	<b>78,011</b>				



1919-2019

**PACKERS**

NEW YORK

**GIANTS**

**13**

**11.17.2013**

**27**

A third straight loss for the Packers dropped them to 5-5, and fans were in full panic. While they continued to move the ball through the air (339 yards), Green Bay gave it away too many times. Quarterback Scott Tolzien tossed three interceptions, and the ground game produced just 55 yards.

The offense produced just two Mason Crosby field goals in the first half. Eli Manning's touchdown to Reuben Randle got the Giants out to an early lead, and they held the edge at halftime 10-7. Eli Manning had another good game against Green Bay.

In the second half, New York took a 20-6 lead into the fourth quarter. Green Bay narrowed it to 20-13 on Eddie Lacy's touchdown. After they stopped the Giants on their next possession, Tolzien threw a pass in the flat that was intercepted by Jason Pierre-Paul who went 24-yards for the pick-six. Without Rodgers, the Packers looked lost.

<b>Green Bay</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>New York</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>27</b>

**Attendance: 79,144**

*Lack of turnovers by GB hurting.*

*Statues of Bart Starr and Clark Hinkle were dedicated at The Packers Heritage Trail Plaza.*





1919 - 2019

MINNESOTA  
**VIKINGS**  
**PACKERS**

**26** 11.24.2013  
**26**

The Packers get closer to a win without Rodgers. Scott Tolzien's six-yard run got them on the scoreboard first, but the Vikings responded with 23 unanswered points. Three field goals by Blair Walsh and touchdowns by Adrian Peterson and Rhett Ellison made it 23-7 in the fourth quarter. Peterson finished with 146 yards rushing.

Newly reacquired Matt Flynn replaced Scott Tolzien in the third quarter. The Packers went to the no-huddle offense, and Flynn threw for 218 yards while the defense contained Minnesota. Flynn led a 16-point comeback on the Packers' last three possessions of regulation. His arm strength kept the throws short, and Eddie Lacy caught several for key gains. Lacy eventually scored on the ground, and Flynn also connected with Jared Boykin for a touchdown with 3:30 to go. When the Packers got the ball back, they got as far as the Vikings 10-yard line before turning to Mason Crosby to tie it at 26.

In overtime, the Packers stalled again deep inside Vikings territory. From Minnesota's two-yard line, Crosby's 20-yard field goal gave them the lead. Twelve plays later, Blair Walsh tied it, and the game stayed that way for the final 6:36. The last tie for the Packers was in 1987, and for the Vikings, it was 1978!

<b>Minnesota</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>Green Bay</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>26</b>

**Attendance: 77,871**

*Former Packer Greg Jennings caught two passes.*

*Josephine Rainone, Packer fan: My sister's husband died in March 2013. In November, we took a road trip to sprinkle his ashes at Lambeau and attend the game. It was an awesome game on a very, very cold day. R. I. P. Wayne.*



**PACKERS**

DETROIT

**LIONS**

**10**

**11.28.2013**

**40**

## Happy Thanksgiving?

This was just the fifth time that the Lions have beaten the Packers since 2000. All five wins have been in the Motor City.

The game was no contest. After Green Bay took a 10-3 lead, the Lions scored the next 37 points. Quarterback Matt Stafford threw for 330 yards and three touchdowns. Reggie Bush ran for 117 yards, and the Lions gained 241 yards on the ground. The Packers ran for 24 yards, and they were outgained 561-126.

<b>Green Bay</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Detroit</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>40</b>

**Attendance: 64,934**

*QB Matt Flynn was sacked 7 times.*

*"Packers Ring Bells For Salvation Army"<sup>1</sup>*

<sup>1</sup> Green Bay Press-Gazette, 11/30/13, p. A3



ATLANTA  
**FALCONS**  
**PACKERS**

**21**  
**22** 12.8.2013

## We win!

Green Bay's postseason hopes were still alive! The victory belonged to Matt Flynn and Eddie Lacy, and it gave the team renewed hope for the rest of the season.

Eddie Lacy's touchdown gave Green Bay the early lead. In the second quarter, Atlanta scored 21 points. Their third touchdown came on a 71-yard pick-six by Sean Weatherspoon just before halftime. Trailing 21-10 at halftime, the Packers were booed on the way to the locker room.

The boos woke up the Packers, and they responded in the second half. With Lacy pounding the ball on the ground, McCarthy hoped that "the ability to run the football, the body blows" would wear down Atlanta's defense. It did. The offense chipped away at the 11-point deficit with two Mason Crosby field goals. Early in the fourth quarter, Flynn and tight end Andrew Quarless connected for what would be the winning touchdown.

This first win without Rodgers put the Packers at 7-6-1, and just one-half game behind Detroit for the division lead.

<b>Atlanta</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>Green Bay</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>22</b>

**Attendance: 77,550**

*"The Brown County United Way remains in need of volunteers for the concession stand at Packer home games."<sup>1</sup>*

<sup>1</sup> Green Bay Press-Gazette, 12/10/13, p. A3



**PACKERS**

**37**

DALLAS

**12.15.2013**

**COWBOYS**

**36**

**Wow!**

In one of the more amazing games in recent Packer history, Matt Flynn threw for 299 yards and four touchdowns to lead the Packers to a sensational upset of the 7-6 Cowboys!

After Dallas took a 6-3 lead with five minutes left in the first quarter, they stayed in front until there was just over a minute left in the game. They were led by five field goals by Dan Bailey and two Tony Romo touchdown passes. DeMarco Murray caught one of the scores, and he also ran for 134 yards. In the first half, the Packers gave up 332 yards.

With Dallas leading 29-10 with six minutes left in the third quarter, their weak defense fell apart. Flynn threw touchdown passes to Andrew Quarless and James Starks. After Romo found Dez Bryant for six, Dallas led 36-24 with 7:55 left. Flynn's touchdown to Jones cut it 36-31 with four minutes left.

When cornerback Sam Shields stunned the crowd and intercepted Romo at midfield, Flynn marched Green Bay to the one-yard line. Eddie Lacy took it in with 1:31 left for the win! "This is one of the hardest losses I've experienced,"<sup>1</sup> said Dallas owner Jerry Jones.

<b>Green Bay</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>37</b>
<b>Dallas</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>36</b>
<b>Attendance:</b>	<b>91,054</b>				

<sup>1</sup> Green Bay Press-Gazette, 12/16/13, Dougherty, p. A2



1919-2019

PITTSBURGH

**STEELERS**  
**PACKERS**

**38**  
**31** 12.22.2013

Though speculation was rampant before the game, Aaron Rodgers did not return to action at snowy Lambeau Field. There were seven lead changes in the game, and the Packers came up short in the final minutes.

Matt Flynn's touchdown to Jared Boykin started the scoring and Eddie Lacy's 14-yard run made it 14-7 Packers. It was 14-10 at halftime, and the final 30 minutes went down to the wire. After the teams traded touchdowns in the third quarter, the Steelers scored twice within 23 seconds. Ben Roethlisberger's second touchdown pass was followed seconds later by cornerback Cortez Allen's interception when Flynn and Andrew Quarless collided in the backfield. Allen went 40 yards for a 31-21 lead.

The Packers came back to tie it in the fourth quarter on Mason Crosby's field goal and John Kuhn's touchdown run. With under two minutes to play, Flynn was stripped of the football by Troy Polamalu on the Packer 17-yard line. With 1:25 left, rookie Le'Veon Bell scored the winning touchdown.

Micah Hyde returned the ensuing kickoff 70 yards to give the Packers one final chance, but it was not to be. The NFC North division title would be decided next week at Soldier Field!

<b>Pittsburgh</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>38</b>
<b>Green Bay</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>31</b>
<b>Attendance:</b>	<b>77,999</b>				



1919-2019

**PACKERS**

CHICAGO

**BEARS**

**33**

**12.29.2013**

**28**

### **Down go Da Bears!**

This was the first time since 1932 that the Packers and Bears played on the final day of the season for a championship. The winner would be the NFC North Champion, and the loser would fail to qualify for the postseason.

The long-awaited return of Aaron Rodgers and Randall Cobb injected a level of energy and drama into an already extremely important game. After all, it was the Bears who broke Rodgers' collarbone back in November, and Cobb had been out since October with a broken foot.

Rodgers played well in his first game back, but he looked a little rusty at the start. He bounced back from two early interceptions to throw for 318 yards and two touchdowns. But, the Bears drove 80 yards with his first interception for Matt Forte's first touchdown. Later in the half, an unusual play unfolded as Rodgers dropped back to pass. Julius Peppers knocked the football from his hands, and the ball laid on the ground without the whistle blowing. After a few seconds, a heads-up Jared Boykin picked it up and ran 15 yards for a 10-7 Green Bay lead! Mason Crosby's second field goal then closed the first half.

Matt Forte continued to dominate on the ground (110 yards overall), and he scored two more touchdowns in the second half. The first, a five-yard run, put Chicago back in front 14-13. With Rodgers getting more comfortable in the second half, the Packers went 84-yards to reclaim the lead on a seven-yard pass to Randall Cobb. In took just three plays, and Forte scored for the third time to make it 21-20.

On the first play of the fourth quarter, a Jay Cutler to Brandon Marshall touchdown extended Chicago's lead 28-20. Facing "the worst defense in Bears history,"<sup>1</sup> the Packers scored without much resistance on Eddie Lacy's touchdown run around left end with 11:38 remaining. When the Bears were forced to punt, the Packers got it back on their 13-yard line with 6:24 left.

Rodgers delivered. He converted four, fourth-down plays to win it. On fourth and eight from Chicago's 48-yard line, he dropped back to pass with 48 seconds left. Facing a seven-man blitz, Rodgers slid to his left, and thanks to John Kuhn's block of big Julius Peppers, he threw his historic touchdown pass. "As I looked outside, I felt Julius was coming free, was going to try to elude him, which the chances of that are pretty slim. John comes out of nowhere and cuts him. I was able to get the edge and saw Randall running wide open."<sup>2</sup> Rodgers' unleashed a beautifully timed pass from his 42-yard line. Cobb caught it in stride at the 10 and scored.

McCarthy, who improved his record against the Bears to 11-6, acknowledged the significance of the moment. "Those two guys making that great, great play will be running on the highlight reel for the rest of my time on this earth."<sup>3</sup> The win clinched the NFC North and brought the postseason to Lambeau Field for a Wild Card match-up against the 49ers.

<b>Green Bay</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>33</b>
<b>Chicago</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>28</b>

**Attendance: 62,708**

*Total Yards: GB 473 CHI 345*

*At the Fox Harbor Pub & Grill in Green Bay, "the crowd exploded in cheers when Randall Cobb caught Rodgers' pass and streaked into the end zone. When the game ended a few minutes later, smiling fans joined in a rousing chorus of the "We Are the Champions" stadium anthem."<sup>4</sup>*

1 Green Bay Press-Gazette, 12/30/13, Haugh, p. A8

2 Green Bay Press-Gazette, 12/30/13, Zizzo, p. A4

3 Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, 12/30/13, McGinn, p. 4C

4 Green Bay Press-Gazette, 12/30/13, Williams, p. B5

## NFC Wild Card Game



SAN FRANCISCO

**49ers**  
**PACKERS**

**23**  
**20** 1.5.2014

Last year it was in San Francisco, this year Green Bay. With a game-time temperature of five degrees, the visiting 49ers took it all the way down to the final second and defeated the Packers on the "Frozen Tundra."

The Niners eliminated the Packers from the postseason for the second straight season. They did it by outgaining Green Bay by 100 yards, and sacking quarterback Aaron Rodgers four times. Rodgers threw for only one touchdown and 177 yards.

San Francisco led at halftime 13-10. Early in the fourth quarter, Green Bay moved in front 17-13 on an 80-yard drive and John Kuhn's one-yard plunge. The 49ers took the lead right back with a 28-yard touchdown from quarterback Colin Kaepernick to Vernon Davis. With 5:06 left, Mason Crosby's 24-yard boot made it 20-20. Kaepernick came back with a drive that he directed with both his arm and his legs. On third and eight from Green Bay's 35, a pump-fake by Kaepernick allowed him to escape around the left end for a key first down. It set up Phil Dawson's third field goal of the game for the win.

<b>San Francisco</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>Green Bay</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>20</b>

**Attendance: 77,525**





THE  
**PACKERS CENTURY  
PROJECT**

1919-2019

## 2013 Team Statistics

### FINAL STANDINGS – NFC North

	<u>W</u>	<u>L</u>	<u>T</u>
Green Bay	8	7	1
Chicago	8	8	0
Detroit	7	9	0
Minnesota	5	10	1

### Team Leaders

Passing	Rodgers
Receiving	Nelson
Rushing	Lacy
Scoring	Crosby
Interceptions	Shields
Sacks	Matthews

### All-Pro

Lacy	Running Back
Sitton	Guard

### Notable Draft Choices (Round, Position)

Datone Jones (1, DE)  
Eddie Lacy (2, RB)  
David Bakhtiari (4a, T)  
J. C. Tretter (4b, T)  
Johnathan Franklin (4c, RB)  
Micah Hyde (5a, CB)  
Josh Boyd (5b, DE)  
Nate Palmer (6, LB)  
Sam Barrington (7c, LB)



1919 - 2019

# **PACKERS CENTURY**

*with Jim Rice*

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