



2017



THE
PACKERS CENTURY

P R O J E C T

ALL THE GAMES. ALL THE STORIES.

1919-2019

BY JIM RICE

packerscentury.com



2017

Record: 7-9-0 3rd – NFC North

Coach: Mike McCarthy

- Titletown Park opens on the west side of Lambeau Field. The team also announced a new partnership with Microsoft.
- The Green Bay Packers Foundation gave grants totaling \$800,000 to community groups, charitable organizations, and to the Green Bay public schools.
- Many NFL players knelt during the national anthem to call attention to the treatment of African-Americans.
- The Packers were 4-1 before Rodgers broke his collarbone in Game six against the Vikings. Brett Hundley replaced him.
- They lost three straight before beating the Bears. Rodgers missed seven games, and returned in December with playoff hopes still alive. He returned against Carolina, and after they lost, he went back on Injured Reserve.
- The Packers were one of the weaker teams on both sides of the ball. Rodgers' injury along with not being able to stop the pass and they couldn't stop the pass on defense.



1919-2019

SEATTLE
SEAHAWKS
PACKERS

9
17

9.10.2017

Nice!

A great start for the Packers against the always tough Seattle. Green Bay controlled the line of scrimmage all game, and they easily outgained the Seahawks 370-225.

The first quarter was quiet was fairly quiet with the exception of Aaron Rodgers' first interception in his last 251 attempts. It became a "chippy" game of 16 penalties – eight on each team – Seahawks took a 3-0 lead into halftime. The Packers stormed out of the locker room and put the game on ice in the third quarter. On Seattle's first possession, quarterback Russell Wilson had the ball knocked out of his hand by Mike Daniels. It was recovered by Kyler Fackrell on Seattle's six-yard line, and running back Ty Montgomery scored on Green Bay's first play. "It was definitely the momentum-turning point,"¹ said Mike McCarthy of Daniels' play.

Seattle responded and drove to Green Bay's three-yard line, but they were held to a field goal by a stingy defense. On their next series, Rodgers took Green Bay 80 yards for six. At Seattle's 32-yard line, he caught the Seahawks with too many on the field. Rodgers took the free play and hit Jordy Nelson for a 32-yard touchdown with 17 second left in the third for a 14-6 edge. With eight minutes left in the game, Mason Crosby made it 17-6, and the Packers held on for the win.

Defensively, holding the Seahawks to field goals was impressive. They also shut down former Packer Eddie Lacy who had just three yards on five carries. On offense, Jordy Nelson joined Donald Driver, Sterling Sharpe, and James Lofton with 500 receptions.

Seattle	0	3	3	3	9
Green Bay	0	0	14	3	17

Attendance: 78,381

Time of Possession: GB 39:13 SEA 20:47

Photo Caption: "Everclear performs on Saturday outside Lambeau Field in Green Bay. Everclear opened for Blues Traveler for a free concert the night before the Packers season opener." 2

1 Green Bay Press-Gazette, 9/11/17, Wood/Cohen, p. A4

2 Green Bay Press-Gazette, 9/12/17, p. A3



PACKERS

ATLANTA

FALCONS

23

9.17.2017

34

Déjà vu?

In a rematch of last year's National Football Conference championship game, the Falcons got out to another fast start that the Packers never stood a chance.

After short touchdown runs by Devonte Freeman of Atlanta and Ty Montgomery of Green Bay, the Falcons took over. They scored 17 unanswered points including Freeman's second touchdown run, and quarterback Matt Ryan's lone touchdown pass. The touchdown came 24 seconds before halftime, after Desmond Trufant's interception of Aaron Rodgers. The Falcons led at the break 24-7.

On the second play of the third quarter, Aaron Rodgers was hit hard as he threw by Vince Beasley. His pass went in a backwards direction was ruled a fumble. Desmond Trufant, returned it 15 yards for six and a 31-7 lead. After trading field goals, Rodgers threw two touchdown passes in the fourth quarter that were proved hollow.

Green Bay 7 0 3 13 23

Atlanta 7 17 10 0 34

Attendance: 70,826

Turnovers: GB 2 ATL 0

On September 15th, the new Tiletown District formally opens.



1919-2019

CINCINNATI
BENGALS
PACKERS

24
27 (OT) **9.24.2017**

The 0-2 Bengals pushed Green Bay into overtime! They held the Packers to 64 yards on the ground, and they sacked quarterback Aaron Rodgers six times.

The Packers never led in the game until overtime! Their only points in the first half came on a short Rodgers-to-Lance Kendricks touchdown that tied it 7-7. By halftime, the Packers had fallen behind 21-7 after two touchdown passes by quarterback Andy Dalton, and a 75-yard pick-six thrown by Rodgers.

In the second half, the Packers came to life. They scored on their opening possession with a nine-play drive and a Rodgers touchdown pass to Jordy Nelson. Still trailing 21-14 into the fourth quarter, a Mason Crosby field goal cut it to four, but the Bengals got the three back with just under four minutes left. On a game-tying 75-yard drive, Aaron Rodgers went nine for 12 with pass #12 going to Nelson to tie it with 21 seconds left in regulation.

In the overtime, the Bengals went three and out. For the Packers, on third-and-ten, Rodgers, on another free play as the Bengals jumped offside, threw deep down the left sideline to Geronimo Allison for a 72-yard gain to the seven-yard line. On second down with 6:26 left in the extra session, the Packers turned to Mason Crosby to end it!

Cincinnati	7	14	0	3	0	24
Green Bay	7	0	7	10	3	27

Attendance: 78,323

"The Japanese Packers Cheering Team, after partying at the Green Bay Distillery, braved the scorching heat and walked into Lambeau Field. It was the highly anticipated final step of a more than 6,000-

mile journey from Tokyo to Green Bay, all to watch their favorite NFL team. The group of 24 Japanese Packers fans filed into the stadium. "How beautiful," Omi Ochida said, standing on the bleachers, his arms out wide. "Finally, we're here."¹

¹ Green Bay Press-Gazette, 9/25/17, Le Duc, p. C1



1919-2019

CHICAGO
BEARS
PACKERS

14
35

9.28.2017

Packers take lead in long rivalry!

A Thursday Night national audience watched the Packers beat the Bears for the 13th time in the last 15 games. Though they outgained Green Bay (308-260), turnovers and four touchdowns by Aaron Rodgers made the difference.

Despite not having both starting offensive tackles, the Packers took control of the game in the first seven minutes. On the game's opening drive, they marched 75 yards for a Rodgers to Davante Adams touchdown. On Chicago's first play from scrimmage, quarterback Mike Glennon fumbled after being hit by Clay Mathews. Jake Ryan recovered on the three-yard line, and a Rodgers to Randall Cobb touchdown pass made it 14-0.

After a 45-minute lightning delay late in the first half, Ha-Ha Clinton Dix's interception led to another Green Bay touchdown by rookie running back Aaron Jones. Before halftime, the Bears scored to make it a 21-7.

Near the end in the third quarter, Danny Tervathan's hit on Davante Adams sent him to the hospital with a concussion. On the next play, Rodgers and Jordy Nelson found the end zone to make it academic. If there was any doubt, four minutes later after another interception by Green Bay, Rodgers connected with Nelson again to make it 35-7. The win gave the Packers the all-time lead in the rivalry for the first time since 1932 (95-94-6)!

Chicago 0 7 0 7 14

Green Bay 14 7 7 7 35

Attendance: 78,362

The sack was #75 for Matthews to move him past KGB as GB's all-time sack leader.

In 2017, Lambeau Field celebrated its 60th anniversary. “It’s more than football. It’s the cultural epicenter of Titledown. A museum. A banquet hall. A wedding chapel.”¹

1 Green Bay Press-Gazette, 10/1/17, Wood, p. C5



1919-2019

PACKERS

DALLAS

COWBOYS

35

10.8.2017

31

Aaron Rodgers beats the Cowboys again in Dallas! Similar to their win over Dallas in last year's divisional round, Rodgers tore the hearts out of Cowboys' fans again!

Dallas led the entire half as quarterback Dak Prescott threw two touchdown passes to Cole Beasley to set the pace. In between, Aaron Rodgers and Davante Adams hooked up to stay close. Prescott threw a third touchdown to Dez Bryant to stretch it to 21-6. With under a minute left in the half, Aaron Jones, in his first start, took it in from the seven to cut it to 21-12. "I have zero worries about him back there,"¹ Rodgers said of the rookie, who also ran for 125 yards.

After Mason Crosby's field goal, a 30-point fourth quarter was great finish. A 15-play drive that began in the third quarter finished with a Rodgers to Jordy Nelson touchdown for Green Bay first lead 22-21. A Dallas field goal took it back, but two minutes later, a pick-six by Damarious Randall grabbed it back.

On their ensuing 18-play drive, Prescott's touchdown run gave Dallas a 31-28 lead with 1:13 left. Rodgers worked another last-minute miracle that included his 18-yard scramble for a first down on the Dallas 12 with 21 seconds left. After an incomplete pass to Adams, Rodgers called the same play for the winner!

Green Bay	6	6	3	20	35
Dallas	7	14	0	10	31
Attendance:	93,329				

¹ Green Bay Press-Gazette, 10/9/17, Silverstein, p. A2



1919-2019

PACKERS
MINNESOTA
VIKINGS

10
23

10.15.2017

Eight minutes into the game and on the eighth play from scrimmage for Green Bay, Aaron Rodgers suffered a broken right collarbone and was lost for the season. On the play, Rodgers scrambled to his right and just after releasing a pass he was knocked down and landed upon by linebacker Anthony Barr.

Second-year back-up Brett Hundley came in for Rodgers. His first pass was intercepted, and the Vikings took a 7-0 lead two plays later. Green Bay struck back on a fumble recovery by Clay Matthews that he returned 63 yards! Hundley capitalized with a 14-yard touchdown to Davante Adams to even it 7-7. The Vikings matched the touchdown, but after Damarious Randall's interception (and a Green Bay touchdown that was overturned) Mason Crosby's field goal made it 14-10 at half.

That would be it for Green Bay offensively, and the Vikings managed just three more field goals. The Packers were outgained 351-227, and Hundley was sacked four times. He also threw three interceptions, with two coming in the fourth quarter.

The Press-Gazette headline the next day said what every Packers fan had been thinking: "Unless Rodgers returns, Packers are finished."¹

Green Bay	0	0	10	0	10
Minnesota	0	14	3	6	23
Attendance:	66,848				

¹ Green Bay Press-Gazette, 10/16/17, p. A3



1919-2019

NEW ORLEANS
SAINTS
PACKERS

26
17

10.22.2017

The Saints had no trouble with the Packers. Drew Brees threw his 500th career touchdown pass, and he picked apart Green Bay's secondary for 331 yards. New Orleans outgained Green Bay 485-260, and they took control in the second half.

In quarterback Brett Hundley's first start, the Packers scored on the seventh play of the game. Aaron Jones slipped through right guard for a 46-yard touchdown run. With Hundley's 14-yard touchdown run, the Packers surprising led at half 14-6.

New Orleans didn't waste time dominating the final 30 minutes. They scored the first two times they had the ball as a Drew Brees touchdown pass and a field goal did the damage, Now trailing 16-14, Green Bay took the lead back 17-16 before a Brees touchdown run and another field goal put it away.

After leading in the first half, they came out flat in the second and "Hundley didn't make any big mistakes – his lone interception came with the Packers trailing by nine points in the final minutes – but he also didn't make any big plays."¹

New Orleans	0	7	9	10	26
Green Bay	7	7	0	3	17
Attendance:	78,380				

The 1967 NFL Championship Team was honored between the first and second quarters. Bart Starr and several other players were on hand. While visiting Green Bay, Starr donated several items to the Packers Hall of Fame, "including his favorite (1967) championship ring."² Bart Starr Jr. explained, "These items have all along belonged to the Packers and to the city and to the fans. This is just sort of the final chapter in getting there."²

¹ packershistory.net/2017, Associated Press
² Green Bay Press-Gazette, 10/24/17, Ryman, p. A2, A4



1919-2019

DETROIT
LIONS
PACKERS

30
17

11.6.2017

After the bye week, the Packers got smoked by the Lions in Green Bay for the second time in three years. The right arm of Matt Stafford carried the day with 361 yards passing and no interceptions. Detroit outgained the Rodgers-less Packers 417-311.

The Lions jumped in front 14-0 with two first-half touchdowns. The Packers managed only a field goal, and they trailed 14-3 into the third quarter. Kicker Matt Prater booted three field goals in the second half, and the Packers did little until the final 10 minutes. Touchdown runs by Hundley and Jamal Williams made the final score appear closer than in actuality.

Both teams were now 4-4.

Detroit	7	7	3	13	30
Green Bay	0	3	0	14	17
Attendance:	77,575				

“The Green Bay Packers hosted a flag football tournament for members of all five branches of the Armed Forces on Saturday – part of the Packers’ Salute to Service Program.”¹

¹ Green Bay Press-Gazette, 11/8/17, Matthews, p. A3



1919-2019

PACKERS

CHICAGO
BEARS

23

16

11.12.2017

A win!

The Packers and quarterback Brett Hundley won their first game without Rodgers in dramatic fashion after a very mediocre first half. After a 3-3 start, a 44-yard punt return by Trevor Davis set up the Packers. A few plays later, Hundley gave it to Ty Montgomery who went off left tackle for a 37-yard sprint and a 10-6 lead at halftime.

Mason Crosby led the early scoring in the second half with two field goals. The kicks – from the 24 and 50 – made it 16-6 Packers in the fourth quarter. The Bears cut it to 16-13 with 10:39 remaining, Hundley's passing and scrambling kept Green Bay's next drive going, and he finished it with a 19-yard touchdown to Davante Adams for a 10-point lead with five minutes left!

Green Bay	3	7	3	10	23
Chicago	3	3	0	10	16
Attendance:	61,285				



1919-2019

BALTIMORE
RAVENS
PACKERS

23
0

11.19.2017

This was the first of two shutouts suffered by the Packers in the final seven weeks. Though they were shutout, they weren't outgained (265-219).

Baltimore sacked quarterback Brett Hundley six times, and Green Bay turned the ball over five times. Interceptions stopped Green Bay's first two drives, and a fumble stopped the third. Three of Green Bay's five turnovers led to 13 points for the Ravens.

Justin Tucker's two field goals in the first half gave Baltimore the halftime lead. With just two minutes gone in the second half, Ravens quarterback Joe Flacco hit wideout Mike Wallace for a 21-yard touchdown. In the fourth quarter, another field goal and a third interception deep in Packers' territory set up the final touchdown run by Alex Collins.

In the second half, the turnovers continued and Green Bay's offense generated just 151 yards. Fans became more frustrated, and, "There were several times throughout the Packers' first shutout loss in 11 years when fans inside Lambeau Field let the offense know how they felt."¹ Green Bay was now 5-5.

Baltimore	0	6	7	10	23
Green Bay	0	0	0	0	0

Attendance: 77,945

¹ Green Bay Press Gazette, 11/20/17, Wood, Cohen, Silverstein, p. A4



1919-2019

PACKERS

PITTSBURGH

STEELERS

28

31

11.26.2017

Brett's best game

In a back and forth battle with seven lead changes, the Steelers finally prevailed with a field goal as time ran out.

Despite getting sacked four times and hit hard all game, this was a fine game by quarterback, Brett Hundley. He threw for 245 yards and three touchdowns to lead the Packers' offense. In the first half, Randall Cobb and Jamaal Williams caught the touchdowns. His favorite target, Davante Adams, caught five passes including 55-yard touchdown bomb early in the second half to put Green Bay back on top 21-14.

The Steelers, who turned the ball over four times, persevered. With a strong defense that contained the Packers in the second half, their offense took over. For the rest of the half, they outscored Green Bay 17-7. Antonio Brown led all receivers with two touchdown catches in the second half and 169 yards overall. Le'Veon Bell led the Steelers ground game with 95 yards as well as he 12 catches for 88 more.

With the Steelers leading 28-21, Hundley cashed-in with a game-tying touchdown drive with just over two minutes left. Green Bay went 77 yards in 12 plays to tie it at 28, before quarterback Ben Roethlisberger came back with a key completion to Brown to set up the winning kick.

Green Bay	14	0	7	7	28
Pittsburgh	6	8	7	10	31

Attendance: 61,147

On Thursday, "The Green Bay Packers Organization is sponsoring a blood drive from 7am to 7pm at Lambeau Field's Legends Club."¹

¹ Green Bay Press-Gazette, 11/29/17, p. A3



TAMPA BAY

BUCCANEERS 20

PACKERS

26(OT)

11.19.2017

1919-2019

The Packers get back to .500 with this overtime win. Despite Tampa Bay's 10-minute advantage in the time of possession, the defense delivered seven sacks to minimize the damage.

Tampa Bay scored on their opening drive took with the first of two touchdown passes by Jameis Winston. The Packers took control with the next 17 points. After Mason Crosby's field goal, Jamaal Williams scored on the ground. The touchdown came after "linebacker Kyler Fackrell got his hand on a punt attempt"¹ to set up the short drive. Tampa Bay's next series ended when Jameis Winston was sacked and stripped of the ball by Kenny Clark. Defensive end Dean Lowry recovered and raced 62 yards for a 17-7 lead. "I saw myself on the big screen. Lambeau Leap right here. So, I got up there and did it. I was definitely gassed afterward,"¹ Lowery said.

After a scoreless third quarter, a second Buccaneers field goal made it 17-13. They retook the lead with six minutes left on a 13-play drive that Winston finished with his second touchdown pass to Cameron Brate. Quarterback Brett Hundley then led Green Bay on a 75-yard drive for Mason Crosby's tying field goal from the 22-yard line with 2:03 left!

After winning the overtime toss, the Packers scored on the eighth play of the drive. Rookie running back Aaron Jones won it with a 20-yard touchdown around left end!

Tampa Bay	7	3	0	10	0	20
Green Bay	3	14	0	3	6	26
Attendance:	77,684					

¹ Green Bay Press-Gazette, 12/4/17, Courtney, p. A5

² Green Bay Press-Gazette, 12/4/17, Wood, p. A4



PACKERS
CLEVELAND
BROWNS

27
12.10.2017
21(OT)

The Packers won their third overtime game this season, but they were pushed to the limit by the winless Browns.

Green Bay took a first-quarter lead on quarterback Brett Hundley's 30-yard touchdown pass to Jamaal Williams. The Browns responded with the next 21 points, and quarterback DeShone Kizer threw three touchdown passes.

In the fourth quarter, the Packers found traction. Jamaal Williams (118 total yards) scored his second touchdown, this one on the ground! Hundley continued his fine afternoon (35-46-265-3-0) and late in the game, and 65-yard punt return by Trevor Davis got things started at the 25 with 2:37 left. Hundley found Davante Adams to tie it with 17 seconds left!

On Cleveland's third play in overtime, pressure from Clay Matthews hurried Kizer into an interception by safety Josh Jones on the 42-yard line! Six plays later, on third down, Hundley tossed a screen pass to Adams that exploded into the 25-yard winner!

Green Bay	7	0	0	14	6	27
Cleveland	7	7	7	0	0	21

Attendance: 67,431

Both Hundley and Kizer would be on GB's training camp roster in 2018.



1919-2019

PACKERS
CAROLINA
PANTHERS

24
31

12.17.2017

Aaron!

Aaron Rodgers returned from his absence since a broken collarbone in mid-October with a broken collar bone, and threw three touchdowns and three interceptions, not in that order. The loss eliminated the Packers from the postseason, and the next day, Rodgers went back on the Injured Reserve.

The Packers and Rodgers led at halftime 14-10 on touchdowns from Rodgers to Davante Adams and Randall Cobb. In the second half, the Panthers rallied. Carolina's Cam Newton continued to go over and around the Packers (20-31-242-4-0), and for the game, he also ran for 58 more.

Other than a field goal, and a late touchdown with under three minutes left, it was Carolina's half. The Packers came up short after a Rodgers-to-Richard Rodgers touchdown made it a seven-point game with under three minutes left.

Green Bay	7	7	3	7	24
Carolina	7	3	14	7	31

Attendance: 74,447

Turnovers: GB 4 CAR 0



1919-2019

MINNESOTA
VIKINGS
PACKERS

16
0

12.23.2017

Sunday Night game at Lambeau Field wasn't quite the showdown the Packers had hoped. Since they hadn't qualified for the postseason, the game was mostly about playing spoiler.

The first-place Vikings (11-3) were trying to secure a home field advantage throughout the playoffs. They had no trouble with Green Bay, and they swept the season series for the first time since 2009. They won it behind a Casey Keenum touchdown pass, and three field goals. With Rodgers on the sidelines, Hundley "sputtered through a forgettable performance"¹ throwing two interceptions. The second with 2:04 left to end it.

Minnesota	10	0	3	3	16
Green Bay	0	0	0	0	0
Attendance:	78,092				

*"'Catch a Star' helps make wishes come true for Wisconsin children this holiday season. Quarterback Brett Hundley is a sponsor."*²

¹ Green Bay Press-Gazette, 12/24/17, Cohen, p. C1

² Green Bay Press-Gazette, 12/24/17, p. E4



1919-2019

PACKERS

DETROIT

LIONS

11

12.31.2017

35

For the first time since 1991, the Packers were swept by the Lions. Detroit blew the game open in the second quarter with 17 points and a 20-3 halftime lead. Quarterback Matt Stafford passed for 323 yards passing and three touchdowns. The Lions 356 total yards.

This was Green Bay's first losing season in nine years.

Green Bay	3	0	0	8	11
Detroit	3	17	7	8	35
Attendance:	62,501				

Mark Murphy, Packers' President: "There's something wholesome about a small-market team being able to compete within the big NFL. There's a purity involved with the Packers that's just refreshing. My predecessor – Bob Harlan – called the Packers the greatest story in sports, and I agree with that."¹

¹ Facing the Green Bay Packers, Carlson, p. 78



THE
**PACKERS CENTURY
PROJECT**
1919-2019

2017 Team Statistics

FINAL STANDINGS – NFC North

	<u>W</u>	<u>L</u>	<u>T</u>
Minnesota	13	3	0
Detroit	9	7	0
Green Bay	7	9	0
Chicago	5	11	0

Team Leaders

Passing	Hundley
Receiving	Adams
Rushing	Williams
Scoring	Crosby
Interceptions	Randall
Sacks	Mathews

All-Pro

Bakhtiari	Tackle
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Notable Draft Choices (Round, Position)

Kevin King (2a, DB)
Josh Jones (2b, S)
Montravius Adams (3, DT)
Vince Biegel (4a, LB)
Jamaal Williams (4b, RB)
Aaron Jones (5b, RB)
Devante Mays (7a, RB)



1919 - 2019

PACKERS CENTURY

with Jim Rice

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