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SECOND PRESEASON GAME

TRAVELIN' MEN: The Packers play their second of three straight contests away from home to open the preseason.

- ▶ The team is playing those three games in 12 days, including Monday's Pro Football Hall of Fame Game vs. Kansas City and a Friday night contest at Cleveland.
- ▶ Later this season, Green Bay will see a similar stretch when it plays four games in 18 days. The opponents during that Nov. 10-27 period are the other three defending NFC division champions (Philadelphia, Tampa Bay and San Francisco) and a Thanksgiving trip to play Steve Mariucci's Lions.
- ▶ For the first time in 30 years, the Packers are playing three consecutive preseason games outside Wisconsin. In 1963, Vince Lombardi's defending NFL champions opened at the College All-Star Game (at Chicago), vs. Pittsburgh (at Miami) and at Dallas.
- ▶ During regular-season play, the NFL has scheduled the Packers on the road three straight weeks several times. It happened most recently during Mike Holmgren's final three years as head coach. The league did it once in 1997 and once in 1998. And in 1996, when Green Bay won Super Bowl XXXI, the league put two three-game road stretches on the Packers' schedule.
- ▶ Each year from 1986-95, the Packers played three pre-season games in Wisconsin.

WHAT TO LOOK FOR SATURDAY:

- ▶ Two of the league's six "full-power" coaches, Atlanta's Dan Reeves and Green Bay's Mike Sherman, go head-to-head. Since Bob Harlan gave him the general manager title after the 2000 season, Sherman has posted the NFL's best record (24-8, .750) among coaches with similar responsibilities.
- ▶ The Packers make their first ever preseason trip to Atlanta. Green Bay closed both the 1961 and '62 pre-seasons against the Redskins in Columbus, Ga.

THE FIRST GEORGIA DOME GAME: On Oct. 4, 1992, Green Bay made its only previous appearance in the Georgia Dome. Just one year after launching his career with the Falcons, Brett Favre made his second career start, and second of 173 consecutive starts, the NFL record among QBs (active entering 2003).

Chronology of the 1992 Favre trade

April 21, 1991—On Day 1 of the '91 NFL draft, the Eagles strike a deal with Green Bay to move up. Eyeing Tennessee T Antone Davis, the Eagles ship their '91 first-round choice (19th overall) to Green Bay for the Packers' first-rounder (eighth overall). Philadelphia gets Davis, and the Packers use the Eagles' No. 19 to snag CB Vinnie Clark from Ohio State. The Packers' Tom Braatz and Lindy Infante don't consummate the trade until Philadelphia agrees to throw in its 1992 first-round selection...

Dec. 1, 1991—Green Bay's first game after Wolf's hiring is a trip to Fulton County Stadium. Before a 35-31 loss, in pregame warmups, Wolf scouts Favre, the player he missed drafting by one pick seven months earlier with the Jets.

Feb. 10, 1992—In his second trade as Packers general manager, Wolf takes the choice acquired in '91 from Philadelphia (17th overall, the Eagles were 10-6 in 1991) and sends it to Atlanta for Favre...

The Falcons later traded that 17th pick to Dallas for the Cowboys' first-round position (19th) and fourth-round choice (104th) in the same draft; Dallas chose CB Kevin Smith from Texas A&M with its pick acquired from Atlanta, through Green Bay; the Falcons chose Favre's former Southern Mississippi teammate Tony Smith (RB) at No. 19 and selected CB Frankie Smith from Baylor at No. 104.

Hours later, in Round 2, the Falcons select Brett Favre 33rd overall, breaking the hearts of several teams, including the Jets...Ron Wolf, heading the Jets personnel department, chooses QB Browning Nagle with the next choice, 34th.

Nov., 1991—Braatz is relieved on Nov. 20. One week later, the Packers hire Wolf and give him full control of Green Bay football operations.

BIG-LEAGUE TIES: Former first-round selections Michael Vick and Javon Walker were drafted by Major League Baseball teams. Before the Falcons took Vick in the 2001 NFL Draft, the Colorado Rockies drafted him (30th round) in June, 2000. Vick last picked up a bat in eighth grade, but the the Rockies' scouting director and owner were amazed by him in the 1999 Sugar Bowl against Florida State, who would sign Walker out of junior college one month later. The Florida Marlins chose Walker in the 1997 draft and he spent all or parts of three seasons playing pro baseball. Defending World Series champion Anaheim now owns Walker's rights.

PACKERS HISTORY 101: Five of the 11 assistants Lombardi hired in Green Bay went on to become NFL head coaches, including Norb Hecker, the first coach in Falcons history. On the Packers staff, Hecker groomed future Hall of Famers Herb Adderley and Willie Wood.

PACKERS HISTORY, ADVANCED: In addition to Hecker, the Packers lost three players to the Falcons in the 1966 NFL Expansion Draft: QB Dennis Claridge, RB Junior Coffey and G Dan Grimm.

ATLANTA NEMESIS: Since Week 6 of the 2000 season, including playoffs, the Packers are 1-2 at home against Atlanta and 20-0 against the rest of the league. The Lambeau Field mark is 24-0 including preseason.

BETWEEN THE HASH MARKS: Green Bay's 37-34 overtime win over Atlanta to open the 2002 season tied for the second-hottest game in Lambeau history (83 degrees).

MONDAY NIGHT LEFTOVERS: Weather has now canceled an NFL game on at least three known occasions; the Packers have played in two of them. Lightning also ended Green Bay's 1980 Hall of Fame Game vs. San Diego. And, on Aug. 22, 1996, rain ended a Chiefs game at Chicago.

NOTABLE CONNECTIONS: Larry Beightol (1985-86), Tom Rossley (1990) and Ray Sherman (1990) preceded Favre (1991) in Atlanta, on the Falcons staff...Billy Davis (2000) and Emmitt Thomas (1999) coached previously for Green Bay...Juran Bolden (1998), Lamont Hall (1999), Travis Jervey (1995-98), Tod McBride (1999-2002), Allen Rossum (2000-01) and Tyrone Williams (1996-2002) played previously for Green Bay...Assistant college scouting director Shaun Herock was a Falcons ball boy as a youth, and interned there from 1989-92...College scouting coordinator Danny Mock worked for Atlanta from 1980-96...Green Bay scout Lenny McGill played for both the Packers (1994-95) and Falcons (1996-97)...Atlanta scout Boyd Dowler is a Packers Hall of Famer...The Falcons' Christy Duffner is the daughter of Packers LB coach Mark Duffner.

CAMP HEADLINES: After rookies and free agents reported July 18, the Packers held their first full-squad workouts July 22...First-round draft pick Nick Barnett, anxiously awaiting his contract, covertly watched the first rookie practice July 19 from a parking lot before signing soon after...Eric Crouch went on the reserve/retired list July 22...Returning from season-ending injuries, Mark Tauscher and Chad Clifton unexpectedly went full speed in the first full-squad workouts, July 22...After working out all offseason at the University of Kansas, Packers icon Gilbert Brown rejoined the team July 28...A kidney stone hospitalized FB William Henderson July 28, but couldn't keep him out of practice July 29...The team agreed to terms with five-time Pro Bowl TE Wesley Walls Aug. 4.

Two years after he co-founded the Packers with Curly Lambeau, George Calhoun began writing a piece called *The Dope Sheet*, which served as the official press release and game program from 1921-24. Honoring Calhoun, the first publicity director, and preserving history, the Packers are running this weekly feature in their release.