



THE DOPE SHEET

OFFICIAL PUBLICITY, GREEN BAY PROFESSIONAL FOOTBALL CLUB

VOL. V; NO. 5

GREEN BAY, AUG. 25, 2003

FIFTH PRESEASON GAME

WHAT TO LOOK FOR THURSDAY:

- ▶ The Packers haven't lost a preseason finale in Wisconsin since 1992. The streak is seven entering the Titans game.
- ▶ The team looks to extend a 12-year winning streak in the annual Bishop's Charities game. Green Bay last lost the contest in 1990, which extended the Packers' losing streak in the game to six years.
- ▶ Green Bay has not lost consecutive home games in the same year (preseason, regular season or postseason) since Nov. 1-7, 1999, when it dropped two straight to Seattle and Chicago, respectively.

SPEAKING OF STREAKS: The franchise record for consecutive wins in the preseason is 19. Green Bay built the streak during Vince Lombardi's first four years, 1959-62. The stretch ended in the 1963 preseason opener when, amazingly, the defending NFL champion Packers lost in the annual College All-Star Game, 20-17. Against professional competition, the Packers won 23 straight preseason games from 1959-63.

THE AGE-OLD QUESTION: Does a quality preseason record translate into regular-season success? Well, at least in Packers history, it does, sort of.

- ▶ On eight occasions, the Packers finished perfect in the preseason (minimum four games). In five of those eight years (1960-62, 1967, 1997) the Packers played for the NFL championship.
- ▶ The other three years (1921, 1935, 1999), the team didn't do as well in the regular season, but didn't post a losing record in any of those years, either.

EXTRA DAY OF REST: The Packers will have nine full days to prepare for their regular-season opener, one of the longest stretches in team history.

- ▶ The Packers also had nine full days before their openers in 1997 and 1999.
- ▶ In 1999, the team also wrapped up preseason on a Thursday.
- ▶ The Packers' longest such stretch was 14 days (before the 1939, 1943 and 1956 seasons).

IF MEMORY SERVES ME RIGHT: For the second straight year, the Packers close the preseason in Wisconsin with the same opponent, Tennessee. That hasn't happened in 36 years, since the Giants were in Milwaukee (1966) and Green Bay (1967) to wrap up preseason play.

FOUR STRAIGHT AT LAMBEAU: While only two games count, the Packers Saturday kicked off a stretch in which they play four straight weeks at Lambeau Field for the first time in history.

- ▶ In 1961 (four straight), 1963 (four), 1967 (four), 1970 (five), 1987 (five) and 1988 (four straight), the team played similar Wisconsin stretches, but not all games were at Lambeau Field; some were in Madison and some were in Milwaukee.

LET'S PLAY TWO: The Packers on Aug. 25, 1939, at old City Stadium played a preseason doubleheader. Curly Lambeau's squad, who would go on to win the 1939 world championship, swept the Pittsburgh Football Pirates.

HISTORIC MONTH: The Packers this month mark the 80th anniversary of three significant events — all related to the team's finances.

- ▶ In August, 1923, the Packers were formally transformed into a non-profit organization by a group of Green Bay

businessmen called "The Hungry Five."

- ▶ At the same meeting, held at a local Elks club, the team raised \$1,000 in the first stock sale.
- ▶ On Aug. 23, 1923, Andrew B. Turnbull, then the publisher of the *Green Bay Press-Gazette*, was elected as the first president of the newly formed Packers corporation.

Largest crowds, Lambeau Field history

Attendance	Date	Opponent	Final	
69,831	Aug. 23, 2003	Carolina	L, 7-20	preseason
65,358	Jan. 4, 2003	Atlanta	L, 7-27	playoffs
64,196	Dec. 1, 2002	Chicago	W, 30-20	
64,106	Dec. 22, 2002	Buffalo	W, 10-0	
64,070	Dec. 8, 2002	Minnesota	W, 26-22	

DID YOU KNOW: While the fans have owned the team for 80 years, the Packers have had three owners, all in their first four seasons.

- ▶ The Indian Packing Company owned the club in 1919, paying an unofficial purchase price of \$500. In turn, Lambeau and co-founder George Calhoun opted to call the team the Indian Packers.
- ▶ Shortly thereafter, the Acme Packing Company purchased Indian Packing Company and all its assets, including the fledgling team. Acme chairmen John and Emmitt Clair served as owners.
- ▶ With the team already headed for bankruptcy after the '21 season, the NFL banished the Packers for using active college players. Lambeau, with help from a friend who pawned his car, became owner when he re-applied for membership and paid a \$250 re-entry fee.

THE STADIUM'S PLAYABLE THIS YEAR: In 1957, awaiting completion of their new stadium, the Packers played their entire preseason schedule "on the road." Due to conflicts at County Stadium, the team had just one game in Wisconsin, and none in Green Bay. The Bears are in a similar situation this season, until dedicating a renovated Soldier Field against Green Bay, Sept. 29 — the 46th anniversary of Lambeau Field's dedication.

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...Heavy rain and lightning, for the second time in history (also in 1980), prematurely ended a Packers game in Canton, Aug. 4...The Packers lost two key players indefinitely at Atlanta, Aug. 9: Brown and CB Bryant Westbrook...The Cleveland Renaissance Hotel fed the Packers their full meal, despite losing electricity in the blackout 15 minutes after the team arrived, Aug. 14...Several offensive starters, including Donald Driver, Tauscher and Clifton, returned to game action Aug. 15 at Cleveland...Brown, jeopardizing his long-term health, opted to forgo surgery and returned to practice with a torn biceps, Aug. 20; he started vs. Carolina Saturday.

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, the Packers are running this weekly feature in their release.