



THE DOPE SHEET

OFFICIAL PUBLICITY, GREEN BAY PROFESSIONAL FOOTBALL CLUB

VOL. V; NO. 6

GREEN BAY, SEPT. 2, 2003

FIRST GAME

REBIRTH OF A LEGEND: Sunday marks the culmination of several weeks filled with events to celebrate the rebirth of Lambeau Field, following a 32-month, \$295 million renovation. The project increased capacity from 60,890 to 72,515. Some other information you may or may not know about the NFL's most-recognized stadium:

- ▶ On average, 7,900 brats and 10,650 hot dogs are consumed at each game.
- ▶ The "football field" on the Lambeau Field Atrium floor is directly proportional and in line with the actual field.
- ▶ The original construction took less than nine months at a cost of around \$1 million.
- ▶ Mike Sherman had three slabs of concrete from the team's long-time tunnel transplanted to its new tunnel. Despite moving their tunnel nearly 180 degrees across the bowl, the Packers still walk to warm up in the north end zone, confusing opponents (normally, the home team warms up closest to its tunnel).
- ▶ President & CEO Bob Harlan made the unique decision to play every home game at Lambeau during the renovation. Green Bay went 20-2 (including preseason and playoffs), during the redevelopment, losing both times to the Atlanta Falcons.

Longest active homefield tenures, pro sports

Years	Current Name	Tenant	First Game
92	Fenway Park	Boston Red Sox	1912
90	Wrigley Field	Chicago Cubs	1914
47	Lambeau Field	Green Bay Packers	1957
42	Dodger Stadium	Los Angeles Dodgers	1962
40	Shea Stadium	New York Mets	1964
38	Busch Stadium	St. Louis Cardinals	1966
	Edison Field	Anaheim Angels	1966
37	Qualcomm S.	San Diego Chargers	1967
36	Qualcomm S.	San Diego Padres	1968
	Madison Square Garden	New York Knicks & New York Rangers	1968

WHAT TO LOOK FOR SUNDAY:

- ▶ Against division opponents, Mike Sherman has won 10 consecutive home games, and stands 10-1 overall. His only loss was a 27-24 decision to Chicago, Oct. 1, 2000.
- ▶ Ahman Green needs five receptions for 200 career and eight for 200 in a Packers uniform.
- ▶ At home, the Packers bid for a 12th consecutive regular-season win, which would extend the NFL's longest active streak.

SUNDAY CHART WATCH:

- ▶ Bubba Franks needs one TD reception to surpass No. 3 Mark Chmura (17) on the Packers' all-time tight ends list. Ed West (25) and Paul Coffman (39) are next up.
- ▶ Ahman Green needs 25 yards to surpass No. 6 Gerry Ellis (3,826), 59 to surpass No. 5 Clarke Hinkle (3,860) and 136 to surpass No. 4 Dorsey Levens (4,197). No. 3 Tony Canadeo (4,197) and No. 2 John Brockington (5,024) are also vulnerable this year. Green enters 2003 with 3,802 yards in Green Bay. At his current rate, he would break Jim Taylor's franchise record (8,207) in '06.

WISCONSIN SEASON OPENERS: The Packers open the regular-season schedule in Wisconsin for a seventh consecutive season, and for the 17th time over an 18-year stretch (since 1986). Since '86, no other NFL team has opened the season at home more often. The only season over the last 18 years in which the Packers did not open at home was 1996, the year they won Super Bowl XXXI, kicking off at Tampa Bay. Green Bay is 7-2 over the last nine

season-opening games at home, including a 1993 win at Milwaukee County Stadium over the Los Angeles Rams.

GOODBYE NO. 2: Antonio Chatman changed his uniform number from 2 to 83, the team's only number change heading into this week. Had he kept No. 2, he would've become the second Packers player ever to wear the numeral in a league game. Charlie Mathys, a back from Indiana, wore it from 1925-26. No. 1 is the only other number in Packers history worn by just one player (Curly Lambeau, 1925-26).

COMMEMORATIVE PATCH: For the first time since 1994, the Packers will play with a uniform patch. The Rebirth of a Legend insignia commemorates the historic redevelopment of Lambeau Field. The Pro Football Hall of Fame has requested a copy of the patch along with a game ball from this week's historic contest. Green Bay's last uniform patch marked the NFL's 75th anniversary in 1994. The Packers will wear the "Rebirth" patch for one game only. They also displayed it for their annual team picture, taken Monday.

HISTORIC GAME BALL: Sunday's contest will feature a regulation NFL ball with a full-color "Rebirth" logo. The ball is also engraved with the date. Lincoln Financial Field will also use a commemorative ball Monday night.

FIRST BLOOD: Under Mike Sherman, the Packers are 21-3 when scoring first.

- ▶ Until Nov. 24, 2002, when Green Bay delivered the first volley in a loss at Tampa Bay, the Packers had won 17 straight when scoring first.
- ▶ The club still owns a 14-game home winning streak, which began after a Lambeau loss to the Jets in Sherman's head coaching debut, Sept. 3, 2000.
- ▶ Since 1992 with the game's first points, the Packers are 75-24 overall and 50-5 in Wisconsin.

LEADING AT HALF: At Lambeau, the last time Green Bay lost a game it led at the half was Dec. 12, 1999, to Carolina. Under Sherman, the Packers are 15-0 in Green Bay in such instances. Overall under Sherman, they're 23-2, and had won 17 straight until a 2002 loss at Tampa Bay.

FINAL ROSTER MOVES: Frank Winters, a 17th-year veteran, would've tied Jan Stenerud (1983) as the most experienced NFL player in Packers history...The only remaining player from the Packers' 1992 renaissance team is Brett Favre...Upon making his debut, 6-foot-9 Brennan Curtin will become the tallest player in Packers history. The rookie tackle would surpass three 6-foot-8 players (Ben Davidson, Bill Hayhoe and Vernon Vanoy).

Rookie linebackers in the starting lineup

Nick Barnett could be the first rookie in 25 years to start the Packers' regular-season opener at **middle linebacker**. On Sept. 3, 1978, at Detroit, Coach Bart Starr opened the season with Mike Hunt at the position.

Since '78, six rookie linebackers have started the team's first regular-season game:

- ▶ SLB Na'il Diggs (2000)
- ▶ ILB Burnell Dent (1986)
- ▶ ILB Mark D'Onofrio (1992)
- ▶ OLB John Anderson (1978)
- ▶ ILB Johnny Holland (1987)
- ▶ MLB Mike Hunt (1978)

And, since '78, 15 rookie LBs have started at least one Packers game, but only eight have been primary starters:

- ▶ SLB Na'il Diggs (2000)
- ▶ ILB Brian Noble (1985)
- ▶ OLB Wayne Simmons (1993)
- ▶ MLB Rich Wingo (1979)
- ▶ ILB Johnny Holland (1987)
- ▶ OLB John Anderson (1978)
- ▶ OLB Tim Harris (1986)
- ▶ MLB Mike Hunt (1978)

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.

SEASON-OPENING WINNING STREAKS: The Packers bid to extend their season-opening winning streak to three years. The franchise record is five (1980-84). All-time at Lambeau Field on Opening Day, the Packers are 15-15-1 (.500).

LONGWELL APPROACHING 200: Ryan Longwell enters Sunday's game with a chance to further establish himself as one of the most accurate kickers in the NFL. Most field goals in first 200 career attempts among active kickers:

Mike Hollis, NYG (IR)	164
Adam Vinatieri, NE	162
Jason Hanson, Det.	161

Approaching 200	FG	FGA
Olindo Mare, Mia.	160	192
Ryan Longwell, GB	159	196
Doug Brien, NYJ	155	193

SOME WEIRD, WILD STUFF: Green Bay's wacky five-game preseason will go down as one of the strangest in NFL history.

- ▶ In the preseason opener, the annual Hall of Fame Game in Canton, officials cancelled the contest in the third quarter because of lightning and heavy rains. In 1980, weather also ended a Packers-Chargers contest in Canton. The two are the only known games cancelled by weather in Green Bay history.
- ▶ About 15 minutes after arriving at the Cleveland Renaissance Hotel, Aug. 14, the Packers along with several million other people were stripped of their electricity. However, because the hotel cooked with gas, it was able to feed the team its full meal, albeit by candlelight. City public service workers restored electricity at 1:15 a.m. Mike Sherman saw a silver lining, saying the bonding experience brought the team closer together. However, one unidentified player, after learning his room would be without air conditioning, asked if the hotel had fans.
- ▶ In the Aug. 28 finale, against the Titans at Lambeau Field, heavy rain and lightning suspended play with 2:05 left in the first half. Then, after a two-hour, 33-minute "rain delay," the teams finished their contest, with no commercial breaks and no halftime intermission. From kickoff to the final gun, the game lasted five hours, 41 minutes. Previously, the longest recorded time of game in Packers history was a 4:09 overtime tilt, Oct. 11, 1987 at Lambeau (a 19-16 loss to Detroit with replacement players).

Most playoff appearances, since 1993 CBA

Green Bay	8	Buffalo	5
San Francisco	8	Denver	5
Miami	7	Detroit	5
Minnesota	7	New England	5
Pittsburgh	7	Indianapolis	5
Dallas	6	Philadelphia	5
		Tampa Bay	5

NOTABLE CONNECTIONS

- ▶ **NFL ties:** Vikings receivers coach Charlie Baggett (receivers coach, 1999) and defensive backs coach Chuck Knox Jr. (defensive assistant/quality control, 1999) were on previous Green Bay staffs...The Vikings drafted Gilbert Brown in the third round of the '93 draft, then waived him in training camp...Four individuals in the Packers organization have previously worked or played for the Vikings: receivers coach Ray Sherman (quarterbacks coach, 1995-97 and O-coordinator, 1999); director of research and development Mike Eayrs (similar capacity, 1985-99); college scout Lee Gissendaner (player, 1996); and PR director Jeff Blumb (PR intern 1985 in Bud Grant's return season)...Vikings defensive lineman Billy Lyon played for the Packers from 1998-2002.
- ▶ **College teammates:** Nick Davis (Vikings), Michael Bennett (Vikings) and Mark Tauscher (Packers) at Wisconsin...Mike Rosenthal (Vikings) and Tony Fisher (Packers) at Notre Dame...Bryant McKinnie (Vikings),

Best in the NFL since 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 2001 and 2002

Since 1993					Since 1997					Since 2001				
Team	W	L	T	Pct	Team	W	L	T	Pct	Team	W	L	T	Pct
GB	107	53		0.669	GB	65	31		0.677	GB	24	8		0.750
SF	103	57		0.644	Den.	60	36		0.625	Pit.	23	8		1.734
Pit.	98	61		1.616	TB	60	36		0.625	Phi.	23	9		0.719
Den.	97	63		0.606	Ten.	60	36		0.625	SF	22	10		0.688
Mia.	95	65		0.594	Mia.	59	37		0.615	Oak.	21	11		0.656

Since 1994					Since 1998					Since 2002				
Team	W	L	T	Pct	Team	W	L	T	Pct	Team	W	L	T	Pct
GB	98	46		0.681	GB	52	28		0.650	GB	12	4		0.750
SF	93	51		0.646	Ten.	52	28		0.650	Phi.	12	4		0.750
Pit.	89	54		1.622	Mia.	50	30		0.625	TB	12	4		0.750
Den.	88	56		0.611	TB	50	30		0.625	Oak.	11	5		0.688
Mia.	86	58		0.597	Oak.	49	31		0.613	Ten.	11	5		0.688

Since 1995					Since 1999				
Team	W	L	T	Pct	Team	W	L	T	Pct
GB	89	39		0.695	StL	44	20		0.688
Den.	81	47		0.633	Ten.	44	20		0.688
SF	80	48		0.625	TB	42	22		0.656
Pit.	77	50		1.605	GB	41	23		0.641
Mia.	76	52		0.594	Oak.	41	23		0.641

Since 1996					Since 2000				
Team	W	L	T	Pct	Team	W	L	T	Pct
GB	78	34		0.696	Phi.	34	14		0.708
Den.	73	39		0.652	GB	33	15		0.688
SF	69	43		0.616	Oak.	33	15		0.688
Ten.	68	44		0.607	Pit.	32	15		1.677
Mia.	67	45		0.598	Mia.	31	17		0.646

Bubba Franks (Packers) and Najeh Davenport (Packers) at Miami (Fla.)...Brian Russell (Vikings) and Kabeer Gbaja-Biamila (Packers) at San Diego State...Rushen Jones (Vikings) and Hunter Hillenmeyer (Packers) at Vanderbilt...Kenny Mixon (Vikings) and Craig Nall (Packers) at LSU.

- ▶ **Other connections:** Minnesota's head trainer Chuck Barta and Packers assistant trainer Kurt Fielding were classmates at the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse...Vikings running back Michael Bennett rushed for 1,681 yards in his only season as a Wisconsin starter, 2000, second in Badger history; a former Milwaukee Tech High School star, Bennett's uncle is former Packer Tony Bennett...The Vikings' Nick Davis also played at Wisconsin...Dalton, Minnesota's running backs coach, was a coach at the University of Wisconsin (1986-87)...John Schneider, Green Bay's personnel analyst to the general manager, attended St. Thomas College in St. Paul, Minn....Minnesota special teams coach Rusty Tillman was born in Beloit, Wis....Vikings senior consultant Frank Gilliam was a seventh-round draft choice of the Packers in 1957.

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...The Packers lost two key players indefinitely at Atlanta, Aug. 9: Brown and CB Bryant Westbrook...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, Aug. 23.

Most rushing attempts without fumble, active streaks

James Stewart, Det.	397	Ahman Green, GB	247
Stacey Mack, Hou.	267	Eddie George, Ten.	228
Curtis Martin, NYJ	262	Charlie Garner, Oak.	227
Priest Holmes, KC	249		