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SIXTH GAME

AGAINST THE LEAGUE'S BEST: The Packers are no stranger to the NFL's best teams. Nine times during the Brett Favre era (1992-2003), they've faced a club at home that owned at least a share of the league's best winning percentage.

- ▶ They're 8-1 in those games, winning four straight.
- ▶ They're 4-0 under Mike Sherman (2000-03).
- ▶ The list includes Favre's first career start (9/27/92 vs. Pittsburgh), which launched his current 178-game starting streak, longest ever by an NFL quarterback:

Date	Opponent	Record entering	Pct	Result
Sept. 27, 1992	Pittsburgh	.3 0	1.000	GB, 17-3
Nov. 21, 1993	Detroit (Milw)	.7 2	.778	GB, 26-17
Dec. 6, 1996	Denver	.12 1	.923	GB, 41-6
Oct. 5, 1997	Tampa Bay	.5 0	1.000	GB, 21-16
Oct. 5, 1998	Minnesota	.4 0	1.000	Min, 24-37
Nov. 6, 2000+	Minnesota	.7 1	.875	GB, 26-20
Dec. 9, 2001	Chicago	.9 2	.818	GB, 17-7
Sept. 29, 2002	Carolina	.3 0	1.000	GB, 17-14
Oct. 5, 2003	Seattle	.3 0	1.000	GB, 35-13
Oct. 12, 2003	Kansas City	.5 0	1.000	

+ — overtime; minimum three games played

THE NFL'S EXTINGUISHER: Since 1992, teams bringing at least a three-game winning streak into Wisconsin are 1-12 against Favre and the Packers.

Date	Opponent	Streak entering	Result
Sept. 27, 1992	Pittsburgh	Won 3	GB, 17-3
Nov. 21, 1993	Detroit (Milw)	Won 4	GB, 26-17
Dec. 26, 1993	L.A. Raiders	Won 3	GB, 28-0
Dec. 24, 1995	Pittsburgh	Won 8	GB, 24-19
Dec. 8, 1996	Denver	Won 9	GB, 41-6
Dec. 22, 1996	Minnesota	Won 3	GB, 38-10
Oct. 5, 1997	Tampa Bay	Won 5	GB, 21-16
Oct. 5, 1998	Minnesota	Won 4	Min, 24-37
Nov. 1, 1998	San Francisco	Won 3	GB, 36-22
Dec. 24, 2000+	Tampa Bay	Won 4	GB, 17-14
Dec. 9, 2001	Chicago	Won 3	GB, 17-7
Sept. 29, 2002	Carolina	Won 3	GB, 17-14
Oct. 5, 2003	Seattle	Won 3	GB, 35-13

+ — overtime

ANOTHER LEGEND ON THE HORIZON: Favre (118) with a win Sunday can tie No. 4 Johnny Unitas (119) on the NFL's all-time wins list. The late Unitas, who began his career in 1956, was not previously thought to have qualified for the list because historians couldn't verify games he actually started (until Elias confirmed his record last week).

John Elway, Den	.148	82	1	.643
Dan Marino, Mia	.147	93	0	.613
Fran Tarkenton, Min-NYG	.125	109	6	.533
Johnny Unitas, BalC-SD	.119	63	4	.651
Brett Favre, GB	.118	60	0	.663
Joe Montana, SF-KC	.117	47	0	.713
Terry Bradshaw, Pit	.107	51	0	.677
Warren Moon, HouO-Min-Sea-KC	.102	98	0	.510

ONE OF THE FEW THINGS HE HASN'T DONE: Favre has defeated every possible NFL opponent except Kansas City; he's 0-2 against the Chiefs.

- ▶ He hasn't played the Houston Texans, a 2002 expansion team that appears on the Packers' 2004 road slate.
- ▶ Only a few QBs since the merger, if any, are believed to have defeated every possible opponent. For instance, the top two names on the above list didn't do it. Elway was 0-2 during the regular season against Miami. Marino was 0-2 against the N.Y. Giants and 0-1 vs. Jacksonville.

ISN'T THAT SPECIAL: Green Bay's kickoff and punt coverage units continue to ascend in league rankings.

- ▶ The Packers will deploy the NFL's leading punt coverage unit in an effort to corral Dante Hall. Green Bay has the NFL's lowest average yards allowed per punt return, 4.4.
- ▶ Green Bay's kickoff coverage team (19.0 yards per return) ranks third in the league, behind Miami (18.3) and Atlanta (18.6).

FACEOFF OF RUSHING TD LEADERS: Sunday's game features the NFL's top two teams in rushing touchdowns. The Chiefs and Packers are tied atop the league with eight.

- ▶ Individually, Priest Holmes and Ahman Green are tied for the league lead with seven rushing TD. Buffalo's Travis Henry has six and Baltimore's Jamal Lewis has five, but no one else in the NFL has more than three.
- ▶ Green has already matched his 2002 total, seven. He needs three to equal his 2000 career high, 10. Before that, the last Packers player with 10-or-more in a season was Terrell Middleton (11) in 1978.

Most total yards from scrimmage, 2003

Player	Total	Rushing	Receiving
Priest Holmes, KC	.681	483	198
Ahman Green, GB	.676	560	116
Jamal Lewis, Bal	.666	611	55
Stephen Davis, Car	.617	565	52
LaDarian Tomlinson, SD	.616	457	159

Most total yards from scrimmage, 2000-03

Ahman Green	.6024
Marshall Faulk	.5954
Priest Holmes	.5946
Ricky Williams	.5900
Tiki Barber	.5607

Rushing yards, 2003

Jamal Lewis, Bal	.611
Priest Holmes, KC	.483
Stephen Davis, Car	.565
Ahman Green, GB	.560
LaDarian Tomlinson, SD	.457

Rushing yards, 2000-03

Ricky Williams	.4484
Ahman Green	.4362
Priest Holmes	.4241
Corey Dillon	.4225
Stephen Davis	.4135

FAVRE WILL TIE BUTLER: Favre Sunday looks to tie No. 4 LeRoy Butler, who retired after a midseason 2001 injury, on the Packers' overall games-played list, with 181. Only hall of famers Bart Starr (196), Ray Nitschke (190) and Forrest Gregg (187) have played more.

THIRD-DOWN TOWN: Only one other NFL offense owns a better third-down conversion percentage:

.493	New Orleans	35/71
.473	Green Bay	26/55
.470	Minnesota	31/66
.455	Arizona	30/66
.453	Indianapolis	29/64

IN A ZONE: Sunday's contest also features two of the league's top red-zone offenses. The Packers' No. 3 unit has scored a touchdown in eight of its last nine trips inside the opponent 20. Meanwhile, Green Bay's defense has kept opponents out of the end zone in five of their last eight trips inside the Packers' 20. The NFL's 2003 offensive leaders:

Club	Poss	Pts	TD	FG	TDPct
Kansas City	.10	62	8	2	.800
Miami	.9	55	7	2	.778
Green Bay	.17	98	13	2	.765
Tampa Bay	.11	61	8	2	.727
Buffalo	.16	80	10	4	.625
New Orleans	.8	45	5	3	.625

PROTECTING THE BALL: The Packers have not fumbled since Sept. 21 at Arizona.

- ▶ Green Bay has touched the ball 195 times since its last fumble (166 offensive plays, five punt returns, 12 kickoff returns, nine punts, three interception returns).
- ▶ The team hasn't gone three straight games without a fumble, which it could do Sunday, since Forrest Gregg's first three games as coach in 1984.

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.

RATINGS GAME, FAVRE: Brett Favre has a 115.0 passer rating over his last two games, with two consecutive games in "triple digits." He hasn't topped 100.0 in three straight contests, within the same season, since the Packers' three postseason games en route to their 1996 Super Bowl XXXI championship.

RATINGS GAME, DEFENSE: Green Bay's opponent passer rating, 63.5, ranks fourth in the NFL, behind Tampa Bay (53.9), Buffalo (59.9) and Minnesota (60.0).

AGAINST THE "RED" CONFERENCE: At home, the Packers have won five consecutive games against AFC teams. Green Bay's only Lambeau Field loss under Mike Sherman was his debut, a 20-16 setback to the New York Jets, Sept. 3, 2000. The streak includes a 2001 win over the defending Super Bowl champion Baltimore Ravens.

SERIES INTERRUPTIONS: The Packers Sunday end their longest active series interruption. Green Bay last played Kansas City in 1996 (seven years). After this week, the Rams will represent the Packers' longest interruption, six years. Green Bay travels to St. Louis to end that streak next week. Cincinnati and Pittsburgh (both five years) will then take over.

POINTS OFF TURNOVERS: The Packers' 38 points off turnovers ranks fifth in the NFL behind San Francisco (51), Indianapolis (44), Kansas City (41) and Seattle (41).

SUNDAY LEFTOVERS:

▶ Ahman Green became the all-time leading rusher in Lambeau Field history, surpassing Dorsey Levens. He did it in only 26 games, too. The historic stadium's top 5 rushers, through Sunday:

2,344	Ahman Green, 2000-03	26 games
2,315	Dorsey Levens, 1994-2001	51 games
2,285	*Jim Taylor, 1958-66	35 games
1,492	John Brockington, 1971-77	24 games
1,439	*Paul Hornung, 1967-62, 64-66	30 games

* — Pro Football Hall of Famer

- ▶ Na'il Diggs' last tackle marked the 300th of his career.
- ▶ The Packers for the seventh time under Ed Donatell shut out an opponent in the second half (also vs. Philadelphia 9/17/00, at Arizona 9/24/00, vs. Detroit 9/9/01, vs. Washington 9/24/01, at Carolina 9/30/01, vs. Buffalo 12/22/02). The team is now 7-0 in those games.
- ▶ Green Bay is now 20-1 under Mike Sherman with at least 32 minutes of possession time.
- ▶ The Packers have now allowed one passing touchdown over their last four games.

AND A PINCH TO GROW AN INCH: The team celebrates three birthdays in the coming days. Brett Favre turns 34 Friday (Oct. 10), Tony Fisher turns 24 on gameday (Oct. 12) and Javon Walker is 25 on Tuesday (Oct. 14).

▶ Favre is 8-2 in games the week of his birthday, including a 2-0 mark on Oct. 10. He's won four straight.

GREEN MARKS ALL OVER PACKERS ANNALS: Ahman Green is off to one of the best starts of his career.

- ▶ With 100 yards rushing Sunday, he'd become the first Packers player to string together three 100-yard efforts since Dorsey Levens, Nov. 16-Dec. 1, 1997.
- ▶ He needs three rushing touchdowns to surpass No. 4 Clarke Hinkle (35, 1932-41) and five to top No. 3 Verne Lewellen (37, 1924-32). He enters Sunday with 33 rushing TD as a Packer.
- ▶ Green leads all NFL players with 40 first downs earned (Priest Holmes is second with 35). He's converted nine of 12 third-down carries, including five-for-five on third-and-1. He's averaging one first down every 3.1 touches.

FAVRE LOOKS TO PASS MARINO: Brett Favre (154) needs two TD passes at Lambeau to surpass Dan Marino (155, Joe Robbie/Pro Player Stadium) for the second-most scoring tosses in a stadium in NFL history.

- ▶ John Elway holds the league record, 180 at Mile High Stadium, 1983-98.
- ▶ Favre threw 17 at Milwaukee County Stadium (1992-94).

▶ Marino threw 68 at the Orange Bowl.

SPEAKING OF TOUCHDOWNS: The Packers Sunday scored a touchdown in a 50th straight game. An opponent hasn't kept Green Bay out of the end zone since Mike Sherman's first win, Sept. 17, 2000, a 6-3 Packers win at home over Philadelphia. Longest active streaks, entering Sunday (courtesy Elias Sports Bureau):

60	Jacksonville Jaguars
53	Denver Broncos
50	Green Bay Packers
45	Oakland Raiders
23	Miami Dolphins

LONGWELL EYES HORNUNG: Ryan Longwell (756) needs five points to surpass No. 3 Paul Hornung (760) on the team's all-time list. He's also:

- ▶ Hit eight consecutive field goals, and 22 of his last 23 attempts (since Oct. 20, 2002). **From 40-plus yards**, he's hit six of his last seven (all three in '03).
- ▶ Converted his last 71 PAT, since a blocked attempt Dec. 23, 2001, vs. Cleveland. His career high is 104 (1999-2001, second in team history). The franchise's No. 5 streak is 74, by Al Del Greco (1985-87).

NOT UP FOR THE CHALLENGE: Dating to 2001, officials have denied instant-replay challenges 12 of the last 16 times an opponent head coach has thrown his red flag.

ON ALL CYLINDERS: The Packers' offense:

- ▶ Has scored a touchdown on five of its last seven (including a game-ending drive to run out the clock), and seven of its last 11 possessions (including two game-ending drives to run out the clock).
- ▶ Scored a touchdown on five consecutive possessions vs. Seattle. The last time Green Bay did that was at Philadelphia, Nov. 11, 1962 (TDs, seven straight drives).
- ▶ Has at least one first down on nine of its last 10 drives, including a game-ending drive to run out the clock at Chicago (Sept. 29).

HE'S IN GOOD HANDS: Favre's offensive line is tied for first in the NFL, allowing just two sacks.

- ▶ The Packers went three consecutive games without allowing a sack for the first time in team history (statisticians began tracking sacks in 1963), Sept. 14-29.
- ▶ The line went 256 passing plays between sacks, from Sept. 7 to Oct. 5.
- ▶ The Jets were the last NFL team to go three/four games without allowing a sack (four straight, December, 2001).
- ▶ Since 2001, Green Bay's 51 sacks allowed are also the fewest in the NFL.

FRANKS ASCENDS FAVORITE TARGETS LIST: Bubba Franks (16) needs one TD reception from Brett Favre to surpass Mark Chmura and Dorsey Levens as the QB's fifth most-favorite touchdown target. Ironically, two of Franks' TD receptions did not come from Favre. Hasselbeck was on the other end of Franks' first career score, a successful fake field goal in 2000 at Tampa Bay). Doug Pederson (Dec. 29, 2002, at N.Y. Jets) threw the other non-Favre TD pass to Franks.

Antonio Freeman	57
Sterling Sharpe	41
Robert Brooks	32
Bill Schroeder	19
Mark Chmura	16
Dorsey Levens	16
Bubba Franks	16

LIKE A FINE WINE: While Favre has seven picks this season, he's actually off to one of the most accurate starts of his career. His .660 completion percentage through five games ranks as the second best of his career.

- ▶ His best mark through five games is 2001, when he hit 114 of 167 (.683).
- ▶ His best mark through six games was also 2001 (135-of-202, .668).
- ▶ Favre has hit 67 of his last 91 receivers (.736).
- ▶ He has only four multiple-interception games over his last 28 starts.

AHEAD BY 10 POINTS: Including their two home wins this year, the Packers have won an NFL-record 56 straight home games with a lead of at least 10 points.

- ▶ The last time Green Bay relinquished a 10-point lead in a home loss was Sept. 12, 1993, when the Packers saw 10-0 and 17-7 advantages fade in a 20-17 loss at Lambeau to the Eagles.
- ▶ On Dec. 22, 2002, vs. Buffalo, the Packers established the record, surpassing the mark, 53, held by Pittsburgh (1989-2000).

AHEAD BY TWO SCORES: Since 1992, when Green Bay establishes a lead of at least two scores (nine points or more), at any point in any game, the team is 97-7.

- ▶ The Packers are 27-1 under Sherman, having won 26 in a row. Their only loss was at Miami, Oct. 29, 2000.
- ▶ Over the last 12 seasons at home in games with at least a 9-point lead, the team is 65-1, its only Wisconsin blemish a Sept. 12, 1993, loss to Philly.

ALSO ON THE PACKERS' ALL-TIME LISTS:

- ▶ **Josh Bidwell** (257) needs to get off 18 *unblocked* punts to establish the longest streak in team history (David Beverly, 274, 1977-80). He topped Donny Anderson's 254-punt streak (1967-71) Sept. 29.
- ▶ **William Henderson** (231), now the 14th-ranking receiver in team annals, needs 12 receptions to surpass No. 13 Edgar Bennett (242) on the all-time list. Henderson's catches are the fourth most by a Packers back.
- ▶ **Kabeer Gbaja-Biamila** (29) needs three-and-a-half sacks to surpass No. 6 Vonnie Holliday (32), four to surpass No. 5 Bryce Paup (32.5) and seven-and-a-half to surpass No. 4 Tony Bennett (36).
- ▶ **Ryan Longwell** (164) needs 10 field goals to surpass No. 1 Chris Jacke (173).

THE STREAK I: Favre's **starting streak** (178) is the longest ever by a quarterback. What's more, Sunday vs. Seattle he surpassed Aeneas Williams (Ari-StLR, 1992-2002) for the **10th-longest** starting streak on record (178).

THE STREAK II: Since Favre began his streak 11 years ago (Sept. 27, 1992), 166 other quarterbacks have started an NFL game. During the span, the Bears (15, including Kordell Stewart) have started the most.

THE TOUCHDOWN STREAK: Favre has thrown a touchdown pass in 14 straight games, and needs one Sunday to climb the team's longest all-time streaks:

22	Cecil Isbell (Weeks 1-11, 1941; Weeks 1-11, 1942)
18	Brett Favre (Weeks 3-16, 1997; Weeks 1-4, 1998)
17	Brett Favre (Weeks 8-16, 1994; Weeks 1-8, 1995)
15	D.Majkowski (Weeks 15-16, 1988; Weeks 1-13, 1989)
14	B.Favre (Weeks 10-16, 1995; Weeks 1-7, 1996)
	B.Favre (Weeks 1-14, 2001)
	B.Favre (Weeks 9-17, 2002; Weeks 1-5, 2003) (current)

FAVRE AND 100-YARD RUSHERS: Favre is now 34-5 career, including a 19-game winning streak, with a 100-yard rusher. According to Elias Sports Bureau, since Mike Sherman became head coach (2000-03), Favre has the NFL's best mark in such contests: 17-0 (minimum 10 games):

PERFECT WITH PLUS CARRIES: Favre is now 41-0, including Sept. 14 vs. Detroit and Oct. 5 vs. Seattle, when the Packers have more rushing plays than passing plays.

THE ROOKIE: Nick Barnett has 48 tackles over the last four games, the most in four consecutive contests by any Packers player, rookie or veteran, at least over the last 10 seasons (1994-2003).

TAKEAWAY TALK: Donatell's defense has become one of the best takeaway teams in franchise history.

- ▶ Since Donatell took over the defense in 2000, the Packers have gone 20-1 (13-0 at home) in games with at least three takeaways. Their only loss was Nov. 17, 2002, at Minnesota.

- ▶ The Packers have at least one takeaway in 29 of their last 30 games.

LIMIT GIVEAWAYS, INCREASE WINS: The Packers under Mike Sherman are 24-3 (16-0 at home) when committing one or fewer turnovers.

- ▶ Including Sunday's win over Seattle, they're also 8-0 under Sherman in turnover-free games. Over a longer stretch, the team has won 14 straight zero-turnover contests, dating to a loss at Minnesota, Dec. 1, 1997.
- ▶ The Packers' offense has no turnovers over its last 99 plays, and one turnover over its last 116.

GREEN BAY'S RESIDENT 100-YARD RUSHER: The Packers are 17-0 when Green tops 100 yards. The league's best team records with a 100-yard rusher, since Green's 2000 arrival in Green Bay, by player:

A.Green, GB	17	0	0	1.000
M.Faulk, StL	12	0	0	1.000
M.Anderson, Den	8	0	0	1.000
D.Staley, Phi	7	0	0	1.000
A.Smith, Buf-NE	6	0	0	1.000
E.George, Ten	11	1	0	.917
S.Davis, Was-Car	14	2	0	.875
L.Smith, Mia-Car	7	1	0	.875
R.Smith, Min	6	1	0	.857
J.Lewis, Bal	11	2	0	.846
S.Alexander, Sea	8	2	0	.800
				minimum six games

FIRST BLOOD: Under Mike Sherman, the Packers are 24-3 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 16-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 78-24 overall and 52-5 in Wisconsin.

IT'S NOT A RING OF HONOR: The Packers Sunday will honor their 20th representative in the Pro Football Hall of Fame, James Lofton. Only one other franchise, Chicago with 26, has more.

- ▶ The names gracing the east and west facades, one of the more awe-inspiring features of Lambeau Field's bowl, are often misidentified as the Green Bay "Ring of Fame" or "Ring of Honor."
- ▶ It's an honest mistake. Most franchises induct former players, coaches and contributors into an exclusive club, usually called a Ring of Honor and containing on average 15-20 individuals. In Green Bay, though, the equivalent to that group is the Packers Hall of Fame, which this summer inducted its 129th and 130th members.
- ▶ Actually, the 20 names at Lambeau Field list the franchise's Pro Football Hall of Famers. The names are in no particular order. This spring, the Packers added Lofton's name to the far right of the west side.
- ▶ And unlike most other stadiums that display names on their facade, most of the Packers' individuals (12) actually played/coached on the field in front of them.

NOTABLE CONNECTIONS

Vice president of football operations **Mark Hatley** (1986-96), personnel analyst to the general manager **John Schneider** (1997-99), offensive coordinator **Tom Rossley** (1999), scout **Brian Gutekunst** (1998), CB **Derek Combs** (2002) and LS **Rob Davis** (1996) were previously in Kansas City. Chiefs assistant offensive line coach **Irv Eatman** (1999), LB coach **Joe Vitt** (1999) and DE **Vonnie Holliday** (1998-2002) were previously in Green Bay.