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Green Bay Packers quarterback Aaron Rodgers, top, is lifted up by offensive linemen after throwing his 443rd career passing touchdown in a game against the Cleveland Browns on Dec. 25 at Lambeau Field in Green Bay.

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Green Bay Packers quarterback Aaron Rodgers (12) throws a pass in a game against the Cleveland Browns on Dec. 25 at Lambeau Field in Green Bay. Rodgers continues to play at a high level and is soaking up all the memories along the way.

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Packers quarterback continues to impress

Despite recently turning 38, Green Bay Packers quarterback Aaron Rodgers shows no signs of slowing down.



MORGAN RODE

The 10-time Pro Bowler and three-time All-Pro and MVP became the franchise's all-time leader in passing touchdowns after throwing three in the team's win over the Cleveland Browns on Christmas Day.

The 10-time Pro Bowler and three-time All-Pro and MVP became the franchise's all-time leader in passing touchdowns

Rodgers now has 445 passing touchdowns in his 17-year career in Green Bay, surpassing Brett Favre's mark of 442.

After being picked up by his offensive lineman, congratulated by teammates, serenaded with MVP chants from the Lambeau Field crowd and honored with a tribute video of some of his highlights and a congratulatory message from Favre, Rodgers got emotional.

"To throw 443 on a double-stick, one of the first concepts I learned as a rookie in this offense, it's pretty cool," said Rodgers. "It's been a long career and to break the record like that on a simple play like that, a staple of the West Coast offense, pretty cool."

"The tribute afterwards, that was really cool to see from the first touchdown to Greg (Jennings) on down the line, some of the memorable ones over the years — and to get a message from Favre definitely got me a little teary-eyed over on the bench. So it's a moment I'll never forget for sure and I'm thankful for Favre's message, for the response of the guys and the crowd obviously was really special."

It's been a wild ride to stardom in Green Bay for Rodgers, who didn't receive the warmest welcome from fans after being drafted in the first

round of the 2005 NFL Draft.

Fans weren't ready to move on from Favre, but 17 years later, Rodgers has proved it was the right decision by the organization.

Rodgers didn't start until his fourth year in the league but has been one of the league's best since then.

It took Rodgers 45 less games and 1,730 fewer attempts than Favre to reach 442 touchdowns.

The biggest difference between the two QBs comes in the interception department, where Rodgers threw 193 fewer picks before reaching 442 touchdowns.

Rodgers' ability to take care of the ball so well was highlighted in the win over the Browns, where Cleveland quarterback Baker Mayfield threw four picks.

"He does an unbelievable job, and he's been doing it that way his whole career," said coach Matt LaFleur on Rodgers' ability to avoid mistakes. "Certainly, the trust that we have in him, it's hard not to throw the ball every snap."

"We're fortunate to have a guy like him that is able to make not only the decisions, but throw with such accuracy. It's unbelievable."

With his three-TD, zero-INT performance against the Browns, it marked the fifth-straight game he's

thrown for multiple touchdowns and not thrown a pick. That ties his own franchise best mark he set in 2014.

"The opportunity to play here for so long and to have my path crossed by so many incredible, influential people along the way — from coaches and players, teammates to front-office individuals, weight-room folks, training-room folks and everybody on the third floor that I've gotten to know over the years — this is a special place, and to be a part of history like this is not lost on me at all," said Rodgers.

Rodgers will go down as one of the all-time greatest QBs in the history of the game, but he isn't satisfied yet.

In his message to Rodgers, Favre requested something of Rodgers: "Go get us another Super Bowl."

Should Rodgers accomplish that feat, his legacy as one of the game's all-time best players will take a significant leap up.

With the future outlook of Rodgers' time in Green Bay in question, fans need to savor every moment No. 12 lines up behind center and realize they might never get to watch and cheer for a quarterback of that caliber again.

Morgan Rode is the sports editor for NEW Media. Readers can contact him at sports@newmedia-wi.com.

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Douglas keeps on shining for Packers

Packers are the CB's 4th team of year

By **BILL HUBER**
Correspondent

On Oct. 6, the New England Patriots let it be known that they were parting ways with former All-Pro cornerback Stephon Gilmore.

The Green Bay Packers, who had just lost their All-Pro cornerback Jaire Alexander to a shoulder injury, emerged as a potential suitor. Instead, the Carolina Panthers traded for Gilmore. Shortly thereafter, the Packers announced they had signed Rasul Douglas off the Arizona Cardinals' practice squad. Moments later, Douglas participated in his first practice.

A former third-round pick by the Philadelphia Eagles, Douglas this year spent most of training camp with the Las Vegas Raiders, the final week of camp with the Houston Texans and the first month of the season with the Cardinals. His career was going nowhere fast.

In the course of less than three months, Douglas' career trajectory has shot up like a Space X rocket. Last week, he was named a Pro Bowl alternate on Wednesday and saved the victory over Cleveland on Saturday with his second interception of the game and fifth interception of the season.

Douglas has been one of the great stories of the season, even if it's a story he'd rather not contemplate.

"I don't really think about it. I just focus on what's here right now in front of me, who we play next. I try to keep my head down like that," Douglas said after the Cleveland game.

If Douglas doesn't want to talk about himself, everyone else is happy to rave about the man who has saved the season.

"He's a star," quarterback Aaron Rodgers said.

"When you see what he's about now, I think it's pretty safe to say he's a superstar at the cornerback position," receiver Davante Adams said. "He's a great dude more than anything, man. Humble. I can't say enough about that dude. He's a joy to be around and, obviously, a hell of a player, too."

Superstar?

"I don't think I'm a superstar yet," Douglas said. "I think we have two superstars on our team: 12 and 17.



Green Bay Packers cornerback Rasul Douglas, left, talks with an official during the team's win over the Cleveland Browns on Dec. 25 at Lambeau Field in Green Bay. Douglas has five interceptions since joining the Packers back in week six.

MORGAN RODE | NEW MEDIA

But, yeah, it means a lot. I'm just trying to keep working, just keep trying to mean something to the team."

Mean something? How about mean everything.

A week-and-a-half after he was signed, he was thrust into the lineup against Chicago and hasn't looked back. A couple weeks after his debut, he returned to Arizona and saved a week eight upset victory with an end-zone interception in the final moments.

Against the Rams in week 12, his pick-six against Matthew Stafford gave the Packers an insurmountable lead. Against the Bears in week 14, another pick-six put the Packers in front in the second quarter.

And on Christmas against the Browns in Week 16, he recorded two interceptions. The first provided a big swing, stopping a Cleveland drive and setting up the Packers for a late touchdown and a 21-12 lead. His second interception, coming with the Browns at midfield with 50 seconds remaining, clinched a critical victory.

The NFC's Pro Bowl cornerbacks

are rookie interception machine Trevon Diggs of Dallas and perennial all-stars Jalen Ramsey of the Rams, Darius Slay of Philadelphia and Marshon Lattimore of New Orleans. Douglas, despite not making his Packers debut until week six, was voted an alternate.

How is any of this possible?

"That's a hell of a question," coach Matt LaFleur said after the Cleveland game. "Not only does he do it on defense, but did you guys see that first kickoff? He's running down there and making a play. That speaks to the competitor that 'Sul is. He's a guy that we can consistently count on to go out there, give great effort, compete to the highest of levels and do his job. We are very, very fortunate to find a guy like that because I've never seen anything like this in my time in the National Football League, where somebody that comes in midseason has had such a tremendous impact on your football team."

"I love what he's all about. I love how he competes. There might not

be anybody on our team that watches more tape than him. He's just constantly grinding, working at it, and I think it's paying off for him. I think it's a great lesson for every player in this league. If you put the time in, it's going to pay big dividends. And it has for him and it has for us. We are very fortunate to have 'Sul, and I can't say enough great things about him."

Receiver Allen Lazard and Douglas go way back to an Iowa State-West Virginia game in 2014. And their careers have followed similar career arcs, with Lazard joining the Packers off Jacksonville's practice squad late in the 2018 season. Both players have become indispensable parts of the team.

"It's an incredible journey," Lazard said after catching Rodgers' record-setting 443rd touchdown pass. "I think that for him to be able to do what he's doing now, wow. It's hard for me to describe just because it's a small, rare opportunity for someone to be able to get that chance, to get that opportunity, to get the minutes that he's getting given his situation. He's bounced around on multiple teams and came off a practice squad, and now he's one of our best corners. I told him after the game, 'Man, what's known doesn't need to be said.'"

Douglas won't boast about it, but he is fourth in the NFL with five interceptions. It's impossible to overstate his impact on the team given the team's veteran cornerbacks, Jaire Alexander and Kevin King, have played less than 30% of the defensive snaps due to injuries.

There's no doubt the outlook on the season would be radically different had Douglas not made those game-saving interceptions against the Cardinals and the Browns. Because of those wins, the Packers have the inside track to homefield advantage with two games to go in the season.

"We always want it to be on us as a defense," Douglas said. "That's what we pride ourselves on, getting that stop or that key turnover to change the game or end the game, however it needs to be. We pride ourselves on that. As soon as we saw the punt unit go out, everybody looked at each other and said, 'This is what we play football for. These moments are what we play football for. Let's get a stop. Win the game. Get off the field. Let's get up out of here.' That's the mindset we have on the defensive side."

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PACKERS ROSTER

Active

#	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	AGE	EXP.	COLLEGE
2	Mason Crosby	K	6-1	207	37	15	Colorado
7	Corey Bojorquez	P	6-0	217	25	4	New Mexico
8	Amari Rodgers	WR	5-9	212	22	R	Clemson
10	Jordan Love	QB	6-4	219	23	2	Utah State
12	Aaron Rodgers	QB	6-2	225	38	17	California
13	Allen Lazard	WR	6-5	227	26	3	Iowa State
17	Davante Adams	WR	6-1	215	29	8	Fresno State
19	Equanimeous St. Brown	WR	6-5	214	25	4	Notre Dame
21	Eric Stokes	CB	6-0	194	22	R	Georgia
24	Isaac Yiadom	CB	6-1	190	25	4	Boston College
26	Darnell Savage	S	5-11	198	24	3	Maryland
27	Patrick Taylor	RB	6-2	217	23	1	Memphis
28	AJ Dillon	RB	6-0	247	23	2	Boston College
29	Rasul Douglas	CB	6-2	209	26	5	West Virginia
30	Shawn Davis	S	5-11	202	23	R	Florida
31	Adrian Amos	S	6-0	214	28	7	Penn State
33	Aaron Jones	RB	5-9	208	27	5	Texas-El Paso
36	Vernon Scott	S	6-2	202	24	2	TCU
39	Chandon Sullivan	CB	5-11	189	25	4	Georgia State
40	Tipa Galeai	LB	6-5	229	24	1	Utah State
41	Henry Black	S	6-0	204	24	2	Baylor
42	Oren Burks	LB	6-3	233	26	4	Vanderbilt
46	Steven Wirtel	LS	6-4	228	24	1	Iowa State
49	Dominique Dafney	TE	6-2	243	24	1	Indiana State
51	Krys Barnes	LB	6-2	229	23	2	UCLA
52	Rashan Gary	LB	6-5	277	24	3	Michigan
53	Jonathan Garvin	LB	6-4	257	22	2	Miami
58	Isaiah McDuffie	LB	6-1	227	22	R	Boston College
59	De'Vondre Campbell	LB	6-3	232	28	6	Minnesota
62	Lucas Patrick	G	6-3	313	28	5	Duke
64	Ben Braden	G	6-6	329	27	2	Michigan
67	Jake Hanson	C	6-4	296	24	1	Oregon
69	David Bakhtiari	T	6-4	310	30	9	Colorado
70	Royce Newman	T/G	6-5	310	24	R	Mississippi
73	Yosh Nijman	T	6-7	314	25	2	Virginia Tech
76	Jon Runyan	G	6-4	307	24	2	Michigan
77	Billy Turner	G/T	6-5	310	30	8	North Dakota State
79	Dennis Kelly	T	6-8	321	31	10	Purdue
81	Josiah Deguara	TE	6-2	238	24	2	Cincinnati
84	Tyler Davis	TE	6-4	252	24	2	Georgia Tech
88	Juwann Winfree	WR	6-1	210	25	2	Colorado
89	Mercedes Lewis	TE	6-6	267	37	16	UCLA
90	Jack Heflin	DL	6-3	304	23	R	Iowa
91	Preston Smith	LB	6-5	265	29	7	Mississippi State
93	T.J. Slaton	DL	6-4	330	24	R	Florida
94	Dean Lowry	DL	6-6	296	27	6	Northwestern
95	Tyler Lancaster	DL	6-3	313	27	4	Northwestern
96	Kingsley Keke	DL	6-3	288	25	3	Texas A&M
97	Kenny Clark	DL	6-3	314	26	6	UCLA

Reserve/Injured

18	Randall Cobb	WR	5-10	195	31	11	Kentucky
23	Jaire Alexander	CB	5-10	196	24	4	Louisville
32	Kylin Hill	RB	5-10	214	23	R	Mississippi State
44	Ty Summers	LB	6-1	241	25	3	TCU
50	Whitney Mercilus	LB	6-4	261	31	10	Illinois
55	Za'Darius Smith	LB	6-4	272	29	7	Kentucky
56	Randy Ramsey	LB	6-3	238	26	2	Arkansas
71	Josh Myers	C/G	6-5	310	23	R	Ohio State
74	Elgton Jenkins	G	6-5	311	26	3	Mississippi State
85	Robert Tonyan	TE	6-5	237	27	4	Indiana State
86	Malik Taylor	WR	6-1	220	26	2	Ferris State

Practice Squad

6	Kurt Benkert	QB	6-3	218	26	2	Virginia
11	J.J. Molson	K	5-11	180	24	1	UCLA
16	Chris Blair	WR	6-2	198	24	R	Alcorn State
35	Ryquell Armstead	RB	5-11	220	25	3	Temple
38	Innis Gaines	S	6-1	202	23	R	TCU
43	Peter Kalambayi	LB	6-3	252	26	R	Stanford
45	Bronson Kaufusi	TE	6-6	270	30	3	Brigham Young
48	Kabion Ento	CB	6-1	187	25	2	Colorado
57	Ray Wilborn	LB	6-3	230	24	1	Ball State
61	Jon Dietzen	G/T	6-5	312	24	R	Wisconsin
65	Michal Menet	C	6-4	301	24	R	Penn State
78	Cole Van Lanen	T/G	6-4	305	23	R	Wisconsin
80	Josh Malone	WR	6-3	208	25	3	Tennessee
98	Abdullah Anderson	DL	6-3	303	25	2	Bucknell
99	R.J. McIntosh	DL	6-5	286	25	4	Miami

Practice Squad Reserve/COVID-19

54	La'Darius Hamilton	LB	6-2	261	23	1	North Texas
20	Kevin King	CB	6-3	200	26	5	Washington
22	Shemar Jean-Charles	CB	5-10	184	23	R	Appalachian State
47	Chauncey Rivers	LB	6-2	259	24	1	Mississippi State
83	Marquez Valdes-Scantling	WR	6-4	206	27	4	South Florida

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Active

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1	Greg Joseph	K	6-0	206	27	4	Florida Atlantic
3	Jordan Berry	P	6-5	195	30	7	Eastern Kentucky
7	Patrick Peterson	CB	6-1	198	31	11	LSU
8	Kirk Cousins	QB	6-3	205	33	10	Michigan State
11	Kellen Mond	QB	6-3	212	22	R	Texas A&M
12	Dede Westbrook	WR	6-0	178	28	5	Oklahoma
15	Ihmir Smith-Marsette	WR	6-1	185	22	R	Iowa
17	K.J. Osborn	WR	5-11	203	24	2	Miami (Fla.)
18	Justin Jefferson	WR	6-1	195	22	2	LSU
19	Adam Thielen	WR	6-2	200	31	8	Minnesota State
20	Harrison Hand	CB	5-11	185	23	2	Temple
22	Harrison Smith	S	6-2	211	32	10	Notre Dame
23	Xavier Woods	S	5-11	204	26	5	Louisiana Tech
24	Mackensie Alexander	CB	5-10	192	28	6	Clemson
25	Alexander Mattison	RB	5-11	215	23	3	Boise State
26	Kene Nwangwu	RB	6-1	210	23	R	Iowa State
27	Cameron Dantzler	CB	6-2	190	23	2	Mississippi State
29	Kris Boyd	CB	5-11	195	25	3	Texas
30	C.J. Ham	FB	5-11	250	28	6	Augustana (S.D.)
31	Wayne Gallman	RB	6-0	210	27	5	Clemson
35	Luke Stocker	TE	6-5	253	33	11	Tennessee
41	Chazz Surratt	LB	6-2	233	24	R	North Carolina
42	Andrew DePaola	LS	6-1	229	34	7	Rutgers
43	Camryn Bynum	S	6-0	200	23	R	California
44	Josh Metellus	S	5-11	207	23	2	Michigan
45	Troy Dye	LB	6-3	225	25	2	Oregon
48	Blake Lynch	LB	6-3	233	24	2	Baylor
51	Wyatt Davis	G	6-4	315	22	R	Ohio State
54	Eric Kendricks	LB	6-0	232	29	7	UCLA
55	Anthony Barr	LB	6-5	257	29	8	UCLA
56	Garrett Bradbury	C	6-3	300	26	3	North Carolina State
58	Michael Pierce	DT	6-0	340	29	6	Samford
59	Nick Vigil	LB	6-2	230	28	6	Utah State
64	Blake Brandel	T	6-7	315	24	1	Oregon State
69	Rashod Hill	T	6-6	310	29	6	Southern Mississippi
71	Christian Darrisaw	T	6-5	315	22	R	Virginia Tech
72	Ezra Cleveland	G	6-6	312	23	2	Boise State
73	Tashawn Bower	DE	6-4	250	26	4	LSU
74	Olisaemeka Udoh	G	6-6	320	24	3	Elon
75	Brian O'Neill	T	6-7	310	26	4	Pittsburgh
78	Dakota Dozier	G	6-4	305	30	8	Furman
83	Tyler Conklin	TE	6-3	248	26	4	Central Michigan
85	Dan Chisena	WR	6-3	203	24	2	Penn State
89	Chris Herndon	TE	6-4	253	25	4	Miami
90	Sheldon Richardson	DT	6-3	290	31	9	Missouri
92	James Lynch	DT	6-4	295	22	2	Baylor
93	Patrick Jones II	DE	6-4	264	23	R	Pittsburgh
94	Dalvin Tomlinson	DT	6-3	325	27	5	Alabama
96	Armon Watts	DT	6-5	307	25	3	Arkansas
98	D.J. Wonnum	DE	6-5	258	24	2	South Carolina
Reserve/Injured							
12	Chad Beebe	WR	5-10	187	27	4	Northern Illinois
13	Blake Proehl	WR	6-1	190	22	R	East Carolina
14	Nate Stanley	QB	6-4	233	24	1	Iowa
52	Mason Cole	C	6-5	298	25	4	Michigan
57	Ryan Connelly	LB	6-2	234	26	3	Wisconsin
66	Jordon Scott	DT	6-1	326	23	R	Oregon
81	Bisi Johnson	WR	6-0	210	24	3	Colorado State
82	Ben Ellefson	TE	6-3	250	25	2	North Dakota State
84	Irv Smith Jr.	TE	6-2	240	23	3	Alabama
95	Janarius Robinson	DE	6-5	258	22	R	Florida State
99	Danielle Hunter	DE	6-5	263	27	7	LSU
Reserve/Non-Football Illness							
97	Everson Griffen	DE	6-3	273	34	12	USC
Reserve/Non-Football Injury							
76	Jaylen Twyman	DT	6-2	285	22	R	Pittsburgh
Practice Squad							
9	Triston Jackson	WR	6-1	191	23	2	Syracuse
16	Damion Ratley	WR	6-2	200	26	4	Texas A&M
34	Jake Bargas	FB	6-2	245	25	1	North Carolina
36	A.J. Rose Jr.	RB	6-1	211	24	R	Kentucky
39	Parry Nickerson	CB	5-10	179	27	4	Tulane
40	Zach Davidson	TE	6-7	251	23	R	Central Missouri
46	Myles Dorn	S	6-2	210	23	2	North Carolina
47	Tuf Borland	LB	6-1	233	23	R	Ohio State
50	T.J. Smith	DT	6-3	303	24	1	Arkansas
61	Timon Parris	T	6-6	330	26	1	Stony Brook
66	Eddie Yarbrough	DE	6-3	259	28	4	Wyoming
68	Kyle Hinton	G	6-2	315	23	1	Washburn
79	Kenny Willekes	DE	6-3	264	24	2	Michigan State
86	Brandon Dillon	TE	6-5	250	24	1	Marian
87	Myron Mitchell	WR	6-1	185	23	R	UAB
91	T.Y. McGill	DT	6-0	294	29	7	N.C. State
Practice Squad/COVID-19							
5	Tye Smith	CB	6-0	190	28	6	Towson State
Reserve/COVID-19							
14	Sean Mannion	QB	6-6	230	29	7	Oregon State
33	Dalvin Cook	RB	5-10	210	26	5	Florida State

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THE SERIES

Packers vs. Vikings
All-time, regular season: 62-55-3
All-time, postseason: 1-1
All-time, at Packers: 33-26-3
Streaks: The Green Bay Packers have lost the last two matchups against the Minnesota Vikings. Green Bay is 3-3-2 at home against Minnesota since 2013.
Last meeting, regular season: Nov. 21, 2021, Vikings won 34-31 at U.S. Bank Stadium. Green Bay lost on a last-second field goal. Aaron Rodgers threw for 385 yards and four touchdowns, with Marquez Valdes-Scantling and Davante Adams each over 100 receiving yards.

SCHEDULE

Date	Opponent	Time	TV
Sept. 12	at New Orleans	Loss 38-3	
Sept. 20	vs. Detroit	Win 35-17	
Sept. 26	at San Francisco	Win 30-28	
Oct. 3	vs. Pittsburgh	Win 27-17	
Oct. 10	at Cincinnati	Win 25-22	
Oct. 17	at Chicago	Win 24-14	
Oct. 24	vs. Washington	Win 24-10	
Oct. 28	at Arizona	Win 24-21	
Nov. 7	at Kansas City	Loss 13-7	
Nov. 14	vs. Seattle	Win 17-0	
Nov. 21	at Minnesota	Loss 34-31	
Nov. 28	vs. L.A. Rams	Win 36-28	
BYE WEEK			
Dec. 12	vs. Chicago	Win 45-30	
Dec. 19	at Baltimore	Win 31-30	
Dec. 25	vs. Cleveland	Win 24-22	
Jan. 2	vs. Minnesota	7:20 p.m.	NBC
Jan. 9	at Detroit	noon	FOX

OFFENSE

RB
Aaron Jones
A.J. Dillon



QB
Aaron Rodgers
Jordan Love



WR
Davante Adams
Equanimeous St. Brown



TE
Josiah Deguara
Tyler Davis



RT
Billy Turner
Dennis Kelly



RG
Royce Newman
Ben Braden



C
Lucas Patrick
Jake Hanson



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LT
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Dennis Kelly



TE
Marcedes Lewis
Dominique Dafney



WR
Marquez Valdes-Scantling
Allen Lazard



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Kevin King



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Tyler Lancaster



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Kenny Clark
T.J. Slaton



DE
Kingsley Keke
Jack Heflin



CB
Rasul Douglas
Chandon Sullivan



OLB
Preston Smith
Tipa Galeai



ILB
Krys Barnes
Oren Burks



ILB
De'Vondre Campbell
Isaiah McDuffie



OLB
Rashan Gary
Jonathan Garvin



S
Adrian Amos
Vernon Scott



S
Darnell Savage
Henry Black



FYI

Rosters and depth charts are accurate as of Dec. 26, 8 p.m.



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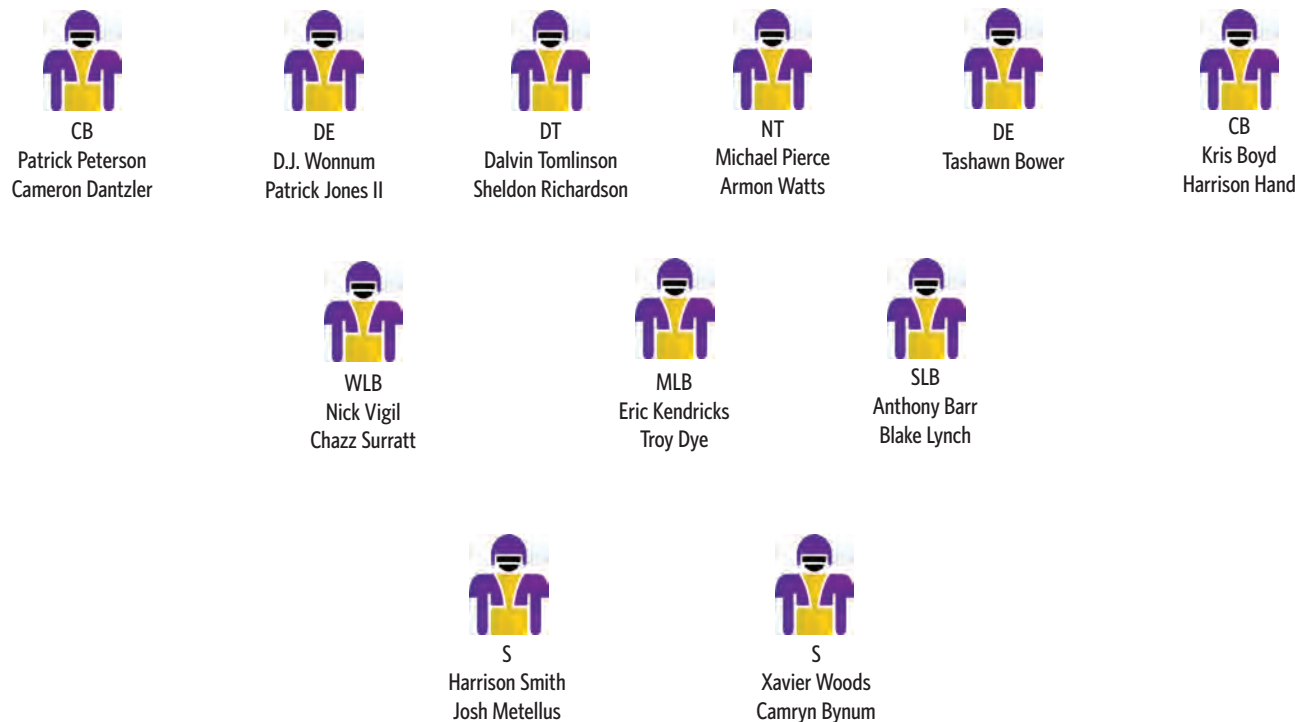
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VIKINGS DEPTH CHART

OFFENSE



DEFENSE



FYI

The top seed in each conference gets a bye in the playoffs. The top seven teams in each conference make the playoffs.

WEEK 17 SCHEDULE

Sunday's Games

Philadelphia at Washington, noon
Carolina at New Orleans, noon
Tampa Bay at N.Y. Jets, noon
Miami at Tennessee, noon
Jacksonville at New England, noon
Las Vegas at Indianapolis, noon
Kansas City at Cincinnati, noon
N.Y. Giants at Chicago, noon
Atlanta at Buffalo, noon
Houston at San Francisco, 3:05 p.m.
Denver at L.A. Chargers, 3:05 p.m.
L.A. Rams at Baltimore, 3:25 p.m.
Detroit at Seattle, 3:25 p.m.
Arizona at Dallas, 3:25 p.m.
Minnesota at Green Bay, 7:20 p.m.

Monday's Game

Cleveland at Pittsburgh, 7:15 p.m.

PLAYOFF PICTURE

NFC

Seed Team Record

1. Green Bay 12-3 (xz)
2. Dallas 11-4 (xz)
3. L.A. Rams 11-4 (x)
4. Tampa Bay 11-4 (xz)
5. Arizona 10-5 (x)
6. San Francisco 8-7
7. Philadelphia 8-7
8. Minnesota 7-8
9. Atlanta 7-8
10. New Orleans 7-8
11. Washington 6-9
12. Carolina 5-10 (e)
13. Chicago 5-10 (e)
14. Seattle 5-10 (e)
15. N.Y. Giants 4-11 (e)
16. Detroit 2-12-1 (e)

AFC

Seed Team Record

1. Kansas City 11-4 (xz)
2. Tennessee 10-5
3. Cincinnati 9-6
4. Buffalo 9-6
5. Indianapolis 9-6
6. New England 9-6
7. Miami 8-7
8. L.A. Chargers 8-7
9. Las Vegas 8-7
10. Baltimore 8-7
11. Pittsburgh 7-7-1
12. Cleveland 7-8
13. Denver 7-8
14. N.Y. Jets 4-11 (e)
15. Houston 4-11 (e)
16. Jacksonville 2-13 (e)

x - clinched playoff spot

z - clinched division

e - eliminated

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Canadian Mist Whiskey \$13⁹⁹ 1.75 ltr.

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Rich & Mellow Korbel Brandy \$18⁹⁹ 1.75 ltr.

Southern Comfort Whiskey \$22⁹⁹ 1.75 ltr.

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BEAT The Expert



Morgan Rode
NEW Media Sports Editor



Week 17 Games: Sunday, January 2

No teams on bye.

Atlanta @ Buffalo
NY Giants @ Chicago
Kansas City @ Cincinnati
Arizona @ Dallas
Las Vegas @ Indianapolis
Jacksonville @ New England
Carolina @ New Orleans
Tampa Bay @ NY Jets
Philadelphia @ Washington
Denver @ LA Chargers
Dallas @ NY Giants
Houston @ San Francisco
LA Rams @ Baltimore
Detroit @ Seattle
Minnesota @ Green Bay
Cleveland @ Pittsburgh Mon., Jan. 3

Tie Breaker Game: Miami @ Tennessee

Weekly Standings	Weekly Record	Overall Record	Weekly Standings	Weekly Record	Overall Record
God's Purpose Apparel.....				9-5.....	136-85-1
Shawano Seasons Restaurant.....				9-5.....	135-86-1
Tim Murphy.....				7-7.....	135-86-1
22 Shell.....				8-6.....	133-88-1
Tower Clock Eye Center.....				9-5.....	132-89-1
Dennis Brei.....				8-6.....	129-92-1
Buss Automotive.....				8-6.....	122-99-1
Hawkeye Hearth & Home.....				8-6.....	122-99-1
Shawano Place Assisted Living.....	7-7.....	136-85-1	Senn Insurance.....	7-7.....	116-105-1

Due to technical difficulties the standings and this week's winner are not available at this time. Both will be updated in next week's issue of Green and Gold. We are sorry for the inconvenience.



This Week's Winner: to be announced



Morgan Rode
Shawano
Leader

This Week's Picks:

Buffalo	New Orleans	Seattle
Chicago	Tampa Bay	Green Bay
Kansas City	Philadelphia	Pittsburgh
Dallas	LA Chargers	
Indianapolis	San Francisco	
New England	La Rams	

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score : Miami 24 @ Tennessee 27



Tim Murphy
Shawano
Leader

This Week's Picks:

Buffalo	New Orleans	Seattle
Chicago	Tampa Bay	Green Bay
Kansas City	Philadelphia	Pittsburgh
Arizona	LA Chargers	
Indianapolis	San Francisco	
New England	Baltimore	

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Miami 13 @ Tennessee 24



Dennis Brei
Oconto County
Times Herald

This Week's Picks:

Buffalo	New Orleans	Seattle
Chicago	Tampa Bay	Green Bay
Kansas City	Philadelphia	Cleveland
Dallas	LA Chargers	
Indianapolis	San Francisco	
New England	LA Rams	

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Miami 13 @ Tennessee 24

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Toby
B&C Auto
Recycling

This Week's Picks:

Buffalo	New Orleans	Seattle
Chicago	Tampa Bay	Green Bay
Kansas City	Philadelphia	Pittsburgh
Dallas	LA Chargers	
Indianapolis	San Francisco	
New England	LA Rams	

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Miami 24 @ Tennessee 35



Iverson's Staff
Iverson's
Piggly Wiggly

This Week's Picks:

Buffalo	New Orleans	Seattle
Chicago	Tampa Bay	Green Bay
Kansas City	Philadelphia	Pittsburgh
Arizona	LA Chargers	
Indianapolis	San Francisco	
New England	LA Rams	

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Miami 14 @ Tennessee 31



Amber
Smokey Joe's
& JDoggs

This Week's Picks:

Buffalo	New Orleans	Seattle
Chicago	Tampa Bay	Green Bay
Kansas City	Philadelphia	Cleveland
Dallas	LA Chargers	
Indianapolis	San Francisco	
New England	LA Rams	

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Miami 21 @ Tennessee 27



Robert Buss
Buss
Automotive

This Week's Picks:

Buffalo	New Orleans	Detroit
Chicago	Tampa Bay	Green Bay
Kansas City	Philadelphia	Cleveland
Dallas	LA Chargers	
Indianapolis	San Francisco	
New England	LA Rams	

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Miami 21 @ Tennessee 28



Dena
P&D Sales
& Service

This Week's Picks:

Buffalo	New Orleans	Seattle
Chicago	Tampa Bay	Green Bay
Kansas City	Philadelphia	Pittsburgh
Arizona	LA Chargers	
Indianapolis	San Francisco	
New England	LA Rams	

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Miami 10 @ Tennessee 20



Sophie
Idell Johnston
State Farm Agent

This Week's Picks:

Buffalo	New Orleans	Seattle
Chicago	Tampa Bay	Green Bay
Kansas City	Philadelphia	Cleveland
Arizona	LA Chargers	
Indianapolis	San Francisco	
New England	LA Rams	

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Miami 18 @ Tennessee 33



Scott Nyman
Cirinity

This Week's Picks:

Buffalo	Carolina	Seattle
Chicago	Tampa Bay	Green Bay
Cincinnati	Philadelphia	Cleveland
Dallas	LA Chargers	
Indianapolis	San Francisco	
New England	LA Rams	

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Miami 17 @ Tennessee 14



In Memory of
Patty Lasher
Shawano Seasons
Restaurant

This Week's Picks:

Buffalo	Carolina	Detroit
NY Giants	Tampa Bay	Green Bay
Cincinnati	Philadelphia	Cleveland
Arizona	LA Chargers	
Indianapolis	San Francisco	
New England	Baltimore	

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Miami 28 @ Tennessee 21



Jim Wiegand
Tower Clock
Eye Center

This Week's Picks:

Buffalo	New Orleans	Seattle
Chicago	Tampa Bay	Green Bay
Kansas City	Philadelphia	Pittsburgh
Dallas	LA Chargers	
Indianapolis	San Francisco	
New England	LA Rams	

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Miami 17 @ Tennessee 24



Russ
Gehm's
Club 117

This Week's Picks:

Buffalo	Carolina	Seattle
NY Giants	Tampa Bay	Green Bay
Kansas City	Philadelphia	Cleveland
Arizona	LA Chargers	
Indianapolis	San Francisco	
Jacksonville	LA Rams	

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Miami 17 @ Tennessee 21



Shane Senn
Senn
Insurance

This Week's Picks:

Buffalo	New Orleans	Seattle
Chicago	Tampa Bay	Green Bay
Cincinnati	Washington	Cleveland
Arizona	LA Chargers	
Indianapolis	San Francisco	
New England	Baltimore	

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Miami 20 @ Tennessee 31



Brenda
22 Shell

This Week's Picks:

Buffalo	New Orleans	Seattle
Chicago	Tampa Bay	Green Bay
Kansas City	Philadelphia	Pittsburgh
Dallas	LA Chargers	
Indianapolis	San Francisco	
New England	LA Rams	

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Miami 17 @ Tennessee 24



Chris
God's Purpose
Apparel

This Week's Picks:

Buffalo	New Orleans	Seattle
Chicago	Tampa Bay	Green Bay
Kansas City	Washington	Cleveland
Arizona	LA Chargers	
Indianapolis	San Francisco	
New England	LA Rams	

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Miami 23 @ Tennessee 27



Aaron
Shawano
Place

This Week's Picks:

Buffalo	New Orleans	Seattle
Chicago	Tampa Bay	Minnesota
Kansas City	Philadelphia	Cleveland
Arizona	LA Chargers	
Indianapolis	San Francisco	
New England	LA Rams	

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Miami 17 @ Tennessee 27



Dale
Hawk
Hearth & Home

This Week's Picks:

Buffalo	New Orleans	Seattle
Chicago	Tampa Bay	Green Bay
Kansas City	Washington	Cleveland
Dallas	LA Chargers	
Indianapolis	San Francisco	
New England	Baltimore	

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Miami 31 @ Tennessee 21

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Green Bay Football 2021 Season

SEPTEMBER - REGULAR SEASON			
Sunday, September 12	1:25 pm	@ New Orleans Saints	FOX
Monday, September 20	7:25 pm	AT NEW YORK GIANTS	ESPN
Sunday, September 26	1:25 pm	@ San Francisco 49ers	FOX
OCTOBER			
Sunday, October 3	1:25 pm	Pittsburgh Steelers (AFL)	FOX
Sunday, October 10	NOON	@ Cleveland Browns	FOX
Sunday, October 17	NOON	@ Chicago Bears	FOX
Sunday, October 24	NOON	MINNESOTA FOOTBALL LEAGUE	FOX
Sunday, October 31	7:25 pm	@ Arizona Cardinals	FOX
NOVEMBER			
Sunday, November 7	1:25 pm	@ Atlanta City Chiefs	FOX
Sunday, November 14	1:25 pm	AT NEW YORK GIANTS	FOX
Sunday, November 21	NOON	@ Minnesota Vikings	FOX
Sunday, November 28	1:25 pm	@ Minnesota Vikings	FOX
DECEMBER			
NOV. WEEK			
Sunday, December 5	1:25 pm	@ Atlanta City Chiefs	FOX
Sunday, December 12	NOON	@ Baltimore Ravens	FOX
Saturday, December 18	1:00 pm	@ Minnesota Vikings	FOX
JANUARY			
Sunday, January 3	1:25 pm	MINNESOTA FOOTBALL LEAGUE	FOX
Sunday, January 10	NOON	@ New York Giants	FOX

KEYS TO THE GAME

By **BILL HUBER**
Correspondent

The Green Bay Packers (12-3) will host the Minnesota Vikings (7-8) at 7:20 p.m. Sunday at Lambeau Field in Green Bay. NBC will televise the game.

History

This will be the 121st regular-season meeting between these division rivals. The Packers lead 62-55-3.

Coaches

Green Bay – Matt LaFleur, 38-9, third season. Minnesota — Mike Zimmer, 71-55-1, eighth season.

When the Packers have the ball

The Packers rank 13th in the NFL in scoring with 25.5 points per game. The offense found its stride in the 34-31 loss at Minnesota in week 11. Starting with that game, they have averaged 33.4 points per game over their last five outings.

The Vikings' defense has been mostly terrible. Even with some high-profile players such as safety Harrison Smith and linebackers Eric Kendricks and Anthony Barr, Minnesota is 23rd with 24.8 points allowed per game. It ranks 29th in total defense (379), 28th in rushing per attempt (4.68) and 25th in passing per attempt (6.95).

However, the Vikings are fourth in sack percentage (8.21) and third down (35.5%). Starting with round one against Green Bay, the Vikings have had games of 31, 34, 29, 28 and 30 points allowed.

Defensive tackles Michael Pierce and Dalvin Tomlinson lead a depleted line. The mammoth Pierce, the Vikings' high-priced addition last offseason, missed the first game against Green Bay with an elbow injury. However, they're thin on the edge without defensive ends Everson Griffen (personal reasons) and Danielle Hunter (pectoral).

Among the active players, D.J. Wonnum (six sacks), Armon Watts (five sacks) and Sheldon Richardson (team-high 11 quarterback hits) are the top pass rushers.

Kendricks is an elite player with 134 tackles, five sacks, eight tackles for losses and two interceptions. He's flanked at linebacker by Barr (53 tackles in nine games) and Nick Vigil (76 tackles).

The secondary is the problem, despite the presence of the perennial Pro Bowler Smith, who has 100 tackles, three sacks and seven passes defended. Veteran Patrick Peterson is joined at cornerback by Cameron Dantzler.



Green Bay Packers running back Aaron Jones carries the ball in the win over the Cleveland Browns on Dec. 25 at Lambeau Field in Green Bay. Jones and the Packers' rushing attack could be in for a big game against Minnesota, one of the worst run defenses in the league.

MORGAN RODE | NEW MEDIA

Mackensie Alexander mans the slot.

Dantzler has been by far the best of the bunch with a 52.8% completion rate and just 9.9 yards per reception, according to Pro Football Focus.

Xavier Woods, who is tied with Barr for the team lead with three interceptions and has the outright lead with 10 passes defended, joins Smith at safety.

When the Vikings have the ball

The Vikings are just ahead of Green

Rams, though, while he threw for 315 yards, he failed to take advantage of the three interceptions provided by the defense.

As the Packers learned first-hand in week 11, when he recorded eight receptions for 169 yards and two touchdowns, Jefferson is one of the game's elite receivers. He ranks in the top six in the league with 97 receptions, 1,451 yards and nine touchdowns.

The Pro Bowler ranks second in the league with 14 receptions on passes thrown 20-plus yards.

Thielen, who had eight catches for 82 yards and one score in the first meeting, barely played against the Rams because of an ankle injury. He's caught 67 passes for 726 yards and 10 touchdowns in 13 games.

Tight end Tyler Conklin has been a breakout performer with 54 receptions for 540 yards, and No. 3 receiver K.J. Osborn has added 48 receptions for 584 yards.

Running backs Dalvin Cook and Alexander Mattison perform a superb one-two punch. Cook missed the Rams game with COVID but should be back. The Pro Bowler is fourth in the league with 1,067 rushing yards and fifth with 45 forced missed tackles, according to PFF.

Rookie left tackle Christian Darrisaw is joined up front by left guard Ezra Cleveland, center Garrett Bradbury, right guard Oli Udoh and right tackle Brian O'Neill. Darrisaw, who has played well the past few weeks, and the underrated O'Neill have the makings of bookend tackles. The Packers must take advantage of Minnesota's soft interior.

Special teams

Green Bay's special teams finally delivered a strong performance against Cleveland. It will face a big challenge on Sunday night.

Punter Jordan Berry is only 14th in net average (40.9 yards) but has 23 punts inside the 20 vs. only three touchbacks. Kicker Greg Joseph is 31-of-36 on field goals (86.1%) and has a huge leg (6-of-8 from 50-plus yards).

The real trouble is with Minnesota's returners. On kickoffs, Kene Nwangwu leads the league with a pair of touchdowns. On what will be a bitterly cold night, Packers kicker Mason Crosby will be challenged to reach the end zone with his kickoffs, so the coverage has to be strong. Dede Westbrook has an 8.3-yard average on punts.

Crosby has made all 16 kicks over three games since the bye. None have been challenging, but it's built some momentum for the troubled unit.

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Packers take down Browns on Christmas

By **MORGAN RODE**
Sports Editor

The Green Bay Packers earned a 24-22 Christmas Day win over the Cleveland Browns at Lambeau Field in Green Bay, breaking several offensive records and doing just enough on defense to come out on top.

Quarterback Aaron Rodgers threw three first-half touchdowns passes to move past Brett Favre as the franchise's all-time leader in career pass-

ing TDs. He broke Favre's mark of 442 on an 11-yard TD pass to receiver Allen Lazard to give the Packers a 7-6 lead in the first quarter.

Rodgers' second touchdown pass was a 9-yarder to receiver Davante Adams. It was the 66th career time those two have connected for a score, breaking another Packers' record — Rodgers and receiver Jordy Nelson had the previous top mark of 65.

Rodgers and Adams connected on a 1-yard score with 12 seconds remaining in the half to give the Pack a 21-12 lead.

Green Bay tacked on a field goal on its first possession of the second half before going stagnant on offense.

Cleveland crept back into the game and got within two points after a touchdown with 4:36 to play.

The Packers' offense had a chance to put the game away, but Adams dropped a deep pass from Rodgers, giving the Browns one final chance.

Like it did for most of the contest, Cleveland used the running game to work the ball down the field. Oddly, the Browns decided to pass three straight times once it got to midfield,

and the third pass was picked off by cornerback Rasul Douglas.

Green Bay's offense picked up one first down to seal up the win and improve to 12-3.

"It was a hard fought, four-quarter battle and like I told our team, I'll never apologize for winning in this league," said Packers coach Matt LaFleur. "I know it wasn't the prettiest of victories but ultimately, we did enough as a team to win."

Green Bay was outgained 408-311 in the contest, with Cleveland rushing for 219 yards on an 8.8-yard average.

The game ultimately was decided by big plays, with Green Bay creating four takeaways and five sacks. The Packers didn't turn the ball over or allow a sack.

Green Bay intercepted Browns quarterback Baker Mayfield four times, the first coming midway through the first quarter to set up Rodgers' record-breaking TD. Safety Darnell Savage got the interception on a deep ball down the middle of the field.

The second interception was by

cornerback Chandon Sullivan late in the first quarter, which set up Adams' first touchdown of the day.

Douglas had the last two picks, with the first coming late in the first half to set up the second Adams' touchdown.

Two plays before the Sullivan INT, outside linebacker Rashaan Gary sacked Mayfield, eventually leading to a third-and-19 play and interception.

Outside linebacker Tita Galeai sacked Mayfield two plays before the first Douglas pick. Gary got his second sack in the third quarter, forcing a Cleveland field goal.

Outside linebacker Preston Smith and defensive lineman Dean Lowry then had sacks on back-to-back plays in the fourth quarter to force a punt after Cleveland had worked its way to the Green Bay 28-yard line.

Along with all the offensive records, the win was the 38th regular season win for LaFleur, tying George Seifert for the most wins by a head coach in his first three years in the NFL.

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