

WHERE IS THE OFFENSE?

Packers have scored
1 touchdown
in past 3 halves

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Green Bay Packers coach Matt LaFleur, left, talks with defensive lineman T.J. Slaton on the sidelines during the team's loss to the New York Jets on Oct. 16 in Green Bay.

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Lack of offense holding Green Bay back

Green Bay ranks 23rd in total scoring in NFL

By **LUKE REIMER**
Reporter

Through six weeks of the 2022-23 NFL season, the Green Bay Packers have scored just 107 points, good for about 17.8 points per game, and 23rd in the league in total points.

The low scoring is not the full reason for the Packers having just three wins in six games, but the dropoff in offensive production is not doing the team any favors. The Packers have yet to put together a game where all three areas of the team, offense, defense and special teams, have performed to winning standards.

While there were valid questions surrounding the offense in the offseason, not many people would have predicted the Packers to struggle as much as they have on that side of the ball. During his press conference after Green Bay's 27-10 loss to the New York Jets, quarterback Aaron Rodgers detailed that the offense needs to simplify.

"(The offense is playing) very inconsistent, and that is why I think we need to simplify things," said Rodgers. "Because on the couple of drives we did move the ball, it was very simple things. Very simple plays, no motion."

While simplifying the offense may be a solution to becoming more consistent, the Packers may find trouble simplifying the offense, as veteran wide receiver Randall Cobb was forced out of the game against the Jets with an ankle injury.

While Cobb has produced just 257 yards on 18 receptions, most of his damage has come on third down.

With Cobb almost being used in a safety blanket type of role, someone will need to step up to fill that spot. With Christian Watson nursing a hamstring injury and Sammy Watkins on injured reserve, the Packers might be quickly running out of options to help fill the vacant role.

As the trade deadline looms on Nov. 1, speculations are starting to



Green Bay Packers quarterback Aaron Rodgers, center, is surrounded by a group of New York Jets defenders after a sack in Green Bay's loss to New York on Oct. 16 in Green Bay.

GREG MELLIS | NEW MEDIA

arise on if the Packers are going to make a move for another offensive weapon.

Names like Carolina Panthers wide receiver D.J. Moore and free agent wide receiver Odell Beckham Jr. have been floated around as possible acquisitions. Even with the roster as it is, Rodgers believes that the Packers are a Super Bowl winning team.

"We need Sammy back. I think that is happening here pretty soon," said Rodgers. "(General Manager) Brian (Gutekunst) and I have had a number of conversations. I trust him and his staff that if they feel like they need to add that they will. I think there's enough on this team to be a successful team."

Having dealt with injuries to both Watson and Watkins, the Packers have been short to find sparks in the offense. Since both receivers play that field-stretching role, big plays have been hard to come by for Green Bay. In fact, Rodgers is just 6-for-22 on passes of 20 yards or more.

While the big play is eluding the Packers every week, running

back Aaron Jones was once again nowhere to be seen with the ball in his hands against the Jets. Recording just 12 touches during the game, only nine of them came on the ground. Green Bay has seemingly struggled with consistently using their run game this season, only recording two rushing touchdowns, with one of them coming from Watson.

"Yeah, that's not good enough," said Packers head coach Matt LaFleur, when questioned about Jones receiving just three carries in the first half against the Jets.

Jones absence from the offense has been puzzling, as the sixth-year running back has proven that he is one of the better runners in the NFL, with 42 career rushing touchdowns.

The state of the offensive line may need to take some blame for that though, as the play of the unit as a whole has left a lot to be desired this year.

Jets defensive tackle Quinnen Williams took over the game, as he recorded four tackles and two sacks. To help combat his dominant

performance, LaFleur made the switch at right guard from Royce Newman to Jake Hanson. That was quickly changed though as Hanson went down with an injury.

Tackle David Bakhtiari, who has either been out or limited for the last year and half played the entire game before the starters were taken out. While that is a good sign for the offensive line, it presents a problem. Backup tackle Yosh Nijman has shown that he is capable of playing starter snaps in the NFL.

"I think that everything is on the table," said LaFleur, when asked if using Nijman is an option.

If the Packers went the route of moving Nijman to right tackle, they could transition Elgton Jenkins back to guard, a position that he has thrived at in the past. One thing is certain though, some problems that the Packers are having on the offense start with the offensive line. Keeping Rodgers upright will lead to more success from the offense, granted the wide receivers and running backs can effectively contribute as well.



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PACKERS ROSTER

Active

#	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	AGE	EXP.	COLLEGE
2	Mason Crosby	K	6-1	207	38	16	Colorado
6	Dallin Leavitt	S	5-10	195	28	4	Utah State
7	Quay Walker	LB	6-4	241	22	R	Georgia
8	Amari Rodgers	WR	5-9	212	23	2	Clemson
9	Christian Watson	WR	6-5	208	23	R	North Dakota State
10	Jordan Love	QB	6-4	219	23	3	Utah State
12	Aaron Rodgers	QB	6-2	225	38	18	California
13	Allen Lazard	WR	6-5	227	26	4	Iowa State
16	Pat O'Donnell	P	6-4	220	31	9	Miami
18	Randall Cobb	WR	5-10	195	32	12	Kentucky
20	Rudy Ford	S	6-0	200	27	6	Auburn
21	Eric Stokes	CB	6-0	194	23	2	Georgia
22	Shemar Jean-Charles	CB	5-10	184	24	2	Appalachian State
23	Jaire Alexander	CB	5-10	196	25	5	Louisville
24	Tariq Carpenter	S	6-3	230	23	R	Georgia Tech
25	Keisean Nixon	CB	5-10	200	25	4	South Carolina
26	Darnell Savage	S	5-11	198	25	4	Maryland
27	Patrick Taylor	RB	6-2	217	24	2	Memphis
28	AJ Dillon	RB	6-0	247	24	3	Boston College
29	Rasul Douglas	CB	6-2	209	27	6	West Virginia
31	Adrian Amos	S	6-0	214	29	8	Penn State
33	Aaron Jones	RB	5-9	208	27	6	Texas-El Paso
45	Eric Wilson	LB	6-1	230	28	6	Cincinnati
50	Zach Tom	OL	6-4	304	23	R	Wake Forest
52	Rashan Gary	LB	6-5	277	24	4	Michigan
53	Jonathan Garvin	LB	6-4	257	23	3	Miami
55	Kingsley Enagbare	LB	6-4	258	22	R	South Carolina
56	Jack Coco	LS	6-2	248	24	R	Georgia Tech
58	Isaiah McDuffie	LB	6-1	227	23	2	Boston College
59	De'Vondre Campbell	LB	6-3	232	29	7	Minnesota
63	Rasheed Walker	T	6-6	324	22	R	Penn State
67	Jake Hanson	C	6-4	296	25	2	Oregon
69	David Bakhtiari	T	6-4	310	31	10	Colorado
70	Royce Newman	T/G	6-5	310	25	2	Mississippi
71	Josh Myers	C/G	6-5	310	24	2	Ohio State
73	Yosh Nijman	T	6-7	314	26	3	Virginia Tech
74	Elgton Jenkins	G	6-5	311	26	4	Mississippi State
75	Sean Rhyan	T/G	6-5	321	22	R	UCLA

76	Jon Runyan	G	6-4	307	25	3	Michigan
81	Josiah Deguara	TE	6-2	238	25	3	Cincinnati
83	Samori Toure	WR	6-1	191	24	R	Nebraska
84	Tyler Davis	TE	6-4	252	25	3	Georgia Tech
85	Robert Tonyan	TE	6-5	240	28	5	Indiana State
87	Romeo Doubs	WR	6-2	204	22	R	Nevada
89	Marcedes Lewis	TE	6-6	267	38	17	UCLA
90	Jarran Reed	DL	6-3	307	29	7	Alabama
91	Preston Smith	LB	6-5	265	29	8	Mississippi State
93	T.J. Slaton	DL	6-4	330	25	2	Florida
94	Dean Lowry	DL	6-6	296	28	7	Northwestern
95	Devonte Wyatt	DL	6-3	304	24	R	Georgia
97	Kenny Clark	DL	6-3	314	27	7	UCLA
99	Jonathan Ford	DL	6-5	338	24	R	Miami

Reserve/Injured

11	Sammy Watkins	WR	6-1	211	29	9	Clemson
40	Tipa Galeai	LB	6-5	229	25	2	Utah State
51	Krys Barnes	LB	6-2	229	24	3	UCLA

Reserve/Physically Unable to Perform

32	Kylin Hill	RB	5-10	214	24	2	Mississippi State
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Reserve/Non-Football Illness

72	Caleb Jones	T	6-9	370	23	R	Indiana
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Practice Squad

17	Ramiz Ahmed	K	5-11	193	27	1	Nevada
19	Danny Etling	QB	6-3	222	28	1	LSU
34	Micah Abernathy	S	6-0	195	25	1	Tennessee
35	Corey Ballentine	CB	5-11	196	26	4	Washburn
39	Tyler Goodson	RB	5-9	197	21	R	Iowa
41	Benjie Franklin	CB	6-0	172	26	R	Tarleton State
43	Kiondre Thomas	CB	6-0	186	24	1	Kansas State
48	DQ Thomas	LB	6-2	216	23	R	Middle Tennessee State
49	Kobe Jones	LB	6-3	255	24	1	Mississippi State
54	La'Darius Hamilton	LB	6-2	261	24	2	North Texas
57	Ray Wilborn	LB	6-3	230	25	1	Ball State
80	Shaun Beyer	TE	6-5	250	25	1	Iowa
86	Travis Fulgham	WR	6-2	211	27	3	Old Dominion
88	Juwann Winfree	WR	6-1	210	26	3	Colorado
96	Jack Heflin	DL	6-3	304	24	2	Iowa
98	Chris Slayton	DL	6-4	307	26	1	Syracuse

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COMMANDERS ROSTER

Active

#	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	AGE	EXP.	COLLEGE
1	Jahan Dotson	WR	5-11	182	22	R	Penn State
2	Dyami Brown	WR	6-0	195	22	2	North Carolina
3	William Jackson III	CB	6-0	189	29	7	Houston
4	Taylor Heinicke	QB	6-1	210	29	5	Old Dominion
5	Tress Way	P	6-1	220	32	9	Oklahoma
6	Joey Slye	K	5-11	213	26	4	Virginia Tech
8	Brian Robinson	RB	6-1	228	23	R	Alabama
10	Curtis Samuel	WR	5-11	195	26	6	Ohio State
11	Carson Wentz	QB	6-5	237	29	7	North Dakota State
14	Sam Howell	QB	6-1	220	21	R	North Carolina
15	Dax Milne	WR	6-0	190	23	2	BYU
17	Terry McLaurin	WR	6-0	210	27	4	Ohio State
20	Bobby McCain	S	5-9	196	29	8	Memphis
22	Darrick Forrest	S	5-11	200	23	2	Cincinnati
23	J.D. McKissic	RB	5-10	195	29	6	Arkansas State
24	Antonio Gibson	RB	6-2	220	24	3	Memphis
25	Benjamin St-Juste	CB	6-3	200	25	2	Minnesota
29	Kendall Fuller	CB	5-11	198	27	7	Virginia Tech
31	Kamren Curl	S	6-2	198	23	3	Arkansas
34	Christian Holmes	CB	6-1	205	24	R	Oklahoma State
35	Percy Butler	S	6-0	191	22	R	Louisiana
37	Rachad Wildgoose	CB	5-10	191	22	2	Wisconsin
39	Jeremy Reaves	S	5-11	200	26	3	South Alabama
40	Tariq Castro-Fields	CB	6-1	197	23	R	Penn State
41	Jonathan Williams	RB	6-0	217	28	6	Arkansas
51	David Mayo	LB	6-2	240	29	8	Texas State-San Marcos
52	Jamin Davis	LB	6-3	234	23	2	Kentucky
53	Trai Turner	G	6-3	320	29	9	LSU
54	Camaron Cheeseman	LS	6-4	237	24	2	Michigan
55	Cole Holcomb	LB	6-1	240	26	4	North Carolina
58	Shaka Toney	DE	6-2	238	24	2	Penn State
59	Jon Bostic	LB	6-1	245	31	10	Florida
60	Nick Martin	C	6-4	299	29	7	Notre Dame
68	Andrew Norwell	G	6-6	310	31	9	Ohio State
69	Tyler Larsen	C	6-4	335	31	7	Utah State
72	Charles Leno Jr.	T	6-3	302	31	9	Boise State
75	Chris Paul	G	6-4	324	23	R	Tulsa
76	Sam Cosmi	T	6-6	309	23	2	Texas
77	Saahdiq Charles	T	6-4	322	23	3	LSU
78	Cornelius Lucas	T	6-8	327	31	8	Kansas State

82	Logan Thomas	TE	6-6	250	31	8	Virginia Tech
85	Cole Turner	TE	6-6	240	22	R	Nevada
87	John Bates	TE	6-6	259	24	2	Boise State
88	Armani Rogers	TE	6-5	225	24	R	Ohio
89	Cam Sims	WR	6-5	220	26	5	Alabama
90	Montez Sweat	DE	6-6	262	26	4	Mississippi State
91	John Ridgeway	DT	6-5	321	23	R	Arkansas
92	Daniel Wise	DT	6-3	285	26	2	Kansas
93	Jonathan Allen	DT	6-3	300	27	6	Alabama
94	Daron Payne	DT	6-3	320	25	5	Alabama
95	Casey Toohill	DE	6-5	254	26	3	Stanford
96	James Smith-Williams	DE	6-4	265	25	3	North Carolina State
97	Efe Obada	DE	6-6	265	30	5	European football league

Reserve/Injured

46	Milo Eifler	LB	6-2	225	24	1	Illinois
66	Willie Beavers	G	6-5	322	29	2	Western Michigan
71	Wes Schweitzer	G	6-4	300	29	7	San Jose State
73	Chase Roullier	C	6-4	312	29	6	Wyoming
80	Curtis Hodges	TE	6-8	240	23	R	Arizona State
98	Phidarian Mathis	DT	6-4	312	24	R	Alabama

Reserve/Physically Unable to Perform

99	Chase Young	DE	6-5	264	23	3	Ohio State
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Practice Squad

19	Marken Michel	WR	5-11	191	29	1	UMass Amherst
26	Corn Elder	CB	5-10	185	28	6	Miami
32	Jaret Patterson	RB	5-8	195	22	2	Buffalo
36	Danny Johnson	CB	5-9	190	26	5	Southern University
45	De'Jon Harris	LB	6-0	245	24	1	Arkansas
47	Khaleke Hudson	LB	6-0	220	24	3	Michigan
56	Will Bradley-King	DE	6-3	254	24	1	Baylor
57	Donovan Jeter	DT	6-3	325	23	R	Michigan
61	Keaton Sutherland	G	6-5	316	25	3	Texas A&M
62	Alex Akingbulu	OT	6-5	300	24	1	Fresno State
63	Wes Martin	G	6-3	315	26	4	Indiana
64	David Bada	DT	6-4	293	27	1	
67	Aaron Monteiro	T	6-7	320	25	1	Boston College
79	Benning Potoa'e	DE	6-3	290	26	1	Washington
83	Kyric McGowan	WR	5-11	198	22	R	Georgia Tech
86	Alex Erickson	WR	6-0	195	29	7	Wisconsin
64W	Christian DiLauro	T	6-6	300	27	1	Illinois

Practice Squad/Injured

74	Nolan Laufenberg	G	6-3	312	23	1	Air Force
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Packers vs. Commanders
All-time, regular season: 20-15-1
All-time, postseason: 2-1
All-time, at Washington: 9-11
Streaks: The Green Bay Packers have won four out of the last six meetings against Washington, but are just 2-3 at Washington since 2010.
Last meeting, regular season: Oct. 24, 2021, Packers won 24-10 at Lambeau Field in Green Bay. Quarterback Aaron Rodgers threw three touchdowns in the win for the Packers.

SCHEDULE

Date	Opponent	Time	TV
Sept. 11	at Minnesota	Loss 23-7	
Sept. 18	vs. Chicago	Win 27-10	
Sept. 25	at Tampa Bay	Win 14-12	
Oct. 2	vs. New England	Win 27-24 (OT)	
Oct. 9	vs. N.Y. Giants (London)	Loss 27-22	
Oct. 16	vs. N.Y. Jets	Loss 27-10	
Oct. 23	at Washington	noon	FOX
Oct. 30	at Buffalo	7:20 p.m.	NBC
Nov. 6	at Detroit	noon	FOX
Nov. 13	vs. Dallas	3:25 p.m.	FOX
Nov. 17	vs. Tennessee	7:15 p.m.	Prime
Nov. 27	at Philadelphia	7:20 p.m.	NBC
Dec. 4	at Chicago	noon	FOX
Bye week			
Dec. 19	vs. L.A. Rams	7:15 p.m.	ESPN
Dec. 25	at Miami	noon	FOX
Jan. 1	vs. Minnesota	3:25 p.m.	CBS
Jan. 7/8	vs. Detroit	TBD	TBD

OFFENSE

WR

Romeo Doubs
Samori Toure

RB

Aaron Jones
A.J. Dillon

QB

Aaron Rodgers
Jordan Love

WR

Randall Cobb
Amari Rodgers

WR

Allen Lazard
Christian Watkins

TE

Mercedes Lewis
Robert Tonyan

RT

Elgton Jenkins
Rasheed Walker

RG

Royce Newman
Sean Rhyan

C

Josh Myers
Jake Hanson

LG

Jon Runyan
Zach Tom

LT

David Bakhtiari
Yosh Nijman

DEFENSE

DE

Dean Lowry
Devonte Wyatt

NT

Kenny Clark
T.J. Slaton

DE

Jarran Reed
Devonte Wyatt

CB

Eric Stokes
Keisean Nixon

CB

Jaire Alexander
Rasul Douglas

OLB

Preston Smith
Jonathan Garvin

ILB

De'Vondre Campbell
Isaiah McDuffie

ILB

Quay Walker
Eric Wilson

OLB

Rashan Gary
Kingsley Enagbare

S

Adrian Amos
Dallin Leavitt

S

Darnell Savage
Rudy Ford

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Rosters and depth charts are accurate as of Oct. 17, 9 p.m.

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COMMANDERS DEPTH CHART

OFFENSE

WR

Terry McLaurin
Dyami Brown

RB

Antonio Gibson
Brian Robinson

QB

Carson Wentz
Taylor Heinicke

WR

Jahan Dotson
Cam Sims

WR

Curtis Samuel
Dax Milne

TE

Logan Thomas
John Bates

RT

Sam Cosmi
Cornelius Lucas

RG

Saahdiq Charles
Trai Turner

C

Nick Martin
Tyler Larsen

LG

Andrew Norwell
Chris Paul

LT

Charles Leno Jr.
Cornelius Lucas

DEFENSE

DE

Montez Sweat
Casey Toohill

DT

Daron Payne
Daniel Wise

DT

Jonathan Allen
Efe Obada

DE

James Smith-Williams
Shaka Toney

CB

Kendall Fuller
Rachad Wildgoose

CB

Benjamin St-Juste
Tariq Castro-Fields

CB

William Jackson III
Christian Holmes

OLB

Jamin Davis
Jon Bostic

MLB

Cole Holcomb
David Mayo

S

Kamren Curl
Darrick Forrest

S

Bobby McCain
Percy Butler

SCHEDULE

Thursday's Games
New Orleans at Arizona, 7:15 p.m.

Sunday's Games
Cleveland at Baltimore, noon
Tampa Bay at Carolina, noon
Atlanta at Cincinnati, noon
Detroit at Dallas, noon
N.Y. Giants at Jacksonville, noon
Indianapolis at Tennessee, noon
Green Bay at Washington, noon
N.Y. Jets at Denver, 3:05 p.m.
Houston at Las Vegas, 3:05 p.m.
Seattle at L.A. Chargers, 3:25 p.m.
Kansas City at San Francisco, 3:25 p.m.
Pittsburgh at Miami, 7:20 p.m.

Monday's Games
Chicago at New England, 7:15 p.m.

Next Thursday's Games
Baltimore at Tampa Bay, 7:15 p.m.

Teams on bye: Buffalo, L.A. Rams, Minnesota, Philadelphia

STANDINGS

NFC					AFC				
East					East				
Team	W	L	T		Team	W	L	T	
Philadelphia	6	0	0		Buffalo	5	1	0	
N.Y. Giants	5	1	0		N.Y. Jets	4	2	0	
Dallas	4	2	0		Miami	3	3	0	
Washington	2	4	0		New England	3	3	0	
North					North				
Team	W	L	T		Team	W	L	T	
Minnesota	5	1	0		Baltimore	3	3	0	
Green Bay	3	3	0		Cincinnati	3	3	0	
Chicago	2	4	0		Cleveland	2	4	0	
Detroit	1	4	0		Pittsburgh	2	4	0	
South					South				
Team	W	L	T		Team	W	L	T	
Tampa Bay	3	3	0		Tennessee	3	2	0	
Atlanta	3	3	0		Indianapolis	3	2	1	
New Orleans	2	4	0		Jacksonville	2	4	0	
Carolina	1	5	0		Houston	1	3	1	
West					West				
Team	W	L	T		Team	W	L	T	
San Francisco	3	3	0		Kansas City	4	2	0	
L.A. Rams	3	3	0		L.A. Chargers	4	2	0	
Seattle	3	3	0		Denver	2	4	0	
Arizona	2	4	0		Las Vegas	1	4	0	



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NOTEBOOK

By **BILL HUBER**
Correspondent

Line issues

For years, the Green Bay Packers' high-flying offense was driven by Aaron Rodgers but powered by fine offensive lines.

This year, the line is a fine mess.

While left tackle David Bakhtiari has started four consecutive games and appears to be getting better with each week, the rest of the line has fallen on hard times. Those issues came to a head in Sunday's loss to the New York Jets. Rodgers was sacked four times and took nine quarterback hits, and Aaron Jones and A.J. Dillon combined to average just 3.2 yards per carry.

Right guard Royce Newman, in particular, had a bad day. He had a hand in two of the Jets' sacks. At one point, coach Matt LaFleur had seen enough. For the two-minute drill before halftime, Newman was benched in favor of Jake Hanson. The Packers drove to a field goal but Hanson suffered a biceps injury during the drive. Newman was back for the second half.

Right tackle Elgton Jenkins had a bad day, too. Coming off a strong performance in London vs. the Giants, he was penalized three times and gave up a few pressures vs. the Jets. A Pro Bowler at left guard in 2020 and a standout at left tackle in 2021 before suffering a torn ACL, the combination of coming back from a major injury and a new position has been a challenge.

How will the Packers line up against the Washington Commanders on Sunday? Will they give Newman another shot at right guard and stick with Jenkins at right tackle? Will rookie Zach Tom replace Newman? Or will Jenkins move from right tackle to right guard and will Yosh Nijman get his shot at right tackle?

Throughout his tenure, LaFleur has preached the importance of getting the "best five" on the field. Nijman, with 10 quality starts at left tackle in 2021 and 2022, is one of the best five linemen. But is he part of the best combination?

Nijman hasn't played right tackle since he was at Virginia Tech. With Bakhtiari missing all of 2021 and a big chunk of 2022 when you factor in the offseason practices, training camp and start of the regular season, the Packers had to lock Nijman in at left tackle.

Even with Bakhtiari's return, Nij-



Green Bay Packers quarterback Aaron Rodgers, center, is hit during the team's loss to the New York Jets on Oct. 16 in Green Bay. The Packers' offensive line has struggled in recent weeks and might be shuffled around in the games to come.

GREG MELLIS | NEW MEDIA

man played extensively against the Buccaneers in week three and the Giants in week five. He just hasn't played a lot of right tackle; he hasn't played it at all in a game.

Moreover, can the Packers realistically move Nijman to right tackle when he might be needed at a moment's notice at left tackle? That seems about as ideal as running Newman back out there given his year two regression.

"I think everything's up for discussion," is all LaFleur would say on Monday.

Jenkins said Monday was about watching film and trying to fix all that was wrong. He's not sure where he'll line up when the team hits the practice field on Wednesday.

"I'm not opposed to any position at this point – especially with these

past two weeks. Whatever helps the team and whatever helps us win, I'm with it," he said.

There are issues beyond personnel. The Jets didn't need to blitz to ruin Green Bay's day. Their front four looped players from left to right and right to left. It's exactly what the Packers expected; Rodgers said they do that 50% of the time in certain situations. But it's as if the Packers had never seen it.

"That was extremely frustrating," center Josh Myers said. "Those are situations we pride ourselves on, being really good at. And we weren't. So, to come back in here and watch that was extremely frustrating."

Those issues need to be resolved quickly. While the Commanders are only 2-4, their defensive line includes three first-round picks:

Daron Payne and Jonathan Allen as the tackles and Montez Sweat as one of the ends. They've combined for 10½ sacks and 29 quarterback hits. As a unit, Washington is fourth in sack percentage.

Alexander walks the walk

Cornerback Jaire Alexander wanted more one-on-one opportunities. He got them against the Jets. Lining up against their best receiver, rookie Garrett Wilson, for most of the game, Alexander delivered a superior performance. Wilson caught 1-of-5 passes for 8 yards and Alexander broke up three passes.

He had only one pass defended, an interception against Chicago, through the first five games.

"He just went out there and competed every play, and he was

challenging, contesting,” LaFleur said. “I was super-proud of his performance.”

Thanks, Dad

Jon Runyan Sr. started 192 games at right tackle during his NFL career. Following a stint in politics, he was named the NFL’s vice president of rules and policy administration in 2016. His job is to hand out punishment, whether it’s suspending Tampa Bay receiver Mike Evans before a big Packers-Buccaneers game, or to fine players for rules violations.

One player who he fined was his son, Packers left guard Jon Runyan, for a leg-whipping infraction against the Giants in London. The cost? \$5,215. The elder Runyan notified his son via text before sending him the official letter from the league.

“I was thinking about getting him a nice Christmas present this year,” Runyan said with a smile on Monday, “but, with all that money taken away from me, I’m probably not going to be able to. So, oh well, I’ll give it to him next year.”

The two have not discussed the fine.

“I didn’t want to give him the satisfaction of knowing that,” he said.

According to ESPN, it might be the first time in NFL history that a father has fined his son.

“Yeah, I did keep the letter,” Runyan said. “I put it in my nightstand drawer. I don’t know what I’m going to do with it. Some people were telling me that I should frame it or something like that. I did keep it, though.”

Cobb avoids break

When a couple Jets defenders rolled across his legs during the third quarter on Sunday, receiver Randall Cobb thought he’d suffered



Green Bay Packers receiver Allen Lazard, left, reaches out to try and catch a pass during a game against the New York Jets runner on Oct. 16 in Green Bay.

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ONLINE

More stories on the Green Bay Packers can be found at www.newmedia-wi.com.

a broken ankle. He was in tears when he was carted to the locker room.

Turns out, the injury isn’t so bad after all. Yes, he’ll miss some time — another blow to a struggling offense — but it’s not a season-ending injury. On Instagram, Cobb said he’d be back “soon.”

Sammy Watkins could take Cobb’s place on the roster. He is eligible to come off injured reserve this week after missing four games with a hamstring injury.



Green Bay Packers receiver Randall Cobb runs with the ball during the team’s game against the New York Jets on Oct. 16 in Green Bay. Cobb avoided a season-ending ankle injury, but will still likely miss the next couple of games.

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Morgan Rode
NEW Media Sports Editor



Week 7 Games: Sunday, October 23

Teams on bye: Buffalo, Minnesota, Philadelphia & LA Rams

New Orleans @ Arizona Thurs., Oct. 20
Cleveland @ Baltimore
Tampa Bay @ Carolina
Atlanta @ Cincinnati
Detroit @ Dallas
NY Giants @ Jacksonville
Indianapolis @ Tennessee

NY Jets @ Denver
Houston @ Las Vegas
Seattle @ LA Chargers
Kansas City @ San Francisco
Pittsburgh @ Miami
Chicago @ New England Mon., Oct. 24

Tie Breaker Game:
Green Bay @ Washington



This Week's Picks:

Arizona	Tennessee	New England
Baltimore	Denver	
Tampa Bay	Las Vegas	
Cincinnati	LA Chargers	
Detroit	San Francisco	
NY Giants	Miami	

Morgan Rode
New Media

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score : Green Bay 27 @ Washington 28



This Week's Picks:

Arizona	Tennessee	New England
Baltimore	NY Jets	
Tampa Bay	Las Vegas	
Cincinnati	LA Chargers	
Dallas	Kansas City	
NY Giants	Miami	

Tim Murphy
New Media

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Green Bay 9 @ Washington 12



This Week's Picks:

Arizona	Tennessee	New England
Baltimore	NY Jets	
Tampa Bay	Las Vegas	
Atlanta	Seattle	
Detroit	Kansas City	
Jacksonville	Miami	

Luke Reimer
New Media

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Green Bay 35 @ Washington 14

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REGULAR SEASON

1 Sunday, September 11	at Minnesota Vikings	12:25 p.m.	FOX
2 Sunday, September 18	CHICAGO BEARS	7:25 p.m.	FOX
3 Sunday, September 25	at Tampa Bay Buccaneers	8:25 p.m.	FOX
4 Sunday, October 2	NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS	3:30 p.m.	FOX
5 Sunday, October 9	at New York Giants (London)	8:30 a.m.	FOX
6 Sunday, October 16	NEW YORK JETS	12:10 p.m.	FOX
7 Sunday, October 23	at Washington Commanders	11:00 a.m.	FOX
8 Sunday, October 30	at Buffalo Bills	7:30 a.m.	FOX
9 Sunday, November 6	at Detroit Lions	12:10 p.m.	FOX
10 Sunday, November 13	DALLAS COWBOYS	12:25 p.m.	FOX
11 Monday, November 17	TENNESSEE TITANS	7:15 p.m.	FOX
12 Sunday, November 27	at Philadelphia Eagles	1:00 p.m.	FOX
13 Sunday, December 4	at Chicago Bears	12:00 p.m.	FOX
14	BYE WEEK		
15 Monday, December 19	LOS ANGELES RAMS	7:15 p.m.	FOX
16 Sunday, December 25	at Miami Dolphins	12:10 p.m.	FOX
17 Sunday, January 1	MINNESOTA VIKINGS	12:25 p.m.	FOX
18 January 7 or 8	DETROIT LIONS		FOX

This Week's Winner: Charter Aarrowcast

Weekly Standings

22 Shell	6-8	58-36
Buss Automotive.....	8-6	56-38
Charter Aarrowcast	9-5	55-39
Shawano Seasons Restaurant.....	6-8	54-40
Tower Clock Eye Center	7-7	54-40
Bill Huber.....	6-8	53-41

Weekly Record

Overall Record

Weekly Standings

Gene's Floor Covering	5-9	53-41
Iverson's Piggly Wiggly	8-6	52-42
Morgan Rode	8-6	52-42
Tim Murphy	7-7	52-42
Luke Reimer	7-7	51-43
Senn Insurance	4-10	49-45

Weekly Record

Overall Record



Robert Buss
Buss Automotive

This Week's Picks:

Arizona	Tennessee	New England
Baltimore	NY Jets	
Tampa Bay	Las Vegas	
Cincinnati	LA Chargers	
Dallas	Kansas City	
NY Giants	Miami	

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Green Bay 24 @ Washington 17



Shane Senn
Senn Insurance

This Week's Picks:

New Orleans	Tennessee	New England
Baltimore	NY Jets	
Tampa Bay	Las Vegas	
Cincinnati	LA Chargers	
Dallas	San Francisco	
Jacksonville	Miami	

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Green Bay 30 @ Washington 10



Charter
Aarrowcast
Shawano

This Week's Picks:

Arizona	Tennessee	New England
Baltimore	Denver	
Tampa Bay	Las Vegas	
Cincinnati	LA Chargers	
Dallas	Kansas City	
NY Giants	Miami	

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Green Bay 20 @ Washington 14



Iverson's Staff
Iverson's
Piggly Wiggly

This Week's Picks:

Arizona	Tennessee	New England
Cleveland	Denver	
Tampa Bay	Las Vegas	
Cincinnati	LA Chargers	
Dallas	San Francisco	
NY Giants	Miami	

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Green Bay 28 @ Washington 21



In Memory of
Patty Lasher
Shawano Seasons
Restaurant

This Week's Picks:

Arizona	Tennessee	New England
Baltimore	Denver	
Tampa Bay	Las Vegas	
Cincinnati	LA Chargers	
Dallas	Kansas City	
Jacksonville	Miami	

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Green Bay 28 @ Washington 17



Gene Maas
Gene's Floor
Coverings

This Week's Picks:

New Orleans	Indianapolis	Chicago
Cleveland	NY Jets	
Tampa Bay	Las Vegas	
Cincinnati	Seattle	
Dallas	Kansas City	
NY Giants	Pittsburgh	

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Green Bay 17 @ Washington 13



Bill Huber
New
Media

This Week's Picks:

New Orleans	Tennessee	New England
Baltimore	Denver	
Tampa Bay	LA Raiders	
Cincinnati	LA Chargers	
Dallas	Kansas City	
NY Giants	Miami	

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Green Bay 20 @ Washington 17



Brenda
22 Shell

This Week's Picks:

Arizona	Tennessee	New England
Baltimore	NY Jets	
Tampa Bay	Las Vegas	
Cincinnati	LA Chargers	
Dallas	Kansas City	
NY Giants	Miami	

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Green Bay 27 @ Washington 21



Jim Wiegand
Tower Clock
Eye Center

This Week's Picks:

Arizona	Tennessee	New England
Baltimore	NY Jets	
Tampa Bay	Las Vegas	
Cincinnati	Seattle	
Dallas	Kansas City	
NY Giants	Miami	

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Green Bay 14 @ Washington 10

KEYS TO THE GAME

By BILL HUBER
Correspondent

The Green Bay Packers (3-3) will travel to face the Washington Commanders (2-4) at noon on Sunday at FedExField in North Englewood, Maryland. FOX will televise the game.

History

In a series that dates to 1932, when the Packers won at the Boston Braves 21-0, Green Bay leads 22-16-1. The Packers have won two straight, including 24-10 at Lambeau Field last year. The last time the teams met in Washington was 2018, with the Packers falling 31-17. Alex Smith had two touchdown passes and Adrian Peterson had two touchdown runs as Washington led 28-10 at halftime.

Coaches

Green Bay — Matt LaFleur, 42-13, fourth season. Washington — Ron Rivera, 16-23, third season at Washington; 92-86-1 overall in 12 seasons.

When the Packers have the ball

Washington enters week seven ranked 18th with 22.5 points allowed per game. The Commanders have been generous in giving up yards — 19th in total defense (353.3 yards per game), 21st in rushing per play (4.65) and 24th in passing per play (6.99) — but have been excellent in the key situations of third down (third-ranked 31.7% conversions), red zone (ninth-ranked 50% touchdowns) and goal-to-go (third-ranked 45.5% touchdowns). They've forced a league-low three turnovers.

"We struggled last year in third downs. We struggled getting pressure on the quarterback," Rivera said. "We now are one of the better groups in getting pressure on the quarterback. We're one of the better groups at third down. And we're also one of the better groups in the red zone."

The strength of the defense is the front. Even with star defensive end Chase Young out with a torn ACL, Washington's front includes three first-round picks. Defensive tackles Jonathan Allen (3½ sacks, seven tackles for losses, one interception and one forced fumble) and Daron Payne (3½ sacks, five tackles for losses) are elite, and defensive end Montez Sweat (three sacks, second in league with 14 quarterback hits) is underrated. Led by those three players, Washington is fourth in sack percentage.

Washington plays almost entirely out of nickel (four linemen, two linebackers, five defensive backs) or dime (four linemen, one linebacker, six defensive backs). The every-down



Green Bay Packers defenders team up to take down a New York Jets runner during a game on Oct. 16 in Green Bay.

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linebacker is Cole Holcomb, who ranks fifth in the league with 60 tackles. The other linebacker is Jamin Davis. A first-round pick last year, he has 28 tackles and three sacks.

Kendall Fuller, Rachad Wildgoose and Benjamin St-Juste are the three cornerbacks. It's the weak link on their defense. Fuller has been torched for a 137.3 passer rating, according to Pro Football Focus. St-Juste, a towering 6-foot-3, has allowed just a 48.4% catch rate and has broken up four passes.

Wildgoose, a sixth-round pick from Wisconsin in 2021, replaced the unit's big name, William Jackson. Jackson, who signed a three-year, \$40.5 million contract with Washington in free agency in 2021, didn't play last week and is likely to be traded before the Nov. 1 deadline.

Bobby McCain and Kamren Curl are the starting safeties, and Darrick Forrest plays a lot off the bench. Forrest and Curl play a lot in the box to help offset the lack of a third linebacker. Forrest is third on the team with 27 tackles and tied for first with four passes defended.

When the Commanders have the ball

The Commanders have one of the worst offenses in the NFL. The Packers must take advantage. They are 29th in scoring with 17 points per game.

You name it, they're bad at it. They are 30th in yards per play (4.83), 24th in rushing per play (4.01) and 28th in

passing per play (5.81). They're also 27th in sack percentage, 26th on third down and 17th in the red zone.

Washington starting quarterback Carson Wentz suffered a broken finger and is out indefinitely. That means, for the second consecutive year, a matchup against Taylor Heinicke. In Green Bay's win last season, Heinicke threw for 268 yards and rushed for 95 more. So, this might not be much of a break from Joe Barry's perspective.

The Commanders have a few playmakers. Topping the list is receiver Terry McLaurin, who has 22 catches for 367 yards (16.7 average) and one touchdown. He is coming off back-to-back seasons of 75-plus receptions and 1,000-plus yards.

Curtis Samuel has a team-high 34 receptions but for only 287 yards. First-round pick Jahan Dotson, who has all sorts of speed, has added 12 catches for 152 yards and a team-high four touchdowns.

Running back Antonio Gibson is a three-down player. He has a team-high 214 rushing yards (3.5 average) and is fourth with 19 receptions (8 average).

His backfield sidekicks are J.D. McKissic, who is more receiver (24 receptions) than runner (19 attempts), and burly rookie Brian Robinson. Robinson missed the start of the season after being shot. Against the Bears last week, he carried 17 times for 60 yards and one touchdown. Rivera liked the results of pounding away with

Robinson and then getting Gibson on the edge.

Against Chicago, the offensive line was left tackle Charles Leno, left guard Andrew Norwell, center Tyler Larsen, right guard Saahdiq Charles and right tackle Cornelius Lucas. It's been a revolving door at center with Case Roulier on injured reserve. Larsen was the fourth player to get snaps at that spot.

Lucas replaced second-year player Sam Cosmi (broken thumb). Cosmi is the team's worst pass protector (five sacks) but best run blocker.

Special teams

Special teams had been the consistent strength of the Packers until last week, when they gave up a blocked punt and blocked field goal against the Jets.

The Commanders will pose a huge challenge. They are No. 2 in special teams, according to Football Outsiders.

Punter Tress Way ranks fourth in the NFL with a 44.8-yard net average. So, it won't be easy for Green Bay's feeble punt-return unit to get going. Returner Amari Rodgers didn't have a prayer against the Jets.

Kicker Joey Slye is 4-of-5 on field goals. He's got a big-time leg; opponents have returned only three of his kickoffs. He is 14-of-22 from 50-plus yards for his career.

Dax Milne handles returns on kickoffs (20.5 yards per return) and punts (9.5).

Q&A WITH PAT O'DONNELL

By **BILL HUBER**
Correspondent

The Packers signed punter Pat O'Donnell in free agency following his eight seasons with the Bears. He enters week seven ranked third in the NFL with 14 punts that pinned the opponent inside the 20. Almost all of them were inside the 15 or closer to the goal line.

Q: What's the key to all those inside-the-20 punts?

A: Good gunner play.

Q: You must be doing something, too.

A: Honestly, it's just all touch, it's all feel. When you get closer (to the goal line), it gets a little bit harder, so it's more of a feel-finesse ball. It's being able to get the guys in a position to down the ball. You don't want to make it too hairy when you put it on the 1 every single time. You need to give them a little bit of a buffer space.

Q: Here's an off-the-wall question for you. What shoe size do you wear normally and what do you wear to kick?

A: I'm a normal 12 in sneakers and I wear an 11 to kick. Nothing crazy — a size down.

Q: Does that get uncomfortable wearing too-small shoes for about 4

hours on Sundays?

A: Oh, yeah, especially when it starts getting cold out. That's when you really start to feel it, but I'm used to it. I'm sure my foot has shrunk because I bind my feet up in a smaller shoe.

Q: What's it going to be like when you're 60?

A: I don't know. I don't want to know.

Q: Why? I'm sure you'd punt the ball just fine with sneakers, bare-foot, sandals or with Crocs.

A: It's more of a feel. You can feel the ball more. It's like wearing a golf glove. You wear it tighter; you don't want a big, baggy glove so you can't feel the club. It's essentially the same thing.

Q: I was looking for photos of you a while back and there were a bunch from the kicking camp you host in West Palm Beach, Florida. How long have you been doing that?

A: I've been doing a youth kicking camp for three years — COVID knocked out one of the years.

Q: Why is that important?

A: I just think it's important for me to give back. Down in South Florida, a

AT A GLANCE

Number: 16

Age: 31

Season: Ninth

College: Miami

lot of guys when I was growing up did camps like that. I thought it was really cool. For me to give back, I thought it was something that I definitely should.

A lot of guys don't do that. I think it's important to expose kids to different positions in football. Quarterbacks do it and a million people show up, but the specialists, not so much. If I can change one kid's life and have him fall in love with kicking like I did, I did my job.

Q: I'm glad you answered it like that. Was there someone in your life when you were a kid that helped you on this path?

A: It was actually a guy (Tony Bugeja) who played in the AFL and he played at a Division III school in Carolina who's now my kicking coach. He's been my best man at my wedding. He's awesome. I was a soccer kid growing up.

All of us wanted to get a scholarship somehow and I jumped from soccer to kicking, and he was the guy

that exposed me to kicking and kept in touch and basically taught me everything I know.

Q: How old were you when you started playing football?

A: I was just going into high school. I had never played football before. I was always super-competitive in soccer and I always saw (the football team) on the neighboring field and I was like, 'I could do that.' So, it was cool that I got to experience that, and look where I am now.

Q: Were you good right away? Like, did you start kicking and you thought, "I'm as good as I thought I'd be!"

A: I always had natural instincts to kick a ball and strike a ball well, but punting was probably more challenging because it's a different style. Punting is linear and straight up vs. kicking and the rotation that you kick. It was definitely a challenge, a transition for me. Typical story: I was trying out for the freshman team and it was a week before the opening game and they lined us all up on the fence and the coach said, 'Who's kicked before?' I said I played soccer. Typical movie scene. I kicked it the furthest and the rest was history.



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Packers stunned by Jets at Lambeau

Green Bay outgained on the ground 179-60

By **LUKE REIMER**
Reporter

An unproductive offensive performance from the Green Bay Packers led to boos from the home crowd and a 27-10 loss to the New York Jets at Lambeau Field on Oct. 16.

Offense was once again a major issue for Green Bay, as it has mustered just one touchdown in the last three halves. Boos were loud at Lambeau, something that typically is not heard in Green Bay, after seven straight drives to open the game resulted in no points for the team.

Even though the Packers won the time of possession, the Jets were able to match the Packers' total yardage of 278. Rushing was the major disparity in the game, as Jets rookie running back Breece Hall ran for 116 yards. Second-year running back Michael Carter added another 40 yards, as the Jets totaled 179 rushing yards on the day. The Packers recorded just 60 yards rushing, with A.J. Dillon leading the crew with 41 yards.

"When everybody in the building knows you are going to run the football, and they are able to do it, that's a little discouraging," said LaFleur.

Scoring was hard to come by, as the Jets scored the first points of the game on a 32-yard field goal from kicker Greg Zuerlein with just 5:50 left in the first half.

During Green Bay's responding drive, Rodgers completed passes of 6 and 16 yards to tight end Robert Tonyan, before missing receiver Romeo Doubs on fourth-and-four.

Taking over at its own 46-yard line with 2:20 remaining in the half, New York drove down to the Packers' 35-yard line on the back of Hall's 13 total yards and a 6-yard reception from wide receiver Braxton Berrios. The drive culminated in a 53-yard field goal attempt, in which Zuerlein missed to the left.

The Packers then went six plays in 31 seconds, scoring a Mason Crosby 29-yard field goal to get on the board. Tonyan, Lazard and Cobb were the beneficiaries of Rodgers' passes, with Tonyan's 22 receiving yards on the drive being the main factor.

Berrios opened the scoring in the



Green Bay Packers running back A.J. Dillon, left, and quarterback Aaron Rodgers, center, look on after a fumble on an exchange during the game against the New York Jets on Oct. 16 in Green Bay.

GREG MELLIS | NEW MEDIA

second half for New York, as the 27-year old receiver took a Wilson pitch 20 yards for a touchdown. That scoring drive included Jets wide receiver Corey Davis recording 52 yards on two receptions.

Almost immediately after the Jets scored, defensive tackle Quinnen Williams sacked Rodgers on third down, forcing Green Bay to punt. On the subsequent play, Jets defensive end Michael Clemons blocked Pat O'Donnell's punt, which was returned for a touchdown.

Down 17-3, the Packers put together their first touchdown scoring drive of the day, as Rodgers completed a 25-yard back shoulder touchdown to Lazard. New York quickly took back control of the game though, marching down the field in five plays, culminating in a 34-yard rushing touchdown for Hall.

The Packers then began to drive, mostly on the arm of Rodgers and his 46 passing yards. Five receivers were involved on the drive — most notably Amari Rodgers, recording his first reception of the season, for 14 yards. The drive ended though as Green Bay was unable to convert on fourth-and-14

from the New York 37-yard line.

Up 24-10, the Jets put the dagger into Green Bay, with a 14-play, 6 minute, 30 second drive, tacking on a field goal and going up three scores with just over 2½ minutes left in the game.

While the drive was the dagger, it did produce something to build off of for LaFleur and the rest of the Packers coaching staff. Faced with a first-and-goal from the 3-yard line, the Packers stopped the Jets on six consecutive plays to prevent a touchdown.

"I was proud of our guys' effort," said LaFleur. "I thought at least that was a good sign that they continued to fight until the end."

An injury to Rodgers' thumb was a point of discussion during practice and while Rodgers was not in MVP form, he went a respectable 26-for-41 with 246 passing yards and one touchdown. After the game, Rodgers was quick to use his thumb as an excuse for missing some throws.

"It's a little sore," said Rodgers, when asked if the injury affected any throws. "Maybe a couple, but not too many."

The aforementioned Williams was a major thorn in the Packers' side all

day, as the Alabama product recorded two sacks to lead the team, which recorded four. With Williams' dominance on the inside, the Packers were forced to substitute Royce Newman out in favor of Jake Hanson. Hanson was injured shortly before halftime, bringing Newman back in the game.

"They brought about two or three pressures maybe, it felt like all day," said Rodgers. "It was (a) four-man rush. They brought some twists, but we knew they were like 50% twists in certain situations based on the analytics. So we just didn't execute that very well."

Another major injury for concern for Green Bay is wide receiver Randall Cobb, who was forced out of the game with an ankle injury. Rodgers was quick to show concern for the veteran receiver.

"I think he thought that was it, that he'd broken it, but I don't think that's the case," said Rodgers. "It's tough, but he was in better spirits in the locker room, and I think you can put guys down on the IR now (for) four weeks, so that might be a possibility."

lreimer@newmedia-wi.com



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Popcorn or
Doritos
6-10 oz

\$1.99
WITH CARD



When You Buy Multiples of 4

Fiora Paper Towel 6 roll or
Fiora Bath Tissue
12 roll

\$3.99
WITH CARD



Kemps
Ice Cream
48 oz

\$3.49
WITH CARD



New Glarus
Craft
12 pk
12 oz cans

\$13.99



LOWEST LEGAL PRICE

Fritos Dips - 8.5-9 oz \$3.29

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