



Green Bay Packers (9-2-1) 30, Minnesota Vikings (3-7-2) 27
Sunday December 3rd 1967 (at Minnesota)



Packers Edge Minnesota In Last 8 Seconds, 30-27



Minnesota quarterback Joe Kapp is hit by Green Bay Packers' Lee Roy Caffey (60) after an incomplete pass (AP Photo)

GAME RECAP (GREEN BAY PRESS-GAZETTE)

(MINNESOTA) – “Thatta way to go, garbage man,” Ben Wilson and Henry Jordan chorused. Wiry Tom Brown, the subject of the jocular compliment, looked up as he pulled on a sock in front of his dressing room locker Sunday afternoon and permitted himself a smile of satisfaction. “It’s been a long time,” said the Packer safety, who has earned his colorful moniker through an uncanny knack for being around to intercept deflected passes and gather up stray footballs. The 26-year-old scavenger has just demonstrated his talent beneath a waning December sun in Metropolitan Stadium and his contribution could hardly have been more opportune. Less than two minutes remained when Brown overtook a bullet-like Minnesota fumble on the Viking 28-yard line with the score deadlocked 27-27. He was immediately swarmed under by Viking tacklers, but

suddenly the Packers no longer had to hope for a tie. Ninety nine seconds later, methodical Don Chandler was summoned from the bench, and, on target for the third consecutive time in this point-fest, drilled home a 19-yard field goal, to forge a 30-27 victory for the NFL Central Division champions. It was an appropriate climax to a hectic afternoon, which had seen the lead change hands three times and the score tied on three other occasions before Chandler happily settled the issue with only eight seconds remaining. His arrow-like drive stretched the Packers’ latest winning streak to four games and up-bolstered their record to a glittering 9-2-1 heading into next Saturday afternoon’s confrontation with the title-bidding Rams at Los Angeles. The sure-footed Oklahoman, who quietly conceded “It was quite a thrill to see it sail through there,” had staked the Packers to their first lead of the afternoon with a 30-yard field goal early in the opening quarter. The margin endured until late in the period, when Viking sharpshooter Fred Cox sent a 24 yarder home, his 16th in 18 attempts against the Packers. The ambitious Vikings, hungry for a rare sweep of the world champions, next made quick capital of an 11-yard punt by Donny Anderson, storming into a 10-3 lead on a 43-yard scoring dash by the Minnesotans’ vastly improved Dave Osborn.

10 QUICK POINTS

Stung by this turn of events, the Packers retaliated with 10 quick points – Bart Starr collaborating with Boyd Dowler on a twice-tipped 57-yard pass for a touchdown and following with a 34-yard Chandler field goal after Chuck Mercein’s recovery of a kickoff on the Viking 22. That parlay sent them into the intermission with a 13-10 lead, but this situation changed abruptly early in the third quarter, after the Vikes’ Red Sharockman intercepted a pass tipped off Anderson’s hands by Earsell Mackbee and returned it to the Packer 4. The Minnesotans scored three plays later, Kapp hitting rookie John Beasley in the end zone from six yards out. Rebounding with a vengeance, the Packers scored in four plays, Starr wafting a perfect strike to Carroll Dale on a 34-yard maneuver. Five plays following the next kickoff, Ray Nitschke intercepted a pass deflected by Bob Jeter and Tom Crutcher and the Packers were home in seven plays, Wilson blasting out the final yard to erect a 27-17 lead at 11:54 of the third period. The Packers appeared to have things under control at this point, but minutes

later, the Viking rookie, Clint Jones, engineered a 44-yard kickoff return and the home forces were off again. They scored in eight plays, Kapp finding veteran Red Phillips in the right corner of the end zone with a seven-yard pitch.

FUMBLED ON FIRST DOWN

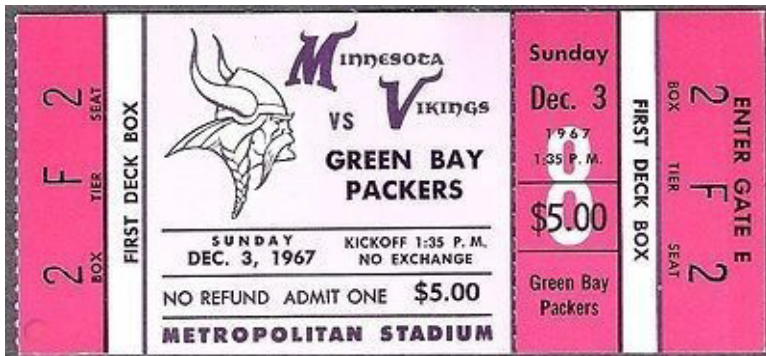
Things became even stickier two exchanges later when Wilson fumbled on first down and the Vikings recovered at the Packer 30. The NFL's league leading defense throttled the Vikings with one yard in three plays, but Cox checked in on fourth down and squared matters with a 27-yard field goal at 10:04 of the final period. And that is the way it appeared destined to end with the Vikings in possession at their own 15, following a booming 59 yard punt by Anderson. Then opportunity, in the form of a loose football, knocked. "I think the fumble came on the exchange between the center (Mick Tinglehoff) and the quarterback (Kapp)," Brown said. "I saw it happen, and I was coming in to get it. And somebody kicked it or punched it and it shot right by me. I had to do a 90 degree turn then go back after it – somebody could have picked it up for them." "I just picked it up," he smiled, "and I got hit. I went all of a quarter of a yard." That salutary development occurred with 1:47 remaining in the period. Starr, again a highly artistic workman, hit Wilson with an 11-yard flare pass to his left after Anderson had lost 2. The Vikings next drew a defensive holding penalty, and the Packers had a first down.

CLOCK ALMOST RUN OUT

Rookie Williams, used extensively from a running back post for the first time, was held for no gain and Wilson settled for 2 up the middle. With the clock almost run out, the Packers called time and summoned Chandler. From the time the ball left his foot, all doubts evaporated – it was letter perfect. "That one," Chandler later enthused, "was really in there. If the goal posts had been two feet apart, it would have gone through." A fitting finish, it poetically reflected the tempo of the struggle, which saw the combatants emerge dead even statistically. Both teams came out with a net of 276 yards, the Packers amassing 133 yards rushing and 143 passing while the Vikes piled 219 on the ground, including a Minnesota record 155 by the explosive Osborn, and 57 through the air. The block busting Wilson, who went all the way at fullback in the absence of the injured Jim Grabowski, was not in Osborn's lofty neighborhood but he did emerge as the game's No. 2 ground gainer, with 59 yards in 15 carries. Williams weighed in with 35 in seven attempts and returned three kickoffs for 64 yards. Starr, seldom sharper, connected on 10 of 15 passes for 191 yards, which gives him a glossy record of 23 for 32 in his last two appearances, and two touchdowns. Typically, he launched the Packers' first scoring push with an illustration of his third down artistry. Faced with third-and-nine at the Packer 43 the first time the champions gained possession, Mr. Quarterback hurled a 25-yard strike to Dowler, who was felled at the Viking 32 by Brady Keys. Wilson lost two and Starr hit Anderson for 11, but Andy was held for no gain and Chandler came on to toe the first of his three field goals. With Osborn contributing 45 yards in six thrusts, including one 24-yard sortie, the Vikings swept to a tying Cox field goal with the next kick off a drive which set the day's patterns. Early in the second quarter, Anderson's short punt opened the door and the Vikings took full advantage. Kapp was snowed by Ron Kostelnik for a 16-yard loss, but the Packers were assessed for tackling by the face mask, which left the Vikes with a first down on the Packer 48. Bill Brown bulled for five yards and then Osborn struck without warning. Breaking a backfield tackle by Lee Roy Caffey, the talented Viking broke to his right behind a Brown block and swept 43 yards to pay dirt as a teammate cut down Herb Adderley, last Packer in his path, at the five yard line. It took the Packers only three plays to reciprocate. Williams returned the kickoff 26 yards to the Packer 28. Wilson bit off four and Williams swept left end for 11 yards on a pitch out. Next came one of the afternoon's most spectacular moments. Dowler, dogged by Sharockman, ran under Starr's twice deflected pass and cantered 57 yards to score at 3:06 of the second period.

POPPED IN THE AIR

"The ball hit my hands and Sharockman stuck his hand in there and popped it up in the air," Boyd reported. "It was out in front of me quite a bit, and I think I tipped it again with my left hand." "I had a little momentum going for me," he said,



Ben Wilson scores a touchdown against the Minnesota Vikings on Dec. 4, 1967 (Associated Press)

Garbage Man

By The Associated Press
National League
Eastern Conference
Capitol Division

	W	L	T	Pct.	Pts.	OP
Dallas	8	4	0	.667	288	227
Philadelphia	5	6	1	.455	306	347
Washington	4	5	3	.444	318	313
New Orleans	2	10	0	.167	193	335

Century Division

	W	L	T	Pct.	Pts.	OP
Cleveland	8	4	0	.667	290	253
St. Louis	6	5	1	.545	303	299
New York	6	6	0	.500	325	335
Pittsburgh	3	8	1	.273	247	288

Western Conference Central Division

	W	L	T	Pct.	Pts.	OP
Green Bay	9	2	1	.818	291	158
Chicago	6	6	0	.500	206	194
Detroit	3	7	2	.300	216	249
Minnesota	3	7	2	.300	220	270

Coastal Division

	W	L	T	Pct.	Pts.	OP
Baltimore	10	0	2	1.000	354	154
Los Angeles	9	1	2	.900	337	162
San Francisco	5	7	0	.417	216	293
Atlanta	1	10	1	.091	133	365

Sunday's Results

Chicago 28, San Francisco 14
St. Louis 31, New Orleans 20
Los Angeles 20, Atlanta 3
Green Bay 30, Minnesota 27
Cleveland 24, New York 11
Philadelphia 35, Washington 35, tie
Baltimore 23, Dallas 17
Pittsburgh 24, Detroit 14

Saturday's Game

Green Bay at Los Angeles
Sunday's Games
Cleveland at St. Louis
Detroit at New York
Minnesota at Chicago
New Orleans at Baltimore
Philadelphia at Dallas
San Francisco at Atlanta
Washington at Pittsburgh

adding with a grin. "I was a little surprised to see the ball there. I'd probably have dropped it if Sharockman had not touched it. I have been playing nine years and never gotten one like that. To figure one day you're going to luck out and get one like that. It was my longest of the season - very good deal. Last week I had one for 42 against the Bears, when I broke a tackle and that was my longest before today." That one squared it at 10-10 and, on the kickoff, receiver Bob Grim fumbled ahead of him and Mercein recovered on the Viking 22. After Williams gained two, Starr's pass was a trifle high for Dowler, and Bart next was dropped for a 7-yard loss by Paul Dickson, again bringing Chandler. This time he connected from 34 yards out against a stiff wind, the ball just clearing the bar. "The wind was coming in there pretty good," Chandler said, "but I didn't hit it too well. I got under it - I hit it fat. It looked like it didn't clear by a great amount, but many, many times, I kicked those pretty ones last year and they didn't go through the uprights." That 13-10 loss dissolved early in the third quarter when Sharockman pulled in a Starr pass that ricocheted off Anderson and charged 20 yards to the 4 before being felled by Bart himself. Osborn settled for one yard at left end and then was thrown for a three yard loss by Dave Robinson and Nitschke. On third down, Kapp found Beasley unguarded in the end zone and the rest was easy. It was the first touchdown scored against the Packers in the third quarter this season. A 37-yard kickoff returned by Adderley triggered Packer retaliation. Wilson next swept right in for 12 before Starr lost attempting to pass. He recouped that loss with yards to spare, tossing a 17-yard strike to Carroll Dale. And on the following play, he lofted a picture pass into Dale's arms and Carroll, a step ahead of Sharockman, sprinted the distance. "Carroll did an excellent job of adjusting on that play," Starr said. "He made

an excellent adjustment to get where he went. He just left the defender."

RETURNED COMPLIMENT

Dale returned the compliment, asserting "it was a great throw because they were looking for a play action, so we had to alter the route. We are always ready to adjust, both from the passer's standpoint and from the receiver's standpoint. We just try to find an open spot and try to throw it there - which Bart did." Six plays following the kickoff, Jeter and Crutcher tipped a Kapp pass and Nitschke intercepted and returned it five yards to the Viking 45. After two first downs Wilson took it in, breaking outside left tackle for 15 to the one than crashing over on the next play. With a 10-point lead, the Packers now appeared to be on their way, but the resilient Vikings were not conceding. They scored in nine plays, the big gain being a broken third down play which saw Kapp hit Phillips for a 30-yard advance to the Packer 29 after eluding furious Packer pursuit. Five plays later, Kapp connected with Phillips in the right corner of the end zone as Adderley arrived too late. The Minnesotans shortly converted Wilson's fumble into a timely field goal, but that, fortunately, was their last scoring gasp. There was one consolation, however, for the Norsemen. Those 27 points were the most scored against the Packers' proud defense this season.

GREEN BAY - 3 10 14 3 - 30
MINNESOTA - 3 7 7 10 - 27

	<u>GREEN BAY</u>	<u>MINNESOTA</u>
First downs	15	15
Rush-yards-TDs	32-133-1	38-219-1
Comp-Att-Yd-TD-INT	10-15-191-2-1	8-17-90-2-1
Sacked-yards	5-48	2-33
Net pass yards	143	57
Total yards	276	276
Fumbles-lost	3-2	3-2
Turnovers	3	3
Penalties-yards	2-20	8-74

SCORING

1st - GB - Chandler, 30-yard field goal GREEN BAY 3-0

1st - MINN - Fred Cox, 24-yard field goal TIED 3-3

AMERICAN FOOTBALL LEAGUE Eastern Division

	W	L	T	Pct.	Pts.	OP
New York	7	3	1	.700	293	239
Houston	7	3	1	.700	186	153
Boston	3	8	1	.273	232	304
Buffalo	3	9	0	.250	172	241
Miami	2	9	0	.182	127	310

Western Division

	W	L	T	Pct.	Pts.	OP
Oakland	10	1	0	.909	393	176
San Diego	8	2	1	.800	288	245
Kansas City	7	5	0	.583	349	223
Denver	3	10	0	.231	232	271

Sunday's Results

Kansas City 23, Buffalo 13
Denver 33, New York 24
Houston 17, Miami 14
Oakland 41, San Diego 21

Saturday's Game

Buffalo at Boston

Sunday's Games

Kansas City at New York
Oakland at Houston
San Diego at Miami
Denver BYE!

2nd - MINN - Dave Osborn, 43-yard run (Cox kick) MINNESOTA 10-3
2nd - GB - Dowler, 57-yard pass from Starr (Chandler kick) TIED 10-10
2nd - GB - Chandler, 34-yard field goal GREEN BAY 13-10
3rd - MINN - John Beasley, 6-yard pass from Joe Kapp (Cox kick) MINNESOTA 17-13
3rd - GB - Dale, 34-yard pass from Starr (Chandler kick) GREEN BAY 20-17
3rd - GB - Wilson, 1-yard run (Chandler kick) GREEN BAY 27-17
4th - MINN - Jim Phillips, 7-yard pass from Kapp (Cox kick) GREEN BAY 27-24
4th - MINN - Cox, 27-yard field goal TIED 27-27
4th - GB - Chandler, 19-yard field goal GREEN BAY 30-27

RUSHING

GREEN BAY - Ben Wilson 15-59 1 TD, Travis Williams 7-35, Donny Anderson 7-28, Bart Starr 3-11

MINNESOTA - Dave Osborn 21-155 1 TD, Bill Brown 15-46, Joe Kapp 2-18

PASSING

GREEN BAY - Bart Starr 15-10-191 2 TD 1 INT

MINNESOTA - Joe Kapp 17-8-90 2 TD 1 INT

RECEIVING

GREEN BAY - Boyd Dowler 3-100 1 TD, Carroll Dale 2-51 1 TD, Donny Anderson 2-16, Ben Wilson 2-15, Bob Long 1-9

MINNESOTA - Marlin McKeever 3-36, Red Phillips 2-37 1 TD, Dave Osborn 1-8, John Beasley 1-6 1 TD, Bill Brown 1-3

27 Points? Pack Defense Not That Bad

27 POINTS? PACK DEFENSE NOT THAT BAD

DEC 4 (Minnesota-Green Bay Press-Gazette) – The game was billed as a defensive struggle. The Packers, No. 1 defensive team in the NFL, against the Vikings, owners of the “best front four in football right now,”

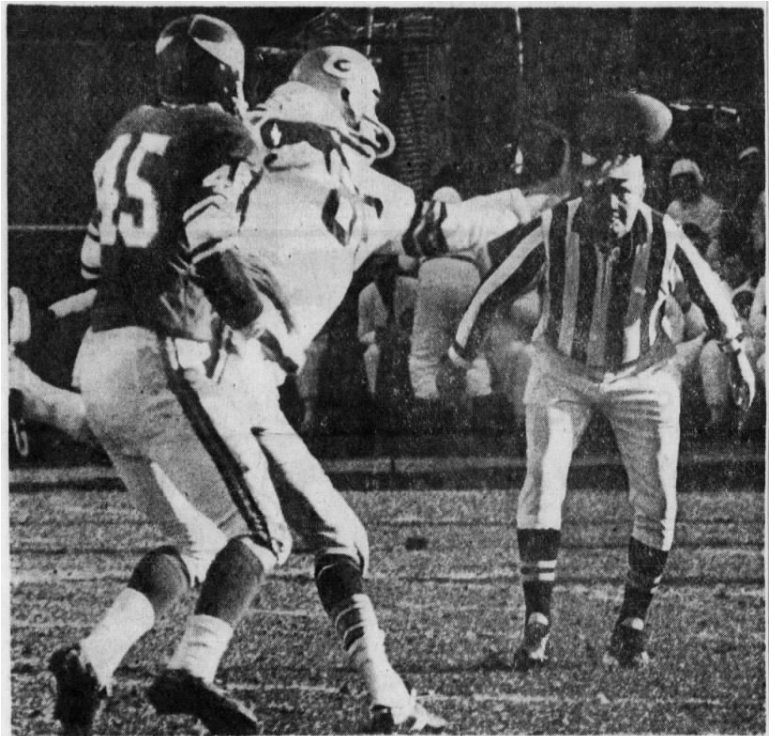
according to Packer Coach Vince Lombardi in a Saturday interview here. But by the final gun in Metropolitan Stadium here Sunday afternoon, the scoreboard read Packers 30, Vikings 27. Hardly a defensive battle...but wait. Like many types of figures, there are deceiving. “This game won’t go down in history as an aesthetic one,” is the way a grinning Lombardi explained it. Minnesota Coach Bud Grant was more specific. “Take away the fumbles and interceptions and you have about a 14-13 game,” he said...without adding who might have the 14. An analysis, however, indicates that the game...minus some of the more obvious breaks...might have ended 10-6 with the Packers owning the 10. And that would have been a defensive fight. The Packers scored their first field goal following a Viking punt, and they scored their second touchdown on a normal drive following a Viking kickoff. But in between, the Packers scored on a 57-yard Bart Starr to Boyd Dowler pass that Minnesota’s Ed Sharockman tipped only to see it eventually bounce into Dowler’s hands. A break. And the Packers scored a field goal following a fumbled kickoff by Viking Bobby Grim. A break. The Packers scored another touchdown after Ray Nitschke intercepted a pass that caromed off Bob Jeter’s fingers. A break. And the Packers scored their winning field goal following Joe Kapp’s fumble in the final minutes. A big break. The Vikings’ first field goal was on a legitimate drive but their first touchdown followed an 11-yard punt by Donny Anderson. A break. Their second touchdown came when Sharockman intercepted a pass that bounced off Anderson’s hands. A break. Minnesota’s second field goal came on a regular drive, but the tying field goal followed Ben Wilson’s fumble. A break...and momentarily a big break. Thus the Packer defense was not as bad as the score indicated, even though the 27 points scored by the Vikes were the most tallied against Green Bay in regular season play since the Colts hit the same number in the second last game of the 1965 season. Dallas also hit 27 in the NFL championship game last year. Nevertheless, Nitschke expressed the sentiments of the proud defensive unit when he volunteered, “We were disappointed we didn’t hold them down a little.” Then he noted, “It was the way the ball bounced. They’re a good club, and they got a few breaks.” Nitschke further observed, “Osborne (Dave) and Brown (Bill) are two real hard driving backs.” They are indeed. Osborne finished with 155 yards in 21 carries, establishing a Viking record for most yards in a game. Brown added 46 more yards and the Vikes as a team finished with 219 yards rushing. Osborne picked up 43 of his yards on a touchdown breakaway early in the second quarter, slipping away from what appeared to be a sure tackle by Lee Roy Caffey behind the line of scrimmage. “I was playing middle linebacker at the time,” Caffey explained. “I thought I met him pretty good but he got away. It’s hard to say what happened, but it was a bad tackle on my part.” Caffey being stationed in Nitschke’s normal post was the result of Lombardi’s early and late game shuffling of players in musical chair fashion to give almost everyone a bit of a rest. Lombardi concurred with Nitschke and Osborne, noting, “He’s a fine runner...but I think I’m going to have one pretty soon, too.” He had reference to swift Travis Williams, and he said he was “happy” with the rookie’s performance in his first healthy test as a backfield operative. Though held in pretty

fair check on kickoff returns, Williams picked up 35 yards in seven carries from scrimmage, including a 27-yard run that saw him bust through the line only to stumble just enough to allow Minnesota's Carl Eller to catch him from behind a feat for which Eller ought to get a Hall of Fame vote. "I guess somebody just barely hooked my leg in the line," the Road Runner said after admitting he liked the feel of extended action. Lombardi pointed out that the Ben Wilson-Travis Williams combination was the seventh different unit the Packers had used in the last year and a half, which prompted a question about the condition of Jim Grabowski. "It might take another week before he can play," the coach replied, and then implied it could be longer by pointing out, "If he doesn't play in the next two weeks, he won't play in the playoff."...The Packers' victory erased the second of the three blots on their record this year (the return match win over Detroit took care of the first, leaving just Baltimore to date) and the method was pure justice. In Milwaukee, Minnesota won with a pass interception and field goal in the waning seconds. Sunday the Packers won with a fumble recovery and field goal in the waning seconds. But Lombardi didn't look at the victory as vengeance. "We didn't think of it that way...we just wanted to win. We're happy we won," he grinned. Lombardi gave some of the credit for the triumph to the fact that "we ready their blitz pretty well." In view of the fact that Bart Starr was thrown five times for losses totaling 48 yards, this was a somewhat surprising statement. But the Bay strategist explained, "We expected their blitzing. But we had a new man in there (center Bob Hyland) and he missed a couple of them. But we also completed most of our passes against their blitz because we were reading it pretty well." Starr, as a matter of fact, emerged with 10 completions in 15 attempts. And while the 15 is a pretty low number of attempts, the Vikings tried only two more than that, 17, and completed only eight for a mere 57 yards. "The toughest part of Green Bay's defense is its pass defense," Grant pointed out. "We didn't want to go into their teeth." Vike quarterback Joe Kapp also praised the Packer defense, stating, "That Davis (Willie) is pretty tough." Kapp was caught only twice for 33 yards, but he also was tagged with an intentional grounding penalty and quite obviously threw the ball away a couple of other times under intense pressure...FOOT-

ANDERSON GETS LAST LAUGH ON LONG PUNT

DEC 4 (Minnesota-Green Bay Press-Gazette) – It was the second play of the second quarter and Packer punter

Donny Anderson had toed a foul ball 11 yards and out of bounds on the Green Bay 33-yard line. A press box observer dryly suggested sending Any a copy of the game program, which contained a feature story entitled "Tips on Punting" by Bobby Walden of the Minnesota Vikings. Maybe somebody did. In the article, Walden wrote, "Many people probably think of the punt as a sort of give up play by the offensive team. Sometimes this is true but...but a good punt can be a great offensive weapon to a team." Elsewhere in the article, Walden wrote, "In our game today, you'll see a great punter in Donny Anderson. He gets that extremely high, tight spiral. And to make his kick even tougher, he's left-footed and the spiral is reversed for most receivers and the ball seems to drift away from them as it comes down." And in conclusion, Walden points out in his article, "Field position is a very important part of football, and field position is up to the punter." Minnesota turned that foul ball into a field goal but Anderson had the last laugh when he orbited a punt an official 59 yards, but an actually effective 72 yards to virtually snuff out the Vikings' hopes for a quick, game winning field goal and help set up the Packers' game winning field goal. Of course, the Packers accepted a literal helping hand from Vike quarterback Joe Kapp moments later, but it was Anderson's rocket that brought the Packers their savory 30-27 victory here Sunday. Minnesota had tied the game at 27-27 with just under five minutes remaining. And after the kickoff, the Packers were able to advance the ball only five yards to their own 21 in three plays, setting up the punt. Since Anderson's two previous punts in the game had traveled only 11 and 28 yards, the Vikings appeared in splendid shape to receive the punt and move rapidly into field goal range with



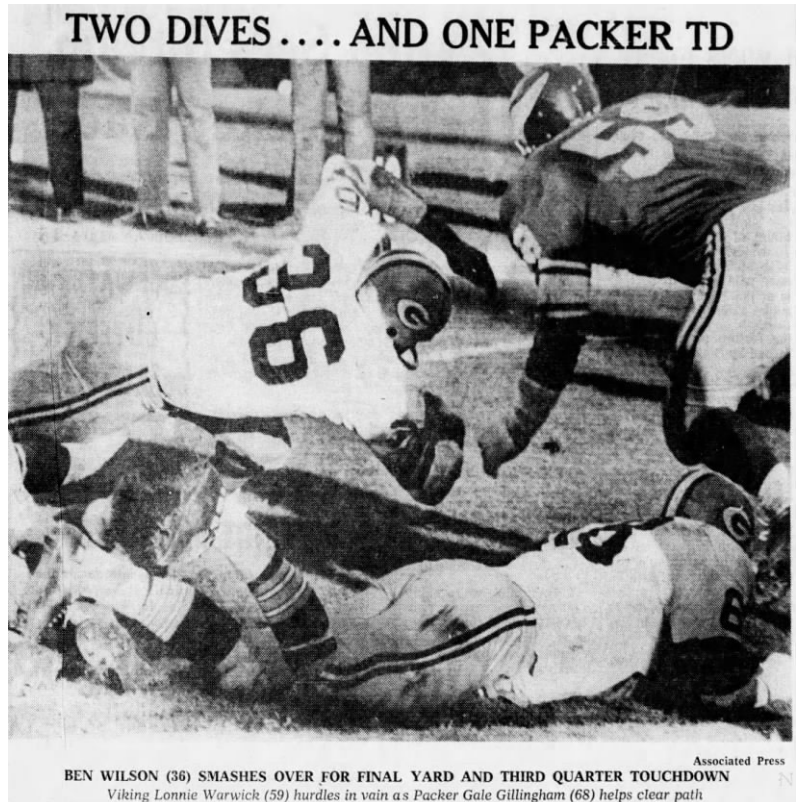
Flanker Boyd Dowler of the Green Bay Packers, having one of his best years in the National Football League, stretches out to gather in a Bart Starr pass good for 57 yards and a touchdown in the second quarter against the Vikings. In pursuit is Minnesota's Ed Sharockman (45). Dowler caught three passes for 100 yards. (AP Photo)

time running out. But Andy exploded the ball off his foot this time. It came down on the Viking 20 and Bobby Grim, retreating hastily in an attempt to field it, got a hand on it but couldn't field it until he recovered it on his own 7-yard line. It turned out to be an offensive play with the spiral spinning the ball away from Grim. And it gave the Packers dandy field position even though they were on defense. "Punting is hitting the ball just right," Anderson declared through a bottom lip swollen to an ugly proportion after the game. "That first one (the 11-yarder) I hit with the side of my foot. As long as you're punting, you'll have kicks like that. The last one I caught right." Coach Vince Lombardi said he never questioned whether or not Andy should do the punting in that vital situation despite his previous difficulties. "I've seen quite a few pretty good punters have some of those," he said in reference to the pop foul. "If I sat my punter down after every punt like that, I'd need 25 punters on the team." What followed the punt is what really made it pay off. With third down and two at his own 15, Kapp fumbled and the ball somehow shot forward through the scrambling players to the 28-yard line where Packer safety Tom Brown recovered. Five

plays later, Don Chandler booted a 19-yard field goal with only eight seconds left to give the game to Green Bay...**TOOK FULL BLAME:** Kapp, reputedly the key to the Vikings' future, took full blame for the miscue but revealed that he thought he had been jarred by one of his own players. "I didn't hang onto the ball, that's all," he somewhat sourly said. "I was trying to hand off to Osborne (Dave), but it was my fault." After further reflection, however, he added, "It was one of those things, I get the ball and turn around and get hit...but I didn't have my clamps on it tight. I was hit hard. I don't know for sure but I think it was one of my own men who hit me. But I never had good possession." Kapp had no idea what happened after he lost the ball, like how it wound up 13 yards upfield. Lombardi acknowledged that after the fumble the Packers' primary strategy was to go for field position. "We wanted to get close as we could and then kick it," he volunteered. "We have a real fine field goal kicker...and it doesn't make any difference if you win by three, seven or one." Besides saving a possible Viking field goal with his spectacular punt, Anderson also saved another possible one with his legs. On the last play of the first half and with the Packers on their own 16, Andy sprinted 12 yards for a first down, thus preventing any chance of a Viking fair catch of his punt and free kick. Though there had been some discussion on the field about the time situation, Anderson said the decision to run was his and that the free kick possibility was in his mind.

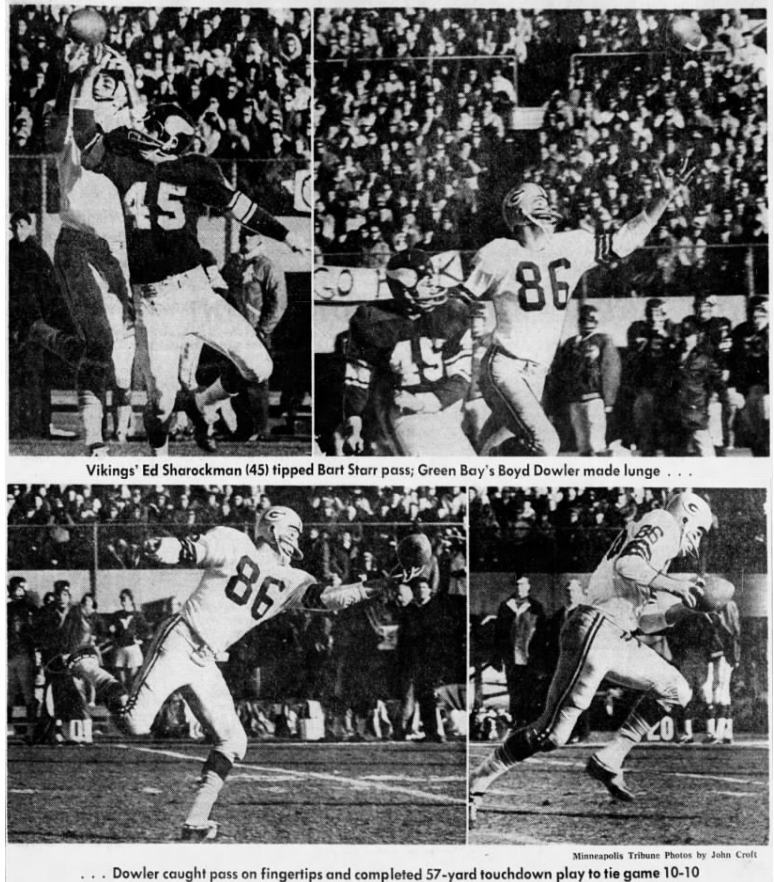
LOMBARDI SATISFIED – MOMENTARILY

DEC 5 (Santa Barbara, CA-Green Bay Press-Gazette) – Casually attired in blue sports shirt and slacks, in keeping with the informal atmosphere of this oceanside community, Vince Lombardi was temporarily a man at peace with the world Monday. Temporarily, of course, because he has a "short week" here in which to ready his world champion Packers for Saturday afternoon's collision with the Rams in Los Angeles, an exchange which will be viewed on national television by millions, including a somewhat less than disinterested band of Baltimore Colts. But, for the moment, there was satisfaction with what the Pack had accomplished 24 hours earlier in Minnesota, where Don Chandler's 19-yard field goal in the final eight seconds had shot the Packers past the swashbuckling young Vikings, 30-27...**TOUGH GAME TO PLAY:** "It was a tough game to play," Lombardi soberly pointed out. "It didn't mean anything in the standings. I guess the only ones it meant anything to were the Packers," an obvious reference to the pride they have in themselves as champions, a pride which requires they settle for nothing less than victory. "And the Vikings are a good football team," the erstwhile Block of Granite said, elevating his eyebrows for emphasis. "Some people may not think they are, but the Vikings are a good football team. They may lack some things, but they have a lot of things going for them. Including, I might add, maybe the best running back (Dave Osborn) in the league." Osborn, who personally gained more rushing yards Sunday than the Pack did as a team, set a Minnesota club record by amassing 155 in 21 attempts, a gaudy 7.8 average against the NFL's league-leading defense. Summing up, Lombardi appended, "I'm satisfied we won and I'm satisfied we got out without any injuries."...**ROBINSON ALL RIGHT:** In this connection, he reported that Dave Robinson, who had left the game early but subsequently returned, "got hit in the back, but he's all right." How did he feel rookie Travis Williams had fared in his first extended appearance at running back? "Travis did fine," Lombardi replied, "although I can't say for sure because I haven't seen the pictures yet."



Associated Press
BEN WILSON (36) SMASHES OVER FOR FINAL YARD AND THIRD QUARTER TOUCHDOWN
Viking Lonnie Warwick (59) hurdles in vain as Packer Gale Gillingham (68) helps clear path

Commenting on the bizarre fumble which Tom Brown recovered to trigger the winning field goal, the Packer major-domo asserted, "Nobody said it was kicked, so I don't think it was." Lombardi said he had no explanation for Chandler's phenomenal record (Sunday's decisive FG was his 17th in 23 attempts this season, in the wake of a 12-for-28 performance in '66). He smiled enigmatically and observed, "It just happens. Kickers never have two good years on a row. There's great deal of time involved, and if you lose a little of your timing..." The Packers' other kicker, punter Donny Anderson, had been acting under instructions when he ran from punt formation – to a first down – in the final seconds of the first half, Lombardi also informed, "We told him to run it," Vince said, "if he could." (Anderson earlier explained that, with the green light, he had decided to go for it "because they were shifting into the middle just before I punted each time, and there was nobody out there to stop me.") Lombardi, who has had his share on injury problems in pursuing an unprecedented third straight NFL championship, indicated that Ben Wilson will have to shoulder most of the fullback burden the rest of the season...GRABO DOUBTFUL: "I doubt whether Grabowski (Jim) will play," he said. The talented sophomore twisted a knee in the Pack's 13-10 loss to the Colts Nov. 5 and, after sitting out two weeks, aggravated the injury in the title-



clutching (17-13) victory over the Bears Nov. 26. Chuck Mercein, a controversial figure when he was signed from the Washington Redskins' taxi squad to fill the Packers' backfield gap, is the only other fullback available at the moment and, as Lombardi is well aware, no player added after Saturday can participate in any postseason game. There is no official word at this point on the Packers' other manpower problem, the Packer generalissimo also reported. He had been hopeful that freshman Jim Flanigan, called to duty at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., a week ago, would be able to join the team on weekends, as quarterback Charley Johnson has done with the St. Louis Cardinals throughout the season. "I've had no word as yet," Lombardi said, adding, "I doubt he'll be here Saturday."...MEET MONDAY NIGHT: Asked if he intends to keep a place open for the ex-Pittsburgh luminary on the roster, Vince replied, "I don't know yet." Lombardi gave his athletes Monday off, as per custom, but there was one difference. They were required to check in at 6 p.m. for dinner, which was followed by a meeting at which they viewed the film of Sunday's victory over the Vikings, with the customary critique by the coaches. This accelerated pace is necessitated by the fact that the Packers have only five days, instead of six, to prepare for the Rams. "It's a big game," Lombardi has noted, "because the Rams are still in it (the Coastal Division race)." A Packer victory would eliminate the Angelenos, barring a New Orleans upset of the Colts Sunday. Such a circumstance would leave the Rams two games behind with only one game to play. Should George Allen's tigers upend the Pack, however, they could capture the Coastal crown by defeating the Colts in their season-ending showdown at Los Angeles Dec. 17...PACKER PATTERN: Although the Packers emerged from Sunday's struggle largely unscathed, defensive captain Willie Davis had to wear an eye patch overnight. His left eyeball was scratched by a misplaced thumb while he was in pursuit of Viking quarterback Joe Kapp...Most of the players spent a leisurely day in this idyllic training base Monday, sightseeing, playing golf or merely lounging about their Santa Barbara Inn headquarters. Max McGee, Fuzzy Thurston, Carroll Dale and Bob Skoronski were among those who took to the links, along with Dr. Eugene Brusky, of the Pack's medical team...Quarterback Bart Starr missed Boyd Dowler's spectacular catch of a twice-tipped pass for the Pack's first touchdown against the Vikings. "I didn't see it," Bart informed. "I got knocked down. But he must have made a great play on it."...The Packers opened their practice week in the University of California Santa Barbara Stadium today. They will work out here through Friday, then leave for Los Angeles by bus Friday afternoon. They will headquarter at the Sheraton-West in the City of Angels.

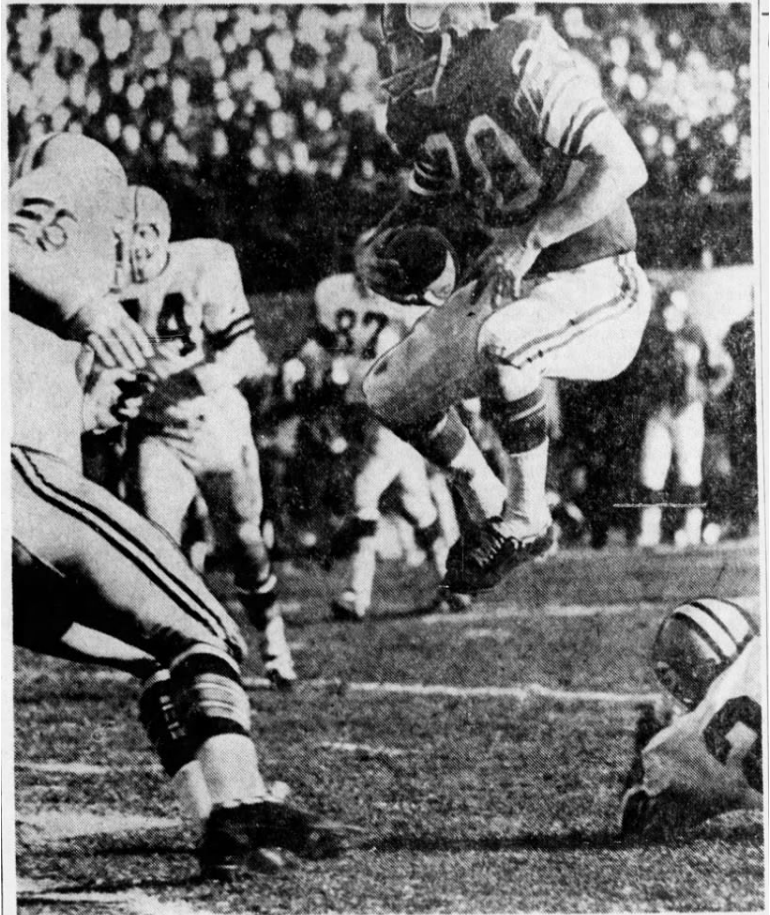
HOW TO BEAT PACKERS

DEC 5 (Green Bay Press-Gazette) – George J. Halas, the third person in the Halas trinity as nephew of Papa Bear, sees only slightly less of the Green Bay Packers than Vince Lombardi. Everywhere the Packers go, George J. is almost sure to be in his role as scout for the Bears. True, Sunday he was really in Bloomington, Minn., to observe the Vikings in preparation for

the Chicago-Minnesota meaningless confrontation this Sunday, but he could hardly help noticing the fellas in the yellow hats. Thus, knowing Mr. Halas' acquaintance with our local 11, we paid close attention as he began moving salt and pepper shakers, a spoon, a fairly good sized crumb of bacon and a small packet of jelly around the breakfast counter at the Thunderbird Motel Sunday morning. Metropolitan Stadium was visible out the window, but Halas had constructed his own gridiron alongside a plate of pancakes and was describing the Packer defense. Moving the jelly packet into position, he opened class by declaring, "The key to the Packer defense is the linebackers. If you want to run, you have to take them back. If you want to pass, you have to suck them in." Pointing to the jelly packet (it was appropriately peach), he continued, "Nitschke controls the Packer defense. He'll pinch his tackles in tight on the guards and center so they can't get out at him. This jams up the middle and at the same time leaves him free to cover either side." Sounds simple, but Halas said that this type of strategy has been largely peculiar to the Packers until recently. "Everybody copies success, you know," he explained. "The Bears have started to use it...but of course you can't do this sort of thing unless you have a middle linebacker like Nitschke...or a Butkus." But while Nitschke makes tackle after tackle in his own caveman style, the biggest advantage this defense has is the relative freedom it gives the deep four. "Sure, this is what makes the Packer pass defense so successful," Halas went on, adjusting a few of his ridiculously shaped players while he paused for a fork-full of his pancakes. "The backs don't have to worry about that 10-yard zone. Nitschke and his two mates take care of that. That leaves the backs free to cover passes." So how do you beat this? "You have to run on the Packers. You can't pass against them unless you run first. You have to get them thinking run and then use play action passes only." And Halas pointed out that the Bears, for instance, had run against the Packers, as a number of teams have, but when the play narrows down to scoring territory the backs and linebackers can crowd together a bit more and the running becomes increasingly difficult. Later, after the Packers' win over the Vikings, Minnesota Coach Bud Grant had an observation on the Packer defense too. He noted that the Bears have turned to more zone coverage in the backfield, largely, he felt, because Herb Adderley had been having some troubles. The zone, he said, allowed the rest of the backs to help Adderley. And to conclude this discussion of defense, it was interesting to hear Lombardi restate his feeling Saturday that defense is a key to football. "Offense is a good show...but it doesn't win," he said.

PACKERS SLEEP THROUGH ARMED ROBBERY ATTEMPT

DEC 6 (Santa Barbara, CA) – The Packers slept through an armed robbery attempt at their motel headquarters here early Tuesday morning. The Santa Barbara Inn, where the world champions have been quartered since Sunday night while preparing for Saturday afternoon's invasion of Los Angeles, was held up at approximately 2:15, the Packers discovered upon awakening Tuesday morning. The suspect, who fled the premises empty handed after slugging the night clerk, subsequently was shot in both thighs by officer Larry P. Croom of the neighboring Carpinteria police force at approximately 2:45. The suspect's car careened out of control near Carpinteria, just eight miles south of Santa Barbara, during a high speed chase and he was arrested by police officer Dennis Cole. Police said Jesse Elmoore Wright, 20, of Santa Barbara walked into the Inn wearing a nylon stocking over his face and carrying a small automatic pistol. Henry J. Thomas, a clerk on duty behind the desk, told officers later, "The holdup man placed a plastic bread wrapper on the counter and told me, 'Open up the drawer and fill this up.'" Thomas told officers he told the holdup man, "The money was locked up," and the man replied, "Well, I'll shoot." Thomas then attempted to call the motel security man and was struck on the head with the gun, officers said. The holdup man fled empty handed and the dazed Thomas called police...DRAWS REVOLVER: Croom spotted Wright's yellow convertible driving west, near the motel, while enroute to the Inn in response to Thomas' call for help. He followed the car and stopped Wright. When Croom attempted to handcuff the suspect, he tried to get back into his car and drive away, the officer said. He and another officer struggled to restrain



Jumpy

Viking fullback Bill Brown hurdled a Green Bay tackler Sunday only to find the path blocked by other defenders. The Packers won 30-27 at Metropolitan Stadium.

Minneapolis Tribune Photo by John Croft

Wright. Croom drew his revolver and told Wright, "Don't move or I'll shoot." "I was standing at the driver's door," Croom said later, "which was open and again told him to stop. Wright again ignored my instructions, and I fired...at his legs twice and a third shot as he sped away." Officers chased the car at high speed until Wright lost control. Officer Cole, sitting in his parked car near that point, said the car struck the center divider of the four-lane highway, "became airborne and was flying through the air to my police vehicle." Cole said he lay down in the seat waiting for Wright's car to crash into the police car, but it narrowly missed it, then slammed through a freeway fence. Willie Davis, Packer defensive captain, later theorized, "Whoever it was probably figures because a lot of football players were here, there was a lot of money around."

TRAVIS LEADS IN KICKOFF RETURNS

DEC 6 (Green Bay Press-Gazette) – Travis Williams has been accepted as the NFL kickoff return leader in statistics released today. Williams had three returns against the Vikings last week to boost his season total to 12, which boosted him to the required minimum of one per game to be ranked in the statistics. Williams has averaged 42.1 yards per return. Chicago's Gale Sayers, the erstwhile leader, has an average of 39.7 for 14 returns. Each has scored three touchdowns on kickoff returns. In third place is New Orleans' Jim Gilliam with a 30.7 average for 15 returns.

PERSONALITY PARADE – BOB SKORONSKI

DEC 6 (Green Bay Press-Gazette) – With the NFL's Central Division championship securely cached in the Packers' vault, it would seem inevitable that the world champions adopt a more casual approach to the balance of their regular season schedule. But such, however, is hardly the case. Primarily, of course, because headmaster Vince Lombardi, who is not overly fond of losing at gin rummy, let alone at football, will not permit it. There also is the matter of challenge, to which every good athlete responds, and the Packers will be confronted with a highly formidable one Saturday afternoon in the yawning Los Angeles Coliseum. The crux of that challenge will be presented by the four behemoths who constitute the defensive line for the title-bidding Rams – Davey Jones (6-5 and 260), Roger Brown (6-5 and 300), Merlin Olsen (6-5 and 276) and Lamar Lundy (6-7 and 260). There may be lingering doubts in some sectors about this frightening foursome's claim to all-time honors, but there are none in the mind of Bob Skoronski, erudite captain of the Packers' offense. "I think when you talk about it strictly from the physical standpoint, this has to be the greatest front four in history," Skoronski declares with fervor. "They're all big, all quick and they're all agile. Secondly, there is the fact, that several of them are considered the best in the league at their individual positions. Davey Jones, for example, is one of the best pass rushers. Lamar Lundy has graded out as the top man every year, their coaches say. And the inside guys, Olsen and Brown – they're terrific as a pair."...GREAT PASS RUSHERS: Summing up, the highly articulate University of Indiana alumnus added, "As a group, they are great pass rushers, great on pursuit and very strong. As a front four, man-for-man, I would say it was the greatest there ever has been." What can be done to cope with this awesome problem? A realist, Skoronski replied. "You know you're not going to much on the ground – you can't make holes against them. And you can't go to a sheer passing situation because if they know what is coming, they get great penetration. And, because of their size, they can obscure Bart's (quarterback Bart) vision. As tall as they are, they can knock down passes, and they have knocked down a lot of them this season. Actually, I guess that, hopefully, you try to tire 'em out. You try to wear 'em out by running sweeps, try to slow 'em down. And use the draw, because they draw so hard. We'll probably have to put the ball in the air, more than we want to, to win."...NO PREFERENCE IN FOE: The Rams or the Colts, it already has been assured, will oppose the Packers in the NFL's Western Conference playoff at Milwaukee County Stadium Dec. 23. Does he have any preference? "It really doesn't make any difference to me," said Skoronski, who remembers that the Packers also have had their problems with the Hosses – as recently as Nov. 5th, when the Colts came from behind in the final minutes to forge a 13-10 decision. How does he feel about the Packers' title prospects? "I think we have a good chance," the 6-foot-3, 250-pound Ansonia, Conn., native rejoined. "I think we have as good a chance as anybody, let me put it that way. Hopefully, we have three touch games ahead of us – after the season ends. There are a lot of things that can happen to decide a ball game. We're used to pressure, probably more than the other teams, and if it comes down to a pressure situation in the final minutes, I think we have a team that will respond better to pressure than any other."...EDGE IN DEPTH: In a position to evaluate the current Packers as a 10-year veteran, the 33-year-old former Hoosier feels the '67 squad has at least one edge on all of the champions of the recent past. "For one of strength, I think it's the best team we've ever had," Bob says. "This team has had a lot of adversity. First we lost the two backs we'd had for eight years, Hornung and Taylor, and Grabo and Pitts stepped in there and did a fine job.

LEADING GROUND GAINERS				
	Ath.	Yards	Avg. Gain	TDs
Kelly, Cle.	205	1,126	5.5	10
Roland, St. L.	222	839	3.8	10
Osborn, Minn.	168	819	4.9	2
Farr, Det.	169	732	4.3	3
Josephson, L.A.	150	707	4.7	4
Perkins, Dal.	170	706	4.2	4
Green, Cle.	133	662	5.0	4
Koy, N.Y.	132	640	4.8	3
Coffey, Atl.	157	630	4.0	2
Sayers, Chi.	147	629	4.3	5

LEADING PASSERS				
	Ath.	Com.	Yds.	Avg. Tds Gain
Jurg'sen, Wash.	438	260	3,378	28 7.71
Unitas, Balt.	381	226	3,074	19 8.07
Tarkenton, N.Y.	333	185	2,765	25 8.30
Snead, Phil.	372	211	3,033	25 8.15
Gabriel, L.A.	313	158	2,295	19 7.33
Starr, G.B.	179	100	1,595	8 8.91
Ryan, Cle.	265	128	1,960	19 7.40
Cuzzo, N.O.	222	113	1,311	7 6.00
Merdith, Dal.	238	120	1,769	16 7.43
Brodie, S.F.	348	166	2,006	11 5.76

LEADING PASS RECEIVERS				
	Recd.	Yds.	Avg. Gain	TDs
Taylor, Wash.	59	824	14.0	7
J. Smith, Wash.	58	769	13.3	12
Mitchell, Wash.	56	819	14.6	6
Rich'dson, Balt.	56	761	13.6	7
Rentzel, Dall.	50	823	16.5	6
Hawkins, Phil.	49	1,102	22.5	8
Dowler, G.B.	48	742	15.5	4
Thomas, N.Y.	45	759	16.9	6
Mackey, Balt.	45	568	12.6	3
Jones, N.Y.	44	1,084	24.6	12

LEADING SCORERS				
	TDs	FG	PAT	TP
Bakken, St.L.	0	24	33	105
Michaels, Balt.	0	16	42	90
Gossett, L.A.	0	17	41	89
Chandler, G.B.	0	17	34	85
Jones, N.Y.	13	0	0	78
Kelly, Cle.	12	0	0	72
J. Smith, Wash.	12	0	0	72
Baker, Phil.	0	11	39	72
Cox, Minn.	0	15	25	70
Matte, Balt.	11	0	0	66
Hayes, Dall.	11	0	0	66
Roland, St.L.	11	0	0	66

Now that they've been out, Donny (Anderson) and Ben (Wilson) have done a great job. And we've had some young kids in and help. Like Travis Williams. He's a real threat – one like we've never had since Vince Lombardi has been here. The other teams have to be deathly afraid every time he catches the ball. It's a team of depth. Weatherwax and Brown can go in there on defense and do so well it's hard to tell a substitution has been made. And we have a good young addition like Hyland, who is going to be a very fine football player. Donny Horn is going to be a fine quarterback. Every young kid who has made our ball club has great potential, like Flanigan (Jim) and Rowser (John)."...AS ALONG AS I CAN HELP': At the moment, the Pack's offensive leader is giving no serious thought to retirement. "I'm going game by game, week by week," he says. "I guess I feel like the rest of our players – I'd like to play as long as I can help the team. When you're relegated to the bench, then retirement becomes part of your thinking." An ardent hunter and fisherman, Skoronski explains, "That's why I've chosen Wisconsin to live in. I'm an easterner, but I've built a home at Wausau and I intend to spare the rest of my days here, the good Lord willing. I like the hunting and fishing and the state, and certainly I like the people." And," he chuckled, "I also want to stay close enough so that I can see the Packers play."

PRIDE, RATHER THAN ANGER, SPURS WILSON

DEC 6 (Green Bay Press-Gazette) – Bruising Ben Wilson will be a man with a mission in the mammoth Los Angeles Coliseum Saturday – but not for the obvious reason. Wilson, who languished on the LA taxi squad last season after three years as a regular, presumably should be harboring resentment of the Rams, particularly Head Coach George Allen. But such is not the case, the Packers' incumbent fullback is quick to assure. Pride, rather than revenge, he says, will be his primary incentive in Saturday's showdown, on which the Rams' Coastal Division championship hopes will hinge...LIKE HOMECOMING: "I'll be playing before pretty much of a hometown crowd," Ben pointed out while relaxing at the Pack's Santa Barbara Inn headquarters Tuesday. "I've lived in LA (he is a native of Houston) since I started college in 1958. It's kind of my home now – most of the people I know are there – so I want to play well in the Coliseum. It's like a homecoming. I played with USC there and then with the Rams for three years." Looking somewhat professorial behind a pair of dark-rimmed glasses, Wilson seriously appended, "I'm not coming into the game with the idea of getting revenge. It has been suggested that I would be angry, because of the treatment I received from the Rams, but I realize you can't win games by being angry. You go into a game angry, you can blow an assignment that could cost you the game. I want to play the best football I can possibly play and make the biggest contribution I can to a victory." Pondering this point for a moment, the broad-shouldered former Trojan added, "Of course, that's no different than I've felt all year – I want to do all I can to help bring a victory home." He has not always found it be this objective, the fluent halfback admitted. "There was a time last year when I was very, very upset about what happened to me. When you get put in a position like that, it's like wishing the enemy good luck." Wilson, currently the Pack's No. 2 ground gainer with 430 yards in 89 carries, continued, "Football is like anything else today – it's highly competitive – and if you don't produce, you're out. And I don't have to tell you or anybody else I didn't play too well for the Rams. However, you lose a year out of your economic life by being in the situation I was and, regardless of how philosophical you are about it, it's hard to take." That is all in the past, Ben was happy to note. "There has been a fantastic change since then, and things have worked out pretty well for me. I knew when I was traded to Green Bay that it was a good move for me." A prideful citizen, he appended, "To be put on waivers is a humiliating thing at best – very humiliating. And when you are unable to make a connection with any club, it's not," he observed with a faint smile, "the most ego-building thing that could happen to you. I knew I wasn't playing good ball for Los Angeles, but I didn't think there were that many backs who were doing better. To be passed over by all the clubs in both leagues, and probably Canada, without a nibble really does something to your ego."...TOUGH BUT FAIR: Happy under Vince Lombardi, master psychologist, Wilson says, "He's very tough but he's fair – and he's dedicated to winning. I didn't think I'd want it any other way. He wants to win. If you don't have a leader dedicated to winning, the followers can't be dedicated. For me, it's great." Returning to the matter at hand, Saturday's imbroglio with his ex-teammates, Ben pointed out, "This is

Walter Niemann, Ex-Packer, Dies At Menominee

MENOMINEE (P6) — A one-time member of the Green Bay Packers, Walter N. Niemann, 73, died here late Tuesday night after a long illness.

A former Menominee High and University of Michigan football star, Mr. Niemann made his home in Powers, Mich., during recent years. He was a 158-pound center for the Packers from 1922-24. Several years ago, Mr. Niemann gained considerable attention in engineering circles for his invention of an orbital engine that is still being studied by the automobile industry.

Funeral services will be conducted at the Cadieu Funeral Home here at 1 o'clock Friday afternoon. Friends may call after 2 o'clock Thursday afternoon.

The gravesite of Wally Niemann - findagrave.com



"Big Wallie" Niemann
Hermansville

pretty much do-or-die for the Rams. If they lose the game, they're out. Even though there is a possibility New Orleans could beat the Colts Sunday, I don't think it's likely to happen." The Rams, 9-1-2, go into action one game to the rear of the unbeaten Hosses, 10-0-2...PACKER PATTERN: Sunny California? The Packers staged their first practice of the week in a light rain Tuesday morning. The skies later cleared and the sun appeared — an hour after practice had ended...Lombardi indicated that practices the balance of the week will be closed — to avoid the prying eyes of possible enemy agents. To assure privacy while here, the Packers last year invested \$3,000 in two high sections of canvas which enclose the ends of their practice field, the University of California Santa Barbara Stadium. The sides are "screened" by concrete and steel seating...Bart Starr, who had nine passes intercepted during the first two games of an injury-plagued 1957 start, has found the range with a vengeance in the last five weeks. In that span, he has completed a plush 64 percent of his passes, a figure reminiscent of his 1966 performance when he was acclaimed the NFL's most valuable player. He also has permitted only five interceptions since that unhappy afternoon of Sept. 24, when the Bears waylaid five of his pitches...A sellout crowd of 75,000 fans will see Saturday's Coliseum collision.

PACKERS WILL BE LOOKING INTO MIRROR AGAINST RAMS

DEC 7 (Santa Barbara, CA-Green Bay Press-Gazette) —

The Packers, they say hereabouts, will be looking into a mirror at the cavernous Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum Saturday afternoon. All of which means, of course, the world champions will be confronted by the latest in a series of imitations, all wholehearted converts to the eminently successful Lombardi formula. The Rams' 1967 upsurge — they go into Saturday's session just one game to the rear of the unbeaten Baltimore Colts in the Coastal Division race — has been directly traceable to this me-too approach, according to Los Angeles Herald-Examiner columnist Bob Oates for one. "In pro football, the Green Bay Packers have been the model throughout the 1960s," he pointed out Wednesday in analyzing the now imminent collision. "Almost everybody has tried to play their game. The exceptions (Baltimore, Dallas, Kansas City and one or two others) have been more conspicuous than successful. But it is a fact that Vince Lombardi's imitators have been successful, too — until George Allen came west to establish the Rams as a winner." "The strategic intent of Saturday's game is Allen's Packers against Lombardi's," Oates wrote, then proceeded to draw a comparison between them. "The essentials of Green Bay football are precise defense, balanced offense, exact execution and ball control. Bart Starr throws the long pass mainly as a tactic in the overall plan — to loosen up the linebackers and safemen. The threat is always there; and Green Bay has won bombing when the threat was ignored. As a rule, however, like John McKay at USC, Green Bay uses the forward pass principally as a ball control play. All this is now generally true in Ram football with Allen and Roman Gabriel, whose bombs this year, though spectacular, have been comparatively rare. Allen's design is cousin to Lombardi's, but George now has the problem that has confounded Vince's imitators since 1960. Who can play Green Bay football better than Green Bay? The Rams have been learning it for two years (Allen took over as head coach in 1966 and guided the Angelenos to an 8-6 record), the Packers for nine." The Packers' obvious advantage in terms of time discouraged some from attempting to follow suit, Oates says, noting "for this reason, it has seemed preferable (to some critics) to hunt for another way to win in Green Bay's league. Norm Van Brocklin found one in the 1960 championship game (he and his fellow Philadelphia Eagles won, 17-13). John Unitas outscored the Packers once in a while. And Dallas forced Green Bay to play Dallas' game with big play passes for the championship a year ago, although in the end the Packers won, as usual. It is their record for winning that discourages innovators. Pro football has had a lot of them over the years, but not lately Lombardi has standardized the game." Returning to the case in point, Oates asserted, "In Los Angeles, Allen is aware of the dilemma. He realizes that Green Bay has a long lead in the business of perfecting a conventional pro football system based on nothing more radical than precision and execution. "Allen feels



PACKERS TRAINING HERE

Henry Jordan, one of the stars of the Green Bay Packers' rugged defense unit, is greeted by some local football fans as pro football's world champions arrived in Santa Barbara last night for a five-day stay here. (See details in sports section). The unidentified boy at the right is holding a Green Bay pennant. Jordan, who is playing his 11th year of professional football, is a 6-3, 240-pound tackle who has won all-pro honors in five previous seasons. The Packers will work out at the UCSB Campus Stadium this week, and tomorrow's workout from 10 a.m. to 12 noon will be open to the public. —News-Press photo by Steve Voorhees

simply that there is no other good way. As a defensive coach, he is confident that he can handle tricks and big plays. The problem is defending carefully rehearsed, intelligently executed conventional plays. So in California, Allen has built the kind of team that worries him the most. Like Lombardi in 1959, he started first last year with defense, fitting a tough one together piece by piece. Second, like Lombardi in 1959, he made major trades for the right horses. Third, Allen and his staff have designed a balanced Green Bay offense that can go left or right, near and far, with either the run or the pass. Fourth, the emphasis is on execution. That, and not sorcery, gets the practice time. And fifth, this season, the Rams have developed a scoring punch with a sound short-yardage offense." "They have it all now," the Herald-Examiner pundit summed up. "But Green Bay has been doing it longer. The advantage remains Lombardi's"...PACKER PATTERN: The Packers, who toiled through a rare rainy morning Tuesday, worked out under a benevolent California sun Wednesday, a brisk 90-minute session which found all hands perspiring freely at the finish...The driver of one of the buses which daily transports the Bays from their Santa Barbara Inn headquarters to their University of California Santa Barbara training site is a native of Marinette, the Pack discovered. He is Bob Wall, who is a senior at the University, where he is majoring in criminology. Wall, who attended the University of Wisconsin for one year on a football scholarship, is a nephew of Mary Agnes Wall, once a perennial Michigan women's golf champion and now a golf professional at Mid-Pines, N.C. Asked if he intends to remain here after graduation, Wall quickly informed with a smile, "I sure do. It beats trudging through the snow back home."...Bill Weatherwax, father of defensive tackle Jim Weatherwax, flew to Wednesday's practice from Redlands, Calif., 90 miles distance, in his Piper Comanche....Dr. Eugene Brusky and Tom Miller, Packer assistant general manager, fared well at Santa Barbara's challenging La Cumbre County Club. Dr. Brusky, a former Brown County champion, weighed in with a six-over-par 78 – playing with strange clubs – while Miller reported, "I would have had a 76 or 77 except for one bad hole."...The Packers will leave this idyllic retreat by bus at 1 o'clock Friday afternoon for Los Angeles, where they will headquarter at the Sheraton West.

BAYS WON'T DEVIATE FROM SET OFFENSE, RAMS' JONES BELIEVES

DEC 7 (Milwaukee) – Defensive end Dave Jones of the Los Angeles Rams says he doesn't believe the Green Bay Packers will depart from their usual style of play when they buck the Rams' strong defensive unit Saturday at Los Angeles. "I really don't know how I would coach a team against our defense," said Jones in an interview. "But I do know this, I wouldn't change my whole offense for one game. I don't think Vince Lombardi will change his." The Rams lead the NFL in defending against the rush and their front four of Jones, ex-Detroit Lion Roger Brown, Lamar Lundy and Merlin Olsen exert unbearable pressure on opposing passers. The defensive strength suggest that the best way to advance the ball against the Rams is the short pass. "We can adjust to stop that or any other things," said Jones. "You know the thing a defense always tries to do is force you out of what you do best. If you switch away to short passes – if that isn't your long suit – you're just doing our job for us. We like to see it."

RAMS FAVORED BY 5 POINTS OVER PACKERS

DEC 8 (Los Angeles-Green Bay Press-Gazette) – The Packers, the oddsmakers have decreed, will be five-point underdogs against the Rams in their nationally-televised game here Saturday afternoon. This may be something of a surprise to the Packer faithful, considering our heroes are the reigning world champions, but the quotation undoubtedly is based upon the disparity in incentive. The Rams must win in order to preserve their still substantial hopes for NFL's Coastal Division championship. If they falter in the Coliseum Saturday (3 p.m., WNFL, WBAY-TV), they will fall two games back of the unbeaten Baltimore Colts – assuming the Colts dispatch the New Orleans Saints Sunday...NITSCHKE HAS HIGH HOPES: The Packers, the bookmakers obviously theorize, would suffer only minor damage to their image and pride in defeat, having already clinched the Central Division title. This is not how the world champions see it. The Pack, particularly the league-leading defensive platoon, will not lack for motivation, Ray Nitschke assures. "It'll be a rugged afternoon," the 10-year veteran declared following Thursday's surprisingly brief (65 minutes) but crisp workout at Santa Barbara. "They need the win, and so do we, especially after the defense played the way it did against Minnesota." "We didn't do well," Ray observed. "We hope to play a little better Saturday."...'WE WANT MOMENTUM': Nitschke had reference to the 27 points the Packers permitted – the most they have allowed in 34 games – in shading the Vikings 30-27 Sunday. "Plus," he added significantly, "we want to give it our best, too. We want to have some momentum going into that playoff game (against the Coastal Division champion) at Milwaukee Dec. 23." This is no small consideration to the Central Division kingpins, who are well aware they can upholster their bank accounts by approximately \$25,000 each – not to mention the endorsements

Enlarge Lambeau Field

Editor, Press-Gazette: If the Green Bay Packers had scheduled the playoff game for the Western Division championship in Green Bay where it belongs, the "home" of the Central Division winner as stated in the season's schedule, there now would not be the criticism for the manner in which tickets are being allocated for the playoff game in Milwaukee on Dec. 23, as per the story in the Dec. 2 Press-Gazette.

So the Packers are pressuring for an addition to Milwaukee County Stadium! When the addition is built next year and the stadium there accommodates 58,500 people, will the Packers also schedule more of their league games there because of the greater capacity than Lambeau Field?

What about filling in the west end of Lambeau Field? There are supposedly over 10,000 people on the waiting list for seats there.

Why was the turf heating system installed in Lambeau Field and then the game given to Milwaukee?

Joseph P. McIntyre

Rt. 2

De Pere, Wis.

which inevitably accrue – by winning that Milwaukee match, the NFL title game and the Super Bowl. The Rams, in Nitschke's view, will present much the same kind of challenge the Vikings did. "If they resemble any club we've played, they resemble Minnesota," he said. "To me, Gabriel (quarterback Roman), Josephson (Les) and Bass (Dick) are like Joe Kapp, Brown (Bill) and Osborn (Dave) of the Vikings." Continuing his analysis, Nitschke added, "They're strong – their approach is to overpower you. They're not real fancy. They're not the breakaway threats some teams are."...POINTS TO GABRIEL: The Rams long have been noted for their defense, but their offense only recently has developed to complement George Allen's tightfisted defenders. The reason for the upsurge, Nitschke says, is more experienced overall in the offensive team. "Gabriel has been around longer, plus the line has been working together for four or five years now...plus they're getting good play from Josephson and Truax, their tight end. He's a big strong guy, and he's done a real good job," Ray said. "Now they've got a good running game, plus a fine passing game – Gabriel is much improved. He's a leader out there. He seems to have control of the team, just from watching them on film." The Californians also own the NFL's most formidable four, which has caused the Pack more than a few problems in the recent past...TEST FOR OFFENSE: Merlin Olsen, Davey Jones, Roger Brown and Lamar Lundy will submit the Packers' veteran offensive wall, which will be yielding weight all down the line, to the acid test. Moving the ball on the ground obviously will be difficult and the Packers will be forced to resort to the air early in the afternoon. Happily, Bart Starr had become more precise with each game, having completed a spectacular 64 percent of his passes in the last five weeks. And, though this is the beginning of the rainy season in California, chances are good that it will be a dry field, which obviously would not only be conducive to greater passing accuracy but also permit receivers such as Boyd Dowler and Carroll Dale to maneuver freely...GRABOWSKI WON'T PLAY: Donny Anderson and Ben Wilson, the revitalized Ram reject, are expected to go most of the way at running backs, although rookie Travis Williams may see some action. Jim Grabowski, still hampered by a knee injury, will not play. Wilson is hoping to have a big day. It will be his first appearance against his former colleagues since being traded to the Pack last July for a high draft choice. Williams, the Rams have indicated, will get no voluntary help from them in his bid to capture the NFL's kickoff return title. Rams kicker Bruce Gossett has been instructed to squib his kickoffs so that the ball will skitter along the ground and presumably be fielded by a lineman, Los Angeles scribes report. "Lombardi may try to outguess Allen Saturday," one of them noted. "He could move Williams up to the 30-yard line in anticipation of a squib. If so, Allen may change his plans and order Gossett to kick the ball deep."

PERSONALITY PARADE

DEC 8 (Santa Barbara-Green Bay Press-Gazette) – Miss Joan France Mortell, the soul of hearty Irish warmth, is a thoroughly circumspect citizen with a proper regard for law and order. Dean Mortell is director of housing at University of California Santa Barbara, a position in which she supervises a staff of 13 women. However, the auburn-haired Green Bay native has become the principal in the somewhat comic "Case of the Misappropriated Sign." The latter came to the Packers'

Ram-Packer Lineups

COLISEUM, 1:05 P.M.

OFFENSE

RAMS			PACKERS		
No.	Name	Wgt. Pos.	No.	Name	No.
84	Jack Snow	185 LE	225	Boyd Dowler	86
63	Joe Carollo	258 LT	245	Bob Skoronski	76
65	Tom Mack	250 LG	255	Gale Gillingham	68
50	Kan Iman	240 C	250	Bob Hyland	50
71	Joe Scibelli	255 RG	245	Jerry Kramer	64
73	Charlie Cowan	265 RT	250	Forrest Gregg	75
87	Billy Truax	235 TE	235	Marv Fleming	81
18	Roman Gabriel	230 QB	190	Bart Starr	15
25	Bernie Casey	210 FL	200	Carroll Dale	84
34	Les Josephson	220 RB	210	Donny Anderson	44
22	Dick Bass	195 RB	220	Jim Grabowski	33

DEFENSE

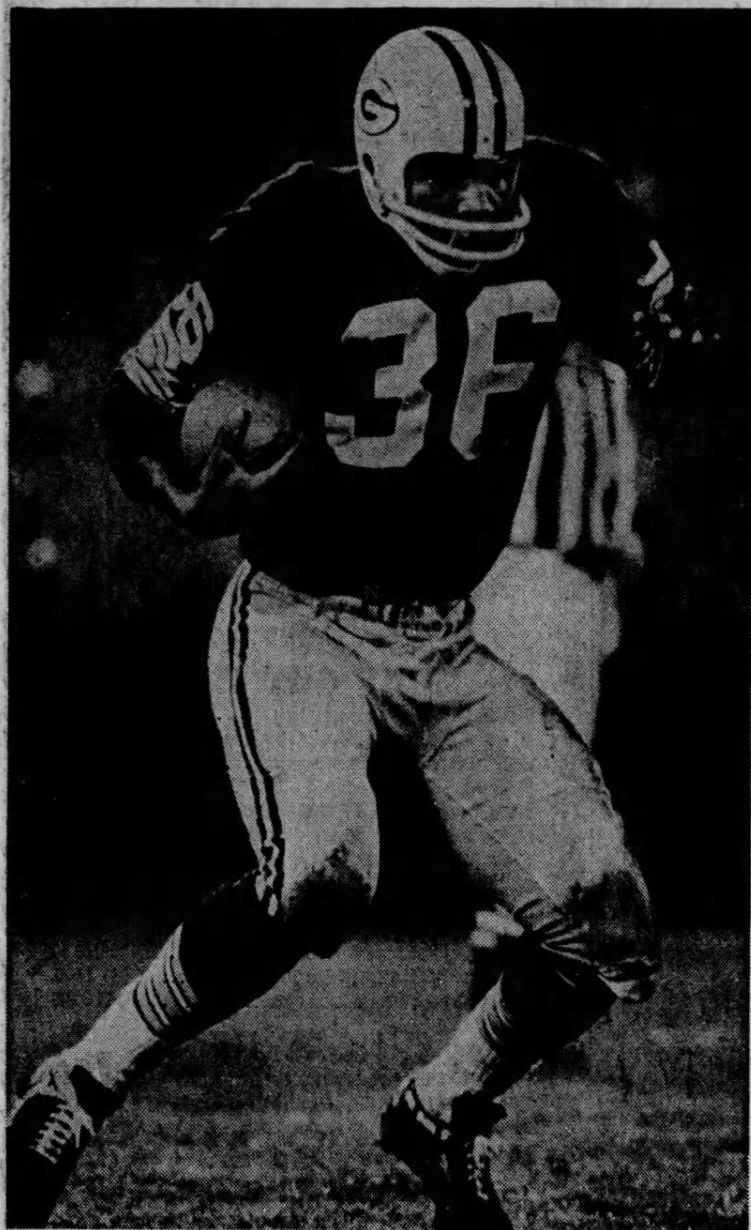
75	David Jones	260 LE	245	Willie Davis	87
74	Merlin Olsen	275 LT	260	Ton Kostelnik	77
78	Roger Brown	290 RT	250	Henry Jordan	74
85	Lamar Lundy	260 RE	245	Lionel Aldridge	82
32	Jack Pardee	230 LLB	240	Dave Robinson	89
57	Doug Woodlief	230 MLB	235	Ray Nitschke	66
55	Maxie Baughan	230 RLB	250	Le Roy Caffey	60
24	Clarence Williams	203 LH	200	Herb Adderley	26
27	Irv Cross	195 RH	205	Bob Jeter	21
44	Chuck Lamson	190 LS	195	Tom Brown	40
21	Ed Meador	199 RS	190	Willie Wood	24

RAMS

No.	Name, pos.	No.	Name, pos.	No.	Name, pos.
13	Kilgore, p	46	Daniel, db	71	Scibelli, g
18	Gabriel, qb	47	Winston, db	72	Talbert, de
19	Munson, qb	49	Crabb, db	73	Cowan, t
20	Mason, rb	50	Iman, c	74	Olsen, dt
21	Meador, db	51	Burman, c	75	Jones, de
22	Bass, rb	53	Breen, lb	77	Nichols, t
24	Williams, db	55	Baughan, lb	78	Brown, dt
25	Casey, fl	57	Woodlief, lb	80	Pope, fl
27	Cross, db	62	Chuy, g	83	Pivec, lb
30	Gossett, k	63	Carollo, t	84	Snow, e
32	Pardee, lb	65	Mack, g	85	Lundy, de
33	Ellison, rb	66	Pottios, lb	87	Truax, te
34	Josephson, rb	70	Cahill, dt	88	Guillory, lb
44	Lamson, db				

PACKERS

No.	Name, pos.	No.	Name, pos.	No.	Name, pos.
12	Bratkowski, qb	45	Rowser, db	75	Gregg, t
13	Horn, qb	50	Hyland, c-g	76	Skoronski, t
15	Starr, qb	55	Flanigan, lb	77	Kostelnik, t
21	Jeter, db	56	Crutcher, lb	78	B. Brown, de
23	Williams, rb	57	Bowman, c	80	Long, fl
24	Wood, db	60	Caffey, lb	81	Fleming, te
26	Adderley, db	63	Thurston, g	82	Aldridge, de
30	Mercein, rb	64	Kramer, g	83	A. Brown, te
33	Grabowski, rb	66	Nitschke, lb	84	Dale, fl
34	Chandler, pk	68	Gillingham, g	85	McGee, e
36	Wilson, rb	72	Wright, t	86	Dowler, e
40	T. Brown, db	73	Weatherwax, dt	87	Davis, de
43	Hart, db	74	Jordan, dt	89	Robinson, lb
44	Anderson, rb				



BEN THE BLOCKBUSTER—Ben Wilson, former USC and Rams fullback, will be in Green Bay Packers lineup Saturday when they face Rams.

attention here earlier this week. Miss Mortell greeted them at their temporary field, with the sign as public evidence of her undying loyalty. A metal, black-on-white affair which once obviously had been mounted in her hometown, it proclaimed, "Welcome to Green Bay, Home of the Packers."...**SAW IT IN WINDOW:** Joan, whose appearance helped brighten a rainy morning for the Pack, later was asked how it had come into her possession. She confided, "It's funny how the sign came to my attention. I was inspecting a new apartment building, which is one of my functions as housing director. The dean of men pointed up to a window near the top and said, 'Look at that.' And there it was." She laughed and added, "I about flipped. Later, we talked with the students in whose room it was, and they said they had lifted it a couple of years ago. They weren't from Green Bay — they were just passing through. At the end of the year, I was going to see if there was some way I could return the sign, but I couldn't figure out a way to get it back to Green Bay," she said...**EXPLAINED TO POLICE:** "Then, one day last April, one of the realtors I work with called and asked if I could meet with him and some other realtors about a problem. When I got there, they unveiled the sign, which had been wrapped in tissue paper, and presented it to me. Ever since then, it's been on display in my office and it's really arousing a lot of attention...but, since I'm dean of housing, I felt I should return stolen property. So I went to the Police Department and explained the situation. The policeman, R.J. Gauthier, who is from Green Bay originally, got a big kick out of it. He took my picture with the sign and, on the back of the picture, he printed: 'Theft of sign, city of Green Bay, Wis. Suspect may be known as: Joan F. Mortell, who at one time did live in or about said city of Green Bay, Wis., It is known that said suspect had a father living in said city.'"...**HOPES PACK RETURNS IT:** 'Please let me know if there are any wants or holds on this suspect. On your warrant, this department will hold and arrest said suspect. University of California,

Santa Barbara, R.J. Gauthier, detective.'" She laughed and appended, "I hope the Packers can find a place for the sign on the way back, because I suppose I really should return it." Joan, the daughter of Green Bay's Dr. and Mrs. G.J. Mortell, was pleased to note, "Coach Lombardi seemed to like it. He came over to me at practice Tuesday and shook hands with me." "Later on," Miss Mortell chuckled, "a man who has been driving one of the Packer buses to and from each day came up to me and said, 'Where did you get that sign?' I told him and he said, 'I lifted that one when I was going through Green Bay three years ago.' He said his name is Bob Wall and he is from Marinette. He is a student here and, would you believe it, he's majoring in criminology!"...**SHE'LL SEE RAM GAME:** Joan, who once taught Spanish at Green Bay East High School, reports. "I think all of my friends at the university think I got the Packers to come here to train. I don't tell them any different." An ardent Packerphile, Miss Mortell has a Packer doll on the desk in her office, which also is graced by a large picture of quarterback Bart Starr. Although it would be a little difficult to follow the world champions around, the blue-eyed administrator occasionally does get a chance to see the Pack in action. "I usually get back for the Bishop's Charities game," she explained, "and I'm going back for the playoff game in Milwaukee Dec. 23. I'm also going to the game at Los Angeles Saturday with our personnel director, Jerry Quigley, and his wife, who also are from Green Bay."

WILLIAMS AWARE OF ENEMY CONCERN

DEC 9 (Los Angeles-Green Bay Press-Gazette) — Free-wheeling Travis Williams, an obscure rookie six weeks ago, is a marked man these days. But the jet-like Californian, who has just officially taken over as the NFL's kickoff return leader, is taking it all in stride. Travis, rapidly developing the confidence that breeds greatness, is fully aware, of course, that the

enemy has begun to take more than passing interest in him. "I know Minnesota did last Sunday that's for sure," Williams confided with a sly smile following a sun-kissed practice session at neighboring Santa Barbara this week in preparation for today's nationally televised confrontation with the Rams. "They were really down there fast...San Francisco was down there pretty good, too." Travis, who first flashed into NFL prominent when he returned a Jim Bakken kickoff 93 yards for a touchdown to trigger the Packers past the Cardinals St. Louis Oct. 30, doesn't feel that such pressures are going to keep him from breaking away. The muscular Arizona State grad, who already has three TD runbacks this season to tie an NFL record, explains, "I guess anybody on the opposing kickoff team can make a mistake and leave an opening. That's why we can't plan where we're going to run and they can't plan where to cover. I've been running to the middle mostly, though, I guess." Travis, who has averaged a slightly astronomical 42.1 yards on 12 returns thus far, also accepts the physical risks of his somewhat perilous assignment (the kickoff teams are of course, known as suicide squads) with an expressive shrug of the shoulders. "That's just football," he says. "You know you're going to get hit sooner or later." Pondering this point for a moment, he smiled and added, "It's kind of fun, it's enjoyable. The whole kickoff team enjoys it, I think. We're all looking forward to it." "At the opening of the game or the half, that is" the impressively constructed Richmond, Calif., native quickly appended, "not in between." Asked to assess his first lengthy appearance at running back, which came against the Vikings last Sunday, Travis forthrightly replied, "On some plays I did all right, and on some plays you could see the inexperience. I have to work on my blocking a lot more."...PACKER PATTERN: Flanker Bob Long, who was a collegiate basketball star before trying his hand at football as a University of Wichita senior, was the target of considerable needling as the Packers' second bus arrived here from Santa Barbara Friday afternoon. Long had just announced he was going to attend last night's UCLA-Wichita game, featuring the fabled Lew Alcindor at the Los Angeles Arena...Lee H. Joannes, longtime former president of the Packers (1929-46), was on hand to greet the world champions when they checked in at the Sheraton-West Hotel. He came in from Tucson, Ariz., where he now makes his home...The odds favoring the Rams, five-point choices earlier in the week, had climbed to seven points here Friday...The Packers will leave here by United Airlines charter immediately following the game and are expected to arrive in Green Bay's Austin Straubel Field at approximately 11 o'clock tonight.

Odds Jump! Rams Now 6½ Points Over Packers