

Green Bay Weekly



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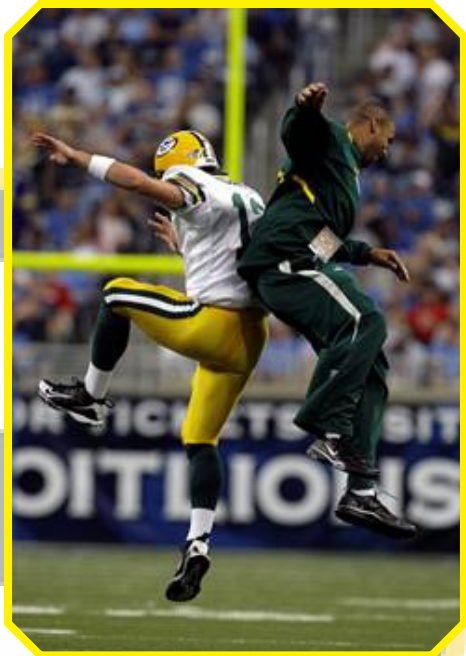
Packers Look Impressive Following 45-28 Victory over Lions

Aaron Rodgers had Motor City flashbacks, watching the Green Bay Packers blow a big lead against the Detroit Lions. Last season in Detroit, Favre helped the Packers build a 34-12 lead in the fourth before holding off a rally. There was a major difference: Rodgers was playing and Brett Favre was elsewhere. Rodgers threw three touchdown passes in the first four drives of his second start, helping Green Bay build a big lead it needed in a 48-25 win over the Detroit Lions on Sunday. Charles Woodson and Nick Collins returned picks for touchdowns, giving Green Bay a lead again. "It reminded me of last year," Rodgers said.

Green Bay (2-0) certainly will not regret its decision any time soon to stick with Rodgers and trade Favre to the New York Jets after he came out of retirement. The Packers

stayed committed to the first-round pick from 2005 despite mounting hype about Favre's possible return during the offseason. "I think the summer only made our character stronger," Rodgers said. Rodgers was 24-of-38 for 328 yards, three scores and a fumble in his first start on the road and his first fourth-quarter comeback. "We just kept pushing the envelope and I think that speaks volumes about the coaches and everybody involved to have confidence with Aaron to stay aggressive," coach Mike McCarthy said.

Greg Jennings caught six passes for 167 yards, including a 60-yard gain to set up Mason Crosby's go-ahead field goal with 5:17 to go. Donald Driver, James Jones and Jordy Nelson all had TD receptions from Rodgers. "We have a lot of confidence that he's going to find whichever one of us is



Packers quarterback Aaron Rodgers, left, celebrates a touchdown with injured teammate Ruvell Martin.

open," Jennings said. Rodgers took a step out of Favre's shadow in his highly anticipated debut last week and moved closer to establishing his own reputation in his first road game.

Upcoming Schedule

Sun 9/21 8:15 PM ET	
Sun 9/28 1:00 PM ET	
Sun 10/5 1:00 PM ET	

Player Spotlight: A.J. Hawk - Ohio State

With his toughness, speed and an overall work ethic that rivals some of the best, Packers linebacker AJ Hawk appears to have every tool to succeed in the NFL.

As a rookie last year, Hawk led Green Bay in tackles with 121, including 84 solo stops. He also added 3.5 sacks; two interceptions and a forced fumble while starting all 16 games for the Pack-



A.J. Hawk is quickly becoming one of the NFC's best linebackers.

over Minnesota, he contributed 13 tackles, a sack and a forced fumble. Green Bay will love his willingness to work and his high motor on and off the field.

Hawk probably won't be the kind of linebacker you count on in pass protection, but that doesn't mean he's a stiff out there either. He has great sideline-to-sideline tackling ability and should help the Packers in run defense.