

# FANS BASIK IN SUCCESS

## Packers Everywhere, Northwest Packers Backers hold rally for fans ahead of today's game

**By Scott Cooper Williams**  
Press-Gazette Media

**T**o the inhabitants of that football-crazy place called Packer Nation, this is like Mardi Gras, New Year's Eve and the Fourth of July all rolled into a single Sunday afternoon.

With the Green Bay Packers competing for a spot in the Super Bowl, loyal fans who have stood with the team through past disappointments are enjoying every moment of this successful run deep into the playoffs.

Throughout Green Bay and beyond, today's NFC title showdown with the Seattle Seahawks is an occasion for Packers fans that reinforces their dedication and sends their hopes rocketing to championship heights.

"It's very exciting — it feels great," said Kathy Bloemers of Wausau, who will be huddled around a TV with family and



FILE/GANNETT WISCONSIN MEDIA

Green Bay Packers fan Rick Wiltzius has a wooden fence in his backyard near Wausau to pound with his fists when the team does poorly.

friends for today's big game.

If the underdog Packers can pull off an upset in Seattle, Green Bay will advance to Super Bowl XLIX on Feb. 1 against the winner of the New England-Indianapolis AFC championship contest.

Bloemers, who visited Lambeau Field last week to buy a Packers jersey for her grandson,

said even if the Packers fall to the Seahawks and the season ends with a letdown, she will continue supporting her beloved green and gold, as always.

"I wouldn't be any other way," she said. "I'll feel bad for them, but they did well."

Fans have endured a roller