



PATRIOTS-RAIDERS KICK OFF SEASON
ON ABC ON THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

New England, Los Angeles and Detroit Anchor "NFL Opening Kickoff 2005"
Special Preceding Game

The journey to the 40th Super Bowl begins on Thursday night, September 8.

That's when the NFL will kick off its season with a rematch of a memorable playoff game as the **OAKLAND RAIDERS** invade Gillette Stadium in Foxboro, Massachusetts to face the Super Bowl XXXIX champion **NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS**. The game will be televised live on ABC at 9:00 PM ET.

The meeting will be the Raiders' first visit to New England since their confrontation with the Patriots on Saturday night, January 19, 2002. In a driving snowstorm, the game was tied at 13-13 by the Patriots on an **ADAM VINATIERI** 45-yard field goal and then won in overtime on a 23-yard Vinatieri kick.

The kickoff of the 2005 NFL season will be accompanied by musical performances in three cities.

The **ROLLING STONES** will help start it up with a performance from Detroit as part of "**NFL OPENING KICKOFF 2005**" – a one-hour pregame special on ABC at 8:00 PM ET.

The performance is part of a three-city football and music celebration of the NFL's "Road to Forty" season that will look back at the history of the Super Bowl, honor the Super Bowl champion Patriots, and peer down the road to Super Bowl XL on February 5 in Detroit.

The nationally televised pregame event also will include performances at Gillette Stadium by **GREEN DAY**, **SANTANA** and **MARTINA MC BRIDE**, who will sing the national anthem. **MAROON 5** and **KANYE WEST** will perform from the Los Angeles Coliseum, site of the first Super Bowl in 1967, as part of a free concert.

The show will be hosted by **EVA LONGORIA** ("Desperate Housewives") from the Los Angeles Coliseum and **FREDDIE PRINZE JR.** ("Freddie") from Gillette Stadium.

