

NEWS



NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE  
280 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10017  
(212) 450-2000 \* FAX (212) 681-7573  
[WWW.NFLMedia.com](http://WWW.NFLMedia.com)

Joe Browne, Executive Vice President-Communications  
Greg Aiello, Vice President-Public Relations

FOR USE AS DESIRED  
NFL-55 9/9/05

## **ALL KICKOFF WEEKEND GAMES SOLD OUT,** **LIFTING ALL TV BLACKOUTS**

All 16 games of the NFL's 2005 Kickoff Weekend have sold out in advance of the local TV blackout deadline, enabling every game to be televised in the home-team market, the NFL announced today.

The Oakland at New England game on Thursday night (September 8) was sold out and televised by ABC's Boston affiliate WCVB-TV.

This will be the second Kickoff Weekend in NFL history to have blackouts lifted for all games. They were lifted on the weekend of September 6-7 in 1998.

It will be the 10th time in NFL history that blackouts have been lifted for all games on a single weekend since the blackout policy took effect in 1973. The previous nine times have been on the Kickoff Weekend in 1998; three times in 2000; once in 2001; and four times in 2002.

The NFL blackout policy states that games sold out 72 hours prior to kickoff can be televised in the home city.

###