



FOR USE AS DESIRED
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“SUPER SEASON” KICKS OFF

The NFL playoffs begin on Saturday and Sunday, January 7-8, with Wild Card Weekend. On Saturday, the Washington Redskins play at the Tampa Bay Buccaneers (ABC, 4:30 PM ET) and the Jacksonville Jaguars visit the New England Patriots (ABC, 8:00 PM ET). Wild Card Weekend continues Sunday with the Carolina Panthers at the New York Giants (FOX, 1:00 PM ET) and the Pittsburgh Steelers traveling to face the Cincinnati Bengals (CBS, 4:30 PM ET).

The following week, the Denver Broncos and Indianapolis Colts in the AFC and Chicago Bears and Seattle Seahawks in the NFC host the Divisional Playoffs. The Colts and Seahawks own homefield advantage for the Conference Championship Games (January 22) if they win their Divisional games. The conference champions advance to Super Bowl XL at Ford Field in Detroit, Michigan on February 5.

A CONSISTENTLY GOOD PLAYOFF FIELD

Six of the past eight Super Bowl champions have returned to the playoffs this year and are among the 12 clubs vying to hoist the Vince Lombardi Trophy on February 5. Those teams are: Denver (twice), New England (thrice) and Tampa Bay.

Each of the 12 teams vying for a trip to Super Bowl XL has won at least 10 games – only the third time (2000, 2003) since the current playoff format was instituted in 1990 that the entire playoff field accomplished the feat.

The 2005 playoff participants own a combined record of 138-54 (.719), the best winning percentage since the 1977 postseason field posted a .732 mark (82-30).

ALL-TIME PLAYOFFS

The New York Giants will participate in the playoffs for the 27th time, tying the Dallas Cowboys and St. Louis Rams for the most playoff seasons in NFL history.

The Pittsburgh Steelers will play in their 43rd playoff game Sunday afternoon, tying the Oakland Raiders and St. Louis Rams for the second most postseason games ever. Only the Cowboys (54) have played more than the Steelers.

The New England Patriots are one win away from the longest playoff winning streak in NFL history. New England has won nine consecutive playoff games, tied with the **VINCE LOMBARDI**-led Green Bay Packers (1961-62, 1965-67).

Following is a list of this year's 12 playoff teams and their postseason records:

<u>TEAM</u>	<u>WINS</u>	<u>LOSSES</u>	<u>PCT.</u>
Carolina Panthers	4	2	.667
New England Patriots	16	10	.615
Washington Redskins	22	15	.595
Pittsburgh Steelers	24	18	.571
Denver Broncos	16	14	.533
Jacksonville Jaguars	4	4	.500
Chicago Bears	14	15	.483
Indianapolis Colts	13	15	.464
Tampa Bay Buccaneers	6	7	.462
New York Giants	16	21	.432
Cincinnati Bengals	5	7	.417
Seattle Seahawks	3	7	.300

WILD CARD RECORDS

<u>TEAM</u>	<u>WINS</u>	<u>LOSSES</u>	<u>PCT.</u>
Washington Redskins	5	0	1.000
Carolina Panthers	1	0	1.000
Cincinnati Bengals	1	0	1.000
New York Giants	4	2	.667
Jacksonville Jaguars	2	1	.667
Pittsburgh Steelers	3	2	.600
New England Patriots	2	2	.500
Tampa Bay Buccaneers	1	3	.250

DIVISIONAL RECORDS

<u>TEAM</u>	<u>WINS</u>	<u>LOSSES</u>	<u>PCT.</u>
Denver Broncos	7	3	.700
Indianapolis Colts	4	6	.400
Chicago Bears	3	6	.333
Seattle Seahawks	1	2	.333

- NFL PLAYOFFS -

HOME SWEET HOME...MAYBE: While homefield advantage throughout the playoffs is a coveted prize, it has been no guarantee of a trip to the Super Bowl. And like so much about the NFL, an unpredictable result is seemingly the only predictable outcome.

Since the NFL adopted the 12-team playoff format in 1990, only 15 of 30 (50 percent) No. 1 seeds have advanced to the Super Bowl with eight No. 1s being crowned NFL champions (27 percent).

A look at how the No. 1 seeds have fared since 1990:

Season	AFC No. 1 Seed	Season Result	NFC No. 1 Seed	Season Result
1990	Buffalo	Lost Super Bowl XXV	San Francisco	Lost NFC Championship
1991	Buffalo	Lost Super Bowl XXVI	Washington	Won Super Bowl XXVI
1992	Pittsburgh	Lost Divisional	San Francisco	Lost NFC Championship
1993	Buffalo	Lost Super Bowl XXVIII	Dallas	Won Super Bowl XXVIII
1994	Pittsburgh	Lost AFC Championship	San Francisco	Won Super Bowl XXIX
1995	Kansas City	Lost Divisional	Dallas	Won Super Bowl XXX
1996	Denver	Lost Divisional	Green Bay	Won Super Bowl XXXI
1997	Kansas City	Lost Divisional	San Francisco	Lost NFC Championship
1998	Denver	Won Super Bowl XXXIII	Minnesota	Lost NFC Championship
1999	Jacksonville	Lost AFC Championship	St. Louis	Won Super Bowl XXXIV
2000	Tennessee	Lost Divisional	New York Giants	Lost Super Bowl XXXV
2001	Pittsburgh	Lost AFC Championship	St. Louis	Lost Super Bowl XXXVI
2002	Oakland	Lost Super Bowl XXXVII	Philadelphia	Lost NFC Championship
2003	New England	Won Super Bowl XXXVIII	Philadelphia	Lost NFC Championship
2004	Pittsburgh	Lost AFC Championship	Philadelphia	Lost Super Bowl XXXIX

- NFL PLAYOFFS -

UNDEFEATED AT HOME: The Denver Broncos and Seattle Seahawks are the only two NFL teams to finish the 2005 season with undefeated home records.

Since 1995, 21 clubs have sent their fans home happy throughout the season, finishing with 8-0 records at home. However, only nine of those clubs have earned a trip to the Super Bowl, further proving that in the NFL, you just never know.

The teams (since 1995) to finish with 8-0 records at home and their final season result:

<u>SEASON</u>	<u>TEAM</u>	<u>OVERALL</u>	<u>RESULT</u>
<u>N</u>		<u>L</u>	
1995	Kansas City Chiefs	13-3	Lost Divisional Playoffs
1996	Carolina Panthers	12-4	Lost NFC Championship
1996	Denver Broncos	13-3	Lost Divisional Playoffs
1996	Green Bay Packers	13-3	Won Super Bowl XXXI
1997	Denver Broncos	12-4	Won Super Bowl XXXII
1997	Green Bay Packers	13-3	Lost Super Bowl XXXII
1997	Kansas City Chiefs	13-3	Lost Divisional Playoffs
1997	San Francisco 49ers	13-3	Lost NFC Championship
1998	Atlanta Falcons	14-2	Lost Super Bowl XXXIII
1998	Denver Broncos	14-2	Won Super Bowl XXXIII
1998	Minnesota Vikings	15-1	Lost NFC Championship
1998	San Francisco 49ers	12-4	Lost Divisional Playoffs
1999	Tennessee Titans	13-3	Lost Super Bowl XXXIV
1999	St. Louis Rams	13-3	Won Super Bowl XXXIV
2002	Green Bay Packers	12-4	Lost Wild Card Playoffs
2003	Kansas City Chiefs	13-3	Lost Divisional Playoffs
2003	New England Patriots	14-2	Won Super Bowl XXXVIII
2003	St. Louis Rams	12-4	Lost Divisional Playoffs
2003	Seattle Seahawks	10-6	Lost Wild Card Playoffs
2004	New England Patriots	14-2	Won Super Bowl XXXIX
2004	Pittsburgh Steelers	15-1	Lost AFC Championship

- NFL PLAYOFFS -

OT & PLAYOFFS – WINNING COMBINATION: Overtime games and the NFL playoffs have gone hand-in-hand for several years, with thrilling football the certain conclusion.

The playoffs have featured at least one overtime game in five postseasons in a row, the longest such consecutive streak in history. The 2004 playoffs had two such games: a 20-17 New York Jets' victory at San Diego in the Wild Card round, and the Pittsburgh Steelers' 20-17 triumph over the Jets in the Divisional Playoffs.

A look at NFL overtime playoff games since 2000:

<u>Season</u>	<u>Round</u>	<u>Teams</u>	<u>Game-Winning Score</u>
2000	WC	Miami 23, Indianapolis 17	RB Lamar Smith scores on 17-yard TD run.
2001	Div.	New England 16, Oakland 13	K Adam Vinatieri connects on 23-yard FG.
2002	Div.	Tennessee 34, Pittsburgh 31	K Joe Nedney wins it with 26-yard FG.
2003	WC	Green Bay 33, Seattle 27	CB Al Harris returns INT 52 yards for TD.
2003	Div.	Carolina 29, St. Louis 23 (2 OT)	QB Jake Delhomme connects with WR Steve Smith on 69-yd TD.
2003	Div.	Philadelphia 20, Green Bay 17	K David Akers wins game with 31-yard FG.
2004	WC	NY Jets 20, San Diego 17	K Doug Brien's 28-yard FG gives Jets the win.
2004	Div	Pittsburgh 20, NY Jets 17	K Jeff Reed connects on 33-yard game-winner.

An overtime history of the 2005 playoff participants:

<u>Club</u>	<u>2005 OT</u>	<u>All-Time Regular-Season OT</u>	<u>Playoff OT Record</u>
	<u>Record</u>	<u>Record</u>	
Carolina Panthers	0-0	4-7 (.363)	1-0
Chicago Bears	1-0	17-14 (.548)	0-0
Cincinnati Bengals	0-0	14-9 (.609)	0-0
Denver Broncos	1-0	18-12-2 (.594)	1-0
Indianapolis Colts	0-0	12-9-1 (.568)	1-3
Jacksonville Jaguars	2-0	4-2 (.667)	0-0
New England Patriots	0-0	16-18 (.471)	1-0
New York Giants	1-2	14-14-2 (.500)	0-2
Pittsburgh Steelers	0-2	15-10-2 (.552)	2-2
Seattle Seahawks	1-1	8-15 (.348)	0-2
Tampa Bay	1-0	11-13-1 (.460)	0-0

- NFL PLAYOFFS -

WINNING FEELING: The New England Patriots aim to become the first team in NFL history to win three consecutive Super Bowls as well as the first to win four Super Bowls in a five-year span. The Chicago Bears lead the 2005 playoff field with nine NFL championships and seek a second Super Bowl title.

Following is a list of the NFL championships won by each of the 2005 playoff teams:

<u>TEAM</u>	<u>NFL CHAMPIONSHIP(S)</u>	<u>YEAR(S)</u>
Chicago Bears	9	1921, 1932-33, 1940-41, 1943, 1946, 1963, 1985
New York Giants	5	1934, 1938, 1956, 1986, 1990
Washington Redskins	5	1937, 1942, 1982, 1987, 1991
Pittsburgh Steelers	4	1974-75, 1978-79
Indianapolis Colts	3	1958-59, 1970
New England Patriots	3	2001, 2003-04
Denver Broncos	2	1997-98
Tampa Bay	1	2002
Buccaneers		
Carolina Panthers	0	---
Cincinnati Bengals	0	---
Jacksonville Jaguars	0	---
Seattle Seahawks	0	---

- NFL PLAYOFFS -

POINTS HARD TO COME BY: One thing the majority of the playoff field has in common is a stingy defense.

Nine of the 12 playoff teams finished 2005 in the top 10 in points allowed – Chicago (1; 202), Indianapolis (2; 247), Denver (T3; 258), Pittsburgh (T3; 258), Carolina (5; 259), Jacksonville (6; 269), Seattle (7; 271), Tampa Bay (8; 274) and Washington (9; 293).

The Bears were especially difficult to score on at Soldier Field, site of an NFC Divisional Playoff game on January 14 or 15. Chicago surrendered only 61 points at home, an average of 7.6 per game – the best since the NFL instituted the 16-game schedule in 1978.

The top five teams with the fewest points allowed in home games since 1978:

Team	Year	Points Allowed
Chicago Bears	2005	61
New England Patriots	2003	68
Dallas Cowboys	1978	70
Philadelphia Eagles	1992	73
Chicago Bears	1985	74

THE HEAD COACHES

SUPER CONNECTION: With a Super Bowl win, Colts head coach **TONY DUNGY** will add his name to the list of head coaches who won a Super Bowl as both a coach and player, joining **MIKE DITKA** and **TOM FLORES**.

The coaches who won a Super Bowl as both a head coach and player:

	WON AS PLAYER	WON AS COACH
MIKE DITKA	Super Bowl VI (Dallas over Miami)	Super Bowl XX (Chicago over New England)
TOM FLORES	Super Bowl IV (Kansas City over Minnesota)	Super Bowl XV (Oakland over Philadelphia) Super Bowl XVIII (L.A. Raiders over Washington)
TONY DUNGY	<i>Super Bowl XIII (Pittsburgh over Dallas)</i>	???

- NFL PLAYOFFS -

WINS "R" US: No head coach in history has been as successful in the postseason as New England's **BILL BELICHICK**. In his six years at the Patriots' helm, Belichick is 9-0 in the playoffs, tying Pro Football Hall of Fame coach **VINCE LOMBARDI** – the Super Bowl Trophy's namesake – for the longest postseason winning streak. In addition to his nine consecutive wins, Belichick owns the league's greatest postseason winning percentage. Also ranking high on this list is Washington Redskins coach **JOE GIBBS**.

Head coaches with the best playoff winning percentage (minimum five games coached):

COACH	W	L	PCT.
Bill Belichick	10	1	.909
Vince Lombardi	9	1	.900
Don McCafferty	4	1	.800
Weeb Ewbank	4	1	.800
Joe Gibbs	16	5	.762

PLAYOFF WINNER: Washington Redskins head coach **JOE GIBBS** makes his first trip to the postseason since leading the 1992 Redskins to the Divisional Playoffs.

Gibbs has compiled a 16-5 (.762) career postseason record, and with a win in Saturday's Wild Card game against Tampa Bay, will pass **CHUCK NOLL** (16) for the third most playoff wins all-time.

A look at the coaches with the most postseason wins in history:

Head Coach	Team	Postseason Wins
Tom Landry	Dallas Cowboys	20
Don Shula	Baltimore Colts, Miami Dolphins	19
Joe Gibbs	Washington Redskins	16
Chuck Noll	Pittsburgh Steelers	16
Marv Levy	Buffalo Bills	11
Bill Parcells	NY Giants, New England Patriots, NY Jets	11
Dan Reeves	Denver Broncos, NY Giants, Atlanta Falcons	11

PLAYOFF DEBUTS: Three head coaches will remember the 2005 season as their playoff debut.

In Chicago, **LOVIE SMITH** has led the Bears to a No. 2 seed in the NFC as the club makes its first playoff appearance since finishing with a 13-3 mark in 2001.

Meanwhile in the AFC, Cincinnati's **MARVIN LEWIS** has guided the Bengals to their first division title since 1990 and **JACK DEL RIO** of Jacksonville has coached the Jaguars (12-4) to the second best record in franchise history (14-2 in 1999).

A look at the 2005 playoff head coaches and their winning percentages:

COACH, TEAM	W	L	PCT.
Bill Belichick, New England	10	1	.909
Joe Gibbs, Washington	16	5	.762
John Fox, Carolina	3	1	.750
Jon Gruden, Tampa Bay	5	2	.714
Mike Shanahan, Denver	7	4	.636
Mike Holmgren, Seattle	9	8	.529
Tom Coughlin, New York	4	4	.500

Giants			
Bill Cowher, Pittsburgh	8	9	.471
Tony Dungy, Indianapolis	5	7	.417
Jack Del Rio, Jacksonville	0	0	.000
Marvin Lewis, Cincinnati	0	0	.000
Lovie Smith, Chicago	0	0	.000

THE PLAYERS

TOUCHDOWN ALEXANDER: Seattle Seahawks running back **SHAUN ALEXANDER** completed one of the most prolific seasons by a running back in NFL history, leading his team to a franchise-best 13-3 record and homefield advantage throughout the NFC playoffs.

Alexander, the NFL rushing champion with 1,880 yards, also set an NFL record with 28 touchdowns, surpassing **PRIEST HOLMES'** 27 scores with Kansas City in 2003.

Of the players with the five most touchdowns in a season, **EMMITT SMITH** and **JOHN RIGGINS** had the most success in continuing their scoring in the playoffs. Smith scored six touchdowns in helping the 1995 Cowboys to a win in Super Bowl XXX while Riggins' six playoff scores led the 1983 Redskins to a berth in Super Bowl XVIII.

The most prolific touchdown seasons in NFL history, along with their corresponding playoff touchdown totals:

Player	Year	Team	TD s	Rushing TDs	Receiving TDs	Playoff TDs
Shaun Alexander	2005	Seattle	28	27	1	?
Priest Holmes	2003	Kansas City	27	27	0	2
Marshall Faulk	2000	St. Louis	26	18	8	1
Emmitt Smith	1995	Dallas	25	25	0	6
Priest Holmes	2002	Kansas City	24	21	3	*
John Riggins	1983	Washington	24	24	0	6

* Team not in playoffs

MR. END ZONE: New England wide receiver **DAVID GIVENS** has caught a touchdown pass in five consecutive playoff games dating back to 2003. The four-year veteran is tied with three players for the second longest such streak in NFL postseason history, trailing only **JOHN STALLWORTH**. Stallworth caught a TD pass in eight consecutive playoffs for Pittsburgh from 1978-83.

Pittsburgh's **HINES WARD** is only one game behind Givens with a TD reception in each of his past four playoff games.

The longest streaks of consecutive playoff games with a touchdown catch:

Player	Team(s)	Consec. playoffs w/ TD catch	Season s
John Stallworth	Pittsburgh	8	1978-83
James Lofton	Green Bay, Buffalo	5	1982-90
Antonio Freeman	Green Bay	5	1997-01
Randy Moss	Minnesota	5	1998-00
David Givens	New England	5	2003-04
Hines Ward	Pittsburgh	4	2002-04
Many others	--	4	--

- NFL PLAYOFFS -

RUSHING FOR 200: New York Giants running back **TIKI BARBER** led the team to its first NFC East title since 2000, topping his own franchise record for most rushing yards in a season with 1,860, second-most in the NFL.

En route to his record-setting rushing total, Barber topped 200 yards rushing in three games, becoming only the third player in history to accomplish the feat in a season. Barber joined a pair of Pro Football Hall of Famers, as **EARL CAMPBELL** rushed for 200 yards four times in 1980 and **O.J. SIMPSON** three times in 1973.

A look at the players with the most 200-yard rushing games in a season:

<u>Player</u>	<u>Team</u>	<u>Season</u>	<u>200-Yard Rushing Games</u>	<u>Season Rushing Yards</u>
Earl Campbell	Houston Oilers	1980	4	1,934
O.J. Simpson	Buffalo Bills	1973	3	2,003
Tiki Barber	New York Giants	2005	3	1,860

Two-hundred yard games have been extremely rare in the playoffs, with only six players reaching the lofty mark:

<u>Player</u>	<u>Team</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Opponent</u>	<u>Rushing Yards</u>	<u>Result</u>
Eric Dickerson	LA Rams	1/4/86	Dallas	248	W 20-0
Lamar Smith	Miami	12/30/00	Indianapolis	209	W 23-17 (OT)
Keith Lincoln	San Diego	1/5/64	Boston	206	W 51-10
Timmy Smith	Washington	1/31/88	Denver	204	W 42-10
Lawrence McCutcheon	LA Rams	12/27/75	St. Louis	202	W 35-23
Freeman McNeil	NY Jets	1/9/83	Cincinnati	202	W 44-17

- NFL PLAYOFFS -

PASSING PEYTON: Indianapolis Colts quarterback **PEYTON MANNING** is among the most prolific playoff passers in history with a passer rating of 89.1 through eight playoff games. Manning, whose younger quarterbacking brother **ELLI** is guiding the New York Giants in the NFC playoffs, has registered a passer rating above 138.0 in three of his past five postseason performances.

Manning is currently sixth on the all-time playoff passer rating chart (minimum, 150 attempts):

<u>PLAYER</u>	<u>TEAM</u>	<u>PASSER RATING</u>
Bart Starr	Green Bay Packers	104.8
Joe Montana	San Francisco 49ers, Kansas City Chiefs	95.6
Ken Anderson	Cincinnati Bengals	93.5
Kurt Warner	St. Louis Rams	92.3
Joe Theismann	Washington Redskins	91.4
<i>Peyton Manning</i>	<i>Indianapolis Colts</i>	<i>89.1</i>

ROOKIE DEFENDERS: Several NFL rookie defensive players have made significant contributions this season, helping their teams advance to the playoffs. In the NFC, Seattle linebacker **LOFA TATUPU** (second round, Southern California) was the team's leading tackler. With 4.0 sacks and three interceptions, Tatupu joined **MIKE PETERSON**, **KARLOS DANSBY** and **KEITH BROOKING** as the only NFL linebackers with at least 3.0 sacks and three interceptions. Meanwhile, teammate **LE ROY HILL** (third-round, Clemson) finished third among rookies with 7.5 sacks.

In Cincinnati, Bengals linebacker **ODELL THURMAN** (second round, Georgia) posted a team-high 148 tackles and five interceptions for a share of the league lead in the latter category for linebackers. New England rookie cornerback **ELLIS HOBBS** (third round, Iowa State) starts for the two-time defending Super Bowl champs and finished with a club-best four takeaways, including three interceptions to tie for the team lead with fellow cornerback **ASANTE SAMUEL**.

These players and all rookies in the playoffs will aspire to add their names to the lists that attest to some of the most prolific rookie postseasons in NFL history.

MOST SACKS IN A PLAYOFF GAME, ROOKIE

<u>Player, Team</u>	<u>Sacks</u>	<u>Opponent</u>	<u>Date</u>
Garin Veris, New England	3.0	N.Y. Jets	December 28, 1985

MOST SACKS IN A POSTSEASON, ROOKIE

<u>Player, Team</u>	<u>Sacks</u>	<u>Rookie Season</u>
Greg Townsend, L.A. Raiders	4.5	1983
Garin Veris, New England	4.0	1985
Eric Dorsey, N.Y. Giants	3.0	1986
Jevon Kearse, Tennessee	3.0	1999
Cornelius Griffin, N.Y. Giants	3.0	2000

MOST INTERCEPTIONS IN A PLAYOFF GAME, ROOKIE

<u>Player, Team</u>	<u>INT</u>	<u>Opponent</u>	<u>Game</u>
Vernon Perry, Houston	4	San Diego	December 29, 1979
Ricky Manning, Jr., Carolina	3	Philadelphia	January 18, 2004
Many players	2		

MOST INTERCEPTIONS IN A POSTSEASON, ROOKIE

<u>Player, Team</u>	<u>INT</u>	<u>Rookie Season</u>
Vernon Perry, Houston	5	1979
Ricky Manning, Jr., Carolina	4	2003
Jim Marsalis, Kansas City	3	1969
Roynell Young, Philadelphia	3	1980

Following are players who hold or are pursuing playoff records and milestones this year:

- Seattle Seahawks running back **SHAUN ALEXANDER** and New York Giants wide receiver **AMANI TOOMER** are the only players in the 2005 postseason to have scored three touchdowns in a playoff game, tying for second-most in NFL history. Alexander rushed for three touchdowns in a 2003 Wild Card game against Green Bay, while Toomer totaled three TD receptions against San Francisco in a 2002 Wild Card contest. **RICKY WATTERS** holds the NFL record with his five touchdowns for San Francisco in a 1993 Divisional Playoff against the Giants.
- In addition to three Super Bowl rings, New England quarterback **TOM BRADY** owns the lowest interception percentage in playoff history with a mark of 0.99 (minimum 150 attempts), which equates to three interceptions in 304 attempts. Brady also twice has tied the third most completions in a postseason game with 32. The record for the most completions in a playoff game belongs to Houston's **WARREN MOON**, who chalked-up 36 in a 1992 AFC Divisional Playoff.
- Wide receivers **DEION BRANCH** of New England and **HINES WARD** of Pittsburgh have each totaled 11 receptions in a playoff game, tying for the third most catches in a postseason game. Branch's 11-catch performance came in last year's Super Bowl against Philadelphia en route to his Super Bowl MVP honor. Ward had his 11-catch day in a 2002 Wild Card win against division-rival Cleveland. The most receptions made in a playoff game was 13, done by four players, most recently by former Saint **CHAD MORTON** (New Orleans vs. Minnesota, 2000 Divisional).
- New England wide receiver **TROY BROWN** has 235 career playoff punt-return yards for the third most in league history. The only players ahead of Brown are **BRIAN MITCHELL** (339) and **DAVID MEGGETT** (312).
- Linebacker **TEDY BRUSCHI** of New England has recovered three of his opponents' fumbles in playoff action. With one more recovery, Bruschi will tie six other players for the most all-time in a postseason career.
- Cornerbacks **TERRELL BUCKLEY** of the New York Giants and **RICKY MANNING, JR.** of the Carolina Panthers tie for the lead among players in the 2005 postseason with four career playoff interceptions. Manning is one of eight players in history with three-or-more pickoffs in one playoff game, posting three in the 2003 NFC Championship Game against Philadelphia.
- New York Giants punter **JEFF FEAGLES** averages 44.3 yards per punt in the postseason, second best in NFL history among punters with a minimum of 25 punts. Feagles will participate in the playoffs with his third club (Philadelphia and Seattle).
- Seattle quarterback **MATT HASSELBECK** has thrown for 300 yards in each of his past two playoff games and

with a 300-yard performance in the Divisional Playoffs, he will become only the fourth quarterback in history with three consecutive 300-yard efforts. **DAN FOUTS** holds the record with four 300-yard outings in a row from 1979-81, followed by **JIM KELLY** (1989-90) and **WARREN MOON** (1991-93) with three each.

- Cincinnati cornerback **TORY JAMES** tied for the third most interception-return yards in a playoff game when he compiled 98 yards in a 2000 Divisional victory for Oakland against Miami.
- Kickers **JOHN KASAY** (Carolina) and **ADAM VINATIERI** (New England) tie for the NFL record for most field goals in a playoff game with five. Kasay helped the 2003 Panthers to a Wild Card win over Dallas while Vinatieri's efforts came in the 2003 AFC Championship Game against Indianapolis.
- Kasay connected on 14 consecutive postseason field goals with the Panthers from 1996-2003, tying with **MIKE HOLLIS** for the third longest streak in NFL history, trailing **GARY ANDERSON**'s 16 (Pittsburgh, Philadelphia, 1989-95) and **RAFAEL SEPTIEN**'s 15 (Dallas, 1978-82).
- New England linebacker **WILLIE MC GINEST** (11.5) needs 3.5 sacks to surpass **BRUCE SMITH** (14.5) for the most career playoff sacks in history. McGinest will surpass **REGGIE WHITE** (12.0) for second place all-time with 1.0 sack.
- Quarterback **PEYTON MANNING** of Indianapolis threw five touchdown passes in a 2003 Wild Card game against Denver, tying for the second-most in a playoff game. The record of six is shared by Pro Football Hall of Famer **STEVE YOUNG** (Super Bowl XXIX vs. San Diego) and **DARYLE LAMONICA** (1969 Divisional vs. Houston).

Manning also has compiled the second- and third-best average gain per attempt figures in NFL playoff single-game history: 14.50 in a 2003 Wild Card against Denver, and 13.88 in a 2004 Wild Card against Denver.

- Punt returners **TROY BROWN** of New England and **ANTWAAN RANDLE EL** of Pittsburgh are each one of 17 players to return a punt for a TD in the playoffs and aim to be the only players in history to notch two such returns in postseason action.
- Jacksonville running back **FRED TAYLOR** recorded the longest rush in NFL playoff history with a 90-yard run for a TD in a 1999 Divisional Playoff against Miami.
- With a field goal in his team's Wild Card playoff against Jacksonville, New England's Vinatieri (12) would tie **TONI FRITSCH** (13; Dallas, Houston) for the most consecutive playoff games with a field goal scored in history. The Patriots' kicker also has scored in 15 consecutive playoff games, tied for the third longest streak with **ROY GERELA** and trailing only **NORM JOHNSON** (16) and **GEORGE BLANDA** (19).

Vinatieri has made 24 postseason field goals for the second most in league annals, trailing only **GARY ANDERSON**, who made 32. And with his next playoff field-goal attempt, Vinatieri (31) will surpass **MARK MOSELEY** for the third most attempts in history, trailing only Blanda (39) and Anderson (40).

BEST NFL PLAYOFF PERFORMANCES

(Single postseason)

PASSING YARDS

<u>PLAYER, TEAM</u>	<u>SEASON</u>	<u>COMP.</u>	<u>ATT.</u>	<u>YARDS</u>	<u>TD</u>	<u>INT</u>
Kurt Warner, St. Louis	1999	77	121	1,063	8	4
Dan Marino, Miami	1984	71	116	1,001	8	5
Jake Delhomme, Carolina	2003	59	102	987	6	1
Peyton Manning, Indianapolis	2003	67	103	918	9	4
Joe Montana, San Francisco	1984	67	108	873	7	5

RUSHING YARDS

<u>PLAYER, TEAM</u>	<u>SEASON</u>	<u>ATT.</u>	<u>YARDS</u>	<u>TD</u>
John Riggins, Washington	1982	136	610	4
Terrell Davis, Denver	1997	112	581	8
Terrell Davis, Denver	1998	78	468	3
Marcus Allen, L.A. Raiders	1983	58	466	4
Eddie George, Tennessee	1999	108	449	3

RECEIVING YARDS

<u>PLAYER, TEAM</u>	<u>SEASON</u>	<u>REC.</u>	<u>YARDS</u>	<u>TD</u>
Jerry Rice, San Francisco	1988	21	409	6
Steve Smith, Carolina	2003	18	404	3
Charlie Brown, Washington	1983	14	401	1
Anthony Carter, Minnesota	1987	23	391	1
Fred Biletnikoff, Oakland	1968	14	370	4

RECEPTIONS

<u>PLAYER, TEAM</u>	<u>SEASON</u>	<u>REC.</u>	<u>YARDS</u>	<u>TD</u>
Anthony Carter, Minnesota	1987	23	391	1
Tony Nathan, Miami	1984	22	217	0
Dan Ross, Cincinnati	1981	22	244	2
Jerry Rice, San Francisco	1988	21	409	6
Torry Holt, St. Louis	1999	20	242	1

TOUCHDOWNS

<u>PLAYER, TEAM</u>	<u>SEASON</u>	<u>TOTAL TDs</u>	<u>RUSH TD</u>	<u>REC. TD</u>
Terrell Davis, Denver	1997	8	8	0
Larry Csonka, Miami	1973	6	6	0
Franco Harris, Pittsburgh	1974	6	6	0
Jerry Rice, San Francisco	1988	6	0	6
John Riggins, Washington	1983	6	6	0
Gerald Riggs, Washington	1991	6	6	0
Emmitt Smith, Dallas	1995	6	6	0
Ricky Watters, San Francisco	1993	6	6	0

FOR 2005 PLAYOFF FIELD, SUPER BOWL LIVES UP TO ITS NAME

Six of the past eight Super Bowl winners return to the playoffs this season, vying to add another championship to their collections. And do they have a knack for the thrilling conclusion!

Of those six champions, four earned the title in highly competitive games, winning contests that saw both teams within seven points or less of each other at some point in the second half.

A closer look at the six Super Bowls won by teams in the 2005 playoff field within the past eight years:

Super Bowl	Winner	Opponent	Score	Site	Game
XXXII	Denver	Green Bay	31-24	San Diego	Denver takes a seven-point lead with 1:45 left. The Packers march to the Broncos' 35 but cannot advance further. Denver wins when Packers QB Brett Favre's fourth-down pass is batted down by Broncos LB John Mobley.
XXXIII	Denver	Atlanta	34-19	Miami	In his last game, Broncos QB and HOFer John Elway passes for 336 yards and rushes for a touchdown to earn MVP honors. Atlanta drives inside Denver's 30-yard line seven times, but musters only one TD and two field goals as the Broncos win back-to-back Super Bowls.
XXXVI	New England	St. Louis	20-17	New Orleans	Trailing 17-3 entering the fourth quarter, the Rams storm back to a 17-17 tie with 1:30 remaining. And though most suspect the game is headed for the first overtime Super Bowl in history, Patriots quarterback Tom Brady (named MVP) leads the team on a nine-play, 53-yard drive culminating in kicker Adam Vinatieri's 48-yard field goal as time expires, giving New England its first Super Bowl victory. It was the first Super Bowl to end on the game's final play.
XXXVII	Tampa Bay	Oakland	48-21	San Diego	After surrendering a field goal for the game's first points, the Buccaneers' defense intercepts five passes, three of which are returned for TDs, and records 5.0 sacks as Tampa Bay earns its first Super Bowl victory. Tampa Bay quarterback Brad Johnson completes a pair of touchdown passes to Keenan McCardell. Safety Dexter Jackson records the team's first two interceptions and is named the game's MVP.
XXXVIII	New England	Carolina	32-29	Houston	It took a Super Bowl-record 26:55 for the first points to be scored, but both teams help achieve the highest scoring quarter in Super Bowl history (37 in fourth) as a wild, back-and-forth game is decided on a 41-yard field goal by the Patriots' Adam Vinatieri with four seconds left in regulation. New England's Tom Brady earns his second Super Bowl MVP Award in three years.
XXXIX	New England	Philadelphia	24-21	Jacksonville	Patriots wide receiver Deion Branch catches 11 passes for 133 yards and New England's defense forces four turnovers en route to becoming the second team to win three Super Bowls in four years and the eighth club to hoist the Vince Lombardi Trophy in consecutive seasons. Branch becomes the fourth wide receiver to earn Super Bowl MVP honors and head coach Bill Belichick wins his ninth consecutive playoff game to tie Vince Lombardi for the longest postseason streak in NFL history.