

NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE 280 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10017 (212) 450-2000 * FAX (212) 681-7573 <u>WWW.NFLMedia.com</u>

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

ALL KICKOFF WEEKEND GAMES SOLD OUT FOR SECOND YEAR IN ROW, LIFTING ALL TV BLACKOUTS

For the second consecutive year, all 16 games of the NFL's 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 Miami at Pittsburgh game on Thursday night (September 7) was sold out and televised by NBC's Pittsburgh affiliate WPXI-TV.

This will be the third Kickoff Weekend in NFL history to have blackouts lifted for all games. They were lifted on the weekend of September 6-7 in 1998, and last year on September 8, 11-12.

It will be the 14th 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 13 times have been on Kickoff Weekend in 1998; three times in 2000; once in 2001; and four times in 2002 and 2005.

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

###