

# 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

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## **PRESEASON NATIONAL TV SCHEDULE FEATURES** **LOTS OF "NEWS"; KICKS OFF WITH HALL OF FAME GAME**

It will be the introduction to a new season. And it will feature a bevy of introductions and 2005 playoff teams.

The 15-game 2006 NFL preseason national television schedule announced today – along with each team's preseason matchups – is highlighted by the debut of new national-TV partners, new announcing teams, and star players on new teams.

Both Super Bowl XL teams will be featured as well as both conference championship runners-up. Also every division winner from '05 will be seen this summer on national television.

It starts with the NFL's newest network partner – NBC – on Sunday night, August 6 when the annual Pro Football Hall of Fame Game is played in Canton, Ohio at 8:00 PM ET between the Oakland Raiders and Philadelphia Eagles.

Calling the game will be NBC's "new/old" announcing team of **AL MICHAELS** and **JOHN MADDEN**, who partnered for the past four years on *Monday Night Football* (2002-05).

It will be a special weekend for Madden. The day before the game, he will join **AL DAVIS** and **ART SHELL** as former Raiders head coaches in the Hall of Fame. Madden coached Oakland from 1969-78, compiling a .759 regular-season winning percentage (103-32-7), the highest in history of any coach with 100 career wins.

The Sunday night game will be a Raiders' coaching reunion. Shell, a Hall of Famer since 1989, will be making his 2006 debut as Oakland's head coach. It will be his second stint at the team's helm. He led it to a 56-41 record from 1989-94.

The Hall of Fame game also will have special meaning for the Eagles. One of their greatest players, the late defensive end **REGGIE WHITE** -- the "Minister of Defense" – also will be inducted into the Hall.

The first full preseason weekend also will be packed with "introductions." It starts on Thursday night, August 10 when the Indianapolis Colts travel to the St. Louis Rams on FOX at 8:00 PM ET. One new face on the Colts will be quite familiar to the Rams. New Indy kicker **ADAM VINATIERI** boomed a 48-yard field goal with no time left to lift the New England Patriots over the Rams in Super Bowl XXXVI (20-17). For St. Louis, **SCOTT LINEHAN** will make his NFL head-coaching debut after helping the Miami Dolphins win their final six games last year as the team's offensive coordinator.

The next night (CBS, 8:00 PM ET), two of the top quarterbacks in the NFL will square off as **TOM BRADY** leads the AFC East champion Patriots into Atlanta to face the Falcons and **QB MICHAEL VICK**. Atlanta has spent a good part of its offseason upgrading its defense by acquiring such players as end **JOHN ABRAHAM** and former Patriots safety **LAWYER MILLOY**.

On Sunday on NBC (8:00 PM ET), two 2005 playoff teams meet when the Washington Redskins visit the Cincinnati Bengals. It will be the debut of a host of new Redskins, highlighted by the man who threw that surprising touchdown pass in Super Bowl XL, wide receiver **ANTWAAN RANDLE EL**. Division-winner Cincinnati is coming off its best season (11-5) in 18 years (12-4, 1988).

The weekend concludes with the Raiders at the Minnesota Vikings in the debut of *Monday Night Football* on ESPN at 8:00 PM ET. Calling the game will be **MIKE TIRICO**, **JOE THEISMANN** and **TONY KORNHEISER**. Making their first appearance for the Vikings will be new head coach **BRAD CHILDRESS** and Pro Bowl guard **STEVE HUTCHINSON**. The second-leading receiver in Vikings history, the Raiders' **RANDY MOSS**, will make his debut against his former team.

The next two weeks feature five games apiece.

On Thursday night, August 17, the Kansas City Chiefs – under new head coach **HERM EDWARDS** -- will visit the New York Giants on FOX at 8:00 PM ET. It will be a return to Giants Stadium for Edwards, who led the New York Jets from 2001-05. The Giants were NFC East Division champions in 2005.

The new starting quarterback of the San Diego Chargers will continue his preseason preparation on Friday night (CBS, 8:00 PM ET) when **PHILIP RIVERS** and teammates travel to the Chicago Bears, the NFC North champs of last year.

On Saturday, the NFL's second new national-TV partner, NFL Network -- which this year will carry regular-season games for the first time (eight Thursday and/or Saturday nights) -- will cover (8:00 PM ET) the Patriots hosting the Arizona Cardinals and a player they know well -- new Cardinals running back **EDGERRIN JAMES**. New England faced James in the old AFC Eastern Division and in 2003-04 playoff games as he became Indianapolis' all-time rushing yards (9,226) and rush-TD (64) leader. "It's a great situation," said James upon signing with the Cardinals, who will open their new 63,000-seat stadium this year. "I'm not scared to try something different."

The next night, on NBC (8:00 PM ET), the NFC Champion Seattle Seahawks, with the conference's best record (13-3) last season, will take on the Colts, who had the best mark in the AFC (14-2), in Indianapolis.

On Monday night, the New Orleans Saints will return to Louisiana when they face the Dallas Cowboys in Shreveport, Louisiana (ESPN, 8:00 PM ET). The Saints, under new head coach **SEAN PAYTON**, have high expectations for 2006 with the addition of quarterback **DREW BREES**, who hopes to have his injured shoulder ready by Kickoff 2006. The Cowboys have added a big-time receiver in **TERRELL OWENS**.

"We have always valued the support we receive in Shreveport and wanted to put this game in the national spotlight for the people of Louisiana," says Saints owner **TOM BENSON**.

The national TV schedule concludes the next weekend. On Thursday, August 24, the Miami Dolphins -- who have acquired quarterback **DAUNTE CULPEPPER** -- visit the NFC Championship runner up Carolina Panthers on FOX at 8:00 PM ET.

On Friday, it will be a "Keystone State Special" when the Super Bowl XL champion Pittsburgh Steelers travel east to visit the Philadelphia Eagles on ESPN (8:00 PM ET).

The next night features a Florida matchup of two of the NFL's best young quarterbacks as the Tampa Bay Buccaneers' **CHRIS SIMMS** takes on the Jaguars' **BYRON LEFTWICH** in Jacksonville on CBS at 8:00 PM ET.

On Sunday, the second NFL Network game of the preseason (8:00 PM ET) will feature the return of new Houston Texans head coach **GARY KUBIAK** to Denver. As offensive coordinator of the Broncos from 1995-05, Kubiak helped lead the team to seven postseason trips and two Super Bowl titles.

The national TV schedule concludes on Monday night (ESPN, 8:00 PM ET) when the Green Bay Packers, under new head coach **MIKE MC CARTHY**, travel to Cincinnati to face the Bengals.

## **2006 NFL PRESEASON NATIONAL TELEVISION SCHEDULE**

(All times Eastern)

<b>DATE</b>	<b>GAME</b>	<b>NETWORK (TIME)</b>
Sunday, August 6	Pro Football Hall of Fame Game, Canton, OH: Oakland vs. Philadelphia	NBC (8:00 PM)
<b>Preseason Week 1 (August 10-14)</b>		
Thursday, August 10	Indianapolis at St. Louis	FOX (8:00 PM)
Friday, August 11	New England at Atlanta	CBS (8:00 PM)
Sunday, August 13	Washington at Cincinnati	NBC (8:00 PM)
Monday, August 14	Oakland at Minnesota	ESPN (8:00 PM)
<b>Preseason Week 2 (August 17-21)</b>		
Thursday, August 17	Kansas City at New York Giants	FOX (8:00 PM)
Friday, August 18	San Diego at Chicago	CBS (8:00 PM)
Saturday, August 19	Arizona at New England	NFLN (8:00 PM)
Sunday, August 20	Seattle at Indianapolis	NBC (8:00 PM)
Monday, August 21	Dallas at New Orleans, Shreveport, LA	ESPN (8:00 PM)

<b>Preseason Week 3 (August 24-28)</b>		
Thursday, August 24	Miami at Carolina	FOX (8:00 PM)
Friday, August 25	Pittsburgh at Philadelphia	ESPN (8:00 PM)
Saturday, August 26	Tampa Bay at Jacksonville	CBS (8:00 PM)
Sunday, August 27	Houston at Denver	NFLN (8:00 PM)
Monday, August 28	Green Bay at Cincinnati	ESPN (8:00 PM)

## **2006 PRESEASON WEEK-BY-WEEK SCHEDULE**

### **HALL OF FAME GAME – AUGUST 6**

Oakland vs. Philadelphia (NBC)

### **WEEK 1 – AUGUST 10 – 14**

Indianapolis at St. Louis (FOX, 8/10)  
 New England at Atlanta (CBS, 8/11)  
 Washington at Cincinnati (NBC, 8/13)  
 Oakland at Minnesota (ESPN, 8/14)  
 Buffalo at Carolina  
 Chicago at San Francisco  
 Cleveland at Philadelphia  
 Dallas at Seattle  
 Denver at Detroit  
 Green Bay at San Diego  
 Jacksonville at Miami  
 Kansas City at Houston  
 New Orleans at Tennessee  
 New York Giants at Baltimore  
 New York Jets at Tampa Bay  
 Pittsburgh at Arizona

### **WEEK 2 – AUGUST 17-21**

Kansas City at New York Giants (FOX, 8/17)  
 San Diego at Chicago (CBS, 8/18)  
 Arizona at New England (NFLN, 8/19)  
 Seattle at Indianapolis (NBC, 8/20)  
 Dallas at New Orleans, Shreveport, LA (ESPN, 8/21)  
 Atlanta at Green Bay  
 Carolina at Jacksonville  
 Cincinnati at Buffalo  
 Detroit at Cleveland  
 Houston at St. Louis  
 Miami at Tampa Bay  
 Minnesota at Pittsburgh  
 New York Jets at Washington  
 Philadelphia at Baltimore  
 San Francisco at Oakland  
 Tennessee at Denver

### **WEEK 3 – AUGUST 24-28**

Miami at Carolina (FOX, 8/24)  
 Pittsburgh at Philadelphia (ESPN, 8/25)  
 Tampa Bay at Jacksonville (CBS, 8/26)  
 Houston at Denver (NFLN, 8/27)  
 Green Bay at Cincinnati (ESPN, 8/28)  
 Arizona at Chicago  
 Atlanta at Tennessee  
 Baltimore at Minnesota  
 Cleveland at Buffalo  
 Detroit at Oakland  
 Indianapolis at New Orleans, Jackson, MS  
 New York Giants at New York Jets  
 San Francisco at Dallas  
 Seattle at San Diego  
 St. Louis at Kansas City  
 Washington at New England

### **WEEK 4 – AUGUST 31-SEPTEMBER 2**

Baltimore at Washington  
 Buffalo at Detroit  
 Carolina at Pittsburgh  
 Chicago at Cleveland  
 Cincinnati at Indianapolis  
 Denver at Arizona  
 Jacksonville at Atlanta  
 Minnesota at Dallas  
 New England at New York Giants  
 New Orleans at Kansas City  
 Oakland at Seattle  
 Philadelphia at New York Jets  
 San Diego at San Francisco  
 St. Louis at Miami  
 Tampa Bay at Houston  
 Tennessee at Green Bay

## 2006 PRESEASON TEAM-BY-TEAM SCHEDULE

### AFC

#### Buffalo

at Carolina  
Cincinnati  
Cleveland  
at Detroit

#### Baltimore

NY Giants  
Philadelphia  
at Minnesota  
at Washington

#### Houston

Kansas City  
at St. Louis  
at Denver (NFLN)  
Tampa Bay

#### Denver

at Detroit  
Tennessee  
Houston (NFLN)  
at Arizona

#### Miami

Jacksonville  
at Tampa Bay  
at Carolina (FOX)  
St. Louis

#### Cincinnati

Washington (NBC)  
at Buffalo  
Green Bay (ESPN)  
at Indianapolis

#### Indianapolis

at St. Louis (FOX)  
Seattle (NBC)  
at New Orleans \*\*  
Cincinnati

#### Kansas City

at Houston  
at NY Giants (FOX)  
St. Louis  
New Orleans

#### New England

at Atlanta (CBS)  
Arizona (NFLN)  
Washington  
at NY Giants

#### Cleveland

at Philadelphia  
Detroit  
at Buffalo  
Chicago

#### Jacksonville

at Miami  
Carolina  
Tampa Bay (CBS)  
at Atlanta

#### Oakland

vs Philadelphia (HOF)  
at Minnesota (ESPN)  
San Francisco  
Detroit  
at Seattle

#### NY Jets

at Tampa Bay  
at Washington  
NY Giants  
Philadelphia

#### Pittsburgh

at Arizona  
Minnesota  
at Philadelphia (ESPN)  
Carolina

#### Tennessee

New Orleans  
at Denver  
Atlanta  
at Green Bay

#### San Diego

Green Bay  
at Chicago (CBS)  
Seattle  
at San Francisco

### NFC

#### Dallas

at Seattle  
at New Orleans (ESPN) \*  
San Francisco  
Minnesota

#### Chicago

at San Francisco  
San Diego (CBS)  
Arizona  
at Cleveland

#### Atlanta

New England (CBS)  
at Green Bay  
at Tennessee  
Jacksonville

#### Arizona

Pittsburgh  
at New England (NFLN)  
at Chicago  
Denver

#### NY Giants

at Baltimore  
Kansas City (FOX)  
at NY Jets  
New England

#### Detroit

Denver  
at Cleveland  
at Oakland  
Buffalo

#### Carolina

Buffalo  
at Jacksonville  
Miami (FOX)  
at Pittsburgh

#### St. Louis

Indianapolis (FOX)  
Houston  
at Kansas City  
at Miami

#### Philadelphia

vs Oakland (HOF)  
Cleveland  
at Baltimore  
Pittsburgh (ESPN)  
at NY Jets

#### Green Bay

at San Diego  
Atlanta  
at Cincinnati (ESPN)  
Tennessee

#### New Orleans

at Tennessee  
Dallas (ESPN) \*  
Indianapolis \*\*  
at Kansas City

#### San Francisco

Chicago  
at Oakland  
at Dallas  
San Diego

#### Washington

at Cincinnati (NBC)  
NY Jets  
at New England  
Baltimore

#### Minnesota

Oakland (ESPN)  
at Pittsburgh  
Baltimore  
at Dallas

#### Tampa Bay

NY Jets  
Miami  
at Jacksonville (CBS)  
at Houston

#### Seattle

Dallas  
at Indianapolis (NBC)  
at San Diego  
Oakland

\* At Shreveport, Louisiana

\*\* At Jackson, Mississippi