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THANKSGIVING SERVES UP CLASSIC GAMES; NFL NETWORK JOINS THE TRADITION

Thanksgiving is a great day for family, food and football.

And NFL fans now will have more football than ever to enjoy next Thursday.

NFL Network will televise its first-ever regular season game, a Thanksgiving night matchup between the AFC West Denver Broncos and Kansas City Chiefs at 8:00 PM ET. It will be the first of eight Thursday and Saturday primetime games on NFL Network, from Thanksgiving through the final week of the season.

The Broncos-Chiefs game will be part of the first NFL Thanksgiving tripleheader in the modern era.

At 12:30 PM ET on CBS, the Miami Dolphins will visit the Detroit Lions. It will be the Lions' 67th Thanksgiving game in their history. At 4:15 PM ET on FOX, the Dallas Cowboys will play their 39th Thanksgiving game when they host the Tampa Bay Buccaneers.

Some of the most memorable NFL games in history have been played on Thanksgiving Day – the “Clint Longley” game...the Cowboys-Dolphins’ “snow” game...Barry Sanders running for 167 yards and three touchdowns...and many others.

Following are some of the NFL's most memorable games and moments on Thanksgiving Day:

DATE	TEAMS	SUMMARY
11/25/20	Canton Bulldogs 0 at Akron Pros 7	In the first professional football game played on Thanksgiving Day, Fritz Pollard, the first African-American quarterback in the NFL, led Akron to a 7-0 victory over Jim Thorpe and the Canton Bulldogs. The game marked the start of the Thanksgiving tradition of pro football in America.
11/26/25	Chicago Cardinals 0 at Chicago Bears 0	Harold “Red” Grange, in his first professional season, led the Bears to a scoreless tie against the Cardinals at Wrigley Field. The game attracted 36,000 fans, the largest crowd in pro football history at the time.
11/28/29	Chicago Cardinals 40 at Chicago Bears 6	The Cardinals defeated the crosstown-rival Bears behind six rushing touchdowns by Ernie Nevers, a still-standing NFL single-game record. Nevers accounted for all 40 of the Cardinals’ points, converting four of six points-after-touchdown.
11/29/34	Chicago Bears 19 at Detroit Lions 16	In the first NFL game to be broadcast nationally (on NBC radio), the Chicago Bears defeated the Detroit Lions, 19-16. The game marked the beginning of the NFL's Thanksgiving tradition in Detroit
11/22/62	Green Bay Packers 14 at Detroit Lions 26	Before 57,598 fans at Tiger Stadium and a national television audience, the Lions sacked Packers quarterback Bart Starr 11 times for 110 yards in losses. It was the Packers’ only loss of the year.

11/28/74	Washington Redskins 23 at Dallas Cowboys 24	Trailing Washington 16-3 in the third quarter, Dallas rookie quarterback Clint Longley replaced an injured Roger Staubach and lifted the Cowboys to victory with a 50-yard touchdown pass to Drew Pearson with 0:28 remaining.
11/25/76	Buffalo Bills 14 at Detroit Lions 27	Buffalo's O.J. Simpson runs for a Thanksgiving Day-record 273 yards (most in NFL history at the time) in a losing effort.
11/27/80	Chicago Bears 23 at Detroit Lions 17 (OT)	Chicago kick returner Dave Williams returned the overtime kickoff for a touchdown, completing a Bears comeback from a 17-3 deficit. Williams' return is one of only two overtime kickoff returns for touchdowns in history.
11/22/90	Washington Redskins 17 at Dallas Cowboys 27	Rookie running back Emmitt Smith carried 23 times for 132 yards, including two second-half touchdown runs, as the Cowboys score the final 17 points in the game to defeat the Redskins.
11/25/93	Miami Dolphins 16 at Dallas Cowboys 14	On a snowy Thanksgiving in Dallas, the Cowboys' Jimmie Jones blocked Miami's game-winning field-goal attempt with 0:15 remaining. With the game seemingly over, Dallas' Leon Lett revived the dead ball, sliding into it at the Cowboys' seven-yard line. Miami recovered the ball at the Dallas one with :03 left -- enough time for Pete Stoyanovich to kick a game-winning 20-yard field goal.
11/27/97	Chicago Bears 20 at Detroit Lions 55	Lions running back Barry Sanders ran for 167 yards and three touchdowns. In the process, Sanders passed Eric Dickerson for second on the all-time rushing list.
11/26/98	Minnesota Vikings 46 at Dallas Cowboys 36	Minnesota's rookie wide receiver Randy Moss caught only three passes against the Cowboys, but all were touchdowns as he finished the day with 163 receiving yards.
11/28/02	Washington Redskins 20 at Dallas Cowboys 27	Down 20-10, the Cowboys came back to post their 10th consecutive victory over the archrival Redskins. Dallas running back Emmitt Smith ran for 144 yards, becoming the only player in history to eclipse the 17,000 career rushing-yards mark.
11/24/05	Denver Broncos 24 at Dallas Cowboys 21 (OT)	Broncos running back Ron Dayne rushed for a 16-yard touchdown in the third quarter and his 55-yard scamper set up Jason Elam's game-winning 24-yard field goal in overtime.

Following are some of the greatest single-game individual performances in NFL Thanksgiving Day history:

RECORD	TOTAL	PLAYER	TEAMS	YEAR
Most TDs	6	Ernie Nevers, Chi. Card.	Chicago Cardinals 40, Chicago Bears 6	1929
Most Yards Rushing	273	O.J. Simpson, Buffalo	Detroit Lions 27, Buffalo Bills 14	1976
Most Yards Passing	455	Troy Aikman, Dallas	Minnesota Vikings 46, Dallas Cowboys 36	1998
Most Yards Receiving	303	Jim Benton, Cleveland	Cleveland Rams 28, Detroit Lions 21	1945
Most Interceptions	4	Bobby Dillon, Green Bay	Detroit Lions 34, Green Bay Packers 15	1953