

PLAYERS' FAVORITE STADIUMS

Everybody likes to play at home. But if you've <u>got</u> to play on the road – and teams do eight times a year! – it's nice to go to someplace you like.

Chicago Bears quarterback **REX GROSSMAN**, for instance, loves playing at Green Bay's Lambeau Field, where the Packers this year will celebrate the stadium's 50th anniversary. "I like to play at Lambeau because of its history and tradition," says Grossman.

Every NFL player seems to have a favorite road stadium, for a lot of different reasons. Here's what a number of them say about their favorite away venues:

Player	Favorite Away Stadium
JOŠEPH ADDAI,	"I haven't been in the league as long as others, but I'll have to admit to Baltimore being the
Indianapolis	stadium I liked playing in. There was something about playing there that gave everyone a
-	charge I've never seen before. It was electric."
NICK BARNETT, Green	"Besides Lambeau Field, I like San Diego because it's closest to my home and I get to play in
Bay	front of friends and family."
KELLY GREGG,	"Cleveland is a great place to play. I like it there because the fans are nasty and they get
Baltimore	cranked up when we come to town. I really like the Dog Pound."
MIKE GOFF, San Diego	"Baltimore has an awesome stadium. I love the way it's set up. I think it's an exciting
	atmosphere and the closest thing to a college atmosphere anywhere in the league. They've got
	a marching band and it's just an awesome environment for a football game."
DONOVAN MC NABB,	"FedEx Field in Washington because we have so much success playing there."
Philadelphia	
BRANDON MOORE , San	"I like playing in Philadelphia. The fans are great, the stadium is nice. The field has a great
Francisco	surface. The locker rooms are top notch."
WILLIE PARKER,	"Cleveland, Cincinnati and Baltimore because the grass is nice and the fans hate the Steelers."
Pittsburgh	
CHRIS SIMMS, Tampa	"I'm always going to say New York because I am from there."
Bay	
ALEX SMITH, San	"Arizona is a great place to play and luckily we get to play there once a year."
Francisco	
FRED TAYLOR,	"I love playing at Giants Stadium in the Meadowlands. It's a large and a very different fan base.
Jacksonville	You know about the history of the Jets and Giants and the games that have been played there."

"OH, I DO THIS BEFORE EVERY GAME"

To those who don't know about his pre-game superstitions, Jacksonville Jaguars quarterback **BYRON LEFTWICH**'s behavior may seem a little strange.

Leftwich does not let anything touch the palm of his right hand on game day except for a football. He balls it up when going out for starting lineups so no player can touch it – he doesn't even wash his face with his right hand on game day!

Steelers tackle **MAX STARKS** commented that every athlete has their own superstitions, but rarely talks about them. Although Starks would confess to always finding time to enjoy some Shark Bites Fruit Snacks before every game. He may be one of the few to admit it, but he's certainly not alone in the league.

Here are some other unique NFL superstitions:

PLAYER, TEAM	SUPERSTITION
WR Plaxico Burress, NY Giants	Eats grilled salmon and white rice every Saturday night before a game.
RB Ahman Green, Houston	Watches the film "Pure Payton" on the eve of every game.
S Brian Dawkins, Philadelphia	Applies a Breathe Right Strip colored midnight green on the right half and silver on the left
	half right before every game.
QB Rex Grossman, Chicago	Takes a shower after warming up on the field prior to a game.
C Nick Hardwick, San Diego	Always cracks jokes to lighten up the mood in the Chargers locker room before games.
DE John Henderson, Jacksonville	Gets slapped before each game by assistant trainer Joe Sheehan.