

NFL GameDay

WEEK 17

DALLAS COWBOYS @ NY GIANTS

THE GIANTS GOT AN EARLY LEG UP IN THE NFC EAST CHAMPIONSHIP GAME.

DANGER, ALERT, SOS... THAT ABOUT SUMMED IT UP FOR THE COWBOYS DEFENSE.

ONE WEEK AFTER SEVERELY BRUISING HIS THROWING HAND, TONY ROMO BRUISED PRETTY MUCH EVERYTHING ELSE.

THE GIANTS SACKED ROMO SIX TIMES.

THE COWBOYS WERE HOLDING ON FOR DEAR LIFE, BUT QUICKLY LOSING THEIR GRASP.

A PAIR OF AHMAD BRADSHAW TOUCHDOWNS HELPED GIVE THE GIANTS A 21-0 LEAD.

WITH ONE HALF LEFT TO SAVE THEIR SEASON, THE COWBOYS RALLIED.

ROMO TWICE CONNECTED WITH LAURENT ROBINSON, CUTTING THE LEAD TO SEVEN EARLY IN THE FOURTH QUARTER.

THE COWBOYS HAD A PRAYER. BUT WHAT THEY NEEDED WAS A STOP.

EVERY TIME ELI MANNING HAD NOWHERE TO TURN IN 2011, HE FOUND VICTOR CRUZ. THE 44-YARD CATCH IGNITED BIG BLUE'S FINAL PUSH TO THE PLAYOFFS.

KANSAS CITY @ DENVER BRONCOS

YOU DON'T HAVE TO PLAY LIKE A PHENOM TO BE A PHENOMENON.

TEBOWMANIA SHOWS NO SIGNS OF GOING AWAY, BUT DESPITE THEIR 6 AND 9 RECORD, NEITHER DID THE CHIEFS.

ONE TOUCHDOWN WAS ENOUGH AS TIM TEBOW MANAGED JUST 60 YARDS PASSING AND 16 RUNNING.

BALTIMORE RAVENS @ CINCINNATI BENGALS

BALTIMORE'S ROAD TO THE AFC'S NUMBER TWO SEED WENT THROUGH THE CINCINNATI BENGALS -- AND, SO DID RAY RICE.

THE RAVENS BUILT A 17-3 HALFTIME LEAD, TAKING NO *PITTA* ON CINCINNATI.

THE BENGALS OFFENSE FINALLY FOUND ITS STRIDE IN THE SECOND HALF.

RAY RICE FINISHED WITH 191 YARDS, AND A FRANCHISE RECORD FIFTEENTH TOUCHDOWN FOR THE YEAR.

SAN DIEGO CHARGERS @ OAKLAND RAIDERS

IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME SINCE THE RAIDERS PLAYED IN A GAME THAT MATTERED.

THE SILVER AND BLACK BLUDGEONED PHILIP RIVERS BLACK AND BLUE.

THE BLACK HOLE PROVED TO BE ONE GIANT HOLE. AND RICHARD GOODMAN WENT THROUGH A GAPING ONE EN ROUTE TO THE LONGEST KICKOFF RETURN IN CHARGERS HISTORY.

THIS YEAR, THE RAIDERS RACKED UP MORE THAN 1300 PENALTY YARDS // AN NFL RECORD.

RIVERS MAY TALK THE TALK. BUT HE WALKS THE WALK.

OAKLAND MANAGED TO PULL WITHIN FIVE.

THE RAIDERS HAD THE ENERGY. THEY HAD THE CROWD. THEY HAD THE MOMENTUM.

WHAT THEY DID NOT HAVE WAS THE DEFENSE.

AND SAN DIEGO WENT THE LENGTH OF THE FIELD IN 4 PLAYS.

CAROLINA PANTHERS @ NEW ORLEANS SAINTS

THE SAINTS OFFENSE CULMINATED ITS REGULAR SEASON IN HISTORIC FASHION. THEY SET THE FRANCHISE MARK FOR MOST YARDS IN A GAME WITH 617 AND BROKE THE 2000 RAMS RECORD FOR MOST YARDS IN A SEASON.

IN THE FIRST HALF, THE PANTHERS WERE ABLE TO KEEP PACE.

THEY MATCHED NOT JUST SCORES, BUT TAKEAWAYS TOO.

WITH 7 SECONDS LEFT IN THE HALF AND THE GAME TIED, A BREES BOMB SET OFF ANOTHER ROUND OF RECORD-BREAKING EXPLOSIONS.

KELLEN WINSLOW'S SINGLE-SEASON RECORD FOR MOST RECEIVING YARDS BY A TIGHT END WAS WITHIN THE REACH OF JIMMY GRAHAM.

NEXT, DARREN SPROLES ZEROED IN ON DERRICK MASON'S SINGLE-SEASON MARK FOR ALL-PURPOSE YARDS.

GRAHAM'S RECORD WOULD NOT LAST. HE WAS PASSED BY THE PATRIOTS ROB GRONKOWSKI. THE SAINTS TALLEST PLAYER MAY HAVE COME UP SHORT, BUT THEIR SHORTEST, MADE IT TO THE TOP.

PITTSBURGH STEELERS @ CLEVELAND BROWNS

D'QWELL JACKSON IS A TACKLING MACHINE, LEADING THE BROWNS AND THE AFC WITH THE MOST TACKLES THIS SEASON.

DETROIT LIONS @ GREEN BAY PACKERS

AHHHH, WINTER IN THE NFC NORTH. TIME TO BUNDLE UP, AND HUNKER DOWN WITH THE RUNNING GAME!

OR, BASK IN THE WARMTH OF A HOT QUARTERBACK.

MATTHEW STAFFORD THREW FOR 520 YARDS AND FIVE TOUCHDOWNS.

#10 ONE-UPPED HIM. MATT FLYNN MADE HIS FIRST START OF THE SEASON AND OUT-SCORED STAFFORD.

NY JETS @ MIAMI DOLPHINS

WEEK 17 WAS A TIME FOR EMOTIONAL GOODBYES. THE DOLPHINS SAID FAREWELL TO JASON TAYLOR.... AND THE JETS BID THEIR PLAYOFF HOPES, "ADIEU."

FOR NEW YORK, ONE TRIP TO THE RED ZONE RESULTED IN HEROICS. THE OTHER, HEARTBREAK.

TENNESSEE TITANS @ HOUSTON TEXANS

(NO NARRATION.)

TAMPA BAY BUCCANEERS @ ATLANTA FALCONS

SOMETIMES, YOU PLUNDER.... SOMETIMES, YOU GET PLUNDERED.

THESE PIRATES WERE VICTIMS OF THE PILLAGING FALCONS. THREE FIRST-HALF TURNOVERS HELPED OPEN A 42 POINT LEAD.

ATLANTA OUTGAINED TAMPA BAY BY 216 YARDS ON THE GROUND.

AND JULIO JONES CAUGHT TWO TOUCHDOWN PASSES, 26 SECONDS APART.

THE BUCS ENDED THE SEASON WITH TEN STRAIGHT LOSSES. ON MONDAY, THE TEAM FIRED HEAD COACH RAHEEM MORRIS.

INDIANAPOLIS COLTS @ JACKSONVILLE JAGUARS

HOW MUCH OF A PAIN IN THE NECK HAS NOT HAVING PEYTON MANNING BEEN FOR THE COLTS THIS SEASON?WELL, YUP.

MAURICE JONES-DREW ENDED THE YEAR AS THE NFL LEADING RUSHER WITH 16 HUNDRED AND SIX YARDS -- BREAKING FRED TAYLOR'S TEAM RECORD IN THE PROCESS.

THE WHIP

WHIP

SLAPPING THE BALL AROUND IS NO WAY TO GET IT TO BE YOUR FRIEND -- AS THE BEARS AND VIKINGS FOUND OUT.

YOU WANT A MISCELLANEOUS TOUCHDOWN -- THEN WALK THIS WAY. NO. THIS WAY.

PROBABLY THE SAME WAY THE CARDINALS MANAGED AN NFL-RECORD 4 OVERTIME VICTORIES THIS SEASON -- BY FEEL...EY

MORE RECORDS, ROB GRONKOWSKI WOKE UP THE NFL WITH 17 TOUCHDOWN RECEPTIONS -- PUTTING TO BED ANTONIO GATES AND VERNON DAVIS' PREVIOUS MARK OF 13. BUT A TEAM, NOT A PLAYER, WAS THE NFL'S TRUE SLEEPER.

DESPITE NOT HAVING A 300-YARD PASSING GAME ALL YEAR, ALEX SMITH HELPED SAN FRANCISCO SNAP OUT OF A DECADE-LONG SLUMBER WITH A ROUSING 13-WIN SEASON.

THANKS 49ERS, FOR TURNING THE WHIP'S WORLD UPSIDE DOWN.