



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

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

FOR USE AS DESIRED
NFL-PRE-4 8/30/05

PLAYERS VALUE PRESEASON

"Every game is a regular-season game -- anywhere, anyplace, any time," said New England Patriots cornerback **ASANTE SAMUEL** after his team's 27-3 win over Green Bay last Friday night. "It doesn't matter who, when, where, why, what."

PRESEASON CONCLUDES WITH TWO NATIONAL TV GAMES & FINAL ROSTER CUTS

It's a final tune-up or a final chance.

Every NFL player this week falls into one of those categories in the final week of the preseason. Some knew they were on the team when minicamps began in April. Others have been fighting for a roster spot and will continue to do so until the final roster cutdown to 53 players takes place this Saturday at 6:00 PM ET.

"It's a tremendous evaluation period for some of these players who are in a fight for a job on the roster," says Philadelphia Eagles assistant head coach **MARTY MORNHINWEG**.

NFL Network fans will be able to see these battles in two nationally televised games and 13 "look-in" games on the network. The "look-in" games allow fans to see developing action around the league.

The 13 "look-in" games on NFL Network this week:

Thursday, Sept. 1 at 7:30 PM ET – 9 games. Time on air, 2 ½ hours:

Atlanta at Miami	Houston at Tampa Bay	NY Jets at Philadelphia
Washington at Baltimore	Cleveland at Chicago	Green Bay at Tennessee
Jacksonville at Dallas	NY Giants at New England	Pittsburgh at Carolina

Friday, Sept. 2 at 7:30 PM ET – 4 games. Time on air, 2 ½ hours:

Detroit at Buffalo	Indianapolis at Cincinnati	Kansas City at St. Louis
Minnesota at Seattle		

In NFL Network "look-in" games last week, fans saw veterans, players vying for starting jobs, and rookies excel: New England **QB TOM BRADY** led the Patriots on five scoring drives and **RB COREY DILLON** rushed for two touchdownsWashington **QB PATRICK RAMSEY** conducted a 10-play, 55-yard drive – completing five straight passes at one point – leading to the winning TD pass.....Philadelphia **QB DONOVAN MC NABB** and **WR TERRELL OWENS** hooked up for a 64-yard TD pass on the first play of the game ("Business as usual," said McNabb).....Kansas City **RB LARRY JOHNSON**, looking for more playing time behind **PRIEST HOLMES**, broke a 97-yard scoring run.....and Dallas rookie **DE DEMARCUS WARE** continued an impressive preseason with 1.5 sacks against Houston.

The national TV games on NFL Network this week:

SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS at SAN DIEGO CHARGERS (Thursday, NFL Network, 10:00 PM ET)

STORYLINE: Smith and Sproles – impressive rookies will both see action.

49ers **QB ALEX SMITH** – the No. 1 overall NFL draft choice this year – did not win the starting job in camp. **TIM RATTAY** did. But that did not stop Smith from leading the winning 80-yard drive last week against Tennessee. He will see more action Thursday night.

Chargers rookie **RB-KR DARREN SPROLES** leads the team in preseason catches (10) and almost broke a kickoff return for a TD last week. "I fully expect we'll find a way to get him the ball, and not only in the kicking game," says San Diego head coach **MARTY SCHOTTENHEIMER**.

STORYLINE: *Battle of the lone preseason undefeated teams (3-0).*

Two years ago, two undefeated preseason teams (Carolina and New England, both 4-0) met in Super Bowl XXXVIII.

Both starting quarterbacks have been hot this summer. Denver's **JAKE PLUMMER** leads the AFC in preseason passer rating (123.6) and comes off a 10-for-16, 150-yard, 1-TD performance against Indianapolis. New Cardinal **KURT WARNER** has been airing it out as in his old St. Louis days, leading the NFC in attempts (60), and had a Plummer-like performance last Friday (11-for-18, 118 yards, 1 TD).

###

LAST WEEK'S NFL RESULTS

Home team in CAPS

Thursday, August 25

Atlanta 23, JACKSONVILLE 7

Friday, August 26

WASHINGTON 17, Pittsburgh 10

PHILADELPHIA 27, Cincinnati 17

Baltimore 21, NEW ORLEANS 6

CHICAGO 16, Buffalo 12

Carolina 23, CLEVELAND 20

New England 27, GREEN BAY 3

N.Y. GIANTS 15, N.Y. Jets 14

MINNESOTA 19, San Diego 16

Friday, August 26 Cont'd.

Arizona 17, OAKLAND 16

SAN FRANCISCO 16, Tennessee 13 (OT)

Saturday, August 27

DENVER 37, Indianapolis 24

MIAMI 17, Tampa Bay 14

DALLAS 21, Houston 9

Seattle 23, KANSAS CITY 17

Monday, August 29

St. Louis 37, DETROIT 13

<u>AMERICAN FOOTBALL CONFERENCE</u>							<u>NATIONAL FOOTBALL CONFERENCE</u>						
<u>East Division</u>							<u>East Division</u>						
	W	L	T	Pct.	Pts.	OP		W	L	T	Pct.	Pts.	OP
Buffalo	2	1	0	.667	56	33	Dallas	2	1	0	.667	50	32
New England	2	1	0	.667	77	53	N.Y. Giants	2	1	0	.667	56	52
N.Y. Jets	2	1	0	.667	52	39	Philadelphia	2	1	0	.667	78	69
Miami	1	3	0	.250	61	85	Washington	1	2	0	.333	44	62
<u>North Division</u>							<u>North Division</u>						
	W	L	T	Pct.	Pts.	OP		W	L	T	Pct.	Pts.	OP
Cleveland	2	1	0	.667	58	50	Chicago	3	1	0	.750	80	70
Pittsburgh	2	1	0	.667	65	51	Minnesota	2	1	0	.667	67	60
Baltimore	1	2	0	.333	38	42	Green Bay	1	2	0	.333	20	61
Cincinnati	1	2	0	.333	54	67	Detroit	0	3	0	.000	29	68
<u>South Division</u>							<u>South Division</u>						
	W	L	T	Pct.	Pts.	OP		W	L	T	Pct.	Pts.	OP
Jacksonville	2	1	0	.667	54	57	Atlanta	3	1	0	.750	87	55
Houston	1	2	0	.333	42	58	Carolina	2	1	0	.667	72	57
Tennessee	1	2	0	.333	54	57	New Orleans	1	2	0	.333	58	82
Indianapolis	0	4	0	.000	72	105	Tampa Bay	1	2	0	.333	51	54
<u>West Division</u>							<u>West Division</u>						
	W	L	T	Pct.	Pts.	OP		W	L	T	Pct.	Pts.	OP
Denver	3	0	0	1.000	83	59	Arizona	3	0	0	1.000	54	44
San Diego	1	2	0	.333	59	50	St. Louis	2	1	0	.667	75	62
Kansas City	0	3	0	.000	50	74	San Francisco	2	1	0	.667	58	52
Oakland	0	3	0	.000	46	57	Seattle	2	1	0	.667	67	50

THIS WEEK'S NFL SCHEDULE (SEPTEMBER 1-2)

(All times local)

Thursday, September 1

Atlanta at Miami, 7:30

Houston at Tampa Bay, 7:30

N.Y. Jets at Philadelphia, 7:30

Cleveland at Chicago, 7:00

Green Bay at Tennessee, 7:00

Jacksonville at Dallas, 7:00

N.Y. Giants at New England, 8:00

Pittsburgh at Carolina, 8:00

Washington at Baltimore, 8:00

New Orleans at Oakland, 6:00

San Francisco at San Diego, 7:00 (NFL Network)

Friday, September 2

Detroit at Buffalo, 7:00

Indianapolis at Cincinnati, 7:30

Kansas City at St. Louis, 7:00

Minnesota at Seattle, 6:00

Denver at Arizona, 7:00 (NFL Network)

