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SIX CLUBS – TRYING TO MAKE IT A HAPPY NEW YEAR – SEEK FINAL FOUR PLAYOFF SPOTS AS NFL CONCLUDES SEASON; TWO SATURDAY TV GAMES KICK OFF SCHEDULE

It will be “Happy New Year!”...or wait till next year.

That is the forecast for six NFL teams this week as the 2005 regular season concludes with eight playoff spots accounted for and four still up for grabs.

“It all comes down to this week,” says cornerback **KEN LUCAS** of the Carolina Panthers, one of the “grabbing” clubs.

After offseason minicamps...two-a-days at training camps...and 16 grueling, unpredictable weeks of the season, it comes down to this Saturday and Sunday. How the playoff picture stacks up:

THE PLAYOFF LANDSCAPE *

CATEGORY	TEAMS
Homefield Won	Indianapolis, Seattle
First-round Bye Won	Chicago, Denver
Division Title Won	Cincinnati, New England
Playoff Berth Won	Jacksonville, New York Giants
Division Can Be Won With Win/Tie	New York Giants, Tampa Bay
Division Can Be Won With Win & Help	Carolina, Washington
Playoff Berth Can Be Won With Win/Tie	Carolina, Pittsburgh, Tampa Bay, Washington
Playoff Berth Can Be Won With Win & Help	Dallas, Kansas City

* Other scenarios exist.

No matter how it all turns out, the 2005 NFL playoff field will be an impressive one indeed:

- All 12 teams could have at least 10 wins apiece – the third time this has happened (2000, 2003) since the NFL went to the 12-team playoff system in 1990. Looked at in another way, there could be three teams with 10 wins who do not make the playoffs – equaling the entire total of such teams since 1990 (Philadelphia and San Francisco in 1991; Miami in 2003).
- For the second time in the past three season (2003), the NFL could boast six 12-win teams -- the most in a season in history.
- Of the 14 clubs either in the playoffs or seeking playoff berths, nine did not make the postseason last year.
- For the fourth time since 2000, two teams – Chicago and Tampa Bay – can go from “worst to first” in their divisions, finishing last a year ago and first in 2005.

It starts with two nationally televised games on Saturday, followed by 14 games on New Year’s Day – the first regular-season games in NFL history to be played on January 1:

NFL FACTOID

FELLOWSHIP GRADS LEWIS & SMITH DIVISION WINNERS: Two head-coach graduates of the NFL Minority Coaching Fellowship Program which began in 1987 and annually provides NFL training-camp positions to minority coaches, have won division titles this year – Cincinnati’s **MARVIN LEWIS** (interned with San Francisco in 1988 and Kansas City in 1991) and Chicago’s **LOVIE SMITH** (Arizona, 1988). In 2001, the New York Jets’ **HERMAN EDWARDS** became the first graduate of the program (Kansas City, 1989) to be hired as a head coach in the NFL.

- **4:30 PM ET (CBS): DENVER BRONCOS (12-3) at SAN DIEGO CHARGERS (9-6)** -- One team is in the playoffs (Denver), the other is not, but they both still have goals to play for.

“The game we play Saturday is going to last for six or seven months,” says Chargers head coach **MARTY SCHOTTENHEIMER**. The Chargers can post their second consecutive season of at least 10 wins. Couple 10 victories with the 12 of 2004 and the combined 22 wins would be the Chargers’ best two-year mark since 23 victories in 1979-80.

“10-6 sounds a lot better to me than 9-7,” says Schottenheimer.

For the Broncos, it’s “get ready for the playoffs.” With a first-round bye, this is their final game for two weeks. They want to keep sharp, particularly in pass protection. The Chargers will provide that test. They rank fifth in the league in sacks (44), led by rookie **LB SHAWNE MERRIMAN** (9.0), who was named to the Pro Bowl.

With 131 yards, **TATUM BELL** (869) would join **MIKE ANDERSON** (1,014) as the first team running-back duo since Cleveland’s **KEVIN MACK** (1,104) and **EARNEST BYNER** (1,002) in 1985 to each post 1,000 yards.

- **8:00 PM ET (FOX): NEW YORK GIANTS (10-5) at OAKLAND RAIDERS (4-11)** – That you, Kerry?

Giants face for the first time the quarterback who brought them to Super Bowl XXXV, **KERRY COLLINS**. But after the handshakes, playoff-bound New York has serious business to take care of.

With a win or tie, the Giants are NFC East champs and would be guaranteed a home playoff game in the Wild Card round. That, of course, is something to strive for.

“We’re looking to win this coming weekend,” says Giants head coach **TOM COUGHLIN**, “so that we’re able to say we won the division.”

On the personal level, New York **RB TIKI BARBER** (2,127) is seeking to lead the NFL in scrimmage yards for the second consecutive year.

A complete look at the 2005 playoff picture:

AFC EAST

The **NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS** (10-5) – winners of three of the past four Super Bowls – are seemingly getting stronger every week after some early-season downers.

The Patriots, who have won their third division title in a row, have won six of their past seven games, oftentimes in a typical Patriots surprising way. Just look at **LB MIKE VRABEL**’s two touchdown catches Monday night.

“I think we’re playing at a higher level now,” says New England head coach **BILL BELICHICK**. “I think that has come from having more success and from being more confident.” The Pats have outscored their past four opponents 110-31.

Buffalo, Miami and the New York Jets have been eliminated from playoff contention.

AFC NORTH

The **CINCINNATI BENGALS** (11-4) – division champs for the first time since 1990 – got a wake-up call last week and think maybe it can help them.

After winning four in a row, they were topped in Week 16 by Buffalo 37-27. “We need to learn from this and know what playing like this can get us,” says Cincy **G BOBBIE WILLIAMS**. “It can get you an ‘L’ and when you get to the playoffs, getting an ‘L’ means you’re out of it.”

The Bengals travel to Kansas City this week to face a Chiefs team still battling for a playoff spot. Cincinnati can conclude the season tying their best record ever. They went 12-4 in 1981 and 1988. Both those years they went to the Super Bowl.

The **PITTSBURGH STEELERS** (10-5) can clinch a playoff spot this week, their fourth in the past five years.

The Steelers are getting hot at just the right time. Winners of three in a row, they have outscored their opponents 80-12 in those games.

“Margin of victory, stuff like that, is nice,” says Pittsburgh **LB JAMES HARRISON**. “But winning and going to the playoffs

is our goal. That's what we want."

Baltimore and Cleveland have been eliminated from playoff contention.

TEAM	HAS CLINCHED	CLINCHES	WITH
PITTSBURGH	---	Playoff berth	1. PIT win or tie, OR
			2. KC loss or tie, OR
			3. SD win.

AFC SOUTH

The lone division in the NFL so far with two playoff clubs.

The **INDIANAPOLIS COLTS** (13-2) clinched homefield advantage in Week 14 after winning their first 13 games. It is their first top-seed position since the league went to that system in 1975.

The **JACKSONVILLE JAGUARS** (11-4) have earned their first playoff berth since 1999, and are scheduled to get their starting quarterback, **BYRON LEFTWICH**, back this week, just in time for the playoffs.

The Jags are not a team to panic. They have won six of their games this year after trailing at halftime, including last week against Houston.

"We've become a second-half team this year," says Jacksonville **WR JIMMY SMITH**. "I don't necessarily like it that way, but we have matured enough to be poised and do whatever we have to do to come away with a win."

Houston and Tennessee have been eliminated from playoff contention.

AFC WEST

One club in, another knocking on the door.

The **DENVER BRONCOS** (12-3) (see Saturday games above) have earned a first-round bye and the AFC's No. 2 seed, which means their Divisional Playoff game will be a home, where they are 8-0 this year. The last time they went undefeated at home was in 1998 when they won Super Bowl XXXIII.

The Broncos have won their most games since their 14 in that '98 Super Bowl season. "The opportunity we have is a great one," says Denver head coach **MIKE SHANAHAN**.

The **KANSAS CITY CHIEFS** (9-6) have a great opportunity in Week 17 to earn their second playoff berth in three years. They will attempt it against AFC North champion Cincinnati. The Bengals will face the NFL's hottest rusher, **LARRY JOHNSON**, who has had eight consecutive 100-yard games. Since Johnson became the Chiefs' starter on November 1, he has had a league-leading 1,150 yards on the ground.

The Chiefs are ready for their Week 17 battle. "Definitely, it would be a huge disappointment if we don't make the playoffs this year," says KC **TE TONY GONZALEZ**.

Oakland and San Diego have been eliminated from playoff contention.

TEAM	HAS CLINCHED	CLINCHES	WITH
KANSAS CITY	--	Playoff berth	1. KC win + PIT loss + SD loss or tie.

NFC EAST

The lone NFL division with three teams in playoff contention. And all three could be 10-game winners, the first time that has happened in the NFL since the AFC East accomplished the trick in 2001 (New England, 11-5; Miami, 11-5; NY Jets, 10-6).

"We just want to stay focused on what the big picture is and try to get into the playoffs," says **WR SANTANA MOSS**, speaking for both his team, the Redskins, and the Cowboys.

The **NEW YORK GIANTS** (10-5) are already in the playoffs and can win their first division crown since their 2000 Super Bowl XXXV year (see Saturday games above).

The **WASHINGTON REDSKINS** (9-6) are also up for the division title or a playoff berth while the **DALLAS COWBOYS** (9-

6) can make the playoffs. Cowboys head coach **BILL PARCELLS** is confident about his club.

"I think this team has a little spunk to it," says Parcels. "I know we've had some ups and downs, but I like them. I do."

Philadelphia has been eliminated.

TEAM	HAS CLINCHED	CLINCHES	WITH
NY GIANTS	Playoff berth	Division	1. NYG win or tie, OR 2. WAS loss or tie.
DALLAS	--	Playoff berth	1. DAL win + WAS loss or tie, OR 2. DAL win + CAR loss, OR 3. DAL win + TB loss + NYG loss + NYG and DAL clinch strength of victory tiebreaker* over TB, OR 4. DAL tie + WAS loss.
WASHINGTON	---	Division	1. WAS win + NYG loss.
	---	Playoff berth	1. WAS win, OR 2. DAL loss, OR 3. WAS tie + DAL tie.

* **Strength of victory:** The season-ending winning percentage of all opponents a team has defeated.

NFC NORTH

The **CHICAGO BEARS** (11-4) under second-year head coach **LOVIE SMITH** (see NFL Factoid above) have won their first division crown since 2001 and have earned a first-round bye.

At one time this season, the Bears were 1-3. But Smith made his coaches and players believe.

"That was a huge lesson to all of us," says Chicago offensive coordinator **RON TURNER**. "Everybody could have been down, and we could have stayed down and the team would have reacted that way. Lovie didn't let that happen. He believed we were going to get it turned around."

Detroit, Green Bay and Minnesota have been eliminated.

NFC SOUTH

The usual down-to-the-end NFC South race here. The division that has produced participants in two of the last three Super Bowls (Tampa Bay, SB XXXVII winner; and Carolina, SB XXXVIII) has those two clubs fighting it out.

The **CAROLINA PANTHERS** (10-5) and **TAMPA BAY BUCCANERS** (10-5) are tied for first place. And they can do a lot this week.

"They way I look at it, the playoffs have already started," says Panthers head coach **JOHN FOX**. For these two clubs, they basically have.

Atlanta and New Orleans have been eliminated.

TEAM	HAS CLINCHED	CLINCHES	WITH
CAROLINA	---	Division	1. CAR win + TB loss or tie, OR 2. CAR tie + TB loss.
		Playoff berth	1. CAR win or tie, OR 2. DAL loss or tie, OR 3. WAS loss or tie.

TAMPA BAY	---	Division	1. TB win, OR
			2. CAR loss, OR
			3. TB tie + CAR tie.
		Playoff berth	1. TB tie, OR
			2. DAL loss or tie, OR
			3. WAS loss or tie, OR
			4. NYG win or tie, OR
			5. TB clinches strength of victory tiebreaker over DAL or NYG.

NFC WEST

It's Seahawks, period!

The **SEATTLE SEAHAWKS** (13-2) – the hottest team in the NFL (11 wins in a row) -- have clinched homefield advantage throughout the playoffs – their first No. 1 seed ever.

And is NFL rushing leader **SHAUN ALEXANDER** (1,807 yards, the 16th NFL player to reach that total in a season) ever glad about that status.

“Every flight is going to be at least three hours,” says Alexander of the Seahawks’ playoff opponent(s). “Now every team has to take that trip to us.”

The 'Hawks have set a franchise record for wins in a season. “We’re all just kind of in a groove,” says Alexander. “And no one wants to get off anything right now.”

Arizona, St. Louis and San Francisco have been eliminated from playoff contention.

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WEEK 17
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31
DENVER BRONCOS (12-3) AT SAN DIEGO CHARGERS (9-6)

SERIES

	<u>BRONCOS</u>	<u>CHARGERS</u>
LEADER	51-39-1	
STREAKS	4 of past 5	
COACHES VS. OPP.	Shanahan: 18-6	Schottenheimer: 11-21
LAST WEEK	W 22-3 vs. Raiders	L 20-7 at Chiefs
LAST GAME	9/18/05: Chargers 17 at Broncos 20. Denver's Jason Elam kicks game-winning 41-yard FG as Broncos score 17 points in 2nd half.	
LAST GAME AT SITE	12/5/04: Chargers 20, Broncos 17. San Diego RB LaDainian Tomlinson rushes for 2 TDs & Chargers' defense records 4 INTs.	
BROADCAST	CBS (1:30 PM PT): Jim Nantz, Phil Simms, Bonnie Bernstein (Field reporter) CBS Radio: Joel Meyers, Allen Pinkett, Steve Mason (Field reporter).	

STATS

PASSING	Plummer: 269-442-3,275-60.9-18-7	Brees: 315-486-3,508-24-15-89.8
RUSHING	Anderson: 239-1,014-4.2-12	Tomlinson: 321-1,372-4.3-17 (1C)
RECEIVING	R. Smith: 84 (3C)-1,094 (3C)-13.0-6	Gates (TE): 86 (2C)-1,078-12.5-10
OFFENSE	368.3	355.4
TAKE/GIVE	+18 (2L)	-6
DEFENSE	318.0	313.8
SACKS	Ekuban, Pryce, Wilson: 3.0	Merriman (R): 9.0
INTs	Bailey: 8 (2C)	Jue: 3
PUNTING	Sauerbrun: 43.7	Scifres: 43.6
KICKING	Elam: 112 (T3C) (40/41 PAT; 24/31 FG)	Kaeding: 111 (48/48 PAT; 21/24 FG)

NOTES

BRONCOS: Club has clinched AFC's No. 2 playoff seed.....Head coach **MIKE SHANAHAN** is 18-6 (.750) in career vs. SD – his most wins vs. any single opponent.....**QB JAKE PLUMMER** (18) needs 2 TD passes to join HOFer **JOHN ELWAY** as only QBs in club history to post 20 TDs more than once. Plummer (90.6) also can join Elway as only other DEN QB to post passer seasonal rating of 91.0+ in 2 seasons.....**RB MIKE ANDERSON** has rush TD in 8 of past 10 games. **RB TATUM BELL** (869) needs 131 rushing yds to reach 1,000, which would give DEN 4th pair of 1,000-yd RBs in same season (Anderson 1,014)..... **WR ROD SMITH** (796) needs 4 catches to reach 800 for career & would be 15th player in league history to reach milestone. Smith (68) needs 2 TDs to be 1st Bronco to record 70 in career.....Defense No. 3 in NFL vs. rush (84.8). **CB CHAMP BAILEY** scored 25-yd INT-TD in Wk. 2 mtg. **DE COURTNEY BROWN** has 1.0 sack in each of 2 career mtgs. vs. SD.....**CHARGERS:** Win would eliminate AFC West rival KC from playoff contention**QB DREW BREES** (64.8 comp. pct.) on pace to post 3rd-highest mark in single season in club history.....**RB LA DAINIAN TOMLINSON** has 2 rush TDs in each of past 2 vs. DEN.....**WR KEENAN MC CARDELL** (9) & **TE ANTONIO GATES** (9) can become 1st Chargers tandem to each post 10 TD catches since HOFer **LANCE ALWORTH** (10) & **GARY GARRISON** (10) in 1968. Gates aims to become 1st TE in club history to post 10 or more TD catches in consecutive seasons. Offense is NFL's 2nd best on 3rd-down conversion tries: 86 of 194 for 44.3 pct. (IND: 49.7 pct.).....**LB RANDALL GODFREY** (4) tied for NFL lead in defensive FRs. Rookie **LB SHAWNE MERRIMAN** leads NFL rookies w/ 9.0 sacks. Merriman will be 4th-youngest player in NFL history to appear in Pro Bowl on Feb. 12: 21 years, 263 days.

SATURDAY NIGHT
NEW YORK GIANTS (10-5) AT OAKLAND RAIDERS (4-11)
SERIES

	<u>GIANTS</u>	<u>RAIDERS</u>
LEADER		7-2
STREAKS		Past 4
COACHES VS. OPP.	Coughlin: 1-1	Turner: 6-7-1
LAST WEEK	L 35-20 at Redskins	L 22-3 at Broncos
LAST GAME	11/25/01: Raiders 28 at Giants 10. Oakland QB Rich Gannon passes for 3 TDs, including 2 to Raiders WR Tim Brown.	
LAST GAME AT SITE	9/13/98: Raiders 20, Giants 17. Oakland's Greg Davis kicks 26-yard FG with less than 2 minutes remaining to give Raiders head coach Jon Gruden 1st career win.	
BROADCAST	ESPN (5:00 PM PT): Mike Patrick, Paul Maguire, Joe Thiesmann, Suzy Kolber (Field reporter).	

STATS

PASSING	Manning: 282-533-3,558 (2C)-23 (2C)-17-75.1	Collins: 276-517-3,428-17-12-75.5
RUSHING	Barber: 329-1,657 (2L)-5.0-8	Jordan: 272-1,025-3.8-9
RECEIVING	Burress: 71-1,086-15.3-6	Porter: 70-866-12.4-5
OFFENSE	359.0 (2C)	308.4
TAKE/GIVE	+12 (T3L)	-4
DEFENSE	327.7	326.0
SACKS	Umenyiora: 12.5 (T2L)	Burgess: 15.0 (1L)
INTs	Alexander: 4	Schweigert: 2
PUNTING	Feagles: 42.3	Lechler: 45.5 (2C)
KICKING	Feely: 136 (40/40 PAT; 32/39 FG)	Janikowski: 87 (27/27 PAT; 20/30 FG)

NOTES

GIANTS: Clinch NFC East with win.....Rank 5th in NFL with 392 points & need 8 to post 400 for 2nd time in team history (488, '63).....**QB ELI MANNING** needs 2 TD passes for 1st 25 TD season by Giants QB since **FRAN TARKENTON** (29) in '67. Ties for 2nd in NFL with 7 4th quarter TD passes.....**RB TIKI BARBER** needs 143 rushing yards to become 13th player in NFL history with 1,800-yard season. Has 49 career rushing TDs & needs 1 to pass **RODNEY HAMPTON** for most in team history. **RB BRANDON JACOBS** ties for 2nd among NFL rookies with 6 TDs.....**WR PLAXICO BURRESS** needs 114 yards to join **AMANI TOOMER** (1,343, '02) & **HOMER JONES** (1,209, '67) as only Giants with 1,200-yard receiving season.....**JEREMY SHOCKEY** ranks 2nd among NFL TEs with 891 receiving yards. Needs 111 for most by club TE in single season (**MARK BAVARO**, 1,001, '86)..... **DE MICHAEL STRAHAN** has 129.5 career sacks & needs 3.5 to pass **LAWRENCE TAYLOR** & **LESLIE O'NEAL** (132.5) for 7th all-time.....**RAIDERS:** Have won 3 of past 5 vs. NFC, including 2 of 3 on season.....**QB KERRY COLLINS** was Giant from 1999-2003, leading club to Super Bowl XXXV & stands as franchise's 3rd-leading all-time passer (16,875). Collins (3,428) needs 72 passing yds for 4th 3,500-yd season in past 6 yrs.....**RB LA MONT JORDAN** (9) needs 1 rush TD to be 3rd player in club history w/ 10+ in season (**PETE BANASZAK**, 1975; HOFer **MARCUS ALLEN**, 1982, '84-85, '90). Jordan (1,025 rush yds; 70 receptions) can become 6th player in NFL history with 1,100+ rush yds & 75+ catches.....**WR RANDY MOSS** (889) needs 111 rec. yds to reach 1,000 for 7th time in 8 seasons. **WR JERRY PORTER** has 4+ catches in 9 of past 11 games. Porter (866) needs 134 rec. yds for 1st career 1,000-tyd season.....**DE DERRICK BURGESS** leads NFL with 15.0 sacks; has 6 multi-sack games. Burgess needs 1.0 sack to surpass **SEAN JONES** (15.5, 1986) for single-season franchise record.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 1
CAROLINA PANTHERS (10-5) AT ATLANTA FALCONS (8-7)

SERIES

	<u>PANTHERS</u>	<u>FALCONS</u>
LEADER		14-7
STREAKS		3 of past 4
COACHES VS. OPP.	Fox: 2-5	Mora: 2-1
LAST WEEK	L 24-20 vs. Cowboys	L 27-24 (OT) at Buccaneers
LAST GAME	12/4/05: Falcons 6 at Panthers 24. Carolina QB Jake Delhomme throws for 164 yards & 2 TDs & RB DeShaun Foster rushes for 131 yards & 1 TD.	
LAST GAME AT SITE	12/18/04: Falcons 34, Panthers 31 (OT). Atlanta QB Michael Vick passes for 2 TDs & rushes for another & K Jay Feely connects on 38-yard FG in OT for victory.	
BROADCAST	FOX (1:00 PM ET): Sam Rosen, Bill Maas, Jay Glazer (Field reporter) CBS Radio: Bill Rosinski, Jack Ham	

STATS

PASSING	Delhomme: 248-415-3,258-22(T3C)-16-86.2	Vick: 199-363-2,297-15-12-74.1
RUSHING	Foster: 187-714-3.8-1	Dunn: 273-1,387-5.1-3
RECEIVING	S. Smith: 94 (T3L)-1,432 (1L)-15.2-11 (T2L)	Crumpler (TE): 62-856-13.8-5
OFFENSE	303.1	334.3
TAKE/GIVE	+12 (T3L)	+4
DEFENSE	287.4 (3C)	319.8
SACKS	Peppers: 10.5	Coleman: 10.5
INTs	Gamble, Lucas: 6 (T3C)	Hall: 6 (T3C)
PUNTING	Baker: 43.6	Koenen (R): 42.2
KICKING	Kasay: 107 (38/39 PAT; 23/31 FG)	Peterson: 101 (35/35 PAT; 22/24 FG)

NOTES

PANTHERS: Tie for 3rd in NFL with +12 takeaway/giveaway ratio.....**QB JAKE DELHOMME** make 1st trip to Pro Bowl. Ranks 7th in NFL & 2nd in NFC with 90.2 4th quarter passer rating. Club has scored 118 4th-quarter points, 2nd-most in NFL..... **RB DE SHAUN FOSTER** has totaled career-high 1,086 yards from scrimmage (714 rushing, 372 receiving). Has 6 receptions of 20+ yards, tied for NFL best among RBs.....**WR STEVE SMITH** needs 6 catches to join **MUHSIN MUHAMMAD** as only Panthers with 100-catch year & 9 to pass Muhammad (102, '00) for single season franchise record. Ranks 4th in NFL with 20 catches of 20+ yards. **WR RICKY PROEHL** avgs. career-best 18.7 yards per catch, 3rd in NFL among players with 20+ receptions (22-412).....Defense ranks 4th overall (287.4) & 5th vs. run (95.9)..... **DE JULIUS PEPPERS** had 3 sacks last week & needs 1.5 sacks to pass **KEVIN GREENE** (41.5) for 2nd in franchise history.....With 12 INT in less than 2 full seasons, **CB CHRIS GAMBLE** ranks 4th on club's all time list.....**FALCONS:** Rank 1st in NFL avging 168.0 rushing yards per game & 4.9 yards per rush.....Offense converts 43.0 pct. on 3rd downs (89 of 207), 5th in league..... **QB MICHAEL VICK** is 3-0 as starter at home vs. Car. Has 15 TD passes & needs 2 for career high (16, '02). Has 2,820 career rushing yards & needs 55 to pass **KORDELL STEWART** (2,874) for 7th most by QB all-time.....**RB WARRICK DUNN** needs 113 rushing yards to become 4th Falcon with 1,500-yard season. Among players with 150+ carries, ranks 3rd in NFL with 5.1 yards per carry avg.....**WR RODDY WHITE** ranks 5th among NFL rookies & 2nd in NFC with 399 receiving yards (25 catches).....**ALGE CRUMPLER** ranks 2nd among NFL TEs with 15 catches of 20+ yards..... Defense ranks 1st in NFL holding foes to 28.5 (51 of 179) 3rd down conversion pct.....**DE PATRICK KERNEY** has 3 sacks in past 3 home games vs. Car.....Second-year **CB DE ANGELO HALL** will make 1st trip to Pro Bowl.

BALTIMORE RAVENS (6-9) AT CLEVELAND BROWNS (5-10)
SERIES

	<u>RAVENS</u>	<u>BROWNS</u>
LEADER	9-4	
STREAKS	4 of past 5	
COACHES VS. OPP.	Billick: 9-4	Crennel: 0-1
LAST WEEK	W 30-23 vs. Vikings	L 41-0 vs. Steelers
LAST GAME	10/16/05: Browns 3 at Ravens 16. Baltimore's defense allows just 3 points while Ravens TE Todd Heap scores game's only TD.	
LAST GAME AT SITE	9/12/04: Browns 20, Ravens 3. Cleveland QB Jeff Garcia passes for 180 yards & 1 TD while rushing for another score.	
BROADCAST	CBS (1:00 PM ET): Don Criqui, Steve Beuerlein	

STATS

PASSING	Boller: 164-266-1,648-11-10-77.4	Frye (R): 76-127-803-3-4-73.0
RUSHING	J. Lewis: 249-817-3.3-3	Droughns: 290-1,192-4.1-2
RECEIVING	Mason: 83-1,000-12.0-3	Bryant: 60-886-14.8-3
OFFENSE	295.1	287.7
TAKE/GIVE	-10	-7
DEFENSE	288.2 (2C)	320.1
SACKS	Thomas: 8.0	McKinley: 5.0
INTs	Sanders, Suggs, Thomas: 3	Bodden: 3
PUNTING	Zastudil: 43.3	Richardson: 40.8
KICKING	Stover: 103 (22/22 PAT; 27/31 FG)	Dawson: 92 (17/19 PAT; 25/27 FG)

NOTES

RAVENS: Under head **BRIAN BILLICK** is 4-2 (.667) on road vs. CLE.....**QB KYLE BOLLER** has 4 TDs in past 2 road games. Boller recorded 1st career winning start in NFL against Browns on 9/14/03.....**RB JAMAL LEWIS** has posted top 3 career rushing days vs. Browns, including NFL-record 295 yds on 9/14/03. In 9 career games vs. CLE, Lewis averages 137.8 yds/game. **RB CHESTER TAYLOR** posted 3rd-best career rush yd total in 1st mtg with 92 yds on 8 carries (11.5 avg.).....Last wk **WR DERRICK MASON** became club's single-season receptions leader with 83, surpassing **MICHAEL JACKSON** (76, 1996). Rookie **WR MARK CLAYTON** (41) & Mason combine for 2nd-most catches by BALT WR duo (124): Jackson (69) & **DERRICK ALEXANDER** (65) caught 134 in 1997.....Defense limited CLE to 186 total yds in last mtg. **LB TERRELL SUGGS** has 4.5 sacks in 5 career games vs. CLE. **LB ADALIUS THOMAS** has sack in 4 games in row & has tied career-best 8.0 on season.....**BROWNS:** **QB CHARLIE FRYE** has 81.3 passer rating in 1st 4 starts. In past 4 games, Frye has 60.9 comp. pct., 11th-highest among NFL QBs w/ 4 starts in that time span.....**RB REUBEN DROUGHNS** (290) needs 16 carries to surpass 44-year-old club record of 305 held by HOFer **JIM BROWN** (1961) & with 1,192 rush yds, needs 49 more to surpass career-high 1,240 (2004).....With 114 rec. yds, **WR ANTONIO BRYANT** would become 5th player in club history to reach 1,000 in season. RB Droughns & WR Bryant would become 3rd Browns tandem in history to reach 1,000 rushing & receiving yds in same season: **MIKE PRUITT** (1,103 rush) & **OZZIE NEWSOME** (1,002) 1981; HOFer **LEROY KELLY** (1,239 rush) & HOFer **PAUL WARFIELD** (1,067) 1968. **TE STEVE HEIDEN** (43) needs 7 catches to be 1st Browns TE w/ 50 since Newsome (62, 1985).....**K PHIL DAWSON** (92) needs 9 points to surpass career-best 100 (2002, 2004). Dawson (25 of 27, .926) tied as NFL's 2nd-most accurate kicker. Last CLE K to reach 100 points in consecutive seasons was current Raven **MATT STOVER** in 1994 (110) & '95 (113).

ARIZONA CARDINALS (5-10) AT INDIANAPOLIS COLTS (13-2)**SERIES**

	<u>CARDINALS</u>	<u>COLTS</u>
LEADER	Series tied, 6-6	
STREAKS		Past 2
COACHES VS. OPP.	Green: 1-1	Dungy: 1-1
LAST WEEK	W 27-21 vs. Eagles	L 28-13 at Seahawks
LAST GAME	9/1/96: Cardinals 13 at Colts 20. Indianapolis QB Jim Harbaugh throws 2 TDs, including 35-yarder to Colts WR Marvin Harrison in 4th quarter.	
LAST GAME AT SITE	9/1/96	
BROADCAST	FOX (1:00 PM ET): Matt Vasgersian, Neil O'Donnell	

STATS

PASSING	McCown: 132-228-1,539-8-10-71.9	Manning: 304-451-3,742 (3L)-28 (2L)-10-104.3 (1L)
RUSHING	Shipp: 141-394-2.8-0	James: 360-1,506 (2C)-4.2-13 (3C)
RECEIVING	Fitzgerald: 97 (2L)-1,329 (3C)-13.7-9 (T2C)	Wayne: 83-1,055-12.7-5
OFFENSE	344.1	372.1 (2C)
TAKE/GIVE	-10	+11 (3C)
DEFENSE	300.7	300.0
SACKS	Wilson: 8.0	Mathis: 11.5
INTs	Dansby: 3	June: 5
PUNTING	Player: 44.3 (3C)	Smith: 44.0
KICKING	Rackers: 133 (19/19 PAT; 38/40 FG)	Vanderjagt: 116 (2C) (50/50 PAT; 22/24 FG)

NOTES

PAST 4 SERIES GAMES DECIDED BY 7 POINTS OR LESS.....CARDINALS: Rank 10th in total offense (344.1) & defense (300.7), joining Colts (3rd, 9th) as only 2 clubs in top 10 of each.....Rank 1st in NFL avging 276.9 passing yards per game & bid to lead league for 1st time.....**QB JOSH MC COWN** has 3-2 record in 5 '05 starts, passing for 2 TDs in 3 of 5 starts.....Rookie **RB J.J. ARRINGTON** avg. 4.4 yards per carry vs. AFC (18-80).....**WRs LARRY FITZGERALD & ANQUAN BOLDIN** need 3 & 6 receptions & 71 & 79 yards to join **HERMAN MOORE & BRETT PERRIMAN** (Det, '95) as only teammates with 100 catches & 1,400 yards each in single season. Fitzgerald needs 5 rec. to surpass Boldin & **LARRY CENTERS** (101) for club single season mark. Boldin needs 100-yard game to tie **DAVID BOSTON** (9, '01) for single season team record.....**KARLOS DANSBY** scored on 11-yard INT vs. Phil & joins **MIKE PETERSON & LOFA TATUPU** as NFL LBs with 3+ INTs (3) & 3+ sacks (4).....**S ADRIAN WILSON** has 8 sacks, most by NFL DB since stat was instituted in '82.....**K NEIL RACKERS** has 38 FGs & needs 2 for NFL single season record..... **COLTS:** With win, head coach **TONY DUNGY** would record 102nd victory for 4th-most by NFL coach in 1st 10 seasons.....**QB PEYTON MANNING** faces ARZ for 1st time in career. Manning leads NFL w/ 104.3 passer rating & can be 1st player to lead NFL in category for consecutive years since HOFer **STEVE YOUNG** (1996-97). Manning needs 258 yards to be 1st player in NFL history to pass for 4,000+ yds in 7 consecutive seasons & 7 in career overall (HOFer **DAN MARINO**, 6).....**RB EDGERRIN JAMES** (1,506) has tied HOFers **WALTER PAYTON & ERIC DICKERSON** for 2nd-most 1,500-yd rush seasons in career w/ 4 (HOFer **BARRY SANDERS**, 5).....**WR MARVIN HARRISON** made 1st career TD catch vs. ARZ (9/1/96). In past 7 at home vs. NFC, WR Harrison has 7 TDs on 54 receptions for 687 yds.....**S BOB SANDERS** stands 2nd on team w/ 118 tackles; is 1st Colt DB selected to Pro Bowl since **JERRY LOGAN & RICK VOLK** in '71.....**K MIKE VANDERJAGT** (990) needs 10 points for 1,000 in 125th game, which would be 2nd-quickest to 1,000 in NFL history.

MIAMI DOLPHINS (8-7) AT NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS (10-5)**SERIES**

	<u>DOLPHINS</u>	<u>PATRIOTS</u>
LEADER	45-32	
STREAKS		5 of past 6
COACHES VS. OPP.	Saban: 0-1	Belichick: 6-7
LAST WEEK	W 24-10 vs. Titans	W 31-21 at Jets
LAST GAME	11/13/05: Patriots 23 at Dolphins 16. New England TE Ben Watson catches game-winning 17-yard TD pass from Patriots QB Tom Brady with 2:16 left.	
LAST GAME AT SITE	10/10/04: Patriots 24, Dolphins 10. New England QB Tom Brady passes for 2 TDs as Patriots win 17th consecutive game.	
BROADCAST	CBS (1:00 PM ET): Kevin Harlan; Randy Cross	

STATS

PASSING	Frerotte: 235-459-2,757-17-13-70.3	Brady: 331-522-4,073 (1L)-25 (3L)-13-93.0
RUSHING	Brown (R): 199-886-4.5-4	Dillon: 209-733-3.5-12
RECEIVING	Chambers: 77-1,043-13.5-11 (T2L)	Branch: 76-979-12.9-4
OFFENSE	321.3	358.2
TAKE/GIVE	+/- 0	-5
DEFENSE	321.3	327.0
SACKS	Taylor: 12.0 (T3C)	Colvin: 6.5
INTs	Schulters, Tillman: 3	Hobbs (R), Samuel: 3
PUNTING	D. Jones: 43.7	Miller: 45.3 (3C)
KICKING	Mare: 94 (31/31 PAT; 21/26 FG)	Vinatieri: 93 (39/40 PAT; 18/23 FG)

NOTES

DOLPHINS: Club aims for 1st 6-game winning streak since 1992.....**QB GUS FREROTTE** (17) needs 1 TD pass to establish new career-high.....Rookie **RB RONNIE BROWN** (886) & **WR CHRIS CHAMBERS** (1,043) could become 1st 1,000-yd rushing & receiving tandem in franchise history. Chambers (4,521) needs 24 receiving yds to surpass **DURIEL HARRIS** (4,534) for 4th on club's all-time list.. Chambers (77) needs 3 catches to be 1st Dolphin since **O.J. MC DUFFIE** (90, 1998) to catch 80 passes. **TE RANDY MC MICHAEL** (2,421) is 35 receiving yds shy of surpassing **BRUCE HARDY** (2,455) for most all-time by MIA TE.....Defense leads NFL w/ 48 sacks, club record is 49 (1983).....**DE DAVID BOWENS** (6.0) needs 1.5 sacks to surpass career-high of 7.0 (2004). With sack vs. NE, Bowens would be 1st Dolphin since **JASON TAYLOR** (2003) to post sack in 4 games in row.....**K OLINDO MARE** (13) needs 1 FG from 50+ yds to tie **PETE STOYANOVICH** (14) for most in career by Dolphin.....**PATRIOTS**: Including playoffs, team has won 15 consecutive games when temperature is 35°F or colder.....**QB TOM BRADY** is 20-0 when kickoff temperature is 35°F or colder, including playoffs. Brady (4,073) leads NFL in pass yds & can become 1st Patriot QB to top league in passing yards for season. Brady (93.3) also is on pace for highest seasonal passer rating of career.....**RB COREY DILLON** has tied career-high with 13 TDs, also reached in '04 & '01. Dillon averages 4.9 yds /carry on 66 career rushes vs. MIA. Dillon has scored 26 TDs in 27 games as Patriot..... Total of 12 Pats have TD catch, including **LB MIKE VRABEL** (3) & **T TOM ASHWORTH**. Offense ranks No. 2 in AFC in redzone TD efficiency (63.0 pct.), scoring 34 TDs in 54 trips. **WRs DEION BRANCH** (76) & **DAVID GIVENS** (58) each have career-highs in receptions.....Defense has 11 sacks in past 2 games. LB Vrabel is 1st player in NFL history to score TD on each of 1st 6 career receptions. Rookie **CB ELLIS HOBBS** made 1st career start in last meeting & posted 1st career INT. **LB ROSELVELT COLVIN** has sack in 4 of past 5 games.

BUFFALO BILLS (5-10) NEW YORK JETS (3-12)**SERIES**

	<u>BILLS</u>	<u>JETS</u>
LEADER	49-40	
STREAKS	Past 3 at home	
COACHES VS. OPP.	Mularkey: 2-1	Edwards: 5-4
LAST WEEK	W 37-27 at Bengals	L 31-21 vs. Patriots
LAST GAME	10/16/05: Jets 17 at Bills 27. Buffalo QB Kelly Holcomb passes for 2 TDs to lead Bills to victory over Jets.	
LAST GAME AT SITE	10/10/04: Jets 16, Bills 14. New York's Doug Brien kicks game-winning FG with 58 seconds remaining as Jets remain undefeated.	
BROADCAST	CBS (1:00 PM ET): Ian Eagle, Solomon Wilcotts	

STATS

PASSING	Holcomb: 132-193-1,325-8-4-92.9	Bollinger: 139-246-1,405-7-6-72.3
RUSHING	McGahee: 303-1,134-3.7-5	Houston (R): 65-247-3.8-1
RECEIVING	Moulds: 73-720-9.9-3	Coles: 69-766-11.1-5
OFFENSE	252.7	250.9
TAKE/GIVE	+8	-10
DEFENSE	352.6	307.3
SACKS	Schobel: 12.0 (T3C)	Abraham: 9.5
INTs	McGee, Vincent: 4	Law: 7 (3C)
PUNTING	Moorman: 45.6 (1L)	Graham (R): 43.9
KICKING	Lindell: 99 (24/24 PAT; 25/31 FG)	Nugent (R): 78 (21/21 PAT; 19/24 FG)

NOTES

CLUBS HAVE SPLIT past 10 games with Jets leading in total points 225-200.....**BILLS:** As starter, **QB KELLY HOLCOMB** has 8 TDs vs. 4 INTs. Holcomb (68.4 pct.) is on pace to set club's single-season comp. pct. record (HOFer **JIM KELLY**, 64.1 pct., 1991).....In 3 career mtgs, **RB WILLIS MC GAHEE** has 317 rush yds on 74 carries (4.3 avg.) with 130+ yds & 1 TD in each of past 2.....**WR LEE EVANS** (7) needs 2 TDs vs. NYJ to become 7th NFL player since 1970 to catch 9+ TDs in each of 1st 2 seasons & 1st player in club history to achieve feat. **WR ERIC MOULDS** has 6+ catches in 3 games in row vs. NYJ..... **LB ANGELO CROWELL** posted 1.0 sack & INT in same game for 1st time in last mtg. **DE AARON SCHOBEL** has 10.0 sacks in past 9 games. **S TROY VINCENT** (4) needs 1 INT for most since '00 (w/ PHI)..... Last wk. at CIN, **CB-KR TERENCE MC GEE** became 1st Bills player to score TD on KR (99 yds) & INT return (46 yds) in same game. McGee leads NFL with 31.0-yd KR avg. & can be 1st player to lead AFC in category for consecutive seasons.....**JETS:** In past 3 games, **QB BROOKS BOLLINGER** has passed for 4 TDs vs. 1 INT & has thrown 0 INTs in 8 of 11 career games.....In 1st 3 career starts, rookie **RB CEDRIC HOUSTON** has 172 rush yds & 1 TD on 48 carries..... **WR LAVERANUES COLES** (69) needs 1 catch for 4th-consecutive 70-catch season. **TE DOUG JOLLEY** (28) is 5 catches shy of career-high 32 (2002).....Club is NFL's 6th-least penalized team (92). Under head coach **HERM EDWARDS** (since 2001), Jets have NFL-low 393 penalties committed.....**DE/LB JOHN ABRAHAM** (52.5) needs half-sack to surpass **MO LEWIS** (52.5) for 4th-most in franchise history. Rookie **S KERRY RHODES** has started every game, is 1 of 3 Jets to post 90+ tackles. **CB TY LAW** stands 5th in NFL w/ 7 INTs, career-high is 9 (1998). Law has 7 INTs in 18 career games vs. Bills. **CB DAVID BARRETT** is 2nd on team with career-high 5 INTs. **DT JAMES REED** has 2.0 sacks in past 3 games.....Rookie **P BEN GRAHAM** stands 5th in NFL with 38.5-yd net avg.

DETROIT LIONS (5-10) AT PITTSBURGH STEELERS (10-5)
SERIES

	<u>LIONS</u>	<u>STEELERS</u>
LEADER	14-13-1	
STREAKS		5 of past 6
COACHES VS. OPP.	Jauron: 0-0	Cowher: 3-1
LAST WEEK	W 13-12 at Saints (San Antonio)	W 41-0 at Browns
LAST GAME	12/23/01: Lions 14 at Steelers 47. Pittsburgh QB Kordell Stewart passes for 3 TDs & runs for another score as Steelers win 7th game in row.	
LAST GAME AT SITE	12/23/01	
BROADCAST	FOX (1:00 PM ET): Ron Pitts, Tim Ryan	

STATS

PASSING	Harrington: 171-297-1,809-9-12-68.7	Roethlisberger: 161-252-2,250-17-7-103.4 (2L)
RUSHING	Jones: 168-586-3.5-5	Parker: 229-1,067-4.7-4
RECEIVING	R. Williams: 42-656-15.6-7	Ward: 68-935-13.8-11 (T2L)
OFFENSE	267.4	321.2
TAKE/GIVE	+1	+7
DEFENSE	321.8	281.9 (1C)
SACKS	K. Edwards: 7.0	Porter: 10.5
INTs	Bly: 6 (T3C)	Hope: 3
PUNTING	Harris: 43.9	Gardocki: 41.9
KICKING	Hanson: 81 (24/24 PAT; 19/24 FG)	Reed: 112 (T3C) (40/40 PAT; 24/29 FG)

NOTES

LIONS: QB **JOEY HARRINGTON** passed for 210 yards last week, becoming 6th Lion with 10,000 career passing yards (10,030).....In 2 career games in temps below 40 degrees, RB **KEVIN JONES** has rushed for 219 yards & 5.2 yards per carry avg. Has 5 rushing TDs & needs 1 to top '04 rookie total. **SHAWN BRYSON** has avgd 5.0 yards per carry in past 31 games (111-559). Has 36 catches (221 yards) & needs 4 for 3rd 40-catch year in row. Leads NFL RBs with 20 3rd down receptions (111 yards).....In 9 career games outdoors, 2nd-year WR **ROY WILLIAMS** avgs. 17.2 yards per catch (32-550). Has 15 TDs in 26 career games. With 7 TDs in '05, needs 1 to equal rookie total.....TE **MARCUS POLLARD** had 6 catches (44 yards) vs. Saints, making him 3rd active TE (**TONY GONZALEZ, KYLE BRADY**) with 300 career (305). In 2 games vs. Pit, has 17.0-yards per catch avg. (7-119)..... DT **SHAUN ROGERS** is 1st club d-lineman with consecutive Pro Bowl trips since **LUTHER ELLISS** selected in '99-'00 seasons.....Since entering NFL in '99, CB **DRÉ BLY** ties for 3rd in NFL with 30 INTs. Needs 1 INT for career high.....**STEELERS:** Victory assures team playoff berth & would mark 10th playoff trip in 14 years under head coach **BILL COWHER**. Club has not lost at home to DET since 1955 (9 meetings). Steelers have won 7 in row vs. NFC..... QB **BEN ROETHLISBERGER** is 21-3 (.875) as career starter & stands 3rd in NFL with 103.4 passer rating.....RB **WILLIE PARKER** (1,067) has 229 carries – fewest rushing attempts of any 1,000-yd rusher in 2005. RB **JEROME BETTIS** is Detroit native. Bettis has rushed for 4 TDs in past 4 games..... WR **HINES WARD** (11) needs 2 TD catches for new career-high (12, 2002). Ward (6,990) needs 10 receiving yards to be 2nd Steeler with 7,000 in career (HOFer **JOHN STALLWORTH**, 8,723, 1974-87). Rookie TE **HEATH MILLER** (36) can be 1st Steeler TE to reach 40 receptions since **ERIC GREEN** (46) in 1994.....Defense is No. 2 in NFL vs. rush (84.2). LB **CLARK HAGGANS** has sack in 9 of 12 games played in 2005. LB **JOEY PORTER** leads NFL LBs with 10.5 sacks, tying his career-high (2000). Porter (53.0) needs 1.0 sack to surpass **GREG LLOYD** (53.5) for 5th-most in club history.

NEW ORLEANS SAINTS (3-12) AT TAMPA BAY BUCCANEERS (10-5)**SERIES**

	<u>SAINTS</u>	<u>BUCCANEERS</u>
LEADER	17-10	
STREAKS		3 of past 4
COACHES VS. OPP.	Haslett: 4-4	Gruden: 4-4
LAST WEEK	L 13-12 vs. Lions	W 27-24 (OT) vs. Falcons
LAST GAME	12/4/05: Buccaneers 10 at Saints 3 (Baton Rouge). Tampa Bay QB Chris Simms throws TD to WR Joey Galloway & rookie RB Cadillac Williams rushes for 96 yards.	
LAST GAME AT SITE	12/19/04: Saints 21, Buccaneers 17. New Orleans keeps playoff hopes alive as WR Donte Stallworth catches 7-yard TD pass from QB Aaron Brooks with 32 seconds to play.	
BROADCAST	FOX (1:00 PM ET): Kenny Albert, Brian Baldinger, Chris Myers (Field reporter)	

STATS

PASSING	Bouman: 43-85-457-1-5-46.1	Simms: 179-288-1,892-8-7-80.4
RUSHING	A. Smith: 150-604-4.0-3	Williams (R): 268-1,097-4.1-6
RECEIVING	Stallworth: 64-884-13.8-7	Galloway: 79-1,249-15.8-8
OFFENSE	315.0	295.4
TAKE/GIVE	-21	+4
DEFENSE	313.9	275.9 (2L)
SACKS	W. Smith: 8.5	Rice: 12.0 (2C)
INTs	Craft: 3	Barber: 5
PUNTING	Berger: 43.0	Bidwell: 45.5 (T2L)
KICKING	Carney: 90 (21/21 PAT; 23/30 FG)	M. Bryant: 85 (28/28 PAT; 19/23 FG)

NOTES

SAINTS: Seek 4th consecutive road win in series & own 3-1 mark at TB under head coach **JIM HASLETT**.....**QB TODD BOUMAN** makes 3rd consecutive start & seeks 1st win of season.....**RB ANTOWAIN SMITH** has 6,826 career rushing yards & needs 174 for 7,000. **RB AARON STECKER** has career high 353 rushing yards & needs 1 for 1,000-career. Spent '00-'03 with Bucs, playing in every game for SB XXXVII champs.....**WR DONTÉ STALLWORTH** has career high 884 receiving yards & needs 116 to become 1st Saint other than **JOE HORN** to post 1,000-yard season since **WILLIE JACKSON** (1,046) in '01. **WR JOE HORN** has 46 career TD catches & needs 3 to pass **ERIC MARTIN** (48) for most in franchise history. Has 4 TDs in 5 career games in Tampa.....Defense ranks 5th in NFL yielding 180.9 passing yards per game.....Second-year **DE WILL SMITH** has 8.5 sacks, surpassing '04 rookie total (7.5).....**S DWIGHT SMITH** spent 1st 4 NFL seasons with Bucs, starting 34 games for TB from '01-'04.....**BUCCANEERS**: Have won 10+ games in 2 of 4 seasons under head coach **JON GRUDEN**.....**QB CHRIS SIMMS** has 4-1 record vs. division in '05.....**RB CARNELL "CADILLAC" WILLIAMS** rushed for 150 yards last week, setting club rookie record with 1,097 yards. Needs 103 yards for 1st 1,200-yard rushing season by Buc since **ERRICT RHETT** in '95 (1,207).....**RB MIKE ALSTOTT** has 414 career points & needs 3 to pass **DONALD IGWEBUIKE** (416) for 3rd in team annals.....With 8 TD catches, **WR JOEY GALLOWAY** needs 2 to surpass 3 players for team record. Needs 174 receiving yards to pass **MARK CARRIER** (1,422, '89) for franchise record.....**TE ALEX SMITH** ranks 2nd among NFL rookies with 40 receptions (345 yards).....Defense ranks 2nd overall (275.9), 4th vs. pass (179.6) & 7th vs. run (96.3). Before joining TB in '96, d-coordinator **MONTE KIFFIN** spent '95 in same role with NO.....**DE SIMEON RICE** ranks 13th all time with 117 career sacks..... **CB RONDE BARBER** has 28 career INT, including 3 in last meeting, & needs 3 to tie franchise record (**DONNIE ABRAHAM**).

CINCINNATI BENGALS (11-4) AT KANSAS CITY CHIEFS (9-6)**SERIES**

	<u>BENGALS</u>	<u>CHIEFS</u>
LEADER		11-10
STREAKS	2 of past 3	
COACHES VS. OPP.	Lewis: 1-0	Vermeil: 1-3
LAST WEEK	L 37-27 vs. Bills	W 20-7 vs. Chargers
LAST GAME	11/16/03: Chiefs 19 at Bengals 24. Cincinnati's Peter Warrick returns punt 68 yards for TD & has 77-yard TD catch in 4th quarter.	
LAST GAME AT SITE	10/10/93: Chiefs 17, Bengals 15. Kansas City's Nick Lowery kicks 37-yard FG with 2:43 remaining to put Chiefs ahead for good.	
BROADCAST	CBS (12:00 PM CT): Dick Enberg; Dan Dierdorf, Armen Keteyian (Field reporter)	

STATS

PASSING	Palmer: 340-501-3,782 (2L)-32 (1L)-12-101.4 (3L)	Green: 294-478-3,670-16-10-87.8
RUSHING	R. Johnson: 327-1,440 (3C)-4.4-12	L. Johnson: 310-1,549 (1C)-5.0-17 (1C)
RECEIVING	C. Johnson: 93 (1C)-1,377 (1C)-14.8-9	Gonzalez (TE); 73-846-11.6-2
OFFENSE	371.3 (3C)	377.0 (1C)
TAKE/GIVE	+25 (1L)	+7
DEFENSE	325.5	339.2
SACKS	J. Smith: 6.0	Allen: 11.0
INTs	O'Neal: 10 (1L)	Wesley: 6
PUNTING	Larson: 42.4	Colquitt: 39.1
KICKING	Graham: 128 (1C) (47/47 PAT; 27/31 FG)	Tynes: 112 (T3C) (40/41 PAT; 24/30 FG)

NOTES

BENGALS: Club will host 1st playoff game next week since 1990.....**QB CARSON PALMER** (11) needs 1 100+ passer rating game for most in single season in NFL history. Palmer leads NFL with 32 TDs. Palmer (3,782) needs 178 passing yards to surpass club-record of 3,959 (**BOOMER ESIASON**, 1986).....In last meeting (11/16/03), **RB RUDI JOHNSON** rushed 22 times for 165 yds (7.5 avg.). Johnson (1,440) needs 15 yds to surpass own club record for most in season (1,454, 2004). RB Johnson (13) needs 1 100-yd rush game to tie **PETE JOHNSON** (14) for 3rd most by Bengal in career**WR CHAD JOHNSON** leads AFC in catches (93) & yds (1,377) & needs 7 receptions to tie club's seasonal record of 100 (**CARL PICKENS**, 1996). With 9 catches, WR Johnson (375) ties **DARNAY SCOTT** (386) for 4th-most in career by Bengal.....Offensive line has allowed 20 sacks, 2nd fewest in NFL (IND, 18).....**CB DELTA O'NEAL** (10) leads NFL in INTs & can be 1st Bengal to lead NFL in category for season.....**CHIEFS**: Club needs win & PIT loss & SD loss to advance to postseason. Team has won 18 in row at home in December – longest such streak since 1970.....**QB TRENT GREEN** to make 80th consecutive start for Chiefs – longest by QB in club history. Green has 90+ passer rating in 7 of past 9 games.....**RB LARRY JOHNSON** has 100 rush yds in club-record 8 consecutive games. Johnson (1,549) needs 66 rush yds to surpass club-record of 1,615 (**PRIEST HOLMES**, 2002)**WR EDDIE KENNISON** (951) needs 49 receiving yards to be 2nd player in club history to reach 1,000 in back-to-back seasons (**CARLOS CARSON**, 1983-84). **TE TONY GONZALEZ** (83) needs 1 catch to surpass **STEPHONE PAIGE** (83) for most consecutive games with catch in club annals.....**S GREG WESLEY** (6) tied for 6th in NFL INTs & needs 1 more to post most by Chief since **JAMES HASTY** (7) in 1999.....**LB KAWIKA MITCHELL** leads club w/ 128 tackles. **DE JARED ALLEN** has 7 FFs & needs 1 more to tie **DERRICK THOMAS** (8) for most in season by Chief. Allen stands 6th in AFC with 11.0 sacks.

SEATTLE SEAHAWKS (13-2) AT GREEN BAY PACKERS (3-12)**SERIES**

	<u>SEAHAWKS</u>	<u>PACKERS</u>
LEADER		5-4
STREAKS		2 of past 3
COACHES VS. OPP.	Holmgren: 0-2	Sherman: 2-0
LAST WEEK	W 28-13 vs. Colts	L 24-17 vs. Bears
LAST GAME	10/5/03: Seahawks 13 at Packers 35. Green Bay QB Brett Favre passes for 2 TDs & RB Ahman Green rushes for 2 more as Packers hand Seahawks 1st loss of season.	
LAST GAME AT SITE	10/5/03	
BROADCAST	FOX (12:00 PM CT): Curt Menefee, JC Pearson	

STATS

PASSING	Hasselbeck: 288-441-3,383-24 (1C)-9-98.1 (1C)	Favre: 351-570-3,622 (1C)-19-28-70.5
RUSHING	Alexander: 350-1,807 (1L)-5.2-26 (1L)	Herron (R): 25-62-2.5-1
RECEIVING	Engram: 64-748-11.7-3	Driver: 80-1,103-13.8-5
OFFENSE	378.0 (1L)	320.3
TAKE/GIVE	+9 (3C)	-23
DEFENSE	317.0	296.3
SACKS	Bernard: 8.5	Kampman: 6.5
INTs	Boulware: 4	Carroll, Harris, Roman: 2
PUNTING	Rouen: 42.1	Flinn: 40.0
KICKING	J. Brown: 105 (54/55 PAT; 17/24 FG)	Longwell: 79 (28/29 PAT; 17/24 FG)

NOTES

SEAHAWKS: Seek 12th consecutive win & have clinched best record in franchise history.....Head coach **MIKE HOLMGREN** led GB to Super Bowl following '96-'97 seasons, earning win in SB XXXI.....**QB MATT HASSELBECK** needs 3 TD passes for career high (26, '03) & 4 for 100 career. Has 0 INT in past 177 pass attempts on road.....**RB SHAUN ALEXANDER** has 27 TDs & needs 1 to surpass **PRIEST HOLMES** ('03) for NFL single season record. With 193 rushing yards, would become 6th player in NFL history to rush for 2,000 in single season. With 11 100-yard rushing games in '05, needs 100-yard game to tie for 2nd-most in single season all time, (**BARRY SANDERS** 14, '97)..... **WR JOE JUREVICIUS** has career highs with 9 TD catches & 53 receptions (683 yards).....Offensive line has allowed 23 sacks, tied for 4th fewest in NFL.....Defense allows 41.5 red zone TD pct. (17 TDs, 41 trips), 3rd in NFL..... **LB LE ROY HILL** ties for 2nd among NFL rookies with 7 sacks while **LB LOFA TATUPU** ties for 2nd among rookies with 3 INTs.....**PACKERS:** **QB BRETT FAVRE** has 395 career TD passes & needs 5 to join **DAN MARINO** (420) as only players in NFL history with 400. Needs 1 TD pass to extend his NFL record to 12 consecutive seasons with 20 TD passes.....**RB SAMKON GADO** ranks 3rd among rookie rushers with 582 yards, 2nd highest rookie total in franchise history (1,105, **JOHN BROCKINGTON**, '71). **RB TONY FISHER** has career highs with 42 receptions & 303 receiving yards.....**WR DONALD DRIVER** needs 97 receiving yards for 2nd consecutive 1,200-yard season & 106 for career high (1,208, '04). With 5 receptions, becomes 4th Packer ever with 85-catch season.....Defense ranks 8th in NFL overall (296.3) & 1st against pass (168.9).....**DE AARON KAMPMAN** has career high 6.5 sacks & seeks to lead club for 1st time.....**LB NICK BARNETT** has 184 tackles, topping **MIKE DOUGLASS'** club single-season record of 180 set in '81.....**ANTONIO CHAPMAN** returned punt career-long 85 yards for TD last week vs. Bears, his 1st career return TD & 1st for Packers since '01.

HOUSTON TEXANS (2-13) AT SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS (3-12)**SERIES**

	TEXANS	49ERS
LEADER	First meeting	
STREAKS	--	
COACHES VS. OPP.	Capers: 0-0	Nolan: 0-0
LAST WEEK	L 38-20 vs. Jaguars	W 24-20 at Rams
LAST GAME	--	
LAST GAME AT SITE	--	
BROADCAST	CBS (1:05 PM PT): Bill Macatee, Rich Gannon CBS Radio: Ted Robinson, Lincoln Kennedy, Joe Castellano (Field reporter).	

STATS

PASSING	Carr: 252-412-2,465-14-11-78.2	A. Smith (R): 68-136-716-0-10-35.0
RUSHING	Davis: 235-976-4.2-2	Barlow: 176-581-3.3-3
RECEIVING	A. Johnson: 62-685-11.0-2	Lloyd: 44-685-15.6-4
OFFENSE	251.3	217.5
TAKE/GIVE	-7	-10
DEFENSE	366.7	398.3
SACKS	Orr: 7.0	Young: 8
INTs	Many tied: 1	Spencer: 4
PUNTING	Stanley: 38.7	Lee: 42.2
KICKING	K. Brown: 97 (22/22 PAT; 25/32 FG)	Nedney: 89 (17/17 PAT; 24/26 FG)

NOTES

GAME FEATURES pair of No. 1 overall draft selections at QB: **DAVID CARR** of HOU & **ALEX SMITH** of SF.....

TEXANS: QB Carr (61.2 pct.) aims to post 60.0+ comp. pct. for 2nd consecutive season & w/ 2,465 pass yds, needs 35 more to reach 2,500 for 3rd time in 4 seasons. Carr attended Fresno State, 186 miles SE of San Francisco. Carr has TD pass in 11 games on season, career-best is 12 games (2004).....**RB JONATHAN WELLS** has rush TD in 6 of 9 career games with 15+ rush attempts. Wells has 80+ rush yds in consecutive games for 1st time in career. Rookie **RB VERNAND MORENCY** averaging 4.9 yds/carry in past 2 games.....**WR COREY BRADFORD** had 50-yd TD catch last week. Since 2002, **WR COREY BRADFORD** has 17 TD catches, 14 of 20+ yds. Bradford's 17 TD catches average 38.5 yds. **WR ANDRE JOHNSON** has 19 catches for 210 yds w/ 1 TD in past 2 vs. NFC.....In past 4 games, defense has allowed opponent's top rusher to surpass 53 yds once.....**LB SHANTEE ORR** has 6.0 sacks in past 5 games.....Rookie AFC All-Star **WR-KR JEROME MATHIS** is 2nd in NFL w/ 29.1-yard KR avg.; only player in NFL w/ 2 KR-TDs on season. Club delivering opponents' 3rd-worst avg. drive start after kickoff (24.8) in AFC.....**49ERS:** Rookie QB Smith seeks 1st career TD pass. Had his season-high 75.0 comp. pct. (12 of 16) last week.....Rookie 3rd-round **RB FRANK GORE** has rushed for 500 yards & needs 13 for highest total by club rookie since **ROGER CRAIG**'s 725 in '83. Avgs. 4.9 yards per carry, 1st among rookies & 6th in NFL among RBs with 100+ carries. In 3 '05 games with 10+ carries, **RB MAURICE HICKS** has rushed for 209 yards, 3 TDs & 6.7 yards per carry avg.....**WR BRANDON LLOYD** avgs. 15.6 yards per catch, most by club WR with 35+ catches since **TERRELL OWENS'** 16.4-yard avg. in '98 (67 catches). Has career highs with 44 catches & 685 yards.....**G ERIC HEITMANN** was high school star at Houston-area Katy (TX) HS.....**DE BRYANT YOUNG** has 77.5 career sacks, tied for 7th among active players..... **BRANDON MOORE** ranks 5th among NFC LBs with career high 5 sacks.....**K JOE NEDNEY** ranks 4th in NFL converting 92.3 pct. of FG atts. (24 of 26)..... Special teams holds opponents to 19.8-yard KR avg, 3rd in NFL & face AFC Pro Bowl return specialist Jerome Mathis.

TENNESSEE TITANS (4-11) AT JACKSONVILLE JAGUARS (11-4)**SERIES**

	<u>TITANS</u>	<u>JAGUARS</u>
LEADER		13-8
STREAKS		2 of past 3
COACHES VS. OPP.	Fisher: 13-9	Del Rio: 2-3
LAST WEEK	L 24-10 at Dolphins	W 38-20 at Texans
LAST GAME	11/20/05: Jaguars 31 at Titans 28. Jacksonville QB Byron Leftwich throws for 3 TDs & runs for another to lead Jaguars to victory.	
LAST GAME AT SITE	11/21/04: Titans 18, Jaguars 15. Tennessee RB Antowain Smith scores game-winning TD on 2-yard run as Titans QB Steve McNair engineers game-winning 57-yard drive.	
BROADCAST	CBS (4:05 PM ET): Gus Johnson, Steve Tasker	

STATS

PASSING	McNair: 292-476-3,161-16-11-82.4 <u>OR</u> Volek: 36-63-360-2-2-70.9	Garrard: 88-152-989-4-1-83.5
RUSHING	Brown: 224-851-3.8-5	Taylor: 194-787-4.1-3
RECEIVING	Bennett: 57-729-12.8-4	J. Smith: 66-977-14.8-6
OFFENSE	323.5	320.9
TAKE/GIVE	-5	+10
DEFENSE	318.3	292.3 (3C)
SACKS	Vanden Bosch: 12.5 (T2L)	Hayward: 8.5
INTs	Hill (R): 3	Cousin, Mathis: 4
PUNTING	Hentrich: 42.9	Hanson: 43.1
KICKING	Bironas: 98 (29/30 PAT; 23/29 FG)	Scobee: 97 (34/34 PAT; 21/28 FG)

NOTES

TITANS: QB STEVE MC NAIR (3,161) needs 227 passing yards to surpass career high 3,387 in 2002. Since Dec. '04, QB BILLY VOLEK has 9 TDs vs. 5 INTs.....RB CHRIS BROWN (851) needs 149 rush yds to join HOFer EARL CAMPBELL & EDDIE GEORGE has only players in club history w/ 1,000 yds in consecutive seasons.....Last wk, WR DREW BENNETT (3,287) surpassed CHRIS SANDERS (3,285) for 9th-most career rec. yds in club annals. TE ERRON KINNEY (55) needs 4 catches to tie MIKE BARBER (59, 1980) for 6th-most receptions in single season by TE in club history. Club's TEs (138) need 7 catches Sunday to surpass 1983 Chargers (144) for TE corps with the 2nd-most catches in single-season in NFL history.....LB KEITH BULLUCK (139) will lead team in tackles for 4th consecutive year, joining GREGG BINGHAM & AL SMITH as 3rd player to achieve feat in club's history. DE KYLE VANDEN BOSCH tied for 2nd in NFL sacks (12.5).....Rookie CB-PR PACMAN JONES (9.8) stands 2nd in AFC PR avg. & can post best PR avg. by Titan/Oiler rookie since BILLY "WHITE SHOES" JOHNSON (10.3, 1974).....**JAGUARS:** Club has secured 1st playoff berth since 1999 & has won 7 of past 8 games.....QB DAVID GARRARD is 3-1 (.750) as starting on season & has not thrown INT in 117 consecutive pass attempts. RB FRED TAYLOR (803) has more rush yds vs. Titans than any other team.....WR JIMMY SMITH (977) needs 23 receiving yds to reach 1,000 for 9th time in past 10 seasons. WR ERNEST WILFORD posted 2nd career 100-game last wk (118) & is tied for team-high 6 TD catches. Rookie WR MATT JONES stands 2nd among NFL rookies w/ 4 TD catches.....Defense ranked No. 6 in NFL (292.3). LB MIKE PETERSON has 10+ tackles in 12 of 15 games. DE REGGIE HAYWARD has 3.0 sacks in past 3 games & leads team w/ 8.5.....Rookies RB-PR ALVIN PEARMAN (926) FB-KR DERRICK WIMBUSH (934) can each reach 1,000 total yards this week.

WASHINGTON REDSKINS (9-6) AT PHILADELPHIA EAGLES (6-9)**SERIES**

	<u>REDSKINS</u>	<u>EAGLES</u>
LEADER	73-62-5	
STREAKS		7 of past 8
COACHES VS. OPP.	Gibbs: 18-10	Reid: 9-4
LAST WEEK	W 35-20 vs. Giants	L 27-21 at Cardinals
LAST GAME	11/6/05: Eagles 10 at Redskins 17. Washington's Clinton Portis & Mike Sellers each rush for 1 TD & K John Hall connects on 24 yard FG.	
LAST GAME AT SITE	11/21/04: Eagles 28, Redskins 6. Philadelphia QB Donovan McNabb passes for 222 yards & 4 TDs as Eagles improve to 9-1.	
BROADCAST	FOX (4:15 PM ET): Joe Buck, Troy Aikman, Pam Oliver (Field reporter)	

STATS

PASSING	Brunell: 253-429-2,909-22 (T3C)-9-87.8 (3C)	McMahon: 78-176-924-3-7-50.0
RUSHING	Portis: 325-1,404 (3L)-4.3-9 (T3L)	Moats (R): 48-255-5.3-3
RECEIVING	Moss: 80-1,400 (2L)-17.5-9 (T2C)	Smith (TE): 58-609-10.5-3
OFFENSE	334.0	318.3
TAKE/GIVE	-4	-2
DEFENSE	295.5	328.5
SACKS	Daniels: 7.0	Kearse: 7.5
INTs	Marshall: 3	S. Brown: 4
PUNTING	Frost: 40.4	Landeta: 43.6
KICKING	Hall: 56 (23/23 PAT; 11/13 FG)	Akers: 63 (21/21 PAT; 14/20 FG)

NOTES

REDSKINS: Seek 1st playoff berth & 1st 10-win season since '99.....With 9 wins in '05, head coach **JOE GIBBS** has 155 career, 12th in NFL history.....**QB MARK BRUNELL** needs 91 passing yards for 6th career 3,000-yard season. With 3 TD passes, will become 1st club passer with 25 in season since **MARK RYPIEN's** 28 in '91. Has 3-0 record & 96.8 passer rating all-time vs. Phil. **QB PATRICK RAMSEY** saw 1st action since 10/30 last week, completing 5 of 7 for 104 yards & 1 TD.....**RB CLINTON PORTIS** needs 29 yards to surpass **STEPHEN DAVIS** (1,432, '01) for single season franchise record. In 59 career games, avgs 98.6 rushing yards per game.....**WR SANTANA MOSS** needs 37 receiving yards to pass **BOBBY MITCHELL** (1,436, '63) for most in single season in club annals. Needs TD catch to become 1st club WR with 10 since **GARY CLARK** (10) in '91.....**CHRIS COOLEY** has franchise TE record 69 receptions & with 766 receiving yards, needs 84 to surpass **JERRY SMITH** (849, '67) for club best.....Defense allows 16 1st downs per game, 4th in NFL.....**DE PHILLIP DANIELS** needs 3 sacks for 1st career 10-sack season.....**EAGLES:** Seek 4th consecutive home win in series.....**QB MIKE MC MAHON** has 406 career rushing yards (79 atts.) & avgs. 5.1 yards per rush. Rushed for 2 1-yard TD runs vs. Cards & added 21-yard TD pass.....In past 3 games, rookie 3rd-round **RB RYAN MOATS** has rushed for 205 yards, avging. 6.4 yards per carry with 3 TDs. Has rush of 40+ yards in 2 of past 3 games..... Rookie 2nd-round **WR REGGIE BROWN** ranks 2nd among NFL rookies with 494 receiving yards & ties for 3rd with 36 receptions.....**TE L.J. SMITH** has 58 receptions (609 yards) & needs 4 to surpass total of 1st 2 NFL seasons (61)..... Defense allows 3.7 yards per rushing attempt, 7th in NFL..... Fifth-round **DE TRENT COLE** ranks 4th among NFL rookies with 5 sacks..... **BRIAN DAWKINS** ties for 2nd among NFL DBs with 3.5 sacks & is only NFL DB with 3+ sacks & 3 INTs.....**P SEAN LANDETA** ranks 2nd all time with 379 punts inside 20. Avgd. 50.1 yards on 10 punts vs. Ariz.

CHICAGO BEARS (11-4) AT MINNESOTA VIKINGS (8-7)
SERIES

	<u>BEARS</u>	<u>VIKINGS</u>
LEADER		47-39-2
STREAKS	Past 2	
COACHES VS. OPP.	Smith: 2-1	Tice: 3-4
LAST WEEK	W 24-17 at Packers	L 30-23 at Ravens
LAST GAME	10/16/05: Vikings 3 at Bears 28. Chicago rookie QB Kyle Orton throws 2 TDs to TE Desmond Clark & RB Thomas Jones rushes for 89 yards & 2 TDs.	
LAST GAME AT SITE	9/26/04: Vikings 27, Bears 22. Minnesota QB Daunte Culpepper passes for 360 yards & 2 TDs as Vikings hold off Bears.	
BROADCAST	FOX (3:15 PM CT): Dick Stockton, Daryl Johnston, Tony Siragusa (Field reporter). CBS Radio: Harry Kalas and Trev Alberts	

STATS

PASSING	Grossman: 20-39-259-1-2-59.7	B. Johnson: 157-254-1,638-10-4-87.0
RUSHING	Jones: 302-1,273-4.2-9 (T3L)	Moore: 149-605-4.1-1
RECEIVING	Muhammad: 64-750-11.7-4	Wiggins (TE): 66-552-8.4-1
OFFENSE	256.7	281.1
TAKE/GIVE	+6	+5
DEFENSE	274.2 (1L)	328.1
SACKS	Ogunleye: 10.0	Johnstone: 7.5
INTs	Vasher: 8 (T3L)	Sharper: 9 (2L)
PUNTING	Maynard: 41.2	Kluwe (R): 44.4 (2C)
KICKING	Gould (R): 78 (18/19 PAT; 20/26 FG)	Edinger: 96 (27/27 PAT; 23/32 FG)

NOTES

BEARS: With win, **LOVIE SMITH** becomes 4th head coach since '00 to win 12-or-more games in 2nd season at helm (Brian Billick '00, Mike Martz, '01, Mike Sherman '01).....**QB REX GROSSMAN** passed for 166 yards, 1 TD last week in 1st start of season.....**RB THOMAS JONES** needs 27 rushing yards to join **WALTER PAYTON** as only players in team history with 1,300-yard season & 127 for most by Bear since Payton's 1,551 yards in '85..... **WR MUHSIN MUHAMMAD** needs 6 catches for 4th career 70-catch season.....Club has allowed 168 points, fewest in NFL.....Defense ranks 1st overall (274.2), 3rd vs. pass (175.0) & 8th vs. run (99.2).....**DE ADEWALE OGUNLEYE** has 2nd-career 10-sack season.....**LB BRIAN URLACHER** has 3.5 sacks in past 2 games vs. Vikes & 6 career sacks vs. Min, tied for his most vs. any club (Det). **LB LANCE BRIGGS** scored on 10-yard INT return last week & has INT TD for 3rd consecutive season.....Since '04 rookie season, **CB NATHAN VASHER's** 13 INTs tie for 2nd-most in NFL.....**VIKINGS:** Need win for 2nd winning season in 4 years under head coach **MIKE TICE**.....**QB BRAD JOHNSON** has 11-5 career record as starter in Dec/Jan. home games.....In 2 career home games vs. Bears, **RB MICHAEL BENNETT** has rushed for 181 yards. Rookie 4th-round **RB CIATRICK FASON** leads team with 3 rushing TDs.....Rookie 1st-round **WR TROY WILLIAMSON** ranks 6th among NFL rookies & 3rd in NFC with 360 receiving yards (22 catches). Avgs. 16.4 yards per catch. **WR MARCUS ROBINSON** ranks 7th in NFL among players with 30+ catches, avgng. 16.6 yards per receptions (31 catches). Spent '98-'02 with Bears setting franchise record with 1,400 receiving yards in '99..... **JERMAINE WIGGINS** leads club with 66 catches (552 yards) & may become 1st club TE since **STEVE JORDAN** ('85-'86) to lead team in catches 2 years in row..... **DE ERASMUS JAMES** ties for 5th among NFL rookies with 4 sacks.....**CB DARREN SHARPER** ranks 2nd in NFL with 9 INT & needs 1 to tie **PAUL KRAUSE** ('75) for club single-season record.

SUNDAY NIGHT
ST. LOUIS RAMS (5-10) AT DALLAS COWBOYS (9-6)

SERIES

	<u>RAMS</u>	<u>COWBOYS</u>
LEADER	Series tied: 9-9	
STREAKS		2 of past 3
COACHES VS. OPP.	Vitt: 0-0	Parcells: 3-6
LAST WEEK	L 24-20 vs. 49ers	W 24-20 at Panthers
LAST GAME	9/29/02: Cowboys 13 at Rams 10. Dallas K Billy Cundiff connects on 48-yard FG as time expires for Cowboys victory.	
LAST GAME AT SITE	11/15/92: Rams 27, Cowboys 23. Los Angeles RB Cleveland Gary accounts for 154 yards from scrimmage & scores 2 TDs as Rams end Cowboys' 11-game home win streak.	
BROADCAST	ESPN (7:30 PM CT): Mike Patrick, Paul Maguire, Joe Thiesmann, Suzy Kolber (Field reporter) CBS Radio: Dave Sims, John Riggins, Rick Walker (Field reporter).	

STATS

PASSING	Martin: 105-145-1,119-5-7-86.0	Bledsoe: 282-460-3,397 (3C)-22 (T3C)-15-86.3
RUSHING	S. Jackson: 254-1,046-4.1-8	J. Jones: 242-958-4.0-5
RECEIVING	Holt: 98 (1L)-1,291-13.2-9 (T2C)	K. Johnson: 66-742-11.2-6
OFFENSE	354.5 (3C)	328.7
TAKE/GIVE	-14	-1
DEFENSE	355.4	304.1
SACKS	Little: 7.0	Ellis: 8.0
INTs	Furrey: 4	A. Glenn: 4
PUNTING	Barker: 43.1	McBriar: 42.9
KICKING	Wilkins: 109 (34/34 PAT; 25/27 FG)	Suisham (R): 13 (7/7 PAT; 2/2 FG)

NOTES

RAMS: QB **JAMIE MARTIN** passed for career high 354 yards last week. Has 60.0+ comp. pct. in his past 7 games.....RB **STEVEN JACKSON** needs 154 yards to become 7th Ram in franchise history with 1,200-yard rushing season. Ranks 7th among NFL RBs with 43 receptions (320 yards). RB **MARSHALL FAULK** has 12,254 career rushing yards & needs 59 to pass **JIM BROWN** (12,312) for 8th most in NFL history.....WR **ISAAC BRUCE** has 812 career receptions & needs 4 to pass **HENRY ELLARD** (814) & **SHANNON SHARPE** (815) for 12th-most all time. WR **TORRY HOLT** has 39 career 100-yard receiving games & needs 100-yard game to join **RANDY MOSS** (41) as only players ever with 40 in 1st 7 seasons. Had 10 catches for 163 yards last week.....Third-year WR **KEVIN CURTIS** has career highs with 57 catches for 782 yards & 6 TDs.....DE **LEONARD LITTLE** needs 3 sacks for 4th career 10-sack season.....

COWBOYS: Seek 2nd playoff berth in 3 seasons under **BILL PARCELLS**.....QB **DREW BLEDSOE** ranks 7th in NFL history with 43,205 yards & 15th with 243 career TD passes. Has 15-7 (.682) record in past 22 starts.....RB **JULIUS JONES** rushed for 194 yards vs. Car, 4th-best single-game total in club history. Needs 42 rushing yards to become 5th player in franchise history with 1,000-yard season. In 20 career games, avgs. 88.9 rushing yards per game. RB **MARION BARBER** ranks 4th among NFL rookies with 520 rushing yards..... WR **KEYSHAWN JOHNSON** has 739 career catches & needs 5 to pass **ANDRE RISON** (743) for 20th all-time. Among players with 45+ receptions, WR **TERRY GLENN** ranks 1st with 18.2-yards per catch avg (60 catches). Has 1,092 receiving yards & needs 56 for career high (1,147, '99).....Defense ranks 4th in NFL holding foes to 34.4 3rd down conversion pct. (67 of 195).....DE **MARCUS WARE** ties for 2nd among NFL rookies with 7 sacks. Had 3 sacks last week, most by Cowboy rookie since stat made official in '82.

2005 AFC Division Standings

AFC East												
Team	Overall Record	Head to Head	Division Record	Common Games Record	Conf Record	Strength of Victory	Strength of Schedule	Conf PF + PA Rank	Overall PF + PA Rank	Common Game Net Pts	Overall Net Pts	TD
y-New England	10-5-0		5-0-0	0-0-0	7-4-0	.393	.498	16	26	0	43	43
Miami	8-7-0		2-3-0	0-0-0	6-5-0	.417	.444	17	31	0	-1	32
Buffalo	5-10-0		2-3-0	0-0-0	5-6-0	.440	.520	26	50	0	-92	24
New York Jets	3-12-0		1-4-0	0-0-0	2-9-0	.489	.547	28	54	0	-119	22

AFC North												
Team	Overall Record	Head to Head	Division Record	Common Games Record	Conf Record	Strength of Victory	Strength of Schedule	Conf PF + PA Rank	Overall PF + PA Rank	Common Game Net Pts	Overall Net Pts	TD
y-Cincinnati	11-4-0		5-1-0	0-0-0	7-4-0	.394	.462	12	22	0	105	48
Pittsburgh	10-5-0		4-2-0	0-0-0	7-5-0	.427	.511	8	11	0	117	40
Baltimore	6-9-0		2-3-0	0-0-0	4-7-0	.344	.529	17	35	0	-30	24
Cleveland	5-10-0		0-5-0	0-0-0	3-8-0	.400	.520	21	42	0	-73	20

AFC South												
Team	Overall Record	Head to Head	Division Record	Common Games Record	Conf Record	Strength of Victory	Strength of Schedule	Conf PF + PA Rank	Overall PF + PA Rank	Common Game Net Pts	Overall Net Pts	TD
*-Indianapolis	13-2-0		6-0-0	0-0-0	11-1-0	.431	.471	2	4	0	188	51
x-Jacksonville	11-4-0		3-2-0	0-0-0	8-3-0	.388	.476	12	21	0	65	37
Tennessee	4-11-0		2-3-0	0-0-0	3-8-0	.217	.493	25	48	0	-95	31
Houston	2-13-0		0-6-0	0-0-0	1-11-0	.333	.556	30	57	0	-168	24

AFC West												
Team	Overall Record	Head to Head	Division Record	Common Games Record	Conf Record	Strength of Victory	Strength of Schedule	Conf PF + PA Rank	Overall PF + PA Rank	Common Game Net Pts	Overall Net Pts	TD
z-Denver	12-3-0		4-1-0	0-0-0	9-2-0	.472	.498	7	12	0	121	43
Kansas City	9-6-0	1	4-2-0	0-0-0	8-3-0	.452	.498	16	27	0	44	42
San Diego	9-6-0	1	3-2-0	0-0-0	7-4-0	.496	.538	10	17	0	122	50
Oakland	4-11-0		0-6-0	0-0-0	2-10-0	.450	.529	25	48	0	-84	30

2005 NFC Division Standings

NFC East												
Team	Overall Record	Head to Head	Division Record	Common Games Record	Conf Record	Strength of Victory	Strength of Schedule	Conf PF + PA Rank	Overall PF + PA Rank	Common Game Net Pts	Overall Net Pts	TD
x-New York Giants	10-5-0		4-2-0	0-0-0	8-4-0	.447	.511	9	20	0	99	42
Washington	9-6-0	2	4-1-0	0-0-0	9-2-0	.526	.556	11	22	0	55	40
Dallas	9-6-0	-2	3-3-0	0-0-0	7-4-0	.467	.533	13	27	0	27	37
Philadelphia	6-9-0		0-5-0	0-0-0	3-8-0	.367	.524	21	43	0	-67	33

NFC North												
Team	Overall Record	Head to Head	Division Record	Common Games Record	Conf Record	Strength of Victory	Strength of Schedule	Conf PF + PA Rank	Overall PF + PA Rank	Common Game Net Pts	Overall Net Pts	TD
z-Chicago	11-4-0		5-0-0	0-0-0	10-1-0	.388	.440	14	25	0	82	27
Minnesota	8-7-0		4-1-0	0-0-0	7-4-0	.325	.467	23	45	0	-62	29
Detroit	5-10-0		1-5-0	0-0-0	3-9-0	.293	.493	23	45	0	-77	25
Green Bay	3-12-0		1-5-0	0-0-0	3-8-0	.356	.520	20	41	0	-52	32

NFC South												
Team	Overall Record	Head to Head	Division Record	Common Games Record	Conf Record	Strength of Victory	Strength of Schedule	Conf PF + PA Rank	Overall PF + PA Rank	Common Game Net Pts	Overall Net Pts	TD
Tampa Bay	10-5-0	1	4-1-0	0-0-0	8-3-0	.447	.462	15	29	0	12	30
Carolina	10-5-0	1	3-2-0	0-0-0	7-4-0	.400	.449	5	14	0	99	40
Atlanta	8-7-0		2-3-0	0-0-0	5-6-0	.342	.480	13	28	0	43	38
New Orleans	3-12-0		1-4-0	0-0-0	1-10-0	.400	.507	29	57	0	-149	22

NFC West												
Team	Overall Record	Head to Head	Division Record	Common Games Record	Conf Record	Strength of Victory	Strength of Schedule	Conf PF + PA Rank	Overall PF + PA Rank	Common Game Net Pts	Overall Net Pts	TD
*-Seattle	13-2-0		6-0-0	0-0-0	10-1-0	.400	.436	3	5	0	187	55
Arizona	5-10-0	1	3-3-0	0-0-0	4-8-0	.280	.480	21	43	0	-72	25
St. Louis	5-10-0	1	1-5-0	0-0-0	2-9-0	.333	.480	20	43	0	-76	38
San Francisco	3-12-0		2-4-0	0-0-0	3-9-0	.444	.573	31	60	0	-192	21

x-clinched playoff berth
y-clinched division title
z-clinched first-round bye
*-clinched home-field advantage

LAST WEEK'S NFL RESULTS (DEC. 24-26)

(Home team in CAPS)

Saturday, December 24

Dallas 24, CAROLINA 20
Buffalo 37, CINCINNATI 27
Pittsburgh 41, CLEVELAND 0
Jacksonville 38, HOUSTON 20
KANSAS CITY 20, San Diego 7
MIAMI 24, Tennessee 10
Detroit 13, NEW ORLEANS 12 (San Antonio)
San Francisco 24, ST. LOUIS 20
TAMPA BAY 27, Atlanta 24 (OT)
WASHINGTON 35, N.Y. Giants 20

Saturday, December 24, cont.'d

ARIZONA 27, Philadelphia 21
DENVER 22, Oakland 3
SEATTLE 28, Indianapolis 13

Sunday, December 25

Chicago 24, GREEN BAY 17
BALTIMORE 30, Minnesota 23

Monday, December 26

New England 31, N.Y. JETS 21

WEEK 17 NFL SCHEDULE – DECEMBER 31 - JANUARY 1

(All times local)

Saturday, December 31

Denver at San Diego, 1:30 PM (CBS)
N.Y. Giants at Oakland, 5:00 PM (ESPN)

Sunday, January 1

Carolina at Atlanta, 1:00 PM
Baltimore at Cleveland, 1:00 PM
Seattle at Green Bay, 12:00 PM
Arizona at Indianapolis, 1:00 PM
Cincinnati at Kansas City, 12:00 PM

Sunday, January 1, cont'd.

Miami at New England, 1:00 PM
Buffalo at N.Y. Jets, 1:00 PM
Detroit at Pittsburgh, 1:00 PM
New Orleans at Tampa Bay, 1:00 PM
Tennessee at Jacksonville, 4:05 PM
Houston at San Francisco, 1:05 PM
Chicago at Minnesota, 3:15 PM
Washington at Philadelphia, 4:15 PM
St. Louis at Dallas, 7:30 PM (ESPN)

