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EARLY SURPRISE TEAMS SEEK TO KEEP IT GOING IN WEEK 3

2-0 or 0-2 is too early to jump to conclusions.

Sure, it's nice being unbeaten through two weeks of the season, and kind of scary starting things off without a win. But NFL history has proven time and again that the first two weeks do not a season make. Far from it.

In the past three years, 12 clubs began the season at 2-0 and failed to make the playoffs. In that time, three teams started 0-2 and advanced to the playoffs. Four years ago, New England began 0-2 and won Super Bowl XXXVI.

"Two games is one-eighth of a season," says head coach **TONY DUNGY** of the 2-0 Indianapolis Colts. "We're still a long ways away."

That said, there are some teams who did not have successful 2004 seasons who are flawless at 2-0 in '05 and want to stay that way, such as Cincinnati (8-8 in 2004), Kansas City (7-9), the New York Giants (6-10), Tampa Bay (5-11) and Washington (6-10).

"It's right there in front of us," says the always-confident Bengals wide receiver **CHAD JOHNSON**. "This year we can do something special."

This week can be something special with such games as:

NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS (1-1) at PITTSBURGH STEELERS (2-0)

STORYLINE: Rematch!

It's a replay of last season's AFC Championship Game between two clubs that have won a combined 32 of 36 regular-season games the past two seasons.

They met twice last year. On October 31, the Steelers halted the Pats' NFL-record 18-game regular-season winning streak for Pittsburgh's fifth in a row. The Steelers have since added 11 regular-season victories through last week, for a total of 16 straight (tying 1971-73 and 1983-84 Miami for history's second-longest streak). With three more wins, they would top the Pats' NFL record.

In the Championship Game, the Patriots scored their second-most points of 2004 in a 41-27 victory in Pittsburgh. The key to the win was the four turnovers forced by New England that led to 24 points.

"I think that game will be on a lot of people's minds this week," says speedy Steelers **RB WILLIE PARKER**, the NFL's second-leading rusher (272 yards), who head coach **BILL COWHER** says has supplanted **JEROME BETTIS** and **DUCE STALEY** as the team's No. 1 running back.

The game will be a matchup of two take-what-they-give-you quarterbacks – New England's **TOM BRADY** and Pittsburgh's **BEN ROETHLISBERGER**, who has yet to lose a regular-season game in his two-year career (15 in a row).

CINCINNATI BENGALS (2-0) at CHICAGO BEARS (1-1)

STORYLINE: It's the Carson and Kyle fireworks show!

Two of the NFL's promising young quarterbacks – Cincinnati's **CARSON PALMER** and Chicago rookie **KYLE ORTON** –

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"CADILLAC" SPEEDING ALONG: Tampa Bay Buccaneers running back **CARNELL "CADILLAC" WILLIAMS** has posted the fifth-most rushing yards in history in a rookie's first two games (Alan Ameche, Baltimore, 1955, 347; Ottis Anderson, St. Louis, 1979, 302; William Andrews, Atlanta, 1979, 288; and Billy Sims, Detroit, 1980, 288).

last week directed two of the three most lopsided wins this season. The Bengals (with 64 points in two weeks and the NFL's No. 1 offense) won by 29 points (37-8 over Minnesota) and the Bears by 32 (38-6 over Detroit). Combined, the Bengals and Bears totaled 840 yards of offense.

Something might have to give with all that firepower, though. The teams compiled an impressive 10 interceptions in Week 2. The Bengals, under new defensive coordinator **CHUCK BRESNAHAN**, have surrendered only 21 points this season, and picked off **DAUNTE CULPEPPER** five times last Sunday. The Bears have given up just 15 points so far and rang up five interceptions against **JOEY HARRINGTON**.

Things look rosy right now for both clubs. But a fellow who knows just how long the NFL season can be – Bengals 10-year **T WILLIE ANDERSON** – advises caution. “You’re judged at the end of the year, whether or not you’re in the playoffs playing in the cold weather, or at home watching TV,” says Anderson. “That’s how you’re judged.”

CLEVELAND BROWNS (1-1) at INDIANAPOLIS COLTS (2-0)

STORYLINE: *Two teams coming off unusual wins.*

For one, it was *where* they did it. For the other, *how* they did it.

The Browns – that’s the *new* Browns, with a new head coach (**ROMEO CRENNEL**) and 26 new players, including 12 rookies (tying for second most in the AFC) – won for the first time since 1956 in Green Bay/Milwaukee. And their new quarterback, **TRENT DILFER**, posted his first win in nine trips to Lambeau Field, throwing 62- and 80-yard TD passes.

It will be a “new-look” Colts the Browns will face -- not much offense, but what a defense! Of course, no one expects **QB PEYTON MANNING**'s sparse passing statistics last week (122 yards, 44.0 passer rating) to continue, but the Browns are heading into a defensive buzz saw that has allowed only 10 points this season.

The Colts come off a six-sack game against Jacksonville, led by **DT MONTAE REAGOR**'s three. He joins the ferocious spin moves of 2004 NFL sack leader **DE DWIGHT FREENEY** (16.0).

NEW YORK GIANTS (2-0) at SAN DIEGO CHARGERS (0-2) (Sunday night, ESPN, 8:30 PM ET)

STORYLINE: *Eli goes to San Diego.*

That will be the main story in Charger-town this week as Giants **QB ELI MANNING** faces for the first time the team that drafted him No. 1 overall in 2004. The same day, he was traded to the Giants for their No. 1 choice, **QB PHILIP RIVERS**.

Things thus seemed set at quarterback in San Diego. But veteran **DREW BREES** had other ideas. He became the starter over Rivers, led San Diego to the division title and was voted the NFL Comeback Player of the Year.

Manning meanwhile became the starter in New York's final seven games (1-6), attaining 100.0 passer ratings in two of his last three starts, and has taken the Giants to their first 2-0 record since 2000.

Sunday will be a matchup of two of the best backs in the NFL who both wear No. 21. The Giants' **TIKI BARBER** comes off an 83-yard, two-TD game Monday night, and the Chargers' **LA DAINIAN TOMLINSON** last Sunday established the NFL record for most consecutive games with a rushing TD (14).

Two stats put the teams' seasons in perspective. The Giants have dominated their two games this year, scoring 69 total points, the most in a season's first two games in their 81-year history. The Chargers are indeed 0-2, but have lost those games by a total of only seven points.

KANSAS CITY CHIEFS (2-0) at DENVER BRONCOS (1-1) (Monday night, ABC, 9:00 PM ET)

STORYLINE: *High-scoring series goes low this year?*

Could be, the way the teams have played so far. In the past three seasons, the six games between these division rivals have averaged 60.8 points, with the teams splitting the last two seasons. This year, the Chiefs and Broncos spent a good part of their offseason shoring up their defenses. It has showed.

Kansas City, with the NFL's top offense in 2004, came close to shutting out the Jets in Week 1, and stopped the Raiders on the 10-yard line in the final minutes for a 23-17 victory on Sunday. The Broncos allowed San Diego only 41 yards in the second half last week in their 20-17 win.

“We have to continue to play at a high level and get more turnovers,” says Denver **LB AL WILSON**, speaking really for both defenses. “We have to be around the football and give the offense opportunities to score points.” Like the old days.

WEEK 3
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 25
ATLANTA FALCONS (1-1) AT BUFFALO BILLS (1-1)

SERIES

	<u>FALCONS</u>	<u>BILLS</u>
LEADER	Series tied, 4-4	
STREAKS		2 of past 3
COACHES VS. OPP.	Mora: 0-0	Mularkey: 0-0
LAST WEEK	L 21-18 at Seahawks	L 19-3 at Buccaneers
LAST GAME	12/23/01: Bills 30 at Falcons 33. Atlanta's Jay Feely kicks game-winning 52-yard FG as time expires. Falcons QB Chris Chandler passes for club-record 431 yards.	
LAST GAME AT SITE	11/12/95: Bills 23, Falcons 17. Buffalo QB Jim Kelly passes for 272 yards & 2 TDs while Bills rookie RB Darick Holmes rushes for 100 yards.	
BROADCAST	FOX (1:00 PM ET): Sam Rosen, Bill Maas, Chris Myers (Field reporter)	

STATS

PASSING	Vick: 23-42-279-1-1-73.4	Losman: 29-56-283-1-0-72.2
RUSHING	Dunn: 37-171-4.6-0	McGahee: 35-151-4.3-0
RECEIVING	Crumpler (TE): 7-107-15.3-0	Reed: 7-77-11.0-0
OFFENSE	271.0	231.5
TAKE/GIVE	+1	+5 (T3C)
DEFENSE	364.5	219.0 (1C)
SACKS	4 tied: 1.0	Schobel: 2.0
INTs	D. Hall: 1	Vincent: 2 (T2C)
PUNTING	Koenen (R): 44.9	Moorman: 42.3
KICKING	Peterson: 6 (3/3 PAT; 1/1 FG)	Lindell: 19 (T3L) (1/1 PAT; 6/6 FG)

NOTES

FALCONS: **JIM MORA** has 3-1 mark as head coach in game immediately following loss.....**QB MICHAEL VICK** is winningest QB in club history, posting 24-13-1 mark (.645), including 6-3-1 vs. AFC opponents.....**RB WARRICK DUNN** has 100-yard rushing games in 4 of his last 6. Rushed for 106 yards & 2 TDs in only career game vs. Buf on 11/26/00 (with Bucs). Club avgs. 4.6 yards per rush, 4th-best in NFL.....Second-year **WR MICHAEL JENKINS** avgs. 25.5 yards per catch (4 for 102). **WR BRIAN FINNERAN** has 7 receptions, 4 for 1st downs.....**TE ALGE CRUMPLER** ties for 3rd among NFL TEs with 2 catches of 20+ yards.....**DE PATRICK KERNEY** has 48 career sacks & needs 2 for 50.....**S KEION CARPENTER** spent 1999-01 with Bills, seeing action in 37 games with 22 starts.....Special teams holds opponents to avg. drive start on KOs of 18.6 yard-line, best in NFL.....**BILLS:** **QB J.P. LOSMAN** has not thrown INT in 59 consecutive attempts.....**RB WILLIS MC GAHEE** has 10+ yd rush & at least 1 reception in 15 consecutive games. **RB SHAUD WILLIAMS** has 5 receptions.....**WR ERIC MOULDS** needs 1 rec. for 600 in career. Has catch in club-record 112 consecutive games, NFL's 4th-longest active streak. **WR LEE EVANS** has 4+ catches in 6 of past 8 games & has 3 TD receptions in past 3 games vs. NFC. **TE MARK CAMPBELL** needs 50 receiving yds for 1,000 in career.....In 7 NFL career games, **T JASON PETERS** has scored 2 TDs (1 rec., 1 FR-TD).....**DE AARON SCHOBEL** (36.5) needs 2.0 sacks to surpass **SHERMAN WHITE** (37.0) & tie **DARRYL TALLEY** (38.5) for 5th-most in club history. In last game vs. Atl. on 11/4/01, **S LAWYER MILLOY** (w/NE) had 6 tackles, including sack of QB Vick for 7-yd loss.....**CB-KR TERRENCE MC GEE** (3) tied with **CHARLEY WARNER** (3) for most career KR-TDs in club history.

CINCINNATI BENGALS (2-0) AT CHICAGO BEARS (1-1)**SERIES**

	<u>BENGALS</u>	<u>BEARS</u>
LEADER	4-3	
STREAKS	2 of past 3	
COACHES VS. OPP.	Lewis: 0-0	Smith: 0-0
LAST WEEK	W 37-8 vs. Vikings	W 38-6 vs. Lions
LAST GAME	10/21/01: Bears 24 at Bengals 0. Chicago RB Anthony Thomas rushes for club rookie-record 188 yards to lead Bears to 1st shutout since '93.	
LAST GAME AT SITE	11/8/92: Bengals 31, Bears 28 (OT). Cincinnati QB Boomer Esiason's 23-yard TD pass to WR Carl Pickens with 59 seconds to play ties game & K Jim Breech's 39-yard FG wins it.	
BROADCAST	CBS (12:00 PM CT): Kevin Harlan, Randy Cross	

STATS

PASSING	Palmer: 53-74-617 (1L)-5 (1C)-2-107.8 (2C)	Orton (R): 29-49-291-1-1-74.4
RUSHING	R. Johnson: 48-216 (T2C)-4.5-1	T. Jones: 35-170-4.9-3
RECEIVING	C. Johnson: 16 (T1C)-230 (2C)-14.4-1	Muhammad: 12-140-11.7-1
OFFENSE	462.0 (1L)	251.0
TAKE/GIVE	+7 (1L)	+6
DEFENSE	338.5	278.5
SACKS	Powell, J. Smith: 1.0	Urlacher: 3.0
INTs	O'Neal: 3 (T1L)	Vasher: 3 (T1L)
PUNTING	Larson: 44.5	Maynard: 41.7
KICKING	Graham: 22 (1L) (7/7 PAT; 5/5 FG)	Brien: 9 (6/6 PAT; 1/3 FG)

NOTES

TEAMS MEET in Chicago for 1st time since 1992.....**BENGALS**: Offense ranks No. 1 in NFL (924 yds). Team (2-0) advanced to playoffs last 2 times it started 3-0 (1988, 1990).....**QB CARSON PALMER** has 100+ passer rating in 5 consecutive starts & 14 TD passes in those 5. Club has won 3 of past 4 on road w/ Palmer starting.....**RB RUDI JOHNSON** has rush TD in 4 of past 5 games & has 4 rush TDs in past 2 road games vs. NFC.....**WR CHAD JOHNSON** (298) needs 2 catches to surpass **BOB TRUMPY** (298) & **TONY MC GEE** (299) for 7th-most catches in club history. Johnson leads AFC WRs w/ 13 1st downs. In past 2 games, **WR KEVIN WALTER** has 5 catches for 53 yds & 1 TD. In first 27 NFL games prior to '05, Walter caught 11 total passes.....In past 2 games, **DT JOHN THORNTON** has 8 tackles & 1 FF. Rookie **LB ODELL THURMAN** leads team with 15 tackles after 1st 2 career games; led team in tackles (8) in Wk 1. **CBs TORY JAMES & DELTHA O'NEAL** combine for 44 career INTs, most career INTs between active teammates.....

BEARS: Seek to win 1st 2 home games of season for 1st time since '99.....Rookie **QB KYLE ORTON** earned 1st-career win vs. Det, posting 103.3 passer rating & tossing 1st TD pass.....**RB THOMAS JONES** has 100+ yards rushing in 3 of last 4 games.....**WR MUHSIN MUHAMMAD** has 590 career receptions & needs 10 to become 10th active WR with 600. Of his 12 catches, 6 have resulted in 1st downs.....Defense has surrendered 1 TD, tied for NFL best, & 15 points, 3rd-fewest in NFL. Seek to hold opponent to fewer than 10 points in 3 consecutive games for 1st time since accomplishing feat in 5 games in row from 9/25/88 to 10/24/88.....**DE ADEWALE OGUNLEYE** has 6 career 2-sack games with his team winning 5.....**LB BRIAN URLACHER** tied career-high with 2 sacks vs. Lions. Leads NFL LBs & ties for league-high with 3 sacks.....**S MIKE BROWN** scored club record 6th career defensive TD vs. Det on 41-yard INT.....Second-year **CB NATHAN VASHER** has 8 INTs in 18 career games, including career-best 2 last week.

TAMPA BAY BUCCANEERS (2-0) AT GREEN BAY PACKERS (0-2)**SERIES**

	<u>BUCCANEERS</u>	<u>PACKERS</u>
LEADER		29-18-1
STREAKS		2 of past 3
COACHES VS. OPP.	Gruden: 1-2	Sherman: 3-3
LAST WEEK	W 19-3 vs. Bills	L 26-24 vs. Browns
LAST GAME	11/16/03: Packers 20 at Buccaneers 13. Green Bay RB Ahman Green rushes for 109 yards & game-winning TD as Packers snap 5-game losing streak at Raymond James Stadium.	
LAST GAME AT SITE	11/4/01: Packers 21, Buccaneers 20. Green Bay CB Allen Rossum returns punt 55 yards for TD with 3:03 left for win.	
BROADCAST	FOX (12:00 PM CT): Joe Buck, Troy Aikman, Pam Oliver (Field reporter)	

STATS

PASSING	Griese: 34-51-349-2-2-82.9	Favre: 59(1L)-88(1L)-543-3-4-76.1
RUSHING	Williams (R): 51(1L)-276(1L)-5.4-2	Green: 28-112-4.0-0
RECEIVING	Clayton: 10-141-14.1-0	Driver: 10-153-15.3-1
OFFENSE	331.5	334.0
TAKE/GIVE	+3	-5
DEFENSE	197.5 (1L)	322.5
SACKS	Rice: 2.0	Kampman: 1.0
INTs	Kelly: 2	--
PUNTING	Bidwell: 46.5 (2C)	Sander: 39.0
KICKING	M. Bryant: 11 (5/5 PAT; 2/2 FG)	Longwell: 9 (3/3 PAT; 2/2 FG)

NOTES

BUCCANEERS: Seek 1st 3-0 start since '00 & 1st win at GB since '89.....**JON GRUDEN** is 29-24 (.547) with TB & needs win to join **TONY DUNGY** (56) & **JOHN MC KAY** (45) as Bucs coaches with 30.....**QB BRIAN GRIESE** needs 2 TD passes for 100 career.....Rookie **RB CARNELL WILLIAMS** leads NFL with 276 rushing yards. Seeks to become 1st rookie in NFL history with 3 consecutive 100-yard games to start career.....Second-year **WR MICHAEL CLAYTON** has avgd 15.0+ yards per catch in 4 of 6 games vs. NFC South. **WR JOEY GALLOWAY** has 5 TDs in last 8 games.....**TE ALEX SMITH** needs TD catch to tie **CALVIN MAGEE** (3) for most by Bucs rookie TE in team history.....Defense has allowed 2,122 points since '97, fewest in NFL & avg. of 16.3 per game.....**LB DERRICK BROOKS** has started 144 consecutive games, most by active defender.....**CB RONDE BARBER** has 18 career sacks, 2nd among active DBs (Rodney Harrison, 27.5). With 23 career INTs, needs 2 sacks to become 1st CB in history with 20 career INT & sacks.....

PACKERS: Have won 12 consecutive home games vs. Bucs, tied for 4th-longest current streak in NFL (Wash, 17 home wins in row vs. Det).....**QB BRETT FAVRE** has 181 career TD passes at Lambeau, most of any player at 1 stadium all-time.....**RB AHMAN GREEN** has 49 career rushing TDs & needs 1 for 50. Has 48 rushing TDs with Pack & needs 3 to pass **PAUL HORNUNG** (50) for 2nd in club history.....**WR DONALD DRIVER** has catch in 50 consecutive games & needs 1 to pass **DON HUTSON** & **PAUL COFFMAN** (50) for 4th-longest streak in club history.....**TE BUBBA FRANKS** has 195 career receptions & needs 5 to join **ED WEST** (202) & **PAUL COFFMAN** (322) as only TEs in franchise history with 200 catches.....**DE KABEER GBAJA-BIAMILA** has 50.5 career sacks & needs 5 to pass **TIM HARRIS** (55) for 2nd-most in club annals (**REGGIE WHITE**, 68.5).....**LB NICK BARNETT** aims to become 1st Packer in 30 years to lead club in tackles 3 years in row.....**K RYAN LONGWELL** has FG in 14 games in row & needs 1 for club record.

CLEVELAND BROWNS (1-1) AT INDIANAPOLIS COLTS (2-0)**SERIES**

	<u>BROWNS</u>	<u>COLTS</u>
LEADER	13-10	
STREAKS		Past 3
COACHES VS. OPP.	Crennel: 0-0	Dungy: 2-0
LAST WEEK	W 26-24 at Packers	W 10-3 vs. Jaguars
LAST GAME	9/7/03: Colts 9 at Browns 6. Indianapolis' Mike Vanderjagt kicks 3 FGs, including game-winning 45-yarder as time expires.	
LAST GAME AT SITE	9/25/94: Browns 21, Colts 14. Cleveland's Vinny Testaverde passes for 266 yards & 3 TDs to lead Browns to victory on road.	
BROADCAST	CBS (12:00 PM CT): Don Criqui, Steve Tasker	

STATS

PASSING	Dilfer: 47-75-614 (2L)-4 (T2C)-2-95.1 (3C)	Manning: 34-64-376-2-1-74.7
RUSHING	Droughns: 32-128-4.0-0	James: 50-216 (T2C)-4.3-0
RECEIVING	Jackson: 9-139-15.4-1	Stokley: 9-107-11.9-0
OFFENSE	382.0 (3C)	304.0
TAKE/GIVE	+1	+3
DEFENSE	436.0	352.0
SACKS	Crocker, Roye, Thompson: 1.0	Reagor: 3.0 (T1L)
INTs	Baxter, Bodden, McCutcheon: 1	Brackett: 2 (T2C)
PUNTING	Richardson: 44.8	Smith: 42.7
KICKING	P. Dawson: 15 (3/3 PAT; 4/4 FG)	Vanderjagt: 10 (4/4 PAT; 2/2 FG)

NOTES

BROWNS: Head coach **ROMEO CRENNEL**, as NE D-Coord. (2001-04), was 6-0 vs. Colts, including playoffs. Crennel-led Patriot defenses limited Manning to 9 TDs vs. 10 INTs in those 6 NE wins. Of 16 teams Colts QB Manning has faced 3+ times, Cle. is 1 of only 2 clubs (Den.) to deny him 300-yd game, 3-TD game, or 100+ passer rating game in regular season.....**QB TRENT DILFER** is 27-9 (.750) in past 36 starts, including playoffs & is 18-7 (.720) as starter in games decided by 3 pts or less. In 1 career start vs. Colts (11/2/97, w/ TB) Dilfer passed for 3 TDs w/o INT on 16 of 25 passing for 164 yds & 122.3 passer rating. In past 2 wks, Dilfer has 3 TDs of 60+ yds.....**RB REUBEN DROUGHNS** averaging 4.0 yds per carry (32 for 128). Droughns has 20 or more carries in 8 of past 14 games.....Last wk at GB, rookie **WR BRAYLON EDWARDS** (107) & **TE STEVE HEIDEN** (104) marked 9th time in club's NFL history that Cle. duo had 100+ rec. yds in same game.....Club has not allowed sack in consec. games for 1st time since 9/20/92 (at LA Raiders) & 9/27/92 (vs. Den.).....**CB GARY BAXTER** had INT in 1st game w/ Cle. last wk.....**COLTS:** Team has held opponents to single-digit scoring in each of 1st 2 games for 3rd time (1960, 2003).....Head coach **TONY DUNGY** is NFL's winningest coach since 1999 (66-32, .673). Team has 6-game home win streak, franchise record is 7 (1998-99)**QB PEYTON MANNING** is 68-46 (.596) as starter & is 22-games over .500 for 1st time in career. Manning & **WR MARVIN HARRISON** (9,515 yds & 83 TDs) need 24 yds between them to surpass HOF **QB JIM KELLY & WR ANDRE REED** (9,538) & 3 TDs to surpass HOF **QB STEVE YOUNG & WR JERRY RICE** (85) for most all-time by duo in each category in NFL history**RB EDGERRIN JAMES** averages 126.5 scrim. yds per game, most in NFL history w/ 60-game min.; 2nd on list is Cle. HOF **RB JIM BROWN** (125.5). **RB RAN CARTHON** scored 1st career TD last wk. Father, **MAURICE CARTHON**, is former NFL RB & Cle. O-Coord.....**DE MONTAE REAGOR** recorded 3.0 sacks last wk. All 9 Colts sacks are by D-line.

CAROLINA PANTHERS (1-1) AT MIAMI DOLPHINS (1-1)

SERIES

	<u>PANTHERS</u>	<u>DOLPHINS</u>
LEADER		2-0
STREAKS		2-0
COACHES VS. OPP.	Fox: 0-0	Saban: 0-0
LAST WEEK	W 27-17 vs. Patriots	L 17-7 at Jets
LAST GAME	11/4/01: Panthers 6 at Dolphins 23. Miami QB Jay Fiedler passes for 287 yards & 1 TD. Dolphins WR Oronde Gadsden has 5 catches for 102 yards.	
LAST GAME AT SITE	11/4/01	
BROADCAST	FOX (1:00 PM ET): Kenny Albert, Brian Baldinger, Jay Glazer (Field reporter)	

STATS

PASSING	Delhomme: 30-57-366-1-3-56.6	Frerotte: 44-79-452-3-2-74.4
RUSHING	S. Davis: 38-158-4.2-4	Brown (R): 34-92-2.7-0
RECEIVING	S. Smith: 12-172-14.3-1	McMichael (TE): 14-132-9.4-2 (T1L)
OFFENSE	300.0	330.5
TAKE/GIVE	0	-1
DEFENSE	289.5	291.5 (3C)
SACKS	T. Davis (R), Rucker: 1.0	Carter, Seau, J. Taylor: 1.0
INTs	Witherspoon: 1	Daniels (R), Schulters, 1
PUNTING	Baker: 41.3	D. Jones: 42.6
KICKING	Kasay: 17 (5/5 PAT; 4/4 FG)	Mare: 11 (5/5 PAT; 2/3 FG)

NOTES

PANTHERS: Head coach **JOHN FOX's** .547 winning pct. (29-24) is tops in club history.....**QB JAKE DELHOMME** has TD pass in 7 of last 9 games vs. AFC opponents.....**RB STEPHEN DAVIS** tied career-high with 3 rushing TDs last week. Leads NFL with 4 TDs. **RB DE SHAUN FOSTER** avgs. 4.9 yards per carry through 2 games (16 for 78).....**WR STEVE SMITH** has 3 of 5 career 100-yard games vs. AFC foes. Ties for 2nd in NFL with 4 receptions of 20+ yards. **WR RICKY PROEHL** had 41-yard reception last week & team-leading 63 yards.....**TE KRIS MANGUM** has increased receptions & rec. yards in each year since '01.....Defense ranks 4th in NFL allowing 2.9 yards per rush.....**DE JULIUS PEPPERS** has multi-sack games in 2 of last 5 vs. AFC. **DE MIKE RUCKER** has 41 career sacks & needs 1 to pass **KEVIN GREENE** (41.5) for franchise record.....**PR CHRIS GAMBLE** had career-long 76-yard PR vs. Pats.....**K JOHN KASAY** scored 9 points vs. NE, giving him 1,201 career. Connected on FGs of 51 & 52 yards vs. Pats & is 26 of 48 (.542) career from 50+ yards.....**DOLPHINS:** Club has won past 3 home games & seeks 1st 4-game home win streak since 2002.....In 56 career home games, **QB GUS FREROTTE** has 42 TDs vs. 29 INTs.....In past 4 games, **RB SAMMY MORRIS** has 35 carries for 195 yds for 5.6-yd avg.....**TE RANDY MC MICHAEL** (2,006) last wk became 2nd TE in club history to reach 2,000 rec. yds (**BRUCE HARDY**, 2,455).....With next 100-yd rec. game, **WR CHRIS CHAMBERS** (11) ties **NAT MOORE** (12) for 3rd-most in club history. With next rec. TD, Chambers (28) ties **O.J. MC DUFFIE** (29) for 5th on team's all-time list. **WR MARTY BOOKER** has catch in 75 consecutive games.....With 12 tackles last wk at NYJ, **LB JUNIOR SEAU** has 10+ tackles in 60 career games. **DE JASON TAYLOR** to make 85th consecutive start Sunday. Taylor (65.0) has 2nd-most sacks in NFL since 2000 (**MICHAEL STRAHAN**, NYG, 68.0). **DE KEVIN CARTER** to make start in 70th consecutive game. Defense has not allowed 300-yd passer in 32 games – longest current streak in NFL; Redskins own 2nd-longest streak at 23 games.....After kickoffs, team's avg. drive start is 31.4-yd line; 4th best in AFC.

NEW ORLEANS SAINTS (1-1) AT MINNESOTA VIKINGS (0-2)**SERIES**

	<u>SAINTS</u>	<u>VIKINGS</u>
LEADER		16-7
STREAKS	Past 2	
COACHES VS. OPP.	Haslett: 1-3	Tice: 2-0
LAST WEEK	L 27-10 vs. Giants (at Giants Stadium)	L 37-8 at Bengals
LAST GAME	10/17/04: Vikings 38 at Saints 31. Minnesota QB Daunte Culpepper passes for 425 yards & 5 TDs as Vikings roll up 605 yards to beat Saints.	
LAST GAME AT SITE	11/8/98: Vikings 31, Saints 24. Minnesota RB Robert Smith rushes for 137 yards & 1 TD & RB Leroy Hoard scores twice as Vikings hold off Saints.	
BROADCAST	FOX (12:00 PM CT): Ron Pitts, Tim Ryan	

STATS

PASSING	Brooks: 45-69-567-1-3-77.4	Culpepper: 43-70-469-0-8-41.6
RUSHING	McAllister: 41-111-2.7-2	M. Bennett: 9-35-3.9-0
RECEIVING	Horn: 14(3C)-209(3C)-14.9-1	Taylor: 10-113-11.3-0
OFFENSE	356.5 (3C)	276.0
TAKE/GIVE	-3	-9
DEFENSE	303.5	424.5
SACKS	W. Smith: 1.0	Johnstone, P. Williams: 1.0
INTs	Craft, McKenzie: 1	Sharper, Offord, Smoot: 1
PUNTING	Berger: 41.4	Kluwe (R): 51.0 (1L)
KICKING	Carney: 15 (3/3 PAT; 4/5 FG)	Edinger: 7 (1/1 PAT; 2/2 FG)

NOTES

SAINTS: Lead NFL converting 57.1 pct. on 3rd downs (16 of 28).....Head coach **JIM HASLETT** has 25-16 (.610) road record, 2nd-best among active head coaches (Andy Reid, 32-17, .653).....**QB AARON BROOKS** has 9 career 300-yard passing games after 375 yard effort vs. NYG. Needs 300 yard game to pass **ARCHIE MANNING** (9) for most in club history.....**RB DEUCE MC ALLISTER** rushed for 47 yards vs. Giants, giving him 4,305 career, passing **GEORGE ROGERS** (4,267) for most in club history. Has 37 career TDs & needs 1 to pass **DANNY ABRAMOWICZ** for 4th in franchise history. Since becoming full-time starter in '02, has 100+ rushing yards in 22 of 47 games.....Club 18-7 (.720) when **WR JOE HORN** has 100+ yards receiving. Has 46 TD catches with NO & needs 3 to pass **ERIC MARTIN** (48) for most in club history. **WR DONTÉ STALLWORTH** had 8 catches for 141 yards vs. NYG.....Defense has not allowed 4th-quarter TD in 6 consecutive games.....**CB MIKE MC KENZIE** had 6 INTs in 12 games with NO.....**VIKINGS**: Club has scored in 222 consecutive games, longest active streak & 3rd-longest all-time (SF, 420)..... **QB DAUNTE CULPEPPER** has 18 career 300-yard passing games & needs 1 to tie **TOMMY KRAMER** for most in franchise history. In 4 career games vs. Saints, including playoffs, has topped 300 yards passing in each, posting 12 TDs vs. 3 INT with 119.0 passer rating, winning 3.....**RB MOE WILLIAMS** avgs. 9.7 yards per carry in last 2 games vs. Saints (7 for 68).....**WR NATE BURLESON** has averaged 15.0+ yards per catch in 4 of last 5 games. With 10 catches in 1st 2 games, **WR TRAVIS TAYLOR** is off to career-best start. **TE JERMAINE WIGGINS** led club with 71 catches in '04 & has 7 in 1st 2 games. Has 3 career TDs vs. Saints, his most vs. any club.....**DT KEVIN WILLIAMS** has 22 sacks in 34 career games.....**CB KEN IRVIN** played in 16 games with Saints in '02, starting 9.....Rookie **P CHRIS KLUWE** leads NFL with 51.0 punting average & 42.1-yard net average.

JACKSONVILLE JAGUARS (1-1) AT NEW YORK JETS (1-1)

SERIES

	<u>JAGUARS</u>	<u>JETS</u>
LEADER	3-2	
STREAKS	2 of past 3	
COACHES VS. OPP.	Del Rio: 0-1	Edwards: 1-1
LAST WEEK	L 10-3 at Colts	W 17-7 vs. Dolphins
LAST GAME	11/23/03: Jaguars 10 at Jets 13. New York's Chad Pennington throws 3-yard TD pass to WR Santana Moss with 26 seconds remaining to lead Jets to victory.	
LAST GAME AT SITE	11/23/03	
BROADCAST	CBS (1:00 PM ET): Gus Johnson, Brent Jones	

STATS

PASSING	Leftwich: 33-60-450-2-0-90.3	Pennington: 40-64-454-2-1-87.6
RUSHING	Taylor: 36-157-4.4-0	Martin: 51-129-2.5-0
RECEIVING	J. Smith: 10-179 (3C)-17.9-2 (T1L)	Coles: 11-134-12.2-1
OFFENSE	332.5	330.5
TAKE/GIVE	+6 (T2L)	-1
DEFENSE	295.0	312.0
SACKS	Ayodele, Hayward: 1.0	Abraham: 2.0
INTs	Four tied: 1	Barrett, Law: 1
PUNTING	Hanson: 45.0	Graham (R): 44.2
KICKING	Scobee: 17 (2/2 PAT; 5/7 FG)	Nugent (R): 6 (3/3 PAT: 1/2 FG)

NOTES

JAGUARS: Club is 5-4 in past 9 road games. In 11-yr history, team has scored 1st in 50 games & won 36 of those games (72.0 pct.).....In past 9 road games, **QB BYRON LEFTWICH** has completed 194 of 323 for 60.0 comp. pct. Team is 7-0 when Leftwich passes for 2+ TDs.....**RB FRED TAYLOR** has 20 or more carries in 7 of past 8 games played & has rush of 10+ yds in 80 of 88 career games played (90.9 pct.).....**WR JIMMY SMITH** has TD catch of 30 yds or more in 3 of past 6 games & entering Wk 3 stands 3rd in AFC w/ 179 rec. yds. Smith (36 yrs old) is NFL's 2nd-oldest WR (**RICKY PROEHL**, 37, Carolina). **WR REGGIE WILLIAMS** has 4 catches in consecutive games.....Club is +6 in turnovers, 2nd best in AFC (Cin., +7). **G CHRIS NAEOLE** & **DT MARCUS STROUD** have each started past 50 games for club.....In past 10 games, **DTs JOHN HENDERSON** (5.5) & Stroud (4.5) have combined for 10 sacks – 3rd-most in NFL by DT duo in that span. Defense has 12 INTs in past 5 games.....**JETS:** Club is 7-2 (.778) in past 9 at home.....**QB CHAD PENNINGTON** is AFC's 2nd-best 4th qtr passer with 121.8 passer rating, completing 11 of 15 (73.3 pct.) for 131 yds w/1 TD vs. 0 INTs.....Since joining NYJ in 1998, **RB CURTIS MARTIN** has 35 rush TDs in 58 home games. Martin has 126 runs of 10+ yds in those 58 at home..... **WR LAVERANUES COLES** leads NFL w/ 6 catches on 3rd down. Since 2002, Coles (272) has 6th-most receptions in league. Offense owns AFC's best 3rd-down conversion pct. (45.2), converting 14 of 31 attempts.....**C KEVIN MAWAE** owns NFL's 3rd-longest consecutive games played streak (173), trailing GB **QB BRETT FAVRE** (207) & KC **G WILL SHIELDS** (193).....**DE JOHN ABRAHAM** (45.0) needs 3.0 sacks to tie **JOHN ELLIOT** (48.0) for 6th-most sacks in club history. Since 2003, **DE SHAUN ELLIS** (24.5) has 2nd-most sacks in AFC (**DWIGHT FREENEY**, Ind., 28.0). In 5 career games vs. Jax WR Smith, defense has yielded him only 15 catches & 1 TD. In 1st 2 NFL games, rookie **S KERRY RHODES** has 14 tackles & 2 PDs.....Rookie **CB-KR JUSTIN MILLER** stands 2nd in AFC with 30.3 KR avg. on 6 returns, has 50-yd return tied for AFC's 2nd-longest of season.

OAKLAND RAIDERS (0-2) AT PHILADELPHIA EAGLES (1-1)**SERIES**

	<u>RAIDERS</u>	<u>EAGLES</u>
LEADER	Series tied: 4-4	
STREAKS	Past 2	
COACHES VS. OPP.	Turner: 5-9	Reid: 0-1
LAST WEEK	L 23-17 vs. Chiefs	W 42-3 vs. 49ers
LAST GAME	10/28/01: Raiders 20 at Eagles 10. Oakland utilizes powerful rushing game & stifling defense to defeat Philadelphia as QB Rich Gannon completes 17 of 26 for 158 yards.	
LAST GAME AT SITE	10/28/01	
BROADCAST	CBS (1:00 PM ET): Dick Enberg, Dan Dierdorf, Armen Keteyian (Field reporter)	

STATS

PASSING	Collins: 39-74-528-4 (T2C)-0-93.8	McNabb: 47-74-599 (3L)-6 (1L)-1-110.1 (3L)
RUSHING	Jordan: 33-129-3.9-1	Westbrook: 27-136-5.0-0
RECEIVING	Jordan (RB): 11-72-6.5-0	Owens: 12-255 (T2L)-21.3-2
OFFENSE	332.5	442.0 (2L)
TAKE/GIVE	-2	+2
DEFENSE	366.5	230.5 (3L)
SACKS	Burgess: 1.0	Walker: 2.0
INTs	0	4 tied: 1
PUNTING	Lechler: 46.7 (1C)	Johnson: 39.7
KICKING	Janikowski: 7 (4/4 PAT; 1/3 FG)	Akers: 9 (6/6 PAT; 1/4 FG)

NOTES

RAIDERS: Have won 15 of past 23 vs. NFC (.652).....In 10 career games vs. Philly, **QB KERRY COLLINS** has 84.4 passer rating w/ 7 TDs vs. 2 INTs on 200 of 333 passing (60.1 pct) for 2,221 yds. Since Wk 11 of 2004 (11/21/04), Collins (20) is tied for most TDs in NFL (**PEYTON MANNING**).....Among players w/ 100+ carries since 2004, **RB LA MONT JORDAN** (4.8) is tied for 4th-best per-carry-avg. in NFL. Has posted runs of 18+ yds in each of 1st 2 games w/ club. **RB ZACK CROCKETT** (34) needs 1 rush TD to tie **MARK VAN EEGHEN** (35) for 3rd-most in club history.....**WR RANDY MOSS** has 92 rec. TDs in 111 career games. **JERRY RICE** reached 100 rec. TDs in NFL record-low 120 games played. Moss stands 1st in NFL w/ 257 rec. yds. & has TD catch in 7 of past 8 games.....Including last wk vs. KC, **T LANGSTON WALKER** has blocked 5 FGs since 11/21/04.....**LB DERRICK BURGESS** was Eagle from 2001-04 & shares club's career playoff sack record (4.0) w/ **REGGIE WHITE & HUGH DOUGLAS**. Defense ranked 6th in NFL in rush yds allowed per attempt (2.96).....**EAGLES:** Posted franchise record 583 total yards vs. 49ers.....Club 52-7 (.881) under head coach **ANDY REID** when leading at halftime.....**QB DONOVAN MC NABB** tossed career high-tying 5 TD passes last week. His 155.4 passer rating is highest of career in games in which he has played at least 1 half. Has led club to wins in 26 of last 32 games.....**RB BRIAN WESTBROOK** seeks to post 100+ scrimmage yards in 9th consecutive game. Ties for 2nd in NFL among RBs with 10 receptions.....**WR TERRELL OWENS** has 99 career TDs & needs 1 to become 15th player in NFL history with 100. Has 10,027 career receiving yards & needs 179 to pass **ANDRE RISON** in 20th all-time.....**TE L.J. SMITH** had career-highs with 9 receptions for 119 yards vs. SF, his 1st-career 100-yard receiving game. Leads NFL TEs with 148 yards receiving through 2 games.....Defense has surrendered 17 points through 2 games, 5th-fewest in NFL.....Defense ranks 3rd in NFL with 4 INTs.....**DT DARWIN WALKER** ties for 3rd among NFL DTs with 2 sacks.....**CB LITO SHEPPARD** had sack & INT vs. SF, 1st time in career he notched 1 in same game.

TENNESSEE TITANS (1-1) AT ST. LOUIS RAMS (1-1)**SERIES**

	<u>TITANS</u>	<u>RAMS</u>
LEADER		5-3
STREAKS		2 of past 3
COACHES VS. OPP.	Fisher: 1-1	Martz: 0-0
LAST WEEK	W 25-10 vs. Ravens	W 17-12 at Arizona
LAST GAME	10/31/99: Rams 21 at Titans 24. In a preview of SB XXXIV, St. Louis K Jeff Wilkins misses 38-yard FG with 7 seconds remaining as Tennessee improves to 6-1.	
LAST GAME AT SITE	--	
BROADCAST	CBS (12:00 PM CT): Ian Eagle, Solomon Wilcotts	

STATS

PASSING	McNair: 37-62-414-2-1-83.7	Bulger: 52(3C)-85(3L)-578(3C)-3-2-83.4
RUSHING	Henry: 28-97-3.5-0	S. Jackson: 37-153-4.1-1
RECEIVING	Kinney (TE): 7-71-10.1-0	Holt: 14-195-13.9-1
OFFENSE	296.5	351.0
TAKE/GIVE	-3	+2
DEFENSE	303.0	298.0
SACKS	Vanden Bosch: 3.0 (T1L)	Little: 3.0
INTs	Kassell: 1	Groce: 1
PUNTING	Hentrich: 45.1 (3C)	Hodges (R): 39.3
KICKING	Bironas: 12 (3/3 PAT; 3/4 FG)	Wilkins: 18 (3/3 PAT; 5/5 FG)

NOTES

TEAMS MEET FOR 1ST TIME SINCE Rams earned 23-16 win in SB XXXIV.....**TITANS:** Head coach **JEFF FISHER** aims for 100th career NFL victory. Under Fisher, club is 45-36 (.556) on road since 1995 – best in NFL during that span. Youngest Kickoff Weekend roster in NFL (25 yrs, 205 days avg.).....**QB STEVE MC NAIR** is 15-4 (.789) in past 19 vs. NFC w/ TD pass in 17 of those 19. Has 28 TDs vs/ 10 INTs in those 19. Including last wk, has not thrown INT in 60 of 119 career games & club is 45-15 (.750) in those games.....Since 2004, **RB CHRIS BROWN** owns 4.9-yr per carry avg., No. 1 in NFL among RBs w/ 200+ carries.....**WR DREW BENNETT** has TD catch of 30+ yds in 5 of past 7 games. Bennett has NFL-best 9 rec. TDs since Wk. 13, 2004. **TE BEN TROUPE** has catch in 13 consecutive games.....**LB KEITH BULLUCK** has led club in tackles in 30 of past 50 games. **DE KYLE VANDEN BOSCH** posted career-high 3.0 sacks in win vs. Balt. last wk. Team registered 6 sacks last wk for 1st time since 9/8/02 vs. Phil. Club limited Ravens to 14 total rush yds in Wk 2 & denied 1st down in 1st half.....**RAMS:** Head coach **MIKE MARTZ** has 14-6 (.700) record vs. AFC opponents.....**QB MARC BULGER** ties for NFL lead with 2 4th-quarter TD passes. Ranks 4th in NFL with 52 completions.....Second-year **RB STEVEN JACKSON** avgd. 5.2 yards per carry last week, rushing for 93 yards on 18 carries. **WR TORRY HOLT** seeks TD catch in 4th consecutive game vs. AFC opponents. Has posted 6+ catches & 90+ receiving yards in 3 in row vs. AFC, including 2 100s. **WR ISAAC BRUCE** has 11,878 career receiving yards & needs 27 to pass **MICHAEL IRVIN** (11,904) for 11th-most in NFL history & 122 to become only active player with 12,000. Was college standout at Memphis State. **WR KEVIN CURTIS** has 26 receptions for 426 yards in last 5 games, including playoffs.....Defense seeks to hold opponents without TD in consecutive games for 1st time since 12/14-12/20/75. Defense aims to hold foes to less than 100 yards rushing in 3 consecutive games for 1st time since 9/21-0/13/03.....With 3 sacks in 1st 2 games, **DE LEONARD LITTLE** is off to best start of 8-year career.

DALLAS COWBOYS (1-1) AT SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS (1-1)

SERIES

	<u>COWBOYS</u>	<u>49ERS</u>
LEADER		14-8-1
STREAKS		3 of past 4
COACHES VS. OPP.	Parcells: 4-8	Nolan: 0-0
LAST WEEK	L 14-13 vs. Redskins	L 42-3 at Eagles
LAST GAME	12/8/02: 49ers 31 at Cowboys 27. San Francisco QB Jeff Garcia passes for 3 TDs & runs in another as 49ers clinch NFC West title.	
LAST GAME AT SITE	11/2/97: 49ers 17, Cowboys 10. San Francisco RBs Garrison Hearst & William Floyd each produce rushing TDs as 49ers win 8th consecutive game.	
BROADCAST	FOX (1:05 PM PT): Dick Stockton, Daryl Johnston, Tony Siragusa (Field reporter)	

STATS

PASSING	Bledsoe: 39-60-487-4-0-112.3 (2L)	Rattay: 24-42-272-2-3-62.8
RUSHING	J. Jones: 48(3C)-174(3C)-3.6-1	Barlow: 24-56-2.3-1
RECEIVING	T. Glenn: 9-199-22.1-1	Battle: 9-103-11.4-1
OFFENSE	326.0	179.5
TAKE/GIVE	+3	-3
DEFENSE	318.5	494.0
SACKS	R. Williams: 1.5	Young: 3.0
INTs	Henry, Newman: 1	M. Adams: 1
PUNTING	McBriar: 45.9 (3C)	Lee: 42.4
KICKING	Cortez: 11 (5/5 PAT; 2/3 FG)	Nedney: 7 (4/4 PAT; 1/1 FG)

NOTES

COWBOYS: Head coach **BILL PARCELLS** last led club to win at SF in '90 NFC Championship (NYG 15-13).....**QB DREW BLEDSOE** has 40,295 career passing yards & needs 257 to pass **JOHNNY UNITAS** (40,239) & **JOE MONTANA** (40,551) for 8th-most in NFL history. Seeks to post 90.0+ passer rating for 3rd consecutive game.....**RB JULIUS JONES** has 20+ carries in all 9 career starts. Seeks 2nd consecutive 100 vs. NFC West.....**WR TERRY GLENN** had 6 catches for 157 yards & 1 TD last week, his 1st 150-yard game since posting 154 vs. Chic on 10/7/02 (with Packers). Avgs. 22.1 yards per catch, 3rd-most in NFL (min. 9 catches).....**DT LA'ROI GLOVER** needs 0.5 sacks for 70 career sacks, 3rd-most among active DTs (Warren Sapp, 79.5).....**CB TERENCE NEWMAN** had INT vs. Wash & seeks to lead club in INTs for 3rd consecutive season. **S ROY WILLIAMS** ties for 2nd among NFL DBs with 1.5 sacks.....Rookie **KR TYSON THOMPSON** ranks 2nd in NFL with 31.3 KR avg.....**K JOSE CORTEZ** spent '01 season with 49ers, connecting on 18 of 25 FGs.....**49ERS:** Seek 2-0 start to home schedule for 1st time since '99.....**QB TIM RATTAY** has 2+ TD pass in 7 of 9 career starts at Monster Park. Has thrown 54 consecutive pass without INT in home games.....**WR ARNAZ BATTLE** off to career-best start with 9 catches in 2 games.....**TE ERIC JOHNSON** may make season debut. Set club TE records with 82 receptions & 825 receiving yards in '04.....After totaling 29 sacks in '04, defense ties for 2nd (Ind) in NFL with 9 (Pit, 11).....**DT BRYANT YOUNG** ranks 2nd among active DTs with 72.5 career sacks.....**LB DEREK SMITH** has 100+ tackles in 8 consecutive seasons, tied for 3rd-longest streak in NFL (Derrick Brooks, Zach Thomas, 9). **ANDRE CARTER** has 21.5 sacks since '02, 3rd-most among LBs (Joey Porter, 23).....**S TONY PARRISH** has started all 113 career games & needs 2 INT for 30-career.....Second-year **P ANDY LEE** ranks 3rd in NFC with 40.2-yard net punting avg.

ARIZONA CARDINALS (0-2) AT SEATTLE SEAHAWKS (1-1)

SERIES

	<u>CARDINALS</u>	<u>SEAHAWKS</u>
LEADER	7-5	
STREAKS		4 of past 5
COACHES VS. OPP.	Green: 6-2	Holmgren: 4-2
LAST WEEK	L 17-12 vs. Rams	W 21-18 vs. Falcons
LAST GAME	12/26/04: Cardinals 21 at Seahawks 24. Seattle RB Shaun Alexander scores 3 TDs as Seahawks reach postseason in consecutive years for 1st time since '83-84.	
LAST GAME AT SITE	12/26/04	
BROADCAST	FOX (1:05 PM PT): Curt Menefee, JC Pearson	

STATS

PASSING	Warner: 56(2L)-88(2L)-591(2C)-1-2-77.4	Hasselbeck: 41-67-527-4-2-93.3 (3C)
RUSHING	Shipp: 19-64-3.4-0	Alexander: 42(2C)-217(3L)-5.2-1
RECEIVING	Fitzgerald: 17(1L)-225-13.2-1	D. Jackson: 14(2C)-196-14.0-1
OFFENSE	348.5	375.0 (2C)
TAKE/GIVE	-1	-6
DEFENSE	286.0	292.5
SACKS	Berry, Dansby: 2.0	Bernard, Fisher: 2.0
INTs	Dansby: 2	--
PUNTING	Player: 45.4	Araguz: 43.5
KICKING	Rackers: 19 (1/1 PAT; 6/6 FG)	J. Brown: 5 (5/5 PAT; 0/0 FG)

NOTES

CARDINALS: Club plays 2nd of 3 division games in row (L vs. StL, vs. SF 10/2).....Club avgs. 292.0 passing yards per game, 4th in NFL.....**QB KURT WARNER** has 40-21 (.658) record as starter, including 1-0 vs. Sea. Passed for 386 yards vs. Sea on 9/10/00 (with Rams).....**RB MARCEL SHIPP** made 1st start last week since 12/28/03, rushing for 54 yards & adding 5 catches for 39 yards. **RB OBAFEMI AYANBADEJO** is 1 of 6 NFL RBs with 8+ receptions.....In 3 career games vs. Seahawks, **WR ANQUAN BOLDIN** has 25 catches for 291 yards, including 2 100-yard games. Second-year **WR LARRY FITZGERALD** has NFL best 17 receptions & 14 1st downs, tops in NFC & 2nd in NFL.....Defense holds opponents to 171.5 passing yards per game, 6th in NFL.....**DE BERTRAND BERRY** has 28 sacks in last 34 games. **DE CHIKE OKEAFOR** faces former club for 1st time. Started every game for Sea from 2003-04, posting 16.5 sacks.....Second-year **LB KARLOS DANSBY** is only NFL player with 2 INT & 2 sacks through 1st 2 weeks.....**SEAHAWKS**: Head coach **MIKE HOLMGREN** has 59-39 (.602) career record vs. division opp.....**QB MATT HASSELBECK** has thrown 18 TD passes vs. 5 INTs in last 10 home games. Has TD pass in 18 consecutive games at Qwest Field, 2nd-longest active streak. Has 11 career 300-yard passing games & needs 1 to pass **DAVE KRIEG** for most in franchise history.....**RB SHAUN ALEXANDER** seeks 4th consecutive 150+ rushing performance vs. NFC West foes. Has 8 career TDs vs. Cards, his most vs. any club.....**WR DARRELL JACKSON** has 35 career TD catches & needs 2 to pass **DARYL TURNER** (36) & **JOEY GALLOWAY** (36) for 2nd in club history (**STEVE LARGENT**, 100). Jackson (14) & **WR BOBBY ENGRAM** (13) are only 2 teammates to rank in top 10 in receptions. **WR JOE JUREVICIUS** seeks TD catch in 3rd consecutive game with club.....**DE BRYCE FISHER** seeks sack in 3rd game in row with team.....Rookie 2nd-round **LB LOFA TATUPU** started vs. Falcons & posted 6 tackles, tied for 2nd on club, & 1st-career sack.

NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS (1-1) AT PITTSBURGH STEELERS (2-0)**SERIES**

	<u>PATRIOTS</u>	<u>STEELERS</u>
LEADER		12-5
STREAKS	2 of past 3	
COACHES VS. OPP.	Belichick: 6-9	Cowher: 5-5
LAST WEEK	L 27-17 at Panthers	W 27-7 at Texans
LAST GAME	10/31/04: Patriots 20 at Steelers 34. Pittsburgh rookie QB Ben Roethlisberger throws 2 TD passes to WR Plaxico Burress as Steelers end Patriots' NFL-record 18-game winning streak.	
LAST GAME AT SITE	10/31/04	
BROADCAST	CBS (4:15 PM ET): Jim Nantz, Phil Simms, Bonnie Bernstein (Field reporter)	

STATS

PASSING	Brady: 47-82-576 (3C)-3-1-86.2	Roethlisberger: 23-32-472-4 (T2C)-0-153.6 (1L)
RUSHING	Dillon: 37-99-2.7-2 (T3C)	Parker: 47-272 (1C)-5.8-2 (T3C)
RECEIVING	Branch: 15 (T3C)-159-10.6-1	Ward: 8-109-13.6-2 (T1L)
OFFENSE	333.5	406.0 (2C)
TAKE/GIVE	-1	+5 (T3C)
DEFENSE	294.0	262.0 (2C)
SACKS	Colvin, Green, Vrabel: 1.0	Polamalu: 3.0 (T1L)
INTs	Vrabel: 1	Colclough, Polamalu: 1
PUNTING	Jo. Miller: 46.5 (2C)	Gardocki: 44.0
KICKING	Vinatieri: 11 (5/6 PAT; 2/2 FG)	Reed: 19 (T3L) (7/7 PAT; 4/4 FG)

NOTES

REMATCH of 2004 AFC Championship (NE 41-27).....**PATRIOTS:** Team has won 33 of past 36 games, including playoffs. Club has not lost consecutive games in 35 weeks (Dec. 2002), longest active streak in NFL. Team has won 4 of past 5 mtgs, including 2001 & 2004 AFC Championship Games in Pittsburgh.....**QB TOM BRADY** (49-15, .766) can reach 50th win in 65th start, which would be 2nd-fewest starts to reach 50 wins by QB starting career since 1970 (**KEN STABLER**, Oak., 62). Brady is 7-0 in career OT games; only HOF **QB TERRY BRADSHAW** (5-0) played in at least 5 career OTs w/o defeat.....**RB COREY DILLON** was inactive in last mtg (10/31-04), won by Pitt, 34-20.....**WR TROY BROWN** (484) needs 7 catches to surpass **BEN COATES** (490) for 2nd-most catches in club history. Brown (5,654) needs 87 rec. yds to surpass **IRVING FRYAR** (5,726) for 2nd-most in team annals.....In past 7 games, **LB MIKE VRABEL** has 3.5 sacks & 1 INT. **LB CHAD BROWN** played for Steelers from 1993-96. Led Steelers w/ 13.0 sacks in 1996.....**STEELERS:** Club has won 16 games in row & needs 3 more to surpass NFL record of 18 (NE, 2003-04). Steelers snapped NE's 18-game streak in Heinz Field 10/31/04.....Head coach **BILL COWHER** has faced all NFL teams at least twice & has .500 or better record vs. 23 of 31. Under Cowher, team is 20-7 (.741) vs. AFC East.....**QB BEN ROETHLISBERGER** is 15-0 as starter & has posted passer rating of 139.0+ in Wks 1 & 2.....**RB WILLIE PARKER** leads AFC w/ 272 rush yds. Parker is 2nd in NFL w/ 8 rushes of 10+ yds. Had 32 carries in all of '04.....Last wk vs. Hou., **WR HINES WARD** recorded 1st 2-TD rec. game since 11/9/03 vs. Ariz. In AFC Champ., caught 5 for 109 & TD.....Offense rushed for 221 yds vs. NE on 10/31/04 & defense forced 2 INTs.....Team has not committed turnover on season (+5 ratio).....In past 2 games, **LB CLARK HAGGANS** has 2.0 sacks, PD, & FF. Last wk at Hou., **S TROY POLAMALU** (3.0) tied NFL record for most sacks in game by safety. Pass defense No. 3 in NFL (157.0/gm).

NEW YORK GIANTS (2-0) AT SAN DIEGO CHARGERS (0-2)

SERIES

	<u>GIANTS</u>	<u>CHARGERS</u>
LEADER	5-3	
STREAKS	3 of past 4	
COACHES VS. OPP.	Coughlin: 0-0	Schottenheimer: 3-3
LAST WEEK	W 27-10 at Saints	L 20-17 at Broncos
LAST GAME	9/27/98: Giants 34 at Chargers 16. New York has 4 INTs & scores 21 points off those turnovers, including Percy Ellsworth's 20-yard INT-TD.	
LAST GAME AT SITE	9/27/98	
BROADCAST	ESPN (5:30 PM PT): Mike Patrick, Joe Theismann, Paul Maguire, Suzy Kolber (Field reporter). CBS Radio: Joel Meyers, John Riggins, Rick Walker (Field reporter).	

STATS

PASSING	Manning: 23-47-337-3-2-76.3	Brees: 33-58-384-2-3-67.0
RUSHING	Barber: 35-145-4.1-2	Tomlinson: 38-124-3.3-3 (T1C)
RECEIVING	Burress: 10-140-14.0-1	McCardell: 13-177-13.6-2 (T1L)
OFFENSE	266.0	252.0
TAKE/GIVE	+5	-1
DEFENSE	370.0	316.0
SACKS	Strahan: 2.5	Foley: 2.0
INTs	5 tied: 1	Jue: 1
PUNTING	Feagles: 43.7	Scifres: 42.3
KICKING	Feely: 15 (9/9 PAT; 2/2 FG)	Kaeding: 11 (5/5 PAT; 2/2 FG)

NOTES

GIANTS: Lead NFL with 69 points scored. Seek 1st 3-0 start since '00.....**QB ELI MANNING** has thrown TD pass in 3 consecutive games. Was selected by SD with 1st pick in '04 NFL Draft before being traded to NYG.....**RB TIKI BARBER** has 100 yard rushing games in 2 of last 4 vs. AFC opponents. Rushed for 83 yards vs. Saints, becoming 1st player in franchise history with 7,000 career (7,072). Rookie 4th-round **RB BRANDON JACOBS** ties for NFL lead with 3 3rd & 1 conversions. Has 2 TD runs, tied for NFL rookie high.....**WR PLAXICO BURRESS** had 2 TDs in only career game vs. SD on 12/21/03 (with Steelers). **TE JEREMY SHOCKEY** has 190 career receptions & needs 10 for 200.....Defense has allowed 1 offensive TD in 2 games. Unit allows 51.5 rushing yards per game, 2nd-fewest in NFL (TB).....ranked 2nd in NFL with 19.9 yards per catch in '04 & long reception of 44 yards in NYG debut.....**DE MICHAEL STRAHAN** seeks sack in 4th consecutive game. Has 120.5 career sacks & needs 1.5 to pass **CLYDE SIMMONS** (121.5) for 11th-most all-time.....Special teams lead NFL with avg. drive start on KOs at 38.8 yard-line.....**CHARGERS:** Head coach **MARTY SCHOTTENHEIMER** served NYG in 1st NFL coaching job as LB coach (1975-76) & def. coord. (1977)In past 5 games vs. NFC, **QB DREW BREES** has 9 TDs vs. 4 INTs.....**RB LA DAINIAN TOMLISON** has scored rush TD in NFL-record 14 consecutive games. Tomlinson (14) needs rushing or receiving TD vs. NYG to surpass HOF **RB O.J. SIMPSON** (14) for 2nd-most consecutive games w/ TD scored (HOF **RB LENNY MOORE**, 19).....**WR KEENAN MC CARDELL** stands 6th in AFC w/13 catches. McCardell has 24 catches vs. NYG in 4 career games for 285 yds. **TE ANTONIO GATES** has 5+ receptions in 10 of past 13 games played.....**LB STEVE FOLEY** 1 of 2 AFC LBs with 2.0 sacks (**JOEY PORTER**, Pitt.). Rookie **DE LUIS CASTILLO** reared in Brooklyn, Manhattan & Garfield, NJ. Rookie **KR-RB DARREN SPROLES** leads AFC w/31.0 KR avg. Has 49-yd KR for 4th-longest in conference.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

KANSAS CITY CHIEFS (2-0) AT DENVER BRONCOS (1-1)

SERIES

	<u>CHIEFS</u>	<u>BRONCOS</u>
LEADER	50-39	
STREAKS		Past 3 at home
COACHES VS. OPP.	Vermeil: 4-6	Shanahan: 12-12
LAST WEEK	W 23-17 at Raiders	W 20-17 vs. Chargers
LAST GAME	12/19/04: Chiefs 45, Broncos 17. Kansas City QB Trent Green passes for 3 TDs while Chiefs RB Larry Johnson rushes for 151 yards & 2 TDs.	
LAST GAME AT SITE	9/12/04: Chiefs 24 at Broncos 34. Denver RB Quentin Griffin rushes for 156 yards & 2 TDs. Broncos score 10 points in 4th quarter to pull out victory.	
BROADCAST	ABC (7:00 PM MT): Al Michaels, John Madden, Samantha Ryan (Field reporter). CBS Radio: Marv Albert, Boomer Esiason, John Dockery (Field reporter).	

STATS

PASSING	Green: 33-54-437-0-1-79.0	Plummer: 45-85-499-1-3-59.9
RUSHING	Holmes: 41-160-3.9-2 (T3C)	Mi. Anderson: 19-54-2.8-0
RECEIVING	Gonzalez (TE): 9-95-10.6-0	Smith: 15 (T3C)-173-11.5-0
OFFENSE	371.5	321.5
TAKE/GIVE	+3	0
DEFENSE	358.5	319.5
SACKS	Four tied: 1.0	Four tied: 1.0
INTs	Surtain: 1	Bailey: 2 (T2C)
PUNTING	Colquitt (R): 43.4	Sauerbrun: 45.0
KICKING	Tynes: 20 (2L) (5/5 PAT; 5/7 FG)	Elam: 12 (3/3 PAT; 3/5 FG)

NOTES

CHIEFS: Team has won 4 of past 6 on MNF. Chiefs have at least 1 rush TD in 33 of 36 wins under head coach **DICK VERMEIL**. Offense has rush TD in past 17 wins, longest active such streak in NFL. Club has won 7 of past 8 on road when winning turnover ratio.....In past 5 games vs. Den., **QB TRENT GREEN** has 8 TDs vs. 2 INTs on 99 of 168 passing (58.9 pct.) for 1,233 yds & 92.7 passer rtg.....**RB LARRY JOHNSON** has 3 rush TDs on season & rush TD in 8 games in row.....**TE TONY GONZALEZ** has 7,000 career rec. yds & is 4th TE in NFL history to reach mark: **SHANNON SHARPE** (10,060), **OZZIE NEWSOME** (7,980) & **JACKIE SMITH** (7,918). Last wk at Oak., **WR SAMIE PARKER** caught career-long 49-yd catch & posted career-high 86 rec. yds.....Last wk at Oak, **LB GARY STILL**s recorded 3rd-career special teams FR. Defense has limited foes under 21 points in consec. games for 1st time since '03.....**BRONCOS:** Club appears on MNF in 14 consecutive season; NFL's longest active streak.....Under head coach **MIKE SHANAHAN**, club is 8-3 (.727) at home on MNF & 8-3 (.727) at home vs. KC.....**QB JAKE PLUMMER** has TD pass in 4 games in row vs. KC. Plummer (7,197) is 56 total offense yds (rush & pass) shy of passing **CHARLEY JOHNSON** (7,252) for 6th-most in team annals.....**RB MIKE ANDERSON** (24) needs 2 rush TDs to surpass **OTIS ARMSTRONG** (25) for 6th-most in club history. **RB TATUM BELL** had career-long 58-yd catch in last mtg (12/19/04)**WR ROD SMITH** leads active players w/ 95 MNF receptions. In 18 career games, Smith has 1,575 rec. yds vs. KC – his most vs. any foe. Smith (9,945) needs 55 rec. yds for 10,000 in career.....**CB CHAMP BAILEY** has INT in consecutive games.....Rookie **CB-PR DARRENT WILLIAMS** leads AFC w/ 15.8 PR avg. on 5 returns.....**K JASON ELAM** has 164 points on MNF, most by active player.

LAST WEEK'S NFL RESULTS (SEPT. 18-19)

(Home team in CAPS)

Sunday, September 18

CAROLINA 27, New England 17
 CHICAGO 38, Detroit 6
 CINCINNATI 37, Minnesota 8
 Pittsburgh 27, HOUSTON 7
 INDIANAPOLIS 10, Jacksonville 3
 PHILADELPHIA 42, San Francisco 3
 TAMPA BAY 19, Buffalo 3
 TENNESSEE 25, Baltimore 10

Sunday, September 18, Cont.'d

St. Louis 17, ARIZONA 12
 SEATTLE 21, Atlanta 18
 DENVER 20, San Diego 17
 Cleveland 26, GREEN BAY 24
 N.Y. JETS 17, Miami 7
 Kansas City 23, OAKLAND 17

Monday, September 19

N.Y. Giants 27, NEW ORLEANS 10
 (at Giants Stadium)
 Washington 14, DALLAS 13

2005 NFL STANDINGS

<u>AMERICAN FOOTBALL CONFERENCE</u>							<u>NATIONAL FOOTBALL CONFERENCE</u>						
<u>East Division</u>							<u>East Division</u>						
	<u>W</u>	<u>L</u>	<u>T</u>	<u>Pct.</u>	<u>Pts.</u>	<u>OP</u>		<u>W</u>	<u>L</u>	<u>T</u>	<u>Pct.</u>	<u>Pts.</u>	<u>OP</u>
Buffalo	1	1	0	.500	25	26	N.Y. Giants	2	0	0	1.000	69	29
Miami	1	1	0	.500	41	27	Washington	2	0	0	1.000	23	20
New England	1	1	0	.500	47	47	Dallas	1	1	0	.500	41	38
N.Y. Jets	1	1	0	.500	24	34	Philadelphia	1	1	0	.500	52	17
<u>North Division</u>							<u>North Division</u>						
	<u>W</u>	<u>L</u>	<u>T</u>	<u>Pct.</u>	<u>Pts.</u>	<u>OP</u>		<u>W</u>	<u>L</u>	<u>T</u>	<u>Pct.</u>	<u>Pts.</u>	<u>OP</u>
Cincinnati	2	0	0	1.000	64	21	Chicago	1	1	0	.500	45	15
Pittsburgh	2	0	0	1.000	61	14	Detroit	1	1	0	.500	23	41
Cleveland	1	1	0	.500	39	51	Green Bay	0	2	0	.000	27	43
Baltimore	0	2	0	.000	17	49	Minnesota	0	2	0	.000	21	61
<u>South Division</u>							<u>South Division</u>						
	<u>W</u>	<u>L</u>	<u>T</u>	<u>Pct.</u>	<u>Pts.</u>	<u>OP</u>		<u>W</u>	<u>L</u>	<u>T</u>	<u>Pct.</u>	<u>Pts.</u>	<u>OP</u>
Indianapolis	2	0	0	1.000	34	10	Tampa Bay	2	0	0	1.000	43	16
Jacksonville	1	1	0	.500	29	24	Atlanta	1	1	0	.500	32	31
Tennessee	1	1	0	.500	32	44	Carolina	1	1	0	.500	47	40
Houston	0	2	0	.000	14	49	New Orleans	1	1	0	.500	33	47
<u>West Division</u>							<u>West Division</u>						
	<u>W</u>	<u>L</u>	<u>T</u>	<u>Pct.</u>	<u>Pts.</u>	<u>OP</u>		<u>W</u>	<u>L</u>	<u>T</u>	<u>Pct.</u>	<u>Pts.</u>	<u>OP</u>
Kansas City	2	0	0	1.000	50	24	St. Louis	1	1	0	.500	42	40
Denver	1	1	0	.500	30	51	San Francisco	1	1	0	.500	31	67
Oakland	0	2	0	.000	37	53	Seattle	1	1	0	.500	35	44
San Diego	0	2	0	.000	41	48	Arizona	0	1	0	.000	31	59

WEEK 3 NFL SCHEDULE – SEPTEMBER 25-26

(BYES: Baltimore, Detroit, Houston, Washington)

(All times local)

Sunday, September 25

Atlanta at Buffalo, 1:00 PM
 Cincinnati at Chicago, 12:00 PM
 Tampa Bay at Green Bay, 12:00 PM
 Cleveland at Indianapolis, 12:00 PM
 Carolina at Miami, 1:00 PM
 New Orleans at Minnesota, 12:00 PM
 Jacksonville at N.Y. Jets, 1:00 PM
 Oakland at Philadelphia, 1:00 PM
 Tennessee at St. Louis, 12:00 PM
 Dallas at San Francisco, 1:05 PM

Sunday, September 25, Cont.'d.

Arizona at Seattle, 1:05 PM
 New England at Pittsburgh, 4:15 PM
 N.Y. Giants at San Diego, 5:30 PM (ESPN)

Monday, September 26

Kansas City at Denver, 7:00 PM (ABC)

