



## MONDAY NIGHT NOTES

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NFL-99 10/27/05

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION,  
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## HALLOWEEN AT HEINZ FEATURES AFC NORTH CLASH

Carve up the jack(Ham)-o-lanterns – it's *Monday Night Football* on Halloween in Pittsburgh!

The Baltimore Ravens will bring their bag of tricks and a No. 2-ranked defense to the Steelers' front door this Monday to try to bag a divisional win. But Halloween hayrides through western Pennsylvania have usually ended in a graveyard for visitors. Since 1992 under head coach **BILL COWHER**, no Steelers club has lost at home on a Monday night (10-0). Pittsburgh also is the NFL's winningest October team dating back to 1995 (31-11, .738).

Baltimore, the only club to have placed a regular-season "L" on the Steel City team in 2004, has lost six consecutive road games. "Our players will prepare well this week," says Ravens head coach **BRIAN BILLICK**. "We rely on that in Baltimore. These players work hard."

Ravens running back **JAMAL LEWIS** is the NFL's top rusher against division foes (103.4-yard average; minimum 10 games), but he has mustered only one 100-yard performance in seven career starts against Pittsburgh. Ready for Lewis will be, among others, Steelers linebacker **JAMES FARRIOR**, who leads the NFL's No. 8 overall defense with 55 tackles.

Powered by the legs of **WILLIE PARKER** (539 yards) and **JEROME BETTIS** (134 in three games), Pittsburgh's rushing offense is the NFL's seventh best, averaging 136.3 yards per game. Meanwhile, standout Baltimore defenders such as linebackers **TERRELL SUGGS** and **ADALIUS THOMAS** place the Ravens among the NFL's elite when it comes to keeping opposing rushers from crossing the ghoul – er, *goal* line. And both teams make 100-yard rushers as common as vegetables in trick-or-treat bags.

Clubs allowing the fewest rushing TDs since 2003:

TEAM	RUSH TDs ALLOWED
Tampa Bay	18
<b>Baltimore</b>	<b>19</b>
Jacksonville	21
Chicago	22
Dallas	23

Clubs allowing the fewest 100-yard rushers since 2000:

TEAM	100-YD RUSHERS ALLOWED
<b>Pittsburgh</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Baltimore</b>	<b>13</b>
Denver	16
Tennessee	16
Jacksonville	16

An exciting addition to the Steelers' offense for quarterback **BEN ROETHLISBERGER** is rookie tight end **HEATH MILLER** from Virginia. With a TD catch on Monday, the 6-5, 256-pounder would tie former Steeler (and former Raven) **ERIC GREEN** for the most consecutive games with a TD catch by a Pittsburgh tight end at four. Green accomplished his four-week feat in 1991. Miller has paced his team in receptions the past two games, marking the first time in franchise history that a tight end has led Pittsburgh in catches in back-to-back weeks.

The most accomplished tight end in Heinz Field Monday will be the Ravens' **TODD HEAP**, twice an AFC All-star. The five-year pro has 27 catches and 325 yards against the Steelers – his highest numbers against any team. Heap (196) needs nine catches Monday to surpass **TRAVIS TAYLOR** (204) and become the club's all-time receptions leader.

If Pittsburgh's Cowher can direct his team (4-2) to a win and keep pace with the AFC North-leading Cincinnati Bengals (5-2), he will tie former San Francisco head coach **GEORGE SEIFERT** for the third best all-time *Monday Night Football* winning percentage among coaches with 10 or more appearances:

COACH	MNF RECORD	WIN. PCT.
John Madden	11-1-1	.885
Tom Flores	15-4	.789
George Seifert	18-6	.750
<b>Bill Cowher</b>	<b>17-6</b>	<b>.739</b>
Andy Reid	8-3	.727

## **MONDAY NIGHT MUSINGS – BALTIMORE RAVENS AT PITTSBURGH STEELERS**

### **STEELERS TO STRUT THEIR STUFF**

- The Friday before their Monday night matchup with the Ravens, nearly 40 Steelers players will participate in the most unusual of pregame activities – “Steelers Style 2005.”

The team’s annual fashion show, which will benefit more than 20 non-profit organizations in the Pittsburgh area, will be headed by the event’s “honorary co-captains” – **WR ANTWAAN RANDLE EL** and **LB JAMES FARRIOR**.

Some Steelers will model their black-and-gold jerseys, while others will don tuxedos. The wives and girlfriends in the show will be outfitted by Pittsburgh’s Saks Fifth Avenue, Downtown.

“Usually, wives drag their husbands to fashion shows,” says Richard Bryan, who works for Saks. “This time, it’s the husbands dragging their wives. The men love it.”

### **POLLEY HONORED**

- Though Ravens **LB TOMMY POLLEY** wears No. 50 proudly as a member of Baltimore’s vaunted defense, it was his No. 11 jersey that Baltimore’s Dunbar High School retired last Tuesday. As a member of the Poets’ football and basketball teams, Polley – the first Baltimore native to play for the Ravens -- led Dunbar to state championships.

Polley, who presented the school’s athletic program with a \$10,000 donation at the retirement ceremony, had been alerted to the honor when he played for the St. Louis Rams from 2001-04. But the timing never worked out – till he returned home to play in Baltimore.

“It was a big day,” says Polley. “Now that I’m with the Ravens, being at home, what better time to get it done? It means a lot.”

The only other athlete in Dunbar’s history to have his jersey retired is former Philadelphia Eagles **WR CALVIN WILLIAMS**.

### **KEY RECEPTION**

- Steelers **WR HINES WARD** has grown accustomed to receiving passes from **QB BEN ROETHLISBERGER**. But Ward added a most unique reception to his résumé on October 13 when he was named honorary Mayor of Washington, Pennsylvania for a day.

To commemorate his title, Ward received the key to the city on the Washington County Courthouse steps. **KEN WESCOTT**, Washington’s full-time mayor, presented Ward with the key.

Past recipients of the key to Washington include former presidents **JOHN KENNEDY** and **BILL CLINTON**. But don’t anticipate seeing Ward’s name on a ballot anytime soon.

“I’ll stay out of politics,” he says. “But it’s a big honor to get the key to anything.”

### **A BUS TO ECONOMICS CLASS**

- Steelers running back **JEROME BETTIS** recently volunteered to help educate Pittsburgh-area students about the financial issues they will face in adulthood. Bettis’ speech to kids at Peabody High School in Pittsburgh is part of a 17-city campaign initiated by the NFL and Visa USA to help students become more fiscally savvy.

“When I was in high school, there were no classes to educate us on how to make smart, informed decisions about money management,” says Bettis. “I am glad to share with these students the kinds of skills they will need to manage their own finances and learn how to stick to a budget.”

Bettis joined the students in playing an educational computer game entitled “Financial Football,” which helps youngsters learn the skills that will help them manage their personal finances. The content for the software was developed by Visa USA in cooperation with the NFL and NFLPA.

