

NFL PRESS BOX NOTES - DIVISIONAL PLAYOFFS

<u>PERFECT PATRIOTS</u>: Ten and counting. That is the total that the New England Patriots have reached in consecutive playoff games won. New England broke its tie with the 1961-62, 1965-67 Green Bay Packers last week with its Wild Card triumph over Jacksonville.

The Patriots' top-ranked AFC passing offense will confront the Denver Broncos' No. 1 conference rushing game Saturday night in Denver.

The top NFL streaks of consecutive playoff games won:

TEAM	CONSC. WINS	YEARS
New England Patriots	10*	2001, 2003-05
Green Bay Packers	9	1961-62, 1965-67
Pittsburgh Steelers	7	1974-76
San Francisco 49ers	7	1988-90
Dallas Cowboys	7	1992-94
Denver Broncos	7	1997-98

^{*} Active

The quarterback who directed all those victories – **TOM BRADY** -- sits atop the list at his position for most consecutive postseason wins. Two of the other top five quarterbacks in playoff winning percentage are in the Pro Football Hall of Fame – **BART STARR** and **TERRY BRADSHAW**. Another – **TROY AIKMAN** – was named this week to the list of 15 finalists for selection to this year's class.

The top five quarterbacks in postseason win percentage (minimum eight starts):

PLAYER	RECORD	WIN PCT.
Tom Brady	10-0	1.000
Bart Starr	9-1	.900
Jim Plunkett	8-2	.800
Terry Bradshaw	14-5	.737
Troy Aikman	11-4	.733

<u>PANTHERS ON PROWL</u>: With a victory over the Chicago Bears this weekend, the Carolina Panthers would own the best winning percentage in NFL playoff history (6-2, .750).

Five of the top 10 teams in postseason winning percentage will play in the Divisional Playoffs: Carolina, Denver, New England, Pittsburgh and Washington.

The top 10 teams in playoff winning percentage:

TEAM	PLAYOFF RECORD	PLAYOFF WIN PCT.
Baltimore Ravens	5-2	.714
Carolina Panthers	5-2	.714
Green Bay Packers	24-14	.667
New England Patriots	17-10	.630
Washington Redskins	23-15	.605
San Francisco 49ers	25-17	.595
Dallas Cowboys	32-22	.593
Oakland Raiders	25-18	.581
Pittsburgh Steelers	25-18	.581
Denver Broncos	16-14	.533

BEAR-ISH ON POINTS: The Carolina Panthers have averaged almost 25 points per game (24.6) over their past six outings, including last week's Wild Card.

But this week the visiting Panthers face the stinglest team in home points allowed in a season since the NFL went to the 16-game schedule in 1978 – the Chicago Bears.

The Bears this year, led by the Associated Press NFL Defensive Player of the Year **BRIAN URLACHER**, allowed 61 points at Soldier Field, slightly more than one touchdown a game (7.6). The top five teams with the fewest points allowed in home games since 1978:

TEAM	YEAR	POINTS ALLOWED
Chicago Bears	2005	61
New England Patriots	2003	68
Dallas Cowboys	1978	70
Philadelphia Eagles	1992	73
Chicago Bears	1985	74

<u>PLAYOFF 300s</u>: Seattle Seahawks quarterback **MATT HASSELBECK** has thrown for 300 yards in both of his career playoff contests.

If he can reach that total this Saturday against Washington in the Divisional Playoff, Hasselbeck would tie Pro Football Hall of Famer **JIM KELLY** and **WARREN MOON** – also named this week to the Hall's list of 15 finalists for the class of 2006 – for the second-most consecutive games with 300 yards passing in the postseason.

Hall of Famer **DAN FOUTS**, who threw for 300 yards in four consecutive playoff games, is the record holder. <u>Most consecutive playoff games throwing for 300 yards</u>:

QUARTERBACK	300-YARD GAMES	SEASONS
Dan Fouts	4	1979-81
Jim Kelly	3	1989-90
Warren Moon	3	1991-93
Matt Hasselbeck	2*	2003-04
Many tied, non-active	2	

^{*} Active

<u>SCORING STREAKS STILL ALIVE</u>: When wide receivers **DAVID GIVENS** of New England and **HINES WARD** of Pittsburgh take the field this weekend, both will put playoff scoring streaks on the line. With a three-yard touchdown reception against Jacksonville in the Patriots' Wild Card game, Givens now has caught a TD in six consecutive playoff games – the second longest such streak in history.

Ward had a five-yard touchdown catch in Pittsburgh's Wild Card win over Cincinnati, marking his fifth consecutive playoff game with a receiving score, tying him with three other players. Pro Football Hall of Famer **JOHN STALLWORTH** owns the longest such streak with at least one receiving TD in eight games. The longest playoff streaks of consecutive games with a receiving TD:

PLAYER	CAREER
John Stallworth	8
David Givens	6*
Hines Ward	5*
James Lofton	5
Randy Moss	5
Antonio Freeman	5
*Active streak	

NFL PLAYOFF SHARES: Following is a breakdown of 2005 NFL player shares for all playoff games:

2005 NFL PLAYER PLAYOFF SHARES

Wild Card (Division Winner)	\$19,000
(Wild Card Team)	\$17,000
Divisional Playoff	\$19,000
Conference Championship	\$37,000
Super Bowl XL (Winning Team)	\$73,000
(Losing Team)	\$38,000

...<u>AND IF YOU'RE IN THE U.K. THIS WEEKEND</u>: All four Divisional Playoff games will be televised live in the United Kingdom on Sky Sports Xtra. The New England at Denver game on Saturday night at 8:15 PM ET will kick off in the U.K. at 1:15 AM Sunday morning.