

NFL PRESS BOX NOTES – WEEK 12

SEVEN UP: Quality teams abound in the NFL in 2005, and by one measure, there have never been more.

Eleven teams have recorded at least seven wins in their 10 games, the most such teams at this point in a season in NFL history.

Week 12 offers eight of those 11 seven-win teams facing each other – Denver (8-2) at Dallas (7-3), Chicago (7-3) at Tampa Bay (7-3), New York Giants (7-3) at Seattle (8-2), and Pittsburgh (7-3) at Indianapolis (10-0).

The seasons with the most seven-win teams after 10 games:

Year	Seven-Win Teams After 10 Games	Teams/Wins
2005	11	Ind (10), Den (8), Sea (8), Car (7), Chi (7), Cin (7), Dal (7), Jac (7), NYG (7), Pit (7), TB (7)
2004	9	NE (9), Phi (9), Pit (9), Atl (8), Bal (7), Den (7), Ind (7), NYJ (7), SD (7)
2003	9	KC (9), Car (8), Ind (8), NE (8), Ten (8), Dal (7), Phi (7), StL (7), Sea (7)
1998	9	Den (10), Min (9), Atl (8), Dal (7), GB (7), Jac (8), Mia (7), Oak (7), SF (7)
1996	9	Den (9), GB (8), Buf (7), KC (7), NE (7), Phi (7), Pit (7), SF (7), Was (7)
1986	9	NYJ (9), Chi (8), Den (8), NYG (8), Was (8), Cle (7), KC (7), Rams (7), NE (7)
1975	9	Min (10), Pit (9), Cin (8), LA (8), Oak (8), StL (8), Dal (7), Hou (7), Mia (7)
1968	9	Bal (9), Dal (8), KC (8), LA (8), Oak (8), SD (8), Cle (7), NYG (7), NYJ (7)

ELEVEN THROUGH STEEL: The 10-0 Indianapolis Colts will seek to keep their streak of perfection in tact on Monday night when they host the Pittsburgh Steelers.

If the Colts are to win for the 11th time, they will do it against a team that is 7-3, a record that ties for the best mark a 10-0 club in the Super Bowl era has faced to reach win No. 11.

Two other 10-0 teams – the 1985 Chicago Bears and 1998 Denver Broncos – earned victories over 7-3 foes to reach win No. 11.

A look at the 10-0 teams in the Super Bowl era and their opponents in game No. 11:

Year	Undefeated Team	Opponent in 11th Game	Opponent Record	Winner
2005	Indianapolis Colts	Pittsburgh Steelers	7-3	?
1985	Chicago Bears	Dallas Cowboys	7-3	Chicago, 44-0
1998	Denver Broncos	Oakland Raiders	7-3	Denver, 40-14
1990	New York Giants	Philadelphia Eagles	6-4	Philadelphia, 31-13
1975	Minnesota Vikings	Washington Redskins	6-4	Washington, 31-30
1969	Los Angeles Rams	Washington Redskins	5-3-2	Los Angeles, 24-13
1984	Miami Dolphins	Philadelphia Eagles	4-5-1	Miami, 24-23
1991	Washington Redskins	Pittsburgh Steelers	4-6	Washington, 41-14
1990	San Francisco 49ers	Los Angeles Rams	3-7	Los Angeles, 28-17
1972	Miami Dolphins	St. Louis Cardinals	2-7-1	Miami, 31-10

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WINNING THE WEST?: With a win at home on Sunday against the New York Giants and a St. Louis loss to Houston, the Seattle Seahawks will earn a second consecutive division championship.

The Seahawks would become only the fourth team since the NFL adopted the 16-game schedule in 1978 to clinch a division title after 11 games. Only one of the three, however, the 1985 Chicago Bears, went on to win the Super Bowl.

The teams to have clinched a division championship in 11 games since 1978:

Team	Year	Division	Record After 11 Games	Final Record	Season Result
Chicago Bears	1985	NFC Central	10-1	15-1	Won SB XX
San Francisco 49ers	1997	NFC West	10-1	13-3	Lost NFC Championship
Philadelphia Eagles	2004	NFC East	10-1	13-3	Lost SB XXXIX

TOUCHDOWN 20: Seattle Seahawks running back **SHAUN ALEXANDER** has scored at an unprecedented rate in 2005. His 19 touchdowns are the most in a season in NFL history after 10 games.

With a touchdown on Sunday against the Giants, Alexander will become only the fourth player in history to score 20 touchdowns in a single season twice. He first accomplished the feat in 2004 when he led the NFL with 20 TDs.

The three players in history to reach the 20-touchdown mark in multiple seasons:

Player	20 TD Seasons	Years	Total TDs	Rushing TDs	Receiving TDs
Marshall Faulk, STL	2	2000	26	18	8
		2001	21	12	9
Priest Holmes, KC	2	2002	24	21	3
		2003	27	27	0
Emmitt Smith, Dallas	2	1994	22	21	1
		1995	25	25	0
Shaun Alexander, Seattle	1	2004	20	16	4
		2005	19	19	0

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RACKING THEM UP: The Arizona Cardinals' **NEIL RACKERS** is enjoying one the greatest seasons by a kicker in NFL history and that season is only 10 games old.

Rackers, who spent 2000-02 with the Cincinnati Bengals before joining the Cardinals in 2003, has connected on 31 consecutive field goals, tying for the third longest streak in history. He can pass former Minnesota kicker **FUAD REVEIZ** in the category when Arizona hosts Jacksonville on Sunday.

Each of the other kickers in the top five of most consecutive field goals played the majority of their home games indoors. Rackers plays outdoors. In addition, the four combined to kick five field goals of 50 yards or more during their streaks. Rackers has already connected on six such attempts.

Rackers has set an NFL record with a field goal of at least 50 yards in four consecutive games, and his 11 consecutive games with at least two field goals also is an NFL record.

This success has not gone unnoticed by the national media. Rackers was featured in last Sunday's *New York Times* under the headline, "Cardinals' Can't-Miss Kicker Finding His Center."

A look at the longest consecutive field-goal streaks in NFL history:

Player	Team	Year(s)	Consecutive Field Goals Made	50 Yard FGs In Streak
Mike Vanderjagt	Indianapolis	2002-04	42	1
Gary Anderson	San Francisco, Minnesota	1997-98	40	2
Fuad Reveiz	Minnesota	1994-95	31	1
Neil Rackers	Arizona	2005	31 *	6
Jeff Wilkins	St. Louis	1999-01	30	1

* Active streak

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2006 PRO BOWL CREDENTIAL NOTICE: The NFL is now accepting credential applications for the 2006 AFC-NFC Pro Bowl.

The NFL's annual All-Star game will kick off on Sunday, February 12, 2006 in Honolulu, Hawaii (ESPN, 6:00 PM ET).

The deadline to submit a credential application for the Pro Bowl is **FRIDAY, JANUARY 13**. Applications are available on www.nflmedia.com, under "NFL Event Credentialing."

The NFL also has arranged for discounted hotel accommodations for working media interested in covering the Pro Bowl on site in Hawaii. Please contact Michael Signora (signoram@nfl.com) for more information.