

NFL PRESS BOX NOTES – WEEK 16

YOUNG RACKS UP RUSH YARDS, WINS: Tennessee Titans rookie quarterback **VINCE YOUNG** has rushed for 462 yards this season – the most ever by a rookie QB in the Super Bowl era. With 38 yards this Sunday against Buffalo, Young will become the first rookie quarterback since 1966 to rush for 500 yards.

The top five rushing totals for rookie quarterbacks in the Super Bowl era (since 1966):

PLAYER	YEAR	TEAM	YARDS
Vince Young	2006	Tennessee	462*
Bobby Douglass	1969	Chicago	408
Rick Mirer	1993	Seattle	343
Donovan McNabb	1999	Philadelphia	313
Marlin Briscoe	1968	Denver	308
*Two games remaining			

Young has led the Titans to five wins in a row. With a win at Buffalo, he can match Pittsburgh's **MIKE KRUCZEK** for the third longest win streak by a rookie quarterback since 1970.

The five longest win streaks by rookie quarterbacks since 1970:

PLAYER	YEAR	TEAM	WIN STREAK
Ben Roethlisberger	2004	Pittsburgh	13
Kyle Orton	2005	Chicago	8
Mike Kruczek	1976	Pittsburgh	6
Vince Young	2006	Tennessee	5*
Chris Chandler	1988	Indianapolis	5
*Active streak			

Since taking over as the starter in Week 4, Young has compiled a 7-4 record (.636) – the fifth best winning percentage for a rookie starter since 1970. With wins in his final two games, Young would finish at 9-4 (.692) in his rookie season, moving him into a tie with Indianapolis' **CHRIS CHANDLER** (1988) for the second highest winning percentage among rookie quarterbacks since 1970.

The top five winning percentages for rookie quarterbacks since 1970 (min. 10 starts):

PLAYER	YEAR	TEAM	RECORD	WIN PCT.*
Ben Roethlisberger	2004	Pittsburgh	13-0	1.000
Chris Chandler	1988	Indianapolis	9-4	.692
Kyle Orton	2005	Chicago	10-5	.667
Joe Ferguson	1973	Buffalo	9-5	.643
Vince Young	2006	Tennessee	7-4	.636
*Min. 10 starts				

EYEING 85: The St. Louis Rams' two most prolific pass catchers – **RB STEVEN JACKSON** and **WR TORRY HOLT** – can become the third RB-WR tandem in history to post 85 catches apiece in the same season.

Jackson leads the Rams with 82 receptions and needs three against Washington on Sunday to reach 85. Holt needs five catches to 85.

Only the 1995 San Francisco 49ers and 2002 Oakland Raiders have had a RB-WR tandem with 85 catches apiece:

YEAR	TEAM	PLAYER	RECEPTIONS
1995	San Francisco	WR Jerry Rice	122
		RB Derrick Loville	87

2002	Oakland	WR Jerry Rice RB Charlie Garner	92 91
2006	St. Louis	RB Steven Jackson WR Torry Holt	82 80

1,000 AND COUNTING: Last week, New Orleans' **REGGIE BUSH** and **MARQUES COLSTON** became the second set of rookie teammates to post 1,000 scrimmage yards in the same season, joining **ABNER HAYNES** (1,451) and **JOHNNY ROBINSON** (1,069) of the 1960 Dallas Texans.

Bush and Colston can become the first set of rookie teammates to post 1,100 scrimmage yards each this Sunday when the Saints visit the New York Giants.

Bush has 1,125 scrimmage yards so far, and Colston (1,001) needs 99 yards to reach 1,100.

The teams in history with two rookies who totaled 1,000 scrimmage yards:

YEA R	TEAM	ROOKIE	SCRIMMAGE YARDS
1960	Dallas Texans	RB Abner Haynes RB Johnny Robinson	1,451 (875 rush, 576 rec.) 1,069 (458 rush, 611 rec.)
2006	New Orleans Saints	RB Reggie Bush WR Marques Colston	1,125 (419 rush, 706 rec.) 1,001 (All rec.)

SAINTLY SEASON CONTINUES FOR BREES: New Orleans Saints quarterback **DREW BREES** ranks in the top three in the NFL in three key categories: passing yards (4,240, first), passing touchdowns (25, second) and passer rating (98.2, third). Brees, in his first year with the Saints, seeks to become only the third quarterback since 1973, when the current passer rating formula was implemented, to lead the league in all three categories.

Miami's **DAN MARINO** in 1984 and St. Louis' **KURT WARNER** in 2001 are the other quarterbacks to accomplish the feat. Both Marino and Warner led their teams to Super Bowl appearances in those seasons.

A breakdown of the Marino and Warner seasons, and Brees' season so far:

PLAYER	TEAM	YEA R	TD	YARD S	PASSER RTG.
Dan Marino	Miami	1984	48	5,084	108.9
Kurt Warner	St. Louis	2001	36	4,830	101.4
Drew Brees	New Orleans	2006*	25	4,240	98.2

*Two games remaining

ROOKIE HAS A JONES FOR THE END ZONE: Jacksonville Jaguars rookie running back **MAURICE JONES-DREW** has scored a rushing touchdown in six consecutive games. With a rushing TD Sunday against New England, Jones-Drew can match the longest rushing TD scoring streak by a rookie in history.

Baltimore Colts running back **CURTIS DICKEY** is the record holder. After being selected No. 5 overall by Baltimore in 1980, Dickey went on to rush for a touchdown in seven consecutive games that season.

Jones-Drew's current six-game streak is tied with many players. He leads all 2006 rookies with 10 rushing touchdowns.

GONZO GOES FOR THE RECORD: Kansas City Chiefs tight end **TONY GONZALEZ** is poised to become the NFL's all-time leader in touchdown receptions at his position. Gonzalez (61 career TDs), who faces Oakland this Saturday night on NFL Network (8:00 PM ET) can top **SHANNON SHARPE** (62) for the all-time lead at the position.

Gonzalez has two multi-TD games this season, and two touchdowns in his past three games against the Raiders.

The top five career TD reception totals by NFL tight ends:

TIGHT END	TD
Shannon Sharpe	62
<i>Tony Gonzalez</i>	61
Jerry Smith	60
Wesley Walls	54
Dave Casper	52

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