

## NFL PRESS BOX NOTES – WEEK 2

**KEEP HOPE ALIVE:** At the end of Week 2, no more than 13 teams will be able to claim a perfect 2-0 record, leaving at least 19 clubs at 1-1 or 0-2.

Since realignment in 2002, 31 of the 48 playoff teams (64.6 percent) began the year at either 1-1 or 0-2. Three of the past five Super Bowl champions began their seasons with a 1-1 or 0-2 record.

A two-year look at how playoff clubs in 2004 and 2005 began their seasons:

<u>2004</u>			<u>2005</u>		
Team	After 2 Games	Playoff Result	Team	After 2 games	Playoff Result
Atlanta	2-0	Advanced to Conf. Champ.	<b>Carolina</b>	<b>1-1</b>	<b>Advanced to Conf. Champ.</b>
<b>Denver</b>	<b>1-1</b>	<b>Advanced to Wild Card</b>	<b>Chicago</b>	<b>1-1</b>	<b>Advanced to Divisional</b>
<b>Green Bay</b>	<b>1-1</b>	<b>Advanced to Wild Card</b>	Cincinnati	2-0	Advanced to Wild Card
<b>Indianapolis</b>	<b>1-1</b>	<b>Advanced to Divisional</b>	<b>Denver</b>	<b>1-1</b>	<b>Advanced to Conf. Champ.</b>
<b>Minnesota</b>	<b>1-1</b>	<b>Advanced to Divisional</b>	Indianapolis	2-0	Advanced to Divisional
New England	2-0	Won Super Bowl XXXIX	<b>Jacksonville</b>	<b>1-1</b>	<b>Advanced to Wild Card</b>
N.Y. Jets	2-0	Advanced to Divisional	<b>New England</b>	<b>1-1</b>	<b>Advanced to Divisional</b>
Philadelphia	2-0	Advanced to Super Bowl	Pittsburgh	2-0	Won Super Bowl XL
<b>Pittsburgh</b>	<b>1-1</b>	<b>Advanced to Conf. Champ.</b>	N.Y. Giants	2-0	Advanced to Wild Card
<b>St. Louis</b>	<b>1-1</b>	<b>Advanced to Divisional</b>	<b>Seattle</b>	<b>1-1</b>	<b>Advanced to Super Bowl</b>
<b>San Diego</b>	<b>1-1</b>	<b>Advanced to Wild Card</b>	Tampa Bay	2-0	Advanced to Wild Card
Seattle	2-0	Advanced to Wild Card	Washington	2-0	Advanced to Divisional

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**LIFE BEGINS AT 60:** When New England travels to New York to face the Jets on Sunday, Patriots quarterback **TOM BRADY** will seek to tie the mark for fewest games started to reach 60 victories in the NFL's Super Bowl era (since 1966).

Brady has 59 wins in 79 starts, and can tie **KEN STABLER** and **ROGER STAUBACH** at 80 for the fewest games needed for 60 victories.

A look at quarterbacks who started the fewest games to reach 60 wins:

QUARTERBACK	STARTS TO 60 WINS
Ken Stabler	80
Roger Staubach	80
Donovan McNabb	85
Danny White	85
Jim McMahon	86
<b>Tom Brady</b>	<b>79*</b>

\* 59 victories as starter

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**HAIL TO THE CHIEF:** With a reception Sunday against AFC West rival Denver, Kansas City's **TONY GONZALEZ** (85) would tie **WESLEY WALLS** (86) for the fourth longest streak in history of consecutive games with a catch by a tight end. Gonzalez has a reception of at least 30 yards in eight of his past 10 games against the Broncos.

The five longest streaks of consecutive games with a catch by a tight end:

PLAYER	TEAM(S)	SEASONS	GAMES
Ozzie Newsome	Cleveland	1979-89	150
Frank Wycheck	Houston/Tennessee	1996-02	99
Mickey Shuler	N.Y. Jets/Philadelphia	1983-90	90
Wesley Walls	New Orleans/Carolina	1995-01	86
<b>Tony Gonzalez</b>	<b>Kansas City</b>	<b>2000-present</b>	<b>85*</b>

\* Active

**SERIES-LY CLOSE:** AFC North Division rivals will meet this Sunday when the Cleveland Browns travel to face the Cincinnati Bengals.

The teams share one of the NFL's most even rivalries. The Browns hold a 33-32 edge in the series and the teams' point totals favor Cleveland by nine points: 1,354 to 1,345.

A look at the closest NFL series point differentials (minimum 25 games):

SERIES (POINTS)	POINT DIFFERENTIAL	SERIES LEADER
Buffalo (750) vs. Kansas City (744)	6	Buffalo, 19-16-1
<b>Cleveland (1,354) vs. Cincinnati (1,345)</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>Cleveland, 33-32</b>
Detroit (478) vs. Philadelphia (469)	9	Tied 12-12-2
Miami (543) vs. Tennessee (534)	9	Miami, 16-13
N.Y. Giants (794) vs. Green Bay (782)	12	Green Bay, 24-21-2
Seattle (984) vs. San Diego (972)	12	Seattle, 25-22

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**CATCHY COLT:** Indianapolis wide receiver **MARVIN HARRISON** can claim a pair of receiving milestones this Sunday when the Colts host Houston.

The most productive receiver in Colts history needs five catches to move into fifth place on the all-time NFL receptions chart. With nine catches last week against the Giants, Harrison (936) is in position to surpass **ART MONK** (940).

In addition to climbing the career receptions list this week, Harrison can set the standard for an 11-year receiver.

Harrison needs seven catches to post the most receptions by a player in 11 seasons, surpassing **JERRY RICE**, who amassed 942 through the first 11 of his 20 NFL seasons.

A look at Harrison's possible milestones:

Player	Most Receptions, All-Time	Player	Most Receptions, First 11 Seasons
Jerry Rice	1,549	Jerry Rice	942
Cris Carter	1,101	<b>Marvin Harrison</b>	<b>936*</b>
Tim Brown	1,094	Rod Smith	797
Andre Reed	951	Jimmy Smith	792
Art Monk	940	Isaac Bruce	777
<b>Marvin Harrison</b>	<b>936*</b>		

\* Active

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**START ME UP:** Four of the five teams with the best August/September regular-season winning percentages since 1990 face each other this week in divisional action as Miami hosts Buffalo and Kansas City travels to Denver.

Uncharacteristically, all four clubs aim to bounce back from a rare early-season loss on Kickoff Weekend. Minnesota – the fourth-winningest team in the category -- will attempt to post consecutive victories when it hosts Carolina.

The five teams with the best August/September winning percentages since 1990:

TEAM	RECORD	PCT.	WK. 2 MATCHUP
<b>Miami Dolphins</b>	<b>38-18</b>	<b>.679</b>	<b>vs. Buffalo</b>
<b>Denver Broncos</b>	<b>41-22</b>	<b>.651</b>	<b>vs. Kansas City</b>
<b>Kansas City Chiefs</b>	<b>41-22</b>	<b>.651</b>	<b>at Denver</b>
Minnesota Vikings	37-25	.597	vs. Carolina
<b>Buffalo Bills</b>	<b>33-24</b>	<b>.579</b>	<b>at Miami</b>

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