

NFL PRESS BOX NOTES – WEEK 6

1-3 & 1-4 TURNAROUNDS: For teams off to a slow start in 2006, history says that the season is far from over.

In 13 of the past 16 seasons, at least one club has started 1-3 and/or 1-4 and qualified for the playoffs, including the 2001 Super Bowl XXXVI champion New England Patriots and, last year, the NFC North champion Chicago Bears.

Since the playoff field was expanded to 12 teams in 1990, 19 clubs have begun their season 1-3 and five 1-4 and advanced to the playoffs.

Teams that started 1-3 and/or 1-4 and reached the playoffs (since 1990):

1-3 STARTS		
Team	Year	Playoff Result
New Orleans	1990	Advanced to Wild Card
Philadelphia	1990	Advanced to Wild Card
N.Y. Jets	1991	Advanced to Wild Card
Green Bay	1993	Advanced to Divisional
Houston	1993	Advanced to Divisional
Detroit	1995	Advanced to Wild Card
Philadelphia	1995	Advanced to Divisional
Dallas	1996	Advanced to Divisional
Jacksonville	1996	Advanced to Conf. Champ.
N.Y. Giants	1997	Advanced to Wild Card
Buffalo	1998	Advanced to Wild Card
New Orleans	2000	Advanced to Divisional
New England	2001	Won Super Bowl XXXVI
Atlanta	2002	Advanced to Divisional
Tennessee	2002	Advanced to Conf. Champ.
N.Y. Jets	2002	Advanced to Divisional
Pittsburgh	2002	Advanced to Divisional
Green Bay	2004	Advanced to Wild Card
Chicago	2005	Advanced to Divisional

1-4 STARTS		
Team	Year	Playoff Result
San Diego	1992	Advanced to Divisional
Houston	1993	Advanced to Divisional
Tennessee	2002	Advanced to Conf. Champ.
N.Y. Jets	2002	Advanced to Divisional
Green Bay	2004	Advanced to Wild Card

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WINNING BALANCE: As the NFL plays Week 6, both conferences have one undefeated club in the 5-0 Indianapolis Colts and 5-0 Chicago Bears, and five clubs with one loss apiece:

- **AFC:** Baltimore, Cincinnati, Denver, New England, San Diego
- **NFC:** Atlanta, New Orleans, Philadelphia, St. Louis, Seattle

The 12 teams with fewer than two losses through the first five weeks of the season ties 1996 for the most such clubs since 1990.

The seasons with the most “fewer than two losses” teams through five weeks (since 1990):

Year	Teams With Fewer Than Two Losses
2006	12
1996	12
1998	11
1999	11
2004	11
2002	10

BEARING DOWN: The Chicago Bears' defense has allowed 36 points this season. Yielding 7.2 points per game, the Bears' are on pace to allow 115 points in 2006, which would break the NFL 16-game season record (since 1978) of 165 points by Baltimore in 2000.

The fewest points allowed in a season and points allowed through those teams' first five games (since 1978):

Team	Year	Pts. Allowed/Season	Pts. Allowed /First 5 Games	Final record/Playoffs
Baltimore	2000	165	55	12-4/Won Super Bowl XXXV
Chicago	1986	187	60	14-2/Divisional Playoffs
Tennessee	2000	191	78	13-3/Divisional Playoffs
Pittsburgh	1978	195	56	14-2/Won Super Bowl XIII
Tampa Bay	2002	196	53	12-4/Won Super Bowl XXXVII
Chicago	2006	???	36	???

STRETCHING THE FIELD FOR WINS: Big gains in the passing game are translating into winning football.

The top five teams in yards-per-catch average through five weeks have an 18-5 (.783) record, with three of those clubs in first place in their divisions (Chicago, Philadelphia and St. Louis).

The teams with the highest yards-per-catch averages and their records through five weeks:

Team	Yards Per Reception	Won-Loss Record
Philadelphia	15.5	4-1
Dallas	13.4	2-2
Chicago	12.9	5-0
St. Louis	12.3	4-1
Cincinnati	12.2	3-1

WINNING WAYS: When the Cincinnati Bengals travel to Tampa Bay this week, they will be riding an eight-game winning streak against the NFC that dates back to 2003.

With a win against the Buccaneers, the Bengals can tie the Pittsburgh Steelers (9) for the NFL's longest active interconference win streak.

The longest current interconference winning streaks and the clubs' last loss:

Team	Consecutive Wins	Last Loss
Pittsburgh	9	11/17/03, 30-14 at San Francisco
Cincinnati	8	12/21/03, 27-10 at St.Louis
5 Tied	3	---

BRUCE IS LOOSE: With 101 receiving yards this week against visiting Seattle, St. Louis Rams wide receiver **ISAAC BRUCE** (12,621 yards) can surpass **ART MONK** (12,721) for 10th place on the NFL's all-time receiving yards list.

In his last home meeting with the Seahawks, Bruce registered seven catches for 104 yards (11/14/04).

Following are the top 10 NFL career receiving yards leaders:

Player	Yards
Jerry Rice	22,895
Tim Brown	14,934
James Lofton	14,004
Cris Carter	13,899
Henry Ellard	13,777
Andre Reed	13,198
Steve Largent	13,089
Irving Fryar	12,785
*Marvin Harrison	12,773
Art Monk	12,721
*Isaac Bruce	12,621

*Active