



## **NFL PRESS BOX NOTES – WILD CARD WEEKEND**

**FROM WILD CARD TO SUPER BOWL:** Wild Card teams/non-division winners have advanced to the Super Bowl nine times – including the Pittsburgh Steelers last season when they became the fifth Wild Card team/non-division winner to win a Super Bowl.

The nine Wild Card/non-division winners to play in Super Bowls:

SEASON	TEAM	SUPER BOWL RESULT
1969	Kansas City	Defeated Minnesota in Super Bowl IV, 23-7
1975	Dallas	Lost to Pittsburgh in Super Bowl X, 21-17
1980	Oakland	Defeated Philadelphia in Super Bowl XV, 27-10
1985	New England	Lost to Chicago in Super Bowl XX, 46-10
1992	Buffalo	Lost to Dallas in Super Bowl XXVII, 52-17
1997	Denver	Defeated Green Bay in Super Bowl XXXII, 31-24
1999	Tennessee	Lost to St. Louis in Super Bowl XXXIV, 23-16
2000	Baltimore	Defeated New York Giants in Super Bowl XXXV, 34-7
2006	Pittsburgh	Defeated Seattle in Super Bowl XL, 21-10

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**ROAD SWEEPS:** When the New York Giants travel to Philadelphia and New York Jets to New England on Wild Card Weekend, it will mark the 13th and 14th times since 1970 that divisional opponents meet in the postseason after the road teams in the rivalry each won during the regular season.

Only five times has a “road sweep” been accomplished, with three of those five playoff road teams advancing to the Super Bowl (Buffalo, SB XXVII; Baltimore, SB XXXV; Pittsburgh, SB XL).

Division teams meeting in the playoffs after the road team won both regular-season games (“road sweeps” bolded/italicized; since 1970):

TEAMS	YEAR	PLAYOFF WINNER
Oakland at Denver	1977	Denver
Houston at Pittsburgh	1978	Pittsburgh
<b><i>N.Y. Giants at Philadelphia</i></b>	<b>1981</b>	<b><i>N.Y. Giants</i></b>
L.A. Rams at San Francisco	1989	San Francisco
<b><i>Atlanta at New Orleans</i></b>	<b>1991</b>	<b><i>Atlanta</i></b>
<b><i>Buffalo at Miami</i></b>	<b>1992</b>	<b><i>Buffalo</i></b>
Detroit at Tampa Bay	1997	Tampa Bay
St. Louis at New Orleans	2000	New Orleans
Indianapolis at Miami	2000	Miami
<b><i>Baltimore at Tennessee</i></b>	<b>2000</b>	<b><i>Baltimore</i></b>
Baltimore at Pittsburgh	2001	Pittsburgh
<b><i>Pittsburgh at Cincinnati</i></b>	<b>2005</b>	<b><i>Pittsburgh</i></b>
N.Y. Giants at Philadelphia	2006	???
N.Y. Jets at New England	2006	???

**WILD CARD HOSTS:** When Philadelphia hosts the New York Giants on Sunday, the Eagles will be playing the eighth Wild Card home game in their history. That total will surpass Green Bay and Miami for the most such games since the Wild Card round began in 1978.

Seattle hosts its fifth Wild Card game Saturday, tying for the third-most in history (Dallas, Minnesota, Tennessee). Most Wild Card home games in history:

CLUB	HOME WILD CARDS
Green Bay	7
Miami	7
<b>Philadelphia</b>	<b>7</b>
Dallas	5
Minnesota	5
Tennessee	5
New Orleans	4
NY Giants	4
NY Jets	4
Oakland-LA	4
<b>Seattle</b>	<b>4</b>

**TOP PLAYOFF PASSERS:** When **TOM BRADY** of New England and **PEYTON MANNING** of Indianapolis play this weekend, they will do so as two of the top 10 quarterbacks in NFL playoff passer rating history. Brady (89.4) and Manning (89.3) stand seventh and eighth, respectively, on a list that collectively owns 15 Super Bowl victories.

The top 10 passer ratings in playoff history (minimum, 150 attempts):

PLAYER	TEAM	PASSER RATING
Bart Starr	Green Bay	104.8
Joe Montana	San Francisco, Kansas City	95.6
Jake Delhomme	Carolina	95.0
Ken Anderson	Cincinnati	93.5
Kurt Warner	St. Louis	92.3
Joe Theismann	Washington	91.4
<b>Tom Brady</b>	<b>New England</b>	<b>89.4</b>
<b>Peyton Manning</b>	<b>Indianapolis</b>	<b>89.3</b>
Troy Aikman	Dallas	88.3
Steve Young	San Francisco	85.8

**T.B. THROWS TDs:** With a touchdown pass against the Jets, New England's **TOM BRADY** can break his tie with **JOHN ELWAY** (9) and tie **JOE MONTANA** and **KEN STABLER** (10) for the third longest consecutive playoff-game streak with a touchdown pass. The most consecutive playoff games with a touchdown pass:

QUARTERBACK	TEAM	YEARS	GAMES
Brett Favre	Green Bay	1995-present	16
Dan Marino	Miami	1983-95	13
Ken Stabler	Oakland	1973-77	10
Joe Montana	San Francisco-Kansas City	1988-93	10
John Elway	Denver	1984-89	9
<b>Tom Brady</b>	<b>New England</b>	<b>2002-present</b>	<b>9</b>

**WINNING AT HOME:** The New England Patriots have won eight consecutive home playoff games dating back to a divisional playoff victory on January 5, 1997. With a win this Sunday against the Jets, the Patriots can tie the Buffalo Bills (1988-95) for the second longest such streak in history, trailing only the Green Bay Packers' 13 consecutive home wins from 1939-2001. The longest home playoff winning streaks in history:

CLUB	YEARS	CONSECUTIVE HOME WINS
Green Bay	1939-2001	13
Buffalo	1988-1995	9
Washington	1942-1983	8
<b>New England</b>	<b>1996-present</b>	<b>8</b>

**FAMILIAR FEEL:** When the Dallas Cowboys and New York Giants take the field on Wild Card Weekend, it will mark the 28th playoff season for each franchise, surpassing the Cleveland-Los Angeles-St. Louis Rams for the most playoff seasons in history.

The Chicago Bears will make their 24th playoff appearance next weekend in the Divisional Playoffs, which will tie for the third highest total in history.

Most playoff seasons by a team:

CLUB	PLAYOFF SEASONS
<b><i>Dallas</i></b>	<b><i>28</i></b>
<b><i>N.Y. Giants</i></b>	<b><i>28</i></b>
Cleveland-LA-St. Louis Rams	27
<b><i>Chicago</i></b>	<b><i>24</i></b>
Cleveland	24
Minnesota	24

**MOVING TO 12?:** Head coaches **BILL BELICHICK** of New England, **MIKE HOLMGREN** of Seattle and **BILL PARCELLS** of Dallas each have 11 career playoff victories, tied for sixth most in history.

With wins this weekend, at least one of the coaches (Dallas plays Seattle this Saturday) will tie **BILL COWHER** for the fifth most playoff wins all-time.

The coaches with the most NFL playoff wins:

HEAD COACH	TEAM(S)	PLAYOFF WINS
Tom Landry	Dallas Cowboys	20
Don Shula	Baltimore Colts, Miami Dolphins	19
Joe Gibbs	Washington Redskins	17
Chuck Noll	Pittsburgh Steelers	16
Bill Cowher	Pittsburgh Steelers	12
<b><i>Bill Belichick</i></b>	<b><i>Cleveland Browns, New England Patriots</i></b>	<b><i>11</i></b>
<b><i>Mike Holmgren</i></b>	<b><i>Green Bay Packers, Seattle Seahawks</i></b>	<b><i>11</i></b>
Marv Levy	Kansas City Chiefs, Buffalo Bills	11
<b><i>Bill Parcells</i></b>	<b><i>NY Giants, New England Patriots, NY Jets, Dallas Cowboys</i></b>	<b><i>11</i></b>
Dan Reeves	Denver Broncos, NY Giants, Atlanta Falcons	11

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