



GAME NOTES

New England Patriots vs. Buffalo Bills – December 23, 2018

TEAM NOTES

- Patriots clinch playoff spot for 20th time in Kraft's 25 years of ownership
- Patriots earn 10th consecutive AFC East title
- Patriots set NFL mark for most consecutive playoff appearances with 10
- Patriots win 10 games for 16th straight season to tie San Francisco
- Brady reaches 4,000 yards passing for 10th time
- Patriots gain 200 yards rushing for second time in 2018

PATRIOTS CLINCH PLAYOFF SPOT FOR THE 20th TIME IN KRAFT'S 25 YEARS;

PATRIOTS WIN AFC EAST FOR THE 18TH TIME UNDER KRAFT

New England has qualified for the playoffs 26 times in its 59-year history after clinching the AFC East with the win against Buffalo. The Patriots have earned 20 of those playoff berths in the 25 seasons since Robert Kraft purchased the team in 1994. New England has won 21 division crowns overall (20 AFC East crowns) and has qualified as a Wild Card team on four occasions (1998, 1994, 1985 and 1976). The Patriots also qualified for the playoffs in 1982 as part of a 16-team tournament following a players' strike.

PATRIOTS WIN AFC EAST FOR THE 18TH TIME UNDER KRAFT

The Patriots claimed the AFC East Division title for the 10th consecutive season and for the 18th time under Robert Kraft.

DIVISION CHAMPIONSHIPS SINCE 1994

New England Patriots	18
Pittsburgh Steelers	13
Green Bay Packers	12
Indianapolis Colts	10

PATRIOTS EXTEND NFL RECORD TO TEN STRAIGHT DIVISION TITLES

The Patriots have won ten straight AFC East titles, the longest streak in NFL history. The Patriots have won 16 of the last 18 AFC East division crowns. They join the Atlanta Braves (14) as the only franchises from the NFL, NBA, MLB or NHL to win at least 10 straight division titles. The New York Yankees (1998-06), Colorado Avalanche (1995-03), LA Lakers (1982-90) and Boston Celtics (1957-65) are the teams from the other major four sports that have streaks of nine straight titles.

MOST CONSECUTIVE DIVISION TITLES

Team	Division	Titles	Years
New England Patriots	AFC East	10	2009-18
Los Angeles Rams	NFC West	7	1973-79
Pittsburgh Steelers	AFC Central	6	1974-79
Minnesota Vikings	NFC Central	6	1973-78
Dallas Cowboys	NFL Capitol/NFC East	6	1966-71
Cleveland Browns	American/Eastern Conf.	6	1950-55
New England Patriots	AFC East	5	2003-07
Denver Broncos	AFC West	5	2011-15
Indianapolis Colts	AFC South	5	2003-07
Dallas Cowboys	NFC East	5	1992-96
San Francisco 49ers	NFC West	5	1986-90
Chicago Bears	NFC Central	5	1984-88
Oakland Raiders	AFC West	5	1972-76

PATRIOTS SET NFL RECORD WITH 10th STRAIGHT PLAYOFF SEASON

The Patriots have now made the playoffs for ten straight seasons (2009-18), setting an NFL record for most consecutive seasons reaching the postseason.

MOST CONSECUTIVE PLAYOFF SEASONS/NFL HISTORY

10	New England Patriots (2009-18)
9	Dallas Cowboys (1975-83) Indianapolis Colts (2002-10)
8	Green Bay Packers (2009-16) Pittsburgh Steelers (1972-79) Los Angeles Rams (1973-80) Dallas (1966-73) San Francisco (1983-90)
7	Houston Oilers (1987-93) San Francisco 49ers (1992-98)

PATRIOTS PLAYOFF SEASONS

The Patriots have qualified for the playoffs 26 times in their 59-year history. Twenty of those playoff berths have come in the 25 seasons since Robert Kraft purchased the team in 1994.

PATRIOTS PLAYOFF SEASONS (26)

<u>Year</u>	<u>How Qualified</u>	<u>Seed</u>	<u>Record</u>	<u>Result</u>
2018	Division Champions	??	??	??
2017	Division Champions	1	2-1	AFC Champions
2016	Division Champions	1	3-0	Super Bowl Champions
2015	Division Champions	2	1-1	AFC Championship Game
2014	Division Champions	1	3-0	Super Bowl Champions
2013	Division Champions	2	1-1	AFC Championship Game
2012	Division Champions	2	1-1	AFC Championship Game
2011	Division Champions	1	2-1	AFC Champions
2010	Division Champions	1	0-1	AFC Divisional Round
2009	Division Champions	3	0-1	Wild Card Round
2007	Division Champions	1	2-1	AFC Champions
2006	Division Champions	4	2-1	AFC Championship Game
2005	Division Champions	4	1-1	AFC Divisional Round
2004	Division Champions	2	3-0	Super Bowl Champions
2003	Division Champions	1	3-0	Super Bowl Champions
2001	Division Champions	2	3-0	Super Bowl Champions
1998	Wild Card	6	0-1	Wild Card Round
1997	Division Champions	3	1-1	AFC Divisional Round
1996	Division Champions	2	2-1	AFC Champions
1994	Wild Card	5	0-1	Wild Card Round
1986	Division Champions	3	0-1	AFC Divisional Round
1985	Wild Card	5	3-1	AFC Champions
1982*	16-Team Format	7	0-1	First Round
1978	Division Champions	2	0-1	AFC Divisional Round
1976	Wild Card	4	0-1	AFC Divisional Round
<u>1963</u>	<u>Division Champions</u>	<u>--</u>	<u>1-1</u>	<u>AFL Championship Game</u>

*-Strike Year

34-20 Record

WRAPPING IT UP

The Patriots clinched the AFC crown with the 24-12 win over Buffalo.

PATRIOTS DIVISION-CLINCHING GAMES

<u>Year</u>	<u>Date Clinched</u>	<u>Opp.</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Record 2nd Place</u>	
2018	12/09/18	BUF	24-12		
2017	12/11/17	at PITT	27-24	13-3	BUF (9-7)
2016	12/18/16	at DEN	16-3	14-2	MIA (10-6)
2015	12/13/15	at HOU	27-6	12-4	NYJ (10-6)
2014	12/14/14	MIA	41-13	12-4	BUF (9-7)
2013	12/15/13	at BAL	41-7	12-4	NYJ (8-8)
2012	12/02/12	at MIA	23-16	12-4	MIA (7-9)
2011	12/18/11	at DEN	41-23	13-3	NYJ (8-8)
2010	12/26/10	at BUF	34-3	14-2	NYJ (11-5)
2009	12/27/09	JAX	35-7	10-6	NYJ (9-7)
2007	11/25/07	PHI	31-28	16-0	BUF (7-9)
2006	12/24/06	at JAX	24-21	12-4	NYJ (10-6)
2005	12/17/05	TB	28-0	10-6	MIA (9-7)
2004	12/12/04	CIN	35-28	14-2	NYJ (10-6)
2003	12/07/03	MIA	12-0	14-2	MIA (10-6)
2001	01/06/02@	at CAR	38-6	11-5	MIA (11-5)
1997	12/22/97@	at MIA	14-12	10-6	MIA (9-7)
1996	12/15/96	at DAL	6-12	11-5	BUF (10-6)
1986	12/22/86@	at MIA	34-27	11-5	NYJ (10-6)
1978	12/10/78	BUF	26-24	11-5	MIA (11-5)
1963	12/28/63*	at BUF	26-8	7-6-1	BUF (7-6-1)

@Season Finale *Division-deciding playoff in Buffalo, NY

PATRIOTS WIN 10 GAMES FOR THE 16TH STRAIGHT SEASON; TIE SAN FRANCISCO FOR MOST CONSECUTIVE 10-WIN SEASONS

New England has reached at least 10 regular season wins for 16 consecutive seasons, joining San Francisco (16) as the only teams to accomplish the feat.

<u>Team</u>	<u>Years</u>	<u>Consecutive Seasons with 10+ Wins</u>
New England	2003-2018	16
San Francisco	1983-1998	16
Indianapolis	2002-2010	9
Dallas	1975-1981	7

PATRIOTS HAVE MOST DIVISION TITLES SINCE REALIGNMENT

The New England Patriots have won 15 division titles and have 15 playoff berths since realignment in 2002, most in the NFL.

MOST DIVISION TITLES SINCE 2002 REALIGNMENT

Team	Division Titles	Playoff Berths
New England	15	15
Green Bay.....	9.....	12
Indianapolis.....	9.....	12
Pittsburgh	8.....	11
Seattle.....	8.....	11
Philadelphia	7.....	9

PATRIOTS HAVE NOW WON 12 STRAIGHT REGULAR SEASON HOME GAMES

The Patriots have now won 12 straight regular season games at Gillette Stadium, tied for the fourth-longest streak in team history.

**LONGEST HOME WINNING STREAK/PATRIOTS HISTORY
(REGULAR SEASON ONLY)**

Streak	First Win	Last Win
20	Dec. 21, 2008	Oct. 16, 2011
18	Dec. 29, 2002	Sept. 8, 2005
16	Dec. 30, 2012	Dec. 28, 2014
12	Oct. 22, 2017	Present
12	Nov. 26, 2006	Sept. 7, 2008
10	Sept. 18, 1976	Oct. 30, 1977

RUSH TO VICTORY

Since 2001, New England is 51-1 in the regular season when a Patriot eclipses 100 yards rushing, including four victories in 2018 with 100-yard outings by Sony Michel. Michel had 116 yards rushing against Buffalo.

PATRIOTS RUSH FOR SEASON HIGH 273 YARDS; SECOND 200-YARD GAME IN 2018

The Patriots went over 200 yards rushing for the second time in 2018 after finishing with 273 yards. The Patriots had 215 yards rushing at the New York Jets on Nov. 25. It is the highest output since the team rushed for 277 yards at Oakland on Dec. 14, 2008. It is the highest rushing total at a home game since gaining 281 yards vs. Cincinnati on Dec. 22, 1985. It is the 14th time that the Patriots have rushed for 200 or more yards under Bill Belichick.

INDIVIDUAL NOTES

BELICHICK EXTENDS NFL RECORD TO TEN STRAIGHT DIVISION TITLES

Bill Belichick extended his NFL record to ten straight division titles. Paul Brown (1950-55), Tom Landry (1966-71), Bud Grant (1973-78) and Chuck Noll (1974-79) are next on the list after leading their teams to six straight titles.

NFL COACHES WITH THE MOST CONSECUTIVE DIVISION TITLES

Head Coach	Teams	Consecutive Division Titles
Bill Belichick	Patriots	10 (2009-2018)
Paul Brown	Cleveland	6 (1950-1955)
Tom Landry	Dallas	6 (1966-1971)
Bud Grant	Minnesota	6 (1973-1978)
Chuck Noll	Pittsburgh	6 (1974-1979)

BELICHICK EXTENDS HIS NFL RECORD TO 16 DIVISION TITLES

Bill Belichick guided the Patriots to the AFC East title in 2018. It is his 16th division title as a head coach, the most by a head coach since the 1970 merger. Don Shula is second with 11 division titles since the merger. Overall, Belichick's 16 division titles are the most in NFL history among NFL head coaches. Shula and Tom Landry are second with 13 titles.

BELICHICK HAS 17TH POSTSEASON BERTH AS A HEAD COACH

Bill Belichick has led his teams to 17 postseason berths, which is third all-time among NFL head coaches. He has led his team to 16 berths with New England and one with Cleveland.

NFL HEAD COACHES WITH THE MOST POSTSEASON SEASONS

Coach	Playoff Berths
Don Shula	19
Tom Landry	18
Bill Belichick	17

BELICHICK LEADS THE PATRIOTS TO 16TH STRAIGHT 10-WIN SEASON

Bill Belichick has coached the Patriots to 16 straight seasons with 10 or more wins, adding to his NFL record streak. In 2011, Belichick became the first coach in NFL history with nine straight seasons with at least 10 victories. George Seifert has the second most consecutive 10-win seasons with eight from 1989-1996 for San Francisco.

BRADY EXTENDS RECORD TO TEN STRAIGHT DIVISION TITLES; WINS 16TH DIVISION TITLE OVERALL

Tom Brady extended his NFL record by leading the Patriots to their 10th straight division title in 2018.

NFL RECORD FOR MOST CONSECUTIVE DIVISION TITLES BY A STARTING QB

Player	Team	Consecutive Division Titles
Tom Brady	Patriots	10 (2009-2018)
Terry Bradshaw	Steelers	6 (1974-1979)
Fran Tarkenton	Vikings	6 (1973-1978)

NFL RECORD FOR MOST DIVISION TITLES

Player	Career Division Titles
Tom Brady	16
Peyton Manning	12
Joe Montana	9
Brett Favre	8
Terry Bradshaw	7
John Elway	7

BRADY LEADS THE PATRIOTS TO 10 WINS FOR 16TH TIME

Brady led the Patriots to his 16th 10-win season as a starter. Peyton Manning (14) is second for the most such seasons in the Super Bowl era.

BRADY EARNS 30TH WIN OVER BUFFALO

Tom Brady owns a 30-3 record against the Buffalo Bills. Brady's 30 wins against Buffalo are the most wins by a quarterback against a single opponent.

MOST WINS BY A QB AGAINST AN OPPONENT

Player	Opponent Wins
Tom Brady	Buffalo 30
Tom Brady	N.Y. Jets... 26
Brett Favre	Detroit 26
Brett Favre	Chicago 23
Tom Brady.....	Miami..... 22
Dan Marino	Indianapolis22
Ben Roethlisberger	Cincinnati . 22
Ben Roethlisberger	Cleveland . 22

BRADY PASSES PEYTON MANNING FOR SECOND WITH 266 CAREER STARTS

Brady started in his 266 regular season game to move past Peyton Manning for the second-most starts by an NFL quarterback.

MOST STARTS BY AN NFL QUARTERBACK

Player	Team(s)	Starts
Brett Favre	GB/NYJ/MIN	298
Tom Brady	New England	266
Peyton Manning	IND/DEN	265
Drew Brees.....	SD/NO	263

BRADY REACHED 4,000 YARDS FOR THE 10TH TIME;

JOINS MANNING, BREES AND RIVERS AS THE ONLY NFL PLAYERS WITH 10 OR MORE 4K SEASONS

Brady reached 4,000 yards in 2018 for the tenth time in his career, joining Peyton Manning (14), Drew Brees (12) and Philip Rivers (10) as the only NFL players with 10 different 4,000-yard seasons. He entered the game with 3,979 yards and needed 21 yards to reach 4,000. He now has 4,105 passing yards for the season.

ALL-TIME 4,000 YARD PASSING SEASONS

Peyton Manning	14
Drew Brees	12
Tom Brady	10
Philip Rivers	10
Matt Ryan	8

WHITE'S 27-YARD TD RUN IS HIS LONGEST TD RUN OF HIS CAREER;

TIED FOR HIS LONGEST RUN OVERALL

RB James White scored on a 27-yard touchdown run in the second quarter. It is the longest touchdown run of his career. His previous longest touchdown run was a 22-yard run vs. Miami on Sept. 30, 2018. The 27-yard run is tied for his career best. He had a 27-yard run on Nov. 25, 2018 at the New York Jets.

EDELMAN MOVES INTO FIFTH PLACE ON PATRIOTS ALL-TIME RECEIVING LIST

WR Julian Edelman moved past Ben Coates into fifth place on the New England all-time reception list on a 4-yard reception in the third quarter. He entered the game needing three receptions to move past Coates.

Most Receptions in Patriots History

<u>Player</u>	<u>Receptions</u>
Wes Welker	672
Troy Brown	557
Stanley Morgan	534
Rob Gronkowski	519
Julian Edelman	494
Ben Coates	490

PATTERSON SETS PATRIOTS RECORD FOR MOST RUSHING YARDS IN A GAME BY A WR

WR Cordarrelle Patterson broke his own record for most rushing yards by a New England receiver in a single game with his 66 rushing yards against Buffalo. The previous best was his 61 yards rushing vs. Green Bay on Nov. 4, 2018.

Most Rushing Yards by a Patriots Wide Receiver in a Game

66-yards by Cordarrelle Patterson on Dec. 23, 2018 vs. Buffalo

61-yards by Cordarrelle Patterson on Nov. 4, 2018 vs. Green Bay

48-yards by Darryl Stingley on Oct. 3, 1976 vs. Oakland

47-yards by Julian Edelman vs. Indianapolis on Nov. 18, 2012

38-yards by Cordarrelle Patterson at Buffalo on Oct. 29, 2018

37-yards by Terry Glenn vs. Kansas City on Dec. 4, 2000

MICHEL REACHES 100 YARDS...AGAIN

RB Sony Michel went over 100 yards rushing for the fourth time this season after finishing with 116 yards against Buffalo. He joins Curtis Martin, John Stephens and Robert Edwards as the only Patriots rookie running backs with at least four 100-yard rushing games in a season.

PATRIOTS ROOKIE RBS WITH MULTIPLE

100-YARD RUSHING GAMES

Player	Year	100-Yard Games - Weeks
Curtis Martin	1995	9 Games - Weeks 1, 8, 10-11, 13-17
John Stephens	1988	5 Games - Weeks 8-10, 14, 16
Robert Edwards	1998	4 Games - Weeks 6-7, 15-16
Sony Michel	2018	4 Games - Weeks 4, 6, 12 and 16

JC JACKSON PICKS OFF THIRD PASS OF THE SEASON

Rookie DB J.C. Jackson intercepted Buffalo QB Josh Allen in the second quarter for his third interception of the season. He is the first New England rookie with at least three interceptions since CB Logan Ryan had five as a rookie in 2013.

DB JASON MCCOURTY HAS FIRST PICK OF THE SEASON

DB Jason McCourty had his first interception of the season when he intercepted QB Josh Allen in the fourth quarter.

LINEUP NOTES

UFOMBA KKAMALU MAKES DEBUT IN A NEW ENGLAND UNIFORM

DL Ufomba Kamaluu was signed to the 53-man roster from the practice squad before the game and made his debut in a New England uniform.

DL DANNY SHELTON RETURNED TO ACTION

DL Danny Shelton returned to action after being inactive for the last three games.