



GAME NOTES

New England Patriots vs. Buffalo Bills– December 24, 2017

TEAM NOTES

- Patriots win 12 games for NFL-record eighth straight season
- Patriots extend NFL record with 11th straight 400-point season
- Patriots have two players reach 1,000 yards receiving

PATRIOTS WIN 12 GAMES FOR THE 8TH STRAIGHT SEASON TO SET NFL MARK

The Patriots have won at least 12 games for an NFL-record eighth straight season. It is the 12th time in team history that the Patriots have won at least 12 games in a season.

CONSECUTIVE 12-WIN SEASONS SINCE 1970 MERGER

New England Patriots	8 (2010-17)
Indianapolis Colts	7 (2003-09)
Dallas Cowboys	4 (1992-95)

12-WIN SEASONS SINCE 1970 MERGER

1. San Francisco	13
2t. New England	12
2t. Dallas	12
4. Denver	11
5. Pittsburgh	9
6. Indianapolis	8

PATRIOTS ADD TO THEIR NFL RECORD WITH 11 STRAIGHT 400 POINT SEASONS

The Patriots extended their NFL record to 11 straight seasons with at least 400 total points (2007-17). The Patriots entered the Buffalo game with 395 points and added 37 to push their 2017 season total to 432 points.

PATRIOTS HAVE TWO 1,000-YARD RECEIVERS IN SAME SEASON FOR SIXTH TIME

WR Brandin Cooks (1,003) went over 1,000 yards for the season against Buffalo. TE Rob Gronkowski (1,084) went over 1,000 yards for the season last week at Pittsburgh. The Patriots have now had two players reach 1,000-yards in the same season six times. The Patriots and Kansas City (Tyreek Hill and Travis Kelce) are the only teams in 2017 with two 1,000-yard receivers.

PATRIOTS SEASONS WITH TWO 1,000-YARD RECEIVERS

2017 – Rob Gronkowski (1,084) and Brandin Cooks (1,003)

2011 – Wes Welker (1,569) and Rob Gronkowski (1,327)

2009 – Wes Welker (1,348) and Randy Moss (1,264)

2008 – Wes Welker (1,165) and Randy Moss (1,008)

2007 – Wes Welker (1,175) and Randy Moss (1,493)

1979 – Harold Jackson (1,013) and Stanley Morgan (1,002)

PATRIOTS SWEEP BUFFALO FOR 25TH TIME

The Patriots swept the 2017 season series with Buffalo. It is New England's 25th sweep of the season series with the Bills, dating back to the inception of the series between the old AFL rivals in 1960. The Patriots have won 31 of the last 36 games between the teams since Bill Belichick became head coach of the Patriots in 2000.

THE PATRIOTS DEFENSE HELD BUFFALO WITHOUT A TD IN TWO GAMES

Buffalo had 19 offensive possessions in two games against New England in 2017 and were held without an offensive touchdown. The Patriots limited Buffalo to just four field goals.

STRONG GROUND GAME VS. BUFFALO

The New England offense rushed for 193 yards on 38 carries (5.1 avg.) against Buffalo on Sunday, marking the second time this season the Patriots have eclipsed 190 yards rushing against the Bills. On December 3, the Patriots rushed for 191 yards on 35 carries (5.5 avg.). In total over two games against the Bills this year, the Patriots have rushed 73 times for 384 yards (5.3 avg.).

RED ZONE DENIAL

The New England defense held the Buffalo offense out of the end zone in six red zone trips over two games this season. The Bills were 0-for-2 in their meeting on December 3, and 0-for-4 in the red zone in the Patriots 37-16 win on Sunday.

INDIVIDUAL NOTES

BELICHICK WINS 12 FOR 12TH TIME

Bill Belichick owns the NFL record among head coaches with 12 seasons of 12 or more wins. He owns the record with eight consecutive 12 win seasons (2010-17). Tony Dungy (2003-08) and Tom Landry (1976-81) are second with six straight 12-win seasons.

NFL HEAD COACHES WITH THE MOST 12-WIN SEASONS

Head Coach	Team(s)	12-win Seasons
Bill Belichick	NE	12
Don Shula	BAL, MIA	8
Tony Dungy	IND	6
Tom Landry	DAL	6
Marty Schottenheimer	CLE, KC, SD	5

BRADY WINS 12 FOR 12TH TIME

Since entering the NFL in 2000, Tom Brady's teams have reached 12 regular-season wins in 12 different seasons, the most by a starting quarterback in NFL history.

STARTING QBS WITH THE MOST 12-WIN REGULAR SEASONS IN NFL HISTORY

PLAYER	SEASONS
Tom Brady	12
Peyton Manning	11
Brett Favre	6
John Elway	4
Jim Kelly	4

BRADY THROWS FOR 30 TDS FOR THE 7TH TIME IN HIS CAREER

Brady threw two touchdowns against Buffalo and now has 30 touchdowns for the season. It is the seventh time in his career that he has thrown for at least 30 touchdowns in a season. The only other Patriots quarterback to have a 30-touchdown season was Vito "Babe" Parilli in 1964 when he led the AFL with 31. Only Brett Favre, Peyton Manning and Drew Brees (all with nine) have more seasons with 30 or more touchdowns.

MOST SEASONS WITH 30-PLUS TOUCHDOWN PASSES

Brett Favre	9
Peyton Manning	9
Drew Brees	9
TOM BRADY	7
Aaron Rodgers	6
Philip Rivers	5
Dan Marino	4
Tony Romo	4
Eli Manning	3
Kurt Warner	3

BRADY BEATS BUFFALO

Tom Brady owns a 28-3 record against the Buffalo Bills. Brady's 28 wins against Buffalo are the most wins by a quarterback against a single opponent.

MOST WINS BY A STARTING QUARTERBACK AGAINST AN OPPONENT

Player	Wins
Tom Brady	28 wins against Buffalo
Brett Favre	26 wins against Detroit
Tom Brady	24 wins against the Jets
Brett Favre	23 wins against Chicago
Dan Marino	22 wins against Indianapolis

BRADY CLIMBS THE PASSING CHART

Brady now has 4,387 passing yards in 2017. It is the seventh-highest total in his career and in the Patriots history.

PATRIOTS TOP PASSING YARDS/SEASON

<u>Yards</u>	<u>Player</u>	<u>Year</u>
5,235	Tom Brady	2011
4,827	Tom Brady	2012
4,806	Tom Brady	2007
4,770	Tom Brady	2015
4,555	Drew Bledsoe	1994
4,398	Tom Brady	2009
4,387	Tom Brady	2017
4,343	Tom Brady	2013
4,110	Tom Brady	2005
4,109	Tom Brady	2014
4,086	Drew Bledsoe	1996

BRADY IS GOOD AT 40

Brady already has the most passing yards (4,387) and the most wins in a single season by a quarterback at the age of 40, and his 12 wins overall at the age of 40 are now second all-time for a quarterback in his 40s, behind only Brett Favre who won 13 games at the age of 40.

MOST REGULAR SEASON WINS BY A QUARTERBACK AT THE AGE OF 40

Brett Favre 13

Tom Brady 12

Warren Moon 11

BRADY NEARING THE TOP FOR MOST WINS AMONG ALL NFL PLAYERS.

Tom Brady has the most wins by an NFL quarterback with 220 overall career wins. His 220 wins are the second wins all-time by an NFL player, behind the 224 wins by Adam Vinatieri.

MOST WINS BY AN NFL PLAYER (INCLUDING POSTSEASON GAMES)

(GAMES PLAYED)

<u>Player</u>	<u>Wins</u>
Adam Vinatieri	224
Tom Brady	220
George Blanda	218
Jerry Rice	211
Gary Anderson	210
Peyton Manning	201
Brett Favre	201
Morten Andersen	194

DION LEWIS HAS SECOND CAREER 100-YARD GAME; SETS CAREER HIGH WITH 129 YARDS

RB Dion Lewis set a career-high with 129 yards rushing. It was his second NFL 100-yard game. He had his first NFL 100-yard game on Nov. 26, 2017, vs. Miami, with 112 yards. The Patriots are 47-1 since 2000 in the regular season when a Patriots running back eclipses 100 yards rushing.

LB MARQUIS FLOWERS CREDITED WITH FIRST CAREER SACKS

LB Marquis Flowers was credited with his first career NFL sack on a 6-yard loss of Buffalo QB Tyrod Taylor on a fourth-down play from the New England 6-yard line in the second quarter. He added a 1-yard sack late in the fourth quarter.

RB MIKE GILLISLEE HAS FIRST RECEPTION OF THE SEASON

RB Mike Gillislee caught his first pass of the 2017 on a 15-yard reception from QB Tom Brady in the second quarter.

GOSTKOWSKI IS CLOSE TO SETTING A CAREER-BEST

K Stephen Gostkowski kicked three field goals to push his 2017 total to 36 field goals. His career high is 38 field goals in 2013.

MOST FIELD GOALS MADE IN A SEASON/PATRIOTS

Player	Field Goals	Year
Stephen Gostkowski	38	2013
Stephen Gostkowski	36	2017
Stephen Gostkowski	36	2008
Stephen Gostkowski	35	2014
Stephen Gostkowski	33	2015
Tony Franklin	32	1986
Adam Vinatieri	31	2004
Adam Vinatieri	31	1998

COOKS REACHES 1,000-YARDS

WR Brandin Cooks (1,003) became the 11th Patriots player to have a 1,000-yard season after reaching 1,000 yards in the win against Buffalo. It is his third straight season that he has reached 1,000 yards.

1,000-YARD RECEIVING SEASONS IN PATRIOTS HISTORY

<u>Player</u>	<u>Yards</u>	<u>Season</u>
Wes Welker	1,569	2011
Randy Moss	1,493	2007
Stanley Morgan	1,491	1986
Wes Welker	1,354	2012
Wes Welker	1,348	2009
Rob Gronkowski	1,327	2011
Randy Moss	1,264	2009
Troy Brown	1,199	2001
Rob Gronkowski	1,176	2015
Wes Welker	1,175	2007
Ben Coates	1,174	1994
Wes Welker	1,165	2008
Terry Glenn	1,147	1999
Terry Glenn	1,132	1996
Rob Gronkowski	1,124	2014
Julian Edelman	1,106	2016
Rob Gronkowski	1,084	2017
Julian Edelman	1,056	2013
Stanley Morgan	1,029	1981
Irving Fryar	1,014	1991
Harold Jackson	1,013	1979
Randy Moss	1,008	2008
Brandin Cooks	1,003	2017
Stanley Morgan	1,002	1979

GRONK SCORES AGAINST BUFFALO

TE Rob Gronkowski scored on a 17-yard pass in the second quarter. He now has 12 touchdowns in 13 games against Buffalo.

GRONKOWSKI NEARING SIXTH 10-TD SEASON

Gronkowski became the first tight end in NFL history to have five seasons with 10 or more touchdowns. Gronkowski now has eight touchdowns so far in 2017.

NFL TIGHT ENDS WITH MOST 10-PLUS TOUCHDOWN SEASONS

Rob Gronkowski	5 – 2010 (10), 2011 (18), 2012 (11), 2014 (11), 2015 (11)
Antonio Gates	4 – 2004 (13), 2005 (10), 2010 (10), 2014 (12)
Tony Gonzalez	3 – 1999 (11), 2003 (10), 2008 (10)
Jimmy Graham	3 – 2011 (11), 2013 (16), 2014 (10)
Dallas Clark	2 – 2007 (11), 2009 (10)
Vernon Davis	2 – 2009 (13), 2013 (13)
Shannon Sharpe	2 – 1996 (10), 1998 (10)
Wesley Walls	2 – 1996 (10), 1999 (12)
Julius Thomas	2 – 2013 (12), 2013 (12)

MOST 10-PLUS TOUCHDOWN SEASONS / PATRIOTS HISTORY

5 Rob Gronkowski – 2010-12, 2014-15

3 Randy Moss – 2007-09
3 Corey Dillon – 2004-06
2 BenJarvus Green-Ellis – 2010-11
2 Curtis Martin – 1995-96
2 Stanley Morgan – 1979, 1986

BRADY AND GRONK CONNECTIONS

TE Rob Gronkowski and QB Tom Brady connected on a 17-yard touchdown in the second quarter. It is the 75th connection between the two, second all-time among tight ends and the fifth-most connections all-time.

THE MOST TD CONNECTIONS BETWEEN A QB AND A TE IN NFL HISTORY

<u>Quarterback</u>	<u>Tight End</u>	<u>Team</u>	<u>TD Connections</u>
Philip Rivers	Antonio Gates	San Diego	87
Tom Brady	Rob Gronkowski	New England	75
Drew Brees	Jimmy Graham	New Orleans	51
Drew Bledsoe	Ben Coates	New England	45
Peyton Manning	Dallas Clark	Indianapolis	44
Sonny Jurgensen	Jerry Smith	Washington	43
Dan Fouts	Kellen Winslow	San Diego	41
John Elway	Shannon Sharpe	Denver	41
Ben Roethlisberger	Heath Miller	Pittsburgh	41

BRADY TO GRONK - 5TH PLACE ALL-TIME

Quarterback Receiver Touchdown Connections

Peyton Manning	Marvin Harrison	112
Philip Rivers	Antonio Gates	87
Steve Young	Jerry Rice	85
Dan Marino	Mark Clayton	79
Tom Brady	Rob Gronkowski	75
Drew Brees	Marques Colston	72
Peyton Manning	Reggie Wayne	67
Jim Kelly	Andre Reed	65
Aaron Rogers	Jordy Nelson	65
Johnny Unitas	Raymond Berry	63
Brett Favre	Antonio Freeman	57

LINEUP NOTES

- **RB Mike Gillislee** was active and played for the first time since Week 8 vs. the LA Chargers on Oct. 29.
- **DL Ricky Jean Francois** made his first start as a member of the Patriots.
- **LB Marquis Flowers** made his second start of the season at linebacker in place of LB Kyle Van Noy, who was out with an injury. Flowers also started at Miami on December 11.