



## GAME NOTES

2016 AFC Divisional Playoff Game  
New England Patriots vs. Houston Texans – January 14, 2017

### TEAM NOTES

#### **ROBERT KRAFT EARNS HIS 26th POSTSEASON WIN**

The Patriots have now won 26 playoff games since Robert Kraft purchased the team in 1994. Kraft's 26 career postseason wins are the third-most postseason wins by an ownership group in NFL history.

#### **WINS OWNERSHIP**

35	The Rooney Family, Pittsburgh (1933-present)
33	Green Bay Packers, Inc., Green Bay (1919-present)
<b>26</b>	<b>Robert Kraft, New England (1994-present)</b>
24	The Mara Family, New York Giants (1925-present)
22	Eddie DeBartalo, Jr., San Francisco (1977-1999)
21	Al Davis, Oakland/Los Angeles (1972-2011)
21	Bowlen Family, Denver (1984-present)

#### **PATRIOTS ADVANCE TO A RECORD SIXTH STRAIGHT AFC TITLE GAME**

The Patriots have advanced to the AFC Championship game for the sixth straight season, the most consecutive appearances by an NFL team in history.

#### **NFL TEAMS WITH AT LEAST FOUR CONSECUTIVE CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIP GAME APPEARANCES SINCE 1970 MERGER**

<b><u>Team</u></b>	<b><u>Years</u></b>	<b><u>Results</u></b>
<b>New England Patriots</b>	<b>(6) 2011-2016</b>	<b>(2-3) W. L. L.W. L. ??</b>
Oakland Raiders	(5) 1973-1977	(1-4) L, L, L, W, L
Philadelphia Eagles	(4) 2001-2004	(1-3) L, L, L, W
Buffalo Bills	(4) 1990-1993	(4-0) W, W, W, W
Dallas Cowboys	(4) 1970-1973	(2-2) W, W, L, L
Dallas Cowboys	(4) 1992-1995	(3-1) W, W, L, W

#### **PATRIOTS TIE DALLAS BY ADVANCING IN POSTSEASON FOR SIXTH STRAIGHT SEASON**

The Patriots have advanced in the postseason for six straight seasons (2011-2016) to tie the Dallas Cowboys (1991-1996) for the most consecutive seasons advancing in the postseason.

## **PATRIOTS ADVANCE TO 13th AFC CHAMPIONSHIP GAME OVERALL**

The Patriots are 8-4 in AFC Championship Games, including a 5-1 record at home and a 4-1 record at Gillette Stadium.

### **PATRIOTS AFC CHAMPIONSHIP GAME RESULTS (8-4)**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Round</b>	<b>Opponent</b>	<b>W/L</b>	<b>Score</b>
01/12/86	AFC Championship	at Miami	W	31-14
01/12/97	AFC Championship	Jacksonville	W	20-6
01/27/02	AFC Championship	at Pittsburgh	W	24-17
01/18/04	AFC Championship	Indianapolis	W	24-14
01/23/05	AFC Championship	at Pittsburgh	W	41-27
01/21/07	AFC Championship	at Indianapolis	L	34-38
01/20/08	AFC Championship	San Diego	W	21-12
01/22/12	AFC Championship	Baltimore	W	23-20
01/20/13	AFC Championship	Baltimore	L	13-28
01/19/14	AFC Championship	at Denver	L	16-26
01/18/15	AFC Championship	Indianapolis	W	45-7
01/24/16	AFC Championship	at Denver	L	18-20

### **MOST APPEARANCES IN CONF. CHAMPIONSHIP GAME**

Pittsburgh	15
San Francisco	15
Dallas	14
<b>New England</b>	<b>13</b>
Oakland	11
Denver	10
Los Angeles Rams	9

### **MOST CONSECUTIVE SEASONS, PARTICIPATING IN A POSTSEASON GAME**

The Patriots have participated in at least one postseason game in eight straight seasons, second in NFL history to the nine by Dallas (1975-93) and Indianapolis (2002-10).

#### **Most Consecutive Seasons, Participating in a Postseason Game**

9 Dallas (1975-83)

Indianapolis (2002-10)

#### **8 New England Patriots (2009-16)**

Green Bay Packers (2009-16)

Dallas (1966-73)

Pittsburgh (1972-79)

LA Rams (1973-1980)

San Francisco (1983-1990)

7 Houston (1987-93)

San Francisco (1992-98)

### **PATRIOTS HOST A DIVISIONAL PLAYOFF GAME FOR 7<sup>TH</sup> STRAIGHT SEASON**

The Patriots added to their NFL record by hosting a Divisional Playoff game for the seventh straight season (2010-2016). Miami is next with five straight home Divisional Playoff games (1981-1985).

**PATRIOTS ALL-TIME IN PLAYOFF GAMES;  
BECOME FIFTH NFL TEAM TO REACH 30 POSTSEASON WINS**

The Patriots have compiled a 30-19 record in their 49 playoff games and their .612 playoff winning percentage is second in NFL history among teams that have played at least 15 playoff games. They are the fifth NFL team to reach 30 postseason wins.

**ALL-TIME BEST NFL PLAYOFF RECORDS (Min. 15 Games)**

<b>TEAM</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>Pct.</b>
Baltimore Ravens .....	15.....	8.....	.652
<b>New England Patriots .....</b>	<b>30 ..</b>	<b>19.....</b>	<b>.612</b>
Green Bay Packers.....	33.....	21.....	.611
Pittsburgh Steelers .....	35.....	23.....	.603
San Francisco 49ers.....	30.....	20.....	.600
Oakland/L.A. Raiders .....	25.....	18.....	.581
Dallas Cowboys .....	34.....	26.....	.567
Carolina Panthers .....	9.....	7.....	.563

**Most Playoff wins in NFL History**

<b>Team</b>	<b>Playoff Wins</b>
Pittsburgh	35
Dallas	34
Green Bay	33
<b>New England</b>	<b>30</b>
San Francisco	30
Oakland	25
New York Giants	24

**PATRIOTS IMPROVE TO 19-4 ALL-TIME IN HOME PLAYOFF GAMES**

New England improved its all-time home playoff record to 19-4 (.826), which is the second best home playoff record in NFL history among teams that have played at least 10 home playoff games (Seattle, 12-2, .857). The Patriots are now 15-3 all-time in home playoff games played at Gillette Stadium since the facility opened in 2002.

**INDIVIDUAL NOTES**

**BELICHICK WILL MOVE PAST LANDRY BY COACHING IN HIS 11 CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIP GAME**

Bill Belichick will coach in his 11th conference championship game as head coach, to move past Tom Landry for the most conference championships by a head coach.

**Head Coach Conf. Champ. Appearances**

<b>Bill Belichick</b>	<b>11</b>
Tom Landry	10
Don Shula	7
Chuck Noll	7

### **BELICHICK COACHED IN HIS 14th DIV. PLAYOFF GAME; TIED FOR MOST**

Bill Belichick coached in his 14th Divisional Playoff Game, to tie Don Shula for the most Divisional Playoff Games in NFL history. Belichick has coached in 13 Divisional Playoff Games as head coach of the Patriots.

#### **Most Divisional Playoff Games by a Head Coach in NFL History**

##### **14 Bill Belichick**

14 Don Shula  
13 Tom Landry

### **BELICHICK SETS POSTSEASON MARK WITH SIX STRAIGHT SEASONS OF ADVANCEMENT**

Belichick has led the Patriots to advancement in the playoffs for the sixth straight season, the most in NFL history. Belichick (2003-07), John Harbaugh (2008-12), Mike Holmgren (1993-97), John Madden (1973-77) and Andy Reid (2000-04) won a playoff game in five consecutive seasons.

### **BELICHICK HAS MOST POSTSEASON WINS IN NFL HISTORY**

Belichick added to his postseason record with his 24th career playoff win as a head coach. **Most Playoff Wins By an NFL Head Coach**

<b>Coach</b>	<b>Team (s)</b>	<b>Wins</b>
<b>Bill Belichick</b>	<b>Cleveland/New England</b>	<b>23</b>
Tom Landry	Dallas Cowboys	20
Don Shula	Baltimore Colts/Miami	19
Joe Gibbs	Washington	17
Chuck Noll	Pittsburgh	16

### **BEST POSTSEASON RECORD IN NFL HISTORY**

**(Min 10 games)**

<b>Head Coach</b>	<b>Team (s)</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>PCT</b>
Vince Lombardi	GB/WAS	9	1	.900
Tom Flores	Oakland	8	3	.727
Bill Walsh	SF	10	4	.714
Joe Gibbs	WAS	17	7	.708
<b>Bill Belichick</b>	<b>CLE/NE</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>.706</b>
Jimmy Johnson	DAL/MIA	9	4	.692

### **MOST POSTSEASON GAMES AS A HEAD COACH**

<b>Head Coach</b>	<b>GAMES</b>
Tom Landry (Dallas)	36
Don Shula (Baltimore/Miami)	36
<b>Bill Belichick (Cleveland/New England)</b>	<b>34</b>
Chuck Noll (Pittsburgh)	24
Mike Holmgren (Green Bay/Seattle)	24
Joe Gibbs (Washington)	24

### **BRADY REACHES RECORD 11 CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIP GAME**

Tom Brady has reached his 11th AFC Championship game, moving past Gene Upshaw (10) and George Blanda (10) for the most appearances in a conference title game by any player in NFL history. In 15 full seasons as the Patriots' primary starting quarterback (omitting the 2008 season in which Brady started only one game due to injury), Brady has led the Patriots to 11 AFC Championship Games in 15 seasons as the Patriots' primary starting quarterback.

### **BRADY ADDS TO HIS RECORD WITH HIS 32<sup>ND</sup> POSTSEASON GAME**

Tom Brady played in his 32nd career postseason game, the most in NFL history.

### **NFL Players with the Most Postseason Games Played**

<b>Player</b>	<b>Teams</b>	<b>Postseason Games</b>
<b>Tom Brady</b>	<b>Patriots</b>	<b>32</b>
Adam Vinatieri	NE/IND	30
Jerry Rice	SF/OAK/SEA	29
D.D. Lewis	Dallas	27
Peyton Manning	IND/DEN	27

### **TOM BRADY PLAYS IN 13th DIVISIONAL PLAYOFF GAME;**

### **TIES JERRY RICE FOR THE MOST DIVISIONAL PLAYOFF GAMES IN NFL HISTORY**

Tom Brady played in his 13th Divisional Playoff Game, to tie Jerry Rice for the most AFC Divisional playoff game appearances.

### **Most Divisional Playoff Games Played**

#### **13 Tom Brady**

13 Jerry Rice, San Francisco, Oakland

### **BRADY ADDS TO NFL RECORD WITH TWO TD PASSES;**

### **NFL ALL-TIME LEADERS/POSTSEASON TOUCHDOWN PASSES**

<b>Player</b>	<b>Team(s)</b>	<b>Touchdowns</b>
<b>1. Tom Brady</b>	<b>New England</b>	<b>58</b>
2. Joe Montana	San Fran./Kansas City	45
3. Brett Favre	Green Bay/Minnesota	44
4. Peyton Manning	Indianapolis/Denver	40
5. Dan Marino	Miami	32
6. Kurt Warner	St. Louis/Arizona	31
6. Aaron Rodgers	Green Bay	31

### **ALL-TIME LEADERS/POSTSEASON PASSING YARDS**

<b>Player</b>	<b>Team(s)</b>	<b>Passing Yards</b>
<b>1. Tom Brady</b>	<b>New England</b>	<b>8,244</b>
2. Peyton Manning	Indianapolis/Denver	7,339
3. Brett Favre	Green Bay/Minnesota	5,855
4. Joe Montana	San Fran./Kansas City	5,772
5. John Elway	Denver	4,964
6. Dan Marino	Miami	4,510

### **NFL ALL-TIME LEADERS/POSTSEASON COMPLETIONS**

<b>Player</b>	<b>Team(s)</b>	<b>Completions</b>
<b>1. Tom Brady</b>	<b>New England</b>	<b>756</b>
2. Peyton Manning	Indianapolis/Denver	649
3. Brett Favre	Green Bay/Minnesota	481
4. Joe Montana	San Fran./Kansas City	460

### **NFL ALL-TIME MOST PLAYOFF VICTORIES AS A STARTING QUARTERBACK**

<b>Player</b>	<b>Team(s)</b>	<b>Playoff Wins</b>
<b>Tom Brady</b>	<b>New England</b>	<b>23</b>
Joe Montana	San Francisco/Kansas City	16
Terry Bradshaw	Pittsburgh	14
John Elway	Denver	14
Peyton Manning	Indianapolis/Denver	14
Brett Favre	Green Bay/Minnesota	13
Ben Roethlisberger	Pittsburgh	12
Troy Aikman	Dallas	11
Roger Staubach	Dallas	11

### **MOST POSTSEASON STARTS BY A QUARTERBACK**

<b>Player</b>	<b>Team(s)</b>	<b>Starts</b>
<b>1. Tom Brady</b>	<b>New England</b>	<b>32</b>
2. Peyton Manning	Indianapolis/Denver	27
3. Brett Favre	Green Bay/Minn.	24
4. Joe Montana	San Fran./Kansas City	23
5. John Elway	Denver	21

### **BRADY EXTENDS NFL RECORD FOR MOST MULTI-TD GAMES IN POSTSEASON**

Brady threw two touchdowns against Houston to extend his NFL record for the most multi-TD passes in the playoffs with 18.

### **MOST MULTI-TD PASSING GAMES IN THE PLAYOFFS – NFL HISTORY**

<b>Tom Brady</b>	<b>18</b>
Brett Favre	15
Joe Montana	14
Terry Bradshaw	10
Dan Marino	10
Peyton Manning	10

### **WINNINGEST COACH AND QB TANDEM IN THE POSTSEASON**

Bill Belichick and Tom Brady are the winningest coach and quarterback tandem in the postseason.

<b>Quarterback/Head Coach</b>	<b>Postseason wins</b>
<b>Bill Belichick/Tom Brady</b>	<b>23</b>
Chuck Noll/Terry Bradshaw	14
Tom Landry/Roger Staubach	11

### **JULIAN EDELMAN BECOME PATRIOTS ALL-TIME LEADER IN POSTSEASON RECEPTIONS; MOVES INTO THE TOP 10 ALL-TIME IN POSTSEASON RECEPTIONS**

Julian Edelman (76) passed Wes Welker (69) to become the Patriots all-time leader in receptions after finishing the game with 8 receptions for 137 yards. He also moved into second on the Patriots list with 819 receiving yards in the postseason, 33 yards behind the all-time leader Deion Branch with 852 yards.

### **Most Postseason Receptions in Patriots History**

<b>76 Julian Edelman</b>
69 Wes Welker
58 Troy Brown
56 Dion Branch
52 Rob Gronkowski

### **Most Postseason receiving yards**

852 Deion Branch

**819 Julian Edelman**

754 Rob Gronkowski

694 Troy Brown

686 Wes Welker

412 Kevin Faulk

### **Most Postseason Receptions/NFL History**

1. Jerry Rice	151
2. Reggie Wayne	93
3t. Hines Ward	88
3t. Wes Welker	88
5. Michael Irvin	87
6. Andre Reed	85
<b>7t. Julian Edelman</b>	<b>76</b>
7t. Thurman Thomas	76
9. Cliff Branch	73
10t. Fred Belinikoff	70
10t. Anquan Boldin	70
11. Art Monk	69

### **EDELMAN HAS THIRD POSTSEASON 100-YARD GAME**

Edelman finished with 8 receptions for 136 yards. his third 100-yard game in the postseason. He had 109 yards in Super Bowl XLIX vs. Seattle on Feb. 1, 2015 and 100 yards receiving vs. Kansas City in the Divisional Playoffs on Jan. 16, 2016.

### **GOSTKOWSKI PLAYS IN HIS 20<sup>TH</sup> POSTSEASON GAME; ONE OF SIX PATRIOTS WITH 20 POSTSEASON GAMES**

32 Tom Brady

22 Tedy Bruschi

21 Vince Wilfok

**20 Stephen Gostkowski**

20 Troy Brown

20 Matt Light

## **GOSTKOWSKI MOVES PAST JERRY RICE INTO FOURTH FOR POSTSEASON POINTS**

Stephen Gostkowski first quarter extra point moved him out of a tie for fourth place with Jerry Rice (132) and into sole possession of fourth place on the NFL's all-time postseason points list. Gostkowski added 10 points in the game to give him 142 postseason points.

### **Most Points in the Postseason / NFL History**

1.Adam Vinatieri	234
2.David Akers	175
3.Gary Anderson	153
<b>4.Stephen Gostkowski</b>	<b>142</b>
5.Jerry Rice	132
6t.Emmitt Smith	126
6t.Thurman Thomas	126
8.George Blanda	115
9.Matt Stover	106
10.Matt Bahr	103
11.Franco Harris	102

### **Patriots with 100 or More Points in the Postseason**

Stephen Gostkowski (142 – 26 FGs, 64 PATs)  
Adam Vinatieri (117 points – 26 FGs, 39 PATs)

### **Most Kicking Points in the Postseason / NFL History**

1.Adam Vinatieri	234
2.David Akers	175
3.Gary Anderson	153
<b>4.Stephen Gostkowski</b>	<b>142</b>
5.George Blanda	115
6.Matt Stover	106
7.Matt Bahr	103

### **Most Field Goals in Patriots Postseason History**

**26 Stephen Gostkowski (20 games)**

26 Adam Vinatieri (17 games)

### **MOST FIELD GOALS MADE IN NFL POSTSEASON HISTORY**

56	Adam Vinatieri
39	David Akers
32	Gary Anderson
<b>26</b>	<b>Stephen Gostkowski</b>
25	Matt Sover
24	Mason Crosby – Green Bay



### **LEWIS IS THE FIRST PLAYER IN NFL POSTSEASON HISTORY TO HAVE A RUSHING TD, A RECEIVING TD AND RETURN A KICK FOR A TD IN A SINGLE GAME**

RB Dion Lewis is the first player in NFL postseason history to have a rushing TD, receiving TD and kickoff return for a touchdown in a single game. Lewis is the fifth Patriots player to score at least three touchdowns in a postseason game. He scored on a 13-yard reception in the first quarter and returned a kick 98 yards for a touchdown in the first quarter. He added a 1-yard touchdown run in the fourth quarter.

#### **Most Touchdowns in a Postseason Game/Patriots history**

4 LeGarrette Blount, vs. Indianapolis, Jan. 11, 2014 (4 rushing TDs)

**3 Dion Lewis, vs. Houston, Jan. 14, 2017 (1 rushing, 1 receiving and 1 kickoff return)**

3 LeGarrette Blount, vs. Indianapolis, Jan. 18, 2015 (3 rushing TDs)

3 Shane Vereen, vs. Houston, Jan. 13, 2013 (2 rec. TDs, 1 rush TD)

3 Rob Gronkowski, vs. Denver, Jan. 14, 2012 (3 rec. TD)

3 Curtis Martin, vs. Pittsburgh, Jan. 5, 1997 (3 rush TD).

### **LEWIS SCORES FIRST TOUCHDOWN OF THE SEASON IN HIS FIRST POSTSEASON GAME**

Lewis scored his first touchdown of the season on a 13-yard touchdown pass from Tom Brady in the first quarter. Lewis played and started in the first postseason game of his career.

### **LEWIS HAS FIRST PATRIOTS KICKOFF RETURN FOR A TD IN POSTSEASON HISTORY**

RB Dion Lewis scored on a 98-yard kickoff return in the first quarter. It is the first kick ever returned for a touchdown in Patriots postseason history. It is also the longest in a Patriots postseason history. The previous best in the postseason was an 80-yarder by Ellis Hobbs at Indianapolis on June 21, 2007 in the AFC Championship Game.

### **LEWIS IS THE 6TH TO SCORE TWO TDS IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF A DIVISIONAL GAME**

Dion Lewis became the sixth player in NFL history to score two touchdowns in the first quarter of a divisional playoff game. The last player to do so was Patriots RB LeGarrette Blount on January 11, 2014 in New England's 2013 divisional playoff game against Indianapolis.

Rank	Scorer	Date	Team	Opponent	Count
<b>1</b>	<b>Dion Lewis</b>	<b>1-14-2017</b>	<b>NE</b>	<b>HOU</b>	<b>2</b>
2	LeGarrette Blount	1-11-2014	NE	IND	2
3	Robert Ferguson	1-11-04	GB	PHI	2
4	Terrell Davis	1-9-99	DEN	MIA	2
5	Fred Biletnikoff	12-21-69	OAK	HOU	2
6	Fred Biletnikoff	12-22-68	OAK	KAN	2

### **MCCOURTY HAS SECOND POSTSEASON INTERCEPTION**

S Devin McCourty picked off a Houston pass in the third quarter for his second postseason interception. He had his first in the 2014 Divisional Playoff Game vs. Baltimore on Jan. 10, 2015.

## **LINEUP NOTES**

### **DANNY AMENDOLA RETURNS TO ACTION**

WR Danny Amendola, who missed the final four games of the regular season due to injury, returned to action.

**FOURTEEN PLAYERS ON THE 53-MAN ROSTER MAKE THEIR NFL POSTSEASON DEBUT**

Fourteen players on the Patriots 53-man roster made their NFL postseason debuts. Playing in their first postseason game were: DL Trey Flowers, DL Geneo Grissom, WR Chris Hogan, DB Jonathan Jones, OL Ted Karras, TE Matt Lengel, RB Dion Lewis, DE Chris Long, LB Shea McClellin, LB Barkevious Mingo, LB Elandon Roberts, DB Eric Rowe, OL Joe Thuney and DT Vincent Valentine.