



GAME NOTES

2015 AFC Championship Game
New England Patriots at Denver Broncos – January 24, 2016

TEAM NOTES

PATRIOTS IN AFC CHAMPIONSHIP GAMES

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 (8-3)

Date	Round	Opponent	W/L	Score
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
New England	12
Oakland	11
Denver	10
St. Louis Rams	9

INDIVIDUAL NOTES

BELICHICK TIES LANDRY WITH 10 CONFERENCE TITLE GAME

(since 1970 merger)

Bill Belichick coached in his 10th conference championship game as head coach, tied with Tom Landry for the most conference championships by a head coach.

Head Coach Conference Championships

Bill Belichick 10

Tom Landry	10
Don Shula	7
Chuck Noll	7
John Madden	6
Bill Cowher	6

BRADY PLAYED IN RECORD-TYING 10th CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIP GAME

Tom Brady played in his 10th AFC Championship Game, tying Gene Upshaw and George Blanda for the most appearances in a conference title game by any player in NFL history. In 14 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 10 AFC Championship Games in 14 seasons as the Patriots' primary starting quarterback.

BRADY SETS MARK FOR MOST POSTSEASON GAMES

Tom Brady played in his 31ST career postseason game, to move past Adam Vinatieri (30) for the most postseason games played in NFL history.

NFL Players with the Most Postseason Games Played

<u>Player</u>	<u>Teams</u>	<u>Postseason Games</u>
Tom Brady	Patriots	31
Adam Vinatieri	NE/IND	30
Jerry Rice	SF/OAK/SEA	29
D.D. Lewis	Dallas	27

**BRADY ADDS TO NFL RECORD WITH ONE TD PASS;
LEADS THE NFL WITH 56 TOTAL POSTSEASON TOUCHDOWNS**

Tom Brady threw for one touchdown against the Broncos, adding to his NFL record for most playoff touchdown passes.

NFL ALL-TIME LEADERS/POSTSEASON TOUCHDOWN PASSES

<u>Player</u>	<u>Team(s)</u>	<u>Touchdowns</u>
1. Tom Brady	New England	56
2. Joe Montana	San Fran./Kansas City	45
3. Brett Favre	Green Bay/Minnesota	44
4. Peyton Manning	Indianapolis/Denver	38
5. Dan Marino	Miami	32
6. Kurt Warner	St. Louis/Arizona	31
7. Terry Bradshaw	Pittsburgh	30

BRADY MOVES UP ON ALLTIME POSTSEASON LISTS

Tom Brady improved upon his standing on the NFL's all-time postseason passing lists. With 28 completions against Kansas City and 27 against Denver, he is the first player in NFL history to complete at least 700 passes in the playoffs.

ALL-TIME LEADERS/POSTSEASON PASSING YARDS

<u>Player</u>	<u>Team(s)</u>	<u>Passing Yards</u>
1. Tom Brady	New England	7,957
2. Peyton Manning	Indianapolis/Denver	7,198
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

Player	Team(s)	Completions
1. Tom Brady	New England	738
2. Peyton Manning	Indianapolis/Denver	636
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

Player	Team(s)	Playoff Wins
Tom Brady	New England	22
Joe Montana	San Francisco/Kansas City	16
Terry Bradshaw	Pittsburgh	14
John Elway	Denver	14
Brett Favre	Green Bay/Minnesota	13
Peyton Manning	Indianapolis/Denver	13
Troy Aikman	Dallas	11
Roger Staubach	Dallas	11
Ben Roethlisberger	Pittsburgh	11

MOST POSTSEASON STARTS BY A QUARTERBACK

Player	Team(s)	Starts
1. Tom Brady	New England	31
2. Peyton Manning	Indianapolis/Denver	26
3. Brett Favre	Green Bay/Minn.	24
4. Joe Montana	San Fran./Kansas City	23
5. John Elway	Denver	21

BRADY HAS 10TH CAREER 300-YARD PASSING GAME IN THE PLAYOFFS

Tom Brady threw for 310 passing yards, marking his 10th career playoff game with 300 or more passing yards. That total moves him past Peyton Manning (9) for the most in NFL history.

MOST 300 YARD GAMES IN POSTSEASON HISTORY

Player	Team(s)	300-Yard Games
Tom Brady	New England	10
Peyton Manning	Indianapolis/Denver	9
Joe Montana	SF/Kansas City	6
Kurt Warner	STL/Arizona	6
Drew Brees	San Diego/New Orleans	6
Dan Fouts	San Diego	5

GRONKOWSKI ADDS TO NFL RECORD FOR POSTSEASON TDS BY A TIGHT END; EXTENDS TEAM RECORD FOR MOST POSTSEASON TOUCHDOWNS

TE Rob Gronkowski scored a touchdown to raise his career playoff total to 9 touchdowns, adding to his Patriots' playoff record for most touchdowns and adding to his NFL playoff record for most touchdowns by a tight end. Against Denver, Gronkowski scored on a 4-yard touchdown pass in the fourth quarter for his ninth postseason touchdown.

Most Postseason Touchdowns by a Tight End

Player	TDS
Rob Gronkowski	9
Dave Casper	7
Vernon Davis	7
Jay Novacek	6

Most Postseason Touchdowns in Patriots History**9 Rob Gronkowski**

7 LeGarrette Blount

7 David Givens

6 Tom Brady

5 Deion Branch

5 Curtis Martin

GRONKOWSKI HIGH ON TOUCHDOWNS AND YARDS IN THE POSTSEASON

TE Rob Gronkowski caught eight passes for 144 yards and one touchdown to move up on all-time postseason touchdowns, receiving yards and receptions lists.

Most Postseason Touchdowns in NFL History**Player TDS**

Jerry Rice 22

John Stallworth 12

Fred Biletnikoff 10

Larry Fitzgerald 10

Antonio Freeman 10

Randy Moss 10

Hines Ward 10

Andre Reed 9

Steve Smith, Jr. 9

Lynn Swann 9

Reggie Wayne 9

Rob Gronkowski 9

Anquan Bolden 8

Cris Carter 8

Ernest Givens 8

Michael Irvin 8

James Lofton 8

Drew Pearson 8

Most Receiving Yards by a Tight End in NFL Postseason History**Player Yards**

Dallas Clark 847

Keith Jackson 843

Shannon Sharpe 814

Rob Gronkowski 754

Brent Jones 740

Jay Novacek 645

Vernon Davis 600

Most Receptions by a Tight End in NFL Postseason History**Player Receptions**

Dallas Clark 64

Jay Novacel 62

Shannon Sharpe	62
Brent Jones	60
Rob Gronkowski	52
Keith Jackson	51
Heath Miller	49
Antonio Gates	42

GRONKOWSKI HAS SCORED IN FIVE STRAIGHT POSTSEASON GAMES

TE Rob Gronkowski has scored in five straight postseason games after scoring in all three in 2014 and against Kansas City and Denver in 2015.

GRONKOWSKI RECORDS THIRD 100-YARD RECEIVING GAME IN POSTSEASON

TE Rob Gronkowski's 144 receiving yards Sunday vs. Denver was the third 100-yard receiving game of his career.

GRONKOWSKI RECORDS THIRD-HIGHEST RECEIVING YARD TOTAL IN PATRIOTS POSTSEASON HISTORY

TE Rob Gronkowski caught eight passes for 144 yards against Denver. That is the third-highest single game receiving total in Patriots postseason history, behind Gronkowski's 145 receiving yards vs. Denver on Jan. 12, 2012 and Deion Branch's 153 receiving yards vs. Denver on Jan. 14, 2006.

STEPHEN GOSTKOWSKI HAS MOST POSTSEASON POINTS IN TEAM HISTORY

After moving past Adam Vinatieri for the most postseason points in team history last week vs. Kansas City, K Stephen Gostkowski added to his total vs. Denver, finishing the game with 132 career points, extending his Patriots record. The 132 career postseason points ties Jerry Rice for fourth all-time in NFL history.

Patriots with 100 or More Points in the Postseason

Stephen Gostkowski (132 – 24 FGs, 60 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
4. Stephen Gostkowski	132
5. George Blanda	115
6. Matt Stover	106
7. Matt Bahr	103

Most Points in the Postseason / NFL History

1. Adam Vinatieri	234
2. David Akers	175
3. Gary Anderson	153
4. Jerry Rice	132
4. Stephen Gostkowski	132
5. Emmitt Smith	126
5. Thurman Thomas	126

8.George Blanda	115
9.Matt Stover	106
10.Matt Bahr	103

Most Field Goals in Patriots Postseason History

26 Adam Vinatieri (17 games)

24 Stephen Gostkowski (19 games)

RB STEVEN JACKSON SCORES FIRST POSTSEASON TOUCHDOWN

RB Steven Jackson scored his first postseason touchdown on a 1-yard run in the first quarter.

STEPHEN GOSTKOWSKI MISSED FIRST EXTRA POINT SINCE ROOKIE YEAR

K Stephen Gostkowski missed his first extra point since missing one in the 2006 regular season finale at Tennessee on Dec. 31, 2006. He has an NFL record of 463 successful extra points in the regular season. Overall, including postseason games, he ended a streak of 523 consecutive successful extra points.

LB JAMIE COLLINS HAD TWO SACKS

LB Jamie Collins had his first postseason 2-sack game. He has two 2-sack games in the regular season, with a team high of 2 ½ sacks at Buffalo on Sept. 20, 2015.