



GAME NOTES

New England Patriots vs. Denver Broncos – November 2, 2014

TEAM NOTES

HOME SWEET HOME FOR THE PATRIOTS;

IMPROVE TO 34 STRAIGHT HOME WINS AGAINST THE AFC CONFERENCE

With today's victory over the Denver Broncos, New England has now won 34 straight games at home against AFC conference opponents. The Patriots' 34 straight home wins against a conference is the longest in NFL history (following the 1970 merger). The Miami Dolphins are second in NFL history with 21 straight home conference wins (1971-1974). The Patriots last loss at home against an AFC opponent was a 33-10 loss vs. Pittsburgh on Nov. 30, 2008.

HALFTIME HELP

The Patriots have been very successful in the final two minutes of the first half in 2014. In eight of the first nine games this season, New England has scored in the final two minutes of the first half, including three field goals as time has expired. Against Denver, the Patriots scored on a 5-yard touchdown pass from Tom Brady to Shane Vereen with eight seconds to play in the first half. The Patriots have scored 56 points in the final two minutes of the first half in 2014, the most in the NFL.

2014 PATRIOTS SCORING PLAYS IN THE FINAL TWO MINUTES OF THE FIRST HALF

<u>Date</u>	<u>Opponent</u>	<u>Time Remaining</u>	<u>Scoring Play</u>
09/07	at Miami	:06	S. Gostkowski 45-yd FG
09/14	at Minnesota	:09	Cha. Jones 58-yd return of blocked FG
09/21	Oakland	:00	S. Gostkowski 21-yd FG
10/05	Cincinnati	1:12	S. Gostkowski 48-yd FG
10/05	Cincinnati	:09	S. Gostkowski 19-yd FG
10/12	at Buffalo	1:43	S. Gostkowski 42-yd FG
10/12	at Buffalo	:00	S. Gostkowski 53-yd FG
10/16	N.Y. Jets	:00	S. Gostkowski 39-yd FG
10/26	Chicago	1:52	R.Gronkowski 2-yard touchdown pass
10/26	Chicago	1:07	B.LaFell 4-yard touchdown pass
10/26	Chicago	:55	R.Ninkovich 15 yd fumble return
11/02	Denver	:08	S.Vereen 5-yard touchdown pass

PATRIOTS WIN 14th STRAIGHT HOME GAME

The Patriots won their 14th consecutive home game. The Patriots have not lost a regular-season home game since December 16, 2012, when San Francisco left Foxborough with a 41-34 win. The NFL record for most consecutive home victories is 27, achieved by Miami from 1971-74.

MOST CONSECUTIVE HOME VICTORIES (Current Streaks)

New England 14

New Orleans 11
Philadelphia 8

LONGEST HOME WINNING STREAK/PATRIOTS HISTORY (REG. SEASON)

Streak	First Win	Last Win
20	Dec. 12, 2008	Oct. 16, 2011
18	Dec. 29, 2002	Sept. 8, 2005
14	Dec. 30, 2012	present
12	Nov. 26, 2006	Sept. 7, 2008
10	Sept. 18, 1976	Oct. 30, 1977

PATRIOTS WIN FIFTH STRAIGHT GAME

The Patriots won their fifth consecutive game, which is the longest winning streak in the NFL. New England and Denver entered today's game tied for the league's longest current winning streak (4). The Patriots have not lost since a 41-14 defeat at Kansas City on Sept. 29. Over their five-game winning streak, the Patriots have averaged 40.2 points per game.

PATRIOTS EXTEND STREAK TO 46 STRAIGHT HOME GAMES WITH AT LEAST 1 TD PASS

The Patriots extended their streak 46 straight home games with at least one touchdown pass, the longest streak in post-merger NFL history, with a 5-yard touchdown pass from QB Tom Brady to WR Julian Edelman in the second quarter. New Orleans has the second longest streak with 41. The last time the Patriots did not have a touchdown pass in a home game was in a 33-10 loss vs. Pittsburgh on Dec. 30, 2008.

MOST CONSECUTIVE HOME GAMES WITH A TOUCHDOWN PASS SINCE 1970

Team	Gm	Start	End	Record
New England Patriots	46	12/21/08	Current	43-3
New Orleans Saints	41	10/18/09	Current	32-9
Green Bay Packers	36	10/05/08	12/02/12	29-7
Miami Dolphins	32	09/11/83	12/22/86	26-6
Green Bay Packers	29	11/03/96	09/03/00	24-5

PATS HAVE WON 72 STRAIGHT HOME GAMES WHEN LEADING AT THE HALF

The Patriots have now won 72 straight home games when leading at halftime, adding to their NFL record. The last time the Patriots lost at home after leading at halftime was on Dec. 24, 2000 (vs. Miami) when they Patriots lost 27-24 after leading 21-17 at halftime. Today, the Patriots were leading 27-7 at halftime and won the game 43-21.

PATRIOTS LEAD THE NFL WITH MOST POINTS OFF TURNOVERS IN 2014

Patriots scored 14 points off of turnovers against the Broncos, and now have scored 74 points off of turnovers in 2014. New England entered Week 9 with 60 points off turnovers, which was the most in the NFL entering the week. Against Denver, Rob Ninkovich intercepted a Peyton Manning pass intended for Demaryius Thomas in the second quarter, setting up a 4-play, 34-yard drive that ended in the Patriots' first touchdown of the afternoon and a . Brandon Browner intercepted a Manning pass that bounced off of the hands of Wes Welker in the third quarter, and Browner returned the pick 30 yards to the Broncos' 10-yard line. Tom Brady hit Brandon LaFell for a 10-yard scoring pass on the next play to give the Patriots a 37-14 lead.

PATRIOTS SCORE FIRST FOR FIFTH STRAIGHT GAME

The Patriots scored first on a 49-yard field goal by Stephen Gostkowski in the first quarter. It is the fifth straight game that the Patriots have scored first (all victories).

PATRIOTS START 7-2 OR BETTER FOR 13th TIME IN TEAM HISTORY

The Patriots are off to a 7-2 record or better the eighth time in team history and for the second season in a row. The Patriots also started the year with a 7-2 or better record in 2013, 2010, 2007, 2004, 2003, 1980 and 1978.

HOME SWEET HOME FOR THE PATRIOTS;

TEAMS WITH HIGHEST WIN PCT. AT STADIUM SINCE 1970 (MIN. 25 GAMES)

Team	Stadium	W-L-T	Win Pct.
New England	Gillette Stadium	86-15-0	.851
Miami	Orange Bowl	101-22-1	.819

PATRIOTS SET SEASON HIGH WITH EIGHT PASSES DEFENSED

The Patriots had eight passes defensed, setting a season-high in that category. The previous season-best was seven passes defensed at Minnesota on Sept. 14. Patrick Chung led the way for the Patriots with a career-high three passes defensed.

HOT WHEN ITS COLD

The game time temperature was 35 degrees. Tom Brady improved his career regular-season record as a starter to 33-4 in games where the temperature at kickoff was less than 40 degrees. In his last 15 such games, Brady is 14-1 and has thrown 36 touchdowns and just six interceptions. In his career as a starter in home games where the temperature is less than 40 degrees at kickoff, Brady is 23-3 with 46 touchdowns and 14 interceptions. Including playoffs, he is 43-6 overall in such games.

INDIVIDUAL NOTES

TOM BRADY MAKES HIS 200 CAREER REGULAR SEASON START; BECOMES 8th QUARTERBACK TO START IN 200 CAREER GAMES

Tom Brady made his 200th career start against Denver and is now one of eight NFL quarterbacks to start at least 200 games. The other NFL quarterbacks with 200 starts are: Brett Favre (298), Peyton Manning (247), Dan Marino (240), Fran Tarkenton (239), John Elway (231), Vinny Testaverde (214) and Warren Moon (203).

BRADY HAS MOST WINS IN FIRST 200 STARTS IN NFL HISTORY

Brady has 155 career regular season wins in his first 200 regular-season starts (155-45, .775). Brady has more wins than any other quarterback in his first 200 regular-season starts. Denver's Peyton Manning is second with 136 victories in his first 200 starts.

MOST WINS BY A STARTING QB THROUGH 200 REGULAR SEASON STARTS

Quarterback	Wins Through 200 Starts
Tom Brady	155
Peyton Manning	136
Dan Marino	125
John Elway	124

BRADY IS THE SECOND PATRIOTS PLAYER WITH 200 STARTS

Tom Brady is the second New England Patriots player to start in at least 200 games. Patriots Hall of Fame OL Bruce Armstrong started in 212 games during his career.

BRADY IMPROVES ON STELLAR NOVEMBER RECORD

Quarterbacks with the best records in November in Super Bowl era (min. 20 starts)

Player	Record in November	Win PCT.
Tony Romo	24-5	.828
Daryle Lamonica	19-4-2	.826
Jim McMahon	18-5	.783
Tom Brady	36-11	.766
Joe Flacco	20-7	.741

BRADY GOES OVER 300 YARDS FOR THE 62ND TIME; TIES BRETT FAVRE FOR FOURTH MOST IN NFL HISTORY

Brady had his 62nd career 300-yard game and the third of the season after finishing with 333 passing yards. He tied Brett Favre for the fourth-most 300-yard games in NFL history and is third among active NFL quarterbacks, behind NFL-leader Peyton Manning (88) and Drew Brees (83).

NFL QUARTERBACK 300-YARD GAMES (*ACTIVE)

Player	300-Yard Games
Peyton Manning*	88
Drew Brees*	83
Dan Marino	63
Tom Brady*	62
Brett Favre	62
Kurt Warner	52
Dan Fouts	51
Warren Moon	49
Tony Romo*	45

BRADY PASSES ELWAY FOR PASSING YARDS TO MOVE INTO FIFTH ALL-TIME

Tom Brady moved past Pro Football Hall of Famer John Elway (51,475) for fifth all-time on the NFL list on a 6-yard completion to WR Julian Edelman in the third quarter. He entered the Denver game needing 268 yards to move past Elway. Brady now has 51,541 career passing yards.

MOST PASSING YARDS IN NFL HISTORY

<u>Player</u>	<u>Passing Yards</u>
1. Brett Favre	71,838
2. Peyton Manning	67,536
3. Dan Marino	61,361
4. Drew Brees	53,605
5. Tom Brady	51,541
6. John Elway	51,475
7. Warren Moon	49,325

TOM BRADY WINS 42nd STRAIGHT HOME GAME AGAINST AFC

Tom Brady won his 42nd straight regular season home game as a starting quarterback against an AFC opponent. Brady is now 68-8 in his career as a starting quarterback against AFC teams at home. The last time that Brady lost a home regular season game to an AFC opponent was on Nov. 12, 2006 when the Patriots lost to the New York Jets, 17-14.

BRADY IS NOW .500 OR BETTER AGAINST EVERY NFL TEAM

Tom Brady entered the Denver game with a 4-5 record against the Broncos, the only team he had a losing record against in the regular season. With the win, Brady now has a record of .500 or better against every NFL team.

TOM BRADY HAS FOURTH STRAIGHT GAME WITH THREE OR MORE TDS

Tom Brady threw for four touchdowns against the Broncos, marking his fourth consecutive game with three or more touchdowns and the third time in the last four games that he has had four or more touchdowns. Brady had four touchdowns at Buffalo (10/12), three vs. New York Jets (10/16) and five vs. Chicago (10/26).

TOM BRADY NOW HAS 22 GAMES WITH FOUR MORE TOUCHDOWNS; MOVES OUT OF A FOURTH PLACE TIE WITH DAN MARINO

Tom Brady had his 22nd game with four or more touchdowns and moved out of a fourth-place tie with Dan Marino.

MOST GAMES WITH 4+ TD

Peyton Manning	33
Drew Brees	25
Brett Favre	23
Tom Brady	22
Dan Marino	21
Johnny Unitas	17

JULIAN EDELMAN SET FRANCHISE RECORD WITH FOURTH CAREER PUNT RETURN FOR A TOUCHDOWN

WR Julian Edelman returned a second quarter punt 84 yards for a touchdown and now has a franchise-best four punt returns for a touchdown. Edelman had a franchise record 94 yard touchdown return vs. Miami (11/2/11), a 72-yard return for a touchdown vs. Kansas City 911/21/11) and a 68-yard return for a touchdown 11/18/12 vs. Indianapolis.

Most Punt Return Touchdowns/Patriots Career

4 Julian Edelman

- 3 Troy Brown
- 3 Irving Fryar
- 2 Mike Haynes

PATRIOTS MOST PUNT RETURNS OF 30 OR MORE YARDS

Player	30-yard returns
Troy Brown	14
Julian Edelman	13
Irving Fryar	13
Mike Haynes	13

MOST PUNT RETURN TOUCHDOWNS IN THE NFL SINCE 2010

Devin Hester	CHI/ATL	7
Julian Edelman	NE	4
Patrick Peterson	ARZ	4
Ted Ginn, Jr.	SF/CAR/ARZ	3
Dexter McCluster	TEN	3
Leodis McKelvin	BUF	3

EDELMAN RAISES HIS PUNT RETURN AVERAGE TO THE HIGHEST AMONG ALL ACTIVE PLAYERS

HIGHEST PUNT RETURN AVERAGE IN NFL HISTORY

(Min. 75 punt returns)

Player	Punt RT Avg.	Year
George McAfee (Chicago)	12.8 (112-1,431)	(1940-41, 1945-1950)
Jack Christiansen (Detroit)	12.8 (85-1,084)	(1951-58)
Claude Gibson (SD/OAK)	12.6 (110-1,381)	(1961-65)
Julian Edelman (NE)	12.5 (125-1,568)	(2009-present)
Devin Hester (CHI/ATL)	12.3 (276-3,392)	(2006-present)

GRONKOWSKI TIES RANDY MOSS FOR SECOND FASTEST TO 50 REC. TDS; BECOMES THE FASTEST TIGHT END TO REACH 50 TDS

TE Rob Gronkowski reached 50 career touchdown receptions in his 59th career regular season game to tie Randy Moss for the second-fastest player in NFL history to reach 50 touchdown receptions. Pro Football Hall of Famer Lance Alworth (54 games) is the fastest player in NFL annals to reach the milestone. Gronkowski also surpassed the record for fewest games by a tight end to reach 50 career touchdown catches. Antonio Gates reached 50 touchdown receptions in 92 games. Gronkowski is the fifth player in NFL history to have 50 or more touchdown catches in his first five seasons, joining Jerry Rice, Randy Moss, Lance Alworth and Andre Rison.

NFL RECORD / FEWEST GAMES TO REACH 50 TOUCHDOWN CATCHES

Player	Games to reach 50 Touchdown Receptions
Lance Alworth	54
Rob Gronkowski	59
Randy Moss	59
Jerry Rice	61
Tommy McDonald	63
Bob Hayes	66

MOST RECEIVING TOUCHDOWNS BY A PATRIOTS TIGHT END

Player	TD	Years
Rob Gronkowski	50	2010-Present
Ben Coates	50	1991-99
Russ Francis	28	1975-80, 87-88
Ben Watson	20	2004-09

GRONKOWSKI MOVES INTO SECOND PLACE ON PATRIOTS ALL-TIME TOUCHDOWNS LIST

Rob Gronkowski now has 51 career touchdowns overall (50 receiving, 1 rushing), which ranks second in team history to the 68 total touchdowns by Stanley Morgan.

MOST CAREER TOUCHDOWNS BY A PATRIOTS PLAYER

Player	Touchdowns
1. Stanley Morgan	68
2. Rob Gronkowski	51
3. Ben Coates	50
4. Randy Moss	50
5. Sam Cunningham	49
6. Jim Nance	46
7. Tony Collins	44

MOST TOUCHDOWN RECEPTIONS BY A PATRIOTS PLAYER

Player	Touchdown
1. Stanley Morgan	67
2. Rob Gronkowski	50
2. Ben Coates	50
2. Randy Moss	50

BRANDON BROWNER RECORDS FIRST INTERCEPTION AS A PATRIOT

Brandon Browner picked off a Peyton Manning pass in the third quarter and returned it 30 yards to the 10-yard line to set up a 10-yard touchdown pass from Tom Brady to Brandon LaFell. The interception was Browner's first as a Patriot. Browner also had some key defensive plays, notably with tight coverage on Demaryius Thomas on third down on the Broncos' second offensive possession of the game to complete the Patriots defense's second straight three-and-out to begin the game. Browner also provided tight coverage on Thomas in the second quarter, helping to force an incompleting on second-and-20, setting up a third-and long that the Broncos did not convert, and Julian Edelman returned the ensuing punt 84 yards for a touchdown and a 20-7 Patriots lead in the second quarter.

RYAN ALLEN HAS CAREER-LONG 67-YARD PUNT

Ryan Allen had a career-long 67-yard punt in the fourth quarter. His previous best was a 65-yarder in his first NFL game when he had a 65-yarder at Buffalo on Sept. 8, 2013. The punt was the longest for the Patriots since Chris Hanson had a 70-yard punt in the 2008 season opener vs. Kansas City on Sept. 8, 2008.

BRADY ON PACE FOR 4,000-PLUS YARDS AND 30-PLUS TDS

Tom Brady has 2,392 passing yards and 22 touchdowns through the first nine games and is on pace to finish with 4,252 passing yards and 39 touchdowns.

Most Seasons with 30 or more TDs

Brett Favre	9
Peyton Manning	8
Drew Brees	6
Tom Brady	4
Dan Marino	4

Most 3,000-yard seasons

Brett Favre	18
Peyton Manning	15
Dan Marino	13
John Elway	12
Tom Brady	11
Drew Brees	11

GOSTKOWSKI ON A GOOD PACE IN 2014

Stephen Gostkowski has 24 field goals so far in 2014, putting him on pace to finish with 43 field goals, which would be the second highest single-season total in NFL history.

MOST FIELD GOALS MADE IN A SEASON/NFL

<u>Player</u>	<u>Field Goals</u>	<u>Year</u>
David Akers (San Francisco)	44	2011
Neil Rackers (Arizona)	40	2005
Olindo Mare (Miami)	39	1999
Jeff Wilkins (St. Louis)	39	2003
Stephen Gostkowski (Patriots)	38	2013
Justin Tucker (Baltimore)	38	2013

GOSTKOWSKI HAS 34 STRAIGHT HOME FIELD GOALS

Stephen Gostkowski has made 34 consecutive field goals at Gillette Stadium, including 3-for-3 in windy conditions against Denver today. Gostkowski's last miss at home was a 43-yard field goal that sailed wide left vs. the New York Jets on Sept. 12, 2013.

GOSTKOWSKI IS OFF TO A 24-for-25 START IN 2014

Stephen Gostkowski was a perfect 3-for-3 in windy conditions against the Broncos, and has made 24 of 25 field goals (96 percent) this season. He has made 11 consecutive field goals.

GRONKOWSKI EXTENDS HIS STREAK TO 59 STRAIGHT GAMES WITH A RECEPTION

Rob Gronkowski caught a 20-yard pass in the first quarter and has caught at least one pass in all 59 regular season games that he has played.

LONGEST CURRENT STREAKS OF CONSECUTIVE GAMES WITH A RECEPTION BY TIGHT ENDS

96 Jason Witten (Dallas)

*95 Owen Daniels (Houston/Baltimore)

*89 Heath Miller (Pittsburgh)

59 Rob Gronkowski

*Not including this week's game

GRONKOWSKI EXTENDS RECORD WITH 15th 100-YARD GAME

TE Rob Gronkowski finished with 105 yards on nine receptions for his 15th career game with 100 or more receiving yards and his second consecutive game having broken the mark. He has done it three times so far in 2014. Gronkowski's 15 100-yard games extended his team record for most 100-yard receiving games by a tight end.

GRONKOWSKI TIES CAREER HIGH WITH NINE RECEPTIONS

TE Rob Gronkowski had nine receptions, tying his career high, which he also matched last week against Chicago. Gronkowski also had nine receptions on Nov. 3, 2013 against Pittsburgh.

ROB NINKOVICH REGISTERS FIFTH NFL INTERCEPTION

LB Rob Ninkovich registered his fifth NFL interception and first of the season when he picked off a QB Peyton Manning pass in the second quarter. The turnover led to a 5-yard touchdown pass from Tom Brady to Julian Edelman.

LaFELL TIES CAREER HIGH WITH FIFTH TD CATCH

Brandon LaFell had a 10-yard touchdown catch from Tom Brady in the third quarter, marking LaFell's fifth touchdown reception of the season, tying his career high. LaFell also caught five touchdown passes last year for Carolina.

QUICK HITS

- **Kyle Arrington** and **Patrick Chung** stopped Denver's Ronnie Hillman for no gain on the game's first play from scrimmage, setting the tone for a three-and-out for the Patriots defense on the Broncos' first possession.
- **Patrick Chung** broke up a Peyton Manning pass intended for Wes Welker on first down from the Patriots' 13-yard line in the first quarter. On the next play, **Jamie Collins** hit Ronnie Hillman as Hillman attempted to make a catch, forcing an incomplection.
- **Kyle Arrington** broke up a Peyton Manning pass intended for Wes Welker on second-and-ten in the second quarter, nearly coming up with an interception, and setting up a third-and-long that the Broncos did not convert.
- The interceptions by **Rob Ninkovich** and **Brandon Browner** were the 25th and 26th by Patriots players against Peyton Manning in New England's 19 regular-season games squaring off against Manning.

- **Malcolm Butler** broke up a Peyton Manning pass intended for Emmanuel Sanders in the fourth quarter.
- **Tom Brady** had back-to-back completions totaling 44 yards in the last two minutes of the first half following an intentional grounding penalty, hitting Julian Edelman for a 26-yard gain and then finding Shane Vereen for an 18-yard gain on the next play, and setting up a first-and-goal from the Broncos' 5-yard line with 38 seconds left. Two plays later, Brady hit Shane Vereen for a 5-yard touchdown reception that gave the Patriots a 27-7 lead with eight seconds left in the first half.

LINEUP NOTES

NATE EBNER RETURNS TO ACTION

DB Nate Ebner returned to action after missing the last four games due to injury.

AKEEM AYERS MAKES FIRST START FOR THE PATRIOTS

LB Akeem Ayers made his first start as a member of the Patriots. He had a 9-yard sack of QB Peyton Manning on a fourth-down play with just over two minutes left in the second quarter.

RB JONAS GRAY MADE HIS FIRST NFL START

RB Jonas Gray made his first NFL start against Denver.

NEWLY ACQUIRED LB JONATHAN CASILLAS AND DL ALAN BRANCH MAKE PATS DEBUT

Newly acquired LB Jonathan Casillas and DL Alan Branch played in their first game with the Patriots against Denver.