



GAME NOTES

New England Patriots vs. Buffalo Bills– December 28, 2014

TEAM NOTES

PATRIOTS FINISH 2014 SEASON WITH 12-4 RECORD AND EARN NUMBER ONE SEED IN AFC PLAYOFF FIELD

New England finished the 2014 regular season with a 12-4 record and the top seed in the AFC playoffs. The Patriots have now earned the number one seed five times (2014, 2011, 2010, 2007, and 2003). New England's 12 wins marks the ninth time in franchise history that the Patriots have recorded 12 or more victories in the regular season, and it is the ninth time in the last 12 years that the Patriots have had at least 12 regular season wins. The Patriots have had at least 12 wins in five straight seasons dating back to 2010. The Patriots finished with a 12-4 regular season record for the third straight year.

PATRIOTS END NFL-RECORD STREAK OF 35 STRAIGHT HOME WINS AGAINST CONFERENCE OPPONENTS

New England's loss to Buffalo ended a streak of 35 straight wins at home against AFC conference opponents. The Patriots' 35 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). Prior the loss to Buffalo, the Patriots last loss at home against an AFC opponent was a 33-10 loss vs. Pittsburgh on Nov. 30, 2008.

PATRIOTS FINISH SEASON WITH 468 POINTS AND 52 TOUCHDOWNS

The Patriots finished the 2014 season with 52 touchdowns, marking the eighth time in franchise history that New England has scored at least 50 touchdowns in a season. New England totaled 468 points in 2014, a total that ranks fifth in team history.

MOST PATRIOTS TD/SEASON

75 in 2007
67 in 2012
65 in 2010
61 in 2011
52 in 2014
52 in 1980
52 in 1961
50 in 2009

MOST PATRIOTS PTS /SEASON

589 in 2007
557 in 2012
518 in 2010
513 in 2011
468 in 2014
444 in 2013

PATRIOTS SECOND HALF DEFENSE

The Patriots defense shut out the Bills in the second half. The Patriots have now gone six straight games without allowing a second half touchdown. The last time the Patriots allowed a second half touchdown was in the fourth quarter of the win vs. Indianapolis on Nov. 16. The Patriots have allowed just 12 second half points during that six-game stretch. The Patriots had shutouts in the second half three times (at Green bay, at San Diego and vs. Buffalo).

PATRIOTS SNAP 17-GAME HOME WINNING STREAK AGAINST THE AFC EAST

Prior to the loss to Buffalo, the Patriots had won their last 17 consecutive home games against AFC East opposition. Before the loss to Buffalo, the last time the Patriots lost a home game against an AFC East opponent was on Nov. 13, 2008, when the New York Jets left Gillette Stadium with a 34-31 overtime win. The Patriots' 17-game streak ties Buffalo's 17 straight home divisional wins from 1988-92 for the second longest since the 1970 AFL-NFL merger. The Green Bay Packers (1994-98) own the record with 18 straight home wins against division opponents.

The most consecutive home wins against division opponents since 1970:

Team	Years	Streak
Green Bay	1994-98	18
Patriots	2009-14	17
Buffalo	1988-92	17
Dallas	1991-95	16
Miami	1997-05	16

PATRIOTS SNAP STREAK OF 16 STRAIGHT HOME WINS

The Patriots ended their streak of 16 consecutive regular-season victories at home. Prior to the Buffalo loss, the Patriots had not lost a regular-season home game since December 16, 2012, when San Francisco left Foxborough with a 41-34 win.

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
16	Dec. 30, 2012	Dec. 14, 2014
12	Nov. 26, 2006	Sept. 7, 2008

PATRIOTS FALL TO BUFFALO AT GILLETTE FOR FIRST TIME

Prior to the Buffalo game, the Patriots had won their last 14 home games against Buffalo, and had a perfect 13-0 record against the Bills at Gillette Stadium.

2015 OPPONENTS DETERMINED

The Patriots 2015 opponents have been determined. In addition to playing each of the other AFC East opponents twice, the Patriots will play one game against each of the AFC South and NFC East teams. As the first-place team in the AFC East, the Patriots will play the first-place team of the AFC North (Pittsburgh or Cincinnati) and AFC West (Denver).

Home: Buffalo, Miami., NY Jets, Jacksonville, Tennessee, Philadelphia, Washington, Pittsburgh/Cincinnati*

Away: Buffalo, Miami., NY Jets, Houston, Indianapolis, Dallas, NY Giants, Denver

*-The winner of the Pittsburgh-Cincinnati game on Dec. 28 will be the Patriots' AFC North opponent in 2015.

INDIVIDUAL NOTES

TOM BRADY ENDS STREAK OF 43 STRAIGHT HOME WINS AGAINST AFC

Tom Brady ended a streak of 43 straight regular-season home victories as a starting quarterback against AFC opposition. Brady is now 69-9 in his career as a starting quarterback against AFC teams at home. Prior to the loss to Buffalo, 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 FINISHES SEASON WITH 4,109 PASSING YARDS

Tom Brady finished the 2014 season with 4,109 passing yards, marking his fourth straight 4,000-yard season and his seventh 4,000-yard season of his career. Brady owns seven of the nine 4,000-yard passing seasons in Patriots history.

Patriots Top Passing Yards/Season

Yards	Player	Year
5,235	Tom Brady	2011
4,827	Tom Brady	2012
4,806	Tom Brady	2007
4,555	Drew Bledsoe	1994
4,398	Tom Brady	2009
4,343	Tom Brady	2013
4,110	Tom Brady	2005
4,109	Tom Brady	2014
4,086	Drew Bledsoe	1996

LB JAMIE COLLINS FORCES AND RECOVERS A FUMBLE ON A 6-YARD SACK

LB Jamie Collins forced and recovered a fumble on a 6-yard sack of QB Kyle Orton in the second quarter. He has a team-leading four forced fumbles. It was his second fumble recovery of the season, also a team high.

GOSTKOWSKI SETS PATRIOTS TEAM RECORD FOR FIELD GOAL PERCENTAGE

Stephen Gostkowski made 94.6 percent of his field goals in 2014 (35-for-37), setting a new team record for field goal percentage.

PATRIOTS BEST FIELD GOAL PCT./SEASON

Player	Year	FGM	FGA	PCT.
Stephen Gostkowski	2014	35	37	.946
Adam Vinatieri	2004	31	33	.939
Stephen Gostkowski	2013	38	41	.927
Stephen Gostkowski	2008	36	40	.900
Adam Vinatieri	2002	27	30	.900

GOSTKOWSKI FINISHES SEASON WITH 156 POINTS; SECOND MOST IN TEAM HISTORY

Stephen Gostkowski finished the 2014 season with 156 points (35 FG, 51 PAT). His 156 points rank second in team history, trailing only his 158 points in 2013. Gostkowski's 156 total points are seventh all-time for most kicking points in a season. He is the only kicker with three of the top eight kicking point seasons.

PATRIOTS RECORD FOR MOST POINTS IN A SEASON

158	Stephen Gostkowski, 2013
156	Stephen Gostkowski, 2014
155	Gino Cappelletti, 1964 (includes 7 Tds)
153	Stephen Gostkowski, 2012
148	Stephen Gostkowski, 2008
147	Gino Cappelletti, 1961
143	Stephen Gostkowski, 2011

NFL RECORD FOR MOST POINTS BY A KICKER

166	David Akers (SF) in 2011
164	Gary Anderson (MIN) in 1998
163	Jeff Wilkins (STL) in 2003
161	Mark Mosley (WAS) in 1983
158	Stephen Gostkowski (NE) in 2013
157	Mike Vanderjagt (IND) in 2003
156	Stephen Gostkowski (NE) in 2014
153	Stephen Gostkowski (NE) in 2012

VEREEN FINISHES WITH 52 CATCHES, MOST BY A PATRIOTS RB SINCE 2008

Shane Vereen finished the 2014 season with 52 receptions for 447 yards. His 52 catches were the most by a Patriots running back since Kevin Faulk had 58 receptions in 2008. Vereen joins Faulk, Tony Collins, Leroy Thompson, Dave Meggett and Kevin Turner as the only running backs in Patriots history to have 50 or more receptions in a season.

ALLEN FINISHES SECOND IN TEAM HISTORY IN PUNTING AVERAGE

Ryan Allen finished the season with 66 punts for 3,060 yards, and his average of 46.36 yards per punt ranks second in team history. Zoltan Mesko holds the franchise record with an average of 46.46 yards per punt in 2011 (57 punts for 2,648 yards). As a rookie in 2013, Allen averaged 45.9 yards per punt, a total that now ranks third in team history. Allen's two seasons with the Patriots have produced two of the top three single-season punting averages in franchise history.

LINEUP NOTES

STEVE MANERI MAKES PATRIOTS DEBUT

Steve Maneri played in his first NFL game with New England. He dressed last week at the Jets but did not play. He has played in 23 NFL games with Kansas City and Chicago.

JOSH BOYCE PLAYS IN HIS FIRST GAME IN 2014

WR Josh Boyce was signed from the practice squad to the 53-man roster yesterday and made his 2014 debut.

MARCUS CANNON MADE HIS FIRST START OF THE SEASON AT RIGHT TACKLE

Marcus Cannon made his first start of the 2014 season at right tackle in place of Sebastian Vollmer. Cannon made three other starts in 2014 when he started at left guard in the first three games of the season.

LEGARRETTE BLOUNT RETURN TO ACTION

LeGarrette Blount returned to action after missing the Jets game due to injury. He led the team with 62 yards on 10 carries for a 6.2-yard average.