



GAME NOTES

New England Patriots vs. Buffalo Bills – December 29, 2013

**PATRIOTS SET NFL MARK FOR MOST FIRST ROUND BYES;
BECOME FIRST AFC TEAM TO EARN FOUR STRAIGHT BYES**

The Patriots earned a first-round bye in the 2013 NFL playoffs and lead the NFL with nine first-round byes since the current NFL playoff format was instituted in 1990. The Patriots have earned a first-round bye for the fourth consecutive season, becoming the third NFL team to record four straight byes and the first AFC team to do so, joining Dallas and San Francisco, who did so from 1992 through 1995.

**MOST SEASONS EARNING A BYE SINCE 12-TEAM
PLAYOFF FORMAT IN 1990**

New England	9
Pittsburgh	8
San Francisco.....	8
Denver.....	6
Dallas	5

MOST SEASONS EARNING A BYE SINCE 2001

New England	8
Chicago	4
Pittsburgh.....	4
Atlanta	3
Indianapolis.....	3
Philadelphia	3

PATRIOTS ARE PERFECT AT HOME

The Patriots finished with a perfect 8-0 regular-season record at Gillette Stadium for the sixth time in team history (2003, 2004, 2007, 2009, 2010 and 2013). Cincinnati and New Orleans were the only other teams in 2013 to finish undefeated at home.

BLOUNT SETS TEAM SINGLE-GAME ALL-PURPOSE YARD RECORD

LeGarrette Blount set a new Patriots single-game record with 334 all-purpose yards, gaining 189 yards from scrimmage and adding 145 return yards. Blount's performance topped the 51-year-old team record set by Larry Garron on November 3, 1962, when Garron had 273 all-purpose yards at Buffalo. Blount's 334 all-purpose yards ranks 11th in NFL history and is the highest total net yardage total by an NFL player in a game since Minnesota's Adrian Peterson had 361 all-purpose yards on Oct. 14, 2007. The NFL record for single-game all-purpose yards is 404, by Denver's Glyn Milburn vs. Seattle on Dec. 10, 1995.

PATRIOTS RECORD BOOK / MOST ALL-PURPOSE YARDS IN A GAME

Player	Date	Opponent	All-Purpose Yds	Scrimmage Yds	Return Yds
LeGarrette Blount	12/29/13	Buffalo	334	189	145
Larry Garron	11/03/62	at Buffalo	273	100	173
Kevin Faulk	12/22/02	New York Jets	271	51	220
Dick Christy	11/04/60	Oakland	261	184	77
Carl Garrett	10/11/69	at Buffalo	250	76	174

BLOUNT'S 189 RUSHING YARDS MOST BY PATRIOT SINCE 1998

LeGarrette Blount finished the game with 189 rushing yards on 24 carries, totaling the fifth-highest single-game rushing total in Patriots history and the highest rushing total by a Patriots player during Bill Belichick's coaching tenure in New England. The last time a Patriots player had more rushing yards in a game was on December 13, 1998, when Robert Edwards had 196 rushing yards at St. Louis.

PATRIOTS RECORD BOOK / MOST RUSHING YARDS IN A GAME

Player	Date	Opponent	Rush	Yds	TD
Tony Collins	09/18/83	New York Jets	23	212	3
Jim Nance	10/30/66	Oakland	38	208	2
Curtis Martin	09/14/97	New York Jets	40	199	1
Robert Edwards	12/13/98	at St. Louis	24	196	0
LeGarrette Blount	12/28/13	Buffalo	24	189	2
Jim Nance	09/24/67	Buffalo	34	185	1

TOM BRADY GUIDES THE PATRIOTS TO EIGHTH 12-WIN SEASON IN 2013

Tom Brady guided the Patriots to their 12th win in 2013. Since entering the NFL in 2000, Brady's teams have reached 12 regular-season wins in eight different seasons, second all-time, behind Peyton Manning.

Starting QBs with the most 12-win Regular Seasons in NFL History

Player	Seasons
Peyton Manning	10
Tom Brady	8
Brett Favre	6
John Elway	4
Jim Kelly	4

BRADY TIES JOHN ELWAY FOR THIRD PLACE WITH 148 CAREER WINS

Tom Brady led the Patriots to his 148th career regular season win to move into a tie with Hall of Famer John Elway for third on the all-time win list among starting quarterbacks.

MOST CAREER WINS AS A STARTING QB

(Regular season only) Bold indicates active players

Rk	Name	W	L	T	Pct.
1.	Brett Favre	186	112	0	.624
2.	Peyton Manning	167	73	0	.696
T-3.	Tom Brady	148	43	0	.775
T-3.	John Elway	148	82	1	.643
4.	Dan Marino	147	93	0	.613

GOSTKOWSKI SETS FRANCHISE RECORD FOR MOST POINTS IN A SEASON

Stephen Gostkowski set a franchise record after increasing his totals to 158 points for the season, surpassing the 155 total points scored by Gino Cappelletti in 1964. Gostkowski's previous career-high for points was 153 total points in 2012.

Patriots Record for Most Points in a Season

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

GOSTKOWSKI IS ONE OF JUST FIVE PLAYERS TO LEAD LEAGUE IN SCORING FOR AT LEAST THREE SEASONS

Stephen Gostkowski led the NFL with 158 points in 2013, topping Denver's Matt Prater's total of 150. Gostkowski also led the NFL in scoring in 2008 with 148 points, and in 2012 with 153 points and is one of five players to lead the NFL in scoring for at least three seasons.

NFL Record for Most Seasons Leading the League in Scoring

5 Don Hutson Green Bay (1940-44)

5 Gino Cappelletti Patriots (1961, 1963-66)

3 Stephen Gostkowski, Patriots (2008, 2012, 2013)

3 Earl Clark, Portsmouth (1932), Detroit (1935-36)

3 Pat Harder, Chicago Cardinals (1947-49)

3 Paul Hornung, Green Bay (1959-61)

GOSTKOWSKI BREAKS HIS OWN TEAM RECORD FOR MOST FG IN A SEASON

Stephen Gostkowski made four field goals (43, 35, 29 and 35) to break his own franchise record for most field goals in a season, finishing 2013 with 38 field goals. He originally set the franchise record with 36 field goals in 2008.

Most Field Goals Made in a Season/Patriots

Player	Field Goals	Year
Stephen Gostkowski	38	2013
Stephen Gostkowski	36	2008
Tony Franklin	32	1986
Adam Vinatieri	31	2004
Adam Vinatieri	31	1998

GOSTKOWSKI TIES CAREER-HIGH WITH FOUR FIELD GOALS

Gostkowski tied a career-high with four field goals. He has now had four field goals in a game seven times in his career.

EDELMAN BREAKS 1,000-YARD MARK

Edelman caught a five-yard and a 4-yard reception in the first quarter to push his 2013 totals over 1,000 yards to become the 10th Patriots player to register a 1,000-yard season. He entered the game with 991 receiving yards, and finished the season with 1,056 receiving yards.

1,000-Yard Receiving Seasons in Patriots History

Player	Yards	Season
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
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
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
Stanley Morgan	1,002	1979

EDELMAN BREAKS 100-CATCH MARK

Julian Edelman's 12-yard reception in the second quarter was his 100th reception of 2013. He entered the game with 96 receptions and finished with 105 catches. Edelman joined Wes Welker (2007-09, 11-12) and Troy Brown (2001) as the only Patriots players to reach 100 receptions in a season.

PATRIOTS PLAYERS WITH 100 RECEPTIONS

<u>Player</u>	<u>Receptions</u>	<u>Season</u>
Wes Welker	123	2009
Wes Welker	122	2011
Wes Welker	118	2012
Wes Welker	112	2007
Wes Welker	111	2008
Julian Edelman	105	2013
Troy Brown	101	2001

PATRIOTS ARE GOOD IN DECEMBER

Since 2008, the Patriots are 23-3 and have won 19 of their last 21 December games. Bill Belichick is 51-9 (.850) in December with New England, the best record in December among head coaches with one team in NFL history (min. 25 games). George Seifert is second (27-6, .818). Tom Brady is 4-1 in the month of December in 2013 for a 45-7 career December record and has the best winning percentage at 86.5 in December for any quarterback since the 1970 NFL merger.

Best Win Pct. In December – Since 1970 NFL Merger

<u>Player</u>	<u>December Record</u>	<u>Win PCT.</u>
Tom Brady	45-7	86.5
Philip Rivers	30-6	83.3
Jim McMahon	14-4	77.8
Bob Griese	14-4	77.8

PATRIOTS ARE REALLY GOOD AT HOME IN DECEMBER

The Patriots are now 24-2 at home in December since Gillette Stadium opened in 2002.

<u>Team</u>	<u>W</u>	<u>L</u>	<u>T</u>	<u>Pct.</u>
New England	24	2	0	.923
Green Bay	23	5	0	.821
Indianapolis	23	6	0	.793
Denver	17	6	0	.739
Philadelphia	17	8	0	.680

BRADY HAS THE BEST RECORD IN THE FINAL FOUR GAMES OF THE REGULAR SEASON SINCE THE 1970 MERGER

Tom Brady is now 43-9 in the final four games of the regular season, the best among any starting quarterback in the final four games since the 1970 merger.

<u>Quarterback</u>	<u>W-L Record</u>	<u>WIN PCT.</u>
Tom Brady	43-9	.827
Philip Rivers	30-6	.833
Roger Staubach	24-6	.800
Joe Montana	35-12	.745
Steve McNair	28-10	.737

BRADY FINISHES WITH 4,343 PASSING YARDS

Tom Brady finished the 2013 season with 4,343 passing yards, marking his third straight 4,000-yard season and his sixth 4,000-yard season of his career. Brady owns six of the eight 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
4,086	Drew Bledsoe	1996

LOGAN RYAN TIES FOR AFC LEAD IN INTERCEPTIONS WITH FIVE

Rookie CB Logan Ryan finished the 2013 season with five interceptions, tying Cleveland's Tashaun Gipson and Tennessee's Alterraun Verner for the AFC lead.

LEGARRETTE BLOUNT HAS EIGHTH NFL 100-YARD GAME AND FIRST AS A PATRIOT

LeGarrette Blount scored on a 36-yard touchdown run in the second quarter to pit him over 100 yards for the day. It is his eighth career 100-yard game and his first as a member of the Patriots. It is the third 100-yard rushing performance in 2013. Shane Vereen had 101 yards rushing in the season-opener at Buffalo on Sept. 8 and RB Stevan Ridley had 115 yards vs. Pittsburgh on Nov. 3. Blount finished the game with a career-high 189 rushing yards.

BLOUNT SETS NEW SINGLE-SEASON CAREER HIGH WITH SEVEN TOUCHDOWNS

LeGarrette Blount had a pair of touchdown runs today, bringing his season total to 7 touchdowns. Blount's seven touchdowns were a new career high and tied Stevan Ridley's seven scores for the team lead. Blount finished the season with 772 rushing yards, a yard shy of Ridley's team-high 773 rushing yards.

BLOUNT HAS A PAIR OF 30-PLUS YARD TOUCHDOWN RUNS

LeGarrette Blount had a 36-yard touchdown run in the second quarter and a 35-yard scoring run in the fourth quarter, marking his second and third touchdown runs of 30 or more yards in 2013. He had a 47-yard touchdown run at Atlanta on Sept. 29.

BLOUNT HAD A CAREER-LONG 83-YARD KICKOFF RETURN IN THE THIRD QUARTER; SECOND LONGEST NON TOUCHDOWN KICKOFF RETURN IN TEAM HISTORY

Blount had a career-long 83-yard kickoff return in the third quarter. It is the second longest non touchdown kickoff return in team history. Kevin Faulk had a 95-yard return vs. the New York jets on Nov. 15, 1999. Blount's previous best was a 30-yarder vs. Miami on Oct. 27. It is the longest kickoff return by the Patriots in 2013. Rookie WR Josh Boyce had a 41-yard kickoff return at Houston on Dec. 1.

BLOUNT IS FIRST PATRIOTS PLAYER SINCE 2008 WITH TWO KICK RETURNS OF 50 YARDS OR MORE IN THE SAME GAME

Blount had an 83-yard kickoff return in the third quarter and a 62-yard return in the fourth quarter. He is the first Patriots player to have two 50-yard kickoff returns in the same game since Ellis Hobbs had an 81-yard return and a 50-yard return vs. Miami on Sept. 21, 2008.

THE PATRIOTS 173 RUSHING YARDS ARE SECOND MOST EVER IN A HALF

The Patriots had 173 yards rushing in the first half, the second most ever in a half. The most by the Patriots in a half was 174 in the second half on Oct. 1, 2006 at Cincinnati.

BLOUNT STARTS WITH A STRONG RUSH

LeGarrette Blount's 118 rushing yards in the first half were the most first-half rushing yards by a Patriots running back since Sammy Morris had 138 first-half rushing yards on October 20, 2008, against Denver at Gillette Stadium.

2014 OPPONENTS DETERMINED

The Patriots 2014 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 West and NFC North teams. As the first-place team in the AFC East, the Patriots will play the first-place team of the AFC North (Cincinnati) and AFC South (Indianapolis)

Home	Away
Buffalo	Buffalo
Miami	Miami
NY Jets	NY Jets
Denver	San Diego
Chicago	Kansas City
Cincinnati	Indianapolis
Detroit	Green Bay
Oakland	Minnesota

PATRIOTS REMAIN PERFECT AGAINST BUFFALO AT GILLETTE

The Patriots have won their last 13 home games against Buffalo, including a perfect 12-0 record against the Bills at Gillette Stadium. Tom Brady is 22-2 all-time against Buffalo.

PATRIOTS POSTSEASON STREAK OF FIVE STRAIGHT IS LONGEST IN NFL

With Baltimore losing today and being eliminated from the postseason, the Patriots streak of five straight postseason berths is the longest active streak in the NFL.

PATRIOTS EXTEND STREAK TO 15 STRAIGHT WINS OVER AFC EAST FOES AT HOME

The Patriots won their 15th straight game at home against AFC East opposition. 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 are now 31-5 against the AFC East at Gillette Stadium.

The most consecutive home wins against division opponents since 1970:

Team	Years	Streak
Green Bay	1994-98	18
Buffalo	1988-92	17
Dallas	1991-95	16
Miami	1971-75	16
Patriots	2009-present	15

GOSTKOWSKI HAS 24 STRAIGHT FOURTH QUARTER FIELD GOALS

Stephen Gostkowski has made 24 consecutive fourth-quarter field goals, including a 35-yarder in the fourth quarter today against Buffalo.

PATRIOTS REGISTER MOST SACKS IN A SEASON SINCE 1985

The Patriots finished the 2013 season with 49 sacks, recording the team's highest single-season sack total since Bill Belichick became head coach in 2000, and the most for a Patriots team since registering 51 sacks in 1985. Prior to this season, the most sacks the Patriots had with Belichick as head coach was 46 in 2007.

BRADY IMPROVES ON HOME RECORD AS STARTER

Tom Brady improved to 49-3 as a starter at Gillette Stadium since the playing surface was changed to an artificial surface ahead of the Patriots' game against the Chicago Bears on Nov. 26, 2006. Brady has now won 18 consecutive home starts against AFC East opponents, dating back to a 17-14 loss to the New York Jets on November 12, 2006.

QUICK HITS

- Rob Ninkovich stopped Buffalo QB Thad Lewis for a 1-yard loss on a fourth-and-1 rush in the second quarter.
- Chandler Jones tackled Buffalo RB C.J. Spiller for a 2-yard loss in the second quarter.
- Logan Ryan tackled Buffalo RB C.J. Spiller for a 2-yard loss in the first quarter.
- Joe Vellano tackled Buffalo RB C.J. Spiller for no gain in the third quarter.
- Aqib Talib tackled Buffalo RB Fred Jackson for a 1-yard loss on second down in the fourth quarter. Following a sack on the next play, Buffalo was forced to settle for a field goal.

SACK ATTACK

- Sealver Siliga was credited with his third sack of the season when he forced Buffalo QB Thad Lewis to fumble the ball out of bounds for a loss of 13 yards in the first quarter. The sack raised Siliga's 2013 total to three sacks in five games with New England.
- Steve Gregory was credited with a 0-yard sack of Buffalo QB Thad Lewis in the third quarter. The sack was Gregory's first as a member of the Patriots and his first since having a pair of sacks in 2009 with San Diego.
- Chris Jones sacked Buffalo QB Thad Lewis for a 6-yard loss in the third quarter, tallying the sixth sack of his rookie season.
- Rob Ninkovich sacked Buffalo QB Thad Lewis for a 4-yard loss on third down in the fourth quarter, forcing a Buffalo field goal on the next play.

EDELMAN HAULS IN SECOND 2-POINT CONVERSION OF SEASON

Julian Edelman caught a 2-point conversion pass from Tom Brady in the fourth quarter to give the Patriots a 24-10 lead. It was Edelman's second 2-point conversion of the season, having also caught a 2-point pass against Denver on Nov. 24. Edelman's two 2-point conversions ties the Patriots record for most 2-point conversions in a season, joining David Meggett (1995) and Danny Woodhead (2011) with two 2-point conversions in a season.

CLOSING TIME

The Patriots have one of the more dominating closers in the NFL with running back LeGarrette Blount. Blount rushed for 62 of his career-best 189 yards in the fourth quarter of today's game, and is third in the NFL in fourth quarter rushing yards (322) and is bruising opposing defenses with 5.75 yards per carry in the final 15 minutes, the second highest average among players who have at least 30 fourth quarter carries. He also is tied for first in fourth quarter rushing touchdowns with five, a lead he shares with Eddie Lacy of the Green Bay Packers:

MOST FOURTH-QUARTER RUSHING YARDS IN 2013

Rank	Player	Rushes Yards		AVG	TD
1	Jamaal Charles	80	438	5.48	3
2	LeSean McCoy	63	400	6.35	3
3	LeGarrette Blount	56	322	5.75	5
4	Matt Forte	68	282	4.14	1

BEST FOURTH-QUARTER YARDS-PER-CARRY IN 2013

Rank	Player	Rushes Yards		AVG	TD
1	LeSean McCoy	63	400	6.35	3
2	LeGarrette Blount	56	322	5.75	5
3	Chris Ivory	37	209	5.65	1
4	Jamaal Charles	80	438	5.48	3

MOST FOURTH-QUARTER TOUCHDOWNS IN 2013

Rank	Player	Rushes Yards		AVG	TD
1	LeGarrette Blount	56	322	5.75	5
2	Eddie Lacy	72	265	3.68	5