



GAME NOTES

New England Patriots at Tampa Bay Buccaneers- August 18, 2011

*The Patriots are 2-0 to start the preseason for the second straight year following the 31-14 win against Tampa Bay.

*The Patriots win was just their second in nine preseason games against the Buccaneers. The Patriots are now 2-7 against the Buccaneers in the preseason. The Patriots are 5-2 against Tampa Bay in the regular season.

*The Patriots starting units made their preseason debut after most of the starting units did not play in the first preseason game vs. Jacksonville.

*QB Tom Brady made his 2011 preseason debut and led the Patriots on three scoring drives in his first three series, including a 16-yard touchdown pass to TE Aaron Hernandez and an 8-yard touchdown pass to WR Chad Ochocinco to culminate the first two drives.

*Brady played the entire first half and helped the Patriots take a 28-0 lead. He finished the game 11-of-19 for 118 yards with two touchdown passes.

*Newly acquired WR Chad Ochocino made his Patriots debut and was in the starting lineup in a three wide receiver set. His first reception as a Patriot was an 8-yard touchdown pass from Tom Brady in the first quarter

*First-round draft pick T Nate Solder made his second consecutive start at left tackle in place of Matt Light. Light did not dress for the first two preseason games.

*The Patriots offense finished with 200 rushing yards rushing on 36 attempts for a 5.6 yard average. Last season, the Patriots gained 200 or more yards in both wins against Buffalo.

*RB Danny Woodhead had five carries for 63 yards for a 12.6-yard average in first half play. He had three runs of 10 or more yards with runs of 29, 14 and 12.

*RB BenJarvus Green-Ellis scored on two 1-yard touchdown runs in the first half. In 2010, Green-Ellis had three games with two touchdowns. Green-Ellis finished with 11 carries for 51 yards for a 4.6-yard average.

*Third-round draft pick RB Stevan Ridley led the team in rushing with 84 yards rushing on 14 carries for a 6.0-yard average. In the preseason-opener vs. Jacksonville, Ridley led the team with 64 yards on 16 carries.

*Third-round QB Ryan Mallett started the second half and split time in the second half with Brian Hoyer. Mallett finished 9-of-14 for 71 yards.

*Vince Wilfork and Jerod Mayo served as pregame captains.

*For the second straight game, rookie K Chris Koeplin handled the kickoff duties, while K Stephen Gostkowski handled the field goals and extra points.

*Gostkowski is perfect on three field goals of 40 or more yards in the 2011 preseason following field goals of 46 and 43 yards vs. Jacksonville and a 44-yard field goal against Tampa Bay.