



GAME NOTES

Patriots at Chicago Bears – December 12, 2010

PATRIOTS CLINCH PLAYOFF SPOT FOR 12TH TIME IN KRAFT'S 17 YEARS OF OWNERSHIP

New England has now qualified for the playoffs 18 times in its 51-year history. The Patriots have earned 12 playoff berths in the 17 seasons since Robert Kraft purchased the team in 1994, a dramatic contrast to the six total playoff berths that the team earned in its first 34 years of existence. New England has won 12 division crowns and has qualified as a Wild Card team on four occasions (1998, 1994, 1985 and 1976). The Patriots also qualified for the playoffs in 1982 as part of a 16-team tournament following a players' strike.

THE PATRIOTS ARE GOOD IN THE SNOW

The Patriots played the Bears under snowy conditions and improved to a 10-0 record under head coach Bill Belichick when playing in the snow. In the last three games played in the snow, the Patriots have outscored their opponents 142-14.

BILL BELICHICK ERA SNOW GAMES (10-0)

Date	Opp.	Tmp	Weather	W/L	Score
12/12/10	At Chi	26	Snow	W	36-7
10/18/09	TEN	39	Mixed Rain, Snow	W	59-0
12/21/08	ARZ	30	Snow	W	47-7
12/10/05	at BUF	30	Light Snow	W	35-7
12/04/05	NYJ	26	Light Snow	W	16-3
01/16/05	IND*	25	Snow	W	20-3
01/18/04	IND*	32	Light Snow	W	24-14
12/14/03	JAX	25	Snow in 2nd Half	W	27-13
12/07/03	MIA	28	Cold, Snow, Wind	W	12-0
01/19/02	OAK*	25	Snow, 3-5 inches	W	16-13 ot
12/17/00	at BUF	35	Snow Showers	W	13-10 ot

GRONKOWSKI SCORES SEVENTH TOUCHDOWN OF THE SEASON

Patriots rookie tight end Rob Gronkowski caught his seventh touchdown reception of the season on a 7-yard pass from QB Tom Brady in the first quarter. Gronkowski is chasing down WR Jim Colclough and WR Randy Vataha for the Patriots rookie receiving touchdown record of 9 touchdowns. Gronkowski ranks in the top five for total touchdowns among all Patriots rookies. He ranks third in NFL history for touchdowns by a rookie tight end.

Patriots Rookie Touchdowns Overall

Rank	Player	Touchdowns	Year
1	Curtis Martin	15	1995
2	Robert Edwards	12	1998
3	Jim Colclough	9	1960
3	Randy Vataha	9	1971
5	Rob Gronkowski	7	2010
5	Carl Garrett	7	1969
5	Tony Collins	7	1981
5	Laurence Maroney	7	2006

Patriots Rookie Touchdowns Receiving

Rank	Player	Touchdowns	Year
1	Jim Colclough	9	1960
1	Randy Vataha	9	1971
2	Rob Gronkowski	7	2010

NFL Rookie Tight End Touchdown Record

Rank	Player	Touchdowns	Year
1	Mike Ditka (CHI)	12	1961
2	Junior Miller (ATL)	9	1980
3	Rob Gronkowski	7	2010
3	John Mackey (BAL)	7	1963
3	Raymond Chester (OAK)	7	1970
3	Eric Green (PIT)	7	1990

MOST TD RECEPTIONS BY A TIGHT END / SINGLE-SEASON PATRIOTS HISTORY

Player	Season	TD
Ben Coates	1996	9
Ben Coates	1997	8
Ben Coates	1993	8
Russ Francis	1980	8
Rob Gronkowski	2010	7
Ben Coates	1994	7
Christian Fauria	2002	7
Daniel Graham	2004	7
Derrick Ramsey	1984	7
Jim Whalen	1968	7

PATRIOTS EXTEND STREAK TO FIVE GAMES WITH 30 POINTS AND NO TURNOVERS

The Patriots have scored at least 30 points without committing a turnover in each of their past five games to extend their NFL record. Last week they became the first team to have at least 30 points without committing a turnover in four straight games.

BRADY EXTENDS STREAK WITH AT LEAST TWO TOUCHDOWNS AND NO INTERCEPTIONS TO SIX TO TIE NFL MARK

Quarterback Tom Brady has thrown at least two touchdowns without an interception in each of his past six games to tie Don Meredith for the longest streak in league annals.

PATRIOTS SCORE TOUCHDOWNS

The Patriots have scored 52 total touchdowns. That number is tied for the second most in team history

MOST TOUCHDOWNS IN A SEASON

75 in 2007

52 in **2010**, 1961 and 1980

50 in 2009

49 in 2004 and 1979

PATRIOTS SCORE POINTS

The Patriots scored over 30 points for the fifth straight game and the eighth time in 2010.

BELICHICK WINS 174TH CAREER GAME

Bill Belichick won his 174th game and is now tied for 10th with Mike Holmgren on the all-time list.

GUYTON SCORES ON A 35-YARD FUMBLE RETURN IN THE SECOND QUARTER

LB Gary Guyton returned a fumble 35 yards for a touchdown. The fumble was forced on a hit by CB Devin McCourty. It is Guyton's second touchdown of the season. Guyton returned an interception 59 yards for a touchdown in the season-opening victory vs. Cincinnati (9/12). It is the first fumble returned for a touchdown by a New England player since Ellis Hobbs scored on a 35-yard fumble return at Buffalo on Nov. 18, 2007. It is the fourth defensive touchdown of the season for the Patriots. Guyton is the first Patriots player to score two defensive touchdowns in a season since LB Tedy Bruschi returned two interceptions for touchdowns in 2003. Guyton recorded his second career interception in the third quarter.

PATRIOTS HAVE SEVEN NON-OFFENSIVE TOUCHDOWNS IN 2010

The Patriots have scored on seven touchdowns that were not offensive touchdowns in 2010. The Patriots returned three interceptions for a touchdown, returned two kickoffs for touchdowns, scored on one fumble return and one blocked field goal that was returned for a touchdown. The seven non-offensive touchdowns are second in the NFL to Arizona who has scored on eight non-offensive touchdowns.

PATRIOTS EXTEND TEAM RECORD TO FIVE GAMES WITHOUT A TURNOVER

The Patriots extended their streak to five straight games without a turnover. Last week, the Patriots established the team mark with their fourth straight game without a turnover.

EDELMAN HAS CAREER-LONG 42-YARD PUNT RETURN

Julian Edelman had a career-long 42-yard punt return in the second quarter. His previous best was a 35-yarder vs. Tennessee on Oct. 18, 2009. Both of those punt returns were in snow games.

ERIC MOORE FORCES A FUMBLE AND RECORDS A SACK IN HIS DEBUT

Eric Moore forced a fumble that was recovered by LB Jerod Mayo at the Chicago 9-yard line in the second quarter. Later in the quarter he sacked QB Jay Cutler for a 10-yard loss.

BRANCH HAS HIS NINTH NFL REGULAR-SEASON 100-YARD GAME AND SECOND OF 2010

Deion Branch scored on a 59-yard touchdown pass prior to the end of the first half to push him over 100 yards receiving for the day. He finished the game with 151 receiving yards. He had his first 100-yard day of 2010 at Detroit (11/25) with three receptions for 113 yards. It is his sixth 100-yard game as a member of the Patriots.

BRANCH HAS CAREER HIGH IN RECEIVING YARDS

Branch set a personal best with 151 receiving yards. His previous best was a 130-yard performance on Sept. 30, 2007 at San Francisco while he was with Seattle.

PATRIOTS HAVE TWO PLAYERS REACH 100 YARDS RECEIVING

Wes Welker (115) and Deion Branch (151) both finished with over 100 yards receiving. It is the first time the Patriots have had a game with two 100-yard receivers since the game in the snow last season vs. Tennessee on Oct. 18, 2009.

BRADY EXTENDS RECORD FOR MOST CONSECUTIVE PASS ATTEMPTS WITHOUT AN INT.

Tom Brady extended his streak to 268 consecutive pass attempts without an interception, extending his team record. Brady eclipsed his old record of 183 consecutive pass attempts without an interception (set in 2009) on Thanksgiving at Detroit. Brady's 268 pass attempts without an interception stretches from the overtime period vs. Baltimore (10/17) through today's win over Chicago. Brady's last interception was on the last play of regulation vs. Baltimore (10/17). Brady has had previous streaks with 183, 175 and 173 consecutive pass attempts without an interception.

BRADY EXTENDS RECORD TO EIGHTH STRAIGHT START WITHOUT AN INTERCEPTION

QB Tom Brady has now gone eight straight starts without an interception. He has thrown an interception in just two games in 2010 with two at the NY Jets (9/19) and two vs. Baltimore (10/17). Tony Eason had the previous record of six straight starts without an interception in 1986.

BRADY HAS THROWN AT LEAST ONE TOUCHDOWN PASS IN ALL 13 GAMES

Brady has thrown at least one touchdown pass in all 13 games of the 2010 season after finishing with two touchdown tosses against the Bears. Brady has started the season with at least one touchdown in the first 13 games for the second time in his career. Brady started the 2007 season with at least one touchdown in the first 13 games.

BRADY CLOSE TO 30 TOUCHDOWNS FOR SECOND TIME IN CAREER

Brady now has 29 touchdown passes in 2010 and needs one more for his second season with 30 or more touchdown passes. He had an NFL-record 50 in 2007. If Brady reaches 30 touchdown passes he will be one of just 12 NFL players since the 1970 merger to have at least two 30 touchdown seasons.

WINNINGEST-COACH/QUARTERBACK TANDEM

Brady and Bill Belichick moved out of a tie with Terry Bradshaw and Chuck Noll (107) into sole possession of second place for most wins as a quarterback-coach combo with 108. Only Dan Marino/Don Shula ever won more games together (116). Brady and Belichick have the best winning percentage among head coach-starting quarterbacks since the 1970 merger.

WINNINGEST COACH/QB TANDEM SINCE 1970 (VICTORIES)

(Regular Season Only)

Quarterback/Head Coach	Team	W	L	T	Pct.
Dan Marino/Don Shula	MIA	116	68	0	.630
Tom Brady/Bill Belichick	NE	108	32	0	.771
Terry Bradshaw/Chuck Noll	PIT	107	51	0	.601

WINNINGEST COACH/QB TANDEM SINCE 1970 (WINNING PERCENTAGE)

(Regular Season Only)

Quarterback/Head Coach	Team	W	L	T	Pct.
Tom Brady/Bill Belichick	NE	108	32	0	.771
Ken Stabler/John Madden	OAK	60	19	1	.756
Jim McMahon/Mike Ditka	CHI	46	15	0	.754
Peyton Manning/Tony Dungy	IND	73	24	0	.753

BRADY MOVES UP ON ALL-TIME TOUCHDOWN LIST

Brady finished the game with two touchdowns against Chicago to push his career total to 254 touchdown passes to tie Dan Fouts for 12th place on the NFL List. Sonny Jurgensen is 11th with 255. . 252 career touchdown passes, moving into 13th place on the all-time list. Brady passed Drew Bledsoe's

BRADY MOVES INTO SOLE POSSESSION OF 8TH PLACE WITH 108 CAREER WINS.

Brady moved out of a tie with Terry Bradshaw and into sole possession of 8th place on the NFL's list for most career wins as a starting quarterback with his 108th win.

MOST CAREER WINS AS A STARTER

(Regular season only)

Rank	Name	W	L	T	Pct.
1.	Brett Favre	186	111	1	.626
2.	John Elway	148	82	1	.643
3.	Dan Marino	147	93	0	.613
4.	Peyton Manning	138	67	0	.673
5.	Fran Tarkenton	124	109	6	.531
6.	Johnny Unitas	118	64	4	.651
7.	Joe Montana	117	47	0	.713
8.	Tom Brady	108	32	0	.771
8.	Terry Bradshaw	107	51	0	.677
10.	Warren Moon	102	98	0	.510

BRADY HAS FOURTH 300-YARD GAME OF 2010 AND 34TH 300-YARD GAME OF CAREER

Tom Brady finished with a season-high 369 passing yards, marking his fourth 300-yard passing game of the season and the 34th 300-yard game of his career. The Patriots improved to 30-4 when Brady throws for 300 or more yards.

THREE CONSECUTIVE 300-YARD GAMES FOR BRADY

Brady has now thrown for 300 yards in three straight games. He has a personal best five in a row in 2009

BRADY MOVES INTO THE TOP 20 IN ALL-TIME PASSING YARDS

Brady moved past Steve DeBerg (34,241) into 20th on the NFL's all-time passing list and now has 34,242 passing yards.

BENJARVUS AND 1,000 YARDS

RB BenJarvus Green-Ellis increased his 2010 rushing total to 786 with 87 yards rushing against Chicago. He needs to average 71 yards in the last three games to become the 11th New England player to record a 1,000-yard rushing season. If he reaches 1,000 yards he will be the first New England player to do so since Corey Dillon had a team-record 1,635 rushing yards in 2004.

WELKER EXTENDS STREAK

Wes Welker extended his streak to 76 straight regular-season games with at least one reception. He has caught at least one pass in each of his 62 games with the Patriots, including three postseason games. The last time that Welker did not catch a pass in a game was December 24, 2005 when he was with the Dolphins. He has caught at least one pass in 59 consecutive regular-season games as a member of the Patriots. The Patriots' record for most consecutive games with at least one pass is 63 by TE Ben Coates (12-17-92) to (12-15-96).

WELKER CLOSE TO 100 RECEPTIONS

Welker added eight receptions against Chicago for a team-leading 80 on the season. He needs to average seven receptions over the next three games to reach 100 receptions for the fourth consecutive season to join Marvin Harrison as the only NFL player to ever have four straight 100 reception seasons.

PATRIOTS WIN GAME NUMBER 11

Today's victory was the Patriots' 11th win in 2010. New England has now won 11 or more games seven times in the last 10 seasons.

BRADY IN DECEMBER

Tom Brady improved to 31-5 all-time as a starter in the month of December. Brady is 18-1 at home in the month of December. Brady improved to 24-3 when the kickoff temperature was 40 degrees or less.