★ ★ ★ CONF SEMI-FINAL GAMES! ★ ★ ★

NEWS AND NOTES - BOWL GAMES

ROSE BOWL - TCU was the only undefeated team in the country that was not playing in the National Title game but they were excited to be playing in the Rose Bowl vs Wisc as they were the first non-AQ team to play in the big game. Their win in this one moved the non-AQ's record to 4-1 SU in BCS bowls vs AQ teams. This game capped a very poor Jan. 1 for the Big Ten as they went 0-5 in bowl games. The Badgers did have a 385-301 yd edge but trailed the entire 2H. UW actually held the ball for all but 3 plays in the 2Q which helped them compile the yardage edge. This one looked like it would be a score fest as UW opened a 55/8pl drive and settled for a 30 yd FG. TCU converted on 3&10 twice on a 77/10pl drive and got a 23 yd TD pass to lead 7-3. UW went 67/6pl for a TD, 10-7 (3:14 1Q). TCU43 went 57/5pl for a TD, 14-10 (:16). UW went 55/13pl but missed a 39 yd FG. TCU went 3 & out. UW on 4&9 faked a punt for a FD then converted on 3&8, 3&12 and got a 37 yd FG on the final play of the half at the end of a 14pl drive. At the half UW had 234-131 yd and 38-18 play edges thanks to the 2Q. TCU opened the 3Q with a 71/6pl TD drive. UW started at their 5 and got 4 FD's but punted. TCU got 3 FD's and punted 38 yds to the 3. The next 3 poss each team got 1 FD & punted. UW took over with 7:32 left. They went 77/10pl and got a 4 yd TD run with 2:00 left. On the 2 pt conv they had an open rec in the EZ but blitzing LB Carder tipped the 2 pt pass. TCU rec'd the onside kick and on 3&4 got a 5 yd run for a FD with 1:52 left and took a knee.

CAPITAL ONE BOWL - Alabama came in with 3 losses while the Spartans had just 1. Despite the fact Bama was #15 and Michigan St was #7, the Tide were a big favorite. They lived up to their billing by absolutely dominating MSU with a 546-171 yd edge in a game they led 28-0 at the half and 42-0 after 3Q's. It was the largest MOV for the Cap One Bowl (formerly Florida Citrus and Tangerine). The previous high was E Texas St's 33-0 win over Tenn Tech in 1953. There were a couple of big plays early in the game which helped turn this into a rout. The Tide's opening drive went 79/13pl. On 3&gl from the 1 Ingram bowled in for the TD. MSU went on a 12pl drive but on 3&18 were int'd at the Tide 15 and ret'd 23 yds. Bama went 62/8pl for a TD, 14-0. MSU went on a long drive and had a 1st & gl at the Bama7. On 3&gl from the 8 Cousins was sk'd & fmbl'd. The ball got kicked and MSU fell on it back at the Bama38 and actually punted after their 1st & gl. That loss of 30 yds helped MSU finish with -48 yds rushing. Bama went 80/7pl and 44/3pl for TD's on their next 2 poss and led 28-0. Bama took their 1st 2H poss 79/4pl drive for a TD and there were 4 punts on the first 5 poss. Bama then turned it over to the backups with McCarron taking over with 6:09 left in the 3Q and bkp RB Lacy getting a 12 yd TD run with 1:09 left in the 3Q then a 62 yd TD run with 8:58 left in the game to make it 49-0. MSU barely avoided the shutout. On 4&3 WR/QB Nichol who came in for the final 2 series, hit a 49 yd TD pass with 5:45 left. Bama gained 37 yds on the final 9 plays.

COTTON BOWL - There was no doubt heading in that LSU had 2 distinct advantages over Texas A&M. One on defense and the other on ST. Amazingly, A&M ret'd the opening KO 69 yds to the LSU31. No team had even got past the LSU30 on their opening poss of a series all season long but A&M went 31/8pl for a TD to lead 7-0. In the game, A&M punted just twice. At half LSU led 28-17 but A&M had a 258-253 yd edge. LSU finished with a 446-373 yd edge and was taking a knee inside the A&M20 at the end of the game after having an IR TD called back. Ryan Tannehill came in with 127 consecutive passes without an int but threw 3 vs the ball hawking LSU D. LSU took its opening 58/11pl but on 3&7 from the 25 was int'd at the 2. A&M went 76/9pl and got a 39 yd FG to lead 10-0. LSU then went 80/8pl for a TD. A&M was sk'd forcing a 4&22 and their 52 yd FG bounced off the upright. LSU went 65/9pl for a TD, 14-10. A&M answered with a 78/7pl TD drive, 17-14 (7:44 2Q). LSU went 67/7pl for a TD then got an int at their own 40. LSU punted 58 yds for a TB but then Reid cut in front of the WR and raced 34 yds to the 2 with another int. LSU got a TD on 3&gl from the 2 with 1:27 left to go up 28-17. LSU opened the 3Q with a 67/5pl drive for a TD, 35-17. A&M went on a 13pl drive to the LSU29 but after a sk and delay, punted on 4&18. LSU missed a 44 yd FG after a 60/12pl drive and A&M went 73/13pl for a TD to get back to 35-24 early 4Q. LSU rec'd the onside kick and Jasper tied a bowl record 50 yd FG, 38-24. Mathieu, 2pl later got an int at the A&M28 and LSU got a 26 yd FG with 3:04 left, 41-24. Mathieu got an int which he ret'd 37 yds for a TD but a pers foul wiped it out. LSU got a FD to the 19 and took a knee. This was the 50th game between the 2 schools and the first since the 1995 season opener.

ORANGE BOWL - The Cardinal will finish in the Top 5 for the first time since their unbeaten 1940 team finished #2. This game came just 4 years after the team was 1-11 and hired Jim Harbaugh. Stanford had a commanding 534-288 yd edge. The final score made it look like this game was a mismatch but Virginia Tech played well in the 1H and had a 198-181 yd edge. Each team punted to open then Stanford was stopped on downs on a fake punt on 4&4 at the VT45. After a VT punt, Stanford went 86/4pl with a 60 yd TD run by Stewart making it 7-0. Virginia Tech got 1 FD and punted and Stanford at their own 5 had a strange play. A pass was tipped and an OL in the EZ opted to catch the ball but went down for a safety, 7-2. After the free kick, Virginia Tech went 75/10pl. Taylor made an incredible play being chased by two DL and at the sidelines threw it into the EZ for an 11 yd TD pass and Virginia Tech led 9-7 (10:22 2Q). Stanford went 79/8pl with a 25 yd TD pass on 3&8, 13-9. VTech went 3 & out and Stanford was int'd at the VT46. VT got 1 FD but on 4&1 was stuffed at the SU30 (2:26 2Q). SU got 1 FD & punted on :47 left and VT, after 2 FD's on 2&10, got a 32 yd pass with :03 left and a 37 yd FG had them trailing 13-12 with a 198-181 yd edge. VT punted to open the 3Q and SU went 59/9pl for a TD. After a 42 yd pass, VT was int'd on a deep pass at the SU3. SU got a 56 yd run by Taylor then a 41 yd TD pass to Fleener to make it 26-12 (5:49 3Q). VT punted and SU went 87/8pl with a 58 yd TD pass to Fleener, 33-12. VT went on a 10pl drive and was at the SU33 when a chopblock and sack forced a 4&42 and a punt. Stanford got a 34 yd Taylor run and 2pl later a 38 yd TD pass to Fleener made it 40-12 (6:05). Stanford recorded 8 sacks.

SUGAR BOWL - The Big Ten needed a win in a bowl after going 0-5 on NY's Day. The story here was Ohio St had 5 key players who were susp'd for the first 5 games of 2011 but allowed to play in the bowl. Ironically, all 5 made key plays including the only non-starter of the group in DE Solomon Thomas who recorded a game saving int at the OSU18 with :58 left. OSU led the game commandingly, 28-10 at the half but had to hang on. Herron and Posey (2 other susp) each had a TD and Pryor hit 14-25-221. Arkansas dropped 6 passes which hurt them during the game. After a UA punt (2 dropped passes) OSU went 74/8pl for a TD, 7-0. UA went 51/5pl for a TD, 7-7. OSU went 68/7pl for a TD, 14-7 (7:17 1Q). 2 punts. UA on 4&1 were SOD at the OSU30. OSU lost AA CB Checkwa to inj and lost a couple other def players which hurt their coverage in the 2H as he DNR. OSU went 70/8pl and on 3&8 got a TD pass, 21-7. UA got 1 fD & punted and OSU went 49/8pl but missed a 50 yd FG (5:15 2Q). UA went 3&out and OSU went 68/6pl getting a TD with 1:59 left and led 28-7. UA on 4&15 got a 20 yd pass to the OSU24 with :16 left in the half and got a 20 yd FG with no time left, 28-10. OSU got 1 FD & punted go open the 3Q. UA went 52/11pl for a 46 yd FG, 28-13. OSU45 got 1 FD and nailed a 46 yd FG, 31-13. UA went 75/7pl and got a TD and 2pt conv with :58 left 3Q, 31-21. 2 punts. OSU was pinned at their 2 and Herron was hit at the 2 as progress was stopped. Amazingly after he was brought down in the EZ they ruled it a safety to make it 31-23. UA got 1 FD & nailed a 47 yd FG to get within 5. OSU made a gutsy call going for it on 4&1 at their own 38 and Herron dove over the line for the FD but fmbl'd. It was the first fmbl of his career. UA lost 6 yds and punted. OSU got 2 FD's and punted and UA blk'd the punt and rec'd at the OSU18 with 1:09 left but on 2&10 Thomas got the int dropping back into coverage.

NEWS AND NOTES - NFL WILDCARD ROUND

New Orleans vs Seattle - For the first time ever a defending Super Bowl champ was up by 10 pts in a playoff game and lost. NO was a depleted team coming in playing without their top 2 RB's and a banged up D missing 2 starters. NO took their opening drive to the SEA8 and on 3&2 Brees could have run for the FD but opted to just toss it to Bush but Bush dropped the pass and NO settled for a FG. NO got an int and drove 35 yds for a TD, 10-0. Each team went on a long TD drive and NO led 17-7 with 13:38 left 2Q. Julius Jones became the first player in NFL Playoff history to score a TD vs a team that released him earlier in the year. SEA went 70/5pl for a TD, 17-14 and NO had the first punt of the game at 9:55 of the 2Q. Jones fmbl'd on the first play of their next drive at their own 18 and SEA got a 29 yd FG to tie it (7:03). After the Saints went 3 & out, SEA went 76/9pl including a 3&11 to open the drive. They were draining the clock as they didn't want to give NO any time to get the ball back when on 3&3 Hasselbeck took a shot and found Stokley behind the secondary for a 45 yd TD, the key play of the game, 24-17. NO went 77/11pl and got a 22 yd FG to pull within 24-20 at the half. SEA opened the 3Q with a 79/7pl drive and another deep pass went to Williams for a 38 yd TD and a stunning 31-20 lead. The Saints got 1 FD & punted and SEA went 33/9pl for a 39 yd FG, 34-20 (5:27 3Q). Each team went 3 & out and NO went 87/12pl for a 4 yd TD run, 34-27. SEA went 3 & out and NO went 53/8pl. On 3&3 from the 4 the Saints passed for 1 yd and settled for a 21 yd FG, 34-30. SEA got 1 FD & punted pinning NO at the 6. NO got 1 FD & punted. SEA, trying to run the clock on 2nd & 10 handed it to Lynch who broke 17 tkls in one of the most incredible playoff runs and went 67 yds for the clinching TD with 3:22 left, 41-30. NO drove 70/9pl getting a TD with 1:30 left. The 2 pt failed an onside kick just floated back to the NO47 where it was easily caught. Hasselbeck threw for 4 TD's but the Saints had 32-19 FD and 474-415 yd edges. The loss drops NO's record to 0-4 in road playoff games.

NY Jets vs Indianapolis - IND finished the season with 18 players on IR after CB Haden was put on the list prior to the game as they were a very banged up team. It was a defensive struggle with the teams combining for 2 FD's on the first 6 poss. IND got 4 FD's on their next drive but punted from the NYJ40. NYJ got 2 FD's and punted with 8:09 left in the half. IND went 80/5pl with a 57 yd pass to Garcon making it 7-0. NYJ took over with 5:25 left at their own 21. They converted 4 FD's to the IND19 but were int'd at the goal line and ret'd 23 yds with :45 left. At the half, the Jets had 8-7 FD and 153-147 yd edges. NYJ opened the 3Q with a strong 63/10pl drive and in the 2H kept it mostly on the ground and tied it at 7. IND went 45/9pl but on 3&1 ran for a loss of 1 and settled for a 47 yd FG, 10-7. NYJ then went 87/17pl. There were 5 passes out of the 17 and Tomlinson's 1 yd run put the Jets up 14-10 (9:59). IND went 67/13pl. On a 3&7 early in the drive, a handoff to Rhodes went 9 yds for a FD to the NYJ41. After getting a 3&8, 21 yd pass, this time on 3&7 from the NYJ15 they tried the Rhodes play again and were tkl'd for a 1 yd gain. They settled for a Vinatieri 32 yd FG and trailed by 2. NYJ took over with 4:37 left and 3 & out. Earlier a NYJ player wiped out the IND P but it was ruled that he was pushed into the P, although replays didn't show a push. The Colts touched the P and he took a dive but the Colts rusher was pushed towards the P. They called a 5 yd pen and gave NYJ a FD. The Jets only took off additional :16 and punted on 4&5 after a deep pass was incomplete. It appeared Peyton Manning would pull his magic off again and he went 48/8pl. This time on 3&6 the pass was incomplete to White and they settled for a 50 yd FG which was good. The NYJ ret'd the KO to their 46 and after 1 FD, the Colts surprisingly called time-out with :29 left giving the Jets time to regroup. Sanchez convinced the coaches to attempt a long pass and hit Braylon Edwards for an 18 yd comp to the 14 making it a much easier FG for Nick Folk for the win.

BALTIMORE (13-4) — AFC SEMI-FINALS — PITTSBURGH (12-4)

Saturday January 15th • 4:30 pm ET CBS

POWER PLAYS PROJECTION	RUSH	PASS	POINTS	TO's	ST	A.O.R.
BALTIMORE	64	163	15	1.6	#12	98.3
PITTSBURGH	98	288	19	1.8	#18	98.7

RAVENS — ATS: 10-6-1 O/U: 7-10

RUSHING	ATT	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Ray Rice	307	1220	4.0	50	5
Willis McGahee	100	380	3.8	30t	5
Joe Flacco	43	84	2.0	14	1

PASSING	ATT	COMP	YDS	PCT	TD	INT
Joe Flacco	489	306	3622	62.6	25	10
Sam Koch	1	1	13	100.0	0	0

RECEIVING	REC	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Anquan Boldin	64	837	13.1	61	7
Derrick Mason	61	802	13.1	42	7
Todd Heap	40	599	15.0	65t	6
Ray Rice	63	556	8.8	34	1
TJ Houshmandzadeh	30	398	13.3	56t	3
Ed Dickson	11	152	13.8	58	1

PUNTING	NO	YDS	AVG	NET	TB	In20	BLK
Sam Koch	81	3530	43.6	39.2	4	39	0

KICKING	XP	1-29	30-39	40-49	50+	TOTAL
Billy Cundiff	39-39	11-11	8-9	7-8	0-1	26-29

POS	PLAYER	TKL	SK	TFL	PD	INT
LB	Ray Lewis	139	2	4	6	2
S	Dawan Landry	111	1	1	4	4
LB	Jarret Johnson	73	1.5	3	2	0
LB	Jameel McClain	71	1	0	2	0
LB	Terrell Suggs	68	11	8	2	0
DT	Haloti Ngata	63	5.5	5	4	0
CB	Chris Carr	61	0	2	8	2
CB	Lardarius Webb	54	0	1	9	2
DT	Cory Redding	42	3	3	4	1
CB	Josh Wilson	40	0	2	14	3
DT	Kelly Gregg	38	0	1	0	0
S	Ed Reed	37	0	1	16	8
LB	Dannell Ellerbe	31	1	0	1	0
CB	Fabian Washington	31	0	1	8	0

PUNT RETURNS	NO	YDS	AVG	TD	KICK RETURNS	NO	YDS	AVG	TD
Ladarius Webb	21	199	9.5	0	Jalen Parmele	24	562	23.4	0

STEELERS — ATS: 9-6-1 O/U: 7-9

RUSHING	ATT	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Rashard Mendenhall	324	1273	3.9	50t	13
Isaac Redman	52	247	4.8	23	0
Ben Roethlisberger	34	176	5.2	31	2
Mewelde Moore	33	99	3.0	18	0
Mike Wallace	5	39	7.8	19	0

PASSING	ATT	COMP	YDS	PCT	TD	INT
Ben Roethlisberger	389	240	3200	61.7	17	5
Charlie Batch	49	29	352	59.2	3	3

RECEIVING	REC	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Mike Wallace	60	1257	21.0	56t	10
Hines Ward	59	755	12.8	43	5
Heath Miller	42	512	12.2	36	2
Emmanuel Sanders	28	376	13.4	35	2
Mewelde Moore	26	205	7.9	29	0
Rashard Mendenhall	23	167	7.3	24	0

PUNTING	NO	YDS	AVG	NET	TB	In20	BLK
Dan Sepulveda	56	2550	45.5	39.1	8	16	0
Jeremy Kapinos	14	576	41.1	32.3	2	5	0

KICKING	XP	1-29	30-39	40-49	50+	TOTAL
Jeff Reed	19-19	8-9	5-5	0-4	2-4	15-22
Shaun Suisham	19-19	5-5	1-1	8-9	0-0	14-15

POS	PLAYER	TKL	SK	TFL	PD	INT
ILB	Lawrence Timmons	135	3.0	8	9	2
ILB	James Farrior	109	6.0	5	5	2
OLB	James Harrison	100	10.5	5	5	2
FS	Ryan Clark	90	0.0	0	7	2
FS	Bryant McFadden	81	2.0	0	10	2
FS	Ike Taylor	66	1.0	0	11	2
SS	Troy Polamalu	63	1.0	5	11	7
OLB	LaMarr Woodley	50	9.5	3	5	1
CB	William Gay	48	2.0	2	11	0
CB	Brett Keisel	33	3.0	0	7	1

PUNT RETURNS	NO	YDS	AVG	TD	KICK RETURNS	NO	YDS	AVG	TD
Antonio Brown	19	110	5.8	0	Emmanuel Sanders	25	628	25.1	0

Checklist

	BAL	PIT			BAL	PIT
QB	-	✔	RB	-	-	WR	1/2	-

	BAL	PIT	CHECKLIST COMMENTS
OL	✔	-	BAL avg 6-3 312, 77 sts, 40 sks (8.1%), 3.8 ypc. PIT avg 6-5 326, 64 sts, 43 sks (9.0%), 4.1 ypc.
DL	✔	-	BAL's DL is more aggressive w/a healthy Ngata while PIT is more setup w/DE Smith being ?.
LB	-	✔✔	BAL LB 16.5 of tms 27 sks (61%), 94 ypg (3.9). PIT LB 32.5 of tms 48 sks (68%), 63 ypg (3.0).
DB	-	1/2	BAL #4 pass eff D, 225 ypg (59%), 22-19 ratio. PIT #2 pass eff D, 214 ypg (61%), 15-21 ratio.

	BAL	PIT	
CCH	-	-	Both teams coaching staffs are used to big games and playing in playoff type atmosphere games.
Turf/ Crowd	-	1/2	With this being a Div matchup, PIT's homefield edge is mitigated as BAL is used to playing there.
MTCH	-	✔	Flacco vs Polamalu, BAL OL vs PIT OLB's, Rice vs PIT rush def, Pouncey vs Ngata.
INT	-	1/2	PIT is off a bye in 4th HG in 5 wks. BAL in 2nd AG in 3 wks. Div HT's 3-7 SU/ATS in playoffs S/'02.
ST	-	SCH	

PITTSBURGH by 3 ✔'s

The Steelers own 19 division titles S/'79 with 4 in the AFC North since realignment. Mike Tomlin's Steelers are 26-9 SU/19-15-1 ATS at home going 5-3 SU/ATS TY. PIT outgained foes by an avg of 47 ypg (6th) at home TY (+10 TO's) with a 23.1-16.6 avg score. Omitting BAL, PIT went 2-3 SU/ATS vs foes with a winning record TY with a +36 ypg avg (7th) being -1 TO's for a 21.2-20.6 avg score. Counting playoffs, Tomlin is 6-3 SU/ATS/O/U vs BAL with a 21-16 avg score. They split the series TY with BAL getting a 17-14 win vs PIT (2' pt AD) without Roethlisberger in Wk 4. With Roethlisberger, the Steelers came away with a 13-10 win as a 3 pt AD. BAL had a 10-6 lead with 3:00 left but Flacco was sk'd & fmbl'd & it was ret'd to the BAL9. PIT scored 3pl later & forced BAL to go 3&out then ran out the clock. BAL is 6-3 SU/ATS on the road TY where they have outgained foes by just 27 ypg (+1 TO's) with a 22-16 avg score. Not counting the PIT games BAL is 4-2 SU/3-2-1 ATS vs winning foes outgaining them by 90 ypg (+1 TO's) with a 26-20 avg score.

Under OC Cameron BAL has established its approach to the season as they emphasize the pass until early Dec. Cameron noted that he does this to push Flacco's development as much as possible so when the weather turns bad he can field healthy RB's & a hot QB. After a rough 1st 2 gms, Flacco settled in & finished the year with a 24-5 ratio (7.82 ypa) going 137 str passes without an int. In the L/3 of reg ssn though he failed to post 200 yds, avg 133 ypg (62%) with a 4-2 ratio. RB Rice has logged B2B seasons of 1,200 yds rush/500 rec. He joins WR's Boldin/Mason with 60+ rec's, but BAL did not have a 1,000 yd rec for the 1st time S/'06. Boldin's 837 yds (13.1) are a career high & though they have three rec with 600+ receptions on the roster, the unit isn't especially fast. BAL has been fairly stable on the OL with the same starting combo for 13 of 16 TY all'g 1 sk for every 12.8 pass att. The truth is BAL has a good but not great D at this point with solid leadership (Lewis/Reed) that has made up for shortcomings in the secondary. Ngata is a dominant force on the DL who can play any spot up front for a unit that has given up 94 ypg (3.9) rush TY. BAL has had the advantage of a healthy Suggs after a down '09 & he's posted 11 sks for a D that earns 1 every 22 att. In the 1st 6 gms without FS Reed, BAL only had 3 int but with Reed who leads the team with 8, BAL pulled in 16 the rest of the way. BAL has our #12 ST's with a good year by Koch (39.2 net, 39 punts In20).

PIT opened 2010 3-1 SU/ATS without Roethlisberger thanks to some great defensive work which held foes to 289 ypg with a 21-12 avg (+7 TO's). With their QB, PIT outgained foes in 10 of 12 gms (NO/NE) in the reg ssn by 98 ypg (2nd overall) with a +9 TO mark (24-15 avg score). Thanks to the bye week & easy lead in gms vs CLE/MIA Roethlisberger finished with a 17-5 ratio not throwing more than 1 int in a game. PIT has been very balanced with a 348-398 run-pass mix since his return thanks to Mendenhall who is the team's first 1,200 yd rusher S/'07. Mendenhall had 26% of PIT's offense TY with Moore being a standout 3rd Dn back again. Wallace has evolved into the primary rec option finishing 5th in rec yds & 2nd in ypc in the NFL. Ward was now the possession WR here with excellent blocking skills & Miller is the prototype balanced TE. PIT is used to dealing with a patchwork OL in recent years with only LT Adams & star rookie C Pouncey starting all 16 gms for a unit that gave up 1 sk every 12 att's with Roethlisberger. PIT missed being the #1 overall D by 84 yds but finished 1st vs the run (62.8, 3.0), sks by with 48 (1 every 12.4 att's) & pts all'd (232). PIT's DL is geared to occupy the opposing OL & allow the LB's to flow to the ball with DE Smith (triceps) being regarded as one of the top 5 of the last decade. PIT has long set the standard for 3-4 LB's with Woodley & Harrison again combining for 20 sks. After giving up a 22-12 ratio LY, PIT's #12 pass D is one of 3 to have more int than TD TY. PIT finished 18th in our ST's rankings TY improving their coverage units from LY but the PR is weaker.

It's not a surprise that PP forecasts another close game here as the L4 meetings have been decided by exactly 3 points each. All 6 of Flacco's playoff games have been on the road where he's avg'd 154 ypg (53%) w/a 3-6 ratio with LW being his 1st 200 yd passing effort. PP calls for 593 combined yds in a game where PIT is supposed to have a healthy Polamalu & DE Smith back. This is right around the line for side & total though which makes this a No Play.

NO PLAY: STEELERS 19 RAVENS 15

NY JETS (12-5) — AFC SEMI-FINALS — NEW ENGLAND (14-2)

Sunday January 16th • 4:30 pm ET CBS

POWER PLAYS PROJECTION	RUSH	PASS	POINTS	TO's	ST	A.O.R.
NY JETS	138	203	16	2.2	#5	98.3
NEW ENGLAND	128	215	35	0.8	#10	98.6

JETS — ATS: 10-7 O/U: 12-5

RUSHING	ATT	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
LaDainian Tomlinson	219	914	4.2	31	6
Shonn Greene	185	766	4.1	23t	2
Brad Smith	38	299	7.9	53t	1
Mark Sanchez	30	105	3.5	20	3

PASSING	ATT	COMP	YDS	PCT	TD	INT
Mark Sanchez	507	278	3291	54.8	17	13
Mark Brunell	13	7	117	53.8	2	1

RECEIVING	REC	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Braylon Edwards	53	904	17.1	74t	7
Santonio Holmes	52	746	14.3	52	6
Dustin Keller	55	687	12.5	41	5
Jerricho Cotchery	41	433	10.6	49	2
LaDainian Tomlinson	52	368	7.1	21	0

PUNTING	NO	YDS	AVG	NET	TB	In20	BLK
Steve Weatherford	84	3581	42.6	38.1	4	42	0

KICKING	XP	1-29	30-39	40-49	50+	TOTAL
Nick Folk	37-37	11-12	14-16	3-6	2-5	30-39

POS	PLAYER	TKL	SK	TFL	PD	INT
LB	David Harris	99	3	3	3	0
LB	Bart Scott	81	1	7	2	0
S	Jim Leonhard	61	0	1	4	1
DT	Sione Pouha	59	2	1	3	0
DE	Mike Devito	59	0	4	0	0
S	Eric Smith	54	1	0	2	0
S	Brodney Pool	53	1	1	11	1
LB	Calvin Pace	51	6.5	4	3	1
CB	Antonio Cromartie	42	0	0	17	3
CB	Drew Coleman	41	6	2	4	1
LB	Bryan Thomas	39	6	3	1	0
DE	Shaun Ellis	36	4.5	3	1	0
LB	Jason Taylor	36	4	6	6	0
CB	Darrelle Revis	32	0	0	10	0

PUNT RETURNS	NO	YDS	AVG	TD	KICK RETURNS	NO	YDS	AVG	TD
Jim Leonhard	21	238	11.3	0	Brad Smith	50	1432	28.6	2

PATRIOTS — ATS: 11-5 O/U: 13-3

RUSHING	ATT	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
BenJarvus Green-Ellis	229	1008	4.4	33t	13
Danny Woodhead	97	547	5.6	36t	5
Fred Taylor	43	155	3.6	24	0
Brandon Tate	5	62	12.4	22	0
Sammy Morris	20	56	2.8	9	0

PASSING	ATT	COMP	YDS	PCT	TD	INT
Tom Brady	492	324	3900	65.9	36	4
Brian Hoyer	15	7	122	46.7	1	1

RECEIVING	REC	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Wes Welker	86	848	9.9	35	7
Deon Branch	48	706	14.7	79t	5
Aaron Hernandez	45	563	12.5	46	6
Rob Gronkowski	42	546	13	28	10
Brandon Tate	24	432	18	65t	3
Danny Woodhead	34	379	11.1	50	1

PUNTING	NO	YDS	AVG	NET	TB	In20	BLK
Zoltan Mesko	58	2505	43.2	38.4	5	19	0

KICKING	XP	1-29	30-39	40-49	50+	TOTAL
Stephen Gostkowski	26-26	2-2	6-7	2-3	0-1	10-13
Shayne Graham	35-37	6-6	5-5	1-1	0-0	12-12

POS	PLAYER	TKL	SK	TFL	PD	INT
ILB	Jerod Mayo	175	2.0	3	5	0
SS	Pat Chung	96	0.0	4	9	3
CB	Devin McCourty	82	1.0	3	17	7
CB	Kyle Arrington	71	0.0	0	5	1
FS	Brandon Meriweather	68	0.0	1	6	3
FS	Gary Guyton	63	3.0	0	6	2
OLB	Rob Ninkovich	62	4.0	4	4	2
OLB	Brandon Spikes	61	0.0	1	0	0
FS	James Sanders	58	0.0	0	6	0
NT	Vince Wilfork	57	2.0	6	2	0
OLB	Tully Banta-Cain	45	5.0	2	0	0

PUNT RETURNS	NO	YDS	AVG	TD	KICK RETURNS	NO	YDS	AVG	TD
Julian Edelman	21	321	15.3	1	Brandon Tate	41	1057	25.8	2

Checklist

	NYJ	NE			NYJ	NE
QB	-	✔✔✔✔	RB	-	-	WR	-	✔

	NYJ	NE	CHECKLIST COMMENTS
OL	-	-	NYJ avg 6-5 311, 68 sts, 28 sks (5.4%), 4.5 ypc. NE avg 6-4 308, 70 sts, 26 sks (5.1%), 4.3 ypc.
DL	-	-	NYJ's DL is an attacking unit vs run/pass. NE DL is set up to occupy OL not make sks.
LB	✔	-	NYJ 20.5 of tm's 40 sks (51%), 91 ypg (3.6). NE 21 of tm's 36 sks (58%), 108 ypg (4.2).
DB	-	-	NYJ #6 pass eff D, 201 ypg (51%), 24-12 ratio. NE #13 pass eff D, 259 ypg (64%), 25-25 ratio

	NYJ	NE	
CCH	-	✔	Both staffs are headed up by top notch asst's but NE's big game exp and extra time gets the edge.
Turf/ Crowd	-	✔✔	NE has best home record since 2002 (68-14 SU) with Pats 11-0 in HG played in snow.
MTCH	-	-	Brady vs Jets' blitz, Sanchez vs Belichick's deception, Jets #4 rush vs NE #25 def.
INT	-	✔✔	Belichick 13-2 SU/7-8 ATS after bye vs overaggressive Ryan system w/young QB.
ST	-	1/2	SCH

NEW ENGLAND by 10' ✔'s

Belichick is the 1st NFL HC with four 14 win seasons & NE was the only team to go 8-0 SU (5-3 ATS) at home TY. NE only outgained foes by 13 ypg (15th) at home but led the NFL with +11 TO's (34-20 avg score). Vs winning tms (not incl Jets) NE went 6-0 SU/4-2 ATS being outgained by 15 ypg (10th) with a +12 TO's (PIT #2, +5 TO's) with a 31-21 avg score. The HT is 4-0 SU/ATS in this series the L2Y. TY the Jets (-3) won the 1st gm 28-14 as Sanchez passed for 220 (70%) with a 3-0 ratio (TY's best). The Jets had a 196-80 yd edge in the 2H holding Brady to 69 yds (44%) with 2 int. In the rematch NE exploited a Jets D that had just lost FS Leonhard (shin) & Brady had the 12th 4-0 ratio gm of his career (326, 72%, outstanding 11.2 ypa). NE had a 405-301 yd edge holding Sanchez to 164 (52%) with 3 int. The Jets are now 7-2 SU/6-3 ATS on the road thanks to LW's win vs IND. They are also 2-3 SU vs winning foes (no NE) with a 7 ypg edge (-3 TO's) being outscored 23-21 ppg.

After having the most num att's in '09 (607), NYJ trimmed them to 534 TY as they opened the playbook to take adv of Sanchez being in the system for the 2nd yr & the FA pickups. The result was a mixed bag as Sanchez hit 54% (6.7 ypa) with a 12-20 ratio LY vs 55% (6.5) with a 17-13 ratio TY. He has read D's better, but his progress was slowed by a shldr inj vs PIT. Tomlinson is an asset on 3rd Dn's & in blitz pickup with Greene failing to make an impact here. LY the Jets had the #31 pass attack TY (22nd, 209 ypg) although they still haven't had a 1,000 yd rec S/'07. They have spread the ball around more as 4 players have 52 rec's. The Jets have had the same OL for 13 gms TY & they get RT Woody (knee) back vs the Colts. Ryan cut his teeth on D & after finishing 1st LY (+1 TO), they were 3rd (+9 TO's) TY. NYJ are all'g an impressive 91 ypg (3.6) rush TY. The muscle of the D is its LB unit with Scott setting the tone & Harris being a drastically underrated ILB. The Jets use a 3-man OLB rotation to stay fresh for pass rush sit's with Thomas, Pace & Taylor comb for 16.5 sks (20 ideal for OLB's in 3-4). LY the Jets were fearsome in pass D all'g 52% (5.4 ypa) with an outstanding 8-17 ratio but TY Revis hasn't been himself. They've all'd 51% (6.5) with a 24-12 ratio as offenses have more tape to study. NYJ have our #5 ST's unit with P Weatherford having a strong year (50% punts In20) & Smith (28.6) having a great year on KR's.

NE quickly adapted its offense after releasing Moss, going for a more diffused Saints style. Since the CLE loss, NE has outgained foes 403-347 with a 37-16 avg score thanks to a +23 TO margin. Brady hasn't had an int since 10/17 with 8 str gms of a QBR of 107 or more. NE is often criticized for lacking a run game but they've finished 13th or better in each of the L5Y (9th TY) without a feature back. Green-Ellis is NE's 1st 1,000 yd RB S/'04 (Corey Dillon) & is the power back while former Jet Woodhead is an ideal fit as the 3rd Dn back. NE's 2 rookie TE's, Hernandez & Gronkowski, comb for 87 rec (12.7) which was just about what Moss had LY (83, 15.2). Welker remains an elite slot WR, Branch fit right back in after being reacquired from SEA & Tate has been a decent deep threat in limited snaps (ST's). NE's OL is built for the scheme & is better than its parts all'g 1 sk for every 19.7 att. NE's #25 D had its worst finish S/'05 (26th) as it had one of the youngest secondaries in the NFL at the start of the yr & the DL has been decimated by inj's. The DL has been held together by one of the top 3 NT's in the NFL, Wilfork, & the solid play of Warren who has found a niche in NE's system. NE's pass rush is avg at best (16th) but 10 plyrs have 2 sks TY (1 sk every 17 att's). NE's #30 pass D is a mixed rating as foes are forced to pass more to keep up with Brady & they led the NFL with 25 int with a respectable 7.1 ypa. NE finished 10th in our ST's rankings TY thanks to their return units.

This is the 3rd road game in 4 Wks for the Jets vs NE who is not only off a bye week but playing in their 3rd home game in a 4 game span. The Jets beat a beat up Colts team without its starting RT that also IR'd its best CB before the game. 25 of their 37 2H plays were runs as Sanchez struggled in the 1H (84 yds 47% 0-1) consistently overthrowing receivers. Look for NE to focus on limiting the Jets rush attack while forcing Sanchez to throw & wear out his damaged shoulder. NE's reliance on TO free ball is a concern vs the Jets who are designed to beat Colts/Patriots/Saints systems. PP calls for the Patriots to win handily here at home & after LY's stunning loss to BAL in the playoffs we don't think they'll make that mistake again.

2★ PATRIOTS 35 JETS 16

NFC SEMI-FINALS

GREEN BAY (11-6) — ATLANTA (13-3)
Saturday January 15th • 8:00 pm ET FOX

POWER PLAYS PROJECTION	RUSH	PASS	POINTS	TO's	ST	A.O.R.
GREEN BAY	105	238	19	1.3	#24	98.5
ATLANTA	89	218	17	1.7	#6	98.2

PACKERS — ATS: 10-7 O/U: 6-11

RUSHING	ATT	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Brandon Jackson	190	703	3.7	71	3
Aaron Rodgers	64	356	5.6	27	4
John Kuhn	84	281	3.3	18	4

PASSING	ATT	COMP	YDS	PCT	TD	INT
Aaron Rodgers	475	312	3922	65.7	28	11
Matt Flynn	66	40	433	60.6	3	2

RECEIVING	REC	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Greg Jennings	76	1265	16.6	86t	12
James Jones	50	679	13.6	66t	5
Jordy Nelson	45	582	12.9	80t	2
Donald Driver	51	565	11.1	61t	4
Brandon Jackson	43	342	8.0	37	1
Jermichael Finley	21	301	14.3	34	1
Andrew Quarless	21	238	11.3	23	1

PUNTING	NO	YDS	AVG	NET	TB	In20	BLK
Tim Masthay	71	3114	43.9	37.6	5	25	0

KICKING	XP	1-29	30-39	40-49	50+	TOTAL
Mason Crosby	46-46	8-9	4-5	8-10	2-4	22-28

POS	PLAYER	TKL	SK	TFL	PD	INT
LB	AJ Hawk	111	0.5	3	10	3
LB	Desmond Bishop	103	3	1	8	1
CB	Charles Woodson	92	2	8	10	5
S	Nick Collins	69	0	1	11	4
S	Charlie Peprah	63	0	3	4	2
LB	Clay Matthews	60	13.5	6	4	1
CB	Tramon Williams	57	1	1	20	6
DT	BJ Raji	39	6.5	3	3	0
LB	Frank Zombo	38	4	0	0	0
DT	Ryan Pickett	32	1	2	1	0
CB	Sam Shields	29	0	1	6	2
LB	Erik Walden	24	2	2	1	0
DE	Cullen Jenkins	24	7	5	2	0

PUNT RETURNS	NO	YDS	AVG	TD	KICK RETURNS	NO	YDS	AVG	TD
Tramon Williams	41	326	8.0	0	Jordy Nelson	22	496	22.5	0

FALCONS — ATS: 11-5 O/U: 9-5-2

RUSHING	ATT	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Michael Turner	334	1371	4.1	55	12
Jason Snelling	87	324	3.7	30	2
Matt Ryan	46	122	2.7	20	0
Ovie Mughelli	13	36	2.8	6	0
Gartrell Johnson	10	36	3.6	23	0
Jerious Norwood	2	8	4	6	0

PASSING	ATT	COMP	YDS	PCT	TD	INT
Matt Ryan	571	357	3705	62.5	28	9
Chris Redman	6	4	20	66.7	0	0

RECEIVING	REC	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Roddy White	115	1389	12.1	46	10
Tony Gonzalez	70	656	9.4	34	6
Jason Snelling	44	303	6.9	28t	3
Mike Jenkins	41	505	12.3	43	2
Harry Douglas	22	294	13.4	46	1
Brian Finneran	19	166	8.7	21	3

PUNTING	NO	YDS	AVG	NET	TB	In20	BLK
Michael Koenen	74	3014	40.7	35.6	5	29	1

KICKING	XP	1-29	30-39	40-49	50+	TOTAL
Matt Bryant	44-44	11-11	8-9	8-10	1-1	28-31

POS	PLAYER	TKL	SK	TFL	PD	INT
MLB	Curtis Lofton	118	2	3	3	1
CB	Brent Grimes	87	0	2	23	5
SLB	Stephen Nicholas	78	0	2	2	1
FS	Thomas DeCoud	74	0	0	4	3
SS	William Moore	72	0	5	8	5
WLB	Mike Peterson	59	1	5	5	2
CB	Dunta Robinson	55	0	1	7	1
SLB	Sean Weatherspoon	42	1	0	1	0
DE	John Abraham	40	13	6	4	1
CB	Chris Owens	40	0	0	3	1
DE	Kroy Biermann	36	3	2	2	1

PUNT RETURNS	NO	YDS	AVG	TD	KICK RETURNS	NO	YDS	AVG	TD
E.Weems	18	230	12.8	1	E.Weems	40	1100	27.5	1

GB's STATS ARE REGULAR SEASON ONLY — TO BETTER COMPARE TEAMS, GB's STATS ARE REGULAR SEASON ONLY

	GB	ATL		GB	ATL		GB	ATL	
QB	-	-	RB	-	-	WR	-	-	CCH 1/2
OL	-	-							Turf/Crowd - ✔
DL	-	-							MTCH - -
LB	1/2	-							INT ✔ -
DB	✔✔	-							ST - ✔✔ SCH - -

CHECKLIST COMMENTS
- **CCH:** Both teams have good coaching staffs but we give GB a slight edge with Dom Capers.
- **Turf/Crowd:** GB played here in 11/28 so they know what the travel/field arrangments will be.
- **MTCH:** Rodgers vs ATL secondary, Ryan vs Dom Capers, RB Turner vs GB LB's, ATL vs GB spec tms
- **INT:** GB has proven they can play vs best in NFL w/ 3 game win streak and played up to NE.
- **OL:** GB avg 6-4 312, 76 sts, 38 sks (7.0 %), 3.8 ypc — ATL avg 6-4 314, 80 sts, 23 sks (4.0%), 3.8 ypc
- **DL:** GB DL 19 of 47 sks (40%), 115 ypg (4.7). ATL 26 of tms 31 sks (84%), 106 ypg (4.6).
- **LB:** GB's 3-4 is fast & pressure oriented but depth is ?? ATL's spd oriented & designed for passing tms.
- **DB:** GB #1 pass eff D, 194 ypg (56%), 16-24 ratio. ATL #14 pass eff D, 227 ypg (65%), 23-22 ratio.

GREEN BAY by 1 ✔'s

For the 1st time in franchise history the Falcons have 3 straight winning seasons thanks to Mike Smith with their 1st Div title since 2004 (4th overall). ATL's 20-4 SU mark at home (16-8 ATS) is 2nd to only NE & tied with BAL/IND since 2008. TY ATL outgained foes by 26 ypg (12th) with an impressive +12 TO's which is tied with NE for #1 while outscoring foes 28-19. This includes a 20-17 win as a 1.5 pt HF vs GB TY. GB had a large edge in yards (418-294) but ATL was content to control the tempo of the game with a balanced attack. Both QB's had solid games but the difference was ATL RB Turner whose 110 yds (4.8) along with a Rodgers fumble on the ATL 1 which changed the momentum of the game. ATL is 5-3 SU/4-4 ATS vs the other winning teams they faced TY being outgained by 40 ypg (+4 TO's) on the short end of a 22-21 avg score. GB is now 5-2 SU/ATS vs winning teams (no ATL) TY w/a 4-5 SU/5-4 ATS mark (1-8 O/U) on the road.

GB & NO are the only tms to finish in the top 10 on off in each of the L5Y. Rodgers is an elite QB ranking 4th in pass yds, pass TD & QBR since he took over as the st'r in '08. TY he was 78 yds short of being the 1st QB to throw for 4,000 in each of his 1st 3 yrs. He has had to cope with the loss of RB Grant (brkn ankle in opener) & TE Finley (knee, 5th gm) who was a huge loss for 3rd down pkgs. As a result GB used its run gm to set up the play action & serve as an extra pass protector. GB's off relies on YAC with the Pack having 1,757 before the ssn finale. GB has 5 plyrs in the top 100 for rec's with Jennings finishing in the top 10 rec yds (1st time in career). Unlike LY, GB has enjoyed stability on the OL as they've had the same lineup for 12 str after Bulaga was installed at RT. LY Rodgers was sacked once every 11 att, it's once every 15. GB has capitalized on pts off takeaways (#2 w/111) which has helped them make up for a beat up front 7. After starting 1 gm LY, Raji has been a beast as he's the only DL with 16 sts & his 6.5 sks are the most by a NT S/90. Despite a nagging hamstring inj Matthews is the 1st in GB hist with 10+ sks in his 1st 2Y. However, GB is very thin at the other OLB spot having started 4 diff plyrs. GB has had good health in the secondary (#5 pass D) with 3 of 4 st'rs together for all 16. First time in 5 yrs that GB's ST's have finished 24th or lower in our rankings with the return units (7.9 PR, 20.1 KR) being the main culprit TY.

Balance. Many coaches give lip service to it on offense but ATL's 54/46 pass to run ratio shows how dedicated they have been under OC Mike Mularkey. One of the NFL's next gen QB stars, Ryan has been at his best at home with a 15-3 ratio (99.1 QBR) as the dome's speed plays to the Falcons strengths. He's also worked with arguably the best WR in the NFL TY as White led the league in targets, catches & finished 2nd in yards accounting for 25.4% of ATL's offense. Despite a Hall of Fame career, this will only be Tony Gonzalez' 4th playoff game (0-3 SU) as he finished with the 4th most rec's by a TE TY. The rest of the receiving unit are in the supporting cast with Jenkins being the intermediate weapon, Douglas the slot option & RB Snelling being the 3rd Dn back. After a down 2009, Turner rebounded by giving ATL the power run option finishing 3rd in rush yds TY with 26.7% of ATL's offense. He's also been helped out by an ATL OL that started all 16 reg season games together TY allowing 1 sack every 24.8 att's. ATL's #16 def ranking is its best finish since 2004 (14th). The Falcons defense is specifically designed to cope with passing teams like NO & is one of the faster units in the NFL overall. However they are very young & have a tendency to overpursue. While they were 10th vs the run their 4.63 ypc was 27th on the year. On the DL, Abraham regained his 2008 form thanks to some solid play by Biermann TY who is evolving into a tenacious speed rusher. After starting 4 different players at LCB & 2 at RCB LY the Falcons had their entire secondary together for 2010. Despite the #22 pass def ranking they did improve the ypa slightly (7.5 to solid 6.9) & pulled in 7 more int than LY with Robinson solidifying the unit. ATL's LB's are headed by MLB Lofton who is an excellent player who doesn't get much press due to the offense. ATL has our #6 special teams TY thanks to a great year by the return units (#9 PR/#6 KR).

Both teams are built to be contenders for the long haul thanks to good drafting/FA handling in recent years. GB's offense is the same since Holmgren installed it with tweaks by coaches thru the years. The difference between this offense & the one in the last meeting is that they may have found a run game with rookie James Starks (123 yds 5.3 LW) to balance out their offense. ATL has the rest but GB has momentum & a more experienced back 7 here. PP calls for GB to pull another road upset here w/a slight yd edge (+36) & we agree here.

3★ PACKERS 19 FALCONS 17

SEATTLE (8-9) — CHICAGO (11-5)
Sunday January 16th • 1:00 pm ET FOX

POWER PLAYS PROJECTION	RUSH	PASS	POINTS	TO's	ST	A.O.R.
SEATTLE	59	193	16	2.3	#1	98.3
CHICAGO	128	250	33	0.9	#4	97.7

SEAHAWKS — ATS: 8-9 O/U: 12-4-1

RUSHING	ATT	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Marshawn Lynch	165	573	3.5	39	6
Justin Forsett	118	523	4.4	32	2
Leon Washington	27	100	3.7	21	1
Michael Robinson	12	77	6.4	17	0
Matt Hasselbeck	23	60	2.6	20t	3
Charlie Whitehurst	20	43	2.2	9	1

PASSING	ATT	COMP	YDS	PCT	TD	INT
Matt Hasselbeck	444	266	3001	59.9	12	17
Charlie Whitehurst	99	57	507	57.6	2	3

RECEIVING	REC	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Mike Williams	65	751	11.6	68	2
Deon Butler	36	385	10.7	63t	4
Justin Forsett	33	252	7.6	21	0
Brandon Stokley	31	354	11.4	36	0
John Carlson	31	318	10.3	37	1
Ben Obomanu	30	494	16.5	87t	4

PUNTING	NO	YDS	AVG	NET	TB	In20	BLK
J.Ryan	78	3254	41.7	37.3	1	27	0

KICKING	XP	1-29	30-39	40-49	50+	TOTAL
Olindo Mare	31-31	12-14	7-7	5-7	1-2	25-30

POS	PLAYER	TKL	SK	TFL	PD	INT
SLB	David Hawthorne	106	0	3	4	1
MLB	Lofa Tatupu	88	1	2	8	4
SS	Lawyer Milloy	88	4	1	3	0
CB	Marcus Trufant	80	0	1	8	1
FS	Earl Thomas	75	0	1	7	5
WLB	Aaron Curry	73	3.5	4	1	0
DE	Chris Clemons	49	11	2	4	0
FS	Jordan Babineaux	46	1.5	3	8	2
DT	Colin Cole	44	1	2	5	0
DE	Kentwan Balmer	43	0	4	1	0
CB	Kelly Jennings	40	0	0	13	1

PUNT RETURNS	NO	YDS	AVG	TD	KICK RETURNS	NO	YDS	AVG	TD
Leon Washington	22	249	11.3	0	Leon Washington	57	1461	25.6	3

BEARS — ATS: 9-6-1 O/U: 7-9

RUSHING	ATT	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Matt Forte	237	1069	4.5	68t	6
Chester Taylor	112	267	2.4	24	3
Jay Cutler	50	232	4.6	25	1
Devin Hester	7	30	4.3	11	0
Earl Bennett	2	9	4.5	5	0
Garrett Wolfe	4	8	2.0	7	0

PASSING	ATT	COMP	YDS	PCT	TD	INT
Jay Cutler	432	261	3274	60.4	23	16
Todd Collins	27	10	68	37	0	5
Caleb Hanie	7	5	55	71.4	0	0

RECEIVING	REC	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Johnny Knox	51	960	18.8	67t	5
Matt Forte	51	547	10.7	89t	3
Earl Bennett	46	561	12.2	48	3
Greg Olsen	41	404	9.9	39t	5
Devin Hester	40	475	11.9	39	4
Chester Taylor	20	159	7.0	18	0

PUNTING	NO	YDS	AVG	NET	TB	In20	BLK
Brad Maynard	83	3326	40.1	35.2	5	24	0

KICKING	XP	1-29	30-39	40-49	50+	TOTAL
Robbie Gould	35-35	10-10	8-9	4-7	3-4	25-30

POS	PLAYER	TKL	SK	TFL	PD	INT
MLB	Brian Urlacher	125	4	10	10	1
WLB	Lance Briggs	89	2	7	7	2
CB	Charles Tillman	82	0	1	14	5
SS	Danieal Manning	72	0	0	7	1
FS	Chris Harris	70	0	1	7	5
DE	Julius Peppers	54	8	5	9	2
CB	Tim Jennings	56	0	2	7	4
DE	Israel Idonije	49	8	4	3	0
CB	D.J. Moore	42	1	4	8	4
DE	Pisa Tinoisamoa	40	1	4	1	0

PUNT RETURNS	NO	YDS	AVG	TD	KICK RETURNS	NO	YDS	AVG	TD
Devin Hester	33	564	17.1	3	Danieal Manning	33	816	24.7	0

SEA's STATS ARE REGULAR SEASON ONLY — TO BETTER COMPARE TEAMS, SEA's STATS ARE REGULAR SEASON ONLY

	SEA	CHI		SEA	CHI		SEA	CHI	
QB	-	✔	RB	-	✔	WR	-	1/2	CCH - ✔✔
OL	-	-							Turf/Crowd - ✔1/2
DL	-	✔							MTCH - ✔
LB	-	1/2							INT - ✔✔
DB	-	✔✔✔							ST - - SCH - -

CHECKLIST COMMENTS
- **CCH:** CHI HC/OC/DC have lots of playoff exp despite 1st yr together vs Carroll w/1st year staff.
- **Turf/Crowd:** SEA knows what to expect w/ travel & crowd here after beating CHI here earlier TY.
- **MTCH:** Cutler vs SEA secondary, Bears defense vs beat up Hasselbeck, 2 elite special teams.
- **INT:** CHI now has the bye week edge, SEA won't have home energy & are 1-10 SU's away vs NDIV.
- **OL:** SEA avg 6-4 307, 54 sts, 35 sks (6.4%), 3.7 ypc. CHI avg 6-4 313, 71 sts, 56 sks (12%), 3.9 ypc
- **DL:** SEA DL 23 of 37 sks (62%), 119 ypg (4.2). CHI DL 25 of 34 sks (74%), 90 ypg (3.7).
- **LB:** Both units run Cover-2 variants but CHI's LB's have exp edge with better DL protection.
- **DB:** SEA #25 pass eff D, 250 ypg (58%) 31-12 ratio. CHI #3 pass eff D, 224 ypg (62%), 14-21 ratio.

CHICAGO by 14' ✔'s

CHI earned their 25th playoff berth in franchise history with their 3rd div title under Lovie Smith who was almost released at the end of '09. CHI's coaching staff adapted the playbooks to fit the strengths of their players TY though it did take longer with Martz on offense. CHI finished 5-3 SU/4-4 ATS at home TY & even with their blowout loss to NE omitted they have only outgained foes by 17 ypg (15th) with a +3 TO mark & 23-19 avg score. Vs winning tms TY CHI went 3-3 SU/4-2 ATS being outgained by an astounding 139 ypg (didn't win yardage battle in any gm) with a -1 TO mark being outscored by 23-17 on avg. CHI (-5) was upset by SEA in the 1st meeting, 23-20. SEA was coming off its bye week having negated their travel issues. Both teams scored on quick 80 yd opening drives but SEA shutdown CHI's att's to run forcing 3 str 3&outs. CHI was put back into pass 1st mode & SEA pass rush was ruthless on the day (6 sks, 9 qbh). SEA had a 353-307 yd edge holding CHI to 0-12 on 3rd Dns. SEA is 1-6 SU/ATS in their other AG's TY being outgained by 93 ypg (29th) with -10 TO's & being outscored 31-16.

SEA cleaned the slate of the Holmgren era in the offssn & gave Pete Carroll full control of the roster. SEA is 31st in rush (89 ypg, 3.7) with six 100 yd rush gms TY. Omitting Lynch's amazing 67 yd TD run vs the Saints, SEA ran for just 84 more yds (3.5). The real culprit has been inj's on the OL for 10 diff combos with 3 gms being the longest a set has been together. This has led to allowing 1 sk for every 15.5 att's & placed a lot of pressure on an aging Hasselbeck who has been forced to press. In his 5 full gms vs winning foes he's avg'd 236 ypg (62%) with a 5-5 ratio (7.0 ypa). He's also working with a receiving unit minus his top 3 WR's from LY (187 rec, 11.6). Mike Williams is a great story as a comeback POY after getting a walk on tryout here. He is SEA's most consistent skill plyr when healthy with Obomanu being better served as a #4 WR. TE Carlson has been forced to blk more which is why his stats have dropped. SEA was 2nd in run D after 6 gms (78 ypg, 3.3) but losing DE Bryant (IR) & DT Cole (5 wks) has them all'g almost twice as much (155 ypg, 4.7) not incl LW. SEA's LB's have started all 16 together but the scheme doesn't fit them & they have struggled with the DL issues. SEA's #27 pass D is basically even with LY's with a 31-12 ratio despite a decent pass rush (1 every 15.8 att). FS Thomas has been solid as a rookie but Trufant (3 TD vs TB) & Milloy are not what they used to be. SEA does have an elite ST's unit headed up by Washington who has 3 KR TD's TY.

Despite adding Martz as OC CHI avg'd just 289 ypg (327 ypg LY) while their scoring stayed at 20 ppg for a 2nd season. While Jay Cutler threw for 392 fewer yds TY his ratio improved from 27-26 to 23-16 with his QBR improving from 76.8 to 86.3. Matt Forte topped the 1,000 yd mark (1069) with three 100+ gms & he improved from 3.5 to 4.5 ypc as the Bears won all 5 gms when he rushed for 92+. Forte also tied for the team lead with 51 rec (10.7). In OC Martz's 1st yr we expected to see a significant increase in the passing #'s but that didn't occur. CHI lacks a star WR but Johnny Knox (51 rec, 18.8) finally gave them a deep threat after LY's top WR avg'd only 13.3 ypc. Bennett & Hester comb for 1,022 (11.9) while 09's leading rec hybrid TE Greg Olson had 404 (9.9). To say the OL struggled is an understatement. They allowed a league high 56 sks incl 10 to the NYG. They shuffled the OL early in the ssn but this group did start the final 9 together & all'd 24 sks in that span. While the offense was shut out in terms of Pro Bowlers, the D had 3 players named. The Bears finished 4th in pts all'd & 9th in yds (#21 & #17 LY) as they held 8 opp's to under 310 yds & 3 tms under 187 yds. The DL was bolstered by the FA acquisition of Pro Bowler Peppers (8 sk) & while the tm doesn't blitz often to get sks they led the NFL in FF's (15) & all'd only 3.7 ypc. The LB's continue to be the heart & soul of the team with both Urlacher & Briggs earning post ssn honors. The Bears secondary was productive as they finished #3 with a defensive QBR of 74.4 & their 21 int were 5th in the NFL thanks to DC Rod Marinelli's streamlined Cover-2 system. CHI finished 4th in our ST's rankings with the elite coverage units (#3 PR's, #1 KR's) & Hester on PR's.

SEA does come in with a key edge in playoff experience w/ Hasselbeck as since 2003, QB's in their 1st playoff game are 5-19 SU. SEA had huge edges by being at home for the 2nd straight week vs a beat up NO defense that was sluggish. CHI now has the travel/rest edges here & they know what to expect from Carroll's system. PP likes CHI here (+126 yds) & we side with them (CHI 4-1 ATS fav of 7 or more) as well but temper the grade due to the big line here.

2★ BEARS 33 SEAHAWKS 16

Playoff Records vs Spread 1977 - 2010

All records are vs the spread. HF - Home Favorite, HD - Home Underdog, AF - Away Favorite, AD - Away Underdog SBF - Super Bowl Favorite, SBD - Super Bowl Underdog
SUPER BOWL SPREAD RECORDS INCLUDE ALL SUPER BOWLS PRIOR TO 1977

AFC	HF	HD	AF	AD	SBF	SBD	TOT	NFC	HF	HD	AF	AD	SBF	SBD	TOT
BAL	4-4	0-1	2-0	6-7	1-0	0-1	13-12	ATL	1-2	1-0	0-0	4-5	0-0	0-1	6-8
BUF	6-3-1	0-1	0-0	2-7	0-1	0-3	9-14-1	ARZ	0-0	0-0	0-0	2-3	0-0	1-0	5-3
CIN	5-2	0-1	1-0	0-1	0-1	1-0	6-5	CHI	5-7	0-0	0-0	2-5	1-0	0-1	8-13
CLE	0-0	0-0	0-0	1-0	0-0	0-0	1-0	CAR	1-1	0-0	0-0	4-2	0-0	1-0	7-3
DEN	9-5	1-0	0-0-1	4-6	1-1	1-3	16-15-1	DAL	8-6	0-0	0-1	4-4	4-2	1-1	18-18
HOU	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	DET	1-1	0-0	0-1	1-5	0-0	0-0	2-7
IND	6-4	0-1	0-1	5-5	1-2	1-0	13-13	GB	7-4-1	0-0	0-1	5-4-12-1-1	0-0		15-10-3
JAX	2-1	0-0	0-1	3-4	0-0	0-0	5-6	MIN	6-3	0-1	0-1	6-12	0-1	0-3	12-21
KC	0-5	0-2	0-0	2-5	0-0	1-1	3-13	NO	1-5	0-0	0-1	0-3	0-0	1-0	3-9
MIA	6-6	3-3	0-0	1-8	1-1	1-2	12-20	NYG	5-4	2-0	0-0	8-3	1-0	2-1	18-8
NE	7-5-1	0-0	0-0	6-6	0-2	1-2-1	14-15-2	PHI	6-7	3-0	1-3	5-6	0-1	1-0	16-17
NYJ	3-2	0-0	0-0	10-5	0-0	1-0	14-7	SF	11-8-1	1-1	0-1	3-5	3-1	0-1	19-16-1
OAK	9-3	0-0	0-5-2-1	1-1	2-1		18-7-1	SEA	2-3	0-1	0-1	3-4	0-0	0-1	9-8
PIT	10-8	1-1-1	0-0	7-4	4-2	1-0	24-15-1	STL	4-5	0-1	1-1	5-7	0-1-1	0-1	10-16-1
SD	5-5	0-0	1-2	4-2	0-0	0-1	10-10	TB	2-3	1-1	0-1	2-4	0-0	1-0	6-9
TEN	2-7	1-0	1-1	7-8-1	0-0	0-0-1	11-16-2	WAS	8-2	1-0	0-0	6-5	1-2	2-0	18-9

NFL'S 2010 BEST/WORST

Top Offensive Performances

PHI	592	at WAS
OAK	545	SEA
HOU	526	at WAS
DEN	519	IND
SD	518	at SEA
GB	515	NYG
DAL	511	TEN
OAK	508	at DEN
MIN	507	ARZ
BUF	506	at BAL
SD	506	at OAK
KC	503	at SEA
NE	502	MIA
OAK	502	DEN
HOU	497	JAX
NYG	497	at DAL
NO	494	SEA
JAX	491	HOU
SEA	490	at ARZ

Worst Offensive Performances

KC	67	at SD
CHI	110	at NYG
CAR	119	at PIT
ARZ	124	at SD
PIT	127	at TEN
MIA	131	at NYJ
CAR	147	CHI
BUF	162	at NYJ
TEN	162	at HOU
SEA	162	NYG
SEA	162	at OAK
CIN	163	at NYJ
MIN	164	NYG
BUF	166	MIA
DET	168	at CHI
SEA	174	at TB
NYJ	176	BAL
NE	179	at SD
OAK	179	at SF
OAK	182	at PIT

Top Scoring Performances

PHI	59	at WAS
OAK	59	at DEN
DEN	49	KC
BUF	49	at CIN
GB	45	NYG
NE	45	at DET
GB	45	DAL
NE	45	NYJ
DET	44	STL
ARZ	43	DEN
KC	42	at SEA
KC	42	JAX
NYG	41	at DAL
NYG	41	at SEA
ATL	41	ARZ
SD	41	ARZ
PIT	41	at CLE
NE	41	at MIA
SF	40	SEA
CHI	40	at MIN

Worst Scoring Performances

NYJ	0	GB
SF	0	TB
MIA	0	CHI
TEN	0	at HOU
KC	0	at SD
BUF	3	NE
NYJ	3	at NE
MIN	3	GB
GB	3	at DET
SEA	3	at STL
JAX	3	TEN
CHI	3	at GB
CAR	3	NO
JAX	3	PHI
OAK	3	at PIT
MIN	3	NYJ
SEA	3	at OAK
CAR	3	at PIT
CHI	3	at NYG

11 times with 6 pts

Best 1Q Performances

PHI		at WAS	28
OAK		at DEN	24
NYG		at SEA	21
DEN		KC	21
TEN		HOU	21
NE		NYJ	17
NO		at DAL	17
CHI		at CAR	17

14 pts scored 23 times

Best 2Q Performances

GB		DAL	28
NE		at CHI	26
CIN		BUF	24
MIN		BUF	24
NYJ		at CHI	24
SD		ARZ	21
PIT		OAK	21
DET		STL	21
SF		SEA	20
NO		SEA	20
STL		at DEN	19

17 pts scored 20 times

Best 3Q Performances

CIN		at ATL	22
OAK		at DEN	21
NYJ		at BUF	21
CHI		NYJ	21
JAX		OAK	21
NE		at MIA	21
SF		ARZ	21
SEA		CAR	21
CHI		at MIN	20
ATL		at SEA	17

14 pts scored 31 times

Best 4Q Performances

PHI		at NYG	28
TEN		PHI	27
ARZ		DEN	24
DET		WAS	23
PIT		NE	23
BUF		at CIN	21
NE		at DET	21
IND		DAL	21
HOU		KC	21
KC		at KC	21
CIN		SD	21
SF		DEN	21
OAK		SEA	20
HOU		at NYJ	20
DEN		STL	20
CIN		NO	18

17 pts occurred 4 times

Time of Possession

NYJ	47:08	at CLE	SD	40:10	KC
ATL	45:50	at NO	WAS	40:09	at TEN
PIT	45:23	at BUF	DAL	40:00	at IND
NYG	42:34	at SEA	JAX	39:54	at TEN
OAK	41:50	KC	HOU	39:49	at WAS
MIA	41:38	at SEA	NE	39:41	at CHI
KC	41:03	at SEA	HOU	39:41	TEN
GB	40:48	at NE	BUF	39:22	at KC
NYJ	40:29	at BUF	ATL	39:13	ARZ
BAL	40:14	NE	KC	39:04	TEN

Most First Downs

ATL	33	ARZ	PIT	28	at BUF
WAS	32	at TEN	KC	28	at SEA
KC	30	at DEN	IND	28	at NE
NYG	30	at SEA	DEN	28	at CLE
JAX	29	HOU	PHI	28	at WAS
OAK	29	at DEN	MIN	28	GB
SD	29	at OAK	CIN	28	at ATL
HOU	29	at WAS	BAL	28	DEN
MIA	28	DET	IND	28	at JAX
HOU	28	BAL			

27 FD's occurred 10 times

Fewest First Downs

KC	5	at SD	CAR	8	CHI
BUF	6	at NYJ	NYJ	9	at OAK
MIA	6	at NYJ	CLE	9	at BUF
CHI	6	at NYG	TEN	9	at HOU
NYJ	6	BAL	BAL	9	BAL
CAR	7	at PIT	BUF	9	MIA
PIT	7	at TEN	KC	9	SD
ARZ	7	SF			
SEA	8	NYG			

10 FD's occurred 13 times

BOWL STATS Thru 1/8/11

TEAM	LINE	SC	FD	RA-RY	CO-AT-PY	I-F
New Mexico Bowl						
UTEP	50'	24	13	22-(-12)	14-33-245	3-0
BYU	-11	52	28	50-219	26-36-295	2-0
Humanitarian Bowl						
Northern Illinois	-1'	40	22	28-203	17-27-300	0-0
Fresno St	57	17	26	35-74	28-38-288	0-1
New Orleans Bowl						
Ohio	58	21	14	30-99	14-22-209	2-0
Troy	-2	48	30	33-220	33-43-382	0-0
Beef 'O' Brady's Bowl						
Louisville	-2'	31	15	29-109	20-32-178	0-1
Southern Miss	57'	28	24	40-170	21-34-226	0-1
Las Vegas Bowl						
Utah	58	3	8	29-107	10-24-93	0-3
Boise St	-16'	26	23	37-202	29-40-341	1-3
Poinsettia Bowl						
Navy	57'	14	22	51-235	8-15-147	1-0
San Diego St	-3	35	27	41-279	18-23-276	0-0
Hawaii Bowl						
Tulsa	74	62	18	31-188	17-32-343	0-2
Hawaii	-10	35	28	27-71	30-56-479	5-1
Little Caesars Pizza Bowl						
FIU	56'	34	15	37-168	16-28-140	1-4
Toledo	-1'	32	24	43-304	15-27-132	3-1
Independence Bowl						
Georgia Tech	56	7	18	57-279	5-14-41	1-3
Air Force	-3	14	17	49-170	11-23-117	0-0
Champs Sports Bowl						
NC State	49	23	21	36-103	28-45-275	0-1
West Virginia	-3	7	19	25-130	22-39-196	1-4
Insight Bowl						
Missouri	-2'	24	32	29-78	41-57-434	2-0
Iowa	46'	27	19	37-225	11-21-200	2-0
Military Bowl						
E Carolina	67'	20	19	21-32	39-62-311	2-0
Maryland	-7'	51	18	38-297	13-22-181	2-2
Texas Bowl						
Illinois	62'	38	25	50-291	18-23-242	0-0
Baylor	-1	14	24	29-124	31-43-313	0-0
Alamo Bowl						
Arizona	66'	10	25	38-90	32-50-280	3-1
Oklahoma St	-4'	36	17	20-72	25-41-240	0-0
Armed Forces Bowl						
Army	51'	16	16	50-199	2-7-30	0-0
SMU	-7	14	21	26-111	23-34-302	2-1
Pinstripe Bowl						
Kansas St	48	34	19	36-121	18-25-258	0-0
Syracuse	E	36	23	43-259	13-22-239	0-0
Music City Bowl						
North Carolina	-1	30	21	29-151	23-40-234	1-0
Tennessee	2OT 50	27	20	29-27	27-45-312	3-0
Holiday Bowl						
Washington	52'	19	21	52-268	6-19-72	0-0
Nebraska	-14	7	14	41-91	10-21-98	1-1
Car Care Bowl						
USF	41	31	18	37-90	20-28-189	1-1
Clemson	-5'	26	17	27-50	24-41-246	2-0
Sun Bowl						
Notre Dame	47'	33	23	48-196	15-29-201	0-0
Miami, Fl	-2'	17	20	24-103	26-40-319	4-0
Liberty Bowl						
UCF	53'	10	16	30-124	16-30-117	2-0
Georgia	-6'	6	19	32-82	21-38-198	2-0
Chick-fil-A Bowl						
Florida St	54'	26	18	45-218	12-21-90	1-0
South Carolina	-3	17	22	32-139	21-36-275	3-2
Ticket City Bowl						
Northwestern	61'	38	23	50-229	14-30-146	1-0
Texas Tech	-7'	45	34	29-183	43-56-369	1-1
Outback Bowl						
Penn St	48	24	17	36-139	17-41-211	5-0
Florida	-7	37	17	45-178	14-27-101	1-1
Capital One Bowl						
Michigan St	51'	7	12	28-(-48)	19-29-149	1-0
Alabama	-8	49	25	44-275	19-23-271	0-0
Gator Bowl						
Michigan	60	14	17	25-88	27-41-254	1-1
Mississippi St	-3'	52	26	58-204	18-23-281	1-0
Rose Bowl						
TCU	-3	21	18	26-82	15-23-219	0-0
Wisconsin	56'	19	20	46-226	12-21-159	0-0
Fiesta Bowl						
Connecticut	54'	20	19	41-112	19-39-223	2-0
Oklahoma	-14'	48	27	30-95	34-50-429	1-1
Orange Bowl						
Virginia Tech	59'	12	16	34-66	16-33-222	1-0
Stanford	-3'	40	19	31-247	18-23-287	1-1
Sugar Bowl						
Arkansas	56'	26	23	31-125	24-47-277	1-0
Ohio St	-3	31	20	45-225	14-25-221	0-0
Godaddy.com Bowl						
Middle Tenn	-2	21	15	32-208	18-29-162	4-1
Miami, OH	49	35	21	40-118	23-37-298	2-0
Cotton Bowl						
Texas A&M	49'	24	23	29-155	23-36-218	3-1
LSU	-2	41	24	55-288	10-19-158	1-0
Compass Bowl						
Kentucky	52	10	20	32-104	21-36-211	0-1
Pittsburgh	-4	27	20	46-261	9-19-96	1-0
Div IAA Championship						
E Washington	46	20	20	21-25	29-43-302	1-0
Delaware	-9'	19	26	46-197	22-34-220	1-0

Fight Hunger Bowl & National Champ Stats will be in Issue 21