## Research by Elias Sports Bureau and Pro Football Research Association Linescore Committee, Ken Pullis, Chairman

## 1974 National Football League

<sup>\*</sup>Wild Card qualifier for playoffs

AFC Divisional Playoffs: Oakland 28, Miami 26 Pittsburgh 32, Buffalo 14

NFC Divisional Playoffs: Minnesota 30, St. Louis 14 Los Angeles 19, Washington 10

AFC Championship: Pittsburgh 24, Oakland 13 NFC Championship: Minnesota 14, Los Angeles 10 Super Bowl IX: Pittsburgh (AFC) 16, Minnesota (NFC) 6

#### **FIRST WEEK**

## Pittsburgh 30, Baltimore 0 Sunday, September 15

## At Three Rivers Stadium, attendance 48,890.

Joe Gilliam, starting at QB after leading the Steelers to the only perfect preseason record in the NFL, 6-0, threw TD passes to rookie Lynn Swann and Frank Lewis while completing 17 of 31 for 257 yards. It was the first shutout for the Steelers since Dec. 3, 1972 and their 15th victory in 16 regular season starts at home. Steelers defense sacked Colts QBs Marty

Domres and Bert Jones six times.

Baltimore 0 0 0 0 - 0 Pittsburgh 3 13 7 7 - 30

Pitt-FG Gerela 31

Pitt-Swann 54 pass from Gilliam (kick failed)

Pitt-Lewis 4 pass from Gilliam (Gerela kick)

Pitt-Harris 4 run (Gerela kick)

Pitt-Fuqua 4 run (Gerela kick)

## Dallas 24, Atlanta 0 Sunday, September 15 At Atlanta Stadium, attendance 52,322.

Roger Staubach, who missed the final two preseason games because of cracked ribs, scored on a nine-yard run and passed 52 yards to Golden Richards for another touchdown as the Cowboys won their ninth consecutive opening day game. Staubach completed 13 of 27 passes for 252 yards. Dallas' defense limited Atlanta's passers, Bob Lee and Pat Sullivan, to eight completions and the Falcons to 108 total yards.

Dallas 7 10 0 7 - 24 Atlanta 0 0 0 0 - 0

Dal-Staubach 9 run (Percival kick)

Dal-FG Percival 33

Dal-Richards 52 pass from Staubach (Percival kick)

Dal-Newhouse 1 run (Percival kick)

## Cincinnati 33, Cleveland 7 Sunday, September 15 At Riverfront Stadium, attendance 53,113.

Cincinnati held Cleveland to three yards net passing while piling up 342 yards on offense. QB Ken Anderson hit Isaac Curtis and Bob Trumpy with TD passes in a 26-point second half after tying the score just before the first half ended. The Bengals sacked Mike Phipps five times and Ron Carpenter dumped him in the end zone for a safety. K Horst Muhlmann ran his FG

streak to 10 and Lemar Parrish scooted 62 yards on a punt return for a TD.

Cleveland 0 7 0 0 - 7

Cincinnati 0 7 16 10 - 33

Cle-Morin 7 pass from Phipps (Cockroft kick)

Cin Clark 1 run (Muhlmann kiak)

Cin-Clark 1 run (Muhlmann kick)

Cin-Curtis 19 pass from Anderson (Muhlmann kick)

Cin-Safety, Phipps tackled in end zone by Carpenter

Cin-Trumpy 25 pass from Anderson (Muhlmann kick)

Cin-Parrish 62 punt return (Muhlmann kick)

Cin-FG Muhlmann 32

## Chicago 17, Detroit 9 Sunday, September 15 At Soldier Field, attendance 48,134.

Second-year quarterback Gary Huff, who won the job from Bobby Douglass, completed 10 passes for 183 yards, including two to wide receiver Charley Wade for 73 and 43 yards that set up both Bears' touchdowns. Carl Garrett scored from the one for Chicago's initial touchdown and Huff passed nine yards to lke Hill for the other. The Bears' defense sacked Detroit passer Bill Munson five times as the Bears ended a six-game losing hangover from 1973.

Detroit 0 0 2 7 - 9 Chicago 0 14 3 0 - 17

Chi-Garrett 1 run (Roder kick)

Chi-Hill 9 pass from Huff (Roder kick)

Chi-FG Roder 29

Det-Safety, Mitchell blocked Parsons punt out of end zone

Det-Owens 4 run (Mann kick)

## Los Angeles 17, Denver 10 Sunday, September 15 At Mile High Stadium, attendance 56,981.

Cullen Bryant, recently moved from defensive back to running back, raced 84 yards on a kickoff return to nail down a 17-10 win for Los Angeles over Denver in the first interconference game of the season. Bryant's run came

late in the third period after the Broncos had narrowed the gap to 10-3. Denver scored again in the final minutes on a pass from Charley Johnson to Bill Van Heusen. The Rams' defense, led by Fred Dryer and Jack Youngblood, sacked Johnson six times for 40 yards.

Los Angeles 0 10 0 0 Denver 10

LA-FG Ray 19

LA-Klein 19 pass from Hadl (Ray kick)

Den-FG Turner 39

LA-Bryant 84 kickoff return (Ray kick)

Den-Van Heusen 30 pass from Johnson (Turner kick)

#### New England 34, Miami 24 Sunday, September 15 At Schaefer Stadium, attendance 51,508.

The passing of Jim Plunkett and the running of Mack Herron and Sam Cunningham enabled the Patriots to surprise the defending Super Bowl champs 34-24, while the defense held Miami's strong rushing game to 89 yards. Plunkett passed to Reggie Rucker for one TD and ran for another, completing 14 of 24 passes. Herron rushed for 88 yards and one TD and Cunningham ran for 87 yards and also scored once. Larry Csonka scored two Miami TDs but was held to 62 yards on 17 carries.

Miami 10 7 **New England** 34

NE-Herron 14 run (Smith kick)

Mia-Csonka 1 run (Yepremian kick)

NE Rucker 13 pass from Plunkett (Smith kick)

NE-FG Smith 21

NE-Plunkett 5 run (Smith kick)

Mia-FG Yepremian 33

NE-Cunningham 13 run (Smith kick)

Mia-Briscoe 13 pass from Griese (Yepremian kick)

Mia-Csonka 3 run (Yepremian kick)

NE-FG Smith 26

## Minnesota 32, Green Bay 17 Sunday, September 15 At Lambeau Field, attendance 55,131.

Chuck Foreman, NFC Offensive Rookie of 1973, got off to fast '74 start by scoring three touchdowns. Fran Tarkenton completed 14 passes to lift his career total to 2,473, passing John Brodie as runner-up to John Unitas for most completions in NFL history, as defending NFC champion Vikings began quest for their sixth Central Division title in seven years. Nate Wright had two interceptions and Jeff Wright also stole a Green Bay pass.

Minnesota	3	1	13	9	-	32
Green Bay	0	10	0	7	-	17
Minn-FG Cox 20	)					
GB-FG Marcol 1	19					
GB-Brockington	5 run (N	Narcol kic	k)			
Minn-Foreman 1	18 run (C	Cox kick)				
Minn-Foreman 1	1 run (Co	ox kick)				
Minn-Foreman 3	3 run (kid	k blocke	d)			
Minn EC Cov 2	1					

Minn-FG Cox 21

GB-Odom 18 run (Marcol kick)

Minn-Martin 15 fumble recovery return (kick blocked)

## Kansas City 24, New York Jets 16 Sunday, September 15 At Arrowhead Stadium, attendance 73,959.

Marvin Upshaw and Emmitt Thomas ran for TDs after intercepting Joe Namath passes in the Chiefs' first opening day victory since 1969. Namath's passes to Rich Caster and Ed Bell gave the Jets an early lead, but Upshaw's steal of a screen pass out of the hands of John Riggins enabled the Chiefs to go off at halftime trailing only 16-14. Jan Stenerud's 27-yard FG and Thomas' interception nullified the work of Namath who completed 14 of 30 for 210 yards and two TDs. Riggins was the top rusher with 116 yards on 22 carries.

New York Jets	6	10	0	0	-	16
Kansas City	0	14	3	7	-	24

NYJ-Caster 14 pass from Namath (kick failed)

NYJ-Bell 7 pass from Namath (Howfield kick)

KC-Podolak 2 run (Stenerud kick) NYJ-FG Howfield 25

KC-Upshaw 52 interception return (Stenerud kick)

KC-FG Stenerud 27

KC-E. Thomas 38 interception return (Stenerud kick)

## St. Louis 7, Philadelphia 3 Sunday, September 15

#### At Busch Memorial Stadium, attendance 40,322.

The Eagles took the opening kickoff and moved to a 44-yard field goal, and the Cardinals climaxed an 80-yard drive for the game's only touchdown on a four-yard pass from Jim Hart to Donny Anderson in the second period. Philadelphia moved from its own 21 to St. Louis' 9-yard line, with 27 seconds remaining. Roman Gabriel connected with Harold Carmichael on his firstdown pass, but the Eagles' receiver was beyond the end line. Gabriel's next three pass attempts fell incomplete.

Philadelphia	3	0	0	0	-	3
St. Louis	0	7	0	0	-	7
Phil-FG Dempse	ey 44					

StL-Anderson 4 pass from Hart (Bakken kick)

## Houston 21, San Diego 14 Sunday, September 15 At Astrodome, attendance 25,317.

Ronnie Coleman, a free agent rookie running back from Alabama A&M, gained 123 yards and George Amundson scored three TDs in the Oilers' first opening victory since 1970. Amundson scored twice on short runs and once on a pass from QB Lynn Dickey. Despite the defeat in his San Diego coaching debut, Tommy Prothro gained some solace from his club's 411 yards of total offense.

San Diego	0	7	7	0	-	14
Houston	14	0	0	7	-	21

Hou-Amundson 1 run (Butler kick)

Hou-Amundson 8 pass from Dickey (Butler kick)

SD-Bonner 3 run (Partee kick)

SD-Garrison 29 pass from Fouts (Partee kick)

Hou-Amundson 3 run (Butler kick)

## San Francisco 17, New Orleans 13 Sunday, September 15 At Tulane Stadium, attendance 59,945.

Saints' punter Donnie Gibbs fumbled a snap and 49ers Willie Harper blocked his attempted punt which was recovered by Windlan Hall at the New Orleans 9-yard line with San Francisco trailing 13-10 in the final two minutes. On the

next play, 49er Sammy Johnson ran for the winning touchdown. San Francisco, which lost all six preseason games and the services of quarterback Steve Spurrier, had Joe Reed directing the offense.

San Francisco 7 0 7 3 17 **New Orleans** 0 10 3 0 13

SF-Moore 3 run (Gossett kick)

NO-Parker 4 pass from Manning (McClard kick)

NO-FG McClard 23

SF-FG Gossett 19

NO-FG McClard 31

SF-S. Johnson 9 run (Gossett kick)

## Washington 13, New York Giants 10 Sunday, September 15 At Yale Bowl, attendance 49,849.

Cornerback Mike Bass intercepted a Norm Snead pass and ran 28 yards for the Redskins' first touchdown in the first period and Larry Brown, who rushed for 75 yards, scored from the five in the second quarter as Washington's victory marked the ninth consecutive opening game victory without a loss for teams coached by George Allen.

Washington 6 13 New York Giants 3 0 7 0 10 Wash-Bass 28 interception return (Moseley kick) NYG-FG Gogolak 33 Wash-Brown 5 run (kick failed)

## Buffalo 21, Oakland 20 Monday Night, September 16 At Rich Stadium, attendance 79,791.

Ahmad Rashad's second TD reception from Joe Ferguson in the final two minutes enabled the Bills to bounce back after Art Thoms recovered Jim Braxton's fumble and ran 29 yards for a score. The winning TD pass came with 26 seconds left. Rashad's first score came with 1:56 remaining. O. J. Simpson did not play the second half, gaining 78 yards on 12 carries before suffering an ankle injury in the second quarter. George Blanda missed a 50yard FG try on the final play.

Oakland 0 10 20 Buffalo 7 0 21 n 14

Buff-Hill 4 pass from Ferguson (Leypoldt kick)

Oak-FG Blanda 34

Oak-Davis 15 run (Blanda kick)

NYG-Kotar 6 run (Gogolak kick)

Oak-FG Blanda 41

Buff-Rashad 8 pass from Ferguson (Leypoldt kick) Oak-Thoms 29 fumble recovery return (Blanda kick) Buff-Rashad 13 pass from Ferguson (Leypoldt kick)

#### **SECOND WEEK**

## Green Bay 20, Baltimore 13 Sunday, September 22

#### At Memorial Stadium, attendance 35,873.

Charlie Hall's interception on the final play saved the Packers' victory after Bert Jones, taking over from Marty Domres, led a late Colts' comeback that produced one TD and threatened to add another. MacArthur Lane scored both Green Bay TDs while the Packers picked off four Baltimore passes, one by Jim Hill leading to a score on the next play. Colts Lydell Mitchell ran for 63 yards and caught 5 passes for 47 yards. Chester Marcol's 52 yard field goal for the Packers in the first period was the longest of the season in the NFL.

20

13

Green Bay 10 7 Baltimore 3 0 3 GB-FG Marcol 52 Balt-FG Linhart 37 GB-Land 1 run (Marcol kick) GB-FG Marcol 39 Balt-FG Linhart 23 GB-Lane 13 run (Marcol kick) Balt-Olds 7 pass from Jones (Linhart kick)

## Cleveland 20, Houston 7 Sunday, September 22 At Municipal Stadium, attendance 55,242.

Cleveland cashed in on six Houston turnovers, three interceptions and three fumble recoveries. Thom Darden set up the first of two Don Cockroft FGs when he picked off a Lynn Dickey pass in the first quarter and Jerry Sherk set the stage for another scoring drive by recovering Vic Washington's fumble. Clarence Scott's interception led to another Cleveland TD. Greg Pruitt led the Browns with 14 carries for 89 yards including a nine-yard TD run.

Houston 7 Cleveland 3 7 10 0 20

Cle-FG Cockroft 27

Hou-Alston 9 pass from Dickey (Butler kick)

Cle-Pruitt 9 run (Cockroft kick)

Cle-FG Cockroft 41

Cle-K. Brown 5 pass from Phipps (Cockroft kick)

## Oakland 27, Kansas City 7

## Sunday, September 22

#### At Oakland-Alameda County Coliseum, attendance 48,108.

Ken Stabler, the AFC passing leader in 1973, threw three TD passes and the Raiders' defense intercepted five passes, sacked the quarterbacks four times and held the Chiefs to 48 yards passing. Rookie TE Dave Casper caught two of Stabler's scoring passes and Mike Siani grabbed the third. Kansas City's only score came on Wilbur Young's 52-yard run with an interception. Len Dawson was injured and left the game after the first half, Mike Livingston replacing him.

Kansas City 0 0 7 Oakland 27 13 0

Oak-Casper 5 pass from Stabler (Blanda kick)

Oak-Siani 9 pass from Stabler (Blanda kick)

Oak-Banaszak 20 run (kick failed)

KC-Young 52 interception return (Stenerud kick)

Oak-Casper 2 pass from Stabler (Blanda kick)

## Miami 24, Buffalo 16 Sunday, September 22

At Rich Stadium, attendance 78,990.

The Dolphins rebounded from an opening day defeat to knock off the Bills with the help of two TD passes by Bob Griese, set up by recovered Buffalo fumbles. Mercury Morris and Nick Buoniconti, who missed the opener, returned and Morris gained 88 yards on 13 carries, scoring on a 17-yard run. O. J. Simpson returned after sitting out the second half of the hrsf game and was held to 63 yards on 15 carries, fumbling twice. Ahmad Rashad recovered one of O. J.'s fumbles for a Buffalo TD. Garo Yepremian's 22-yard FG iced it with 1:06 to go.

Miami 10 24 0 **Buffalo** 3 0 16

Buff-FG Leypoldt 22

Mia-Mandich 1 pass from Griese (Yepremian kick)

Mia-Fleming 3 pass from Griese (Yepremian kick)

Buff-Rashad fumble recovery in end zone (kick failed)

Mia-Morris 17 run (Yepremian kick)

Buff-Hill 25 pass from Ferguson (Leypoldt kick)

Mia-FG Yepremian 22

## Minnesota 7, Detroit 6 Sunday, September 22 At Tiger Stadium, attendance 44,546.

The Lions recovered a Vikings fumble on the opening kickoff and moved to a fourth-and-goal situation at the Minnesota 1-yard line but failed to score, and a pair of Errol Mann field goals were not enough to overcome Chuck Foreman's 11-yard touchdown run and Fred Cox's winning extra point. It marked the 13th consecutive Minnesota victory over Detroit. Foreman's touchdown was his fourth in two games.

Minnesota Detroit 0 3 0 3 6 Det-FG Mann 29

Minn-Foreman 11 run (Cox kick) Det-FG Mann 40

#### New England 28, New York Giants 20 Sunday, September 22 At Yale Bowl, attendance 44,082.

Jim Plunkett threw for three touchdowns and Mack Herron and Sam Cunningham provided 74 and 76 rushing yards, respectively, as the Patriots won their first two games for the first time since 1964. With the score tied at 14-14, the Patriots defense stopped the Giants four times within the 4-yard line just before halftime. Plunkett's 14-yard pass to Cunningham broke the tie in the third period.

New England 7 7 7 28 New York Giants 7 7 n 20 6

NYG-Johnson 21 pass from Snead (Gogolak kick)

NE-Herron 12 pass from Plunkett (Smith Kick)

NYG-Dawkins 1 run (Gogolak kick)

NE-Vataha 38 pass from Plunkett (Smith kick)

NE-Cunningham 14 pass from Plunkett (Smith kick) NE-Herron 4 run (Smith kick) NYG-Johnson 9 pass from Snead (kick failed)

#### Los Angeles 24, New Orleans 0 Sunday, September 22 At Memorial Coliseum, attendance 57,314.

John Hadl passed to Jack Snow and Harold Jackson for a pair of touchdowns and Lawrence McCutcheon rushed for 102 yards as the Rams won their second straight game. Los Angeles defense sacked New Orleans passer Archie Manning five times and protected the shutout by pushing the Saints from the Rams' 1 yard line back to the 4 in the final minute.

 New Orleans
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0

 Los Angeles
 7
 10
 0
 7
 24

 LA-Baker 1 run (Ray kick)
 LA-Snow 30 pass from Hadl (Ray kick)
 LA-FG Ray 20
 LA-Jackson 5 pass from Hadl (Ray kick)

## New York Jets 23, Chicago 21 Sunday, September 22 At Soldier Field, attendance 50,213.

Joe Namath completed 16 passes for 257 yards and a touchdown of 30 yards to Rich Caster, but the Jets had to hold on after building a 20-0 halftime lead. Chicago's Gary Huff, who hit 18 of 37 for 267 yards, sparked the Bears' second-half rally with two TD passes.

New York Jets 6 14 0 3 - 23 Chicago 0 0 14 7 - 21 NYJ-Caster 30 pass from Namath (kick failed) NYJ-Jackson 24 fumble recovery return (Howfield kick) NYJ-Boozer 3 run (Howfield kick) Chi-Garrett 11 pass from Huff (Roder kick) Chi-Parsons 4 pass from Huff (Roder kick) NYJ-FG Howfield 39 Chi-Harrison 1 run (Roder kick)

## Pittsburgh 35, Denver 35 (OT) Sunday, September 22 At Mile High Stadium, attendance 50,858.

The NFL's first regular season overtime game ended in a tie after 60 minutes of regulation play and 15 minutes of sudden death. The Broncos led 21-7 at the end of the first quarter but Joe Gilliam, who completed 31 of 50 passes for 348 yards and one TD, brought the Steelers back. Barney Chavous and Bill Thompson blocked a Pittsburgh 25-yard FG try by Roy Gerela with five seconds left in regulation time. John Rowser, ex-Steeler, stopped a Pittsburgh overtime drive with an interception and Jim Turner's 41-yard FG try was wide with 3:13 to go in the extra period. The game lasted 3 hours 49 minutes with 160 plays, 93 by the Steelers. Denver's Otis Armstrong topped the rushers with 131 yards and added 86 as a pass receiver.

35

35

Pittsburgh 7 7 7 14 7 0 Denver 21 0 7 7 0 Den-Armstrong 45 pass from Johnson (Turner kick)
Pitt-Davis 61 pass from Gilliam (Gerela kick)
Den-Moses 7 pass from Johnson (Turner Kick)
Den-Keyworth 1 run (Turner kick)
Pitt-Gilliam 1 run (Gerela kick)
Pitt-Steve Davis 1 run (Gerela kick)
Den-Odoms 3 pass from Ramsey (Turner kick)
Pitt-Davis 1 run (Gerela kick)
Pitt-Fuqua 1 run (Gerela kick)
Den-Armstrong 23 pass from Ramsey (Turner kick)

## St. Louis 17, Washington 10 Sunday, September 22 At Robert F. Kennedy Stadium, attendance 53,888.

Defensive end Ron Yankowski ran 71 yards with a recovered fumble after linebacker Pete Barnes' tackle jarred the ball loose from Bill Kilmer. Moments later Terry Metcalf dashed 75 yards for the longest run from scrimmage of

the season in the NFC. Jim Tolbert intercepted a fourth-down Kilmer pass in the final minute to thwart a late threat by Washington, which was playing without Larry Brown. Duane Thomas rushed for 96 yards as Brown's replacement.

 St. Louis
 7
 7
 3
 0
 17

 Washington
 3
 7
 0
 0
 10

Wash-FG Moseley 28

StL-Yankowski 71 fumble recovery return (Bakken kick)

StL-Metcalf 75 run (Bakken kick)

Wash-Reed 11 pass from Kilmer (Moseley kick)

StL-FG Bakken 46

#### San Diego 20, Cincinnati 17 Sunday, September 22 At Riverfront Stadium, attendance 51,178.

Dan Fouts brought the Chargers 98 yards in a last quarter drive, scoring the winning TD on a one-yard sneak. The Chargers were third and 10 on their own 2 when Fouts hit Jim Beirne for an 18-yard gain, starting the winning march. Gary Garrison caught eight passes for 116 yards as Fouts hit 13 of 24 behind perfect protection from his offensive line. The defeat snapped a 14-game home field victory string by the Bengals, dating back to December, 1972. Horst Muhlmann's streak of 11 straight FGs was broken when he was wide in a 34-yard attempt with 1:17 to play.

San Diego 7 20 6 Cincinnati 0 7 10 17 SD-Bonner 2 run (Partee kick) SD-FG Partee 22 Cin-Elliott 16 run (Muhlmann kick) SD-FG Wersching 28 Cin-B. Clark 12 run (Muhlmann kick) Cin-FG Muhlmann 34 SD-Fouts 1 run (Partee kick)

## San Francisco 16, Atlanta 10 Sunday, September 22

## At Atlanta Stadium, attendance 47,686.

Interceptions in the first five minutes by linebacker Skip Vanderbundt and cornerback Jimmy Johnson were turned into touchdowns by the 49ers, who won their second straight Western Division game on the road. Joe Reed hit Dan Abramowicz for a 13-yard score following the first interception, and Larry Schreiber's one-yard touchdown capped a 39-yard march following Johnson's steal. Schreiber rushed for 70 yards and rookie Wilbur Jackson added 68.

San Francisco 13 0 3 16 Atlanta 7 0 0 3 10 SF-Abramowicz 13 pass from Reed (kick blocked) SF-Schreiber 1 run (Gossett kick) Atl-Malone 1 run (Mike-Mayer kick) Atl-FG Mike-Mayer 32 SF-FG Gossett 25

## Philadelphia 13, Dallas 10 Monday Night, September 23 At Veterans Stadium, attendance 64,089.

The Eagles' offense continued to sputter and finished the game without a touchdown for the second straight week, but a 45-yard field goal by Tom Dempsey, with 25 seconds remaining, provided the margin of victory over the Cowboys. Philadelphia's touchdown came on a 96-yard return of a recovered fumble (fourth longest in NFL history) by cornerback Joe Lavender, after Dallas' rookie Doug Dennison lost the ball at the Eagles' 1-yard line. Dempsey added a 33-yard field goal. Dallas wide receiver Drew Pearson had the best single game receiving performance of the season in the NFC with 10 catches for 161 yards.

Dallas 0 7 0 3 - 10 Philadelphia 0 0 7 6 - 13

Dal-Dennison 3 run (Percival kick)

Phil-Lavender 96 fumble recovery return (Dempsey kick)

Phil-FG Dempsey 33

Dal-FG Percival 26 Phil-FG Dempsey 45

#### THIRD WEEK

## New Orleans 14, Atlanta 13 Sunday, September 29 At Tulane Stadium, attendance 55,025.

Saints' Jess Phillips ran over from the 8-yard line and Bill McClard added the decisive point on the first play after Elex Price recovered a Falcons' fumble with five minutes remaining. New Orleans' defense halted an Atlanta threat in final two minutes when they sacked passer Pat Sullivan for six-vard loss to Saints' 38 and on next play linebacker Wayne Colman intercepted a Falcons' pass.

Atlanta 13 7 New Orleans 0 14 NO-Parker 13 pass from Manning (McClard kick) Atl-Tinker 72 punt return (Mike-Mayer kick) Atl-FG Mike-Mayer 21 Atl-FG Mike-Mayer 27 NO-Phillips 8 run (McClard kick)

## Philadelphia 30. Baltimore 10 Sunday, September 29

## At Veterans Stadium, attendance 64,205.

Eagles took opening kickoff and marched 71 yards, with Tom Sullivan going final 28 for first touchdown of season scored by the Eagles' offense. Sullivan, who rushed for 93 yards, later scored again and Tom Dempsey added three field goals. Cornerback Joe Lavender scored his second touchdown when he returned an interception 37 yards.

Baltimore 0 0 10 3 7 Philadelphia 10 3 14 Phil-Sullivan 28 run (Dempsey kick) Phil-FG Dempsey 20 Balt-FG Linhart 45 Phil-FG Dempsey 38 Phil-Lavender 37 interception return (Dempsey kick) Phil-Sullivan 3 run (Dempsey kick) Balt-Doughty 22 pass from Jones (Linhart kick) Phil-FG Dempsey 42

## Minnesota 11, Chicago 7 Sunday, September 29

## At Metropolitan Stadium, attendance 46,217.

The Vikings built an 11-0 lead as Fran Tarkenton passed 11 yards to tight end Stu Voigt for the 250th touchdown completion of his career and free safety Paul Krause intercepted his 63rd lifetime pass. Chicago scored on quarterback Gary Huff's three-yard run which was set up by a 70-yard completion from Huff to Charley Wade. Minnesota's Chuck Foreman rushed for 74 yards and moved into the rushing lead in the NFC.

Chicago 0 7 n 0 7 Minnesota 2 3 0 11 6 Minn-Safety, Hilgenberg tackled Parsons in end zone Minn-Voigt 11 pass from Tarkenton (kick failed) Minn-FG Cox 32 Chi-Huff 3 run (Roder kick)

## Cincinnati 21, San Francisco 3 Sunday, September 29 At Candlestick Park, attendance 49,895.

The Bengals struck for one touchdown in each of the last three periods after the 49ers had taken a 3-0 lead. Cincinnati's Ken Anderson threw a touchdown pass of 22 yards to Isaac Curtis and then scored himself on a 14yard run. After Anderson was shaken up, Wayne Clark came in and directed a 75-yard drive which climaxed with Clark running over from the 8.

Cincinnati	0	7	7	7	-	21
San Francisco	0	3	0	0	-	3
SF-FG Gossett 2	2					

Cin-Curtis 22 pass from Anderson (Muhlmann kick) Cin-Anderson 14 run (Muhlmann kick)

Cin-W. Clark 8 run (Muhlmann kick)

## St. Louis 29, Cleveland 7 Sunday, September 29

## At Busch Memorial Stadium, attendance 43,472.

The Cardinals won their third straight and continued good defense and longscoring plays. Cornerback Norm Thompson scored on a 56-yard interception return, Terry Metcalf went 94 yards with a kickoff, and Jim Hart passed to Mel Gray for a 68-yard score. Cleveland's only touchdown was a 55-yard pass play from running back Greg Pruitt to Gloster Richardson.

Cleveland 0 0 St. Louis 22 29

StL-Thompson 56 interception return (Bakken kick)

StL-Metcalf 94 kickoff return (Bakken kick)

Cle-G. Richardson 55 pass from Pruitt (Cockroft kick)

StL-Gray 68 pass from Hart (kick failed)

StL-FG Bakken 44

StL-Anderson 1 run (kick failed)

## Green Bay 21, Detroit 19 Sunday, September 29 At Milwaukee County Stadium, attendance 45,970.

The Packers' Chester Marcol kicked his fourth field goal of the game from the 22-yard line with 63 seconds remaining for the winning points. It was the only scoring in the final period after Detroit had taken a 19-18 lead late in the third quarter on Errol Mann's 28-yard field goal. Mann also had four field goals.

Detroit	3	10	6	0	-	19
Green Bay	0	8	10	3	-	21
Det-FG Mann 3	7					
Det-FG Mann 2	6					
GB-Safety, Hen	dricks bl	ocked pu	nt out of	end z	one	
GB-FG Marcol 3	35					
Det-L. Walton 3	9 pass fr	om Muns	son (Mar	nn kick	.)	
GB-FG Marcol 3	36					
Det-FG Mann 4	1					
GB-FG Marcol 4	11					
GR-R Smith 27	nass fro	m Tagge	(Marco	kick)		

GB-B. Smith 27 pass from Tagge (Marcol kick) Det-FG Mann 28

**GB-FG Marcol 22** 

## Kansas City 17, Houston 7 Sunday, September 29 At Astrodome, attendance 28,538.

Mike Livingston took over for the injured Len Dawson and led the Chiefs to victory after a sluggish first half. Livingston completed 20 of 26 for 167 yards, throwing 10 to running back Ed Podolak. Turnovers hurt the Oilers, who lost the ball twice on interceptions and twice on fumbles. The Chiefs' Emmitt Thomas took over sole possession of the AFC lead in interceptions with four as he picked off two Lynn Dickey passes, one of them in the end zone in the last period when the Chiefs trailed in the game 7-3.

Kansas City 0 0 3 14 -17 Houston 0 0 7 0 -7 Hou-Coleman 1 run (Butler kick) KC-FG Stenerud 35 KC-Ellison 8 run (Stenerud kick)

KC-Stroud 8 pass from Livingston (Stenerud kick)

## New England 20, Los Angeles 14 Sunday, September 29 At Schaefer Stadium, attendance 59,712.

Jim Plunkett took the unbeaten Patriots to their third straight win, throwing two more touchdown passes for a total of six in the season. The Patriot defense shut off the Rams' running game with 109 yards, recovered three fumbles, blocked a field goal attempt and intercepted two of John Hadl's passes. John Smith added two FGs and Mack Herron contributed 152 yards

on rushing (62), kickoff returns (52), and punt returns (38). Safety Prentice McCray snuffed out a late Rams' threat with an interception.

Los Angeles 7 0 0 7 - 14 New England 0 7 6 7 - 20

LA-Baker 1 run (Ray kick)

NE-Stingley 20 pass from Plunkett (Smith kick)

NE-FG Smith 39 NE-FG Smith 23

NE-Vataha 21 pass from Plunkett (Smith kick)

LA-Rentzel 36 pass from Hadl (Ray kick)

## Miami 28, San Diego 21 Sunday, September 29

#### At San Diego Stadium, attendance 44,706.

The Dolphins, trailing 21-7 in the final quarter, snapped back with three touchdowns, winning on a five-yard run by Jim Kiick with 15 seconds to go. Rookie Nat Moore, playing after Paul Warfield was injured, caught a touchdown pass from Bob Griese and also returned a punt 30 yards to set up the winning score. Larry Csonka gained 106 yards and scored twice but he was overshadowed by rookie Don Woods of the Chargers whose 157-yard total was the best in the first three weeks of NFL action.

Miami 7 0 21 28 San Diego 7 14 0 21 Mia-Csonka 1 run (Yepremian kick) SD-Stewart 21 pass from Fouts (Partee kick) SD-Woods 1 run (Partee kick) SD-Woods 56 run (Partee kick) Mia-N. Moore 13 pass from Griese (Yepremian kick) Mia-Csonka 3 run (Yepremian kick) Mia-Kiick 3 run (Yepremian kick)

#### New York Giants 14, Dallas 6 Sunday, September 29 At Texas Stadium, attendance 45,84

## At Texas Stadium, attendance 45,841.

The Giants scored two touchdowns in the space of 64 seconds in the second period and their defense held the Cowboys scoreless until the final 11 seconds. Doug Kotar's two-yard touchdown followed a 50-yard pass from Norm Snead to Bob Grim, and after New York recovered a Dallas fumble on the ensuing kickoff, Snead threw 14 yards to Joe Dawkins for another score. The Giants intercepted three passes, recovered two fumbles and sacked Dallas passer Roger Staubach six times in giving Bill Arnsparger his first regular season victory as a head coach.

New York Giants 0 14 0 0 - 14

Dallas 0 0 0 6 - 6

NYG-Kotar 2 run (Gogolak kick)

NYG-Dawkins 14 pass from Snead (Gogolak kick)

Dal-Hayes 35 pass from Staubach (kick failed)

## Buffalo 16, New York Jets 12 Sunday, September 29

## At Rich Stadium, attendance 76,866.

Buffalo gained 223 yards on the ground and none in the air in a game played in driving rain and 45-mile-an-hour gusts. Neither team completed a pass until Joe Namath hit David Knight with 1:50 to go in the last quarter. O. J. Simpson gained 117 yards and Jim Braxton 84, with Braxton scoring the winner on a 21-yard run in the last period. Despite the wind that made punting a disaster, John Leypoldt kicked a FG for Buffalo and Bobby Howfield booted two for the Jets. O. J. Simpson moved into first place among rushers for the first time in 1974 on the strength of his 117-yard performance.

New York Jets 0 6 6 0 - 12

Buffalo 7 3 0 6 - 16

Duff Formula 1 vin (1 cure left kiels)

Buff-Ferguson 1 run (Leypoldt kick)

Buff-FG Leypoldt 21

NYJ-Riggins 13 run (kick failed)

NYJ-FG Howfield 31

NYJ-FG Howfield 40

Buff-Braxton 21 run (kick failed)

#### Oakland 17, Pittsburgh 0 Sunday, September 29

#### At Three Rivers Stadium, attendance 48,304.

The Raiders defeated the Steelers 17-0 as Pittsburgh suffered its first shutout loss since Nov. 15, 1964. Oakland's defense limited Joe Gilliam to 8 completions in 31 attempts, intercepted him three times, and recovered one fumble. The Raiders also sacked Gilliam twice. Ron Smith's punt returns of 47 and 26 yards led to Ken Stabler's one-yard touchdown and his 19-yard TD pass to Cliff Branch.

 Oakland
 7
 10
 0
 0
 17

 Pittsburgh
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0

 Oak-Stabler 1 run (Blanda kick)
 0
 0
 0
 0

Oak-Branch 19 pass from Stabler (Blanda kick)

Oak-FG Blanda 35

## Washington 30, Denver 3 Monday Night, September 30 At Robert F. Kennedy Stadium, attendance 54,395.

The Redskins rolled for 345 yards and held the Broncos to 159 as Bill Kilmer completed 17 of 23 passes for 223 yards and moved into first place among NFC passers. WR Charley Taylor caught six passes for 59 yards including two TDs. With Washington leading 13-3 in the third period, Denver failed to make less than a foot on third and fourth down rushes at the Redskins' 33

and did not threaten thereafter.

Denver 0 0 3 0 - 3

Washington 7 6 0 17 - 30

Wash-Taylor 3 pass from Kilmer (Moseley kick)

Wash-FG Moseley 37 Wash-FG Moseley 22

Den-FG Turner 34

Wash-FG Moseley 18

Wash-Taylor 11 pass from Kilmer (Moseley kick)

Wash-Thomas 1 run (Moseley kick)

#### **FOURTH WEEK**

## Atlanta 14, New York Giants 7 Sunday, October 6 At Yale Bowl, attendance 42,379.

The Giants took a 7-0 lead on rookie Doug Kotar's 53-yard run in the first period, but Falcons' quarterback Bob Lee and tight end Jim Mitchell combined for a 15-yard tying score in the second period. Atlanta cornerback Ray Brown intercepted a Norm Snead pass and ran 59 yards for a TD, the season's longest interception return in the NFC.

Atlanta 0 7 7 0 - 14

New York Giants 7 0 0 0 7

NYG-Kotar 53 run (Gogolak kick)

Atl-J. Mitchell 15 pass from Lee (Mike-Mayer kick)

Atl-Brown 59 interception return (Mike-Mayer kick)

## New England 42, Baltimore 3 Sunday, October 6 At Schaefer Stadium, attendance 55,820.

Jim Plunkett threw three touchdown passes and never was sacked as the Patriots won their fourth straight over winless Baltimore, spoiling the head coaching debut of Joe Thomas. Reggie Rucker caught three for 92 yards and two touchdowns but also suffered a broken wrist. Mack Herron was the top rusher with 13 carries for 59 yards and added 29 on a kickoff return and 79 on punt returns while taking over the AFC lead in the latter category. Bert Jones, advanced to a starting role, passed for 215 yards for the Colts but was sacked five times. The 42 points were the most for New England since 1965.

Baltimore 0 3 0 0 - 3 New England 14 7 14 7 - 42

NE-Rucker 69 pass from Plunkett (Smith kick)

NE-Stingley 23 run (Smith kick)

NE-Herron 5 run (Smith kick)

Balt-FG Linhart 27

NE-Cunningham 4 pass from Plunkett (Smith kick) NE-Rucker 16 pass from Plunkett (Smith kick) NE-Tarver 7 run (Smith kick)

## Buffalo 27, Green Bay 7 Sunday, October 6 At Lambeau Field, attendance 51,919.

Bills quarterback Joe Ferguson completed 13 of 16 passes for 175 yards and a nine-yard touchdown to Ahmad Rashad, who caught seven for 79 yards. Jim Braxton scored Buffalo's other three touchdowns on two runs from the 1 and another from the 2.

Buffalo 6 7 27 Green Bay 0 0 7 7

Buff-Rashad 9 pass from Ferguson (Leypoldt kick)

Buff-Braxton 1 run (kick failed) Buff-Braxton 1 run (Leypoldt kick) GB-Lane 3 run (Marcol kick)

Buff-Braxton 2 run (Leypoldt kick)

#### Denver 17, Kansas City 14 Sunday, October 6 At Arrowhead Stadium, attendance 67,298.

Calvin Jones' interception set up the second and winning touchdown by rookie Jon Keyworth for the Broncos' first victory ever on the road against the Chiefs. QB Steve Ramsey came off the bench to replace the injured Charley Johnson and inject new life into the Denver offense. Kansas City led 14-10 going into the last quarter with the help of a 28-yard TD run by linebacker

Bobby Bell, the Chiefs' fourth score on an interception in four games. Denver 0 7 7 3 17 Kansas City 0 n 14 Den-FG Turner 41

KC-Ellison 1 run (Stenerud kick)

KC-Bell 28 interception return (Stenerud kick)

Den-Keyworth 2 run (Turner kick)

Den-Keyworth 3 run (Turner kick)

## Los Angeles 16, Detroit 13 Sunday, October 6 At Memorial Coliseum, attendance 56,599.

Lawrence McCutcheon rushed for 124 yards to lift his NFC leading total to 345 and caught five passes for another 43 to pace the Rams' attack. Los Angeles assumed a 16-0 lead after three periods on touchdowns by tight end Bob Klein on a four-yard pass from John Hadl and Tony Baker's two-yard plunge, plus David Ray's 20-yard field goal. Bill Munson completed touchdown passes of 34 yards to Ron Jessie, who caught six passes for 149 yards, and one yard to Charlie Sanders for Detroit in the final period.

Detroit 0 0 13 13 Los Angeles 0 10 0 16 LA-Klein 4 pass from Hadl (Ray kick)

LA-FG Ray 20

LA-Baker 2 run (kick failed)

Det-Jessie 34 pass from Munson (Mann kick)

Det-Sanders 1 pass from Munson (kick failed)

#### Minnesota 23. Dallas 21 Sunday, October 6 At Texas Stadium, attendance 57,847.

Minnesota won its fourth straight game on Fred Cox's 27-yard field goal with one second remaining. Minnesota had fallen behind 21-20, with 2:26 remaining, when Fran Tarkenton directed a drive from the Vikings' 22 to set up the Cox field goal - his third of the game and 236th of his career. Cox replaced Lou Groza as runner-up to George Blanda, who has kicked the most field goals in NFL history. Chuck Foreman scored twice for Minnesota on passes from Tarkenton that covered 66 and 13 yards, while catching five for 131 yards and rushing for 72.

Minnesota 10 23 Dallas 0 0 21 Dal-Richards 58 pass from Staubach (Herrera kick)

Minn-FG Cox 46

Minn-Foreman 66 pass from Tarkenton (Cox kick)

Minn-FG Cox 30

Minn-Foreman 13 pass from Tarkenton (Cox kick)

Dal-Garrison 5 pass from Staubach (Herrera kick)

Dal-Hill 6 run (Herrera kick)

Minn-FG Cox 27

## Chicago 24, New Orleans 10 Sunday, October 6 At Soldier Field, attendance 45,818.

Bears quarterback Gary Huff ran for one touchdown and passed 39 yards to Bo Rather for another to even Chicago's record at 2-2. Rookie Ken Grandberry scored on an 11-yard run and rushed for 76 yards to pace the Bears' attack. The defense limited New Orleans to 168 yards and sacked the Saints' passer four times.

New Orleans 10 7 24 Chicago 10

Chi-Grandberry 11 run (Roder kick)

NO-Maxson 8 pass from Manning (McClard kick)

Chi-Huff 1 run (Roder kick)

Chi-FG Roder 30

NO-FG McClard 21

Chi-Rather 39 pass from Huff (Roder kick)

## Oakland 40, Cleveland 24 Sunday, October 6

At Municipal Stadium, attendance 65,247.

Ken Stabler fired scoring passes to Fred Biletnikoff, Clarence Davis, and Cliff Branch as the Raiders came back from an early 10-0 deficit. Charlie Hall's 29-yard interception return and a Don Cockroft FG got the Browns off to their quick lead before the Raiders' balanced attack began to function. Davis carried 18 times for 116 yards and a touchdown in addition to his four receptions for 82 yards and a score. George Atkinson had three of the five Oakland interceptions against Mike Phipps and his backup Brian Sipe.

Oakland 16 14 3 Cleveland 17 0 24

Cle-Hall 29 interception return (Cockroft kick)

Cle-FG Cockroft 46

Oak-Biletnikoff 11 pass from Stabler (Blanda kick)

Cle-Pruitt 34 pass from Phipps (Cockroft kick)

Oak-Davis 45 pass from Stabler (Blanda kick)

Oak-Safety, Sistrunk tackled K. Brown in end zone

Oak-Banaszak 3 run (Blanda kick)

Oak-Branch 10 pass from Stabler (Blanda kick)

Oak-Davis 1 run (Blanda kick)

Cle-McKinnis 44 run (Cockroft kick)

Oak-FG Blanda 30

## Philadelphia 13, San Diego 7 Sunday, October 6

## At San Diego Stadium, attendance 36,013.

Philadelphia intercepted four San Diego passes and scored a touchdown on Bill Dunstan's 46-yard run after recovering a fumble to win the interconference game. Dunstan picked off the ball in mid air when QB Dan Fouts was hit by Randy Logan while attempting to pass. Don Woods, the Chargers' bargain rookie, had his second straight 100-yard plus rushing game (21 for 133) and moved into second place in the AFC rushing race. Po James was the top Eagles' rusher with 15 for 87 yards and also caught six passes for 26 yards. Logan's interception against Fouts led Philadelphia to its second score.

Philadelphia 0 13 San Diego 0 7 0 0 7

Phil-Dunstan 46 fumble recovery return (kick blocked)

Phil-Sullivan 1 run (Dempsey kick)

SD-Garrison 6 pass from Fouts (Partee kick)

Pittsburgh 13, Houston 7 Sunday, October 6

#### At Astrodome, attendance 30,049.

Preston Pearson came off the bench and ran for 117 yards in 15 carries, scoring the winning touchdown after Roy Gerela kicked two field goals. Billy Johnson, Houston's quick little rookie from Widener, raced 47 yards for a score on an end-around play. The Oilers lost scoring chances on penalties, two fumbles, and an interception. Joe Gilliam passed for 202 yards but was intercepted twice by safety Tom Maxwell.

Pittsburgh 0 3 3 7 - 13 Houston 0 7 0 0 - 7

Hou-B. Johnson 47 run (Butler kick)

Pitt-FG Gerela 37 Pitt-FG Gerela 27

Pitt-Pearson 9 run (Gerela kick)

## St. Louis 34, San Francisco 9 Sunday, October 6 At Candlestick Park, attendance 47,675.

After falling behind 0-9, the Cardinals erupted to score on five consecutive ball possessions, beginning late in the second period on Terry Metcalf's 24-yard run to climax an 84-yard march. St. Louis' 24-point third period included scoring passes of 57 and 59 yards from Jim Hart to Mel Gray, who made three receptions for 124 yards. For the third time in their four consecutive victories, the Cardinals' blockers did not permit Hart to be sacked as he moved into second place among NFC passers.

St. Louis 0 7 24 3 - 34 San Francisco 6 3 0 0 - 9

SF-Washington 58 pass from Reed (kick failed)

SF-FG Gossett 20

StL-Metcalf 24 run (Bakken kick)

StL-Gray 57 pass from Hart (Bakken kick)

StL-Anderson 4 pass from Hart (Bakken kick)

StL-FG Bakken 47

StL-Gray 59 pass from Hart (Bakken kick)

StL-FG Bakken 42

## Cincinnati 28, Washington 17 Sunday, October 6 At Riverfront Stadium, attendance 56,175.

Lemar Parrish scored on a 90-yard punt return and a 47-yard run after recovering Larry Smith's fumble as the Bengals defeated Washington for the first time. Parrish's punt return, which was the longest of the season in the AFC, and a scoring strike from Ken Anderson to Isaac Curtis put the home club out front to stay in the interconference test. Sonny Jurgensen took over for Billy Kilmer in the last quarter and threw two touchdown passes to Moses Denson and Jerry Smith. QB Anderson led the Cincinnati rushers with 70 yards on seven carries. Tommy Casanova's 38-yard punt return set up the final Bengal score.

Washington 0 3 0 14 - 17 Cincinnati 7 7 7 7 - 28

Cin-Parrish 90 punt return (Muhlmann kick)

Cin-Curtis 24 pass from Anderson (Muhlmann kick)

Wash-FG Moseley 31

Cin-Parrish 47 fumble recovery return (Muhlmann kick)

Cin-B. Clark 3 run (Muhlmann kick)

Wash-Denson 4 pass from Jurgensen (Moseley kick)

Wash-J. Smith 22 pass from Jurgensen (Moseley kick)

## Miami 21, New York Jets 17 Monday Night, October 7 At Orange Bowl, attendance 61,527.

Bob Griese hit with nine straight passes and Miami built up a 14-0 halftime lead but had to fight off a closing surge by Joe Namath that included an 89-scoring pass to Rich Caster, the longest of the season in the NFL. Jake Scott had two of the three interceptions against Namath, the last coming on a deflected ball with 19 seconds to go. CB Tim Foley also broke up a Namath pass to Jerome Barkum in a vital defensive play in the closing minute. The Dolphins played without injured Paul Warfield and Mercury Morris.

New York Jets	0	0	10	7	-	17
Miami	7	7	0	7	-	21

Mia-Mandich 2 pass from Griese (Yepremian kick)

Mia-Csonka 1 run (Yepremian kick)

NYJ-Riggins 9 pass from Namath (Howfield kick)

NYJ-FG Howfield 43

Mia-Ginn 41 run (Yepremian kick)

NYJ-Caster 89 pass from Namath (Howfield kick)

#### FIFTH WEEK

## Buffalo 27, Baltimore 14 Sunday, October 13

#### At Memorial Stadium, attendance 36,314.

Buffalo struck for first-half touchdowns on Neal Craig's 55-yard interception return and a 47-yard pass by Joe Ferguson, but didn't lock it up until Larry Watkins scored with one minute to play. It was the fifth straight defeat for the Colts, who pulled to within 17-14 on Lydell Mitchell's touchdown in the third quarter. O. J. Simpson gained 127 yards on 23 carries and the Bills' defensive unit sacked QB Ben Jones five times for 43 yards. Mitchell gained 81 yards and Bill Olds 70 for the Colts.

 Buffalo
 0
 17
 0
 10
 27

 Baltimore
 0
 7
 7
 0
 14

Buff-FG Leypoldt 28

Balt-Jones 9 run (Linhart kick)

Buff-Craig 55 interception return (Leypoldt kick)

Buff-Hill 47 pass from Ferguson (Leypoldt kick)

Balt-Mitchell 6 run (Linhart kick)

Buff-FG Leypoldt 33

Buff-Watkins 1 run (Leypoldt kick)

## Atlanta 13, Chicago 10 Sunday, October 13

#### At Atlanta Stadium, attendance 47,835.

Nick Mike-Mayer kicked a 31-yard field goal with six seconds remaining to give Atlanta its second straight victory. The winning three-pointer was set up by a pair of completions from Bob Lee to Louis Neal for 21 yards and to Ken Burrow for 28 to the Chicago 14-yard line. The Falcons had taken possession at their own 36, with only 37 seconds remaining.

Chicago 0 0 0 10 - 10 Atlanta 0 7 3 3 - 13

Atl-Lee 1 run (Mike-Mayer kick)

Atl-FG Mike-Mayer 35

Chi-Rather 59 pass from Huff (Roder kick)

Chi-FG Roder 37

Atl-FG Mike-Mayer 31

## Cincinnati 34, Cleveland 24 Sunday, October 13 At Cleveland Stadium, attendance 70,897.

The Bengals scored their first victory ever in Cleveland as they completed a sweep of their annual two-game series with the Browns on a four-touchdown performance by Ken Anderson who threw for three scores and ran for the fourth. Anderson hit Isaac Curtis, Lenvil Elliott, and Charlie Joiner on TD passes while completing 19 of 29 for 278 yards to move into second place among AFC passers. His 19-yard scoring run was part of his 46-yard rushing effort. Greg Pruitt ran for 83 yards for Cleveland and also threw a halfback option pass for a TD to Gloster Richardson.

Cincinnati 13 7 7 7 - 34 Cleveland 3 7 7 7 - 24

Cin-B. Clark 2 run (kick blocked)

Cle-FG Cockroft 27

Cin-Elliott 28 pass from Anderson (Muhlmann kick)

Cin-Joiner 65 pass from Anderson (Muhlmann kick)

Cle-Morin 9 pass from Phipps (Cockroft kick)

Cle-K. Brown 20 run (Cockroft kick)

Cin-Anderson 19 run (Muhlmann kick)

Cin-Curtis 18 pass from Anderson (Muhlmann kick)

Cle-Richardson 60 pass from Pruitt (Cockroft kick)

## St. Louis 31, Dallas 28 Sunday, October 13

#### At Busch Memorial Stadium, attendance 49,885.

Jim Bakken kicked a 31-yard field goal with 62 seconds remaining to provide the Cardinals with their fifth straight victory. Terry Metcalf's 56-yard kickoff return to the Dallas 34 set up the winning field goal and he moved into the NFC lead in both punt and kickoff returns. Dallas rookie Dennis Morgan tied the NFL record for the longest punt return when he ran 98 yards for a touchdown to open the game's scoring. The game also featured the longest pass play of the season in the NFC, an 81-yarder from Gary Hammond to Jackie Smith, setting up a Cardinals' score.

Dallas 7 7 0 14 - 28 St. Louis 0 21 7 3 - 31

Dal-Morgan 98 punt return (Herrera kick)

StL-Anderson 1 run (Bakken kick)

StL-Gray 80 pass from Hart (Bakken kick)

Dal-Fugett 24 pass from Staubach (Herrera kick)

StL-Smith 19 pass from Hart (Bakken kick)

StL-Metcalf 8 run (Bakken kick)

Dal-Garrison 1 run (Herrera kick)

Dal-Staubach 1 run (Herrera kick)

StL-FG Bakken 31

## Minnesota 51, Houston 10 Sunday, October 13

#### At Metropolitan Stadium, attendance 48,006.

The Vikings rolled up the NFL's highest point total and most yards, 502, through the first five weeks as they recorded their fifth straight victory. The loss marked Houston's 13th interconference game without a win (record vs. NFC teams: 0-12-1). Minnesota's Chuck Foreman scored two touchdowns for the third time in a game, giving him a total of eight. Fran Tarkenton completed 18 of 24 for 274 yards and three touchdowns. Nate Wright had his sixth interception.

Houston 3 0 7 0 - 10 Minnesota 16 14 7 14 - 51

Minn-Gilliam 80 pass from Tarkenton (Cox kick)

Hou-FG Butler 29

Minn-FG Cox 42

Minn-Voigt 10 pass from Tarkenton (kick failed)

Minn-Marinaro 1 run (Cox kick)

Minn-Foreman 6 run (Cox kick)

Hou-V. Washington 2 run (Butler kick)

Minn-Foreman 24 pass from Tarkenton (Cox kick)

Minn-Craig 10 pass from Berry (Cox kick)

Minn-McCullum 20 pass from Berry (Cox kick)

## Green Bay 17, Los Angeles 6 Sunday, October 13

## At Milwaukee County Stadium, attendance 45,938.

Jon Staggers returned a punt 68 yards for a touchdown and Interceptions by Willie Buchanon and Ted Hendricks set up a field goal and a John Brockington touchdown as the Packers won their third game. Linebacker Hendricks had three interceptions. Los Angeles running back Lawrence McCutcheon rushed for 109 yards for his third 100-plus game of the season.

Los Angeles 0 3 0 3 - 6 Green Bay 0 7 3 7 - 17

LA-FG Ray 28

GB-Staggers 68 punt return (Marcol kick)

GB-FG Marcol 32

LA-FG Ray 28

GB-Brockington 5 run (Marcol kick)

## Washington 20, Miami 17 Sunday, October 13

At Robert F. Kennedy Stadium, attendance 54,395.

Making his first start of the season, Redskins quarterback Sonny Jurgensen

capped an outstanding performance by completing six of seven passes in the final two minutes to produce the victory. Jurgensen's six-yard scoring pass to running back Larry Smith, with 16 seconds remaining, climaxed a 60-yard drive. Jurgensen completed 26 of 39 passes for 303 yards and two touchdowns. It was the 25th time that the 40-year-old Jurgensen had passed for more than 300 yards in a game.

Miami 0 7 3 7 - 17 Washington 0 0 3 17 - 20

Mia-Ginn 6 run (Yepremian kick)

Mia-FG Yepremian 32

Wash-FG Moseley 40

Wash-Jefferson 37 pass from Jurgensen (Moseley kick)

Wash-FG Moseley 41

Mia-Twilley 13 pass from Griese (Yepremian kick)

Wash-L. Smith 6 pass from Jurgensen (Moseley kick)

## New England 24, New York Jets 0 Sunday, October 13

## At Shea Stadium, attendance 57,828.

Undefeated New England rolled to its fifth consecutive victory, ruining the home debut of the Jets who were shut out at home for the first time. The Patriots hadn't won in New York since 1965 and were 1-1-12 against Joe Namath, who was able to complete only 7 of 21 passes and was intercepted twice. Sam Cunningham gained 64 yards and scored twice and Mack Herron rushed for 59 and wound up with 173 yards of total offense holding onto his dual leadership in both return categories. John Riggins' 100-yard rushing was some solace to the Jets who gained only 34 net yards passing.

New England 7 3 0 14 - 24 New York Jets 0 0 0 0 - 0

NE-Cunningham 6 run (Smith kick)

NE-FG Smith 37

NE-Cunningham 1 run (Smith kick)

NE-Geddes 29 interception return (Smith kick)

## Denver 33, New Orleans 17 Sunday, October 13 At Mile High Stadium, attendance 50,751.

Steve Ramsey, former New Orleans quarterback, made his first start in two years and threw two scoring passes for Denver. Ramsey replaced the ailing Charley Johnson and completed 17 of 27 for 295 yards with TD strikes to Riley Odoms and Billy Van Heusen. Otis Armstrong burst through the Saints defense for two scores and gained 57 yards. The Broncos' 397-yard offense was their best in the first five games.

New Orleans 10 0 7 0 - 17 Denver 7 19 7 0 - 33

Den-Armstrong 3 run (Turner kick)

NO-FG McClard 52

NO-Schmidt 24 interception return (McClard kick)

Den-Odoms 3 pass from Ramsey (Turner kick)

Den-Thompson 38 interception return (kick failed)

Den-Armstrong 1 run (kick failed)

NO-McNeill 1 run (McClard kick)

Den-Van Heusen 43 pass from Ramsey (Turner kick)

## Philadelphia 35, New York Giants 7 Sunday, October 13

## At Veterans Stadium, attendance 64,801.

The Eagles spotted the Giants a 7-0 lead then got their offense in gear to record their fourth straight victory. Roman Gabriel's touchdown passes of four yards to Don Zimmerman and five yards to Harold Carmichael were his first scoring throws of the season. Tom Sullivan scored three times from one yard out. Philadelphia's defense continued its much-improved performance and had permitted the fewest points in the NFL, 41, after five games.

New York Giants 7 0 0 0 - 7
Philadelphia 0 14 14 7 - 35

NYG-McQuay 2 run (Gogolak kick)

Phil-Sullivan 1 run (Dempsey kick)

Phil-Zimmerman 4 pass from Gabriel (Dempsey kick)

Phil-Carmichael 5 pass from Gabriel (Dempsey kick)

Phil-Sullivan 1 run (Dempsey kick)

Phil-Sullivan 1 run (Dempsey kick)

## Pittsburgh 34, Kansas City 24 Sunday, October 13

## At Arrowhead Stadium, attendance 65,517.

Seven interceptions and two fumble recoveries helped Pittsburgh turn back Kansas City despite three touchdown passes by Mike Livingston. Three Chiefs quarterbacks threw 49 passes, a club record, but completed only 16. Glen Edwards, Jack Ham, and Jack Lambert each picked off two passes and the Steelers sacked Livingston three times. Joe Gilliam was on target at key stages, completing 14 of 36 for 214 yards and one touchdown. The Chiefs led twice in the early stages but were able to make only 58 yards rushing.

Pittsburgh 7 17 10 0 - 34 Kansas City 3 7 7 7 - 24

KC-FG Stenerud 31

Pitt-Bleier 2 run (Gerela kick)

KC-Pearson 13 pass from Livingston (Stenerud kick)

Pitt-Pearson 3 run (Gerela kick)

Pitt-Edwards 49 interception return (Gerela kick)

Pitt-FG Gerela 32

KC-Taylor 10 pass from Livingston (Stenerud kick)

Pitt-FG Gerela 45

Pitt-Lewis 31 pass from Gilliam (Gerela kick)

KC-Wright 13 pass from Livingston (Stenerud kick)

## Oakland 14, San Diego 10 Sunday, October 13

#### At San Diego Stadium, attendance 40,013.

Oakland rallied to win on a fourth quarter pass from Ken Stabler to Bob Moore but rookie Don Woods thrilled the San Diego crowd with his third straight 100-yard plus day to move into second place among AFC rushers with 429 yards. Woods carried 17 times for 118 yards and scored on a seven-yard run in a losing effort. Oakland trailed 10-7 going to the last quarter and Stabler marched the Raiders 80 yards in 14 plays and found Moore in the end zone for the winner. Mary Hubbard with 94 yards and Clarence Davis with 83 yards led the Raiders' 202-yard ground game.

Oakland 0 7 0 7 - 14 San Diego 0 3 7 0 - 10

SD-FG Wersching 42

Oak-Branch 46 pass from Stabler (Blanda kick)

SD-Woods 7 run (Partee kick)

Oak-Moore 4 pass from Stabler (Blanda kick)

## Detroit 17, San Francisco 13 Monday Night, October 14 At Tiger Stadium, attendance 45,199.

The Lions snapped their four-game losing streak as Steve Owens rushed for 60 yards, including a one-yard touchdown, and Larry Walton caught a 13-yard scoring pass from Bill Munson for the decisive points in the final period. San Francisco's Danny Abramowicz caught three passes to tie Lance Alworth's NFL record of catching at least one pass in 96 consecutive games.

San Francisco 3 0 3 7 - 13 Detroit 0 10 0 7 - 17

SF-FG Gossett 27

Det-Owens 1 run (Mann kick)

Det-FG Mann 31

SF-FG Gossett 19

Det-L. Walton 13 pass from Munson (Mann kick)

SF-Jackson 11 pass from Morrison (Gossett kick)

## SIXTH WEEK

Baltimore 35, New York Jets 20 Sunday, October 20 At Shea Stadium, attendance 51,745.

Lydell Mitchell set a National Football League record with 40 carries while

gaining 156 yards and scoring once in Baltimore's first victory of the season. After losing five in a row and changing coaches in the midst of the slump, the Colts came to life in New York with 355 offensive yards behind quarterback Bert Jones. In addition to throwing a scoring pass to Cotton Speyrer, Jones rushed for 92 yards and two touchdowns. New York was held to 60 yards rushing, scoring on a blocked punt in the second quarter and two touchdown passes by Joe Namath in the last three minutes.

Baltimore 7 14 0 14 - 35 New York Jets 0 7 0 13 - 20

Balt-Jones 9 run (Linhart kick)

Balt-Speyrer 15 pass from Jones (Linhart kick)

NYJ-Owens fumble recovery in end zone (Howfield kick)

Balt-Orduna 2 run (Linhart kick)

Balt-Mitchell 1 run (Linhart kick)

NYJ-Knight 13 pass from Namath (Howfield kick)

Balt-Jones 32 run (Linhart kick)

NYJ-Barkum 7 pass from Namath (kick failed)

## Oakland 30, Cincinnati 27 Sunday, October 20

## At Oakland-Alameda County Coliseum, attendance 51,821.

Charlie Smith swept wide for two vital yards and a winning touchdown with eight seconds to play and no more time outs in a comeback victory. The Raiders gave up the ball on a punt with three minutes to go and then stopped the Bengals and mounted the winning drive with Ken Stabler throwing to Fred Biletnikoff, Bob Moore, and Mike Siani in key plays. Oakland intercepted Ken Anderson twice and sacked him four times but Stabler was dumped five times by the Bengals who also recovered two fumbles in a seesaw game. Oakland's Cliff Branch took over the AFC receiving lead with seven catches for 96 yards.

Cincinnati 14 0 0 13 - 27 Oakland 3 3 14 10 - 30

Oak-FG Blanda 49

Cin-Dressler 1 run (Muhlmann kick)

Cin-B. Clark 3 run (Muhlmann kick)

Oak-FG Blanda 31

Oak-Hubbard 2 run (Blanda kick)

Oak-Banaszak 1 run (Blanda kick)

Cin-Trumpy 10 pass from Anderson (Muhlmann kick)

Oak-FG Blanda 18

Cin-Dressler 3 run (kick failed)

Oak-C. Smith 2 run (Blanda kick)

## Pittsburgh 20, Cleveland 16 Sunday, October 20 At Three Rivers Stadium, attendance 48.100.

Roy Gerela kicked two decisive field goals despite a leg injury and Glen Edwards picked off a desperation fourth-down pass by Mike Phipps in the final minute to save a Pittsburgh victory. Joe Gilliam completed only five of 18 passes for a net 66 yards against the aroused Browns. The Steelers sacked Phipps six times for 33 yards. Franco Harris rushed for 81 yards and one touchdown on 14 carries.

Cleveland 0 13 0 3 - 16 Pittsburgh 7 7 3 3 - 20

Pitt-Pearson 6 run (Gerela kick)

Pitt-Harris 1 run (Gerela kick)

Cle-Phipps 18 run (Cockroft kick)

Cle-Morin 9 pass from Phipps (kick blocked)

Pitt-FG Gerela 31 Cle-FG Cockroft 21

Pitt-FG Gerela 26

## Detroit 20, Minnesota 16 Sunday, October 20 At Metropolitan Stadium, attendance 47,807.

Bill Munson completed three passes for 38 yards and three first downs and Altie Taylor scored from the 8 to climax Detroit's 60-yard winning drive early in the fourth period. The victory was the Lions' first over the Vikings in 14

games since 1967. Cornerback Lem Barney preserved the triumph when he intercepted a Fran Tarkenton pass in the end zone with six seconds remaining. Munson completed 22 of 32 passes for 276 yards.

Detroit O 7 7 Minnesota O 3 13 0 16 Minn-FG Cox 23

Det-FG Mann 36 Det-FG Mann 27

Minn-Foreman 1 run (Cox kick) Det-Taylor 1 run (Mann kick)

Minn-Foreman 9 pass from Tarkenton (kick blocked)

Det-Taylor 8 run (Mann kick)

## Miami 9, Kansas City 3 Sunday, October 20 At Orange Bowl, attendance 67,779.

Larry Csonka's one-yard run with 17 seconds to play enabled the Dolphins to come from behind and nip the Chiefs. Kansas City scored first on a 21-yard field goal by Jan Stenerud and Miami narrowed the gap to 3-2 with a safety when Tim Foley blocked a Jerrel Wilson punt that bounced out of the end zone. Woody Green, the Chiefs number one draft choice, made his first start and led all rushers with 98 yards on 24 carries.

Kansas City 0 3 Miami

KC-FG Stenerud 21

Mia-Safety, Foley blocked punt out of end zone

Mia-Csonka 1 run (Yepremian kick)

## Buffalo 30, New England 28 Sunday, October 20 At Rich Stadium, attendance 78,926.

O. J. Simpson gained 122 yards and Joe Ferguson threw three touchdown passes as Buffalo snapped New England's five-game winning streak and moved into a first-place tie in the AFC East. Sam Cunningham ran 75 yards for a score on the first play from scrimmage; it was the longest AFC run from scrimmage in 1974 and the first of his three TDs as Cunningham became the leading scorer in the conference. The Bills however came right back with 20 points in the first quarter and never yielded the lead. Simpson ran for one TD and caught a TD pass and Paul Seymour caught two TD passes.

New England 7 7 7 7 Buffalo 20 0 3 30

NE-Cunningham 75 run (Smith kick)

Buff-Seymour 10 pass from Ferguson (Leypoldt kick)

Buff-Simpson 29 pass from Ferguson (kick blocked)

Buff-Simpson 1 run (Leypoldt kick)

NE-Cunningham 12 run (Smith kick)

Buff-Seymour 40 pass from Ferguson (Leypoldt kick)

NE-Cunningham 1 run (Smith kick)

Buff-FG Leypoldt 35

NE-Rucker 12 pass from Plunkett (Smith kick)

## New Orleans 13, Atlanta 3 Sunday, October 20 At Atlanta Stadium, attendance 47,217.

Saints quarterback Bobby Scott, making his first start, directed a 62-yard drive in the second period that climaxed with a 36-yard touchdown pass to Paul Seal, and Bill McClard added two field goals as New Orleans won its first road game in 19 trips since 1971. The Saints rushed for 232 yards on 55 attempts, with rookie Alvin Maxson getting 91, Howard Stevens 62, and Jess Phillips 49. New Orleans' defense had seven sacks.

New Orleans 0 10 3 0 13 Atlanta 3 0 3

Atl-FG Mike-Mayer 47

NO-Seal 36 pass from Scott (McClard kick)

NO-FG McClard 41

NO-FG McClard 31

## At Robert F. Kennedy Stadium, attendance 53,879.

Sunday, October 20

Capitalizing on a blocked punt and two interceptions, Washington quarterback Sonny Jurgensen threw three touchdown passes, lifting his lifetime total to 251. Three plays after Mike Hull blocked a New York punt, Jurgensen connected on a two-yard scoring pass to Roy Jefferson. Jurgensen later hit Moses Denson and Larry Brown for touchdowns, following interceptions by Brig Owens and Chris Hanburger.

New York Giants 0 3 0 n 3 Washington 7 14 3 24

NYG-FG Gogolak 30

Wash-Jefferson 2 pass from Jurgensen (Moseley kick) Wash-Brown 10 pass from Jurgensen (Moseley kick) Wash-Denson 15 pass from Jurgensen (Moseley kick) Wash-FG Moseley 37

## Dallas 31, Philadelphia 24 Sunday, October 20

## At Texas Stadium, attendance 43,586.

Cowboys linebacker Dave Edwards recovered a fumble at the Philadelphia 37 to set up the third of Calvin Hill's three touchdowns which tied the game at 24-24. Later Roger Staubach scored the decisive touchdown from the 1 with 9:44 remaining as Dallas ended a four-game losing streak and snapped the Eagles' four-game winning string. Hill's touchdowns were on runs of 5, 17, and 2 yards as he rushed for 140 yards on 26 carries. In the match-up of the NFC's leading pass receivers, Cowboys' Drew Pearson caught 5 for 75 yards and Harold Carmichael had 5 for 85 yards and one TD for the Eagles as the two men remained 1 and 2 respectively.

Philadelphia 0 7 24 17 0 31 Dallas 14 10 7

Dal-Hill 5 run (Herrera kick)

Phil-Carmichael 14 pass from Gabriel (Dempsey kick)

Dal-Hill 17 run (Herrera kick)

Phil-James 1 run (Dempsey kick)

Phil-FG Dempsey 39

Dal-FG Herrera 29

Phil-Zimmerman 64 pass from Gabriel (Dempsey kick)

Dal-Hill 2 run (Herrera kick)

Dal-Staubach 1 run (Herrera kick)

## St. Louis 31, Houston 27 Sunday, October 20 At Astrodome, attendance 26,371.

St. Louis remained the only unbeaten team in the NFL, winning its sixth straight despite a strong closing bid by Houston's Dan Pastorini. Jim Hart converted two Oilers' fumbles into scoring passes to Earl Thomas within a space of 92 seconds in the second quarter. Pastorini completed 26 of 40 passes for 354 yards and led the Oilers back to within four points of the lead on scoring drives of 60 and 65 yards in the fourth guarter, each ending with a touchdown by George Amundson. Houston's Billy Johnson's 144 yards in kickoff returns lifted him back into the AFC lead in that category.

St. Louis 14 31 7 3 7 -Houston 10 0 14 27 3

StL-Otis 1 run (Bakken kick)

Hou-FG Butler 28

Hou-Montgomery 8 pass from Pastorini (Butler kick)

StL-Thomas 6 pass from Hart (Bakken kick)

StL-Thomas 40 pass from Hart (Bakken kick)

Hou-FG Butler 24

StL-FG Bakken 25

StL-Anderson 5 run (Bakken kick)

Hou-Amundson 1 run (Butler kick)

Hou-Amundson 1 run (Butler kick)

Denver 27, San Diego 7 Sunday, October 20

At Mile High Stadium, attendance 50,748.

Floyd Little burst through the Chargers' defense for 194 yards of total offense

with 15 carries for 67 yards and 7 pass receptions for 127 yards as Denver moved over the .500 level for the first time. Otis Armstrong teamed with Little and ran for 98 yards on 20 rushes while Charley Johnson, who sat out one game, returned with 9 completions in 12 attempts and one touchdown. Johnson and Little combined on a 72-yard play that led to the clinching score.

San Diego 0 n Denver 10 27 7 3 Den-Odoms 5 pass from Johnson (Turner kick) Den-Little 6 run (Turner kick) Den-FG Turner 34 SD-Bonner 1 run (Partee kick) Den-Armstrong 10 run (Turner kick) Den-FG Turner 20

## Los Angeles 37, San Francisco 14 Sunday, October 20 At Memorial Coliseum, attendance 67,319.

Quarterback James Harris, making his first start as a replacement for John Hadl, completed his first seven passes (two for touchdowns) and scored himself as the Rams rolled to a 27-0 lead. Harris finished with 12 completions in 15 attempts for 276 yards and three touchdowns. Dan Abramowicz broke Lance Alworth's NFL record by catching at least one pass for the 97th consecutive game.

San Francisco 0 14 Los Angeles 14 13 10 37 LA-Elmendorf 52 interception return (Ray kick) LA-McCutcheon 50 pass from Harris (Ray kick) LA-McCutcheon 13 pass from Harris (Ray kick) LA-Harris 4 run (kick failed) SF-Beasley 13 pass from Owen (Gossett kick) SF-Jackson 24 pass from Owen (Gossett kick) LA-FG Ray 46 LA-Jackson 44 pass from Harris (Ray kick)

## Chicago 10, Green Bay 9 Monday Night, October 21 At Soldier Field, attendance 50,623.

Mirro Roder kicked a 23-yard field goal and Gary Huff combined with Charley Wade for a 57-yard touchdown in the first period as the Bears scored their third victory to match their 1973 win total. Chicago's defense continued its outstanding play, limiting Green Bay to three field goals and preventing an opponent from scoring a touchdown in the second half for the fifth straight game.

**Green Bay** Chicago 10 Chi-FG Roder 23 Chi-Wade 57 pass from Huff (Roder kick) GB-FG Marcol 34 GB-FG Marcol 33 GB-FG Marcol 36

#### **SEVENTH WEEK**

## Miami 17, Baltimore 7 Sunday, October 27

At Orange Bowl, attendance 65,868.

Don Nottingham and rookie Benny Malone each ran for over 100 yards in relief of the injured Larry Csonka and Jim Kiick in a 371-yard Dolphins' offensive effort against the Colts. Nottingham stepped in when Csonka wrenched an ankle and carried 19 times for 102 yards and one score. Malone, replacing Kiick who had 12 yards on six carries, rambled 104 yards on 19 carries and one TD. The lone Baltimore score came on an option pass from Don McCauley to Glenn Doughty after rookie DE Fred Cook recovered a fumble.

**Baltimore** 0 7 17 Miami 0 7 Mia-FG Yepremian 23

Balt-Doughty 11 pass from McCauley (Linhart kick) Mia-Nottingham 2 run (Yepremian kick) Mia-Malone 23 run (Yepremian kick)

#### Buffalo 16, Chicago 6 Sunday, October 27 At Rich Stadium, attendance 78,084.

Tony Greene's sixth interception set up Buffalo's only touchdown by Larry Watkins which, combined with three field goals by John Leypoldt, helped the Bills down the Bears in an interconference game. O. J. Simpson was limited to 62 yards, 26 of them on his first three carries. Gary Huff completed 16 of 36 for 204 yards, six each to Carl Garrett and Charley Wade but couldn't crack the Bills' pass defense that had allowed only three TD passes.

Chicago 0 3 3 Buffalo 10 0 0 6 16 Buff-FG Leypoldt 47 Buff-Watkins 1 run (Leypoldt kick) Chi-FG Roder 42 Buff-FG Leypoldt 25 Chi-FG Roder 28 Buff-FG Leypoldt 36

## Dallas 21. New York Giants 7 Sunday, October 27 At Yale Bowl, attendance 57,381.

Drew Pearson, who earlier caught a 32-yard touchdown pass from Roger Staubach to give Dallas a 14-0 lead, threw a 46-yard scoring pass to Golden Richards in the third period after taking a lateral from Staubach. The Pearson pass provided a cushion for the Cowboys because Giants defensive end Roy Hilton had recovered a fumble and dashed 71 yards to score earlier in the period. Craig Morton, who was traded from Dallas to New York six days before the game, completed 11 passes against his former teammates, but was intercepted three times while playing the final three periods.

7

14 0 21 New York Giants 0 0 0 Dal-Garrison 1 run (Herrera kick) Dal-Pearson 32 pass from Staubach (Herrera kick) NYG-Hilton 71 fumble recovery return (Gogolak kick) Dal-Richards 46 pass from Pearson (Herrera kick)

## Cleveland 23, Denver 21 Sunday, October 27 At Cleveland Stadium, attendance 60,478.

Brian Sipe, making his second appearance of the year, replaced Mike Phipps in the final period and scored twice in the Browns' come-from-behind victory over the Broncos. Denver opened up a 14-0 lead on scoring passes by Charley Johnson to Riley Odoms and Jerry Simmons before Sipe started to work. A 72-yard punt return by Greg Pruitt set up the winning touchdown with 2:53 to play. Don Cockroft's first-down pass on a fake punt sparked the drive to Sipe's first score. Otis Armstrong gained 142 yards for the Broncos.

Denver 7 7 0 -7 21 Cleveland 0 3 14 23 Den-Odoms 12 pass from Johnson (Turner kick) Den-Simmons 13 pass from Johnson (Turner kick)

Cle-FG Cockroft 27 Cle-FG Cockroft 30

Cle-FG Cockroft 25

Den-Armstrong 33 run (Turner kick)

Cle-Sipe 8 run (Cockroft kick)

Cle-Sipe 1 run (Cockroft kick)

## Detroit 19, Green Bay 17 Sunday, October 27 At Tiger Stadium, attendance 51,775.

Errol Mann, who had a 27-yard field goal attempt blocked with 1:58 remaining, kicked a 41-yard three-pointer with nine seconds left to provide the Lions with their third straight victory. Detroit moved from its own 40 to Green Bay's 23 on four pass completions by Bill Munson on the final drive to

set up the field goal by Mann, who also kicked a 34-yarder. Munson completed 17 of 32 passes for 237 yards.

Green Bay 0 7 3 7 - 17 Detroit 3 6 7 3 - 19

Det-FG Mann 34

Det-C. Sanders 11 pass from Munson (kick failed)

GB-Brockington 1 run (Marcol kick)

GB-FG Marcol 49

Det-L. Walton 39 pass from Munson (Mann kick)

GB-Concannon 1 run (Marcol kick)

Det-FG Mann 41

#### Houston 34, Cincinnati 21 Sunday, October 27 At Riverfront Stadium, attendance 55,434.

Houston recovered five Cincinnati fumbles and sacked Ken Anderson five times to upset the Bengals. Defensive end Elvin Bethea ran 38 yards for a TD after recovering a fumble in the last quarter and Dan Pastorini hit Billy Parks with a touchdown pass to seal the victory. Ronnie Carroll recovered three of the fumbles. Anderson set a club record by hitting with 30 of 44 passes for 352 yards and three scores, two to Isaac Curtis and one to Boobie Clark. Anderson had 371 yards total offense, erasing another club record held by Greg Cook.

Houston 3 3 14 14 - 34 Cincinnati 0 7 0 14 - 21

Hous-FG Butler 21

Hous-FG Butler 34

Cin-Curtis 37 pass from Anderson (Muhlmann kick)

Hous-Burrough 47 pass from Pastorini (Butler kick)

Hous-Willis 8 run (Butler kick)

Hous-Bethea 38 fumble recovery return (Butler kick)

Cin-Curtis 14 pass from Anderson (Muhlmann kick)

Hous-Parks 35 pass from Pastorini (Butler kick)

Cin-B. Clark 10 pass from Anderson (Muhlmann kick)

## Kansas City 24, San Diego 14 Sunday, October 27

## At San Diego Stadium, attendance 33,898.

Rookies Woody Green of the Chiefs and Don Woods of the Chargers put on a great show as the two clubs combined for a total of 815 total yards. Green ran for 146 and caught four passes for 98 yards, including a tiebreaking 69-yard touchdown toss from Len Dawson. Woods continued his sensational year with 154 yards rushing; his fourth 100-yard plus game in five starts moved him to within nine yards of the AFC rushing lead. Ed Podolak had 85 yards rushing for the Chiefs.

Kansas Čity 0 7 7 10 - 24 San Diego 7 0 0 7 - 14

SD-Garrison 18 pass from Fouts (Partee kick)

KC-Wright 12 run (Stenerud kick)

KC-Green 2 run (Stenerud kick)

SD-Woods 6 run (Partee kick)

KC-Green 69 pass from Dawson (Stenerud kick)

KC-FG Stenerud 23

## Los Angeles 20, New York Jets 13 Sunday, October 27

## At Shea Stadium, attendance 56,110.

Lawrence McCutcheon boosted his league-leading rushing total to 649 yards by running for 139 and two fourth-quarter touchdowns that sunk the Jets. New York led 13-6 early in the final period before McCutcheon raced 23 yards into the end zone. Charlie Stukes intercepted a Joe Namath pass to set up McCutcheon's second score. In the closing seconds Namath was intercepted again, this time by Steve Preece, to snuff out the last threat. Namath completed 19 of 32 and the Jets scored twice on the ground with Mike Adamle and Emerson Boozer going over.

Los Angeles 6 0 0 14 - 20 New York Jets 0 7 6 0 - 13 LA-Harris 12 run (kick blocked)

NYJ-Adamle 2 run (Gantt kick) NYJ-Boozer 14 run (kick failed) LA-McCutcheon 23 run (Ray kick) LA-McCutcheon 1 run (Ray kick)

## New England 17, Minnesota 14 Sunday, October 27 At Metropolitan Stadium, attendance 48,177.

Jim Plunkett completed a third-and-one pass from his own 35-yard line to Randy Vataha for 55 yards to the Minnesota 10, then connected with Bob Windsor for a decisive 10-yard touchdown with three seconds remaining as the Patriots erased a 14-10 deficit by moving 86 yards in seven plays in the final 1:53 of play. Plunkett completed 15 passes for 238 yards and two touchdowns. Minnesota's Fran Tarkenton gained 281 yards on 19 completions, but had three intercepted.

New England 3 7 0 7 - 17 Minnesota 0 0 0 14 - 14

NE-FG J. Smith 37

NE-Schubert 21 pass from Plunkett (J. Smith kick)

Minn-Foreman 2 run (Cox kick)

Minn-Tarkenton 3 run (Cox kick)

NE-Windsor 10 pass from Plunkett (J. Smith kick)

## Oakland 35, San Francisco 24 Sunday, October 27 At Candlestick Park, attendance 58,524.

After the 49ers had taken a 24-14 lead early in the third period, the Raiders pulled within 24-21 on Pete Banaszak's one-yard touchdown, then turned a pair of San Francisco errors into a pair of decisive touchdowns. George Atkinson's fumble recovery set up a Ken Stabler-to-Dave Casper go-ahead touchdown pass of two yards, and Harold Hart grabbed a 49ers fumble out of the air and dashed 40 yards for the final score.

Oakland 7 7 14 7 - 35 San Francisco 7 3 14 0 - 24

SF-Schreiber 5 pass from Owen (Gossett kick)

Oak-Hubbard 17 run (Blanda kick)

SF-FG Gossett 37

Oak-Branch 64 pass from Stabler (Blanda kick)

SF-Williams 71 run (Gossett kick)

SF-Beasley 21 pass from Owen (Gossett kick)

Oak-Banaszak 1 run (Blanda kick)

Oak-Casper 2 pass from Stabler (Blanda kick)

Oak-Hart 40 fumble recovery return (Blanda kick)

## New Orleans 14, Philadelphia 10 Sunday, October 27 At Tulane Stadium, attendance 57,136.

The Saints used a pair of 77-yard drives to produce their two touchdowns and second straight victory. Archie Manning ended the first march, scoring from four yards out after taking a lateral from Jess Phillips. Phillips then scored the winning touchdown from three yards out, with 1:10 remaining. Manning completed three passes for 45 yards and scrambled for 23 more during the winning drive.

Philadelphia 0 7 3 0 - 10 New Orleans 0 0 7 7 - 14

Phil-Carmichael 5 pass from Gabriel (Dempsey kick)

NO-Manning 4 run (McClard kick)

Phil-FG Dempsey 18

NO-Phillips 3 run (McClard kick)

## St. Louis 23, Washington 20 Sunday, October 27 At Busch Memorial Stadium, attendance 49,410.

The Cardinals winged to their seventh straight victory and increased their NFC Eastern Division lead on a pair of long early touchdowns – a 53-yard interception return by Roger Wehrli and a 52-yard Jim Hart-to-Earl Thomas pass – and a game-ending, 13-play drive that ran out the clock after Washington had pulled within the final margin. Hart, who completed 15 of 19

passes for 200 yards to take the NFC lead in passing, hit Donny Anderson for the 17-yard deciding touchdown late in the third period.

Washington 10 3 20 St. Louis 7 7 0 23

StL-Wehrli 53 interception return (kick blocked)

StL-FG Bakken 47

StL-Thomas 52 pass from Hart (Bakken kick)

Wash-FG Moseley 48

Wash-Brown 2 pass from Jurgensen (Moseley kick)

Wash-FG Moseley 34

StL-Anderson 17 pass from Hart (Bakken kick)

Wash-Brown 13 pass from Jurgensen (Moseley kick)

## Pittsburgh 24, Atlanta 17 Monday Night, October 28

#### At Three Rivers Stadium, attendance 48,094.

Franco Harris set a career high of 141 yards and Rocky Bleier ran for 78 as Terry Bradshaw returned to his old starting quarterback job for the Steelers. The Steelers sacked Bob Lee seven times boosting their league-leading total to 28, but Lee completed touchdown passes to Al Dodd and Ken Burrow to keep it close. L. C. Greenwood had three sacks.

Atlanta 14 0 3 17 Pittsburgh 3 24 14 7

Pitt-Bleier 10 run (Gerela kick)

Pitt-Bradshaw 1 run (Gerela kick)

Atl-Dodd 9 pass from Lee (Mike-Mayer kick)

Atl-Burrow 24 pass from Lee (Mike-Mayer kick)

Pitt-FG Gerela 33

Pitt-Harris 7 run (Gerela kick)

Atl-FG Mike-Mayer 32

#### **EIGHTH WEEK**

## Miami 42, Atlanta 7 Sunday, November 3

## At Orange Bowl, attendance 64,399.

Don Nottingham, filling in for injured Larry Csonka who missed his first game since October 4, 1969, scored three touchdowns and rookie Benny Malone had his second straight 100-yard plus game as the Dolphins defeated the Falcons. Paul Warfield returned to the lineup after missing four games and caught four of Bob Griese's passes. The battle of the Malone brothers was a walkover for Benny with 108 yards while his brother, Art, of the Falcons gained only 27.

Atlanta Miami 14 21 42

Mia-B. Malone 4 run (Yepremian kick)

Mia-Warfield 4 pass from Griese (Yepremian kick)

Atl-Hampton 2 run (Mike-Mayer kick)

Mia-Nottingham 1 run (Yepremian kick)

Mia-Mandich 18 pass from Griese (Yepremian kick)

Mia-Nottingham 2 run (Yepremian kick)

Mia-Nottingham 1 run (Yepremian kick)

#### Buffalo 29, New England 28 Sunday, November 3 At Schaefer Stadium, attendance 58,932.

The Bills took over undisputed possession of first place in the AFC East with their sixth straight win and a sweep of the important home-and-home series with the Patriots. John Leypoldt's third field goal, a 47-yard boot, proved to be the victory margin in a seesaw battle finally decided when the Bills' Jeff Yeates, aided by Dave Washington, blocked a 46-yard field goal attempt by John Smith with 56 seconds left. Jim Plunkett threw two touchdown passes for the losers and Mini Mack Herron tied a club record with three touchdowns and gained 169 yards on runs, catches and kickoff returns.

Buffalo 29 13 7 3 **New England** 14 28

Buff-FG Leypoldt 45

NE-Herron 43 pass from Plunkett (Smith kick)

Buff-FG Leypoldt 20

NE-Herron 20 pass from Plunkett (Smith kick)

Buff-Rashad 25 pass from Ferguson (kick blocked)

NE-Cunningham 31 run (Smith kick)

Buff-Simpson 1 run (Leypoldt kick)

Buff-Washington 72 interception return (Leypoldt kick)

NE-Herron 2 run (Smith kick)

Buff-FG Leypoldt 47

## Cincinnati 24, Baltimore 14 Sunday, November 3

#### At Memorial Stadium, attendance 35,110.

Ken Anderson threw three touchdown passes including two bombs to Isaac Curtis for the fleet receiver's seventh and eighth scores of the season. After the Colts pulled to within 17-14 in the final guarter, the Bengals took advantage of a fumble and moved for a clinching score on a 45-yard pass from Anderson to Curtis. Anderson, with 17 of 21 for 297 yards, took over passing lead in the AFC. Cincinnati's triumph marked Paul Brown's 200th professional coaching victory.

Cincinnati 0 17 0 7 24 Baltimore 0 7 7 14

Cin-Curtis 77 pass from Anderson (Muhlmann kick)

Cin-E. Johnson 27 pass from Anderson (Muhlmann kick)

Cin-FG Muhlmann 18

Balt-Mitchell 6 run (Linhart kick)

Balt-Mitchell 1 run (Linhart kick)

Cin-Curtis 45 pass from Anderson (Muhlmann kick)

## San Diego 36, Cleveland 35 Sunday, November 3 At San Diego Stadium, attendance 34,087.

In one of the wildest games of the season the Chargers gained 424 yards and edged the Browns on a 40-yard field goal by Ray Wersching with 55 seconds to play. The Browns still had a chance to pull it out but Brian Sipe, who had done a fine job in his first start, fumbled and the Chargers recovered on the 13 with 22 seconds left. Dan Fouts threw for 333 yards and four touchdowns, hitting rookies Don Woods three times for 119 yards and Harrison Davis four times for 142 yards.

Cleveland 14 0 35 7 14 -San Diego 0 17 -12 36

Cle-Holden 6 pass from Sipe (Cockroft kick)

Cle-Pruitt 3 run (Cockroft kick)

SD-Matthews 1 run (Partee kick)

Cle-Sipe 1 run (Cockroft kick)

SD-Woods 43 pass from Fouts (kick blocked)

SD-Bonner 1 pass from Fouts (kick failed)

Cle-McKinnis 6 run (Cockroft kick)

SD-Davis 70 pass from Fouts (Partee kick)

Cle-Sipe 1 run (Cockroft kick)

SD-Woods 75 pass from Fouts (Partee kick)

SD-FG Wersching 40

## Houston 27, New York Jets 22 Sunday, November 3 At Shea Stadium, attendance 47,218.

Ken Burrough caught seven passes for 145 yards including a 51-yard toss by Dan Pastorini that set up Willie Rodgers' winning touchdown with 1:56 to play. Bobby Howfield's 35-yard field goal gave the Jets a 22-20 edge with 3:57 to go but the Jets couldn't contain Pastorini. Joe Namath threw for two scores in the wild first half but was intercepted twice, the last time by Bob Atkins with only 1:40 left.

Houston 14 New York Jets 13 22

Hou-Moore 22 interception return (Butler kick)

NYJ-Jackson 20 pass from Namath (kick failed)

Hou-B. Johnson 29 pass from Pastorini (Butler kick)

NYJ-Boozer 12 run (Howfield kick)

Hou-FG Butler 45

NYJ-Knight 42 pass from Namath (kick failed) Hou-FG Butler 46 NYJ-FG Howfield 35 Hou-Rodgers 1 run (Butler kick)

## Minnesota 17, Chicago 0 Sunday, November 3 At Soldier Field, attendance 33,343.

The Vikings snapped a two-game losing slide on the strength of their first shutout since 1971, a 23-yard field goal by Fred Cox, a pair of second-half touchdown passes by Fran Tarkenton, and a strong running attack which amassed 190 yards during a windy, rain-swept afternoon. Dave Osborn ran for 98 yards and Chuck Foreman added 80 as Minnesota swept its season series with Chicago.

 Minnesota
 3
 0
 7
 7
 17

 Chicago
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0

 Minn-FG Cox 23
 0
 0

Minn-Gilliam 35 pass from Tarkenton (Cox kick) Minn-Voigt 4 pass from Tarkenton (Cox kick)

#### Detroit 19, New Orleans 14 Sunday, November 3 At Tiger Stadium, attendance 43,256.

On a rain-drenched, muddy field, Lions' cornerback Levi Johnson grabbed a misdirected Saints' field goal attempt out of the air and dashed 78 yards to give Detroit a comfortable 16-0 lead in the second period. After New Orleans pulled within 16-14, Errol Mann's second field goal produced the final margin for the Lions' fourth straight victory.

 New Orleans
 0
 14
 0
 0
 14

 Detroit
 10
 6
 0
 3
 19

 Det-FG Mann 37

Det-Jessie 5 pass from Munson (Mann kick)

Det-Johnson 78 blocked field goal return (kick failed)

NO-Parker 30 pass from Manning (McClard kick)

NO-Stevens 5 run (McClard kick)

Det-FG Mann 35

#### New York Giants 33, Kansas City 27 Sunday, November 3 At Arrowhead Stadium, attendance 61,437.

Craig Morton made his first start for the New York Giants and threw a third-down 51-yard pass to Joe Dawkins for a victory over the Chiefs in the first meeting of the two clubs. Len Dawson came off the bench and led an exciting Kansas City comeback that ended with the Chiefs on the 1-yard line as time ran out after Chuck Crist made a game-saving tackle of Larry Brunson. Ron Johnson returned to action and gained 66 yards and scored twice for the Giants. Rookie Woody Green had 66 yards and Ed Podolak 73 yards for the losers who gained 403 yards.

New York Giants 7 13 3 10 - 33 Kansas City 7 7 0 13 - 27

KC-Green 1 run (Stenerud kick)

NYG-Gillette 7 pass from Morton (Gogolak kick)

NYG-Johnson 1 run (kick failed)

NYG-Johnson 1 run (Gogolak kick)

KC-Stroud 8 pass from Dawson (Stenerud kick)

NYG-FG Gogolak 33

KC-FG Stenerud 19

NYG-FG Gogolak 35

KC-Brunson 23 pass from Dawson (Stenerud kick)

NYG-Dawkins 51 pass from Morton (Gogolak kick)

KC-FG Stenerud 42

## Oakland 28, Denver 17 Sunday, November 3 At Mile High Stadium, attendance 45,766.

The Raiders streaked to their seventh straight win and opened up a 3½ - game lead in the AFC West on a four-touchdown performance by quarterback Ken Stabler. Fred Biletnikoff and Cliff Branch each caught two

scoring passes in a game played in light snow. Stabler reached the 4,000-yard mark in a year and a half as a starter and stretched his string to 88 passes without an interception. Marv Hubbard gained 107 yards for the Raiders and Otis Armstrong 88 for the second-place Broncos.

Oakland 14 7 7 0 - 28 Denver 7 0 10 0 - 17

Oak-Biletnikoff 23 pass from Stabler (Blanda kick)

Oak-Branch 9 pass from Stabler (Blanda kick)

Den-Armstrong 48 pass from Johnson (Turner kick)

Oak-Biletnikoff 19 pass from Stabler (Blanda kick)

Den-FG Turner 27

Den-Van Heusen 73 pass from Johnson (Turner kick)

Oak-Branch 61 pass from Stabler (Blanda kick)

## Pittsburgh 27, Philadelphia 0 Sunday, November 3

## At Three Rivers Stadium, attendance 47,996.

Pittsburgh won its seventh straight over NFC opposition and scored its second shutout of the year at the expense of the Eagles who were held to 143 yards. Terry Bradshaw directed a 375-yard offense, threw a touchdown pass, and gained 48 yards rushing as the Steelers maintained their  $1\frac{1}{2}$  game lead in the AFC Central. Pittsburgh increased its league-leading total of sacks to 32 by dumping Philadelphia quarterbacks four times and also intercepted two passes.

Philadelphia 0 0 0 0 - 0 Pittsburgh 7 10 10 0 - 27

Pitt-Lewis 8 pass from Bradshaw (Gerela kick)

Pitt-Harris 5 run (Gerela kick)

Pitt-FG Gerela 35

Pitt-FG Gerela 28

Pitt-Blount 52 interception return (Gerela kick)

## Dallas 17, St. Louis 14 Sunday, November 3 At Texas Stadium, attendance 64,146.

The Cowboys, who suffered three of their four losses when opponents, including the Cardinals, kicked winning field goals in the final seconds, turned the tables as rookie Efren Herrera kicked a 20-yard field goal with four seconds remaining to hand St. Louis its first loss of the season. Dallas marched 68 yards to St. Louis' 3-yard line to set up the winning three-pointer.

St. Louis 7 0 7 0 - 14 Dallas 0 7 0 10 - 17

StL-Smith 19 pass from Hart (Bakken kick)

Dal-Newhouse 2 run (Herrera kick)

StL-Gray 10 pass from Hart (Bakken kick)

Dal-Hill 2 run (Herrera kick)

Dal-FG Herrera 20

## Washington 17, Green Bay 6 Sunday, November 3 At Lambeau Field, attendance 55,288.

With Bill Kilmer at quarterback for the injured Sonny Jurgensen, the Redskins utilized short passing, the running of Larry Brown and Moses Denson, and strong defense to control the Packers. Kilmer's 14 completions included a 22-yard touchdown pass to Frank Grant. Washington middle linebacker Harold McLinton picked off a John Hadl pass and ran 14 yards for his first NFL touchdown.

Washington 0 3 7 7 - 17 Green Bay 3 3 0 0 - 6

GB-FG Marcol 29

Wash-FG Moseley 40

GB-FG Marcol 46

Wash-Grant 22 pass from Kilmer (Moseley kick)
Wash-McClinton 14 interception return (Moseley kick)

Los Angeles 15, San Francisco 13 Monday Night, November 4 At Candlestick Park, attendance 57,526.

The Rams won their third straight game and increased their NFC West lead to three games while becoming the first visiting team to win a Monday night game in 1974. After San Francisco, which lost its sixth straight game, had pulled to within the final margin when second-half quarterback Norman Snead connected with Gene Washington with 6:53 left, the Rams lost the ball on a fumble, but linebacker Isiah Robertson regained possession for Los Angeles by intercepting a Snead pass, with 4:09 to go. The Rams then ran out the clock to preserve the victory.

Los Angeles 6 15 San Francisco 0 3 3 13 LA-Baker 1 run (kick failed)

LA-Klein 23 pass from Harris (kick failed)

SF-FG Gossett 46 SF-FG Gossett 31 LA-FG Ray 20

SF-Washington 39 pass from Snead (Gossett kick)

#### **NINTH WEEK**

## Los Angeles 21, Atlanta 0 Sunday, November 10

## At Memorial Coliseum, attendance 62,133.

James Harris completed only five passes but two of them traveled 40 and 25 yards to Harold Jackson for touchdowns and Lawrence McCutcheon rushed for 140 yards - his fifth trip over 100 this season - as the Rams increased their Western Division lead to four games. The shutout was Los Angeles' second of the year. Atlanta was coached by Marion Campbell, who was elevated from defensive coordinator to replace Norm Van Brocklin five days before the game.

Atlanta 0 Los Angeles 7 0 7 21 7

LA-Jackson 40 pass from Harris (Ray kick)

LA-Baker 1 run (Ray kick)

LA-Jackson 25 pass from Harris (Ray kick)

## Green Bay 20, Chicago 3 Sunday, November 10

## At Milwaukee County Stadium, attendance 46,567.

Packers rookie Steve Odom fumbled a Chicago punt, picked it up at his 5yard line and raced 95 yards for a touchdown - and a Green Bay record - to break a 3-3 tie three seconds before halftime. John Hadl, starting his first game for Green Bay, completed 9 of 20 passes for 119 yards.

Chicago 3 0 n 0 -3 Green Bay 0 10 0 10 20 Chi-FG Roder 44 GB-FG Marcol 45

GB-Odom 95 punt return (Marcol kick)

GB-FG Marcol 24

GB-Brockington 1 run (Marcol kick)

## Cleveland 21, New England 14 Sunday, November 10

## At Schaefer Stadium, attendance 57,263.

Greg Pruitt returned the opening kickoff 88 yards, the longest of the season in the AFC, and Thom Darden went 29 yards after recovering a fumble to give the Browns a running start against the Patriots in the first two minutes. After New England fought back to tie on two touchdowns by Sam Cunningham, a 25-yard punt return by Pruitt set up a winning four-yard run by Ken Brown. Cleveland had kicked an apparent tie-breaking field goal before Brown scored but New England was offside and the Browns took the first down and went for the touchdown. Pruitt accounted for 196 yards overall and Darden had two interceptions.

Cleveland 7 21 14 0 **New England** 0 14 0 0 14

Cle-Pruitt 88 kickoff return (Cockroft kick)

Cle-Darden 29 fumble recovery return (Cockroft kick)

NE-Cunningham 1 run (Smith kick)

NE-Cunningham 1 run (Smith kick)

Cle-K. Brown 4 run (Cockroft kick)

## Denver 17, Baltimore 6 Sunday, November 10 At Memorial Stadium, attendance 32,244.

Otis Armstrong romped for 110 yards and Barney Chavous led a Denver defensive unit that sacked Marty Domres five times. Bill Thompson contributed two interceptions and a 60-yard punt return to the Broncos' victory. Domres, playing with a painfully injured breastbone, completed 19 of 43 passes. Lydell Mitchell caught 11 of the passes for 90 yards, only one short of the Colts' record of 12 catches by Raymond Berry in 1957.

Denver 7 7 3 0 17 **Baltimore** 0 3 3 0 6

Den-Odoms 1 pass from Johnson (Turner kick)

Balt-FG Linhart 21

Den-Armstrong 37 run (Turner kick)

Balt-FG Linhart 26 Den-FG Turner 37

## Oakland 35, Detroit 13 Sunday, November 10

## At Oakland-Alameda County Coliseum, attendance 51,973.

Ken Stabler put on a fine passing show, completing 20 of 24 for 248 yards and two touchdowns as Oakland ran its winning streak to eight games and snapped the Lions' string at four. Cliff Branch caught both TD passes and had five for 102 yards while Marv Hubbard ran for 111 yards on 16 carries, his third straight 100-plus day. Dan Conners' two interceptions boosted the Raiders' AFC-leading total to 21. Greg Landry, who suffered a fractured left shoulder in the preseason, returned to action in relief of Bill Munson late in the game.

Detroit 0 13 Oakland 14 7 0 35 14

Oak-Hubbard 1 run (Blanda kick)

Oak-Hart 25 run (Blanda kick)

Oak-Branch 15 pass from Stabler (Blanda kick)

Det-FG Mann 32

Oak-Branch 36 pass from Stabler (Blanda kick)

Det-Taylor 1 run (Mann kick)

Oak-Hubbard 20 run (Blanda kick)

Det-FG Mann 35

## Houston 21, Buffalo 9 Sunday, November 10 At Buffalo, attendance 79,144.

Houston won its third straight for the first time since 1971 and dropped Buffalo into a tie with Miami for the AFC East lead by intercepting six of Joe Ferguson's passes. Ferguson had only four passes picked off in eight previous games. Dan Pastorini passed for one score and directed a ground attack for two more while the Oilers held the Bills to three field goals by John Leypoldt. O. J. Simpson reinjured an ankle and left the game in the second half.

Houston 0 14 Buffalo 0 Λ 9 6 3

Hou-Rodgers 13 run (Butler kick)

Hou-Alston 25 pass from Pastorini (Butler kick)

Buff-FG Leypoldt 32

Buff-FG Leypoldt 28

Buff-FG Leypoldt 22

Hou-V. Washington 9 run (Butler kick)

## Miami 21, New Orleans 0 Sunday, November 10 At Tulane Stadium, attendance 68,339.

Bob Griese threw three first-half touchdown passes and the Dolphins' defense contained the Saints' attack throughout as Miami won its fourth straight game and gained a tie for first place in the AFC East as a result of Buffalo's loss to Houston. Rookie Benny Malone ran for 76 yards.

Miami 14 7 0 0 - 21
New Orleans 0 0 0 0 - 0
Mia-Mandich 3 pass from Griese (Yepremian kick)
Mia-N. Moore 12 pass from Griese (Yepremian kick)
Mia-Mandich 2 pass from Griese (Yepremian kick)

## New York Jets 26, New York Giants 20 (OT) Sunday, November 10 At Yale Bowl, attendance 64,327.

Joe Namath completed a five-yard touchdown pass to Emerson Boozer after 6:53 of the overtime period to give the Jets the first extra period victory in an NFL regular season game. The Giants won the toss at the outset of the overtime and drove to the Jets' 25 but, on fourth down, Pete Gogolak missed a 42-yard field goal attempt. Namath's touchdown pass climaxed a 75-yard drive. The Jets tied the game in regulation on a three-yard run by Namath in the fourth period.

New York Jets 26 New York Giants 3 10 7 20 0 NYJ-Knight 19 pass from Namath (Leahy kick) NYG-FG Gogolak 26 NYG-Tucker 2 pass from Morton (Gogolak kick) NYJ-FG Leahy 34 NYG-FG Gogolak 22 NYJ-FG Leahy 22 NYG-Grim 12 pass from Morton (Gogolak kick) NYJ-Namath 3 run (Leahy kick) NYJ-Boozer 5 pass from Namath (no kick attempted)

## Cincinnati 17, Pittsburgh 10 Sunday, November 10 At Riverfront Stadium, attendance 57,532.

Ken Anderson completed 20 of 22 passes and broke two NFL records and then made a game-saving tackle to move the Bengals within a half game of the leading Steelers in the AFC Central Division. Anderson went into the game with a string of eight consecutive completions and increased the total to 16, topping the league record set by Len Dawson in 1967 and equaled by Joe Namath the same year. Anderson's 90.9 percentage for his 20-of-22 topped the record of 86.21 set by Ken Stabler last year with 25-of-29. Doug Dressler caught nine passes and backup RB Ed Williams scored two touchdowns.

Pittsburgh 0 3 0 7 - 10
Cincinnati 0 10 7 0 - 17
Cin-Williams 2 run (Muhlmann kick)
Cin-FG Muhlmann 30
Pitt-FG Gerela 24
Cin-Williams 1 run (Muhlmann kick)
Pitt-Pearson 1 run (Gerela kick)

## San Diego 14, Kansas City 7 Sunday, November 10 At Arrowhead Stadium, attendance 48,551.

San Diego won its second straight and split the season series with Kansas City on a 71-yard touchdown pass to Gary Garrison by rookie Jesse Freitas, making his first appearance in a league game after Dan Fouts was injured. The winning score came two plays after the Chiefs had tied the score on an 84-yard pass from Len Dawson to Larry Brunson, who caught eight for 193 yards. Dawson set a club record with 26 completions in 44 attempts, topping his own mark of 25 in 1963 and 1966.

 San Diego
 0
 7
 0
 7
 14

 Kansas City
 0
 0
 0
 7
 7

 SD-Matthews 1 run (Partee kick)
 Form Dawson (Stenerud kick)
 KC-Brunson 84 pass from Dawson (Stenerud kick)

 SD-Garrison 71 pass from Freitas (Partee kick)

Dallas 20, San Francisco 14 Sunday, November 10

At Texas Stadium, attendance 50,018.

After the 49ers took a 14-13 lead in the fourth period, the Cowboys marched

70 yards in seven plays for the winning touchdown, a six-yard run by Calvin Hill, for their fourth straight victory. It was San Francisco's seventh loss in a row. Hill set Dallas club records for most rushing attempts, 32, and most rushing yards, 153, in posting the best 1974 single game rushing performance in the NFC. He also scored a one-yard touchdown in the first period. Drew Pearson's four receptions for 100 yards marked the fourth game in which he gained at least 100 yards.

San Francisco 0 7 14 0 Dallas 10 0 3 20 Dal-Hill 1 run (Herrera kick) Dal-FG Herrera 30 SF-Kwalick 4 pass from Snead (Gossett kick) Dal-FG Herrera 27 SF-Washington 12 pass from Owen (Gossett kick) Dal-Hill 6 run (Herrera kick)

## Washington 27, Philadelphia 20 Sunday, November 10 At Veterans Stadium, attendance 65,947.

The Redskins fell behind 7-20 before linebacker Chris Hanburger fell on a fumble to reduce the deficit to 14-20, then Sonny Jurgensen entered in the third period and directed scoring drives for a pair of field goals and threw a winning touchdown pass of 30 yards to Charley Taylor with 2:13 remaining. Taylor had nine receptions for 155 yards and boosted his career total to 568 for third place on the NFL all-time receiving list. A late Philadelphia march for a possible tie was halted when Ken Stone intercepted a Roman Gabriel pass

Washington 10 10 27 Philadelphia 7 7 6 0 -20 Phil-Carmichael 6 pass from Gabriel (Dempsey kick) Wash-Thomas 1 run (Moseley kick) Phil-Carmichael 13 pass from Gabriel (Dempsey kick) Phil-Sullivan 1 pass from Gabriel (run failed) Wash-Hanburger fumble recovery in end zone (Moseley kick) Wash-FG Moseley 40

Wash-FG Moseley 35 Wash-Taylor 30 pass from Jurgensen (Moseley kick)

on the Washington 3.

## Minnesota 28, St. Louis 24 Monday Night, November 11 At Busch Memorial Stadium, attendance 50,183.

The Vikings took advantage of two Cardinals' fumbles to score a pair of first period touchdowns, but had to rally from a 14-17 halftime St. Louis lead for the victory. A 13-yard Chuck Foreman run for his 12th touchdown of the season and quarterback Fran Tarkenton's 11-yard score were too much for St. Louis to overcome. The Cardinals reduced the Minnesota margin to the final score on a four-yard touchdown run by Jim Hart, but a final drive, which took the Cardinals from their own 5 to the Vikings' 30 failed as time expired. Hart completed 28 passes for 353 yards and two touchdowns.

Minnesota 14 0 7 28 St. Louis 10 0 7 24 Minn-Osborn 1 run (Cox kick) StL-Cain 40 pass from Hart (Bakken kick) Minn-Gilliam 10 pass from Tarkenton (Cox kick) Stl -FG Bakken 46 StL-Thomas 12 pass from Hart (Bakken kick) Minn-Foreman 13 run (Cox kick) Minn-Tarkenton 11 run (Cox kick) StL-Hart 4 run (Bakken kick)

#### **TENTH WEEK**

## Baltimore 17, Atlanta 7 Sunday, November 17 At Atlanta Stadium, attendance 41,278.

The Colts kept their perfect record versus the Falcons intact, defeating Atlanta for the eighth straight time, with Lydell Mitchell rushing 33 times for 151 yards as Baltimore snapped a three-game losing streak. The loss was

Atlanta's fifth in a row.

Baltimore 0 10 0 7 - 17 Atlanta 0 7 0 0 - 7

Balt-FG Linhart 37

Atl-Stanback 23 run (Mike-Mayer kick) Balt-Domres 12 run (Linhart kick) Balt-Olds 1 run (Linhart kick)

## Miami 35, Buffalo 28 Sunday, November 17 At Orange Bowl, attendance 68,313.

Bob Griese took the Dolphins 81 yards in 37 seconds to beat the Bills 35-28 with Don Nottingham scoring on a 23-yard draw play with 19 seconds to go. The victory gave Miami undisputed possession of the lead in the AFC East and a season sweep over Buffalo which twice had rallied to tie behind rookie quarterback Gary Marangi after Joe Ferguson was hurt. Nottingham scored the final two touchdowns for Miami after he replaced the injured Larry Csonka.

Buffalo 0 0 7 21 - 28 Miami 0 14 7 14 - 35

Mia-Csonka 2 run (Yepremian kick)

Mia-Warfield 49 pass from Griese (Yepremian kick)

Buff-Ferguson 1 run (Leypoldt kick)

Mia-Csonka 6 run (Yepremian kick)

Buff-Washington 42 fumble recovery return (Leypoldt kick)

Buff-Hill 44 pass from Marangi (Leypoldt kick)

Mia-Nottingham 11 run (Yepremian kick)

Buff-Chandler 5 pass from Marangi (Leypoldt kick)

Mia-Nottingham 23 run (Yepremian kick)

## Houston 20, Cincinnati 3 Sunday, November 17 At the Astrodome, attendance 44,054.

Houston ran its winning streak to four with a 20-3 win over the Bengals who also were the first victims in the string, October 27. Willie Rodgers scored two touchdowns and the Oilers sacked Ken Anderson six times for 55 yards and intercepted two passes. It was the longest win streak for Houston since 1962. Cincinnati fell 1½ games behind Pittsburgh in the AFC Central.

, 02. 0	9			~ u. g		
Cincinnati	3	0	0	0	-	3
Houston	7	0	7	6	-	20

Cin-FG Muhlmann 28

Hou-Rodgers 1 run (Butler kick)

Hou-Rodgers 1 run (Butler kick)

Hou-Burrough 22 pass from Pastorini (run failed)

## Washington 28, Dallas 21 Sunday, November 17

## At Robert F. Kennedy Stadium, attendance 54,395.

The Redskins galloped to a 28-0 halftime lead – scoring touchdowns at the end of 77 -and 75-yard drives, on a 58-yard punt return by Ken Houston and a 31-yard pass from Bill Kilmer to Roy Jefferson – then had to hang on for their third straight victory which snapped a four-game Cowboys' winning streak. Cornerback Mike Bass intercepted a Dallas pass at the 3-yard line to halt one late threat, and the Redskins halted two rushes and two passes from their 7-yard line in the final minutes to preserve the victory.

Dallas 0 0 7 14 - 21 Washington 7 21 0 0 - 28

Wash-Theismann 3 run (Moseley kick)

Wash-Evans 6 run (Moseley kick)

Wash-Houston 58 punt return (Moseley kick)

Wash-Jefferson 31 pass from Kilmer (Moseley kick)

Dal-DuPree 10 pass from Staubach (Herrera kick)

Dal-Newhouse 3 run (Herrera kick)

Dal-DuPree 4 pass from Staubach (Herrera kick)

Green Bay 19, Minnesota 7 Sunday, November 17 At Metropolitan Stadium, attendance 47,924. After Chester Marcol kicked four field goals to provide the Packers with a 12-0 lead, Viking Fran Tarkenton completed a 24-yard touchdown pass to Chuck Foreman to threaten the Green Bay lead midway through the final period. Then, with 3:29 remaining, John Hadl and MacArthur Lane combined on a 68-yard touchdown pass which protected the victory and saved the Packers from being eliminated from the NFC Central Division race. Hadl's 199 passing yards made him the fifth NFL passer to throw for 30,000 yards, finishing the game with 30,043. Tarkenton's 222 yards boosted his career total to 35.177, second to John Unitas.

tai to 55, 177, 300	Julia 10 J	OHII OHI	เนร.				
Green Bay	0	6	3	10	-	19	
Minnesota	0	0	0	7	-	7	
GB-FG Marcol 2	28						
GB-FG Marcol 3	31						
GB-FG Marcol 1	19						
GB-FG Marcol 1	18						
Minn-Foreman 24 pass from Tarkenton (Cox kick)							
GB-Lane 68 pass from Hadl (Marcol kick)							

## New Orleans 20, Los Angeles 7 Sunday, November 17 At Tulane Stadium, attendance 35,727.

The Saints provided Archie Manning with perfect protection against the NFC's top defensive unit and the New Orleans quarterback fired a pair of touchdown passes – 79 yards to Bob Newland and 17 to Joel Parker. New Orleans' defense also forced Los Angeles to fumble six times and recovered three of them on a field soaked by several hours of rain before kickoff. The NFL's leading rusher, Lawrence McCutcheon of the Rams, was held to 28 yards on the ground. Tom Blanchard recorded the longest punt of the season

Los Angeles 0 0 0 7 - 7
New Orleans 3 10 7 0 - 20
NO-FG McClard 28
NO-Newland 79 pass from Manning (McClard kick)
NO-FG McClard 51
NO-Parker 17 pass from Manning (McClard kick)

LA-Klein 15 pass from Harris (Ray kick)

with a 71-yard boot for the Saints.

## Detroit 20, New York Giants 19

#### Sunday, November 17 At Tiger Stadium, attendance 40,431.

Errol Mann kicked a 37-yard field goal with two seconds remaining at the end of a Detroit drive which began on the Lions' 20-yard line with 1:58 remaining. A pair of Bill Munson passes of 15 and 9 yards to Charlie Sanders were key gains in the final march.

 New York Giants
 3
 3
 7
 6
 19

 Detroit
 10
 0
 0
 10
 20

 Det-Munson 1 run (Mann kick)
 NYG-FG Gogolak 42
 20

Det-FG Mann 35

NYG-FG Gogolak 33

NYG-Grim 5 pass from Morton (Gogolak kick)

NYG-FG Gogolak 34 NYG-FG Gogolak 40

Det-Pickard 7 pass from Munson (Mann kick)

Det-FG Mann 37

## New York Jets 21, New England 16 Sunday, November 17 At Schaefer Stadium, attendance 57,165.

Joe Namath threw two touchdown passes and the Jets were saved on an interception by rookie Roscoe Word in the final minutes as the Patriots suffered their third straight defeat. In winning their second in a row the Jets picked off four passes by Jim Plunkett. Emerson Boozer ran for 90 yards for New York and Sam Cunningham rushed for 113 for the Patriots before suffering a broken leg.

 New York Jets
 7
 7
 7
 0
 21

 New England
 0
 3
 10
 3
 16

 NYJ-Burns 11 pass from Namath (Leahy kick)

NE-FG Smith 32 NYJ-Boozer 4 run (Leahy kick)

NE-Herron 5 run (Smith kick)

NE-FG Smith 44

NYJ-Knight 34 pass from Namath (Leahy kick)

NE-FG Smith 35

## Oakland 17, San Diego 10 Sunday, November 17

## At Oakland-Alameda County Coliseum, attendance 50,178.

Oakland set the stage for clinching its third straight AFC West title by downing the Chargers 17-10. Denver made the clinching official when it bowed to Kansas City in the Monday night game. Ken Stabler threw his 18th touchdown pass, a 60-yard bomb to Cliff Branch, but his streak of 155 passes without an interception was broken on his last toss of the day. Branch's seven receptions for 125 yards moved him back on top among AFC receivers. Rookie Don Woods had his fifth 100-yard-plus game for the Chargers, 117 yards on 27 carries.

San Diego Oakland

n 3 0 7

10

17

Oak-Branch 60 pass from Stabler (Blanda kick)

SD-FG Wersching 42

Oak-Banaszak 1 run (Blanda kick)

Oak-FG Blanda 28

SD-Woods 1 run (Partee kick)

## Pittsburgh 26, Cleveland 16 Sunday, November 17 At Cleveland Stadium, attendance 77,195.

Franco Harris gained 156 yards on 23 carries and Roy Gerela booted four field goals to help the Steelers widen their AFC Central lead to 1½ games with a victory over the Browns. There were 13 turnovers including a touchdown by J. T. Thomas on a lateral from Joe Greene who recovered a Billy Lefear fumble. Terry Hanratty started his first game of the season as Pittsburgh quarterback. Gerela's 14 points put him on top in the AFC scoring

Pittsburgh Cleveland 3 10

13 26 16

Cle-FG Cockroft 44

Pitt-Shanklin 28 pass from Hanratty (Gerela kick)

Pitt-FG Gerela 32

race.

Cle-FG Cockroft 35

Pitt-FG Gerela 32

Cle-Green 36 interception return (Cockroft kick)

Cle-FG Cockroft 18

Pitt-FG Gerela 23

Pitt-Thomas 14 fumble recovery return (Gerela kick)

Pitt-FG Gerela 22

## St. Louis 13, Philadelphia 3 Sunday, November 17

#### At Veterans Stadium, attendance 61,982.

The Cardinals halted a two-game losing slide and retained their one-game lead in the NFC East as Jim Hart scored from the one at the end of a 67-yard first-period drive and Jim Bakken kicked a pair of field goals. The St. Louis defense, which held Philadelphia without a touchdown for the second time in the Cardinals' season series sweep, sacked Eagles' passer Roman Gabriel nine times -eight in the second half.

3

St. Louis Philadelphia 0

0 0 6

13

3

StL-Hart 1 run (Bakken kick)

Phil-FG Dempsey 48

StL-FG Bakken 28

StL-FG Bakken 30

San Francisco 34, Chicago 0 Sunday, November 17 At Soldier Field, attendance 42,686.

Rookie quarterback Tom Owen completed 15 of 26 passes for 316 yards and two touchdowns - 68 yards to Terry Beasley and 20 to Ted Kwalick - as the 49ers snapped a seven-game losing streak which was the longest in the team's history. Chicago's failure to score lengthened to 19 the string of periods in which the Bears did not score a touchdown.

San Francisco 0 20 7 7 34 Chicago 0 0 0 n 0

SF-Owen 1 run (kick failed)

SF-Beasley 68 pass from Owen (Gossett kick)

SF-Kwalick 20 pass from Owen (Gossett kick)

SF-S. Johnson 1 run (Gossett kick)

SF-D. Williams 6 run (Gossett kick)

## Kansas City 42, Denver 34 Monday Night, November 18 At Mile High Stadium, attendance 50,236.

Kansas City eliminated Denver from any chance at the AFC West title in the wildest scoring game in the NFL since December 17, 1972 and the highest scoring Monday night game ever. Each team scored five touchdowns but a seemingly harmless safety touched off a decisive 19-point third quarter by the Chiefs. The teams gained a total of 896 yards and their combined total of 58 first downs tied an NFL record. Denver's 25 first downs passing broke a league record and the Broncos gained 491 through the air, 445 by Charley Johnson.

Kansas City 19 42 34 Denver 14 0 13 -

Den-Keyworth 1 run (Turner kick)

KC-Podolak 4 pass from Dawson (Stenerud kick)

Den-Keyworth 1 run (Turner kick)

KC-Podolak 2 run (Stenerud kick)

Den-Van Heusen 11 pass from Johnson (Turner kick)

KC-FG Stenerud 41

KC-Safety, Lanier tackled Armstrong in end zone

KC-Taylor 35 pass from Dawson (Stenerud kick)

KC-Green 17 run (Stenerud kick)

KC-FG Stenerud 35

Den-Keyworth 1 run (kick failed)

KC-Hayes 1 run (kick failed)

Den-Stowe 4 pass from Johnson (Turner kick)

#### **ELEVENTH WEEK**

## San Francisco 27, Atlanta 0 Sunday, November 24

## At Candlestick Park, attendance 45,435.

Rookie guarterback Tom Owen hit Gene Washington with scoring passes of 5 and 53 yards and Manfred Moore dashed 88 yards for a touchdown on a punt return to provide a cushion for the San Francisco defense which produced its second straight shutout.

0 -Atlanta n 0 0 San Francisco 7 7 27 0 13 -

SF-Washington 5 pass from Owen (Gossett kick)

SF-Washington 53 pass from Owen (Gossett kick)

SF-Moore 88 punt return (Gossett kick)

SF-FG Gossett 20

SF-FG Gossett 42

## Buffalo 15, Cleveland 10 Sunday, November 24

## At Cleveland Stadium, attendance 66,504.

Buffalo regained a first-place tie with Miami in the AFC East with the help of a 41-yard touchdown run by O. J. Simpson in the rain and mud. John Leypoldt added two field goals and Mike Kadish tackled quarterback Brian Sipe in the end zone for a safety. Cleveland scored a touchdown in the final four seconds on a Mike Phipps pass to Ken Brown. Simpson gained 115 yards on 22 carries as the Bills completed only one pass for nine yards.

Buffalo 0 12 0 3 15 Cleveland 10

Cle-FG Cockroft 21 Buff-Simpson 41 run (Leypoldt kick) Buff-FG Leypoldt 41 Buff-Safety, Kadish tackled Sipe in end zone Buff-FG Leypoldt 42 Cle-K. Brown 3 pass from Phipps

## Detroit 34, Chicago 17 Sunday, November 24

## At Tiger Stadium, attendance 40,930.

The Lions erupted for their highest point total of the season and registered their sixth victory in the last seven games while the Bears were suffering their fifth straight loss. Detroit, which lost its first four games but climbed to within one game of the Central Division lead after 11 games, lost guarterback Bill Munson, who suffered a right shoulder separation and was replaced by Greq Landry, recently recovered from a left shoulder fracture sustained in preseason. Dick Jauron's 103 yards in punt returns for the Lions moved him into the NFC top spot in that category.

17 Chicago n Detroit 10 10 7 7 34 Det-Johnson 18 interception return (Mann kick)

Det-FG Mann 22

Det-Taylor 22 run (Mann kick)

Det-FG Mann 32

Chi-FG Roder 38

Det-Owens 1 run (Mann kick)

Det-Jones 2 run (Mann kick)

Chi-Taylor 9 run (Roder kick)

Chi-Rather 5 pass from Douglass (Roder kick)

## Dallas 10, Houston 0 Sunday, November 24 At Astrodome, attendance 49,775.

The Cowboys ended the Oilers' four-game win streak and limited their state rival to 81 yards to keep their slim playoff hopes alive. Dallas' Doomsday Defense sacked quarterback Dan Pastorini seven times for 75 yards. Doug Dennison's one-yard touchdown leap and a 25-yard field goal by Efren Herrera took care of the scoring in the defensive struggle played before a sellout crowd. Houston's David Beverly recorded the AFC's longest punt in 1974 with a 69-yarder.

Dallas 0 n 10 Houston n 0 0 Dal-Dennison 1 run (Herrera kick)

Dal-FG Herrera 25

## Denver 20, Oakland 17 Sunday, November 24

## At Oakland-Alameda County Coliseum, attendance 51,224.

Rookie Jon Keyworth and Otis Armstrong combined for a total of 294 yards rushing as the Broncos ended the Raiders' nine-game winning string. Keyworth ran for 148 yards and Armstrong moved a yard in front of O. J. Simpson in the rushing race with 146 for a season total of 938. Oakland's Ken Stabler increased his total to 20 touchdown passes with two to Fred Biletnikoff.

Denver 20 7 3 10 0 Oakland 17

Den-Keyworth 30 run (Turner kick)

Oak-FG Blanda 21

Den-FG Turner 30

Oak-Biletnikoff 34 pass from Stabler (Blanda kick)

Den-FG Turner 33

Den-Simmons 8 pass from Ramsey (Turner kick)

Oak-Biletnikoff 7 pass from Stabler (Blanda kick)

## Cincinnati 33, Kansas City 6 Sunday, November 24

At Riverfront Stadium, attendance 49,777.

Ken Anderson tied a Bengals' club record by firing four touchdown passes

and tied his own club season record with a total of 18 to stay within striking distance of Pittsburgh in the AFC Central. Ed Williams, a taxi squad grad and backup running back, took advantage of his first start to gain 96 yards as a sub for the injured Doug Dressler. Isaac Curtis scored twice and the Bengals' defense sacked Kansas City quarterbacks five times. Emmitt Thomas of the Chiefs had his 10th interception.

**Kansas City** n Cincinnati 20 33 0 6

Cin-Curtis 18 pass from Anderson (Muhlmann kick)

Cin-Williams 19 pass from Anderson (Muhlmann kick)

Cin-Maddox recovery of blocked punt in end zone (kick failed)

KC-FG Stenerud 27

Cin-Curtis 6 pass from Anderson (Muhlmann kick)

KC-FG Stenerud 47

Cin-Meyers 11 pass from Anderson (bad snap, no kick)

## New York Jets 17, Miami 14 Sunday, November 24 At Shea Stadium, attendance 57,162.

Joe Namath led the Jets to their third straight victory with two touchdown passes to Rich Caster, the second a 45-yard strike that proved decisive. Roscoe Word, rookie cornerback, made a key interception for the second straight week, picking off a Bob Griese pass in the final minutes. John Riggins returned after missing four games due to a shoulder injury and gained 93 yards.

Miami 14 New York Jets 0 7 0 10 17

NYJ-Caster 2 pass from Namath (Leahy kick)

Mia-Griese 6 run (Yepremian kick)

NYJ-FG Leahy 34

Mia-Kiick 8 pass from Griese (Yepremian kick)

NYJ-Caster 45 pass from Namath (Leahy kick)

## Los Angeles 20, Minnesota 17 Sunday, November 24 At Memorial Coliseum, attendance 87,138.

Trailing 6-17 entering the final period, the Rams rallied for a pair of touchdowns for the victory, which combined with New Orleans' loss gave Los Angeles its second straight NFC Western Division title. Quarterback James Harris, who completed his final 10 passes, hit 3 in a 43-yard drive which ended with Harris scoring from the 1, with nine minutes left. Then, the Rams, down 13-17, took possession with 3:53 remaining and Harris directed the winning touchdown drive during which he completed six passes, the final one for eight yards to Jack Snow for the decisive touchdown, with 1:14 to play.

Minnesota 0 17 0 0 17 Los Angeles 14 20

Minn-FG Cox 36

Minn-Foreman 1 run (Cox kick)

LA-Harris 1 run (kick failed)

Minn-Foreman 12 pass from Tarkenton (Cox kick)

LA-Harris 1 run (Ray kick)

LA-Snow 8 pass from Harris (Ray kick)

## New England 27, Baltimore 17 Sunday, November 24 At Memorial Stadium, attendance 33,782.

Jim Plunkett shook off an interception slump and threw for one touchdown and 194 yards for a Patriots' victory over the Colts. John Tarver filled in for the injured Sam Cunningham and rookie Andy Johnson started for injured Reggie Rucker in the revamped New England lineup. Tarver gained 44 yards and Mack Herron 58. Johnson caught four passes.

New England 0 17 **Baltimore** 17 3 7 7

NE-Tanner 2 pass from Plunkett (Smith kick)

Balt-FG Linhart 25

NE-Plunkett 1 run (Smith kick)

NE-FG Smith 33

Balt-Mitchell 31 run (Linhart kick)

NE-Herron 1 run (Smith kick) NE-FG Smith 28 Balt-Domres 2 run (Linhart kick)

## Washington 26, Philadelphia 7 Sunday, November 24

## At Robert F. Kennedy Stadium, attendance 54,395.

After the Eagles had pulled to within 13-7 of the Redskins early in the third period, rookie return specialist Larry Jones took the ensuing kickoff and raced 102 yards for a touchdown. It was the longest return in Washington history as well as the longest in the NFL in 1974 and helped send the Redskins toward their fourth straight victory and sixth in seven games to keep them one game behind St. Louis in the NFC Eastern Division race. Duane Thomas, subbing for the injured Larry Brown, paced the Washington running attack with 65 yards and a three-yard touchdown in 20 attempts.

 Philadelphia
 0
 0
 7
 0
 7

 Washington
 3
 10
 7
 6
 26

 Wash-FG Moseley
 37

Wash-FG Moseley 38

Wash-Smith 2 pass from Kilmer (Moseley kick)

Phil-Carmichael 3 pass from Gabriel (Dempsey kick)

Wash-Jones 102 kickoff return (Moseley kick)

Wash-Thomas 3 run (kick failed)

## St. Louis 23, New York Giants 21 Sunday, November 24 At Yale Bowl, attendance 40,615.

After the Giants had taken a 21-20 lead on a Craig Morton-to-Walker Gillette 17-yard touchdown pass with 1:16 left, the Cardinals moved from New York's 46-yard line, following a short kickoff, to the Giants' 18 and Jim Bakken kicked a 36-yard field goal with three seconds remaining for the St. Louis victory which maintained the Big Red's one-game lead in the NFC East. The two previous weeks, the Giants lost 26-20 in overtime to the Jets and 20-19 to the Lions with two seconds to go.

St. Louis 6 0 7 10 - 23 New York Giants 0 7 7 7 - 21

StL-FG Bakken 36

StL-FG Bakken 32

NYG-Johnson 2 run (Gogolak kick)

NYG-Tucker 29 pass from Morton (Gogolak kick)

StL-Thomas 16 pass from Hart (Bakken kick)

StL-Gray 45 pass from Hart (Bakken kick)

NYG-Gillette 17 pass from Morton (Gogolak kick)

StL-FG Bakken 36

## Green Bay 34, San Diego 0 Sunday, November 24 At Lambeau Field, attendance 50,321.

Rookie Eric Torkelson raced 29 yards to score a touchdown with a fumble recovery and Ken Ellis scored on a 38-yard interception return as the Packers captured their third straight victory since John Hadl became the starting quarterback. The Green Bay defense continued its improved play which permitted only 10 points during the winning streak and helped move the Packers into a second-place tie in the NFC Central Division.

San Diego 0 0 0 0 - 0 Green Bay 3 10 14 7 - 34

GB-FG Marcol 22

GB-FG Marcol 27

GB-Torkelson 29 fumble recovery return (Marcol kick)

GB-Ellis 38 interception return (Marcol kick)

GB-Lane 24 pass from Hadl (Marcol kick)

GB-Odom 56 pass from Concannon (Marcol kick)

## Pittsburgh 28, New Orleans 7 Monday Night, November 25 At Tulane Stadium, attendance 69,010.

The Steelers, with Terry Bradshaw at quarterback again, overwhelmed the Saints and maintained their 1½ -game lead over Cincinnati in the AFC

Central Division. Bradshaw passed for two touchdowns and rushed for 99 yards, including an 18-yard scoring run. Franco Harris paced Pittsburgh's 272-yard ground attack, with 114 yards. The Steelers had six sacks to boost their league-leading total to 46.

Pittsburgh 7 7 14 0 - 28
New Orleans 0 0 7 0 - 7

Pitt-Lewis 31 pass from Bradshaw (Gerela kick)

Pitt-Bradshaw 18 run (Gerela kick)

Pitt-Swann 64 punt return (Gerela kick)

NO-Seal 10 pass from Scott (McClard kick)

Pitt-Brown 1 pass from Bradshaw (Gerela kick)

#### TWELFTH WEEK

## Denver 31, Detroit 27 Thursday, November 28 (Thanksgiving) At Tiger Stadium, attendance 51,157.

Trailing 10-17 at halftime, the Broncos used the recovery of an onside kickoff at the start of the second half as the springboard to a 21-point third period that provided victory amid snow flurries on Thanksgiving Day. Denver's Otis Armstrong ran for 144 yards and became the season's first 1,000-yard rusher with a total of 1,082.

Denver 0 10 21 0 - 31 Detroit 3 14 3 7 - 27

Det-FG Mann 21

Den-FG Turner 21

Den-Keyworth 1 run (Turner kick)

Det-Taylor 23 pass from Landry (Mann kick)

Det-Johnson 55 interception return (Mann kick)

Den-Keyworth 1 run (Turner kick)

Det-FG Mann 36

Den-Armstrong 1 run (Turner kick)

Den-Odoms 1 pass from Johnson (Turner kick)

Det-Crosswhite 1 run (Mann kick)

## Dallas 24, Washington 23 Thursday, November 28 (Thanksgiving) At Texas Stadium, attendance 63,243.

Rookie quarterback Clint Longley, making his NFL debut in the third period because Roger Staubach was sidelined with a concussion, lofted a 50-yard touchdown pass to Drew Pearson and rookie Efren Herrera kicked the extra point with 28 seconds remaining to keep the Cowboys' playoff hopes alive and prevent the Redskins from clinching a postseason spot. Longley completed 11 of 20 passes for 203 yards and two touchdowns.

Washington 3 6 7 7 - 23 Dallas 3 0 14 7 - 24

Dal-FG Herrera 24

Wash-FG Moseley 45

Wash-FG Moseley 34

Wash-FG Moseley 39

Wash-Thomas 9 pass from Kilmer (Moseley kick)

Dal-DuPree 35 pass from Longley (Herrera kick)

Dal-Garrison 1 run (Herrera kick)

Wash-Thomas 19 run (Moseley kick)

Dal-Pearson 50 pass from Longley (Herrera kick)

## Buffalo 6, Baltimore 0 Sunday, December 1 At Rich Stadium, attendance 75,325.

John Leypoldt kicked field goals of 20 and 31 yards for all the scoring in a defensive struggle which guaranteed the Bills a playoff berth. O. J. Simpson passed the 1,000-yard mark for the third straight year with 67 yards for a season total of 1,004. It was the first regular season shutout for Buffalo since Oct. 5, 1963 and its first since the 1965 AFL championship game. Buffalo sacked Bert Jones eight times but he still brought the Colts to the 2-yard line in a last quarter threat.

Baltimore 0 0 0 0 - 0 Buffalo 0 6 0 0 - 6

Buff-FG Leypoldt 20 Buff-FG Leypoldt 31

## Philadelphia 36, Green Bay 14 Sunday, December 1 At Veterans Stadium, attendance 42,030.

The Eagles snapped a six-game losing streak on the alertness of their defense, which recovered five of the Packers' eight fumbles and turned each turnover into a score. Rookie quarterback Mike Boryla completed 16 passes, including two for touchdowns in his first start for Philadelphia. Defensive end

Will Wynn scored on an 87-yard return of a recovered fumble as the Eagles erased Green Bay's playoff possibilities.

Green Bay 0 7 7 0 - 14 Philadelphia 9 20 0 7 - 36

Phil-FG Dempsey 39

Phil-Sullivan 1 run (kick failed)

Phil-Wynn 87 fumble recovery return (kick failed)

Phil-Young 14 pass from Boryla (Dempsey kick)

Phil-Sullivan 2 run (Dempsey kick)

GB-Brockington 1 run (Marcol kick)

GB-Lane 3 pass from Hadl (Marcol kick)

Phil-Carmichael 3 pass from Boryla (Dempsey kick)

## Houston 13, Pittsburgh 10 Sunday, December 1 hree Pivers Stadium, attendance

At Three Rivers Stadium, attendance 41,195.

Houston won its fifth game in the last six starts on a 34-yard field goal by Skip Butler with 2:32 to play. The Steelers were held to 84 yards in a game played in steady, freezing rain. Dan Pastorini passed to Fred Willis for the touchdown and Butler added two field goals. Terry Bradshaw threw one scoring pass but left the game with bruised ribs in the third quarter. The Oilers sacked Steeler quarterbacks four times and intercepted three passes, two by rookie Gregg Bingham.

Houston 0 7 3 3 - 13 Pittsburgh 3 7 0 0 - 10

Pitt-FG Gerela 44

Hou-Willis 6 pass from Pastorini (Butler kick)

Pitt-Harris 31 pass from Bradshaw (Gerela kick)

Hou-FG Butler 42 Hou-FG Butler 34

> Kansas City 17, St. Louis 13 Sunday, December 1

At Busch Memorial Stadium, attendance 41,863.

Interceptions by Chiefs Mike Sensibaugh and Willie Lanier set up a pair of second-half touchdowns as Kansas City thwarted the Cardinals bid to win the NFC Eastern Division title. St. Louis, nevertheless, did clinch a place in the NFC Divisional Playoffs.

Kansas City 0 0 7 10 - 17 St. Louis 6 0 0 7 - 13

StL-Metcalf 22 pass from Hart (kick failed)

KC-Kinney 4 pass from Dawson (Stenerud kick)

KC-Hayes 1 run (Stenerud kick)

KC-FG Stenerud 22

StL-Metcalf 2 run (Bakken kick)

## Los Angeles 30, Atlanta 7 Sunday, December 1 At Atlanta Stadium, attendance 18,648.

Safety Dave Elmendorf picked off a pair of interceptions, returning one 57 yards for a touchdown, and cornerback Charlie Stukes also stole two Atlanta passes as the Rams rolled to their second victory of the season over the Falcons, who dropped their sixth straight game. Lawrence McCutcheon of Los Angeles ran for 53 yards to lift his season total to 1,004 yards. It marked the second straight season McCutcheon rushed over 1.000 yards.

Los Angeles 6 7 17 0 - 30 Atlanta 0 7 0 0 - 7 LA-Bertelsen 3 run (kick failed)

LA-Snow 44 pass from Harris (Ray kick)

Atl-Kendrick 2 pass from Sullivan (Mike-Mayer kick)

LA-Elmendorf 57 interception return (Ray kick)

LA-Bertelsen 4 run (Ray kick)

LA-FG Ray 23

## Oakland 41, New England 26 Sunday, December 1

## At Oakland-Alameda County Coliseum, attendance 50,120.

Ken Stabler opened up with a 67-yard pass to Cliff Branch, the first of his four touchdown passes, boosting his season total to 24. Branch also caught a 19-yard scoring toss and increased his AFC-leading figures to 56 catches for 1,032 yards and 11 touchdowns. Stabler completed 16 of 21 and also hit Fred Biletnikoff and Bob Moore for scores. Jim Plunkett passed for 281 yards and two touchdowns, completing 17 of 34 attempts.

New England 6 7 6 7 - 26 Oakland 7 13 7 14 - 41

NE-FG J. Smith 22

Oak-Branch 67 pass from Stabler (Blanda kick)

NE-FG J. Smith 35

Oak-Biletnikoff 12 pass from Stabler (kick failed)

NE-Tarver 6 run (J. Smith kick)

Oak-Moore 5 pass from Stabler (Blanda kick)

NE-Vataha 59 pass from Plunkett (kick blocked)

Oak-Branch 19 pass from Stabler (Blanda kick)

Oak-Thomas 22 interception return (Blanda kick)

NE-Marshall 17 pass from Plunkett (J. Smith kick)

Oak-Hart 5 run with lateral from L. Lawrence (Blanda kick)

## Minnesota 29, New Orleans 9 Sunday, December 1

At Metropolitan Stadium, attendance 44,202.

Fran Tarkenton completed 20 of 29 passes for 317 yards and three touchdowns as the Vikings clinched their sixth NFC Central Division title in the last seven seasons. Jim Lash caught three passes for 112 yards and John Gilliam received five for 109, including scoring tosses of 13 and 22 yards.

New Orleans 3 6 0 0 - 9 Minnesota 6 6 3 14 - 29

Minn-Osborn 2 run (kick blocked)

NO-FG McClard 27

NO-Maxson 1 run (kick failed)

Minn-Voigt 4 pass from Tarkenton (kick failed)

Minn-FG Cox 25

Minn-Gilliam 13 pass from Tarkenton (Cox kick)

Minn-Gilliam 22 pass from Tarkenton (Cox kick)

## Chicago 16, New York Giants 13 Sunday, December 1 At Soldier Field, attendance 18,802.

Mirro Roder, who minutes earlier was robbed of a chance to kick a 19-yard field goal because of a fumbled snap, was successful on a 24-yard attempt with 36 seconds remaining to enable the Bears to snap a five-game losing streak. It was the Giants' fourth straight loss, including an overtime defeat by the Jets and setbacks in the final two seconds to the Lions and final three seconds to the Cardinals.

Chi-Douglas 1 run (kick failed)

NYG-Gillette 13 pass from Morton (kick failed)

Chi-Kosins 3 run (Roder kick)

NYG-Kotar 2 run (Gogolak kick)

Chi-FG Roder 24

New York Jets 27, San Diego 14 Sunday, December 1 At Shea Stadium, attendance 44,888.

The New York Jets won their fourth straight with superior efforts by John

Riggins who scored three touchdowns and Joe Namath who completed 17 of 27 passes for 254 yards and one touchdown. Rich Caster caught seven for 137 yards and Pat Leahy kicked two field goals. San Diego's only offensive punch came from rookie Don Woods who ran for 142 yards, his sixth 100yard plus day and the pass catching of Gary Garrison who snagged four for 109 yards. Jesse Freitas was the Chargers' quarterback for the injured Dan Fouts.

San Diego 0 0 0 14 14 New York Jets 10 14 3 0 27

NYJ-Riggins 4 pass from Namath (Leahy kick)

NYJ-FG Leahy 20

NYJ-Riggins 3 run (Leahy kick)

NYJ-Riggins 2 run (Leahy kick)

NYJ-FG Leahy 45

SD-Garrison 28 pass from D. Woods (Partee kick)

SD-D. Woods 4 run (Partee kick)

## Cleveland 7, San Francisco 0 Sunday, December 1 At Cleveland Stadium, attendance 24,559.

An interception by rookie safety Eddie Brown set up the only score, a plunge by Ken Brown. A mixture of snow, sleet, and rain pelted the spectators and encouraged 29,365 ticket holders to stay home. Dan Abramowicz caught a pass with 10 seconds to play to extend his consecutive game streak to 103. Wilbur Jackson topped the rushers with 91 yards for the 49ers.

San Francisco 0 0 0 7 Cleveland O 0 0 7 Cle-K. Brown 1 run (Cockroft kick)

## Miami 24, Cincinnati 3 Monday Night, December 2 At Orange Bowl, attendance 71,962.

Larry Csonka gained 123 yards rushing and Bob Griese hit with 11 of 13 passes for two touchdowns in a 24-3 victory that left Dolphins tied with Bills for AFC East lead and Bengals on the brink of elimination in AFC Central. Miami shut off Bengals with only 162 yards and shut out Isaac Curtis while rolling for 310 yards. Only Cincinnati points came on 29-yard field goal by Horst Muhlmann.

Cincinnati 3 Miami 24 3 7 Mia-Morris 4 pass from Griese (Yepremian kick) Mia-FG Yepremian 43

Cin-FG Muhlmann 29

Mia-Mandich 4 pass from Griese (Yepremian kick)

Mia-Malone 2 run (Yepremian kick)

#### THIRTEENTH WEEK

Minnesota 23, Atlanta 10 Saturday, December 7 At Metropolitan Stadium, attendance 47,105.

Cin-FG Muhlmann 34 Cin-FG Muhlmann 40

Dave Osborn rushed for 96 yards - his fourth trip over 90 this season - and scored touchdowns on runs of 10 and 5 yards as the NFC Central Champion Vikings handed the Falcons their eighth straight defeat. Bob Berry, subbing for quarterback Fran Tarkenton, completed 14 of 22 passes for 114 yards

and a 10-yard touchdown to Stu Voigt.

Atlanta 0 0 10 Minnesota 23

Minn-Osborn 10 run (Cox kick)

Atl-Malone 1 run (Mike-Mayer kick)

Minn-FG Cox 21

Minn-Osborn 5 run (kick blocked)

Atl-FG Mike-Mayer 36

Minn-Voigt 10 pass from Berry (Cox kick)

Dallas 41, Cleveland 17 Saturday, December 7 At Texas Stadium, attendance 48,754.

Two early touchdown passes, covering 35 and 43 yards, from Roger Staubach to Golden Richards sparked the Cowboys to their best offensive production (469 yards) and highest point total of the season. Staubach later connected with Billy Joe Dupree for a 42-yard score. Dallas had four interceptions, including Cornell Green's first two of the season. Cleveland's Greg Pruitt, who returned one kickoff for 58 yards, took over the AFC lead in that category.

Cleveland 0 10 7 0 17 Dallas 14 6 21 0 41

Dal-Richards 35 pass from Staubach (Herrera kick)

Dal-Richards 41 pass from Staubach (Herrera kick)

Cle-Holden 4 pass from Phipps (Cockroft kick)

Dal-FG Herrera 39

Cle-FG Cockroft 28

Dal-FG Herrera 19

Cle-K. Brown 12 run (Cockroft kick)

Dal-Garrison 3 run (Herrera kick)

Dal-DuPree 42 pass from Staubach (Herrera kick)

Dal-Garrison 1 run (Herrera kick)

## New York Jets 20, Buffalo 10 Sunday, December 8 At Shea Stadium, attendance 31,982.

Jets won their fifth straight and made Bills settle for wild card berth in AFC playoffs. Joe Namath rallied Jets, throwing a touchdown pass to Jerome Barkum with four minutes to play to erase a 10-6 Buffalo lead. Namath also hit Rich Caster for a score. Linebacker Ralph Baker ran 67 yards after picking off a Joe Ferguson pass to clinch the decision.

Buffalo 0 0 7 3 -10 0 20 New York Jets 0 6

Buff-Hill 41 pass from Ferguson (Leypoldt kick)

NYJ-Caster 19 pass from Namath (kick blocked)

Buff-FG Leypoldt 36

NYJ-Barkum 36 pass from Namath (Leahy kick)

NYJ-Baker 67 interception return (Leahy kick)

## San Diego 28, Chicago 21 Sunday, December 8 At San Diego Stadium, attendance 33,662.

Don Woods became the seventh rookie in NFL history to gain 1,000 yards with 75 for the day and a 13-game total of 1,057 yards in the Chargers' victory over the Bears. Rookie Jesse Freitas, operating with an all-rookie backfield, threw two touchdown passes and linebacker Carl Gersbach's interception in the last quarter set up the winning score by rookie RB Bo Matthews. Blenda Gay, in his first NFL game, recovered a Bears' fumble and ran 17 yards for a touchdown.

Chicago 0 21 7 14 San Diego 14 28

Chi-Grandberry 4 run (Roder kick)

SD-Woods 21 pass from Freitas (Partee kick)

SD-Gay 17 fumble recovery return (Partee kick)

Chi-Williams 3 run (Roder kick)

Chi-Wheeler 19 pass from Douglass (Roder kick)

SD-Davis 43 pass from Freitas (Partee kick)

SD-Matthews 1 run (Partee kick)

## Detroit 23, Cincinnati 19 Sunday, December 8 At Riverfront Stadium, attendance 45,159.

Lions knocked Bengals out of last AFC playoff chance with scoring pass from Greg Landry to Charlie Sanders with 29 seconds to play. Ken Anderson, Cincinnati quarterback, suffered a back injury in the third quarter and gave way to Wayne Clark, who almost became a hero by leading a fourth-quarter drive resulting in Ed Williams' two-yard scoring run. Horst Muhlmann kicked four field goals for the Bengals and Doug Dressler led the rushers with 62 yards while making six catches.

Detroit 9 7 23 0 7 3 Cincinnati 19

Det-Jessie 18 run (kick blocked) Cin-FG Muhlmann 47

Det-FG Mann 42

Det-Taylor 3 run (Mann kick)

Cin-FG Muhlmann 42

Cin-Williams 2 run (Muhlmann kick)

Det-C. Sanders 8 pass from Landry (Mann kick)

## San Francisco 7, Green Bay 6 Sunday, December 8 At Candlestick Park, attendance 47,475.

Veteran quarterback Norman Snead relieved rookie Tom Owen and directed the 49ers on a 71-yard drive which produced the game's only touchdown, a two-yard burst by Del Williams, and Bruce Gossett added the extra point to produce the victory. San Francisco's defense permitted only two Chester Marcol field goals and over the last four games had allowed only 13 points and one touchdown. Marcol moved ahead of Minnesota's Chuck Foreman in the NFC scoring race.

Green Bay 3 0 3 0 - 6
San Francisco 0 0 0 7 - 7
GB-FG Marcol 43
GB-FG Marcol 29

SF-Williams 2 run (Gossett kick)

## Denver 37, Houston 14 Sunday, December 8 At Mile High Stadium, attendance 46,942.

Otis Armstrong rushed 31 times for 183 yards, a season high in the NFL, and broke Floyd Little's club record of 166 as the Broncos piled up 411 yards in defeating the Oilers. Armstrong also scored three touchdowns for a season total of 12 and rookie Jon Keyworth gained 55 yards and scored his 10th TD. Dan Pastorini completed 20 of 38 for the Oilers who sacked Charley Johnson six times.

Houston 0 7 0 7 - 14 Denver 7 10 6 14 - 37

Den-Keyworth 4 run (Turner kick)

Den-FG Turner 43

Den-Armstrong 10 run (Turner kick)

Hou-Willis 1 run (Butler kick)

Den-Armstrong 12 run (kick failed)

Hou-Queen 4 pass from Pastorini (Butler kick)

Den-Moses 12 pass from Johnson (Turner kick)

Den-Armstrong 15 run (Turner kick)

## Miami 17, Baltimore 16 Sunday, December 8 At Memorial Stadium, attendance 33.320.

Dolphins wrapped up fourth straight AFC Eastern Division title and kept alive their hopes for a third straight Super Bowl despite a late surge by the Colts who closed to within one point with 62 seconds to go. Bob Griese threw one touchdown pass and rookie Benny Malone had his third 100-yard day with 104 on 17 carries. Lydell Mitchell rushed for 44 yards and caught seven passes to take AFC receiving lead.

Miami 7 7 3 0 - 17 Baltimore 0 3 3 10 - 16

Mia-Twilley 4 pass from Griese (Yepremian kick)

Mia-Csonka 1 run (Yepremian kick)

Balt-FG Linhart 26

Mia-FG Yepremian 27

Balt-FG Linhart 40

Balt-FG Linhart 20

Balt-Olds 2 pass from Jones (Linhart kick)

## Oakland 7, Kansas City 6 Sunday, December 8 At Arrowhead Stadium, attendance 60,577.

Oakland's AFC Western Division champs rested Ken Stabler and started Larry Lawrence against Chiefs. Lawrence twisted a knee early in the game

and Daryle Lamonica came off the bench to throw a 10-yard scoring pass to Cliff Branch, his 12th touchdown. Jimmy Warren intercepted a Len Dawson pass and returned the ball 34 yards to set up the winner. Jan Stenerud's field goals of 50 and 27 yards accounted for the Chiefs' scoring.

Oakland 0 0 0 7 - 7
Kansas City 3 3 0 0 - 6

KC-FG Stenerud 50 KC-FG Stenerud 27

Oak-Branch 10 pass from Lamonica (Blanda kick)

## Philadelphia 20, New York Giants 7 Sunday, December 8 At Yale Bowl, attendance 21,170.

In a heavy rain which turned the field into a quagmire, Eagles rookie quarterback Mike Boryla completed 23 of 34 passes for 240 yards, including a seven-yard touchdown to Charles Young, to direct his second straight victory. Young caught nine passes for 103 yards to vault into second place among NFC receivers as Philadelphia swept the season series with the Giants. Eagles running back Tom Sullivan scored his 10th and 11th TDs of the season, both on one-yard runs.

Phil-Sullivan 1 run (kick blocked)

Phil-Young 7 pass from Boryla (Dempsey kick)

Phil-Sullivan 1 run (Dempsey kick)

NYG-Dawkins 4 pass from Morton (Gogolak kick)

## Pittsburgh 21, New England 17 Sunday, December 8 At Schaefer Stadium, attendance 52,107.

Franco Harris led Steelers to AFC Central Division championship with 136 yards on 29 carries while the Pittsburgh defense held the Patriots to 184 yards. The defeat eliminated New England from contention for a wild card berth in the playoffs. Pittsburgh had three more sacks for a league-leading total of 52, including a safety when L. C. Greenwood tackled Jim Plunkett in the end zone.

Pittsburgh 0 12 7 2 - 21
New England 7 3 0 7 - 17

NE-Herron 17 pass from Plunkett (Smith kick)

Pitt-FG Gerela 40

Pitt-Harris 2 run (kick blocked)

Pitt-FG Gerela 27

NE-FG Smith 20

Pitt-Swann 7 pass from Bradshaw (Gerela kick)

Pitt-Safety, Greenwood tackled Plunkett in end zone

NE-Herron 5 run (Smith kick)

## New Orleans 14, St. Louis 0 Sunday, December 8 At Tulane Stadium, attendance 47,172.

Saints rookie running back Alvin Maxson set club records with a 66-yard touchdown gallop and a rushing total of 148 yards and the defense produced the second shutout victory in New Orleans history as the playoff-bound Cardinals lost their second in a row. New Orleans' Tom Blanchard, with eight punts for 338 yards, moved into the NFC punting lead.

St. Louis 0 0 0 0 - 0 New Orleans 7 0 0 7 - 14 NO-Maxson 66 run (McClard kick)

NO-Maxson 66 run (McClard kir NO-Seal 6 run (McClard kick)

## Washington 23, Los Angeles 17 Monday Night, December 9 At Memorial Coliseum, attendance 84,327.

The Redskins, trailing 0-10 after one period, struck with a 27-yard touchdown pass from Bill Kilmer to Roy Jefferson on the first play of the second quarter. Minutes later, Washington moved into the lead on a Kilmer-to-Larry Brown two-yard scoring pass which was set up when Rams punter Mike Burke tried an unsuccessful pass on fourth-and-10 from his own 23-yard line. The

victory earned Washington a first-place tie in the NFC East and assured the Redskins of a place in the Divisional Playoffs. Kilmer completed 19 of 29 for 269 yards and three touchdowns.

Washington 0 20 3 0 - 23 Los Angeles 10 0 7 0 - 17

LA-FG Ray 37

LA-Jackson 20 pass from Harris (Ray kick) Wash-Jefferson 27 pass from Kilmer (kick failed)

Wash-L. Brown 2 pass from Kilmer (Bragg kick)

Wash-J. Smith 3 from Kilmer (Bragg kick)

LA-McCutcheon 9 run (Ray kick)

Wash-FG Bragg 25

#### **FOURTEENTH WEEK**

## Pittsburgh 27, Cincinnati 3 Saturday, December 14

## At Three Rivers Stadium, attendance 42,878.

Franco Harris went over the 1,000-yard mark with 1,006 and Terry Bradshaw threw two touchdown passes as Steelers won 10th game for third straight year. The Bengals, hampered by injuries, used Wayne Clark for injured Ken Anderson at quarterback. Roy Gerela's two field goals and three conversions gave him the AFC scoring title with 93 points. Lynn Swann returned three punts for 112 yards for a league-leading total of 577 yards, only 35 short of the record.

Cincinnati 0 0 3 0 - 3 Pittsburgh 7 10 7 3 - 27

Pitt-Stallworth 5 pass from Bradshaw (Gerela kick)

Pitt-Mullins 7 pass from Bradshaw (Gerela kick)

Pitt-FG Gerela 26

Cin-FG Muhlmann 32

Pitt-Harrison 1 run (Gerela kick)

Pitt-FG Gerela 42

## Minnesota 35, Kansas City 15 Saturday, December 14 At Arrowhead Stadium, attendance 35,480.

Fran Tarkenton and Bob Berry shared playing time and each tossed two touchdown passes for the playoff-bound Vikings. A crowd of 35,480 watched in the rain and 36,934 who bought tickets failed to show. Emmitt Thomas, the AFC interception leader with 12, provided the Chiefs' main spark with a 73-yard touchdown run after picking off a Tarkenton pass. It was the longest interception return of the season in the NFL. Rookie Sam McCullum of the Vikings caught six passes for 118 yards and two touchdowns.

Minnesota 0 14 7 14 - 35 Kansas City 3 9 0 3 - 15

KC-FG Stenerud 37

KC-FG Stenerud 32

Minn-McCullum 34 pass from Tarkenton (Cox kick)

Minn-McCullum 10 pass from Tarkenton (Cox kick)

KC-E. Thomas 73 interception return (kick failed)

Minn-Marinaro 7 pass from Berry (Cox kick)

KC-FG Stenerud 29

Minn-Reed 3 pass from Berry (Cox kick)

Minn-McClanahan 6 run (Cox kick)

## Oakland 27, Dallas 23 Saturday, December 14

## At Oakland-Alameda County Coliseum, attendance 45,840.

Ken Stabler connected with his 25th and 26th touchdown passes and 47-year-old George Blanda hit Cliff Branch with his first pass since 1972 as the Raiders prepared for playoff action against Miami. Branch's touchdown catch gave him 13 for the year, tops in the AFC, ending Blanda's eight-year reign as Oakland scoring champion. Cowboys got 60 yards from running back Charles Young, and Roger Staubach passed for 266 yards. Ray Guy nailed down the AFC punting title with a 42.2-yard average.

Dallas 9 0 7 7 - 23 Oakland 3 14 7 3 - 27 Dal-Pearson fumble recovery in end zone (Herrera kick)

Oak-FG Blanda 31

Dal-Safety, center snap fumbled out of end zone

Oak-Biletnikoff 9 pass from Stabler (Blanda kick)

Oak-C. Smith 14 pass from Stabler (Blanda kick) Oak-Branch 28 pass from Blanda (Blanda kick)

Dal-Dennison 1 run (Herrera kick)

Oak-FG Blanda 34

Dal-Dennison 2 run (Herrera kick)

## Los Angeles 19, Buffalo 14 Sunday, December 15 At Memorial Coliseum, attendance 78,967.

The Rams rallied from a 0-7 halftime deficit to defeat the Bills in a meeting of playoff-bound teams – Los Angeles as NFC Western Champion and Buffalo as the AFC Wild Card. Lawrence McCutcheon of the Rams rushed 45 yards in the first period and left the game with the NFC rushing title and a new club record of 1,109 yards, breaking his own mark of 1,097 set in 1973. Buffalo's O. J. Simpson ran for 73 and a season total of 1,125, third highest in the AFC.

Buffalo 0 7 0 7 - 14 Los Angeles 0 0 13 6 - 19

Buff-Rashad fumble recovery in end zone (Leypoldt kick)

LA-Scribner 14 pass from Harris (Burke kick)

LA-Harris 1 run (kick failed)

LA-Jaworski 1 run (kick failed)

Buff-Hill 55 pass from Ferguson (Leypoldt kick)

## Washington 42, Chicago 0 Sunday, December 15

## At Robert F. Kennedy Stadium, attendance 52,085.

With Sonny Jurgensen throwing 14 completions for 205 yards including an 11-yard touchdown pass to Charley Taylor in the QB's first action in five weeks, the Redskins ran up their highest point total since 1966, giving them the NFC scoring title with 320 points. Washington's four interceptions brought their conference-leading total to 25. Jurgensen finished as the NFC passing champion.

Chicago 0 0 0 0 - 0 Washington 0 21 7 14 - 42

Wash-Brown 1 run (Bragg kick)

Wash-Brown 4 run (Bragg kick)

Wash-Taylor 11 pass from Jurgensen (Bragg kick)

Wash-Taylor 13 pass from Theismann (Bragg kick)

Wash-Thomas 14 run (Bragg kick)

Wash-Evans 1 run (D. Jones kick)

## Houston 28, Cleveland 24 Sunday, December 15 At Astrodome, attendance 33,299.

Houston won its sixth in the last seven games to finish at .500 after two seasons at 1-13. The Oilers beat the Browns for the first time ever after losing to them nine straight times. Second-half touchdowns by Willie Rodgers, Fred Willis, and Billy Johnson gave Houston its first non-losing season since 1969. Greg Pruitt, the AFC kickoff return champ, led the rushers with 102 yards on 15 carries.

Cleveland 7 0 10 7 - 24 Houston 0 7 14 7 - 28

Cle-Holden 41 pass from Phipps (Cockroft kick)

Hou-Alston 7 pass from Pastorini (Butler kick)

Hou-B. Johnson 6 pass from Pastorini (Butler kick)

Cle-Pruitt 4 run (Cockroft kick)

Cle-FG Cockroft 37

Hou-Willis 5 run (Butler kick)

Hou-Rodgers 20 run (Butler kick)

Cle-Hooker 9 pass from Phipps (Cockroft kick)

San Diego 17, Denver 0 Sunday, December 15

#### At San Diego Stadium, attendance 35,756.

Chargers Don Woods gained 105 yards for a rookie record total of 1,162 yards and Denver's Otis Armstrong clinched AFC rushing title by boosting his total to 1,407 yards with 142 in 18 carries. Rookie quarterback Jesse Freitas completed 16 of 29 for 201 yards in the Chargers first shutout since 1967. It was Denver's first shutout loss since 1970. Woods also broke club rushing record set by Paul Lowe in 1965.

 Denver
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0

 San Diego
 7
 7
 0
 3
 17

 SD-Woods 6 run (Partee kick)

 SD-Matthews 1 run (Partee kick)

SD-FG Wersching 37

## Philadelphia 28, Detroit 17 Sunday, December 15

## At Veterans Stadium, attendance 57,157.

The Eagles, with rookie Mike Boryla at quarterback for the third straight game, finished with three victories in a row to achieve a 7-7 record, their best since 1966. Boryla completed 20 of 34 passes for 181 yards and two touchdowns. Tight end Charles Young caught seven passes to boost his total to 63 which earned him the NFC receiving title.

Detroit 0 3 7 7 - 17 Philadelphia 14 0 7 7 - 28

Phil-James 1 run (Dempsey kick)

Phil-Carmichael 6 pass from Boryla (Dempsey kick)

Det-FG Mann 38

Det-Landry 1 run (Mann kick)

Phil-Young 1 pass from Boryla (Dempsey kick)

Phil-Sullivan 4 run (Dempsey kick)

Det-Jessie 21 pass from Landry (Mann kick)

## Atlanta 10, Green Bay 3 Sunday, December 15

#### At Atlanta Stadium, attendance 10,020.

The Falcons used a five-yard touchdown run by Dave Hampton and a 47-yard field goal by Nick Mike-Mayer to snap an eight-game losing streak. Strong safety Ray Brown had his eighth interception, tops in the NFC. Chester Marcol's field goal gave him 94 points and the NFL scoring title by one point over Pittsburgh's Roy Gerela. The actual attendance of 10,020 was the smallest of the season in the NFL, and the 48,830 no-shows was the largest ever recorded.

 Green Bay
 0
 0
 3
 0
 3

 Atlanta
 7
 3
 0
 0
 10

 Atl-Hampton 5 run (Mike-Mayer kick)

 Atl-FG Mike-Mayer 47

Atl-FG Mike-Mayer 47 GB-FG Marcol 43

## Miami 34, New England 27 Sunday, December 15 At Orange Bowl, attendance 56,920.

Mack Herron set NFL record for combined net yardage with 2,444 yards on runs (824), receptions (474), kickoff returns (629), and punt returns (517), breaking old mark set by Gale Sayers of Chicago in 1966. Although Patriots rolled to early 24-0 lead, playoff-bound Dolphins came back to win with backup quarterback Earl Morrall throwing two touchdown passes to rookie Melvin Baker and Don Nottingham scoring twice. Bob Griese, Larry Csonka, and several other Dolphins regulars did not play.

New England 21 3 0 3 - 27 Miami 0 17 7 10 - 34

NE-Hannah fumble recovery in end zone (J. Smith kick)

NE-Sanders 23 interception return (J. Smith kick)

NE-Herron 4 pass from Plunkett (J. Smith kick)

NE-FG J. Smith 46

Mia-Nottingham 1 run (Yepremian kick)

Mia-Baker 37 pass from Morrall (Yepremian kick)

Mia-FG Yepremian 28

Mia-Baker 46 pass from Morrall (Yepremian kick)

NE-FG J. Smith 34

Mia-Nottingham 2 run (Yepremian kick) Mia-FG Yepremian 40

#### San Francisco 35, New Orleans 21 Sunday, December 15 At Candlestick Park, attendance 40,418.

The 49ers broke away from a tight 14-7 lead on the first play of the final period when Gene Washington took a 17-yard touchdown pass from rookie Tom Owen and 23 seconds later defensive tackle Bill Belk picked up a Saints' fumble and ran 19 yards to score. The victory, San Francisco's fourth in its last five games, gave the 49ers second place in the NFC West.

New Orleans 0 7 0 14 - 21 San Francisco 7 7 0 21 - 35

SF-Schreiber 5 run (Gossett kick)

NO-Cipa 1 run (McClard kick)

SF-Schreiber 1 run (Gossett kick)

SF-Washington 17 pass from Owen (Gossett kick)

SF-Belk 19 fumble return (Gossett kick)

NO-Seal 7 pass from Scott (McClard kick)

NO-Newland 10 pass from Scott (McClard kick)

SF-Wilcox 21 interception return (Gossett kick)

## St. Louis 26, New York Giants 14 Sunday, December 15

## At Busch Memorial Stadium, attendance 47,414.

Needing a victory to win the first title in its 15-year history in St. Louis, the Cardinals had to rally from a 0-14 halftime deficit to score victory number 10 and enter the NFC Playoffs as Eastern Division champion. A four-yard pass from Jim Hart to Ken Willard produced the first St. Louis score, then 57 seconds later, following Jim Tolbert's interception, Hart connected 28 yards to Jackie Smith for another touchdown, slicing New York's lead to 14-13. Roger Wehrli picked off another Giants' pass on the next series which led to the first of Terry Metcalf's two touchdowns and gave the Cardinals their winning margin.

New York Giants 0 14 0 0 - 14 St. Louis 0 0 20 6 - 26

NYG-Johnson 2 run (Gogolak kick)

NYG-Dawkins 1 run (Gogolak kick)

StL-Willard 4 pass from Hart (kick failed)

StL-Smith 28 pass from Hart (Bakken kick)

StL-Metcalf 1 run (Bakken kick)

StL-Metcalf 16 run (kick failed)

## New York Jets 45, Baltimore 38 Sunday, December 15 At Memorial Stadium, attendance 31,651.

Jets closed out season with six-game winning streak as Joe Namath threw for two touchdowns and John Riggins ran 107 yards on 21 carries and scored twice. Bert Jones staged a spectacular show, completing an NFL-record 17 consecutive passes and 36 of 53 for 385 yards and four touchdowns for the Colts while wiping a flock of John Unitas marks out of the Colts' record book. Lydell Mitchell caught 13 passes for an AFC-leading total of 72, first running back to win since Shipwreck Kelly of Brooklyn in 1933. Mitchell's 13 also tied the most ever by a running back in a game.

New York Jets 7 21 7 10 - 45 Baltimore 0 10 14 14 - 38

NYJ-Barkum 25 pass from Namath (Leahy kick)

Balt-Mitchell 5 pass from Jones (Linhart kick)

NYJ-Riggins 1 run (Leahy kick)

NYJ-Riggins 2 run (Leahy kick)

NYJ-Owens 29 interception return (Leahy kick)

Balt-FG Linhart 26

Balt-Chester 9 pass from Jones (Linhart kick)

NYJ-Caster 39 pass from Namath (Leahy kick)

Balt-Mitchell 16 pass from Jones (Linhart kick)

NYJ-FG Leahy 25

NYJ-Adamle 3 run (Leahy kick)

Balt-Jones 1 run (Linhart kick)

Balt-McCauley 10 pass from Jones (Linhart kick)

#### FIFTEENTH WEEK

#### AFC DIVISIONAL PLAYOFF Oakland 28, Miami 26 Saturday, December 21

At Oakland-Alameda County Coliseum, attendance 52,817.

Clarence Davis made a fantastic catch of an eight-yard touchdown pass from Ken Stabler with 25 seconds to play to give Oakland a dramatic come-frombehind victory over Miami that sent the Raiders into the AFC title game and snuffed out the Dolphins' hopes of a third straight Super Bowl win. Linebacker Phil Villapiano intercepted a Bob Griese pass with 21 seconds left for the final blow to Miami. Stabler threw four scoring passes to Charlie Smith, Fred Biletnikoff, Cliff Branch, and Davis. Miami rookie Nat Moore returned the opening kickoff 89 yards for a touchdown.

Miami 7 3 6 10 - 26
Oakland 0 7 7 14 - 28
Mia-N. Moore 89 kickoff return (Yepremian kick)
Oak-C. Smith 31 pass from Stabler (Blanda kick)
Mia-FG Yepremian 33
Oak-Biletnikoff 13 pass from Stabler (Blanda kick)
Mia-Warfield 16 pass from Griese (kick blocked)
Mia-FG Yepremian 46
Oak-Branch 72 pass from Stabler (Blanda kick)

Oak-Davis 8 pass from Stabler (Blanda kick)

Mia-Malone 23 run (Yepremian kick)

NFC DIVISIONAL PLAYOFF Minnesota 30, St. Louis 14 Saturday, December 21

#### At Metropolitan Stadium, attendance 44,626.

Amid light snow flurries and with the temperature at 21 degrees, the Vikings forced a pair of Cardinals' turnovers that resulted in 10 points, which broke a 7-7 halftime deadlock and sent the defending champions into the conference title game for the second year in a row. Strong safety Jeff Wright's interception of a Jim Hart pass set up Fred Cox's tie-breaking 37-yard field goal 3:31 into the third period. One minute later cornerback Nate Wright picked up a Terry Metcalf fumble and raced 20 yards for a touchdown and a 17-7 Minnesota lead. Fran Tarkenton and John Gilliam combined on two touchdown passes covering 16 and 38 yards. Chuck Foreman rushed for 114 yards, including a four-yard touchdown.

St. Louis 0 7 0 14 Minnesota 0 30 16 StL-Thomas 13 pass from Hart (Bakken kick) Minn-Gilliam 16 pass from Tarkenton (Cox kick) Minn-FG Cox 37 Minn-N. Wright 20 fumble return (Cox kick) Minn-Gilliam 38 pass from Tarkenton (kick missed) Minn-Foreman 4 run (Cox kick) StL-Metcalf 11 run (Bakken kick)

# AFC DIVISIONAL PLAYOFF Pittsburgh 32, Buffalo 14 Sunday, December 22 At Three Rivers Stadium, attendance 48,321.

Franco Harris led the Steelers into their second AFC title game in three years by scoring a record three touchdowns and tied another conference divisional playoff mark with 18 points. Pittsburgh broke the game wide open with 26 points in the second quarter and rolled up 438 yards under the direction of quarterback Terry Bradshaw. Harris carried 24 times for 74 yards and Bradshaw ran for 48 yards, while O. J. Simpson of the Bills was held to 49 yards. Joe Ferguson passed for both Buffalo scores to tight end Paul Seymour and Simpson. The Steelers set a divisional playoff record with 29 first downs.

Buffalo	7	0	7	0	-	14
Pittsburgh	3	26	0	3	-	32
Pitt-FG Gerela 21						

Buff-Seymour 22 pass from Ferguson (Leypoldt kick)
Pitt-Bleier 27 pass from Bradshaw (kick blocked)
Pitt-Harris 1 run (Gerela kick)
Pitt-Harris 4 run (kick blocked)
Pitt-Harris 1 run (Gerela kick)
Buff-Simpson 3 pass from Ferguson (Leypoldt kick)
Pitt-FG Gerela 22

## NFC DIVISIONAL PLAYOFF Los Angeles 19, Washington 10 Sunday, December 22 At Memorial Coliseum, attendance 80,118.

On a clear, windy 65 degree day, the Rams turned two fumble recoveries into a pair of field goals within 4½ minutes to tie and go ahead of the Redskins 13-10 at the outset of the fourth period. Two minutes later, linebacker Isiah Robertson intercepted a Sonny Jurgensen pass and ran 59 yards for a touchdown to insure the victory which earned Los Angeles a place in the NFC Championship Game for the first time since 1955, when they lost to Cleveland 38-14. Linebacker Jack Reynolds recovered a Larry Brown fumble which resulted in David Ray's 37-yard field goal for a 10-10 tie. Then Ray kicked a 26-yard three-pointer after Cullen Bryant's recovery of

Doug Cunningham's fumble on the kickoff following the initial field goal.

Washington 3 7 0 0 - 10

Los Angeles 7 0 3 9 - 19

LA-Klein 10 pass from Harris (Ray kick)

Wash-FG Bragg 35

Wash-Denson 1 run (Bragg kick)

LA-FG Ray 37

LA-FG Ray 26

LA-Robertson 59 interception return (pass failed)

#### SIXTEENTH WEEK

## AFC CHAMPIONSHIP GAME Pittsburgh 24, Oakland 13 Sunday, December 29

#### At Oakland-Alameda County Coliseum, attendance 53,515.

Pittsburgh won its first conference championship in 42 years of membership in the National Football League with a 21-point final quarter. Franco Harris ripped through the Oakland defense for 111 yards and two touchdowns, and Rocky Bleier gained 98 yards rushing. Terry Bradshaw directed the Steelers' 224-yard ground attack while the Pittsburgh defense shut off the Raiders with only 29 yards rushing. Bradshaw also completed 8 of 17 passes for 95 yards and a touchdown to rookie Lynn Swann. Ken Stabler hit with 19 of 36 for 271 yards and one Oakland score, but was intercepted three times, twice by Jack Ham and finally by J. T. Thomas in the final minute. Cliff Branch set an AFC Championship Game record by catching nine passes for 186 yards and the lone Oakland touchdown. George Blanda also extended his own records with his ninth game, 59 total points, six field goals in AFC title games.

Pittsburgh 0 3 0 21 -24 Oakland 3 0 7 3 -13 Oak-FG Blanda 40 Pitt-FG Gerela 23 Oak-Branch 38 pass from Stabler (Blanda kick) Pitt-Harris 8 run (Gerela kick) Pitt-Swann 6 pass from Bradshaw (Gerela kick) Oak-FG Blanda 24 Pitt-Harris 21 run (Gerela kick)

# NFC CHAMPIONSHIP GAME Minnesota 14, Los Angeles 10 Sunday, December 29 At Metropolitan Stadium, attendance 47,404.

On an unseasonable, sunny, 30-degree December day, the Minnesota Vikings won their second straight NFC championship and the third in the club's 14-year history. Minnesota held a 7-3 lead in the third period when a series of plays developed which proved to be the most decisive in the game. Los Angeles quarterback James Harris slipped from the grasp of two

Minnesota tacklers and connected with Harold Jackson for a 73-yard gain to the Vikings' 2-yard line. On second-and-goal at the one, Rams' guard Tom Mack was called for illegal procedure and the ball was moved back to the 6. Harris ran for four to the 2. On third down, Harris' pass was deflected by Vikings' cornerback Jackie Wallace into the hands of Minnesota linebacker Wally Hilgenberg in the end zone for a touchback. The Vikings then marched 80 yards in 15 plays to build their advantage to 14-3 on Dave Osborn's one-yard run with 12:29 remaining. Los Angeles pulled within the final margin on a 44-yard Harris to Jackson touchdown pass three minutes later. But Minnesota, after two exchanges of possession, ran out the final 5:37 to earn its third trip to the Super Bowl. Chuck Foreman rushed for 80 yards and Dave Osborn 76. Fran Tarkenton completed 10 of 20 passes for 123 yards. Minnesota's defense held NFC rushing champion Lawrence McCutcheon to 32 yards. Harris produced 248 yards, with 13 completions in 23 pass attempts.

 Los Angeles
 0
 3
 0
 7
 10

 Minnesota
 0
 7
 0
 7
 14

 Minn-Lash 29 pass from Tarkenton (Cox kick)

 LA-FG Ray 27

 Minn-Osborn 1 run (Cox kick)

 LA-Jackson 44 pass from Harris (Ray kick)

# Super Bowl IX Pittsburgh 16, Minnesota 6 January 12, 1975, Tulane Stadium, New Orleans, LA Attendance: 80,997

The smart money said the Minnesota Vikings' Super Bowl experience gave them an edge over the Pittsburgh Steelers. The young Steelers were making their first appearance in the Super Bowl -- indeed competing for the first time for the NFL championship. The veteran Vikings had been there twice before. The Vikes had their great defense and a canny offensive leader in quarterback Fran Tarkenton. The Steelers also had a strong defense, but their quarterback, Terry Bradshaw, had as yet to prove he was capable of meeting a big challenge.

The first half was dominated by the defenses. Pittsburgh concentrated on the middle of the Minnesota defensive line. One defensive tackle, Fats Holmes played over Vikings' center Mick Tingelhoff while the other Steeler tackle, Joe Greene, lined up at an angle pointed directly at Tingelhoff. Holmes sometimes took on the Vikings center directly, allowing Greene to knife through and pursue Tarkenton. At other times, Greene would smash into Tingelhoff while Holmes looped behind him.

The only score in the half was a safety registered by the Steelers. Tarkenton fumbled a handoff to Dave Osborn, scrambled back to recover the ball in the end zone, and was downed by Pittsburgh defensive end Dwight White.

Leading 2-0, Pittsburgh kicked to Minnesota to open the second half and the Vikings' Bill Brown fumbled. Marv Kellum recovered for Pittsburgh at the Minnesota 30. The Steelers took four plays to negotiate the distance with Franco Harris taking the ball in from nine yards out. Harris was named game MVP. He ran for 158 yards on 34 tries, both new highs for the Super Bowl. Rocky Bleier added 65 yards on 17 carries to give Pittsburgh a decided edge in rushing. Minnesota managed a mere 17 yards on the ground for the day.

Despite their dominance, Pittsburgh's 9-0 lead was far from safe, and it narrowed to 9-6 in the final quarter when Matt Blair blocked Bobby Walden's punt and Terry Brown recovered in the end zone for a touchdown.

Completely denied on the ground, the Vikings weren't much better in the air. Tarkenton, under constant pressure from Greene, Holmes, White, and L.C. Greenwood, completed only 11 of 26 attempts for an average of less than four yards per try. Four of his tosses were deflected by the Steelers.

Midway through the final quarter, Pittsburgh put the game on ice with a drive that began on its own 34. The big play of the drive was a 30-yard toss from Bradshaw to Larry Brown. Harris and Bleier moved the ball to the four where, on third down, Bradshaw passed to Brown for the touchdown.

Soon after the ensuing kickoff, Pittsburgh's Mike Wagner intercepted a Tarkenton pass, and the Steelers held possession until the game was nearly over.

Pittsburgh (AFC). 0 2 7 7 - 16 Minnesota (NFC). 0 0 0 6 - 6

Pitt - Safety, White downed Tarkenton in end zone

Pitt - Harris 9 run (Gerela kick)

Minn - T. Brown recovered blocked punt in end zone (kick failed)

Pitt - L. Brown 4 pass from Bradshaw (Gerela kick)

TEAM STATISTICS	PITT	MINN
First Downs	17	9
Rushing	11	2
Passing	5	5
Penalty	1	2
Total Yardage	333	119
Net rushing yardage	249	17
Net passing yardage	84	102
Passes attcomphad int.	14-9-0	26-11-3

#### RUSHING

Pittsburgh - Harris 34 for 158, 1 TD; Bleier 17 for 65; Bradshaw 5 for 33; Swann 1 for -

Minnesota - Foreman 12 for 18; Tarkenton 1 for 0; Osborn 8 for -1.

#### PASSING

Pittsburgh - Bradshaw 9 of 14 for 96, 1 TD. Minnesota - Tarkenton 11 of 26 for 102, 3 int.

#### RECEIVING

Pittsburgh - Brown 3 for 49, 1 TD; Stallworth 3 for 24; Bleier 2 for 11; Lewis 1 for 12. Minnesota - Foreman 5 for 50; Voigt 2 for 31; Osborn 2 for 7; Gilliam 1 for 16; Reed 1 for -2.