

NFL WEEK 16



CANADA'S #1 VOLUME



Broncos (11-3) at Bengals (9-4-1) Paul Brown Stadium, Cincinnati, 8:30 p.m., TSN1

MONDAY NIGHT PREVIEW

Another big game for the Cincinnati Bengals. Another opportunity for them to choke.

Winning games in big-time situations has not been easy for the Bengals, who Monday night find themselves at home against the 11-3 Broncos.

A victory by the 9-4-1 Bengals would assure a playoff spot but a loss to Denver and a loss the final week of the season against Pittsburgh could see them miss

the playoffs altogether.

In recent history, the Bengals have not been at their best under the bright lights.

Since 2011, the year Andy Dalton became Cincinnati's starting quarterback, the Bengals have gone 2-9 in U.S. nationally televised playoff games and night games on Monday, Thursday and Sunday nights.

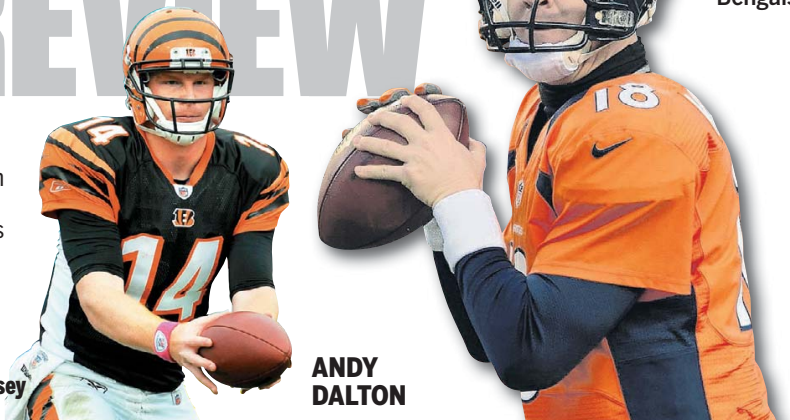
Making the hill that much steeper for Cincinnati is that fact that Denver's

Peyton Manning is 8-0 lifetime against them. In December, Manning is 3-0 vs. Cincinnati with 10 TD passes and no picks. In Monday night games, Manning is 13-4.

The last time Dalton and the Bengals were in a featured game was back in November and they were blown out on Thursday night 24-3 by the Browns.

So, if you're a Bengals fan, it looks grim.

— Mike Rutsey



Peyton Manning is 8-0 lifetime against the Bengals.

PATRIOTS	17
JETS	16

Tom Brady threw for 182 yards and a touchdown as visiting New England came through in the second half to clinch a first-round bye in the playoffs. **Jonas Gray** ran for a touchdown and **Rob Gronkowski** added a receiving score for the Patriots (12-3), who can wrap up the top overall seed in the AFC with a win next week. Brady was 23-of-35 and **Brandon LaFell** led the receiving corps with 64 yards as New England improved to 10-1 in its last 11 games ... **Geno Smith** went 17-of-27 for 210 yards, one touchdown and an interception for the Jets (3-12), who were attempting to secure their first back-to-back wins of the season. Tight end **Jeff Cumberland** hauled in the TD and **Chris Ivory** ran for 53 yards for New York ... The Patriots eclipsed their total yardage from the first seven drives on an 81-yard trek that ended with a field goal.

FIRST QUARTER	No scoring		
SECOND QUARTER	NE	NYJ	
	3	3	7
THIRD QUARTER	NYJ		
	0	10	3
FOURTH QUARTER	NE	NYJ	
	7	3	7
	0	10	3
	0	3	7

TEAM STATISTICS		NE	NYJ
First downs		19	16
Total Net Yards		231	307
Rushes-yards		24-85	32-116
Passing		146	191
Punts>Returns		3-63	3-35
Kickoff Returns		5-91	3-45
Interceptions Ret.		1-2	1-1
Comp-Att-Int		23-35-1	17-27-1
Sacked-Yards Lost		4-36	2-19
Punts		5-52.6	4-47.3
Fumbles-Lost		0-0	0-0
Penalties-Yards		5-38	2-14
Time of possession		27:39	32:21

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS	
RUSHING —New England, Vereen 6-38, Bolden 5-32, Brady 7-10, Gray 6-5, N.Y. Jets, Yovell 11-53, Johnson 10-30, Powell 5-21, Smith 3-9, Conner 1-2, Harvin 2-1	PASSING —New England, Brady 23-35-1-82, N.Y. Jets, Smith 17-27-1-210
RECEIVING —New England, Amendola 8-63, LaFell 7-64, Gronkowski 6-31, Wright 1-12, Vereen 1-12, N.Y. Jets, Harvin 4-44, Kerley 3-54, Cumberland 3-43, Decker 2-21, Powell 2-13, Conner 1-26, Sudfield 1-6, Johnson 1-3	PUNT RETURNS —New England, Amendola 3-63, N.Y. Jets, Kerley 3-35
KICKOFF RETURNS —New England, Amendola 5-91, N.Y. Jets, Graham 2-26, Harvin 1-19	INTERCEPTIONS —New England, Collins 1-0, N.Y. Jets, Williams 1-1
ATTENDANCE —78,160.	TIME —2:51.

STEELERS	20
CHIEFS	12

Ben Roethlisberger passed for 220 yards and one touchdown as host Pittsburgh clinched an AFC playoff spot by downing Kansas City. **Le'Veon Bell** rushed for a touchdown and **Antonio Brown** caught his 12th touchdown pass as the Steelers (10-5) secured their first playoff berth since the 2011 season. **Jason Worilds** had two sacks, **James Harrison** and **Cameron Hayward** each had 1.5 sacks and Pittsburgh totaled six overall while recording its third straight win. **Cairo Santos** booted four field goals for the Chiefs (8-7), who lost for the fourth time in five games as their playoff hopes took another hit. **Alex Smith** was 31-of-45 for a season-best 311 yards but was unable to get Kansas City into the end zone ... Chiefs' **Justin Houston** recorded his 18th sack of the season. ... Roethlisberger left the field briefly after Pittsburgh's third-quarter touchdown to have his right knee examined before returning for the Steelers' next drive.

FIRST QUARTER	No scoring		
SECOND QUARTER	KC	Pit	
	3	0	6
THIRD QUARTER	KC		
	3	7	7
FOURTH QUARTER	Pit		
	3	7	7
	3	7	7

TEAM STATISTICS		KC	Pit
First downs		22	19
Total Net Yards		327	282
Rushes-yards		14-39	26-68
Passing		288	214
Punts>Returns		2-9	0-0
Kickoff Returns		5-104	3-70
Interceptions Ret.		0-0	0-0
Comp-Att-Int		32-46-0	18-25-0
Sacked-Yards Lost		6-29	1-6
Punts		1-48.0	2-45.0
Fumbles-Lost		1-1	0-0
Penalties-Yards		4-39	4-40
Time of possession		31:07	28:53

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS	
RUSHING —Kansas City, Charles 9-29, Smith 2-14, Davis 2-2, Thomas 1-(-6), Pittsburgh, Bell 20-63, Bryant 2-9, Roethlisberger 4-(-4)	PASSING —Kansas City, Smith 31-45-0-311, Colquitt 11-0-6, Pittsburgh, Roethlisberger 18-25-0-220
RECEIVING —Kansas City, Bowie 6-57, Thomas 6-47, Wilson 5-87, Charles 5-48, Avant 4-37, Kelce 4-31, Davis 1-9, Fasano 1-1, Pittsburgh, Brown 7-72, Miller 7-68, Wheaton 2-27, Bryant 1-44, Bell 1-9	PUNT RETURNS —Kansas City, Thomas 2-9, Pittsburgh, Williams 1-13, Miller 1-13, Wheaton 3-70
INTERCEPTIONS —60,865.	ATTENDANCE —60,865.
TIME —3:01.	

COWBOYS	42
COLTS	7

Tony Romo threw four touchdown passes and became the franchise's all-time leader in passing yards as host Dallas routed Indianapolis to clinch the NFC East ... Romo was 18-of-20 for 218 yards to increase his career yardage total to 32,971 and overtake **Troy Aikman** (32,942 from 1989-2000) as the Cowboys (11-4) qualified for the playoffs for the first time since 2009. **Dez Bryant** caught his career-high 14th touchdown pass, **Terrance Williams** had two scoring receptions and **DeMarco Murray** rushed for 58 yards and a score while playing with a broken left hand ... **Andrew Luck** was intercepted twice and passed for a career-low 109 yards before departing late in the third quarter for the Colts (10-5). Indianapolis committed three turnovers and was outgained 377-229 but avoided being shut out for the first time since 1993 when **Matt Hasselbeck** tossed a one-yard TD pass.

FIRST QUARTER	No scoring		
SECOND QUARTER	Dal	Ind	
	19	0	7
THIRD QUARTER	Dal		
	14	0	7
FOURTH QUARTER	Dal		
	14	7	7

TEAM STATISTICS		Dal	Ind
First downs		25	17
Total Net Yards		377	229
Rushes-yards		10-1	40-127
Passing		228	250
Punts>Returns		1-7	3-29
Kickoff Returns		2-57	0-0
Interceptions Ret.		0-0	2-54
Comp-Att-Int		30-44-2	19-21-0
Sacked-Yards Lost		2-7	1-11
Punts		5-46.4	2-46.0
Fumbles-Lost		1-1	1-1
Penalties-Yards		8-55	7-67
Time of possession		24:31	35:29

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS	
RUSHING —Indianapolis, Herron 7-3, Richardson 2-1, Tipton 1-(-3), Dallas, Murray 22-58, Randle 13-37, Romo 3-28, Dunbar 2-4	PASSING —Indianapolis, Luck 15-22-2-109, Hasselbeck 15-21-0-126, McAffee 0-1-0-0, Dallas, Romo 18-20-0-218, Weeden 1-1-0-43
RECEIVING —Indianapolis, Nicks 9-72, Fleener 4-36, Tipton 4-23, Herron 3-37, Wayne 3-23, Doyle 2-23, Richardson 2-8, Moncrief 2-5, Cribbs 1-8, Dallas, Witten 7-90, Bryant 5-73, Williams 2-52, Beasley 2-29, Dunbar 2-10, Randle 1-7	PUNT RETURNS —Indianapolis, Cribbs 1-7, Dallas, Harris 3-29
KICKOFF RETURNS —Indianapolis, Cribbs 2-57.	INTERCEPTIONS —Dallas, Hitchens 1-8, Wilcox 1-46
ATTENDANCE —91,899.	TIME —2:49.

GIANTS	37
RAMS	27

Rookie sensation **Odell Beckham Jr.** caught two more touchdowns from **Eli Manning** as visiting New York won its third straight game following a seven-game losing streak ... Beckham finished with eight catches for 148 yards, giving him 48 catches for 657 yards and eight touchdowns in the last five games. Manning was 25-of-32 for a season-high 391 yards and three scores while rookie **Andre Williams** ran for 100-plus yards for the second time in three games, finishing with 110 yards on the ground as New York (6-9) piled up 514 yards of offence ... **Shawn Hill** threw for 290 yards and two touchdowns for St. Louis (6-9), which converted only one third down in six opportunities.

FIRST QUARTER	No scoring		
SECOND QUARTER	NYG	StL	
	9	3	3
THIRD QUARTER	NYG		
	10	14	3
FOURTH QUARTER	NYG		
	10	7	7

TEAM STATISTICS		NYG	StL
First downs		19	23
Total Net Yards		514	387
Rushes-yards		34-128	20-106
Passing		386	281
Punts>Returns		0-0	3-61
Kickoff Returns		2-45	5-90
Interceptions Ret.		1-7	0-0
Comp-Att-Int		25-32-0	24-32-1
Sacked-Yards Lost		1-5	2-9
Punts		3-50.7	4-50.5
Fumbles-Lost		0-0	2-2
Penalties-Yards		12-149	9-76
Time of possession		34:47	25:13

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS	
RUSHING —N.Y. Giants, Williams 26-110, Darkwa 4-21, Beckham Jr. 1-0, Manning 3-(-3), St. Louis, Mason 13-76, Austin 3-25, Stacy 2-6, Hill 1-0, Cunningham 1-(-1)	PASSING —N.Y. Giants, Manning 25-32-0-391, St. Louis, Hill 24-32-1-290
RECEIVING —N.Y. Giants, Beckham Jr. 8-148, Randle 6-132, Donnell 4-42, Parker 3-32, Fells 2-20, Darkwa 2-17, St. Louis, Britt 9-103, Cook 5-41, Kendrick 2-35, Bailey 2-22, Cunningham 2-19, Givens 1-47, Austin 1-15, Mason 1-7, Harkey 1-1	PUNT RETURNS —St. Louis, Austin 3-61
KICKOFF RETURNS —N.Y. Giants, Parker 1-24, Demps 1-21, St. Louis, Cunningham 4-83, Barnes 1-7	INTERCEPTIONS —N.Y. Giants, Wynn 1-7
ATTENDANCE —55,851.	TIME —3:19.

RAIDERS	26
BILLS	24

Derek Carr threw a pair of touchdown passes, including one to **Jamize Olawale** late in the fourth quarter, as Oakland extended its home winning streak to three games and eliminated Buffalo from playoff contention ... Carr completed 17-of-34 passes for 214 yards and fellow rookie **Latavious Murray** gained 86 yards on 23 carries for the Raiders (3-12), who remained unbeaten against Buffalo in Oakland since 1966. **Kenbrell Thompkins** made five catches for 90 yards and **James Jones** had a touchdown reception as the Raiders held on despite allowing a score with 1:09 remaining ... **Kyle Orton** was 32-of-49 for 329 yards with three touchdowns and two interceptions for the Bills (8-7).

FIRST QUARTER	No scoring		
SECOND QUARTER	Buf	Oak	
	3	0	14
THIRD QUARTER	Oak		
	7	3	0
FOURTH QUARTER	Buf		
	0	13	6

TEAM STATISTICS		Buf	Oak
First downs		15	18
Total Net Yards		321	347
Rushes-yards		13-13	36-140
Passing		308	207
Punts>Returns		3-11	3-16
Kickoff Returns		3-65	1-21
Interceptions Ret.		0-0	2-7
Comp-Att-Int		32-49-2	17-34-0
Sacked-Yards Lost		2-21	1-7
Punts		8-42.5	6-44.2
Fumbles-Lost		1-0	1-0
Penalties-Yards		7-55	4-35
Time of possession		26:13	33:47

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS	
RUSHING —Buffalo, Jackson 6-10, Dixon 3-7, Spiller 4-(-4), Oakland, Murray 23-86, McFadden 9-54, Carr 4-0	PASSING —Buffalo, Orton 32-49-2-329, Oakland, Ruffalo 17-34-0-214, Holmes 1-1-0-3
RECEIVING —Buffalo, Jackson 9-93, Woods 7-52, Chandler 4-37, Spiller 4-14, Watkins 3-75, Hogan 3-43, Gray 2-15, Oakland, Thompkins 5-90, Holmes 3-73, Murray 3-22, Reece 2-20, Rivera 1-5, Jones 1-3, Olawale 1-1, McFadden 1-0	PUNT RETURNS —Buffalo, Thigpen 3-11, Oakland, Carrie 3-16
KICKOFF RETURNS —Buffalo, Thigpen 3-65.	INTERCEPTIONS —Oakland, Ross 1-7, Woodson 1-0
ATTENDANCE —53,436.	TIME —3:19.

Raiola stompin' around

Fiery Detroit Lions centre Dominic Raiola appeared to intentionally stomp Chicago Bears defensive tackle Ego Ferguson Sunday at Soldier Field.

Raiola, who last month admitted he went at the knee of an opponent seeking pay-back for the New England Patriots' scoring a late-game touchdown, stomped Ferguson's leg in the third quarter. Ferguson limped off the field.

Teammate Ndamukong Suh drew a two-game suspension for stomping Evan Dietrich-Smith, then of the Green Bay Packers, in a Thanksgiving Day game in 2011.

Head coach Jim Caldwell said after the Lions loss at New England that he discussed Raiola's antics with the 200-game starter.

"He and I talked," Caldwell said. "We addressed the issue. What we talked about is a private matter, but he knows how we like to do things around here and that's the end of the story."

Neither the team nor the NFL fined Raiola for the incident.

On the last play of the game, a kneel-down by quarterback Matthew Stafford, Raiola snapped the ball then dove at the knees of Patriots defensive tackle Zach Moore. The cheap shot did not draw a penalty because Moore wasn't engaged with another blocker.

— Sun wire services