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SEVEN FROM SUNDAY – WEEK 17

A look at <u>seven statistical highlights</u> from games played at 1:00 p.m. ET and 4:00 p.m. ET on Sunday, December 29, the 17th and final week of the 2013 regular season.

• The SEATTLE SEAHAWKS, who defeated St. Louis 27-9, won the NFC West and clinched home-field advantage throughout the NFC playoffs. The CAROLINA PANTHERS, who defeated Atlanta 21-20, won the NFC South and secured a first-round bye. The GREEN BAY PACKERS, who defeated Chicago 33-28, won the NFC North in a win-and-in game and will be the No. 4 seed. The NFC East will be determined tonight when the DALLAS COWBOYS host the PHILADELPHIA EAGLES in a win-and-in contest. The winner will be the No. 3 seed.

The **NEW ORLEANS SAINTS** defeated Tampa Bay 42-17 to clinch a playoff berth and earn the No. 6 seed. The **SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS**, who secured a playoff spot last week, defeated Arizona 23-20 and earned the No. 5 seed.

Next weekend in the NFC Wild Card Playoffs, the NFC East winner (Philadelphia or Dallas) will host New Orleans and San Francisco will travel to Green Bay.

The **DENVER BRONCOS**, who defeated Oakland 34-14, clinched home-field advantage throughout the AFC playoffs. The **NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS**, who defeated Buffalo 34-20, secured a first-round bye.

The remaining AFC playoff clubs are the **CINCINNATI BENGALS** (No. 3), **INDIANAPOLIS COLTS** (No. 4), **KANSAS CITY CHIEFS** (No. 5) and **SAN DIEGO CHARGERS** (No. 6). The Chargers clinched a playoff berth with a 27-24 overtime win over Kansas City combined with losses by Miami and Baltimore.

Cincinnati will host San Diego and Kansas City will travel to Indianapolis next weekend in the AFC Wild Card Playoffs.

The playoff schedule will be announced later tonight.

Denver quarterback PEYTON MANNING completed 25 of 28 passes (89.3 percent) for 266 yards with four touchdowns and no interceptions in the Broncos' win as the team clinched the No. 1 seed in the AFC. Manning set the NFL's single-season passing-yard record with 5,477 yards, surpassing DREW BREES' mark of 5,476 yards in 2011. Manning finished the regular season with 55 touchdown passes, also the most in a season in NFL history.

He is the <u>first player to set both the single-season passing yardage and touchdown</u> records in the same season since Pro Football Hall of Famer DAN MARINO in 1984.

 New Orleans quarterback **DREW BREES** passed for 381 yards and four touchdowns in the Saints' win over Tampa Bay. Brees, who has 5,162 yards this season, registered the fourth 5,000-yard performance of his career. <u>There have been eight 5,000-yard passing seasons in NFL history and Brees has half (four) of them.</u>

 Seattle quarterback RUSSELL WILSON led the Seahawks to a win over St. Louis. Wilson is now 15-1 in his career at home and his <u>15 home wins are the most by a player in his first</u> <u>two NFL seasons in the Super Bowl era</u>.

Indianapolis quarterback **ANDREW LUCK** guided the Colts to a 30-10 win over Jacksonville. Luck has <u>13 home wins in his first two seasons, tied with MATT RYAN for the second-most in the Super Bowl era</u>.

Luck passed for 282 yards in the Colts' win and has 8,196 yards in his career. He is the <u>first</u> player in NFL history with 8,000 passing yards in his first two seasons.

Philadelphia running back LE SEAN MC COY enters tonight's game against Dallas with 1,476 rushing yards, the most in the NFL. McCoy will be the <u>first Eagle to lead the league in rushing since Pro Football Hall of Famer STEVE VAN BUREN in 1949</u>.

Cleveland wide receiver **JOSH GORDON** had seven catches for 82 yards and finished the season with 1,646 yards. He currently leads the league and can be the **first player in franchise history to lead the NFL in receiving yards in a season**.

Washington wide receiver **PIERRE GARÇON** had six catches and finished the season with a franchise-record 113 receptions. He currently leads the NFL and can be the <u>first Redskin to</u> <u>lead the league in receptions since Pro Football Hall of Famer ART MONK in 1984</u>.

 Minnesota rookie wide receiver CORDARRELLE PATTERSON had a rushing and receiving touchdown in the Vikings' 14-13 win over Detroit in the final game played at the Metrodome. This season, Patterson has <u>four receiving touchdowns</u>, <u>three rushing touchdowns and</u> <u>two kickoff-return touchdowns and is the only player in NFL history to accomplish the</u> <u>feat</u>.

Patterson, who had a 50-yard rushing touchdown today, has a 79-yard receiving touchdown and 109-yard kickoff-return touchdown this season. He is the <u>first player in NFL history with a 100-yard kickoff-return touchdown, 75-yard receiving touchdown and 50-yard rushing touchdown in a season</u>.

The CAROLINA PANTHERS set a franchise single-game record with nine sacks in the team's
win at Atlanta to clinch the NFC South and a first-round bye. Carolina, which started the
season 0-2, is the <u>first team since the 2003 Philadelphia Eagles to earn a first-round bye
after an 0-2 start</u>.

Defensive end **GREG HARDY** had a <u>franchise single-game record four sacks</u> today and <u>tied the team's single-season record with 15 sacks</u> (**KEVIN GREENE**, 1998). The <u>Panthers also tied the club's single-season record with 60 sacks</u>.