

NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE

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COMMUNICATIONS

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<http://twitter.com/NFLFootballInfo>**THE WEEK THAT WAS – WEEK 9****THE HURRY-UP:** A quick look at some notable trends and milestones through Week 9:**LEAGUE:**

- Teams have combined to score 711 touchdowns and have thrown 459 touchdown passes, both of which are the most ever through Week 9. The previous highs were 692 TDs and 415 TD passes last season.
- Passers are also on pace to set NFL records with a combined 91.2 passer rating (86.0 in 2013), 63.1 completion percentage (61.2 in 2007 and 2013) and 487.8 net passing yards per game average (471.2 in 2013).
- The league-wide kickoff-return average of 23.9 yards is on pace to be the highest of any season in NFL history (23.8 in 2011).

TEAMS:

- All four teams in the AFC North – the **BALTIMORE RAVENS** (5-4), the **CINCINNATI BENGALS** (5-2-1), the **CLEVELAND BROWNS** (5-3) and the **PITTSBURGH STEELERS** (6-3) – have winning records. Only four times previously has a division had all four teams with winning records this late in a season since realignment in 2002.
- The **ARIZONA CARDINALS** (7-1) own the best record in the league following a 28-17 win at Dallas (6-3). This season marks the first time that the Cardinals have had the best record in the NFL outright in November or later since 1966, when they started 7-1-1.
- Three teams – the **CLEVELAND BROWNS** (5-3; 4-12 in 2013), the **HOUSTON TEXANS** (4-5; 2-14 in 2013) and the **WASHINGTON REDSKINS** (3-6; 3-13 in 2013) – have already matched or surpassed their win totals from last season.
- The **DENVER BRONCOS** scored 21 points in Week 9 against New England. It was Denver's 29th consecutive regular-season game scoring at least 20 points, breaking the NFL record of 28 consecutive games set by the St. Louis Rams (1999-2000).

PLAYERS:

NUMBER ONE: Denver quarterback **PEYTON MANNING** has thrown 24 touchdowns this season, surpassing **BRETT FAVRE** (508) for the most career touchdown passes in NFL history.

The players with the most career touchdown passes in NFL history:

PLAYER	TEAM(S)	MOST CAREER TD PASSES
<i>Peyton Manning*</i>	<i>Indianapolis, Denver</i>	<i>515</i>
Brett Favre	Green Bay, NY Jets, Minnesota	508
Dan Marino	Miami	420
Tom Brady*	New England	381
Drew Brees*	San Diego, New Orleans	378

* Active

Manning passed for 438 yards and two touchdowns against New England in Week 9, his 14th career game with at least 400 yards passing, surpassing Pro Football Hall of Famer **DAN MARINO** (13) for the most such games in NFL history.

-- NFL --

TOM TERRIFIC: New England quarterback **TOM BRADY** has passed for 2,392 yards this season, surpassing Pro Football Hall of Famer **JOHN ELWAY** (51,475) for the fifth-most passing yards all-time.

The players with the most career passing yards in NFL history:

PLAYER	TEAM(S)	MOST CAREER PASSING YARDS
Brett Favre	Green Bay, NY Jets, Minnesota	71,838
Peyton Manning*	Indianapolis, Denver	67,536
Dan Marino	Miami	61,361
Drew Brees*	San Diego, New Orleans	53,605
Tom Brady*	New England	51,541

* Active

Brady earned his 155th victory in his 200th career regular-season start, the most of any starting quarterback through his first 200 regular-season starts in NFL annals.

The most wins by starting quarterbacks through 200 regular-season starts in NFL history:

QUARTERBACK	WINS THROUGH 200 STARTS
Tom Brady	155
Peyton Manning	136
Brett Favre	132
Dan Marino	125
John Elway	124

-- NFL --

BIG BEN AGAIN: Pittsburgh quarterback **BEN ROETHLISBERGER** threw six touchdown passes in the Steelers' 43-23 victory over the Ravens. Roethlisberger, who passed for six touchdowns against Indianapolis last week, is the first player in NFL history with at least six touchdown passes in back-to-back games. He joined Pro Football Hall of Famer **Y.A. TITTLE** (1962) as only players with two six-touchdown games in one season.

Roethlisberger also improved his record to 101-50 (.669) as a starter in the regular season. His 100th victory came in his 150th career start, joining **TOM BRADY** (116) and Pro Football Hall of Famers **JOE MONTANA** (108) and **TERRY BRADSHAW** (102) as the only quarterbacks in the Super Bowl era (since 1966) to win at least 100 games in their first 150 career starts.

In Week 8, Roethlisberger completed a franchise-record 40 passes for 522 yards with six touchdowns for a 150.6 passer rating. Roethlisberger's 522 passing yards are tied with **BOOMER ESIASON** (November 10, 1996) for the fourth-most in a game in NFL history.

The quarterbacks with the most passing yards in a single game in NFL history:

PLAYER	TEAM	DATE	PASSING YARDS
Norm Van Brocklin	Los Angeles Rams	9/28/1951	554
Matt Schaub	Houston Texans	11/18/2012	527*
Warren Moon	Houston Oilers	12/16/1990	527
Ben Roethlisberger	Pittsburgh Steelers	10/26/2014	522
Boomer Esiason	Arizona Cardinals	11/10/1996	522*

* Overtime game

Roethlisberger is the first player in NFL history with two 500-yard passing games (503 yards vs. Green Bay on December 20, 2009).

DATES	OPPONENT	COMPLETIONS	ATTEMPTS	YARDS	TOUCHDOWNS	INTs	PASSER RATING
10/26/2014	Indianapolis	40	49	522	6	0	150.6
12/20/2009	Green Bay	29	46	503	3	0	121.9

-- NFL --

GOOD LUCK: Indianapolis quarterback **ANDREW LUCK** passed for 354 yards and four touchdowns in the Colts' 40-24 win against the Giants on *Monday Night Football*, the seventh consecutive game he has passed for at least 300 yards, tying **PEYTON MANNING** for the third-longest such streak in NFL history.

The players with the most consecutive 300-yard passing games in NFL history:

PLAYER	TEAM	YEAR(S)	CONSECUTIVE 300-YARD GAMES
Drew Brees	New Orleans	2011-12	9
Drew Brees	New Orleans	2013	9
Andrew Luck	Indianapolis	2014	7*
Peyton Manning	Denver	2012-13	7
Steve Young	San Francisco	1998	6
Kurt Warner	St. Louis	2000	6
Rich Gannon	Oakland	2002	6

* Active streak

Luck leads the NFL with 3,085 passing yards this season, joining **TOM BRADY, DREW BREES** (twice) and Manning as the only players in NFL history with at least 3,000 passing yards in their team's first nine games to begin a season.

The players with the most passing yards through their team's first nine games to begin a season:

PLAYER	TEAM	YEAR	PASSING YARDS THROUGH 9 GAMES
Peyton Manning	Denver	2013	3,249
Andrew Luck	Indianapolis	2014	3,085
Drew Brees	New Orleans	2013	3,064
Tom Brady	New England	2011	3,032
Drew Brees	New Orleans	2011	3,004
Drew Brees	New Orleans	2008	2,985

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QB DASH: Miami quarterback **RYAN TANNEHILL** passed for 288 yards with three touchdowns in the Dolphins' 37-0 shutout victory over San Diego. Tannehill also rushed for 47 yards with a long run of 22 yards and had a rush of at least 20 yards in each of his past four games. Tannehill joins Pro Football Hall of Famer **STEVE YOUNG** and **MICHAEL VICK** as the only quarterbacks with a 20+ yard run in at least four consecutive games in the past 25 years.

-- **NFL** --

QUICK TO 50: New England tight end **ROB GRONKOWSKI** had nine catches for 105 yards and one touchdown in the Patriots' 43-21 win against Denver. He recorded his 50th career touchdown catch in his 59th game, tying **RANDY MOSS** as the second-fastest players in NFL history to reach 50 career touchdown receptions. Pro Football Hall of Famer **LANCE ALWORTH** (54 games) is the only player to reach the milestone in fewer games.

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SPECIAL RETURNER: Baltimore wide receiver-kick returner **JACOBY JONES** had a 108-yard kickoff return touchdown against Pittsburgh in Week 9 on *Sunday Night Football*. It was his NFL-record third career regular-season touchdown of at least 105 yards. Jones also scored on a 108-yard kickoff return touchdown in Super Bowl XLVII.

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CLEVELAND QUINTET: Cleveland quarterback **BRIAN HOYER** passed for 300 yards and two touchdowns in the Browns' 22-17 win over the Buccaneers, improving his record as a starter with Cleveland to 8-3. Hoyer joins Pro Football Hall of Famer **OTTO GRAHAM** (1950), **BILL NELSEN** (1968), **TOMMY O'CONNELL** (1956-57) and **MILT PLUM** (1957-58) as the only Browns quarterbacks to win at least eight of his first 11 starts in franchise history.

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GREAT CHIEFS: Kansas City wide receiver **DWAYNE BOWE** has 31 receptions this season and now has 503 career catches, joining tight end **TONY GONZALEZ** (916) as the only players in franchise history with 500 career receptions.

-- **NFL** --

BIG MAC: Philadelphia wide receiver **JEREMY MACLIN** had six catches for 158 yards and two touchdowns in the Eagles' 31-21 win at Houston. Maclin, who had 12 catches for 187 yards and two touchdowns in Week 8 against Arizona, is the first player in franchise history with at least 150 receiving yards and multiple touchdown catches in back-to-back games in a single season.

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