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COMMUNICATIONS

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WHAT TO LOOK FOR – A LOOK BACK

UNPREDICTABLE NFL: Since the 12-team playoff format was adopted in 1990, at least four teams have qualified for the playoffs in every season that were not in the postseason the year before.

Five teams – **DALLAS** (12-4, NFC East champions), **PITTSBURGH** (11-5, AFC North champions), **ARIZONA** (11-5, Wild Card), **DETROIT** (11-5, Wild Card) and **BALTIMORE** (10-6, Wild Card) – accomplished the feat this season.

The teams since 1990 to make the playoffs a season after failing to qualify:

SEASON	PLAYOFF TEAMS NOT IN PREVIOUS SEASON'S PLAYOFFS
1990	7 (Cincinnati, Chicago, Kansas City, Los Angeles Raiders, Miami, New Orleans, Washington)
1991	5 (Atlanta, Dallas, Denver, Detroit, New York Jets)
1992	6 (Miami, Minnesota, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, San Diego, San Francisco)
1993	5 (Denver, Detroit, Green Bay, Los Angeles Raiders, New York Giants)
1994	5 (Chicago, Cleveland, Miami, New England, San Diego)
1995	4 (Atlanta, Buffalo, Indianapolis, Philadelphia)
1996	5 (Carolina, Denver, Jacksonville, Minnesota, New England)
1997	5 (Detroit, Kansas City, Miami, New York Giants, Tampa Bay)
1998	5 (Arizona, Atlanta, Buffalo, Dallas, New York Jets)
1999	7 (Detroit, Indianapolis, St. Louis, Seattle, Tampa Bay, Tennessee, Washington)
2000	6 (Baltimore, Denver, New Orleans, New York Giants, Oakland, Philadelphia)
2001	6 (Chicago, Green Bay, New England, New York Jets, Pittsburgh, San Francisco)
2002	5 (Atlanta, Cleveland, Indianapolis, New York Giants, Tennessee)
2003	8 (Baltimore, Carolina, Dallas, Denver, Kansas City, New England, St. Louis, Seattle)
2004	5 (Atlanta, Minnesota, New York Jets, Pittsburgh, San Diego)
2005	7 (Carolina, Chicago, Cincinnati, Jacksonville, New York Giants, Tampa Bay, Washington)
2006	7 (Baltimore, Dallas, Kansas City, New Orleans, New York Jets, Philadelphia, San Diego)
2007	6 (Green Bay, Jacksonville, Pittsburgh, Tampa Bay, Tennessee, Washington)
2008	7 (Arizona, Atlanta, Baltimore, Carolina, Miami, Minnesota, Philadelphia)
2009	6 (Cincinnati, Dallas, Green Bay, New England, New Orleans, New York Jets)
2010	5 (Atlanta, Chicago, Kansas City, Pittsburgh, Seattle)
2011	6 (Cincinnati, Denver, Detroit, Houston, New York Giants, San Francisco)
2012	4 (Indianapolis, Minnesota, Seattle, Washington)
2013	5 (Carolina, Kansas City, New Orleans, Philadelphia, San Diego)
2014	5 (Arizona, Dallas, Detroit, Pittsburgh, Baltimore)

-- NFL --

HISTORIC GATES: San Diego tight end **ANTONIO GATES** caught four passes for 67 yards on Sunday.

In his 12-year career, Gates has 10,014 receiving yards, joining **TONY GONZALEZ**, **JASON WITTEN**, and Pro Football Hall of Famer **SHANNON SHARPE** as the only tight ends in NFL history with at least 10,000 career receiving yards.

The tight ends with at least 10,000 career receiving yards:

PLAYER	TEAM(S)	YEARS	RECEPTIONS	RECEIVING YARDS
Tony Gonzalez	Kansas City, Atlanta	1997-2013	1,325	15,127
Jason Witten*	Dallas	2003-Present	943	10,502
Shannon Sharpe	Denver, Baltimore	1990-2003	815	10,060

Antonio Gates*	San Diego	2003-Present	788	10,014
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*Active

-- NFL --

BOOMING BECKHAM: New York Giants rookie wide receiver **ODELL BECKHAM, JR.** had 12 receptions for 185 yards and one touchdown in Week 17, marking his 9th consecutive game with at least 90 receiving yards.

Beckham joins Pro Football Hall of Famer **MICHAEL IRVIN** (1995) as the only players in NFL history to have at least 90 receiving yards in nine consecutive games.

Beckham's and Irvin's streaks of 90+ receiving yards:

ODELL BECKHAM, JR.				MICHAEL IRVIN			
WEEK	REC.	REC. YARDS	TD REC.	WEEK	REC.	REC. YARDS	TD REC.
9	8	156	0	1	7	109	1
10	7	108	0	2	6	94	0
11	6	93	0	3	8	107	1
12	10	146	2	4	5	105	0
13	7	90	0	5	7	105	1
14	11	130	1	6	8	150	1
15	12	143	3	7	7	103	0
16	8	148	2	9	10	135	1
17	12	185	1	10	8	115	1
TOTAL	81	1,119	9	TOTAL	66	1,023	6

-- NFL --

TREMENDOUS TEAMMATES: New York Giants rookie wide receiver **ODELL BECKHAM, JR.** led all NFL rookies with 91 receptions and Miami rookie wide receiver **JARVIS LANDRY** ranked second with 84.

Beckham tied **EDDIE ROYAL** for the second-most receptions in a single season by a rookie, while Landry surpassed **EARL COOPER** for the sixth-most catches by a rookie.

Beckham and Landry, who were college teammates at Louisiana State, also become the first rookies from the same college to lead their teams in receptions in the same season since the 1970 merger.

The players with the most receptions in their rookie season:

PLAYER	TEAM	YEAR	RECEPTIONS
Anquan Boldin	Arizona	2003	101
Odell Beckham, Jr.	New York Giants	2014	91
Eddie Royal	Denver	2008	91
Terry Glenn	New England	1996	90
Reggie Bush	New Orleans	2006	88
Jarvis Landry	Miami	2014	84
Earl Cooper	San Francisco	1980	83

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