



## GAME NOTES

**New England Patriots vs. New York Jets – January 3, 2021**

### TEAM NOTES

- Patriots earn 21<sup>st</sup> series sweep over the New York Jets.
- Extend streak to 10 straight wins over the Jets; Tied for the third-longest winning streak over a single opponent in team history.
- Cam Newton sets team mark for longest run by a Patriots QB with a 49-yard run.
- Newton sets team record for most rushing yards by a QB in a season with 592 yards.
- Newton is the first Patriots QB to have a receiving touchdown.
- James White becomes second-fastest running back to 25 touchdown receptions.
- Jakobi Meyers throws second TD of the season.
- J.C. Jackson finishes with 11 total takeaways (9 int. and 2 fumble recoveries).
- Gunner Olszewski sets team mark for highest punt return average in a season after finishing first in the NFL with a 17.3 punt return average.
- Chase Winovich has career-high with two sacks.

### PATRIOTS EARN 21<sup>ST</sup> SERIES SWEEP OVER THE JETS

The Patriots swept the annual series with the New York Jets for the 21<sup>st</sup> time in team history, the 14<sup>th</sup> time under the ownership of Robert Kraft and the 12<sup>th</sup> time under Bill Belichick. It was the fifth straight season that the Patriots have swept the series.

### PATRIOTS EXTEND WINNING STREAK AGAINST THE NEW YORK JETS TO 10 STRAIGHT

The Patriots have now won 10 straight games against the New York Jets, tied for the third longest winning streak against an opponent in team history.

### LONGEST WINNING STREAKS OVER A SINGLE OPPONENT IN PATRIOTS HISTORY

<b>Opponent</b>	<b>Consecutive Wins</b>
Buffalo	15 (2003-2010)
Buffalo	11 (1983-1987)
<b>Jets</b>	<b>10 (2016-present)</b>
Chargers	10 (1973-2001)

### **2021 OPPONENTS DETERMINED**

The Patriots 2021 opponents have been determined. In addition to playing each of the other AFC East opponents twice, the Patriots will play one game against each of the AFC South and NFC South teams. As the third-place team in the AFC East, the Patriots will play the third-place team of the AFC North (Cleveland) and AFC West (LA Chargers).

**Home:** Buffalo, Miami, NY Jets, Jacksonville, New Orleans, Tampa Bay, Tennessee, Cleveland

**Away:** Buffalo, Miami, NY Jets, Atlanta, Carolina, Houston, Indianapolis, (LA Chargers)

### **PATRIOTS FINISHED WITH A RUSHING AVERAGE OF 4.67; FOURTH-HIGHEST IN TEAM HISTORY**

The Patriots finished the 2020 season with 4.67 yards per rushing attempt. It is the fourth-highest average in team history.

### **HIGHEST AVERAGE YARDS PER RUSH IN A SEASON IN PATRIOTS HISTORY**

<b><u>Season</u></b>	<b><u>Rush Average</u></b>
1976	4.99
1983	4.84
1978	4.72
<b>2020</b>	<b>4.67</b>
1962	4.56

### **PATRIOTS TALLY FOURTH-HIGHEST RUSHING YARDAGE TOTAL IN TEAM HISTORY**

The Patriots finished the season with 2,346 yards rushing, the fourth-highest total in team history.

### **MOST RUSHING YARDS IN A SEASON IN TEAM HISTORY**

3,165 in 1978  
2,948 in 1976  
2,605 in 1983  
**2,346 in 2020**  
2,331 in 1985  
2,303 in 1977  
2,278 in 2008  
2,252 in 1979  
2,240 in 1980  
2,184 in 2012

## **INDIVIDUAL NOTES**

### **CAM NEWTON'S 49-YARD RUN SETS NEW FRANCHISE RECORD**

Cam Newton had a 49-yard run in the first quarter, the longest run in Patriots history by a quarterback. It was his 8th career run of over 40 yards and his longest since a 62-yard run on Dec. 10, 2017, vs. Minnesota while with Carolina.

### **The Longest Runs by a Patriots Quarterback**

**49-yard run by Cam Newton, vs. N.Y. Jets on Jan. 3, 2021**

46-yard run by Tom Yewic, at Denver on Sept. 29, 1963

41-yard TD run by Steve Grogan, vs. N.Y. Jets on Oct. 18, 1976

41-yard run by Steve Grogan, vs. Seattle on Oct. 9, 1976

38-yard run by Cam Newton, vs. Denver on Oct. 18, 2020

31-yard TD run by Steve Grogan, vs. Baltimore on Sept. 18, 1978

### **NEWTON SETS TEAM MARK FOR RUSHING YARDS IN A SEASON BY A QUARTERBACK**

Newton's 49-yard run in the first quarter pushed him past Steve Grogan (539 yards rushing in 1978) for the most rushing yards in a season by a Patriots quarterback. Newton ran for 79 yards against the Jets to finish the season with 592 yards rushing in 2020.

### **NEWTON IS THE FIRST PATRIOTS QUARTERBACK WITH A RECEIVING TOUCHDOWN; RECORDS SECOND RECEPTION OF THE SEASON**

Newton is the first Patriots quarterback with a receiving touchdown after he caught a 19-yard touchdown pass from WR Jakobi Meyers in the third quarter. It was Newton's second reception of the season and third reception overall. He caught a 16-yard pass from WR Julian Edelman vs. Denver on Oct. 18. The last Patriots quarterback with more than one pass reception in a season was Steve Grogan with two receptions in 1981. Tom Yewic has the most receptions in a season by a Patriots quarterback with six in 1961.

### **CAM NEWTON RUSHED FOR 79 YARDS, THE MOST BY A PATRIOTS QB UNDER BELICHICK**

Cam Newton rushed for 79 yards on 11 carries. It is the most rushing yards by a Patriots quarterback under Bill Belichick.

### **Most Rushing Yards by a Patriots QB in a Single Game**

<b>Player</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Opponent</b>	<b>Yards</b>
Steve Grogan	10/18/1976	NY Jets	103
Babe Parilli	11/06/1964	Houston	96
Tom Yewcic	11/30/1962	NY Titans	90
Steve Grogan	11/20/1977	at Buffalo	81
<b>Cam Newton</b>	<b>01/03/2021</b>	<b>N.Y.Jets</b>	<b>79</b>
<b>Cam Newton</b>	<b>10/18/2020</b>	<b>Denver</b>	<b>76</b>
Steve Grogan	09/19/1976	Miami	76
<b>Cam Newton</b>	<b>09/13/2020</b>	<b>Miami</b>	<b>75</b>

**NEWTON NOW HAS 12 GAMES WITH 75 OR MORE RUSHING YARDS;****THREE GAMES IN 2020 WITH 75 OR MORE YARDS RUSHING**

Newton gained 79 yards rushing on 11 carries against the Jet, finishing the season with three games with at least 75 yards rushing in 2020. It was his 12<sup>th</sup> game overall with at least 75 yards rushing.

**MOST GAMES WITH 75+ YARDS RUSHING / QBS IN SB ERA**

Mike Vick	21
Lamar Jackson	18
Russell Wilson	13
<b>Cam Newton</b>	<b>12</b>

**JAMES WHITE SCORED 25<sup>TH</sup> CAREER RECEIVING TOUCHDOWN;****SECOND-FASTEST RUNNING BACK (SINCE 1970) TO REACH 25 TOUCHDOWN RECEPTIONS**

RB James White culminated the Patriots first offensive drive with a 7-yard touchdown pass from Cam Newton. It was his first receiving touchdown of the season and the 25<sup>th</sup> of his career. He is the second-fastest running back to reach 25 touchdown receptions since 1970, accomplishing the feat in his 92<sup>nd</sup> career regular season game.

**FEWEST GAMES TO REACH 25 RECEIVING TDS****(RBS THAT MADE THEIR DEBUT SINCE 1970)**

Brian Westbrook	87
<b>James White</b>	<b>92</b>
Darren Sproles	107
Marshall Faulk	114
Eric Metcalf	116
James Brooks	126

**JAKOBI MEYERS THROWS SECOND TOUCHDOWN OF THE SEASON****PATRIOTS HAVE FOURTH PASS COMPLETION BY A WIDE RECEIVER**

WR Jakobi Meyers completed a 19-yard touchdown pass to QB Cam Newton in the third quarter for his second touchdown pass of the season. He completed a 24-yard touchdown pass to RB Rex Burkhead in the second quarter vs. Baltimore on Nov. 15. It was the fourth pass completion by a Patriots wide receiver in 2020. WR Julian Edelman completed a 22-yard pass to RB James White and a 16-yard pass to QB Cam Newton vs. Denver (10/18). The four pass completions by wide receivers are the most in team history. They had two in 1979, 1980, 2018 and 2019.

**MEYERS BECOMES THE THIRD WIDE RECEIVER TO THROW A TD PASS UNDER BILL BELICHICK**

Meyers (2 touchdown passes) is the third Patriots wide receiver to throw a touchdown pass under head coach Bill Belichick. David Patten threw a 60-yard touchdown pass on Oct. 21, 2001, at Indianapolis and WR Julian Edelman threw a 15-yard touchdown pass to WR Phillip Dorsett at Philadelphia on Nov. 17, 2019.

### **MEYERS IS THE FOURTH RECEIVER WITH TWO TD PASSES IN A SEASON**

Meyers, who also had a touchdown pass in Week 10, is the fourth wide receiver with two touchdown passes in a single season in the Super Bowl era, joining Odell Beckham Jr. (2018), Rod Gardner (2003) and Antwaan Randle (2010).

### **CHASE WINOVICH HAS FIRST TWO-SACK GAME**

DL Chase Winovich had the first two-sack game of his career with a 9-yard sack in the first quarter and an 8-yard sack in the second quarter. His previous high was 1 ½ sacks at Miami on Sept. 15, 2019. It was the first time a Patriots player has recorded two sacks in a game since Adam Butler had two sacks vs. Cleveland on Oct. 27, 2019.

### **J.C. JACKSON HAS 11TH TAKEAWAY OF THE 2020 SEASON**

DB J.C. Jackson intercepted Jets QB Sam Darnold in the third quarter for his 9<sup>th</sup> interception of the season and his 11<sup>th</sup> takeaway of the season, second in team history only to the 13 total takeaways by Ron Hall in 1964. His 11 takeaways are the most by any player in a season in the Bill Belichick era. Asante Samuel (10 int.) is the only other player in the Bill Belichick era with 10 takeaways in a single season.

### **MOST TAKEAWAYS BY A PATRIOTS PLAYER IN A SEASON**

<b>Season</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Int</b>	<b>Fum</b>	<b>Total</b>
1964	Ron Hall	11	2	13
<b>2020</b>	<b>J.C. Jackson</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>11</b>
1976	Mike Haynes	8	2	10
1985	Fred Marion	7	3	10
1998	Ty Law	9	1	10
2006	Asante Samuel	10	0	10
1978	Steve Nelson	5	4	9

### **MOST TAKEAWAYS BY A PATRIOTS PLAYER IN A SEASON UNDER BILL BELICHICK**

**11 by J.C. Jackson in 2020 (9 interceptions, 2 fumble recoveries)**

10 by Asante Samuel in 2006 (10 interceptions)

8 by Kyle Arrington in 2011 (7 interceptions, 1 fumble recovery)

### **MOST INTERCEPTIONS IN A SEASON/PATRIOTS HISTORY**

<b>Player</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Interceptions</b>
Ron Hall	1964	11
Asante Samuel	2006	10
<b>J.C. Jackson</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>9</b>
Ty Law	1998	9
Ronnie Lippett	1986	8
Mike Haynes	1976	8

### **DEVIN ASIASI RECORDS FIRST NFL RECEPTION; ALSO SCORES FIRST TOUCHDOWN**

TE Devin Asiasi had his first NFL reception on a 13-yard reception from Cam Newton in the first quarter. Later in the fourth quarter, he caught his first career touchdown on a 26-yard reception from Cam Newton.

### **RB SONY MICHEL RECORDS FIRST CAREER TOUCHDOWN RECEPTION; SETS CAREER-HIGH IN RECEIVING YARDS**

RB Sony Michel recorded his first career touchdown reception on a 31-yard touchdown reception from Cam Newton in the fourth quarter. He finished with three receptions for 60 yards, a new single-game career high. His previous high was 32 receiving yards at Washington on Oct 6, 2019.

### **JAKE BAILEY'S PUNTING ALLOWS LOWEST RETURN YARDAGE IN TEAM HISTORY**

P Jake Bailey's punting in 2020 allowed a total of just 71 punt return yards on 12 returns. It is the fewest punt return yards allowed by the Patriots in team history and the sixth-fewest punt return yards allowed in a season in NFL history. The 12 punt returns allowed are second in NFL history and team history to the 11 by New England in 2008.

### **FEWEST PUNT RETURN YARDS IN A 16-GAME SEASON**

2020	New Orleans	46
2008	Atlanta	49
1991	Buffalo	53
1997	Atlanta	55
2018	New Orleans	60
<b>2020</b>	<b>New England</b>	<b>71</b>
2007	New England	75
2017	Dallas	75
2013	St. Louis	79
2017	Indianapolis	80
2019	Houston	82
2013	Seattle	82

### **FEWEST PUNT RETURN YARDS ALLOWED IN PATRIOTS HISTORY**

<b>2020</b>	<b>71</b>
2007	75
2017	105
2001	124
2016	134
1973	152

#### **FEWEST OPPONENT PUNT RETURNS IN A 16-GAME SEASON**

<b>Season</b>	<b>Team</b>	<b>Punt Returns Allowed</b>
2008	New England	11
<b>2020</b>	<b>New England</b>	<b>12</b>
2018	New Orleans	12
2018	L.A. Rams	12
2007	New England	14

#### **BAILEY SETS TEAM RECORD WITH A 45.6 NET AVERAGE**

Bailey finished first in the NFL with 45.6 net yards per punt, a new single-season team record. The previous record was 41.5 by Zoltan Mesko in 2011. His gross punt average of 48.7 is also a team record, besting the 46.5 gross average by Mesko in 2011.

#### **GUNNER OLSZEWSKI SETS TEAM MARK WITH A 17.3 PUNT RETURN AVERAGE**

Gunner Olszewski finished first in the NFL with a 17.3-yard punt return average (20 returns for 346 yards). It is also the highest return average in Patriots history and the second-most in NFL history since 1970. Julian Edelman had the highest average in a season at 15.5 in 2012. Olszewski is the third Patriots player to lead the league in punt return average. Troy Brown led the NFL in 2001 with a 14.2-yard average and Irving Fryar tied for the NFL lead with a 14.1-yard average in 1985.

#### **Highest Punt Return Average in a Season (at least 20 returns) (since 1970)**

<b>Player</b>	<b>Season</b>	<b>Average</b>
Leodis McKelvin (Buffalo)	2012	18.7
<b>Gunner Olszewski (Patriots) 2020</b>		<b>17.3</b>
Devin Hester (Chicago)	2010	17.1

#### **LINEUP NOTES**

##### **JAMES FERENTZ STARTS AT CENTER FOR SECOND TIME IN 2020**

James Ferentz made his second start of the 2020 season with a start at center. He also started at center in the loss at Kansas City on Oct. 5. It marks his fourth career NFL start and third start at center. He started at center for the first time in his career on Dec. 8, 2019, vs. Kansas City due to injury to Ted Karras. Ferentz made his first NFL start at right guard vs. Cleveland on Oct. 27, 2019, due to an injury to Shaq Mason.

##### **JUSTIN HERRON STARTS AT LEFT TACKLE**

OL Justin Herron made his sixth start of the season overall and his fourth start of the year at left tackle. He started one game at right tackle and one start as a tackle-eligible tight end.

##### **JUSTIN ELUEMUNOR STARTED AT RIGHT TACKLE**

Justin Eluemunor made his fifth start of the season at right tackle. He made three starts at left tackle during the season.

##### **MIKE ONWENU STARTED AT RIGHT GUARD**

Mike Onwenu made his third start of the season at right guard. He started one game at left guard, 10 games at right tackle and two games as a tackle-eligible tight end.

**DB MICHAEL JACKSON SR. PLAYS IN SECOND NFL GAME AND FIRST WITH THE PATRIOTS**

DB Michael Jackson played in his first game with the Patriots and second career game. He saw action on Nov. 24, 2019 at Washington while with Detroit.

**MARCUS MARTIN PLAYS IN FIRST GAME AS A PATRIOT**

OL Marcus Martin played in his first game as a member of the Patriots.