



GAME NOTES

New England Patriots vs. New York Giants- September 1, 2011

***Head Coach Bill Belichick**'s teams have finished .500 or better in 15 of his 17 seasons as a head coach after the 2011 Patriots finished with a 2-2 record. New England has finished the preseason with a record of .500 or better 10 times in Belichick's 12 preseasons with the Patriots.

*In the 2011 preseason, the **Patriots** outscored their opponents 105-78, including a 38-19 advantage in the first quarter and a 74-39 advantage in the first half. The team's preseason first-half total includes a 17-3 advantage against the Giants in the first half tonight.

*Newly acquired veterans **DL Albert Haynesworth** and **DL Shaun Ellis** played in their first games as members of the Patriots and were both in the starting lineup. Haynesworth had three tackles (2 solo), while Ellis added a 7-yard sack.

***RB BenJarvus Green-Ellis** scored on a pair of 1-yard runs in the first half. The game against the Giants was his second two-touchdown game of the 2011 regular-season. Green-Ellis finished the 2011 preseason with a team-high four touchdowns. In addition to his scores against the Giants, he scored on a pair of 1-yard runs at Tampa Bay on Aug. 18. In 2010, Green-Ellis had three games with two touchdowns as he led New England with 13 rushing scores, a total that trails only Curtis Martin's two seasons with 14 rushing touchdowns on the Patriots' all-time rushing touchdown list.

*The first two Giants drives ended in turnovers inside their own territory. First, **LB Rob Ninkovich** caused a fumble that was recovered by **S Patrick Chung** and returned to the 1- yards. line to help set up a touchdown run by **RB BenJarvus Green-Ellis**. The Giants' second drive ended when **CB Devin McCourty** intercepted David Carr and returned it 18-yards to the 33-yard line to help set up a field goal that gave the Patriots a 10-0 lead.

***WR Matthew Slater** finished the 2011 preseason with three 40-yard receptions. He had a 67-yard reception from Tom Brady in the first quarter against the Giants, setting up BenJarvus Green-Ellis's second touchdown run, giving the Patriots a 17-3 lead. Slater had a 43-yard reception in the preseason opener vs. Jacksonville and a 53-yard reception at Detroit, with both passes coming from Brain Hoyer.

***DL Mike Wright** saw his first action of the 2011 preseason and tallied a pair of tackles.

*Second round picks **CB Ras-I Dowling** and **RB Shane Vereen** played in their first games of the preseason. Dowling was in the starting lineup at cornerback, while Vereen led the team with 11 rushes for 34 yards.

***S Josh Barrett**, who spent all of last season on the team's injured reserve list, made his Patriots debut and was in the starting lineup.

*First round pick **T Nate Solder** started at right tackle in place of Sebastian Vollmer. Solder started the first two preseason games at left tackle in place of Matt Light.

***QB Tom Brady** started the game and played the entire first quarter and the first play of the second quarter. He finished the game 5-of-9 for 116 yards. Brady finished the 2011 preseason completing 28-of-50 passes for 379 yards, three touchdowns and one interception, compiling a passer rating of 92.0.

***RB BenJarvus Green-Ellis** registered a 21-yard reception from Tom Brady in the first quarter. Green-Ellis's longest regular-season reception was a 20-yarder from Matt Cassel at Miami on Nov. 23, 2008.

***TE Aaron Hernandez** finished the 2011 preseason with a team-high 16 receptions for 178 yards and a touchdown. Entering the Giants game, Hernandez's 14 receptions led the NFL in the 2011 preseason.

***WR Matthew Slater** led the Patriots in the 2011 preseason with 190 receiving yards on five receptions. He averaged 38.0 yards per catch.

***K Stephen Gostkowski** connected on his lone field goal attempt against the Giants, and finished a perfect 5-for-5 in the 2011 preseason, including a total of 3-for-3 from 40 yards or longer.

*The Patriots finished the preseason with a 2-2 record, marking the second straight year they finished the preseason 2-2. New England has recorded a 2-2 preseason five times in the last seven years, including a run of three straight 2-2 preseasons from 2005-07.