



GAME NOTES

New England Patriots at Seattle Seahawks– September 9, 2026

TEAM NOTES

- Patriots open on primetime for 12th time.
- Patriots play in third Super Bowl rematch in the first week of the season.
- TE Eli Raridon's first reception goes for a TD.
- K Andy Borregales has now made all five of his career 50-yard field goals.

TEAM NOTES

PATRIOTS OPENED THE SEASON ON PRIME TIME FOR THE 12TH TIME

New England's season started in prime time for the 12th time in team history and for the first time since the 2019 season when they opened at home against Pittsburgh in a Sunday Night Football game. The NFL has started the season one other time on a Wednesday night, which was in 2012 when the New York Giants hosted the Dallas Cowboys. That game was moved to Wednesday due to the Democratic National Convention. In addition to the 2012 game, there have been three other Wednesday games in modern times with two Christmas games on a Wednesday in 2024, and then in 2020, a Week 12 game between Baltimore and Pittsburgh that was moved to Wednesday due to COVID postponements.

REMATCH OF THE SUPER BOWL IN FIRST WEEK

The Patriots and Seahawks met in the season-opener after meeting in Super Bowl LX last February. It is the 12th time in history that the Super Bowl teams met in a game the following season and the third time that the matchup takes place in Week 1.

Super Bowl – SB IV (1970) – Kansas City vs. Minnesota (Week 1)

Super Bowl – Chiefs 23-7

Next season - Vikings 27-10

Super Bowl XI (1977) – Oakland vs. Minnesota

Super Bowl – Raiders 32-14

Next season – Raiders 35-13

Super Bowl XIII (1979) - Pittsburgh vs. Dallas

Super Bowl - Steelers 35-31

Next season - Steelers 14-3

Super Bowl XXVII (1993) – Dallas vs. Buffalo

Super Bowl - Cowboys 52-17

Next season - Bills 13-10

Super Bowl XXI (1997) – Green Bay vs. New England

Super Bowl - Packers 35-21

Next season – Packers 28-10

Super Bowl XLVIII (2014) – Seattle vs. Denver

Super Bowl - Seahawks 43-8

Next season - Seahawks 26-20

Super Bowl 50 (2016) – Denver vs. Carolina (Week 1)

Super Bowl - Broncos 24-10

Next season - Broncos 21-20

Super Bowl LI (2017) – New England vs. Atlanta

Super Bowl - Patriots- 34-28

Next season – Patriots 23-10

Super Bowl LVII (2023) – Kansas City vs. Philadelphia

Super Bowl Chiefs 38-25

Next season – Eagles 21-17

Super Bowl LVIII (2024) – Kansas City vs. San Francisco

Super Bowl Chiefs 25-22

Next season Chiefs 28-18

Super Bowl LIX (2025) – Philadelphia vs. Kansas City

Super Bowl – Philadelphia 40-22

Next season – Philadelphia 20-17

Super Bowl LX (2026) – Seattle vs. New England

Super Bowl – Seattle 29-13

Next season – Seattle 13-10

PATRIOTS HAD 11 ROOKIES ON OPENING DAY ROSTER

Of the 24 new players on the 53-man roster, 11 of those players are rookies, including eight 2026 draft picks and three rookie free agents – TE Tanner Arkin, CB Channing Canada and LB Erick Hunter.

Since 2000, the Patriots have had 10 or more rookies on their opening day roster eight other times (2000, 2009, 2010, 2013, 2015, 2023, 2024 and 2025).

2000 – Draft Picks: 5; Rookie Free Agents: 5

DRAFT PICKS

RB J.R. Redmond (third round), T Greg Randall (fourth round), QB Tom Brady (sixth round), CB Antwan Harris (sixth round) and DT David Nugent (sixth round).

ROOKIE FREE AGENTS

WR Dane Looker, LS Lonie Paxton, DE Reggie Grimes, WR Shockmain Davis and G Adam Davis.

2009 – Draft Picks: 8; Rookie Free Agents: 2

DRAFT PICKS

S Patrick Chung (second round), DL Ron Brace (second round), DB Darius Butler (second round), T Sebastian Vollmer (second round), OL Rich Ohrnberger (fourth round), LS Jake Ingram (sixth round), DL Myron Pryor (sixth round) and WR Julian Edelman (seventh round).

ROOKIE FREE AGENTS

QB Brian Hoyer and DB Bret Lockett.

2010 – Draft Picks: 8; Rookie Free Agents: 3

DRAFT PICKS

DB Devin McCourty (first round), TE Rob Gronkowski (second round), LB Jermaine Cunningham (second round), LB Brandon Spikes (second round), WR Taylor Price (third round), TE Aaron Hernandez (fourth round), P Zoltan Mesko (fifth round) and DL Brandon Deaderick (seventh round).

ROOKIE FREE AGENTS

TE Steve Maneri, DT Kyle Love and LB Dane Fletcher.

2013 – Draft Picks: 7; Rookie Free Agents: 6

DRAFT PICKS

LB Jamie Collins (second round), WR Aaron Dobson (second round), CB Logan Ryan (third round), DB Duron Harmon (third round), WR Josh Boyce (fourth round), DL Michael Buchanan (seventh round) and LB Steve Beauharnais (seventh round).

ROOKIE FREE AGENTS

P Ryan Allen, OL Chris Barker, OL Josh Kline, TE Zach Sudfeld, WR Kenbrell Thomkins and DL Joe Vellano.

2015 – Draft Picks: 7; Rookie Free Agents: 3

DRAFT PICKS

DL Malcom Brown (first round), DB Jordan Richards (second round), DL Geneo Grissom (third round), DL Trey Flowers (third round), OL Tre' Jackson (fourth round), OL Shaq Mason (fourth round), LS Joe Cardona (fifth round).

ROOKIE FREE AGENTS

C David Andrews, CB Justin Coleman and WR Chris Harper.

2023 – Draft Picks: 11

DRAFT PICKS

CB Christian Gonzalez (first round), DE Keion White (second round), LB Marte Mapu (third round), OL Jake Andrews (fourth round), K Chad Ryland (fourth round), G Sidy Sow (fourth round), OL Atonio Mafi (fifth round), WR Kayshon Boutte (sixth round), P Bryce Baringer (sixth round), WR DeMario Douglas (sixth round) and CB Ameer Speed (sixth round).

2024 – Draft Picks: 8; Rookie Free Agents: 2

DRAFT PICKS

QB Drake Maye (first round), WR Ja'Lynn Polk (second round), T Caedan Wallace (third round), G Layden Robinson (fourth round), WR Javon Baker (fourth round), CB Marcellas Dial Jr. (sixth round), QB Joe Milton III (sixth round) and TE Jaheim Bell (seventh round).

ROOKIE FREE AGENTS

S Dell Pettus and LB Curtis Jacobs.

2025 – Draft Picks: 9; Rookie Free Agents: 3

DRAFT PICKS

T Will Campbell (first round), RB TreVeyon Henderson (second round), WR Kyle Williams (third round), OL Jared Wilson (third round), S Craig Woodson (fourth round), DT Joshua Farmer (fourth round), K Andy Borregales (sixth round), T Marcus Bryant (seventh round) and LS Julian Ashby (seventh round).

ROOKIE FREE AGENTS

WR Efton Chism III, DT Eric Gregory and LB Elijah Ponder.

2026 – Draft Picks: 8; Rookie Free Agents: 3

DRAFT PICKS

T Caleb Lomax (first round), LB Gabe Jacas (second round), TE Eli Raridon (third round), CB Karon Prunty (fifth round), T Dametrious Crownover (sixth round), LB Namdi Obiazor (sixth round), QB Behren Morton (seventh round), LB Quintavious Hutchins (seventh round).

ROOKIE FREE AGENTS

TE Tanner Arkin, CB Channing Canada and LB Erick Hunter.

PATRIOTS HELD SEATTLE SCORELESS IN THE FIRST HALF

The Patriots held Seattle to zero points in the first half, the first time the team did not allow a point in a first half since the first game of the 2024 season when the Patriots turned a 10-0 halftime lead at Cincinnati (9/8) into a 16-10 victory.

INDIVIDUAL NOTES

A.J. BROWN MAKES HIS DEBUT

A.J. Brown made his debut for the Patriots and became just the second player to record 1,000 yards receiving and then join a team that went to the Super Bowl the year before. Brown registered 1,003 yards in 2025 with Philadelphia before being traded to the Patriots on June 1, 2026. The only other player to record 1,000 yards the year prior to joining a team coming off a Super Bowl was WR Brandin Cooks, when he had 1,173 receiving yards with New Orleans in 2016 before being traded to the Patriots on March 10, 2017.

BROWN HAS FIRST RECEPTION WITH THE PATRIOTS

Brown's first reception with the Patriots was a 7-yard reception from QB Drake Maye in the first quarter.

RARIDON IS THE 13TH ROOKIE TO SCORE A TOUCHDOWN ON KICKOFF WEEKEND

2026 third-round draft pick TE Eli Raridon's first career reception was a 2-yard touchdown pass from QB Drake Maye in the second quarter. He is the 13th Patriots rookie to catch a touchdown pass on kickoff weekend.

13th PATRIOTS ROOKIES HAVE SCORED A TOUCHDOWN ON KICKOFF WEEKEND:

1. WR Jim Colclough – 10-yard touchdown reception vs. Denver (9-9-60)
2. WR Art Graham – 33-yard touchdown reception vs. N.Y. Jets (9-8-63)
3. RB R.C. Gamble – 45-yard touchdown run vs. Buffalo (9-8-68)
4. RB Carl Garrett – 4-yard touchdown run at Denver (9-14-69)
5. RB Sam Cunningham – 7-yard touchdown run vs. Buffalo (9-16-73)
6. RB Robert Weathers – 1-yard touchdown run at Baltimore (9-12-82)
7. WR Stephen Starring – 73-yard touchdown reception vs. Baltimore (9-4-83)
8. RB Curtis Martin – 1-yard touchdown run vs. Cleveland (9-3-95)
9. RB Robert Edwards – 1-yard touchdown run at Denver (9-7-98)
10. WR Deion Branch – 22-yard touchdown reception vs. Pittsburgh (9-9-02)
11. TE Rob Gronkowski 1-yard touchdown reception vs. Cincinnati (9-12-10)
12. LB Dont'a Hightower – 6-yard fumble return at Tennessee (9-9-12)
13. **TE Eli Raridon – 2-yard touchdown pass at Seattle (9-9-26)**

RARIDON IS THE 11TH PATRIOTS TO SCORE ON HIS FIRST CAREER-RECEPTION

Raridon is the 11th Patriots player to score on his first career reception since 1990. He had only 3 touchdowns during his three-year career at Notre Dame and did not have any touchdowns in 2025.

TE Eli Raridon at Seattle, Sept. 9, 2026 – 2-yard TD reception

T Vederian Lowe vs. Los Angeles Rams, Nov. 17, 2024 – 4 yd TD reception

DB Marcus Jones, vs. Buffalo, Dec. 1, 2022 – 48-yd TD reception

LB Elandon Roberts, vs. Miami, Dec. 29, 2019 – 38-yd TD reception

TE Matt Lengel, vs. NY Jets, Dec. 24, 2016 – 18-yd TD reception

WR Aaron Dobson, vs. NY Jets, Sept. 12, 2013 – 39-yd TD reception

TE Rob Gronkowski, vs. Cincinnati, Sept. 12, 2010 – 1-yd TD reception

OL Tom Ashworth, vs. Tampa Bay, Dec. 17, 2005 – 1-yd TD reception

LB Mike Vrabel, at San Diego, Sept. 29, 2002 – 1-yd TD reception

TE Lovett Purnell, vs. N.Y. Jets, Sept. 14, 1997 – 10-yd TD reception

TE Mike Bartrum, at Baltimore, Oct. 6, 1996 – 1-yd reception

BORREGALES HAS MADE ALL FIVE OF HIS CAREER 50-YARD FIELD GOALS

K Andy Borregales connected on a 50-yard field goal in the third quarter and has now made all five of his career 50-yard field goals. Borregales made all four of his 50-plus field goal attempts in 2025 as a rookie. The Patriots record for most consecutive 50-plus field goals is eight by Stephen Gostkowski (2013-15). The NFL record for most consecutive 50-yard field goals to start a career is Branon Aubrey with Dallas, who made 16 straight 50-yard field goals (2023-24).

SECOND-ROUND LB GABE JACAS HAS FIRST CAREER SACK

2026 second-round draft pick LB Gabe Jacas recorded his first NFL sack when he dropped QB Drew Lock for a 7-yard loss in the second quarter.

MOSES STILL GOING STRONG

Patriots T Morgan Moses enters the 2026 season at age 35 and is one of five current offensive linemen that are at least 35 years old. He joins T Trent Williams of San Francisco (38), T Lan Johnson of Philadelphia (36), T David Quessenberry of the L.A. Rams (46) and current teammate OL Greg Van Roten (36).

DRE'MONT JONES RECORDS FIRST SACK WITH THE PATRIOTS ON KEY THIRD DOWN

LB Dre'Mont Jones recorded his first sack with New England when he dropped Seattle QB Sam Darnold on a third-and-6 situation for a 5-yard loss to end the drive.

LARISON PLAYS IN HIS FIRST NFL GAME

RB Lan Larison caught an 11-yard pass from QB Drake Maye in the second quarter for his first NFL reception. The reception came on his first play on offense, and Larison was also used as a kickoff returner in the game. He was elevated from the practice squad prior to the game. He finished with 2 receptions for 9 yards and 2 kickoff returns for 49 yards.

2026 SIXTH-ROUND DRAFT PICK LB NAMDI OBIAZOR HAD 3 SPECIAL TEAMS TACKLES

2026 sixth-round draft pick LB Namdi Obiazor had 3 special teams tackles.

LINEUP NOTES

NEW FACES

Twenty of the 24 new players on the 2026 53-man roster that were not on the team on opening day played against Seattle, including six 2026 draft picks and two rookie free agents.

- **2026 draft picks** – T Caleb Lomu (first round), LB Gabe Jacas (second round), TE Eli Raridon (third round), T Dametrious Crownover (sixth round), LB Namdi Obiazor (sixth round) and LB Quintayvious Hutchins (seventh round)
- **Rookie free agents** – TE Tanner Arkin and CB Channing Canada
- **First-Year**- RB Corey Kiner
- **Veteran free agents** – WR A.J. Brown, S Kevin Byard III, WR Romeo Doubs, FB Reggie Gilliam, LB Dre'Mont Jones, TE Cameron Latu, LB Darius Muasau, S Jaylen Reed, OL Greg Van Roten, G Alijah Vera-Tucker and DT Leonard Taylor III, who joined New England's practice squad in October.

*In addition, two players were brought up from the practice squad and saw action – RB Lan Larison and P Mitch Wishnowsky. Larison made his NFL debut after spending the 2025 season on injured reserve. Wishnowsky was signed to the practice squad after Bryce Baringer was placed on injured reserve. Three of Wishnowsky's four punts landed inside the 20-yard line.

*OL Jared Wilson made his first NFL start at center after he started in 13 games and all four postseason games at left guard during his rookie season. He started at center during his college career at Georgia.

*S Dell Pettus was in the starting lineup in a three-safety set. It was his second career start. He started in a three-safety set vs. Miami on Oct. 6, 2024 during his rookie season.