



NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE
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NFL-PRE-2 8/2/05

COACHES VALUE PRESEASON

*The four teams involved in this weekend's games will play five preseason contests this summer rather than the four of the other 28 NFL clubs. And Atlanta Falcons head coach **JIM MORA** is glad. It gives the team, he says, more game situations in which to evaluate players. Mora is like all NFL coaches in stressing the value of preseason games. "We get to evaluate guys in a game atmosphere," he says about Saturday's American Bowl. "When you evaluate how a guy plays, it's got to be in a game."*

PRESEASON'S HERE! NFL KICKS OFF WITH AMERICAN BOWL IN TOKYO, HALL OF FAME GAME IN CANTON

It's a big quarterback weekend!

The NFL, with training camps in full swing, segues into its preseason schedule this weekend with two special games built around one special position – quarterback.

In Tokyo and Canton, quarterbacks will be on display.

On Saturday in Tokyo, Japan (Live, ESPN2, 5:00 AM ET; Re-air, ESPN, 6:00 PM ET), the 40th American Bowl in an international series that began in 1986 will be played. When the Atlanta Falcons meet the Indianapolis Colts in the Tokyo Dome, it will be the 12th American Bowl to be played in that city, most of any international city.

It also will be a meeting of two of the most exciting quarterbacks in the NFL – **MICHAEL VICK** of the Falcons and **PEYTON MANNING** of the Colts. The two 2004 NFL All-Stars led their teams to division titles last year while posting record-breaking seasons.

Vick took the Falcons to an 11-5 record and to the NFC Championship Game while setting the NFL record for career 100-yard rushing games by a quarterback. His three such games during the season gave him five for his career, most ever.

Manning led the Colts to a 12-4 mark while breaking one of the top records in NFL annals – touchdown passes in a season. His 49 TD passes bettered by one the total rang up 20 years earlier by a quarterback that will join others on center stage this weekend in Canton, **DAN MARINO**.

For Colts head coach **TONY DUNGY**, it will be a return to Japan. After a career as a quarterback at the University of Minnesota in which he finished as the Big Ten's fourth leading player in total offense, he played in the Japan Bowl, an all-star game for college seniors.

"It's really a good deal (playing in Tokyo)," says Dungy. "Culturally, it will be great. It will be a once-in-a-lifetime situation for a lot of guys."

On Sunday back in the states, a class full of quarterbacks will be inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame in Canton, Ohio – birthplace of the NFL. Marino will join **BENNY FRIEDMAN**, **FRITZ POLLARD** and **STEVE YOUNG** as the class of 2005 inductees. The sold-out enshrinement ceremonies will be held at Fawcett Stadium across the street from the Hall in front of 21,000 people.

"It's an incredible honor to be inducted," says Marino. "You don't think about things like this ever happening when you're growing up just wanting to be a professional football player."

And what professional football players the all-quarterback class of 2005 was:

- **FRIEDMAN** (1927-34) is considered to be the NFL's first great passer. He led the league in TD passes four consecutive years. It is estimated he completed half his attempts at a time when 35 percent was standard.

- **MARINO** (1983-99) was the most prolific passer in NFL history – still the career leader in attempts, completions, yards and touchdowns.
- **POLLARD** (1920-25), although primarily a running back, also threw passes. “He was the Michael Vick of that era,” says his grandson. Pollard was also the NFL’s first African-American head coach (1921, Akron).
- **YOUNG** (1985-99), a left-hander, is tied with **SAMMY BAUGH** as the only quarterbacks to win six NFL passing titles. His 112.8 rating in 1994 was the highest in history until Manning (121.1) topped it last year.

“We appreciate and honor the people who played in previous eras,” says Young in respect to Friedman and Pollard. “They had a passion for the game, and we’re here on their backs.”

A highlight of the Hall of Fame Weekend is the annual three-day **NFL Youth Football Summit** that features more than 150 youth and high school football coaches and administrators from all 50 states. Football experts and NFL greats at the summit present and discuss topics vital to youth and high school football programs.

The NFL and the NFL Players Association, who have made a major commitment to investing in the game with the \$150 million NFL Youth Football Fund and other programs, sponsor the summit.

On Monday night (ABC, 8:00 PM ET), the active players will take over Fawcett Stadium when the Chicago Bears take on the Miami Dolphins in the annual AFC-NFC Hall of Fame Game.

The Hall of Fame is located on George Halas Drive in honor of the Bears’ founder. The team has the most enshrines in the Hall (26). For the Dolphins, in addition to their former quarterback Marino being inducted, it will be the NFL head-coaching debut of **NICK SABAN**.

The game itself will feature interesting quarterback scenarios. It will be the first action since Week 3 of last season for the Bears’ expected starter this year, **REX GROSSMAN**, who had his 2004 season halted by a knee injury. For the Dolphins, it will be the first stage of what is expected to be a preseason-long battle between **A.J. FEELEY** and **GUS FREROTTE** to determine the club’s starting QB.

“...AND, NOW, TO PRESENT THE HONOR...”

Almost as awaited as the identities of the Pro Football Hall of Fame class every year are the names of the “presenters” of those inductees on their special day. This year, a father, a son, a grandson and a sportswriter will have the honors.

The Pro Football Hall of Fame class of 2005 presenters:

INDUCTEE	PRESENTER	RELATIONSHIP
Benny Friedman (Represented by nephew David Friedman)	Don Pierson	<i>Chicago Tribune</i> sportswriter/ member HOF Board of Selectors
Dan Marino	Daniel Marino	Son
Fritz Pollard (Represented by grandson Steven Towns)	Fritz Pollard III	Grandson
Steve Young	LeGrande “Grit” Young	Father

EX-TEAMMATE SCULPTS YOUNG’S HALL OF FAME BUST

He has done more than 50 of them, but how could **BLAIR BUSWELL** have known back then in college that he would be doing one of his teammates?

Buswell is a professional sculptor (he has been practicing the art since junior high school) and annually creates some of the busts that symbolize induction into the Pro Football Hall of Fame and serve as lasting testimony to the exploits of the players enshrined.

In 1981, though, he was a college student and running back at Brigham Young University whose quarterback was a left-hander named **STEVE YOUNG**. That year, lined up behind Young, Buswell ran for the grand total of two yards for the entire season.

Years later in San Francisco, the two met, and Buswell told Young about his 50-plus assignments for the Hall of Fame, and then made a prediction. “One day, I’ll do yours.”

Young, buried on the 49ers’ depth charts, thought his former teammate foolish. “There’s no way!” Young remembers saying to Buswell. “I guess it’s kind of surreal that he’s done mine now.”

SATURDAY, AUGUST 6
AMERICAN BOWL – TOKYO, JAPAN
INDIANAPOLIS COLTS VS. ATLANTA FALCONS

SERIES

	<u>COLTS</u>	<u>FALCONS</u>
AB RECORD	1-0	1-0
SERIES LEADER	12-1	
STREAKS	Past 2	
COACHES VS. OPP.	Dungy: 4-0	Mora: 0-0
LAST GAME	12/14/03: Falcons 7 at Colts 38. Indianapolis QB Peyton Manning throws 5 TDs & Colts defense allows only 154 yards.	
LAST GAME AT SITE	--	
BROADCAST	ESPN2 (5:00 AM ET ; Re-airs at 6:00 PM ET on ESPN): Mike Tirico, Mike Golic & Chris Mortensen (Field reporter).	

'04 STAT LEADERS

PASSING	Manning: 336-497-4,557 (2C)-49 (1L)-10-121.1 (1L)	Vick: 181-321-2,313-14-12-78.1
RUSHING	James: 334-1,548 (3C)-4.6-9	Dunn: 265-1,106-4.2-9
RECEIVING	Harrison: 86-1,113-12.9-15 (2L)	Crumpler (TE): 48-774-16.1-6
OFFENSE	404.7 (2L)	317.8
TAKE/GIVE	+19 (1L)	+2
DEFENSE	370.6	325.4
SACKS	Freeney: 16.0 (1L)	Kerney: 13.0 (3C)
INTs	David (R): 4	Brooking: 3
PUNTING	Smith: 45.2 (2L)	Gowin (NYJ): 38.2
KICKING	Vanderjagt: 119 (59/60 PAT; 20/25 FG)	Peterson (SF): 77 (23/23 PAT; 18/22 FG)

NOTES

TOKYO HOSTS 12TH AB GAME, most of any city. Game is 40th in AB series. Crowd of 112,376 attended AB '94 in Mexico City (Hou 6, Dal 0) – largest in NFL history.....**COLTS**: One of 3 teams to reach playoffs in 5 of past 6 yrs (Phil., St.L.).....Head coach **TONY DUNGY** is NFL's winningest since '99 (64-32, .667).....In '04, **QB PEYTON MANNING** set NFL single-season records in TDs (49) & passer rating (121.1).....**RB EDGERRIN JAMES** needs 1,000 rush yds for most such seasons in career by Colt, tied with **MARSHALL FAULK** (4).....In '04, **WRs MARVIN HARRISON** (15), **REGGIE WAYNE** (12) & **BRANDON STOKLEY** (10) became 1st NFL WR trio w/ 10 or more TDs in single season..... Team posted NFL-best +19 turnover ratio in '04.....**DE DWIGHT FREENEY** had NFL-high 16.0 sacks year ago.....

FALCONS: Earned win in '00 Tokyo AB (20-9 vs. Dal).....Seek consecutive division titles for 1st time.....Coach **JIM MORA** begins 2nd yr after setting club record for most wins by rookie coach (11). His father, **JIM MORA**, led Colts to 2 playoff berths from 1998-01.....**QB MICHAEL VICK** named to 2nd Pro Bowl in '04; rushed for 902 yds, 3rd-highest season total by QB all-time; led NFL w/ 7.5-yard per carry avg. Vick was 6-for-6 in 3rd & 1 rush attempts in '04.....**RB WARRICK DUNN** had 3rd-career 1,000-yd season in '04.....**TE ALGE CRUMPLER** set club marks for TEs with 48 catches & 774 yds.....Defense led NFL w/ 48.0 sacks in '04 w/ **DE PATRICK KERNEY** posting career-best 13.0. **DT ROD COLEMAN** posted 11.5 sacks last season.....**LB KEITH BROOKING** named All-Star in past 4 seasons.

MONDAY, AUGUST 8
PRO FOOTBALL HALL OF FAME GAME – CANTON, OHIO
CHICAGO BEARS VS. MIAMI DOLPHINS

SERIES

	<u>BEARS</u>	<u>DOLPHINS</u>
HOF RECORD	3-0	0-2
SERIES LEADER		6-3
STREAKS	2 of past 3	
COACHES VS. OPP.	Smith: 0-0	Saban: 0-0
LAST GAME	12/9/02: Bears 9 at Dolphins 27. Miami RB Ricky Williams rushes for 216 yards & 2 TDs as Dolphins beat Bears on Monday night.	
LAST GAME AT SITE	--	
BROADCAST	ABC (8:00 PM ET): Al Michaels, John Madden, Michele Tafoya (Field reporter).	

'04 STAT LEADERS

PASSING	Hutchinson: 92-161-903-4-3-73.6	Feeley: 191-356-1,893-11-15-61.7
RUSHING	T. Jones: 240-948-4.0-7	Minor: 109-388-3.6-3
RECEIVING	T. Jones (RB): 56-427-7.6-0	McMichael (TE): 73-791-10.8-4
OFFENSE	238.5	275.3
TAKE/GIVE	-8	-17
DEFENSE	336.9	305.9
SACKS	A. Brown: 6.0	Taylor: 9.5
INTs	Vasher: 5	3 tied: 1
PUNTING	Maynard: 42.9	Turk: 41.7
KICKING	Brien (NYJ): 72 (33/34 PAT; 24/29 FG)	Mare: 54 (18/18 PAT; 12/16 FG)

NOTES

BEARS: HOF located on **GEORGE HALAS DRIVE** in honor of Bears founder & HOFer. Club is 3-0 all-time in HOF games; 1st HOF Game appearance since '90.....**LOVIE SMITH** begins 2nd season as head coach.....**QB REX GROSSMAN** may see 1st action since 9/26/04. **QB KURT KITTNER** led Amsterdam Admirals to NFL Europe championship this spring, earning World Bowl MVP honors.....**RB THOMAS JONES** rushed for career-best 948 yards & 7 TDs in '04. Jones has increased rushing yard totals 4 seasons in row.....**WR MUHSIN MUHAMMAD** makes debut with club after spending 1st 9 NFL seasons with Panthers, posting 3 1,000-yd seasons.....**DE ADEWALE OGUNLEYE** posted 15.0 sacks for Miami in '03.....**LB BRIAN URLACHER** recorded 5.0 sacks, 69 tackles, INT & 6 PDs in only 9 games in '04.....**DOLPHINS:** Club celebrating 40th season; is NFL's winningest team since '70 (338-196-2, .633)..... Game marks debut of head coach **NICK SABAN**. In past 11 seasons as college head coach, Saban never had losing season. Saban attended Kent State, located 34 miles N of Canton.....Team is 3-2 in **QB A.J. FEELEY**'s past 5 starts. In past 5 yrs, **QB GUS FREROTTE** has played in 50 gms w/ 20 TDs vs. 15 INTs.....**RB RICKY WILLIAMS**, No. 5 rusher in team history (3,225), returns from 1-yr retirement.....**WR CHRIS CHAMBERS** (233) has 8th-most catches in club annals; is native of Bedford, OH, 46 miles N of Canton.....**DE JASON TAYLOR** has 9.5+ sacks in past 3 seasons; attended Akron U., 23 miles N of Canton.....**CB SAM MADISON** has 29 career INTs, T3rd in team history. **S LANCE SCHULTERS** has notched 10 of 15 career INTs in 4th qtr or OT. Defense has not allowed 300-yd passer in 30 games.

AMERICAN BOWL/HALL OF FAME WEEKEND SCHEDULE (AUGUST 6-8)

(All times ET)

Saturday, August 6

Atlanta Falcons vs. Indianapolis Colts in American Bowl at Tokyo, Japan, 5:00 AM ET (ESPN 2), Re-airs 6:00 PM ET (ESPN)

Monday, August 8

Chicago Bears vs. Miami Dolphins in AFC-NFC Pro Football Hall of Fame Game at Canton, Ohio, 8:00 PM ET (ABC)

AMERICAN FOOTBALL CONFERENCE							NATIONAL FOOTBALL CONFERENCE						
<u>East Division</u>							<u>East Division</u>						
W	L	T	Pct.	Pts.	OP		W	L	T	Pct.	Pts.	OP	
Buffalo	0	0	0	.000	0	0	Dallas	0	0	0	.000	0	0
Miami	0	0	0	.000	0	0	N.Y. Giants	0	0	0	.000	0	0
New England	0	0	0	.000	0	0	Philadelphia	0	0	0	.000	0	0
N.Y. Jets	0	0	0	.000	0	0	Washington	0	0	0	.000	0	0
<u>North Division</u>							<u>North Division</u>						
W	L	T	Pct.	Pts.	OP		W	L	T	Pct.	Pts.	OP	
Baltimore	0	0	0	.000	0	0	Chicago	0	0	0	.000	0	0
Cincinnati	0	0	0	.000	0	0	Detroit	0	0	0	.000	0	0
Cleveland	0	0	0	.000	0	0	Green Bay	0	0	0	.000	0	0
Pittsburgh	0	0	0	.000	0	0	Minnesota	0	0	0	.000	0	0
<u>South Division</u>							<u>South Division</u>						
W	L	T	Pct.	Pts.	OP		W	L	T	Pct.	Pts.	OP	
Houston	0	0	0	.000	0	0	Atlanta	0	0	0	.000	0	0
Indianapolis	0	0	0	.000	0	0	Carolina	0	0	0	.000	0	0
Jacksonville	0	0	0	.000	0	0	New Orleans	0	0	0	.000	0	0
Tennessee	0	0	0	.000	0	0	Tampa Bay	0	0	0	.000	0	0
<u>West Division</u>							<u>West Division</u>						
W	L	T	Pct.	Pts.	OP		W	L	T	Pct.	Pts.	OP	
Denver	0	0	0	.000	0	0	Arizona	0	0	0	.000	0	0
Kansas City	0	0	0	.000	0	0	St. Louis	0	0	0	.000	0	0
Oakland	0	0	0	.000	0	0	San Francisco	0	0	0	.000	0	0
San Diego	0	0	0	.000	0	0	Seattle	0	0	0	.000	0	0

NEXT WEEK'S NFL SCHEDULE (AUGUST 11-15)

(All times local)

Thursday, August 11

San Diego at Green Bay, 7:00 (ESPN)

Friday, August 12

Detroit at N.Y. Jets, 7:00
 New England at Cincinnati, 7:30
 Chicago at St. Louis, 7:00
 Kansas City at Minnesota, 7:00
 Seattle at New Orleans, 7:00
 Tampa Bay at Tennessee, 7:00

Saturday, August 13

Baltimore at Atlanta, 7:30

Saturday, August 13, Cont'd.

Miami at Jacksonville, 7:30
 Buffalo at Indianapolis, 7:00
 Denver at Houston, 7:00
 N.Y. Giants at Cleveland, 8:00
 Washington at Carolina, 8:00
 Dallas at Arizona, 7:00
 Oakland at San Francisco, 7:00

Monday, August 15

Philadelphia at Pittsburgh, 8:00 (ESPN)