

MORE PRO FOOTBALL FIRSTS

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FIRST PERFECT SEASON BY NFL TEAM - 1972 - Miami Dolphins, 17-0-0. Season culminated with victory in Super Bowl VII.

FIRST PLAYER TO RUSH FOR 2,000 YARDS - 1973 - O. J. Simpson, Buffalo Bills, 2,003 yards.

FIRST USE OF WIRELESS MICROPHONES BY REFEREES - 1975.

FIRST USE OF 30-SECOND CLOCK BETWEEN PLAYS - 1976.

FIRST NFL GAME OUTSIDE OF NORTH AMERICA - August 16, 1976 - St. Louis Cardinals defeated the San Diego Chargers 20-10 in pre-season game in Tokyo, Japan.

FIRST PRO BOWL GAME IN NON-NFL CITY - January 27, 1980 - Honolulu, Hawaii.

FIRST NFL GAME IN EUROPE - August 6, 1983 - The Minnesota Vikings defeated the St. Louis Cardinals 28-10 in Wembley Stadium in London.

FIRST USE OF INSTANT REPLAY ON A REGULAR BASIS - 1986.

FIRST AMERICAN BOWL GAME - August 3, 1986 - The Chicago Bears defeated the Dallas Cowboys 17-6 in Wembley Stadium in London.

AMERICAN FOOTBALL LEAGUE FIRSTS –

August 14, 1959 - The new American Football League had its first meeting.

November 30, 1959 - Joe Foss was named the first commissioner of the AFL.

July 30, 1960 - The Boston Patriots defeated the Buffalo Bills in the first AFL pre-season game.

September 9, 1960 - The Denver Broncos defeated the Boston Patriots in the first AFL regular-season game.

January 1, 1961 - The Houston Oilers won the first AFL championship by defeating the Los Angeles Chargers.

January 14, 1961 - End, Willard Dewveall of the Chicago Bears played out his option and joined the Houston Oilers, thus becoming the first NFL player to “defect” to the AFL.

June 8, 1966 - The AFL and NFL announced a merger. Thus, the AFL became the first to successfully challenge the NFL in that league's history.

August 5, 1967 - The Denver Broncos became the first AFL team to beat an NFL team when they defeated the Detroit Lions 13-7 in the first of 16 AFL-NFL pre-season games that year.

FIRSTS IN RADIO, TV IN PRO FOOTBALL -

November 29, 1934 - First national radio broadcast of an NFL game. Graham McNamee was the play-by-play announcer for the Detroit Lions-Chicago Bears Thanksgiving Day game.

October 22, 1939 - First telecast of an NFL game. NBC broadcast the Philadelphia Eagles-Brooklyn Dodgers game from Ebbets Field.

December 8, 1940 - First radio network coverage of an NFL championship game. Mutual Radio Network broadcast the Chicago Bears' 73-0 victory over the Washington Redskins.

1950 Season - The Los Angeles Rams became the first NFL team to televise all of its games home and away.

December 23, 1951 – First coast-to-coast telecast of NFL Championship game by the Dumont Network.

1956 - CBS became the first network to televise some NFL games to selected television markets across the nation.

1960 - ABC became the first network to sign a television contract with the American Football League.

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1962 - The NFL for the first time entered into a single-network agreement with CBS for televising all regular-season games.

1970 - The first game of ABC's Monday Night Football series was played between the Cleveland Browns and the New York Jets.

SUPER BOWL 'FIRSTS'

January 15, 1967 - The Green Bay Packers defeated the Kansas City Chiefs 35-10 in the first Super Bowl. Played in the Los Angeles Coliseum, it was the only Super Bowl not to sell-out.

January 12, 1969 - The title Super Bowl was recognized for the first time. Previously, it had been called the AFL-NFL World Championship Game.

January 12, 1969 - The New York Jets became the first AFL team to win a Super Bowl when they upset the Baltimore Colts 16-7 in Super Bowl III.

January 18, 1976 - The Dallas Cowboys became the first wild-card playoff team in the Super Bowl, losing to Pittsburgh 21-17 in Super Bowl X.

January 15, 1978 - The Super Bowl was played indoors for the first time. The Dallas Cowboys defeated the Denver Broncos 27-10 in Super Bowl XII played in the Louisiana Superdome.

January 25, 1981 - Oakland defeated Philadelphia 27-10 in Super Bowl XV to become the first wild-card playoff team to win a Super Bowl.

January 24, 1982 - San Francisco defeated Cincinnati 26-21 in the first Super Bowl (XVI) played north of the Mason-Dixon line (Pontiac, MI).