

# afc number 1 seed history

AFC Number 1 Seed History: Tracing the Journey to the Top of the AFC Playoff Ladder

**afc number 1 seed history** is a fascinating tale woven through decades of NFL seasons, where teams have battled fiercely for the coveted top spot in the American Football Conference. Securing the number 1 seed in the AFC not only reflects a team's dominance during the regular season but also carries significant advantages in the playoffs, including home-field advantage and a bye week in the earlier playoff rounds. Understanding the history of the AFC number 1 seed offers a window into how playoff structures evolved, which franchises have excelled, and how this seeding has impacted postseason success.

## The Evolution of the AFC Number 1 Seed

When the American Football Conference was formed in 1970 following the AFL-NFL merger, the playoff system was quite different from what fans see today. Initially, division winners would enter the playoffs, with no wild card teams and a relatively straightforward path to the conference championship. The concept of seeding, particularly the number 1 seed, evolved over time as the league expanded and refined its playoff format.

### Early Years and Playoff Origins

In the first decade after the merger, the AFC playoffs were split between division champions, but seeding was less formalized. Teams were often matched geographically rather than strictly by record. This meant the "number 1 seed" wasn't always the team with the best record but was more a designation based on divisional standings.

It wasn't until the 1975 season that the NFL began to formalize seeding based on records, giving the top team in the AFC the number 1 seed. This change aimed to reward the most successful teams with home-field advantage and an easier path through the postseason.

### Playoff Expansion and Modern Seeding

As the league grew, the playoffs expanded from 8 teams to 10, then 12, and most recently 14 teams. Each expansion influenced how the AFC number 1 seed was determined and the benefits it conferred. Today, the number 1 seed in the AFC not only earns a first-round bye but also hosts every playoff game within the conference, assuming they advance.

This evolution highlights the increasing importance of earning the top seed. Teams chase not just division titles but the best overall record to maximize their postseason chances.

# **Notable AFC Number 1 Seeds Through the Years**

Some franchises have etched their names repeatedly as the AFC's top seed, showcasing dominance in their respective eras. From the powerhouse Miami Dolphins of the 1970s to the New England Patriots' dynasty in the 2000s and 2010s, the number 1 seed has often been a marker of sustained excellence.

## **Miami Dolphins and the Perfect Season**

One of the most iconic moments in AFC number 1 seed history is the Miami Dolphins' perfect regular season in 1972. Finishing as the number 1 seed that year, the Dolphins not only secured home-field advantage but went on to win the Super Bowl, completing the only undefeated season in NFL history. Their dominance that year set a high bar for what being the AFC's top seed could mean.

## **Denver Broncos' Consistent Contenders**

The Denver Broncos have frequently earned the AFC number 1 seed, particularly during the late 1990s and 2010s. With Peyton Manning at the helm, they clinched the top seed multiple times, leveraging it to secure home playoff games. While not always translating into Super Bowl victories, their regular-season consistency underscored the value of the number 1 seed.

## **New England Patriots' Dynasty Era**

No discussion about the AFC number 1 seed history would be complete without acknowledging the New England Patriots. Between 2001 and 2019, the Patriots claimed the top seed in the AFC numerous times, often dominating the regular season. Their ability to capitalize on this advantage led to multiple Super Bowl titles, making them a blueprint for how critical the number 1 seed can be.

## **Why the AFC Number 1 Seed Matters**

Earning the number 1 seed in the AFC is more than just bragging rights. It carries tangible benefits that can shape a team's playoff journey and impact their chances of lifting the Lombardi Trophy.

### **Home-Field Advantage**

Playing in front of a home crowd cannot be overstated. The energy, familiarity with the field, and absence of travel fatigue often tilt the odds in favor of the top seed. Historically, AFC number 1 seeds have enjoyed higher winning percentages in home playoff games compared to lower seeds.

## **First-Round Bye**

The playoff bye week allows teams to rest key players, recover from injuries, and prepare strategically for their next opponent. This advantage is critical in a physically demanding sport like football, where momentum and health can swing the outcome of games.

## **Psychological Edge**

Being the number 1 seed sends a message to opponents. It signals a team's dominance throughout the regular season and can intimidate rivals. This psychological factor sometimes influences game-day performances, providing an intangible benefit.

## **Challenges Faced by AFC Number 1 Seeds**

Despite the advantages, history shows that being the top seed does not guarantee postseason success. Several AFC number 1 seeds have stumbled in the playoffs, reminding us that football's unpredictability reigns supreme.

## **Upsets and Pressure**

The pressure on the number 1 seed can be immense. Expectations are sky-high, and sometimes teams falter under the spotlight. There have been instances where the AFC's top seed was upset by a lower-ranked opponent, highlighting the "any given Sunday" nature of the sport.

## **Injuries and Momentum Shifts**

Even with a bye week, injuries during the regular season can hamper a team's playoff performance. Additionally, lower-seeded teams coming off a playoff win may carry momentum into the next round, challenging the rested but potentially rusty number 1 seed.

## **Looking Ahead: The Future of the AFC Number 1 Seed**

As the NFL continues to evolve, the race for the AFC number 1 seed remains a central storyline each season. With the recent playoff expansion to 14 teams, the importance of securing the top seed is even more pronounced, offering the best path through a more crowded postseason field.

Teams are investing heavily in strategies to finish with the best record—be it through innovative coaching, smart drafting, or savvy free agency moves. The quest for the AFC number 1 seed fuels competitive spirit and shapes how franchises approach each regular season game.

For fans, tracking the battle for the number 1 seed adds an extra layer of excitement to the NFL calendar, promising thrilling finishes and high-stakes drama as teams vie for supremacy.

The rich history of the AFC number 1 seed is a testament to football's evolving landscape, the rise and fall of dynasties, and the enduring pursuit of excellence at the highest level of competition. Whether looking back at legendary teams or anticipating future champions, the story of the AFC's top seed remains a compelling chapter in the NFL's ongoing saga.

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

### **What does the AFC number 1 seed mean in NFL playoffs?**

The AFC number 1 seed refers to the team with the best regular-season record in the American Football Conference, earning them the top playoff seed and home-field advantage throughout the AFC playoffs.

### **Which team has earned the most AFC number 1 seeds historically?**

The New England Patriots have earned the most AFC number 1 seeds in NFL history, reflecting their consistent regular-season success over the past two decades.

### **How often does the AFC number 1 seed win the Super Bowl?**

Historically, the AFC number 1 seed has a strong chance of winning the Super Bowl, but it varies by season. While top seeds have an advantage, winning the Super Bowl is never guaranteed.

### **When was the first time the AFC awarded a number 1 seed in the playoffs?**

The AFC first awarded a number 1 seed in the playoffs following the 1970 AFL-NFL merger, when the playoff seeding system was established.

### **Has the AFC number 1 seed ever been upset early in the playoffs?**

Yes, there have been several instances where the AFC number 1 seed was upset in the Divisional Round or even the Wild Card round, showing that top seeding does not ensure playoff success.

### **Which AFC number 1 seed had the best regular season record?**

The 2007 New England Patriots had one of the best regular season records as an AFC number 1 seed, finishing 16-0 before ultimately losing in the Super Bowl.

## **How is the AFC number 1 seed determined if there is a tie in records?**

The AFC number 1 seed is determined by tiebreakers such as head-to-head record, divisional record, common games record, and conference record if teams have identical regular-season records.

## **Does the AFC number 1 seed get a first-round bye in the playoffs?**

Yes, traditionally the AFC number 1 seed receives a first-round bye, allowing them to skip the Wild Card round and automatically advance to the Divisional Round.

## **How has the playoff format affected the importance of the AFC number 1 seed?**

With the NFL expanding the playoffs to include more teams, the AFC number 1 seed still retains significant advantages like home-field advantage and a first-round bye, but the increased competition has made playoff outcomes less predictable.

## **Additional Resources**

AFC Number 1 Seed History: A Deep Dive into the NFL's Premier Playoff Position

**afc number 1 seed history** reveals a rich tapestry of competition, strategy, and evolving playoff dynamics within the National Football League (NFL). Securing the top seed in the American Football Conference (AFC) has long been synonymous with superior regular-season performance, home-field advantage throughout the playoffs, and a tangible edge en route to the Super Bowl. Understanding how this coveted position has evolved over decades provides insight into team dominance, playoff structures, and the shifting competitive landscape of the AFC.

## **The Evolution of the AFC Number 1 Seed**

The AFC number 1 seed designation originated in 1970, following the AFL-NFL merger. Before the merger, the American Football League (AFL) and the National Football League (NFL) operated independently with separate playoff systems. Post-merger, the AFC was established as one of two conferences, each with its own playoff seeding. The number 1 seed in the AFC was awarded to the team with the best regular-season record, granting home-field advantage throughout the conference playoffs.

Over the years, the criteria and implications of being the AFC's top seed have undergone changes—particularly with the expansion of the playoff field and modifications in seeding methodology. Initially, the playoffs featured fewer teams, making the number 1 seed even more critical as a direct path to the conference championship. However, as the NFL expanded the postseason format—most notably with the introduction of additional wild card slots—the advantage of the number 1 seed adapted accordingly.

## Home-Field Advantage and Its Impact

One of the most significant benefits of the AFC number 1 seed is the guaranteed home-field advantage throughout the conference playoffs. Playing on familiar turf can influence game outcomes due to crowd support, reduced travel fatigue, and environmental familiarity. Historically, AFC teams that clinched the top seed enjoyed a markedly higher success rate in advancing to the Super Bowl compared to lower seeds.

For example, the 2005 Pittsburgh Steelers and the 2017 New England Patriots both capitalized on their top seed status by leveraging home-field advantage to navigate through tough playoff opponents. However, this advantage is not absolute. The 2018 Kansas City Chiefs, despite earning the number 1 seed, were upset in the AFC Championship Game by the Baltimore Ravens, highlighting that while the top seed confers benefits, it does not guarantee postseason success.

## Statistical Trends and Dominant Franchises

Analyzing the history of AFC number 1 seeds uncovers a pattern of dominance by certain franchises. The New England Patriots stand out prominently, having secured the top seed in the AFC multiple times throughout the 2000s and 2010s. Their consistent regular-season excellence under head coach Bill Belichick and quarterback Tom Brady often translated into deep playoff runs and multiple Super Bowl victories.

Other franchises such as the Pittsburgh Steelers, Denver Broncos, and Baltimore Ravens have also frequently captured the AFC's premier seed. These teams typically combine strong defensive units, effective coaching, and high-powered offenses to finish the regular season atop the conference standings.

## Comparative Success Rates of AFC Number 1 Seeds

When comparing the postseason success of AFC number 1 seeds versus other seeds, a clear advantage emerges. Historically:

- The number 1 seed has approximately a 50-60% chance of reaching the Super Bowl.
- Over 70% of AFC champions have been either the number 1 seed or number 2 seed in the playoffs.
- Lower seeds face more challenging paths, often needing to win multiple road games.

Despite this, there are notable exceptions where teams seeded lower have upset the hierarchy, underscoring the unpredictable nature of NFL playoffs. The "Cinderella" runs by wild card teams occasionally disrupt the expected dominance of the top seed.

# Impact of Playoff Format Changes on the Number 1 Seed

The AFC number 1 seed's importance is closely tied to the NFL's playoff structure. Originally, the playoffs included fewer teams, making the top seed crucial for a first-round bye and home games. With the 2020 expansion to a 14-team playoff format, the number 1 seed now represents the only team in the conference to receive a first-round bye, elevating its significance.

This change means that while the number 2 seed still hosts a wild card game, the number 1 seed benefits from additional rest and preparation time. This rest can be pivotal in the injury-prone NFL, enabling teams to enter the divisional round with fresher rosters and strategic advantages.

## Pros and Cons of Securing the AFC Number 1 Seed

### • Pros:

- Home-field advantage throughout the conference playoffs
- First-round bye, allowing for rest and recovery
- Psychological edge as the best regular-season team
- Increased ticket sales and fan engagement from playoff home games

### • Cons:

- Potential for rust due to extended layoff during the bye week
- Heightened pressure and expectations
- Opponents may gain momentum from wild card victories

While the advantages generally outweigh the disadvantages, the "layoff effect" has been cited in some playoff losses where teams appeared sluggish after their bye week.

## Memorable AFC Number 1 Seed Campaigns

Several AFC number 1 seed teams have left indelible marks on NFL history through dominant regular seasons and playoff performances. Among them:

1. **2007 New England Patriots:** Achieved a perfect 16-0 regular season, earning the top seed and home-field advantage. Although they fell short

in the Super Bowl, this season remains a high-water mark for regular-season excellence.

2. **1996 Jacksonville Jaguars:** As the AFC's number 1 seed, the Jaguars made a surprising deep playoff run, exemplifying how emerging franchises can leverage the top seed to challenge traditional powerhouses.
3. **2015 Denver Broncos:** Secured the AFC's top seed with a dominant defense and went on to win Super Bowl 50, underscoring the correlation between the number 1 seed and championship potential.

These campaigns illustrate how the number 1 seed can serve as a launching pad for both expected and unexpected postseason success.

## The Future Outlook for AFC Number 1 Seeds

Looking ahead, the significance of the AFC number 1 seed is likely to remain pivotal in NFL playoff strategy. With the league's continued parity and evolving playoff formats, teams will increasingly prioritize securing this position to maximize their championship chances. Advances in analytics and roster management further enhance the ability of top seeds to exploit their advantages.

Moreover, as fan engagement and media coverage continue to grow around playoff seeding battles, the narrative surrounding the AFC number 1 seed will remain a central storyline each NFL season.

The history of the AFC number 1 seed is a nuanced chronicle of triumphs, challenges, and the relentless pursuit of postseason glory. Teams that achieve this status carry the weight of expectations but also the promise of a clearer path to football's ultimate prize.

## [Afc Number 1 Seed History](#)

**afc number 1 seed history:** *History of the NFL First 100 Year's You Sure Started Somethin'* R.D. Griffith, 2021-12-16 Are you searching for a book about American Football that has it all? R. D. Griffith will take you on a comprehensive drive through the history and highlights of American Football, its salient details, from its inception at the turn of the century to its centralized embodiment now in the modern era, the NFL. He will share with you the challenges the game faced through the Great Depression and two World Wars, including the spicy anecdotes of the people comprising the great game of American Football throughout the years.

**afc number 1 seed history:** *The 50 Greatest Players in Denver Broncos History* Mike Klis, 2017-11 The 50 Greatest Players in Denver Broncos History ranks the top 50 players in team history. Along the way, find quotes from the subjects themselves and former teammates as well as statistical summaries of each player's careers with the Broncos. From Hall of Fame players such as John Elway, Floyd Little, and Shannon Sharpe to forgotten greats such as Rulon Jones and Lionel Taylor, the Broncos' best are profiled here in what is bound to be a much-discussed book among the team's broad fan base.

**afc number 1 seed history:** *A Statistical History of Pro Football* Rupert Patrick, 2021-03-19



Drawing on the author's 30-year study of football statistics, this book presents new methods for analyzing the game in different ways. An examination of known distances for missed field goals offers an accurate method for evaluating placekickers. Reassessments of punters and running backs are included, along with an overhaul of the NFL's passer rating system. Topics previously unexplored through statistics are covered, such as momentum, defining What is a dynasty? and What is a Cinderella team?

**afc number 1 seed history:** History of Soybeans and Soyfoods in Manchuria (1833-2022) William Shurtleff; Akiko Aoyagi, 2022-01-16 The world's most comprehensive, well documented, and well illustrated book on this subject. With extensive subject and geographic index. 177 photographs and illustrations - mostly color. Free of charge in digital PDF format.

**afc number 1 seed history:** *Who's Better, Who's Best in Football?* Steve Silverman, 2009-09 Applying the analytical methods he developed as a senior editor at Pro Football Weekly, Silverman ranks the top 75 players in NFL history, from legendary old-timers like Sammy Baugh to present-day superstars like Peyton Manning.

**afc number 1 seed history:** *The New Annual Register, Or, General Repository of History, Politics, and Literature for the Year ...* , 1802

**afc number 1 seed history:** *100 Things Steelers Fans Should Know & Do Before They Die* Matt Loede, 2013-09-01 In this ultimate guide, true fans of Pittsburgh Steelers football will learn the origins of the team's iconic logo, the best place to tailgate before kickoff, and how the legendary Steel Curtain defense got its nickname. Whether a die-hard booster from the days of Jack Ham or a new supporter of head coach Mike Tomlin, fans need to know these 100 essential pieces of Steelers knowledge and trivia, as well as must-do activities. This updated edition includes the Steelers' 2010 AFC championship squad and key moments and personalities from the team's past three seasons. From games at Heinz Field to highlights of a young Terry Bradshaw, this is a must-have resource for a true fan of the franchise.

**afc number 1 seed history:** History of Soybeans and Soyfoods in Iowa (1854-2021) William Shurtleff; Akiko Aoyagi, 2021-08-10 The world's most comprehensive, well documented, and well illustrated book on this subject. With extensive subject and geographic index. 325 photographs and illustrations - many color. Free of charge in digital PDF format.

**afc number 1 seed history:** *Brady vs. Belichick* Gary Myers, 2025-09-16 A unique and unparalleled look into the nature and relationship of two of the pillars in the NFL's greatest dynasty. The greatest dynasty in NFL history stood on two pillars - Tom Brady and Bill Belichick. Together they forged a working relationship that provided thrilling results that would change the NFL forever. But what was the nature of that relationship? How did it function? How and when did it falter? How did these two figures come together on a national - and global - stage and create the most dominant team in NFL history? Was it driver and passenger? Mentor and mentee? Superstar and mad scientist? Phenom and tactician? Or were they equals? The Yin and Yang that made the New England Patriots championships possible? It is the greatest unanswered question in NFL history that sparks animated debate across the league, and the answer is more complex and more fraught than anyone really understands. Brady vs. Belichick: Who deserves the credit for nine Super Bowl appearances and six Super Bowl championships? Veteran NFL insider and New York Times bestselling author Gary Myers draws on his unique and unparalleled access to Belichick and Brady over the course of the two decades, but also to the myriad players, coaches, personnel and family, to get to the bottom of this argument and resolve it once and for all. He drills into the numbers, analyzes the psychology and sociology of this partnership, and use the powerful wand of perspective and context to illuminate the greatest duo that has ever graced the game.

**afc number 1 seed history:** *100 Things Colts Fans Should Know & Do Before They Die* Phillip B. Wilson, 2013-10-01 Revealing the most critical moments and important facts about Colts football, 100 Things Colts Fans Should Know & Do Before They Die discusses past and present players, coaches, and teams through the years. Throughout the pages, readers will find pep talks, records, and Indianapolis NFL lore to test their knowledge, including details on the team's 2012

season that encompassed a return to the playoffs, quarterback Andrew Luck's success, and head coach Chuck Pagano's battle with leukemia; highlights of Manning's record-setting career in Indianapolis; and profiles of unforgettable Colts personalities such as Ted Marchibroda, Bill Polian, and Bob Lamey. Die-hard fans from the early days of Eric Dickerson and Jim Harbaugh as well as new supporters will cherish this book of everything Colts fans should know, see, and do in their lifetime.

**afc number 1 seed history:** *History of Soybean Cultivation (270 BCE to 2020)* William Shurtleff; Akiko Aoyagi, 2020-07-10 The world's most comprehensive, well documented and well illustrated book on this subject. With extensive subject and geographical index. 318 photographs and illustrations - many in color. Free of charge in digital PDF format on Google Books.

**afc number 1 seed history:** *History of Soybeans and Soyfoods in China, in Chinese Cookbooks and Restaurants, and in Chinese Work with Soyfoods Outside China (Including Taiwan, Manchuria, Hong Kong & Tibet) (1949-2022)* William Shurtleff; Akiko Aoyagi, 2022-01-11 The world's most comprehensive, well documented, and well illustrated book on this subject. With extensive subject and geographic index. 231 photographs and illustrations - mostly color. Free of charge in digital PDF format.

**afc number 1 seed history: The Elway Years** Mike Klis, Mike Shanahan, 2024-10-08 A sharply written, action-packed chronicle of Denver Broncos championship history. For 16 seasons, John Elway was nothing less than the figurehead of a franchise and the heartbeat of a city. As a quarterback, he was a tenacious scrambler; given the choice of sliding safely a yard short of the first down marker or taking a hit if it meant moving the chains, he never failed to absorb the blow. As a leader he was the embodiment of quiet confidence, inspiring—rather than demanding—the best from his Denver Broncos teammates. *The Elway Years* is an essential portrait of this singular era for Denver sports, one which culminated in back-to-back championships but was built on years of failure and resilience. When Elway hung up his cleats after Super Bowl XXXIII, his status as one of football's all-time greats was assured. But for over a decade, despite the records, awards, and thrilling late-game comebacks, that legacy hung in the balance. Veteran reporter Mike Klis captures the essence of Elway's dogged pursuit of greatness, weaving together memory, research, and keen analysis. Through the words of teammates, executives, and Elway himself, readers are invited to delve into the captivating journey of this football icon, exploring the triumphs and trials that defined his remarkable career. From *The Drive* to the long-awaited hoisting of the Lombardi Trophy and the quieter moments in between, *The Elway Years* is a must-read for Broncos faithful and football fans everywhere.

**afc number 1 seed history: Sidelined** Chuck Pagano, 2014-06-24 Chuck Pagano, head coach of the Indianapolis Colts, has become one of the most inspiring, intriguing personalities in the game of football. Only three games into his rookie season in 2012, Pagano was diagnosed with leukemia, sidelined by the side effects chemotherapy and months of recovery. Undeterred, Pagano didn't let the confines of his hospital bed keep him from coaching: texts, calls, and emails kept him in constant contact with players, staff, and assistants. Motivated to be just as strong and determined as their ailing coach the team started winning game after game, compiling an impressive 11-5 record. The players weren't the only ones touched by Pagano's hope and strength of character. Inspired by the tenacity and toughness of their beloved coach, a newcomer to town, thousands of fans united to form Chuckstrong, a movement that soon raised millions to help beat cancer. Pagano, fueled by his faith, his family, and his love of football, returned to lead the Colts to another winning season and the divisional playoffs in 2013. With Pagano's practical lessons on living, loving, and leading, *Sidelined*, which includes an 8-page color photo section, inspires us all to stay in the game and never accept defeat.

**afc number 1 seed history: Tough as Steel** Pittsburgh Tribune-Review, 2006 Similar to other Sports Publishing instant books that celebrate the achievements and championship seasons of American sports teams, *Tough As Steel*, Pittsburgh Steelers: 2006 Super Bowl Champions is certain to be a cherished keepsake for fans of the National Football League's best team. Follows in the

tradition of recent titles like Chicago White Sox: 2005 World Series Champions with the Chicago Sun-Times. The book is packed with color photos of the team and its many Pro Bowl players and fan favorites in action, along with columns, stories, stats, and profiles first found in the pages of the Pittsburgh Tribune-Review. Tough As Steel, Pittsburgh Steelers: 2006 Super Bowl Champions is certain to help fans remember a truly unbelievable season for years to come.

**afc number 1 seed history:** Everything NFL Rachel A. Koestler-Grack, 2025 Engaging images accompany information on NFL. The text level and subject matter are intended for students in grades 5 through 9-- Provided by publisher.

**afc number 1 seed history:** History of International Trade in Soybeans, Soy Oil and Soybean Meal, Plus Trade Policy (1859-2021) William Shurtleff; Akiko Aoyagi, 2021-09-07 The world's most comprehensive, well documented, and well illustrated book on this subject. With extensive subject and geographic index. 107 photographs and illustrations - mostly color. Free of charge in digital PDF format.

**afc number 1 seed history: Kingdom Quarterback** Mark Dent, Rustin Dodd, 2023-08-22 Fresh off of a gutsy, thrilling 2023 Super Bowl win for the Kansas City Chiefs, two inspiring stories that fit perfectly together—a biography of superstar quarterback, Patrick Mahomes, who brought the Chiefs to their first Super Bowl win in fifty years in 2020 as well as a second in 2023, along with the historical struggles and recent resurgence of the former “Paris of the Plains,” Kansas City. There is nobody like Patrick Mahomes. In three seasons, he has won a Super Bowl and competed in another, earned the titles of First Team All-Pro, NFL Offensive Player of the Year, and league MVP, and turned the Kansas City Chiefs from famed playoff failures into the most successful team in the NFL. With his unique and groundbreaking playing style, and winning personality both on and off the field, Mahomes has become a truly transcendent quarterback in a journey that mirrors and accentuates the rebirth of the once swingin’ cow town of Kansas City, Missouri. Once an adventure-filled jazz epicenter and nightlife hub to rival New Orleans, Kansas City’s wild edges and captivating neighborhoods were snuffed out in pursuit of a suburbanized dream that largely left out people of color. It’s been a long road attempting to move past the scars of segregation and overcome the city’s flyover reputation, but Kansas City is now poised to make a comeback, and no other person or team embodies that hope like Patrick Mahomes and the Kansas City Chiefs. Kansas City and Mahomes represent the story of the midwestern American city—how they grew, how they shaped the country, how the sport of football came to mean so much to them, how they failed, and how they are changing. Kansas City-area natives Mark Dent and Rustin Dodd have written for outlets such as The New York Times, The Kansas City Star, and Texas Monthly, bringing their deep connection to the city, football expertise, and polished writing skills to create a serious book about a very entertaining subject—the rebirth of a city, a team’s triumph, and how Patrick Mahomes, and the team he led, were exactly what was needed to bring Kansas City back together again.

**afc number 1 seed history: Steel City Gridirons** David Finoli, Christopher E. Fletcher, 2006 A veritable smorgasbord of pigskin pleasures. Stories from the high schools, the colleges, the pros, and the earliest days of the game as it has been played in Western Pennsylvania. Covers 1890-2004 season. Includes photos, charts, interviews, analysis and opinion.

**afc number 1 seed history: Roger That!** The Boston Globe, 2017-02-08 Take that, Roger Goodell. In a season that began with a controversial four-game suspension for their acknowledged leader, Tom Brady, the New England Patriots tuned out the distractions and the enmity to once again do their job better than anyone else. They went 14-2 for the league's best record, then produced a dramatic playoff run that culminated in their fifth world title and a Lombardi Trophy photo op with their archenemy. The Patriots found new heroes - like Chris Hogan and Martellus Bennett - and leaned on old reliables to overcome a controversy that created headlines around the world. Love them or hate them, future Hall of Fame coach Bill Belichick's Patriots - led by future Hall of Fame quarterback Brady - truly rank among the greatest franchises ever. In The Boston Globe's Roger That!: With Fifth Super Bowl Win, Brady and Belichick's Patriots Show Who's Boss, Pats fans can revel in their team's latest historic achievement, as well as relive every moment of the

2016 season and playoffs, from opening kickoff to the hoisting of the Vince Lombardi Trophy. With its vibrant color photographs, essential statistics, memorable quotes, and acclaimed commentary by some of the nation's best sportswriters, this is the ultimate New England Patriots keepsake. Roger That! takes you inside the legacy and behind the scenes on an all-access pass, providing commentary and insights on Belichick, Brady, mastermind assistant coaches Josh McDaniels and Matt Patricia, as well as other key contributors on and off the field. And it fully commemorates what Patriots Nation has known for most of the 21st century: This is a team of champions, and these champions are a team for the ages.

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