



NFL REPORT

REVIEW

SUNDAY'S LONGEST TD RUNS

84 yds: Herschel Walker, Cowboys, vs. Eagles
10 yds: Joe Cribbs, 49ers, vs. Patriots

Morris, Giants grind out 27-7 win against Cards

By Steve Hershey
USA TODAY

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. — There wasn't much celebrating of the New York Giants' NFC Eastern Division championship. In fact, it was "back time" as the Giants beat St. Louis 27-7 Sunday.

Methodically going about their business, the Giants sacked Cardinals quarterback Neil Lomax a club-record nine times en route to winning their eighth consecutive game.

"This is not like baseball where you celebrate winning the pennant," veteran line-backer Harry Carson said. "There's a lot more games ahead. But if we play the way we're capable of, I don't think we can be beat."

After stressing the passing game the last two weeks, the Giants (13-2), who clinched the division title when Washington lost Saturday, returned to their ball-control mode and put Joe Morris in charge.

Morris gained 179 yards on 28 carries, scored all three Giants touchdowns and said afterward he wasn't happy with his performance.

"This wasn't one of my better games because I fumbled three times," Morris said. "Those things don't normally happen to me."

GAME STAR: Giants RB Joe Morris gained 179 yards and scored the team's 3 TDs.

Morris broke runs of 54 and 49 yards, but his scores came on plunges from the three, two and one.

"I wanted to get the running game going," coach Bill Parcells said. "If you keep pounding it, you're going to get some bad plays, but every once in a while you're going to crease one."

Morris' running overshadowed a poor passing performance by Phil Simms, who completed five of 21 for 82 yards and often seemed out of synch with his receivers.

Showing no sign of a let-down, the Giants' defense came out charging, sacking Lomax once in each of the Cardinals' first four possessions.

The Cardinals (3-11-1) were plagued by poor field position, starting their first four possessions at their 17-, 14-, 25- and 19-yard lines. They crossed the 50 only once in the first half.

"We couldn't protect our quarterback," Cardinals coach Gene Stallings said. "One of the Giants' best strengths is their team defense. It's going to take

a good team to beat them. They're a Super Bowl team."

Surprisingly, Lawrence Taylor, the NFL sack leader with 20½, had only one.

"I felt like a decoy today," said Taylor, who needs two more to break the NFL record. "There's still Green Bay, but if we can make it to the Super Bowl, that's all that counts."

NOTES: Morris ran his season's rushing total to 1,401 yards, setting a Giants club record. . . . Giants' Mark Bavaro set a club record for catches by a tight end, with 61 on the season. . . . The Cardinals' 3-11-1 record is their worst in 27 years in St. Louis.

St. Louis	0	0	0	7	—	7
N.Y. Giants	7	10	3	7	—	27

FIRST QUARTER

N.Y. Giants — Morris 3 run (Allege kick, 10:21). Drive: 28 yards, 7 plays. Key plays: McCortney 11 punt return to Cardinals' 25, E.J. Junior holding penalty for drive first down, Glenn 7, St. Louis 6.

SECOND QUARTER

N.Y. Giants — Morris 3 run (Allege kick, 11:27). Drive: 60 yards, 8 plays. Key plays: Morris 54 run, Glenn 14, St. Louis 6.

THIRD QUARTER

N.Y. Giants — FG Allege, 23, 11:30. Drive: 37 yards, 14 plays. Key plays: Bergers roughing coach penalty, Simms 14 run, Glenn 26, St. Louis 6.

FOURTH QUARTER

St. Louis — Owen 15 pass from Michael (Schubert kick, 8:23). Drive: 28 yards, 3 plays.



BUCKLING UNDER the nine sacks

Key plays: Hunt punt 26, Lomax 11 pass to Lewis 7.

N.Y. Giants — Air 13:03. Drive: 52 yards, 4 plays. Key recovery on 16 Morris 48 run, Glenn 1

TEAM STATS

FIRST DOWNS

Running

Passing

Penalty

3RD-DOWN EFFICIENCY

4TH-DOWN EFFICIENCY

TOTAL NET YARDS

Total Plays

Average Gain

NET YARDS RUSHING

Rushing

Average per run

NET YARDS PASSING

Compressed-airport

Yards per pass

Sacks-yards lost

Had interceptions

PLAYS-AVERAGE

RETURN YARDAGE

Punt-yards

Interceptions

REPLAYS-THROW

FUMBLES-LOST

TIME OF POSSESSION

PLAYER STAT

Colts

By Jeff Westbu

USA TODAY

INDIANAPOLIS

SATURDAY'S NFL GAMES

Pittsburgh	0	17	0	28	—	45
N.Y. Jets	0	14	3	7	—	24

SECOND QUARTER

Pittsburgh — Alatorre 1 run (Anderson kick, 2:50). Drive: 52 yards, 7 plays. Key plays: Woods interception and 23 return to Pittsburgh 28, Malone 21 and 8 passes to Lips, Pittsburgh 7, N.Y. Jets 6.

N.Y. Jets — Townsend 83 kickoff return (Laury kick, 3:08). N.Y. Jets 7, Pittsburgh 7.

Pittsburgh — FG Anderson 36, 5:53. Drive: 54 yards, 7 plays. Key plays: Carter 14 pass interference, Jackson 16 run, Carter 18 pass interference penalty, Pittsburgh 16, N.Y. Jets 7.

Pittsburgh — Alatorre 17 pass from Malone (Anderson kick, 13:08). Drive: 46 yards, 8 plays. Key plays: Malone 53 pass to Jackson, Malone 17 pass to Stalworth, Jackson 13 run, Pittsburgh 17, N.Y. Jets 7.

PLAYER STATISTICS

Blount field goals: 2/28

Pittsburgh rushing: Jackson 23-101, Alatorre 28, 17-85, Malone 4-14

N.Y. Jets rushing: Mohr 23-137, Barber 1-4, Page 1-1

Pittsburgh passing: Malone 16-27-1 (PK) for 159 yards, 8/22, 2 DPs

N.Y. Jets passing: O'Brien 20-20-3 (PK) for 187 yards and 1 TD, Ryan 7-10-0 (PK) for 65 yards, 8/11, 17

Pittsburgh receiving: Stalworth 5-64, Alatorre 8-43, Lips 3-28, Jackson 3-11, O'Brien 1-14, Schwaner 1-9

N.Y. Jets receiving: Plaster 8-68, Mohr 3-21, Toan 4-42, Barber 3-18, Sore 2-41, Miller 2-21, Page 2-17

Jackson Denver 38, Washington 16

Washington — Moore 58 pass from Schroeder (Cantone kick, 7:27). Drive: 77 yards, 7 plays. Key plays: Schroeder 22 pass to Oiler, Denver 38, Washington 21

Denver — FG Korte 32, 11:30. Drive: return 1 yard, 4 plays. Key plays: Harden 31 interception return to Washington 14, Denver 31, Washington 21

Washington — Rogers 1 run (Cantone kick, 13:30). Drive: 78 yards, 17 plays. Key plays: Schroeder 38 pass to Oiler, Schroeder 28 pass to Moore, Oiler 21, Washington 26

TEAM STATISTICS

FIRST DOWNS

Running

Passing

Penalty

NET YARDS

NET YARDS PASSING

Compressed-airport

Yards per pass

Sacks-yards lost

Had interceptions

PLAYS-AVERAGE

RETURN YARDAGE

Punt-yards

Interceptions

REPLAYS-THROW

FUMBLES-LOST

TIME OF POSSESSION