

BIRDS EYE VIEW



PHILADELPHIA EAGLES vs. PITTSBURGH STEELERS • GAME PREVIEW • SEPTEMBER 25, 2016

Brandon Graham 55

[EAGLE IN FOCUS]



TOP-GRADED PLAYERS NFL 4-3 DEFENSIVE ENDS

Pro Football Focus has graded Graham as the NFL's top 4-3 defensive end so far in 2016.

FORCED FUMBLES NFL LEADERS SINCE 2014

Since 2014, Graham has totaled 8 forced fumbles, tied for 3rd-most in the NFL in that span.

1. Jamie Collins (NE) 9
- Robert Quinn (LA) 9
- 3t. Brandon Graham (Phi.) 8**
- Ryan Kerrigan (Was.) 8

DEFENSIVE LEADERS EAGLES PLAYERS IN 2016

In 2016, Graham ranks 1st among Eagles players in sacks (2.0) and tackles for loss (3.0), while tying for the team lead in QB hurries (3) and forced fumbles (1).

“He’s always been a good rusher. He’s compact; he’s strong; he plays with great effort. He’s a tough guy and he’s one of our tempo setters up front and for our whole team.”

- Eagles defensive coordinator Jim Schwartz (9.22.16)

NOTES TO KNOW

- According to *ESPN Stats & Info*, **Carson Wentz** leads the NFL with an **80.0% (12-of-15)** completion percentage against the blitz this season.
- Over his last five games since **Week 15** in 2015, **Jordan Matthews** is tied with PIT's **Antonio Brown** and ARI's **Larry Fitzgerald** for the **most receiving TDs** (5) in the NFL, while also ranking **4th** in receiving yards (502) and **6th** in receptions (34).
- **Ryan Mathews** is tied with NYJ's **Matt Forte** and SD's **Melvin Gordon** for the NFL's **2nd-most rushing TDs** (3) in 2016, trailing only NE's **LeGarrette Blount** (4). Mathews has totaled **4 rushing TDs** over his last four games.

WHAT TO WATCH FOR

- **Doug Pederson** can become the **first head coach** in Eagles history to win his first three games with the team.
- **Carson Wentz** is aiming to join **Mark Sanchez** (2009 with NYJ) as the **only rookie QBs to start and win each of their team's first three games** of the season since 1970.
- **Brent Celek's** 4,724 **career receiving yards** rank **10th** in franchise history. Celek is 40 yards shy of **Ben Hawkins** (4,764, 1966-73) for **9th place** and 47 yards shy of **Jeremy Maclin** (4,771, 2009-14) for **8th place** on the all-time list.
- Celek needs **1 reception** to tie **Pete Pihos** (373, 1947-55) for the **4th-most** catches in franchise history.
- **Connor Barwin** will be playing in his **100th career game**.
- **Darren Sproles** is **1 punt return TD** away from claiming sole possession of 1st place on the Eagles' all-time list (4, currently tied with **DeSean Jackson**).
- With a sack on Sunday, **Brandon Graham** will become the first Eagles player to **record a sack in each of the first three games** of the season since **Jason Babin, Trent Cole** and **Cullen Jenkins** each accomplished the feat in 2011.

BY THE NUMBERS

.654

The Eagles own the NFL's **best winning percentage vs. the Steelers** since 1960, going 17-9-2 (.654) in that span (min. 20 games).

42

Philadelphia has totaled 42 forced fumbles since 2014, **tied with Carolina for the most in the NFL** in that span.

37:43

The Eagles rank **1st in the NFL in average time of possession** (37:43), after dominating the clock in Week 1 (39:20) & Week 2 (36:05).

15+

Since 1970, **only two rookie head coaches** have won their first two games of the season by **15+ points** each: **Doug Pederson & Mike Tomlin**.

12.0

The Eagles rank **2nd in the NFL in average points allowed per game** (12.0), trailing only the Seahawks (9.5) in that category.

8-1

Since 2014, the Eagles have posted an **8-1 (.889)** record vs. the AFC, the **most interconference wins by any NFL team** in that span.

+4

Philadelphia is tied for the **NFL's 3rd-best turnover differential** in 2016 (+4), behind only the Cardinals (+7) and Vikings (+5).

