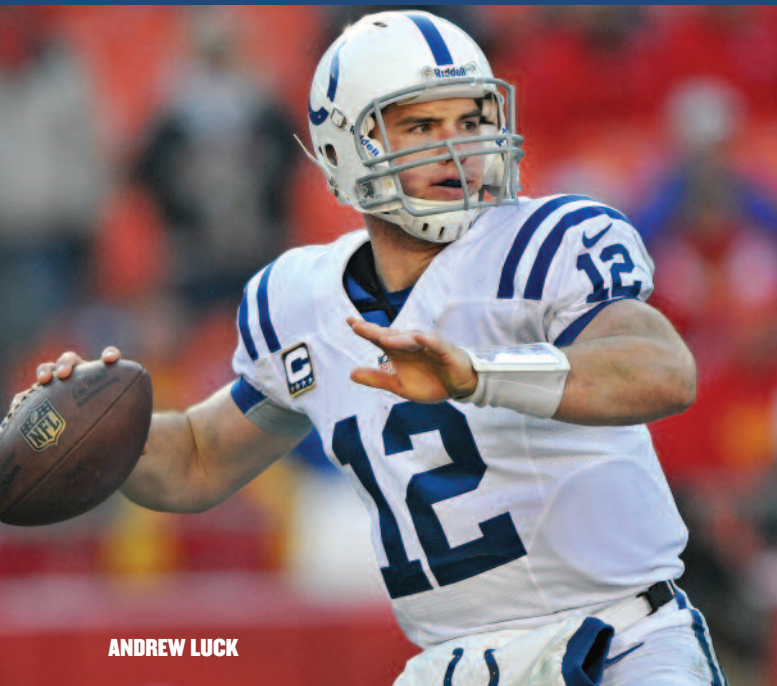


Indianapolis Colts



ANDREW LUCK

By Matt Beardmore, *STATS* Writer

What's New?

Playoff expectations. That's what happens when your No. 1 overall draft pick has one of the best rookie quarterback seasons in NFL history. Andrew Luck helped the Colts improve by nine wins and reach the postseason – and just like that, the decision to let Peyton Manning walk became a little more digestible. Bruce Arians is now the head coach in Arizona after stepping in last season when Chuck Pagano was diagnosed with leukemia, so Luck's former coordinator at Stanford, Pep Hamilton, is running the offense. Veteran Matt Hasselbeck will back up Luck, who can now throw to Darrius Heyward-Bey and hand off to Ahmad Bradshaw. The offensive line, which allowed Luck to be sacked 41 times, got a facelift with Gosder Cherilus and Donald Thomas added via free agency, and Hugh Thornton and Khaled Holmes in the draft. Pro Bowl safety LaRon Landry and cornerback Greg Toler should boost the secondary, while tackle Ricky Jean Francois and line-backers Erik Walden and Bjoern Werner – the latter the Colts' first-round pick – should beef up a pass rush that has the NFL's third-fewest sacks since 2010.

Valuemeter

Luck completed just 54.1 percent of his passes in 2012 – 31st in the league – and tied for the third-most interceptions (18), but he could be far more efficient and sacked far less often this season given Hamilton's

Depth Chart

- QB** 1. Andrew Luck
2. Matt Hasselbeck
3. Chandler Harnish
- RB** 1. Ahmad Bradshaw
2. Vick Ballard
3. Donald Brown
4. Delone Carter
- WR1** 1. Reggie Wayne
2. Nathan Palmer
3. Griff Whalen
4. Jeremy Kelley
- WR2** 1. Darrius Heyward-Bey
2. T.Y. Hilton
3. LaVon Brazill
4. Jabin Sambrano
- TE** 1. Coby Fleener
2. Dwayne Allen
3. Weslye Saunders
4. Dominique Jones
- FB** 1. Stanley Havili
2. Dan Moore

pendant for short passes. Luck's completion percentage could also rise if the Colts can simply hang on to the ball. They dropped 36 passes last year, tied for seventh-most in the NFL. Luck's running ability is another reason he'll be scooped up early in fantasy drafts, as his five rushing TDs tied Colin Kaepernick for third-most among signal-callers.

Big Number: 9

Colts wins last season in games decided by seven points or fewer. Indianapolis lost just once (22-17 to Jacksonville) in such contests.

Team Philosophy

Hamilton's arrival brings a shift in offensive philosophy that could make Luck even more effective. The Colts' switch to a 3-4 defense last season didn't go as planned – their 32 sacks ranked tied for 23rd in the league and their run defense was 29th with 137.5 yards allowed per game – but significant personnel changes through free agency and the draft could help produce better results this time around.

Preseason Watch

Luck was as good as advertised last season, but how will the former No. 1 overall pick respond under Hamilton's tutelage? Indy obviously needs him to be on his game if it's going to end Houston's two-year reign

2012 Record	Division	Bye Week
11-5	AFC South	8

Head Coach: Chuck Pagano
Offensive Coordinator: Pep Hamilton
Defensive Coordinator: Greg Manusky

2013 Draft Picks

Round	Pick	Player	Position	School
1	24	Werner, B.	LB	Florida State
3	86	Thornton, H.	G	Illinois
4	121	Holmes, K.	C	USC
5	139	Hughes, M.	DT	Tennessee-Martin
6	192	Boyett, J.	S	Oregon
7	230	Williams, K.	RB	Utah State
7	254	Cunningham, J.	TE	South Carolina

2013 Schedule

WK	Date	Opponent	Time
1	Sep 8	Oakland	1:00pm
2	Sep 15	Miami	1:00pm
3	Sep 22	@San Francisco	4:25pm
4	Sep 29	@Jacksonville	1:00pm
5	Oct 6	Seattle	1:00pm
6	Oct 14	@San Diego	8:40pm
7	Oct 20	Denver	8:30pm
8	Bye		
9	Nov 3	@Houston	8:30pm
10	Nov 10	St. Louis	1:00pm
11	Nov 14	@Tennessee	8:25pm
12	Nov 24	@Arizona	4:05pm
13	Dec 1	Tennessee	1:00pm
14	Dec 8	@Cincinnati	1:00pm
15	Dec 15	Houston	1:00pm
16	Dec 22	@Kansas City	1:00pm
17	Dec 29	Jacksonville	1:00pm

Player Moves

Arrivals	Departures
Matt Hasselbeck QB (Ten)	Dwight Freeney LB (SD)
Aubrayo Franklin NT (SD)	Winston Justice T
Gosder Cherilus T (Det)	Tony Hills T
LaRon Landry S (NYJ)	Drew Stanton QB (Ari)
Erik Walden LB (GB)	Donnie Avery WR (KC)
Lawrence Sidbury LB (Att)	Tom Zbikowski S (Chi)
Ahmad Bradshaw RB (NYG)	Mewelde Moore RB
Darrius Heyward-Bey WR (Oak)	Jamaal Westerman LB
Donald Thomas G (NE)	Seth Olsen G (Min)
Ricky Jean Francois DT (SF)	Austin Collie WR
Stanley Havili RB (Phi)	A.Q. Shipley C (Bal)
Kelvin Sheppard LB (Buf)	Antonio Johnson DT (Ten)
Greg Toler CB (Ari)	Jerraud Powers CB (Ari)
Larry Asante S (TB)	Jerry Hughes LB (Buf)
Quinton Spears LB (Cle)	Moise Fokou LB (Ten)
Jabin Sambrano WR (TB)	Kris Adams WR (NYG)
	Deji Karim RB (Hou)
	Clifton Geathers DE (Phi)
	Robert Hughes RB

atop the AFC South, but it's the 'D' that really needs to start pulling its weight after ranking 26th in 2012. Having a healthy Pagano back could solve that. **FF**

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