

# ***Teams advance to title games***

**Atlanta at Dallas** The surprising Atlanta Falcons romped to a 20 to 13 halftime lead over the defending Super Bowl Champion Dallas Cowboys only to watch the lead disappear in the second half. The upset minded Falcons had visions of the Super Bowl as they clearly outplayed the Cowboys in the first half but were unable to move effectively in the second half as the Cowboys rallied behind reserve quarterback Danny White.

White who replaced starting QB Roger Staubach when Staubach received a slight concussion in the first half led Dallas to two second half touchdowns to provide the final score of 27 to 20.

Staubach has been reported able to play as the Cowboys test to the LA Rams this Sunday in LA.

**Denver at Pittsburgh** — Steel-

er QB Terry Bradshaw passed for 272 yards and 2 touchdowns and Franco Harris rushed for 105 yards and another 2 touchdowns as the Pittsburgh Steelers advanced to the AFC championship game by routing the Denver Broncos 33-10.

The defending AFC champion Broncos jumped to an early 3-0 lead and then were helpless as the Steelers reeled off 16 unanswered points enroute to a 19-10 halftime lead. The "Steel Curtain" defense shut out the Denver offense in the second half as Bradshaw added 2 touchdown passes for the final tally. Pittsburgh will host the Houston Oilers in the AFC title game next Sunday.

**Houston at New England**  
The Houston Oilers powered to a 21-0 halftime lead and easily disposed of a second half Patriot threat, as Houston clinched a berth in the AFC title game 31-14.

Oiler QB Dan Pastorini passed

for 200 yards and three touchdowns all in the first half as the underdog Oilers buried the beleaguered Patriots. New England which has been torn with controversy over coach Chuck Fairbanks' apparent decision to quit the NFL team in favor of coaching at the University of Colorado was also added another severe blow in the second quarter when Quarterback Steve Grogan was knocked out of the contest with a knee injury.

**Minnesota at Los Angeles**  
The LA Rams snapped a four game playoff losing streak to the Minnesota Vikings by routing the Vikings 34-10. The losing streak which included a 14-7 upset loss to the Vikings during last years playoffs was threatening to continue as Viking Quarterback completed a 1 yard touchdown pass to Ahmad Rashad in the closing seconds of the first half enabling Minnesota to  
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tie the Rams 10-10 at halftime. The Rams however dominated play in the second half romping to an easy victory.

The Rams were led by 235 pound running back Cullen Bryant who rushed for 100 yards and a touchdown and Rhodes Scholar quarterback Pat Haden who completed 15 of 29 passes for 209 yards with 2 touchdown passes.

The Rams will host the Dallas Cowboys on January 6 for in the NFC title game.