



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
NFL-157 12/20/05

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**BROWNS QB CHARLIE FRYE, 49ERS RB FRANK GORE,
CHARGERS LB SHAWNE MERRIMAN, EAGLES RB RYAN MOATS
& FALCONS P MICHAEL KOENEN**
CANDIDATES FOR DIET PEPSI NFL ROOKIE OF THE WEEK HONORS

Fans To Vote For Winner On NFL.com

Quarterback **CHARLIE FRYE** of the Cleveland Browns, running back **FRANK GORE** of the San Francisco 49ers, linebacker **SHAWNE MERRIMAN** of the San Diego Chargers, running back **RYAN MOATS** of the Philadelphia Eagles and punter **MICHAEL KOENEN** of the Atlanta Falcons, are the finalists for **DIET PEPSI NFL ROOKIE OF THE WEEK** honors for games played on December 18-19, the NFL announced today.

Fans can vote for one of these five players on NFL.com beginning Tuesday morning and ending on Thursday to determine the **DIET PEPSI NFL ROOKIE OF THE WEEK**. The **DIET PEPSI NFL ROOKIE OF THE WEEK** will be announced Thursday afternoon on NFL.com.

After the regular season, five players will be nominated for Diet Pepsi NFL Rookie of the Year honors. Fans can vote for the winner on NFL.com throughout the month of January. The winner will be announced at a press conference at Super Bowl XL in Detroit.

A closer look at the finalists:

- **Cleveland's Charlie Frye** completed 21 of 32 passes for 198 yards in the Browns' 9-7 victory over the Oakland Raiders. In his third career start, Frye led the Browns on a 12-play, 43-yard drive in the final 3:15 of the game, culminating in a 37-yard, game-winning field goal as time expired. Frye was four of five for 32 yards on the drive.
- **San Francisco's Frank Gore** carried 19 times for 79 yards and caught three passes for 57 yards in the 49ers' 10-9 loss to the Jacksonville Jaguars. In his first NFL start, Gore led the 49ers in both rushing and receiving, totaling 132 yards against a stiff Jaguars defense.
- **San Diego's Shawne Merriman** recorded seven tackles and two sacks in the Chargers' 26-17 victory over the previously-undefeated Indianapolis Colts. Merriman was a disruptive force in the Colts' backfield all game, recording two half-sacks and one full sack to give him nine this season.
- **Philadelphia's Ryan Moats** carried 12 times for 78 yards and one touchdown in the Eagles' 17-16 victory over the St. Louis Rams. Moats scored on a 59-yard run in the first quarter. The run marked the longest of his NFL career and gave him three career NFL touchdowns.
- **Atlanta's Michael Koenen** punted six times for an average of 39.0 yards on a frigid night at Chicago's Soldier Field in the Falcons' 16-3 loss to the Bears. Koenen placed four of his punts inside the Bears' 10-yard-line and had a long punt of 50 yards.

This is Pepsi's fourth year as the official soft drink sponsor of the NFL and the first year that Diet Pepsi will present the NFL Rookie of the Week and NFL Rookie of the Year awards.