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SAINTS DB JOSH BULLOCKS, BRONCOS CB DOMONIQUE FOXWORTH BEARS QB KYLE ORTON, BENGALS LB ODELL THURMAN & COWBOYS LB DE MARCUS WARE CANDIDATES FOR DIET PEPSI NFL ROOKIE OF WEEK HONORS

Fans To Vote For Winner On NFL.com

Defensive back **JOSH BULLOCKS** of the New Orleans Saints, cornerback **DOMONIQUE FOXWORTH** of the Denver Broncos, quarterback **KYLE ORTON** of the Chicago Bears, linebacker **ODELL THURMAN** of the Cincinnati Bengals and linebacker **DE MARCUS WARE** of the Dallas Cowboys are the finalists for **DIET PEPSI NFL ROOKIE OF THE WEEK** honors for games played on October 16-17, 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 <u>DIET PEPSI NFL ROOKIE OF THE WEEK</u>. The <u>DIET PEPSI NFL ROOKIE OF THE WEEK</u> 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:

- **New Orleans' Josh Bullocks** recorded three tackles and one interception in the Saints' 34-31 loss to the NFC South-rival Atlanta Falcons. Bullocks' interception, the first of his NFL career, came in the second quarter as the Falcons were driving deep in New Orleans territory. His 51-yard return helped set up a Saints field goal.
- **Denver's Domonique Foxworth** recorded a team-high 10 tackles, defended two passes and forced a fumble in the Broncos' 28-20 victory over the New England Patriots. Foxworth ranks fifth on the team with 25 tackles through six games.
- Chicago's Kyle Orton completed 16 of 25 passes for 117 yards and two touchdowns in the Bears' 28-3 victory over the NFC North-rival Minnesota Vikings. Orton recorded his second NFL victory, throwing touchdown passes of two yards and three yards to tight end Desmond Clark.
- **Cincinnati's Odell Thurman** recorded four tackles and one interception, which he returned 30 yards for a touchdown in the Bengals' 31-23 victory over the Tennessee Titans. Thurman's touchdown, the first of his NFL career, tied the game at 17 late in the third guarter.
- **Dallas' DeMarcus Ware** recorded three tackles and a sack in the Cowboys' 16-13 overtime victory over the NFC East-rival New York Giants. Ware, who has registered a sack in each of his past four games, tackled Giants quarterback Eli Manning for a loss of 10 yards in the fourth quarter to help prevent a New York score.

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.