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**BEARS RB CEDRIC BENSON, EAGLES WR REGGIE BROWN,  
SEAHAWKS LB LEROY HILL, GIANTS RB BRANDON JACOBS  
& CHARGERS LB SHAWNE MERRIMAN**  
**CANDIDATES FOR DIET PEPSI NFL ROOKIE OF WEEK HONORS**

***Fans To Vote For Winner On NFL.com***

Running back **CEDRIC BENSON** of the Chicago Bears, wide receiver **REGGIE BROWN** of the Philadelphia Eagles, linebacker **LEROY HILL** of the Seattle Seahawks, running back **BRANDON JACOBS** of the New York Giants and linebacker **SHAWNE MERRIMAN** of the San Diego Chargers, are the finalists for **DIET PEPSI NFL ROOKIE OF THE WEEK** honors for games played on November 6-7, 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:**

- **Chicago's Cedric Benson** carried 14 times for a career-high 79 yards in the Bears' 20-17 victory over the New Orleans' Saints. Benson, who has now run for 187 yards on 46 carries this season, had a career-long run of 36 yards in the third quarter.
- **Philadelphia's Reggie Brown** caught five passes for 94 yards and one touchdown in the Eagles' 17-10 loss to the NFC East-rival Washington Redskins. Brown, who set career-highs in catches and receiving yards, caught his first NFL touchdown on a 56-yard reception from quarterback Donovan McNabb in the first quarter.
- **Seattle's Leroy Hill** recorded five tackles and one sack in the Seahawks' 33-19 victory over the NFC West-rival Arizona Cardinals. Hill sacked Arizona's Kurt Warner for a loss of five yards in the second quarter, leading to a Cardinals punt. He ranks third on the team with three sacks this season.
- The **New York Giants' Brandon Jacobs** scored on two one-yard touchdown runs in the Giants' 24-6 victory over the San Francisco 49ers. With the Giants leading 10-6 early in the fourth quarter, Jacobs rumbled into the endzone from one yard out. He followed up with another touchdown seven minutes later from the same distance.
- **San Diego's Shawne Merriman** recorded a team-leading seven tackles and one sack in the Chargers' 31-26 victory over the New York Jets. Merriman sacked Jets quarterback Brooks Bollinger for an eight-yard loss midway through the fourth quarter with the Jets driving. He has five sacks this season.

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.