

NFL GAMEDAY 2010

WEEK 1

OAKLAND RAIDERS @ TENNESSEE TITANS

EARLY ON IT DIDN'T LOOK LIKE IT WAS CHRIS JOHNSON'S DAY.

WHEN JOHNSON WAS OUT, HE WAS REPLACED BY A DEAD RINGER.

LAST YEAR THE TITANS DIDN'T WIN A GAME UNTIL NOVEMBER.
JOHNSON ENSURED OAKLAND HEADED FOR AN EARLY FALL.

JOHNSON SHOWED HE CAN ALSO GRIND IT OUT AS HE EXTENDED HIS
STREAK OF 100 YARD GAMES TO 12.

GREEN BAY PACKERS @ PHILADELPHIA EAGLES

LAST SUNDAY, THE EAGLES CELEBRATED THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF
THEIR LAST WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP. THROWBACK UNIFORMS WERE
UNVEILED AND HEROES LIKE CHUCK BEDNARIK WERE HONORED. THE
PACKERS WERE THE VICTIMS IN THAT 1960 GAME BUT WERE DETERMINED
NOT TO BE THIS TIME.

OPENING DAY ALSO MARKED THE BEGINNING OF THE "KEVIN KOLB
ERA". IT WAS AN INAUSPICIOUS START FOR DONOVAN MCNABB'S SUCCESOR,
WHO WAS KNOCKED OUT OF THE GAME IN THE SECOND QUARTER.

THE PACKERS HAD THEIR OWN STRUGGLES BUT THEY ALSO HAD
ENOUGH POWER AND GRACE TO BUILD A 17 POINT THIRD QUARTER LEAD.

THE EAGLES NEEDED A KICK START. THEY GOT IT FROM MIKE VICK. VICK JOINED STEVE YOUNG AND RANDALL CUNNINGHAM AS THE ONLY QUARTERBACKS IN HISTORY TO RUSH FOR 4000 YARDS. MORE IMPORTANT FOR THE EAGLES, HE HELPED GET THEM BACK IN THE GAME.

VICK ACCOUNTED FOR 278 OF THE EAGLES 321 YARDS. LATE IN THE GAME, THE EAGLES TRAILED BY 7 AND NEEDED TO CONVERT A CRITICAL FOURTH AND ONE.

MINNESOTA VIKINGS @ NEW ORLEANS SAINTS

NEW ORLEANS SCORED ON THE GAME'S VERY FIRST DRIVE WHEN DREW BREES HIT DEVERY HENDERSON FOR A 29 YARD TOUCHDOWN.

BRETT FAVRE'S 20TH NFL SEASON GOT OFF TO A BUMPY START. THE CRAFTY OLD PRO OFTEN LOOKED LIKE A **CREAKY** OLD PRO.

RIGHT BEFORE HALFTIME, FAVRE THREW A SCORING PASS THAT GAVE THE VIKINGS A 9-7 LEAD.

IN THE 3RD QUARTER, THE PASS-HAPPY SAINTS CHANGED TACTICS AND PLAYED BALL CONTROL. #23 PIERRE THOMAS, WHO RAN FOR ONE YARD IN THE FIRST HALF, RUSHED FOR 70 YARDS IN THE SECOND.

THOMAS SCORED A TOUCHDOWN THAT CLINCHED THE SAINTS' LOWEST-SCORING VICTORY OF THE SEAN PAYTON ERA.

INDIANAPOLIS COLTS @ HOUSTON TEXANS

BEFORE SUNDAY, THE TEXANS HAD PLAYED 16 GAMES ALL-TIME AGAINST THE COLTS AND LOST 15 OF THEM. // IN THE FIRST HALF, THE TEXANS TURNED THAT MOTIVATION INTO RESULTS.

THE DEFENDING AFC CHAMPIONS SCORED THEIR FIRST POINTS OF THE SEASON LATE IN THE SECOND QUARTER AND TRAILED BY JUST THREE AT HALFTIME.

ARIAN FOSTER SPENT MOST OF 2009 ON THE TEXANS' PRACTICE SQUAD... HE SPENT SUNDAY TRAMPLING THE COLTS. ON HOUSTON'S FIRST DRIVE IN THE SECOND HALF, FOSTER HAD 10 CARRIES – OR AS MANY AS THE COLTS HAD THE ENTIRE GAME.

PEYTON MANNING COMPLETED 40 OF HIS 57-PASS ATTEMPTS FOR 433-YARDS AND 3-TOUCHDOWNS. // BUT LIKE THE REST OF THE COLTS, HE COULD DO NOTHING TO STOP ARIAN FOSTER.

FOSTER SCORED 3-TOUCHDOWNS AND RUSHED FOR 231-YARDS, TRAILING ONLY O.J. SIMPSON'S 250-YARDS IN 1973 FOR MOST EVER IN A SEASON-OPENING GAME.

DALLAS COWBOYS @ WASHINGTON REDSKINS

LIKE LOTS OF DADS, NEW REDSKINS HEAD COACH MIKE SHANAHAN HAS BROUGHT IN HIS SON, KYLE, TO JOIN HIM IN THE FAMILY BUSINESS.

DESPITE THEIR BEST PLAY-CALLING EFFORTS, THE REDSKINS DIDN'T REACH THE END ZONE UNTIL DALLAS MADE A POOR "CHOICE."

THE REDSKINS TOOK A TEN-POINT LEAD BEFORE COWBOYS WIDEOUT MILES AUSTIN SPARKED A COMEBACK.

IN THE CLOSING MOMENTS AUSTIN'S 10TH CATCH PUT DALLAS JUST A FEW YARDS SHY OF THE WINNING SCORE.

BALTIMORE RAVENS @ NEW YORK JETS

FROM THE BEGINNING THE JETS DEFENSE LOOKED AS GOOD AS ADVERTISED.

NEW YORK'S OFFENSE DIDN'T GO ANYWHERE, SCORING ONLY 6 POINTS OFF OF BALTIMORE'S THREE FIRST HALF TURNOVERS. INSTEAD OF POINTS, THE JETS RACKED UP PENALTIES...14 OF THEM... AND MANY WERE COSTLY.

WILLIS MCGAHEE'S ONE YARD TOUCHDOWN RUN GAVE BALTIMORE A ONE POINT LEAD.

AND THAT WAS ENOUGH, THANKS TO A RAVENS DEFENSE THAT HELD NEW YORK TO JUST SIX FIRST DOWNS AND 60 PASSING YARDS FOR THE ENTIRE GAME.

ATLANTA FALCONS @ PITTSBURGH STEELERS

LAST SUNDAY WAS NUMBER 91 AARON SMITH'S 12TH OPENING DAY. FOR HIM, WEEK ONE MEANS IT'S TIME TO RUMBLE.

TIED AT 9 IN THE FOURTH QUARTER, TROY POLAMALU SHOWED WHY HE'S HEAD AND SHOULDERS ABOVE MOST OTHER SAFETIES.

DETROIT LIONS @ CHICAGO BEARS

QUICK QUESTION...WHAT'S A GOOD WAY TO EXTEND A 20-GAME ROAD LOSING STREAK? LOSING YOUR STARTING QUARTERBACK TO INJURY CERTAINLY HELPS // SO DOES GIVING UP AN 89 YARD TOUCHDOWN CATCH-- THE LONGEST EVER BY A BEARS RUNNING BACK.

STILL, DOWN BY FIVE WITH UNDER A MINUTE TO PLAY, THE LIONS HAD A CHANCE TO WIN THE GAME.

CINCINNATI BENGALS @ NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS

THE DUO OF BATMAN AND ROBIN WAS SET TO DEBUT ON SUNDAY. // **BUT HOLY WES WELKER, CAPED CRUSADER!** THE PAT'S RECEIVER FOILED THEIR PLAN WITH TWO TOUCHDOWNS IN HIS RETURN TO THE FIELD.

NEW ENGLAND FLASHED SUPER HUMAN STRENGTH, SCORING ON OFFENSE, DEFENSE, AND SPECIAL TEAMS IN A ROUT OF THE BENGALS.

CAROLINA PANTHERS @ NEW YORK GIANTS

A WHITE FEATHER IS A SYMBOL OF COWARDICE. IN WEEK ONE, IT LOOKED LIKE THE PANTHERS AND GIANTS OFFENSES WERE AFRAID OF THE FOOTBALL.

THE TWO TEAMS COMBINED FOR **NINE** TURNOVERS.

HAKEEM NICKS, BORN AND RAISED IN CHARLOTTE, BURNED HIS HOMETOWN TEAM WITH A CAREER HIGH THREE TOUCHDOWNS.

BIG BLUE HAD DEFENDED ITS NEW HOME TURF// LESS THAN A DAY LATER ...THAT TURF WAS GREEN.

WHIPAROUND:

(MIA @ BUF; DEN @JAC; CLE @ TB; AZ @ STL; SF @ SEA; SD @ KC

THIS IS CHAN GAILEY, BUFFALO'S NEW HEAD COACH. HIS BILLS HAVE SOME WORK TO DO.

THE PASSING GAME IS... POOR. PROTECTION WORSE.

WHICH MEANS IT ALL FALLS ON THE DEFENSE.

GOOD LUCK COACH.

NOTHING WORSE THAN BEING CAUGHT BETWEEN A ROCK AND A HARD PLACE, UNLESS IT'S BEING CAUGHT OUT IN AN ELECTRICAL STORM.

THE JAGS WEATHERED THE WEATHER JUST FINE. WHETHER THEY'RE FOR REAL, WE'LL KNOW SOON ENOUGH.

WHO SAYS WHITE MEN CAN'T DANCE// OR RUN?

THE GAME'S TIPPING POINT CAME NOT BY LAND BUT AIR.

IN THE NFL, KEEPING UP WITH THE JONESES ISN'T EASY. BUT AW, YOU GOTTA TRY, EVEN WHEN THINGS GET UGLY.

THAT'S NO WAY TO START A SEASON, THOUGH SAM BRADFORD DID MAKE A NICE FIRST IMPRESSION.

BUT HE COULDN'T KEEP PACE WITH THE CARDS, AND HIS BIG START
FIZZLED IN THE END.

NEW SEAHAWKS HEAD COACH PETE CARROLL IS TRYING TO REMAKE
THE FRANCHISE, WHICH MAY TAKE MANIACS OR JUST PLAIN MANIA. EITHER
WAY, SEATTLE LOOKED AWFULLY GOOD IN THE OPENER.

COME-AND-GET-IT TOUGHNESS HAS BEEN MISSING IN KC FOR A WHILE//
BUT IT MAY BE BACK, ALONG WITH BIG PLAYS...