

NFL GAMEDAY

WEEK 1

NEW ORLEANS SAINTS @ GREEN BAY PACKERS

AARON RODGERS AND DREW BREES, THE MVPs OF THE LAST TWO SUPER BOWLS, WERE CENTER STAGE ONCE AGAIN.

THIS TIME IT WAS IN THE KICKOFF GAME OF THE 2011 SEASON.

ON A BIG NIGHT IN GREEN BAY, TWO LITTLE GUYS STOLE A SHARE OF THE SPOTLIGHT...PACKER ROOKIE RANDALL COBB AND NEW SAINT DARREN SPROLES.

BREES AND RODGERS EACH THREW 3 TOUCHDOWN PASSES AND COMBINED FOR OVER 700 PASSING YARDS. BUT IN THE END ONE YARD WOULD BE THE DIFFERENCE.

A DEFENSIVE PASS INTERFERENCE CALL IN THE END ZONE WITH NO TIME LEFT ON THE CLOCK GAVE THE SAINTS ONE UN-TIMED DOWN...ONE LAST CHANCE...FROM THE ONE YARD LINE.

DALLAS COWBOYS @ NEW YORK JETS

THE CITY MAY NEVER SLEEP, BUT ITS FOOTBALL TEAM SLUMBERED THOUGH MOST OF THE FIRST HALF AGAINST THE COWBOYS.

DALLAS'S PLAYMAKERS GAVE THE VAUNTED JETS DEFENSE A WAKEUP CALL.

JETS CORNERBACK DARRELLE REVIS SWITCHED TO COVER COWBOYS RECEIVER DEZ BRYANT, AND LIMITED HIM TO ONE CATCH AFTER DALLAS'S OPENING DRIVE.

TRAILING 24-10 WITH LESS THAN 12 MINUTES REMAINING IN THE 4TH QUARTER, NEW YORK BEGAN AN IMPROBABLE COMEBACK.

ALL ACROSS THE COUNTRY, THE NFL AND ITS FANS PAUSED TO REMEMBER THE TEN YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF THE ATTACK ON AMERICA ON SEPTEMBER 11TH, 2001.

CINCINNATI BENGALS @ CLEVELAND BROWNS

PAT SHURMUR'S HEAD COACHING DEBUT DID NOT START WELL, AS HIS BROWNS FOUND THEMSELVES DOWN BY THIRTEEN.

CLEVELAND LED 17-13 LATE WHEN THE BENGALS CAUGHT THEM NAPPING.

SHURMUR'S SQUAD STILL HAD A SHOT – IF THEY COULD STOP CINCINNATI ON THIRD AND SHORT.

PHILADELPHIA EAGLES @ ST LOUIS RAMS

STEVEN JACKSON MADE THREE RUNS ON SUNDAY, ONE BEFORE THE GAME AND TWO DURING. HIS FIRST CARRY PUT SIX POINTS ON THE SCOREBOARD BEFORE PUTTING HIM ON THE BENCH WITH A QUADRICEPS INJURY.

INSTEAD, THE EAGLES MADE THE ST. LOUIS OFFENSE GRIND TO A HALT.

THE EAGLES RUSHED FOR 236-YARDS, INCLUDING 122 FROM LESEAN MCCOY.

QUARTERBACK MICHAEL VICK ADDED 97 RUSHING YARDS AND THREW TWO TOUCHDOWN PASSES.

PITTSBURGH STEELERS @ BALTIMORE RAVENS

(IN FACT,) THE MIGHTY DID MOST OF THE FALLING AS THE RAVENS FORCED LAST SEASON'S AFC CHAMPIONS TO GIVE THE BALL AWAY SEVEN TIMES.

JOE FLACCO SAW BEN ROETHLISBERGER'S THREE INTERCEPTIONS AND RAISED HIM THREE TOUCHDOWNS.

RAY DIDN'T RESORT TO THE CRANE KICK, BUT HE SHOWED THE STEELERS NO MERCY.

SEATTLE SEAHAWKS @ SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS

JIM HARBAUGH IS A FORMER FIRST ROUND PICK WHO KNOWS WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A LATE BLOOMER. HE DIDN'T MAKE THE PRO BOWL UNTIL HIS NINTH SEASON, WHICH MAKES HIM AN IDEAL MENTOR FOR SEVENTH YEAR VETERAN ALEX SMITH.

AT STANFORD, HARBAUGH COACHED SEAHAWKS' WIDE RECEIVER DOUG BALDWIN ON HOW TO MAKE IT TO THE NFL. SOME THINGS COME BACK TO HAUNT YOU.

KICKING TWICE TO TED GINN JR. WAS A DECISION THAT WILL HAUNT THE SEAHAWKS.

ATLANTA FALCONS @ CHICAGO BEARS

IN 2010, CHICAGO'S SEASON ENDED IN THE NFC CHAMPIONSHIP GAME AT THE HANDS OF THEIR DIVISION RIVAL. THE BEARS MAY BE IN GREEN BAY'S SHADOW ALL YEAR, BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN THEY CAN'T SHINE.

AS FOR CUTLER'S COUNTERPART, HE QUICKLY DISCOVERED THAT ONE OF THE LEAGUE'S OLDEST DEFENSES IS AGING GRACEFULLY.

NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS @ MIAMI DOLPHINS

-LAST SEASON, TOM BRADY WAS VOTED THE FIRST-EVER UNANIMOUS CHOICE FOR LEAGUE MVP. HE'S BACK ON THE TICKET IN 2011 AND HIS CAMPAIGN COULDN'T HAVE GOTTEN OFF TO A STRONGER START.

-BRADY'S 517 PASSING YARDS WAS THE FIFTH HIGHEST SINGLE GAME TOTAL IN NFL HISTORY...AND THE MOST SINCE BOOMER ESIASON'S 522 YARD GAME IN 1996.

IN THE FOURTH QUARTER, ONE LAST RECORD BOOK RECOUNT WAS NEEDED IN FLORIDA, AS BRADY'S SECOND TOUCHDOWN PASS TO WES WELKER'S SET THE MARK FOR THE LONGEST OFFENSIVE PLAY IN PATRIOTS HISTORY.

BUFFALO BILLS @ KANSAS CITY CHIEFS

THE BATTLE OF GAILEY VS. HALEY WASN'T MUCH OF A MELEE, AS THE BILLS SCORED EARLY AND OFTEN AGAINST THE FAVORED CHIEFS.

FOUR RYAN FITZPATRICK TOUCHDOWN PASSES HANDED THE CHIEFS THEIR MOST LOPSIDED OPENING DAY LOSS IN FRANCHISE HISTORY.

WHIPAROUND:

Minnesota @ San Diego; Detroit @ Tampa Bay; Tennessee @ Jacksonville; NY Giants @ Washington; Indianapolis @ Houston; Carolina @ Arizona; Oakland @ Denver

FOR PHILLIP RIVERS GOOD THINGS ALMOST ALWAYS COME THROUGH THE AIR.

BUT IN THE CHARGERS OPENER IT WAS THE GROUND GAME WHICH STARTED WITH A BANG.

WHEN MIKE TOLBERT WASN'T RUNNING THROUGH THE VIKINGS DEFENSE, HE GOT BEHIND THEM.

IN TAMPA, THERE'S REASON TO TALIB....

NO DOUBT #25' S A GREAT CORNER, BUT WHETHER HE CAN BE THE CORNERSTONE OF AN ENTIRE DEFENSE, IT'S TOO SOON TO TELL.

LAST SEASON THE TITANS WENT IN THE WRONG DIRECTION. LOOKS LIKE THINGS HAVEN'T CHANGED YET.// TENNESSEE'S TWO BIGGEST PROBLEMS SUNDAY?

BLOCKING...

AND TACKLING.

WHAT THIS? KISSING AND MAKING UP? COLIN POWELL AND A NEOCON? OH, MY BAD DAWG, THAT'S NE-O, THE SINGER, YOU KNOW, SMOOTH LIKE A TEN YARD FADE FOR A TD.

NOTHING AS COMFORTING AS AN OLD FRIEND, FOR KIDS IT COULD BE HELLO KITTY, FOR MATT SCHaub IT'S ANDRE JOHNSON.

THE COLTS DIDN'T HAVE AN OLD FRIEND, JUST AN OLD QUARTERBACK.

HARD TO TEACH THE OLD ONES NEW TRICKS, WHICH IS WHY YOUNG PUPS GET SO MUCH PLAY. LIKE CAM NEWTON WHO MADE HIS FIRST PASS A COMPLETION AND HIS FIRST TD MEMORABLE.

CAM NEWTON SET A RECORD FOR PASSING YARDS IN A DEBUT, BUT IT WAS A CARDINALS ROOKIE WHO MADE THE GAME'S DECISIVE PLAY.