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GIANTS RB TIKI BARBER, REDSKINS DE PHILLIP DANIELS & BEARS PR BERNARD BERRIAN NAMED NFC PLAYERS OF WEEK 15

Running back **TIKI BARBER** of the New York Giants, defensive end **PHILLIP DANIELS** of the Washington Redskins and punt returner **BERNARD BERRIAN** of the Chicago Bears are the NFC Offensive, Defensive and Special Teams Players of the Week for games played the 15th week of the 2005 season (December 17-19), the NFL announced today.

OFFENSE: RB TIKI BARBER, NEW YORK GIANTS

- The New York Giants are one win away from clinching the NFC East division championship thanks to a 27-17 win over the Kansas City Chiefs on Saturday at Giants Stadium. Running back **TIKI BARBER** led the way for the home team, enjoying one of the best games of his career. Barber rushed for a career-high and franchise-record 220 yards, eclipsing **GENE "CHOO CHOO" ROBERTS** record that had stood for more than half a century, as Roberts rushed for 218 yards against the Chicago Cardinals on November 12, 1950. Barber's rushing total was the most in the NFL since **LA DAINIAN TOMLINSON**'s 243 yards on December 28, 2003. Barber averaged 7.6 yards per carry on the day, rushing for touchdowns of 41 and 20 yards to tie **RODNEY HAMPTON** (49) for the most rushing touchdowns in franchise history. Barber increased his season rushing total to 1,577 yards, breaking his own team record of 1,518 yards set in 2004.

In his ninth season from Virginia, this is Barber's fourth Player of the Week award and second of 2005 (Week 8).

DEFENSE: DE PHILLIP DANIELS, WASHINGTON REDSKINS

- The Washington Redskins kept their late-season surge going, earning their third consecutive win, a 35-7 victory against the Dallas Cowboys on Sunday at FedEx Field. Defensive end **PHILLIP DANIELS** played a large part in holding Dallas to its lowest point total of the season, tying **DEXTER MANLEY**'s franchise record with a 2005 NFL-best 4.0 sacks. Manley accomplished the feat against the New York Giants in a 24-23 loss on October 2, 1988. Daniels set the tone for the day on the Cowboys first offensive snap, deflecting a pass that was intercepted by teammate **CORNELIUS GRIFFIN**, leading to a touchdown four plays later on an eight-yard pass from **MARK BRUNELL** to **CHRIS COOLEY** for a 7-0 advantage. Daniels finished with five tackles, two quarterback pressures and recovered a fumble, as the Redskins earned their first season sweep of the Cowboys since 1995.

In his 10th season from Georgia, this is Daniels first Player of the Week award.

SPECIAL TEAMS: PR BERNARD BERRIAN, CHICAGO BEARS

- The Chicago Bears moved a step closer to a return to the playoffs for the first time since 2001 last week, earning a 16-3 win over the Atlanta Falcons at Soldier Field. Punt returner **BERNARD BERRIAN** played an important role in the win, helping give the home team a lead it would never relinquish. With the score tied 3-3 late in the second quarter, Berrian returned a punt 24 yards, setting up the Bears at the Atlanta 44-yard line. Four plays later, rookie kicker **ROBBIE GOULD** connected on a 29-yard field goal to give Chicago the lead for good. Berrian also contributed to the win on offense, rushing for 31 yards on two carries and adding two receptions for 20 yards.

In his second season from Fresno State, this is Berrian's first Player of the Week award.

2005 NFC PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

	<u>Offense</u>	<u>Defense</u>	<u>Special Teams</u>
Wk 1	QB Drew Bledsoe, Dallas	DT Bryant Young, San Francisco	K John Carney, New Orleans
Wk 2	WR Santana Moss, Washington	LB Shelton Quarles, Tampa Bay	PR Bobby Wade, Chicago
Wk 3	RB Shaun Alexander, Seattle	DT Rod Coleman, Atlanta	P Josh Bidwell, Tampa Bay
Wk 4	WR Plaxico Burress, NY Giants	DE Darren Howard, New Orleans	K Neil Rackers, Arizona
Wk 5	QB Matt Hasselbeck, Seattle	CB Al Harris, Green Bay	PR R.W. McQuarters, Detroit
Wk 6	RB Shaun Alexander, Seattle	CB Anthony Henry, Dallas	P Josh Bidwell, Tampa Bay
Wk 7	QB Daunte Culpepper, Minnesota	LB Jeremiah Trotter, Philadelphia	K Josh Brown, Seattle
Wk 8	RB Tiki Barber, NY Giants	CB Charles Tillman, Chicago	K Joe Nedney, San Francisco
Wk 9	RB Shaun Alexander, Seattle	DE Mike Rucker, Carolina	K Robbie Gould, Chicago
Wk 10	RB Samkon Gado, Green Bay	S Darren Sharper, Minnesota	CB Nathan Vasher, Chicago
Wk 11	QB Kurt Warner, Arizona	CB Nathan Vasher, Chicago	WR David Tyree, NY Giants
Wk 12	QB Ryan Fitzpatrick, St. Louis	DE Alex Brown, Chicago	K David Akers, Philadelphia
Wk 13	RB DeShaun Foster, Carolina	CB Andre Dyson, Seattle	P Jeff Feagles, NY Giants
Wk 14	QB Drew Bledsoe, Dallas	CB Ronde Barber, Tampa Bay	KR Antonio Brown, Washington
Wk 15	RB Tiki Barber, NY Giants	DE Phillip Daniels, Washington	PR Bernard Berrian, Chicago

Other nominees for NFC Offensive Player of Week 15 were:

- Seattle running back **SHAUN ALEXANDER**, who rushed for 172 yards on 26 carries, including his NFL-leading 24th touchdown on a one-yard run in a 28-24 win against Tennessee.
- Washington quarterback **MARK BRUNELL**, who turned in the first four touchdown-pass game by a Redskins quarterback since **BRAD JOHNSON** on October 3, 1999, posting a 125.0 passer rating and completing 12 of 20 attempts for 163 yards with no interceptions.
- Washington tight end **CHRIS COOLEY**, who had six receptions for 71 yards, tying the franchise record with three touchdown catches (eight, two and 30 yards) in the win. Cooley is the first Redskin with three touchdown catches in a game since **ALBERT CONNELL** on October 22, 2000.
- San Francisco rookie running back **FRANK GORE**, who totaled 136 yards from scrimmage against Jacksonville, rushing for 79 yards and adding three receptions for 57 yards.
- Seattle quarterback **MATT HASSELBECK**, who led the team back from a 24-14 second-half deficit, posting a career high 147.7 passer rating in a win over Tennessee. Hasselbeck completed 21 of 27 attempts for 285 yards, three touchdowns and no interceptions.
- Philadelphia rookie running back **RYAN MOATS**, who rushed for 78 yards on 12 carries, including a 59-yard touchdown run, in a 17-16 road win against St. Louis.

Other nominees for NFC Defensive Player of Week 15 were

- Philadelphia safety **BRIAN DAWKINS**, who had four tackles and one interception, which led to a touchdown on the ensuing possession.
- Chicago safety **MIKE GREEN**, who totaled seven tackles and intercepted a pass at the Chicago 15, setting up a field goal on the ensuing possession. Green helped hold the Falcons to their lowest point total of the season.
- Chicago cornerback **NATHAN VASHER**, who had four tackles and three passes defended, adding his eighth interception of the season, tied for second-most in the NFL.
- Washington linebacker **MARCUS WASHINGTON**, who totaled four tackles, 2.0 sacks and one interception, which he returned 41 yards to set up a touchdown two plays later.

Other nominees for NFC Special Teams Player of Week 15 were:

- Green Bay kickoff returner **AHMAD CARROLL**, who return a kickoff for a team season-long 57 yards, setting up a field goal against Baltimore.
- San Francisco kicker **JOE NEDNEY**, who connected on three of three field goal attempts from 35, 47 and 33 yards.
- Arizona kicker **NEIL RACKERS**, who connected on two of two field goals from 26 and 42 yards, tying **CARY BLANCHARD** and **AL DEL GRECO** for the fifth-most field goals in single season (36) in NFL history.