



NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE
280 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10017
(212) 450-2000 * FAX (212) 681-7573
WWW.NFLMedia.com

Joe Browne, Executive Vice President-Communications
Greg Aiello, Vice President-Public Relations

FOR USE AS DESIRED
NFC-POW-13 12/6/06

SAINTS RB REGGIE BUSH, FALCONS S LAWYER MILLOY & BEARS CB-PR-KR DEVIN HESTER NAMED NFC PLAYERS OF WEEK 13

Rookie running back **REGGIE BUSH** of the New Orleans Saints, safety **LAWYER MILLOY** of the Atlanta Falcons and rookie cornerback-punt returner-kick returner **DEVIN HESTER** of the Chicago Bears are the NFC Offensive, Defensive and Special Teams Players of the Week for games played the 13th week of the 2006 season (November 30, December 3-4), the NFL announced today.

OFFENSE: RB REGGIE BUSH, NEW ORLEANS

- Bush electrified the Louisiana Superdome crowd by tying a franchise record with four touchdowns in the Saints' 34-10 win over the San Francisco 49ers. Bush rushed for three touchdowns and had nine receptions for a career-high 131 yards with one touchdown, finishing the day with 168 total yards from scrimmage. Bush became the fourth player in NFL history, and the first since **DONNY ANDERSON** in 1967, to score three rushing touchdowns and have at least 100 receiving yards in a single game. The No. 2 overall selection in the 2006 NFL Draft scored on a one-yard run in the second quarter to give New Orleans a 7-3 lead. In the final minute before halftime, Bush scored his second touchdown of the day on an eight-yard run as the Saints took a 14-3 advantage into the intermission. Quarterback **DREW BREES** connected on a short five-yard touchdown pass to Bush late in the third quarter and the USC rookie scored his fourth touchdown of the day on an exciting 10-yard run in the final quarter. Bush leads the NFC with 73 receptions this season and has 1,128 total yards (562 receiving, 368 rushing, 198 punt returns) along with six touchdowns (four rushing, one receiving, one punt return).

In his rookie season from USC, this is Bush's second career Player of the Week Award. Bush was named the NFC Special Teams Player of the Week for his performance in Week 5.

DEFENSE: S LAWYER MILLOY, ATLANTA FALCONS

- The veteran safety led an Atlanta defense that shut out the Washington Redskins over the final three quarters in the Falcons' 24-14 win. Milloy had 12 tackles, three quarterback hurries and two passes defended as the secondary allowed only 204 net passing yards. In the third quarter, with the Falcons trailing 14-10 and the Redskins driving at the Atlanta 21-yard line, Milloy helped change the momentum of the game. Coming in on a blitz, the 11-year veteran ran to the Washington quarterback and forced him to make an off-balance throw that was intercepted by teammate **CHAUNCEY DAVIS**, who returned it to the Washington 25-yard line. Two plays later, Atlanta quarterback **MICHAEL VICK** threw a 22-yard touchdown pass to **MICHAEL JENKINS** to put the Falcons on top 17-14, a lead the team would not relinquish.

In his 11th year from Washington, this is Milloy's fourth career Player of the Week Award. Milloy was honored twice with the New England Patriots (Week 9, 1998 and Week 12, 2000) and once with the Buffalo Bills (Week 11, 2004).

SPECIAL TEAMS: CB-PR-KR DEVIN HESTER, CHICAGO BEARS

- The rookie from Miami opened the scoring with a 45-yard punt-return touchdown in the second quarter as the Bears defeated the Minnesota Vikings 23-13 to clinch the NFC North. Hester averaged 35.0 yards per punt return and 22.7 yards per kick return as he handled kick-return duties for the first time this season. In the second quarter of a scoreless game, Hester fielded a punt and returned it 45 yards for his fourth return touchdown this season, tying the most by a rookie in a single season (**OCKIE ANDERSON**, 1920; **JACK CHRISTIANSEN**, 1951; **TRAVIS WILLIAMS**, 1967). Hester leads the NFL with a 14.2-yard punt-return average and has four return touchdowns (three on punt returns and one on a missed field goal).

In his rookie season from Miami, this is Hester's second career Player of the Week Award (Week 10).

2006 NFC PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

	<u>Offense</u>	<u>Defense</u>	<u>Special Teams</u>
Wk 1	QB Kurt Warner, Arizona	DE John Abraham, Atlanta	K Jeff Wilkins, St. Louis
Wk 2	QB Eli Manning, NY Giants	DT Tommie Harris, Chicago	K Ryan Longwell, Minnesota
Wk 3	QB Brett Favre, Green Bay	LB Scott Fujita, New Orleans	K John Kasay, Carolina
Wk 4	WR Santana Moss, Washington	DT Tommie Harris, Chicago	K Morten Andersen, Atlanta
Wk 5	RB Frank Gore, San Francisco	CB Lito Sheppard, Philadelphia	RB-PR Reggie Bush, New Orleans
Wk 6	RB Tiki Barber, NY Giants	DE James Hall, Detroit	K Josh Brown, Seattle
Wk 7	TE Alge Crumpler, Atlanta	CB Ronde Barber, Tampa Bay	K Matt Bryant, Tampa Bay
Wk 8	QB Michael Vick, Atlanta	DE Aaron Kampman, Green Bay	WR Sam Hurd, Dallas
Wk 9	QB Drew Brees, New Orleans	LB Brandon Moore, San Francisco	S Troy Vincent, Washington
Wk 10	QB Tony Romo, Dallas	DE Julius Peppers, Carolina	CB-PR Devin Hester, Chicago
Wk 11	RB Frank Gore, San Francisco	DE Mike Rucker, Carolina	P Mat McBriar, Dallas
Wk 12	QB Tony Romo, Dallas	S Sean Taylor, Washington	K Josh Brown, Seattle
Wk 13	RB Reggie Bush, New Orleans	S Lawyer Milloy, Atlanta	CB-PR-KR Devin Hester, Chicago

Other nominees for NFC Offensive Player of Week 13 were:

- Washington running back **LADELL BETTS**, who rushed for a career-high 155 yards and one touchdown.
- Detroit wide receiver **MIKE FURREY**, who had nine catches for a career-high 123 yards with one touchdown in the Lions' 28-21 loss at New England.
- Philadelphia quarterback **JEFF GARCIA**, who passed for 312 yards with three touchdowns and no interceptions for a 105.9 passer rating in the Eagles' 27-24 win over Carolina on Monday night.
- Arizona running back **EDGERRIN JAMES**, who rushed for 115 yards and recorded the 50th 100-yard game of his career in the Cardinals' 34-20 win over the St. Louis Rams.
- Atlanta rookie running back **JERIOUS NORWOOD**, who had nine carries for a career-high 107 yards (11.9 average), including a 69-yard touchdown.

Other nominees for NFC Defensive Player of Week 13 were:

- Tampa Bay linebacker **DERRICK BROOKS**, who had eight tackles, two passes defended and an interception in the Buccaneers' 20-3 loss to the Pittsburgh Steelers.
- Washington defensive end **ANDRE CARTER**, who had 14 tackles and 1.0 sack.
- Chicago cornerback **RICKY MANNING**, who had two tackles and returned an interception 54 yards for a touchdown.
- New Orleans cornerback **MIKE MC KENZIE**, who tied his career-high with two interceptions, including a 54-yard return that set up a Saints field goal.
- Arizona defensive end **CHIKE OKEAFOR**, who tied a career-high with 2.5 sacks and had four tackles.
- Philadelphia cornerback **LITO SHEPPARD**, who had two tackles, two passes defended and an interception in the end zone with 24 seconds remaining to seal the Eagles' victory.
- Arizona safety **ADRIAN WILSON**, who had a team-high nine tackles, an interception and a forced fumble.

Other nominees for NFC Special Teams Player of Week 13 were:

- Seattle kicker **JOSH BROWN**, who converted three of five field goal attempts, including a game-winning 50-yarder with five seconds remaining in the Seahawks' 23-20 win over the Denver Broncos. Brown has four game-winning field goals in the final minute of a game this season, tied for the most in a season in NFL history (**RYAN LONGWELL**, 2004).
- Dallas kicker **MARTIN GRAMATICA**, who was three-for-four on field goals, including a game-winning 46-yarder with one second remaining in the Cowboys' 23-20 win over the New York Giants. Gramatica became the second player in team history (**ALLEN GREEN**) to kick a game-winning field goal in the final minute of his Cowboys debut.
- Detroit kicker **JASON HANSON**, who converted all four field goal attempts and one PAT. Hanson scored 13 points on the day and became the 13th player in NFL history with 15,000 career points.
- Seattle rookie punter **RYAN PLACKEMEIER**, who averaged 40.9 yards per punt with a net average of 37.6 and placed three of his seven punts inside the 20-yard line, including one at the two-yard line and another at the one.