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CONTACT: MATT HILL, NFL, 212-450-2080 Hillm@NFL.com

DAVE DECECCO, PEPSI-COLA, 914-253-2655 David.DeCecco@Pepsi.com

NEW ORLEANS SAINTS WR MARQUES COLSTON VOTED WEEK 9 DIET PEPSI NFL ROOKIE OF THE WEEK

Winner Selected By Fan Vote on NFL.com and Via Sprint Wireless Service

Voters on NFL.com and via Sprint wireless service have made their choice. Wide receiver **MARQUES COLSTON** of the New Orleans Saints is the <u>DIET PEPSI NFL ROOKIE OF THE WEEK</u> for games played on November 5-6 the NFL announced today. This is the second consecutive week that Colston has earned Diet Pepsi NFL Rookie of the Week honors

Colston caught 11 passes for 123 yards and one touchdown in the Saints' 31-14 victory over the Tampa Bay Buccaneers. Colston, whose 15-yard touchdown reception gave New Orleans a 7-0 lead, is tied for the NFL lead with seven touchdown receptions and ranks fourth with 700 receiving yards this season.

More than 29,100 fans voted this week on NFL.com and via Sprint wireless service. Colston was selected from among five finalists. The other finalists were running back **JOSEPH ADDAI** of the Indianapolis Colts, defensive end **MATHIAS KIWANUKA** of the New York Giants, linebacker **DE MECO RYANS** of the Houston Texans and safety **KO SIMPSON** of the Buffalo Bills.

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 and via Sprint wireless service throughout the month of January. The winner will be announced at a press conference at Super Bowl XLI in South Florida.

This is Pepsi's fifth year as the official soft drink sponsor of the NFL and the second year that Diet Pepsi will present the NFL Rookie of the Week and NFL Rookie of the Year awards.

2006 DIET PEPSI NFL ROOKIE OF THE WEEK

- Wk 1 RB Reggie Bush (Southern California)
- Wk 2 LB Manny Lawson (North Carolina State)
- Wk 3 WR Greg Jennings (Western Michigan)
- Wk 4 RB Laurence Maroney (Minnesota)
- Wk 5 WR Hank Baskett (New Mexico)
- Wk 6 WR Santonio Holmes (Ohio St.)
- Wk 7 LB A.J. Hawk (Ohio State)
- Wk 8 WR Marques Colston (Hofstra)
- Wk 9 WR Marques Colston (Hofstra)

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