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**EAGLES WR HANK BASKETT, SAINTS RB REGGIE BUSH,
JAGUARS RB MAURICE JONES-DREW, CARDINALS QB MATT LEINART
& PANTHERS CB RICHARD MARSHALL
CANDIDATES FOR DIET PEPSI NFL ROOKIE OF WEEK HONORS**

Fans To Vote For Winner On NFL.com and Via Sprint Wireless Service

Wide receiver **HANK BASKETT** of the Philadelphia Eagles, running back **REGGIE BUSH** of the New Orleans Saints, running back **MAURICE JONES-DREW** of the Jacksonville Jaguars, quarterback **MATT LEINART** of the Arizona Cardinals and cornerback **RICHARD MARSHALL** of the Carolina Panthers are the finalists for **DIET PEPSI NFL ROOKIE OF THE WEEK** honors for games played on October 8-9, the NFL announced today.

Fans can vote for one of these five players on NFL.com beginning Tuesday at 9am EST and ending Thursday at 5pm EST to determine the **DIET PEPSI NFL ROOKIE OF THE WEEK**. The **DIET PEPSI NFL ROOKIE OF THE WEEK** will be announced Thursday evening on NFL.com.

In addition, for the second year, NFL fans may cast their votes for the **DIET PEPSI NFL ROOKIE OF THE WEEK** using phones with Sprint wireless service - an opportunity available only to Sprint customers. This fast, convenient voting method involves texting the word **PEPSI** to short code **7777**. Sprint customers will then receive an interactive text message that links fans to the ballot with the five finalists each week. Data and text messaging rates may apply.

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.

A closer look at the finalists:

- **Philadelphia's Hank Baskett** caught three passes for 112 yards and one touchdown in the Eagles' 38-24 victory over the NFC East division-rival Dallas Cowboys. With the Eagles trailing 21-17 in the third quarter, Baskett caught an 87-yard touchdown pass from Donovan McNabb for the first TD of his NFL career.
- **New Orleans' Reggie Bush** ran for 23 yards, caught 11 passes for 63 yards, and returned three punts for 75 yards, including a 65-yard fourth-quarter punt return touchdown, to help the Saints defeat the Tampa Bay Buccaneers 24-21. Bush's first career NFL touchdown came late in the game with the Saints trailing 21-17.
- **Jacksonville's Maurice Jones-Drew** carried 13 times for 59 yards and two touchdowns in the Jaguars' 41-0 victory over the New York Jets. Jones-Drew, who had scored a receiving touchdown in each of his last two games, scored his first career NFL rushing touchdowns on four-yard and six-yard carries in the first half.
- **Arizona's Matt Leinart** completed 22 of 35 passes for 253 yards and two touchdowns in the Cardinals' 23-20 loss to the Kansas City Chiefs. Starting his first NFL game, Leinart completed his first six passes, including touchdown passes of 49 and five yards, as Arizona jumped out to a 14-0 lead.

- **Carolina's Richard Marshall** made four tackles and recorded his first career NFL interception, which he returned 30 yards for a touchdown in the Panthers' 20-12 victory over the Cleveland Browns. With Carolina trailing 3-0 in the first quarter, Marshall gave Carolina a 7-3 lead with his first NFL touchdown.

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.