

Around the League in One Page



Foster

There aren't any corners playing as well as **Will Allen**. He's got eight interceptions this year and is actually better against the run. He's be a stealth MVP candidate were **Pittsburgh** anywhere near a division title...**San Diego's** big three of **Antonio Gates**, **LaDainian Tomlinson**

and **Philip Rivers** are all having down years. Insiders say, and officials confirm, that two of three don't get along well. It may have pushed the team make the recent changes in the front office though they deny it...
Despite the bye week, **DeShaun Foster** still leads the league with 10 TD runs...Redskin rookie QB **Russell Scanga** has lost the starting spot to **Koy Detmer**. He has not grasped the full playbook and is rumored to be feuding with WR **Rod Gardner**...Acquiring backup **Kyle Boller** in the off-season proved the **Jets GM Michael Marra** still has the touch that put the Jets in the title game. While **Chad Pennington** was out the team went 1-2 but Boller earned a 104.8 QB rating...**Giants** safety **Shaun Williams** is quietly on pace to reach 144 tackles though have a safety lead the team in tackles is likely not what NY fans wanted to see from their defense...**Tennessee** has the oldest offensive line by 2 1/2 years...

and **Philip Rivers** are all having down years. Insiders say, and officials confirm, that two of three don't get along well. It may have pushed the team make the recent changes in the front office though they deny it...

Young People These Days

St. Louis guard Bert Adams recently signed ended his holdout, the last #1 pick to do so. Here are the totals by round of drafted rookies who've yet to sign a contract:

Round 2 - 3
Round 3 - 0
Round 4 - 4
Round 5 - 6
Round 6 - 4
Round 7 - 16

Kansas City coaches are not impressed thus far with 2nd round pick **Neal Regalado**. That's part of the reason **Clint Stoerner** is still starting despite a sharp decline in TD's this year and the team's poor record. If Regalado looked better in practice, the young QB would be being groomed by now...**New Orleans'** win over **Dallas** in Week 8 was a huge confidence builder. Look for a strong finish from them and a huge effort to re-sign **Joe Horn** if **Aaron Brooks** want him back.



Briggs

Could we see **St. Louis** and **New England** in the Super Bowl this year? For some reason, that sounds familiar. They are the only teams left with one loss. Both are 8-1...**Marcellus Wiley**, the highest paid defender in the league, has only 1 1/2 sacks. **Dallas** will look to the D-line in this year's draft...

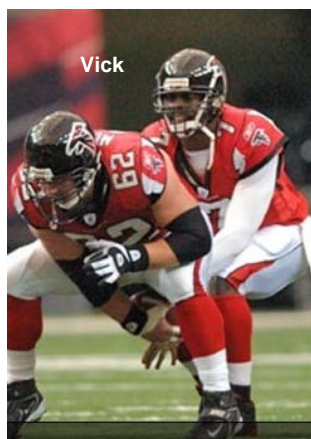
Houston is not publicly concerned about **Andre Johnson's** drop-off in TD catches because his yards are up and they're winning. But if **David Carr** doesn't step up his scoring, his contract renewal talks this off-season won't go like an extension would have last year...No can explain why **Bear's** outstanding linebacker **Lance Briggs** has been left on the inactive roster despite being cleared by doctors since straining a foot ligament. The is playing last year's 3rd round pick **Kurt Greene** out of position...**Buffalo** paid up this March to bring **Lonnie Whiting** from **Tennessee**. He's the highest paid coach in the league now, but the Bills are only 3-6. Who gets the blame this year?...**Philadelphia** is more than \$20 million under this year's cap and has more than \$40 million to spend under next year's. **Terrell Owens**, **Brian Westbrook** and **Dane Looker** will all be back if GM **Johnny Shaka** wants them. And who wouldn't?...League officials won't confirm it, but the NFL is rumored to be negotiating a record TV contract. No word will be forthcoming until after the Super Bowl at the earliest.

Bulging Stats

With his three TD passes Sunday, **Marc Bulger** surpassed his best year-end total ever (21).



Bulger



Vick

Soaring Bird

Michael Vick won the Offensive Player of the Week for his performance against the **Giants**. It was the first time he has thrown for three or more touchdowns all year. **Atlanta** will need more of that to make the postseason.