



## COMMUNICATIONS

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### **LIONS WR CALVIN JOHNSON, GIANTS CB TERRELL THOMAS & VIKINGS KR CORDARRELLE PATTERSON NAMED NFC PLAYERS OF WEEK 8**

Wide receiver **CALVIN JOHNSON** of the Detroit Lions, cornerback **TERRELL THOMAS** of the New York Giants and rookie kick returner **CORDARRELLE PATTERSON** of the Minnesota Vikings are the NFC Offensive, Defensive and Special Teams Players of the Week for games played the eighth week of the 2013 season (October 24, 27-28), the NFL announced today.

#### **OFFENSE: WR CALVIN JOHNSON, DETROIT LIONS**

- Johnson had 14 catches for 329 yards and a touchdown in the Lions' 31-30 win over Dallas. His 329 yards are the second-most in a game in NFL history (336, **FLIPPER ANDERSON**, November 26, 1989) and the most by a player in a regulation (non-overtime) game.
- Johnson's 329 yards are the most in franchise history, surpassing the previous mark held by **CLOYCE BOX** (302) on December 3, 1950. Johnson is one of five players in NFL history with at least 300 receiving yards in a game.
- Johnson's five 200-yard receiving games are tied with Pro Football Hall of Famer **LANCE ALWORTH** for the most in NFL history.
- His 14 receptions are tied with **HERMAN MOORE** (December 4, 1995) for the most by a Lion in a game.
- In the past two games, Johnson has totaled 484 receiving yards, the most in a two-game span in NFL history.
- In his seventh season from Georgia Tech, this is Johnson's third career Player of the Week Award. He was previously honored in Week 8, 2010 and Week 15, 2011.
- Johnson's three Offensive Player of the Week Awards are the most by a wide receiver in franchise history and the second-most by any Lions player, trailing only Pro Football Hall of Famer **BARRY SANDERS** (11).

#### **DEFENSE: CB TERRELL THOMAS, NEW YORK GIANTS**

- Thomas led the team with a career-high 11 tackles in the Giants' 15-7 win at Philadelphia. He also had a sack, a forced fumble and one pass defensed.
- With 1:14 remaining in the first half and the Eagles at New York's two-yard line, Thomas recorded a sack and forced a fumble that was recovered by teammate **JACQUIAN WILLIAMS**. The play kept Philadelphia from scoring and preserved the Giants' 12-0 lead heading into halftime.
- Thomas, who missed the previous two seasons with ACL injuries, was part of a defensive unit that limited Philadelphia to 200 total net yards (152 passing, 48 rushing). New York's defense did not allow a point.
- In his sixth year from Southern California, this is Thomas' first career Player of the Week Award.
- Thomas is the fifth cornerback in franchise history to be named Defensive Player of the Week and the first since 2008. He joins **EVERSON WALLS** (Week 8, 1990), **JASON SEHORN** (Weeks 12 and 16, 1997), **PHILLIPPI SPARKS** (Week 12, 1998) and **AARON ROSS** (Week 11, 2008).

#### **SPECIAL TEAMS: KR CORDARRELLE PATTERSON, MINNESOTA VIKINGS**

- Patterson returned the opening kickoff 109 yards – the longest kickoff return in NFL history and tied for the longest play all-time – in the Vikings' loss to Green Bay. He finished the game with five kickoff returns for 228 yards (45.6 average).
- He is one of five rookies in NFL history with at least 200 kickoff return yards and a 45.0+ average in a single game. Among those five rookies, Patterson's 228 yards are the most.
- This season, Patterson leads the NFL with a 39.1-yard KR average and two KR-TDs.
- In his rookie season from Tennessee, this is Patterson's first career Player of the Week Award. He was named NFC Special Teams Player of the Month for his performance in September.
- He is the first Vikings return specialist to be named Special Teams Player of the Week since **PERCY HARVIN** in 2010 (Week 6).
- Patterson is the first rookie return specialist to be honored as Special Teams Player of the Week and Month since **PATRICK PETERSON** in 2011.

## 2013 NFC PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

	<u>Offense</u>	<u>Defense</u>	<u>Special Teams</u>
<b>Wk 1</b>	WR Anquan Boldin, San Francisco	DE Robert Quinn, St. Louis	WR-PR Dwayne Harris, Dallas
<b>Wk 2</b>	QB Aaron Rodgers, Green Bay	CB Richard Sherman, Seattle	KR-PR Devin Hester, Chicago
<b>Wk 3</b>	TE Jimmy Graham, New Orleans	DE Greg Hardy, Carolina	P Sam Martin, Detroit
<b>Wk 4</b>	QB Drew Brees, New Orleans	CB Patrick Peterson, Arizona	K Steven Hauschka, Seattle
<b>Wk 5</b>	WR DeSean Jackson, Philadelphia	CB Tramaine Brock, San Francisco	K Mason Crosby, Green Bay
<b>Wk 6</b>	QB Nick Foles, Philadelphia	LB Thomas Davis, Carolina	KR-PR Dwayne Harris, Dallas
<b>Wk 7</b>	QB Matt Ryan, Atlanta	LB Sean Lee, Dallas	P Andy Lee, San Francisco
<b>Wk 8</b>	WR Calvin Johnson, Detroit	CB Terrell Thomas, New York Giants	KR Cordarrelle Patterson, Minnesota

### Other nominees for NFC Offensive Player of Week 8 as submitted by NFC clubs:

- New Orleans quarterback **DREW BREES**, who completed 26 of 34 passes (76.5 percent) for 332 yards with five touchdowns and no interceptions for a 146.1 passer rating in the Saints' 35-17 win over Buffalo.
- Arizona rookie running back **ANDRE ELLINGTON**, who rushed for 154 yards, including an 80-yard touchdown run in the Cardinals' 27-13 win over Atlanta.
- San Francisco running back **FRANK GORE**, who rushed for two touchdowns and 71 yards in the 49ers' 42-10 win over Jacksonville at London's Wembley Stadium.
- San Francisco quarterback **COLIN KAEPERNICK**, who had a 117.7 passer rating and scored three touchdowns (two rushing, one passing).
- Green Bay wide receiver **JORDY NELSON**, who had seven catches for 123 yards and two touchdowns in the Packers' 44-31 win at Minnesota.
- Carolina quarterback **CAM NEWTON**, who passed for 221 yards with two touchdowns and rushed for 50 yards and a touchdown in the Panthers' 31-13 win at Tampa Bay.
- Green Bay quarterback **AARON RODGERS**, who completed 24 of 29 passes (82.8 percent) for 285 yards with two touchdowns and no interceptions for a 130.6 passer rating.
- Detroit quarterback **MATTHEW STAFFORD**, who passed for 488 yards with one touchdown and rushed for the game-winning touchdown.

### Other nominees for NFC Defensive Player of Week 8 as submitted by NFC clubs:

- Green Bay defensive end **MIKE DANIELS**, who had two sacks and three tackles.
- Seattle linebacker **BRUCE IRVIN**, who had had nine tackles, a sack, a forced fumble and one interception in the Seahawks' 14-9 win at St. Louis.
- Carolina defensive end **CHARLES JOHNSON**, who had two sacks.
- Dallas linebacker **SEAN LEE**, who had 10 tackles and two interceptions (89 yards) in the Cowboys' loss at Detroit.
- St. Louis defensive end **CHRIS LONG**, who had three sacks and four tackles in the Rams' loss to Seattle.
- St. Louis defensive end **ROBERT QUINN**, who had three sacks and five tackles.
- Arizona linebacker **DARYL WASHINGTON**, who had six tackles, three passes defended and an interception.

### Other nominees for NFC Special Teams Player of Week 8 as submitted by NFC clubs:

- New York Giants kicker **JOSH BROWN**, who converted all five field-goal attempts and scored all of New York's 15 points.
- Green Bay punt returner **MICAH HYDE**, who had a 93-yard punt-return touchdown.