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COMMUNICATIONS

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FALCONS QB MATT RYAN, SEAHAWKS S KAM CHANCELLOR & FALCONS PR-KR-WR DEVIN HESTER NAMED NFC PLAYERS OF WEEK 3

Quarterback **MATT RYAN** of the Atlanta Falcons, safety **KAM CHANCELLOR** of the Seattle Seahawks and punt returner-kick returner-wide receiver **DEVIN HESTER** of the Falcons are the NFC Offensive, Defensive and Special Teams Players of the Week for games played the third week of the 2014 season (September 18, 21-22), the NFL announced today.

OFFENSE: QB MATT RYAN, ATLANTA FALCONS

- Ryan completed 21 of 24 passes (87.5 percent) for 286 yards with three touchdowns and no interceptions for a 155.9 passer rating in the Falcons' 56-14 win over Tampa Bay.
- He set franchise single-game records for highest completion percentage (87.5) and passer rating (155.9).
- Ryan, who compiled his statistics in less than three full quarters of play, helped lead the Falcons to a 56-0 advantage heading into the fourth quarter. In the past 90 years, only one team (2009 New England, 59-0) held a larger lead after three quarters.
- Ryan threw two touchdown passes to **JULIO JONES** (eight and 40 yards) and connected with **HARRY DOUGLAS** (three) on another. Ryan has passed for at least three touchdowns in a game 21 times and the Falcons are 20-1 (.952) in those contests.
- He has posted a 100+ passer rating in a game 38 times and the Falcons are 36-2 (.947) in those contests.
- In his seventh season from Boston College, this is Ryan's sixth career Player of the Week Award and second this year (Week 1).
- Ryan's six Offensive Player of the Week Awards are the most in franchise history.

DEFENSE: S KAM CHANCELLOR, SEATTLE SEAHAWKS

- Chancellor had an interception, one forced fumble, two passes defensed and nine tackles in the Seahawks' 26-20 overtime win over Denver.
- Both of the turnovers that Chancellor caused led to Seahawks points. He forced a fumble on Denver's first play from scrimmage that was recovered by **K.J. WRIGHT** at the Broncos' 23-yard line. That led to a Seattle field goal. Late in the fourth quarter, with the Seahawks up 17-12 and Denver driving into Seattle territory, Chancellor intercepted a **PEYTON MANNING** pass and returned it 52 yards to set up another Seahawks field goal.
- Chancellor is the only Seahawks safety with a forced fumble and a 50+ yard interception return in the same game since 1993, the first year forced fumbles were tracked.
- In Denver's past 28 games (including the playoffs), the Broncos have been held to 20 points or fewer just three times – twice by the Seahawks.
- In his fifth year from Virginia Tech, this is Chancellor's first career Player of the Week Award.
- Chancellor is the first Seahawks safety to be honored since 2004 (**MICHAEL BOULWARE**, Week 11).
- This marks the third consecutive season a Seattle defensive back has been honored. Cornerback **RICHARD SHERMAN** was named Defensive Player of the Week in 2012 (Week 10) and 2013 (Weeks 2 and 15).

SPECIAL TEAMS: PR-KR-WR DEVIN HESTER, ATLANTA FALCONS

- Hester set an NFL record and passed Pro Football Hall of Famer **DEION SANDERS** (19) with his 20th career return touchdown when he returned a punt 62 yards for a score in the Falcons' win.
- Hester added a 20-yard touchdown run, a 25-yard catch and finished with 68 punt-return yards and 29 kickoff-return yards. In the past 50 years, Hester is one of three players (Pro Football Hall of Famer **GALE SAYERS** and **FREDDIE SOLOMON**) with a punt-return TD, a 20+ yard rushing TD and a 25+ yard catch in the same game.
- Hester has 14 career punt-return touchdowns, the most in NFL history.
- He is only the second player in NFL history to have a rushing, receiving, kick-return, punt-return and missed field goal return touchdown in his career (**TIMMY BROWN**, 1959-68).
- In his ninth season from Miami, this is Hester's 14th career Player of the Week Award.
- Hester's 14 career Special Teams Player of the Week Awards are the most ever by a return specialist and the second-most ever among all players (**ADAM VINATIERI**, 15).

2014 NFC PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

	<u>Offense</u>	<u>Defense</u>	<u>Special Teams</u>
Wk 1	QB Matt Ryan, Atlanta	LB DeAndre Levy, Detroit	K Matt Bryant, Atlanta
Wk 2	RB Darren Sproles, Philadelphia	CB Kyle Fuller, Chicago	PR Ted Ginn, Jr., Arizona
Wk 3	QB Matt Ryan, Atlanta	S Kam Chancellor, Seattle	PR-KR-WR Devin Hester, Atlanta

Other nominees for NFC Offensive Player of Week 3 as submitted by NFC clubs:

- Chicago tight end **MARTELLUS BENNETT**, who had two touchdowns, five catches and 54 yards in the Bears' 27-19 win at the New York Jets.
- New Orleans quarterback **DREW BREES**, who completed 27 of 35 passes (77.1 percent) for 293 yards with two touchdowns and no interceptions for a 120.3 passer rating in the Saints' 20-9 win over Minnesota.
- Arizona rookie wide receiver **JOHN BROWN**, who had two touchdowns, four catches and 54 yards in the Cardinals' 23-14 win over San Francisco.
- Washington quarterback **KIRK COUSINS**, who completed 30 of 48 passes (62.5 percent) for 427 yards with three touchdowns and one interception for a 103.4 passer rating in the Redskins' loss at Philadelphia.
- Chicago quarterback **JAY CUTLER**, who completed 23 of 38 passes (60.5 percent) for 225 yards with two touchdowns and no interceptions for a 94.7 passer rating.
- Philadelphia quarterback **NICK FOLES**, who completed 27 of 41 passes (65.9 percent) for 325 yards with three touchdowns and no interceptions for a 114.4 passer rating in the Eagles' 37-34 win over Washington.
- New York running back **RASHAD JENNINGS**, who rushed for 176 yards and a touchdown in the Giants' 30-17 win over Houston.
- Atlanta wide receiver **JULIO JONES**, who had nine catches for 161 yards and two touchdowns.
- San Francisco quarterback **COLIN KAEPERNICK**, who completed 29 of 37 passes (78.4 percent) for 245 yards with one touchdown and no interceptions for a 103.3 passer rating in the 49ers' loss at Arizona.
- Seattle running back **MARSHAWN LYNCH**, who had 128 scrimmage yards (88 rushing, 40 receiving) and two touchdowns, including the overtime game-winner.
- Philadelphia wide receiver **JEREMY MACLIN**, who had eight catches for 154 yards and a touchdown.
- New York quarterback **ELI MANNING**, who completed 21 of 28 passes (75.0 percent) for 234 yards with two touchdowns and no interceptions for a 123.2 passer rating.
- Arizona quarterback **DREW STANTON**, who passed for 244 yards with two touchdown passes and no interceptions for a 98.5 passer rating.

Other nominees for NFC Defensive Player of Week 3 as submitted by NFC clubs:

- Dallas linebacker **BRUCE CARTER**, who had a 25-yard interception-return touchdown and 12 tackles in the Cowboys' 34-31 comeback win at St. Louis.
- Chicago rookie cornerback **KYLE FULLER**, who had an interception, two forced fumbles, two passes defended and seven tackles.
- Detroit linebacker **DE ANDRE LEVY**, who had 10 tackles, a safety and two passes defended in the Lions' 19-7 win over Green Bay.
- New York linebacker **JAMEEL MC CLAIN**, who had 11 tackles and a half-sack.

Other nominees for NFC Special Teams Player of Week 3 as submitted by NFC clubs:

- Arizona rookie kicker **CHANDLER CATANZARO**, who converted all three field-goal attempts and both PATs.
- Philadelphia rookie kicker **CODY PARKEY**, who converted all three field-goal attempts and four PATs.
- Philadelphia kick returner **CHRIS POLK**, who returned a kickoff 102 yards for a touchdown and averaged 68.5 yards per return.
- New York defensive end **DAMONTRE MOORE**, who blocked a punt to set up a Giants touchdown.
- Seattle punter **JON RYAN**, who placed five of his six punts inside the 20-yard line and averaged 50.2 yards per punt with a net average of 47.7 yards.