

The NFL is back from the brink

by Charnell Harris
Features Editor

Roaring crowds and modern-day giants of men running at neck-breaking speeds rule the fields once more, as fans filled stadiums across the United States to enjoy what is most likely the most watched sport in the country.

After this summer's frightening lockout, NFL fans were dazzled by, and perhaps more thankful than ever, for the first weeks of football.

Brian Urlacher of the Chicago Bears made a great game-changing interception against the Atlanta Falcons, leading the Bears to a 30-12 victory. New York Jets running back, Joe McKnight, in a play rarely seen, blocked a critical field goal, giving the Jets their first season win.

Week one was definitely the "Week of the Rookies." The newcomers spent their opening games showing fans and spectators why they're here playing with the big boys.

Carolina Panther's new quarterback, Heisman winner, Cam Newton, started his professional career throwing more than 400 yards in his opening game, setting a new record for rookie quarterbacks. Randall Cobb, a draft pick for Green Bay, returned a kick-

NFL Sunday Game Schedule		
Games	Station	Time
Philadelphia vs. New York Giants	FOX	1 p.m.
Green Bay vs. Chicago	FOX	4:15 p.m.
Indianapolis vs. Pittsburgh	NBC	8:20 p.m.
Baltimore vs. St. Louis	CBS	4:05 p.m.
Jacksonville vs. Carolina	CBS	1:00 p.m.
New Orleans vs. Houston	CBS	1:00 p.m.

off for 108 yards. Helping the Packers win their opening game against the New Orleans Saints.

Though the Super Bowl is months away, teams are preparing for vicious competition, as is the case for the Philadelphia Eagles. Quarterback Michael Vick told the Philadelphia Sports Daily that the team is on their Super Bowl run this season. But before they can start talking about the big finale, they need to defeat last year's nemesis, Green Bay, who beat them out of the 2011 playoffs. However, when you're throwing to one of the fastest wide receivers, DeSean Jackson, in the NFL, maybe Mr. Vick knows something the rest of us do not.

Players bargained to have less work-outs during the off-season in order to prevent the likelihood of injuries. Many players opened

this season with career threatening injuries.

A spokesman for the Indianapolis Colts confirmed the likelihood of franchise quarterback, Peyton Manning returning to the field is very slim. Doctors suggest his recovery can take from two to six months, possibly making him inactive until March of 2012. While recovering from a neck surgery, the Colts coaches have been scouting some of the rising and most known college quarterbacks such as Andy Luck from Stanford University. Recent interviews with Colts vice chairman, Bill Polian, confirmed the Colts are indeed interested in getting a new quarterback.

"Peyton and I did talk when we did his last contract that the time is approaching to look at new quarterbacks' and we have to evaluate whether they could be starting quarterbacks for the Indianapolis Colts," said Mr. Polian

in an article written by the Associated Press.

This Sunday, fans should expect to see some great match-ups, like the Super Bowl champions, Green Bay Packers going against the Chicago Bears. The New York Giants will play the Philadelphia Eagles, while the Pittsburgh Steelers will play the Indianapolis Colts.

Cam Newton broke yet another record this week-end, passing 432 yards in his second NFL game, with an overall count of 854 yards this season. The most so far by any other rookie in NFL history, however, even with those kinds of statistics it wasn't enough to defeat the reigning champs.

The Panthers struggled against Green Bays' superior defense. At the end of the first half the score was 7-13 with the Panthers in the lead. However, after three interceptions thrown by Mr. Newton, the game changed in the reigning champs favor. Green Bay won 30-23.

The worst play of the game was a major fumble by Panthers wide receiver, Steve Smith, which led to an immediate touchdown for Green Bay. Even better moments for Green Bay were the two interceptions caught by cornerback, Charles Woodson.

FSU vs ECSU



Voice photo by Jennifer Lucas

Bryan Houston (32), a junior linebacker, recovers an ECSU fumble for the Broncos on Saturday night which lead to the Broncos second of three touchdowns. The Broncos fell victim to the Vikings of Elizabeth City State University with a final score of 21-42 give the Broncos a current standing of 0-3 on the season.



Voice photo by Rasheed McLain

Brandon Blumears-Cluff (7), a junior quarter-back, runs the ball of bounds on Saturday night while gaining yards for the Broncos. Through the yards were gained the Broncos, they still went on to lose the game with a final score of 21-42 making the Broncos season standing 0-3.



Voice photo by Jennifer Lucas

Antonio Allen (81), a sophomore wide receiver, celebrates the Broncos first touchdown of the game against Elizabeth City State University (ECSU) on Saturday night. FSU lost to ECSU, 21-42. Including the lost to ECSU this brings the Broncos to a current overall standing of 0-3 on the season.