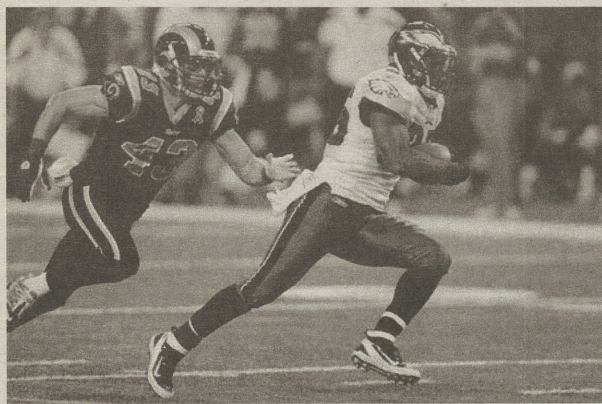


Sports

Fly Eagles Fly!

By Nick Alejandro - Lion's Eye Sports Writer - nta5029@psu.edu

The first game of the season, the Eagles faced the St. Louis Rams. The Rams had a record of 4-0 in the preseason and had high hopes for this game. On the opening drive and first play for the Rams, Steven Jackson ran for a touchdown. He then couldn't continue to play because he strained his quads. The Eagles took advantage of this and pounded the Rams defense. Desean Jackson had six catches for a total of 102 yards and one touchdown. LeSean McCoy ran for 122 yards and two touchdowns. Vick proved many people wrong and threw under pressure consistently and ended up with two touchdowns in a 31-13 win over the Rams.



Philadelphia Eagles running back LeSean McCoy, right, runs past St. Louis Rams defensive back Craig Dahl on his way to a 49-yard touchdown run during the fourth quarter of an NFL football game on Sunday, Sept. 11, 2011, in St. Louis. The Eagles won 31-13. (AP Photo/Tom Gannam)

the challenge flag for a play that was ruled an interception. Clearly, the ball caught for the interception hit the ground. This interception lead to a Falcon touchdown, right before halftime, and became a game changing play that possibly won the game for Atlanta. Andy Reid not challenging the interception is no surprise, because since he has entered the league in 1999, he is the coach with the fewest amounts of challenges with only fifty-nine.



DeSean Jackson #10 of the Philadelphia Eagles attempts to catch a touchdown pass against Bradley Fletcher #32 of the St. Louis Rams at the Edward Jones Dome on September 11, 2011 in St. Louis, Missouri. The Eagles beat the Rams 31-13. (September 10, 2011 - Photo by Dilip Vishwanat/Getty Images North America)

game for the Falcons. Even though Maclin dropped that pass, he had a breakout performance catching thirteen passes for 171 yards and two touchdowns.



Michael Vick #7 of the Philadelphia Eagles rushes against the St. Louis Rams at the Edward Jones Dome on September 11, 2011 in St. Louis, Missouri. The Eagles beat the Rams 31-13. (September 10, 2011 - Photo by Dilip Vishwanat/Getty Images North America)

In week 2, the Eagles faced the Atlanta Falcons and this game was very important to Michael Vick because of his history. This was his original team before he found himself in trouble with the law and spent time in jail. The Eagles were away and needed to bring their A game. Atlanta fans gave Michael Vick a warm welcome and people all over were wearing his number 7 jersey. Andy Reid challenged one play in the beginning of the game which was in their favor but, he didn't throw

Desean Jackson wasn't as efficient as he was in week 1. He didn't have Michael Vick the whole game to throw him the long ball. Michael Vick suffered a concussion in the third quarter by being hit and swung into his own offensive linemen. Vick did not return to the game and the second-string quarterback Mike Kafka took his place. In his first ever NFL regular season game, Mike Kafka proved himself to be able to hang with the big boys, and keep a spot on the Eagles roster. He completed seven of his nine passes for seventy-two yards. He would have been eight for nine in completions if it weren't for the Jeremy Maclin drop on fourth down which sealed the

How will the Eagles manage if Michael Vick is ruled not to play because of the concussion he suffered against the Falcons? He will have to go through a series of tests if he wants to make a return for week three. Mike Kafka and Vince Young are the backups to Michael Vick. Vince Young has a strained left hamstring so Mike Kafka will most likely see time. The Eagles next game will be at home against the New York Giants.

WEEK 04		
	San Francisco 49ers Sun, 10/02 at 1:00 PM EDT Home: Lincoln Financial Field	TV: FOX Radio: 94WIP DirecTV: 708 Sirius: 93
WEEK 05		
	Buffalo Bills Sun, 10/09 at 1:00 PM EDT Away: Ralph Wilson Stadium	TV: FOX Radio: 94WIP DirecTV: 709

The Chase for the Cup Begins As the Drivers Standings Get Jumbled Up

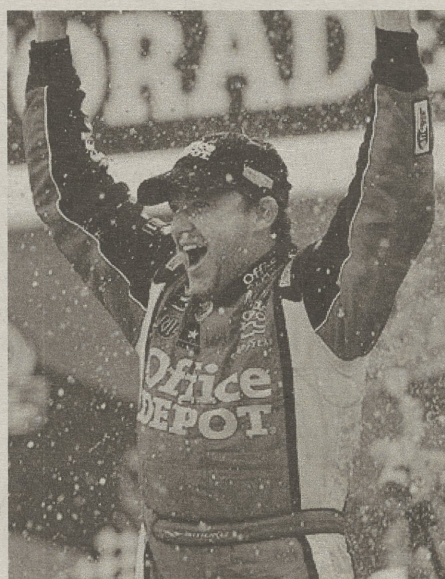
By Keith Kirk - Lion's Eye Sports Writer

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Finally, what every NASCAR fan has been awaiting is here. That's right! The NASCAR Chase for the Cup is on its way. The twelve racers who have made it to the chase are now competing for it all. Before the Chase began the top twelve racers were decided upon.

1 Kyle Busch	2012
2 Kevin Harvick	2012
3 Jeff Gordon	2009
4 Matt Kenseth	2006
5 Carl Edwards	2003
6 Jimmie Johnson	2003
7 Kurt Busch	2003
8 Ryan Newman	2003
9 Tony Stewart	2000
10 Dale Earnhardt Jr.	2000
11 Brad Keselowski	2000
12 Denny Hamlin	2000

(The standings as of the beginning of the Chase)



(Image courtesy of: ASP/Cal Sport Media) Tony Stewart winning the Geico 400 at Chicagoland Speedway.

1 Tony Stewart	2094
2 Kevin Harvick	2087
3 Brad Keselowski	2083
4 Carl Edwards	2080
5 Jeff Gordon	2071
6 Kyle Busch	2068
7 Matt Kenseth	2068
8 Dale Earnhardt Jr.	2068
9 Kurt Busch	2066
10 Jimmie Johnson	2065
11 Ryan Newman	2060
12 Denny Hamlin	2028

(Standings after the first two races)

Each one of these top twelve drivers were distributed points for each of their regular season accomplishments. The first race on their Chase for the Cup was the "Geico 400" at Chicagoland Speedway in Chicago, Illinois. It was a crazy race and the standings were shifted drastically.

The top three finishers of the race were: Tony Stewart, Kevin Harvick, and Dale Earnhardt Junior. Both Stewart and Earnhardt increased their positions in the standings as well as their chances of winning the cup by a lot.

The second race of the Chase was the "Sylvania 300" at New Hampshire Motor Speedway. New Hampshire is one of the most unusual tracks on the Cup Series circuit and the track is considered by most drivers as one of the toughest ovals in motorsports. Tony Stewart once again took the checked flag and redeemed himself for a wreck in the 2004 Chase for the Cup which destroyed his hopes from winning the cup that year.

The next race will be on October 2nd at Dover International Speedway, also known as "The Monster Mile". The race at Dover is probably one of the most difficult races all year for all of the drivers. The Dover International Speedway is one of the most unique race tracks in NASCAR. This is because it is exactly one mile long, which means it is neither a superspeedway nor a short track. Also another unique part of this racetrack is that the track is made of concrete where most of the tracks are made of asphalt. The track at Dover was once an asphalt track until the mid 1990's when it was converted to a concrete track and still is one of the only three tracks made of concrete. The other two concrete tracks are Bristol Motor Speedway and Dover's sister track, the Nashville Superspeedway. Even though all three are

concrete, the Sprint Cup Series only races on Bristol and Dover speedways because Nashville has yet to receive a premier series date since 2001. With only having two racetracks made of concrete it makes this race at Dover even more challenging. Anything can happen on these two racetracks and NASCAR fans should expect anything. These races are guaranteed to be two big races and will most likely alter the Chase standings even more.

image courtesy of: Nam Y. Huh / AP) Tony Stewart winning the Geico 400 at Chicagoland Speedway

