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LONDON, HERE WE COME! GIANTS PLAY DOLPHINS AT WEMBLEY; COLTS & PATS TRY TO KEEP IT PERFECT

It'll be fish 'n chips 'n football!

That will be one of the featured entrees served up by the NFL this week as the league makes history by playing its firstever regular-season game overseas. It will be the New York Giants taking on the Miami Dolphins in London, England at the new Wembley Stadium on Sunday at 1:00 PM ET (5:00 PM locally) in a game to be broadcast live by FOX-TV and Westwood One Radio Sports.

"It's going to be a neat experience," says Giants quarterback **ELI MANNING**. "Everyone is looking forward to going over there and being the first teams to play in an international game. It is a great opportunity. It's going to be a little different and we have to get our minds set for that."

Meanwhile, back in the states, there will be a lot happening - like 12 other games packed with intriguing storylines.

Two of the most interesting will be New England hosting Washington and Indianapolis playing at Carolina.

New England and Indianapolis are seeking to extend their records to 8-0 and 7-0, respectively. Since 1970, in only five seasons have two teams built records of at least 7-0 (<u>1985</u>: 8-0 Bears, 7-0 Rams; <u>1990</u>: 8-0 49ers, 8-0 Giants; <u>1991</u>: 8-0 Redskins, 7-0 Saints; <u>1998</u>: 8-0 Broncos, 7-0 Vikings; <u>2006</u>: 8-0 Colts, 7-0 Bears).

Individually, the teams have accomplished some rare NFL feats:

- <u>New England</u> leads the league with 279 points while allowing 120. That 159-point difference is the *highest for a team's first seven games in 41 years, since the 1966 Dallas Cowboys had a 160-point differential (266-106).*
- Indianapolis can join the 1929-31 Green Bay Packers as the only teams in history to start three consecutive seasons with at least 7-0 records (Green Bay: 10-0 in 1929, 8-0 in 1930, 9-0 in 1931; Indianapolis: 13-0 in 2005, 9-0 in 2006).

Just some of the interesting games in Week 8:

NEW YORK GIANTS (5-2) at MIAMI DOLPHINS (0-7) in LONDON, ENGLAND

STORYLINE: History is made!

Giants and Dolphins play first overseas regular-season game in NFL history. "Of course, we want to see a little bit of London," says Giants **LB ANTONIO PIERCE**, "but we are going over there to play a game and win."

Winning is exactly what the Giants have done recently. After losing their first two games while giving up a combined 80 points, they have won five in a row while surrendering a total of 69 points.

Leading New York's defense is London-born **DE OSI UMENYIORA**, who ties for the NFL lead in sacks (8.0) and comes off a game in which he had a combined sack, forced fumble, fumble recovery and 75-yard TD return on the same play.

One of the Dolphins, DE JASON TAYLOR, "preceded" his teammates to England. A giant, 26-foot-tall replica of Taylor in

NFL LONDON FACTOID

OSI COMES HOME: He was only seven when he left, but for New York Giants defensive end **OSI UMENYIORA**, this Sunday's game in London will be a return home. Umenyiora was born in London and lived there until he was seven. His family then moved to Nigeria before settling in Alabama, where Umenyiora first played football in the 11th grade.

full uniform has been erected in Trafalgar Square. It is the largest animated human figure ever constructed.

WASHINGTON REDSKINS (4-2) at NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS (7-0)

STORYLINE: Joe's wary of their defense!

Sure the Patriots lead the league in scoring. And every time you turn around, **TOM BRADY** (24-4 lifetime against the NFC), **RANDY MOSS**, **DONTÉ STALLWORTH** or **WES WELKER** are pulling off some sort of offensive histrionics.

But Redskins head coach **JOE GIBBS** thinks it's New England's *defense* – ranked fourth in the league -- that sets up the team. "They are on pace to break every record on offense," says Gibbs. "A big part of that is their defense and special teams. What happens is they get the ball back and their offense is so prolific, people have a tough time stopping them."

The Redskins have nothing to apologize for with their own defense (fifth in the NFL), one of the toughest New England has faced this year. Washington leads the league in fewest yards allowed per play (4.3) and is third in points per game (14.7). And '07 first-rounder **LA RON LANDRY** has joined **SEAN TAYLOR** – five interceptions in the past four games – to form one of the strongest safety combos in the league.

INDIANAPOLIS COLTS (6-0) at CAROLINA PANTHERS (4-2)

STORYLINE: They're not invincible!

So say the Panthers. Carolina – which has topped the Colts all three times the teams have played and tie Indy with 13 takeaways – feels its defense is coming together, and is not ready to concede anything to the undefeated Colts. "We can compete with these guys," says Carolina **CB KEN LUCAS**. "They're not invincible and they can be beaten just like anybody else in the NFL."

Yes they can, but Indy makes it awfully tough. The Colts are the only team in the NFL with a top-three ranking in total offense and defense (both No. 3). With Indianapolis, it's always who-do-you cover? **RBs JOSEPH ADDAI** and **KENTON KEITH** combined for 141 yards against Jacksonville Monday night. WR REGGIE WAYNE added 131 yards on nine catches.

And then, of course, there's **QB PEYTON MANNING**, who directs it all. On Sunday, Manning can top one of the all-time greats, Pro Football Hall of Famer **JOHNNY UNITAS**, for most touchdown passes in team history. With two, No. 18, Manning (286), passes No. 19, Unitas (287)

JACKSONVILLE JAGUARS (4-2) at TAMPA BAY BUCCANEERS (4-3)

STORYLINE: Garcia's accuracy vs. Jaguars' stinginess.

He hasn't been intercepted going back to last year. Tampa Bay **QB JEFF GARCIA** has not been picked off in his last 270 attempts (including playoffs), the best such streak in the league. That goes back to when he was with Philadelphia last season. Garcia ranks second in the league (70.4) only to Tom Brady (73.8) in completion percentage.

That's impressive, say the Jaguars, but look at our points-allowed total, the second-lowest in the league (87). Jacksonville comes off a game – albeit a loss – in which they "limited" the Colts' Manning to one TD.

Or...the "fireplug" RBs could make the difference. Jacksonville's 5-7 **MAURICE JONES-DREW** was held to 52 rush yards Monday night against Indy but averaged 103.5 yards (with three TDs) in his two games before that. Bucs coach **JON GRUDEN** says that 5-9 **RB MICHAEL BENNETT**, acquired in a trade last week, will see considerable action.

GREEN BAY PACKERS (5-1) at DENVER BRONCOS (3-3) (Monday night, ESPN, 8:30 PM ET; 8:00 PM ET if Game 5 of World Series is necessary)

STORYLINE: It's nighttime. It's Colorado. Time to break out the running game, Brett?

The Packers certainly hope so, and the Broncos hope no. That way Denver can concentrate on shutting down Green Bay **QB BRETT FAVRE** and the NFL's No. 2 (tie) pass offense with its own No. 2 NFL pass defense.

The Pack's running game has not ignited yet this year, while the passing game has excelled. "We're winning, but we need to run the ball and run the clock out," says Favre.

The Broncos will come at Favre. They forced three turnovers last week against Pittsburgh and sacked **QB BEN ROETHLISBERGER** four times. The main sack protagonist for Denver is second-year **DE ELVIS DUMERVIL**, who has 14.5 take-downs in his 19 games with the team.

2007 NFL STANDINGS

AFC - 2007 Regular Season

AFC East														
Team	WLT Pct	PF	PA	Net Pts	TD	Home	Road	Div	Pct	Conf	Pct	Non-Conf	Streak	Last 5
New England Patriots	7 0 0 1.000	279	120	159	36	3-0	4-0	3-0	1.000	6-0	1.000	1-0	7W	5-0
Buffalo Bills	2 40.333	84	132	-48	9	2-2	0-2	1-1	.500	2-3	.400	0-1	1W	2-3
New York Jets	1 60.143	136	192	-56	15	1-2	0-4	1-2	.333	1-4	.200	0-2	4L	1-4
Miami Dolphins	0 7 0 .000	156	231	-75	17	0-3	0-4	0-2	.000	0-5	.000	0-2	7L	0-5
AFC North														
Team	WLT Pct	PF	PA	Net Pts	TD	Home	Road	Div	Pct	Conf	Pct	Non-Conf	Streak	Last 5
Pittsburgh Steelers	4 20.667	160	78	82	19	3-0	1-2	1-0	1.000	2-1	.667	2-1	1L	3-2
Baltimore Ravens	4 30.571	124	119	5	10	3-0	1-3	0-2	.000	1-3	.250	3-0	1L	3-2
Cleveland Browns	3 30.500	167	183	-16	20	3-1	0-2	2-1	.667	3-3	.500	0-0	1W	3-2
Cincinnati Bengals	2 40.333	164	187	-23	19	2-1	0-3	1-1	.500	2-3	.400	0-1	1W	1-4
AFC South														
Team	WLT Pct	PF	PA	Net Pts	TD	Home	Road	Div	Pct	Conf	Pct	Non-Conf	Streak	Last 5
Indianapolis Colts	6 0 0 1.000	193	95	98	22	3-0	3-0	3-0	1.000	4-0	1.000	2-0	6W	5-0
Tennessee Titans	4 20.667	132	108	24	12	1-1	3-1	2-1	.667	2-1	.667	2-1	1W	3-2
Jacksonville Jaguars	4 20.667	107	87	20	12	2-2	2-0	1-2	.333	3-2	.600	1-0	1L	4-1
Houston Texans	3 40.429	169	174	-5	17	2-2	1-2	0-3	.000	2-3	.400	1-1	2L	1-4
AFC West														
Team	WLT Pct	PF	PA	Net Pts	TD	Home	Road	Div	Pct	Conf	Pct	Non-Conf	Streak	Last 5
Kansas City Chiefs	4 30.571	102	113	-11	10	2-1	2-2	2-0	1.000	3-2	.600	1-1	2W	4-1
San Diego Chargers	3 30.500	137	119	18	17	2-1	1-2	2-1	.667	2-2	.500	1-1	2W	2-3
Denver Broncos	3 30.500	106	164	-58	11	2-2	1-1	1-1	.500	3-3	.500	0-0	1W	2-3
Oakland Raiders	2 40.333	126	140	-14	15	1-2	1-2	0-3	.000	2-3	.400	0-1	2L	2-3

NFC - 2007 Regular Season

NFC East					
Team	WLT Pct	PF PA Net Pts TD Home	Road Div Pct	Conf Pct	Non-Conf Streak Last 5
Dallas Cowboys	6 10.857	227 158 69 27 3-1	3-0 1-0 1.000	4-0 1.000) 2-1 1W 4-1
New York Giants	5 20.714	187 149 38 23 3-1	2-1 2-1.667	4-2 .667	1-0 5W 5-0
Washington Redskins	4 20.667	122 88 34 14 3-1	1-1 1-1 .500	3-2 .600	1-0 1W 3-2
Philadelphia Eagles	2 4 0 .333	116 101 15 11 1-2	1-2 0-2.000	1-4 .200	1-0 1L 2-3
NFC North					
Team	WLT Pct	PF PA Net Pts TD Home	Road Div Pct	Conf Pct	Non-Conf Streak Last 5
Green Bay Packers	5 10.833	142 107 35 16 3-1	2-0 1-1 .500	4-1 .800	1-0 1W 4-1
Detroit Lions	4 20.667	140 171 -31 16 3-0	1-2 2-0 1.000	3-2 .600	1-0 1W 3-2
Chicago Bears	3 40.429	137 165 -28 14 1-2	2-2 1-2 .333	2-3 .400	1-1 1W 2-3
Minnesota Vikings	2 4 0 .333	115 114 1 13 1-1	1-3 1-2 .333	2-3 .400	0-1 1L 1-4
NFC South					
Team	WLT Pct	PF PA Net Pts TD Home	Road Div Pct	Conf Pct	Non-Conf Streak Last 5
Carolina Panthers	4 20.667	123 110 13 13 0-2	4-0 2-1 .667	4-1 .800	0-1 2W 3-2
Tampa Bay Buccaneer	s430.571	124 110 14 14 3-0	1-3 2-0 1.000	3-2 .600	1-1 1L 3-2
New Orleans Saints	2 40.333	101 152 -51 13 1-2	1-2 1-2 .333	2-2 .500	0-2 2W 2-3
Atlanta Falcons	1 60.143	95 153-58 8 1-2	0-4 0-2.000	0-4 .000	1-2 3L 1-4
NFC West					
Team	WLT Pct	PF PA Net Pts TD Home	Road Div Pct	Conf Pct	Non-Conf Streak Last 5
Seattle Seahawks	4 30.571	137 108 29 14 3-1	1-2 2-1 .667	3-2 .600	1-1 1W 3-2
Arizona Cardinals	3 40.429	147 157 -10 17 2-1	1-3 2-1 .667	2-3 .400	1-1 2L 2-3
San Francisco 49ers	2 40.333	78 135-57 8 1-2	1-2 2-1 .667	2-2 .500	0-2 4L 1-4
St. Louis Rams	0 7 0 .000	79 192-113 6 0-3	0-4 0-3.000	0-6 .000	0-1 7L 0-5

LAST WEEK'S NFL RESULTS (OCTOBER 21-22)

(Home team in CAPS)

Sunday, October 21

BUFFALO 19, Baltimore 14 DETROIT 23, Tampa Bay 16 Tennessee 38, HOUSTON 36 New England 49, MIAMI 28 N.Y. GIANTS 33, San Francisco 15 NEW ORLEANS 22, Atlanta 16 WASHINGTON 21, Arizona 19 CINCINNATI 38, N.Y. Jets 31

Sunday, October 21, Cont.'d.

Kansas City 12, OAKLAND 10 DALLAS 24, Minnesota 14 Chicago 19, PHILADELPHIA 16 SEATTLE 33, St. Louis 6 DENVER 31, Pittsburgh 28

Monday, October 22

Indianapolis 29, JACKSONVILLE 7

2007 WEEK 8 SCHEDULE – OCTOBER 28-29

Byes: Arizona, Atlanta, Baltimore, Dallas, Kansas City, Seattle (All times local)

Sunday, October 28

Indianapolis at Carolina, 1:00 PM Detroit at Chicago, 12:00 PM Pittsburgh at Cincinnati, 1:00 PM N.Y. Giants at Miami (London), 5:00 PM Philadelphia at Minnesota, 12:00 PM Cleveland at St. Louis, 12:00 PM Oakland at Tennessee, 12:00 PM Buffalo at N.Y. Jets, 4:05 PM

Sunday, October 28, Cont.'d.

Houston at San Diego, 1:05 PM Jacksonville at Tampa Bay, 4:05 PM Washington at New England, 4:15 PM New Orleans at San Francisco, 1:15 PM

Monday, October 29

Green Bay at Denver, 6:30 PM (ESPN) (6:00 PM MT if World Series Game 5 is necessary)