

POST-GAME NOTES

Detroit Lions vs. Green Bay Packers

Thursday, November 24, 2011

Ford Field

LIONS THANKSGIVING TRADITION

- Today's game was Detroit's 72nd Thanksgiving Day game, a tradition first started in 1934.
- This was the 20th meeting between the Lions and Packers on Thanksgiving.

ATTENDANCE MARK

- Today's attendance was 66,263. It is the Lions' second-largest crowd at Ford Field (opened in 2002)

T JEFF BACKUS

- Today's start by Lions T **Jeff Backus** is the 171st consecutive start of his career. He tied Lions Hall of Fame CB Dick LeBeau for the most consecutive starts in team history.
- Backus has started every game since he was drafted by the Lions in 2001.
- He now has the seventh-most consecutive starts by an offensive lineman in the NFL since 1970.

WR CALVIN JOHNSON

- WR **Calvin Johnson** finished the game with 4 catches for 49 yards and 1 touchdown. For the season he now has 1,023 receiving yards.
- It is the third time in his career he has registered 1,000 receiving yards in a single season. He is the first receiver in Lions history to record 1,000 receiving yards three times (1,331 in 2008 and 1,120 in 2010) in the first five seasons with the team.
- Johnson's touchdown reception occurred on a 3-yard toss from QB Matthew Stafford. It is Johnson's 12th touchdown catch on the year which leads the NFL. He now has recorded 12 touchdown receptions in three of his first five seasons (also had 12 in 2008 and 2010).
- By catching 12 touchdown passes in three of his first five NFL seasons, Johnson joins Hall of Famers WR Lance Alworth and Jerry Rice as the only players in NFL history with 12+ TD catches three times in their first five seasons.
- He is the 10th player in NFL history to record 12 touchdown receptions in three different seasons.

QB MATTHEW STAFFORD

- QB **Matthew Stafford** threw for 276 yards in today's game, moving his season total to 3,119. He has the most passing yards by any Lions quarterback through the season's first 11 games in team history (previous best was QB Jon Kitna 2,897 in 2007). He is the first quarterback in franchise history to throw for 3,000 yards in the season's first 11 games.
- Stafford's 3,000-yard season is the eighth in team history and he is the fifth quarterback to accomplish this feat.
- His 3,119 passing yards ranks sixth all-time for a single season.
- With 1 touchdown pass today, Stafford now has thrown 26 touchdowns on the season. He tied Hall of Fame QB Bobby Layne (26, 1951) for the second-highest single-season tally in team history. QB Scott Mitchell holds the team record with 32 in 1995.
- Stafford's 26 touchdown passes through 11 games ties Layne (26, 1951) for the most touchdown passes by a Lions quarterback through 11 games in team history.

DE CLIFF AVRIL

- DE **Cliff Avril** registered a sack (11 yards loss) and a forced fumble in today's game. He now has 7.0 sacks on the year and a career high 5 forced fumbles.