

DETROIT LIONS AT MINNESOTA VIKINGS
FORD FIELD
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2011; 1 P.M. ET

POST-GAME NOTES

31 FIRST HALF POINTS

- The Lions scored 31 points against the Minnesota Vikings in the first half to take a 31-14 Lead into the locker room. It marks the first time the Lions have scored 30 points in the first half since they scored 31 vs. Minnesota November 17, 1985. It is the ninth time in team history that the Lions have scored 30 points in the first half.

DEFENSIVE SCORES

- The Lions have now scored 6 defensive touchdowns of the season (4 interception, 2 fumble return) and that is the most the team has registered in a single season since they had six in 1967 (6 interception).
- By registering six touchdowns via interception and fumble return, it marks the fourth time in team history that the team has accomplished that feat. The team record is 7 in 1937 (4 fumble return, 3 interception).

TEAM PICK-SIX

- CB **Alphonso Smith's** interception return for a touchdown was the Lions fourth interception return for a touchdown of the season. It marks the first time since 1970 that the Lions have returned four interceptions for touchdowns as a team, and it is tied for the second-most in a single-season in team history (6 in 1967).

T JEFF BACKUS

- Lions T **Jeff Backus** has now started 173 consecutive games. Last week, he set a new franchise record for consecutive starts by surpassing Hall of Fame CB Dick Lebeau whose previous record was 171 consecutive starts.

WR CALVIN JOHNSON

- On his first reception of the game, WR **Calvin Johnson** reached 70 catches on the season. He joined WR Herman Moore (5) and WR Johnnie Morton (3) as the only players in team history with 70+ receptions in three different seasons. He now has 72 catches in 2011.
- Johnson is now the first player in team history with 70+ receptions in three of his first five seasons with the club.
- With 29 receiving yards today, Johnson (1,121 yards) has surpassed 1,100 yards on the season. He has reached that mark for the third time in his career and for the first time in back-to-back seasons. Johnson and Moore are the only receivers in team history to reach 1,100 yards three times during their career with the Lions, and Johnson is the first to do so three times in his first five seasons.

QB MATTHEW STAFFORD

- QB **Matthew Stafford** completed 20-of-29 passes (68.9 pct) today for 227 yards and 2 touchdowns. Has now thrown a touchdown pass in 15 consecutive games. He has now thrown at least 2 touchdown passes in the Lions 13 games this season.
- His season totals including the following: completions (327), yards (3,754), touchdowns (29) and passer rating (92.7). He now has the most completions (Jon Kitna, 309 in 2006), yards (Scott Mitchell, 3470 in 1995) and touchdown passes (Scott Mitchell, 26 in 1995) through the first 13 games of a season for a Lions quarterback.

TE BRANDON PETTIGREW

- Lions TE **Brandon Pettigrew** registered his fourth reception of the game to end the first quarter and moved his season totals to 60. He became the first tight end in Lions history to record 60 receptions in two different seasons (71 in 2010).
- He finished with a team-high 6 catches for 57 yards and 1 touchdown. In two games this year vs. Minnesota, Pettigrew caught 17 receptions for 169 yards.
- Pettigrew, now with 532 yards, became the fourth tight end in team history to record 500 receiving yards in two different seasons.

DE CLIFF AVRIL

- On the opening defensive play of the game for the Lions, DE **Cliff Avril** registered a 10-yard sack and forced fumble resulting in a fumble recovery for a touchdown in the endzone by LB Stephen Tulloch. It was his eighth sack this season. He entered today's game tied for a League-high with 5 forced fumbles, which he now has moved to 6 this season.
- Avril stopped the Vikings on their third drive of the game with a 3-yard sack, establishing a new single-season career high with 9.
- He finished with 8 tackles (7 solo), 2 sacks, 3 tackle for losses, 1 forced fumble and 1 fumble recovery.
- Avril's fumble recovery occurred on the final play of the game with the Lions were facing 1st-and-goal and the Lions 1-yard line. LB DeAndre Levry sacked the Vikings for a 10-yard loss and forced a fumble that was batted and recovered by Avril at the Minnesota 43 yard-line.
- Avril is currently tied for a League-high with 6 forced fumbles and tied for second with 3 fumble recoveries.

LB STEPHEN TULLOCH

- The Lions defense struck quick with a fumble recovery in the endzone by LB **Stephen Tulloch** that occurred on a sack-fumble by DE Cliff Avril. The fumble recovery was Tulloch's first career touchdown.
- The last time the Lions defense recovered a fumble in the endzone for a touchdown was DE Robert Porcher vs. Minnesota 12/29/02.
- The fumble recovery for a touchdown is the Lions fifth defensive touchdown of the season (3 interceptions, 2 fumble returns).
- Tulloch led the Lions with 9 tackles (6 solo) in the game.

WR TITUS YOUNG

- WR **Titus Young** pushed the Lions lead to 14-0 on a 57-yard pass from QB Matthew Stafford. It was Young's third touchdown catch of the year and the 57-yard reception is a new career high.
- He finished with a team-best 87 yards, and it was the second-highest total of his rookie season.

CB ALPHONSO SMITH

- On the Vikings second offensive drive, CB **Alphonso Smith** picked off a pass at the Detroit 43-yard line and returned it 4 yards. It was his first of the season and sixth since joining the Lions in 2010. He now has 6 career interceptions.
- Smith put the Lions up 28-7 after picking off a Vikings pass and returning it 30 yards for a touchdown. It marks the first time in his three-year career he has registered 2 interceptions in a game and it is his second career interception return for a touchdown.

CB ERIC WRIGHT

- CB Eric Wright registered the Lions third interception of the season on the Viking opening possession of the second half. It was Wright's fourth interception this season, and it ties a career high for Wright (4 in 2009 with Cleveland).
- Wright's interception was the Lions 18th on the year. It is the most by the Lions since they had 19 in 2005.