

## Fall Teams Support Fight Against Breast Cancer

**Katelynn Spingola**

Staff Writer

You might have noticed while watching the football games on TV that most of the teams are wearing pink gloves, shoes, and that they are even using a “pink” football. This is because those teams are supporting the Breast Cancer Awareness month. Not only is the NFL supporting breast cancer, but schools and many other corporations also are involved.

The Pink Agenda is one of the many organizations that raise money towards finding the cure for Breast Cancer. This organization is non-profit and committed to raising money for breast cancer care and treatment. The President of The Pink Agenda, Marisa Renee Lee, says, “I don’t believe there is such a thing as a ‘cancer-free’ life.” She believes that, “If you don’t already, you will, ... know someone who has been deeply affected by the disease.” Dealing with the death of her own mother, she went on to do more for other that have

been diagnosed or know family or friends diagnosed with breast cancer. She took it to the next step by creating a group to help raise money to find the cure!

The NFL clubs and players are happy to support the fight against breast cancer. Their campaign is called “A Crucial Catch”, a partnership with the American Cancer Society. NFL is showing their support towards the fight for breast cancer by having coaches, players, referees, and fans wear pink apparel. The special “K-balls” and pink coins used at the games are going to be auctioned off at the NFL Auction. The money raised at the auction will go straight to the American Cancer Society and team charities. The NFL has set up a walk-a-thon, where you can participate with your local American Cancer Society Making Strides against Breast Cancer football team. The



hometestingblog.testcountry.com

NFL believes that this event will unite communities to honor and celebrate breast cancer survivors, educate women about reducing their cancer risk, and raise money and awareness to save lives! It also raises the awareness for young children watching the games about one of the most common cancers out there today.

Taking a closer look at the different organizations that help raise money for the fight against cancer, you will find that each year about \$4.8 to \$5.2 billion per annum is put into cancer research and treatment. Annually or overall, \$100 million is raised from different organizations and participants in the fight against breast cancer.

In 2009, a woman named Deb Willis was inspired to participate in the Avon Walk in Washington D.C. From this event she raised \$49, 447. As a survivor of breast cancer herself, she says, “I walk because I can’t walk away ... I feel like I have been given a gift of survivorship and it gives women hope to see a survi-

vor walk.” She inspires many and has become one of the top nine contributors to the Avon Foundation for Women. Carol Kurzig, president of the Avon Foundation for Women said, “And we are thrilled to have Patrick Dempsey and the Dempsey Racing Team supporting our mission to raise much needed funds for breast cancer screening, treatment and research.” Even actors help fight against breast cancer! Pink was just a color a long time ago. But now, pink is referred to as the color that supports the fight against cancer. They have even made “I <3 BOOBIES” bracelets to help spread the awareness!

If you are good at walking, running, or jogging long distances, try a race or walk-a-thon and you can help raise money for breast cancer. Even if you do not want to run or walk, you can support it by wearing pink in your school or by setting a day during the Breast Cancer Awareness month to wear pink. You can also spread the word that one in eight women have breast cancer, or best of all fund a breast cancer organization! Do your part to help the fight against breast cancer so that you can say you were a part of the fight!

## RALLY TO RESTORE SANITY/FEAR CONTINUED

**Devin Humberg**

Staff Writer

But here, the only complaint I have is, once again, the stoned kids in the trees. And I guess whenever there is a large gathering of people, there’s always that guy. But this rally made me realize that America really is just made up of sane, normal people. And though they may not get heard very often, they are there. For one day, those people got to be the news. The uninteresting and the boring got to make the headlines.

The America I saw at the rally was a sane America, a tolerant America. An America where people aren’t afraid to kick back and laugh, an America where people actually care about one another, and actually try to help each other. This was an America where people didn’t take themselves too seriously. An America where I could bring a giant sign of Jon Stewart with a Hitler moustache, and get interviewed by reporters, not jumped and robbed at gunpoint. Everyone was so laidback, yet so mature at the same time. It really was an almost perfect gathering.

Before the rally, critics were saying Jon and Stephen would be unable to make this a non-political rally. They claimed the rally was merely a stunt to pull in some extra Democratic votes during the elections, which would take place just three days later. But I think Stewart succeeded. There was no hidden-agenda or secret plan. This was simply a rally to restore sanity. A rally to make us realize that “we live in hard times, not end times” and that “if we amplify everything, then nothing gets heard”. A rally that left the media trying to explain themselves, and justify their actions (since Jon Stewart spent the last 30 minutes of the rally demonizing the media.) After the rally was over, I just felt relaxed—my faith in humanity restored. I realized that America isn’t all crazy whack-jobs. The majority of Americans are just normal people who are frustrated with all the insanity. I, and hopefully everyone else in attendance, learned that rationality really is the best course, and that sanity isn’t in such short supply.

**Katie Burke**

A&E Editor

## WASHINGTON REDSKINS

As the new football season approached, many people had mixed feelings as to how the reformed Redskins would perform. Some thought that with the new head coach, Mike Shanahan, former Philadelphia Eagle Quarterback Donovan McNabb, and new, well picked draftees, the team would pull together and win. Others felt that they would underperform, as they have in recent seasons. In truth, they are performing in between these two extremes. With a record of 4-4 so far in the season, the Redskins seem to be doing alright; although their performance is inconsistent. In some games, they demolish their opponent while in others they either barely pull through or lose very convincingly.

Another change that took place this season was the hiring of a new general manager named Bruce Allen. Allen has a good NFL history on his side as his father, George, is a hall-of-famer and coach of the Redskins in the 70s. In his seven years at the helm, the Red-



This NFL season is supposed to be a great one for the Baltimore Ravens. Following last year’s rank as the 9th best scoring team and a record of 9-7, the team is expected to do just as well, if not better this season. They are currently in 1st place in the AFC North with a 6-2 record.

Raven’s Head Coach John Harbaugh has been winning with the team since 2008. Before that, he was Special Teams Coordinator of the Philadelphia Eagles for nine years. Then he was switched to Defensive Backs Coach of the same team in order to prepare him for a head coaching position which he got with the Ravens. Quarterback Joe Flacco also made his NFL debut in 2008 and has been a huge asset to the team. Many people are now “whacko for Flacco”. Since the two joined the Ravens, the team has gotten to the playoffs two years in a row, and they are expected to do it again.

Perhaps what turned this team around was the “for the team” attitude of Coach Harbaugh. While explaining his coaching philosophy he said, “there are

## NFL Season Check-In

skins did not experience a “losing” season. The team made the playoffs five times, and they appeared in a Super Bowl.

Now, his son Bruce is the 8th general manager in Redskin’s history. Working alongside Shanahan, Allen is looking to follow the success of his father. When he was with the Tampa Bay Buccaneers in 2005, Bruce Allen tried to make the team younger by releasing established veterans; now with the Redskins, he is taking the opposite approach (at least for now). He has signed or traded for twelve players all over the age of 30, and Shanahan is going along with it. Trading for Donovan McNabb, who is 34 and entering his 12th NFL season, was considered a great move to start off the season, and he is paying off in games. The new duo of Allen and Shanahan is being counted on to reverse the lack of fortune that the Redskins have experienced over these past few years.

In truth, with the addition of the yellow game pants, new coach, and new general manager, this team of determined players is doing pretty well.

three important things in putting together a football team: number one is the team, the second most important thing is the team, and the third most important thing is the team. We’re going to stick with that through and through, beginning to end, and that’s what it’s all about.” Harbaugh is the opposite of former Raven’s coach Brian Billick who many say didn’t push his team enough.

2010 marks the Raven’s 15th NFL season. They have never been in more than two consecutive seasons. They are hoping (some might even say expecting) to win the AFC North for the 3rd time this season and make the playoffs for the 3rd straight year. Having a fully loaded team, the Raven’s had the luxury of stacking their team at the draft. With upgrades mainly at the receiver position, the Raven’s are in fact the favorites to win at least the AFC North division.

Joe Flacco struggled at times last season with a sub-average passing attack around him. To correct this, the Ravens added Donte Stallworth and Anquan Boldin during the off season, who’s styles of play fit the organization well.

With these improvements, the Raven’s are planning on tweaking areas of imperfection throughout the season, and they are expected to come out on top.



The 2010 football season is the 11th season under the leadership of general manager, Kevin Colbert, and 4th under Head Coach, Mike Tomlin, for the Pittsburgh Steelers. In 2009, they finished with a record of 9-7 for a tie for 2nd in the AFC North.

Probably, the most important challenge the Steelers faced at the beginning of the season was the six game suspension (Later decreased to four), of star quarterback Ben Roethlisberger for off-the-field issues. Roethlisberger is known for playing outside the pocket in a game plan he calls “backyard football” and is famous for 4th quarter comebacks. Although, surprisingly, without Roethlisberger, the Steelers did just fine. “We knew everybody was going to count us out, having Ben out”, said linebacker James Farrior, “They think we can’t win without Ben, but that just gives us more motivation.”

With all the controversy surrounding Ben Roethlisberger and the trading of wide receiver Santonio Holmes to the New York Jets, the Steelers felt compelled to change the perception of their football team. The Steelers brought in wideouts Arnaz Battle and Antwaan Randle El, and signed Larry Foote to a three-year deal. Also, they drafted center, Maurice Pouncey with their first round pick.

The Steelers are well equipped in the passing game. With Hines Ward, Randle El, and Wallace as part of the team, they are looking at a pretty good season although their schedule is very tough. It seems the AFC North will be mainly a battle between the Steelers and the Ravens.

The Pittsburgh Steelers failed to make the post-season last year for the first time since 2006. If they were to miss the playoffs in 2010, it would be their first consecutive season miss since 1999 and 2000.