



SPORTS 8

“The Giants have offensive and defensive talent and may dominate the 2015 season.”

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Why the NY Giants Could Sit Atop the NFC East

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When looking at the New York Giants and the division they are in, the NFC East, it is hard to think that this team has the capability of winning their division by the end of this season. Over the last few seasons, the Giants have developed an offense that appears to have what it takes to win games and be the focal factor in bringing this team success this season. On the other hand, their defense, if healthy, will be good enough to complement their top tier offense. But the question some football fans might have in mind is what particularly do both the Giants offense and defense possess that could lead them to have a winning record this year and a shot at clinching first place?

Well as of the last few years, the Giants have had a hard time providing their quarterback (Eli Manning) with a good, solid offensive line that could allow him to sit in the pocket and give him the amount of time he needs to make a good throw. But as of the last few years, the Giants have also resorted to drafting offensive linemen such as Justin Pugh, Weston Richburg, and Brandon Flowers who all show great potential and demonstrated excellence in their collegiate careers. The beauty of it all is that Eli actually has an



well last year and has a knack of finding running lanes that lead him to run for

opposing teams. What might be tough for this defensive line is to apply pressure on

Cowboys might be the Giant's toughest opponent to beat out for this first place spot in the NFC East, but are nothing the Giants can't beat especially with Dallas's lead wide receiver, Dez Bryant, out for at least four to six weeks, if not more, with a broken foot.

With their top receiver out and a running game that does not have the star caliber it had last year with DeMarco Murray at the helm, Dallas could struggle this season and find their team in a hard position to win first place in their division.

Moreover, the other team possessing any kind of threat might be the Philadelphia Eagles. But this Eagles team does not carry the same spark it had last year, sitting with a running back that doesn't have the offensive line he needs to be successful and wide receiver corps that has some talent but not enough talent to be that destructive.

Overall with the competition the Giants face, they have a lot of skill and talent both offensively and defensively that could make them the winners of the NFC this year.



offensive line that he can rely on; one that I think with time will develop this season into one of the best offensive lines in the league. Moreover, the offensive weapons Eli has around him make this offensive quite special. To begin with, Odell Beckham Jr. proved to everyone last year what he can do and how special he is. His speed, quickness, jumping ability, and of course, his catching skills make him such a lethal weapon, and I don't see his skill diminishing at all this season.

Furthermore, Victor Cruz is very close to being 100%, and when he comes back he will jump back right where he left off. With Odell as the deep threat and Cruz as the quick, slot receiver, Eli could have a very good one-two punch within his utility of receivers. What makes an offense effective is to have both a solid passing game and a good running game, and the Giants have that. Adding a great third down, receiving running back in Shane Vereen this offseason I think will be a big plus for this offense.

Lets not forget about Rashad Jennings, a running back who ran exceptionally

large chunks of yardage. His agility is what makes him quite special and I think he could have quite the season behind this offensive line.

Defensively, the Giants have a sturdy secondary, having two excellent cornerbacks in Dominique Rogers-Cromartie and Prince Amukamara. Furthermore, with a linebacking core that will be led by one of the most versatile linebackers in the league, Jon Beason, and accompanied by two, athletic, young linebackers in Devon Kennard and Uani' Unga, the Giants defensive definitely has a lot of promise to it. Lastly, their defensive line is the section that might weaken this stout defensive that they have. The defensive linemen up front, consisting of Cullen Jenkins and Jonathan Hankins, have a good amount of skill in stopping the run of

within their division, I think the Dallas

