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## Roundup

### Surgeries sideline 49ers' Newberry, Broncos' Pryce

Posted: Tuesday September 21, 2004 10:51PM; Updated: Tuesday September 21, 2004 10:51PM

SANTA CLARA, Calif. (AP) -- Two-time Pro Bowl center [Jeremy Newberry](#) of the San Francisco 49ers underwent surgery Tuesday on his injured right knee.

"The procedure went well and we are waiting to see how he does in the coming weeks with his rehabilitation," Dr. Michael Dillingham said.

Newberry, a seven-year veteran, developed the cartilage problem in his knee a few days after camp began. He returned from his August surgery to start the season opener against Atlanta, but missed last Sunday's game against New Orleans. The team does not know when he will return.

The 49ers signed offensive lineman [Dwayne Ledford](#) on Tuesday to help make up for the injuries to Newberry and [Kwame Harris](#), who is doubtful for Sunday with a sprained left ankle.

San Francisco released defensive end [Dennis Johnson](#) to make room for Ledford. The team also released fullback [Matt Stanley](#) from the practice squad and added offensive lineman Brent Swaggert.

### Broncos' Pryce out 4-to-6 weeks

DENVER (AP) -- [Denver Broncos](#) defensive end [Trevor Pryce](#) will have surgery Wednesday to remove a disc fragment from his lower back and is expected to miss four to six weeks.

Pryce hurt his back last month. He played sparingly in Denver's opener against Kansas City, and sat out last Sunday's game against Jacksonville.

Pryce flew to Los Angeles on Tuesday, where doctors determined he needed surgery. Dr. Robert Watkins of the University of California, a back specialist, will do the operation.

The four-time Pro Bowl selection had 8.5 sacks last year, and his loss will hurt the Broncos, who were already a bit banged up on the defensive line.

On Monday, Denver traded a conditional 2005 draft pick to Atlanta for defensive tackle [Ellis Johnson](#), who never reported to Falcons camp this season. Johnson led all interior linemen last season with eight sacks.

### Bears place Brown on injured reserve

LAKE FOREST, Ill. (AP) -- The [Chicago Bears](#) placed [Mike Brown](#) on injured reserve Tuesday, one day after announcing the safety would miss the rest of the season with a torn Achilles' tendon.

The team elevated rookie cornerback [Alfonso Marshall](#) to fill Brown's roster spot, and signed offensive lineman [Bryan Anderson](#) to the practice squad.

Brown, injured in the closing minutes of Chicago's 21-10 victory at Green Bay on Sunday, was a defensive captain who started 65 of his 66 career games.

The former Nebraska standout sparked the win over the Packers when he scooped up a fumble by [Ahman Green](#) and returned it 95 yards for a TD. It was the second-longest fumble return in team history, behind team founder George Halas' 98-yard return in 1923.

## **Chargers place Polk on injured reserve, sign Downing**

SAN DIEGO (AP) -- [San Diego Chargers](#) special teams standout [Carlos Polk](#) will miss the rest of the season after aggravating a shoulder injury during Sunday's loss to the [New York Jets](#).

Polk, who was put on injured reserve on Tuesday, originally hurt his shoulder during the exhibition season. He missed the season opener at Houston and returned for the Jets game.

To fill Polk's roster spot, the Chargers signed defensive tackle [Eric Downing](#).

Downing played with Kansas City from 2001-03 and was in the Chiefs' training camp this year before being waived before the start of the regular season.

## **Giants sign two to practice squad**

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. (AP) -- The [New York Giants](#) signed cornerback Art Thomas and offensive tackle Morgan Pears to their practice squad Tuesday.

Guard Tyson Clabo and defensive back Will Hunter were released from the practice squad to make room for them.

Thomas was in the Jets training camp as a rookie free agent this summer. He started at cornerback for three seasons at Virginia before switching to wide receiver as a senior. He finished with 84 tackles, one interception and three fumble recoveries, including one he returned 92 yards for a touchdown.

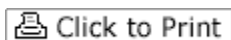
Pears started four of 10 games with the Scottish Claymores of NFL Europe this spring. He was released by the [Miami Dolphins](#) on Aug. 23, 2003. Pears was on the Steelers practice squad from Sept. 30 to Oct. 28 and again for the final week of the season last year.

The Steelers signed him to their active roster on Dec. 31. He was waived by Pittsburgh on Aug. 27.

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