

**HOLMES IS HIS OWN TEAM**

It had happened only twice in history. Kansas City Chiefs running back **PRIEST HOLMES** made it three times last year when he rushed for more touchdowns (27) than every team in the league. The feat had been accomplished in the past by **EMMITT SMITH** in 1995 (25) and **TERRY ALLEN** in 1996 (21):

PLAYER	TEAM	YEAR	RUSH TDs	TEAM	RUSH TDs
Priest Holmes	Kansas City	2003	27	Philadelphia	23
Terry Allen	Washington	1996	21	Denver	20
Emmitt Smith	Dallas	1995	25	Cincinnati	20

“He’s an unbelievable back,” says Minnesota Vikings head coach **MIKE TICE** about the three-time All Star. “The best all-around back in the league by far. You’re not going to stop him.”

Holmes’ 27 rushing touchdowns also broke the NFL single-season mark in the category held by Smith (25), and the overall season record set by **MARSHALL FAULK** in 2000 (26):

PLAYER	TEAM	YEAR	RUSH TDs
<i>Priest Holmes</i>	<i>Kansas City</i>	<i>2003</i>	<i>27</i>
Emmitt Smith	Dallas	1995	25
John Riggins	Washington	1983	24
Five tied	--	--	21

PLAYER	TEAM	YEAR	TOTAL TDs
<i>Priest Holmes</i>	<i>Kansas City</i>	<i>2003</i>	<i>27</i>
Marshall Faulk	St. Louis	2000	26
Emmitt Smith	Dallas	1995	25
John Riggins	Washington	1983	24
Priest Holmes	Kansas City	2002	24

“If I were still in the game, Priest Holmes is the running back I’d want to play with,” says former San Francisco 49ers quarterback and current ESPN analyst **STEVE YOUNG**.

In 2004, Holmes can become the first player in NFL annals to record three consecutive seasons with 20 total touchdowns. With 20 rushing touchdowns, he will become the only player in history with three such seasons in a row. And with 2,000 scrimmage yards, Holmes will tie Faulk for the most consecutive such seasons (four).

“It’s an honor to be blocking for the guy,” says Chiefs guard **BRIAN WATERS**. “I still don’t think people understand just how good a player Priest Holmes is. He runs, he catches, he blocks, he does it all. If you ask around the league, they know. They know that nobody is better.”

Following are Holmes’ career statistics with the Chiefs:

		RUSHING					RECEIVING					COMBINED		
YEAR	G-S	ATT.	YARDS	AVG.	TD		REC.	YARDS	AVG.	TD		ATT.	YARDS	TD
2001	16-16	327	1,555	4.8	8		62	614	9.9	2		389	2,169	10
2002	14-14	313	1,615	5.2	21		70	672	9.6	3		383	2,287	24
2003	16-16	320	1,420	4.4	27		74	690	9.3	0		394	2,110	27

**TWO-HUNDRED TOMLINSON**

Sixty-two players in NFL history have rushed for 200 yards in a game. Sixteen have accomplished the feat more than once. And only five have done it four times or more in a career. Of those five, four are members of the Pro Football Hall of Fame. The fifth is entering just his fourth NFL season. Meet San Diego Chargers running back **LA DAINIAN TOMLINSON**, who is sneaking up on some of the immortals.

“I’m an English major and I run out of superlatives,” says Chargers head coach **MARTY SCHOTTENHEIMER**. “What are you going to say about the guy? He’s a remarkable player.”

Tomlinson rushed for two 200-yard games last year to give him four in his career, tying him for second place all-time in the category with **JIM BROWN**, **EARL CAMPBELL** and **BARRY SANDERS**, and putting him two behind **O.J. SIMPSON**:

PLAYER	TEAM	YEARS	200-YARD RUSH GAMES
O.J. Simpson	Buffalo, San Francisco	1969-1979	6
Jim Brown	Cleveland	1957-1965	4
Earl Campbell	Houston, New Orleans	1978-1985	4
Barry Sanders	Detroit	1989-1998	4
<i>LaDainian Tomlinson</i>	<i>San Diego</i>	<i>2001-2003</i>	<i>4</i>

“The guy is incredible,” says Chargers fullback **LORENZO NEAL**. “He’s Superman without the cape.”

Following are Tomlinson’s 200-yard rushing games:

DATE	OPPONENT	ATT.	YARDS	TDs	RESULT
Dec. 28, 2003	Oakland	31	243	2	W, 21-14
Dec. 1, 2002	Denver	37	220	3	W, 30-27 (OT)
Sept. 29, 2002	at New England	27	217	2	W, 21-14
Oct. 19, 2003	at Cleveland	26	200	1	W, 26-20

Also in 2003, Tomlinson became the first running back in history with 100 receptions and 1,000 rushing yards in the same season.

Schottenheimer, who is entering his 18th full season as an NFL head coach, calls Tomlinson the most complete back he has ever seen. “I’ve been doing this for a long time,” he says. “I’ve never seen anybody like him. Nobody. He’s incredible.”

Following are the running backs with the most receptions in a 1,000-rushing yard season:

PLAYER	TEAM	YEAR	RECEPTIONS	RUSH YARDS
<i>LaDainian Tomlinson</i>	<i>San Diego</i>	<i>2003</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>1,645</i>
Roger Craig	San Francisco	1985	92	1,050
Marshall Faulk	St. Louis	1999	87	1,381
Marshall Faulk	St. Louis	1998	86	1,319
James Wilder	Tampa Bay	1984	85	1,544