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## **CHIEFS RB LARRY JOHNSON, STEELERS LB JOEY PORTER & BILLS CB-KR TERRENCE MC GEE NAMED AFC PLAYERS OF WEEK 16**

Running back **LARRY JOHNSON** of the Kansas City Chiefs, linebacker **JOEY PORTER** of the Pittsburgh Steelers and cornerback-kick returner **TERRENCE MC GEE** of the Buffalo Bills are the AFC Offensive, Defensive and Special Teams Players of the Week for games played the 16th week of the 2005 season (December 24-26), the NFL announced today.

### **OFFENSE: RB LARRY JOHNSON, KANSAS CITY CHIEFS**

- In a game between AFC West rivals with critical implications to each team's playoff hopes, Kansas City's **LARRY JOHNSON** delivered another standout performance to help the Chiefs edge San Diego 20-7 at Arrowhead Stadium. Johnson carried the ball 32 times for 131 yards with a touchdown along with four receptions for 48 yards and another touchdown in the victory. The 6-1, 230-pounder (1,549) moved past **CHRISTIAN OKOYE** (1,480) for the third-most rushing yards by a Chief in a single season. Saturday's game marked the Kansas City ground gainer's eighth consecutive 100-yard game, extending the longest streak in franchise history. Johnson, who has only 11 career starts to his credit, already has 12 100-yard rushing games for the third-most in Chiefs history.

In his third year from Penn State, this is Johnson's second career Player of the Week award – both earned in the past six weeks.

### **DEFENSE: LB JOEY PORTER, PITTSBURGH STEELERS**

- Pittsburgh linebacker **JOEY PORTER** helped put the Steelers in the driver's seat for the AFC's sixth playoff spot with a thorough 41-0 shutout road victory over Cleveland in the AFC's oldest rivalry. Porter recorded 3.0 sacks – one in each of the first three quarters – and forced a fumble in helping keep the Browns out of scoring range. Porter led a Steelers defensive charge which yielded only two first downs on 16 third-down plays (13 percent). Selected to play in the Pro Bowl for the third time in the past four years last Wednesday, the Steelers' third-round pick from 1999 leads all NFL linebackers with 10.5 sacks, equaling his career-best (2000).

In his seventh year from Colorado, this is Porter's fourth career Player of the Week distinction.

### **SPECIAL TEAMS: CB-KR TERRENCE MC GEE, BUFFALO BILLS**

- Buffalo cornerback-kick returner **TERRENCE MC GEE** returned a kickoff 99 yards for a touchdown to help the Bills earn a 37-27 road win at Cincinnati. The game was Buffalo's first road victory of the season against a Bengals team that needed to win in order to have any chance of earning the AFC's No. 2 playoff seed. Following a 13-play Cincinnati drive that gave the AFC North champs a 17-13 third-quarter lead, McGee promptly returned the ensuing kickoff 99 yards for a 20-17 Buffalo advantage. The Athens, Texas native returned five kickoffs for a total of 220 yards (44.0-yard average) on the day. The 99-yard play made McGee the first player in club history to return four kickoffs for TDs in a career. Defensively, the 5-9 cornerback scored a second touchdown by returning an interception 46 yards with 53 seconds remaining for the game's final points to ensure a Buffalo win and became the first player in NFL history to return a kickoff and interception for touchdowns in the same game. McGee leads the NFL with a 31.0-yard kick return average and is poised to become the first player in AFC history to lead the conference in kickoff return yards for consecutive seasons.

In his third year from Northwestern State (Louisiana), this is McGee's third career Player of the Week honor – all of which have been awarded in the past two seasons.

## 2005 AFC PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

	<u>Offense</u>	<u>Defense</u>	<u>Special Teams</u>
<b>Wk 1</b>	RB Willie Parker, Pittsburgh	LB Gary Brackett, Indianapolis	K Josh Scobee, Jacksonville
<b>Wk 2</b>	QB Trent Dilfer, Cleveland	CB Deltha O'Neal, Cincinnati	P Hunter Smith, Indianapolis
<b>Wk 3</b>	RB LaDainian Tomlinson, SD	S Lance Schulters, Miami	K Adam Vinatieri, New England
<b>Wk 4</b>	QB Drew Brees, SD	LB Al Wilson, Denver	K Sebastian Janikowski, Oakland
<b>Wk 5</b>	QB Tom Brady, NE	DT Dewayne Robertson, NY	K Josh Scobee, Jacksonville
<b>Wk 6</b>	RB LaDainian Tomlinson, SD	DE Jared Allen, Kansas City	P Todd Sauerbrun, Denver
<b>Wk 7</b>	RB LaMont Jordan, Oakland	DE Robert Mathis, Indianapolis	K Lawrence Tynes, Kansas City
<b>Wk 8</b>	QB Jake Plummer, Denver	LB Tedy Bruschi, New England	KR-WR Jerome Mathis, Houston
<b>Wk 9</b>	QB Peyton Manning, Ind.	LB Brian Simmons, Cincinnati	P Kyle Richardson, Cleveland
<b>Wk 10</b>	WR Hines Ward, Pittsburgh	LB Mike Peterson, Jacksonville	P Brian Moorman, Buffalo
<b>Wk 11</b>	RB Larry Johnson, KC	LB Andra Davis, Cleveland	K Matt Stover, Baltimore
<b>Wk 12</b>	RB LaDainian Tomlinson, SD	DE Jason Taylor, Miami	KR-RB Derrick Wimbush, Jacksonville
<b>Wk 13</b>	WR Chris Chambers, Miami	LB Terrell Suggs, Baltimore	KR-WR Tab Perry, Cincinnati
<b>Wk 14</b>	RB Jerome Bettis, Pittsburgh	LB Zach Thomas, Miami	KR-PR-CB Pacman Jones, Tennessee
<b>Wk 15</b>	WR Rod Smith, Denver	LB Shawne Merriman, SD	K Phil Dawson, Cleveland
<b>Wk 16</b>	RB Larry Johnson, KC	LB Joey Porter, Pittsburgh	KR-CB Terrence McGee, Buffalo

### Other nominees for AFC Offensive Player of Week 16 were:

- Buffalo quarterback **KELLY HOLCOMB**, who posted a 105.3 passer rating and passed for 308 yards to become the first Buffalo QB to post a 300-yard game since 2003.
- Denver wide receiver **ASHLEY LELIE**, who caught a game-high six passes for 110 yards in a 22-3 win over Oakland to clinch the AFC's No. 2 playoff seed.
- Baltimore wide receiver **DERRICK MASON**, who caught nine passes for 103 yards and a touchdown for a franchise-record 83 receptions on the season in a 30-23 win against Minnesota. Mason also became the fourth player in team history to post a 1,000-yard receiving season.
- Pittsburgh running back **WILLIE PARKER**, who rushed for 130 yards and a TD on 17 carries (7.6-yard average). Parker's touchdown run was from 80 yards, tying the fourth-longest in club history.
- Pittsburgh quarterback **BEN ROETHLISBERGER**, who compiled a 120.0 passer rating by connecting on 13 of 20 (65.0 percent) attempts for 226 yards and a touchdown.
- New England tight end-linebacker **MIKE VRABEL**, who caught two touchdown passes as a tight end and led the team with six tackles on defense, including a sack, in a 31-21 win against the Jets on Monday night.
- Pittsburgh wide receiver **HINES WARD**, who caught seven passes for 105 yards (15.0 avg.) and one TD.
- Miami running back **RICKY WILLIAMS**, who chalked-up 172 yards rushing and one touchdown on 26 carries along with a reception for three yards in a 24-10 win against Tennessee.

### Other nominees for AFC Defensive Player of Week 16 were:

- Pittsburgh linebacker **LARRY FOOTE**, who led all Steelers with eight tackles, 1.0 sack, and a forced fumble.
- Miami defensive tackle **VONNIE HOLLIDAY**, who notched five tackles, 1.0 sack, a forced fumble, a fumble recovery, and a pass defensed. Holliday's fumble recovery thwarted a third-quarter scoring threat on a third-and-goal play on the Dolphins' 10-yard line.
- Pittsburgh defensive end **BRETT KEISEL**, who recorded five tackles, including a career-high 2.0 sacks, and forced a fumble.
- Kansas City cornerback **PATRICK SURTAIN**, who racked-up seven tackles and an interception.
- Baltimore linebacker **ADALIUS THOMAS**, who posted five tackles and a sack to tie a career-high 8.0 on the season. Thomas also forced a fumble which led to a Baltimore field goal.

### Other nominees for AFC Special Teams Player of Week 16 were:

- Miami punter **DONNIE JONES**, who kicked a season-high nine punts for a 41.7 net average. Three of Jones' kicks were inside the 20 and helped limit elusive Titans returner **PACMAN JONES** to a 2.5-yard average on eight returns.
- Pittsburgh wide receiver-punt returner **ANTWAAN RANDLE EL**, who averaged 12.3 yards on four punt returns including a 36-yard return. The 36-yarder was Randle El's fourth return of the season for more than 20 yards.
- Baltimore kicker **MATT STOVER**, who was a perfect three-for-three in field goal tries from 37, 38, and 19 yards. Stover's kickoffs helped limit Minnesota All-Star kick returner **KOREN ROBINSON** to a 19.5-yard average on four returns.