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CHARGERS RB LA DAINIAN TOMLINSON, CHIEFS DE JARED ALLEN & BRONCOS P TODD SAUERBRUN NAMED AFC PLAYERS OF WEEK 6

Running back **LA DAINIAN TOMLINSON** of the San Diego Chargers, defensive end **JARED ALLEN** of the Kansas City Chiefs and punter **TODD SAUERBRUN** of the Denver Broncos are the AFC Offensive, Defensive and Special Teams Players of the Week for games played the sixth week of the 2005 season (October 16-17), the NFL announced today.

OFFENSE: RB LA DAINIAN TOMLINSON, SAN DIEGO CHARGERS

- **LA DAINIAN TOMLINSON** became the fifth player in the Super Bowl era (since 1966) to rush, pass, and catch his way to a touchdown in a 27-14 win at Oakland to help lift San Diego to a 3-3 record. The other four players to accomplish this feat since 1966: New England's **DAVID PATTEN** (2001), Pro Football Hall of Famer **WALTER PAYTON** (1979) of Chicago, Atlanta's **HARMON WAGES** (1969), and **DAN REEVES** of Dallas (1967). Tomlinson reached the TD trifecta by halftime and in the process tied Pro Football Hall of Famer **LENNY MOORE** for the longest streak of consecutive games with a TD scored at 18. Moore composed his streak from 1963-65 for the Baltimore Colts. Tomlinson, the AFC's Offensive Player of the Week for the second time in four games, totaled 179 scrimmage yards: 140 rushing on 31 attempts with a seven-yard TD run and 39 receiving on two receptions, including a 35-yard touchdown catch and run. Late in the second quarter, Tomlinson took a handoff on the Raiders' four-yard line, rolled right, and completed a strike to tight end **JUSTIN PEELE** for a 24-7 lead going into the intermission.

For the fifth-year veteran from TCU, this is his fifth career Player of the Week distinction.

DEFENSE: DE JARED ALLEN, KANSAS CITY CHIEFS

- Kansas City defensive end **JARED ALLEN** chalked-up 3.0 sacks for 25 lost yards, forced and recovered two fumbles, and registered six total tackles in a 28-21 win against Washington. Allen recovered each fumble that he forced and his 3.0 sacks were the most by a Chiefs player in more than two seasons (**VONNIE HOLLIDAY**, 3.0 vs. San Diego, 9/7/03). Five of Allen's six tackles were at or behind the line of scrimmage while his other was only three yards downfield. The 6-6, 265 pounder's sack-forced fumble-recovery occurred during the game's first possession on a third-and-goal play for the Redskins on the Chiefs' seven-yard line. After Allen's play, the Chiefs took over on their own 18 and drove for a field goal and a 3-0 lead. Allen's final two sacks occurred on Washington's first drive of the final quarter with the Chiefs (3-2) nursing a 28-21 lead, which would be the eventual final score.

In his second year from Idaho State, this is the first Player of the Week honor for Allen.

SPECIAL TEAMS: P TODD SAUERBRUN, DENVER BRONCOS

- With a 52.3-yard average on seven punts (46.9-yard net average), Denver's **TODD SAUERBRUN** contributed toward the Broncos' fifth consecutive victory, a 28-20 win against visiting New England. Sauerbrun placed two punts inside the Patriots' 20-yard line and did not commit a touchback on a punt. The three-time All-Star kicked three touchbacks on kickoffs and punted inside the Broncos' 25-yard line three times, resulting in the Patriots beginning drives inside their own 30-yard line on all three ensuing possessions. Denver remains atop the AFC West with a 5-1 mark.

In his 11th season from West Virginia, this is Sauerbrun's second career Player of the Week Award (Week 6, 2001) and his first with the Broncos.

2005 AFC PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

	<u>Offense</u>	<u>Defense</u>	<u>Special Teams</u>
Wk 1	RB Willie Parker, Pittsburgh	LB Gary Brackett, Indianapolis	K Josh Scobee, Jacksonville
Wk 2	QB Trent Dilfer, Cleveland	CB Deltha O'Neal, Cincinnati	P Hunter Smith, Indianapolis
Wk 3	RB LaDainian Tomlinson, SD	S Lance Schulters, Miami	K Adam Vinatieri, New England
Wk 4	QB Drew Brees, San Diego	LB Al Wilson, Denver	K Sebastian Janikowski, Oakland
Wk 5	QB Tom Brady, NE	DT Dewayne Robertson, NY	K Josh Scobee, Jacksonville
Wk 6	RB LaDainian Tomlinson, SD	DE Jared Allen, Kansas City	P Todd Sauerbrun, Denver

Other nominees for AFC Offensive Player of Week 6 were:

- Kansas City running back **PRIEST HOLMES**, who scored a touchdown both rushing and receiving. Holmes totaled 100 receiving yards on five receptions and ran the ball 14 times for 18 yards.
- Indianapolis running back **EDGERRIN JAMES**, who scored three touchdowns on 23 carries for 143 yards (6.2 average) and also caught three passes for 16 yards in a 45-28 win against the Rams on Monday night.
- Cincinnati wide receiver **CHAD JOHNSON**, who caught eight passes for 135 yards and one touchdown in a 31-23 win at Tennessee.
- Buffalo running back **WILLIS MC GAHEE**, who rushed for a career-best 143 yards, including a one-yard TD run, on 29 attempts (4.9 avg.) in a 27-17 win against the Jets. McGahee has rushed for a touchdown in four consecutive games.
- Cincinnati quarterback **CARSON PALMER**, who delivered a 121.2 passer rating by completing 27 of 33 passes (81.8 percent) for 272 yards and a pair of touchdowns without an interception. Palmer needs one more game with a 100+ passer rating to reach an NFL-record 10th consecutive 100+ performance.
- Denver quarterback **JAKE PLUMMER**, who registered a 134.4 passer rating by completing 17 of 24 passes (70.8 percent) for a season-high 262 yards with two TDs without an interception.
- Baltimore running back **CHESTER TAYLOR**, who carried the ball eight times for 92 yards (11.5 average), including a career-long rush of 52 yards in a 16-3 victory against Cleveland.

Other nominees for AFC Defensive Player of Week 6 were:

- Buffalo defensive tackle **SAM ADAMS**, who posted his first sack of the season -- the 40th of his career.
- Cincinnati cornerback **TORY JAMES**, who notched four tackles, a forced fumble, a fumble recovery, and a pair of defended passes, one of which resulted in a teammate's interception.
- Indianapolis linebacker **CATO JUNE**, who racked-up seven tackles and two interceptions. Both of June's interceptions resulted in Indianapolis TDs as the Colts remain the NFL's only unbeaten team (6-0). June leads the NFL with five interceptions and has had two in each of the past two games.
- Baltimore linebacker **RAY LEWIS**, who notched 10 tackles, an interception, and a fumble recovery. Lewis' takeaways resulted in 10 Ravens points. The 10-year veteran played a large role in limiting Cleveland to 186 total yards.
- Jacksonville cornerback **RASHEAN MATHIS**, who made an interception in overtime at Pittsburgh and returned it 41 yards to give the Jaguars a 23-17 win. He was in the game for all 67 defensive snaps and recorded four tackles. He also deflected a Pittsburgh punt with less than 2:00 remaining in the first half, which resulted in a Jaguars FG.
- Cincinnati linebacker **ODELL THURMAN**, who posted six tackles, an interception that he returned 30 yards for a touchdown, and another pass defended.

Other nominees for AFC Special Teams Player of Week 6 were:

- Kansas City rookie punter **DUSTIN COLQUITT**, who punted five times with two punts inside the 20 without a touchback for a 33.6-yard net average.
- Buffalo kicker **RIAN LINDELL**, who was two-for-two in field goal tries from 50- and 38-yards, respectively. Lindell has made 13 of 14 field goal attempts on the season.
- Baltimore punt returner **B.J. SAMS**, who returned three punts for 74 yards including a 51-yard return which led to a field goal.