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## **CHARGERS RB LA DAINIAN TOMLINSON, DOLPHINS DE JASON TAYLOR & BILLS P BRIAN MOORMAN NAMED AFC PLAYERS OF MONTH FOR NOVEMBER**

Running back **LA DAINIAN TOMLINSON** of the San Diego Chargers, defensive end **JASON TAYLOR** of the Miami Dolphins, and punter **BRIAN MOORMAN** of the Buffalo Bills are the AFC Offensive, Defensive and Special Teams Players of the Month for November, the NFL announced today.

### **OFFENSE: RB LA DAINIAN TOMLINSON, SAN DIEGO CHARGERS**

- Scoring more than twice as many touchdowns (13) as any other player during November and reaching milestone after milestone, San Diego's Tomlinson helped lead the Chargers to a perfect 4-0 November and grasp hold of first place in the AFC West at 10-2. Tomlinson accounted for at least three TDs – rushing, receiving, or passing – and rushed for more than 100 yards in all four games. In Week 9 against Cleveland, he amassed 172 rushing yards and three TDs on 18 carries in a 32-25 win. The following week in Cincinnati, he rushed for 104 yards and scored four touchdowns to become the first player in NFL history to score 15 TDs in a five-game span for a 49-41 victory. The 5-10 rusher also caught six passes for 54 yards, playing a large role in the team's overcoming a 21-point first-half deficit. On Nov. 19, with first place on the line in a Sunday night game at Denver, Tomlinson again scored four TDs – three rushing and another on a 51-yard catch-and-run – in a 35-27 triumph with 105 rushing yards. That night, Tomlinson reached 1,000 rushing yards for the sixth consecutive season to begin his career and scored his 100th career TD in his 89th career game, reaching triple-digit touchdowns in the fewest games played in history (Pro Football Hall of Famer **JIM BROWN**, **EMMITT SMITH**, 93). Capping off his brilliant November, Tomlinson ran for 109 yards on 19 carries, ran for two TDs, and passed for another in a 21-14 win at Oakland. The scoring pass was the sixth of his career. Among non-quarterbacks, only Pro Football Hall of Famer **WALTER PAYTON** (eight) threw more in a career.

This is Tomlinson's first monthly award since being named NFL Offensive Rookie of the Month in October 2001.

### **DEFENSE: DE JASON TAYLOR, MIAMI DOLPHINS**

- Miami's Taylor worked as a one-man wrecking crew against Dolphins opponents throughout November with the following four-game totals: six passes defended, three forced fumbles, two interceptions returned for touchdowns, 2.0 sacks, and nine tackles to help Miami attain a 4-0 record for the month. The Dolphins' defense led the NFL in November with 17 sacks and tied for the third-most takeaways (11). Taylor helped deliver the Chicago Bears' first loss of the season (31-13) on Nov. 5 with a 20-yard interception returned for a TD, a sack which forced a fumble, and three total tackles. In a 13-10 home win the following week against Kansas City, the 6-6, 255-pounder broke up two passes and logged his first-career field goal block – critical in the three-point victory. Hosting Minnesota on Nov. 19, Taylor scored again on a 51-yard interception return for a 24-20 victory. The four-time AFC All-Star also notched two forced fumbles, another pass defended, and five tackles, including a sack. The 10-year veteran from Akron has scored seven career touchdowns, which stands as the most by any defensive player in club history.

This is Taylor's third career Player of the Month honor (Oct. 2002, Nov. 2002), making him only the sixth defensive player to be honored as many as three times since the award was established in 1986.

### **SPECIAL TEAMS: P BRIAN MOORMAN, BUFFALO BILLS**

- Lending a foot and then some to the Bills' 3-1 November record was Moorman, who helped Buffalo hold the upper hand in field position in all four of their games. The six-year veteran topped the NFL in both gross (46.8) and net (42.4) average on 25 November punts with only two touchbacks and launched nine

punts inside the opponents' 20-yard line, tying for the league's best November mark. In a 24-10 win on Nov. 5 against Green Bay, Moorman punted eight times and registered a 46.3-yard net average, limiting the Packers to only nine punt return yards and placed four punts inside the 20 to stymie the visitors. At Indianapolis the following week, a tight 17-16 defeat, the Buffalo punter kicked four times for a 49.3 net, pinning the hosts inside their 20 on three of his four punts and ran for two yards to attain a first-down on a fake punt. In a 24-21 win at Houston in Week 11, Moorman permitted only 21 return yards on seven punts while posting a 41.0-yard net. Trailing 21-17 with 6:35 left in the game, the Wichita, Kansas native dropped a punt on the Texans' 11-yard line. Buffalo forced a three-and-out and took over on their own 45-yard line with 1:44 remaining and drove for the winning TD. In the Bills' final November game – a 27-24 win against Jacksonville – Moorman punted six times for a 44.2-yard average. No other AFC punter averaged more than 45 yards per kick (46.8) in November and allowed fewer than six yards per return (5.3).

This is Moorman's third monthly AFC honor with his other two distinctions coming in November 2005 and October 2002.

### **2006 AFC PLAYERS OF THE MONTH**

	<b><u>Offense</u></b>	<b><u>Defense</u></b>	<b><u>Special Teams</u></b>
<b>September</b>	WR Laveranues Coles, New York	LB Bart Scott, Baltimore	K Matt Stover, Baltimore
<b>October</b>	QB Peyton Manning, Indianapolis	CB Champ Bailey, Denver	KR-CB Justin Miller, New York
<b>November</b>	RB LaDainian Tomlinson, San Diego	DE Jason Taylor, Miami	P Brian Moorman, Buffalo