



NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE
280 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10017
(212) 450-2000 * FAX (212) 681-7573
WWW.NFLMedia.com

Joe Browne, Executive Vice President-Communications
Greg Aiello, Vice President-Public Relations

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CHARGERS RB LA DAINIAN TOMLINSON, BILLS DE AARON SCHOBEL & JAGUARS KR MAURICE JONES-DREW NAMED AFC PLAYERS OF WEEK 14

Running back **LA DAINIAN TOMLINSON** of the San Diego Chargers, defensive end **AARON SCHOBEL** of the Buffalo Bills and rookie kick returner-running back **MAURICE JONES-DREW** of the Jacksonville Jaguars are the AFC Offensive, Defensive and Special Teams Players of the Week for games played the 14th week of the 2006 season (December 7, 10-11), the NFL announced today.

OFFENSE: RB LA DAINIAN TOMLINSON, SAN DIEGO CHARGERS

- History was made in San Diego Sunday when the Chargers' Tomlinson scored his 27th, 28th, and record-setting 29th touchdowns of 2006 to establish the NFL's single-season record, surpassing the year-old TD mark held by **SHAUN ALEXANDER** (28 in 2005) of Seattle. Tomlinson's three scores and 103 rushing yards lifted San Diego (11-2) to a 48-20 win against division-rival Denver. The win positions the Chargers in front of the AFC pack for the conference's No. 1 playoff seed. Tomlinson's one-yard TD run early in the second quarter gave the home team a 28-3 lead, but the Broncos bounced back to trail 28-20 late in the third. Tomlinson tied Alexander's record with a six-yard TD rush with 3:57 remaining in the game to give the Chargers a 41-20 edge. Denver fumbled on its next possession, giving the ball to San Diego on the Broncos' seven. Tomlinson delivered again, bouncing outside, dodging a diving tackler and sprinting into the end zone for touchdown No. 29. Tomlinson (174) is now three points shy of surpassing Hall of Famer **PAUL HORNUNG** (176, 1960) for the most points scored in a season.

In his sixth season from TCU, this is Tomlinson's eighth Player of the Week Award and his third in the past five weeks.

DEFENSE: DE AARON SCHOBEL, BUFFALO BILLS

- In a 31-13 road victory against AFC East-rival New York, Buffalo's Schobel tied a career-best with 3.0 sacks and totaled nine tackles with a forced fumble to help the Bills (6-7) earn their fourth victory in the past six games. Schobel's first big play of the afternoon came in the second quarter with a tackle behind the line of scrimmage on a third-and-nine call, forcing a New York punt. The Bills converted three plays later when quarterback **J.P. LOSMAN** connected with receiver **LEE EVANS** for a 77-yard TD pass for a 14-10 lead five minutes before halftime. Holding a 21-13 advantage with 3:38 remaining in the third quarter, Schobel sacked the New York quarterback on the Jets' 20-yard line and knocked the ball loose. Teammate **RYAN DENNEY** recovered the fumble and four plays later Losman struck again with a six-yard TD strike to tight end **ROBERT ROYAL** for a 28-13 lead. Schobel broke through the New York line for sacks twice in the fourth quarter as he and his teammates refused to allow a second-half point. Schobel has 12.5 sacks on the year, tying San Diego linebacker **SHAWNE MERRIMAN** for the league lead.

A college teammate of Tomlinson, Schobel, in his sixth season from TCU, now has two Player of the Week Awards to his credit (Week 13, 2003).

SPECIAL TEAMS: KR-RB MAURICE JONES-DREW, JACKSONVILLE JAGUARS

- The NFL's fifth-leading touchdown scorer, rookie Jones-Drew, electrified the Jacksonville home crowd throughout the day in a 44-17 win against the AFC South-leading Colts by scoring three touchdowns, including a 93-yard kickoff return to begin the second half. The return, the third-longest in club history, was the 5-7 dynamo's third and final score of the day to boost the Jaguars' lead to 31-10 before Indianapolis ran a second half play. Jones-Drew produced a franchise record 303 all-purpose yards, surpassing the previous mark of 291 by **JIMMY SMITH** in 2000 against Baltimore. In addition, Jones-Drew (1,700)

surpassed **FRED TAYLOR** (1,644, 1998) for the single-season team record for most all-purpose yards by a rookie. Jones-Drew has a rushing touchdown in five consecutive games as Jacksonville stands at 8-5 and controls its own destiny for an AFC playoff berth.

In his first year from UCLA, this is the first Player of the Week Award for Jones-Drew and marks the second week in a row that a Jaguars player has earned a weekly honor (**DAVID GARRARD**, Offense, Week 13).

2006 AFC PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

	<u>Offense</u>	<u>Defense</u>	<u>Special Teams</u>
Wk 1	QB Chad Pennington, New York	LB Ray Lewis, Baltimore	K Adam Vinatieri, Indianapolis
Wk 2	QB Peyton Manning, Indianapolis	CB Rashean Mathis, Jacksonville	S Coy Wire, Buffalo
Wk 3	WR T.J. Houshmandzadeh, Cin.	S Kerry Rhodes, New York	PR-WR Terrence Wilkins, Ind.
Wk 4	WR Andre Johnson, Houston	DE Jarvis Green, New England	KR-WR Joshua Cribbs, Cleveland
Wk 5	QB Damon Huard, Kansas City	DT Jamal Williams, San Diego	K Lawrence Tynes, Kansas City
Wk 6	QB Philip Rivers, San Diego	S Troy Polamalu, Pittsburgh	TE Casey Cramer, Tennessee
Wk 7	QB Peyton Manning, Indianapolis	DE Derrick Burgess, Oakland	KR-RB Laurence Maroney, NE
Wk 8	RB Larry Johnson, Kansas City	S Sean Jones, Cleveland	K Adam Vinatieri, Indianapolis
Wk 9	RB LaDainian Tomlinson, SD	DE Jason Taylor, Miami	P Brian Moorman, Buffalo
Wk 10	RB Willie Parker, Pittsburgh	DT Dewayne Robertson, New York	DE Trevor Pryce, Baltimore
Wk 11	RB LaDainian Tomlinson, SD	DE Jason Taylor, Miami	KR B.J. Sams, Baltimore
Wk 12	RB Joseph Addai, Indianapolis	CB Asante Samuel, New England	PR Roscoe Parrish, Buffalo
Wk 13	QB David Garrard, Jacksonville	LB DeMeco Ryans, Houston	K Rob Bironas, Tennessee
Wk 14	RB LaDainian Tomlinson, SD	DE Aaron Schobel, Buffalo	KR-RB Maurice Jones-Drew, Jac.

Other nominees for AFC Offensive Player of Week 14 were:

- Buffalo running back **WILLIS MC GAHEE**, who posted a game-high 125 rushing yards on 16 carries and recorded a career-long run of 57 yards for a touchdown.
- Baltimore quarterback **STEVE MC NAIR**, who posted his season-best 122.7 passer rating in a 20-10 road win against Kansas City. McNair completed 21 of 27 (77.7 percent) for 283 yards with a TD without an interception. McNair also rushed for four first downs – all on third-down carries.
- Miami running back **SAMMY MORRIS**, who racked up 123 yards rushing and a touchdown in a 21-0 home win against AFC East-leading New England. Morris also caught a pair of passes for 39 receiving yards.
- Jacksonville's **OFFENSIVE LINE** and **TIGHT ENDS**, who paved the way for a franchise-record 375 rushing yards – the most by a team since Cincinnati ran for 407 against Denver on Oct. 22, 2000.
- Pittsburgh running back **WILLIE PARKER**, who set a franchise record with 223 yards rushing and a touchdown on 32 carries in a 27-7 win last Thursday against Cleveland. Parker is the first Steelers player to rush for 200 yards twice in a career (Nov. 12 vs. New Orleans, 213).

Other nominees for AFC Defensive Player of Week 14 were:

- Miami safety **YEREMIAH BELL**, who recorded a team-high nine tackles, including a sack, forced fumble, and fumble recovery on the same play.
- Pittsburgh safety **TYRONE CARTER**, who posted eight tackles in his second start of the season.
- Pittsburgh linebacker **CLARK HAGGANS**, who recorded eight tackles and a quarterback hit.
- San Diego linebacker **SHAWNE MERRIMAN**, who recorded 2.0 sacks, a pair of forced fumbles, a fumble recovery and a pass defended.
- Baltimore safety **ED REED**, who led the Ravens' secondary with six tackles and tied a career-high with two interceptions.
- Jacksonville linebacker **DARYL SMITH**, who chalked up a team-best 17 tackles with a sack, another tackle for a loss, and a pass defended.

Other nominees for AFC Special Teams Player of Week 14 were:

- Pittsburgh rookie wide receiver-punt returner **SANTONIO HOLMES**, who averaged 10.3 yards on three punt returns with a long of 18 yards. He also led the team in receiving with four catches for 81 yards.
- Miami punter **DONNIE JONES**, who punted six times for a 41.2-yard average. Two of Jones' punts traveled 50 yards or longer and three were downed inside the Patriots' five-yard line.
- Baltimore linebacker **GARY STILLS**, who tied for the Ravens' team lead with three special teams tackles against Kansas City, his former club.