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PATRIOTS QB TOM BRADY, COLTS DE ROBERT MATHIS & RAIDERS DT RICHARD SEYMOUR NAMED AFC PLAYERS OF WEEK 16

Quarterback **TOM BRADY** of the New England Patriots, defensive end **ROBERT MATHIS** of the Indianapolis Colts and defensive tackle **RICHARD SEYMOUR** of the Oakland Raiders are the AFC Offensive, Defensive and Special Teams Players of the Week for games played the 16th week of the 2011 season (December 22, 24-26), the NFL announced today.

OFFENSE: QB TOM BRADY, NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS

- Brady completed 27 of 46 passes for 304 yards with three touchdowns (one passing, two rushing) in the Patriots' 27-24 win over Miami.
- Brady helped erase a 17-0 deficit in the second half, completing 20 of 27 passes (74.1 percent) for 217 yards with one TD pass and a 109.6 passer rating. He also added two one-yard touchdown runs.
- Registered his 10th 300-yard passing game of the season, tied for the second-most in a season in NFL history.
- Brady has now thrown at least one touchdown pass in 31 straight regular season games, extending his team mark with a one-yard touchdown pass to **DEION BRANCH** in the third quarter.
- Joined Pro Football Hall of Famers **JOHN ELWAY** (300 TD passes, 33 rushing TDs) and **FRAN TARKENTON** (342 TD passes, 32 rushing TDs) and **BRETT FAVRE** (508 TD passes, 14 rushing TDs) and **PEYTON MANNING** (399 TD passes, 17 rushing TDs) as the only players in NFL history with 297+ TD passes and 10 rush TDs.
- Brady leads the AFC with 4,897 passing yards in 2011, already the fourth-most in a season in NFL history, trailing only **DREW BREES** (5,087 in 2011; 5,069 in 2008) and Pro Football Hall of Famer **DAN MARINO** (5,084 in 1984).
- In his 12th season from Michigan, this is Brady's 20th Player of the Week award, the second-most Player of the Week awards since the accolade was instituted in 1984 (**PEYTON MANNING**, 21).

DEFENSE: DE ROBERT MATHIS, INDIANAPOLIS COLTS

- Mathis registered three tackles, two sacks, one forced fumble and one fumble recovery in the Colts' 19-16 win over Houston.
- Mathis' two sacks tied for the most in the NFL in Week 16. It was his 17th career game with multiple sacks and the first this season.
- In the first quarter, Mathis sacked **T.J. YATES** and forced a fumble on the play, which he recovered on the Texans' 36-yard line.
- Played a pivotal role in the Colts' defense limiting Houston to 283 yards of total offense and holding the Texans to 1-of-10 on third down attempts.
- Leads team with 8.5 sacks in 2011.
- In his ninth season from Alabama A&M, this is Mathis' third career Defensive Player of the Week Award. He most recently won the award in 2008 (Week 13).

SPECIAL TEAMS: DT RICHARD SEYMOUR, OAKLAND RAIDERS

- In a key AFC West matchup with playoff implications, Seymour blocked two field goals in the Raiders' 16-13 overtime win at Kansas City.
- Seymour's first block came on the last play of the first half, as the 11-year veteran blocked a 49-yard attempt to preserve a 3-3 tie.
- His second block came on the final play of regulation as he blocked a potential game-winning 49-yard attempt as time expired, forcing overtime.
- In his 11th season from Georgia, this is Seymour's second career Special Teams Player of the Week Award. He previously won the award in 2003 (Week 7) with the New England Patriots.

2011 AFC PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

Offense

Defense

Special Teams

Wk 1	QB Tom Brady, New England	LB Terrell Suggs, Baltimore	K Sebastian Janikowski, Oakland
Wk 2	QB Tom Brady, New England	CB Antonio Cromartie, New York Jets	KR-WR Joshua Cribbs, Cleveland
Wk 3	RB Darren McFadden, Oakland	LB Ray Lewis, Baltimore	K Rian Lindell, Buffalo
Wk 4	RB Arian Foster, Houston	LB Jarret Johnson, Baltimore	K Ryan Succop, Kansas City
Wk 5	QB Ben Roethlisberger, Pittsburgh	S George Wilson, Buffalo	K Sebastian Janikowski, Oakland
Wk 6	RB Rashard Mendenhall, Pittsburgh	CB Darrelle Revis, New York Jets	KR-WR Jacoby Ford, Oakland
Wk 7	RB Arian Foster, Houston	CB Brandon Flowers, Kansas City	K Josh Scobee, Jacksonville
Wk 8	QB Ben Roethlisberger, Pittsburgh	LB Derrick Johnson, Kansas City	KR-WR Brandon Tate, Cincinnati
Wk 9	QB Matt Moore, Miami	LB David Harris, New York Jets	PR-WR Eddie Royal, Denver
Wk 10	RB Michael Bush, Oakland	DE Andre Carter, New England	PR-WR Marc Mariani, Tennessee
Wk 11	WR Torrey Smith, Baltimore	LB Von Miller, Denver	PR-WR Julian Edelman, New England
Wk 12	RB Chris Johnson, Tennessee	LB Terrell Suggs, Baltimore	K Sebastian Janikowski, Oakland
Wk 13	RB Ray Rice, Baltimore	LB Colin McCarthy, Tennessee	PR-WR Antonio Brown, Pittsburgh
Wk 14	TE Rob Gronkowski, New England	LB Terrell Suggs, Baltimore	K Matt Prater, Denver
Wk 15	RB Reggie Bush, Miami	LB Antwan Barnes, San Diego	K Ryan Succop, Kansas City
Wk 16	QB Tom Brady, New England	DE Robert Mathis, Indianapolis	DT Richard Seymour, Oakland

Other nominees for AFC Offensive Player of Week 16:

- Tennessee tight end **JARED COOK**, who registered eight catches for 169 yards (21.1 average) with one touchdown in the Titans' 23-17 win over Jacksonville.
- Cincinnati rookie quarterback **ANDY DALTON**, who completed 18 of 31 passes (58.1 percent) for 154 yards with two touchdowns versus zero interceptions and a 92.7 passer rating.
- Pittsburgh running back **RASHARD MENDENHALL**, who rushed for 116 yards on 18 carries (6.4 average) with one rushing touchdown in the Steelers' 27-0 win over St. Louis.
- Miami quarterback **MATT MOORE**, who completed 17 of 33 passes (51.5 percent) for 294 yards and a 99.8 passer rating in the Dolphins' 27-24 loss at New England.
- Buffalo running back **C.J. SPILLER**, who rushed for a career-high 111 yards on 16 carries (6.9 average) with one touchdown in the Bills' 40-14 win over Denver.
- Indianapolis wide receiver **REGGIE WAYNE**, who had eight catches for 106 yards with one touchdown.
- New England wide receiver **WES WELKER**, who had 12 catches for 138 receiving yards.

Other nominees for AFC Defensive Player of Week 16:

- Houston linebacker **BRIAN CUSHING**, who had 12 tackles, one sack and two forced fumbles in a 19-16 loss at Indianapolis.
- Cincinnati defensive end **JONATHAN FANENE**, who registered two tackles and two sacks.
- Oakland safety **MATT GIORDANO**, who totaled 10 tackles with one interception and one pass defended.
- Buffalo linebacker **CHRIS KELSAY**, who registered nine tackles with two sacks and one pass defended.
- New England linebacker **JEROD MAYO**, who registered 13 tackles and two sacks.

Other nominees for AFC Special Teams Player of Week 16:

- Cleveland kick returner **JOSHUA CRIBBS**, who had an 84-yard PR-TD and totaled five kickoff returns for 113 yards (22.6 average) in the Browns' 20-14 loss at Baltimore.
- Buffalo cornerback-punt returner **LEODIS MC KELVIN**, who had three punt returns for 135 yards (45.0 average), including an 80-yard PR-TD.
- Indianapolis kicker **ADAM VINATIERI**, who made four field goals (23, 32, 47, 31).