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## **BRONCOS RB C.J. ANDERSON, COLTS LB JONATHAN NEWSOME & STEELERS WR-PR ANTONIO BROWN NAMED AFC PLAYERS OF WEEK 17**

Running back **C.J. ANDERSON** of the Denver Broncos, rookie linebacker **JONATHAN NEWSOME** of the Indianapolis Colts and wide receiver-punt returner **ANTONIO BROWN** of the Pittsburgh Steelers are the AFC Offensive, Defensive and Special Teams Players of the Week for games played in the 17th week of the 2014 season (December 29), the NFL announced today.

### **OFFENSE: RB C.J. ANDERSON, DENVER BRONCOS**

- Anderson posted 107 scrimmage yards (87 rushing, 20 receiving) and three rushing touchdowns in the Broncos' 47-14 win against Oakland.
- Anderson, who led all NFL players with three touchdowns in Week 17, scored rushing touchdowns in the first, second and third quarters to help the Broncos build a 27-7 lead they would not relinquish.
- The performance marked Anderson's second game with three rushing touchdowns in 2014 (Week 14 vs. Buffalo).
- Anderson is the second player in franchise history to have multiple games with at least three rushing touchdowns in the same season, joining **TERRELL DAVIS** (1998).
- The victory clinched the No. 2 seed and a first-round bye in the AFC playoffs for the Broncos.
- In his second season from California, this is Anderson's first career Player of the Week Award.
- He is the fourth Broncos player to be named AFC Offensive Player of the Week this season, the most of any team in the conference, joining tight end **JULIUS THOMAS** (Kickoff Weekend), wide receiver **DEMARIUS THOMAS** (Week 5) and quarterback **PEYTON MANNING** (Week 7).

### **DEFENSE: LB JONATHAN NEWSOME, INDIANAPOLIS COLTS**

- Newsome had six tackles, two sacks and a forced fumble in the Colts' 27-10 win at Tennessee.
- All six of his tackles came behind or within three yards of the line of scrimmage, including two sacks and two stops for no gain.
- With the Titans advancing inside the Colts' five-yard line in the third quarter, Newsome's sack-fumble helped limit Tennessee to a field goal. His second sack came in the fourth quarter and resulted in a turnover on downs.
- The performance marked Newsome's third game with at least 1.5 sacks, the most of any NFL rookie this season. His 6.5 sacks in 2014 were the most among AFC rookies.
- The Colts limited Tennessee to 192 total net yards, the fewest allowed by any team in Week 17.
- In his rookie season from Ball State, this is Newsome's first career Player of the Week Award.
- He is the first Colts rookie to win a Defensive Player of the Week Award since defensive end **DWIGHT FREENEY** in 2002 (Week 10).

### **SPECIAL TEAMS: WR-PR ANTONIO BROWN, PITTSBURGH STEELERS**

- Brown returned two punts for 84 yards (42.0 average), including a 71-yard touchdown in the Steelers' 27-17 win against Cincinnati.
- His 71-yard touchdown opened the scoring and marked his third career punt-return touchdown, which is tied for the second-most in franchise history.
- Brown also led Pittsburgh with seven catches for 128 yards (18.3), including a 63-yard touchdown catch with 2:50 remaining in the fourth quarter to cap the scoring.
- The victory clinched the Steelers' first AFC North title since 2010, ensuring a home playoff game for Pittsburgh on Wild Card Weekend.
- In his fifth season from Central Michigan, this is Brown's second career Special Teams Player of the Week Award and first since 2011 (Week 13).
- Brown is the first Steelers player to be named Special Teams Player of the Week since kicker **SHAUN SUISHAM** in 2013 (Week 7).

## 2014 AFC PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

	<u>Offense</u>	<u>Defense</u>	<u>Special Teams</u>
<b>Wk 1</b>	TE Julius Thomas, Denver	DE Cameron Wake, Miami	K Dan Carpenter, Buffalo
<b>Wk 2</b>	TE Antonio Gates, San Diego	DE Chandler Jones, New England	RB-KR C.J. Spiller, Buffalo
<b>Wk 3</b>	QB Andrew Luck, Indianapolis	DE Corey Liuget, San Diego	K Justin Tucker, Baltimore
<b>Wk 4</b>	RB Jamaal Charles, Kansas City	DE J.J. Watt, Houston	K Nick Novak, San Diego
<b>Wk 5</b>	WR Demaryius Thomas, Denver	DT Marcell Dareus, Buffalo	LB Tank Carder, Cleveland
<b>Wk 6</b>	QB Joe Flacco, Baltimore	DT Jurrell Casey, Tennessee	P Pat McAfee, Indianapolis
<b>Wk 7</b>	QB Peyton Manning, Denver	LB Telvin Smith, Jacksonville	DT Chris Jones, New England
<b>Wk 8</b>	QB Ben Roethlisberger, Pittsburgh	S Louis Delmas, Miami	RB-KR Knile Davis, Kansas City
<b>Wk 9</b>	QB Ben Roethlisberger, Pittsburgh	CB Brent Grimes, Miami	PR-WR Julian Edelman, New England
<b>Wk 10</b>	RB Justin Forsett, Baltimore	S Jaiquawn Jarrett, N.Y. Jets	FB Anthony Sherman, Kansas City
<b>Wk 11</b>	RB Jonas Gray, New England	DE J.J. Watt, Houston	P Mike Scifres, San Diego
<b>Wk 12</b>	RB Justin Forsett, Baltimore	S Charles Woodson, Oakland	RB Boobie Dixon, Buffalo
<b>Wk 13</b>	QB Ryan Fitzpatrick, Houston	LB D'Qwell Jackson, Indianapolis	K Josh Scobee, Jacksonville
<b>Wk 14</b>	RB Le'Veon Bell, Pittsburgh	LB Elvis Dumervil, Baltimore	P Ryan Allen, New England
<b>Wk 15</b>	RB Jeremy Hill, Cincinnati	CB Aqib Talib, Denver	PR-RB De'Anthony Thomas, Kansas City
<b>Wk 16</b>	QB Philip Rivers, San Diego	CB Dre Kirkpatrick, Cincinnati	K Randy Bullock, Houston
<b>Wk 17</b>	RB C.J. Anderson, Denver	LB Jonathan Newsome, Indianapolis	WR-PR Antonio Brown, Pittsburgh

### Other nominees for AFC Offensive Player of Week 17 as submitted by AFC clubs:

- New York wide receiver **ERIC DECKER**, who had 10 catches for 221 yards (22.1 average) and one touchdown in the Jets' 37-24 win at Miami.
- Baltimore quarterback **JOE FLACCO**, who completed 22 of 36 passes (61.1 percent) for 312 yards with two touchdowns and no interceptions for a 107.6 passer rating in the Ravens' 20-10 win against Cleveland.
- Indianapolis tight end **COBY FLEENER**, who had five catches for 56 yards and two touchdowns in the Colts' 27-10 win at Tennessee.
- New York Jets quarterback **GENO SMITH**, who completed 20 of 25 passes (80.0 percent) for 358 yards with three touchdowns and no interceptions for a 158.3 passer rating.

### Other nominees for AFC Defensive Player of Week 17 as submitted by AFC clubs:

- Kansas City linebacker **JUSTIN HOUSTON**, who had five tackles, four sacks and one forced fumble in the Chiefs' 19-7 win against San Diego.
- Pittsburgh cornerback **BRICE MC CAIN**, who had three tackles and two interceptions in the Steelers' 27-17 win against Cincinnati.
- Baltimore linebacker **DARYL SMITH**, who had nine tackles.
- Houston defensive end **J.J. WATT**, who had six tackles, three sacks, one forced fumble and a safety in the Texans' 23-17 win against Jacksonville.

### Other nominees for AFC Special Teams Player of Week 17 as submitted by AFC clubs:

- Denver kicker **CONNOR BARTH**, who converted all four field-goal attempts and five PATs.
- Baltimore punter **SAM KOCH**, who punted six times for 279 yards (46.5 average) and placed two inside the 20-yard line.
- Pittsburgh kicker **SHAUN SUISHAM**, who converted both field-goal attempts and three PATs.
- Indianapolis kicker **ADAM VINATIERI**, who converted two of three field-goal attempts and three PATs.