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COMMUNICATIONS

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TITANS QB MARCUS MARIOTA, COLTS CB DARIUS BUTLER & JETS P RYAN QUIGLEY NAMED AFC PLAYERS OF WEEK 9

Rookie quarterback **MARCUS MARIOTA** of the Tennessee Titans, cornerback **DARIUS BUTLER** of the Indianapolis Colts and punter **RYAN QUIGLEY** of the New York Jets are the AFC Offensive, Defensive and Special Teams Players of the Week for games played in Week 9 (November 5, November 8-9), the NFL announced today.

OFFENSE: QB MARCUS MARIOTA, TENNESSEE TITANS

- Mariota passed for 371 yards with four touchdowns and no interceptions for a 135.7 passer rating, including the game-winning touchdown pass in overtime of the Titans' 34-28 win at New Orleans.
- In the fourth quarter and overtime, Mariota completed 15 of 17 passes for 160 yards and two touchdowns. He led a nine-play, 80-yard drive in overtime that culminated with a five-yard touchdown pass to tight end **ANTHONY FASANO** to seal the win.
- He is the second player in NFL history to pass for at least 350 yards with four touchdowns and no interceptions, including the game-winning TD pass in overtime (Minnesota's **DAUNTE CULPEPPER**, October 10, 2004 vs. Houston).
- Mariota, who also passed for four touchdowns with no interceptions on Kickoff Weekend, is the first rookie in NFL history to have two games with four touchdown passes and no interceptions.
- In his first season from Oregon, this is Mariota's second career Player of the Week Award and first since Kickoff Weekend.
- He is the second rookie quarterback to be named Player of the Week twice since the award started in 1984 (**ROBERT GRIFFIN III**).

DEFENSE: CB DARIUS BUTLER, INDIANAPOLIS COLTS

- Butler had a crucial fourth-quarter interception and two tackles in the Colts' 27-24 victory against previously undefeated Denver.
- With the Colts holding a three-point lead in the final quarter, Butler dove to intercept a pass from **PEYTON MANNING** at midfield with six minutes remaining in the game. Indianapolis then did not relinquish possession, as the Colts maintained a half-game lead on Houston for first place in the AFC South.
- The interception marked Butler's first since December 15, 2013, when he intercepted two passes against the Texans.
- In his seventh season from Connecticut, this is Butler's second career Player of the Week Award and first since 2012 (Week 10).
- Butler is the second Colts defensive back to be named Defensive Player of the Week this season, joining safety **MIKE ADAMS** (Week 5).

SPECIAL TEAMS: P RYAN QUIGLEY, NEW YORK JETS

- Quigley punted nine times, placing five inside his opponent's 15-yard line, and converted all four PAT attempts in the Jets' 28-23 win against Jacksonville.
- He is the first NFL player to punt at least nine times and convert four PATs in the same game since Dallas' **DANNY VILLANUEVA** on December 4, 1966 against the St. Louis Cardinals.
- Quigley, who handled place-kicking duties in relief of an injured **NICK FOLK**, scored the first points of his NFL career and also booted one of his five kickoffs for a touchback.
- His five punts inside the 20 yard-line led the AFC and tied for the most in the NFL in Week 9.
- In his third season from Boston College, this is Quigley's first career Player of the Week Award.
- He is the first Jets punter to be named Player of the Week since **TOM TUPA** in 2001 (Week 7).

2015 AFC PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

	<u>Offense</u>	<u>Defense</u>	<u>Special Teams</u>
Wk 1	QB Marcus Mariota, Tennessee	CB Aqib Talib, Denver	PR-WR Jarvis Landry, Miami
Wk 2	QB Ben Roethlisberger, Pittsburgh	CB Darrelle Revis, N.Y. Jets	PR-WR Travis Benjamin, Cleveland
Wk 3	WR A.J. Green, Cincinnati	LB Preston Brown, Buffalo	P Pat McAfee, Indianapolis
Wk 4	QB Philip Rivers, San Diego	S T.J. Ward, Denver	K Justin Tucker, Baltimore
Wk 5	QB Josh McCown, Cleveland	S Mike Adams, Indianapolis	K Mike Nugent, Cincinnati
Wk 6	WR DeAndre Hopkins, Houston	DE Cameron Wake, Miami	K Chris Boswell, Pittsburgh
Wk 7	QB Ryan Tannehill, Miami	LB Telvin Smith, Jacksonville	K Stephen Gostkowski, New England
Wk 8	QB Tom Brady, New England	DE Derek Wolfe, Denver	K Justin Tucker, Baltimore
Wk 9	QB Marcus Mariota, Tennessee	CB Darius Butler, Indianapolis	P Ryan Quigley, N.Y. Jets

Other nominees for AFC Offensive Player of Week 9 as submitted by AFC clubs:

- New England running back **LE GARRETTE BLOUNT**, who rushed for 129 yards and one touchdown in the Patriots' 27-10 win against Washington.
- Pittsburgh wide receiver **ANTONIO BROWN**, who had 17 catches for 284 yards and 22 rushing yards in the Steelers' 38-35 win against Oakland.
- Cincinnati quarterback **ANDY DALTON**, who completed 21 of 27 passes (77.8 percent) for 234 yards with three touchdowns and no interceptions for a 139.8 passer rating in the Bengals' 31-10 win against Cleveland.
- Cincinnati tight end **TYLER EIFERT**, who had five catches for 53 yards and three touchdowns.
- New England wide receiver **BRANDON LA FELL**, who had five catches for 102 yards.
- Indianapolis quarterback **ANDREW LUCK**, who passed for 252 yards with two touchdowns and no interceptions for a 98.4 rating.
- Buffalo wide receiver **SAMMY WATKINS**, who had eight catches for 168 yards and one touchdown in the Bills' 33-17 win against Miami.
- Pittsburgh running back **DE ANGELO WILLIAMS**, who had 225 scrimmage yards (170 rushing, 55 receiving) and two rushing touchdowns.

Other nominees for AFC Defensive Player of Week 9 as submitted by AFC clubs:

- Buffalo linebacker **JERRY HUGHES**, who had three tackles, two sacks, one forced fumble and a fumble recovery.
- Denver defensive end **MALIK JACKSON**, who had five tackles, including one for a loss, and three passes defended in the Broncos' 27-24 loss at Indianapolis.
- New York Jets linebacker **LORENZO MAULDIN**, who notched four tackles and two sacks.
- Tennessee linebacker **BRIAN ORAKPO**, who posted four tackles, two sacks and one pass defended.
- New York Jets cornerback **MARCUS WILLIAMS**, who had two interceptions, three tackles and a half-sack.

Other nominee for AFC Special Teams Player of Week 9 as submitted by AFC clubs:

- Indianapolis kicker **ADAM VINATIERI**, who converted both field-goal attempts and all three PATs.