

# 1994-96

## Marcus Allen—"A Chief Among Chiefs"

By Charlotte J. Muenzenberger

Heisman Trophy winner ... college quarterback-turned-defensive back-turned-pro running back. No matter on or off the field, Marcus Allen was an unforgettable face at the Kansas City Chiefs Summer Training Camp.

Perhaps best known for running over his opponents, Allen was not just a reckoning force on the field. His leadership off the field dominated the Chiefs from 1993 to 1997.

It all started when the Chiefs signed the unrestricted free agent on June 9, 1993. He helped lead the Chiefs to an 11-5 season and their first AFC West title since 1971.

Allen was taken 10th overall in the 1982 NFL draft by the Oakland Raiders and began his pro career by being named the NFL Rookie of the Year. Perhaps the highlight of his career came during his time with the Oakland Raiders, in Super Bowl XVIII, when he shredded the Washington Redskins defense for a then Super-Bowl-record of 191 yards that included a thrilling 74-yard run.

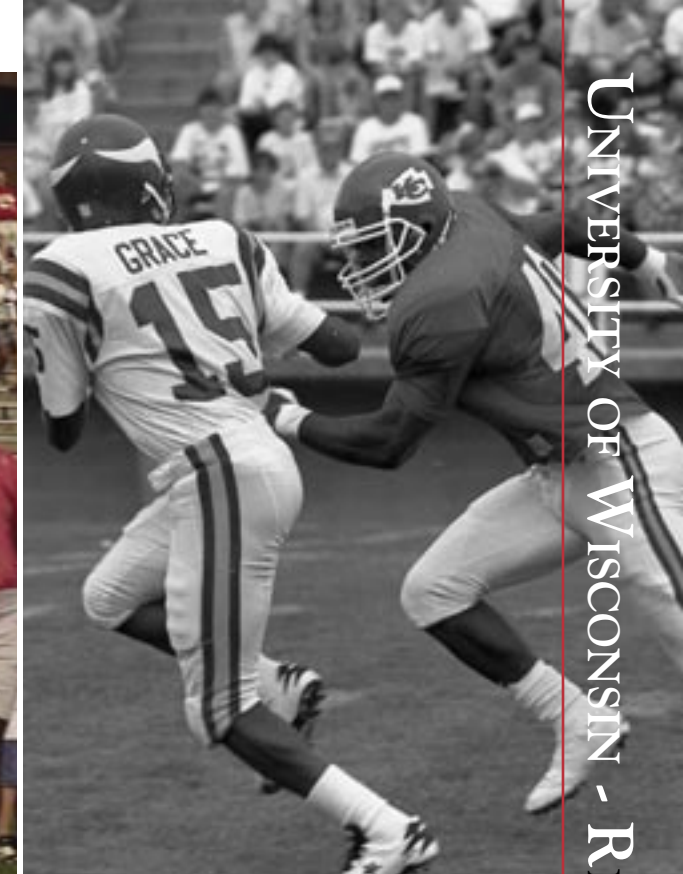
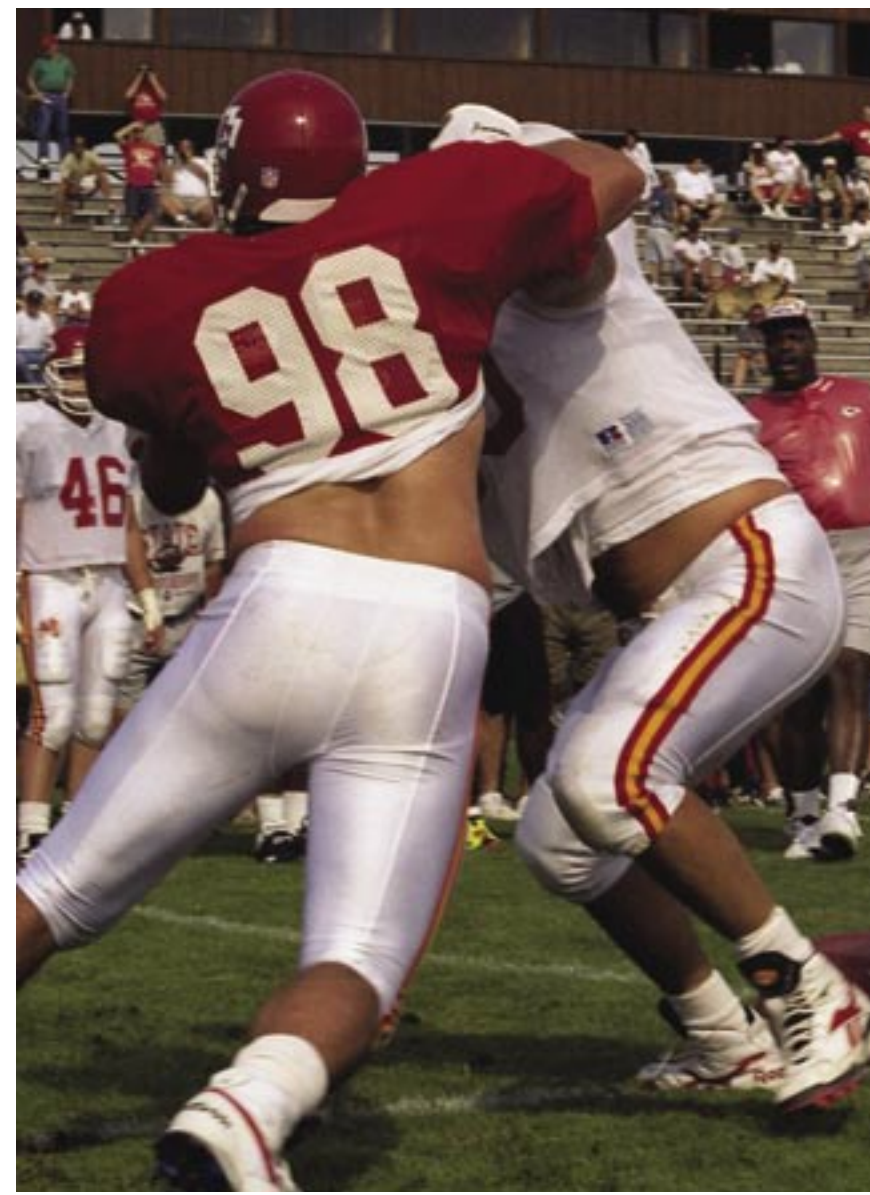
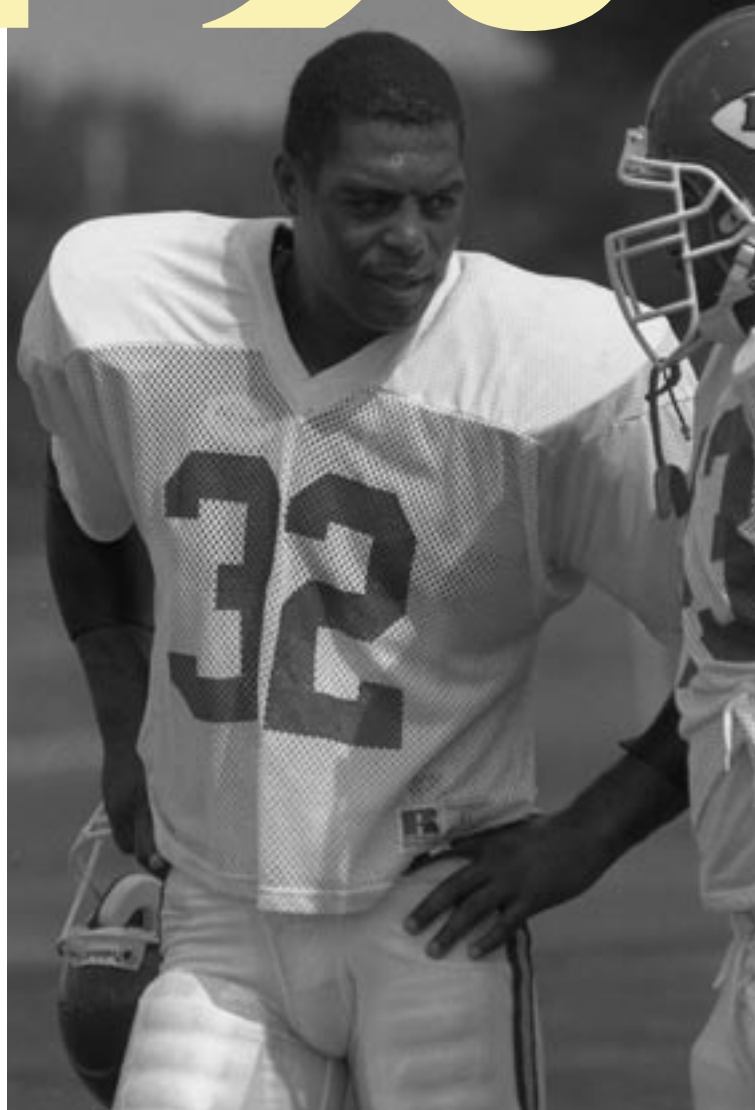
The Chiefs gave Allen the chance to revive his career at age 33. Playing a big part in the Chiefs' success, he led the team to the playoffs four of the five seasons he played. He retired in 1997 as the all-time leader with 123 rushing touchdowns, and his 587 catches were the most receptions by a running back.

Allen was a fan favorite throughout his years with the Chiefs; autograph seekers would line up hundreds deep on Family Fun Night. Allen was once observed quizzing a teenager on whether or not he smoked when the youngster thrust a plastic lighter with a Chiefs logo toward Allen for an autograph. It turned out the boy didn't smoke; he found the empty lighter so the signature was extended.

Allen meant victories. He scored more rushing touchdowns during his time with the Chiefs than any back. He was incredibly consistent when it came to gaining first downs or touchdowns in short-yardage situations, and his blocking skills, unselfish play and leadership qualities were a big reason the Chiefs won 55 games with him on the field.

On Oct. 22, 1995, Allen became the fourth NFL player to rush for 100 touchdowns as the Chiefs beat the Denver Broncos 21-7. This same year he became the first player in league history to rush for more than 10,000 yards and catch passes for 5,000 yards.

Allen was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 2003.



**Page 20** Top to bottom: Marcus Allen ended his Hall of Fame career as a Chief. He played for the team from 1993 to 1997 and is second all-time in career rushing touchdowns (123). The Chiefs have had a steady group of outstanding running backs during training camps at UW-RF.

**Page 21** Clockwise: The Chiefs offensive and defensive linemen go through some grueling practices during the season. But the work pays off with success during the season. Some action between the Minnesota Vikings offense and Chiefs defense. Derrick Thomas (58) seemed to enjoy the rigors of training camp.

