



POSTGAME NOTES

#JAXvsHOU



Houston Texans (9-7) vs. Jacksonville Jaguars (5-11)

Sunday, Jan. 3, 2016 • Noon CT • NRG Stadium (71,795) • Houston, Texas



	1	2	3	4	T	ATTENDANCE
Jacksonville Jaguars	0	3	3	0	6	71,899
Houston Texans	3	17	0	10	30	

TEXANS TEAM NOTES

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES

- The following players were inactive for the game: G **Oday Aboushi**, OLB **Jadeveon Clowney**, TE **Garrett Graham**, S **Rahim Moore**, DE **Jeffrey Pagan**, WR **Cecil Shorts III** and ILB **Justin Tuggle**
- The following player was active but did not play in the game: QB **Brandon Weeden**
- The following players were captains for the game: T **Duane Brown**, ILB **Brian Cushing**, CB **Johnathan Joseph**, P **Shane Lechler** and DE **J.J. Watt**
- Jacksonville won the toss and elected to receive to start the game

THE TEXANS...

- Clinched their third AFC South Division title in franchise history and first since 2012. Houston has now won the AFC South three times in the past five years (2011, 2012, 2015)
- Finished the year 9-7 overall and 5-3 at home for the second straight season
- Swept the season series with the Jaguars in back-to-back seasons for the second time in franchise history (2011-12)
- Improved to 17-11 overall and 10-4 at home all-time against the Jaguars
- Won their fourth straight game against the Jaguars, which is the second-longest streak against Jacksonville all-time
- Improved to 5-1 against the AFC South in 2015, which ties the team's best single-season record against divisional opponents (5-1 in 2012)
- Set single-game (8.0) and single-season (45.0) franchise records in sacks
- Held their opponent to under seven points for the fifth time this year, which is a franchise record and is tied for the fourth-most such games in the NFL since 1940
- Allowed the least amount of points (114) in the NFL over the last nine games of the season
- Rushed for 160 yards as a team and averaged a single-game season-high 5.2 yards per carry
- Scored 30-plus points in back-to-back games for the first time since Weeks 1-2 in 2013
- Had two players record 10.0-or-more sacks in a season for the first time in franchise history (Watt - 17.5, Mercilus - 12.0). Watt and Mercilus combined for the most sacks in a season by two players in franchise history (29.5)
- Had two players with 3.0 sacks in a game for the first time in franchise history (Mercilus - 3.5, Watt - 3.0)
- Scored on a 10-play, 79-yard drive, lasting 4:33 time of possession, after QB **Brian Hoyer** found RB **Jonathan Grimes** for a 12-yard touchdown pass in the second quarter. The score gave the team a 10-0 lead
- Threw their 29th touchdown pass as a team (Hoyer - 19, Weeden - 3, Yates - 3, Mallett - 3, Shorts - 1), which is tied for the most in a season in franchise history (2009 - 29)
- Scored their second touchdown of the day and took a 17-3 lead in the second quarter on a 6-play, 42-yard drive, capped by a 3-yard touchdown run by **Grimes**
- Scored their final touchdown of the day in the fourth quarter on a pick-six from CB **Kareem Jackson**, giving the team a 30-6 victory

POSTGAME NOTES

WEEK 17 • HOUSTON TEXANS vs. JACKSONVILLE JAGUARS

TEXANS INDIVIDUAL PLAYER NOTES

RB ALFRED BLUE

- Led the team with 102 rushing yards on 21 carries (4.9 avg.), as he posted his third 100-yard rushing game of the season and fourth of his career
- Set single-season career highs in rushing yards (698) and carries (183), while tying his personal-best in rushing touchdowns (two)

DE JARED CRICK

- Finished with two tackles (one solo), two quarterback hits, one tackle for loss and one pass defended
- Deflected a pass in the first quarter, his second of the season and 13th of his career

ILB BRIAN CUSHING

- Recorded the second-most tackles (six) on the team, to go along with a forced fumble and a pass defended
- Forced a fumble on Jaguars RB Denard Robinson, his first of the season and ninth of his career. DE **J.J. Watt** recovered the ball on the play
- Deflected a pass in the first quarter, his third of the season and 29th of his career
- Finished the regular season with 110 total tackles (63 solo), his highest single-season total since 2011
- Tied DeMeco Ryans (86) for the 12th-most regular season games played in Texans history

QB B.J. DANIELS

- Returned four punts for 18 yards (4.5 avg.), including a long of 11 yards, which marked his first time returning punts for the Texans this season

RB JONATHAN GRIMES

- Registered a single-game career-high two touchdowns (one receiving, one rushing). Rushed for 26 yards on four carries (6.5 avg.) and caught four passes for 28 yards
- Scored his first career receiving touchdown on a 12-yard reception from QB **Brian Hoyer** in the second quarter
- Scored his first rushing touchdown of the season and second of his career on a 3-yard carry in the second quarter

S ANDRE HAL

- Totaled four tackles (three solo), two passes defended and an interception
- Caught his fourth interception of the season, which ties him with Bernard Pollard (four in 2009) for the second-most interceptions by a safety in a season in team history
- Finished the regular season leading the team with a career-high four interceptions, while also setting career highs in tackles (34) and passes defended (10)

WR DeANDRE HOPKINS

- Led the team with seven receptions for 89 yards, including a long of 20 yards
- Finished the regular season with the third-most receptions (111), fourth-most receiving yards (1,521) and the most receiving touchdowns (11) in a single season in franchise history
- Extended his streak of consecutive regular season games started to 48, which ranks second among all active NFL wide receivers
- Caught a pass in his 48th straight regular season game

QB BRIAN HOYER

- Completed 25-of-40 passes for 249 yards, one touchdown, one interception and a 78.0 passer rating
- Threw a 12-yard touchdown pass to RB **Jonathan Grimes** in the second quarter, his 19th of the season and 38th of his career
- Finished the regular season with single-season career highs in passing touchdowns (19) and passer rating (91.4)

RB AKEEM HUNT

- Posted a single-game career-high 28 rushing yards on three carries (9.3 avg.), including a career-long of 25 yards

CB KAREEM JACKSON

- Notched three solo tackles, one interception returned for a touchdown and one pass defended
- Returned an interception for a touchdown in the fourth quarter, his first of the season and second of his career
- Tied Johnathan Joseph (12) for the second-most career interceptions in franchise history
- Tied DeMeco Ryans (86) for the 12th-most regular season games played in Texans history

C BEN JONES

- Extended his streak of consecutive regular season games played to 64, which is the second-longest active streak among NFL centers

CB JOHNATHAN JOSEPH

- Led the team with four passes defended, which tied his third-highest single-game total of his career and second-highest of the season
- Led the Texans and set a single-season career-high with 22 passes defended, topping his previous best of 20 in 2006 & 2009 with Cincinnati

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TEXANS INDIVIDUAL PLAYER NOTES

P SHANE LECHLER

- Passed Sean Landeta (60,706) for the second-most career punting yards in the NFL since 1939
- Punted four times for 190 yards (47.5 avg., 35.0 net), including a long of 52 yards
- Finished the regular season with 95 punts for 4,497 yards (47.3 avg., 38.8 net), pinning 24 punts inside the 20-yard line
- Extended his streak of consecutive regular season games played to 222, which leads all active NFL players

OLB WHITNEY MERCILUS

- Tallied five tackles (three solo), 3.5 sacks, three quarterback hits, two tackles for loss, one forced fumble and one fumble recovery
- Became the first player in franchise history and the fifth player in the NFL since 1982 to post two games with 3.5-or-more sacks in a season
- Posted his third multiple-sack game of the season and eighth of his career
- Passed Antonio Smith (27.0) for the third-most career sacks in Texans history
- Eclipsed the 10.0-sack mark for the first time in his career
- Brought down Jaguars QB Blake Bortles for a 6-yard loss in the first quarter
- Sacked Bortles for a loss of four yards in the second quarter
- Recorded a sack-forced fumble on Bortles in the third quarter, his fourth strip-sack of his career and first of the season
- Split a sack with OLB **John Simon** on Bortles in the fourth quarter for a loss of one yard
- Finished the year with 50 tackles (32 solo), 12.0 sacks, 16 quarterback hits, 14 tackles for loss, two passes defended, two fumble recoveries and one forced fumble. His sack and tackles for loss totals set single-season career highs, while he tied his personal-best for total tackles
- Tied Mario Williams (12.0 in 2008) for the fifth-most sacks in a season in franchise history

K NICK NOVAK

- Scored 12 points on three made field goals and three PATs
- Finished the season with three straight games with 10-or-more points
- Kicked two successful 50-plus-yard field goals in a game for the first time in his career
- Made a 29-yard field goal in the first quarter to give the Texans a 3-0 lead
- Made a season-long 51-yard field goal in the second quarter to give the team a 20-3 lead
- Made another 51-yard field goal in the fourth quarter to give the Texans a 23-6 lead

OLB JOHN SIMON

- Finished with five tackles (four solo), one quarterback hit and a half-sack
- Finished the year with single-season career highs in tackles (49), sacks (5.0), quarterback hits (11), tackles for loss (three) and fumble recoveries (one)

DE J.J. WATT

- Led the team with eight tackles (five solo), to go along with a single-game season-high 3.0 sacks, three tackles for loss, four quarterback hits, two passes defended, one forced fumble and one fumble recovery
- Finished the year with 76 tackles (57 solo), 17.5 sacks, 29 tackles for loss, 50 quarterback hits, eight passes defended, three forced fumbles and one fumble recovery
- His sack total ranks as the third-highest single-season mark in franchise history behind his 20.5 sacks in 2012 and 2014
- Recorded his third career 15.0-sack season, which is tied for the second-most in the NFL since 1982. Reggie White is the only other player to notch three 15.0-sack seasons in his first five years in the league
- Posted 50-or-more quarterback hits for the second straight season (51 in 2014)
- Brought down Jaguars QB Blake Bortles for an 8-yard loss on Jacksonville's first offensive possession of the game
- Sacked Bortles for a 9-yard loss in the third quarter, his second sack of the day
- Recorded a sack-forced fumble on Bortles in the fourth quarter, his second strip-sack of the season
- Deflected two passes, giving him eight for the season and 45 for his career
- Recovered a fumble by Jaguars RB Denard Robinson in the second quarter, his first fumble recovery of the season and 12th of his career. ILB **Brian Cushing** forced the fumble on the play
- Extended his streak of consecutive games started to 80, which ranks third among active NFL defensive ends

LS JON WEEKS

- Passed Bryan Pittman (95) for the eighth-most regular season games played in Texans history