

WEEK 1 GAME SUMMARY

WEEK 4 • HOUSTON TEXANS at ATLANTA FALCONS



WEEK 1: Houston 20 vs. Kansas City 27

71,776 • NRG Stadium • Houston, Texas • Sept. 13, 2015



GAME SUMMARY

The Texans fell to the Kansas City Chiefs 27-20 in the season opener at home.

After trailing by as many as 21, the Texans rallied back to within one score late in the game.

Two early turnovers, which included a fumble after a strip sack and an interception, proved costly for **Brian Hoyer**. The Chiefs capitalized on both, scoring 14 points and taking a 27-9 lead going into the lockerroom at halftime.

Ryan Mallett entered the game midway through fourth quarter, adding a touchdown and two-point conversion on his first series. He finished 8-of-14 for 98 yards, one touchdown, and a 102.7 passer rating.

The Texans were lead on defense by **J.J. Watt**, who had nine tackles, six tackles for loss, three quarterback hits and two sacks. **DeAndre Hopkins** caught 9 passes for 98 yards. He scored both Texans touchdowns and the two-point conversion. **Nate Washington** added six catches for 105 yards.

The Chiefs took an early 14-0 lead on two touchdown passes from **Alex Smith** to tight end **Travis Kelce**. The first score came two plays after Hoyer's pass was intercepted by rookie cornerback **Marcus Peters**, deep in Texans territory.

Hoyer and the Texans offense picked up steam late in the first quarter, moving the ball 80 yards in eight plays. Hoyer's first touchdown as a Texan was to Hopkins on a 4-yard pass in the right corner of the endzone. **Randy Bullock** failed to convert the extra point attempt. The Texans trailed 14-6 with 0:46 left in the first quarter.

The Chiefs added two field goals from 27 and 48 yards, respectively to extend their lead 20-6.

Hoyer's second turnover came with 5:09 left in the second quarter, as the Chiefs recovered a strip sack at the Houston 7-yard line. One play later, Kansas City found the endzone when **Jamaal Charles** scored on a short touchdown pass.

Hoyer orchestrated an 11-play, 64-yard scoring drive before the half, but the Texans had to settle for a field goal.

After a scoreless third quarter for both teams, Ryan Mallett entered the game with 6:10 left in the fourth quarter. On his first series, Mallett threw an 8-yard touchdown pass to DeAndre Hopkins after a 7-play, 59-yard drive. He also successfully converted the ensuing two-point play to Hopkins to cut the Chiefs lead to 10.

Bullock added his second field goal of the day after Mallett's second series in the game, a 47-yard kick. The Texans pulled within one score, down just 27-20 with 1:23 left in the game.

The Texans attempted an onside kick, but the Chiefs recovered and then ran out the clock.

SCORING

SCORE BY PERIODS	1	2	3	4	OT	Total
Kansas City Chiefs	14	13	0	0	-	27
Houston Texans	6	3	0	11	-	20

SCORING DRIVES

Team	Qtr	Time	Play Description (Extra Point) (Drive info)	KC	HOU
Chiefs	1	10:22	T.Kelce 10 yd. pass from A.Smith (C.Santos kick) (2-13, 0:42)	7	0
Chiefs	1	4:28	T.Kelce 42 yd. pass from A.Smith (C.Santos kick) (8-83, 4:12) 1	4	0
Texans	1	0:46	D.Hopkins 4 yd. pass from B.Hoyer (kick failed, wr) (8-80, 3:42)	14	6
Chiefs	2	10:26	C.Santos 27 yd. Field Goal (10-66, 5:20)	17	6
Chiefs	2	6:20	C.Santos 48 yd. Field Goal (5-22, 2:32)	20	6
Chiefs	2	4:55	J.Charles 7 yd. pass from A.Smith (C.Santos kick) (1-7, 0:06)	27	6
Texans	2	0:09	R.Bullock 34 yd. Field Goal (11-64, 2:17)	27	9
Texans	4	4:07	D.Hopkins 8 yd. pass from R.Mallett (R.Mallett-D.Hopkins pass) (6-59, 2:03)	27	17
Texans	4	1:23	R.Bullock 47 yd. Field Goal (10-48, 1:24)	27	20

TEAM STATISTICS

	CHIEFS	TEXANS
TOTAL FIRST DOWNS	19	24
THIRD DOWN EFFICIENCY	3-13-23%	3-14-21%
FOURTH DOWN EFFICIENCY	0-0-0%	0-1-0%
TOTAL NET YARDS	330	396
NET YARDS RUSHING	97	98
NET YARDS PASSING	233	298
PASS ATTEMPTS-COMPLETIONS-HAD INTERCEPTED	33-22-0	47-26-1
KICKOFFS Number-In End Zone-Touchbacks	6-6-6	5-4-3
PUNTS Number and Average	7-43.9	7-47.0
Net Punting Average	36.1	32.6
FGs - PATs Had Blocked	0-0	0-0
TOTAL RETURN YARDAGE (Not Including Kickoffs)	81	14
PENALTIES Number and Yards	2-25	6-39
FUMBLES Number and Lost	1-0	2-1
TOUCHDOWNS	3	2
EXTRA POINTS Made-Attempt	3-3	1-2
FIELD GOALS Made-Attempts	2-3	2-2
RED ZONE EFFICIENCY	2-3-67%	2-4-50%
GOAL TO GO EFFICIENCY	1-1-100%	2-2-100%
SAFETIES	0	0
TIME OF POSSESSION	35:19	24:41

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

RUSHING (Att-Yds): Houston, A. Blue 9-42, J. Grimes 6-28, C. Polk 5-22, R. Mallett 1-6. Kansas City, J. Charles 16-57, K. Davis 6-16, A. Smith 9-15, D. Thomas 1-9.

RECEIVING (Rec-Yds): Houston, D. Hopkins 9-98, N. Washington 6-105, C. Shorts 4-57, K. Mumphery 2-23, R. Griffin 1-18, C. Fiedorowicz 1-15, C. Polk 1-9, A. Blue 1-7, J. Grimes 1-2. Kansas City, T. Kelce 6-106, J. Maclin 5-52, J. Charles 5-46, A. Wilson 3-25, K. Davis 1-12, D. Thomas 1-2, A. Sherman 1-0.

SACKS (Sk-Yds): Houston, J. Watt 2-10. Kansas City, A. Bailey 2-10, J. Houston 1-9, D. Johnson 1-9, J. Howard 1-8.

INTERCEPTIONS (Int-Yds): Houston, none. Kansas City, M. Peters 1-0.

TACKLES (S-A-T): Houston, B. Cushing 6-4-10, J. Watt 9-0-9, K. Jackson 6-0-6, Q. Demps 4-1-5, J. Joseph 4-0-4, A. Dent 3-1-4, J. Clowney 3-1-4, J. Simon 2-2-4, J. Crick 3-0-3, R. Moore 1-2-3, W. Mercilus 1-1-2, K. Johnson 1-0-1, E. Pleasant 1-0-1, A. Bouye 1-0-1, A. Hal 1-0-1. Kansas City, D. Johnson 6-2-8, J. Fleming 7-0-7, H. Abdullah 6-1-7, M. Peters 5-2-7, J. Howard 2-3-5, J. Mauga 2-3-5, A. Bailey 3-1-4, R. Parker 2-2-4, J. Houston 3-0-3, T. Hali 2-1-3, E. Berry 2-0-2, D. Ford 2-0-2, D. Poe 1-1-2, T. Branch 0-1-1.

MISSED FIELD GOAL: Houston, none. Kansas City, C. Santos 51WL.

WEEK 1 GAME NOTES

WEEK 4 • HOUSTON TEXANS at ATLANTA FALCONS

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES

- The following players were captains for the game: T **Duane Brown**, P **Shane Lechler** and DE **J.J. Watt**
- The following players were inactive for the game: S **Lonnie Ballentine**, RB **Arian Foster**, T **Kendall Lamm**, ILB **Mike Mohamed**, CB **Jumal Rolle**, G **Xavier Su'a-Filo** and OLB **Carlos Thompson**
- The following players were active but did not play in the game: T **Chris Clark**, WR **Keshawn Martin** and WR **Jaelen Strong**
- Houston won the toss and deferred. Kansas City elected to receive to start the game

THE TEXANS...

- Snapped their streak of five consecutive season-opening games won, which was the longest active streak in the NFL
- Are now 8-6 all-time in season openers, 3-4 against Kansas City and 12-14 against the AFC West
- Recorded 396 net yards of offense, their second-highest total in a season opener in team history
- Posted 24 first downs, their third-highest total in a season opener in team history
- Scored 20-or-more points in their eighth season opener in team history
- Converted 2-of-4 red zone opportunities and 2-of-2 goal-to-go chances
- Forced the Chiefs to punt on their opening drive of the game, as DE **Jared Crick** and OLB **Whitney Mercilus** each deflected passes
- Posted a scoring drive of eight plays and 80 yards in the first quarter, resulting in a 4-yard pass from QB **Brian Hoyer** to WR **DeAndre Hopkins**
- Drove 64 yards on 11 plays at the end of the first half, which resulted in a 34-yard field goal by K **Randy Bullock**
- Recorded 168 yards of total offense (118 passing, 50 rushing), 11 first downs and 11:41 time of possession in the first half
- Outscored the Chiefs, 11-0, in the second half. Also outgained Kansas City, 228-109, in total net yards (180-49 passing)
- Registered 111 net yards (91 passing, 20 rushing) and eight first downs on four total drives in the fourth quarter
- The Texans successfully challenged the ruling of a catch by the Chiefs in the third quarter and the call was overturned
- Houston successfully challenged the ruling of an incomplete pass from **Hoyer** to **Hopkins** in the third quarter, marking the first time since Sept. 15, 2013 (vs. Tennessee) that the team has successfully challenged two plays in one game
- Had a six-play, 44-yard scoring drive in the fourth quarter, capped by an 8-yard pass from QB **Ryan Mallett** to **Hopkins**

RB ALFRED BLUE

- Led the team with 42 rushing yards and passed Ahman Green (554) for the eighth-most career rushing yards in team history

K RANDY BULLOCK

- Scored six points on two made field goals from 34 and 47 yards

DE JARED CRICK

- Made three solo tackles and deflected a pass in the game

ILB BRIAN CUSHING

- Led the team with 10 tackles (six solo), which marked his 16th career double-digit tackle game and his highest single-game total since Sept. 21, 2014 at the New York Giants

RB JONATHAN GRIMES

- Logged a 21-yard rush, the longest for either team in the game
- Finished the game with 28 yards on six carries (4.7 avg.)

WR DeANDRE HOPKINS

- Scored 14 total points (two receiving touchdowns, one two-point conversion), which is the second-highest single-game total by a wide receiver in team history
- Led both teams with nine receptions for 98 yards (10.9 avg.) and two touchdowns
- Caught a 4-yard touchdown pass from QB **Brian Hoyer**, his first of the season and ninth of his career
- Caught a touchdown pass in his third consecutive home opener

- Recorded a touchdown reception in his eighth career game
- Passed Arian Foster (2,041) for the fourth-most career receiving yards in team history
- Extended his streak of consecutive regular season games started to 33, which ranks tied for fifth among all NFL wide receivers

QB BRIAN HOYER

- Completed 18-of-34 passes (52.9%) for 236 yards, one touchdown, one interception and a 72.7 passer rating
- Threw a 4-yard touchdown pass to WR **DeAndre Hopkins** in the first quarter, his first of the season and 20th of his career

P SHANE LECHLER

- Punted seven times for 329 yards (47.0 avg., 32.6 net) and pinned one inside the 20-yard line
- Extended his streak of consecutive regular season games played to 206, which leads all active NFL players

QB RYAN MALLET

- Entered the game in the fourth quarter and completed 4-of-6 passes for 42 yards, one touchdown and a 126.4 passer rating on his first drive
- Finished the game 8-of-13 for 98 yards, one touchdown and a 110.4 passer rating

OLB WHITNEY MERCILUS

- Posted two tackles and one pass defensed in the game

WR KEITH MUMPHERY

- Recorded his first career reception for six yards in the first quarter
- Returned four punts for 14 yards

WR CECIL SHORTS III

- In his debut with the Texans, caught four passes for 57 yards (14.3 avg.)

WR NATE WASHINGTON

- Caught six passes for a team-high 105 yards, marking the 10th 100-yard receiving game of his career
- Extended his streak of consecutive games played to 145, which leads all active NFL wide receivers

DE J.J. WATT

- Finished with nine tackles (all solo), including six for a loss and 2.0 sacks
- His six tackles for loss tied a single-game career-high (vs. Indianapolis, 12/16/12)
- His 2.0 sacks tied for the most in a season opener in franchise history (Mario Williams, three times, last vs. Indianapolis, 9/11/11)
- Tallied the 18th multiple-sack game of his career, which is the most in the NFL since 2011
- Registered his 58th career sack in the second quarter when he brought down Chiefs QB Alex Smith for a 9-yard loss
- Made his 59th career sack in the third quarter, bringing down Smith for a 1-yard loss
- Became the eighth player in team history to record 300 career tackles (304)
- Extended his streak of consecutive regular season games started to 65, which ranks second among all active NFL defensive ends
- Posted a sack in the fourth straight home opener (2012-15) of his career
- Recorded a sack in his sixth straight game dating back to 2014, which surpasses his previous career-long of five games (Weeks 6-11, 2014) and is the second-longest active streak in the NFL (Chiefs OLB Justin Houston, seven games)
- Notched his second straight multiple-sack game dating back to 2014, which is the second-longest streak of his career (three games, Weeks 13-15, 2014) and currently the longest active streak in the NFL
- Now has 59.0 sacks and 161 quarterback hits for his career, which is the most of any player since 2011

WEEK 2 GAME SUMMARY

WEEK 4 • HOUSTON TEXANS at ATLANTA FALCONS



WEEK 2: Houston 17 at Carolina 24

73,254 • Bank of America Stadium • Charlotte, N.C. • Sept. 20, 2015



GAME SUMMARY

In their first road game of 2015, the Texans fell to Carolina 24-17 in a matchup that came down to the final seconds of regulation.

Dropped passes and a sluggish first half plagued the Texans offense in QB **Ryan Mallett's** first start of the season. Mallett finished the game 27-of-58 for 244 yards and added two touchdowns (one passing, one rushing) while throwing one interception.

The Texans offensive line was forced to reshuffle as starting left tackle **Duane Brown** was inactive. The unit then lost right tackle **Jeff Adams** to a knee injury during the game.

The defense held the Panthers to 10 points in the first half, but struggled to contain QB **Cam Newton**, who tossed two touchdowns and rushed for 76 yards and a score. S **Rahim Moore** nabbed the first takeaway of the season with an interception of Newton.

Houston's defense forced two three-and-outs to start the game. K **Randy Bullock's** 43-yard field goal in the first quarter put the first points on the board, giving the Texans a 3-0 lead.

Newton's 25-yard pass to **Ted Ginn, Jr.** gave the Panthers their first lead of the game early in the second quarter. A 28-yard field goal extended their lead on Carolina's following offensive series.

Moore's interception in the red zone kept the Panthers from adding to their lead in the second quarter. Moore returned the pick 17 yards and fumbled, but ILB **Justin Tuggle** recovered. The Texans took over at their own 22-yard line but were unable to convert the turnover into points.

Head Coach **Bill O'Brien's** squad trailed 10-3 at halftime.

Mallett and the Texans offense came out firing in the second half. He was 7-of-7 on his first touchdown drive of the day. The 13-play, 80-yard drive was capped by a Mallett-to-**Garrett Graham** strike at the back of the endzone. The 7-yard score featured Graham's one-handed catch, and tied the contest at 10-all.

Carolina fired back with its own 80-yard drive, punctuated by a two-yard leap into the endzone by Newton. The Panthers regained the lead 17-10.

Mallett's first interception in the fourth quarter, by **A.J. Klein**, led to Carolina points. One play after the Klein pick, Newton threw a 36-yard touchdown pass to **Corey Brown**. The Panthers took their biggest lead of the day, 24-10, with 8:53 left in the game.

Mallett bounced back on the next drive, throwing a 48-yard deep pass to WR **Nate Washington** to move into scoring range. On fourth-and-goal, Mallett's six-yard run brought the Texans within one score. Houston trailed 24-17 after the 7-play, 80-yard drive. The Panthers attempted a 53-yard field goal with 2:48 left in the game. DE **Jared Crick** blocked the attempt to give Houston possession on its 43-yard line.

The Texans moved the ball down to the Carolina 20-yard line during their final drive of the game but came up short on fourth down.

SCORING

SCORE BY PERIODS	1	2	3	4	OT	Total
Houston Texans	3	0	7	7	-	17
Carolina Panthers	0	10	7	7	-	24

SCORING DRIVES

Team	Qtr	Time	Play Description (Extra Point) (Drive info)	HOU	CAR
Texans	1	7:57	R.Bullock 43 yd. Field Goal (13-53, 3:48)	3	0
Panthers	2	11:22	T.Ginn 25 yd. pass from C.Newton (G.Gano kick) (5-74, 2:04)	3	7
Panthers	2	5:26	G.Gano 28 yd. Field Goal (10-51, 4:39)	3	10
Texans	3	8:29	G.Graham 7 yd. pass from R.Mallett (R.Bullock kick) (13-80, 6:31)	10	10
Panthers	3	1:04	C.Newton 2 yd. run (G.Gano kick) (14-80, 7:25)	10	17
Panthers	4	8:53	C.Brown 36 yd. pass from C.Newton (G.Gano kick) (1-36, 0:09)	10	24
Texans	4	6:31	R.Mallett 6 yd. run (R.Bullock kick) (7-80, 2:22)	17	24

TEAM STATISTICS

	TEXANS	PANTHERS
TOTAL FIRST DOWNS	21	25
THIRD DOWN EFFICIENCY	5-19-26%	4-13-31%
FOURTH DOWN EFFICIENCY	2-4-50%	0-0-0%
TOTAL NET YARDS	300	350
NET YARDS RUSHING	61	172
Total Rushing Plays	23	33
NET YARDS PASSING	239	178
PASS ATTEMPTS-COMPLETIONS-HAD INTERCEPTED	58-27-1	37-18-1
KICKOFFS Number-In End Zone-Touchbacks	4-4-3	5-5-4
PUNTS Number and Average	8-48.5	7-53.9
FGs - PATs Had Blocked	0-0	1-0
TOTAL RETURN YARDAGE (Not Including Kickoffs)	75	52
PENALTIES Number and Yards	10-70	10-92
FUMBLES Number and Lost	1-0	0-0
TOUCHDOWNS	2	3
EXTRA POINTS Made-Attempts	2-2	3-3
FIELD GOALS Made-Attempts	1-1	1-2
RED ZONE EFFICIENCY	2-3-67%	1-2-50%
GOAL TO GO EFFICIENCY	0-0-0%	1-1-100%
SAFETIES	0	0
FINAL SCORE	17	24
TIME OF POSSESSION	27:31	32:29

INDIVIDUAL LEADERS

RUSHING (Att-Yds): Houston, C. Polk 14-38, J. Grimes 2-7, A. Blue 5-6, R. Mallett 1-6, J. Prosch 1-4. Carolina, C. Newton 10-76, J. Stewart 17-62, M. Tolbert 5-31, F. Whittaker 1-3.

RECEIVING (Rec-Yds): Houston, J. Grimes 6-40, C. Shorts 6-34, D. Hopkins 5-53, N. Washington 3-63, C. Worthy 2-15, C. Polk 2-9, C. Fiedorowicz 1-19, G. Graham 1-7, A. Blue 1-4. Carolina G. Olsen 6-70, T. Ginn 4-41, C. Brown 3-57, M. Tolbert 2-4, D. Funchess 1-15, J. Cotchery 1-11, J. Stewart 1-(-3).

SACKS (Sk-Yds): Houston, J. Watt 1-4, Q. Demps 0.5-6.5, E. Pleasant 0.5-6.5. Carolina D. Edwards 1-5.

INTERCEPTIONS (Int-Yds): Houston, R. Moore 1-17. Carolina A. Klein 1-8.

TACKLES (S-A-T): Houston, Q. Demps 2-6-8, B. Cushing 4-3-7, J. Crick 3-4-7, J. Watt 4-1-5, J. Joseph 4-1-5, J. Tuggle 3-1-4, K. Jackson 3-1-4, W. Mercilus 2-2-4, R. Moore 3-0-3, J. Clowney 2-0-2, K. Johnson 2-0-2, A. Dent 1-1-2, B. McKinney 1-1-2, V. Wilfork 0-2-2, E. Pleasant 0-1-1. Carolina, T. Davis 6-3-9, K. Coleman 5-4-9, R. Harper 5-1-6, B. Benwikere 4-2-6, J. Norman 4-1-5, S. Thompson 3-1-4, A. Klein 2-2-4, D. Edwards 2-1-3, C. Tillman 1-2-3, K. Short 0-3-3, K. Love 1-1-2, K. Ealy 0-2-2, C. Johnson 0-2-2, M. Addison 0-1-1, C. Cole 0-1-1, W. Horton 0-1-1.

MISSED FIELD GOAL: Houston, none. Carolina, G. Gano 53B.

WEEK 2 GAME NOTES

WEEK 4 • HOUSTON TEXANS at ATLANTA FALCONS

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES

- The following players were captains for the game: C **Ben Jones**, CB **Johnathan Joseph**, P **Shane Lechler** and NT **Vince Wilfork**
- The following players were inactive for the game: T **Oday Aboushi**, S **Lonnie Ballentine**, T **Duane Brown**, RB **Arian Foster**, ILB **Mike Mohamed**, G **Xavier Su'a-Filo** and WR **Jaalen Strong**
- The following player was active but did not play in the game: QB **Brian Hoyer**
- Houston won the toss and deferred. Carolina elected to receive to start the game

THE TEXANS...

- Fell to 0-2 on the season for the first time since 2008, and 9-9 overall under Head Coach **Bill O'Brien**
- Dropped to 2-2 all-time against Carolina and 7-6 against the NFC South
- Recorded their first takeaway of the season on a S **Rahim Moore** interception in the second quarter
- Allowed zero third down conversions by the Panthers (0-of-6) in the first half and held Carolina to 4-of-13 (31%) for the game. Through two games, Texans opponents have only converted 7-of-26 (27%) third downs this season
- Totaled at least 300 net yards of offense for the second straight week
- Converted 2-of-3 (67%) red zone opportunities, bringing their total up to 4-of-7 (57%) for the year
- Held the Panthers to 41 net yards (34 rushing, 7 passing), three first downs, 6:34 time of possession and zero points in the first quarter
- Forced three-and-outs on Carolina's first two possessions and on four drives overall for the game
- Took a 3-0 lead on a 43-yard field goal from K **Randy Bullock**, following a 13-play drive in the first quarter, a season-high for the team
- Tied the game at 10 on a 13-play, 80-yard drive to open the second half, capped by a 7-yard touchdown pass from QB **Ryan Mallett** to TE **Garrett Graham**
- Registered a 7-play, 80-yard scoring drive in the fourth quarter, as Mallett ran for a touchdown on a 6-yard run

K RANDY BULLOCK

- Scored four total points after making one field goal and one PAT
- Made a 43-yard field goal in the first quarter to give the Texans their first lead of the season
- Tied Neil Rackers (59) for the second-most career field goals made in franchise history

OLB JADEVEON CLOWNEY

- Totaled two solo tackles and the first two passes defended of his career

DE JARED CRICK

- Tied for second on the team with a season-high seven tackles
- Blocked a 53-yard field goal attempt by the Panthers in the fourth quarter, the first of his career

ILB BRIAN CUSHING

- Tied for second on the team with seven tackles (four solo) and added one pass defended
- Deflected a pass on third down of Carolina's opening drive to force the Panthers to punt

S QUINTIN DEMPS

- Led the team with eight tackles (two solo) and a half-sack, his first sack since his rookie year with Philadelphia in 2008

TE GARRETT GRAHAM

- Caught a 7-yard touchdown pass from QB **Ryan Mallett** in the third quarter, the 10th of his career and first since he hauled in a 20-yard touchdown from Mallett at Cleveland (11/16/14)

RB JONATHAN GRIMES

- Tied for the team lead with six catches for 40 yards
- His reception total tied a single-game career-high (12/29/13 at TEN), while his seven catches on the year are a single-season career-high

WR DeANDRE HOPKINS

- Caught a pass in his 34th consecutive game and finished with five receptions for 53 yards

- Extended his streak of consecutive games started to 34, which ranks tied for third among active NFL wide receivers

P SHANE LECHLER

- Punted eight times for 388 yards (48.5 avg., 43.0 net), including a long of 60 yards, and three pinned inside the 20-yard line
- His punts inside the 20-yard line total marked a single-game season-high
- Extended his streak of games pinning at least one punt inside the 20-yard line to six, dating back to 2014
- His punt total tied for the 11th-most by a Texans player in team history and his yardage total also ranked 11th
- Extended his streak of consecutive games played to 207, which leads all active NFL players

QB RYAN MALLET

- Completed 27-of-58 passes for 244 yards, one touchdown, one interception and a 57.0 passer rating
- Recorded the second-most passing attempts in a game in team history (62, Matt Schaub vs. Baltimore, 12/13/10)
- His completions, attempts and yardage totals all marked single-game career highs
- Threw a 7-yard touchdown pass to TE **Garrett Graham** to tie the game at 10 in the third quarter. Went 7-of-7 for 57 yards, a touchdown and a 140.2 passer rating on the scoring drive
- Completed a career-long pass of 48 yards to WR **Nate Washington** in the fourth quarter
- Scored his first career rushing touchdown on a 6-yard run in the fourth quarter, which brought the game within one possession

ILB BENARDRICK MCKINNEY

- Tallied the first two tackles, including one for loss, of his career

S RAHIM MOORE

- Registered his ninth career interception when he picked off Panthers QB **Cam Newton** in the second quarter
- The interception was the first takeaway for the Texans this season

WR KEITH MUMPHERY

- Returned six punts for a single-game career-high 58 yards (9.7 avg.)
- Totaled the most punt return yards for the Texans since WR **Keshawn Martin** posted 70 against Denver on 12/22/13

S EDDIE PLEASANT

- Split a sack with S **Quintin Demps**, the first of his career

FB JAY PROSCH

- Recorded his first career rushing attempt, which went for four yards and a first down on third-and-1 in the first quarter

WR NATE WASHINGTON

- Caught a 48-yard pass from QB **Ryan Mallett** in the fourth quarter, his longest catch of the season
- Finished the game with three receptions for 63 yards
- Extended his streak of consecutive games played to 146, which leads all active NFL wide receivers

DE J.J. WATT

- Recorded his 60th career sack in his 66th career game, which is the second-fastest in NFL history behind only **Reggie White** who accomplished the feat in his 47th game
- Extended his streak of consecutive games with a sack to seven, which is the second-longest active streak in the NFL (Chiefs LB **Justin Houston**, eight games)
- Contributed with five tackles (four solo), 1.0 sack, one tackle for loss, two passes defended and two quarterback hits
- Extended his streak of consecutive games started to 66, which ranks third among active NFL defensive ends

WR CHANDLER WORTHY

- Returned his first career kickoff for 27 yards in the second quarter

WEEK 3 GAME SUMMARY

WEEK 4 • HOUSTON TEXANS at ATLANTA FALCONS



WEEK 3: Houston 19 vs. Tampa Bay 9

71,718 • NRG Stadium • Houston, Texas • Sept. 27, 2015



GAME SUMMARY

The Houston Texans picked up their first win of 2015 with a 19-9 victory over Tampa Bay.

Both **Alfred Blue** and **DeAndre Hopkins** had 100-yard performances as the Texans put up over 400 yards of offense. **Ryan Mallett** was 24-of-39 for 228 yards, with one touchdown and one interception in his second start of the year.

The Texans aimed for a faster start to Week 3 and accomplished it with an early 7-0 lead. Hopkins led the receivers with eight catches for 101 yards and a score.

Injuries continued to plague the offensive line. Already without starting left tackle **Duane Brown**, right guard **Brandon Brooks** left in the second quarter with an ankle injury and did not return. The reshuffled unit still paved the way for 187 yards rushing on the day.

Blue rumbled for 139 yards and a touchdown. It was the second 100-yard rushing performance for Blue in his career.

The Texans defense added one takeaway with an interception of Jameis Winston and held Tampa Bay to just one third-down conversion on 12 attempts.

Tampa Bay's first score of the day was a 58-yard field goal in the second quarter. Kyle Brindza missed two subsequent field goals from 32 and 33 yards, as well as an extra point attempt.

The Buccaneers got on the scoreboard late in the first half. Following a Mallett interception, Tampa Bay took over at the Houston 26-yard line. Two plays later, Charles Sims scored on a 32-yard catch-and-run from Winston. Tampa Bay missed the ensuing extra point as they took a 9-7 lead with 3:51 remaining in the first half.

Late in the second quarter, Bullock missed a 43-yard field goal when his kick hit the right upright. The Texans trailed 9-7 at halftime.

Winston threw his first interception of the day just four plays into the third quarter. **Quintin Demps** picked off the pass, intended for Mike Evans, to set up the Texans scoring drive. Bullock added a 39-yard field goal as Houston regained a 10-9 lead with 12:37 left in the third quarter.

Mallett led the Texans on a fourth-quarter scoring drive that began with a 30-yard completion to Hopkins. Blue scored his first touchdown of the season on a 20-yard run to cap off a five-play, 80-yard drive. Bullock's extra point attempt was wide right, and Houston led 16-9 with 9:14 left in the game.

Later, the Texans took up 6:52 of the fourth quarter with a 14-play, 76-yard scoring drive. Bullock added a 19-yard field goal as Houston won 19-9.

The Texans improve to 1-2 on the season and will travel to Atlanta in Week 4.

SCORING

SCORE BY PERIODS	1	2	3	4	OT	Total
Tampa Bay Buccaneers	0	9	0	0	-	9
Houston Texans	7	0	3	9	-	19

SCORING DRIVES

Team	Qtr	Time	Play Description (Extra Point) (Drive info)	TB	HOU
Texans	1	4:58	D.Hopkins 5 yd. pass from R.Mallett (R.Bullock kick) (10-64, 3:55)	0	7
Bucs	2	11:15	K.Brindza 58 yd. Field Goal (6-40, 3:00)	3	7
Bucs	2	3:51	C.Sims 32 yd. pass from J.Winston (kick failed, hru) (2-26, 0:50)	9	7
Texans	3	12:37	R.Bullock 39 yd. Field Goal (5-34, 1:16)	9	10
Texans	4	9:14	A.Blue 20 yd. run (kick failed, wr) (5-77, 1:42)	9	16
Texans	4	1:12	R.Bullock 19 yd. Field Goal (14-76, 6:52)	9	19

TEAM STATISTICS

	BUCCANEERS	TEXANS
TOTAL FIRST DOWNS	14	30
THIRD DOWN EFFICIENCY	1-12-8%	8-18-44%
FOURTH DOWN EFFICIENCY	0-0-0%	0-0-0%
TOTAL NET YARDS	318	413
NET YARDS RUSHING	57	186
Total Rushing Plays	20	46
NET YARDS PASSING	261	227
PASS ATTEMPTS-COMPLETIONS-HAD INTERCEPTED	36-17-1	39-24-1
KICKOFFS Number-In End Zone-Touchbacks	3-3-1	5-5-4
PUNTS Number and Average	7-44.6	6-44.3
FGs - PATs Had Blocked	0-0	0-0
TOTAL RETURN YARDAGE (Not Including Kickoffs)	48	17
PENALTIES Number and Yards	10-84	6-58
FUMBLES Number and Lost	2-0	2-0
TOUCHDOWNS	1	2
EXTRA POINTS Made-Attempts	0-1	1-2
FIELD GOALS Made-Attempts	1-4	2-3
RED ZONE EFFICIENCY	0-1-0%	1-2-50%
GOAL TO GO EFFICIENCY	0-0-0%	1-2-50%
SAFETIES	0	0
FINAL SCORE	9	19
TIME OF POSSESSION	23:44	36:16

INDIVIDUAL LEADERS

RUSHING (Att-Yds): Houston, A. Blue 31-139, J. Prosch 3-24, J. Grimes 6-19, C. Polk 5-5, R. Mallett 1-1. Tampa Bay, D. Martin 14-46, C. Sims 6-11.

RECEIVING (Rec-Yds): Houston, D. Hopkins 8-101, C. Shorts 6-58, N. Washington 4-42, J. Grimes 4-19, G. Graham 1-9, C. Worthy 1-1. Tampa Bay, M. Evans 7-101, L. Murphy 3-61, B. Myers 3-18, C. Sims 2-41, V. Jackson 2-40.

SACKS (Sk-Yds): Houston, none. Tampa Bay, H. Melton (1-1).

INTERCEPTIONS (Int-Yds): Houston, Q. Demps 1-0. Tampa Bay, K. Alexander 1-0.

TACKLES (S-A-T): Houston, K. Jackson 6-0-6, B. Cushing 3-2-5, J. Watt 2-3-5, Q. Demps 4-0-4, J. Joseph 2-1-3, K. Johnson 2-1-3, J. Tuggle 2-0-2, R. Moore 2-0-2, J. Clowney 1-1-2, B. McKinney 1-1-2, E. Pleasant 1-1-2, W. Mercilus 1-1-2, V. Wilfork 0-2-2, J. Crick 1-0-1, C. Covington 1-0-1, J. Simon 1-0-1. Tampa Bay, L. David 3-11-14, K. Alexander 5-5-10, C. Conte 7-2-9, S. Moore 4-5-9, B. McDougald 3-6-9, C. McDonald 4-4-8, D. Swearingen 4-2-6, T. Jennings 4-1-5, J. Smith 4-1-5, W. Gholston 2-2-4, B. Carter 2-1-3, H. Melton 1-2-3, M. Jenkins 2-0-2, G. Johnson 2-0-2, G. McCoy 1-1-2, T. McDaniel 1-1-2, J. Banks 0-2-2, A. Verner 1-0-1, K. Tandy 0-1-1.

MISSED FIELD GOALS: Houston, R. Bullock 43. Tampa Bay, K. Brindza 41, 33, 57.

WEEK 3 GAME NOTES

WEEK 4 • HOUSTON TEXANS at ATLANTA FALCONS

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES

- The following players were inactive for today's game: S **Lonnie Ballentine**, T **Duane Brown**, RB **Arian Foster**, ILB **Mike Mohamed**, G **Xavier Su'a-Filo** and WR **Jaalen Strong**
- The following player was active but did not play in the game: QB **Brian Hoyer**
- The following players were captains for today's game: ILB **Brian Cushing**, WR **DeAndre Hopkins**, CB **Kareem Jackson** and P **Shane Lechler**
- Tampa Bay won the toss and deferred. Houston elected to receive to start the game

THE TEXANS...

- Improved their record to 1-2 on the season and 10-9 under Head Coach **Bill O'Brien** (2014-15). O'Brien became the fastest head coach in Texans history to reach 10 victories with the team, doing it in his 19th game
- Improved to 89-122 all-time in the regular season, 52-54 at home, 22-32 against NFC opponents and 8-6 against the NFC South division
- Won their third consecutive game against the Buccaneers, improving their record in the all-time series to 3-1 overall and 2-0 at home
- Registered 413 net yards of offense, their highest total since Nov. 30, 2014 against Tennessee (457 net yards)
- Rushed for 186 net yards, the team's highest total since Nov. 16, 2014 at Cleveland (213 rushing yards)
- Had a 100-yard rusher and receiver for the first time since Oct. 20, 2014 at Pittsburgh
- Held the Buccaneers to a season-low 1-of-12 (8%) on third down, marking their eighth consecutive game in which opponents have converted one-third or less of their third down conversions. Houston's opponents have now only converted 8-of-38 third down opportunities (21.1%) on the year
- Controlled the ball for 36:16 time of possession, a season-high
- Have now totaled 144 passing attempts this year, the most for the team through the first three games of a season
- Posted their second straight game with an interception after S **Quintin Demps** picked off QB **Jameis Winston** in the third quarter
- Were successful on their third consecutive challenge of the year after challenging the ruling of a completed catch in the third quarter
- Lost their first challenge of the year after challenging the ruling of a completed catch in the fourth quarter
- Limited the Buccaneers to 148 net yards, six first downs, 1-of-6 (17%) on third down and 11:10 time of possession in the first half
- Did not allow any points in the first quarter for the second consecutive game
- Held the Buccaneers to 53 net yards, two first downs, no points, no third down conversions and 5:32 time of possession in the first quarter
- Took a 7-0 lead in the first quarter after QB **Ryan Mallett** found WR **DeAndre Hopkins** in the end zone for a 5-yard touchdown. The scoring drive lasted 10 plays, 64 yards and 3:55 time of possession
- Scored their second touchdown of the day and took a 16-9 lead in the fourth quarter on a five-play, 77-yard scoring drive that lasted 1:42
- Racked up a total of 106 net yards, nine first downs and 9:27 time of possession, while converting 3-of-4 (75%) third downs in the first quarter

G/T ODAY ABOUSHI

- Made his first start for the Texans at left guard

RB ALFRED BLUE

- Recorded the second-most rushing attempts (31) and rushing yards (139) in a single game of his career
- Posted the second 100-yard rushing game of his career and first since Nov. 16, 2014 at Cleveland
- Scored his first rushing touchdown of the season and third of his career on a 20-yard run in the fourth quarter. It marked the longest rushing touchdown of his career

K RANDY BULLOCK

- Scored seven points on two made field goals and one made PAT
- Passed **Neil Rackers** (59) for the second-most career field goals made in team history
- Made a 39-yard field goal in the third quarter to give the Texans a

10-9 lead

- Kicked a 19-yard field goal through the uprights in the fourth quarter to give the Texans a 19-9 lead and make it a two-possession game

DE JARED CRICK

- Tied a single-game career-high with two quarterback hits

S QUINTIN DEMPS

- Picked off QB **Jameis Winston** in the third quarter, his first interception of the year and 12th of his career
- He now has nine interceptions since 2013, which is tied for the third-most in the NFL by a safety during that span
- Returned two kickoffs for 46 yards (23.0 avg.)

WR DeANDRE HOPKINS

- Caught his third touchdown of the season and 11th of his career on a 5-yard pass from QB **Ryan Mallett** in the first quarter
- Led the team with eight receptions for 101 yards (12.6 avg.) and a touchdown
- Notched his first 100-yard receiving game of the season and sixth of his career
- Now has three receiving touchdowns this season, which is tied for the most by a Texans player through the first three games of a season
- Tied **Jacoby Jones** (11) for the seventh-most career touchdown receptions in team history
- Started and recorded a reception in the 35th consecutive game of his career

CB KAREEM JACKSON

- Posted a team-high six solo tackles, which ties his season-high of six in Week 1 against Kansas City (9/13)

CB JOHNATHAN JOSEPH

- Tied a single-game career-high with five passes defended. It matches his highest total since Nov. 8, 2009 against Baltimore
- Also had three tackles, including two solo stops

P SHANE LECHLER

- Punted six times for 266 yards (44.3 avg., 33.0 net), including a long of 54 yards, and pinned three inside the 20-yard line
- Pinned three punts inside the 20-yard line for the second straight game

QB RYAN MALLET

- Completed 24-of-39 passes for 228 yards, one touchdown, one interception and a 75.6 passer rating
- His 61.5 completion percentage tied a single-game season-high, as he also had the same mark in Week 1 against Kansas City (9/13)
- Threw a touchdown pass in his third consecutive game when he found WR **DeAndre Hopkins** for a 5-yard score in the first quarter. The touchdown was his third of the season, a single-season career-high, and the fifth of his career. Completed 5-of-6 passes for 47 yards on the drive

FB JAY PROSCH

- Totaled 24 yards on three carries (8.0 avg.)
- Registered a 16-yard rush in the fourth quarter, a career-long

WR CECIL SHORTS III

- Caught six passes for 58 yards
- His reception total tied a single-game season-high, while his 58 yards are the most he's recorded in 2015

WR NATE WASHINGTON

- Tied for third on the team with four catches for 42 yards

DE J.J. WATT

- Tied for second on the team with five tackles (two solo). Also added one tackle for loss and a team-leading three quarterback hits
- It marked his eighth consecutive game with multiple quarterback hits