

# WEEK 1 GAME SUMMARY

## WEEK 8 • HOUSTON TEXANS vs. TENNESSEE TITANS



### 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. Hall 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 8 • HOUSTON TEXANS vs. TENNESSEE TITANS

### 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 8 • HOUSTON TEXANS vs. TENNESSEE TITANS



## 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 8 • HOUSTON TEXANS vs. TENNESSEE TITANS

### 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 8 • HOUSTON TEXANS vs. TENNESSEE TITANS



## 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 8 • HOUSTON TEXANS vs. TENNESSEE TITANS

### 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

# WEEK 4 GAME SUMMARY

## WEEK 8 • HOUSTON TEXANS vs. TENNESSEE TITANS



### WEEK 4: Houston 21 at Atlanta 48

69,904 • Georgia Dome • Atlanta, Ga. • Oct. 4, 2015



#### GAME SUMMARY

The Texans fell, 48-21, to the Atlanta Falcons after trailing by as many as 42 points at the Georgia Dome. Despite RB **Arian Foster's** return to the starting lineup, the Texans offense struggled mightily until later in the third quarter, when QB **Brian Hoyer** entered the game. Houston scored 21 straight points in the fourth quarter when Hoyer led the team on three consecutive scoring drives.

QB **Ryan Mallett** completed 12-of-27 for 150 yards and one interception before his exit. Hoyer was 17-of-30 for 232 yards and threw touchdown passes to TE **C.J. Fiedorowicz** and WR **Cecil Shorts III**. WR **DeAndre Hopkins** led the receivers with nine catches for 157 yards.

DEs **J.J. Watt** and **Jared Crick** each had a sack on Falcons QB **Matt Ryan**. The Texans defense also had three passes defensed, courtesy of OLB **Jadeveon Clowney** and a pair from Watt.

Three first-half turnovers resulted in three Atlanta touchdowns. The Falcons scored 28 unanswered points before halftime while the Texans got within scoring range just once, but K **Nick Novak** missed the 53-yard field goal.

Houston's defense couldn't contain Falcons RB **Devonta Freeman**, who found the endzone three times. Ryan was 19-of-27 for 256 yards and one touchdown. Ryan left the game early in the fourth quarter after Atlanta pull out to a 35-point lead. QB **Sean Renfree** finished the remainder of the game under center for the Falcons.

Mallett's first pass of the game was a 15-yard completion to Foster but three plays later, a batted ball resulted in an interception. The Falcons took an early 7-0 lead in the first quarter when Freeman scored on a 16-yard touchdown run.

Freeman's second touchdown of the day, on a 23-yard run, came early in the second quarter, giving Atlanta a 14-0 lead with 14:39 left in the second quarter.

Minutes later, a Foster fumble resulted in a defensive touchdown and Ryan added his first touchdown pass of the day on a pass to WR **Leonard Hankerson**. Houston quickly fell into a 28-0 hole by halftime.

The Texans didn't fare much better in the third quarter. Atlanta added two more offensive touchdowns in the third quarter and Mallett exited the game soon after.

Hoyer, who entered the game with 2:56 left in the third quarter, threw a 5-yard touchdown pass to Fiedorowicz on his first series to put Houston on the scoreboard. Hoyer's deep 42-yard pass to Shorts, had Houston at the goal line on the following drive. RB **Chris Polk** added the second touchdown of the day, and his first as a Texan, on the touchdown run that capped off a 10-play, 75-yard drive. Texans chipped away at the Falcons' lead, down 42-14 with 9:09 left in the game.

Hoyer connected with Shorts for his second touchdown pass of the day with 3:01 left in the game. With just 0:01 remaining, the Texans were in the red zone looking to score again, but Atlanta forced a fumble on Shorts and scored on an 84-yard return.

With the loss, the Texans fall to 1-3 and will next face the Indianapolis Colts on Thursday night.

#### SCORING

SCORE BY PERIODS	1	2	3	4	OT	Total
Houston Texans	0	0	0	21	-	21
Atlanta Falcons	7	21	14	6	-	48

#### SCORING DRIVES

Team	Qtr	Time	Play Description (Extra Point) (Drive info)	HOU	ATL
Falcons	1	8:32	D.Freeman 16 yd. run (M.Bryant kick) (8-54, 3:29)	0	7
Falcons	2	14:39	D.Freeman 23 yd. run (M.Bryant kick) (10-71, 6:19)	0	14
Falcons	2	12:24	D.Trufant 24 yd. fumble return (M.Bryant kick)	0	21
Falcons	2	3:11	L.Hankerson 3 yd. pass from M.Ryan (M.Bryant kick) (11-82, 6:20)	0	28
Falcons	3	10:50	D.Freeman 6 yd. run (M.Bryant kick) (4-68, 1:56)	0	35
Falcons	3	2:56	T.Ward 8 yd. run (M.Bryant kick) (9-70, 6:17)	0	42
Texans	4	14:22	C.Fiedorowicz 5 yd. pass from B.Hoyer (N.Novak kick) (10-80, 3:34)	7	42
Texans	4	9:09	C.Polk 1 yd. run (N.Novak kick) (10-75, 2:47)	14	42
Texans	4	3:01	C.Shorts 8 yd. pass from B.Hoyer (N.Novak kick) (6-64, 1:31)	21	42
Falcons	4	0:00	N.Stupar 84 yd. fumble return (run failed)	21	48

#### TEAM STATISTICS

	TEXANS	FALCONS
TOTAL FIRST DOWNS	24	22
THIRD DOWN EFFICIENCY	7-15-47%	9-16-56%
FOURTH DOWN EFFICIENCY	0-2-0%	1-1-100%
TOTAL NET YARDS	428	378
NET YARDS RUSHING	54	135
NET YARDS PASSING	374	243
PASS ATTEMPTS-COMPLETIONS-HAD INTERCEPTED	57-29-1	27-19-0
KICKOFFS Number-In End Zone-Touchbacks	4-3-2	7-7-4
PUNTS Number and Average	4-48.5	6-47.7
TOTAL RETURN YARDAGE (Not Including Kickoffs)	40	28
PENALTIES Number and Yards	5-35	10-80
FUMBLES Number and Lost	3-3	0-0
TOUCHDOWNS	3	7
EXTRA POINTS Made-Attempts	3-3	6-7
FIELD GOALS Made-Attempts	0-1	0-0
RED ZONE EFFICIENCY	3-4-75%	4-4-100%
GOAL TO GO EFFICIENCY	2-3-67%	1-1-100%
SAFETIES	0	0
FINAL SCORE	21	48
TIME OF POSSESSION	24:08	35:52

#### INDIVIDUAL LEADERS

**PASSING (Att-Comp-Yds):** Houston, B. Hoyer 30-17-232, R. Mallett 27-12-150. Atlanta, M. Ryan 27-19-256.

**RUSHING (Att-Yds):** Houston, C. Polk 3-27, A. Blue 6-17, A. Foster 8-10. Atlanta, T. Ward 19-72, D. Freeman 14-68, M. Ryan 1-(-1), S. Renfree 1-(-4).

**RECEIVING (Rec-Yds):** Houston, D. Hopkins 9-157, C. Shorts 6-87, K. Mumphery 4-56, C. Fiedorowicz 3-28, A. Foster 3-25, C. Polk 3-23, G. Graham 1-6. Atlanta L. Hankerson 6-103, D. Freeman 5-81, J. Jones 4-38, R. White 2-8, T. Ward 1-18, N. Williams 1-8.

**SACKS (Sk-Yds):** Houston, J. Crick 1-5, J. Watt 1-8. Atlanta, R. Hageman 1-8.

**INTERCEPTIONS (Int-Yds):** Houston, none. Atlanta, J. Babineaux 1-(-1).

**TACKLES (S-A-T):** Houston, B. Cushing 7-4-11, K. Johnson 5-0-5, J. Crick 4-1-5, K. Jackson 4-1-5, J. Watt 3-1-4, J. Simon 2-2-4, B. McKinney 2-1-3, D. Morris 2-1-3, J. Tuggle 1-2-3, W. Mercilus 2-0-2, J. Joseph 2-0-2, J. Clowney 1-1-2, V. Wilfork 1-1-2, Q. Demps 1-1-2, R. Moore 1-1-2, A. Bouye 1-0-1, E. Pleasant 1-0-1, A. Hal 1-0-1, C. Covington 0-1-1. Atlanta, A. Bradford 4-1-5, R. Therezie 3-2-5, W. Moore 4-0-4, P. Adams 4-0-4, P. Worilow 3-1-4, K. Ishmael 2-2-4, N. Stupar 3-0-3, J. Bartu 2-1-3, K. Biermann 2-0-2, D. Trufant 2-0-2, B. Reed 2-0-2, R. Hageman 1-1-2, V. Beasley 1-0-1, R. Alford 1-0-1, J. Babineaux 1-0-1, P. DiMarco 1-0-1, G. Jarrett 1-0-1, D. Southward 1-0-1.

**MISSED FIELD GOALS:** Houston, N. Novak 53SH. Atlanta, none.

# WEEK 4 GAME NOTES

## WEEK 8 • HOUSTON TEXANS vs. TENNESSEE TITANS

### MISCELLANEOUS NOTES

- The following players were inactive for the game: S **Lonnie Ballentine**, OLB **Kourtnei Brown**, ILB **Akeem Dent**, RB **Jonathan Grimes**, C **Greg Mancz**, WR **Jaelen Strong** and WR **Chandler Worthy**
- The following players were captains for the game: P **Shane Lechler**, DE **J.J. Watt** and WR **Nate Washington**
- The following player was active but did not play in the game: T **Chris Clark**
- Houston won the toss and deferred. Atlanta elected to receive to start the game

### THE TEXANS...

- Fell to 1-3 on the season, including 0-2 on the road, and 10-10 overall under Head Coach **Bill O'Brien** (2014-15)
- Recorded season highs of 428 total net yards and 374 net passing yards
- Completed a season-high 29 passing attempts
- Registered a season-high 70 kickoff return yards, while the team's 40 punt return yards ranked as the second-highest total in a game in 2015
- Scored a touchdown on 3-of-4 (75%) red zone opportunities and 2-of-3 (67%) goal-to-go situations
- Scored 21 points in the fourth quarter, which is tied for the third-highest total in the fourth quarter in Texans history
- Posted 2.0 sacks in the first half, the most for the Texans in the first half of any game this season
- Compiled four 10-play drives in the game, a season-high for the Texans
- Scored their first points of the day on a 10-play, 80-yard drive in the fourth quarter, capped by a 5-yard touchdown pass from QB **Brian Hoyer** to TE **C.J. Fiedorowicz**
- Scored their second touchdown of the game on a 1-yard run from RB **Chris Polk** following a 10-play, 75-yard drive
- Scored their final points of the contest on an 8-yard touchdown pass from Hoyer to WR **Cecil Shorts III** after a 6-play, 64-yard drive

### OLB JADEVEON CLOWNEY

- Recorded two tackles (one solo) and one pass defended

### DE JARED CRICK

- Picked up his first sack of the season for a 5-yard loss in the first quarter
- Tied for second on the team with five tackles, including four solo stops

### ILB BRIAN CUSHING

- Led the team with 11 tackles (seven solo), including one for a loss
- Notched his second double-digit tackle game of the season and 17th of his career
- His tackle total also ranked as his highest output since Sept. 21, 2014 at the New York Giants (17)

### TE C.J. FIEDOROWICZ

- Scored his second career touchdown and first of the season on a 5-yard pass from QB **Brian Hoyer** in the fourth quarter
- Posted single-game career highs of three receptions for 28 yards

### RB ARIAN FOSTER

- Made his first start of the season and caught a 15-yard pass on the opening drive of the game
- Caught three passes for 25 yards and added 10 rushing yards in the contest

### WR DeANDRE HOPKINS

- Recorded a single-game season-high 157 receiving yards, while tying his season-high in receptions (nine)
- Posted back-to-back 100-yard receiving games for the first time in his career
- Now has seven career 100-yard receiving games
- In the past two games, has totaled 17 receptions for 258 yards

and a touchdown

### QB BRIAN HOYER

- Entered the game in the third quarter and completed 6-of-8 passes for 54 yards, a touchdown and a 132.3 passer rating on his first drive of the game
- Finished the contest 17-of-30 for 232 yards, two touchdowns and a 103.8 passer rating
- His two touchdown passes and 103.8 passer rating were both season highs

### CB KAREEM JACKSON

- Tied for second on the team with five tackles (four solo)

### CB KEVIN JOHNSON

- Tied for second on the team with a career-high five tackles (all solo)

### P SHANE LECHLER

- Punted four times for 194 yards (48.5 avg., 41.3 avg.), including a long of 60 yards, and pinned one inside the 20-yard line

### QB RYAN MALLET

- Completed 12-of-27 passes for 150 yards, an interception and a 46.8 passer rating

### ILB BENARDRICK MCKINNEY

- Posted a career-high three tackles in his second straight start of the season

### WR KEITH MUMPHERY

- Returned three kickoffs for 70 yards (23.3 avg.), the highest totals by any Texans player in 2015
- Compiled career highs of four receptions for 56 yards
- Caught a career-long 26-yard pass in the third quarter

### RB CHRIS POLK

- Scored a 1-yard rushing touchdown in the fourth quarter, his first of the season and eighth of his career
- Led the team with 27 rushing yards, while adding three receptions for 23 yards

### WR CECIL SHORTS III

- Totaled season highs of four punt returns for 40 yards (10.0 avg.)
- Notched his third straight game with six receptions for a season-high 87 yards

### OLB JOHN SIMON

- Tied a single-game career-high with four tackles (two solo)

### DE J.J. WATT

- Registered a pass defended and sack on back-to-back plays in the second quarter. Tallied two passes defended in the first half
- The sack was his fourth of the season and 61st of his career
- Finished the game with four tackles (three solo), three tackles for loss, two passes defended and a sack



# WEEK 5 GAME SUMMARY

WEEK 8 • HOUSTON TEXANS vs. TENNESSEE TITANS



**WEEK 5: Houston 20 vs. Indianapolis 27**  
71,732 • NRG Stadium • Houston, Texas • Oct. 8, 2015



## GAME SUMMARY

In a game that featured both teams playing their backup quarterbacks for a majority of the contests, the Texans fell, 27-20, to Indianapolis. **Matt Hasselbeck** started for **Andrew Luck** while **Brian Hoyer** entered the game for **Ryan Mallett** in the second quarter.

In the Texans first AFC South contest of the season, rookie receiver **Jaalen Strong** snared a pair of touchdowns on his first two career NFL catches.

The Texans put up 444 yards of total offense but also committed 13 penalties for 125 yards. Six of the Colts' 22 first downs came as a result of Houston penalties.

Mallett started the Thursday night matchup, but Hoyer finished the game. Hoyer entered when Mallett was shaken up on a hit that resulted in a roughing penalty on the Colts.

Hoyer was 24-of-31 for 312 yards, two touchdowns, one interception, and a passer rating of 116.6. RB **Arian Foster** rushed for 41 yards on 19 carries. WR **DeAndre Hopkins** had his third-straight 100-yard game, catching 11 passes for 169 yards.

Mallett was 7-of-10 for 50 yards and one interception. On the Texans opening drive, Mallett moved the offense 61 yards in 14 plays, but his pass to Foster was intercepted in the red zone. Indianapolis capitalized, scoring first on a 48-yard field goal by K **Adam Vinatieri**.

WR **Andre Johnson's** return to NRG Stadium was punctuated by two touchdown catches as a Colt. He caught his first one in the first quarter, a four-yard pass from Hasselbeck, to extend the Colts' lead to 10.

Hoyer entered the game 6:49 left in the second quarter and promptly led the Texans on two consecutive scoring drives. K **Nick Novak** kicked his first field goal as a Texan, a 36-yard attempt, to get Houston on the board.

As time expired in the half, Hoyer's 42-yard Hail Mary pass was caught by Strong. It was his first career NFL catch and it capped off a 9-play, 95-yard scoring drive. The Texans headed into the locker room down just 13-10.

But on the Colts' first possession after the break, RB **Frank Gore** ran three yards for a score as the Colts took a 20-10 lead.

Both Strong and Johnson added their second touchdown catches of the night in the second half. The Houston rookie caught an 11-yard pass all alone in the left corner of the end zone in the third quarter to end a 10-play, 90-yard drive. Johnson, meanwhile, scored early in the fourth quarter on a two-yard touchdown pass.

Hoyer threw his first interception on his final pass of the night. It occurred at the two-minute warning on third-and-2.

The Texans fell to 1-4 on the season. Houston will head to Florida for their next two games against Jacksonville and Miami in Weeks 6 and 7.

## SCORING

SCORE BY PERIODS	1	2	3	4	OT	Total
Indianapolis Colts	10	3	7	7	-	27
Houston Texans	0	10	7	3	-	20

## SCORING DRIVES

Team	Qtr	Time	Play Description (Extra Point) (Drive info)	IND	HOU
Colts	1	6:28	A.Vinatieri 48 yd. Field Goal (5-26, 2:05)	3	0
Colts	1	1:22	A.Johnson 4 yd. pass from M.Hasselbeck (A.Vinatieri kick) (6-60, 2:00)	10	0
Colts	2	7:37	A.Vinatieri 42 yd. Field Goal (13-46, 6:01)	13	0
Texans	2	2:08	N.Novak 36 yd. Field Goal (12-62, 5:29)	13	3
Texans	2	0:00	J.Strong 42 yd. pass from B.Hoyer (N.Novak kick) (9-95, 1:16)	13	10
Colts	3	13:02	F.Gore 3 yd. run (A.Vinatieri kick) (4-56, 1:58)	20	10
Texans	3	4:03	J.Strong 11 yd. pass from B.Hoyer (N.Novak kick) (10-90, 5:05)	20	17
Colts	4	10:28	A.Johnson 2 yd. pass from M.Hasselbeck (A.Vinatieri kick) (14-80, 8:35)	27	17
Texans	4	6:07	N.Novak 49 yd. Field Goal (8-49, 4:21)	27	20

## TEAM STATISTICS

	COLTS	TEXANS
TOTAL FIRST DOWNS	22	24
THIRD DOWN EFFICIENCY	3-11-27%	8-16-50%
FOURTH DOWN EFFICIENCY	1-1-100%	1-1-100%
TOTAL NET YARDS	323	444
NET YARDS RUSHING	110	82
NET YARDS PASSING	213	362
PASS ATTEMPTS-COMPLETIONS-HAD INTERCEPTED	29-18-0	41-31-2
KICKOFFS Number-In End Zone-Touchbacks	6-6-6	4-4-2
PUNTS Number and Average	3-49.0	3-41.0
TOTAL RETURN YARDAGE (Not Including Kickoffs)	64	11
PENALTIES Number and Yards	7-65	13-125
FUMBLES Number and Lost	0-0	0-0
TOUCHDOWNS	3	2
EXTRA POINTS Made-Attempts	3-3	2-2
FIELD GOALS Made-Attempts	2-2	2-2
RED ZONE EFFICIENCY	3-4-75%	1-3-33%
GOAL TO GO EFFICIENCY	2-2-100%	1-1-100%
SAFETIES	0	0
FINAL SCORE	27	20
TIME OF POSSESSION	27:33	32:27

## INDIVIDUAL LEADERS

**PASSING (Att-Comp-Yds):** Houston, B. Hoyer 31-24-312, R. Mallett 10-7-50. Indianapolis, M. Hasselbeck 29-18-213.

**RUSHING (Att-Yds):** Houston, A. Foster 19-41, A. Blue 6-22, B. Hoyer 1-14, C. Polk 1-5, R. Mallett 1-0. Indianapolis, F. Gore 22-98, Z. Tipton 2-9, J. Robinson 3-6, M. Hasselbeck 3-(-3).

**RECEIVING (Rec-Yds):** Houston, D. Hopkins 11-169, A. Foster 9-77, K. Mumphery 4-23, J. Strong 2-53, C. Polk 2-17, A. Blue 1-11, G. Graham 1-8, C. Fiedorowicz 1-4. Indianapolis, A. Johnson 6-77, T. Hilton 5-88, C. Fleener 2-9, D. Allen 1-21, P. Dorsett 1-9, J. Robinson 1-6, D. Moncrief 1-3, J. Doyle 1-0.

**SACKS (Sk-Yds):** Houston, none. Indianapolis, E. Walden 1-0.

**INTERCEPTIONS (Int-Yds):** Houston, none. Indianapolis, M. Adams 2-48.

**TACKLES (S-A-T):** Houston, B. Cushing 0-8-8, B. McKinney 6-1-7, J. Crick 3-3-6, K. Jackson 4-1-5, K. Johnson 3-1-4, A. Hal 2-2-4, J. Joseph 3-0-3, J. Simon 3-0-3, W. Mercilus 1-2-3, R. Moore 1-2-3, J. Clowney 2-0-2, E. Pleasant 2-0-2, J. Watt 0-2-2, A. Bouye 1-0-1, C. Covington 1-0-1, J. Pagan 0-1-1. Indianapolis, D. Jackson 8-3-11, G. Toler 8-0-8, D. Lowery 6-0-6, N. Irving 4-1-5, C. Geathers 4-1-5, V. Davis 3-2-5, M. Adams 3-1-4, H. Anderson 3-1-4, S. Moore 2-2-4, E. Walden 3-0-3, B. Winn 2-0-2, D. Parry 2-0-2, J. Newsome 1-1-2, Z. Kerr 1-1-2, D. Butler 1-0-1, R. Mathis 0-1-1, K. Langford 0-1-1.

**MISSED FIELD GOALS:** Houston, none. Indianapolis, none.

## MISCELLANEOUS NOTES

- The following players were inactive for the game: OLB **Kourtnei Brown**, S **Quintin Demps**, ILB **Akeem Dent**, RB **Jonathan Grimes**, C **Greg Mancz**, WR **Cecil Shorts III** and WR **Nate Washington**
- The following players were captains for the game: T **Duane Brown**, CB **Johnathan Joseph**, P **Shane Lechler** and DE **J.J. Watt**
- Indianapolis won the toss and deferred. Houston elected to receive to start the game

## THE TEXANS...

- Fell to 1-4 on the season and 10-11 under Head Coach **Bill O'Brien** (2014-15)
- Fell to 4-23 all-time against the Colts and 4-10 at home
- Held the Colts to 0-of-5 on third down in the first half and 3-of-11 (27%) for the game
- Won the time of possession battle, 32:27-27:33
- Outgained the Colts, 444-323, in total net yards
- Recorded over 400 net yards of offense for the third consecutive week, which is the second-longest streak in team history
- Threw for over 300 net passing yards for the second straight game and third time overall in 2015
- Committed a season-high 13 penalties for 125 yards
- Recorded three drives of over 10 plays, two of which resulted in points

## S LONNIE BALLENTINE

- Played in his first career game for the Texans

## CB A.J. BOUYE

- Made his first start of the season and seventh of his career for the Texans

## T DUANE BROWN

- Tied Kevin Walters (109) for the fifth-most career starts in team history

## ILB BRIAN CUSHING

- Led the team with eight tackles in the game

## RB ARIAN FOSTER

- Totaled over 100 scrimmage yards in his eighth career game against the Colts
- Led the team with 41 rushing yards on 19 carries, while adding 77 receiving yards on nine receptions
- Tied a single-game career-high with nine receptions, while his receiving yardage ranks as his fourth-highest game total
- His nine receptions are tied for the second-most by an NFL running back in a single game in 2015

## WR DeANDRE HOPKINS

- Led the team with a career-high 11 catches for 169 yards and posted his first career game with 10-or-more receptions
- Notched his third straight 100-yard receiving game, which ties the second-longest streak in team history
- His 42 receptions and 578 receiving yards in 2015 are the most through the first five games of a season in Texans history
- His seven receptions in the first half tied for the fourth-most in the first half of a game in franchise history

## QB BRIAN HOYER

- Entered the game in the second quarter for QB **Ryan Mallett** and completed 24-of-31 passes for a season-high 312 yards, two touchdowns, one interception and a 116.6 passer rating

- Notched his second multiple-touchdown game of the season and sixth of his career
- Threw his first 300-yard passing game of the season and fifth of his career
- Recorded his third-highest passer rating of his career
- Threw a 42-yard touchdown pass to WR **Jaelen Strong** as time expired in the first half
- Connected with Strong for an 11-yard touchdown in the third quarter. The score was his fifth of the year and 24th of his career

## CB KEVIN JOHNSON

- Registered four tackles (three solo) and one pass defended in his second straight start of the season

## C BEN JONES

- Extended his streak of consecutive games played to 53, which is tied for the second-longest active streak among NFL centers

## T KENDALL LAMM

- Made his first career start for the Texans

## P SHANE LECHLER

- Passed former QB **Dan Marino** (242) and tied former LB **Bill Romanowski** (243) for the 51st-most career games played in NFL history
- Extended his streak of consecutive games played to 211, which leads all active NFL players
- Punted three times for 123 yards (41.0 avg., 35.7 net), including a long of 55 yards

## QB RYAN MALLET

- Completed 7-of-10 passes for 50 yards, one interception and a 41.7 passer rating

## ILB BENARDRICK MCKINNEY

- Finished second on the team with a career-high seven tackles, including six solo stops

## K NICK NOVAK

- Scored a season-high eight points in the game
- Made a 36-yard field goal in the first quarter, his first with the Texans
- Connected on a 49-yard field goal attempt in the fourth quarter

## ILB BRIAN PETERS

- Made a special teams tackle in his second straight game

## WR JAELEN STRONG

- Became the first player in Texans history to score two receiving touchdowns in his first career game
- Became the second player in team history to score two receiving touchdowns in a game as a rookie
- Became the first NFL player since Jaguars WR **Allen Hurns** in Week 1 of 2014 to catch two touchdowns on his first two receptions in his first career game
- Caught a 42-yard touchdown pass from QB **Brian Hoyer** as time expired in the first half, which marked his first career reception
- Scored on an 11-yard pass from Hoyer in the third quarter, giving him a total of two catches for 53 yards and two touchdowns in the game

## DE J.J. WATT

- Contributed with two tackles and a quarterback hit
- Extended his streak of consecutive regular season games started to 69, which ranks third among active NFL defensive ends

# WEEK 6 GAME SUMMARY

WEEK 8 • HOUSTON TEXANS vs. TENNESSEE TITANS



**WEEK 6: Houston 31 at Jacksonville 20**  
58,085 • EverBank Field • Jacksonville, Fla. • Oct. 18, 2015



## GAME SUMMARY

The Texans scored 21 unanswered points in the fourth quarter to revive their spirits and season en route to 31-20 win over Jacksonville. Houston's defense had three interceptions on the day.

WR **DeAndre Hopkins** had his fourth-consecutive game with over 100 yards receiving and caught two touchdown passes from QB **Brian Hoyer**. Hopkins finished the game with 10 catches for 148 yards. WR **Cecil Shorts III** returned to Jacksonville for the first time as a Texan and added 63 yards on four receptions.

Hoyer, in his second start of 2015, was 24-of-36 for 293 yards, throwing three touchdowns. He also amassed a 119.3 passer rating. RB **Arian Foster** had 112 yards from scrimmage (53 rushing, 59 receiving) and one touchdown.

Second-year S **Andre Hal** picked up his first two career interceptions, one leading to a Texans score. He first picked off QB **Blake Bortles** at the goal line, ending a Jaguars scoring drive with 0:17 left in the first half. His second was a returned for a touchdown in the fourth quarter to extend the Texans' lead to 17 points.

Foster scored his first touchdown of the season on a 14-yard catch and run from Hoyer late in the first quarter. The 99-yard scoring drive tied a Texans franchise record (2010 against Baltimore).

The Jaguars tied the game with a touchdown drive of their own on their next possession. Blake Bortles found WR **Allen Robinson** on a two-yard touchdown pass.

K **Nick Novak** added a 41-yard field goal with 6:38 left in the second quarter. It gave the Texans 10-7 lead that lasted until nearly the end of the third quarter. Jacksonville took their first lead of the day with just five seconds left in the third quarter, after Bortles connected with TE **Julius Thomas** on a 29-yard touchdown catch. The Jaguars, who took possession at mid-field after a failed fourth down attempt by the Texans, moved the ball 52 yards in four plays and led 14-10.

The fourth quarter was all Houston as Hopkins found the endzone twice and eclipsed 100 yards receiving. Hal's 31-yard interception return for a touchdown gave the Texans a 31-14 lead. CB **A.J. Bouye** intercepted Bortles for the third time of the day with 1:09 left in the game.

The Texans improve to 2-4 on the season and will travel to Miami in Week 7 to face the Dolphins.

## SCORING

SCORE BY PERIODS	1	2	3	4	OT	Total
Houston Texans	7	3	0	21	-	31
Jacksonville Jaguars	0	7	7	6	-	20

## SCORING DRIVES

Team	Qtr	Time	Play Description (Extra Point) (Drive info)	HOU	JAX
Texans	1	1:36	A.Foster 14 yd. pass from B.Hoyer (N.Novak kick) (16-99, 8:24)	7	0
Jaguars	2	9:41	A.Robinson 2 yd. pass from B.Bortles (J.Myers kick) (14-75, 6:55)	7	7
Texans	2	6:38	N.Novak 41 yd. Field Goal (9-56, 3:03)	10	7
Jaguars	3	0:05	J.Thomas 29 yd. pass from B.Bortles (J.Myers kick) (4-52, 1:32)	10	14
Texans	4	11:20	D.Hopkins 9 yd. pass from B.Hoyer (N.Novak kick) (9-81, 3:45)	17	14
Texans	4	8:07	D.Hopkins 26 yd. pass from B.Hoyer (N.Novak kick) (4-46, 1:18)	24	14
Texans	4	7:55	A.Hal 31 yd. interception return (N.Novak kick)	31	14
Jaguars	4	4:32	A.Hurns 11 yd. pass from B.Bortles (kick failed, wl) (12-80, 3:23)	31	20

## TEAM STATISTICS

	TEXANS	JAGUARS
TOTAL FIRST DOWNS	24	26
THIRD DOWN EFFICIENCY	7-14-50%	5-15-33%
FOURTH DOWN EFFICIENCY	1-2-50%	2-2-100%
TOTAL NET YARDS	382	394
NET YARDS RUSHING	95	83
NET YARDS PASSING	287	311
PASS ATTEMPTS-COMPLETIONS-HAD INTERCEPTED	36-24-0	53-30-3
KICKOFFS Number-In End Zone-Touchbacks	6-5-3	4-2-2
PUNTS Number and Average	4-38.8	5-46.8
TOTAL RETURN YARDAGE (Not Including Kickoffs)	59	7
PENALTIES Number and Yards	10-69	7-64
FUMBLES Number and Lost	1-0	1-0
TOUCHDOWNS	4	3
EXTRA POINTS Made-Attempts	4-4	2-3
FIELD GOALS Made-Attempts	1-1	0-0
RED ZONE EFFICIENCY	2-2-100%	2-3-67%
GOAL TO GO EFFICIENCY	1-1-100%	2-2-100%
SAFETIES	0	0
FINAL SCORE	31	20
TIME OF POSSESSION	30:02	29:58

## INDIVIDUAL LEADERS

**PASSING (Att-Comp-Yds):** Houston, B. Hoyer 36-24-293. Jacksonville, B. Bortles 53-30-331.

**RUSHING (Att-Yds):** Houston, A. Foster 18-53, C. Polk 8-37, B. Hoyer 5-5. Jacksonville, B. Bortles 4-37, T. Gerhart 9-26, D. Robinson 7-19, C. Grant 1-1.

**RECEIVING (Rec-Yds):** Houston, D. Hopkins 10-148, A. Foster 5-59, C. Shorts 4-63, K. Mumphy 2-8, C. Fiedorowicz 1-8, J. Strong 1-5, C. Polk 1-2. Jacksonville, B. Walters 8-87, J. Thomas 7-78, A. Robinson 6-86, T. Gerhart 3-23, D. Robinson 3-19, A. Hurns 2-30, M. Lewis 1-8.

**SACKS (Sk-Yds):** Houston, W. Mercilus 2-12. J. Simon 1-8. Jacksonville, D. Skuta 0.5-3, M. Bennett 0.5-3.

**INTERCEPTIONS (Int-Yds):** Houston, A. Hal 2-34, A. Bouye 1-0. Jacksonville, none.

**TACKLES (S-A-T):** Houston, B. Cushing 9-3-12, A. Bouye 7-0-7, J. Joseph 4-2-6, K. Johnson 4-0-4, W. Mercilus 3-0-3, L. Ballentine 3-0-3, A. Hal 2-1-3, B. McKinney 2-1-3, J. Watt 2-0-2, J. Simon 1-1-2, V. Wilfork 1-1-2, J. Crick 1-1-2. Jacksonville, P. Posluszny 9-1-10, J. Evans 7-1-8, T. Smith 7-0-7, D. House 5-0-5, J. Cyprien 4-0-4, A. Colvin 4-0-4, A. Branch 2-0-2, C. Clemons 2-0-2, D. Skuta 1-1-2, R. Miller 1-1-2, M. Bennett 0-2-2, T. Alualu 1-0-1, S. Marks 1-0-1, D. Gratz 1-0-1.

**MISSED FIELD GOALS:** Houston, none. Jacksonville, none.

## MISCELLANEOUS NOTES

- The following players were inactive for today's game: OLB **Jadeveon Clowney**, S **Quintin Demps**, C **Greg Mancz**, DE **Jeffrey Pagan**, ILB **Brian Peters**, G **Xavier Su'a-Filo** and WR **Nate Washington**
- The following players were captains for today's game: WR **DeAndre Hopkins**, CB **Johnathan Joseph** and P **Shane Lechler**
- Jacksonville won the toss and deferred. Houston elected to receive to start the game

## THE TEXANS...

- Improved to 2-4 for the season and 11-11 under Head Coach **Bill O'Brien** (2014-15)
- Won their third straight game against the Jaguars
- Won their first road game of the 2015 season
- Scored over 30 points for the first time in a game since Nov. 30, 2014 against Tennessee
- Recorded a plus-three turnover margin in a game for the first time since Nov. 30, 2014 against Tennessee
- Totaled three takeaways in a game for the first time since Dec. 21, 2014 against Baltimore
- Did not commit a turnover for the first time in a game since Dec. 7, 2014 at Jacksonville
- Scored 21 points in the fourth quarter, which is tied for the third-most in franchise history
- Recorded at least 3.0 sacks for the first time in a game since the 2014 season finale against Jacksonville (12/28/14)
- Took a 7-0 lead in the first quarter following a 99-yard drive, tied for the longest in franchise history. The 16 plays marked a season-high for the Texans. QB **Brian Hoyer** connected with RB **Arian Foster** for a 14-yard touchdown.
- Took a 10-7 lead in the second quarter after a 41-yard field goal from K **Nick Novak**. The drive lasted nine plays and 51 yards
- Extended their lead to 24-14 following back-to-back touchdowns from Hoyer to WR **DeAndre Hopkins** in the fourth quarter
- Scored their third touchdown in less than four minutes in the fourth quarter on a 31-yard interception return for a touchdown by S **Andre Hal**, his second interception of the day
- Won the time of possession battle, 30:02-29:58
- Converted 7-of-14 third downs (50%) and 2-of-2 red zone opportunities
- Converted their fourth fourth-down conversion of the year in the first quarter

## S LONNIE BALLENTINE

- Recorded the first stats of his career: three solo tackles and one pass defensed

## CB A.J. BOUYE

- Finished second on the team with a season-high seven solo tackles to go along with two passes defensed and an interception
- The interception was his first of the season and fourth of his career
- Picked off Jaguars QB Blake Bortles on Jacksonville's final drive of the game in the fourth quarter

## T DUANE BROWN

- Passed Kevin Walter (109) for the fifth-most career games played in team history

## ILB BRIAN CUSHING

- Led the team with 12 tackles (nine solo), which marked his third double-digit tackling game of the season and 18th of his career

## DT BRANDON DUNN

- Played in his first game for the Texans

## RB ARIAN FOSTER

- Totaled his 49th career game with over 100 scrimmage yards, which ties former Texans WR Andre Johnson for the most such games in franchise history
- Caught his first receiving touchdown of the season and 13th of his career on a 14-yard pass from QB **Brian Hoyer** in the first quarter
- Rushed for 53 yards on 18 carries and caught five passes for 59 yards

## S ANDRE HAL

- Recorded the first two interceptions of his career, including one returned for a touchdown
- Became the second player in Texans history to record at least two interceptions, including one returned for a touchdown (Aaron Glenn, 12/8/02, 2 INTs returned for TDs)
- Became the first Texans player with two interceptions in a game since CB **Kareem Jackson** against Baltimore (12/21/14)
- Made his first career start at safety

## QB BRIAN HOYER

- Completed 24-of-36 passes (66.7%) for 293 yards, three touchdowns, no interceptions and a 119.3 passer rating
- Tied a single-game career-high with three passing touchdowns, while his passer rating was the second-highest mark of his career
- Notched his third straight game with over a 100.0 passer rating
- Has thrown seven touchdown passes in the last three games
- Passed for two-or-more touchdowns in his third straight game, the longest streak of his career
- Threw a 14-yard touchdown pass to RB **Arian Foster** in the first quarter. Completed 7-of-9 passes for 64 yards and a 133.3 passer rating on the drive
- Threw two touchdown passes to WR **DeAndre Hopkins** on back-to-back drives in the fourth quarter
- Passed Tony Banks (six) for the sixth-most passing touchdowns in team history
- Passed Tony Banks (882) for the eighth-most career passing yards in team history

## WR DeANDRE HOPKINS

- Caught 10 passes for 148 yards and two touchdowns
- Recorded his fourth consecutive 100-yard receiving game, which ties the franchise record (Andre Johnson, 2008)
- Became the first player in NFL history with at least nine catches and 145 receiving yards in three consecutive games
- Tied Joel Dreesen and Arian Foster (13) for the fifth-most career receiving touchdowns in franchise history
- Tied Corey Bradford (five) for the most receiving touchdowns in the first six games of a season in Texans history
- Passed Jabar Gaffney (171) for the fifth-most career receptions in team history
- Passed Steve Slaton (2,643) for the sixth-most career scrimmage yards in team history
- Passed Corey Bradford and Kevin Walter (two) for the third-most career multiple-touchdown games in team history
- Scored his fourth touchdown of the season and 12th of his career on a 9-yard reception from QB **Brian Hoyer** in the fourth quarter
- Scored his fifth touchdown of the season and 13th of his career on a 26-yard pass from Hoyer in the fourth quarter
- Extended his streak of consecutive games started to 38, which ranks tied for third among all active NFL wide receivers

## C BEN JONES

- Extended his streak of consecutive games played to 54, which is tied for second among active NFL centers

### CB JOHNATHAN JOSEPH

- Finished third on the team with six tackles (four solo) and had one pass defended

### T KENDALL LAMM

- Notched his first career fumble recovery following a fumble by RB **Arian Foster** in the second quarter

### P SHANE LECHLER

- Pinned one punt inside the 20-yard line
- Tied Ray Donaldson, Chris Gardocki, Ricky Proehl and Matt Turk (244) for the 46th-most career games played in NFL history
- Extended his consecutive games played streak to 212, which leads all active NFL players

### OLB WHITNEY MERCILUS

- Registered his first 2.0 sacks of the season and passed Connor Barwin (19.0) for the fourth-most career sacks in Texans history
- Recorded the sixth multiple-sack game of his career
- Brought down Jaguars QB Blake Bortles for a 7-yard loss in the second quarter and a 5-yard loss in the fourth quarter

### K NICK NOVAK

- Scored seven points after making one field goal and four extra point attempts
- Made a 41-yard field goal in the second quarter to give the Texans a 10-7 lead

### WR CECIL SHORTS III

- Started his first game against his former team (2011-14) and caught four passes for 63 yards

### OLB JOHN SIMON

- Made his first sack of the season and increased his career total to 2.5 after bringing down Bortles for an 8-yard loss in the fourth quarter

### DE J.J. WATT

- Tallied his fifth pass defended of the season and 42nd of his career in the third quarter
- Added two solo tackles and one quarterback hit in the game
- Extended his streak of consecutive games started 70, which ranks third among active NFL defensive ends

# WEEK 7 GAME SUMMARY

## WEEK 8 • HOUSTON TEXANS vs. TENNESSEE TITANS



**WEEK 7: Houston 26 at Miami 44**  
 65,251 • Sun Life Stadium • Miami Gardens, Fla. • Oct. 25, 2015



### GAME SUMMARY

The Texans fell 44-26 to the Miami Dolphins after trailing by as many as 41 points.

Despite scoring four touchdowns and holding the Dolphins to just a field goal in the second half, it wasn't enough to keep the Texans' undefeated streak against Miami intact.

**Arian Foster** finished the game with 59 yards rushing, 66 yards receiving, a pair of touchdowns both through the air and on the ground. He left the game in the fourth quarter with an achilles injury and did not return.

**Brian Hoyer** completed 23-of-49 passes for 273 yards, throwing for three touchdowns and one interception. **Nate Washington**, who returned to the lineup after being inactive for Weeks 5 and 6 with a hamstring injury, led the receivers with nine catches for 127 yards receiving and two touchdowns.

The Dolphins scored six unanswered touchdowns against Houston. **Ryan Tannehill** threw three touchdown passes, two to Jarvis Landry, in the first quarter alone.

The Texans didn't fare much better in the second quarter. Dolphins running back **Lamar Miller** added a pair of a touchdowns and the Miami defense converted its first turnover into points. On Houston's first offensive series of the second quarter, Hoyer's pass to **C.J. Fiedorowicz** bounced out of his hands and into the hands of safety **Reshad Jones**, who returned it 23 yards for score.

After halftime, the Texans picked up their first takeaway of the game. Defensive tackle **Brandon Dunn** forced a fumble on Dolphins running back **Damien Williams**. **Johnathan Joseph** recovered and the Texans took over at the Miami 31-yard line. Four plays later, Hoyer connected with Foster in the endzone on a seven-yard touchdown pass. **Nick Novak** missed the extra point attempt, but Houston was on the scoreboard 41-6 with 8:28 left in the third quarter.

Foster rushed for the team's second touchdown of the day after an eight-play, 82-yard scoring drive. The two-yard run was his first rushing score of the 2015 season. Houston chipped away at the deficit, down 41-13 with 1:45 left in the third quarter.

Miami's lone score was a 53-yard field goal in the fourth quarter while Nate Washington added two more touchdowns for Houston, on a 27-yard pass and a 5-yarder.

**Jadeveon Clowney** recorded the first sack of his career in the second quarter, while **J.J. Watt** sacked Tannehill twice.

The Texans fall to 2-5 on the season and will host the Tennessee Titans in Week 8.

### SCORING

SCORE BY PERIODS	1	2	3	4	OT	Total
Houston Texans	0	0	13	13	0	26
Miami Dolphins	21	20	0	3	0	44

### SCORING DRIVES

Team	Qtr	Time	Play Description (Extra Point) (Drive info)	HOU	MIA
Dolphins	1	10:57	R.Matthews 53 yd. pass from R.Tannehill (A.Franks kick) (6-88, 2:54)	0	7
Dolphins	1	6:45	J.Landry 50 yd. pass from R.Tannehill (A.Franks kick) (1-50, 0:15)	0	14
Dolphins	1	3:03	J.Landry 10 yd. pass from R.Tannehill (A.Franks kick) (4-45, 2:07)	0	21
Dolphins	2	14:10	L.Miller 54 yd. pass from R.Tannehill (A.Franks kick) (6-83, 2:50)	0	28
Dolphins	2	13:56	R.Jones 23 yd. interception return (A.Franks kick)	0	35
Dolphins	2	2:47	L.Miller 85 yd. run (kick failed, wr) (2-91, 0:43)	0	41
Texans	3	8:13	A.Foster 7 yd. pass from B.Hoyer (kick failed, wr) (4-31, 0:59)	6	41
Texans	3	1:45	A.Foster 2 yd. run (N.Novak kick) (8-82, 3:56)	13	41
Texans	4	11:27	N.Washington 27 yd. pass from B.Hoyer (N.Novak kick) (8-63, 2:37)	20	41
Dolphins	4	7:41	A.Franks 53 yd. Field Goal (7-45, 3:46)	20	44
Texans	4	4:00	N.Washington 5 yd. pass from B.Hoyer (pass failed) (12-80, 3:41)	26	44

### TEAM STATISTICS

	TEXANS	DOLPHINS
TOTAL FIRST DOWNS	24	21
THIRD DOWN EFFICIENCY	6-15-40%	1-9-11%
FOURTH DOWN EFFICIENCY	0-1-0%	0-0-0%
TOTAL NET YARDS	322	503
NET YARDS RUSHING	71	248
NET YARDS PASSING	251	255
PASS ATTEMPTS-COMPLETIONS-HAD INTERCEPTED	49-23-1	20-19-0
KICKOFFS Number-In End Zone-Touchbacks	5-4-2	8-7-5
PUNTS Number and Average	8-48.0	5-49.2
TOTAL RETURN YARDAGE (Not Including Kickoffs)	21	42
PENALTIES Number and Yards	3-25	8-52
FUMBLES Number and Lost	3-0	1-1
TOUCHDOWNS	4	6
EXTRA POINTS Made-Attempts	2-4	5-6
FIELD GOALS Made-Attempts	0-0	1-1
RED ZONE EFFICIENCY	3-4-75%	1-2-50%
GOAL TO GO EFFICIENCY	3-3-100%	0-0-0%
SAFETIES	0	0
FINAL SCORE	26	44
TIME OF POSSESSION	27:55	32:05

### INDIVIDUAL LEADERS

**PASSING (Att-Comp-Yds):** Houston, B.Hoyer 49-23-273. Miami, R.Tannehill 19-18-282, M.Moore 1-1-14.

**RUSHING (Att-Yds):** Houston, A.Foster 18-59, A.Blue 3-8, C.Polk 4-4. Miami, L.Miller 14-175, J.Gray 12-48, D.Williams 4-19, J.Landry 1-5, R.Tannehill 1-3, M.Moore 3-(-2).

**RECEIVING (Rec-Yds):** Houston, N.Washington 9-127, D.Hopkins 6-50, A.Foster 5-66, C.Polk 2-14, K.Mumphery 1-16. Miami, J.Landry 5-83, R.Matthews 3-75, L.Miller 3-61, G.Jennings 2-37, J.Cameron 2-23, D.Williams 2-10, J.Gray 1-10, D.Sims 1-(-3).

**SACKS (Sk-Yds):** Houston, J.Watt 2-20, J.Clowney 1-13, J.Simon 1-8. Miami, N.Suh 2-15, C.Wake 2-7.

**INTERCEPTIONS (Int-Yds):** Houston, none. Miami, R.Jones 1-23.

**TACKLES (S-A-T):** Houston, J.Clowney 7-1-8, J.Watt 6-1-7, J.Simon 4-2-6, J.Joseph 4-0-4, R.Crick 3-1-4, B.Cushing 3-0-3, J.Tuggle 3-0-3, A.Dent 2-0-2, A.Hal 2-0-2, K.Johnson 2-0-2, R.Moore 1-1-2, W.Mercilus 1-1-2, D.Morris 1-1-2, M.Bullough 1-1-2, J.Rolle 0-2-2, C.James 1-0-1, A.Bouye 1-0-1, B.Dunn 1-0-1, E.Pleasant 0-1-1. Miami, R.Jones 8-0-8, J.Taylor 6-1-7, N.Suh 5-1-6, M.Thomas 5-0-5, J.Jenkins 3-0-3, K.Misi 3-0-3, B.Grimes 2-1-3, E.Mitchell 2-1-3, C.Wake 2-0-2, N.Hewitt 2-0-2, K.Sheppard 2-0-2, T.Fede 1-1-2, C.Mosley 1-1-2, D.Shelby 1-0-1, Bo.McCain 1-0-1, Z.Vigil 1-0-1, J.Phillips 1-0-1.

**MISSED FIELD GOALS:** Houston, none. Miami, none.

# WEEK 7 GAME NOTES

## WEEK 8 • HOUSTON TEXANS vs. TENNESSEE TITANS

### MISCELLANEOUS NOTES

- The following players were inactive: G **Brandon Brooks**, OLB **Kourtnei Brown**, CB **Kareem Jackson**, C **Greg Mancz**, ILB **Benardrick McKinney**, DE **Jeffrey Pagan** and WR **Cecil Shorts III**
- The following player was active but did not play in the game: QB **Ryan Mallett**
- The following players were captains: ILB **Brian Cushing**, WR **DeAndre Hopkins** and P **Shane Lechler**
- Miami won the toss and deferred. Houston elected to receive to start the game

### THE TEXANS...

- Fell to 2-5 on the season and 11-12 under Head Coach **Bill O'Brien** (2014-15)
- Lost their first game to the Dolphins, dropping to 7-1 all-time in the head-to-head series
- Recorded 322 net yards (251 passing, 71 rushing), 24 first downs and 27:55 time of possession in the game
- Registered a season-high 88 kickoff return yards, which is the most for the team since Week 15 of the 2013 season (108 yards)
- Scored all 26 of their points in the second half and held Miami to only three points in the final two quarters
- Held the Dolphins to 1-of-9 (11%) on third down, marking the sixth game this season Houston has held a team to one-third or less of their third down conversions
- Have now had a 100-yard receiver in six-of-seven games this season

### OLB JADEVEON CLOWNEY

- Recorded the first sack of his career in the second quarter when he brought down Dolphins QB Ryan Tannehill for a 13-yard loss
- Led the team with a career-high eight tackles (seven solo), including two tackles for loss and a sack

### RB ARIAN FOSTER

- Passed Andre Johnson (49) for the most 100-yard scrimmage games in franchise history
- Became the first non-kicker and second player in team history to reach 400 career points scored (404)
- Scored a rushing and receiving touchdown in the same game for the sixth time in his career
- Passed **Joel Dreessen** and **DeAndre Hopkins** (13) for the fifth-most career touchdown receptions in team history
- Finished with 59 rushing yards and a touchdown on 18 carries to go along with 66 receiving yards and a touchdown on five catches

### WR DeANDRE HOPKINS

- Passed Andre Johnson (35 in 2006) for the second-most receptions in a single October in Texans history. Finished the month with 36 receptions for 524 yards and two touchdowns. His receiving yards totals also ranked as the second-most in October in team history
- Extended his streak of consecutive regular season games started to 39, which is tied for third among all active NFL receivers
- Caught six passes for 50 yards in the game
- Ended a streak of consecutive 100-yard receiving games at four, which tied the franchise record

### QB BRIAN HOYER

- Completed 23-of-49 passes for 273 yards, three touchdowns, one interception and a 76.3 passer rating
- Became the third player in franchise history to throw for three touchdown passes in back-to-back games (Matt Schaub twice, Case Keenum once)
- Threw two-or-more touchdown passes in his fourth straight game, tying the franchise record for the longest such streak (Matt Schaub,

4, 11/28/10-12/19/10)

- Threw a touchdown pass in his sixth consecutive game played, dating back to Week 16 of 2014 while he was with the Browns
- Passed T.J. Yates (1,100) and Ryan Mallett (1,170) for the sixth-most career passing yards in team history

### C BEN JONES

- Extended his streak of consecutive games played to 55, which is tied for the second-longest active streak among NFL centers

### CB JOHNATHAN JOSEPH

- Recovered his first fumble of the season and sixth of his career in the third quarter
- Also contributed four solo tackles in the game

### P SHANE LECHLER

- Punted eight times for 384 yards (48.0 avg., 45.6 net), including a long of 55 yards, and pinned two inside the 20-yard line
- Tied Patrick Mannelly and Mike Webster (245) for the 44th-most career games played in NFL history
- Extended his streak of consecutive games played to 213, which leads all active NFL players

### WR KEITH MUMPHERY

- Recorded a 41-yard kickoff return in the first quarter, a personal career-long and season-long for the Texans. It marked the team's longest kickoff return since another 41-yard kickoff return in Week 4 of the 2014 season.
- Totaled a single-game career-high 88 kickoff return yards and added 21 punt return yards for a total of 109 combined return yards, which is the most by a Texans player since Keshawn Martin tallied 187 combined return yards against Oakland on Nov. 17, 2013

### OLB JOHN SIMON

- Posted his second sack of the season and 3.5 for his career when he brought down Tannehill for an 8-yard loss in the second quarter
- Recorded back-to-back games with a sack for the second time in his career

### WR NATE WASHINGTON

- Posted season highs with nine receptions for 127 yards (14.1 avg.) and two touchdowns
- Surpassed 100 receiving yards in a game for the second time in 2015 and 11th time in his career
- The touchdowns marked his first two of the season and 41st and 42nd of his career
- His receiving yardage total was his most since Sept. 22, 2013 against San Diego, while he was a member of the Tennessee Titans
- Scored two touchdowns in a game for the fifth time in his career and first since Sept. 29, 2013 against the New York Jets as a member of the Titans

### DE J.J. WATT

- Finished second on the team with seven tackles (six solo) and recorded 2.0 sacks, four quarterback hits and three tackles for loss
- Posted the 19th multiple-sack game of his career and second of the season
- Passed Richard Dent (61.5) for the fourth-most sacks in a player's first five seasons in NFL history, as he now has 63.0 for his career
- Extended his streak of consecutive games started to 71, which ranks third among active NFL defensive ends

### LS JON WEEKS

- Passed DeMeco Ryans (86) for the 11th-most career games played in team history