

`NC-SP100S-BILLS-TEXANS-NBC-----

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NBC NEWS CHANNEL SCRIPT

STORY NUM: SP100S

SLUG: BILLS-TEXANS

TRT: 2:47

FORMAT: VO/NAT

DATE: SATURDAY, JANUARY 4, 2020

ETA: 2030

RESTRICTIONS:

The courtesy is mandatory and must be on screen for a minimum of 3 seconds.

No Web Use

PRODUCER NOTES:

SUPERS:

L/ Houston, Texas :03

S/ Courtesy: NFL / ABC Sports :03

(--ANCHOR LEAD--)

THE TIME IS UPON US. WILD CARD SATURDAY IN THE N-F-L OFFICIALLY GETS UNDERWAY.

THE HOUSTON TEXANS HOST THE BUFFALO BILLS IN THE OPENING ROUND OF THE PLAYOFFS.

THE BILLS HAVEN'T HAD A POST SEASON WIN SINCE 1995 AND HAVE LOST THEIR LAST FIVE PLAYOFF GAMES. THIS BUFFALO TEAM IS A LITTLE DIFFERENT THAN THOSE OTHER BILLS TEAMS.

THE TEXANS FIND THEMSELVES IN A FAMILIAR PLACE, PLAYING ON WILDCARD SATURDAY. THEY HAVE SOME INJURIES ON DEFENSE, BUT DO GET J-J WATT BACK FOR THIS GAME.

HERE ARE THE HIGHLIGHTS FROM HOUSTON.

(--VO--)

1. J-J WATT MAKING HIS FIRST APPEARANCE SINCE WEEK EIGHT WHEN HE TORE HIS PECTORAL MUSCLE.

2. 1Q: BUFFALO Q-B, JOSH ALLEN MAKING HIS FIRST APPEARANCE IN THE PLAYOFFS. HOW DOES HE START? WITH A 42-YARD RUN. THAT'S BUFFALO'S LONGEST RUN OF THE SEASON.

3. 1Q: THEN, TWO PLAYS LATER, JOSH ALLEN CATCHES A 16-YARD TOUCHDOWN PASS FROM JOHN BROWN. ALLEN DOING LITERALLY EVERYTHING BUT THROW THE BALL ON THAT OPENING DRIVE.

THE BILLY SPECIAL PUTS THE BILLS UP 7-0 AND THEY'D LEAD 13-0 AT THE HALF.

4. 3Q: BILLS WOULD TACK ON THREE MORE TO LEAD 16-0, BUT THIS GAME IS FAR FROM OVER. DESHAUN WATSON CALLS HIS OWN NUMBER AND RUNS 20 YARDS INTO THE ENDZONE, CARRYING SOME BILLS ALONG WITH HIM.

5. 3Q: TEXANS GOING FOR TWO TO MAKE IT A ONE POSSESSION GAME. THEY PUT THE BALL IN WATSON'S HANDS AGAIN AND, SURE ENOUGH, HE FINDS THE ENDZONE. WE'VE GOT A BALL GAME. 16-8 BILLS.

6. 4Q: HOUSTON GETS THE BALL BACK AND DEANDRE HOPKINS IS MAKING UP FOR PAST MISTAKES. HOPKINS BEATS WHITE OFF THE LINE AND HAULS IN A 41 YARD PASS. TEXANS WELL ON THE MOVE.

7. 4Q: NOW FROM THE FIVE. WATSON HITS A ROLLING CARLOS HYDE FOR THE WALK-IN TOUCHDOWN. HOUSTON HAS TAKEN THE LEAD, LATE IN THE FOURTH.

8. 4Q: HOUSTON GOES FOR TWO AGAIN. THIS TIME WATSON FIRES A LASER TO A SLANTING HOPKINS FOR THE CONVERSION. AFTER 19 UNANSWERED POINTS, THE TEXANS LEAD BY THREE.

9. 4Q: BILLS AREN'T DEAD YET. WITH SECONDS REMAINING, THEY GET TO THE HOUSTON 29. STEPHEN HAUSCHKA LINES IT UP AND DRILLS THE 47 YARDER. WE'RE HEADED TO OVERTIME, 19-19.

10. OT: THE ART OF ESCAPABILITY. DESHAUN WATSON LOOKS TO BE DEAD IN THE WATER, BUT HE SOMEHOW ESCAPES AND FINDS TAIWAN JONES. JONES, ON HIS ONLY CATCH OF THE DAY, TURNS ON THE BURNERS AND PICKS UP 34 YARDS.

11. OT: THEN ON THE VERY NEXT PLAY, HOUSTON TROTS OUT KA'IMI FAIRBAIRN FOR A 28-YARDER. HE HITS IT RIGHT BETWEEN THE EYES TO WIN IT FOR THE TEXANS.

A WILD-CARD GAME INDEED.

FINAL

TEXANS: 22
BILLS: 19

(HOU) WATSON: 20/25, 247 YARDS, PASS TD, 55 RUSH YARDS, RUSH TD
(HOU) HOPKINS: 6 REC, 90 YARDS
(BUF) ALLEN: 24/46, 264 YARDS, 92 RUSH YARDS, 1 REC, 16 YARDS, REC TD

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FROM: NFL / ABC Sports
MUSIC:

ELEMENTS:
-GAME HIGHLIGHTS-

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BC:

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