

Texans shake off slow start to beat Dolphins; Have key road tests coming up next!

Written by Yolande Y. Lezine, Sports Editor
Tuesday, 11 September 2012 16:23



It was one of the most anticipated games of the start of the 2012 season. The Houston Texans home opener against the Miami Dolphins was finally here!

Tailgaters were out in full force early, with cars more than a mile long waiting to get into the parking lot gates. It was a slow start for Houston offensively, but thanks to a huge defensive spark led by 2nd year veteran J.J. Watt, the team came alive in the second-quarter and scored 21-unanswered points in route to a 30-10 victory over the Miami Dolphins in front of a sold out crowd at Reliant Stadium.

Watt, who had three tackles and 1 ½ sacks in the game tipped three of Miami rookie quarterback Ryan Tannehill's passes which led to Dolphins turnovers. His three tips gave Jonathan Joseph, Brian Cushing and Kareem Jackson their first interceptions of the 2012 season.

The offense shook off a slow start as quarterback Matt Schaub completed 20-of-31 passes for 266 yards passing. Pro bowl wide receiver Andre Johnson recorded his 39th 100-yard receiving game with 8 receptions for 119 yards and a 14-yard touchdown pass with just 28 seconds left before halftime.

Running back Arian Foster rushed for 79 yards and two touchdowns in the game. Defensively, Brian Cushing led the Texans with 7 tackles. Cornerbacks Brice McCain and Glover Quinn had 6 tackles each.

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Texans/Dolphins Notebook:

*The Texans had their second-largest crowd in Reliant Stadium history with 71,566 fans that were in attendance throughout the entire game.

*Miami rookie and former Texas A&M quarterback Ryan Tannehill seemed to manage his first regular season game very well passing for 219 yards.

*Texans defensive end Tim Jamison batted down a pass by Dolphins quarterback Ryan Tannehill and recorded one sack.

*For the first time in franchise history, no rookies started in the season opener for the Texans.

*The Texans defense intercepted three passes in the first half, tying a franchise record for the most interceptions in one half.

*The Texans defense forced turnovers on four consecutive possessions to end the first half.

*Linebacker Brian Cushing forced a fumble in the first quarter. It was his first forced fumble of the season and the sixth of his career.

*Tight End Owen Daniels made his 300th career reception with his first catch of the afternoon, a 23-yard gain on the Texans opening drive.

*RB Arian Foster scored his 30th career rushing touchdown and his first of the season on a 14-yard gain in the second quarter.

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*WR Andre Johnson extended his streak of consecutive games played with a reception to 83. He caught his 500th pass under Head Coach Gary Kubiak with a 24-yard gain in the second quarter. When he took the field to start the game, Johnson became the first player in Texans history to play 10 seasons with the team.

*Captains for the Texans were LB Brian Cushing, LB Tim Dobbins, WR Andre Johnson, QB Matt Schaub, and DE Antonio Smith.

*The Texans will take to the road for the next two weeks to face divisional opponent Jacksonville and then Peyton Manning and the Denver Broncos, before returning home to face the Tennessee Titans at Reliant Stadium.{jcomments on}