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# BIG SPRING HERALD

MONDAY EDITION,  
JANUARY 6, 2020

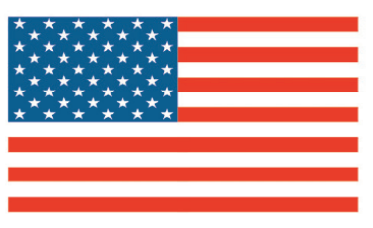
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VOLUME 115, NUMBER 85

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## City Council to review City Attorney applications in special meeting

**By Erica Morse**  
Herald Contributor

The Big Spring City Council will meet for a special session tomorrow, Tuesday, Jan. 7, at 5 p.m., inside the City Council chambers. On the agenda is an Executive Session to discuss personnel matters and applications for the position of City Attorney. According to Mayor Shannon Thomason, Interim City Attorney Marianne Banks resigned in December, and her last day will be January 31.

The listing for the open position was posted on Indeed.com on Dec. 10, with nine resumes and four applications having been received. According to Mayor Thomason, The City Council has already conducted one conference call regarding those applicants, and the number one choice has been invited to meet with a sub-committee who will help interview that candidate.

Thus far, no local attorneys have applied for the position, which is open through Jan. 11. After the Executive Session ends, the Council will reconvene in an open session. The City Council Chambers are located at 307 E. Fourth Street. This is a special meeting; a regular meeting of city council is scheduled for next Tuesday, Jan. 14. The location of the meeting is up for discussion in anticipation of a larger venue being needed.



### Upcoming Events

- Jan. 7  
*Special Meeting  
City Council Chambers*
- Jan. 11  
*10 a.m.  
State Park  
Mountain Bike Race*
- Jan. 25  
*Silver Wings Ball  
Tickets now available*
- Feb. 1  
*Big Spring's Got Talent  
Applications being  
accepted.*
- Feb. 7  
*Chamber Extravaganza  
Howard Co. Fairgrounds  
Nominations for 5 under  
55 being accepted.*
- Submit upcoming events,  
fundraisers and more  
with us for our Take Note  
section. Email editor@  
bigspringherald.com.*
- Feb. 8  
*Big Spring Symphony  
presents:  
Beethoven is 250*

## National Law Enforcement Appreciation Day luncheon to be hosted by Parkview Skilledcare

**By AMANDA DUFORAT**  
Managing Editor



Courtesy photo

National Law Enforcement Day is recognized on Jan. 9 each year as a way to nationally show appreciation for all law enforcement. Pictured above is the Coffee with a Cop event hosted by Parkview in 2019.

Serving and protecting, no matter the weather and no matter the day, is the oath law enforcement officers uphold. As an extension of the community's appreciation for all they do, Parkview Skilled Care and Rehab Center is hosting a cook-out for National Law Enforcement Appreciation Day on Jan. 9 from Noon to 1 p.m. "We want to show our appreciation to our local law enforcement officers and let them know we notice what they do for us every day and we appreciate it," Laurie Martinez, Activities Director at Parkview, said. The luncheon will be cooked up and prepared by the Parkview Dietician, while employees and residents have an opportunity to visit with law enforcement who stop in to the facility for lunch. "As a local business we want to continue to give back to our community and we want to show our appreciation for those who give back everyday, selflessly," she said. "We invite all law enforcement officers – Sheriff Deputies, police officers, DPS and other agencies – to stop by and enjoy a burger with us."

See LUNCH, Page 3

## ViM & Vigar Race to complete race season atop Scenic Mountain State Park

**By AMANDA DUFORAT**  
Managing Editor

Prep the bikes, grab your helmets and get ready for the first race of the year atop Scenic Mountain State Park. The race will take place Jan. 11 at 10 a.m. "This is the first race on the new trails," State Park Ranger Ron Alton said. "This is the first mountain bike trail race, but it is just the beginning. Later this year, there will be a foot race on the new trails and more information will be coming on that race." Onsite registration will be from 9 a.m. until 9:45 the morning of the race. The registration fee is \$15 for ages 19 and older with those 18 years of age and under able to race for free. "Those who pre-register can be entered for a chance to win a new set of carbon fiber wheels," Alton said. "This prize was made possible through the Midland based company, but it's a true representation of businesses from Big Spring, Midland

and Odessa coming together." In addition to an opportunity to win a new set of wheels, there is an opportunity for a cash payout purse of \$2,100, with equal payouts for male/female categories. "The majority of the race will take place on the dirt trails, but there is part of one of the tracks that will have contestants go over paved and dirt areas in the state park," Alton said. "This is a great way to get people outside and support the West Texas Trail Alliance, which provides funding for more trails in our area." The adult race (16 and older) will cover 2.48 miles in the starting lap with laps one and two totally 3.38 miles. The adults will cover a total of 9.3 miles on the State Park trails. The kids race is covering .61 miles for the starting lap and laps one and two will cover .50 miles. The kids race will have racers completing a total of 1.6 miles around the State Park. Proceeds from this race will benefit

See RACE, Page 3



HERALD photo/Amanda Duforat

The West Texas Trail Alliance was hard at work in 2019 creating new trails on top of Scenic Mountain State Park. Those trails are going to be the scene of the Jan. 11 ViM & Vigar Race's final race of the season. The park will be closed during the race.

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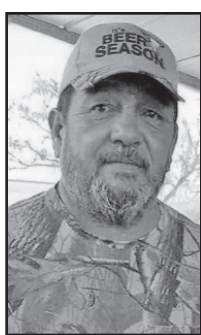
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## Obituaries

## David Ovalle



David Ovalle, 50, of Big Spring died Saturday, Jan/ 4, 2020.

Prayer service will be at 7 p.m. Monday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral services will be at 10 a.m. Tuesday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home with burial at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

David is survived by his wife: Gloria A. Ovalle of Big Spring; five daughters: Maggie M. Rangel and her husband Ruben, Marissa L. Ovalle and her husband Kyler Allen, Brittany L. Ovalle and her husband Tim Arredondo, Alison

G. Flores and Emily A. Flores, all of Big Spring; one son: Richard A. Flores of Big Spring; mother: Sylvia Valdez of Big Spring; four sisters: Irene Buchanan, Sylvia "Diana" Villa and her husband Robert, Margaret Rebecca Ovalle (Becky) and Yolanda Ovalle Muniz and her husband Israel "Ray", all of Big Spring; and two brothers: Oscar "Boy" Ovalle, Jr. and his wife Gracie of Midland and Carlos E. "Guy" Ovalle and his wife Roseann of New Mexico.

David was preceded in death by his father: Oscar G. Ovalle and one brother: Mario "Robert" Ovalle and his grandmother: Julia Ovalle.

Arrangements are by Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Pay your respects online at [www.myersandsmith.com](http://www.myersandsmith.com)

## Robert "Wawe" Hilario

Robert "Wawe" Hilario, 63, of Big Spring died Saturday, Jan. 4, 2020.

Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

## Support Groups

## MONDAY

- Alcoholics Anonymous, As Bill Sees It, 615 Settles, 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.

## TUESDAY

- Big Spring and Snyder Parkinson's Support Group meeting at the Big Spring Senior Center at 10:30 a.m. the second Tuesday of the month. This is a group for all Parkinson's Disease patients, spouses and caregivers. For more information about the support group or about Parkinson's Disease, contact Jo Bidwell at the Lubbock APDA office at 806-785-0942.

- Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m.; newcomers meeting 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.

- A six-week course in Wellness and Quality of Life with Chronic Pain will be held at Spring Creek Fellowship at the Spring Town Plaza, 1801 E. FM 700. There is no charge for the course, and a workbook will be provided. Contact Steve Purdy at 432-517-4840 for more information.

- Caregivers Support Group, sponsored by the Area Agency on Aging, meets the second Tuesday of every month at 10:30 a.m. The meetings are held at the Senior Citizens Center located at 100 Whipkey Drive. These meetings are open for any caregiver, whether medical professional or family member. For more information, please call Becky Letz at 267-1628.

- Al-anon family group meets at 8 p.m. at 615 Settles.

- DivorceCare is a biblical support group for those facing divorce or separation. Each DVD session features nationally respected experts, such as Christian Counselors and Pastors. Small group discussions and workbook exercises help participants apply the information to their own situations. We cover pertinent issues like: • Will I survive? • How to get out of debt. • How do you know when you are ready for a new relationship? • How to lessen the impact of divorce on your children. • Is reconciliation possible?

There is no charge for attendance. 13-week seminars are held two times per year on Tuesday evenings from 6 to 8 p.m. at Trinity Baptist Church in Big Spring. The next session begins Sept. 3, 2019. Visit the DivorceCare Ministry of TBC Facebook page for information. You can also call Donna Burcham at 267-6344 for information on seminar dates and how you can register to attend.

## WEDNESDAY

- RSD (Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy) a chronic pain disease, a support and informative group, meets at 213 Circle. Call Lucy at 432-517-9207 for more information.

- Celebrate Recovery meets at First United Methodist Church Youth Hall, 400 Scurry, from 6-8 p.m. Hurts, habits and hang-ups. Leave message for Joyce Webb at 325-212-860

## THURSDAY

- Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, open discussion noon to 1 p.m.; women's meeting 6:30 until 7:30 p.m. Newcomers' meeting 8 p.m. until 9 p.m.

- Weight Watchers meets at 6 p.m. at St. Paul Lutheran Church. Weigh-in is at 5:30 p.m. Weigh-in is confidential and you don't have to talk if you don't want to. Flexible payment options.

- Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder support group meeting is at 6:30 p.m. at the VA Medical Center Veteran's Healing Center.

## Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity:

- **CHARLES WILLIAM POOL III**, 23, of 507 N. Main St., was arrested on warrants for possession of a controlled substance penalty group 1 (less than one gram), abandoning or endangering a child placing them in imminent danger of bodily injury, assault family violence threat or offensive touch, and another outstanding warrant from another agency.

- **DAVID JOE VILLAREAL JR.**, 33, of 1105 E. 13th St., was arrested on charges of no safety equipment on bicycle, failure to identify of giving false or fictitious information, evading arrest or detention, and resisting arrest, search or transport.

- **BLANCA CECILIA VAR-**

**GAS**, 43, of 108 N. Johnson St., was arrested on a charge of public intoxication.

- **TIMOTHY DOUGLAS GARRARD**, 22, of 1107 Wood St., was arrested on a warrant for assault causing bodily injury to a family member.

- **ALBERT PRESTON DAY-LONG JR.**, 63, was arrested on a charge of possession of marijuana (less than two ounces).

- **RUNAWAY** was reported in the 700 block of W. FM 700

- **BURGLARY OF A VEHICLE** was reported in the 900 block of Lamesa Hwy.

- **FOUND PROPERTY** was reported in the 900 block of E. FM 700, and in the 3600 block of W. Hwy 80.

- **BURGLARY IN PROGRESS** was reported directly behind 2904.

- **BURGLARY OF A VEHICLE** was reported in the 3600 block of W. Hwy 80, two incidents.

- **THEFT** was reported in the 2000 block of S. Main St., and the 700 block of W. FM 700.

- **ACCIDENT MAJOR** was reported in the 500 block of S. Birdwell Lane.

- **DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE** was reported in the 1500 block of Kentucky Way.

- **CRIMINAL MISCHIEF** was reported in the 300 block of N.E. 10th St., and in the 1200 block of Settles St.

- **BURGLARY OF A BUILDING** was reported in the 1300 block of E. 4th St.

- **ASSAULT** was reported in the 3600 block of W. Hwy 80.

## Take Note

- Meet Larry Praeger, Candidate for Texas Supreme Court, on Wednesday, Jan. 8, 2020. He will be in the Cactus Room at Howard College at 5:30 p.m. The public is invited to come meet the candidate.

- Christa Castaneda, Candidate for Railroad Commissioner of Texas, will be in Big Spring, at the Mayo Sauce Diner, 206 S. Main St., on Sunday, Jan 12, at 1 p.m. The public is invited to come meet the candidate.

- Kelly Stone, Candidate for Railroad Commission of Texas, will be in Big Spring on Monday, Jan 13, 2020, at Howard County Democrats Headquarters, 1408 Scurry St., at 5:30 p.m. The public is invited to come meet the candidate.

- VFW Post 2013 meets the first Tuesday of every month at 7 p.m. New members are being sought. The Post is located at 500 Driver Rd. Qualified veterans, those who have served in a foreign war, who are interested in joining the VFW are encouraged to attend a meeting to find out more information.

- DivorceCare is a biblical support group for those facing divorce or separation. Each DVD session features nationally respected experts, such as Christian Counselors and Pastors. Small group discussions

and workbook exercises help participants apply the information to their own situations. We cover pertinent issues like: • Will I survive? • How to get out of debt. • How do you know when you are ready for a new relationship? • How to lessen the impact of divorce on your children. • Is reconciliation possible?

There is no charge for attendance. 13-week seminars are held two times per year on Tuesday evenings from 6 to 8 p.m. at Trinity Baptist Church in Big Spring. Visit the DivorceCare Ministry of TBC Facebook page for information. You can also call Donna Burcham at 267-6344 for information on seminar dates and how you can register to attend.

- Food2Kids will again be providing sack lunches to children in the Big Spring area who do not receive adequate food over the weekends. Members of the community can be a part by volunteering to sack the food. It takes just a couple of hours of your time, and the work is very rewarding. The next sacking event of this 2019-2020 school year will be Monday, Jan. 6 and Tuesday Jan. 7, and they will continue throughout the year on the first Monday and Tuesday of the month. To volunteer, just show up at Lakeview High School located at 1107 N.W. 7th St., at 5:30 p.m. You can follow their Facebook page for additional information <https://www.facebook.com/food2kids/>.

• O'Neal-Kunkle, Chapter #47 of the Disabled American Vets (D.A.V.), meets the third Monday of every month at 6:30 p.m. at 2204 Runnels Street. For more information, please contact Norman Witcher at 432-413-6663.

- Senior and/or mature adults are invited to come to a dance every first and third Friday each month at the Dora Roberts Community Center, located at 100 Whipkey Drive. Come two-step the evening away, or just mingle with old friends and make new friends. Dances are from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. with live entertainment. No alcohol or smoking permitted. Cost is \$5 per person.

- Home Hospice is looking for volunteers (18+) and junior volunteers (9-16 years old). Applications can be picked up at the Home Hospice office, located at 111 E. Seventh Street, Suite A between 8 a.m and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Adult volunteers will need to complete a training and must be able to pass a background check. Volunteer duties will include home visits; junior volunteers will be helping with office work, community events and holiday activities. More information can be obtained by calling 264-7599 or 432-967-0901.

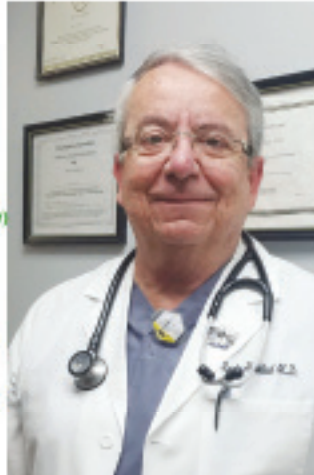
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Concho Valley Travel Show  
Wednesday, January 8  
2:00 PM  
Senior Annex Station 618  
618 South Chadbourne  
San Angelo, Texas

Big Spring Travel Show  
Tuesday, January 7  
10:00 AM  
Dora Roberts Com. Center  
Comanche Trail Park  
100 Whipkey Drive  
Big Spring, Texas

Lubbock Travel Show  
Thursday, January 9  
2:00 PM  
MCM Elegante Hotel  
801 Avenue Q  
Lubbock, Texas

Permian Basin Travel Show  
Tuesday, January 7  
2:00 PM  
Holiday Inn Express Hotel  
5309 West Loop 250 North  
Midland, Texas

Brownwood Travel Show  
Friday, January 10  
2:00 PM  
Adams Street  
Community Center  
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MEMBER  
2020

TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

**LUNCH**

Continued from Page 1

She continued, "For those law enforcement members who are unable to stay and eat we will have some to go boxes for them to grab and take with them."

National Law Enforcement Appreciation Day is

recognized nationally on Jan. 9, as a way for citizens to show support for law enforcement. The day was first recognized after several organizations came together in 2015 including, FBI National Academy Associates, International Association of Chief of Police, Officer Down Memorial Page, Law Enforcement United, National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund, National Troopers Coalition and more.

"Our law enforcement officers have a job that is often thankless and takes them away from their families for long hours, but they continue to choose this profession and make those sacrifices," she said.

*Amanda Duforat is the managing editor at the Big Spring Herald. To contact her, email [editor@big-springherald.com](mailto:editor@big-springherald.com) or call 432-263-7331.*

**RACE**


Continued from Page 1

the West Texas Trail Alliance, according to information released Friday morning. To find out more about WTTA, visit [fundttrails.org](http://fundttrails.org) and provide support to the projects.

To sign up online visit <https://www.webscorer.com/register?raceid=206504&owner=1>.

A reminder to those who will be taking part in this race, helmets must be worn at all times while on bikes. For those who are unable to make it to the final race of this season, a new series will be kicking off Fall 2020. More information will be released as race dates get closer.

*Amanda Duforat is the Managing Editor at the Big Spring Herald. To contact her, email [editor@big-springherald.com](mailto:editor@big-springherald.com) or call 432-263-7331.*



## Weather

**Today:** Sunny, with a high near 61. Light and variable wind becoming north 20 to 25 mph in the morning. Winds could gust as high as 35 mph.

**Tonight:** Clear, with a low around 29. North wind 5 to 15 mph becoming west after midnight.

**Tuesday:** Sunny, with a high near 61. Light and variable wind becoming south 5 to 10 mph in the morning.

**Tuesday Night:** Clear, with a low around 34. South wind 5 to 10 mph.

**Wednesday:** Mostly sunny, with a high near 62. South wind 10 to 15 mph increasing to 15 to 20 mph in the afternoon. Winds could gust as high as 30 mph.

**Wednesday Night:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 45.

**Thursday:** Sunny, with a high near 72.

**Thursday Night:** Mostly clear, with a low around 42.

(Weather courtesy National Weather Service via [forecast.weather.gov](http://forecast.weather.gov))

**Take Note**

- Keep Big Spring Beautiful meets at noon the first Monday of every month. We meet at Howard College in the Cactus Room. Our vision is that every Big Spring citizen will take individual responsibility for making Big Spring the most beautiful city in Texas. Visitors are always welcome. For more information call Tammy at 432-935-0057.

- The Big Spring Art Association meets the third Saturday of the month, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., in the basement of the Howard County Library. Come join us, we would love to have you.

- Big Spring and surrounding counties are in need of foster families. Foster parents are the caretakers for the children in the community who have been abused or neglected. For more information on becoming foster parents or adoptive families, call the Children's Protective Services office at 432-263-9669.

- Victim Services is a non-profit independent community-based program serving victims of all violent crime, including, but not limited to, assault, sexual assault and domestic violence. Victim Services advocates are available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, to provide crisis intervention or accompaniment to the hospital and law enforcement agencies, as needed. If you can commit to 30-hour training, an interview process and a background check, we need you. For more information, call Linda Calvio at 432-263-3312.

- The mission of CASA of West Texas is to promote and support quality volunteers who speak for the best interest of abused and neglected children in court in an effort to find each child a safe, nurturing and permanent home. We need your help. If you're interested in volunteering, contact Sara Basaldua at 1-877-316-8346 or visit [www.BecomeaCASA.org](http://www.BecomeaCASA.org) or [www.casawtx.org](http://www.casawtx.org).

- Scenic Mountain Medical Center Aux-

iliary is looking for new members. If you have a heart for serving people, have at least four hours a week to spare, SMMC Auxiliary might be the fit for you. Duties include working in the gift shop, delivering newspapers to inpatients, hospitality services, popcorn and more.

To find out more about opportunities available with the SMMC Auxiliary, contact Amy Miramontes at 268-4809 or April Arms at 268-4907.

- The Crossroads Young Marines is taking applications for another boot camp. For more information, call 432-517-4791. Young Marines welcomes boys and girls ages 8 to 18 who are still attending school.

- The Homeownership Preservation Foundation (HPF) is an independent national nonprofit dedicated to helping distressed homeowners navigate financial challenges and avoid mortgage foreclosure and are in need of help, the time to call 888-995-HOPE is now. HPF can provide counseling free of charge, in English and 170 other languages, 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year. For free foreclosure help, call the hotline.

- The Howard County Democrats meet the second and fourth Monday of each month at 5:30 p.m. at the Howard County Democratic Headquarters, 1408 Scurry, behind Prosperity Bank.

- The Emergency Services Chaplains Corps is seeking volunteer chaplains. The corps provides spiritual services to Howard County residents and visitors in crisis situations. Prospective chaplains don't require any specific experience or education to qualify for the position, just a calling from God and a willingness to devote time to the program, which requires a 24- to 30-week training program and dedication of one day per week for emergency call-outs. Those interested should contact Senior Chaplain Joel Miller at 432-213-1221.

- Big Spring's Centennial Lions Club is holding a drive to collect books for the Salvation Army Boys and Girls Club. Books for kids in kindergarten through about 10th grade will be accepted, with special preference for books for younger children in kindergarten through third grade. Cash donations to allow the Lions to purchase additional books are also appreciated.

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Jesus "Jessie" Tarin, 59, died Sunday. Funeral services will be at 11:00 AM Monday at Myers & Smith Chapel with burial at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

David Ovalle, 50, died Saturday. Prayer service will be at 7:00 PM Monday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral services will be at 10:00 AM Tuesday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home with burial at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

Robert "Wawe" Hilario, 63, died Saturday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

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### Seymore closing in on 1,000th point



HERALD File Photos

Pictured above: Kyler Seymore shows off his silky jumpshot that has brought him within a few points of his 1,000th career point. He is expected to break the 1,000-point barrier on Tuesday night when the Showtime Steers travel to Levelland to take on the Lobos.

### Texans roar past Bills for 22-19 win in OT

By KRISTIE RIEKEN

AP Sports Writer

HOUSTON (AP) — Deshaun Watson's teammates talked all week about how they never feel as if they're out of any game when No. 4 is on the field.

On Saturday Watson showed why the Houston Texans have so much trust in him, when the quarterback's dazzling performance late after a tough start led them to a playoff victory.

Watson spun out of a would-be sack and coolly completed a pass that set up the winning field goal in overtime as the Texans rallied from a double-digit second-half deficit for a 22-19 victory over the Buffalo Bills in the first round of the playoffs.

DeAndre Hopkins was asked to describe Watson's play on Saturday to somebody who might have missed the game.

"I hope everyone watched this today, but he's amazing," Hopkins said. "You can't put too many words on it."

Both teams punted on their first possessions of overtime — the first extra period in an AFC wild-card game since January 2012. On Houston's next drive, Watson evaded a sack by wriggling away from one defender and bouncing off another before rolling out to find Taiwan Jones for a 34-yard reception to set up first-and-goal.

Watson flexed both arms as the crowd at NRG Stadium went wild — knowing their team was in position to pull off another comeback win to Houston's playoff history.

"I told myself to stay up. I mean, it's do-or-die now. I just had to make the play," Watson said.

Ka'imi Fairbairn then kicked a 28-yard field goal to lift Houston to the victory.

The Texans (11-6) advanced to the divisional round of the playoffs next weekend where they'll face the Kansas City Chiefs on Sunday.

Watson got a boost from the return of J.J. Watt, who had a sack that helped spark his team. Houston scored 19 straight points to take the lead before Stephen Hauschka's 47-yard field goal tied it with 5 seconds left to force overtime.

"We never quit, regardless," Watson said. "Whatever it takes to get the win. I mean, we're going to keep fighting."

Watson was wowed by the play of Watson.

"The play he made at the end of the game — nobody makes that play," he said. "The guy's unbelievable. I'm very thankful and lucky to have him as my quarterback. That's why you play the whole game."

It was Watt's first game after sitting out since October with a torn pectoral muscle.

"This is why you come back," Watt said. "I don't know if I meant to come back for these many plays or this much extra time, but these feelings, these

emotions, these fans, these players, Deshaun Watson and all the guys on this team, this is why you come back."

The win gives the Texans their first playoff victory since the 2016 season and extends Buffalo's postseason losing streak to six games, with their most recent playoff win coming in 1995. It's the first wild-card overtime game since the Broncos beat the Steelers 29-23 in the 2011 season.

The game conjured memories of another huge comeback in a wild-card game. The last time teams from Houston and Buffalo met in the playoffs it was in a game that is known as "The Comeback." The Bills set an NFL record for the largest comeback in NFL history by rallying from a 32-point deficit for a 41-38 overtime win against the Houston Oilers in a wild-card game in 1993.

This time Josh Allen and the Bills (10-7) used a dominant first half to build a 13-point lead and were up 16-0 in the third quarter, before Allen began to struggle.

"He was just trying to do too much and getting a little bit extreme with what he felt like we needed at the time," coach Sean McDermott said. "But overall, we just didn't make enough plays."

Watson had 247 yards passing and ran for 55 yards and Hopkins had 90 yards receiving. Watson led the Texans to the victory despite being sacked seven times, led by three from Jerry Hughes, and hit 12 other times.

Allen threw for 264 yards, ran for 92 and caught a touchdown pass on a trick play in the first quarter, but often looked rattled late in his playoff debut.

Houston couldn't get anything going on offense before halftime and had 81 yards in a first half where Hopkins didn't catch a pass for the first time since Week 16 of the 2017 season.

They were finally able to sustain a drive on their second possession of the third quarter when Hopkins had receptions of 14 and 10 yards to help move the ball. The Texans cut the lead to 10 when Watson dragged two defenders into the end zone on a 20-yard touchdown run.

Watson then dove into the end zone for a 2-point conversion that got Houston within 16-8 with about two minutes left in the third.

The Bills were driving early in the fourth quarter when Allen was sacked by Whitney Mercilus and fumbled, and it was recovered by Jacob Martin at the Buffalo 47. Houston cashed in on the miscue with a 41-yard field goal that cut the lead to 16-11 with about 11 minutes to go.

Watson connected with Carlos Hyde on a 5-yard touchdown pass and Hopkins on a 2-point conversion with about five minutes left to put the Texans on top 19-16. Hopkins had a 41-yard reception earlier in that drive.

The Bills were in field-goal range on their next drive when Allen got a 14-yard penalty for intentional grounding and Buffalo lost a down to bring up fourth down. They went for it and Allen was sacked by Jacob Martin for a 19-yard loss to give Houston the ball back with 1:41 left.

"We didn't execute how we should have, and we didn't make as many plays as we should have," Allen said. "That's what it really comes down to. They made one more play than us."

The Texans trailed 13-0 at halftime and Hopkins fumbled on their opening drive of the third quarter to give Buffalo the ball at the Houston 32. Watt sacked Allen for a loss of 8 yards on third down and the Bills settled for a 38-yard field goal to extend the lead to 16-0.

Allen scrambled 42 yards for a first down on Buffalo's first possession for its longest rush of the season. Two plays later, the Bills used some trickery to take the lead when John Brown threw a 16-yard touchdown pass to Brown that was wide open despite having to slow down to grab it.

It was early in the second quarter when Allen appeared to fumble, and it was recovered by Houston. But the play was reviewed and overturned, giving Buffalo the ball at the Houston 32. The Bills were unable to move the ball after that and made a 40-yard field goal to make it 10-0.

The Bills added another 40-yard field goal at the end of the second quarter to push the lead to 13-0 at halftime.

NOT SO FAST

Houston's DeAndre Carter looked to have made a major mistake when caught the opening kickoff of the second half in the end zone and tossed the ball toward a referee without taking a knee. The Bills scooped it up and thought they had scored a touchdown on the play. But the play was reviewed, and it was determined that Carter "gave himself up" so it was called a touchback and Houston kept the ball.

WATT'S HEALTH

Watt was pleasantly surprised with how good he felt on Saturday in his return from injury. But there was one moment where he was a bit worried that his surgically repaired pectoral muscle wouldn't hold up.

As he was about to dive to try and grab Allen, he wondered if that could be the moment where he was re-injured.

"But I dove and landed right on it, popped up, checked it out and looked over at the doctor who was standing like 10 feet away," he said. "And I was like: 'It's all right.'"

UP NEXT:

Bills: Season over.

Texans: Advance to divisional round.

### No. 6 Baylor beats Texas 59-44 in Big 12 for 10th win in row

By STEPHEN HAWKINS

AP Sports Writer

WACO, Texas (AP) — No. 6 Baylor kept getting second, and sometimes third, chances after all those missed shots.

Texas coach Shaka Smart is now talking about maybe needing an entire practice devoted to rebounding, despite already spending more on that with this team than any other he has had before this season.

MaCio Teague matched his season high with 21 points as the Bears overcame a miserable shooting game to open Big 12 play by beating Texas 59-44 on Saturday night, their 10th win in a row.

"We've got to stay locked in defensively. That's the biggest thing playing on the floor together and play defense, and the offense will definitely come," Teague said.

After building a 36-23 halftime lead, the Bears (11-1, 1-0 Big 12) missed 18 of

their first 20 shots in the second half before Matthew Mayer's short jumper made it 47-37 with 7 1/2 minutes left.

The Bears shot 22.6% (7 of 31) after halftime, and 31.3% (20 of 64) overall. But they finished with 19 offensive rebounds and 21 second-chance points.

"Typical Big 12 game. Hard-fought, I thought both teams played great defense," Baylor coach Scott Drew said. "Offensively, I thought both teams missed a lot of shots because of the defense."

Jared Butler, Baylor's top scorer who came in third in the league at 17.6 points per game, had 13 points on 4-of-15 shooting. Teague was 5 of 16 from the field while making all nine of his free throws. Freddie Gillespie had 12 rebounds.

Jericho Sims had 13 points and 15 rebounds for Texas (10-3, 0-1), while Courtney Ramey had 11 points. The Longhorns had their second double-digit road loss in a row. They fell by 22 at Providence before Christmas.