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Drew Brees passed for 376 yards and two touchdowns <http://www.raidersauthorizedshops.com/authentic-johnny-townsend-jersey> , and the New Orleans Saints held off Carolina s late comeback bid to seal a 31-26 victory in their NFC wild-card game on Sunday.

The Panthers had a first down on the Saints 26-yard line with 58 seconds left, but heavy pressure by All-Pro defensive end Cameron Jordan a couple plays later induced an intentional grounding penalty on Carolina quarterback Cam Newton, making it third-and-25 on the Saints 34 and a required 10-second runoff left 22 seconds on the clock.

After an incompletion in the end zone on third down, Vonn Bell sacked Newton on a safety blitz, ensuring the Saints (12-5) swept all three meetings with Carolina (11-6) this season, in addition to winning their first playoff game in four seasons.

Brees touchdowns went for 80-yards to Ted Ginn and 9 yards to tight end Josh Hill. Fullback Zach line and running back Alvin Kamara each ran for short touchdowns, the latter set up by Michael Thomas 46-yard reception.

Thomas caught eight passes for 131 yards on a day when the Saints needed the passing game to compensate for a ground game that struggled to get going.

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JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (AP) Blake Bortles put together one decent drive all day, doing as much with his legs as his arm, and the defensive-minded Jacksonville Jaguars eked out an ugly and sometimes unwatchable victory against the Buffalo Bills in an AFC wild-card game.

In the postseason for the first time since January 2008, the third-seeded Jaguars (11-6) advanced to play at No. 2 seed Pittsburgh next week.

The sixth-seeded Bills (9-8) will head home after ending the longest, current playoff drought in North American professional sports.

Bortles was a big reason Jacksonville won the game and a big reason it was so close. He was off most of the day, misfiring short and long Taven Bryan Color Rush Jersey , but made up for it with 88 yards rushing becoming the second starting quarterback in the past 25 years to win a playoff game with more rushing yards than passing (87). Atlanta s Michael Vick also did it against the St. Louis Rams in the 2004 playoffs.

Bortles TD pass to backup tight end Ben Koyack late in the third quarter was his best throw of the game, helping Jacksonville win its first playoff game at home since the 1997 season.

The Bills finished with 263 yards, with 119 of those coming from hobbled running back LeSean McCoy (ankle). Quarterback Tyrod Taylor left the game after being thrown to the ground by Dante Fowler Jr. and hitting his head hard. Nathan Peterman entered the game with 1:27 remaining. All-Pro cornerback Jalen Ramsey tipped and then intercepted Peterman s third pass, and the Jaguars ran out the clock.

The New Jersey Devils have held a playoff spot in the Eastern Conference every day since winning their season opener on Oct. 7.

Yet with only five games remaining on their schedule, the Devils are clinging to the eighth and final playoff berth in the East, trying to stave off a late-season push by the surging Florida Panthers.

On Saturday night at the Prudential Center, the Devils (40-28-9) look to take another step closer to their first playoff appearance in six years when they host the New York Islanders (32-36-10).

The Devils are 6-2-1 in their last nine games Rafael Devers Boston Red Sox Jersey , coming off a 4-3 overtime loss to the Pittsburgh Penguins on Thursday, a defeat that snapped a three-game winning streak that solidified New Jersey s hold on the second wild card in the East.

The last stretch of games, we ve been playing some good hockey and finding ways to string wins together, said Devils winger Kyle Palmieri, who has four goals in his last three games. We have to reset quickly after (the loss to Pittsburgh) and get ready for a big weekend and see where this weekend takes us.

After hosting the Islanders in the finale of a four-game homestand on Saturday, New Jersey travels to Montreal to skate against the Canadiens on Sunday, setting the stage for the final week of the regular season.

It's exciting Shaquem Griffin Color Rush Jersey , every night the buildings are electric, the games seem to all go down to the wire with exciting atmospheres, said Devils forward Blake Coleman. These are fun games to play in, and we're fortunate to be in the position to play meaningful games.

Keith Kinkaid has been the backbone of New Jersey's final kick at the end of the regular season. He has started eight of the last nine games in goal, stepping up in the wake of injury and poor play of No. 1 netminder Cory Schneider to post a career-high 22 wins this season.

Kinkaid made 30 or more saves in each of his last eight starts since March 10.

Keith has had our back down the stretch, said New Jersey's leading scorer Taylor Hall.

The Devils are 2-0-1 against New York this season, with Kinkaid starting both of the team's wins in the season series.

The Islanders are stumbling down the stretch Pat Valaika Colorado Rockies Jersey , just 3-11-4 in their last 18 games following Friday's 5-4 home-ice loss to the Toronto Maple Leafs. One bright spot in the most recent defeat was that team captain John Tavares scored a power-play goal to reach 80 points for the third time in his career.

You'd like the production to lead to some good results for the team, Tavares told reporters Friday.

New York was without two of its key forwards against the Maple Leafs. Casey Cizikas and Josh Bailey both sat out with upper-body injuries. Cizikas is ruled out for Saturday's contest while Bailey is a game-time decision.

In addition, the status of veteran goaltender Jaroslav Halak is unknown for the game in New Jersey. Halak was scratched due to an illness Friday and rookie Christopher Gibson started, while Thomas Greiss backed him up after being activated off injured reserve.

The Islanders are playing out the string after being eliminated from playoff contention earlier in the week for the second season in a row.

We are looking to play well and finish strong, said Islanders coach Doug Weight. We are all professionals here.

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