

WEEK FOURTEEN
NORTHERN ILLINOIS AT BUFFALO

DETROIT -- Marcus Childers threw a touchdown pass -- his fourth of the game -- to D.J. Brown with 1:09 to go and Northern Illinois rallied from a 19-point, second-half deficit to take a 30-29 victory over Buffalo in the Mid-American Conference championship game on Friday night.

The 35-yard TD pass came on the eighth play of a 70-yard drive that took a little more than two minutes following a punt forced by Sutton Smith's sack of Bulls quarterback Tyree Jackson

NIU's 2-point conversion failed and the Bulls (10-3) reached the Huskies' 41-yard line before an incomplete pass on fourth down with 21 seconds left ended Buffalo's hopes.

The Huskies' touchdown completed a comeback from a 29-10 deficit in the third quarter. Childers threw a 28-yard score to Brown near the end of the third quarter and a 32-yarder to Spencer Tears with under 13 minutes left in the fourth. Childers also had a 13-yard TD pass to Tears in the first half. Childers completed 21 of 33 passes for 300 yards with an interception and led the team with 58 yards rushing.

Jackson was 18-of-35 passing for 252 yards and two touchdown passes to Anthony Johnson, who had 124 yards receiving on seven catches. Kevin Marks and Jaret Patterson ran for touchdowns. Buffalo missed a PAT after their second TD.

The Bulls have never beaten NIU in a MAC game since joining the league in 1999, going 0-12. A lone win over the Huskies came in 1968. The Huskies (8-5) have won four title games, the Bulls one.

Final	1	2	3	4	T
NIU	0	10	7	13	30
BUFF	7	15	7	0	29

Scoring Summary -----

	NIU	BUFF
FIRST QUARTER		
BUFF TD 6:38 Kevin Marks 3 Yd Run (Alex McNulty Kick) 13 plays, 94 yards, 5:39	0	7
SECOND QUARTER		
BUFF TD 14:55 Anthony Johnson 13 Yd pass from Tyree Jackson (Alex McNulty PAT failed) 11 plays, 94 yards, 5:00	0	13
NIU TD 9:51 Spencer Tears 13 Yd pass from Marcus Childers (Andrew Gantz Kick) 12 plays, 75 yards, 5:04	7	13
BUFF TD 5:41 Anthony Johnson 26 Yd pass from Tyree Jackson (Two-Point Pass Conversion Failed) 9 plays, 75 yards, 4:10	7	19
NIU FG 1:42 Andrew Gantz 39 Yd Field Goal 12 plays, 53 yards, 3:59	10	19
BUFF FG 0:03 Adam Mitcheson 24 Yd Field Goal 8 plays, 70 yards, 1:39	10	22
THIRD QUARTER		
BUFF TD 11:25 Jaret Patterson 9 Yd Run (Adam Mitcheson Kick) 8 plays, 75 yards, 3:35	10	29
NIU TD 0:17 D.J. Brown 28 Yd pass from Marcus Childers (Andrew Gantz Kick) 5 plays, 34 yards, 1:41	17	29
FOURTH QUARTER		
NIU TD 12:51 Spencer Tears 32 Yd pass from Marcus Childers (Andrew Gantz Kick) 4 plays, 63 yards, 1:17	24	29
NIU TD 1:09 D.J. Brown 35 Yd pass from Marcus Childers (Two-Point Pass Conversion Failed) 8 plays, 70 yards, 2:11	30	29

Team Stats	NIU	BUFF
First Downs	23	26
Total Yards	409	394
Total Plays	67	77
Avg Gain Per Play	6.1	5.1
Net Yards Rushing	109	142
Rushes	34	42
Yards Per Rush	3.2	3.4
Net Yards Passing	300	252
Comp-Att	21-33	18-35
Yards Per Pass	9.1	7.2
Times Sacked	4	4
Yds Lost To Sacks	-22	-37
Interceptions	1	0
Punts	4	5
Punt Average	38.3	41.8
Penalties	7	3
Penalty Yards	91	20
Fumbles	0	0
Fumbles Lost	0	0
Possession	24:55	35:05

Individual Stats

RUSHING

	Rush	Yds	Avg	Long	TD
NIU					
15 Marcus Childers	15	58	3.9	33	0
22 Tre Harbison	11	35	3.2	7	0
28 Jordan Nettles	4	19	4.8	9	0
10 D.J. Brown	1	4	4.0	4	0
21 Marcus Jones	2	-4	-2.0	1	0
BUFF					
26 Jaret Patterson	18	72	4.0	16	1
5 Kevin Marks	17	72	4.2	13	1
3 Tyree Jackson	7	-2	-0.3	24	0

PASSING

	Comp	Att	Yds	Y/A	TD	Int	QBRat
NIU							
15 Marcus Childers	21	33	300	9.1	4	1	173.9
BUFF							
3 Tyree Jackson	18	35	252	7.2	2	0	130.8

RECEIVING

	Rec	Yds	Avg	Long	TD
NIU					
10 D.J. Brown	4	84	21.0	35	2
14 Spencer Tears	6	73	12.2	32	2
89 Mitchell Brinkman	3	42	14.0	24	0
9 Jauan Wesley	2	42	21.0	34	0
18 Cole Tucker	2	30	15.0	19	0
17 Dennis Robinson	2	16	8.0	10	0
21 Marcus Jones	1	12	12.0	12	0
84 Ty Harmston	1	1	1.0	1	0
BUFF					
83 Anthony Johnson	7	124	17.7	36	2
8 K.J. Osborn	3	66	22.0	31	0
26 Jaret Patterson	2	19	9.5	17	0
89 Zac Lefebvre	2	14	7.0	8	0
5 Kevin Marks	2	13	6.5	7	0
81 Tyler Mabry	1	8	8.0	8	0
17 Charlie Jones	1	8	8.0	8	0