

The Buffalo Bills can change quarterbacks

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ORCHARD PARK [Devin Bush Jersey](#) , N.Y. (AP) — all they want following their second-most lopsided loss in franchise history. Running back LeSean McCoy knows the abrupt switch from inexperienced and interception-prone Nathan Peterman to raw rookie Josh Allen won't make much of a difference if everyone else on offense fails to perform Sunday in Buffalo's home opener against the Los Angeles Chargers. "Maybe Nate didn't play well with the turnovers, but we helped out with that," McCoy said, referring to a season-opening 47-3 loss at Baltimore in which Peterman threw two interceptions and was yanked after Buffalo managed one first down on 10 possessions. "We gave up pressures, we had penalties, second-and-longs, third-and-longs. We didn't make plays for him," added McCoy, who finished with 22 yards rushing on seven carries. "It's a team thing. Collectively, we didn't play well." The meltdown, which included numerous blunders on defense and special teams, left coach Sean McDermott with little choice but to reverse course at quarterback. A week after McDermott was comfortable with Allen developing on the sideline, the coach sped up the first-round pick's timetable by making him the starter in saying: "It's the right move for our team." At the very least, the switch spared Peterman from revisiting the dreadful memories of the last time he faced the Chargers in his first career start 10 months ago. McDermott's decision backfired then, too

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, when Peterman was pulled after throwing five first-half interceptions of a 54-24 loss. It's now on the strong-armed and mobile, 22-year-old Allen to mask the numerous deficiencies of an offense featuring a patchwork line that surrendered six sacks, and a mostly unproven cast of receivers. Quarterback certainly isn't an issue for the Chargers after Philip Rivers topped 400 yards passing for the 10th time of his career in a season-opening 38-28 loss against Kansas City. What hurt were several dropped passes and the Chargers' inability to stop Tyreek Hill, who had 169 yards receiving and two touchdowns, and also scored on a 91-yard punt return. "We're (ticked) off. No one around here is happy," Chargers coach Anthony Lynn said. "But I'm not going to panic after one game." A number of things to watch for as the Chargers attempt to beat Buffalo for the fourth straight time: NO LOOKING BACK Lynn says the Chargers overwhelming Peterman in their last meeting means little in preparing to face another first-time starter. "Yeah, we were hitting on all cylinders that day, getting good pressure on the quarterback and turning the ball over. But that was last year," he said. "You can't bring wins and losses over from last year to this year." The question is how much pressure the Chargers can apply with defensive end Joey Bosa expected to miss a second straight game with an injured left foot, and tackle Corey Liuget serving a four-game suspension for violating the NFL's policy on performance-enhancing substances. ON THE DEFENSIVE The Bills so-called bend-but-don't-break defense mostly broke in allowing Baltimore to score touchdowns on each of its six drives inside Buffalo's 20. The Bills didn't allow six red-zone TDs total until their sixth game last season. "We went up and stunk it up," defensive end Jerry Hughes said. "We've certainly got to answer back stronger. And I think guys are really licking their chops, not so much sulking, licking their wounds." CHARGED-UP McDermott hopes his players haven't forgotten how they trailed the Chargers 37-7 at halftime last year. "As a competitor, that would drive me, and I hope it drives our football team

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," McDermott said. McCoy is leaning more on how the Bills responded the following week in a 16-10 win at Kansas City, which sparked a 4-2 season-ending run that led to Buffalo snapping a 17-year playoff drought. "OK, we lost by a lot in the past, how do we move on?" McCoy said. "If we win the next game by a point, all that before doesn't even matter." DROPPED PASSES As well as Rivers played, his numbers could have been even better if not for a number of dropped passes, including two by running back Melvin Gordon. "I haven't seen that before from these guys," offensive coordinator Ken Whisenhunt said. "You just move forward. I don't expect that to happen again." The Chargers also struggled in converting just 3 of 11 third-down situations. PEGULA PREACHES PATIENCE Bills co-owner Kim Pegula is preaching patience, understanding there's no quick fixes to a roster that underwent a significant

offseason overhaul. "For me, it's about how are we going to fix things and what are we doing next week, because the team is set, the players are set," Pegula told The Associated Press. "I don't believe that's our team from what you saw on Sunday. Just come in and look forward. And knowing Sean (McDermott), that's how he thinks as well." SANTA CLARA, Calif. (AP) — The San Francisco 49ers will be without another key offensive piece with leading rusher Matt Breida sidelined at least a week with an injured ankle. Breida hurt himself in warmups before Sunday's 43-16 loss at Seattle that officially eliminated the 49ers from playoff contention. Breida tried to play through the injury but eventually couldn't and left the game. He finished the game with five carries for six yards and three catches for 51 yards. Rookie Jeff Wilson fared well in just his second career game

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, carrying 15 times for 61 yards and adding eight catches for 73 yards. He also lost a disputed fumble near the goal line that coach Kyle Shanahan felt should have been ruled down by contact. "He hits the hole and he runs hard," Shanahan said. "He's a very good zone runner. He doesn't mess around. He sets his track. When he sees an open gap, he puts his foot down and goes for it." Breida has been one of the few bright spots on offense this season for the 49ers, rushing for 744 yards and ranking third in the league with an average of 5.64 yards per carry. He got his chance because projected starter Jerick McKinnon went down with a season-ending knee injury a week before the opener. San Francisco also lost starting quarterback Jimmy Garoppolo to a season-ending knee injury in Week 3 and has struggled for any consistency on offense. The Niners will get a bit of a boost this week with the expected return of speedy receiver Marquise Goodwin to the lineup. Goodwin has missed the past two games while dealing with a serious family matter but was at the facility Monday and expected to be back at practice on Wednesday. Shanahan had challenged the Niners before their bye to come back focused for the stretch run of what has been a mostly lost season. Instead, San Francisco returned from the bye and lost 27-9 at Tampa Bay and then was hammered by the Seahawks. The 49ers will try to avoid tying a franchise worst with a third straight loss by at least 17 points at home on Sunday against Denver. The Niners had three-game skids of losses of at least 17 points in 1963, 1999, 2005 and 2016. "We didn't play very well," Shanahan said. "That doesn't go into they didn't respond to my challenge. You have to play very good football to win games and we haven't done that enough consistently in all three phases throughout the year. Magic words don't make people different. I want people to focus and worry about what they can control. We have four games left. We know we're eliminated from the playoffs. So is this year over? This year has everything to do, for me, about next year." Shanahan also explained why he got so incensed at the officials after an offside call in the third quarter against Elijah Lee, who was trying to run on the field to replace Fred Warner while the Seahawks were in hurry-up mode. Shanahan said Warner's shoe fell off on the previous play and Seattle quarterback Russell Wilson threw it out of the way, forcing Warner to run and pick it up behind the line of scrimmage and Lee to try to rush on to take his place. "I'm not saying he did that maliciously or anything. Who knows?" Shanahan said. "But it was an unusual situation and it was my tipping point." NOTES: Edge rusher Dekoda Watson will be placed on IR with a torn calf muscle. ... S Jaquiski Tartt will miss this week's game with a stinger.

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