

**PRO FOOTBALL HALL OF FAME**

# Teacher Activity Guide



**QUARTERBACK JIM KELLY - HALL OF FAME CLASS OF 2002**

# **BUFFALO BILLS**

## Team History



The Buffalo Bills began their pro football life as the seventh team to be admitted into the new American Football League. The franchise was awarded to Ralph C. Wilson on October 28, 1959. Since that time, the Bills have experienced extended periods of both championship dominance and second-division frustration.

The Bills' first brush with success came in their fourth season in 1963 when they tied for the AFL Eastern division crown but lost to the Boston Patriots in a playoff. In 1964 and 1965 however, they not only won their division but defeated the San Diego Chargers each year for the AFL championship. Head Coach Lou Saban, who was named AFL Coach of the Year each year, departed after the 1965 season.

Buffalo lost to the Kansas City Chiefs in the 1966 AFL title game and, in doing so, just missed playing in the first Super Bowl. Then the Bills sank to the depths, winning only 13 games while losing 55 and tying two in the next five seasons. Saban returned in 1972, utilized the Bills' superstar running back, O. J. Simpson, to the fullest extent and made the Bills competitive once again. That period was highlighted by the 2,003-yard rushing record set by Simpson in 1973.

But Saban departed in mid-season 1976 and the Bills again sank into the second division until a new coach, Chuck Knox, brought them an AFC Eastern division title in 1980. In 1981, Buffalo advanced to the playoffs again but lost to Cincinnati. The roller coaster ride for Buffalo fans then took another downturn with six straight non-winning seasons in the mid-1980s.

However, Marv Levy, who took over the coaching reins in 1986, quickly fashioned the Bills into one of pro football's truly dominant teams. Starting in 1988, the Bills won five AFC Eastern titles in six years and became the only team ever to play in four straight Super Bowls. Levy was inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 2001.

While three coaches -- Saban, Knox and Levy -- have been primarily responsible for Buffalo's winning years, they have also had a handful of superstar players who have been key factors in the Bills' successes. While Simpson was the key man in the winning years in the early 1970s, such stars as quarterback Jack Kemp, who later became a United States Congressman, fullback Cookie Gilchrist, defensive tackle Tom Sestak and Hall of Fame guard Billy Shaw played dominant roles in the 1960s. Levy's teams in the late 1980s and 1990s were powered by such perennial all-stars as quarterback Jim Kelly, running back Thurman Thomas and defensive end Bruce Smith.

Through it all, Buffalo fan support has been magnificent. Attendance demands forced the expansion of the Bills' first inner-city home, War Memorial Stadium, from 26,000 to 45,748 during the 13 seasons the Bills played there. In 1973, the Bills moved to Rich Stadium in suburban Orchard Park, NY. Buffalo fans set an NFL single-season attendance record of 635,889 in 1991. Through it all, Wilson has remained as one of the oldest owners, in terms of longevity, in the entire pro football world. In 1998, civic leaders decided to honor the owner and renamed the home of the Bills, "Ralph Wilson Stadium."

In 2014, the Hall of Fame owner passed away and the team honors his great legacy by wearing a commemorative patch bearing Wilson's initials. Head coach Sean McDermott and QB Josh Allen, the Bills had taken AFC East for five consecutive years, from 2020-2024. They look to be back at the top in 2026 being led by new head coach Joe Brady.



# Canton, Ohio and the National Football League

**E**ach year, approximately 250,000 fans from all over the world visit the Pro Football Hall of Fame in Canton, Ohio. The museum's guest register reveals that in a year's time, visitors come from all fifty states and from sixty to seventy foreign countries.

Many wonder why the Hall of Fame is located in this small northeast Ohio city. Often, museums are built in locations that have historical significance to their subject matter. The Pro Football Hall of Fame is no exception. Canton's ties to pro football began long before the Hall of Fame was built in 1963. On September 17, 1920, a meeting was held in an automobile showroom in downtown Canton. It was at this time that the American Professional Football Association was formed. Two years later, the league changed its name to the National Football League.

Today, fans follow teams like the Dallas Cowboys, San Francisco 49ers, and the Miami Dolphins. But, in 1920, none of those teams existed. Rather, the NFL had teams like the Columbus Panhandles, Dayton Triangles, Rochester Jeffersons, and the Canton Bulldogs.

The Canton Bulldogs were the first real pro football powerhouse. They won the NFL title in 1922 and 1923 making them the league's first two-time champion.

They were a strong team even before the NFL began because of their star player Jim Thorpe. Thorpe, a Native American Indian, was a tremendous athlete. Not only did he play pro football but he played pro baseball and won two gold medals in the 1912 Olympic Games. Even today, he is considered to be one of the world's greatest athletes of all time.

While the Bulldogs are no longer around, pro football remembers its early days in Canton, Ohio. Visitors, young and old, enjoy the story of pro football's history in the city where the NFL began!



The Legendary Jim Thorpe

# Who Was Jim Thorpe?



It seems that whenever stories are written about an all-time pro football great, Jim Thorpe's name comes up. Jim Thorpe was born in a one-room cabin in Prague, Oklahoma, on May 28, 1888. Though he had some Irish and French blood, he was mostly of Sac and Fox Indian heritage. In fact, his Indian name was Wa-Tho-Huk, which means Bright Path.

Though football was his first love, he gained his greatest fame as a track star, winning the decathlon and pentathlon events in the 1912 Olympics, held in Stockholm, Sweden. King Gustav V of Sweden told Thorpe as he presented him with his medals, "Sir, you are the greatest athlete in the world." But soon afterward, Thorpe was stripped of his records and medals when it was learned that he had played minor league baseball for money in 1911. In 1984 the Olympic Committee decided that this was an unfair interpretation of the then Olympic rules and restored his records and returned his medals to his family.

In 1915, Thorpe's great abilities and fame led Jack Cusack to offer him \$250 a game to play football for the Canton Bulldogs. While that may not sound like much, it was twice as much as most players were making back then. Even Cusack's friends warned him that he was paying Thorpe too much. Just the same, Thorpe was everything Cusack had hoped he would be -- a great player and a gate attraction. After missing the first two games of the 1916 season because he was playing pro baseball for the New York Giants, Thorpe joined the Canton squad. With Jim playing halfback, the Bulldogs were unofficial World Champions in 1916, 1917 and 1919. (The Bulldogs' championships are said to be unofficial since no organized pro league existed at the time.)

Many old-timers who actually played against Thorpe claimed he was the toughest man ever to play the game. Legend says that Jim would drop-kick a field goal from the 50-yard line, then turn and kick another 50-yarder in the opposite direction with perfect results-just to show off. Others say he could punt a ball the length of the field. Both are probably exaggerations. In any case, there is no doubt that Thorpe was a superb athlete. All accounts suggest he could run with speed and bruising power. He could pass and catch passes with the best. He could kick with accuracy and strength. And, of course, as players did back then, he played defense too.

By the time the NFL was organized in 1920, the thirty-two-year-old Thorpe, who was already past his athletic prime, was unanimously voted the league's charter president. However, he managed to play eight NFL seasons with six different teams and his gate appeal continued. Though at times he sparkled like the Thorpe of old, he never really excelled as much in the NFL as he had in his earlier career. In 1928, at the age of forty he finally called it quits. In 1950, the nation's press honored Thorpe by naming him the most outstanding athlete of the first fifty years of the twentieth century. In 1963, he was elected a charter member of the Pro Football Hall of Fame.

Source: Excerpt from The Official Pro Football Hall of Fame Answer Book by Joe Horrigan, Simon & Shuster Inc., 1990.

If you would like to know more about Jim Thorpe, a good book to read is Jim Thorpe by Bob Wheeler (University of Oklahoma Press, 1979).

**Goals/Objectives:**

Students will:

- Conduct research on issues and interests by generating ideas and questions and by posing problems. They gather, evaluate and synthesize data from a variety of sources (e.g., print and nonprint displays and artifacts) to communicate their discoveries.
- Use a variety of technological and informational resources (e.g., video, displays, databases) to gather and synthesize information and to create and communicate knowledge.
- Develop an understanding of and respect for diversity in language use, patterns and dialects across cultures, ethnic groups, geographic regions and social roles.
- Use spoken, written and visual language to accomplish their own purposes (e.g., for learning, enjoyment, persuasion and exchange of information).

**Common Core Standards:** RI- Key Ideas and Details, Integration of Knowledge and Ideas; W- Text Types and Purposes, Research to Build and Present Knowledge; SL- Presentation of Knowledge and Ideas

**Methods/Procedures:**

- Students will read the biographical sketch on Jim Kelly (next page) as a class and discuss his role in history and the history of pro football.
- Students will compile a list of ten facts about Jim Kelly from his bio.
- Students would then be given an assignment to research any Bills' player and gather ten facts or bits of information on them to share with the class. Students would be encouraged to access the Bills' official website: [BuffaloBills.com](http://BuffaloBills.com).
- Students will write up their information in paragraph form (like the Jim Kelly bio) and present the new facts and bits of information that they discovered about their chosen player.

**UDL Examples**

- Read all materials aloud to entire class
- Allow students to work in groups
- Allow students to create a poster or graphic with new facts and bits of information that they discovered about their chosen player

**Materials:**

- Jim Kelly biography
- [BuffaloBills.com](http://BuffaloBills.com)

**Assessment:**

- Students will submit the informational essay/report on their chosen Bills' player.
- Students will deliver a formal presentation on their chosen player that will demonstrate a clear and distinctive perspective on the subject chosen and conveys relevant information and descriptive details.



The Buffalo Bills selected quarterback Jim Kelly in the first round of the 1983 NFL Draft. However, the Miami Hurricane star opted to sign with the Houston Gamblers of the United States Football League. Kelly, in two seasons with the Gamblers, threw for 9,842 yards and 83 touchdowns.



The USFL folded following the 1985 season, and Kelly, just prior to the start of the 1986 NFL season, signed with the Bills.

A strong-armed passer with a “linebacker’s mentality,” Kelly lived up to his advance billing, as he virtually rewrote the Bills’ record book for quarterbacks. Only three players in NFL history had reached the 30,000-yard career passing mark faster. Eight times during his NFL career he passed for more than 3,000 yards in a season, and twenty-six times he passed for more than 300 yards in a game. On September 13, 1992, in a 34-31 shootout victory over the Steve Young-led San Francisco 49ers, Kelly passed for a career-high 403 yards.

The Bills, during the 1990s, with Kelly and teammates Thurman Thomas and Andre Reed, possessed a highly potent offense. Kelly’s quick decisiveness and fast paced “no-huddle” offense terrorized opposing defenses. He led the NFL in passing in 1990 and the AFC again in 1991. With his 101.2 passer rating in 1990, he became only the fifth quarterback to maintain a rating over 100 since the system was introduced in 1973.

In 11 seasons in Buffalo, Kelly led the Bills to the playoffs eight times. In 17 playoff game appearances, including four consecutive Super Bowls, he passed for 3,863 yards and 21 touchdowns. At the time of his retirement, his 84.4 passer rating ranked sixth all-time and was second when compared to Hall of Fame quarterbacks. His 35,467 career passing yards ranked tenth in NFL history; his 2,874 completions ranked eighth; and his 237 touchdowns ranked thirteenth.

At the time of Kelly’s retirement, only Fran Tarkenton, Dan Fouts, and Johnny Unitas among Hall of Fame quarterbacks had passed for more yardage, and only Tarkenton and Fouts had completed more passes.



# Tackling Football Math

## Goals/Objectives:

Students will:

- Improve math skills by applying basic functions to the game of football.
- Learn basic football facts and game terms.
- Utilize statistics of NFL football players and teams for computing math problems.
- Research statistics of selected NFL football players and teams for use as alternative information in certain math problems.

**Common Core Standards:** Operations and Algebraic Thinking; Number Operations in Base Ten; Measurement and Data

## Methods/Procedures:

- Students will complete the math worksheets provided on the following pages related to the game of football. They may work independently or with others. Feel free to make adaptations in players and teams to suit your students. Answers to the following worksheets are found in the back of this publication.
  - \* Conversions in Football (CCS: Measurement and Data)
  - \* Super Bowl Thunder (CCS: Number Operations in Base Ten; Measurement and Data)

## UDL Examples

- Allow all students to use conversion charts

## Materials:

- Pencil
- Scrap paper for working problems
- Calculators if permitted
- Worksheets

## Assessment:

- Students will be assessed on accuracy of responses.

# Conversions in Football



**Directions:** Complete the following problems, be sure to show all of your work on a separate sheet of paper.

1. During his career, Thurman Thomas rushed for 12,074 yards. How many feet is that? \_\_\_\_\_
2. In 2025 James Cook III lead the team in rushing with 1,621 yards. How many inches is that?  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Josh Allen passed for 3,668 yards in 2025. How many miles is that? \_\_\_\_\_ Round to the nearest tenth. \*(Hint: 1 mile = 1,760 yards)
4. In 2025 Khalil Shakir led the Bills in receiving with 719 yards. How many feet is that? \_\_\_\_\_
5. The Bills have the ball on their own 25-yard line and they complete a 45-yard pass. They then lose 4 yards on the next play. What yard line are they now on? \_\_\_\_\_
6. Josh Allen threw the ball 54 yards. How many inches did he throw? \_\_\_\_\_ How many centimeters? \_\_\_\_\_ Hint: 1 inch = 2.54 centimeters
7. A football field measures 100 yards from goal line to goal line. A field is  $53 \frac{1}{3}$  yards wide. Convert these measurements to feet. \_\_\_\_\_
8. If an NFL player weighs 303 pounds. How much does he weigh in ounces? \_\_\_\_\_
9. A game normally lasts 60 minutes. During a 17-game season, how many total minutes does one team play? \_\_\_\_\_
10. There are seven officials on the field for every NFL game. If 16 games are played each week, what is the total number of officials officiating throughout the NFL each week? \_\_\_\_\_



# Super Bowl Thunder

**Directions:** Answer the following questions using the Buffalo Bills' roster on the following page.

1. Who was the oldest player on the team?
2. What number was Jim Kelly?
3. How many receivers (WR) were there?
4. How many players had 10 or more years of NFL experience?
5. How many quarterbacks (QB) were listed?
6. What college or university did Thurman Thomas attend?
7. Who was the heaviest player on the team?
8. Who was the lightest player on the team?
9. What position did number 83 play?
10. Add up the total weight of all the running backs (RB).

# Super Bowl Thunder



## Buffalo Bills Super Bowl XXVIII Roster

| <div> <div>BUFFALO BILLS</div> <div>ALPHABETICAL ROSTER</div> <div> </div> </div> |                    |      |      |     |     |          |                        |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|------|------|-----|-----|----------|------------------------|
| No.                                                                               | Name               | Pos. | Ht.  | Wt. | Age | NFL Exp. | College                |
| 86                                                                                | Awalt, Rob         | TE   | 6-5  | 238 | 29  | 7        | San Diego State        |
| 75                                                                                | Ballard, Howard    | T    | 6-6  | 325 | 29  | 6        | Alabama A&M            |
| 77                                                                                | Barnett, Oliver    | DE   | 6-3  | 292 | 27  | 4        | Kentucky               |
| 82                                                                                | Beebe, Don         | WR   | 5-11 | 180 | 28  | 5        | Chadron State          |
| 97                                                                                | Bennett, Cornelius | LB   | 6-2  | 238 | 28  | 7        | Alabama                |
| 80                                                                                | Brooks, Bill       | WR   | 6-0  | 189 | 29  | 8        | Boston University      |
| 96                                                                                | Brown, Monty       | LB   | 6-0  | 228 | 23  | R        | Ferris State           |
| 2                                                                                 | Christie, Steve    | K    | 6-0  | 185 | 25  | 4        | William & Mary         |
| 85                                                                                | Copeland, Russell  | WR   | 6-0  | 200 | 21  | R        | Memphis State          |
| 66                                                                                | Crafts, Jerry      | T    | 6-6  | 333 | 25  | 2        | Louisville             |
| 43                                                                                | Darby, Matt        | S    | 6-1  | 200 | 24  | 2        | UCLA                   |
| 65                                                                                | Davis, John        | G    | 6-4  | 310 | 28  | 6        | Georgia Tech           |
| 23                                                                                | Davis, Kenneth     | RB   | 5-10 | 208 | 31  | 8        | Texas Christian        |
| 62                                                                                | Devlin, Mike       | C    | 6-1  | 293 | 24  | R        | Iowa                   |
| 70                                                                                | Fina, John         | T    | 6-4  | 282 | 24  | 2        | Arizona                |
| 33                                                                                | Fuller, Eddie      | RB   | 5-9  | 201 | 25  | 4        | Louisiana State        |
| 35                                                                                | Gardner, Carwell   | RB   | 6-2  | 232 | 26  | 4        | Louisville             |
| 7                                                                                 | Gilbert, Gale      | QB   | 6-3  | 210 | 31  | 8        | California             |
| 50                                                                                | Goganious, Keith   | LB   | 6-2  | 239 | 24  | 2        | Penn State             |
| 90                                                                                | Hansen, Phil       | DE   | 6-5  | 275 | 25  | 3        | North Dakota State     |
| 52                                                                                | Harvey, Richard    | LB   | 6-1  | 235 | 26  | 4        | Tulane                 |
| 36                                                                                | Henderson, Jerome  | CB   | 5-10 | 189 | 24  | 3        | Clemson                |
| 67                                                                                | Hull, Kent         | C    | 6-5  | 278 | 32  | 8        | Mississippi State      |
| 20                                                                                | Jones, Henry       | S    | 5-11 | 197 | 24  | 3        | Illinois               |
| 12                                                                                | Kelly, Jim         | QB   | 6-3  | 218 | 33  | 8        | Miami                  |
| 38                                                                                | Kelso, Mark        | S    | 5-11 | 185 | 30  | 8        | William & Mary         |
| 81                                                                                | Lamb, Brad         | WR   | 5-10 | 171 | 25  | 3        | Anderson (Indiana)     |
| 63                                                                                | Lingner, Adam      | C    | 6-4  | 268 | 32  | 11       | Illinois               |
| 73                                                                                | Lodish, Mike       | NT   | 6-3  | 272 | 26  | 4        | UCLA                   |
| 55                                                                                | Maddox, Mark       | LB   | 6-1  | 233 | 25  | 3        | Northern Michigan      |
| 84                                                                                | McKeller, Keith    | TE   | 6-4  | 242 | 29  | 7        | Jacksonville State     |
| 88                                                                                | Metzelaars, Pete   | TE   | 6-7  | 250 | 33  | 12       | Wabash                 |
| 9                                                                                 | Mohr, Chris        | P    | 6-5  | 215 | 27  | 4        | Alabama                |
| 37                                                                                | Odomes, Nate       | CB   | 5-10 | 188 | 28  | 7        | Wisconsin              |
| 74                                                                                | Parker, Glenn      | G    | 6-5  | 305 | 27  | 4        | Arizona                |
| 92                                                                                | Parrella, John     | DE   | 6-3  | 296 | 23  | R        | Nebraska               |
| 99                                                                                | Patton, James      | NT   | 6-3  | 287 | 23  | 2        | Texas                  |
| 53                                                                                | Patton, Marcus     | LB   | 6-2  | 225 | 26  | 4        | UCLA                   |
| 94                                                                                | Pike, Mark         | DE   | 6-4  | 272 | 29  | 8        | Georgia Tech           |
| 83                                                                                | Reed, Andre        | WR   | 6-2  | 190 | 29  | 9        | Kutztown               |
| 14                                                                                | Reich, Frank       | QB   | 6-4  | 210 | 31  | 9        | Maryland               |
| 51                                                                                | Ritcher, Jim       | G    | 6-3  | 273 | 35  | 13       | North Carolina State   |
| 24                                                                                | Schulz, Kurt       | S    | 6-1  | 206 | 24  | R        | Eastern Washington     |
| 28                                                                                | Smith, Thomas      | CB   | 5-11 | 188 | 22  | R        | North Carolina         |
| 78                                                                                | Smith, Bruce       | DE   | 6-4  | 273 | 30  | 9        | Virginia Tech          |
| 56                                                                                | Talley, Darryl     | LB   | 6-4  | 235 | 33  | 11       | West Virginia          |
| 89                                                                                | Tasker, Steve      | WR   | 5-9  | 183 | 31  | 9        | Northwestern           |
| 34                                                                                | Thomas, Thurman    | RB   | 5-10 | 198 | 27  | 6        | Oklahoma State         |
| 21                                                                                | Turner, Nate       | RB   | 6-1  | 255 | 24  | 2        | Nebraska               |
| 87                                                                                | Walsh, Chris       | WR   | 6-1  | 185 | 24  | 1        | Stanford               |
| 25                                                                                | Washington, Mickey | CB   | 5-9  | 191 | 25  | 3        | Texas A&M              |
| 29                                                                                | Williams, James    | CB   | 5-10 | 178 | 26  | 4        | Fresno State           |
| 91                                                                                | Wright, Jeff       | NT   | 6-3  | 270 | 30  | 6        | Central Missouri State |

Source: Super Bowl  
XXVIII Game Program



# How Much Can Be Recycled?

## Goals/Objectives:

Students will:

- Explain how technology influences the quality of life.
- Discuss how decisions about the use of products can result in desirable or undesirable consequences.
- Use examples to predict and analyze.
- Recognize that science can only answer some questions and technology can only solve some human problems.
- Describe examples of scientific advances and emerging technologies and how they impact society.

**National Standards:** Science: 5-Science and Technology

## Methods/Procedures:

- The students and teacher will compile a list of objects that accumulate from fans, players and workers at any NFL game.
- Students gather, if possible, concrete examples of listed items.
- Students determine which listed objects can be recycled.
- Through letters, calls, emails, and possibly personally, determine which stadiums recycle and what items they recycle.
- After compiling all three lists, using a mathematical formula, including amount of each product sold, students determine the weight of each recyclable item/team's game and or season through extrapolation.

## UDL Examples

- Encourage all students to share their personal experiences with the Buffalo Bills.
- Discuss how the team has impacted the local community.
- Allow students to work with a partner and use technology to compile their lists.

## Materials:

- Students and teacher created item list
- ProFootballHOF.com
- Scales for weighing objects

## Assessment:

- Student created tables of items sold, recyclable items, items recycled and total poundage.
- Students will deliver a formal presentation on their findings.
- Teacher posts results and student findings (charts).

# How Much Can Be Recycled?



## Highmark Stadium

| Items Sold | Item A        | Item B        | Item C        | Item D        |
|------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Game 1     | Total Weight: | Total Weight: | Total Weight: | Total Weight: |
| Game 2     | Total Weight: | Total Weight: | Total Weight: | Total Weight: |
| Game 3     | Total Weight: | Total Weight: | Total Weight: | Total Weight: |

Students may add items, delete items, add games, delete games depending on time constraints.



# From Humble Beginnings: The Story of the Bills

## Goals/Objectives:

Students will:

- Understand the beginnings of football as we know it today.

**National Standards:** U.S. History: 11 - Era 7: The Emergence of Modern America (1890-1930); 12 - Era 8: The Great Depression and World War II (1929-1945); 13 - Era 9: Postwar United States (1945 to early 1970's); 14 - Era 10: Contemporary United States (1968 to the Present)

## Methods/Procedures:

- Students will visit the Buffalo Bills' website: BuffaloBills.com and the Pro Football Hall of Fame's website: ProFootballHOF.com. A tour through these websites informs students how the Bills began, who were the early superstars, and who helped the Bills become what they are today. Students will take notes.
- If the class can take a field trip to Highmark Stadium, students should take notes as they tour.
- Students will complete a one page report on the history of the Buffalo Bills from the research gathered.
- Students will then present this information (first game, first player drafted, etc.) to the class.

## UDL Examples

- Allow students to create a poster, infographic, or digital presentation instead of a written report

## Materials:

- BuffaloBills.com
- ProFootballHOF.com
- Bills' history on page 1.

## Assessment:

- Students will be able to verbally share with others more about the rich history of the Buffalo Bills.

# Bills' Team Travel



## Goals/Objectives:

Students will:

- Improve geography skills using football team facts and locations.
- Use map skills with football facts.
- Explore data from NFL players and teams.

**Common Core Standards:** Geography: 2-Places and Regions; 5-Environment and Society

## Methods/Procedures:

- Have students complete the Bills' Team Travel worksheet

## UDL Examples

- Read and describe all facts and worksheets to all students

## Materials:

- Worksheet: Bills' Team Travel
- Maps, atlas, online resources
- 2026 Buffalo Bills' Schedule
- Writing utensils
- Paper or posterboard
- Pushpins and string

## Assessment:

- Students will be assessed on accuracy of responses to worksheet: Bills' Team Travel

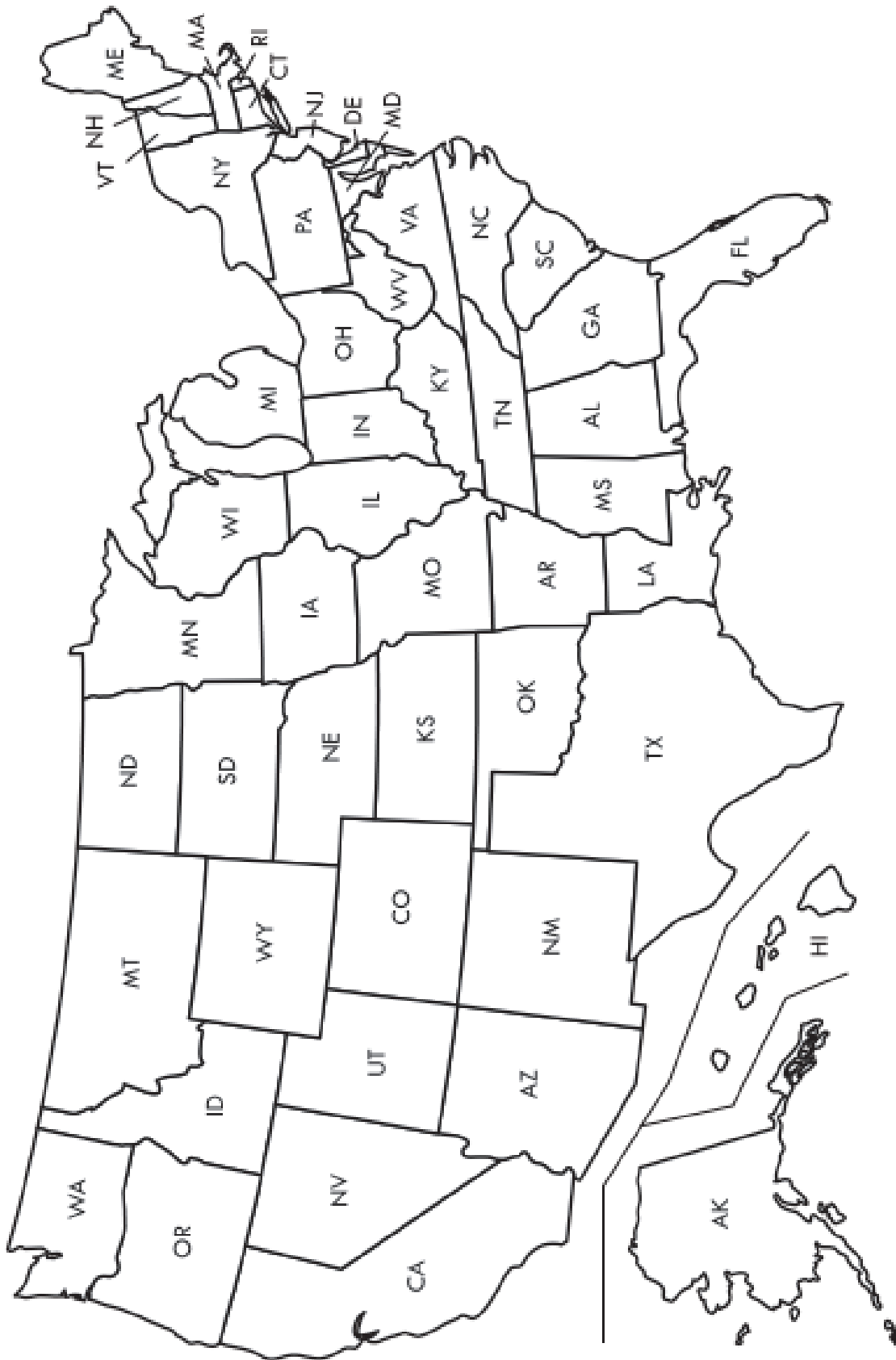


# Bills' Team Travel

**Directions:** Using a blank United States map (next page) and a 2026 NFL schedule complete the following activities.

1. Label each individual state on blank map. (map on next page)
2. Label each NFL team in its correct city. On a separate piece of paper, list those states which do not have an NFL team.
3. Secure the map to a piece of cardboard to push pins through. Locate Buffalo, NY and mark it by attaching a string to a pin and placing the pin on Buffalo, NY.
4. Refer to a copy of the Bills' schedule for the current NFL season (BuffaloBills.com). Using the pins and string, locate and mark the Bills' away games. How many away games do they play?
5. Determine and keep track of the direction the Bills traveled to play their away games.
6. Using an online map, determine how many miles the Bills traveled to each of their away games. How many total miles did the team travel throughout the season?
7. Determine if Buffalo, NY is in a different time zone than Canton, OH. What is the time difference? If the starting time of a game is 1:00PM in Canton, OH, what time is the game starting in Buffalo, NY?
8. Keep a log of the Bills' win-loss record for the season plus the number of points they have scored during each game.
9. Did the Bills win more home or away games?
10. How many miles is it from Buffalo, NY to Inglewood, CA, site of Super Bowl LXI?

# Bills' Team Travel





# Career Exploration

## Goals/Objectives:

Students will:

- Identify NFL careers.
- Conduct an exploratory interview to get an insider's view of a particular career.
- Investigate career opportunities that reflect their interests, abilities, and personality.
- Utilize various sources of career information.

**National Standards:** FACS: 1 - Career, Community, and Family Connections

## Methods/Procedures:

- Have students complete the following career worksheets and activities provided on the following pages:
  - \* Careers with the Bills
  - \* Bills Career Matching
  - \* Bills Career Future

## UDL Examples

- Read all worksheets aloud to all students
- Allow students to work in pairs to complete the worksheets

## Materials:

- Career worksheets and activity descriptions
- Career reference books including:
  - \* Dictionary of Occupational Titles
  - \* Occupational Outlook Handbook (OOH)
  - \* Guide for Occupational Exploration
  - \* Occupational Outlook Quarterly
- Computer program "Ohio Career Information System (OCIS)"
- Internet access to career/job/vocation sites (i.e. <http://stats.bls.gov>)

## Assessment:

- Students will be assessed on performance and accuracy of responses.

# Careers with the Bills



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

There are hundreds of jobs in and around the Bills in addition to being an athlete. See if you can think of one job for each letter in the alphabet.

- A. \_\_\_\_\_
- B. \_\_\_\_\_
- C. \_\_\_\_\_
- D. \_\_\_\_\_
- E. \_\_\_\_\_
- F. \_\_\_\_\_
- G. \_\_\_\_\_
- H. \_\_\_\_\_
- I. \_\_\_\_\_
- J. \_\_\_\_\_
- K. \_\_\_\_\_
- L. \_\_\_\_\_
- M. \_\_\_\_\_
- N. \_\_\_\_\_
- O. \_\_\_\_\_
- P. \_\_\_\_\_
- Q. \_\_\_\_\_
- R. \_\_\_\_\_
- S. \_\_\_\_\_
- T. \_\_\_\_\_
- U. \_\_\_\_\_
- V. \_\_\_\_\_
- W. \_\_\_\_\_
- X. \_\_\_\_\_
- Y. \_\_\_\_\_
- Z. \_\_\_\_\_



# Bills Career Matching

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Directions: Match the careers on the left with the correct definition on the right:**

- |                             |                                                                                                                                       |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| _____ Players Agent         | A. Good with computers and networking. Oversee all technology applications for teams.                                                 |
| _____ Game Official         | B. Requires a keen eye, fast reflexes, stamina, self-control, and knowledge of rules and ability to make quick and correct decisions. |
| _____ Sports Photographer   | C. Has a strong science background with an emphasis on anatomy and physical therapy for athletes.                                     |
| _____ Sports Psychologist   | D. Makes sure the stadiums and arenas are operable and safe for both players and fans.                                                |
| _____ Facilities Manager    | E. Participates in contract negotiations, arranges personal appearances and sets up endorsements for commercial products.             |
| _____ Director of IT        | F. Advises athletes on how to eat to perform their best.                                                                              |
| _____ Official Statistician | G. Expert in mathematics, bookkeeping, statistics and operating a computer.                                                           |
| _____ Scout                 | H. Artist who uses a camera to capture the single action of an individual's successes as well as defeats.                             |
| _____ Athletic Trainer      | I. Evaluates potential players as well as next week's opponents.                                                                      |
| _____ Sports Nutritionist   | J. Helps athletes cope with pressure.                                                                                                 |

# Bills Career Future



**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

The NFL can offer a ticket to fame and fortune. However, only a small percentage of people actually become professional athletes. Even those who do must some day retire and begin new careers. Education is the key to the future.

Think about the types of NFL career possibilities that exist for a person with your interests, abilities, and personality. Project yourself into the future and choose one occupation that interests you. Answer the following questions using any resources available (parents, relatives, career mentors, teachers, guidance counselors, Internet and printed material).

- What education and training would I need?
- What skills and aptitude should I have?
- Is there an age requirement? If so, what is it?
- What would my work environment be like?
- What hours would I spend on the job?
- What is the starting salary?
- What are the opportunities for advancement in this line of work?
- What are the benefits of the career?
- What is the dress code?
- What specific duties would I perform?
- What are the advantages and disadvantages of the job?

Now that you know more about the career, is it still something you would like to pursue?  
Why or Why not?



# Bills Jersey Design

**Goals/Objectives:**

Students will:

- Create an original frontal design for a jersey, employing color choices, fabric/clothing details and lettering design. This lesson focuses on use of contrast, center of interest and balance.

**National Standards:** Visual Art: 1-Understanding and applying media, techniques and processes

**Methods/Procedures:**

- Fold drawing paper in half, short sides together, to create a center line. This line will be used as guide when drawing the neckline and number.
- Using pencil and ruler, divide the paper vertically into fourths, using very light guidelines. These lines represent approximate areas where sleeves are sewn onto the sides of the body.
- Decide on the thickness of sleeves, drawing them to extend to the outside edges of the paper.
- Sketch the neckline – standard jerseys usually have v-necks, but use another shape if you like.
- Add detailing – clothing that must endure the rigors of a contact sport usually has double stitching for strength. This can be shown at the sleeves, bottom and any other area you choose.
- Determine a color pattern – borrow colors from the Bills or create your own combinations. No more than two or three colors are necessary. Highlights of black and white are often used on jerseys in conjunction with one or two other colors. Use your color pattern to create bands on the sleeves, neckline and other areas as desired. Colors should have good contrast that allows the design to be visible from a distance, especially the number(s).
- Use the fold line to help you center the number you chose. Examples of block letters are shown on the accompanying illustration, but be as creative as you'd like. Jersey numbers are often "shaded" with a second colors. Frequently, smaller numbers are sewn to the shoulders. From this viewpoint, only part of the shoulder numbers would be visible.
- Add a tag inside the neckline to show the size. Jerseys often have outside tags on the lower portion of the body that show the manufacturer's name. This would be an ideal area to sign your name or create a company with your initials. Add any other detail you would like.
- If desired, cut out your jersey and mount on a contrasting color.

**UDL Examples**

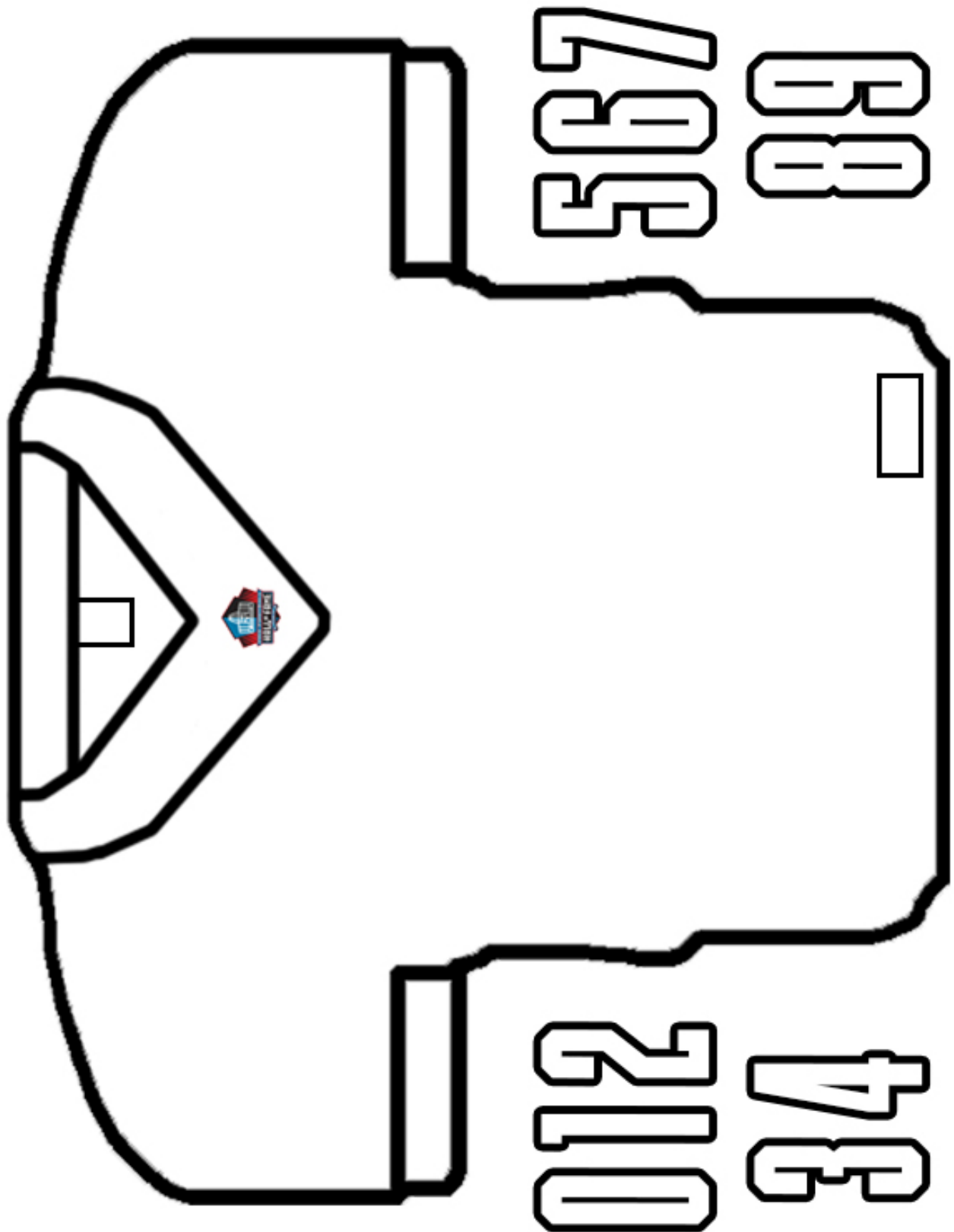
- Allow students to work with a partner
- Allow students to use technology to create/draw a jersey design

**Materials:**

- White or manila drawing paper, 12" x 18" or 9" x 12"
- Drawing pencil/eraser
- Ruler or straightedge
- Colored pencils, markers, crayons or other coloring media

**Assessment:**

- Ask the student to write an advertisement for his/her jersey, describing the type of fabric that would be used, why the color choices are successful, the durability of the shirt, other details that were used, and the approximate price of the shirt.





# The Internet and Football

## Goals/Objectives:

Students will:

- Identify the Internet as a viable source for information and research.
- Identify key phrases and words in searching the Internet for football related information.
- Identify various and reliable Internet sites.
- Identify main points of article.
- Effectively analyze Internet sites

**National Standards:** Technology: 2-Issues; 3-Technology Productivity Tools; 4-Technology Communication Tools; 5- Technology Research Tools, 6-Technology Problem Solving

## Methods/Procedures:

- Students complete the worksheets provided on the following pages in this section concentrating on one activity at a time.
- Teachers are encouraged to adjust, adapt, and alter activities to suit class needs.
- Answers are located in the back of this publication.
  - \* ProFootballHOF.com
  - \* BuffaloBills.com
  - \* Additional Internet Sites
- Students would be encouraged to access the Hall's official site: ProFootballHOF.com. On this site students can examine articles to analyze and discuss.
- Students can present the information gathered from the lessons to the class.

## UDL Examples

- Read aloud all worksheets to the class
- Allow students to work in pairs

## Materials:

- Internet Activity Sheets
- BuffaloBills.com
- ProFootballHOF.com
- Access to the school and/or public library as well as a computer center

## Assessment:

- Students will be assessed based upon completed worksheets and/or presentations

**Directions: After finding your way to the Pro Football Hall of Fame website, find the answers to the following questions.**

- What are the three reasons the Pro Football Hall of Fame is located in Canton, Ohio?
  - 
  - 
  -
- In the "Football History" section, find one story about the 1980's. Summarize the article below.
- Under "NFL History and Stats," list two players talked about in "African Americans in Pro Football."
  - 
  -
- Who were the enshrinees in the Class of 2026?
  - 
  - 
  - 
  - 
  -
- A jersey number has been worn by more Hall of Famers (14) than any other number. Which number is it?



**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Directions:** After accessing the website **BuffaloBills.com**, find the answers to the following questions:

1. The Bills play one game outside of the United States each year. Where do they play the game?
2. In what year did the Buffalo Bills began play?
3. What is the name of the Buffalo Bills Stadium?
4. Who is the Head Coach of the Buffalo Bills?
5. Name three Bills enshrined into the Pro Football Hall of Fame.
  - A.
  - B.
  - C.
4. Find one article on the site. Summarize that article below.



**The following websites can be accessed for additional information for your students.**

[www.usatoday.com](http://www.usatoday.com)

[www.espn.com](http://www.espn.com)

[www.cbssports.com](http://www.cbssports.com)

[www.sportsillustrated.com](http://www.sportsillustrated.com)

[www.nfl.com/superbowl](http://www.nfl.com/superbowl)



# Even Josh Allen Had to Start Somewhere

## Goals/Objectives:

Students will:

- Correlate the fitness concepts of strength, agility, flexibility, and endurance to basic yet specific forms of exercise.

**National Standards:** Physical Education: 2-Movement Concepts, Principles, Strategies, and Tactics; 3-Physical Activity; 4-Physical Fitness; 6-Values Physical Activity

## Methods/Procedures:

- Students will be asked to discuss and list basic exercises that can be done to improve one's muscular strength, agility, flexibility, and muscular endurance.
- Basic Exercise Examples
  - \* Muscular Strength Push-ups, Sit-ups (Few Repetition), Chin-ups, Pull-ups, Squat thrust, Bench dips
  - \* Agility Line jumps (forward, backward, side to side, scissors), One Foot hop
  - \* Flexibility Standing toe touch, Standing V stretch, Butterfly, Seated toe touch, Seated V stretch, Inverted hurdles stretch
  - \* Endurance Push-ups, Sit-ups, Chin-ups, Squat thrust, Bench dips, Walking, Jogging (slow, medium or fast) Jump rope (Many Repetitions)

## Materials:

- Notepad/paper and pencil/pen
- Blackboard or Dry mark board
- Access to computer

## Assessment:

- Students will be assessed on their participation in activities.

# BUFFALO BILLS

## Answer Key



### Conversions in Football

1. 36,222 feet
2. 58,356 inches
3. 2.1 miles
4. 2,157 feet
5. 34 yard line of opposing team
6. 1,944 inches, 4937.76 centimeters
7. 300 feet long, 160 feet wide
8. 4,848 ounces
9. 1,020 minutes
10. 112 officials

### Super Bowl Roster

1. Jim Ritches, 35
2. 12
3. 7
4. 4
5. 3
6. Oklahoma State University
7. Jerry Crafts - 333 lbs.
8. Brad Lamb - 171 lbs.
9. WR
10. 1,094 lbs.

### Careers with the Bills

#### **Possible Answers**

- A = Agent  
B = Broadcaster  
C = Coach  
D = Doctor  
E = Equipment Manager  
F = Field Judge  
G = Groundskeeper  
H = Head Linesman  
I = Intern  
J = Journalist  
K = Kinesiologist  
L = Lawyer  
M = Mascot  
N = Nutritionist  
O = Owner  
P = Photographer  
Q = Quarterback Coach  
R = Referee  
S = Scout

- T = Trainer  
U = Umpire  
V = Vendor  
W = Writer  
X = X-Ray Technician  
Y = Yoga Instructor  
Z = Zeppelin Driver

### Bills Career Matching

- E- Players Agent  
B- Game Official  
H- Sports Photographer  
J- Sports Psychologist  
D- Facilities Manager  
A- Sports Promoter  
G- Official Statistician  
I- Scout  
C- Athletic Trainer  
F- Sports Nutritionist

### BuffaloBills.com

1. Toronto, Canada
2. 1960
3. Ralph Wilson Stadium
4. Sean McDermott
5. Student's choice
6. Student's choice

### ProFootballHOF.com

1. A. The American Professional Football Association, was founded in Canton in 1920.  
B. The Canton Bulldogs were an early day pro football power. First two-time champion of the NFL. Jim Thorpe played for Bulldogs.  
C. Canton citizens launched a determined and organized campaign in the 1960's to earn the site.
2. Answer varies
3. Answer varies
4. Roger Craig, Luke Kuechly, Drew Brees, Larry Fitzgerald, Adam Vinatieri
5. 81

# BILLS

