Dolphins Win Another Close One

Contributed by Rich Rodriguez
Sunday, 16 November 2008

This time, the opponent was the lowly Oakland Raiders. This time, the opponent actually had a lead in the 4th quarter despite not scoring any offensive touchdowns.

The Dolphins basically dominanted the stats, rushing for over 220 yards and controlling the clock.

Yet, victory would not have been possible without a 4th quarter comeback by Chad Pennington.

The Dolphins continue to live dangerously, especially on special teams. They are 6-4, but they could easily be 4-6 and those two additional losses could have come at the hands of some of the worst teams in the NFL, the Seahawks and the Raiders.

On a positive note, Ted Ginn Jr. has been a different player ever since his breakout performance against Buffalo. While he has not put up another 100+ yard game, he has put up better numbers. He has already surpassed his numbers from 2007 and still has 6 games to go.

Also, the defense got 5 sacks and held the Raiders offense to two field goals.

Next week will be the biggest game the Dolphins have had in some time. The 6-4 Dolphins will face the 6-4 Patriots in what will be a battle for second place in the division. If the Dolphins defeat the Patriots, they will own a tiebreaker over them and will continue to control their own destiny.

If they lose, then the playoffs become considerably more difficult, but the season remains a success nonetheless.

Hopefully the Dolphins won't take the Patriots as lightly as they seemed to take the Seahawks and Raiders.