

Dolphins 21, Cardinals 24 - The Good, The Bad and The Ugly

Contributed by Rich Rodriguez
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The Good

Brian Hartline had a monster day, catching 12 passes for 253 yards and 1 touchdown.

Davone Bess chipped in 7 catches for 123 yards.

Cameron Wake played like a man possessed, sacking Kevin Kolb 4.5 times.

Koa Misi joined the sack party with 1.5 sacks.

Karlos Dansby chipped in 7 tackles and 1 sack.

The Dolphins pass rush amassed 8 total sacks.

Sean Smith had two interceptions and had a solid day covering Larry Fitzgerald.

The Dolphins had 480 yards of total offense against a pretty good defense.

The Bad

Dan Carpenter missed another field goal, in another close loss, these are crucial.

4 turnovers on the road, two fumbles and two interceptions, is not how you against an undefeated team.

However, one of those turnovers was a phantom call by the officials.

Playcalling toward the end of the game left me with my head scratching. With Bush gaining 7, 15 and 2 yards on 3 consecutive running game with under 6 minutes and up 7, why throw when the Cardinals were going blitz heavy? Why not run a draw or screen?

The Ugly

If you take the two interceptions and the fumble away, Ryan Tannehill had a monster game, especially with that 80 yard bomb for a touchdown to Hartline in the fourth quarter. However, the two interceptions and the fumble happened and at the end of the day, his stat line was ugly.

Overall

It's tough to see a loss after so many good things happened for the Dolphins. With Hartline, Smith, Wake and Tannehill having career days, to lose a game in overtime because of a handful of avoidable mistakes is hard to watch. That being said, it was on the road against an undefeated team and the Dolphins continue to show they are not an easy win. This team is taking steps in the right direction and they are at least becoming an exciting team to watch.

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