

## Miami 14, Buffalo 19 - The Good, The Bad & The Ugly

Contributed by Rich Rodriguez  
Friday, 16 November 2012

### The Good

Marcus Thigpen's kick return for a touchdown was a thing of beauty. The only truly nice play the Dolphins made all game.

### The Bad

Let's start with Ryan Tannehill, who has hit a rough patch after a pretty good month of clean, efficient football. 5 interceptions in the past two games, the decision making is starting to go downhill a bit, especially trying to throw to Davone Bess on take offs and double moves, he is not that kind of player! Why is he even being asked to run those routes? Tannehill isn't being helped by his running game, his receivers or his offensive line, but the number one rule is that he has to avoid turnovers, especially with the style of football we have to play due to our lack of talent on offense.

The offensive line keeps getting worse each week. They can't run block against bad run defenses, they can't protect Tannehill against a 3 man rush. This unit SHOULD BE a strength with the only question mark being John Jerry. But Jake Long looks like a shell of the perennial Pro Bowler we've come to expect, Richie Incognito is downright terrible, Pouncey has been invisible up the middle, Jerry is nothing to right home about and Martin gets easily pushed back by bullrushers way too often.

The running backs hesitate too much. Bush is always looking for the killshot and winds up losing yards. Daniel Thomas's best move is running backwards because he is afraid of getting hit. These guys probably run that way because they know they aren't going to get good blocking, but still, you have to figure out a way to get positive yards.

The wide receivers and tight ends cannot beat man to man coverage, which is what the bills played almost exclusively the entire game.

Our vaunted run defense has now allowed two consecutive 100 yard rushers after going 22 consecutive games without allowing one. I'm seeing Paul Soliai get pushed around and the linebackers and defensive ends losing contain way too often. The front 7 of this team was supposed to be a strength, but all of a sudden they can't stop the run and we still only have one reliable pass rusher. Cam Wake needs help.

Our secondary keeps finding new ways to suck. One game, they can't cover anyone, the next game they get flagged at record pace. The only player making plays in the secondary is Reshad Jones.

Coaching - I have to lambast the coaching staff. From the vanilla playcalling to what appears to be a lack of motivation for these players, something is wrong here. This team was on a high early in the season but we've come back down to Earth in a bad way and the coaches don't seem to be getting through to the players. What is worse is that there appear to be no halftime adjustments, or at least ones that work. Yes, the defense played better in the 2nd half, but a lot of that had to do with the Bills going somewhat conservative in their playcalling. Yes, the offense had a touchdown in the 2nd half, but it was bound to happen after 28 drives without one. Joe Philbin and Mike Sherman are supposed to be offensive mind, but against one of the worst defenses in the NFL, they sucked.

### The Ugly

This season and the direction it is taking. Early in the year, we were playing close competitive games against good teams and beating teams we were supposed to beat. Now we're getting dominated by bottom dwellers.

Not a good sign for the rest of the season.

Download the Free Phinfever Browser Toolbar