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

Contributed by Rich Rodriguez
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The Good

Ryan Tannehill leading a come from behind win in the 4th quarter, first by dicing up the Seahawks defense to tie it up, capping it off with a touchdown pass to Charles Clay, and then by putting the Dolphins in field goal range after starting the drive inside their own 10 with 1:32 left in the game. Tannehill had his mistakes, but he drove the ball down the field and showed poise after a rough first half. Tannehill finished the game completing 69% of his passes and having a 97.1 QB rating.

Charles Clay had the biggest game of the season, with 6 catches for 84 yards and a game tying touchdown in the 4th quarter.

Davone Bess had a nice game, making several down field catches and was a key performer in the 4th quarter comeback win. Bess finished the game with 7 catches for 129 yards.

The Dolphins ground game gained 189 yards at a 6.8 per carry clip. Reggie Bush and Daniel Thomas both has touchdown runs and gained a combined 147 yards on the ground.

The Dolphins offense overall performed better than they had in the previous two weeks, gaining 435 total yards, 23 first downs, and converting on 4 of 9 third downs. They also only gave up one sack.

The Dolphins run defense was stellar, holding Marshawn Lynch to 46 yards on 19 carries.

The Bad

The Dolphins had a hard time containing rookie quarterback Russell Wilson. He was able to complete 21 out of 27 pass attempts (77%) and throw for two touchdowns. The Seahawks also converted 7 of 14 3rd downs, mostly with Wilson making plays with his legs.

The Ugly

Dan Carpenter hit the game winning field goal, but he also had a poor kickoff that allowed Leon Washington to return it for a touchdown.

Overall

A much needed win for a Dolphins team that had lost three in a row after a 4-3 start. The Dolphins also needed to see a comeback game from Ryan Tannehill, who led the team to his first come from behind victory. It was also nice to see Charles Clay emerge after a lackluster first half of the season.

The biggest key to offensive success was the running game. When the Dolphins are able to run the ball, it sets up a lot of things in the passing game. As the running game was established, we saw the passing game begin to click more. An impressive turnaround against a very good Seahawks defense (3rd best overall in yards allowed, 11th against the run, 3rd against the pass, 2nd in points allowed).

Next up, a difficult match up against the explosive New England Patriots.