

Dolphins defeat Seahawks... but...

Contributed by Rich Rodriguez
Monday, 10 November 2008

Dolphins fans are elated that their team is 5-4 after that dismal travesty we witnessed last year. They have won three in a row and are in the playoff hunt. But in defeating the Seahawks 21-19 at Dolphins Stadium yesterday, I saw some things that I believe were a cause for concern. This is a game the Dolphins should have lost. If not for wide open Seahawks receivers dropping sure touchdowns, today we are sitting here talking about how frustratingly inconsistent this Dolphins team is. The Dolphins still cannot run the football out of conventional sets. The Dolphins defense is still inconsistent. You see flashes of dominance at times and other times you wonder how this defense can stop anybody. Special teams are going to be the undoing of this team if they are not corrected and soon. What is truly frustrating about this is that the front office made a very concerted effort to sign players who were good at special teams. Could it be the coaching? The truth is that if the Dolphins are as good as some think they are, they should have defeated the Seahawks handily. And they seemed to be well on their way early on when they took a 14-0 lead. Unfortunately, a pick six thrown by Chad Pennington swung the momentum and got the Seahawks back in the game. But this is a decimated team, who has been spanked by almost every team that has beaten them. The Giants beat them by 38. The Bills beat them by 24. The Eagles beat them by 19.

At the same time, you have to give credit to Tony Sparano and the coaching staff (Henning in particular). Gary Stevens, former offensive coordinator for the Miami Dolphins, once stated in frustration that you could not make chicken salad out of chicken "droppings", bemoaning the lack of offensive talent he had to work with (despite having Dan Marino, Richmond Webb and O.J. McDuffie to name a few players). Well, Henning has made chicken salad by getting creative with the Wildcat formation. This week we saw a new variation of it, where Ronnie Brown lines up in the shotgun with Ricky Williams to one side and Patrick Cobbs to the other. This formation led to two touchdown runs, one by Ricky Williams for 51 yards and one by Ronnie Brown for 15 yards. Henning also brought out the flea flicker, which led to a spectacular 39 yard catch by Ted Ginn, who beat double coverage. So in short, enjoy the 5-4 record. It is truly special, especially when lined up next to 1-15. But remember, this team is still lacking in talent. And don't be surprised if at some point this season, the deficiencies on this team come back to bite them, especially on special teams.

Hopefully that moment never comes.

[Download the Free Phinfever Browser Toolbar](#)

Support Phinfever by buying what you need from our advertisers. They pretty much pay the bills for us. Thanks!

Get the latest Miami Dolphins NFL lines at [BetUS](#) - America's online sports betting site for football betting and NFL odds and lines.

If you're looking for things to do in Miami FL, check [CTC](#) for Miami comedy shows and Miami football schedules. Also buy NFL tickets and college sports tickets, including Miami Dolphins football tickets and cheap Hurricanes football tickets.