
A Passing Fantasy Issue 164

NFLBP Player Newsletter 2006 Week Eight

ed Robert Crowther

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WEEK SEVEN REVIEW

New England saw off the challenge of the up-start Seahawks with a solid defensive display. Miami fell behind in the divisional race thanks to their surprise defeat against previously winless Denver. The New York offense suddenly started clicking in Tennessee as the Jets racked up half as many points in one game as they'd managed in the previous six. The Cleveland offense was curtailed somewhat by the Buffalo defense, but not enough to give the anaemic Bills' offense any chance of winning the game. Cincy finally got back to winning ways, but only just as they narrowly squaked past the Chiefs in Kansas City. A very bad day for the Oakland offense saw them well beaten by the Ravens.

The 49ers opened up a can of whup ass on the Eagles, Philly grabbed a late consolation TD but it didn't make the score look much less one sided. The powerful running game of the Saints was too much for Washington, though some big plays from the Redskins kept the score close at the end. The Giants were another team to rely on a powerful running game, 61 carries and 27 first downs in Chicago leading to a comfortable win. Yet more power running from Detroit who, having finally broken their duck last week, seem to be getting the hang of this winning thing. Carolina managed virtually no offensive output at all against the visiting Bucs, but with Tampa giving up five turnovers they were somehow able to rack up a victory. St Louis had little diffi-

culty with the latest pretenders to their NFC crown, seeing off the Packers by a comfortable margin.

PERFORMANCES OF THE WEEK

Offensive performance of the week goes to the Saints for their impressive display of power running. Defensive performance of the week goes to the Ravens for their complete shut down of what can be a very dangerous offense. Special teams performance of the week goes to Cleveland for solid returning and four out of four on field goals.

RAVENOUS (The View From Baltimore) Peter Kneil

Another fantastic result this time beating the Raiders 24-7. This was definitely one of our better performances. The Raiders' offence was almost totally shut down gaining only 8 first downs and 256 yards whereas we had 24 first downs and over 500 yards including almost 250 on the ground. Things began well with a TD on our first possession, a 40 yard bomb to Travis Taylor. Our second possession again led to a TD, this time a 47 yarder on the ground. A further FG in the second quarter made the scores 17-0. The Raiders struck back quickly though, QB Hollas fumbled the ball after a sack but managed to recover it, he then made the defence pay with a 73 yard TD to make it 17-7. The third quarter saw some huge punts. Kicks of 54,71,74 and 52 yards were recorded but no further points were added by either team. The punters again took centre stage in the 4th quarter. The field position finally paid off as the Raiders were forced to go for a 4th down & 5 but failed to give us 1st & 10 at their 23. Only two plays were needed to get into the endzone again and complete the scoring at 24-7.

In the other games the defending Champs took their win streak to 4, the Bengals squeezed past the Chiefs, the Giants won yet again, the Lions after waiting so long for win number one, won again. Strangest win stats wise has to be the Panthers who beat the

Buccs despite only 7 first downs, 89 yards passing and 46 yards on the ground. The Rams thumped possibly their main rival in the NFC, the Packers, by 21 points and look to have the Conference at their mercy again. The Team Of The Week award goes to the previously winless Broncos for their defeat of the Dolphins.

PREDICTIONS

Peter Kneil

Pats by 16 - Champs on a roll and should be too strong.

Jets by 3 - Jets have the momentum here.

Bengals by 21 - Bengals should see off the Titans in the battle for 3rd place in the Division!

Ravens by 7 - Yet another tough match here. Hopefully we'll just have the edge.

Chiefs by 10 - The Broncos were shock winners last time but I can't see them winning again.

Raiders by 7 - A crucial game as the winners go top of the Division. Raiders just shade it.

Eagles by 14 - Cowboys to continue their losing run.

Giants by 17 - I keep expecting the Giants to come unstuck but they keep on winning. Another 'W' here.

Buccs by 3 - The rudderless Buccs are in freefall but should still beat the Bears.

Packers by 14 - The Lions are on a win streak of 2, that streak ends here.

Panthers by 10 - A hard fought win last time should restore some confidence.

Rams by 28 - If this were real life the 49ers would obviously win but as it's Gameplan it's no contest.