
A Passing Fantasy Issue 169

NFLBP Player Newsletter 2006 Week Fourteen

ed Robert Crowther

Sorry about the lack of a newsletter last time, with moving house and a particularly busy week at work I simply ran out of spare moments. Thanks to Peter, once again, for his contributions this time (and last time). The (new) address for contributions is:

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<http://uk.groups.yahoo.com/group/gameplan>

PERFORMANCES OF WEEK TWELVE

Offensive performance of the week goes to the St Louis Rams as they got a little bit of revenge for last season's superbowl defeat. Defensive performance of the week goes to the Green Bay Packers for the only shutout. Special teams performance of the week goes to the Denver Broncos, who's special teams very nearly pulled off a victory all by themselves.

PERFORMANCES OF WEEK THIRTEEN

Offensive performance of the week goes to the New Orleans Saints, for a dominating offensive display. Defensive performance of the week goes to the Cincinnati Bengals for their shut out. Special teams performance of the week goes, once again, to the Denver Broncos for good returning and solid kicking.

RAVENOUS (The view from Baltimore, part 1) **Peter Kneil**

As soon as I criticise Washington's pass attack they come out and throw for 3TDs, almost 300 yards and a 69% completion rate. Typical!

After 5 minutes they were up 14-0 after 2TDs, the second after an interception gave them excellent field position. We hit back with a long drive to make it 14-7 after the first

quarter.

The second quarter developed into a FG battle which they won 2-1 making it 20-10 at the half.

Another long drive saw us score the only points of the 3rd quarter to make the score 20-17.

We started the fourth nicely moving easily into their red zone but then on 3rd & 1 at their 13 Blake threw his second pick of the day to effectively kill off any chance of a comeback. Washington added one more TD late on to make the final score Redskins 27, Ravens 17.

I certainly can't afford to lose games like this if I'm to stand a chance of winning the Division but with the Bengals to come in week 16 it could still go to the wire.

In the other games the Rams just got their revenge over New England winning in OT, Carolina took their win streak to 6, The Bengals threw for 5 TDs in their win over Buffalo, the Browns stayed with them beating the Giants, Oakland opened up a 3 game lead in the AFC West and Green Bay shutout the Chiefs to seriously dent their Wild Card ambitions.

WEEK THIRTEEN PREVIEW **Peter Kneil**

Pats by 7 - New England pushed the Rams all the way last week and should be too good for the Chiefs.

Raiders by 14 - The Raiders could win the Division this week and shouldn't slip up here.

Ravens by 10 - An on form Ravens team would win this comfortably but New York look stronger on paper than Washington who beat us last week...

Bengals by 28 - The Bengals narrowly failed to overtake the Rams as leading points scorers but get another chance this

week.

Broncos by 10 - In the battle for the BP wooden spoon the Broncos get the nod by way of a lesser losing run and HFA.

Browns by 7 - One thing is certain in this match, Seattle will look to run, run & run again but those tactics might not work against the Browns who held the Giants to 76 yards rushing last time.

Panthers by 14 - The Eagles have lost 4 straight and have nothing to play for while the Panthers are on a roll.

Rams by 28 - The Rams haven't really won by a big margin for a while now but that could change this week.

Packers by 7 - The Packers are getting stronger by the day and held the Chiefs to 20 yards on the ground last week.

Buccs by 10 - Although the Buccs are still uncoached they could still make the Playoffs and they gave Oakland a good game last week.

Saints by 7 - Like the Buccs, the Saints are an uncoached team who could make the Playoffs but they will find life a bit harder against Chicago.

49ers by 14 - Despite being last in the NFC West the 49ers could make a Wildcard spot. Crucially they have a positive points difference which could see them edge out the Buccs and Saints. They'll be looking to extend that points advantage against the lowly Lions.

RAVENOUS (The view from Baltimore, part 2)

Peter Kneil

We managed to scrape past the lowly Jets this week. It wasn't very convincing but a win is a win.

We got in front early with a FG and then recovered a fumble for a TD to go up 10-0. The Jets hit back with a long passing TD after a failed blitz (hmmm sounds familiar). The Jets scored 3 FGs in the second quarter but we held a narrow 17-16 lead at the half after an 89 yard drive for a TD. Defences took control

for the rest of the game although we had a further FG to make the final score 20-16 Baltimore.

In the other games the Pats clinched the AFC East by beating the Chiefs, Oakland held off a late Dolphins rally, the Bengals shutout the Bills, Cleveland won in Seattle, Philadelphia surprisingly turned over Carolina and the Giants showed that they are a force to be reckoned with by beating the Packers at Lambeau Field.

I don't think I've ever given the Team Of The Week Award to a losing team before but this week it's going to Washington who lost by the narrowest of margins to the all conquering Rams. Unconfirmed reports suggest that Washington were leading 20-14 in the 4th when they threw an interception which was returned for a Rams TD.

WEEK FOURTEEN PREVIEW

Peter Kneil

Pats by 14 - The Pats returned to winning ways last time and only the Rams & Bengals have scored more points.

Dolphins by 3 - Both teams have lost 4 in a row but the Dolphins have the better points difference by far so get the nod.

Bengals by 7 - Much as I'd like to see the Browns win for purely selfish reasons I can't see them being strong enough to beat the red hot Bengals.

Ravens by 21 - Surely the Titans don't have a prayer? Think I said something similar just before they ended their 32 game losing sequence last season against...us!

Raiders by 17 - Oakland have already clinched the Division but will want to keep winning in their quest for HFA in the Playoffs.

Seahawks by 7 - Neither team has a realistic chance of making the Playoffs but Seattle can at least get their record back to 50%.

Giants by 14 - The Giants have also clinched their Division with a great win over Green Bay while the Eagles don't score

enough points.

Redskins by 7 - After nearly toppling the Rams, Washington will be full of confidence going into this traditional battle with the Cowboys.

Buccs by 10 - Detroit are on another mini-revival but Tampa Bay are still staying with Green Bay in the Division and that should spur them onto victory.

Packers by 10 - The Packers can't afford any slip ups here but should beat an unbalanced Chicago team who passed for 393 yards last time but ran for only 21.

Rams by 14 - The Saints did the double last season but without Coach Briggs at the helm haven't been quite the force that they were. However, the Rams are stuttering by their own very high standards and are certainly due a defeat, but not this week.

Panthers by 10 - The 49ers didn't wake up until the 4th quarter last week and can't afford to give the Panthers a similar head start.