



### **Week 11 Review**

#### **Commanders (7-4) 18-26 (8-2) Eagles**

20 points in the final quarter from the Eagles, Jalen Hurts rushing touchdown followed by two from Saquon Barkley were the only touchdowns for the Eagles that arrived in those 11 minutes from the start of the 4th. Barkley once again was the star with 146 rushing yards. For the Commanders it was a tough loss. Daniels managed 191 passing yards and found Zack Ertz for a touchdown, but Terry McClaurin didn't get going thanks to some great coverage by Quinon Mitchell. Frankie Luvu managed two sacks for the Commanders in what wasn't a great statistical game for them. The Commanders have a two game lead over the Rams in the playoff Picture but currently sit in the 7th spot. The Eagles have moved clear of the Commanders in the NFC East after this victory and are close to cementing a playoff run.

#### **Packers (7-3) 20-19 (4-6) Bears**

Heartbreak for the Bears who missed the chance to beat the Packers for the first time since 2018 thanks to a last second field goal block on what was a good and impressive drive. Caleb Williams played well with 231 yards on the day and was supported well by DeAndre Swift who had 71 yards and a touchdown. The Bears only managed one sack all game and really struggled to take away the Packers big plays apart from an interception by Terrell Smith. The big plays mainly went to Christian Watson who had 4 receptions for 150 yards. On defence for the Packers they managed 3 sacks and 4 tackles for loss, Brenton Cox the standout. The win for the Packers sees them up one spot to 6th in the NFC. The Bears loss looks to have moved them out of playoff contention.

#### **Jaguars (2-9) 6-52 (9-1) Lions**

It is not hard to continue admiring the Lions and the way they play. The Lions racked up huge numbers once again. Jared Goff was 24/29 for 412 yards and 4 touchdowns. The run game was amazing, David Montgomery and Jahmyr Gibbs contributing 200 yards between them from the running back spot. Amon-Ra St Brown had 161 yards and 2 touchdowns, Jameson Williams had 124 yards and a touchdown. This team is by far the hottest in football

and continues to cook. The Lions win leaves them in touching distance of the playoffs, and also continues their push to claim the NFC title. For the Jags it was another really tough ride with only Brian Thomas Jr giving any encouragement. They fall to 2-8 and have the first overall pick in next year's draft. There are also rumours around Doug Pederson's future that are yet to be answered.

### **Vikings (8-2) 23-13 (2-8) Titans**

The Vikings just did enough to see off the Titans thanks mainly to Andrew Van Ginkel's 15 tackles, 2 sacks and 3 tackles for loss game alongside Justin Jefferson's 81 receiving yards. Van Ginkel put Will Levis under pressure all game as did Pat Jones II who registered 5 QB hits. This Vikings defence is super impressive and is relentless in pressure. The win takes the Vikings to 8-2 and the 5th seed in the NFC thanks to the Lions being in the NFC North, but no team will want to play the Vikings heading down the stretch into the playoffs. The Titans biggest moment came from Nick Westbrook-Ikhine's 98 yard touchdown to help set up a potential nervous finish but the Vikings took away the threat soon after. The Titans have the number 2 spot in the draft currently which could lead to a quarterback change.

### **Raiders (2-8) 19-34 (4-6) Dolphins**

Jonnu Smith was the star in this contest, the veteran tight end had 101 receiving yards and two touchdowns for the Dolphins in a game where Tua started to look really comfortable once again. The Dolphins win gives them a small sniff of a late playoff charge if they can grind out a few big wins down the stretch. The win takes the Dolphins to 4-6 just two games back from the Broncos in the 7th seed and moves them up to 9th seed. The Raiders will be heading into the next season hoping they can land a quarterback in the draft to throw the ball constantly to Brock Bowers who once again was one of the only positives for this side with his 126 receiving yards and a touchdown. Vegas currently has the 4th overall spot and is likely to go quarterback with one certain quarterback in college making it know he wants to head there.

### **Rams (5-5) 28-22 (3-8) Patriots**

The Rams hold off a 4th quarter comeback to win this one. The two quarterbacks take the headlines on this one, Matthew Stafford passed for 295 yards and 4 touchdowns, and rookie Drake Maye went 30/40, 282 yards, 2 touchdowns and an interception. Rams head coach Sean McVay after the game heaped huge praise on the rookie who has looked hugely impressive since starting for the side. Another rookie that was outstanding was Rams defence tackle Braden Fiske who had 2 sacks, 2 tackles for loss, 1 forced fumble in a violent display on the frontline for the Rams. The Rams sit just outside the playoffs at 5-5 but are also only one game back from the Cardinals in the NFC West. The Patriots are showing they have some pieces for the future but they will want the season to be over so they can build on this.

### **Browns (2-8) 14-35 (4-7) Saints**

The Saints smashed the Browns in this match up mainly thanks to Tayson Hill who played pretty much every position. He threw an interception (the bad stuff first) but ripped off 138 rushing yards and 3 touchdowns, as well as adding 50 yards receiving. He walked all over the Browns. Marquez Valdes-Scantling added another touchdown and seems to have settled well in New Orleans. Bryan Breese was the standout in defence for the Saints with 1.5 sacks as well as Demario Davis who seemed to be all over the place and led the team in tackles.

The Saints moved to 4-7, the run of losses seemed too much to recover from sitting two games back from the Falcons in the NFC South. For the Browns it was another tough loss, Winston threw for 395 yards and 2 touchdowns but they failed to capitalise on the moving of chains. They fall to 2-8 and currently have the 3rd pick in next year's draft.

#### **Colts (5-6) 28-27 (3-8) Jets**

The Colts moved back to Anthony Richardson this week and they were not disappointed. Richardson threw with accuracy going 20/30 for 272 yards and a touchdown as well as rushing for two others to beat the Jets. Richardson looked hugely impressive in the return game and this game showed the best he can offer. On defence Kwity Paye registered 2 sacks and 2 tackles for loss whilst rookie Laiatu Latu also registered a sack and tackle for loss. The Colts moved to 5-6 and are still pressuring a playoff spot to both the Broncos who are the 7th seed and also keep pressure on the Texans in the AFC South. For the Jets it is another terrible loss, with not much to cheer for. Breece Hall had over 100 scrimmage yards but other than that it was another disappointing loss, it has led to the sacking of the GM Joe Douglas who has been fantastic in their drafting. The Jets are looking like one of the worst run organisations in the NFL.

#### **Ravens (7-4) 16-18 (8-2) Steelers**

Chris Boswell's 6 field goals was just enough to see the Steelers win against the Ravens. In what was a poor offensive display field goals were what won it. On offence George Pickens was arguably the best for both sides. On defence TJ Watt landed a sack and 2 tackles for loss and Patrick Queen had a forced fumble which got recovered for the Steelers. Payton Wilson made an outstanding interception for the Steelers as well, ripping the ball out of a receivers hands on the way down to the ground. The Steelers win gives them control and a bit of breathing room in the AFC North and will be another side almost cementing themselves in the playoffs. The Ravens only really had Odafe Oweh's two sacks to celebrate in a poor display on offence and very uncharacteristic for one of the hottest sides in the NFL. They fall to 7-4 and have a two game lead over the Colts in the playoff race and keep it within their control.

#### **Falcons (6-5) 6-38 (6-5) Broncos**

Bo Nix keeps pushing for offensive rookie of the year with an outstanding display against a tough Falcons defence. Nix was 28/33 for 303 yards and 4 touchdowns. He threw to four separate receivers for those touchdowns and spread the field so the Falcons did not know what hit them. Javonte Williams reclaimed the starting running back role with 59 yards and a touchdown. On defence Nik Bonitto landed 2 sacks, 2 tackles for loss and 2 QB hits. The Broncos hold on to the last playoff spot in the AFC and have one game lead over the Colts. The Falcons could not get anything going all game. Even on defence they barely had any positives as well. This loss will sting as they go to 6-5 and now have pressure from both the Bucs who were on a bye week and the Saints who picked up a win to close the gap.

#### **Seahawks (5-5) 20-17 (5-5) 49ers**

Back to back 100 receiving yards for Jaxon Smith-Njigba was the difference in this game as he had half of the Seahawks receiving yards on the day. Geno Smith rushed for a touchdown with 12 seconds to go to win the game for the Seahawks after JSN helped move the ball all game. Kenneth Walker III also ran in a touchdown for the Hawks who moved both them and their division rivals 49ers to 5-5 chasing a playoff spot. The NFC West has one

game separate 1st to 4th and all teams will want to take control, the 49ers could have nicked a win but couldn't stop Geno's touchdown in the dying moments moves them back in the division. Jauan Jennings was impressive once again with 91 receiving yards and a touchdown but this wasn't enough for the 49ers offence to get over the line.

### **Chiefs (9-1) 21-30 (9-2) Bills**

The Bills inflict the first loss on the Chiefs. The Chiefs loss did feel like it was coming but it would take a huge effort from someone. Step forward Josh Allen who threw for 262 yards and a touchdown, as well as leading the Bills in rushing yards with 55 and a touchdown. James Cook also rushed for two touchdowns. Not only that, their defence was electric. They only registered two sacks and 3 tackles for loss, but 5 pass breakups and two interceptions were the catalyst for the teams success. Everyone on the Bills defence contributed to this huge win. It will make teams not want any part of the Bills heading into the postseason. The Bills and Chiefs both look set for another run in the playoffs and could easily meet again later in the season. Mahomes threw three touchdowns in this one, two going to Noah Gray but Mahomes was far from his best. The Chiefs defence also could not lay a hand on Allen with no sacks.

### **Bengals (4-7) 27-34 (7-3) Chargers**

JK Dobbins' late touchdown won this one for the Chargers, however both quarterbacks in this one deserve a huge amount of credit in what was an end to end terrific battle. It was another game for the Bengals where Joe Burrow could not have done anymore. He threw for 356 yards and 3 touchdowns. He found his receivers all game, but was once again let down by his defence that simply can not stop an attack. Justin Herbert went for 297 yards and two touchdowns, as well as leading the Chargers in rushing yards with 65. Herbert is becoming a very late candidate for MVP. He has been outstanding this season so far. He had Ladd McConkey to thank for many of his yards as the rookie landed 123 yards. On defence Tuli Tuipulotu was the standout with 1.5 sacks, two tackles for loss, and 4 qbs hits. The win gives the Chargers a 7-3 record and they look set for the playoffs, the Bengals fall to 4-7 and unless they can stop an offence soon it is likely a year without a playoff run which would be outrageous for the way Burrow has played.

### **Texans (7-4) 34-10 (3-7) Cowboys**

The Texans win the battle of Texas in a hugely convincing style. Joe Mixon continued his fine form with 109 rushing yards with 3 touchdowns. CJ Stroud played ok, without finding the end zone on a pass. The Texans defence was rampant, Jalen Pitre seemed to be involved in every tackle, including a forced fumble which was taken to the house by Derek Barnett who also landed a sack. Standout defensive end Danielle Hunter landed 2 sacks and 3 tackles for loss in a dominant display without Will Anderson Jr. Derek Stingley Jr also carried on his fine form with an interception. He had two other pass break-ups he would expect to have intercepted and had an offensive PI call which looked like he would intercept. They move to 7-4 and continue to control the AFC South. The Cowboys only had a moment from KaVontae Turpin to cheer who raced away for a 64 yard touchdown. They keep sliding and are now 3-7, they currently have the 9th overall pick heading into the new season.

### **Teams on a Bye**

Giants, Cardinals, Bucs, Panthers

### **Game of the Week**

This was a difficult choice, a close game is much better than a blowout. The Colts V Jets game was a good one, the Chiefs and Bills was also another good game. This week however belongs to the Chargers and Bengals. This game was fantastic, it was an end to end game coming down to the final play. Herbert and Burrow served us a treat.

### **Play of the Week**

A defensive play is always good fun, but a huge hit and a big guy taking it for 6 even better. This week Jalen Pitre and Derek Barnett's combo for a forced fumble and pick 6 was deserving of this. Pitre's hit was huge that forced the fumble and Barnett scoping and managing to get to the corner in time was excellent.

### **Playoff Picture**

	<b><u>AFC</u></b>	<b><u>NFC</u></b>
1 Seed	- Chiefs 9-1	Lions 9-1
2 Seed	- Bills 9-2	Eagles 8-2
3 Seed	- Steelers 8-2	Cardinals 6-4
4 Seed	- Texans 7-4	Falcons 6-5
5 Seed	- Chargers 7-3	Vikings 8-2
6 Seed	- Ravens 7-4	Packers 7-3
7 Seed	- Broncos 6-5	Commanders 6-3

### **In The Hunt**

AFC - Colts 5-6, hanging on by a thread Dolphins 4-6 and Bengals 4-7 however another loss and it is likely these are completely out.

NFC - Rams 5-5, Seahawks 5-5, 49ers 5-5, Bucs 4-6, Saints 4-7. These are still in the hunt due to potentially being able to still win the division.

**Stay tuned as video releases will soon be added to the blog, they will be added as a whole video on YouTube as well as shorts on socials.**