



### **Week 9 Review**

#### **Texans (6-3) 13-21 Jets (3-6)**

The Jets' defence held firm, limiting the Texans to just 13 points and forcing eight sacks of CJ Stroud with multiple sacks from Jamien Sherwood, Quinnen Williams and Micheal Clemons. It was the Jets wide receivers that did the job on offence with Davante Adams gaining 91 yards and a touchdown but he was outdone by Garrett Wilson who had one less yard but had two touchdowns both of amazing one handed grabs, helping the Jets notch their third win of the season. The Texans offensive line looked vulnerable all game, however they still managed to find room for Joe Mixon to add another 100 yards game and a touchdown, Tank Dell had his first 100 yard game with Nico Collins and Stefon Diggs out. The other positive was the defence in the first half that did not allow much, they consistently got into the backfield to disrupt the Jets. Denico Autry registered two sacks for the Texans. It was a poor result for the Texans but they still control the division.

#### **Cowboys (3-5) 21-27 Falcons (6-3)**

Kirk Cousins threw for 222 yards and three touchdowns to lead the Falcons past the Cowboys. Bijan Robinson added 86 rushing yards and 59 receiving yards and is showing why he was so highly touted out of college. All three starting receivers landed touchdowns, while Atlanta's defence registered three sacks and five tackles for loss helping them to take a clear lead in the NFC South with a 6-3 record. The Cowboys lost Dak Prescott to injury during this game however it was once again too little too late for the Cowboys. They constantly are starting slow and can not get close enough to get a win, and with this loss it gives them a real uphill battle to make the playoffs after falling to 3-5.

#### **Dolphins (2-6) 27-30 Bills (7-2)**

Tyler Bass nailed a 61 yard field goal to win this one for the Bills and move them to a 7-2 record and complete control of the AFC East with a four game lead, but it was Josh Allen

who carried the Bills to a nail-biting win with 235 passing yards and three touchdowns. Ray Davis had a 63 yards receiving touchdown which looked to put the Bills in charge, but Tua Tagovailoa threw for 231 yards and two scores and De'Von Achane also added a rushing touchdown to make the game interesting. The Dolphins did manage an interception through Jalen Ramsey which they turned into a 98 yards drive for a touchdown which was a huge highlight, but Miami's defence couldn't stop Buffalo's high-octane attack when it mattered most in the dying moments with one minute thirty eight seconds on the clock the Bills managed to get in field goal range for Tyler Bass to nail the kick.

### **Raiders (2-7) 24-41 Bengals (4-5)**

Joe Burrow lit up the scoreboard with 251 passing yards and five touchdowns. Chase Brown dominated with 120 rushing yards and 37 receiving yards and a score. Mike Gesicki landed a 100 yard game and two touchdowns in a truly dominant offensive display. Trey Hendrickson smashed through the Raiders offensive line to take four sacks to move the Bengals to 4-5 and put them right back in the hunt for the playoffs. The Raiders' defence struggled to contain Cincinnati, while on offence Gardner Minchew was benched for Desmond Ridder but both struggled to make any impact. The Raiders slip to 2-7 with constant changes on offence and not having much impact on defence it is not even close to the season the Raiders were hoping for and will already be looking at the draft.

### **Chargers (5-3) 27-10 Browns (2-7)**

Another team who will be looking to the draft is the Browns who also slipped to 2-7, Cedric Tillman and his late touchdown was the only positive in this game. Coming off a huge win against the division rivals and superbowl contenders the Ravens the Browns could not do anything against the Chargers. The Chargers' defence suffocated the Browns, holding them to just 3 points until the third last play of the game and forced three interceptions in the process. Justin Herbert threw for 282 yards and two touchdowns which was eight yards short of the Browns total yards, while JK Dobbins racked up 105 total yards and two touchdowns in a convincing victory. This victory leaves the Chargers at 5-3 and a huge chance of a playoff spot, it is likely not a division title with the Chiefs but they are proving to be no pushovers heading down the stretch.

### **Patriots (2-7) 17-20 Titans (2-6) OT**

Tony Pollard powered the Titans with 128 rushing yards in a hugely impressive display by him. With Tyjae Spears missing once again Pollard stepped up in a big way and constantly moved the chains for the Titans, while Mason Rudolph managed the game effectively with 240 yards and touchdowns, he found Calvin Ridley and Nick Westbrook-Ikhine on crucial plays to also keep the Titans moving downfield and helped lift them to a 2-6 record. New England's Drake Maye threw two costly interceptions, one which happened in overtime to close the game, however he overall was fantastic once again. Maye threw a touchdown in the final seconds of the game to force overtime in a play in which it looked like he would take a sack. He also rushed for 95 yards and led the team in rushing yards. Rhamondre Stevenson, who had only 16 rushing yards and a score also had 38 receiving yards and caught a touchdown, so not the best display but stepped up when it really mattered. Sadly

for the Patriots it wasn't enough and they slip to a 2-7 record. Both side are out of the running for a playoff spot and will likely be looking to next season as well as a few others.

### **Commanders (7-2) 27-22 Giants (2-7)**

Jayden Daniels once again impresses in another big win for the Commanders. On paper the way the Commanders have played it looked an easy result to predict, but the Giants played well especially in the second half limiting the Commanders to two field goals. But the Damage was already done as Daniels threw for 209 yards and two touchdowns and Austin Ekeler's one yard touchdown guided the Commanders to a crucial divisional win. The Commanders are now 7-2 and look set to make a return to the playoffs, the division is still open with the Eagles hot on their heels. The Giants' offence showed some life, Daniel Jones had some really good moments, he threw for two touchdowns as well as earning himself angry runs with his rushing touchdown. Sadly though it was a little too late as they fall to 2-7 and are another team looking at next year.

### **Saints (2-7) 22-23 Panthers (2-7)**

In a tight contest, Bryce Young threw for 171 yards and a touchdown, which also included a game-winning drive capped by a Chuba Hubbard rushing touchdown. Hubbard has stepped up massively in recent weeks and did again with 72 rushing yards and two touchdowns. Young looked good in this game and was helped out by rookies Ja'Tavion Sanders, Jalen Coker and Xavier Legette, the latter catching the touchdown pass. The Saints' defence couldn't hold in the final moments, and New Orleans' offence was hampered by injuries heading into the game and it was made worse by Chris Olave leaving the field with concussion. Alvin Kamara stepped up massively with over 200 scrimmage yards but this wasn't enough to stop the Saints and Panthers ending the game with matching records of 2-7. Both sides are out of the running for the playoffs and big questions need answering before the season is out for both sides so they can make plans for the future.

### **Broncos (5-4) 10-41 Ravens (6-3)**

In a game in which I stated would be a close game, The Ravens put out a huge bounce back game from the disappointment of the loss the previous week. Lamar Jackson, Zay Flowers and Derrick Henry decided to have one of the most dominant displays all massively contributing to huge plays and five touchdowns combined, Jackson three passing, Flowers two receiving and Henry two rushing as well as Patrick Ricard grabbing one as the Ravens routed the Broncos. Baltimore's defence was dominant, Tavius Robinson was excellent on defence with two sacks and a tackle for loss, as well as Kyle Hamilton and Trenton Simpson being involved in over 15 tackles each. The Broncos' offence struggled to find any rhythm. Rookie Bo Nix managed 223 yards but didn't have any passing touchdowns, although he did catch the only touchdown on a trick play. Overall it was a struggle for the Broncos who could not stop the Ravens offence. The win leaves the Ravens at 6-3 and very much in the playoff hunt. The Broncos are also very much in the hunt even after this loss but do lose ground on both division rivals Chiefs and Chargers.

### **Jaguars (2-7) 23-28 Eagles (6-2)**

If you are yet to see the Saquon Barkley backwards hurdle please go and watch it. This is one of the best displays of athleticism you will see. On top of that Saquon led the Eagles to victory with 199 scrimmage yards and two touchdowns/ Jalen Hurts had another strong performance, passing for 230 yards and two touchdowns, while also adding a rushing score. DeVonta Smith stepped up when required after AJ Brown went down with an injury. Whilst on defence Josh Sweat registered the teams two sacks on the day. Trevor Lawrence had a really poor showing once again as he threw for 161 yards for Jacksonville and was intercepted twice, the run game was once again poor with only 60 rushing yards all game, eight of those came from Lawrence who registered both the Jaguars touchdowns. This result leaves the Eagles in touching distance of the Commanders still, and they currently occupy a playoff spot. Whilst for the Jaguars the really disappointing season continues and another team that is already looking at next season.

#### **Bears (4-4) 9-29 Cardinals (5-4)**

Arizona's defence shined, holding the Bears to three field goals. The Cardinals had six sacks in total with multiple coming from Xavier Thomas and Zaven Collins in a dominant display. The frontline for the Cardinals has Caleb Williams scrambling and trying to find space often but there was not much time for him to operate. Kyler Murray threw for 150 yards whilst the majority of the work was done by James Conner ran for 107 yards, Emari Demercado for 59 and a touchdown and Trey Benson 37 yards and a touchdown as the Cardinals moved above .500 with a dominant win, this sees them at the top of the division that is tight heading into the second half of the season. The Bears have a lot of questions including DJ Moore seemingly giving up on a play and walking off the field as Caleb Williams was in scrambled mode. Williams holding onto the ball too long was a constant problem. He did find Rome Odunze often but that was not enough for the Bear to not slip back to evens and hinder their chances of a playoff run.

#### **Lions (7-1) 24-14 Packers (6-3)**

The Lions continued to roll and really do look like a team to beat, led by Jared Goff once again who was hugely impressive in tough conditions for a quarterback, he had modest 145 yards and a touchdown pass, however there were only four incompletions in 22 attempts. David Montgomery's 73 rushing yards and Jahmyr Gibbs 65 rushing yards and a touchdown were key in the difficult conditions. Detroit's defence played some solid football and were rewarded by a Kirby Joseph interception which went for a touchdown. The Lions look set for the playoffs and in my opinion look like the team to beat, this Lions team could be in the superbowl game. Jordan Love played well but a costly error on the interception was at the worst possible time just before the half. Jayden Reed once again impressed with over 100 receiving yards. However, the defence weren't able to get any big stops and it was costly in the end as they moved to 6-3 and fall to third in arguably the best division in the NFL right now. They are still in good position for the playoffs.

#### **Rams (4-4) 26-20 Seahawks (4-5) O.T.**

The Rams take the win despite Jaxson Smith-Njigba's 180 receiving yards and two touchdowns in a huge breakout game. It was DeMarcus Robinson's one handed overtime

catch that was the difference between the two sides. Cooper Kupp was instrumental once again and had to step up due to other star receiver Puka Nacua's moment of madness. Matthew Stafford threw for just short of 300 yards and two touchdowns. The Rams' defence came up big in key moments, including a huge stop on a 4th and 1 in overtime to turn the ball over. They also grabbed three interceptions, one of which went for a 103 yard return for a touchdown. The win moves the Rams back to even on the year and a huge chance to push for a playoff opportunity. Seattle couldn't capitalise on opportunities, especially having good field position in overtime thanks to JSN. They will hope that with this game JSN can get more consistent after this huge game but they slip to 4-5. They are still very much in the playoff hunt but will want to get a few big wins after their bye week in week 10.

### **Colts (4-5) 13-21 Vikings (6-2)**

The first half of this one wasn't much fun with the only score coming from a huge strip sack and from Grover Stewart which was scooped and scored by Kenny Moore III. The second half was completely different as Sam Darnold connected for three passing touchdowns and was able to move the ball consistently to Justin Jefferson whilst finding Josh Oliver, Jordan Addison and Jalen Sailor for touchdowns. Minnesota's defence was stellar and led the Vikings to a 6-2 record and kept them comfortably in postseason contention. The defence held the Colts to 227 total yards with star running back Jonathan Taylor being held to just 48 rushing yards. The Colts may rue the missed opportunity to gain ground in the AFC South title race, although they are still within touching distance of a wildcard spot for the playoffs.

### **Buccaneers (4-5) 24-30 Chiefs (8-0) OT**

Patrick Mahomes delivered once again when it mattered, throwing for 290 yards and three touchdowns to keep the Chiefs undefeated moving them to 8-0. Mahomes found Travis Kelce with ease as he had 14 receptions for 100 yards, and also found new wide receiver DeAndre Hopkins for 86 yards and two touchdowns. He was helped out massively by Kareem Hunt who rushed for over 100 yards and a touchdown. Baker Mayfield had 200 passing yards and two scores for the Bucs, Cade Otton was the most impressive for the Bucs with 77 yards and a touchdown. On defence they were good at times as both Vita Vea and Calijah Kancey both landed two sacks each, but Kansas City's late-game execution proved too much to handle as they wrapped up another win. This loss puts the Bucs to 4-5 and they lose valuable ground on the Falcons but still hang on in the hunt for a playoff spot.

### **Teams on Bye**

Steelers and 49ers

### **Play of the Week**

Look no further than Saquon Barkley's backwards hurdle!!!! If you have not seen this yet go and watch it, it was incredible. He was nearly tackled before breaking out, spinning and then conducting a backward hurdle of a defender, the reaction from the Eagles bench said everything you need to know about the play as well. Saquon has been amazing for the Eagles and even he is surpassing expectations.

Another couple of plays well worth watching again is Garrett Wilson's touchdowns against the Texans as they were outrageous, especially the second touchdown. As well as Drake Maye's scrambled to take their game into overtime.

### **Playoff Picture**

**AFC**  
1 Seed - Chiefs 8-0  
2 Seed - Bills 7-2  
3 Seed - Steelers 6-2  
4 Seed - Texans 6-3  
5 Seed - Ravens 6-3  
6 Seed - Chargers 5-3  
7 Seed - Broncos 5-4

**NFC**  
Lions 7-1  
Commanders 7-2  
Falcons 6-3  
Cardinals 4-4  
Vikings 6-2  
Eagles 6-2  
Packers 6-3

### **In The Hunt**

AFC - Colts 4-5, Bengals 4-5

NFC - Bears 4-4, 49ers 4-4, Rams 4-4, Bucs 4-5, Seahawks 4-5

**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.**