

# **NFL GAMEDAY**

## **Week 2**

### **BALTIMORE RAVENS @ PHILADELPHIA EAGLES**

DeMECO RYANS AND THE EAGLES FELL BEHIND 17 TO 7 BY HALFTIME.

BECAUSE OF 9 TURNOVERS IN THE FIRST TWO WEEKS, THE EAGLES HAVE RELIED HEAVILY ON RYANS AND THEIR DEFENSE.

THE RAVENS WERE HELD TO JUST 6 SECOND HALF POINTS THANKS TO BIG PLAYS BY RYANS.

THE EAGLES TRAILED BY 6. FOR THE SECOND STRAIGHT WEEK, MICHAEL VICK HAD TO TRY TO WIN THE GAME WITH A LONG, LATE DRIVE.

### **DALLAS COWBOYS @ SEATTLE SEAHAWKS**

SEATTLE SEIZED A 10-0 LEAD IN LESS THAN FIVE MINUTES.

THE COWBOYS SALVAGED AN ERROR-PRONE FIRST HALF WHEN TONY ROMO AND MILES AUSTIN HOOKED UP FOR A 22 YARD TOUCHDOWN.

BUT THIS SCORE PROVIDED ONLY A BRIEF BREATHER FROM THE STEADY BEAT DOWN ADMINISTERED BY SEATTLE.

IT WAS MARSHAWN LYNCH WHO BEST PERSONIFIED THE WAY THE SEAHAWKS PUMMELED, POUNDED, AND JUST PLAIN PUNISHED DALLAS.

LYNCH RAN FOR 122 YARDS – 104 OF THEM DURING THE SECOND HALF – AND ROOKIE RUSSELL WILSON EARNED HIS FIRST NFL VICTORY.

### **NEW YORK JETS @ PITTSBURGH STEELERS**

IN THE DOG EAT DOG WORLD OF PRO FOOTBALL, IT'S NICE TO THROW SOMEONE A BONE // AND THAT'S JUST WHAT MARK SANCHEZ DID WITH SANTONIO HOLMES.

THE JETS DEFENSE WAS WELL RESTED, BUT THEY STILL COULDN'T KEEP UP WITH BEN ROETHLISBERGER WHO THREW THE BALL TO 10 DIFFERENT PLAYERS.

THERE WAS A TIM TEBOW SIGHTING IN THE THIRD QUARTER, BUT THE BRIEF HOUDINI ACT VANISHED AS THE STEELERS PRODUCED ALL THE MAGIC.

### **CLEVELAND BROWNS @ CINCINNATI BENGALS**

BENGALS DEFENSIVE END MICHAEL JOHNSON TRIED TO GET A LEG UP ON BROWNS TACKLE JOE THOMAS ALL DAY.

ANDY DALTON'S THIRD TOUCHDOWN PUT THE BENGALS AHEAD FOR GOOD.

### **ARIZONA CARDINALS @ NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS**

“SAY DREW, YOU HAVE EXPERIENCE WITH ROLE REVERSAL. I WONDER – ARE THE AFC CHAMPS TRADING PLACES WITH THE CARDINALS?”

WONDER NO MORE. IT WASN'T DUKE AND DUKE BUT THE CARDINALS' HARD-HITTING DEFENSE THAT THREW DREW BLEDSOE'S FORMER UNDERSTUDY OFF HIS GAME.

IN THE SECOND HALF THE CARDINALS BUILT AN 11-POINT LEAD.

TOM BRADY HAD WON 35 OF 36 HOME STARTS, AND IN THE FOURTH QUARTER HE PULLED THE PATRIOTS CLOSE. BUT WHEN A TWO-POINT TRY THAT COULD HAVE TIED IT DIDN'T, THE CARDINALS HAD THE GAME IN HAND – UNTIL THE *BALL WASN'T*.

### **TAMPA BAY BUCCANEERS @ NEW YORK GIANTS**

GREG SCHIANO HAS BEEN MAKING HIS MARK ON THE BUCCANEERS – ONE PLAINLY VISIBLE WHEN TAMPA BAY BUILT A TWO-TOUCHDOWN LEAD ON THE GIANTS.

THE CHAMPS ARE THE CHAMPS BECAUSE THEY KNOW HOW TO FINISH. ELI MANNING SHOOK OFF THREE INTERCEPTIONS, THROWING FOR OVER FIVE HUNDRED YARDS – AND THE GIANTS SCORED 25 FOURTH QUARTER POINTS.

WITH THE BUCS DOWN SEVEN THE GAME WAS ALL BUT LOST, BUT FOR SCHIANO, OPPORTUNITY WAS NOT – THE OPPORTUNITY FOR HIS TEAM TO PRACTICE WHAT HE'S BEEN PREACHING.

IT'S NOT THE FIRST TIME A SCHIANO-COACHED TEAM TRIED TO DEFEAT THE VICTORY FORMATION – AND AT RUTGERS, IT WORKED. TOM COUGHLIN HAD HARSH WORDS, BUT SCHIANO'S MESSAGE WAS CLEAR – WIN OR LOSE, RIGHT OR WRONG, HIS TEAM'S GOING TO FINISH.

### **DETROIT LIONS @ SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS**

EVEN IN A SPORT NAMED FOR THE FOOT, FILLED WITH PLAYMAKERS, SOMETIMES HANDS, ARE THE BIGGEST NOISEMAKERS.

DETROIT NEVER COULD PRY THE LEAD AWAY FROM SAN FRANCISCO. WITH THREE MINUTES REMAINING, VERNON DAVIS'S SECOND TOUCHDOWN SECURED THE 49ERS WIN.

ALL THOSE EXPECTING POST-GAME FIREWORKS, NEEDED TO GET A GRIP.

### **HOUSTON TEXANS @ JACKSONVILLE JAGUARS**

HOUSTON'S RUSHING ATTACK GROUND DOWN JACKSONVILLE, AS THE TEXANS POUNDED OUT A DECISIVE WIN.

### **CHICAGO BEARS @ GREEN BAY PACKERS**

HEAVEN? FOR A PACKERS FAN IT COULD'VE BEEN. LAMBEAU IN THE TWILIGHT, PLENTY OF SUDS/ AND BEAR BAITING. LOTS OF BEAR BAITING.

THAT WAS THE BEST PART, BECAUSE, LAST THURSDAY NIGHT, JAY CUTLER WASN'T WHAT YOU'D CALL A PATIENT MAN.

SURE ENOUGH, AS CUTLER'S FRUSTRATION GREW, THE BEARS PERFORMANCE PLUMMETED.

AND IN A RIVALRY, YOU'LL TAKE ANY ADVANTAGE YOU CAN.

WHATEVER IT WAS, IT KEPT ON HAPPENING.

## **TENNESSEE TITANS @ SAN DIEGO CHARGERS**

FOR 13 SEASONS #55 WAS THE FACE OF THE CHARGERS FRANCHISE, NOW A NEW NUMBER HAS ASSUMED THAT ROLE.

PLAYING FOR AN INJURED ANTONIO GATES, TIGHT END DANTE ROSARIO TURNED IN AN ALL-PRO PERFORMANCE.

RIVERS REDEEMED HIMSELF IN THE THIRD QUARTER WITH A SCORING DRIVE THAT SEALED A SAN DIEGO WIN.

**WHIPAROUND: Kansas @ Buffalo; Denver @ Atlanta; Oakland @ Miami; Minnesota @ Indianapolis; New Orleans @ Carolina; Washington @ St Louis**

AFTER LOSING BY 20 POINTS IN WEEK ONE, BUFFALO BURST BACK AGAINST THE CHIEFS.

FLIPPING REQUIRES COORDINATION.

MATT RYAN DISPLAYED NIMBLE FEET AND AN ACCURATE ARM AGAINST THE BRONCOS.

MIAMI'S RUNNING BACKS SHOWED LITTLE RESPECT FOR ANYONE WHO GOT IN THEIR WAY.

THE COLTS COULDN'T SWAT THE VIKINGS AWAY, AND SQUANDERED A 14-POINT 4<sup>TH</sup> QUARTER LEAD.

BUT ANDREW LUCK DROVE 45 YARDS IN 23 SECONDS TO SET UP A 53 YARD FIELD GOAL TRY.

THE PANTHERS' LINE SLAMMED NEW ORLEANS AROUND, EN ROUTE TO 219 RUSHING YARDS.

THE REDSKINS AND RAMS TRADED PRETTY PASSES.

BUT THE FINAL THROW OF THE DAY WAS EASILY THE UGLIEST.