

miami 17, oakland 15

STORYLINE:

The Dolphins found themselves trailing the lowly Raiders after giving up a 93-yard punt return for a touchdown, but responded with a drive that ended with Dan Carpenter's 38-yard game-winning field goal with 38 seconds left.

TURNING POINT:

Because of windy conditions, the Dolphins bypassed a 53-yard field goal attempt and went for it on fourth-and-5 from the Oakland 35 on the first play after the two-minute warning. Chad Pennington connected with Ted Ginn Jr. for a 7-yard completion.

IT WAS OVER WHEN:

Carpenter perfectly executed a pooch kickoff after his field goal and Patrick Cobbs tackled Justin Miller at the Oakland 20-yard line with 35 seconds left and the Raiders out of timeouts.

WORTH NOTING:

Will Allen recorded the first sack this season by a Dolphins defensive back. ... Carpenter's kick was the first fourth-quarter winning field goal by the Dolphins since Olindo Mare's 39-yarder against Tennessee on Sept. 24, 2006. ... The Dolphins recorded a season-high six sacks, topping the five they had in the victory at New England on Sept. 21.

STAT THAT STANDS OUT:

The Dolphins rushed for 222 yards, their highest total since Dec. 29, 2002 when they gained 256 yards against New England.



Ted Ginn Jr. showed tremendous open-field running on this 40-yard touchdown run off an end-around.

Digest Photo/MICKI LEWIS

reportcard

QUARTERBACK: B-

Chad Pennington took a back seat to the running game, but he was 16-for-22 and had a 95.6 passer rating

RUNNING BACKS: B+

Ronnie Brown, Ricky Williams and Patrick Cobbs all ran well; the only blemish was Brown's fumble

RECEIVERS: C+

Ted Ginn Jr. had a 40-yard TD run and the clutch fourth-down catch; Davone Bess dropped two passes

OFFENSIVE LINE: B-

The pass protection wasn't up to snuff (Pennington was sacked three times), but 222 yards rushing is impressive

DEFENSIVE LINE: A

The Dolphins held Oakland to 70 yards rushing and Vonnie Holliday had 1.5 sacks

LINEBACKERS: A

Joey Porter had 1.5 sacks, Matt Roth had another, and Channing Crowder had a team-high six unassisted tackles

DEFENSIVE BACKS: B

Jeremiah Bell had a costly pass-interference penalty, even though it looked like a bad call; Will Allen had a sack

SPECIAL TEAMS: D-

Allowing a 93-yard punt return for a TD almost cost the game; Dan Carpenter saved the day with his 38-yard FG

THEY SAID IT:

K Dan Carpenter on his game-winning kick:

"I'd be lying if I said I wasn't a little nervous. It's kind of a first; there's got to be a first for everything. I had my first NFL kick, and now I've got my first game-winner."

LB Joey Porter on holding Oakland to 70 yards rushing:

"They really hounded us last year getting 299 rushing yards. Our whole focus coming out was taking away the run and putting all of the pressure on JaMarcus Russell. Honestly, that's our game plan each week, but even more so with this team."

WR Ted Ginn Jr.:

"The drive at the end was great. We all put it together as one."