



**ATLANTA FALCONS AT MIAMI DOLPHINS**  
 HARD ROCK STADIUM  
 OCT. 24, 2021 | 1 PM ET  
 POSTGAME NOTES

**GESICKI MOVES INTO FOURTH PLACE ON TEAM TIGHT END CHARTS**

- **TE Mike Gesicki** led all Dolphins players with 85 receiving yards on seven receptions today.
- He also caught a 6-yard touchdown pass from **QB Tua Tagovailoa** in the third quarter.
- His 85 receiving yards gives him 1,902 career receiving yards, which moves him into fourth place in team history among tight ends:

**DOLPHINS ALL-TIME RECEIVING YARDS LEADERS (TIGHT ENDS)**

Rk	Name	Years	Rec.	Yds.	TDs
1.	Randy McMichael	2002-06	283	3,096	18
2.	Bruce Hardy	1978-89	256	2,455	25
3.	Anthony Fasano	2008-12; 2017	189	2,211	24
<b>4.</b>	<b>Mike Gesicki</b>	<b>2018-21</b>	<b>163</b>	<b>1,902</b>	<b>13</b>
5.	Keith Jackson	1992-94	146	1,880	18

- His seven receptions also moved him into fourth place on the team’s all-time receptions chart for tight ends:

**DOLPHINS ALL-TIME RECEPTIONS LEADERS (TIGHT ENDS)**

Rk	Name	Years	Rec.	Yds.	TDs
1.	Randy McMichael	2002-06	283	3,096	18
2.	Bruce Hardy	1978-89	256	2,455	25
3.	Anthony Fasano	2008-12; 2017	189	2,211	24
<b>4.</b>	<b>Mike Gesicki</b>	<b>2018-21</b>	<b>163</b>	<b>1,902</b>	<b>13</b>
5.	Charles Clay	2011-14	161	1,809	14

- At the end of today’s 1 p.m. games, Gesicki is tied for second among NFL tight ends in receptions and fourth in receiving yards:

**NFL RECEPTIONS LEADERS (TIGHT ENDS)**

Rk	Name	Team	Rec.	Yds.	TDs
1.	Travis Kelce	KC	45	533	4
<b>2.</b>	<b>Mike Gesicki</b>	<b>Mia.</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>427</b>	<b>2</b>
	Mark Andrews	Bal.	37	516	3
4.	Noah Fant	Den.	35	312	3
5.	Darren Waller	LV	33	378	2



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### HOWARD RECORDS 24<sup>TH</sup> CAREER INTERCEPTION

- **CB Xavien Howard** intercepted his second pass of the year after picking off **QB Matt Ryan** early in the fourth quarter.
- It was the 24th interception of Howard’s career, moving him into a tie for sixth place (**Louis Oliver, Terrell Buckley** and **William Judson**) in team history.
- Howard led the NFL with 10 interceptions in 2020, becoming the first NFL player since 2007 (**Antonio Cromartie**) to record double-digit sacks.
- Howard also had three passes defensed in the contest.
- Howard’s 24 interceptions since 2017 are the most in the NFL as of the end of today’s 1 p.m. games:

#### INTERCEPTION LEADERS (SINCE 2017)

Rk	Name	Team	Interceptions
1.	<b>Xavien Howard</b>	<b>Mia.</b>	<b>24</b>
2.	Kevin Byard	Ten.	21
3.	J.C. Jackson	NE	20
4.	Marcus Peters	KC/LAR/Bal.	17
5.	Harrison Smith	Min.	16
	Tyrann Mathieu	Ari./Hou./KC	16
	Quandre Diggs	Det./Sea.	16
	Darius Slay	Det./Phi.	16

### TAGOVAILOA PASSES FOR CAREER-HIGH FOUR TOUCHDOWNS

- **QB Tua Tagovailoa** threw for four touchdowns today, doubling his previous career high of two. He completed 32-of-40 passes (80.0 pct.) for 291 yards, four touchdowns, two interceptions and a QB rating of 109.5.
- Tagovailoa’s first touchdown came on the opening drive on a 10-yard pass to **WR Isaiah Ford**.
- He followed it up with a 6-yard scoring throw to **TE Mike Gesicki** in the third quarter.
- Tagovailoa threw two touchdowns in the fourth quarter – the first to **RB Myles Gaskin** on a 7-yard play and the second to **WR Mack Hollins** on a 4-yard pass.
- Tagovailoa became the 13th different NFL player to throw for 4+ touchdowns in a game this season.

### DOLPHINS OPEN GAME WITH 14-PLAY TOUCHDOWN DRIVE

- The Dolphins received the opening kickoff and went 75 yards on 14 plays in 7:07 to take an early 7-0 lead.
- **QB Tua Tagovailoa** completed 7-of-8 passes for 52 yards on the drive, including a 10-yard strike to **WR Isaiah Ford** for the score.
  - It was the first touchdown of Ford’s career.



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- The drive follows a game-opening drive last week at Jacksonville (in London) that totaled 13 plays for 75 yards and took 7:15 off the clock, giving Miami back-to-back games with long touchdown drives to begin the game.
- It is the third opening drive touchdown by the offense in **QB Tua Tagovailoa's** four starts this season.
- The Dolphins have now scored 48 points in the first quarter this season, the second-most in the NFL at the end of today's 1 p.m. games.
- The drive was tied for the fifth-longest game-opening drive (by plays) the Dolphins have had since 2000 and tied for the longest game-opening touchdown drive:

### DOLPHINS LONGEST GAME-OPENING DRIVES (SINCE 2000)

Date	Opponent	Result	Plays	Time	Yards
9/27/09	at San Diego	Fumble	17	9:29	94
12/08/19	at N.Y. Jets	FG	16	8:11	92
12/01/13	at N.Y. Jets	Missed FG	15	9:10	69
10/23/16	Buffalo	FG	15	7:32	64
10/14/01	at N.Y. Jets	Fumble	14	8:49	60
12/03/06	Jacksonville	TD	14	7:20	80
10/24/21	Atlanta	TD	14	7:07	75

### INJURIES REPORTED IN THE PRESS BOX

#### MIAMI DOLPHINS

- RB Malcolm Brown, first quarter – quad (questionable downgraded to out)
- LB Jerome Baker, second quarter – knee (questionable downgraded to out)
- DB Jason McCourty, fourth quarter – foot (questionable)

#### ATLANTA FALCONS

- CB AJ Terrell, fourth quarter – being evaluated for a possible head injury
- S Erik Harris, fourth quarter – shoulder (questionable)

### CAPTAINS

#### MIAMI DOLPHINS

- S Clayton Fejedelem, WR Mack Hollins and LB Elandon Roberts.

### QUICK HITS

- There were 62,739 tickets distributed to today's game.
- **DE Emmanuel Ogbah** recorded his first forced fumble of the season and fourth in his two years (2020-21) with the Dolphins when he knocked the ball away from Atlanta **QB Matt Ryan** in the fourth quarter. It was recovered by **CB Nik Needham**.



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- The fumble recovery was the sixth of the season for Miami.
- Miami recorded six quarterback hits and seven passes defensed today. The Dolphins entered Week 7 in the top 10 of the NFL in both – tied for second with 45 QBHs and tied for fifth with 28 passes defensed.
- **S Jevon Howard** recorded his first career sack – an 11-yard drop of **QB Matt Ryan** in the first quarter.
- **WR Jaylen Waddle** had seven more receptions today. His 44 receptions this season are the most by any NFL rookie at the end of today's 1 p.m. games.
  - His 83 receiving yards today were a career high.

-DOLPHINS-