

THE SPORTIER

The Tank For Trevor

The New York Jets have been simply horrible this season. Entering this Week's game against the Browns, the Jets have the fewest total yards per game in the league, with the second worst passing offense in the league, and additionally are the fourth worst overall defense in terms of yards allowed. Even though the Jets are the laughingstock of the NFL, they played a great game against a would-be playoff team in the Los Angeles Rams. The Rams, carrying potentially a top ten offense, really could not string together any meaningful drives. In the first half, the Rams' first 6 drives ended with 4 punts, one blocked punt, and one interception. Down 10 at the half, the Jets were miraculously able to hold onto the minuscule lead that they held, erasing the 0 from their win column. As Jets players celebrated the win, Jets fans' spirits plummeted to an all-time low, in what may be seen as one of the most consequential wins in recent Jets history. Flying under the radar, the Jacksonville Jaguars, who also only had one win entering their Week 16 matchup against the Bears, are now in line to have the number one overall pick over the Jets due to their weaker strength of schedule. Unfortunately for the Jets, they share the same positional needs as the Jaguars: quarterback. In the 2021 NFL Draft, it is almost certain that Clemson QB and potential Heisman Trophy winner Trevor Lawrence will be selected with the top pick. Lawrence, the highly touted prospect that has led his squad to two College Football Championship appearances, one being a victory over Alabama, has essentially declared for the NFL Draft by being recognized on Senior Night even as a Junior.

The Jets, a franchise that has run into many obstacles that have prevented them from success, including being so close to the Super Bowl in both 2009 and 2010, and missing out on the playoffs in 2015 with a 10-6 record. The Jets started the season off by being destroyed by most teams they faced, but the Jets organization in the process seemed to have a bright future as everybody believed that they would lock up Trevor Lawrence and be set for the future. But after last week's win against Los Angeles, a good team, the Jets showed that they may not be as bad a team as everyone believed them to be, but instead just extremely mediocre. Barring any Jaguars wins coupled with a Jets loss, which seems unlikely at this point, the Jets have unfortunately set themselves backwards possibly another 10 years after not being able to secure a generational talent at the quarterback position. Obviously, one player alone may not always be the solution, especially on a team such as the Jets who have many points of weakness. But a revitalization of New York football could have influenced other stars to hop aboard a young and bright team for a chance to be a part of one of the best comeback stories. All Jets fans can hope for is to either lose the rest of their games and the Jaguars to defeat the lackluster Bears, which is still a possibility, or they must hope Lawrence has a change of heart and decides to stay at Clemson one more year. Unfortunately for the Jets, it seems as though they shot themselves in the foot with an untimely win last week, and they may stay simply mediocre for the foreseeable future.

Sources: