

Keeping Playoff hopes alive/Miami vs Buffalo

Contributed by Tony Simmons
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It is indeed nice to say that the Dolphins once again have a key game to keep playoff hopes alive after the fiasco of a 1-15 season in 2007, but once again I get to state the fact that the 7-5 Miami Dolphins face a key matchup today with the 6-6 Buffalo Bills. Miami won the first encounter with Buffalo in Miami 25-17 when the Bills were riding high coming into town with a 5-1 record. The Bills have struggled since that game, losing 4 of there last 5 games. They will also come into this game banged up in the secondary with the lost of Jabari Greer and they also will not have Trent Edwards for this game, and he will be replaced by J.P Losman.

Keys to the game now that Losman will be at QB will be containing the deep passing game with Lee Evans. Losman and Evans have had success against Miami as Losman likes the deep ball. That being said, the deep ball means you are holding the ball a little longer for Evans and the other receivers to get down the field, which makes the front seven a big key in this game in regards to pass pressure. Joey Porter is 2nd in the NFL with 14.5 of Miami's 28 sacks, so once again Miami will need someone to step up an provide some help for Joey. Marshawn Lynch has also looked better the last few weeks in the run game, so containing him and the run game will be important and he is also good as a receiver as well.

This is a game were Ted Ginn once again could have a big game with the secondary issues that Buffalo is having, but then again Buffalo may pay a lot more attention to Ginn due to his big game the first time around and also because Miami does not have Greg Camarillo. Davone Bess, Anthony Fasano & David Martin could have big games today and of course you have the duo of Ronnie & Ricky. OL play will be key as this will be the 1st full game that the OL will deal with the loss of Justin Smiley and you can expect Buffalo to possibly try to exploit this with some blitzes.

I have learned that every game Miami plays will be a battle, and once again this will be a battle as well. Miami has gotten the good fortune of having this game played in Toronto, CN instead of Buffalo and the game will be in a dome that will be closed. Playoff hopes once again are on the line and this is a must win game again for Miami. Nice to be saying that this late in the season.