Mock Central

Contributed by Dave Blake
Saturday, 31 January 2009

PHINFEVER MOCK DATABASE (48) SITE MOCK BIO COMMENTS UPDATED Phinfever Owner:
Dave
"Big Dave"
Blake Tavon Austin WR
West Virginia
Senior
5 '8.5"
171 lbs
40 @ 4.40 Since my last mock two weeks ago, the Dolphins added CB Brent Grimes to a 1 year contract. If he is healthy he becomes out best cornerback to play since the Sam Madison/Patrick Surtain days. That gives the Dolphins leverage to extend his contract this year or to even draft a cornerback next year. I do see the Dolphins drafing a cornerback in the first two rounds though with one of their first 3 picks.

Miami's biggest need right now is at the left tackle position, but keep in mind that the Dolphins went 2-3 last year with Jonathan Martin playing at left tackle after Jake Long went down. The losses were against the 49ers and Patriots, and except for our final game the Dolphins played very competitively against them. Martin definitely needs to bulk up and take the next step forward. Also, Ireland has said that he would like to revamp our offensive line, but good offensive lineman can also be found later in the draft. I've heard that before from several Dolphins head coaches and have yet to see that as a reality for us.

There are rumors that the Dolphins are going to trade up to grab one of the two best offensive tackles. Heck, Ireland may want to trade down as a lot of draft analysts are saying tht the talent level between 11-25 is about even. My thinking is that the Dolphins could decide to upgrade the slot position with an outstanding playmaker that can break a touchdown every time he gets his hands on the ball. You're talking about a home run and red zone threat with WR Tavon Austin. How often does such a player just sit there for us?

Last mock: CB Xavier Rhodes, FSU Apr 12
Phinfever Draft Guru:
Tony Simmons Tavon Austin WR
West Virginia
Senior
5 '8.5"
171 lbs
40 @ 4.40

The thought by many is that the Dolphins have addressed their needs at wide receiver with the additions of Mike Wallace and Brandon Gibson and the re-signing of Brian Hartline. That said, the Palm Beach Post has indentified Davone Bess as the top veteran in line to possibly be cut. He is going into the last year of his contract and there has been talk that the Dolphins are looking to trade Davone. Tavon Austin is probably the most explosive offensive player in this draft, and he would give the Dolphins something that Bess could never hope to give Miami, a player that can take it to the house any time he touches the ball from the slot WR position. This little nugget was in the Miami Herald this morning.

Lasts mock: no change. Mar 31
Phinfever FFL Commish
JP Correia Tyler
Eifert TE
Notre Dame
Senior
6 '6"
251 lbs
40 @ 4.75

Eifert has the least going against him. The only real argument against Eifert is value, but even that isn't a strong one given how far ahead he is of every other TE in this class. Rhodes isn't a scheme fit and both him and Trufant aren't far ahead enough of the other CB's for me to take at 12. Fluker isn't what Miami is looking for at 12. No way the Dolphins are getting away with drafting a guard in the first round, so Cooper and Warmack are out. Tavon Austin has a lot going for

him, but as of right now a lot going against him as well; need and size. He is #2 on my list though. Werner is a good player, but not special enough to take that high. Jones and Mingo aren't fits given their size, and Carradine is a reach at 12.

Eifert adds the size Miami needs at pass catcher, the depth they need at TE, the young TE they need to groom under/with Dustin Keller, and the ultimate weapon in any quick pace offense; a big time, versatile, athletic 2 TE set. I had the pleasure of watching Eifert play in person this past season and he was even more fluid than he looks on tape. Having gotten to see Gronkowski play in Training Camp, Pre Season games and regular season games up here in Foxboro, I can tell you Eifert is as natural catching the football as Gronk, and is probably more athletic in the open field. That said, he doesn't have the strength or utilize his size like Gronkowski is able to in the red zone, in traffic, or as an inline blocker.

I think Eifert and Keller could produce a top 5 TE combination in the game immediately, and it gives massive flexibility to your offense. While there are other solid TE options later, none provide the upside that Eifert does. He's an immediate game changer for your offense. Apr 10

Bleacher

Report Xavier Rhodes CB
Florida St
Junior
6 '2"
217 lbs
40 @ 4.55

Right now, this seems like one of the most likely picks of the entire round. The Dolphins need a corner, Rhodes presents solid value outside of the top 10 and he can help the team right away. Mar 29

CBS

Sportsline
Rob
Rang Chance
Womack OG
Alabama
Senior
6 '3"
320 lbs
40 @ 5.37

The Dolphins have added talented pass-catchers for Ryan Tannehill but they won't do any good if he doesn't have time to throw. Miami lost left tackle Jake Long to the St. Louis Rams and allowed veteran guard Brandon Moore to leave town after hosting a visit with the New York Jets' free agent. With the top offensive tackles off the board, general manager Jeff Ireland might do the next best thing by selecting Warmack, who some believe is the best overall player in the draft and only available here due to the fact that he's "just a guard."

Last mock: G Jonathan Cooper, UNC Apr 8

Draft

Academy Lane Johnson OT
Oklahoma
Senior
6 '7"
307 lbs
40 @ 5.30

1st: Lane Johnson OT Oklahoma. Jake Long is gone, Martin slides over to LT but they need a real starter at RT. Johnson is a starter from day 1.

2nd: Terrance Williams WR Baylor. A good combo WR, this is assuming they don’t sign Greg Jennings.

2nd: Will Davis CB Utah State. Complete ballhawk, they need to replace Sean Smith. Mar 4

Draft

Ace Desmond Trufant CB
Washington
Senior
6 '0"
186 lbs
40 @ 4.45

A reach? Maybe. But the Dolphins situation at cornerback is a mess and Desmond Trufant is one of the most underrated prospects in this draft class. In my opinion, the gap between Trufant and Dee Milliner is relatively small. Trufant should immediately be the No. 1 corner in Miami and a significant upgrade over Sean Smith from a season ago.

Last mock: no change. Apr 7
Draft
Insiders
Digest
Frank
Croyle Tavon Austin WR
West Virginia
Senior
5 '8.5"
171 lbs
40 @ 4.40

12 Miami - Tavon Austin - WR - West Virginia
42 Miami - Justin Pugh - OT - Syracuse
54 Miami (Indianapolis) - Alex Okafor - DE - Texas

Last mock: WR Cordarelle Patterson, Tennessee Apr 8
Draft
Daddy Desmond Trufant CB
Washington
Senior
6 '0"
186 lbs
40 @ 4.45

Dolphins signed Brent Grimes to a "show-me" deal but could still add more at the position.

Alternate picks: CB Xavier Rhodes, DE Bjoern Werner, DT Sheldon Richardson.

Last mock: CB Xavier Rhodes, FSU Apr 2
Draft
King Ezekiel
"Ziggy"
Ansah DE
BYU
Senior
6 '6"
270 lbs
40 @ 4.80

This is year two for Miami in a 4-3 defense, and after franchising DT Randy Starks, the Dolphins could take some of the focus off of DE Cameron Wake by drafting Ansah to bookend him on the other side. While a bit raw, Ansah wouldn't have the immediate pressure to be a team's top pass rush threat, and subbing him in for Jared Odrick on passing downs would be a potentially frightening proposition for opposing offensive lines.

Last mock: WR Cordarelle Patterson, Tennessee Apr 5
Draft
Season
Lupagus Tavon Austin WR
West Virginia
Senior
5 '8.5"
171 lbs
40 @ 4.40

The Phins have signed just about every free agent out there including receivers Mike Wallace and Brandon Gibson, but that shouldn’t stop them from getting Austin here. Davone Bess is a good slot guy but he’ll be gone after next season and Austin would be electric. The team can get nutty and line him up just about everywhere and he’s a threat to score every time the balls in his wee little hands.

43. Miami Dolphins - Menelik Watson OT, FSU

The Phins should trade this pick for Branden Albert but if they don’t, they can go with Menelik and hope he learns quickly enough to help out in year one.

56. Miami Dolphins (From Indianapolis Colts) - DJ Hayden CB, Houston
The Dolphins signed Brent Grimes but that was just a one year deal. They’ll take a corner with one of their first 3 picks.

Last mock: no change in Round 1. Apr 8
Draft
Season
Onebar Ezekiel
"Ziggy"
Ansah DE
BYU
Senior
6 '6"
270 lbs
40 @ 4.80

Analysis: Although the Fins might have greater needs at cornerback, if Ansah falls to 12 Miami could pounce. Ansah is seen as a raw talented defender that could end up being the steal of the entire draft.

Last mock: CB Xavier Rhodes, FSU Apr 10
Draft
Season
Will Lomas Ezekiel
"Ziggy"
Ansah DE
BYU
Senior
6 '6"
270 lbs
40 @ 4.80

12. Miami – Ziggy Ansah DE, BYU

43. Miami – Johnthan Banks CB, Miss. St.

56. Miami (via Indianapolis) – Gio Bernard RB, UNC

Last mock: DE/OLB Barkevious Mingo, LSU Apr 12

Draft
Tek Tavon Austin WR
West Virginia
Senior
5 '8.5"
171 lbs
40 @ 4.40

12. WR Tavon Austin, WVa
Miami isn't left with too many desirable options in this iteration of DRAFTSIM. Gone is the necessary OT piece (Joeckel, Fisher, Johnson). Ditto for Alabama CB Milliner. Back-up plans such as DT (Floyd, Lotulelei) or a pass rusher (Mingo, Ansah)? Already picked! The services of Trufant or Richardson are needed but both positions are deep and better value could be had in the Second Round. Ireland and Co. have done a phenomenal job this offseason adding some playmakers (Wallace, Gibson, Keller) for QB Tannehill. Do they have to stop there? Austin is considered by many to be the second coming of Percy Harvin. The former WVU star scored touchdowns four different ways in 2012. He accumulated 285 receptions for 3,411 yards (~12 yds/rec) and 29 TDs in 52 games as a Mountaineer. Oh, he also returned 97 kicks for 2,407 yards and 4 TDs plus 34 punt returns for 928 yards and a TD. He contributes in the runnig game too (110 rushes for 1,040 yards and 6 TDs). Simply put? Another weapon for the supposed franchise QB.

42. OT DJ Fluker, Alabama
Fluker is being tossed around by some as a target for Miami at 12. While that seems like a stretch there's no doubting the Dolphins' need at the position. While he may not be the best prospect for their scheme there's no doubting

his abilities. He's a fringe First Round pick that Miami's personnel men would have to consider should he be available at this point. He started 36 games for the Crimson Tide and won 3 National Titles in 4 seasons.

56. DT Kawann Short, Purdue

It'll be a tough pill to swallow if Miami doesn't add help at CB with any of their first three selections. However it's hard to argue against a playmaker (Austin) and superb value (Fluker, now Short). While the DT position is stocked for the 2013 season it's the future that could be troublesome. Both Starks and Soliai are set for Free Agency in 2014. Short has been compared to Starks. The Dolphins would love to have that for another 5+ seasons.

Last mock: OT Lane Johnson, Oklahoma Apr 9
East
Coast
Sports DJ
Fluker OT
Alabama
Senior
6 '6
335 lbs
40 @ 5.35

The Dolphins filled their biggest need on the team in free-agency with the signing of Mike Wallace but have need a real need at LT and help for the middle of their line since Richie Incognito has just one year left on his contract...the team is said to be high on Fluker who they feel can start at RT from day one with Martin moving over to LT.

Team Needs - HB, WR, OG, OT, CB; Offense - Vertical passing, Zone blocking. Defense - 4-3 scheme, Press man coverage

Last mock: OG Jonathan Cooper, UNC Apr 10
ESPN
Mel
Kiper DJ
Fluker OT
Alabama
Senior
6 '6
335 lbs
40 @ 5.35

Analysis: The Dolphins will shift second-year man Jonathan Martin to left tackle in the absence of Jake Long, but it leaves a pretty big talent deficiency at right tackle, and in Fluker they get a player who is ready to step in immediately. The Dolphins have made personnel upgrades in their passing game, but they don't want the problem to become protection or an inability to run the ball and create short-yardage situations where they can open up the playbook. They do need another pass-rusher, but Fluker makes sense.

42. Miami Dolphins - Tank Carradine, DE, Florida St.

They fill the void at tackle in Round 1 and target a needed pass-rusher in Round 2.

54. Miami Dolphins (from Indianapolis) - Robert Alford, CB, S.E. Louisiana

One of the top sleepers on my board, Alford hits an area of need at cornerback.

Last mock: WR Cordarelle Patterson, Tennessee Apr 4
ESPN
Todd
McShay Xavier Rhodes CB
Florida St
Junior
6 '2"
217 lbs
40 @ 4.55

Scenario 1: With the loss of OT Jake Long, the Dolphins would surely like to package picks and trade up to get ahead of Arizona and lock down their left tackle spot.

Scenario 2: Should Warmack or Cooper fall here due to positional-value concerns, they would offer good value and help solidify the offensive front.

Scenario 3: If Miami opts to stay home, Rhodes' length and top-end speed would make him a fit in the Dolphins' press-man coverage schemes.

Stats and Info: With Long on the field in the past five seasons, the Dolphins allowed a sack every 16.2 drop backs, compared to every 9.6 drop backs with him off field.

Last mock: OG Jonathan Cooper, UNC Apr 10
FF Toolbox:
Binstock Xavier Rhodes CB
Florida St
Junior
6 '2"
217 lbs
40 @ 4.55

Miami has had an active free agency signing Mike Wallace, Dannell Ellerbe and Philip Wheeler. However after trading away Vontae Davis last year and allowing Sean Smith to sign with the Chiefs, Miami jumps on the second best CB in the draft. Rhodes is big and physical with the ability to play tight coverage from the line of scrimmage all the way down the field. Mar 26
FF Toolbox:
De Lima Desmond Trufant CB
Washington
Senior
6 '0"
186 lbs
40 @ 4.45

Trufant continues is steady climb up draft boards after a great offseason evaluation period. Miami has needed a corner since trading away Vontae Davis and now especially after allowing Sean Smith to sign with the Chiefs.

42. (2.10) MIA: Justin Pugh, OG, Syracuse
Back to back Orangemen is merely a coincidence because their talents are anything but coincidental. Pugh's ideal size and strength should contribute early as a starter.

54. (2.22) MIA: Cornellius Carradine, DE, Florida State
Carradine sometimes looked like the better prospect between he and Werner. He has a great combination of length and pass rush moves.

Last mock: no change. Apr 9
FF Toolbox:
Dimon Xavier Rhodes CB
Florida St
Junior
6 '2"
217 lbs
40 @ 4.55

Rhodes has great size for a cornerback at 6'2" and 217 pounds. After leaving FSU early, he has cemented himself as a virtual lock for the first round.

42. (2.10) MIA: Matt Elam, S, Florida
Elam has a chance of ending up as the first safety off the board come April.

54. (2.22) MIA: William Gholston, DE, Michigan State*
Standing at 6'7" and 268 pounds, Gholston will be tough to pass up toward the end of the second round.

Mar 15
FF Toolbox:
Standig Ezekiel
"Ziggy"
Ansah DE
BYU
Senior
6 '6"
270 lbs
40 @ 4.80

Signing Mike Wallace to a mega contract and keeping Brian Hartline addresses (in theory) the Dolphins receiver need

and moves them closer to best available territory. Ansah's athleticism has defensive coordinators giddy about his blitz possibilities. Upside come push him into the top10 before long.

42. (2.10) MIA: Menelik Watson, OT, Florida State*
Dolphins would be rather pysched for a viable offensive tackle at this point.

54. (2.22) MIA: Alex Okafor, DE, Texas
Dolphins defensive ends are just okay. Okafor compiled 12.5 sacks last season.

Last mock: DE Bjoren Werner, FSU Apr 3
FF Toolbox:
Warner Xavier Rhodes CB
Florida St
Junior
6 '2"
217 lbs
40 @ 4.55

The 6-2, 215 pound redshirt junior has 35 tackles, seven passes broken up and three interceptions in 2012. He has a solid size/speed combo with above average hands and would be a welcomed addition to a Miami secondary that saw top CB Sean Smith sign with Kansas City. The very replaceable Richard Marshall is coming off back surgery. Trading Vontae Davis to Indy was a mistake as Miami's pass defense fell to 27th in the NFL.

42. (2.10) MIA: Menelik Watson, OT, Florida State*
Former #1 overall pick Jake Long signed with St Louis. Rookie Jonathan Martin struggled early improved and will likely start 2013 on the blind side. A new right tackle is needed.

54. (2.22) MIA: Margus Hunt, DE, SMU
Miami owns this pick as part of the Vontae Davis (with Indy). Cameron Wake was the only consistent pass-rushing threat on the Dolphins defense in 2012. Margus Hunt is a officially a Freak. The Estonian track star-turned SMU D-lineman had an impressive combine running a 4.60 forty with 38 reps on the bench. Hunt (6-8, 275 pounds) has 17 career blocked kicks (10 FGs, 7 PATs), which ties for second in NCAA history (record is 19). He was named First-Team All-C-USA honors in 2012 and amassed 14.5 career sacks. Mar 27
FinNation
Catanzaro
& Lucas Tyler
Eifert TE
Notre Dame
Senior
6 '6"
251 lbs
40 @ 4.75

Someone please explain this to me: why is Tyler Eifert good enough to be a #15-20 pick, but not a #12 pick? Eifert would add a physical seam threat dimension to an offense playing small-ball in the redzone with RB Lamar Miller, WR Mike Wallace, WR Brian Hartline, and TE Dustin Keller. He’ll be a full 3 inches taller than any WR or TE who lines up in the redzone.

43) Miami Dolphins – CB Jamar Taylor, Boise St (NYF)
Reminds me a lot of former Dolphins CB Will Allen: great speed, awareness, and tackling ability. Physical enough to play man-coverage, but instinctive enough for the zone. A steal here at #43.

56) Miami Dolphins – CB DJ Hayden, Houston (NYF)
Amazing comeback story as we approach the NFL Draft. Hayden’s senior season was cut short on November 6th when he tore an IVC vein in his heart that nearly took his life. He jumped back on the map at Houston’s Pro Day by runnning a 4.33/40 on his first attempt. Amazing body control, strength, and pure speed for a 6’0 – 190 pounder. Mar 29
Football
Fan
Spot Lane Johnson OT
Oklahoma
Senior
6 '7"
307 lbs
40 @ 5.30

6. Miami Dolphins (TRADE)- OT Lane Johnson (Oklahoma)

This is one of three trades I’m going to be mocking in this first round. The Dolphins have 5 picks in the first 3 rounds and, after free agency, they don’t have a ton of pressing needs. The Browns, meanwhile, don’t have a 2nd round pick and there isn’t a player here who really fits their biggest needs, which are cornerback, wide receiver, quarterback, and tight end.

Unless DeMarcus Milliner falls here, the Browns could easily trade down and they’re in a good spot to do so. If Geno Smith is still here, a team like the Bills could easily try to jump Arizona for him. Even if not, teams like San Diego and Miami could want to jump Arizona for Lane Johnson, who won’t fall out of the top-10. After the top-3 tackles, this draft class gets very thin at offensive tackle.

In this case, Miami uses their later 2nd round pick to move up 6 spots to grab Johnson. The Browns, meanwhile, pick up a 2nd round pick and can fill one of their pressing needs at 12 or trade down again if they so choose. Lane Johnson can step in and be Jake Long’s replacement, allowing Jonathan Martin to stay at right tackle.

Last mock: CB Xavier Rhodes, FSU Apr 2
Great
Blue
North
Draft
Report Jonathan Cooper OG
North Carolina
Senior
6 '3"
295 lbs
40 @ 5.15

(No comment given.)

42. MIA: David Amerson - CB - NCSU
54. Mia (from Indianapolis): Jonathan Banks - CB - Mississippi State

Last mock: CB Xavier Rhodes, FSU Apr 4
Heard's
Football Report Chance Warmack G
Alabama
Senior
6 '3"
320 lbs
40 @ 5.37

(No comment given.)

Last mock: CB Xavier Rhodes, FSU Apr 6
KFFL Desmond Trufant CB
Washington
Senior
6 '0"
186 lbs
40 @ 4.45

Cornerback is argubly the biggest need for Miami right now, but defensive and offensive tackles could come into play with this pick.

OT Terron Armstead Arkansas-Pine Bluff
This would allow Jonathan Martin to play right tackle and give the team young bookends.

OLB Khaseem Greene Rutgers
Miami was super busy in the offseason, which leaves depth/competition options at this point.

Last mock: no change. Apr 11

LA
Times
Sam
Farmer Xavier Rhodes CB
Florida St
Junior
6 '2"
217 lbs
40 @ 4.55

The Dolphins filled so many needs in free agency, they have the luxury of taking the best player available. The big, rangy Rhodes would be a good pick here, providing they don't trade up to grab Johnson. Apr 6
Miami
Dolphins
Draft.
COM Xavier Rhodes CB
Florida St
Junior
6 '2"
217 lbs
40 @ 4.55

Round 1 Xavier Rhodes, CB, Florida State
The Dolphins have a clear need at CB with Sean Smith departed, and recent signee Brent Grimes coming back off an Achilles injury. Taking the big, physical Rhodes will be plugging in a similar style player to Smith, someone who can match up with the taller/stronger receivers in the NFL for years to come. Rhodes is a little bigger than the Ireland prototype corners he usually employs, but those players struggle matching up with the bigger receivers in the game and Rhodes would give Miami comfort in those matchups. He can also play in zone coverage, but would likely prefer man to man a lot like Sean Smith did during his tenure.

Round 2 Jonathan Cyprien, S, Florida International and Jamar Taylor, CB, Boise St
A theme emerges right away, as the Dolphins completely revamp the secondary and still have 8 picks left to fill out the roster with. Cyprien is another local prospect who could play alongside Reshad Jones and make receivers think twice about coming over the middle. He’s very athletic and would also be able to play alongside Chris Clemons if Jones were to be injured as he can play either position. Taylor is much more in the mold of the corners that Ireland prefers taking, is versatile and fast, solid against the run and could line up opposite Rhodes once he is ready and the Dolphins decide to move on from veterans Richard Marshall and Grimes. The first two rounds would offer Miami plenty of newfound depth in their secondary and establish a unit built to last for several seasons.

Last mock: WR Tavon Austin, WVa Apr 10
National
Football
Post
Russ Lande
Dee
Miliner CB
Alabama
Juior
6 '1"
199 lbs
40 @ ---

They traded Vontae Davis last year and lost Sean Smith in free agency this year, so the Dolphins definitely need to add talent at cornerback. Milliner possesses the rare combination of size (over 6’0), elite speed and top athleticism that makes NFL coaches drool. He should be a quality starter from day one.

Last mock: OT Lane Johnson, Oklahoma Apr 3
NFL.COM
Bucky
Brooks
Xavier Rhodes CB
Florida St
Junior
6 '2"
217 lbs

40 @ 4.55

Rhodes easily slides into the role vacated by Sean Smith during the offseason. The Florida State standout is a sticky press corner with exceptional size, strength and speed.

Last mock: no change. Apr 8
NFL.COM
Charlie
Casserly
Xavier Rhodes CB
Florida St
Junior
6 '2"
217 lbs
40 @ 4.55

Will Tampa Bay jump Miami to snag this rangy cornerback? Mar 24
NFL.COM
Charles
Davis
Cordarelle Patterson WR
Tennessee
Senior
6 '3"
205 lbs
40 @ 4.50

A crying need meets its match. The Dolphins lack a dynamic playmaker on the perimeter, and Mr. Patterson fills that role.
Mar 5
NFL.COM
Daniel
Jeremiah
Xavier Rhodes CB
Florida St
Junior
6 '2"
217 lbs
40 @ 4.55

The Dolphins have lost both of their starting cornerbacks over the past year: Vontae Davis was traded to the Indianapolis Colts, while Sean Smith departed via free agency. Rhodes is a raw prospect, but his combination of size, length and speed is very intriguing.

Last mock: G Chance Warmack, Alabama Apr 10
NFL
Network
Gil
Brandt
Jonathan Cooper OG
North Carolina
Senior
6 '3"
295 lbs
40 @ 5.15

Cooper is pretty good -- a very athletic player who can be used at several different spots, including center. He doesn't look as big as some NFL guards, but he has a great attitude. I think he'll be around for a number of years. Mar 27
NFL
Draft
101 Xavier Rhodes CB
Florida St
Junior
6 '2"
217 lbs
40 @ 4.55

With Wallace, Hartline and Bess the wide receiving corps goes from a area of need to a strength. Xavier Rhodes answered the speed question running a 4.43. The complete package from an athletic standpoint, the converted running back could develop into a shutdown corner. Rhodes is a fluid athlete with the hip transition to turn and run with receivers downfield. That physical running back mentality carried over to the defensive backfield, enough so he is considered a possible safety prospect.

42. Miami Dolphins - DE Sam Montgomery - LSU
Montgomery has first round talent, but after admitting he took games off while an LSU Tiger teams will have to question his work ethic and be more than comfortable with him as a person following interviews. When he's engaged the motor actually runs white hot but isn't as consistent as you'd like. He is versatile and a good pass rusher so all things considered the second round is about right.

54. Miami Dolphins - CB Jordan Poyer - Oregon State
(from Colts) Poyer was a unanimous All-American and has good cover skills. He's on the smaller end and therefore could struggle against bigger wide outs, but can stick to his guy in man coverage.

Last mock: WR Cordarelle Patterson, Tennessee Apr 9
NFL
Draft
Blitz Xavier Rhodes CB
Florida St
Junior
6 '2"
217 lbs
40 @ 4.55

12.Miami Dolphins – CB Xavier Rhodes (Florida State) *

42.Miami Dolphins – OT Justin Pugh (Syracuse) *

54.Miami Dolphins (from Colts) – DE Alex Okafor (Texas)

Last mock: no change. Apr 7
NFL
Draft
Countdown Xavier Rhodes CB
Florida St
Junior
6 '2"
217 lbs
40 @ 4.55

It’s been a head-scratching offseason for the Dolphins thus far. Miami had a lot of money to spend and they made some flashy moves in free agency, most notably bringing in Mike Wallace and Dustin Keller to soup up the passing attack and replacing Karlos Dansby and Kevin Burnett with Dannell Elerbe and Philip Wheeler at linebacker. However, the Dolphins also let their left tackle (Jake Long) and best cornerback (Sean Smith) get away and have yet to upgrade their pass rush. One would think the organizations top priorities would be protecting their young quarterback while beefing up the pass rush and secondary since they have to face Tom Brady twice a year. In all fairness the Phins still have time to make additional moves in free agency and also have eleven picks in the 2013 NFL Draft, including five in the top three rounds, but counting on youngsters to fill holes at key positions like left tackle, cornerback and pass rusher is asking a lot. Xavier Rhodes | Florida St. Seminoles It’s unlikely that Oklahoma OT Lane Johnson will make it this far so Miami may have to turn their attention elsewhere in round one. Xavier Rhodes of Florida St. offers rare size at corner and answered questions about his speed by running a 4.43 forty at the Scouting Combine. Rhodes would be a nice fit in the Dolphins scheme and could step into their starting lineup immediately. If it’s a pass rusher Miami wants the most likely options are Jarvis Jones of Georgia, Ezekiel Ansah of B.Y.U., Barkevious Mingo of L.S.U. and Bjoern Werner of Florida St. Mar 20
NFL
Draft
Dog Sheldon Richardson DT
Missouri
Senior
6 '4"
295 lbs
40 @ 4.95-

Came on strong towards the end of the year. Very powerful and quick at 6' 4" 295 lbs. Jan 27
900
Football
Links Desmond Trufant CB
Washington
Senior
6 '0"
186 lbs
40 @ 4.45

All the pundits who are criticizing the Dolphins for treading water with their linebacker signings confounds me. They talk about the big contracts but fail to recognize a simple fact; the Dolphins got younger and avoided cap problems in the near future and did so very economically. The real cost for Ellerbe was his money minus Dansby's money. The same thing goes for Wheeler, his real cost was his money minus Burnett's money (the cap impact is a little more complicated since it needs to be adjusted for money brought forward because of their early releases) . The Fins also avoided a situation where in a couple of years the older linebackers could be underperforming vis-a-vis their contracts at a time when the Dolphins could be in cap trouble instead of having cap room. Well, enough of that. Miami has a need at cornerback, and also could use a pass rusher opposite Wake. While Werner is still an option here, I'm off him for now and am projecting Trufant over Rhodes. Trufant is my second rated cornerback in the draft and as I see some draft analysts agreeing with me, I'll take the plunge and project him as the second cornerback off the board. He will tam with newly signed Brent Grimes to provide the Dolphins with a solid pair of corners.

Last mock: CB Xavier Rhodes, FSU Mar 30

PhinPhanatic Lane Johnson OT
Oklahoma
Senior
6 '7"
307 lbs
40 @ 5.30

Round 1, Pick No.12- OL Lane Johnson (Oklahoma):
Many signs were point to a cornerback or wide receiver coming into the 2013 offseason, but now since Jake Long has took his offensive line tactics to St. Louis, Miami will have to target a blocker for their young quarterback. That being said, the best choice on the board (that will be available) will have to be former Oklahoma Sooner’s offensive lineman Lane Johnson. Johnson, the 6-foot-6, 303-pound lineman, is exactly what the Dolphins need in this point of the draft. It is rare to have a good offensive line, and if you tack Johnson in the mix with Mike Pouncey, Richie Incognito, Nate Garner and others, the new-look Dolphins will be in good shape to secure their second-year quarterback.

Round 2, Pick No. 42- DE Datone Jones (UCLA):
Miami selected Jared Odrick with the 28th pick in the 2010 NFL draft, but his production has been low with 58 combined tackles, 11.0 sacks, and one forced fumble. And with Cameron Wake turning 31 in January, the need in this spot in the draft must point to defensive end Datone Jones. The former Bruin recorded 62 tackles, 5.5 sacks and one forced fumble. In the 2013 season, Wake posted 53 combined tackles, 15.0 sacks and three forced fumbles, but he can’t do it himself. That’s why Jones is the guy.

Round 2, Pick No. 54- CB Blidi Wreh-Wilson (UConn):
Besides his name bringing trouble to commentators, Wreh-Wilson has a knack for the football. The 6-foot-1, 195-pound cornerback brings depth to the small list of the Dolphins secondary. Wreh-Wilson used his height to an advantage in college against receivers after posting 47 total tackles and one interception.

Last mock: no change Apr 5
Row 12
Sports Xavier Rhodes CB
Florida St
Junior
6 '2"
217 lbs
40 @ 4.55

In less than a year, Miami has lost both starting cornerback. They traded Vernon Davis to Indianapolis last August, and Sean Smith left via free agency. Rhodes fits the profile of bigger, physical cornerbacks. He's also an outstanding athlete. The Dolphins could count on him starting on day one.

Last mock: OT Lane Johnson, Oklahoma Apr 8
SB Nation
(Phinsider) Tyler
Eifert TE
Notre Dame
Senior
6 '6"
251 lbs
40 @ 4.75

12. Miami Dolphins - Tyler Eifert, TE, Notre Dame
The Dolphins have done a lot in free agency and could be positioning themselves for a trade down (or up if they really want a certain player). With the best offensive linemen gone, getting another weapon for Ryan Tannehill would be a wise move. Wide receiver signing Mike Wallace won't do a lot for Miami in the red zone, so Eifert could be the perfect security blanket.

42. Miami Dolphins - Jordan Poyer, CB, Oregon State
Miami needs to add a young cornerback to the mix. With the amount of zone coverage the team plays, Jordan Poyer would be an excellent fit.

54. Miami Dolphins - Eric Reid, S, LSU
Miami adds another talented player to a secondary that needs a few.

Last mock: no change. Apr 8
Sports
Illustrated
Don Banks Xavier Rhodes CB
Florida St
Junior
6 '2"
217 lbs
40 @ 4.55

Miami would have zero complaints if Rhodes is their guy. He'd slide right into the starting spot vacated by free agent Sean Smith. Some mockers have Rhodes going ahead of even Alabama cornerback Dee Milliner, but time will tell if NFL personnel evaluators agree.

Last mock: no change. Apr 10
Sun Sentinel: Omar
Kelly Xavier Rhodes CB
Florida St
Junior
6 '2"
217 lbs
40 @ 4.55

Dolphins need a young, athletic, rangy CB, and Rhodes fits Jeff Ireland's prototype.

Last mock: CB Desmond Trufont, Washington Apr 1

The
Football
Expert:
Clearwater Kenny Vaccaro S
Texas
Senior
6 '1"
218 lbs
40 @ 4.5

12. Miami (7-9) Kenny Vaccaro, S, Texas

42. Miami (7-9) Kyle Long, OT/G, Oregon

54. Miami – from Indianapolis (11-5) Gavin Escobar, TE, San Jose St. Apr 9
Walters
Footbal
Charlie
Campbell Ezekiel
"Ziggy"
Ansah DE
BYU
Senior
6 '6"
270 lbs
40 @ 4.80

The Dolphins need another pass-rusher on the other side from Cameron Wake. It is one of the few needs they haven't addressed in free agency.

Many are raving about the potential of the 6-foot-6, 270-pound Ansah. The senior totaled 62 tackles, 13 tackles for a loss, 4.5 sacks, nine passes broken up, one forced fumble and one interception in 2012. He exploded this season after recording a grand total of only 10 tackles as a junior and sophomore.

There is no doubt that Ansah has a great combination of size, speed, strength and athletic ability. He looks like this year's version of Chandler Jones or Jason Pierre-Paul. Both those players had little college production, but are great athletes who flew up draft boards.

Last mock: G Jonathan Cooper, UNC Apr 11
Walters
Football
Walter Cherepinsky DJ
Fluker OT
Alabama
Senior
6 '6
335 lbs
40 @ 5.35

It's no secret that the Dolphins need tackle help in the wake of losing Jake Long. There's heavy speculation that they'll move up for Lane Johnson, but as mentioned, the Miami Herald's Armando Salguero said that the team has questions about the Oklahoma product. Tony Pauline, meanwhile, reported that the Dolphins love D.J. Fluker and would consider him at No. 12.

Fluker, who is not a good scheme fit for Miami, would definitely be a reach at this juncture, but you can't put it past Jeff Ireland to pull a move like this. Ireland has irresponsibly overpaid so many overrated players this offseason. He's on tilt, as his transactions have lacked all logic.

*** OTHER 2013 NFL DRAFT POSSIBILITIES: ***

1. Xavier Rhodes, CB - This is a very popular pick because it makes a ton of sense.

2. Sheldon Richardson, DT - The Dolphins are reportedly looking to add a defensive tackle. They need depth, and both Randy Starks and Paul Soliai will be free agents next spring.

Last mock: CB Xavier Rhodes, FSU Apr 8