

## Oakland travels to Miami to take on Dolphins

Contributed by Tony Simmons  
Sunday, 16 September 2012

The 0-1 Oakland Raiders make the trip down to South Beach to take on the 0-1 Miami Dolphins in a 1:00 kickoff on CBS regional television. Unless you live in the Miami area, you will be getting the Ravens vs Eagles.

The Dolphins will face a Raider defense that held San Diego to 258 yards of total offense and rank 5th in the NFL in total defense after Week 1. They also feature one of the taller defensive lines in the NFL, which could be a problem for QB Ryan Tannehill in regards to tipped passes. The Dolphins rank 25th in total offense after Week 1.

Defensively, the Dolphins face a Raider offense that has RB Darren McFadden and little else. The Raiders had 321 yards of total offense with McFadden responsible for for 118 of the 321 yards. He had only 32 yard rushing, but caught 13 passes for 86 yards. The Raiders rank 20th in total offense while the Dolphins come in ranked 17th in total defense after Week 1.

Last week against a very good Texans team, the Dolphins lead for a majority of the 1st half and were in the game until a string of turnovers doomed the team. The Dolphins will need to come out and have success in the running game as they did last week and they will be counting more on rookie RB Lamar Miller, as RB Daniel Thomas sustained a concussion and will not play today. QB Ryan Tannehill needs to avoid key turnovers and the Dolphins have to have some wide receivers step up besides Davone Bess.

Defensively, the defense played a solid game for the most part, but they certainly have room to improve. The Dolphins got great push up the middle from Randy Starks, who had 2 sacks and Paul Soliai, who was factor in the run defense that held Arian Foster to 79 yards and a 3.0 average. But those were the only 2 sacks as you had no sacks from Cameron Wake or the other outside pass rusher. QB Carson Palmer has shown he will throw multiple interceptions, and the Dolphins need to contain McFadden and get after Palmer.

This is very much a game that the Dolphins have a chance to win and need to win. I believe it will be a low scoring game, but a game I think the Dolphins win.