

Hey Big Dave, Feel free to use the Phinfever Franchise Tag on me :)

Contributed by Gary Ramey
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Although I can't say I'm shocked over Miami Franchising Randy Starks, I can say I was somewhat surprised. Starks to his credit is just a great team player. He quietly shows up every week and does what is expected of him. He stuffs a lot of runs up the middle and gets good push on his inside rush. All good stuff, but when you think franchise player, most of the time you're thinking of a guy who puts up gawdy stats. Or, a guy like Revis that no QB in the league will take a chance with. So Starks realizes Miami likes him...likes him a lot. It says a lot more when they bypass guys like Smith and Long. I've never been a huge Smith fan. He's kind of the like the guy I love to hate. Long...I actually like Jake but you can't franchise a guy who can't stay healthy. So in retrospect, I like the signing.

{youtube}gQaboMi0MvM{/youtube}

If ever there were a time to be patient in the FA market, its this year. About the only position Miami can't afford to sit on is WR. I'd throw RT in there as well as Martin is likely to move over into Long's job when he leaves. I happen to think that is just a foregone conclusion. The numbers between Long and Miami have too many zeroes between them. There are some solid middle tier players who could help, and hurt the competition, all in one pick. Dustin Keller and Sebastian Vollmer come to mind. Matt Shaughnessy and Rashard Mendenhall are a couple of AFC guys that could help out. This OT out of KC, Winston, would be a nice pickup. All in all though, I think this is penny pinching Irelands place to shine. He needs to find the guys that want to be in Miami for the right price. BTW...I'd love to see Hartline return next year...hint ..hint.

UPDATE I no sooner typed this up and posted when a few hours later Miami Signed Brian Hartline***

<http://www.usatoday.com/story/sports/nfl/dolphins/2013/03/08/miami-dolphins-brian-hartline-contract/1972673/>

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