

Final Miami Mock Draft

Contributed by Tony Simmons
Monday, 22 April 2013

To say this 2013 NFL Draft is fluid is an understatement for Miami and the rest of the NFL. Right now, Miami is working to complete a deal for Kansas City OLT Branden Albert. NFL Network's Ian Rappaport has said the Dolphins have no issues with the financial part, it up to Kansas City to decide if they want the 2nd round pick the Dolphins are offering, their 2nd pick in the 2nd round, #54. There is some buzz that Arizona may have some interest in trading for Albert, but Kent Somers of the Arizona Republic and Darren Urban of AZCardinals.com are both skeptical of how serious the Cardinals are.

My last mock is based on the Dolphins completing this deal to get Branden Albert to solve the situation of the hole left at OLT after Jake Long signed with St. Louis.

With that said, let's take a look at my final mock draft for the Dolphins.

- 1) Tyler Eifert, TE, Notre Dame - The buzz for Eifert to Miami seems to be getting stronger and stronger, and Eifert is considered the best TE in this draft. He has the combination of ability as a pass catcher with speed to threaten the seam and red zone threat as well as being competent enough as an inline blocker. He still has work to do as a blocker, but that can be improved. He gives Miami a potent TE combo with Dustin Keller, and gives the Dolphins another weapon for QB Ryan Tannehill. Other options are West Virginia WR Tavon Austin, and there is some buzz about Miami possibly trading up to get Alabama CB Dee Milliner if he slips past Cleveland, which I don't see happening. A possible wild card could be Houston CB D.J Hayden. Also, the Dolphins could look to trade down, and if this happens, add FSU DE Tank Carradine to the list of players being looked at. If the trade for Branden Albert does not go down, trading up for one of the so called Elite 3 OL personnel is very much in the picture as well.
- 2) Johnthan Banks, CB, Mississippi State - The Dolphins made a nice move in bringing in CB Brent Grimes, but the Dolphins will still look to bring multiple cornerbacks into the fold. The Dolphins ran the Bulldogs DB drills and got an up close look at Banks. He has the size, ball skills, fluid back pedal and the ability to play both man and zone coverage. He does not have that blazing timed speed, but he has the football speed to be a Day 1 starter.
- 2) Traded to Kansas City for OLT Brandon Albert
- 3) Brandon Williams, DT/NT, Missouri State - DT Randy Starks has the franchise tag on him and has not signed a long term deal yet and DT/NT Paul Soliai will be a free agent after the 2013 season. Jeff Ireland loves keeping the DL stocked, and Miami takes a scheme diverse, powerful DT in Williams. Can fit in an odd or even front and can be disruptive in the middle of a defense from a run or pass standpoint. Dominated at his level and had 25.5 career sacks.
- 3) Corey Lemonier, DE/OLB, Auburn - The Dolphins still would like to bring in a pass rusher opposite Cameron Wake. They also seem to be very high on 2012 3rd round pick Olivier Vernon, who had 3.5 sacks in 2012 season. Still, the best way to make a secondary better is to put as much pressure as possible on the quarterback, and the Dolphins need more from that spot. Lemonier has 17.0 career sacks in his 3 years at Auburn, and has faced some of the best competition in the nation. 6'4, 255 lbs and ran a 4.56 40 at the combine, and the motor always runs hot.
- 4) Da'Rick Rodgers, WR, Tennessee Tech - This off season has been about adding playmakers both offensively and defensively for the Dolphins. Rodgers would give the Dolphins that big, physical, red zone threat at WR. Led the SEC in receptions in 2011 with 67 catches for 1,049 yards and 9 touchdowns. Was suspended indefinitely in 2012 for multiple violations of the substance abuse policy at Tennessee, so he will have checked thoroughly. With that said, the Dolphins have talked with Georgia OLB Alec Ogletree, LSU Tyrann Mathieu and Cincinnati TE Travis Kelce and WR Kenbrell Thompkins, kids that have also had off the field issues. His one year with Tennessee Tech, Da'Rick put up 61 catches for 893 yards and 10 touchdowns.
- 5) Brandon McGee, CB, Miami - Miami looks to take multiple CB, and add a kid with speed, the footwork and smooth hips to be a very good cornerback. Struggled with inconsistent play while at Miami and never played up to his vast talent level. Reminds me a lot of Sam Shields of the Green Bay Packers. Similar to McGee from a talent standpoint and struggles while at Miami. Blossomed once he got to the Packers.
- 5) Hugh Thornton, OG, Illinois - With the signing of OG Lance Louis, the Dolphins will likely go into the mid rounds before they look to bring an OG into the fold, but they will look to add talent to the position. This is a little blurb on Thornton from NFL.Com.

Strengths

Tenacious blocker once engaged either in the run game or pass pro, finishes blocks to the ground whenever necessary. Good quickness from his stance, can fire out to greet defenders. Very good upper body strength to latch onto and stone targets, possesses footwork to stay with them throughout the play. Quick feet and good straight-line speed also help him block down and reach second-level targets, also pulled for outside runs. Uses athleticism and length as an effective cut blocker in space to take out defenders.

7) Don Jones, SS, Arkansas State - Miami has shown a lot of interest in this SS prospect from Arkansas State. Very nice size at 5'11, 191 lbs with very good speed at 4.41 40.

7) Latavius Murray, RB, Central Florida - Miami has visited with Latavius, and there is a lot to like about this young man. 6'3, 233 lbs and ran a 4.39 40. 453 career carries for 2,424 yards with a 5.4 yard per carry average and 37 rushing touchdowns. 50 catches for 524 yards and 6 touchdown catches.

7) Vince Williams, ILB, Florida State - Miami adds depth to the linebacker corps with this intense Seminole. Miami has talked about possibly adding a QB as well, so keep an eye on Vanderbilt QB Jordan Rogers. Props to ToneOz, one of our members that had Rodgers in his mock draft in the 7th round.

The excitement and anticipation for Thursday is something hard to contain. Bring it on.

Be sure to download our browser toolbar for Firefox, Internet Explorer, and now Google Chrome. We keep it updated with all the current links that keeps us informed.

Download the Free Phinfever Browser Toolbar