

## Miami takes RB Mike Gillislee with their 1st 5th round pick

Contributed by Tony Simmons  
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Miami went RB with the #164th pick in the 5th round and took Mike Gillislee of Florida. Mike has good run instincts, vision and balance. Runs downhill quickly and sees cutback lanes and a willing pass blocker in the passing game and a solid fit for a zone blocking scheme. Does not have elite traits and has been inconsistent.

{youtube}46F1Yt3jF10{/youtube}

{youtube}351ULSajv4E{/youtube}

{youtube}FW4DdFPd8cl{/youtube}

{youtube}qLKExSPzw2l{/youtube}

### ESPN INSIDER

Production 2 2009: (13/0) - Rushing: 31-267-8.6-1 Receiving: 1-6-6.0-1 2010: (12/0) - Rushing: 58-328-5.6-7 Receiving: 6-17-2.8-0 2011: (11/0) - Rushing: 56-328-5.9-2 Receiving: 0-0-0.0-0 2012: (13/11)-Rushing: 244-1,152-4.7-10 Receiving: 16-159-9.9-1 Height-Weight-Speed 3 Prototypical height with less than average bulk. Has room to add 5-10 pounds of muscle. Top-end speed is average. Also has average arm length (30.6) and smaller hands (8.6) for the position. Durability 2 Proved capable of managing pain as a senior in 2012, when he played in all 13 games (11 starts) despite multiple nagging injuries (including groin suffered in Week 2 vs. Texas A&M and rib injury suffered in regular-season finale vs. FSU). Would like to see him add some weight to frame. Only 412 offensive touches during college career, so plenty tread still on tires. Intangibles 1 Team player. Waited his turn and was prepared for role as bell-cow back when it finally came in 2012. No off the field issues to our knowledge. Person of good character. Very good work ethic. Has extensive experience on special teams, including serving as gunner on punt and kickoff coverage.

### OVERALL FOOTBALL TRAITS

BACK SPECIFIC TRAITS Competitiveness 1 Very competitive runner and football player. Runs hard. Gains yards at the end of runs on will alone. Fumbled vs. Missouri in 2012. Overall ball security has been above average, though. Held a strong .38 fumble percentage in his first and only season as a featured back in 2012. Vision/Patience 2 Above average anticipation and vision. Is patient to the hole but explodes through the hole. Doesn't leave many yards on the field. Agility/Acceleration 2 Feet are very quick. Displays good but not elite lateral quickness and acceleration off of cuts. Shows ability to make defenders miss in the hole. Can quickly string together multiple moves. Has very good stop-start ability. Can reach top-speed quickly and shows enough initial burst and body control to turn the corner. Has competitive acceleration in the open field, but is not a true burner (Donald Brown speed, not Chris Johnson, CJ Spiller, etc.). Power/Balance 3 Runs with solid balance for his body type but would not classify him as a wide-based runner. Runs hard and is physical. Runs low to the ground, keeps his legs churning and usually falls forward. Also knows when/how to get small in the hole and has some slipperiness in tight creases. However, he has below average bulk and he lacks good strength to push the pile or to run through defenders in a phone booth. Have not found many examples on tape of him exploding through contact. Passing Game 3 Looks comfortable adjusting to off-target throws and plucking shorter throws while on the run. Gets up the field quickly and shows ability to make quick initial move to make first defender miss. Limited experience running NFL type routes from slot/split wide, but shows quickness and change-of-direction skills to separate. Also flashes a good feel for working back to QB after initial play breaks down. Has upside as a receiver. Willing to face up the blitzing linebacker. Shows some savvy by mixing in the cut block after setting guys up. Typically gets in position and shows toughness. Flashes some initial pop but is light in the trunk and can get overwhelmed by bigger LBs. Also struggles to sustain even when he wins initially.

### RUNNING

### NFL.COM

### OVERVIEW

Expectations were high for Gillislee when he arrived in Gainesville as a top-10 running back recruit nationally from DeLand, Fla. He didn't get many carries his true freshman year despite playing in all 13 games (31 for 267 yards, one TD), but did rush for 78 yards on five carries in the team's win over Cincinnati in the Sugar Bowl. Gillislee

scored seven times as a sophomore, but still averaged less than five carries a game (58-325) on the year. He had fewer touchdowns in 2011 but still had a less-than-ideal workload (56-328, two TDs).

Apparently not short on confidence, Gillislee stated at 2012 SEC media days that he had goals of reaching 1,500 yards and scoring 24 touchdowns as a senior. Florida's offense revolved around Tim Tebow in Gillislee's first season, and then Chris Rainey and Jeff Demps over the last two. As the team's lead back in his senior season, he didn't hit his goals, but still managed 1,152 yards on 244 carries, and he finished with 10 rushing touchdowns.

#### ANALYSIS

#### STRENGTHS

Solid runner capable of carrying

the load when given the opportunity. Possesses adequate size and power for the position. Sets up cutbacks, sticks his foot in the ground well to avoid penetrating defenders or go against the flow of the line. Has enough speed to break off a big run if the hole is available to him. Displays some vision in the open field, does not head to the sidelines if more yards can be had. Not a finesse runner, keeps his feet moving through contact. Uses his hand to swipe aside tacklers coming inside-out, maintains balance to continue downfield. Willing to lower pads in short-yardage and lean to get the extra yard. Willing in pass pro, can be effective as a cut-blocker and will make contact with blitzers off the edge. Good hands out of the backfield, adjusts to high passes and is a threat to make the first defender miss with a cut after the catch.

#### WEAKNESSES

Not as decisive as you'd like after the handoff, pausing instead of

pressing the line. Will waste steps in moving laterally. Inconsistent taking what the defense gives him, will bounce outside where NFL defenders will bring him down for a loss. Will cut a bit early against blitzers in pass pro, needs to stay up and anchor when they expect the low block. Resorts to throwing a shoulder too often in the backfield or leading plays downfield. Holds the ball low and in the wrong hand in the open field, inviting fumbles.

NFL

#### COMPARISON

Andre Brown

#### BOTTOM LINE

Seeing as how

Gillislee didn't get an extraordinary amount of touches until his senior season, there isn't a lot of mileage on his tires, despite a good amount of overall experience. He has a good build for the position, and is a solid downhill type of runner. While Gillislee doesn't have remarkable agility or balance, he works at hitting the holes he's given, and runs with some speed and power. He will likely be a mid-round pick that works in a committee.

#### SPORTING NEWS (TSN)

#### QUICK TAKE

(from San Francisco

through Cleveland) The Dolphins, who added a Florida prospect in Jelani Jenkins earlier on Day 3, stay in-state to grab Gilislee. He's a do-it-all back who will battle Lamar Miller and Daniel Thomas for playing time.

#### SCOUTING ANALYSIS

A pro-style back at his core, Gillislee was never able to blossom under the spread principles in effect during his freshman, sophomore and junior seasons. While most would have packed their bags and left for more playing time, Gillislee proved his worth to his teammates and coaches by doing the little things.

As a backup and core special teamer, Gillislee found his way on the field from 2009 to 2011, albeit not earning a single start during that time period and with less than 1,000 yards of total rushing yards during that span.

Finally earning his opportunity to be the lead back as a senior, Gillislee took the reigns and never looked back, with the team's first 1,000-yard rushing season since Ciattrick Fason did so in 2004.

Though not tremendously fast, powerful or explosive, Gillislee's swift feet, patience and vision make for a constant wave of cutback runs, bounce cuts to the outside and impressive maneuvering within confined space. At his best on inside zone and power-O concepts, Gillislee has experience in two of the most used NFL running concepts, a major plus to his already smooth and fluid skill set.

Athletically crisp and natural in his movements, Gillislee has the body type to withstand the next level. Being a quicker than fast back with lateral burst and elite foot athleticism, Gillislee can complete jump cuts across the entire formation, working two, sometimes three, gaps across from the intended playcall.

Gillislee knows how to take a hit, slide off wrap tacklers and fall forward through contact, albeit without having tremendous leg strength or drive to power through initial contact. Instead understanding how to play within his light body type, Gillislee remains highly effective and efficient in the inside running game.

In the passing game and on third downs, Gillislee must improve his timing and consistency as a pass protector, but showcases ideal effort and aggressiveness to meet his target early for blitz pickups. He also must disguise his intentions as a cut blocker at a higher level, as even college defenders grew to anticipate his low blocking. To top off his skills, Gillislee can catch the ball cleanly and most of all will be a positive influence in the locker room as a genuine leader.

Though not an elite, blue chip athlete, Gillislee provides outstanding value in the late third round as a potential starter. — Alex Brown, Optimum Scouting

## SCOUT.COM

Gillislee seemed to lack durability his first three years at Florida but that wasn't the case this past season. He had an MVP like performance in leading the Gators to a surprise 11-win season. Gillislee rushed for 1,152 yards and 10 touchdowns. He looked good at the Senior Bowl, showing a lot of explosiveness.

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