

# Final Preseason Game

Contributed by Gary Ramey  
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Vs Gametime: 7:30 EST

Well since these two teams will square off on a Sunday Night Game in week 4, tonight's game will be for those interested in watching bubble players compete for spots. So as far as importance goes with this game, it is simply for the younger guys who are not only trying for a spot on the Phins but also showing other teams their abilities. The big key tonight is injuries. If I were Philbin my starters would not even play a series. Here's a look by position:

**Defensive Backs** - Miami usually keeps about 9 guys and here's how it shakes out.

- Brent Grimes, Dimitri Patterson, Reshad Jones, Chris Clemons and probably Jimmy Wilson are all locks.
- Jamar Taylor and Will Davis are both young, promising rookies so you would think they'll try and keep both.
- Nolan Carroll would seem to have the inside track on the 8th spot due to his play on STs and he's currently the starting boundary CB in the nickel package due to injuries to the rookies.
- That leaves one spot which will likely go to Kelcie McCrae. Julian Posey or RJ Stanford who was on the roster last season. So those three will likely seal their fates tonight. The rest are pretty much done.

**Rest of the Defense** - Is probably pretty settled although you probably have a nickels worth of difference between 2nd and 3rd team LBs. Spitler and Trusnick appear to be roster locks but at what point does being a veteran go against you if the guy behind you is cheaper and about the same? The other part of the defense is D-Line and it'll be interesting to see if a guy like D Robertson makes it. My guess is he'll end up on someones practice squad.

**On offense** pretty much every position is settled despite Philbin making noise like the RB job is open my feeling is you don't keep a guy with Millers talent off the field. Thigpen will be the backup and KR. Wallace, Matthews, Gibson and Hartline are the guys. I think the final two are McNutt and Tys in that order although Bumphis does need consideration. It'll be interesting how he performs tonight.

**Other notable stuff** - backup G, T etc. Does Miami hang onto Nate Garner with his latest setback...again, a 6 year vet who is injured and a backup is probably not a great position to be in.

Anyway, even if the Dolphins get beat by 40 tonight, you should just sit back and ignore it. Neither team is going to tilt their hand tonight.

Go Tannehill!

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