

DOLPHIN DATA



Camarillo's big catch

Tony Sparano has praised the work of both Patrick Cobbs and Greg Camarillo time and time again this season, so it shouldn't have come as a surprise that two weeks after the Dolphins gave Cobbs a contract extension they did the same with Camarillo.

Camarillo, who was scheduled to become a restricted free agent next spring, got a new three-year deal reportedly worth \$6 million.

"They're the kind of people we want, so it was rewarding for us to be able to go out and get these guys and keep them around here for a little while," Sparano said. "I think that they're excited about the whole thing, and so are we."

There is no question Camarillo was thrilled about getting the new deal, particularly given his background — walk-on at Stanford, undrafted rookie in the NFL, then claimed off waivers by the Dolphins.

But Camarillo has emerged as the Dolphins' most dependable wide receiver, and he is leading the team in receptions in his third NFL season.

"It's not even something I ever dreamed of because it's so far-fetched for me," Camarillo said. "Even coming into camp I never would have expected a contract extension. ... I still have the same mentality. I've always been a guy that has to come out there and prove himself every day and that's just who I am, and that won't change."

Turkey time

As an assistant in Dallas the last five years, Tony Sparano always had a full day's work on Thanksgiving. But that's no longer the case now that he's with the Dolphins. "It's funny," Sparano said last week, "I was just doing the schedule a little bit, kind of going through that, starting that whole process and thinking this is going to be a little bit different for me. I've had five Thanksgivings where I couldn't eat."

Practice squad switches

The Dolphins continue to move players in and out of their practice squad, and the latest addition is former University of Florida defensive tackle Joe Cohen. A fourth-round pick of the 49ers in 2007, Cohen roomed for a time at UF with Channing Crowder. Along with Cohen, the Dolphins also added to the practice squad WR Todd Lowber

and OT Kirk Barton. The other five members of the practice squad are LB William Kershaw, WR Anthony Armstrong, RB Jalen Parmele, RB Lex Hilliard and CB Will Billingsley.

Mechanical malfunction

Quarterback Chad Pennington was impressive during the Dolphins' game-winning field goal drive against Oakland, more so when you consider he had to deal with a malfunction with the headset in his helmet. But this wasn't your usual problem. "I've had experience with it going silent and not being able to hear anything," Pennington said. "I've never had experience with the headset making its own noise and just being shrill, fingernails across the chalkboard type sound. That was a distraction I never had been prepared for."

Back to work

Sparano gave his players Monday off following the victories over

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