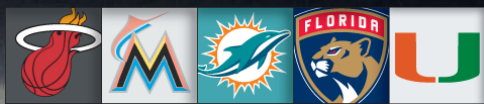


# SunSentinel SPORTS



COMMENTARY

No region is losing like South Florida, and no team is more disappointing than this one.



BY DAVE HYDE | South Florida Sun Sentinel

In other, different, shall-we-say more successful sports regions, today's debate is which team is winning the market by winning fans by winning the most.

Here in South Florida, during our Era of Losing, where wins are scarce and optimism fleeting, we ask a different question: Who's disappointing us the most? Study the teams, align the seasons, pop a Prozac and cast your vote.

See HYDE, 3C

COMSTOCK/GETTY

## DOLPHINS

# Quest for new coach still work in progress

Six NFL teams have made their decisions while Dolphins keep on waiting for Mr. Right

BY SAFID DEEN  
South Florida Sun Sentinel

With most of the NFL teams having rapidly filled their vacant head coaching positions this week, the Miami Dolphins' search for a new head coach has been in a relative holding pattern.

Here's why: Each of the candidates the Dolphins have interviewed — Kris Richard, Brian Flores, Eric Bieniemy and Dennis Allen — are preparing for NFL Divisional Round playoff games this weekend. Also, one candidate has yet to be interviewed.

The Dolphins are expected to meet with longtime special teams coordinator Darren Rizzi on Friday, according to a league source.

The Dolphins have not interviewed any new potential candidates for their head coaching job this week after meeting with four of their candidates in four different states in three days last weekend.

And luckily for the Dolphins, their known candidates have not been hired by the five teams who filled their positions on Tuesday and Wednesday.

See DOLPHINS, 6C

Inside: Jets to hire Gase to be head coach, Broncos decide on Fangio. 6C



JOHN MCCALL/SUN SENTINEL

Miami's new head coach Manny Diaz said Wednesday an announcement of an offensive coordinator is close.

## UM FOOTBALL

# Diaz assures a new OC is on the way

BY CHRISTY CABRERA CHIRINOS  
South Florida Sun Sentinel

CORAL GABLES — Once the dust settled after Manny Diaz was hired last week as the Miami Hurricanes' new coach following the abrupt resignation of Mark Richt, one of the biggest questions Diaz faced was about his staff — namely, who would lead the offense.

Before taking the reins as the 25th coach in program history, Diaz led a transformed Hurricanes defense that became one of the better units in the nation. But as Miami limped to a 7-6 record in 2018, the Hurricanes were plagued by quarterback questions, inconsistent line play and a myriad of other offensive issues that proved costly in losses to Virginia, Boston College, Georgia Tech and Wisconsin.

Therefore, one of the first moves Diaz made after taking over as coach was firing all of the offensive coaches. More than a

See UM, 2C

## HEAT

# Revisiting a rejection

Hayward returns to face franchise he impacted with a no

BY IRA WINDERMAN  
South Florida Sun Sentinel

MIAMI — The last time Gordon Hayward visited AmericanAirlines Arena on official business it proved to be a lives-altering event.

Hyperbole? Not when you consider the butterfly effect of that free-agency meeting with the Miami Heat on July 1, 2017.

Because not only did Hayward ultimately decide to sign with the Boston Celtics, but the moves made in the wake of that decision continue to resonate — for better or worse — for the Heat.

"I mean," center Kelly Olynyk said, "who knows where any of us would be right now otherwise?"

In the wake of Hayward bypassing an offer that the Heat thought, at the close of that meeting, sealed the deal, Pat

See HEAT, 4C



TWITTER

The Heat went all in when it came to the free-agency recruitment of Gordon Hayward during the 2017 offseason.



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