DAN MARINO

Class of 2005 Courtesy of the Pro Football Hall of Fame

The Miami Dolphins, much to their surprise at the time, found University of Pittsburgh quarterback Dan Marino still available when it came time to make their first pick in the 1983 National Football League Draft. Five other quarterbacks, including Hall of Famers Jim Kelly and John Elway, had been taken before the Dolphins grabbed Marino with the 27th pick overall.

Marino earned the starting role early in his rookie season and, for the next 17 years the fortunes of the franchise rode on his shoulders. By the time he retired following the 1999 NFL season, Marino had literally rewritten the passing section of the NFL's record book.

After two earlier relief appearances, Marino became the Dolphins starter in the sixth week of his rookie season. He immediately took charge of the Dolphins' offense and guided the team to a 12-4 record and the AFC East title. Marino threw 20 touchdowns and recorded a 96.0 passer rating to earn Rookie of the Year honors. He was also named to the first of his nine Pro Bowl selections.

Marino's performance the following season was unlike any seen in NFL history as he guided the Dolphins to a 14-2 record and a division crown. He became the first player ever to pass for 5,000 yards in a single season finishing with a remarkable 5,084 yards. His 48 touchdown passes obliterated the previous record, 36 touchdowns passes held, by Y.A. Tittle and George Blanda. By season's end, he had set six league records and was named the NFL's Most Valuable Player. In the 1984 AFC Championship Game, Marino passed for 421 yards and threw four touchdowns in the Dolphins' 45-28 shootout win over the Pittsburgh Steelers, earning his first and only trip to the Super Bowl. In Super Bowl XIX, Marino completed 29 of 50 passes for 318 yards, passed for one touchdown and threw two interceptions as the Dolphins fell to the San Francisco 49ers 38-16.

Marino's passing prowess continued at a record pass and by the end of the 1995 season had supplanted Hall of Fame quarterback Fran Tarkenton as the career passing leader in attempts, completions, yards, and touchdowns. Marino's career totals are staggering as he completed 4,967 of 8,358 passes for 61,361 yards, and threw 420 touchdowns during his 242-game NFL career.

Thirteen times in his career Marino passed for 3,000 yards or more in a season which includes the six seasons he reached the 4,000-yard plateau. He passed for 300 yards in a game 63 times and threw for 400 or more yards in a game 13 times.

Marino was named first- or second-team All-Pro eight times and earned All-AFC honors six times.

Daniel Constantine Marino, JrQB6-4, 218College: PittsburghHS: Central Catholic, (Pittsburgh, PA)B: 9 / 15 / 1961, Pittsburgh, PA1983-1999 Miami Dolphins

Miami's first round pick, 1983. . .Most prolific passer in NFL history – career statistics include 4,967 completions, 8,358 attempts for 61,361 yards, and 420 touchdowns. . .First player ever to pass for 5,000 yards in a season, threw then-record 48 TDs, 1984. .Recorded thirteen 3,000-yard seasons. .First or second team All-Pro eight times. .All-AFC six times. .Selected to nine Pro Bowls.

							PASSING		
Year Tear	m G	Att	Com	Pct.	Yds	Avg	TD	INT	Rate
1983 Mia	11	296	173	58.4	2210	7.5	20	6	96.0
1984 Mia	16	564	362	64.2	5084	9.0	48	17	108.9
1985 Mia	16	567	336	59.3	4137	7.3	30	21	84.1
1986 Mia	16	623	378	60.7	4746	7.6	44	23	92.5
1987 Mia	12	444	263	59.2	3245	7.3	26	13	89.2
1988 Mia	16	606	354	58.4	4434	7.3	28	23	80.8
1989 Mia	16	550	308	56.0	3997	7.3	24	22	76.9
1990 Mia	16	531	306	57.6	3563	6.7	21	11	82.6
1991 Mia	16	549	318	57.9	3970	7.2	25	13	85.8
1992 Mia	16	554	330	59.6	4116	7.4	24	16	85.1
1993 Mia	5	150	91	60.7	1218	8.1	8	3	95.9
1994 Mia	16	615	385	62.6	4453	7.2	30	17	89.2
1995 Mia	14	482	309	64.1	3668	7.6	24	15	90.8
1996 Mia	13	373	221	59.2	2795	7.5	17	9	87.8
1997 Mia	16	548	319	58.2	3780	6.9	16	11	80.7
1998 Mia	16	537	310	57.7	3497	6.5	23	15	80.0
<u>1999 Mia</u>	11	369	204	55.3	2448	6.6	12	17	67.4
17 Yrs	242	8358	4967	59.4	61361	7.3	420	252	86.4