



## [Bess becoming Pennington's go-to guy](#)

By Edgar Thompson | Monday, December 8, 2008, 07:53 AM

When Chad Pennington speaks about Davone Bess, another Dolphins wide receiver coming to mind: Greg Camarillo.

Makes sense, considering Bess has stepped in to fill the hole left by Camarillo's season-ending knee injury.

Bess has provided the security blanket Pennington lost when Camarillo went down Nov. 23 against New England.

"He's quarterback friendly," Pennington said, echoing he and Tony Sparano's favorite phrase about Camarillo. "He understands how to get open. He understands how to run routes and work defenders and he's really patient.

"There's a lot to be said for being quarterback friendly. A lot of people don't understand what that means or how important that is to a quarterback."

As he did with Camarillo during the first 11 games, Pennington looks to Bess when he needs to move the chains. Three of Bess's game-high nine catches Sunday against the Bills were for first downs.

He also caught a 15-yard pass on 3rd-and-16, setting up a 4th-and-1 run by fullback Lousaka Polite.

With 20 catches for 245 yards in the past three games, Bess, an undrafted free agent out of Hawaii, is turning out to be a coup by the Dolphins' front office.

Following his second NFL start Sunday, Bess said he's done everything he can to make sure Camarillo isn't missed.

"My focus has been extremely outrageous, just really, really focused on what I have to get done," he said. "We work so hard during the week. I don't think people realize how hard to work to get things accomplished and transfer it over to the game."

Meanwhile, Ted Ginn Jr. has slipped back to the inconsistency that has highlighted the most of his career. Ginn has 10 catches for 161 yards in the past three games, but had one catch for 18 yards Sunday.

The last time Ginn faced the Bills he had seven catches for 175 yards.

Bess no doubt is benefiting from the attention being paid Ginn. But Ginn, the No. 9 pick in the 2007 draft, continues to do things that raise questions about whether he has the stuff of a No. 1 WR in the NFL.

On 3rd-and-3 from the Bills 49 during the Dolphins first series, Pennington threw a slant a bit ahead of Ginn, who pulled back as the ball arrived and failed to make the catch, fearing a hit from Bills S Donte Whitner.

Pennington wasn't happy.

But when he needs a play, Pennington is finding he can turn to Bess, who said he's been encouraged by the guy he's replaced.

Camarillo, who is scheduled for surgery Tuesday in Birmingham, checks in with Bess every week.

"He's telling me to keep it up, good job," Bess said. "He was one of the first guys to help me when I first got here. He never showed any negativity toward me.

"He supported me."