

## **SUPER BOWL XIX: Looking at the Numbers**

By Tod Maher

Final Score: San Francisco 49ers 38, Miami Dolphins 16.

Super Bowl XIX is considered by most football fans to be one of the most complete victories in the history of professional football. Even the final statistics of the game said win. The 49ers compiled numbers that were better than the Dolphins in all but punting, return yardage, penalties and fumbles.

However, by using new statistical methods of analyzation, one can now determine the actual performance of any team, or player for any game, season or career.

On this and the next page is an example of these new methods, a statistical analysis of Super Bowl XIX.

THAT'S A LOT OF NUMBERS! But what do they all mean? \* \* \*

Let's look at each section. First the teams.

San Francisco and Miami both started their drives in close approximation of each other. There is just a 2.8 yard difference. But the 49ers completed 40.91% more of their drives!

The 49ers were also able to keep their drives going, as shown by the high percentage of first down attempts made (86.11 % of attempts and 92.39 % of the yardage involved – this takes into account first downs of less or more than 10 yards).

Miami simply could not run the ball, even when they wanted to. Even subtracting Marino's 8-yard loss on his fumble, Marino still did poorly.

The passing figures show what a good day San Francisco had throwing the ball and defending the Dolphins. Montana did not throw any balls away (Marino did it 3 times) and the 49ers' defense got their hands on the ball 6 times, coming away with it twice.

Also, the sacking stats show the 49ers almost doubled the first down yardage needed every time they sacked Marino (30 / 29, for -96.67 %!).

But Marino's two interceptions probably did not hurt the Dolphins. The 199 Def. Interception Field Position shows both intercepts were made inside the 49ers 1-yard-line. But they averaged out to be made when Miami was on the Niners' 24!

Amazingly, both Von Schamann and Wersching were identical in their kickoff performances. In fact, both matched each other throughout the game in kicking and conversion kicking.

But the kickoff return stats show either a mistake by Don Shula or better coverage by the 49ers in the second half. Fulton Walker returned all first half kickoffs and did well. Then Shula went with Hardy and Hill in the second half and effectiveness (determined by field position Pct.) tapered off. McIntyre's fumble, of course, paid off directly in three Dolphin points.

Who was the better punter? Max Runager.

Despite Reggie Roby's better average (39.3 -- 32.7), Runager cleared and placed (the two measurements for punters and kickoffs) better than Roby. Runager put the ball on the Dolphins' 18-19, while Roby managed to put it only on the 49ers' 32.

Runager also got the Niners out of trouble better than Roby did. He cleared almost 10 % better than Roby was able to do.

The 49ers made up for their poor kickoff returns with a good punt return game. The San Francisco 49ers' Dana McLemore advanced the ball 6.29 % closer than did Miami's Walker.

Individually Joe Montana was both the top rusher and passer. He covered more than one-third the distance to the goal line each time he carried the ball and nearly made first downs every time he rushed.

Passing the ball Montana advanced the ball an average of one-fifth the distance with each attempt.

The game's top receiver was Miami tight end Dan Johnson. Only two passes were directed towards Johnson, but he caught

# THE COFFIN CORNER: Vol. 7, No.3 (1985)

both and made them count. Both were clutch passes inside the 49er 15-yard line and he was perfect in getting the first down.

But it was Joe Montana who made the biggest impact.

Montana accounted for 31 % of his team's offensive yardage.

## THE FINAL NUMBERS

Here are the end of game statistics for Super Bowl XIX:

	MIAMI	SAN FRAN.
Drives / Field Position .....	13 / 871	10 / 698
Average Field Position .....	67.00	69.80
Drive Yardage / Percentage.....	305 / 35.02	530 / 75.93
First Downs Attempted / Made.....	31 / 19	36 / 31
First Downs Made Percentage.....	61.29	86.11
First Down Yardage Attempted / Made .....	302 / 182	355 / 328
First Down Yardage Percentage.....	60.26	92.39
Rushing Attempts / Field Position .....	9 / 441	40 / 1723
Average Field Position .....	49.00	43.08
Rushing Yardage / Percentage .....	16 / 363	209 / 24.40
Rushing Down Yardage Attempted / Made.....	85 / 8	282 / 149
Down Yardage Percentage.....	9.41	52.84
Rushing Attempts Fumbled / Lost .....	1 / 0	0 / 0
Yards Lost.....	8	0
Penalties / Yards vs Rushing Offense.....	0 / 0	0 / 0
Penalties / Yards vs Rushing Defense.....	0 / 0	0 / 0
Passes Attempted / Completed.....	50 / 29	34 / 23
Passes Incomplete.....	19	11
Dropped .....	1	1
Intended / Defensed .....	18 / 4	10 / 2
Noncatchable.....	3	0
Passes Intercepted .....	2	0
Passes Field Position / Yardage .....	2555 / 319	1619 / 314
Field Position Percentage .....	12.49	19.39
Passing Down Yardage Attempted / Made .....	406 / 193	319 / 181
Passing Down Yardage Percentage .....	47.54	56.74
Average Field Position .....	51.10	47.62
Pass Receptions Fumbled/Lost / Yardage.....	0 / 0 / 0	0 / 0 / 0
Penalties / Yards vs Passing Offense.....	0 / 0	1 / 5
Penalties / Yards vs Passing Defense.....	0 / 0	0 / 0
Passer Tackled Attempting to Pass .....	4	1
Field Position/Yardage .....	279 / -29	52 / -5
Average Field Position .....	69.75	52.00
Yardage Percentage .....	-10.39	-9.61
Down Yardage Attempted / Made.....	30 / -29	10 / -5
Down Yardage Percentage.....	-96.67	-50 / 00
Passing Attempts Fumbled / Lost / Yardage.....	0 / 0 / 0	0 / 0 / 0
Penalties / Yards vs Passing Offense.....	0 / 0	0 / 0
Penalties / Yards vs Passing Defense .....	0 / 0	0 / 0
Interception Field Position Off. / Def .....	48 / 199	0 / 0
Average Field Position .....	24.00 / 99.50	0 / 0
Passing Field Position / Average .....	179 / 89.50	0 / 0
Return Yardage / Percentage .....	0 / 0	0 / 0.00
Interceptions Fumbled / Lost / Yards .....	0 / 0 / 0	0 / 0 / 0
Penalties / Yards vs Interception Ret.....	0 / 0	0 / 0
Penalties / Yards vs Interception Def.....	0 / 0	0 / 0

# THE COFFIN CORNER: Vol. 7, No.3 (1985)

Kickoffs / Kickoff Field Position .....	4 / 260	7 / 455
Average Kickoff Field Position .....	65.00	65.00
Yardage / Clearance Percentage.....	224 / 86.15	392 / 86.15
Return Field Position / Average .....	364 / 91.00	637 / 91.00
Onside Kickoffs Attempted / Made.....	0 / 0	0 / 0
Penalties vs Kickoff Offense .....	0 / 0	0 / 0
Kickoff Returns Attempted / Made .....	7 / 7	4 / 4
Return Field Position / Yardage .....	637 / 130	364 / 40
Yardage Percentage. ....	20.41	10.99
Kickoffs Fair Caught.....	0	0
Kickoff Returns Fumbled / Lost / Yardage. ....	0 / 0 / 0	0 / 0 / 0
Penalties / Yards vs Kickoff Return.....	1 / 10	0 / 0
Penalties / Yards vs Kickoff Coverage.....	0 / 0	0 / 0
Punts / Punts Blocked.....	6 / 0	3 / 0
Punt Field Position / Average.....	436 / 72.67	154 / 51.33
Yardage /Clearance Percentage.....	236/54.13	98 / 63.64
Return Field Position / Average .....	410/68.33	244 / 81.33
Blocked Punts Recovered / Yardage .....	0 / 0	: 0 / 0
Penalties / Yards vs Punt .....	0 / 0	0 / 0
Punt Returns At tempted / Made.....	3 / 2	6 / 5
Return Field Position / Yardage .....	244 / 15	410 / 51
Yardage Percentage. ....	6.15	12.44
Punts Fair Caught.....	0	0
Punt Returns Fumbled / Lost / Yardage.....	0 / 0 / 0	0 / 0 / 0
Penalties / Yards vs Punt Return .....	0 / 0	0 / 0
Penalties / Yards vs Punt Coverage .....	0 / 0	0 / 0
Field Goals Attempted / Made.....	3 / 3	1 / 1
Field Goal Field Position / Average.....	44 / 14.67	11 / 11.00
Field Goal Yardage / Percentage.....	44 / 100	11 / 100.00
Field Goal Yardage / Attempted / Made.....	98 / 98	27 / 27
Average.....	32 / 67	27 / 00

## INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

### RUSHING

MIAMI	ATT	F.P.	YDS.	PCT.	DYA	DYM	PCT.	FMB	YDS	PCT.
Nathan	5	327	17	5.20	50	11	22.00	0	0	0.00
Bennett	3	185	7	3.78	25	7	28.00	0	0	0.00
Marino	1	29	0	0.00	10	0	0.00	1	-9	-27.#9
SAN FRANCISCO										
Craig	16	615	63	10.24	103	48	46.60	0	0	0.00
Tyler	12	597	58	9.72	89	44	49.44	0	0	0.00
Montana	5	165	59	35.76	42	39	92.86	0	0	0.00
Harmon	5	228	20	8.77	28	9	32.14	0	0	0.00
Solomon	1	80	5	6.25	10	5	50.00	0	0	0.00
Cooper	1	38	4	10.53	10	4	40.00	0	0	0.00

### PASSING

### INT FP

MIAMI	PA	PC	INC	DR	IND/DEF	NON	INT	F.P.	YDS.	PCT.	DYA	DYM	PCT	OFF/DEF
Marino	50	29	19	1	18/ 4	3	2	2555	318	12.49	406	193	47.54	48/199
SAN FRAN.														
Montana	34	23	11	1	10/ 2	8	0	1619	314	19.39	319	181	56.74	0/ 0

### RECEIVING

MIAMI	ATT	REC	F.P.	YDS.	PCT.	DYA	DYM	PCT.	FMB	YDS	PCT.	DR	DEF/INT
Clayton	13	6	595	93	15.63	119	54	45.38	0	0	00.00	0	0 / 1
Nathan	11	10	609	83	13.63	84	47	55.96	0	0	00.00	1	0 / 0

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Rose	7	6	434	73	16.82	53	38	71.70	0	0	00.00	0	0 / 1
Moore	5	2	348	17	4.89	46	17	36.96	0	0	00.00	0	0 / 0
Duper	4	1	240	11	4.58	43	10	23.26	0	0	00.00	0	0 / 0
Cefalo	3	2	179	14	7.82	25	10	40.00	0	0	00.00	0	0 / 0
D Johnson	2	2	25	23	92.00	12	12	100.00	0	0	00.00	0	0 / 0
Hardy	2	1	125	5	4.00	24	5	20.83	0	0	00.00	0	0 / 0
<b>SAN FRAN</b>													
Craig	8	7	394	77	22.06	78	55	70.51	0	0	00.00	0	0 / 0
Clark	8	7	364	85	23.35	75	55	73.33	0	0	00.00	0	1 / 0
Tyler	5	4	285	71	24.91	55	36	65.45	0	0	00.00	0	0 / 0
Francis	4	3	102	38	37.25	35	29	82.86	0	0	00.00	0	0 / 0
Solomon	4	1	237	15	6.33	24	1	4.17	0	0	00.00	1	0 / 0
Nehemiah	2	0	101	0	0.00	17	0	0.00	0	0	00.00	0	0 / 0
Wilson	2	0	86	0	0.00	15	0	0.00	0	0	00.00	0	1 / 0
Monroe	1	1	33	33	100.00	10	10	100.00	0	0	00.00	0	0 / 0

### ATTEMPTING TO PASS

MIAMI	PLA	TAP	PCT.	F.P.	YDS.	PCT.	DYA	DYM	PCT.
Marino	54	4	7.4	279	- 29	-10.39	30	- 29	- 96.67
<b>SAN FRAN</b>									
Montana	35	1	2.9	52	- 5	- 9.61	10	- 5	-50.00

### KICKOFFS

MIAMI	NO	F.P.	YDS.	PCT.	RET	F.P.	AVG.
Von Schamann	4	260	224	86.15	4	364	91.00
<b>SAN FRAN</b>							
Wersching	7	455	392	86.15	7	637	91.00

### KICKOFF RETURNS

MIAMI	ATT	RET	F.P.	YDS.	PCT.	FMB	YDS
Walker	4	4	386	93	24.09	0	0
Hardy	2	2	167	31	18.56	0	0
Hill	1	1	84	16	19.05	0	0
<b>SAN FRAN</b>							
Harmon	2	2	188	24	12.77	0	0
Monroe	1	1	94	16	17.02	0	0
McIntyre	1	1	82	0	0.00	0	0

### PUNTING

MIAMI	NO	BLK	F.P.	YDS	PCT	RET	FG	F.P.	AVG
Roby	6	0	436	236	54.13	5	0	410	68.33
<b>SAN FRAN</b>									
Runager	3	0	154	98	63.64	2	0	244	81.33

### PUNT RETURNS

MIAMI	ATT	tRET	F.P.	YDS	PCT	FMB	YDS
Walker	2	2	158	15	9.49	0	0
<b>SAN FRAN</b>							
McLemore	5	5	363	51	14.05	1	0

OPP FP: 21

### TOTAL OFFENSE

MIAMI	DR	DRFP	YDS.	PCT.	PL	PLFP	PCT.	DYA	DYM	PCT.	FMB/INT	YDS	F.P.
Marino	12	859	149	17.35	53	2584	5.77	416	185	44.47	1 / 2	-8	48/199
Nathan	9	673	58.3	8.69	16	922	6.34	134	34.5	23.75	0 / 0	0	0
Clayton	6	438	46.5	10.62	13	595	7.82	119	27	22.69	0 / 0	0	0
Moore	5	412	8.5	2.06	5	348	2.44	46	8.5	18.48	0 / 0	0	0
Duper	4	308	5.5	1.79	4	240	2.29	43	5	11.63	0 / 0	0	0
Bennett	3	221	7	3.17	3	185	3.78	25	7	28.00	0 / 0	0	0
Rose	3	203	36.5	17.98	7	434	8.41	55	19	35.85	0 / 0	0	0
Cefalo	2	176	7	3.98	3	179	3.91	25	5	20.00	0 / 0	0	0

## THE COFFIN CORNER: Vol. 7, No.3 (1985)

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D Johnson	1	70	11.5	16.43	2	25	46.00	12	6	50.00	0 / 0	0	0
Hardy	1	64	2.5	3.91	2	125	2.00	24	2.5	10.24	0 / 0	0	0

### SAN FRAN

Montana	10	698	216	30.95	39	1784	12.11	361	129.5	35.87	0 / 0	0	0
Craig	9	645	101.5	15.74	24	1009	10.06	181	75.5	41.71	0 / 0	0	0
Tyler	9	628	93.5	14.89	17	882	10.60	144	62	43.06	0 / 0	0	0
Clark	6	451	42.5	4.99	8	364	11.68	75	27.5	36.67	0 / 0	0	0
Solomon	4	325	12.5	3.85	5	317	3.94	34	5.5	16.18	0 / 0	0	0
Francis	4	230	19	8.26	4	102	18.63	35	14.5	41.43	0 / 0	0	0
Harmon	3	231	20	8.66	5	228	8.77	28	9	32.14	0 / 0	0	0
Wilson	2	147	0	0.00	2	86	0.00	15	0	00.00	0 / 0	0	0
Monroe	1	78	16.5	21.15	1	33	50.00	10	5	50.00	0 / 0	0	0
Nehemiah	1	70	0	0.00	2	101	0.00	17	0	00.00	0 / 0	0	0
Cooper	1	53	4	7.55	1	38	10.53	10	4	40.00	0 / 0	0	0