



Cincinnati Football Game Three Postgame Quotes Sept. 16, 2023 | Historic Nippert Stadium

Head Coach Scott Satterfield

Opening Statement

“First of all, very disappointed obviously for the players in the room back there. Very disappointed that we didn't get it for a lot of factors. The main factor was an ability to score touchdowns in the red zone. That was the biggest factor in the game. They did a good job of keeping everything tight, inside the box, and making it hard for us to be able to get to the endzone. We then settled for a couple of field goals on fourth down. That’s the difference in the game. There were things that happened throughout the game that obviously if you do a little bit better, you would have had a chance to win, and we didn't get it done. So, tip your hat to Head Coach [Chuck] Martin and his staff and what they were able to do to get that win. Again, just very disappointed in the outcome.”

On what Miami did defensively in the red zone

“I think it was playing the same defense that they played, it showed in there. We didn't do a good job of finding ways to get into the endzone. A couple of times I thought we were there and just didn't get in. Corey [Kiner] gets in there and Emory [Jones] scores on a QB draw, but other than that we really didn't do a whole lot down in there. I'll go back and watch the tape but, I thought they did a really nice job up front, and their linebackers were playing downhill to stop the run game. We just couldn't spit any out into the endzone.”

On Miami (OH) Quarterback Brett Gabbert finding success running the ball

“He certainly hurt us with his legs. There were times we were playing man-to-man coverage and we're doubling number 10 [Gage Larvadain], so you have an extra guy outside of the box, and then whenever he broke contain with the line of scrimmage, he's going to be able to get some yards. That really hurt us in overtime. Then there were a couple of third downs where he got the first downs. Our defensive line was standing in their lanes and creating too much up field, then all of a sudden, he just spits out of the A gap or B gap, that was a big part of their game. I thought Gabbert played great in the run game and threw some balls down the field that were big-time throws.”

On Miami's touchdown on the first play of the game

"Well, absolutely not. It was a miscommunication in the coverage on that play. You ask anybody in our locker room who we had to defend it. Our whole team knew that. So that was a miscommunication. They hit that one on us, but then after that, we really settled down. I thought we played solid on defense other than just a few scrambles. And then the one drive when they called two PI's on our guys, and they hit at the sideline but other than that, I thought guys played solid running game."

On Ryan Montgomery's performance

"Like we've said in the past, whoever's got the hot hands is going to be in there and I thought he did a good job on seeing it, running hard and breaking tackles. We had our two-run game involved with that as well. Two guys rushed for over 100 yards. In the second half, it started clicking a little bit better. Throughout the game, they're making adjustments on defense and we're making adjustments on offense. We moved the ball well; we had a lot of yards. I think that's the big difference in the game."

On the amount of downfield PI's

"They're trying to throw the ball down the sideline. I thought JY [Jordan Young] was in good shape, right on our sideline, and he turns back looks for the ball and they're both jockeying, he gets knocked down and they score a touchdown. We got the call so it's frustrating. So, we have to do a better job of playing the ball and obviously keeping on our feet when guys are attacking us down the field. We're seeing that and we're going to continue to see where guys are going to go one-on-one down the sideline and try to make a play. We have to do a better job of defending those passes."

On what was working well for Xzavier Henderson and the offense

"They [Miami] were packing it in the box there and that's why it was difficult to run the football. It was one-on-one outside so we were trying to take advantage of that. He did a nice job all day with catching the ball underneath and getting some good yards. We got a lot of first downs and moved the ball. The one issue is in the red zone, trying to score touchdowns. That's what it came down to."

On the fake punt call

"We had punted a couple of times before. We saw how they were lined up and it looked like it would be there. I thought that it was a good time to call it because you're backed up on the 20, nobody is thinking that you're going to fake it. Chamon [Metayer] did a great job of hitting it. It gave us a chance in trying to win the game. We get the ball down, we run the clock all the way down, knocked down the field goal and we get a blocked. That was that was obviously a big play because if we knocked that one down, it would have been a ball game but we're all having a different conversation right now."

On Miami's Quarterback Brett Gabbert

"Well, I think number one, they got rid of the ball pretty quick. We were able to get to him a couple of times and then he did a really nice job of moving around in the pocket. We're trying to get in a rush lane and our guys are getting up the field while he's shot sliding one side or the other stepping up making some plays. I have to give credit to him, he did a good job of stepping up, really running and getting those first downs which made it a little bit more difficult because we're playing man outside and trying to double some guys who got a light box."

On recovering from this game for next week

"It's very disappointing. We have to go back and regroup. We need to look at ourselves in the mirror, starting right with me, and ask what can we do to get better? That's what we have to do. We start Big 12 play next week. We know that. We have an outstanding team coming in next week, Oklahoma. They do a great job; they're riding high right now and playing really well. We have to come in and have a great week. There's no time to have a pity party and start feeling sorry for ourselves, I can tell you that. We have to come in tomorrow and get to work."

On the team believing in themselves too much

"I thought we had a good week of practice. I thought we really got after it. I thought the guys were focused, and we did some really good things this week in practice. There was a lot of intensity there. We talked about the importance of this game all week. Our guys knew what we were coming into. We didn't play good enough to win, and that's the bottom line. Redzone, blocked field goal, there's a couple of things we can point to that if we would have gotten the win be a lot different right now."