



2013 @MIAMIHURRICANES FOOTBALL

University of Miami Athletic Communications • 5821 San Amaro Drive • Coral Gables, FL 33146 • HurricaneSports.com
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GAME 3

POSTGAME QUOTES

16/17 **MIAMI (3-0) 77, SAVANNAH STATE (1-3) 7**

SUN LIFE STADIUM • MIAMI GARDENS, FLA. • SEPT. 21, 2013 • ATTENDANCE: 42,571

MIAMI HEAD COACH AL GOLDEN

On what he learned from the game...

"I think we learned about a lot of individuals. Ryan Williams stepped up. I thought Gus Edwards stepped up. Beau Sandland stepped up. We learned a little bit about Stacy [Cole] and his game. There were a lot of defensive guys that played hard. I think we're coming out of it healthy, which was my primary concern once it got a little bit lopsided."

On any concerns about quarterback Stephen Morris' health...

"No, I just saw him. He looks good. I think it was 21-0 or around there [when he got hurt]. It was either 14-0, then Ryan [Williams] comes in and we score and it's 21-0. There's no need for him to go back in, so we just held him out. The x-rays were negative. We'll be cautious with it, we'll get him off his feet in the next 48 hours, but it looks like he'll be fine."

On what he saw from wide receiver Stacy Coley...

"He did a great job on the kick return, made some nice moves on the punt return, he caught a nice little screen out there. We're trying to get him going. He has had good week, so I'm pleased he carried it into the game. Obviously the jitters are behind him now."

On a strong performance from running back Gus Edwards...

"Gus is getting better every week. He's a big back. I thought he ran hard. I did. I thought he ran hard. It's going to be a learning opportunity for Gus."

On the fear of injured players...

"That was my greatest fear from the time it got to 35-0, to be honest with you. We went quickly to second and then quickly to third teams. I had a long talk with coach [Earnest Wilson] before and a long talk with him after. I've been there. I was on the other side of those at Temple. I wanted to make sure he knew we were doing everything in our power not to [run up the score], and I know on his end he was trying to teach his team how to keep fighting. I've been in his shoes. I just wanted him to know from our standpoint, we were trying to be gracious in victory and not do anything dumb."

On the difficulty of playing respectfully late with lopsided score...

"There are going to be guys that see the score and say whatever they want to say. But you that were there, I think you know what we were trying to do, and long before the fourth quarter. Coach [Wilson] was trying to teach his team to fight and compete, they're throwing an interception here when they're coming out and those types of things. It is what it is. We're going to learn a lot about a lot of individual performances, and we needed to. We needed to see what the second- and third-team guys could do."

On the conversation with Coach Wilson to shorten fourth quarter to 12 minutes...

"We talked at halftime. He's trying to teach his team how to fight, so I appreciate that, and I understand that."

On his initial reaction to Stephen Morris' injury...

"Same thought as all you guys. I'm being honest. It's so difficult because I always get the questions going into a game. 'Are you going to sit so-and-so?' The reality is these guys work so hard. Try and go tell Stephen he's not playing after a bye week. It was an unfortunate circumstance, we're blessed and grateful that he's healthy and that he's going to be okay. And at the same time, we learned a lot about Ryan [Williams]. I thought Gray Crow came in and did a good job too. He has had a good [past] seven to 10 days here, which is good."

On what he saw from linebacker Jermaine Grace...

"He's playing hard. He has got to study the game more, he has to prepare more, he has to learn that process. He doesn't know it yet. The older guys are trying to mentor him in that realm. He has to be a bigger factor on special teams."

On high completion percentages for quarterbacks Ryan Williams and Gray Crow...

"It's good for our competition. I was proud of Ryan, because it wasn't like we had the time to say 'hey, you're going in next series' when the defense was out there. He got thrust into it, and he had good poise, good command of everything. I thought he spun the ball well, I thought he had good vision, his reads were good, and he made all the throws. I was happy with Ryan."

On his plans to remove first-teamers upon lopsided score...

"I was hoping that it would go well and we would be able to get them out in the first quarter. We started that substitution pattern - obviously we got a lot of the offensive guys out in the first quarter, and then a lot of the guys on defense in the middle of the second and at halftime."

On what he specifically learned about Ryan Williams....

"Ryan has been doing great in practice. He doesn't get that many opportunities, so it was a great opportunity for him. It came at a point in the game when we weren't pulling the reins back at that point. He had to run the whole offense and he did. I thought he made really good decisions. He has to do what Ryan Williams did - he made the catch-and-run throws. He put the ball where it needed to be so that guys could run with the ball. They weren't turning around, or they weren't waiting for it. That's the kind of accuracy Ryan needed to have, so I'm really pleased with the way he conducted the game."



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SAVANNAH STATE HEAD COACH EARNEST WILSON III

"I've been part of a national championship team. And I've been part of a not only national championship team, but I've also been part of a winning team. I believe that we can build a team at Savannah State that's just like these guys. So all I'm doing is learning from what Coach Golden is doing. Learning what I need to do to get to that level. It's my first time and I'll get there. And I believe that these kids will get there, if they can come out and fight. I know we had some quirky things happen at the same time we moved the ball at times. We exposed them at times. So we've just got to keep working and keep getting better and when we get our 12-month strength program and all that other good stuff and not be together for just eight weeks, we'll be fine."

"Al Golden is a heck of a guy."



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MIAMI PLAYERS

GUS EDWARDS

On being a bigger back...

I think that is what the coaches want me to step up and do. They want me to be a big guy that runs between the tackles. But as far as playing time, that's up to the coaches.

On scoring three touchdowns tonight...

I was very excited. I haven't scored that many touchdowns since my last game in high school, so I was pretty happy.

ALEX FIGUEROA

On the defense's performance tonight...

We just executed everything on how we did in practice. We made the right reads and we really concentrated on all of our keys. We took our training to the game.

On Al-Quadin Muhammad's performance tonight...

It was nice seeing him step up and contribute. I want to say I'm proud of him. I went up to him and congratulated him.

STACY COLEY

On returning strong ...

It feels great, coming back against Savannah State and scoring two touchdowns.

On his touchdown ...

It felt great just to see green grass and people going crazy.

RYAN WILLIAMS

On being prepared...

Every day I'm taking mental reps. I feel like I'm prepared regardless if I go in or not.

On redemption...

I had the same opportunity like that last year. I didn't get the job done, it ate me up inside. I made sure I didn't let that happen again.

GRAY CROW

On how it felt to get in the game...

It felt great. Somebody this week told me that when opportunity knocks, it knocks very quietly. I kept those words really close this week, knowing that I may or may not have an opportunity to play.

AL-QUADIN MUHAMMAD

On getting his first sack...

It was great. I knew that I had to work hard in practice and stay engaged and run to the ball and execute whatever the coach calls. I knew it was going to come.

DALLAS CRAWFORD

On playing "In a game like this"...

It's a game to get a lot of young guys in. The world got to see what Gus Edwards could do. It's always a plus when you can do things like that.

On Ryan Williams' performance...

It was a great performance. Ryan and I were playing on the sideline, telling each other we would be in at half time. The next series Stephen got hurt and he went in and handled it like a first string quarterback. He handled the offense and acted like a captain.

EDUARDO CLEMENTS

On his and Gus' performance...

I felt great. I knew coming into the game that I would be getting those type of carries this week and I had to make the best of it. Coach Golden let us know that everybody would be getting into the game and that whoever got the most yards got the most yards. Gus Edwards made the most of his opportunity.