



2013 @MIAMIHURRICANES FOOTBALL

University of Miami Athletic Communications • 5821 San Amaro Drive • Coral Gables, FL 33146 • HurricaneSports.com
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GAME 2

POSTGAME QUOTES

RV/24 MIAMI (2-0) 21, 12/9 FLORIDA (1-1) 16
SUN LIFE STADIUM • MIAMI GARDENS, FLA. • SEPT. 7, 2013 • ATTENDANCE: 76,869

MIAMI HEAD COACH AL GOLDEN

Overall thoughts on the victory...

"It's a good win. We've been through so much. It was almost cathartic, to be honest with you. It was 26 months just unleashed there in the last four or five seconds. I'm proud of these guys. You guys watched us grow – we couldn't handle this setting a year ago. We started to catch on a little bit by the time we got to Florida State, then we played better against Virginia Tech, and obviously because of the intensity, this one is a level higher early in the year. I'm real proud of the way the guys fought. There was nothing easy on that field for either team. It was a good hardnosed football game, physical, and I'm just real proud of our guys' mental toughness, conditioning and resiliency."

On the performance of the defense...

"I've been saying it since the spring - I think they've grown up. We played so many young guys a year ago at places you can't play young guys. We're so much stronger, bigger up front. Our linebackers are all 20 pounds heavier. The secondary doesn't miss rotations anymore like last year, so there are no blown gaps. Florida is good. Their running backs are good. Their line is good. Of course they make a good run in there. They settled down in the red zone, made a short yardage stop, took the ball away a couple of times. It says a lot about Coach D'Onofrio, the game plan that he put together, and really the whole defense. The whole defense got a game ball."

On postgame emotions and reaction...

"I was excited. You guys know me - I don't really hide my emotions. I just wanted our guys to celebrate. It really had nothing to do with other than running over there, being classy and courteous. I did want the kids in that endzone because I wanted them to thank all those people that stood by us, all the guys that - no matter what - they're there. They stood with us. It was a good moment for our guys."

On Florida's failed two-point conversion attempt...

"We had a call that we practiced. You got the right guys out there - Jimmy Gaines and Denzel Perryman got us lined up. It didn't matter because we matched it well, they threw it out there, and we were prepared. We worked on that last year before North Carolina too, but we didn't get lined up. It's just a sign of our maturity. Last year at North Carolina, they go in and it ended up being a big play in the game. Today, guys line up and put it to bed. That ended up being a big stop."

On the performance of Denzel Perryman...

"He is in great condition. He's 240 [pounds] and he's in great condition. Our team is in great condition. We're mentally tough. Was it all perfect down the stretch? No, but there was no one laying around, especially the defense. They did a great job of trying to wear us down. Our defense was in great shape - they played hard and they finished. You can ask Denzel, but the one thing that's different about Denzel Perryman right now are the habits that he's forming every day - by how he's finishing and how he's practicing, and it's carrying over to the game. I hope he's a believer now, I hope he understands that it is important."

On what went through his mind during the final seconds...

"It's been such a hard road. We've just been battling this thing, and obviously they're one of the teams we've been battling during this thing. I think you guys can figure that out. It was a very cathartic moment, it was a great moment for our guys - all those guys that not only chose the University of Miami during this, but stood there and fought. We have such a long way to go, I can't say that enough, to be that kind of program. Big win? Yes. Program yet? No. We have to get back to work, get better, be mature, and go about our business every day. I guess that's what was running through my mind, how proud I was of all the guys that bought in to what we've been doing. They deserved to win this one. They deserved victory."

On Tyrig McCord's sack-fumble and Tracy Howard's interception...

"They're big. They're all big plays. What did we have today, four turnovers? Five? That's big. Guys are where they're supposed to be. Tracy is where he's supposed to be. Tyrig comes around and he's free. Then you trust them to go ahead to make the play and finish the play, they're good enough to do it. A year ago, maybe that would have been a sack, but it wouldn't have been a sack fumble. Same thing with Tracy - maybe he would have gotten a pass break-up. But he was in great position, he's mature, and he has been studying the patterns they've been getting. He got a good break on it. I'm happy for those guys."

On performance of the team's offense...

"It was a war. I'm not going to make any excuses. Our play count was so low at halftime because we didn't convert on third down. Give them credit - they're good. That's a good defense. They didn't give us anything. Our guys fought, scratched and clawed, and sometimes you have to win like that. They had the guts to win like that, which was important."

On passing game rhythm and sync...

"We're going to work on it. I just want them to enjoy this. We did what we had to do to win. We'll worry about the stats and completions tomorrow. We'll make a commitment to get that fixed in the bye week. I just want them to enjoy this tonight. That was a tough game. Give [Florida] credit - they were deep on defense, they rotated a lot of guys, they came off the ball and played low, they disrupted a lot of routes. We did have patience, except for the one third-and-long where we could have made a better decision. Other than that, we really displayed patience as an offensive staff and really believed in the defense for the first time in a while. We really were patient with the run."

On looking like a more mature team in Week Two...

"I knew that. I've been saying it all along. We are different - we're physically different, not just mentally different. We're more mature. We're not a finished product. We have to go back to work. There are a lot of things we have to fix. We certainly can't let them have a quick score there, we can't do that. We'll get back to work tomorrow. I'm proud of the guys, and happy that we came out with a hard-fought win."



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FLORIDA HEAD COACH WILL MUSCHAMP

Opening remarks

"Well I think we gave them way too much momentum early in the game defensively. The first drive we just got out of sorts of our substitution and communication. We settled down as the game went on, gave them a big play. You give a team belief and certainly that's what we did defensively early. You can't turn over five times and go one-for-six in the red zone scoring touch downs. We moved the ball, had over 400 yards. I thought we mixed the run and pass well. I thought we did some good things at times but bottom line is that you cannot continue to shoot yourself in the foot and give someone else the opportunity—especially on the road—and we certainly did that. And you're not going to win any games turning it over five times, especially in the red zone. Just killer turn overs. It felt like the fourth down, going for that early, I felt like we needed to. We weren't stopping them defensively—at that time—very well. It felt like we needed to try and spit the ball in the end zone. But I'm disappointed with the turn overs in the red zone situation and the momentum early in the game. I thought our kids fought hard and gave themselves an opportunity there at the end for an onside kick and see what happens. Credit our kids for that. But we need to go back in the off week and just go back with ball security and coming together and playing a little better in this situation."

Can you talk about going for two? Why'd you go for two there?

"Well that's the situation. We had the look we wanted. We block it right we're going to get two points. We didn't block it right but no, I'd do it again. There's a lot of football to play in that situation."

How would you address Driskel's performance?

"Well, again, ball security. I thought he hit some balls down the field. I thought he did some nice things in the run game. But you can't have the turn overs, especially in the red zone. You can't do that. You can't make those decisions. We can't afford to take points off the board in those situations and that's such an emotional lift for the other team. So that just can't happen."

What do you think of the defense, your defense in particular?

"I was disappointed early. I thought we gave them way too much momentum and belief early in the game. I thought we should have played much better early in the game. I'm very disappointed with the first two series. Alignment, communication, assignment, you name it. We didn't do it very well in the first series. And we just got very discom-bobulated in my opinion, defensively. The big play should not have been there, we should have made that play. We had repped and practiced over and over again, something that they have done very well since they've been here. Certainly we prepared for it so that was disappointing. But I thought we rebounded and came back and played through some adversity and tough deals but you've got to create an opportunity for your team and we didn't do it well enough obviously. So we've just got to continue to do that."

What about Matt Jones' first game back, what were your thoughts on that?

"I thought he ran well. Again, first game back. I thought the fumble... we need to hold onto the ball. There's a good tackle on there, probably put his hat on the ball. We've given Matt plenty of contact going into that situation. So I think that was a good hit on their part."

What do you think Jeff is seeing or not seeing?

"Well, again, we need to watch the film. But again, I think at times we just need to get rid of the football in those situations. And you cannot throw into traffic in the red zone, that's something you can't do."

What was the play call after the time out on the key third down, late in the game?

"It was a sprint out. It felt like we had the edges on them there and we need to look at it. Possibly the receiver could have kept the route alive and we just need to look at that."

On the inside running game...

"They had some guys stacked in there, we felt like we could get on the perimeter as much as anything. They're big inside and we had to reshuffle our offensive line. Tyler (Murphy) went down for a time. Jon Harrison went down for a time. Max Garcia was down at one point. So we had to makeshift some guys there to get through it at the time. Right now, D.J. Humphries was very sore at half time. He didn't feel like he could go in the second half so we held him. And then Tyler (Murphy) hurt his ankle there at the end, I'm not sure how severe that is at this time."

What are your thoughts on Solomon Patton?

"I think Solomon's had a really good camp. I think he's played well. He's a guy we need to get the ball to. He caught the ball well, he's run all the reverses, and he's done all the things we've asked him to do very well."

Based on what you saw last year, how do you think the players will respond to this?

"They'll be fine. We've got a good group in there. We've got good character in that locker room. They're hurt right now, they're disappointed. You lose as a team, you win as a team. And I told the team when we were in the locker room at the end of the day we gave them way too much momentum and belief early in the game defensively and that's what they needed. We gave them what they needed early in the game. And that's on our defense. We didn't play worth a dang to start the game. And those are things we can't allow to happen."

How much does it hurt, the fact that this is probably going to be the last time you play Miami for a long time?

"Well, then again that'll sink in in a while but I'm just disappointed for our football team right now and the Gator Nation."



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FLORIDA PLAYERS

JEFF DRISKEL- QB

On turnovers in the red zone...

"We got in the red zone but turnovers and penalties really killed us. We really stressed that (turnovers) in the off season, and they killed us today."

On the similarities to the Georgia game last year...

"We couldn't hold on to the ball. I think we had five turnovers or six. Starting with me, I was careless with the ball, a couple interceptions, threw the ball on the ground at the end there, and a couple of fumbles, and they were costly. It is still early, though. We're going to have to respond from this and not hang our heads. It is frustrating right now but we still have got a lot of football to play this year."

On ball control...

"We do stress it. We work on it all the time. Miami did a good job of finding the ball, but like I said, we have got to work on it, we got to clean that up."

JONATHAN HARRISON- OL

On not establishing the run...

"Momentum is a big thing, especially in college football, momentum is a huge thing. The fact that we didn't establish that momentum and we didn't develop that momentum, (so) coming out in the first half, it did make our job a little more difficult. It did hinder our success a little bit, but there is nothing we can do about it. We just got to move on and play the next play."

On what Miami did well to stop the run game...

"I wish I can tell you. I wish I could answer that. It was not us, as in offensive line, but us, as in a team. Just one person missing the assignment, or whatever it may be. Maybe we are not communicating as well as we should be, but really I can't give it to Miami. It is on us."

On the lack of scoring...

"We were driving the ball up and down the field but we get in the red zone, and we can't capitalize when we get to the red zone. It is something we have been working on and, obviously we need to put forth more effort, put forth a little more work just to make sure we can fix the problem."

SOLOMAN PATTON- WR

On what they did wrong...

"I feel like everybody came in ready to play, and everybody did what was asked of them. We just have got to lock in and do the small things."

On turnovers...

"It gets frustrating, but we all just have got to encourage and keep each other locked in. Make sure everybody doesn't get down."

On Jeff Driskel...

"I think he did great. Everybody makes mistakes and he is real good at film, so I'm sure he will be watching some tomorrow and he will learn from his mistakes."

JAYLEN WATKINS- DB

On working so much as a defense after so many turnovers on offense...

"We embrace it as a defense, and when we turn it over a few times, we stop them and get our offense back the ball. That is what the defense is and so we don't panic. We run out there and we are ready to go."

On stopping Duke Johnson...

"We were well game-planned and watched Duke do things. I think we did a good job containing him. There were probably one or two runs that probably hurt us."

On the defense getting into rhythm...

"We take pride in defense but it obviously it wasn't good enough today."

On stepping up as a senior...

"I grab the guys that maybe gave up on plays or didn't have their best, and I could show them the play and could tell them that I have been there before, and bounce back next week."



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MIAMI PLAYERS

STEPHEN MORRIS

On the victory against in-state rival Florida...

I'm extremely excited for this program. Defense played a great game and they bailed us out on a lot of things. Offensively, we did the little things right. Florida had a great defense, one of the greatest defenses I've ever seen.

On whether the team turned into a veteran unit today...

Not necessarily. I think it happened in the offseason. Last week we only showed three pass concepts. Three. We played a very vanilla game. We did our jobs today and came out victorious.

On the communal effort to win...

That's why I say it's a team effort. The defense kept giving us opportunities and giving us the ball back. It's only a matter of time. Florida has a great defense. They were making unbelievable calls and getting to the ball. We kept doing the little things right to keep moving.

On the energy from the Miami crowd...

I thought the Miami crowd was great. It's an in-state game so you're going to have guys from the other side as well. The Miami crowd did an incredible job bringing juice, as we call it. On third downs, I know it was really loud and they created some confusion for the Florida offense. They did an incredible job supporting us and we give those guys credit and thanks.

On Al Golden's energy...

You guys don't know Coach Golden like we do. He's always full of energy, he created it. I was happy to see him running down the sideline.

On the strength of the Florida defense...

They made a lot of great calls on defense. They were getting to the ball, they knew when we were going to run and throw it. They were making unbelievable line calls. I thought that was the best defensive line I've ever seen. As an offense, we needed to keep punching, we needed to keep delivering blow for blow and I think we did a great job doing that.

On the aforementioned "26 Month Journey"...

I thought it was a great win against a great ranked team like Florida. Offensively we knew what we had to do and defensively they knew what they had to do. Our schedule was laid out for us and we've been thinking about this game for a long time now. The way last season ended, the way we went into the offseason last year, we were marking this game as a big game for us.

On what has changed with this year's team, specifically the weight gains...

This is a different team than what we were last year. The focus in the offseason was to get bigger and stronger. That obviously helped our defense.

On his TD pass to Phillip Dorsett...

It's just one of those plays that we know are chunk plays for us. Phillip made a great adjustment on the run. They were playing heavy cover two and he made a great play on the ball.

Feelings about the possibility of being ranked in the Top 25...

I'll say what I said last week. It really doesn't matter to me or this team. Whoever is in front of us, we see them as a threat. Our biggest focus is to continue moving forward.



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MIAMI PLAYERS

DUKE JOHNSON

On maturing...

We have matured very much, as you can see. We go out there and perform to the best of our abilities, no matter if we have turnovers.

On Coach Golden's passion ...

It's great to see the things we actually work on in practice execute the way he sees it in the game.

On being back as a national powerhouse again...

It could be. You really can't tell until the season is over, until we come out and finish the rest of the season as strong as we have started. It's a good stepping stone, a step in the right direction.

On Canes defense...

It feels great. Every time we would get the ball and it would be 3 and out. The defense would respond and play with energy and get turnovers, until we could puts on the board.

On physical play...

That's what they do. They are physical from the first quarter until the fourth quarter.

ALLEN HURNS

On Coach Golden's passion...

I enjoy it a lot because it shows his passion for the game and how passionate he is about the game. When I see that, it gets me going.

On the offense...

We got the victory so that's what matters the most. The passing game, we had throws that we wanted to hit that we couldn't hit. But the good thing about it is we have time to work on it.

HERB WATERS

On beating Florida...

It feels good to have bragging rights, give credit to them it's a great defense, great team overall. They came out there and played their hardest and we came out with the victory. I am just proud. We have try not to emphasize what type of team they are, and keep our poise no matter what but at the end of the day we still have to be happy because we came out with the victory.

PAT O' DONELL

On his big punts...

It always feels good to help the team. That's my job to try and execute every time I am on the field.

On Coach Golden...

It's always a great feeling having a head coach on the sideline, especially running the special teams. He takes a lot of pride in it and you always want to do your best for that coach.

On energizing his team with his kicks...

Anytime I hit good punts, I feel confident. It's my job to do and I was just trying to do my job for the team.

On punting against the Florida defense...

I felt good like I always do, but Florida brought a lot of pressure on some of the kicks so I definitely have to tweak that in practice, so we'll get that corrected.

DALLAS CRAWFORD

On work paying off...

It just shows how hard we've been working. The past two years the stipulation that's been around us, we can't play against the bigger opponents such as Notre Dame and Kansas State. It shows that we actually can if we play our type of football.

On physicality...

They were physical, but nothing more physical than what we do every day in practice. Our defense is huge now compared to the other years. We hit every day in practice; Coach Golden is all about physicality. We are used to it.

On practice...

Practice is tougher than the game, always been tougher than the game, that's Coach Golden's biggest rules. He will always make practice tougher than the game.

On trusting the defense...

I can't even begin to give them the amount of praise they deserve, they won the game for us. We just really appreciate the defense.

On Coach Golden's passion...

He is passionate about everything. Coach Golden could be talking about the schedule for practice and he's passionate. He is just a passionate guy.

AL-QUADIN MUHAMMAD

On Tyriq's big play...

Seeing him come up with that big play, it was excellent; it was great.

On redzone defense...

I knew we were going to up the level. Everybody was fired up, everybody was pumped up. We were real focused out there.

On building momentum...

Once the momentum gets going, everybody is fired up. Everybody is focused; everybody is running to the ball. So it puts us in a good position to make plays.

On Denzel Perryman...

When we got to the sideline he was saying everybody run to the ball, everybody stay focused, play to the whistle blow.

On the crowd...

It was awesome, they brought their fans with them too. It was like competition on both ends. It was great when they had the ball and we were on defense, our fans were going crazy. I could see the quarterback. He couldn't echo the calls to the offense, so he probably was getting a little frustrated. Our fans did an awesome job.

On leadership...

The guys that was here last year, basically took the guys that came in under the wing and they basically showed us how the job was supposed to be done. And they are doing a great job by doing that.



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TRACY HOWARD

On the defense's performance today...

We made a lot of great plays on defense. We give it all to Coach [D'Onofrio]. He made some great play calls. It was up to us to execute, and I think we did just fine.

On his interception...

We watch a lot of film. We knew it was coming. It was up to us execute. I've seen the route. I saw Trey Burton running out of the backfield. It was just up to me to make the play. When the ball was in my hands, it felt like any other interception. It was great though.

On if the defense made a statement today...

That's big. Without trust, you don't have anything. We have great leaders on our team in Jimmy Gaines and Denzel Perryman. Me and Tyriq [McCord] are young guys, but we still have a voice on the team. If you make plays, you can talk. Trust is a big thing. The offense trusts the defense. The defense trusts the offense. When our offense was struggling, we never got down on those guys. We always said, 'Pick it up. We got your back no matter what.'

DENZEL PERRYMAN

On how he feels right now...

I'm feeling great actually. Defense, we actually had a pretty good game. Their offense is very physical. They are smash-mouth football like I said in the beginning of the week. We were prepared for it, and right now, I'm feeling real good.

On Coach Golden's enthusiasm during the game...

He had us hyped. He kept us poised. When the offense would get off on third down, he told us to remain poised and do what you do.

On the record crowd...

We get a real big charge. On third downs, we were backed up on our goal-line in our end-zone, and having the home field advantage and the crowd getting loud kind-of threw them off.

TYRIQ MCCORD

On the turnover...

A sack-caused fumble is the best play in football just like Coach Judd said. I've been dreaming of this moment. This is why you come to the U to play the Florida Gators. I sleep and dream about a sack caused fumble, and I wake up, now, it's a reality. That's all I can say about it. I'm just happy right now.

On if there is momentum that builds with turnovers early in the game...

Yes sir. I would agree with that statement. We are just feeding off each other. When Denzel makes a play, I just go over to him and say 'Good job,' and that just helps me out. I've got to feed off him. I have give back to him. When Tracy got his pick, I got to make it up to him. It's my turn. Time to shine. That's all it was.

On the boost from punter today...

We're grateful for Pat O'Donnell. That's all I will say. He's amazing. In practice, he is always booting them out 100 yards. That's all I'm going to say.