

October 24, 2020

Virginia at No. 11 Miami

Postgame Quotes

## Head Coach Bronco Mendenhall

### ***On biggest issues in between scoring drives:***

"I think Miami's a good defense. I think they played consistently. I think we had our moments with certainly a touchdown taken off the board, which then would have changed the outcome. And it was a really tough game. And so those were two teams battling really, really hard today, and a penalty took a touchdown off the board and then that changes the game. So, Miami's good. They played well. I thought we played well and, you could probably argue there's one or two plays, or maybe one play. And that's, that's what I saw."

### ***On managing timeouts:***

"The others were intentional to stop touchdowns and let our defense rest. The third one was totally a mistake on our part and my part. The defense wasn't ready for a two-point play, had the wrong personnel out on the field, miscommunication and had to use it. And glad I did because we stopped the two-point play, which did give us a chance. But, yeah, that was not by design nor was it good time management, nor was it good communication by my staff. So, had to use it as a miscue from the defensive staff communication."

### ***On pass interference at the end:***

"I didn't get an explanation, and the flag came from, not the official that was closest, that came from up toward the line of scrimmage. He threw it and didn't know if anyone saw it, picked it up and threw it again. So, I think that's why it came in late, but I wasn't given an explanation."

### ***On positives to take away from this game:***

"Yeah, our team tried hard, and they're tough and they're physical and they're resilient, and I thought they played well. I thought they played a really hard game, and they played with a lot of heart and great mindset and supported each other and probably the most physical and the most intense they played the entire year. Yeah, so I celebrate that. I thought it was, I was really proud of them. In terms of the effort they gave."

### ***On defense seeming fatigued:***

"Man, Miami goes really fast. I'm not sure, I don't remember right now after those timeouts if they ended up scoring touchdowns or if we hold them to field goals, but that was the intent. I looked out and thought our chances were diminishing to make a stop, based on the fatigue and how fast they were going, and wanted to give them their best chance to keep touchdowns off the board. It's hard to imagine that 19 points would win the game for Miami. So, arguably, it was effective or arguably it wasn't when you have the ball at the end and no timeouts. So, I think you can look at it either way. The two-point play was mismanaged totally, and really wasn't, I kind of was forced just by the circumstance."

## **OLB Charles Snowden**

### ***On overall performance by the defense:***

“I think this defense tried hard and left everything on the field. I mean every guy was flying around hitting stuff, making plays. I mean there were plays obviously, one or two plays here and there, but from an effort from a heart standpoint, this whole defense can walk out with their head held high.”

### ***On putting pressure on D'Eriq King:***

“It is huge to cause havoc after the quarterback every play and every game. And that's something that we haven't done as well this year and so we emphasize that and executed.”

### ***On having impact plays:***

“Oh yeah, definitely. I got off to a slow start. Honestly, there was a point where I just kind of looked at myself in the mirror and I could keep pouting about how this is not how I want my senior year to look. But I talked to a lot of my teammates, and my closest friends and they really helped me through it and kind of remember that we are playing football and I got to start playing like myself.”

## **QB Brennan Armstrong**

### ***On offense struggling to get going:***

“No, it wasn't at all, I think it was just us. I think we really only stalled out coming out of half, those first two drives. I think we moved the ball. We pitch-and-catch the ball pretty well. We ran the ball well. And we just shot ourselves in the foot to be honest with you. I missed, I missed a throw to TK (Tavares Kelly) that could have got us down to the goal line. We know we had a miscue with the touchdown called back. And, you know, just we just can't have those. I mean that's all on me. We got to make sure everybody's situated, I got to make sure once situated on those things. I mean we once that happens it's, you know, we need those touchdowns when those games.”

### ***On touchdown being called back:***

“I believe the score was 10 or 13-7 something like that. You know that we could take the lead there, and then we'd be getting into halftime and I think we would have held that lead at halftime had the ball coming out. It's just a way different feeling towards the game. I mean, we still came out. We knew we were in it, but you know having that lead at half, a bigger play like that little scramble touchdown. You know that brings a lot of juice to the team. Defense would have stepped up. You just would have felt a different momentum going into there.”

### ***On handling multiple possessions without points:***

“We didn't score but we felt good, like the offense felt good. We were like alright, we're moving the ball. We had a big play, I took a sack one time brought us back, got us out of field goal range. We were moving the ball down into the red zone, making sure we would keep our field position if we did so happen to stall out, field position would be flipped. You know Miami would be starting back on their side. It wasn't demoralizing at all. Everyone was positive, just moving around ready to go because we knew we were going to score. It just didn't come.”