

Miami Hurricanes Football: Miami Student-Athletes Virginia – Postgame Press Conference Transcripts

Thurs., Sept. 30, 2021
Hard Rock Stadium

RB Cam’Ron Harris:

On how to move on from this game...

“Virginia’s a great team. It was just a tough loss that we had. We’ve got to come together as a team. We started off slow, but once the second half came, we came together as a team and dominated the second half. We just have to finish.”

On the difference between the two halves...

“Coming into the first half, the Virginia defense had great energy. It was really fast and physical early on. Our offense just wanted to wear the defense down and, in the second half, you could see the difference. Their defense started to get tired and we started to gas them.”

On Tyler Van Dyke’s performance...

“Being in Tyler’s situation was a hard situation to be in as a quarterback. In the first half, he was just trying to get comfortable and trying to get his rhythm. In the second half, he was making great reads and great decisions. All we have to do these next two weeks is give him more confidence.”

DL Zach McCloud:

On how the team looks ahead...

“As a team we all have the understanding that we still have a lot to fight for. Everything else on the outside, we can’t really focus on that. We care about each other. We want to play better for the man next to us. With that being the main thing, if we let up right now, we could easily just trash the season and throw it away. That would be the response that most people would have. That’s probably the response that, from the outside looking in, most people feel like is going on. But as a team, we always stress positivity, not just being happy or being positive for the sake of being positive, but also being optimistic and we have to understand where we can get better. Going into this bye week, if we spend the whole time being sad about a loss without taking the time to get better and learn a lesson from the loss, then that will show and we can’t let that happen.”

On Head Coach Manny Diaz...

“Coach Diaz is a great leader and a great man in general. He’s a great coach and I’m always going to wholeheartedly believe in him and everybody else that he has on this staff. I think that he is doing a great job of keeping the message clear in terms of what we need to do and what we need to believe in and

where we need to put our attention. Everybody has something to do to get better. Even if we were undefeated right now, there's something that we could be doing better. I'm just going to say I'm always going to support Coach Diaz."

On the defense's halftime adjustments...

"We were getting pressure on the quarterback early on and we wanted to stop the immediately available passes, the quick game, so the main adjustment was playing more man coverage; allowing those guys to stick their receivers so that we could allow our rush to get there. I think, in general, we generated more pressure as a defense in the second half. I can't say for sure, but for me, that's what it felt like."

QB Tyler Van Dyke

On leading the team and bouncing back tonight....

"I have to give credit to the offense, they really kept me up when things weren't going well. They told me to keep my head up and I just went out there and made plays in the second half. Guys made plays for me. Mike [Harley], Cam'Ron Harris ran the ball really well, Charleston Rambo, too, I'm just really proud of all those guys."

On the pressure of starting and nerves coming into the game...

"I wasn't nervous at all. I started out slow and it was really fast out there. I came back in the second half a lot more confident and saw things better. I'm proud of the team and proud of how we fought on both sides of the ball, and we're going to keep fighting."

On when the team decided to go for the last field goal...

"We were just trying to go down there and set up the ball for Andy [Borregales]. I thought we were in a good position to win the game right there. I had a lot of faith in Andy. He's going to make a lot of big kicks for Miami, so no one should be disappointed in him."

LB Corey Flagg, Jr.

On the emotions in the locker room...

"We lost, so it's not really good, emotionally. We'll try to go and win next game."

On his interception and overall performance of the defense...

"I saw the quarterback and I just read his eyes and took it to the ball. I thought we played good; we could've played better."

On Miami's comeback and his big play...

"Our quarterback, he's a good player. We took good covers and made good reads."

