

**OCTOBER 29, 2022**  
**VIRGINIA VS. MIAMI**  
**CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA. (SCOTT STADIUM)**  
**VIRGINIA HEAD COACH TONY ELLIOTT**

***On the offense's performance today:***

"We just needed to make one more play than they did. And they made a play there at the end and we didn't make a play. But it seems like that's been the theme with us offensively, is we're just leaving points on the field. There were several trips to the red zone. That's why you always tell them, guys like Lavel [Davis Jr.] he's trying hard but man find a way to keep your feet and score a touchdown. [Grant] Misch, he had the ball, got on him quick, and find a way to make the touchdown. Mike [Hollins], get the ball in the endzone. We knew coming into this game, and I challenged the guys offensively, the defensive line that Miami has is pretty good. They're pretty stout. They've played a lot of football, they're experienced. I knew that it was gonna be a challenge to run the football and we were going to have to do a good job to be able to protect, but there were some plays there. I think maybe the first or second play we got [Dontayvion] Wicks open, we got to make those plays. The guys continue to strain and continue to fight, I thought that overall, the team made progress. You look at two weeks ago versus Louisville, we were trying to give the game away early. Then we came back and battled through adversity. And then now we're in a four quarter overtime game all the way down to the end. So definitely not the outcome that we wanted and the guys are going to be sick when they watch those four or five, maybe six plays that would have made a big difference in the game that we didn't make."

***On the difficulty of preparing for overtime situations:***

"That was a tough situation there because you don't know if you're gonna go first. You don't know if you're gonna go second. You're kind of seeing if you need a touchdown. We knew that in our kicking situation we couldn't lose any yards; but at the same time too, we don't want to end the game by putting the ball in the air in some of those earlier overtime situations. And to a point you work on it [overtime situations] on Mondays, you work on it on Thursdays, and then there's gonna be some time on Wednesday, when you work all your redzone stuff to be able to have a plan for your overtime and you carry probably six or so, maybe seven plays that you feel good about in the low red, so it's not just two point [conversion], but it's third and three from the from the three, starting four from the four. So you're going to practice those plays all throughout the course of the week."

***On the improvement the defense has seen over this season:***

"I think as I've said, the influx of the guys on the D line has just brought competition. Competition and camaraderie. So when we go to the movie the night before [the game], I see Chico [Bennett], I see Kam [Butler], I see Paul [Akere] all sitting together. Those guys right there, if they're sitting together, and they're having fun, they're joking and they're competing on the field you've got a chance to have great chemistry and then it flows over to the linebacker spot and then you're seeing that the safeties are becoming more confident and then our corners are doing a good job of covering on the on the back end. They have found a way to stay hungry amidst the success so they're doing a good job of handling this success. I've got to do a better job of getting the offense and the special teams to play more complimentary football. I think if we can get that done, then what you're gonna see is a different

outcome on the scoreboard and these guys in the locker room are going to see what they're truly capable of.”