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## TENNESSEE TITANS AT MIAMI DOLPHINS HARD ROCK STADIUM Sep. 1, 2016 | 7 P.M.

### POSTGAME QUOTES

#### Miami Dolphins Head Coach Adam Gase (transcribed by Michelle Stone)

(On Xavien Howard's and Kenyan Drake's performances) – "Well, obviously we'll be able to go back tomorrow morning and look at the actual details, I look up the one time, I think X (Xavien Howard) got the ball caught on him. It was pretty tight coverage, a good throw-and-catch. Drake had a couple of good plays. I know he had a good load of work on special teams. We're just trying to make sure, kind of see where we thought he'd be good for us. We kind of put him into a couple of different spots. I was hoping to get him some more carries. It just didn't seem like the times that we got him that we had drives going on the series he was in."

(On interchanging players at the offensive guard position and if he thinks anything has been settled after tonight's game) – "I think we'll have a good idea of what we want to do for that first game but I think I said it a couple of days ago, there might be a chance that we play multiple guys in this game. We'll just keep working through where we're at in that situation and if we're playing two or three guys in the game that's what it is. Until someone just takes a hold of that thing, we'll just keep moving guys around."

(On Laremy Tunsil being the only rookie not playing and what lead to that decision) – "Well, the other day, obviously, was a little bit of a scare for him, so we were just being smart. In fact he did miss a day of practice. We were just trying to make sure, his health is the most important going into this thing. He said he was ready to go, so he was kind of probably a little more lobbying than what we were thinking. We were just like, once he went down, we decided that it probably wasn't the best thing for him to play."

(On feeling pretty good about what you've seen from him (Laremy Tunsil) this preseason) – "Yes, I've seen a guy who's improved since the first day he's been here. And obviously pass-protection is his strength so he's done a really good job in that area. We need to get some things cleaned up in the run game. A lot of times it's just calls coming out quick, understanding the angles, how the linebackers fill, so there's a little bit of a learning curve there."





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**(On assessing the running back situation)** – “I like our depth. The fact that it seems like we’ve had a lot of guys have success, whether it be in practice or in the preseason games. I know it hasn’t shown as far as our total group, but it seems like somebody’s flashed a little bit every game. The only disappointing thing is that we’re never healthy at the same time. Every time we went out to practice it was four different guys. I feel like DT (Daniel Thomas) might have been the only guy that was consistently out there. We’ll see how this shakes out here in the next two days, and see who we wind up keeping on the roster.”

**(On his final impressions of Jay (Ajayi))** – “I was a little disappointed that he put the ball on the ground. I feel like what he’s shown me in the spring and in training camp as far as being a guy that is reliable in the passing game. I don’t know the exact ball placement on second down – I’m not sure if it was behind him or if he dropped it – I know I have a lot of faith, even if the ball’s off target, he usually makes that play. I know it’s the fourth preseason (game). Everyone kind of looks at this game and shrugs their shoulders but any time you walk on that field it’s important. I would’ve liked to see him not – I don’t think we saw a ball on the ground the entire preseason as far with the running backs. To have that happen, I guess I expect better from him. I have higher standards for him.”

**(On did he like what he saw from Brandon Doughty)** – “Yes. He did a good job. He went in there with confidence, which, I don’t know if any of you guys have been around him, but he’s a very confident kid. He looked like he was loose. He was having fun and that’s what you want. You want him to be able to go out there and go through his progressions and make throws. The last thing we talked about with him was just, *Hey, make plays. Find a way to get completions.* He was loose and he did a really good job. The thing about him that’s been very impressive (is) he stands in there. He’s not afraid to get hit and deliver the ball. His toughness is very impressive.”





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(On how he feels about the team being prepared for the season opener in Seattle) – “I think we’ve grown a lot. I know from the spring, just thinking back to where we were when we started that first voluntary mini-camp, the growth that we had through the spring and through training camp...sometimes you had ups and downs where one guy dominated the other side and I feel like we’re levelling out some. As far as the competition goes, I feel like there’s been more days of steady competition between offense and defense. Heading into this game, we feel like we’re fairly healthy. I know we’ve got a couple of guys we need to reevaluate in the next couple of days and see where we’re at going into this game. I like our guys’ mindset. I love the way they practiced all training camp. I just don’t remember a day where I walked off the field thinking, *That was terrible on both sides of the ball*. I know at the scrimmage I was disappointed in the offense as far as the limited amount of snaps that we had and not performing, but for a really high percentage of the time the guys came out and they worked every day.”

(On which positions he feels will be the toughest to evaluate during roster cuts) – “I think a lot of it is going to be in the back end. We got to go back – you keep looking at the roster and seeing where you can kind of keep guys. Really, sometimes, the injuries play into it to. We have some things that we have to clean up as far as getting with our medical people and figuring out where everyone is at. Once we do that we can finalize that and figure out where really the tight spots are for us.”

(On how he feels the team performed this preseason when it came to turnovers, penalties and dropped passes) – “The penalties...as far as if they’re aggressive penalties, where you’re playing hard, you’re trying to do the right thing, I can live with those. Any time you have false starts, any time you have offsides, those are the ones that are frustrating to take. Illegal procedure penalties...I feel like we haven’t had a lot of those. I know in training camp we’ve had some rough days where both sides of the ball were taking their turns. But as far as turnovers go, obviously we’ll always be happy if we keep getting the ball like that. When we protect the ball, I thought our offense did a great job. They are getting their hands on the ball, especially in practice we haven’t really been turning it over on offense. So the fact that they are doing it in preseason games, it’s very encouraging.”

#### Miami Dolphins QB Brandon Doughty (transcribed by Ted Leshinski)

(What were your expectations after tonight?) – “Sit and wait and pray that I don’t get a call. I was kind of saying my goodbyes to some of these guys in case something happens. I’m really hoping that I make the 53 (-man roster). That’s a goal; it’s dream of mine. In reality, we know this is a business and numbers kind of don’t work your way sometimes.”





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**(Do you feel like you've done enough to prove that?)** – "I wish I would have played a little better in the last two games. We'll see what happens. (Head) Coach (Adam Gase) is in control, and we'll see what happens come tomorrow and the next day."

**(What kind of relationship do you have with QB Zac Dysert?)** – "We have a really good relationship. I don't really look at it as me and Zac were battling. I know that was kind of cool on Twitter and stuff, but I don't really look at it like that. That was just an opportunity for both of us to show what we got, and I thought Zac played pretty well. He made a couple of mistakes, but that's part of the game. It happens. I just tried to take advantage of my reps and tried to play it one play at a time. I got away from that a little bit in the last two games."

**(You said before the game that your family had season tickets here. So what was that like to come back and play here?)** – "It was a little surreal. To look – on the field – up at your season ticket (seats), it's like 'Holy cow. Am I really doing this?' The stadium looks unbelievable. It doesn't really look the same. If it was like an exact replica of (when I was younger) when we were playing (tonight), I think I would've threw up on the field." (laughter)

#### Miami Dolphins Running Back Kenyan Drake (transcribed by Jason D. Silver)

**(How did your hamstring respond tonight?)** – "It felt good. Just (going) out there (and) just running around felt good. (I) got a lot – a little burst – and look forward to continue the growth through it in the weeks to come."

**(You had a short run where you made a lot of moves, kind of changed direction, made a guy miss, it might have been a 3-yard play, but how did that run feel? Tell me what you saw from your perspective?)** – "Well, obviously, I guess the first thing is, it's not college anymore so I'm not going to outrace people around the edge when I am trying to reverse field. But it was good to kind of get a feel for the outside zone scheme in this offense and just continue to rely on my patience and rely on my blocks there to keep continuing to develop."

**(Can you talk about on the kick return, when your eyes lit up like 'Man, I see a seem there') –** "Yes, it kind of felt weird because when I was trying to run, I felt like I was trying to move a little faster than my legs were trying to go, so I kind of lost my balance then. I'm a little disappointed in that. But like I said, just being back on the field, just getting my feet wet a little bit, I was happy to be there."





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#### Miami Dolphins CB Tony Lippett (transcribed by Ted Leshinski)

(On making plays like the interception showing the advantage of being a long, tall corner) – “Yeah, I guess . . . I just tried to go up and make a play on the ball, that’s it.”

(On having receiver instincts after making the play) – “Yes, I knew once you catch a pick, usually that wide receiver will come back and try to strip the ball. So I tried to peak and see where he was at. I saw that he was blocked so I just tried to make something happen.”

(On feeling more comfortable this season) – “Yes, every day is a grind. Every day you try to get three percent better. You just continue to continue getting comfortable playing corner.”

(On your pick being a nice way to cap off the preseason) – “Yes, I guess it was a nice way. It’s not the end. I’m going to keep going into the season and keep striving for greatness and continue to try to make plays.”

#### Miami Dolphins CB Bobby McCain (transcribed by Ted Leshinski)

(On your interception, were you able to identify where the quarterback was going?) – “Yes. We were in a zone coverage. (With) zone, ‘See the ball thrown,’ that’s what they always say. (I) was able to go out and make plays and come down with a pick.”

(Can you describe how well training camp and preseason went for you now that it’s over?) – “It went well. I feel like I had a good one. You make progress, and that’s what you do every day. Even in season, you can still get better each and every day (by) going out, competing, going out and taking it day by day and doing your thing.”

(What specific thing do you think you’re better at right now than you were a year ago?) – “Being consistent with technique. That’s the biggest thing. That’ll keep you in the league, and that’ll get you paid, honestly – being consistent with technique and doing it every down, every snap, every series. At the end of the day, the ball will come your way.”





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#### Miami Dolphins Quarterback Ryan Tannehill (transcribed by Sara Perez)

(Ryan, what did you think of the offense's performance tonight?) – "We did some good things. Obviously, we didn't score the points we wanted to score, but I feel like the young guys got in there and guys who hadn't played much. It was good to see Kenyan (Drake) get some snaps (and) see him go a little bit. Daniel Thomas ran hard and had some big-play opportunities. It was good to see those young guys go out and make a few plays. Obviously we left a few out there, but (I) saw a lot of growth from the young guys throughout this camp and it was good to see them go out and have some success tonight."

(What kind of improvements do you think need to be made heading into Week 1 against Seattle?) – "We just have to keep plugging away. We're on the right track. We just have to keep taking advantage of every day, every practice, pushing ourselves (and) making ourselves get better on the little things. We're in good shape."

(How does it feel to complete the preseason and start preparing for the regular season?) – "It's exciting. It's a long time coming. You get excited for the offseason, for training camp; but now is when it counts. Now is when it gets really exciting and you get to see the hard work start paying off in the next few weeks."

#### Miami Dolphins DE Cameron Wake (transcribed by Sara Perez)

(How do you think the defense performed tonight?) – "I think they responded well. Things didn't start off the way, obviously, we probably wanted to, but they came back and guys fought and made a lot of plays in the second half. At least, that shows a fight, shows guys coming out taking coaching, taking direction and coming out in the second half making the changes that they needed to."

(What areas are you and the defense looking to improve upon before Game 1 of the regular season?) – "We just (have) to come together and start playing consistently. We have a lot of talent – a lot of guys who can make plays, a lot of guys getting after the ball – but coming together and playing together consistently. We've had a couple ups and downs throughout the preseason. It's hard to rate things – especially because some of the guys aren't in the whole time, and you're changing the rotations – but for the most part, (it is about) getting out there and playing a full game and everybody playing hard. I think the first one will be a lot of fun."





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**(What part of getting into the regular season are you most excited about?)** – “For me, personally, it’s getting back and playing with the fellas, because I’ve been out for an extended offseason, being that I got hurt last year. It’s long overdue, but I know a lot of the fellas, we’re tired of hitting guys wearing the same color. Getting out there and actually being on the same side and playing together and complementing each other – offense, defense, special teams – I think that’s what’s going to be the most fun.”

Tennessee Titans Head Coach Mike Mularkey (transcribed by Frank Brill)

**(Did you see what you wanted to see in the preseason finale?)** – “Well, we wanted to win, so we saw that. That was important. I’m happy with the defense getting a turnover on the first play. I’m happy with the offense scoring a touchdown off of the turnover. Those are things good teams do and I’m pretty pleased with it.”

**(You had QB Marcus Mariota go through warm ups and sat him out, I knew that was the plan probably for you in your mind leading up to this, could you maybe talk through that one?)** – “There was a number of them that I decided and I told them after the coin toss so they were prepared to play all the way up until we were getting ready to kick it off. I wanted them to mentally prepare for the game – to do everything they would do to get ready to play the game, all the way to being on the sideline for the coin toss. That was part of it.”

**(What do you think about RB Antonio Andrews performance?)** - “He ran very tough, very physical. He runs our style and he did a lot of good things. I’ll have to see more but I’m talking about the run game – watching how he moved piles and scored on a 4-yard run with not a whole lot there. I thought he did some good things.”

**(RB Derrick Henry did the same thing when he was in there, was it more of the same for him from what you saw?)** - “Yes, he’s been consistent for four games and we’ve seen some really good production from him. That was the last run and I’m glad he broke it like he did before the play was called so they could give him the last one and get him out. A big run, a big physical run. He’s shown everything he’s capable of doing for four games now. ”

**(I know you liked CB Kalen (Reed) a lot and you said he was really good in practice this week but clearly had some struggles)** – “Yes, he struggled and I’m going to take that hit for putting him in there. He made two poor decisions and then he should have come out but I did not do that. That’s nobody’s fault but mine and that’s the result when you don’t do something that you should do.”







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**(You're still looking for an answer out of the return unit?)** – "I wanted to give (Kalen Reed) an opportunity. I was hoping to get him some kickoff returns but that wasn't the case. But I thought Kevin Byard, when we made the switch, I thought he made some good decisions and I think he's a dangerous guy with the ball in his hands."

**(How much did it help getting CB Perrish Cox some work leading up to the regular season?)** – "It was important. He played more than the rest of the regulars and he looked good. He was moving around very well. I think he's back."

**(What's your assessment of WR Justin Hunter tonight?)** – "To me, those throws are throws where we're not taking what the defense was giving us. That ball shouldn't have been to Justin, that should have been down to Derrick Henry. So that's not Justin, that was a very good route by him. There's things that I'll have to watch on the complete tape but those were not good decisions by Alex (Tanney). He knows that now, obviously, but going in, the big goal was to take what the defense gives you and we didn't do that. The result was two picks."

**(Did any of the young guys catch your eye tonight?)** – "I didn't think they could block Mehdi (Abdesmad). Watching him, I thought he was in the backfield a lot. He just kept showing up in the backfield. Tre (McBride) made some plays and Tre did some things that he could do better. (Sebastian) Tretola I thought played physical in the run game. He's really gotten better and better since he's gotten here."

**(Tre McBride has told us that he's giving you everything he has, has he done that and has he built on that tonight?)** – "He does. He comes to work every day and does everything he can. He wants to please, he wants to do good and he's really fun to be around the way he works. There are things that he needs to get better at that didn't show up in your guys eyes, that I see. He needs to be more consistent in some of those things but he made some plays and that's what he needed to do tonight. I'm glad he got the opportunities that he got to make those plays."

**(Do RB Bishop Sankey and WR Justin Hunter have a role on this team?)** – "That's all in discussion. (General Manager) Jon (Robinson) and I will talk about that, I'm sure, on the plane ride. We're going to watch the film again. I'd hate to make any judgment on anybody until I watch film over and over. We'll talk about it tomorrow."







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(What was your message to the team after a game like this when you have some tough decisions on the horizon?) – “The last thing that I said to them was that the coaching staff appreciates everybody in this room, for the effort and what they’ve done since April. They’ve done everything we’ve asked them to do and they’ve played the style that we play. Obviously we can’t keep everybody but nobody can walk out of here and leave that building when we make these decisions and not be proud of themselves for what they did. They did everything they could. Unfortunately we can’t keep them all.”

(Any injuries of note?) – “No, we came out healthy.”

#### Tennessee Titans RB Antonio Andrews (transcribed by David Norwood II)

(On his two touchdown performance to wrap up the preseason) – “Oh yes, I just come out there take advantage of my opportunities and just punch it in when your time’s called.”

(On showing his physicality during his last preseason opportunity) – “Oh yes, everybody knows my running style. It’s really just going out there showing them I can play special teams, and that I got my wind up and really just rock with it.”

(On handling what he could control this offseason) “Oh yes I control all controllers by far. No worries, play their cards and see how they land.”

#### Tennessee Titans CB Perrish Cox (transcribed by Sara Perez)

(In the Titans locker room with Cornerback Perrish Cox, who played roughly three series in his return from injury this evening, feel good?) – “It felt good. I really wanted to get the game feeling under my belt. I wish I would have got a little bit more action than I did, but just to get out there with my teammates and make the calls, just get on the same page and fit my gaps and run to the ball. That’s really all I needed. I’ve been here long enough, I kind of know what to expect; but I think we’re all ready for Week 1.”

(The coaches gave you plenty of time to get that ankle right before you returned.) – “No doubt, no doubt. The trainers worked with me really hard. They were great as far as the healing time, especially the strength coaches as you can see my traps are finally too big. (Laughter) that’s all I really





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did was lift. Like I said, they did a great job by getting me back on the field. I was able to play the last game and I'm ready for Week 1."

**(I know you and CB Jason McCourty have joked to each other about being healthy and playing together in this defense, that's the goal for Week 1?)** – That's kind of been the goal. We've been talking about that since last year. It was a frustrating year for the both of us. He went out in the first couple games; I was in. By the time he came back, I was out. We were never really on the field together, so we have been talking about that a lot. Like I said our DB coach, Deshea (Townsend), he's also been talking about it and that's all we're looking forward to, is being on the field at the same time and making plays."

#### Tennessee Titans Running Back Derrick Henry (Armando Gonzalez)

**(How much more comfortable, how much more confident are you around the football now compared to the start of the preseason?)** – "More comfortable. I got more repetition (and) more experience. It starts up front and the guys did a great job blocking.

**(Offense seems to be in sync heading into the regular season?)** - "Yes, I feel like we're rolling (with) a head full of steam into the regular season. I feel like we had a good preseason – a good training camp. Guys got better and competed every day and made each other better on both sides of the ball."

**(Now with RB DeMarco Murray, do you see it more as a mentorship or more as a friendly competition, how would you characterize your guys' relationship?)** - "I mean whenever I have advice, he's willing to help me out if I have any questions or things like that. You know we're still competing, getting each other better every day with the way we work and go out there and work hard all throughout the week."

**(You haven't had to go through a preseason before, are you kind of glad that this one is over?)** - "I mean it is fun that football is back. We love playing in games and playing a different opponent. It was a fun preseason. (We went) 3-1, so I feel good about that and get rolling into the season."





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#### Tennessee Titans Quarterback Marcus Mariota (Armando Gonzalez)

**(How much fun was to watch the young guys play and some of the backups to get the chance?)** – “You know I enjoy it. A lot of those guys I came in with in my rookie class and it’s fun to see them excel and get some success. It’s being a part of a team, I enjoy going out there and watching those guys play.”

**(How quickly does the mood change, is on the flight home now regular season mode, do you feel that immediately?)**– “I’m sure once you go into work tomorrow it’s all full-steam ahead into the regular season. That’s got to be the mentality and enjoy this win, enjoy what we’ve done up to this point, but really it doesn’t really mean anything. It’s our opportunity now to take what we’ve learned this offseason and build upon it for the regular season.”

**(Do you feel like this offensive team is ready for the regular season?)**– “Definitely. We’ve had some ups and downs but at the same time I think we’ve had a lot more ups than we have downs. It’s good to build off of, having success, sustaining drives. I think we’ve built a solid resume up to this point for the regular season.”

#### Tennessee Titans Outside Linebacker Brian Orapko (transcribed by Jason D. Silver)

**(On the defensive’s performance overall tonight)** – “Oh I thought we did a phenomenal job. Guys flying around, making a name for themselves. We emphasize on starting fast, getting off the field when need be and we did so. Hats off because guys really working their tails off to have that happen and I really thought that we had a good overall effort out there today.”

**(On getting ready for game one of the season)** – “Do the same thing. Emphasize on starting fast and being physical throughout the whole 60 minutes and I think we’ll be fine. It’s going to definitely be a tough task against the Vikings but I think we’re up for it. It’s going to be a good game between the two teams.”

**(On if he feels the team made any improvements this preseason)** – “Not really off the top of my, but we did improve on our depth. That’s one thing we’ve been trying to emphasize: depth at all positions, competition at all positions. We really are a two-deep team so if anybody goes down throughout the season, which is possibly, most likely will happen, the guy behind will be able to come in and really fill his shoes. So, depth is very important and I really feel like we have some now.”





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Tennessee Titans Quarterback Alex Tanney (transcribed by Taylor Scott)

(Alex, it is the end of preseason for the Titans, how will you get ready for next week's game?) – "Everything with me is just trying to improve and taking advantage of the reps I can get, trying to take the stuff that we're talking about in the classroom and take it to the practice field. (I am) just trying to work on improvement."

(Alex, how do you think you performed tonight?) – "I can't turn the ball over. I did it twice, so (it was) not great."

(What do you think the team needs to improve for next week's game?) – "I just think we need to focus on the game plan the coaches are going to put together this weekend and go out there and execute that next weekend."

