



TENNESSEE TITANS AT MIAMI DOLPHINS

HARD ROCK STADIUM

Oct. 9, 2016 | 1 P.M.

POSTGAME QUOTES

Tennessee Titans Quarterback Marcus Mariota (transcribed by Alex Onaindia)

(Marcus, how good did it feel to get off to a good, fast start today? How much do you think it helped you guys?) – “It was huge, to just kind of get the ball rolling a little bit and keep momentum. All around, I thought the guys up front did a great job. They controlled the line of scrimmage and really allowed us to do what we want.”

(Is this the blueprint for you guys, to start with the run and then build the passing game off of that?) – “Absolutely. Obviously it’s going to change from week to week, but if we can run the football the way we did today, it will really open up some things in the passing game and help us out.”

(You were able to run it seemed like when you needed to. What did you see out there?)– “It just kind of happened. Some of those things are the receivers getting downfield and blocking well. A lot of it was just the pocket kind of opened up and I saw some open lanes and took off.”

(You completed passes to eight different receivers today. Is it important to spread the ball around like that or is that something you are going for?) – “It’s just kind of how it happened. For me, I don’t really try to key on one guy. That makes it tough on the defense. If we can be versatile and get everybody involved, it’s going to really help us out to have more options.”

(Do you feel like this was your most complete effort today, from beginning to end?) – “As a team? Absolutely. If we can continue this, hopefully we can build it for the rest of the year. All in all, I thought the defense played great. As an offense, we were able to move the ball and special teams did some good things as well.”

(Coach Mularkey indicated that he thought that drive right before halftime was really important. Can you talk about that drive to get back down there and take the lead before halftime?) – “Yes, we practice the 2-minute (offense) every week. We’re comfortable in it. I thought the receivers did a great job of finding some open holes in the zones and a couple of times just blocking down the field. We took advantage of some things. Delanie (Walker) ran a good route and was able to get up the seam and catch that for a touchdown.”

(What’s the feeling like in the huddle when you are having success running the ball, getting 8, 9, 10 yards a carry?) – “I know those guys up front love it. We all do. It’s a staple of our offense and really gets us going. Like we talked about, it really opens up a lot of different things.”





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(With the no huddle (does it) get you in that zone toward the end of halves? You were 5-for-5 on that touchdown drive before halftime. Against the Lions, that game-winning drive where you completed all nine passes. Do you just get in the zone or does it have something to do with the formations and tempo?) – “It’s hard to say. I think I’ve just operated in that kind of realm for a long time so I’m really comfortable in it. And a lot of that is just credit to the guys. They found ways to get open and we were able to just move the ball down the field.”

(Did Rishard Matthews’ ball just hang in the air? Did that one come off like you wanted it to? It seemed like it hung a little bit even though he was able to get it. What was your feeling when it left your hand?) – “Yes. We practiced that in terms of just throwing the ball to that back pylon because the defenders in that area are taught to undercut it, especially on shallow routes like that. I kind of anticipated it, I gave him enough room and he made a great play on the ball.”

(You’re 2-3 now with three home games coming up in a row. What are your thoughts on the opportunity that you guys have ahead of you?) – “For us, it’s one day at a time. (We) can’t look too far in the future and just got to continue to get better. There are things that we can correct. It’s nice that we’ll be home for a few weeks now but hopefully this will build into some momentum. Just take it one day at a time, get better and get ready for next week.”

(Any sense of relief in the turnover free, efficient offense? Is it reassuring that things can click on all cylinders?) – “Yes. For me, it’s important to get one of those under your belt where you’re not turning the ball over; you’re not putting the defense in bad situations. For me, it was important. All in all, I thought the guys did a great job of taking care of the football, especially in those 4-minute situations when the defenders are trying to knock the ball out and trying do whatever they can to get the ball back. I thought DeMarco (Murray) and the running backs did a good job of holding on to the ball.”

(When the running game is working like that, what does that mean for the offense?) – “It’s a staple of our offense. It’s something for us that will open up a lot of different options, like it did today. When you’ve got guys in the backfield like DeMarco (Murray) and Derrick (Henry), they can really just pound it inside and get some yards going. We’ll stay ahead of the chains and move the ball.”

(How much does a game like this help your confidence where you guys are able to have success to do what you do on offense) – “Any time you get a win here in this league, it feels good. It’s a tough league. We’ve been on the wrong side of a lot of these for the last couple of years, so every





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time we get a chance to enjoy one of these, we will; but it's going to really help us in terms of momentum for these next three home games."

(Do you feel like you needed a game like this to kind of help get you going as well too?) – "Not necessarily. I just try to do my job out there. I try to take it one play at a time, put our offense in the best situations and let those guys make the plays."

(How much does this set the standard for the offense going forward? How much do you expect it to look like this?) – "It is the standard and that is something for us to always improve on. There are things that we left out there on the field that will help us out. It's good to get a win like this. It's good to score points the way that we did; but again, there are things we can improve on, correct and get better for next week."

(Talk about the throw to Delanie, the 20-yard touchdown that he caught) – "He did a great job winning inside his one-on-one match up. It was a look the offensive coordinator felt that we could kind of take a shot there with that. Delanie did a great job of winning and he did the rest."

