



Los Angeles Rams – Miami Dolphins Postgame Quotes – November 20, 2016

Rams Head Coach Jeff Fisher

(Opening remarks)

“Probably one of the most disappointing losses I’ve endured over the years, particularly because of everything that went into the game: the opportunities for (QB) Jared (Goff) to start here at home and all those things, and the fact that we’re coming off of a win. Knowing that we were going to play a good football team today, to play three and a half quarters of good football, even though we didn’t get the points and then to let things slip away in the last six minutes was really disappointing, but that’s the National Football League. We’ve got a lot of things to improve on. I’m disappointed with penalties they contributed. Your defense holds someone scoreless for three and a half quarters, and against a good offense, and all of a sudden you give up two touchdown drives with penalties. It’s not good. This is one that we’ll look at from a standpoint of they found a way to win the game, and I have great respect for (Dolphins Head Coach) Adam (Gase) and their organization and the players that they acquired and they played well. They overcame some injuries in this game, but we beat ourselves today with penalties and allowing big plays in the last two drives.

“As far as Jared’s concerned, he did a really good job. No delay-of-games, was in complete control in the huddle, did a nice job on the line of scrimmage. I was disappointed in the outcome of the game, but I think you could see the light. There’s light there for him, so we’ll continue to allow him to get ready and to continue to progress. Obviously disappointed to go into the last six minutes of the game and be up by 10 and lose it. We’ll get them back. That’s the nature of our business, we’ll get them back.”

(On controlling the pressure put on QB Jared Goff)

“We were trying to get the run game going. We were trying to manage the clock, their time outs, the two-minute warning that they had, we didn’t take the shot and we came up a couple of yards short. There was nothing from an offensive standpoint that was minimized because of Jared. There were a lot of things that they did, like anyone would do when you’re facing a first-time starting rookie, but I thought he handled things very well.”

(On whether the secondary suffered without having a sub in CB Troy Hill)

“No, we subbed. We were fine. We subbed. We had a plan. Troy made a bad decision. We’ll deal with that tomorrow. We subbed around him and we were okay. (CB Trumaine Johnson) Tru didn’t practice this week, particularly for two reasons, because of injury and then illness. Then (DB) Lamarcus (Joyner) didn’t practice much this week, but we felt good about him. So, no, we’ll deal with Troy tomorrow.”

(On DE Robert Quinn’s performance)

"Rob had a rough week, but he came on strong, feels good. We felt like he was going to be fine. It was interesting that he was playing their third left tackle. There was some stuff going on as far as the depth of the tackle and Rob lining up, and we'll look at it tomorrow."

(On what QB Jared Goff is going to take from today)

"I hope he's really disappointed. Not in his own play, but the fact that we lost the game. I think each and every player in the locker room needs to look at themselves and say, 'Okay how do we avoid these things from happening?' Whether that's (DT) Aaron (Donald) on roughing the passer, or that's (LB Alec Ogletree) 'Tree' on the hit out of bounds, or that's (T) Greg (Robinson) with the block in the back, those are the kind of things that you can't have in close games. Unfortunately, where we are right now offensively we're going to have to play good defense and get turnovers. We answered after the turnover and came right back and (S Maurice Alexander) 'Mo' made a great play in the end zone, and it's the first time (Dolphins QB Ryan Tannehill) Ryan's thrown a pick in five or six weeks, and we made the play. We had some momentum, we just couldn't take advantage of it."

(On RB Todd Gurley's performance)

"I thought Todd played really hard. He made some plays. It's just getting him the carries and things, but I thought he played hard. He ran the football well and had some plays. I look at the halftime stats and they're 0-for-5 on third down and we're 1-for-6. It's hard to get Todd the touches that you want."

(On QB Jared Goff's comfort level)

"If you know Jared, your perception is that he's a gun slinger. You don't think that he has the mobility that he does. Well he does. He showed that today. He extended that play, we got a good spot, it was a first down then it was called back because of the penalty on (T) Greg (Robinson), and who knows what would have happened after that. I made the decision which is fourth-and-1, or fourth-and-1.5, we're in (K) Greg Zuerlein's range, and I felt like a field goal at that point would put them two scores behind, this game would be over, and Greg hit the upright."

(On the penalties being a contributing factor on the defense toward the end of the game)

"Yeah, it was a contributing factor. The penalties really changed field position and gave them shots, and they got down. Talking on the headsets to (Defensive Coordinator) Gregg (Williams) saying, 'Okay threes, threes. Threes are okay, touchdowns are not.' Then they made the plays in the end zone. Defense is going to be disappointed. You don't want to play us next week because the defense is going to be upset."

(On QB Jared Goff's composure in different situations)

"I feel really good about it. There were a couple of things where he got hit, and I told (Offensive Coordinator) Rob (Boras) - because Rob's on the communication device to him - and just asked if he was okay and he gave a thumbs up. He's okay and he's ready to go the next play. He was really into it. I was really proud of him. It's hard to praise any one of your players in a loss like this, but when all eyes were on our quarterback, I thought he handled this game pretty well. I'm looking forward to him having another real week of preparation. What greater challenge can you imagine, being in his shoes, than going down and competing against (Saints QB) Drew Brees. That's a huge challenge for a young quarterback."

(On the potential of the offense as QB Jared Goff gets more experience)

"I think we'll make more plays and we'll do different things. Their defense was second or third in the league in third down efficiency, and obviously very good against the run. They did an outstanding job building that team with (Dolphins DT Ndamukong) Suh and the rest of the guys. If we got behind the chains, meaning second-and-10, we need to get something back. The design is to pick up four or five yards and then quick passing game, it's not to take your shots, and that's what we tried to do so we could complete drives."

(On the excitement level of the crowd)

"The crowd, yeah. The crowd was great. Yeah, they were great. They knew what to expect. They saw our future here today. They were really good. I'm just disappointed for them and for us that we weren't able to hang on and win this game."