



ARIZONA CARDINALS AT MIAMI DOLPHINS HARD ROCK STADIUM

Dec. 11, 2016 | 1 P.M.

POSTGAME QUOTES

Arizona Cardinals Head Coach Bruce Arians (transcribed by Frank Brill)

(Opening Statement) – “You’ve got to be really proud of a bunch of guys who had to step up in this game because we had guys going down left and right. We played the fourth quarter without a nickel and ‘Betts’ Defensive Coordinator (James Bettcher) did a hell of a job coming up with some things to play defense and to keep us in the game and offensively we were down to our last offensive lineman, and if we would have gotten the ball back we would have had to make another shift. I’m proud of them; they gave a great effort, the last three minutes of the game we didn’t win it. We played a hell of a fourth quarter up until the last three minutes. We make all the stops, and of course it starts pouring when we get the damn ball back and it’s very, very tough throwing it at that point in time. You’re obviously not going to run it with a minute and fifty (seconds) so you’ve got to throw it and the first ball slips out of his hands. They made a nice play, we blitzed them, they made a nice play to get down there. I thought we created a fumble but it was close. We just didn’t make the plays, didn’t make the plays to win the game.”

(How about the special teams play that cost you seven points?) – “The poor snap on the extra point gets two points, and the ball hits the upright, and that’s five big points, and in this game that’s the winner. On road games they always are the winners.”

(Did the rain affect you more than you would have thought normally it would have?) – “Rain is one thing, pouring down soaking wet balls is another. Obviously RB David (Johnson) drops it, QB Carson (Palmer) drops the snap when we were going to toss it around the corner for about 20 (yards), but you still have to do it. We practiced with a wet ball on Wednesday, and didn’t have any problems-but when it continually pours when you have the ball, which was kind of odd, it’s tough, it makes it tough.”

(What do you tell your team after this one, obviously there was a lot made of needing this win?) – “The playoffs are what they are. We’re going to show up for work Wednesday and get ready to play New Orleans at home. Again, let it all end up in the end, but we’re showing up for work Wednesday and go to work whether the playoffs are in our out, I don’t really give a care.”

(WR J.J. [Nelson] gave you a nice boost early and late, is it nice to see those two plays from him?) – “J.J.’s had a real good month. He’s added the things we thought he could add to our offense.”





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(What did Defensive Coordinator [James] Bettcher to adjust when you were down so many DB's?) - "Well, it took a bunch of blitzes away, all of our zone blitzes because no one plays nickel, and basically just played man to man, and rushed five as much as we could, and still try to stop the run. We had 'Britt' (WR Britton Golden) back there at safety when SS Tony (Jefferson) got hurt for a play, and thank god he could come back in."

(Is this win tough because the way you came back, this could have really been a lift for this team?) - "Oh there's no doubt. There was never doubt in my mind that we were going to win the game, until we got the ball back and it started pouring. I knew it was going to be tough sledding then."

(It looked like they were almost going to shoot themselves in the foot at the end there, one second, was it questionable?) - "I thought it was very questionable whether that second was on that clock. Thank god... home teams do not run the clock, the NFL does or you'd really have a storm."

