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## NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS AT MIAMI DOLPHINS HARD ROCK STADIUM

Jan. 1, 2017 | 1 P.M.

### POSTGAME QUOTES

#### New England Patriots TE Martellus Bennett (transcribed by Armando Gonzalez)

**(What did you think of WR Michael Floyd's block on the WR Julian Edelman touchdown?) –** "I thought it was excellent. It was a great play; guys are making plays in different ways and that's an extra 50 yards because Julian's not that fast [laughter] so they were probably going to catch him, so that block was a big play for us. We needed something to happen right there. Julian read the blitz and then made a good play and then Michael made an excellent play. Michael is a really strong receiver. We noticed that from the day we got here, I told him to come over here to the tight end spot but he was like 'No.'"

**(You finished the season with a little over 700 yards, set a new career high in receiving touchdowns. How much fun is this first season with the Patriots been?) –** "It's been cool. I just go out there. I don't get too many of the balls but when I do, I try to catch them all. So that was one of my goals. coming into the game, I was like 'I need to get at least 32 yards,' and I got 33, so I was like 'Alright, you guys can continue to throw the ball wherever you all want to.' (Laughter) You set goals and 650 yards doesn't sound as good. It's like, 'Oh, yeah, 700 (yards). It was a good year so it was cool.' Every ball, every yard counts, especially when you get to the end of the road, so it's cool. I'm in Year 9 and the season is basically over besides playoffs, but I'm going on my 10th year and I'm still being able to make strides in my numbers and different things as a player."

**(The touchdown you had across the field on play action, they didn't hit you at the line of scrimmage. When they don't jam you, when they don't chuck you there, do your eyes light up knowing you're going to get on those guys very quickly?) –** "Yes, I mean anytime I get free release it's always much better than having a nine-technique right outside of me and then a point. It's always hard to get a release on different routes. If I get free release, I feel like I can just run and do whatever I want to do on my routes and really set them up. When they bang you, it's a lot of respect; but these defensive ends, I know playing the Dolphins that they don't really do that. They just want to get up the field and rush, so they're not really touching you like when we play 3-4 teams or if they're in an 'under double,' their Sam (linebacker) doesn't really chuck the tight end, so for the most part, I knew I was going to get free releases for the game."

