



MIAMI DOLPHINS AT NEW YORK JETS METLIFE STADIUM Sep. 24, 2017 | 1:00 P.M.

POSTGAME QUOTES

All Transcripts (transcribed by the New York Jets)

Miami Dolphins Head Coach Adam Gase

On how he evaluates the game...

They just beat the (heck) out of us. That's the best way to put it. We didn't show up, didn't play physical, the defense did the best they could with 40 minutes of time of possession. The offense was just three-and-out. We just didn't have anything going.

On what made the offense out of sync...

Just not enough positive yards and they're teeing off on us on third-and-long. We were third-and-six-plus the whole game. If we're going to do that then Todd (Bowles) is always going to have a good package for us and that's what he did. They just put too much pressure on us where we couldn't get open fast enough.

On Jay Cutler's struggles...

It's hard for me to tell when you're watching it and you just see an incompleteness. It's hard to tell exactly what's going on, whether he was pressured or just wasn't aligned right, feet weren't right, or had good throwing mechanics. I've got to look at it on tape before I say anything like that.

On what he can say to his team after the loss...

There's nothing to say. Look at the scoreboard.

On if he sensed this week during practice that there was a chance for today's poor performance...

Nope.

On Jay Ajayi's game...

You watched the game. He couldn't get through anything. Guys were in the backfield so fast.

On if there was poor communication at the end of the game...

No. We got the result we wanted. We're not going to score 20 points in 30 seconds. Just trying to get good plays, just making sure our guys were good.

On why he decided to run a fake punt...

Try to get something going. Figured we could complete a ball on the punt team.

On if the hurricane or travel affected their performance...

No idea. All I know is we're going to line up on Sunday and play. So if somebody has an issue with that, they better check their profession.





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On how they can jumpstart the offense earlier...

Score points. Get a first down. Might be a start for us to get a first down.

Miami Dolphins QB Jay Cutler

On their offensive difficulties...

I think early on we were in a lot of third-and-longs, which is tough against this defense with the multiple fronts and coverages they were showing us. After that, we got one dimensional and got into a throwing situation. We didn't help our defense at all and didn't help ourselves.

On if they were having communication problems early on when they had to call time out...

I'll take responsibility for that. I've got to get everybody set and make sure everybody is on the same page. It can't happen again. It's an unfortunate situation there. It put ourselves in third and impossible.

On if communication issues continued throughout the game...

We were passing every play. We're trying to get everyone lined up. We're getting a little bit tired because I don't know how many times we threw the ball there at the end of the game. We just have to do a better job there (in the) first quarter, second quarter of getting first downs and trying to sustain drives.

On his teammates saying the team had a bad week of practice...

I think anytime you go out there and play like that, you're going to go back and look at what you did at practice and refine some things and change some things and try to get better. That was a good defense we saw, but I believe we're a good offense. We have a lot of talent. We'll go and look at this game tomorrow and figure things out and go back to practice. That's all we can do.

On if the team is road weary...

I don't know. On one side, you'd say that's fair and on the other, that's the NFL. You just have to deal with it. Like you said, we're not going to make excuses. We felt prepared going into this game. We just laid an egg. We've got to figure out why that happened this week and practice better and get ready for this next one.

On what disappoints him most about today...

We didn't help the defense. The way we played on offense, we didn't give them a chance. They held them to 20 (points), which is unbelievable the way we played on offense. We couldn't get a first down those first three or four series. It was first down, second down, third down, punt. You're not going to win any games doing that.

On if the protests before the game were a distraction...

We just stood and locked arms. I think we were just supporting each other. I don't think that's too out of line or something that can be misconstrued as us not being focused on the game because we were. You can look at our





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practices. There are good days and bad days. There are good plays and bad plays, but everyone was focused and everyone felt like they were prepared.

On the president's comments on player advocacy...

I don't think my comments are going to help the situation. I want to support my teammates the best that I can. I'd do anything for those guys in there even though I've only been here a month or so. They give us everything they can out there. Off the field, I want to help and support them anyway they need it.

On how they will get ready to play in London next week...

I think that game was a wakeup call for us. We can't just roll out there and expect it to happen. We have to prepare. We've got to be ready each and every game because it doesn't matter who your opponent is and if they've won one game, zero games or 10 games. You can lose each and every week in this league. It's done. You look at the scores each week and there's an underdog winning and there's somebody getting blown out. That happened to us today. It should be a wakeup call for our entire team that we've got to get it together.

Miami Dolphins WR Jarvis Landry

On his teammates kneeling...

We're a team, we're a family. We stick together, we stand by our teammates and we stand by our family, and that's exactly what we did today.

On the offense...

We didn't move the ball like we wanted to today. There are things that we did well and there are a lot of things we need to work on. We have to figure out a way to get back in there tomorrow and figure out what it is and attack next Sunday in London.

On Mr. Ross being on the sideline during the national anthem...

It means everything, all of the owners stepping up and finding a way to create a sense of unity. For him to be here today and lock arms with us, it's amazing.





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Miami Dolphins DT Ndamukong Suh

On how they Dolphins will get passed this loss...

Just got to go back and watch the film. I'll probably watch it on the plane. Get prepared. Like you said, we've got a short week, then we'll be on the road, got to go to London. At the end of the day, we just didn't execute and they capitalized on mistakes. We can't allow that to happen.

On what surprised him the most about today's game...

Our lack of execution, especially with understanding exactly what they were going to do on the offensive side of the ball. And really what they did was capitalized on the mistakes that we made. So, that's probably the biggest disappointment, especially last game where we were in a situation where we couldn't make mistakes, and whoever made a mistake obviously lost a game. We were kind of in that same situation and we were the ones who made the mistake.

On whether there were any hints leading in this game that the team had an issue...

In my opinion, no. I think what we've got to understand is, regardless of what time of year it is, or wherever it is, guys just have to lock in each and every week. Practice is never going to be perfect. We obviously plan to (be) perfect and strive for that but there's going to be mistakes, just like there are mistakes in games. Understand that we just have to go out there and understand going back to practice and being on a short week, we [have to be] that much more in tune in what we have to get done.

Miami Dolphins S Michael Thomas

On when he learned Adam Gase and Stephen Ross would join them in locking arms during the national anthem....

I knew immediately after the comments by the president. We didn't want to have a team meeting about it but we knew it had to be addressed. It was completely different than the meeting we had last year in Seattle. Last year, nobody in the NFL was saying anything publicly supporting us. To see it now and where we are today, you can't tell me we haven't made a difference.

On his last communication with Colin Kaepernick...

Probably last year when I took a knee. It's been a while. We don't talk often. We "like" each other's posts on social media and show support that way but we don't talk every day.

On why he locked arms during the anthem instead of kneeling...

Once we decided as a team to do something, this includes black players and white players saying, "what can we do?" some said they didn't want to take a knee but wanted to support. Nobody was opposed to locking arms. Some players wanted to take a knee. For me, it was big to have everybody who didn't support us last year or who might have been against us last year to be with us now. That includes the coaching staff and ownership.





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On if locking arms instead of kneeling will lessen criticism...

People are going to criticize regardless. But it does take a little of the heat away because it's not just one or two players, it's an entire organization.

On if locking arms during the anthem will last the entire season...

This wasn't the original plan. This year we were going to focus on what we do in the community. Things change quickly. On Wednesday, we did a piece with Tony Dungy that might air on Sunday Night Football where we said we weren't going to take a knee this year but work in the community. But Friday night comes, the president makes those comments, and things change. To see the progress and see how many people have joined this conversation is huge.

On his first thoughts after learning about the president's comments...

It just amazed me that with everything going on in the world, especially in the United States, and this is what you're concerned about? As a man, a father, an African-American man, as someone in the NFL who you called a "SOB", I took it personally. But it's bigger than me. I have a daughter, she must live in this world. I want to make sure she can look at her dad and say he tried to make a change.

Miami Dolphins DE Cameron Wake

On the positive takeaways from today's game...

It's hard right now. I am actually really itching to look at the tapes. It kind of baffles me on what just happened. I am drawing a blank right now, but I will be sure to figure it out soon.

On the team's practices leading up to the game...

I am scratching my head looking for any avenue to figure out what caused the issue. Practice may have been the cause, but I don't know. It's frustrating knowing the opportunity we have in front of us. Knowing the players and personnel that we have in the locker room. To come out and play the way we did, it is unacceptable.

On whether the team overlooked the New York Jets...

I don't think so. I think it's hard to win in this league. Any given Sunday as they say. The Jets came out today and played better than we did. It's not a situation on whether we overlooked or not. This is the NFL. These are the best players in the world no matter what team or scenario. If you don't give your very best, you're going to end up with the short end of the stick.

On the feeling in the locker room after the loss...

Shock, anger, disappointment, frustration. To be very honest, I don't think it was a game we should have lost. And I definitely think we shouldn't have come out and let them beat us the way they did. I feel like whatever needs to be done, it has to be fast so we can get back on track. No one is going to wait for you to figure it out.





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On the team responding to this wake up call...

I am pretty confident in the guys we have. They are prideful guys. Guys who take their jobs seriously and want to win. Most of the guys were around last year when things got a little sticky. We had to fight our way out. I know we don't want to put ourselves in a situation like that again. We rather hit first than hit back. This is the league you're playing in, every week is going to be a battle till the end.





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New York Jets Head Coach Todd Bowles

On the play of the Jets defense...

We corrected a lot of mistakes from last week. They came out and played hard and with a lot of passion. They gave up one at the end, but for the most part, they played a good ballgame.

On the difference in the play of the defense from the first two weeks...

Everybody was where they were supposed to be. We didn't leave any open gaps. We gang-tackled instead of tacking with single people. We got after it and everybody communicated.

On the play of Jamal Adams...

He had some good plays. He's an exciting player. He did a lot of things the right way. He brings a lot of emotion with him. He got the team behind him and got them into it.

On whether today's performance showed how close the defense is to 'turning it around'...

We made some progress. We have some work to do still, but we're making progress. We didn't do some of the things we did last week. We just have to get better from this week to the next.

On the play of Josh McCown...

I thought he was very efficient. Josh has been playing well for the last three weeks. He controlled the offense. He sees things. He's playing smart football.

On the touchdown pass to Robbie Anderson...

It's was a heck of a play. He hit him in stride. Robbie has a lot of speed. We got one out there and we were able to take advantage.

On what he wants to work on the next few weeks...

It's the same thing every week. We need to be fundamentally sound. Get better at tackling. Get better at run blocking. Get better at protection. We have to catch balls. We have to get better at communication and coverage. It's going to be the same all year.

On the injuries to Mat Forte and other Jets...

Forte has a toe he's going to get an x-ray on. (Josh) Martin and (Charone) Peake both have ankles that they have to get x-rays on.

On the play of Demario Davis...

It was great to see him command the defense and still make plays. He was thinking a little bit too much earlier in the year, but now he's thinking faster and it's coming easier for him. He did a good job today.

On getting the first win following 'dire predictions' coming into the season...





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We're trying to win anyway. We block all that stuff out. That has nothing to do with our motivation to win. We're trying to win ball games because we want to get to the Super Bowl, not because we want to prove people wrong. It's extra motivation, but we're competitive and we're going to compete every week.

On the mood in the locker room following the win...

It was great. It's good when you win. We had two losses early, but we came home and got a win in front of our home crowd, so everybody's happy.

On if it's a burden for him to 'have to discuss tanking and social issues' ...

No it's not. I don't discuss tanking because it's not my thing. Social issues are going to be there until the end of time, so it's not a burden. You understand what's happening. Our team is socially aware. You have to be blind not to see what's going on, but we discussed things as a team and we stick together.

On if the team spoke about what President Trump said on Friday...

Yes, we had a long talk. We had a big talk. It bothered some guys and we had a long talk about it. Everybody aired their differences and we talked about it and we came out as a team today united.

On how long the team has been using Lawrence Thomas as a fullback...

About a week or two. It worked out today.

(follow-up) On Thomas having a background as a fullback at Michigan State...

We're trying to use everybody we've got. If they've played the position in the past and we think they can help us, we'll bring them out and let them play.

On if the Jets run defense helped the pass rush...

They go hand-in-hand. It's great if you can make people pass and become one-dimensional. You can get a little more pressure. We didn't get the sacks, but we got some hits and made him uncomfortable in the pocket. We got that accomplished.

On the play of Darryl Roberts...

Darryl did a good job coming in. For the most part, they didn't get anything. A lot of guys played good team football and he was one of them.

On the play and health of Muhammad Wilkerson...

He was healthy enough. It was hot out there and we tried not to get our guys cramping, so we were rotating a lot of guys in and out.

On the atmosphere for the game...

The atmosphere was great. Like I said, you have to give them something to cheer about. It's our home opener. We ironed some kinks out the first two weeks. We just have to keep getting better.

On the new/younger players settling in...





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There is going to be a learning curve all year. It's not just the first few weeks. They just have to be fundamentally sound, calm down, and play the game together.

New York Jets S Jamal Adams

On what this win does to the team's confidence...

It's a huge step for the team. We came out hitting on all cylinders. We had the best practice week as a whole and it showed on the field.

On how much pride he takes in bringing energy to the team...

I definitely want to keep that energy when I'm on the field. Set the tone. The fans feed off of us as much as we feed off of them. When we got excited we started making plays.

On the belief the team has had even through the tough start...

We always had confidence. We just needed to put the right pieces together and it's finally starting to mold. We're not where we want to be, but this is the start of it. This is a win and we'll take it.

On why the run defense was so much better than the first two weeks...

It was a mindset all throughout practice. We had our best practice as a defense and as an offense. A lot of the mental errors were down, everyone's playing their technique and doing their job, so it showed on the field.

On what it meant to have Christopher Johnson standing next to him during the anthem...

Unbelievable. It shows how much he cares about this team; how much he cares about this organization. For him to come up to everybody before the game one by one and ask if he could, I was all for it. I walked up to him and said, "I'm going to stand right next to you." I appreciate that. We appreciate that as a team and it was outstanding.

New York Jets WR Robby Anderson

On how it feels to get the first win...

Great. That's why we play the game – to win. It's a great feeling. We have to build on it; stay focused on our mission.

On whether they listen to what people say about the team...

No. We don't really pay too much mind to negativity, especially outside of our building. It's not too hard.

On whether their confidence kept building throughout the game...





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I think we came out this week with a different energy and a different mindset that we were going to dominate and we weren't going to let people get in the way. It's the NFL, there are going to be good players every single week lined up on the other side of you, but we had a mindset and we weren't going to let anything stop us.

On his speed opening up the middle of the field...

I think we have a group that compliments each other. We all have different gifts and different ways to get open. We can find those holes and exploit defenses. We just have to keep building and keep finding the holes and keep preparing.

New York Jets LB Demario Davis

On the team's unity...

Yeah, it's unique to see what we're working on in the locker room and on the field is directly what's needed in our country off the field. Our motto is one team, one goal. It's all of us in the good times and the bad times working together to accomplish a goal. We look around our country and we're having so many problems, everybody is talking about their problems, but there are very few people talking about a solution. Whether you know the answer to the problem or you don't know the answer to the problem, whatever the solution is, it's going to take everybody as a whole together. That's why we wanted to send a message today about unity. It's symbolic with our owner, our GM, our coaches on the sideline locked arms – it's just a message of unity and that's what we send to the world. That's what it is going to take. It's going to take everybody – top and bottom – no matter what religion, race, creed, sexuality. It's going to take everybody working together for a common goal and that's peace and blessings.

On how it felt to win today...

I just give the glory to above. To go out there and get a win, it's big. It's hard to win in this league. We were able to go out there and execute today and see it on tape what type of team we can be. It's good to get a win, we have to do it next week.

On what the difference was this week...

Execution. Execution and working together. The offense played phenomenal, special teams played phenomenal, the defense was able to go out there and execute. Anytime we're able to go out there and do that, we'll be alright.

New York Jets QB Josh McCown

On the feeling in the locker room after the win...

Oh man, that was awesome. Not a whole lot different than halftime last week at Oakland. It was upbeat. Obviously there was a lot more celebrating in that room. But I think that win took place last week at halftime against Oakland. It was the way that we were together, the way that we approached that second half, we didn't quit. I think that was the





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foundation for this week. It was awesome in there, it was a lot of fun. That's what it's about. That's what we play this game for. We talk all the time about how we're trying to build this thing and trust our process and all those things and not get caught up in the scoreboard like we talked about last week. You just have to trust it, trust it, trust it and hopefully you'll look up and be on the right side of some of these. We were today. That makes it special.

On if it's a relief to get the first win out of the way...

Yeah, it's a relief, great feeling, whatever you want to say. When you win it's a great feeling. Like I said, internally, there's a method that we go about and then there's obviously an external narrative that people have for this team. We have not bought that. For us, to say it's a relief, it was not an expectation that it was going to be hard to win a game this year. We expected to win games. We expect to win a lot of games. That's our goal internally. So, we'll keep fighting for that. It's always good to win your first one. In that regard that's a relief, you want to get the first one out of the way. But hopefully there will be many more.

On throwing a 69-yard touchdown pass on the play after a holding penalty negated a big run...

I had five guys madder than I'll get at. They played it so quick that they didn't see how it could be a penalty. So it's hard because when they're so mad, your mind is everywhere and it wasn't just one. Usually if it's just one you can calm him down. Carp (James Carpenter) was mad, Wes (Wesley Johnson) is mad, Beach (Kelvin Beachum), they're all mad. I'm like "guys, c'mon, let's come back, we're going to get them the next play." That's the mentality you have to have. It's a next play mentality, next game mentality in this league. So, we got right back in the huddle and then went right back at it and Robby (Anderson) made a heck of a catch and score. I think that's good for us as we build. Those are the little things when you're a young team, young unit coming together. Those are kind of bricks in the process that you stack because it grows you. That was a good moment for us because we're learning, hey you have to flush that last play good or bad and move on.

On if he takes any satisfaction in quieting the outside negativity with a win...

Again, it's hard. Obviously it's a strong narrative but for us, what we're doing internally and what we're focused on and all those things, that is so much so that you really kind of block it out. Two years ago, this team won 10 games. There are enough guys left that remember that and know what that feeling is like. For us, we just keep focusing together on one another and what our jobs are and hopefully continue to stack wins. The outside is the outside. For us, it's really drawn us together more than anything.

On what it means having Austin Seferian-Jenkins back...

It was awesome. Austin is great. To get him back out there, like we talked about, his size, his frame. I wish I could've guided him on that one in the endzone down there towards the end. We just have to keep working on those. But, for the most part he caught the ball well. A heck of a catch he made there on the one on their sideline. That's what we say about him. That's the best part. When you get guys that have a skillset, you want to see that play out in games. That's all you can ask for. We see that with Austin. Jeremy (Kerley) the same thing, the savviness. Just find me on third down, I got you. That's one of the first things he told me when he got here. He made some savvy plays out there. For us, that's going to be beneficial as we continue to build. It's still a new group. We're still going to have bumps in the road. We have to start faster than that, we have to start a whole lot faster than that. But, there are enough good things and obviously, getting the win we can build some confidence and keep going.





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On if he was happy with how the offense stuck with it after not scoring on their first few trips down the field...

Yeah, we got down there on the fringe and penalties, minus runs, I can't remember all of them, but we have to be better there. That's what I mean. That's what stalled us. For us to take the next step, we have to push it down in the red zone and one, give our special teams unit an easier kick and/or put the ball in the endzone. We'll be focused. Coach Morton came in and talked about that at halftime. Guys, we have to finish these drives. We can't just get three's all the time and rely on the defense to stop people. That's going to make for a long year. We have to get better at that. That will be a point of emphasis as we work because it's hard, when you move the ball like we did and you hit the brakes, it's a little disheartening. We have to finish those.

On what his role as a veteran is in team meetings like the team had last night...

I think for me, these were conversations that we talked about not just last night but weeks prior. Guy's hearts move towards this or that. My thing was, let's just do something together. Let's be together. To me, more than anything, the best message we can send is unity. It was to me, very special to be a part of that for everybody to stand there together. It was cool to see our brothers across the field do that as well. So, at this time in our country, for us, they don't want to mix all these things, it's a touchy subject. But the main thing that I believe, if we can bring anything, it's just unity and that message. Hopefully, that's how it will be received.

On if he's ever seen anything like what's going on across the league right now...

No, not to this effect. It's a different feeling when you are reading about things that are kind of more outside of the football spectrum, but are in the football spectrum now. For us, as players, and as community leaders and those things, you can't just turn a blind eye to it. It's easy just to say, I'm going to get into this box and this is my job and that's it. But, at the same time, you have an opportunity to step up and come together and show people that you are together, and hopefully, be able to create conversations that will bear fruit to push us towards unity. That's the goal. I think that's the saddest thing to me, in this whole situation, is people are scared to talk sometimes, and sit and exchange ideas. I'm thankful that hopefully those things will come about as we move forward.

On what it meant to have Christopher Johnson next to him during the National Anthem...

Oh, it meant a ton. It meant everything because, it starts at the top. He came around and talked to some guys before the game about being there, and so for me that was, over my career one of the more special things. Because, no matter who you are, when you are at the top and you are willing to stand with your guys, I think there's nothing more that shows or reflects better leadership than that - when you say I'm with you guys and we are together on this. For me, hopefully that's a great example for our country moving forward. That, no matter who you are, no matter what your skin color is, that you can humble yourself and stand beside people that maybe you don't normally stand beside. That's my prayer, all the time, is that that's what happens with our country moving forward. I'm so thankful for him and the example that he set.





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New York Jets TE Austin Seferian-Jenkins

On being part of the game plan...

I think everyone has an opportunity to be part of the game plan. The unique thing about Coach John Morton's offense is that everyone is going to get looks. You saw how multiple guys got the ball throughout the game. I was fortunate enough to get open in spots. Josh got me the ball and I was able to do some things with it. The most important thing is that we won and I think that's why we all come out here and play. We want to win games. It's a four-quarter season. We're 1-2 in the first quarter and we're trying to even it out next week.

On what kind of physical shape he is in...

Obviously, I'm not as in as good shape as everyone else, but I think it did good enough to where I could make an impact on the game. I'm going to keep working to have better endurance.

On being able to help the team win...

It felt great. Anytime we can come out there and help the team get a W, it's great. These guys work so hard. Everyone comes here to win. Fans come here to watch games, to watch a winner. So to be able to give that to them in the home opener felt really good. I know they hear a lot of negativity, with all of the naysayers saying 'we can't do this' or 'we can't do that'. But it was great to win the home opener and for Chris Johnson to get his first win as Chairman & CEO.

On what it means to get a division win...

We were 0-1 in the division and to come out here against this Miami Dolphins team with a great defensive front, great linebackers and secondary, it was phenomenal. The coaches did a great job of coaching, and the players did a great job of playing. It was an all around great win. Special teams did a great job. We always harp about turnovers and this week, they (the Dolphins) tried to pull a fake punt when we were up 20-0 and we got a turnover out of it.

On what it meant for Chris Johnson to ask to join the players during the National Anthem...

The fact that he wanted to do that with us is a perfect example of the unity we are trying to create. I don't know many owners that would want to come down on the sidelines and be there with the players. It just shows how much he loves this team and how dedicated he is to this team. I feel very fortunate – I know everyone else feels very fortunate that we have an owner like that. We did that together and we won together today, so it was just a full circle win.

On if the team discussed doing something different other than kneeling...

No. We really didn't talk about that. We just talked about the game plan. When we decided to lock arms, it was, "Okay, we're going to lock arms, now back to the game plan." I understand that it's bothering people, but at the end of the day, we have to play football and win a football game. We decided to lock arms as a team. We won. The Jets beat the Miami Dolphins. That's the story.

