



TAMPA BAY BUCCANEERS AT MIAMI DOLPHINS

HARD ROCK STADIUM

Nov. 19, 2017 | 1:00 P.M.

POSTGAME QUOTES

Tampa Bay Buccaneers Head Coach Dirk Koetter (transcribed by Ken Mendonca)

(In the second half – you got a lot of turnovers in the first half, had a nice lead, didn't do a whole lot on the other side ball in the second half. When you needed it, you got the drive. Can you talk about that?) – “That's really all that matters. That's really all that matters is having more than they got at the end. Had a lot of opportunities to break it wide open in the first (half). The second half, we just couldn't get off the field on third down, and we couldn't make any first downs on offense. That third quarter, we just didn't have the ball very much. But we hung in there. You're always going to have some adversity on the road. We've had more than our share today. At the end of the day, when things are going bad, you've got to rise up and do something, and we were able to pull it out.”

(Speak about the resilience of this team overall. Put two in a row together now after some difficult times.) – “Yes, that's what I just talked about I think. You could just roll that same answer I just gave.”

(What about guys, the rookies – TE O.J. Howard and WR Chris Godwin – stepping up in big moments?) – “O.J. could've had a monster game today. He got off to a fast start and then we got that screen called back, and then he had that drop on a little play action. But he could have had a monster. He was like the fourth option on the touchdown he caught. It seems like if we get O.J. involved early – and it's not like we're not trying to – but if we do get him involved early, it seems like good things seem to happen for him. Chris Godwin, that was very clutch at the end. I mean 'Fitz' (Ryan Fitzpatrick) made a couple plays, but still, Chris had a guy hanging on him on both those plays. So, Chris Godwin has really impressed me these last two weeks with his competitiveness. He's playing special teams. He does a lot of dirty work. Even though Justin Evans gave up that touchdown at the end, that's another rookie that I think is doing a good job. Antony Auclair made his debut today. (He) didn't get a ton of reps, but it was good to see him get out there. Kendell Beckwith is just playing a different role right now – our other rookie. He's almost playing like a rush defensive end. But our rookie class is doing fine.”

(Talk about QB Ryan Fitzpatrick, the job he has done the last couple of week?) – “He has done a good job. I mean, heck, he's 2-0 as a starter. That first half, we did a lot of good things, a few negative things, but Ryan has been in the midst of some turmoil, has been a calm, professional leader. When you go get a veteran backup like that, that's what you're looking for.”





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(Does any of the stuff that's swirling around with QB Jameis Winston, has that at all affected anything in terms of the way this team has overcome? Is it a distraction, is it anything at all really?) – "Impossible to measure. I don't really know about that. I don't hear much talk about that. I'm not sure."

(What do you think about the ability to get all those turnovers? That's something that you've been waiting for.) – "Five to zero. You shouldn't have to win it like that, when it's five to zero in the turnover margin, but a win is a win is a win in the NFL and you never apologize for it. Our D, they did a similar thing last year, they got hot. We always talk about turnovers coming in bunches. That's a little bit had been (Jay) Cutler's M.O. in his career. He has been doing a much better job taking care of the ball. It started with ... They got that long run. They didn't run the ball on us at all today other than we had a missed tackle on that (69)-yard run. I think for the rest of the game, they had 11 yards rushing. But that was a heck of a play by Justin (Evans) to take it away. I wish he would've stayed in the end zone after he did that. It's good to get a win on the road. We got something else to talk about next week."

