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## TAMPA BAY BUCCANEERS AT MIAMI DOLPHINS HARD ROCK STADIUM Nov. 19, 2017 | 1:00 P.M.

### POSTGAME QUOTES

#### Tampa Bay Buccaneers QB Ryan Fitzpatrick (transcribed by Max Lerner)

**(You're 2-0 as a starter but things weren't going all that well in the second half, can you talk about the ability to put it together when you really needed it?)** – "I thought we really stepped up at the end there. It was tough getting things going in the second half and we had a couple of possessions where ... I think we had seven plays in the third quarter. Games are going to have those ebbs and flows and I was proud – even before we kicked the field goal – when it was 20-20 standing in that huddle, it was a good feeling. I think everybody knew we were going to get it done and we went out there and followed it up by getting it done, so that was nice.

**(You have some young guys, TE OJ Howard has made plays this year and we've seen more of WR Chris Godwin of late. Were teams leaving you those options and can you talk about the ability of those guys to step up today?)** – "I think (Buccaneers Head Coach) Dirk (Koetter) does such a nice job with his offense of just anybody at any time can get the ball. There's good route combinations, there's different things. He puts people in positions to be successful and you never know who it's going to be. The biggest play of the game probably was the throw on offense to Godwin. It wasn't necessarily to our first, second or third target; but I have supreme confidence that he's going to make that play and he knows that he's going to get that ball. I just think we have a lot of confidence within that room with those guys and they're doing a good job."

**(They made some big plays on offense and you guys were still able to come back and win)** – "They did and they did a great job. Matt Moore stepping in; I've been in that situation. It's not an easy situation and he came in and made some plays. We were fortunate to make the one at the end."

**(T Demar Dotson said you were kind of like calm in the huddle like a grandpa; being a veteran and you helped settle him down.)** – "Dot's not that young himself. (laughter) Yes, I'll take that, I'll take that. I like being the grandpa."

**(What was going through your mind when they were reviewing whether or not that was a safety?)** – "I had no idea what they were going to call or how they were going to call it. It just was one of those plays where I tried to step up and stay out of there and I have got to do a better job of not even putting us close to that situation; but I'm glad they called it the way they did."

**(What's happening these last two weeks that this team has a lot of resolve right now? I know your backs were against the wall but aside from clichés, what do you think we're watching with these guys fighting?)** –





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"We needed that one win and I thought our defense really stepped up this week and last week, as well. They stepped up in that Jets game and almost took it upon themselves to make sure that game was going to be in hand. I think you see a team that is feeding off each other on both sides of the ball. We've always had a good locker room – a great locker room – so we all enjoy being out there playing together, and it's a good feeling so hopefully it can continue."

**(Is anything over the last couple days with the QB Jameis Winston story coming out, does that change ... As a leader, do you speak up? Is it talked about or does it distract you?)** – "No, I mean that's his business."

**(Do you know what's going to happen next week? Do you expect to start? Have you been told?)** – "I have no idea. I'm not sure with that one. Just like every week, I just try to go out there and prepare and if my number is called, do my best."

