

## 2015 @CANESFOOTBALL Post Game Quotes

University of Miami Athletic Communications • 5821 San Amaro Drive • Coral Gables, FL 33146 • HurricaneSports.com

Assistant AD - Athletics Communications: Tom Symonds • E: symonds@miami.edu • 0: 305-284-3248 • C: 305-240-9142 • @Tom\_Symonds

Assistant Director: Camron Ghorbi • E: c.ghorbi@miami.edu • 0: 305-284-3230 • C: 786-877-7329 • @CamronGhorbi

Assistant Director: David Villavicencio • E: davidv@miami.edu • 0: 305-284-3244 • C: 305-726-6739 • @dvillavicencio6

## MIAMI (3-0) 36, NEBRASKA (1-2) 33 OT

SUN LIFE STADIUM • MIAMI GARDENS, FLA. • SEPT. 19, 2015 • ATTENDANCE: 53,580

## Al Golden Postgame Press Conference

vs. Nebraska - September 19, 2015

On the feeling on the sideline in the fourth quarter as the team's lead slipped away...

"We kept fighting. Obviously [Tommy] Armstrong was making some plays, and they got some plays downfield and we were short a couple safeties and [Jermaine] Grace. Some guys stepped in. [It was a] great look on the sideline when it did go to overtime - nobody panicked, leaders led and everybody else just stayed together. I'm proud of the way we finished. Obviously we have some things we have to correct. But I just told the guys, 'You're 3-0, you just beat a good team.' A team that's won nine games for each of the last nine years, I think. It was a good win. We have a lot to learn from, and we'll move on this week."

On how to balance a sizable lead with an offensive mentality, whether attacking or protective ...

"I think the attacking mindset is what got us in trouble. 3rd & 6 [interception by Brad Kaaya], if I could have one back I would have that one. I would have just said to James [Coley], 'just bury it in there and let's kick a field goal.' Because I think we could have gone up by 23 or 24 at that point, and then we had that interception. That's on me. The next time down, I wanted to kick it again, go up by more than three scores and they converted their two-point conversions.

"I thought Rashawn [Scott] played really hard, I thought he made a great catch there at the end and it didn't go our way. We did have some aggressive plays that didn't go our way, and they made some plays. At the end of the day, we won and I'm really pleased with our guys for fighting the way they fought."

On the amount of penalties incurred by the team...

"How many did we end up with? 12. And then the personal fouls...[we had] guys ejected, we have to take care of that. We'll get it cleaned up."

On whether he thought the two ejections on targeting calls were justified...

"I didn't see the replay on either one of them, but they really take their time on those upstairs. They usually get those right. That's one instance that they usually get right. I'm disappointed for those two kids, because I've never seen either one of those guys get called for targeting. Uncharacteristic on their part, but I know we don't teach it, and I haven't seen those guys do it, so I'm disappointed that it happened."

On the play of the Miami safeties...

"They played hard. There's no question about it. Our reps ended up getting high in the second half on defense – we needed to convert better on offense and obviously [in the] red zone. We had two penalties that stopped us, then a penalty that took seven off the board and then the interception. Any combination of those, and we're not having that discussion at the end...or if I had protected the 3rd and 6 that we ended up throwing an interception."

On the offensive performance on third down...

"We just have to improve. At the end of the day, we have to improve. We weren't good enough here today. When we needed to run it, we weren't good enough. We have to keep throwing and catching, and practicing. That's one part of our game we have to continue to focus on here in the next week."

On Corn Elder's interception in overtime...

"He's a super athlete. That play that he made, he opened his hips completely and caught the ball. He has great hand-eye coordination. He's just a great kid. All those kids fought. Give Nebraska credit for the way they played, but give our kids a lot of credit for fighting, scratching, clawing, staying together, having poise and finishing it in overtime."

On the decision to knee the ball with less than a minute remaining in regulation...

"I had no timeouts. I thought about it, but I'd rather go down there at home and go into the end zone and go play football. We ended up being right. But you have to make those decisions. I think there were 33 seconds [left]. I thought about it, and said, 'No, James. Just sit on it. We'll be fine.' We trust our guys, we have leaders, and they said, 'We're good.' I just didn't have any timeouts. Now we're throwing the ball vertically and risking a sack-fumble. It wasn't worth it.

On sophomore kicker Michael Badgley, who had five field goals...

"He works hard. He's got bad hair, but he works his ass off. He's tough. I can see him being focused at the end, he's just going to strike it. The ball has been jumping for him lately, he's been really working hard. I thought the protection was good on the unit tonight, thought the operation was good. You need to have that for him to be confident. Tomorrow is a day we talk about not getting touchdowns in the red zone. Tonight we celebrate what we did in the end zone, and that's obviously what Badgley did."

On the play of senior wide receiver Rashawn Scott...

"Him, [David] Njoku, [Chris] Herndon, Herb [Waters]...we made some plays, and obviously Mark Walton had a run that was called back, Walton had a flare pass that was called back. I thought we had the catch there. We left a couple plays out there and any one of those would have been the difference in the game in regulation. David did a nice job today. That was really good for those guys, to get in there and do that."

On what he told the team heading into overtime...

"I said, 'Nothing-nothing, and we're at home.' That's what I said. 'Nothing-nothing, and we're at home. Don't worry about it.' Everybody was relaxed, I looked over and the whole offense was on the field, out though the numbers. I think they wanted the ball. We elected to go on defense, and obviously it turned out in our favor. It gets hairy down there, whether to try and punch it in or just center it. But it just felt like centering was the best probability there, and obviously Badgley nailed it."

On if coaches noticed the Nebraska safeties playing deep during film study leading into the game...

"We did. When we had the lead, they started going man [coverage] and we had some chances to beat them in man and make the play that would have ended it. Unfortunately Mark's [Walton] tD got called back, and Mark's run too. We had them in man, and we had them sifting back and we creased it - when you crease man-to-man, you're going to take it to the house. Both of those pkays were unfortunate because I don't think they wouldn't have enough time to come back, if that was the case. Early in the game, we were hitting them underneath and we need to convert in the red zone. Simple as that."

On what the difference was for the Nebraska offense in the fourth quarter...

"That guy...give so much credit to [Tommy] Armstrong. He just played all over the place. He got out of the pocket, was 10-15 yards deep sometimes, ran around and just made plays. On a couple of third down-and-longs, we didn't get off the field. Any one of those could be the margin in the game. We had them 3rd and 13, I believe, and he scrambled to the near sideline...the stamina, endurance he had, the mental toughness. I'm giving him credit. Yes, there are things we have to fix, but give that kid a lot of credit. He's a warrior."