



FOOTBALL GAMEDAY

FIU vs. UMASS
Saturday, Dec. 2, 2017
Post-Game Quotes

FIU Head Coach Butch Davis

Opening statement

"I guess probably the best place to start is what a great way to finish the regular season and to send these seniors out. These kids have been through so many things during the course of their four years or five years as seniors. For them to have the opportunity to tie a school record - most wins in a regular season was awesome. You know offensively today was one of those days where everything that you practiced came to fruition. I told them in the locker room 'Do you realize that you're the same offense that only scored 17 points against Alcorn State' and I said 'Today you were 7-of-7 in the red zone. You rushed the ball for 380 yards during the course of the game'. Alex (McGough) is just unbelievable in creating plays - his ability to extend plays, to scramble. Now the receivers are starting to get into the idea that this guy is scrambling not to scramble to get six yards. He's scrambling to get a touchdown."

On going to a bowl game...

"One things for sure, regardless of who takes us, they're going to get an exciting football team. That this team over the second half of the season, we've had some great games where we've played defense but the one thing is that this offense has grown. It's gotten better and we scored points. We had 41 last week against Western Kentucky. Today we got 63. They're in rhythm and they're playing good and that's with the facts that we've lost some unbelievable high profile players."

On how much fun he's had...

"This is the comical answer, but some of these games feel like a double root canal with no pain medication. But the reality of it is that this is a blast. It's fun to be with them. I cannot tell you how much joy it is when you walk in that locker room and you see kids celebrating, high fiving and jumping on each other's back. To see them have some joy in their lives is you know just a great feeling."

On blocked field goal...

"Here's the thing. We got a reputation that we talk about on our special teams. It's our big-play big-hit reputation. Over the course of time, we have caused fumbles on kickoff cover. We've had a lot of really good plays on special teams and last week, we forced two missed field goals and one we kind of tipped with our hands. These kids have given effort on every extra point and on every field goal."

Freshman wide receiver Bryce Singleton

On performance against UMass...

"Great. I'm finally feeling comfortable, back to myself. Finally me and McGough are clicking again. I had to step up, because we had a major let down with TO [Thomas Owens]. It wasn't hard, but it was different. Had to come in and match his intensity, a great player. I look up to him, to see how he competes and beats the DBs. Other than that, it was just a great day for me."

Senior linebacker Anthony Wint

On season, heading to the bowl...

"It's mixed emotions. It's a great feeling, not just winning six or more games since I've been here. It didn't just start with this class, it started my freshman year. We had a great group of seniors my freshman year and my sophomore year. I just want to commend those guys, because they stuck through and taught us the way to work hard. We didn't always get to this point where we are now, but they pushed us to become better leaders to lead this team. All the alumni, everyone who has been a part of this program has helped us to get to this point."

On where to go for a bowl game...

"I'm just happy to be going. Really, any of them. I don't know which ones we're predicted to go to. I just want to play with my brothers one more time and then hopefully get a win."

On final home game...

"It hasn't really kicked in yet. It was kind of kicking in when me and Treyvon (Williams) were getting carried off by some of the linebackers. Since I got here as a freshman, time flies. I feel like I was here just yesterday. Playing in my last game, getting the win was the most important thing and I'm just happy to do it with my brothers."

Senior quarterback Alex McGough

On his performance against UMass and entire season...

"It's been a ride. I'm just so happy to be a part of it. I'm so happy to be considered a leader on this team. I wouldn't trade it for anything. Like I said, I'm just so happy to be here and for the guys that are here now that fought through all the years before, the losing, now that we're 8-4 and we're up, I love to see the smiles on the guys faces after wins."

On bowl games...

"I'm probably one of the most excited people in the building, but I'm sure you could say that about every single person. We're pumped and we're ready to find out which bowl we're going to be going to. We're excited."

"It's going to be fun. We're going to be with the guys and it's just going to be a once-in-a-life-time experience for me, since it's my last year. So, wherever we end up, I'm going to be super excited and just ready for the challenge."

On scoring the most points in school history in his final home game...

"It's a wonderful feeling to do that in my last game here. To be able to do it with the guys here, I can't say enough about them. I wouldn't be here if it wasn't for the guys here."

UMass Head Coach Mark Whipple

On today's loss...

"We didn't show up. We were on vacation, so [I'm] disappointed. We didn't tackle anybody on defense and didn't hit anybody. Credit to them. They made the plays. They stood their ground. They played way better than we did."

On field goal try in fourth quarter instead of going for touchdown:

"Adam (Breneman) was trying to get in the end zone on the play before and they knocked it out. If he would've caught it on the 1, we would've gone for it again. That was a big turning point and they capitalized on it. We were terrible in the red zone. We just got to get our guys to play better on the road."

On next season...

"I want to be back. I have to make amends for today. There were lots of positives. I think our upperclassmen did a poor job of listening, especially on defense, after [the 16-10 win over BYU on Nov. 18]. That was a breakthrough win for us. They were still in the moment. You got to play the next play, the next series, the next game. We weren't able to do that, but overall, we're moving in the right direction."