

Miami Dolphins Media Conference

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Miami, Florida, USA

New Orleans Saints

Coach Kellen Moore

Visitors Postgame Presser



Dolphins - 21, Saints - 17

KELLEN MOORE: Great game. Obviously a really good game of back-and-forth football. I loved our guys' resiliency, the way they battled and keep sticking into it. And I thought all three phases came up with some plays as the game went on. And ultimately we didn't do enough, didn't get it done at the very end.

Loved the way our guys battled. And it was an unfortunate ending, but there's stuff to learn from and grow from during that game. So we'll continue to grow.

Q. Do you feel Tyler really got some rhythm when you guys went into that hurry-up in the second half, (indiscernible) with that pace?

KELLEN MOORE: Yeah, I think once we were able to get some first downs and get some efficient runs on first and second down and playing some positive-yardage situations, the tempo obviously is a byproduct of that and you're able to play with more tempo.

Q. And just overall, how Tyler was able to respond from that first half, you guys couldn't get anything going offensively, and then being able to get things going in the second half.

KELLEN MOORE: Yeah, I thought, credit to our guys, the way they battled. The second half, I thought our guys responded really well in all three phases. There's a lot of positives there. Obviously we didn't start the game the way we needed to to put ourselves in better position.

Q. On the pick-two, can you just take us through that play? What kind of led Tyler to, did (indiscernible) fall or what was (inaudible), what did you make of that play?

KELLEN MOORE: Two-point play. False start. So now it's a two-point play from the 7. Obviously your play has to

change there. Obviously Ve is trying to run a shallow cross, build as we go and get into the end zone.

I thought the defender, Minkah, made a phenomenal play, kind of jumped underneath on the route and was able to pick it off.

We were close. Obviously it's a challenging two-point play when you're going from the 7. I thought the DB made a phenomenal play. Obviously we'll look at it in detail and see if we can give ourselves any other cleaner opportunities, but the guy made a really good play.

Q. What were your thoughts on that play calling on fourth-and-1 at the end?

KELLEN MOORE: Obviously it didn't work. Obviously going to evaluate it just like any other play. So it's frustrating. Didn't get it done. We kind of got the second-and-1, took a shot. Third down, took a pass. Fourth down, just tried to get our first down because we still had our timeout in our pocket. We weren't able to advance it and get it done.

Q. What did you make of Charlie's debut, and just for him to have the moment that he had?

KELLEN MOORE: Charlie, I thought, kicked really well. Big-time field goal. The onside kick was really well kicked. Phenomenal kick there, and put us in a position to have a chance at the end.

Q. What led you to go with him over Dave (phonetic)?

KELLEN MOORE: Just let the week play itself out. Evaluate those guys. Obviously he's got time on task with the whole operation. And he was ready to go. He did a really nice job.

Q. We've been kind of waiting for that Devaughn Vele daily breakout game, and it felt like it happened today. Watching him make those plays, was it one of those where, finally we get to see him kind of operate and do it?

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KELLEN MOORE: He's played a ton of snaps obviously for the last few weeks. The ball just hasn't gone to him necessarily. He's had a few targets here and there.

So I thought that's what we've seen of him throughout this entire year, and that's what we're excited about and what we're going to build with him. So I thought he made some big-time, contested catches in some challenging situations. He had a really good day.

Q. What do you think changed for the offense in the second half? Was it the tempo primarily? What got you guys into rhythm?

KELLEN MOORE: I think it's getting positive plays on first and second down that allow you to play in tempo. Obviously we want to play in tempo but you can't play tempo going three-and-out. It doesn't provide the opportunity.

I thought we got physical runs in that first drive coming out of the half. We got some 4-, 5-yard positive runs that led into some situations where we earned first downs. Played with tempo, that drive progressed well. There's certainly a path there that we need to try and replicate more consistently.

Q. You mentioned three phases playing well. Defensively after giving up the opening touchdown, you were able to hold them to field goals, like a break approach (inaudible)?

KELLEN MOORE: I thought the defense did a really good job of hanging in there. I thought, yeah, that first drive, obviously they made some plays. The response was really good. And they made a few plays here and there and obviously were able to force them into field goals, which was the key to giving us a chance.

Q. Does seeing Charlie's leg strength throughout camp and all this time, his first kick was a 56-yarder, just having that confidence in him to actually trying that, was it something you saw based on his time with you guys?

KELLEN MOORE: Yeah, Charlie's earned this opportunity. We have a lot of confidence in him. He's worked at this thing for a number of years now. He's prepared himself really well. We have a lot of confidence in him. He obviously has the leg to make some big-time kicks.

That was a challenging situation, but it was a situation we needed to get some points there. And he drilled it, and it was a phenomenal kick by him.

Q. What did you make of Tyler today overall?

KELLEN MOORE: Obviously, like any day, like our entire team, we're going to have good plays. We're going to have plays we want to have back. I love and appreciate the way he battled and responded all game long, as far as facing some adversity early. And made some big-time plays, made some big-time plays.

The two touchdowns were a little bit off-schedule plays, and those happened in this game. That's what happens in football. I thought he made some big plays there.

Q. How concerned are you over the slow starts on offense?

KELLEN MOORE: Yeah, we've got to start faster. Yeah, that's the bottom line.

Q. I know we always talk about moral victories, but the ultimate goal is to win. But to see what your team was able to do and stay in this, is there something you can take and move forward from what happened in this game?

KELLEN MOORE: Every game has things we can take from it, both good and bad. The way our guys responded, the way our guys battled, I love and appreciate that. It's not easy being down at halftime like that and not having any points on the board and feeling like you're not quite clicking.

I thought our guys responded in all three phases. I loved the energy and the juice. We came up short in the end, but there's going to be plenty of things to learn from this.

Q. I think Cam either is tied or leads you guys in sacks. What do you make of the season he's having and (indiscernible) being in this position (inaudible)?

KELLEN MOORE: Cam's done a really nice job. He made big-time plays in this game. He's made a number of plays the last few games. He's been a very consistent player. I love the presence he's brought to us.

Q. Was Justin's anything serious?

KELLEN MOORE: It was a knee. We'll see how it progresses. We'll get more of an update tomorrow.

Q. What made you guys go with, you started Jordan there, then moved (indiscernible) in, keep a calming presence?

KELLEN MOORE: Both those guys, we feel good about.



They're both veteran guys. They know what they're doing.
Both guys will play in there and earn opportunities.

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