Miami Head Coach Chuck Martin

On Bowl Week so far

“We’re enjoying all of the hospitality and are appreciative to everyone involved in making this happen. I know this was thrown together at a later date and the hospitality and the information, we’ve had a great week already. We couldn’t have done it without the support and help of the bowl people, the people here at the stadium and the people at the hotel. They set up a really nice suite for all of our players and families. Everyone has had an awesome time. We wish we could stay past Thursday but this week will end.”

On how special the team is and on North Texas

“As far as the game, we’re really excited to play North Texas. We’re really excited to play together one last time. Our seniors and our six year guys came to Miami at really not a great time in Miami history. We have really struggled but they jumped on board and believed that we’d do some really special things and we’ve done some really special things in their time here. This is kind of the last dance for these guys. I’ve told them that, like walking out in those old western movies, they’re going to walk out into the sunset. It’s been an unbelieve le ride with these guys and to be on the sideline with them one last time will be amazing. What they’ve done in restoring Miami, which is a very proud football tradition, back to where it is has been amazing to be a part of. We’re excited to play. We have a great opponent. They’re on a roll. We went from 0-6 to 6-6 a few years back so we know exactly the kind of roll they’re on, the feeling and their confidence. They found their groove at a time when everybody had kind of given up on them, besides themselves. It’s a testament to their coaching staff and players that they kept believing in themselves and kept fighting and found a way to win a game. Next thing you know they’re whipping UTSA pretty good the last game of the year, a team that was undefeated and top-20. So, we have a great opponent who is probably as confident as any team in the country. So, we’re excited to play and excited to play at this venue. It’ll be different for all of our guys who have never played at a venue like this. It’s been an incredible week and we look forward to an incredible football game on Thursday.”

Senior Defensive Lineman Dominique Robinson

On preparing for a bowl game

“We knew we were getting a bowl game so I stayed mentally prepared to play football. That’s how everyone stayed when they told us we were going to get to play in a bowl game. No matter what day it is or where we play we knew we were going to go have fun. I definitely stayed prepared, our group stayed prepared and that’s how we took it.”

Senior Wide Receiver Jack Sorenson

On preparing for a bowl game

“We had a little bit of a break which was nice for the guys. The season is a long season so we just had some time to spend time with our girlfriends or other friends that aren’t on the football team. We had a weekend to go home and see our families. It was an opportunity to recalibrate before this bowl season. We got a ton of time to get some good practice in. Especially for the young guys, they got some time to get some extra practice in which was cool.”