Georgia Postgame Quotes

Georgia vs. UAB

Saturday, Sept. 23, 2023 | Dooley Field at Sanford Stadium

Head Coach Kirby Smart

On the fast offensive start for the Bulldogs...

"I was excited offensively to see us come out, be aggressive and do some things. It was a good plan and a good execution of the plan. Anytime you can complete big, explosive plays it makes it easier."

On his 85th win as head coach of the Georgia Bulldogs..

"It's an honor. It takes a great organization, and we have one. We have an incredible academic setup. We have a wonderful university that people want to attend. We have great leadership in our president and athletic director. It's easy to be successful when you have the setup that we have."

On the defensive output today...

"We played good in spurts. They create a lot of problems offensively. They do a really good job. We know their offensive coordinator, their offensive staff well, and they know us inside and out. They had a good plan. We executed well at times. The yards after catch was my frustration. I felt like they caught the ball and ran with it more than we've let other teams. Their quarterback was efficient, give them credit. At the end of the day if we stop them in the red zone we'd probably feel better about tonight but we didn't get those red zone stops we needed."

#15 Carson Beck | QB | Jr.

On a strong offensive start in the first half ...

"We executed. That's the biggest thing. We got down in the red zone - I think we were six of six - just punching it in getting it into the end zone. I would say that's the biggest part because we have been able to move the ball all year. We just haven't been able to get it in the end zone when we get in the red zone. I credit it to that. We practiced really hard at it this week. That was one of our focal points."

On Brock Bowers' performance today...

"He's the best player in college football. I think every day he is important - just trying to get the ball in his hands. It's always a key factor of ours in whatever way we can, but obviously he had a monster day. I don't know what his numbers were, but he had a monster day."

On the standard of the offense ...

"Our standard is physicality. It starts up front - that's how we've always been. I think we had like 190 rushing yards, so I'm obviously super proud of the guys in that way. We were able to be explosive. We executed in all facets of the game. Third down and red zone were our two focal points that we really haven't been as good as we wanted to as far as the standard goes. We got in practice this past week, executed, and we're going to continue to improve as the season goes on."

#78 Nazir Stackhouse | DL | Sr.

On how he would assess the defense's performance...

"I would give us a C+,I mean, it's not our standard, but we're going to go out there and we're going to work on it throughout the week against the o-line. Obviously, we play how we practice and I believe that we haven't really practiced to the standard. It's just something that we need to handle as a defensive line, as a core and we are going to go in there, we're going to fix in the following week."

On a positive of tonight's defensive performance...

"One thing I like about this game is I will say we held them under 100 yards, even though they had 86 rushing yards, that's still not the standard, we kind of want to hold them to under 50."

UAB Postgame Quotes

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Head Coach Trent Dilfer

Opening statement...

"Another disappointing loss but I do think we got better this week. That was the theme of this week, "Us vs. Us" and trying to get better. We definitely did that. Saying that, I don't believe in moral victories. I don't want anyone to think this is the expectation that you come and compete well with a great team and feel good about it. I do feel good about the improvements we made. Hopefully they carry over into conference play."

On what the defense focused on preparing for the game...

"We are getting a better understanding of our personnel and what they are comfortable with. I wouldn't say we are going to be a blitz-happy team, but we are definitely a team that will have to force the issue a little bit more defensively. I think you saw that tonight. When you do that, there are some risks there. This team missed two opportunities with wide-open deep balls. We have to get better there. Cut back lanes got us a couple times. Quick passing on the perimeter got us a couple times. We weren't very good on third downs. It was better, and I am encouraged by the better. We still have a lot of work to do."

On Carson Beck...

"I talked to him after the game. I know Carson from the Elite 11. He is a very talented kid. He has grown up and matured. I thought he played with a great deal of poise. The thing could have got ugly if those two deep balls were completed. He has got the physical traits to be really successful. I thought they did a really nice job utilizing him. One thing they did that was, again I brag on their coaching all week long, I thought offensively that they made some really nice adjustments. They kind of got into what I call the scalpel king of football where they nick you a little bit and eventually you bleed out. That is what they did in the second and third quarters. They took a couple shots but really those were ball control plays, getting the ball in space to the best players, breaking tackles. It is hard to defend."

#4 Jacob Zeno | QB | R-Jr.

On playing in an SEC environment...

"Like Coach said, we got better. I was just telling guys in the locker room, if we come out every week and act like we're playing the number one team in the nation, then we've got a chance to be scary because we held our own. We were moving the ball and we were stopping the ball, so if we keep that up at practice then we could be special."

On true freshman wide receiver Amare Thomas...

"Amare has been making plays since he got here. He's starting to be a guy who's reliable that you can count on to make those tough contested catches. Again, he proved it out there today, so we've got to keep building on this and move on to Tulane."

On the offensive line's protection and only allowing one sack...

"We had to help each other out. I knew at the beginning of the week I was going to have to get the ball fast, so that's what I tried to do today. I didn't want to put any strain on them and force them to hold up even more than what they had to. I was trying to get the ball off fast, and I did that. I thought it was pretty good."

On gaining confidence after showing improvement against the nation's No. 1 team...

"A lot because we got better. Like Dilfer said this week, we wanted to get better, and we did that. This gives us a lot of confidence and shows that we're better than what it might seem in practice or those losses that we had a couple of weeks ago. So we're going to be good. We're going to be fine."