

# Georgia Postgame Quotes

Georgia vs. Auburn // Saturday, Oct. 5, 2024

Dooley Field at Sanford Stadium

## **Head Coach Kirby Smart**

### ***On the offense, getting the run game going, and the offensive line...***

"I thought Drew [Bobo] did great. I'll tell you what, he went in there, and he's worked his tail off. People don't realize how many snaps that kid's snapped to get his chance for the first start. I never really even worried because when Jared [Wilson] was out I was like, 'Drew's going to go in there and do a great job,' and he did. He plays really hard, He plays really physical, and I thought the run game was good for us. I thought we were really close to hitting those explosives, and I feel like we left more out there. We have good backs. We have a quarterback that gets us into the right run, and we'd hit some of those for 20 and 30, and we're not – and that's frustrating. A couple of those times I thought we could cash them in, but we did make a lot of plays in the run game."

### ***On defending the line of scrimmage...***

"I think their back [Jarquez Hunter] is the best back that we have played, maybe the best back we will play. I don't know that, but he is elite. He has embarrassed us for three-straight years. He runs through armed tackles, and I'd advise anybody in the NFL that wants a really good back to get that kid. He's a special player. But we did rise up. We bent and didn't break. We had several times that the same thing happened to us during the year, and we have opportunistic stops. We had some fourth down stops that were huge. The fourth down, they tried to run the play that [Jalen] Milroe and Alabama ran and Jalon Walker made the play, and we had big fourth down stops in the second half."

### ***On Dan Jackson's performance and what he means to the team...***

"Dan's very consistent. He understands leverages, he knows what offenses are trying to do to you. He's getting better and better. Dan's a good football player, and we always thought that and I'm just proud of him. But the blocked kick was something we worked really hard on this week. We worked really hard on protection, and that's why I sent the field goal team out there at the end because I trust those guys to do it right."

## **#15 Carson Beck || QB || RSr.**

### ***On the offensive drive after Auburn had cut the deficit to one score...***

"I mean, that was huge for us. They go down and bring it back within one possession, we got to respond. You know, let's have a response drive. Run the ball, pass the ball, however we were able to attack them and just very methodical like you said. And that wears down a defense, so I'm super proud of the guys. I thought we played really well today."

### ***On the pressure on Drew Bobo in his first start...***

"I think being the center of the Georgia Bulldogs is a lot of pressure within itself, so for him to come out there in his first start, I thought he played really well. There wasn't no bad snaps, no miscues as far as ID's and that type of stuff... I thought he played a really good game."

### ***On the limited possessions in the first half...***

"The first half went by really fast -- definitely the first quarter. It started to slow down, you start to get to two minutes left and it starts to take forever. There's a bunch of TV timeouts and all that. Just being on the sidelines, I think the games go a lot faster. I was actually talking to Coach about this, with the iPads. You know, we're so locked in on watching the defense and seeing what they're doing each and every drive. Especially when you're having a 13 play drive, you're going through every single play seeing what they're doing. It makes the game go by faster because you're not watching the game, you're not watching the defense. You don't even know what's going on. Next thing you know it's my team's out, let's get up, let's go play."

## **#93 Tyrion Ingram-Dawkins || DL || RJr.**

### ***On the identity of this team...***

"The identity, to me, is resiliency. That's one of our core values, too, but I feel like we've been showing that. You know, with the game last week we didn't give up, and this week we bounced back. We came back. We came back strong. We have to build off that and stay consistent."

***On how he evaluates the defense's performance...***

"We do things well, but we also mess up. We go to the doctor every Monday try to fix things. That's what we do. You know, you're never going to play a perfect game, so we are just doing and executing what we know we can do."

***On the potential of this defense when healthy...***

"I feel like everybody knows that. If we're at full strength, we're going hard. I feel like we have great players in this D-line room. Coach Scott has built a very great squad, so I feel like we're all ready to go. We're ready."

**#71 Earnest Greene III || OL || RSo.**

***On the physicality of the run game...***

"It's the Deep South's Oldest Rivalry. That game's always going to be won up front in the trenches, whether who runs the ball better, whether it's us or them. And you know, I feel like up front, we took pride in being able to just attack them and try to run the ball. That's a good team. They fight hard. We knew that we were going to get their best, so we just wanted to emphasize the run game."

***On the offense needing time to get where they want to be...***

"Essentially every offseason everybody will go through that, because every offseason is a different team. No matter how many returning starters there are, or whatever the case may be, every year is its own new team and its own mission. So I feel like you'd have to do that every season."

***On the room for improvement in the run game...***

"I feel like there's always room for improvement. We kind of believe in being perfectionists, so there's always going to be something on tape you can clean up and fix. We'll be looking to do that on Monday. "

**#17 Dan Jackson | RS-Sr. DB**

***On his performance...***

"There's a lot of things that I can always get better on. Just having all of us run to the ball, even though I might have some tackles, the corner might allow me to be there at a certain spot. We get great rush from our defensive linemen. We work as a unit, and it's never a one man show."

***On getting the win...***

"It feels great. And like I said, the 24-hour rule. Win or lose, we're flushing it. It just feels great to make corrections and just keep getting better every week. That's what we have to do when we play in the SEC."

# Auburn Postgame Quotes

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#### **Head Coach Hugh Freeze**

##### ***Opening statement...***

“Obviously, a disappointing season. Today was another step not in the direction we hope. Georgia is a good football team. Kirby (Smart) is going to do a great job. Obviously, they are a pretty good team. They are really talented, from top to bottom. They are deep. They have a pretty quarterback who understands the game. They have a really good team. We have to figure out how to coach them harder and make sure we aren’t making critical errors at critical times that would cost us a chance to win a football game. I keep saying we are not that far off because they are the No. 5 team in the country. We are not playing good football. We as coaches, it is our job, and it is my job to get that fixed.”

#### **#1 Payton Thorne || QB || Sr.**

##### ***On the offensive performance...***

“There’s never going to be a perfect game, you go into every game knowing that. We didn’t play good enough to win today.”

##### ***On the team’s success running the ball...***

“I think we’re doing a good job on the ground. It starts with the guys up front and they’re doing a good job. Jarquez and Damari and Cobb back there are doing a good job of seeing what the offensive line is doing and attacking.”

##### ***On the importance of the upcoming bye week...***

“It’ll be good to go ahead and take a breath here and reset a little bit. You can kind of split it into two seasons now. So we can flush this first half and then it’s time to go back to work.”

#### **#15 Keldric Faulk || DL || So.**

##### ***On his injury in the second half...***

“I feel good right now. It’s part of the game you know. I prepare for that. It was nothing major so I’ll be fine.”

##### ***On his two-sack performance and his confidence after the game...***

“I had confidence coming into the game. Getting those two sacks was expected. It was a goal I set before the game. I was just doing what I was supposed to do. I’m not going to go and do stuff we’re not supposed to do. I just go out there and try to make plays.”

#### **#27 Jarquez Hunter || RB || Sr.**

##### ***On what was working with the run game...***

“We saw in film all week they do a lot of moving around, moving out of the gap. So, I feel like we had opportunities in the run game that we could’ve used against them. I mean, earlier in the game we had a couple big runs and then later in the game we had a couple big runs against them. I mean, we could’ve run the ball all day, we just had to execute as players.”

##### ***On his message to the team as a veteran...***

“I think we just got to keep our heads up. We got to keep going, keep pushing forward. I mean, we got the talent to win a lot of games. We could be undefeated right now, but it’s just the little things we mess up ourselves. I think we just got to go in and not get our heads down. We got to go in and strive forward and just go work hard this week to get ready for Missouri. I mean, we got a bye week, so we just got to get ready for Missouri this week and don’t lack off.”