

Georgia Postgame Quotes

Georgia vs. UMass

Saturday, Nov. 23, 2024 | Dooley Field at Sanford Stadium

Head Coach Kirby Smart

On the 2024 senior class...

"I think you start with the senior class. Any time you have 51 wins over your career, that's remarkable. The ironic thing is a couple of those guys had six years, so they had about 70 or 80 wins. But [Xavier] Truss and Dan [Jackson] are on their sixth year, we've got a bunch of guys on their fifth year, and the fourth-year family of guys are responsible for this 51. Georgia's been playing football for a lot of years, and to have a class do that – that's pretty special, and I thought that was great honoring them. I wish it had been a cleaner game, but they did great."

On the team's offensive efficiency against UMass...

"I thought they operated well. We were able to run the ball. When you can run the ball efficiently and you can throw and convert third downs, you're going to be really good, and we were able to run the ball and control the line of scrimmage. They don't have a lot of big guys, so that helped us tremendously in terms of running the ball. I think we were around 50 percent on third down. We didn't have a lot of third downs because they converted them without it. We were explosive, but we should have been. As dominant as we were on offense, we should have been the same on defense."

On Nate Frazier's performance...

"It's been huge. He's very confident. He's hitting the hole really hard, sometimes too fast, but he's a good running back and he's growing up fast. He's a kid that usually would be getting a few carries, and now he's our veteran back at this point."

#15 Carson Beck | QB | 5th

On his connection with Oscar Delp over the past two games...

"I don't think anything was missing. I just think it's the play calling and then obviously him being the one that's in there. Those guys rotate in a lot in the tight end room, and we have a lot of talented tight ends. I think he's just been in the right spot and has ended up making the plays. So yeah, I'm proud of him and what he's been able to do for the past two weeks."

On him playing cleaner in the last two contests...

"I think the first thing is, obviously, the offensive line played so well, so when I'm not getting pressured as much and I can sit back there comfortably and make my reads, it makes life a lot easier for me... Our wide receivers are being explosive and then the run game. The run game always helps the run game, play action pass, being able to throw the ball deep and check it down when I have to. Our offense has been executing on a lot of levels."

On the upcoming game against Georgia Tech and the possibilities for the post season...

"Absolutely, and when I talked to the team before Tennessee I kind of talked about it. I said, 'we control our own destiny.' Every game is a playoff game from here on out. That's how you have to approach it. I think the challenge has been accepted. And, week in and week out we're just focusing on going 1-0, and then we can control our destiny from there."

Arian Smith | WR | Sr.

On Senior Day...

"I had a great day. I'm blessed to be a part and get to walk out with the senior class that I came here with and play good football."

On being a member of the most-winning senior class in Bulldog history...

"It speaks to how dominant and consistent we are. We don't care who we're playing. We're just going to go out there and dominate."

On his game today...

"The offense was clicking on all cylinders, and everyone was doing their job. I think we did a good job with execution and making sure we were locked in no matter the opponent."

#6 Daylen Everette | DB | Jr.

On the defensive performance today...

"The turnovers, that's good, that's always a good thing to have. But we started really slow, and it showed on that side when they got those early points. We just had to go out and execute and do the right things. We will just go in tomorrow and see what we can do better and fix."

On turning the page to Georgia Tech...

"It's a rivalry game, so they're going to come in with a lot of energy, a lot of hate towards us, and I guess we will have to do the same. We will go in this week to prep and see what we can do against them."

UMass Interim Head Coach Shane Montgomery

Opening statement...

"I'll tell you what, I told our guys this was a tough task today, coming in and playing a team like it's week 11 when you're a little bit banged up. But I really was proud of the team. We gave ourselves a chance in the first half to stay in the game, which was huge. They just kind of, at some point start to wear you down a little bit on both sides of the line. But I was really, you know, really proud of the way that we ran the football today against a great defense. One of the best in the country, and our defense ended up putting some points on the board. But, we gave them obviously the touchdown on

offense and gave them another short field on a fumble. Our defense battled and had a big fourth down stop. But I think we competed really well today. I'm proud of the guys.”

On the Jakobie Keeney-James' touchdown...

“Individual coverage...it was a heck of a play. A great throw and a great catch. We kind of went to a dead count where we were going to see what they were in and the corner was off to start with, and then when we checked the play, the corner came up and pressed. So I wasn't really sure. I saw the ball thrown, and I saw about three bodies go up for one of ours and two of theirs, and the next thing I know, he's coming down with it. Great job of staying in bounds, too. I couldn't see how close he was there. I think that cut it to maybe 31-21 at that time. So it was a big play. And against that team, the big thing about their defense, they don't give up a lot of big plays. We did have some huge plays. We had some chunk plays today that I wasn't sure we were going to get. But we did a great job of creating some of those.”

On what he would've liked to see from defense...

“Well, again, when you're going against a team like that, they're going to get their yards on offense, so I think the biggest thing was the second half we slowed them down a little bit. We didn't give them as many big plays, touchdowns...quick touchdowns. We were able to move the ball on offense and eat up. I think we maybe had the ball 20 out of the 30 minutes in the first half, which helped keep our defense off the field. And then the second half kind of flipped because we had a two-play scoring drive, and then they had two huge plays that ate up the third quarter. So, again, you're going against a team like that, you're just trying to control both lines of scrimmage, and it was tough. But, like I said, I'm proud of the way our kids fought today.”

#21 Jalen John | RB | RJr.

On the rushing attack today and why it was so successful...

“I think we just stuck to the plan that the coaches had for us. Obviously this week was kind of rough for us, given coach Brown not being here anymore. We just did our best to stay focused on what the coaches planned and did our best to execute it.”

On the offensive line and how they performed today while having injuries...

“Yeah, shout out to all of my linemen. I think obviously Georgia's defensive line is no joke but I think our offensive line did what they could and we just followed behind them.”

On how much different the playbook was today with a new coach and major opponent...

“I mean we had a few plays that we have run this season but I feel like with coach Montgomery the plan was not to overcomplicate what we had planned and we really just wanted to focus on execution and the details.”