



POSTGAME QUOTES

2020 KANSAS FOOTBALL

HEAD COACH LES MILES

On tonight's mistakes...

"I'm absolutely certain that we were going to see mistakes at some point in time on offense, defense, and special teams. We're playing a game. The inability to play a game free of issues and mistakes is something that a good football team can accomplish and we're heading in that direction. I'm almost certain. I enjoyed some of our players and the advancement they made in short order. Amauri Pesek-Hickson had a 100-yard day. Luke Grimm had a big night. Our quarterback that started the game is a true freshman and he is coming and yes, we needed to take him out of the game. The reason that we did is so that he could process what was happening from the sideline so that he could really learn and continue to learn. Miles Kendrick had a really nice night. Something that he will have to look back on. It is still Jalon Daniels' opportunity. It'll be interesting to see how the week goes."

On KU's coverage on TCU's Touchdown passes...

"I can tell you what happened as best as I can see. The guys that came free gave an influence release. In other words, they influenced them with a blocking pretend and then released cleanly and left the defender at the line of scrimmage. Then they took the middle of the field defender away from the play with a route and wide-open was three opportunities for touchdown passes. We got to cover those. Those things are something everyone runs. It's 100 percent. If you put a safety in the middle of the field and its man coverage or for that matter you put two safeties in the middle of the field and its man coverage that release has to be covered because everybody dies it. When I get to the film, I'll be a little bit surer of what I'm seeing but I saw it that way."

On the bad snaps...

"That was freshman to freshman. Every spring ball has a period of time, sometimes it's as much as a week, where the snapper cannot get the ball to the quarterback. As a true freshman you look at him next year and as we continue to move with our center. He's going to be a good center. Tough kid and made some mistakes but we'll get those fixed."

On tonight's run defense...

"They started out in having the idea that they were going to push the ball at us, and they did. They handled the ball well. I really felt like that was not the issue. The issue was the three touchdown passes. We answered with Amauri and I think the opportunity to really run. I think we're going to have the style of backs like that and like Amauri was. It really was those three touchdown passes that we didn't cover."

On the future of KU's quarterback play...

"You have to remind yourself that this is a freshman and that you are teaching him. He's stepping into positions and reading routes that he's not seen before. The mistakes that were made are significant mistakes and there's not any question. But we can live with this. This is something that we can get beyond. The mistakes that you mentioned from the center to the quarterback, the offensive line with three true freshman playing, starting in it. The future is pretty bright. It's not as bad as it feels right now. I say that to myself. I'm sure that your customers and yourself all understand that."

On the message to the team after the game...

"The message was at the end of the game that we are going to improve. We got two weeks to do it. We're going to take our time and press to see what really caused those mistakes and we'll get those things fixed. I still think that we're pretty good. I was excited with several freshman that stepped in and played hard. I think Luke Grimm's night was really big, period. I like us. We just need to play better, we just need to be more efficient, pretty simple."

On Velton Gardner's Status...

"Nicked, not really terribly bad but hamstring, not lower leg or knee, but hamstring."

On rotating the offensive line around...

"Malik Clark could play all the spots and we had the other tackle who could play the tackle spot. We don't move the young offensive tackles and out center is still our center. The right guard needs to be a guy that can give us some play there and we did not necessarily anticipate that he was going to play a lot of football for us this fall. Because of injury and because of COVID we were in a bind and he stepped in and played extremely well."