



Kansas
JAYHAWKS
1-0, 0-0 Big 12

VS.

South Dakota
Coyotes
0-1, 0-0 MVFC



KANSAS FOOTBALL POSTGAME QUOTES

Head Coach Lance Leipold

How in doubt did that win feel late in the fourth quarter...

"You felt momentum shifting of course and some big plays happening. We were so close so many times and you're kind of hoping that it's going to click a little bit. We talk about playing 60 minutes and competing so we took advantage of it. The biggest thing is how proud I am of this group to battle back that late in the game when the momentum really shifted, especially what they've been through. We talked a lot about how since the last time this program has won a football game so to do it in that style is very fitting and I hope it's something we will build upon."

Were you expecting the on-field party right after the game...

"Grant Murray our director of player personnel said something to me right before. He goes 'they may storm the field or something so be careful.' I thought our fans were great and I thought the student body was awesome. I haven't been a part of that in a very long time and I really want to thank the fans for their support and hopefully they will continue to come out and support us because they were a factor in things. It's exciting and it is exciting to see our students and fans get behind this football team."

What did you like most about the defense tonight...

"I thought we played well up front. I liked the passion they played with. We talked about playing with motors, giving great effort, and good things are going to happen. I thought it was an excellent performance. Both teams did light it up yardage wise but at the same time we got a lot of key stops when we needed to. Those are all confidence builders as we go through things."

Did anything stand out about Jason Bean's performance....

"Everyone sees, much like the program and our offense, it is going to be a work in progress in a lot of different things. His athleticism, his speed and quickness, I think he has a strong arm, I thought he made some nice throws, he was 17/26 on the day. But again there are some things we need to clean up and help him out on. For him to get a chance to play in this offense under these circumstances I think will give us something to move forward with."

Does it give you more confidence with the poise (Bean) showed on the final drive....

"With the poise he showed all day. He's a pretty flat line guy a lot of times, his highs aren't real high and his lows aren't real low and sometimes you really need that from that position. We had some big time conversions when we needed them late in the drive."

Big picture, what does a win do for this program....

"Right now we aren't concerned about style points, we need to get a win. From where we are at in trying to get a baseline in where we are at as a program in a lot of different ways in the limited time we have been together. You take the 15 practices and put them in as what should have been our spring ball then 10 more practices we should be not even halfway through camp. You are always concerned about how to tackle and things because of live practice really on both sides of the ball. I thought we tackled pretty well tonight for the most part. Getting a victory was first and foremost right now then we get on the film and work to get better."

On getting picked up by other coaches after the fourth down stop...

"Yeah it was Kwahn Drake and somebody else. I didn't do anything so I don't know why they picked me up, they probably should have picked up one of the guys who made the play. The enthusiasm is flattering, this is about a program not about a coach and we are going to work to build on this. To see the excitement from the staff members and everyone will always be memorable."

Just wanted to know if you could talk about Lawrence Arnold....

"Yeah, Lawrence had a heck of a game, you know Lawrence hasn't practiced a ton he was limited up until Tuesday I think. He had a shoulder injury, through camp missed a little bit of the early part of camp then came back, and was doing well. You see the length at the position that he gives, he has athleticism to go make plays, very confident, and everyone talked to me about him when I got here that he showed flashes last year. He's just one of the many talented young receivers that we have here in this program that we have to keep developing."

What did you make of Caleb Taylor stepping up for Sam Burt when he went down...

"A lot of guys stepped up there, losing Sam was definitely disappointing, I feel really bad for him; but to see a bunch of guys step up Caleb Taylor being one of those. Really proud of those guys, proud of the way we played really in the whole front. Again, transitioning to a new defense, all of those things for us to have a chance to play that way. Gave up 260-some yards in our first game, I'm really proud of that."

When Kyron made that big play off the edge with the sack and the forced fumble, he was also the leading tackler today. What do you make of his performance and overall the performance of the D-Line....

"I thought the D-line had a very good night. Kyron Johnson is our most athletic defensive lineman, he has great twitch, he can come off the edge, he's got a great motor, and we're going to need that from him all year. Again, he stepped up when he needed to. A couple of times the ball got on the ground and seemed like it layed there for 5 seconds, but all in all to have somebody who can do that, we're definitely going to need that as we progress through the season."

In the interest of that baseline that you were talking about, what did you think of your O-line tonight and where do they need to go from here....

"Well, you know obviously we didn't run the ball the way we had hoped. I'm not going to make any statements without watching the film but we're going to need to run the ball a little bit better. I think we had one sack, pass protection seemed to be okay. To be a better offensive football team, we're going to need to be better as a whole unit. It gives us an idea of what we have to work on. We had some guys banged up. Colin Grunhard has missed a long time, he really gutted it out tonight. Malik Clark went down during the game so we were kind of mixing and matching some units there. If you look at the total production of things, I know every one of them and Scott Fuchs would say the same that we need to get better there, and I'm confident we will."

You've spoken a lot about the details, the stuff that you really care about, I guess never being satisfied. Were there things today, maybe penalties, maybe something else that stuck out to you during the game that you would like to get back and really focus on....

"Yeah, you know our penalties early in the game. We get a penalty on the far side receiver, Trevor Wilson moves and the ball isn't even going his direction, I mean that's one of those things that focus. There's a couple other of those types that I thought we had in the first half that really kind of stymied us a little bit that we need to get better at, and we will. I'm confident we will. We had a facemask penalty that was tough, and I thought that holding call, I didn't really get a great look at that. All the rest were probably ones that could be correctable and focus and things like that. And we will."

On the QB sneak, what did you see from the spot and did you think about challenging...

"I thought it was tough, where we were with timeouts and things. I tried to be aggressive twice on fourth down and came up short and that's on me. I thought it was a safe call but that's a hard ball to spot in the middle of that. I will have to try and take better looks at it off of the TV copies and our film tomorrow."