

Georgia Postgame Quotes

Georgia vs. Mississippi State

Saturday, Oct. 12, 2024 | Dooley Field at Sanford Stadium

Head Coach Kirby Smart

On the importance of another SEC win...

"I think any time you get to play an SEC opponent you never know what you're going to get or what to expect. I was really pleased with the crowd, the effort, the energy in the stadium really helped us because I felt like both team warmups were just lethargic and going through the motions and we didn't have the energy or juice we needed but then when we came out for the game I thought we really had it. We started fast and did some good things. We had some bad turnovers, but I was proud of the guys, really proud of the offense. I thought we gave them 14 points on defense and if you take those 14 points away, I feel pretty good about the game but we absolutely just handed them 14."

On the execution...

"Football is a situational game. Last week against Auburn, we won two-minute, before the half we won some third downs. We built our program around if you can win situational football you can put yourself in a situation to be successful. We won most of those moments but we just have to play better in the second half."

On difference between the first half and second half defensively...

"They got a little life at the end of the first half when they hit us on the rocket motions. They had a rocket motion come down there, the corner didn't play it correctly and they had a big play. They we got them back up and thought we could get out of it and they hit us on another rocket motion so bad eyes, undisciplined eyes, not looking at what you're supposed to. The good thing is you can learn from that. Those weren't ability plays, they were dependability. Then the second half they come out and hit a couple shots on us. We gifted them three third downs in the game- a roughing the passer, a helmet, and then a PI. We helped them big time there and you can't do that."

#15 Carson Beck | RSr. | QB

On the improvement of the offense throughout the season...

"Over the past, I guess, seven weeks because we've had the bye week as well, we've just continued to develop and get better each and every week. And I think that's something that we've done so well from year to year is continuing to develop, continuing to get better and as that chemistry kind of meshes, as we find our groove, I think we'll definitely peak at the right time."

On the awareness of the career night he had...

"I had no clue. I knew I was feeling it and I felt really good. Which is actually crazy because in warmups I felt terrible. I was like 'oh my gosh.' And that's usually how it works which is so weird. The same thing happened in high school. You come out there like, 'I don't feel good' and then you come out there and, shoot, second play of the game you throw a pick. It's like, it is what it is. Let's go. It doesn't matter, just keep playing the game, keep going. And then you start to find a rhythm."

#11 Arian Smith | Sr. | WR

On his connection with Carson Beck...

"Practice. We've been here for a while, so regardless, like when we weren't playing, we had other people in front of us. Just practice. We've been practicing with each other for a long time, so I feel like the chemistry has been there. So now we're just putting it on display."

On Mississippi State's fight late in the game...

"Just know that no team will just lay down. We're going to have to earn the win. They're not going to just lay down and give us a win or give us a touchdown. So, I feel like the defense knows that we're going to have their back And I feel like we know that they're going to have our back ready when we need them. "

Mississippi State Postgame Quotes

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Head Coach Jeff Lebbby

On what he learned about his team the last couple weeks...

"Again, our guys responded. Man, they did. They answered the challenge, they answered the bell. I hate that we're sitting here disappointed, frustrated that we're not on the right side of it, but our guys are continuing to fight like heck for each other and I'm proud of them for that."

On how Michael Van Buren Jr. was able to settle late after struggling in the first half...

"Yeah, he did. He settled in there late in the first half and then played really well in the second half. That's without watching the tape, but early on I think it's a young kid in an unbelievable environment where we have an opportunity to do some things. Don't hit on him. I've got to continue to coach him better, put him in positions to success, but proud of him for getting himself out of that hole and then answering the right way to be able to go play the way we needed him to play."

On DeAgo Brumfield's play in the backfield...

"Yeah, it's huge. It's huge having DeAgo back. This is a guy who has played a ton of football. We couldn't have been more excited about him, and for this to be the first time he actually gets action, it's been a long time coming. But proud of who he's been. Man, he's stayed the course and then takes advantage of the opportunity today."

#1 Kelly Akharaiyi | Fr. | WR

On his chemistry with QB Micheal Van Buren Jr...

"It's just one of those situations where you just got to bring him up since he's a young guy. The team just rallies around him, making sure that he's comfortable over there, and he just makes plays and we help him out."

On the changes he saw from QB Micheal Van Buren Jr. from the first to second half...

"He just has to calm down. Obviously, he's a young man playing in a big game. Once he calms down, he can compete with anybody."

On whether there are things they can build on for next week's game...

"Yeah. We're putting together drives, putting together plays. Receivers are making plays. Running backs are running hard, so it's one of those things where you just build up on and do better, go back to practice, and then get back to what we know how to do."