

SOUTH CAROLINA

A T H L E T I C S

Tennessee at South Carolina

November 1, 2014

• Tennessee Head Coach Butch Jones •

Opening Statement

Well, I haven't even had time to catch my breath. But what can I say about this football team? Our perseverance, our resiliency was rewarding tonight. And, you know, being down by 14 with four or five minutes to go in a game, there was never a doubt that we were going to win this football game. And I give South Carolina a lot of credit, they made some great plays – [Pharoh] Cooper is a great player. But just really proud of our players, everyone associated with our football family, every person on that sideline knew we were going to win that football game. You know, I thought starting the game off, obviously had some momentum, didn't capitalize on some field position and they took plays in the wildcat formation, but again, just proud of our players and resiliency by everyone.

On the running game tonight

To be able to rush for that many yards, you know, Jalen [Hurd] has been doing it all year long. And in the game you see a lot of freshmen, first and second year players, making a lot of plays out there, but I am really proud for our seniors. Very, very excited. It's just victory number four, but again, seeing their faces in the locker room – it's a great testament of everything that we've been preaching all year long about never looking at the scoreboard, just continue to play. I thought Josh [Dobbs], again very, very good poise, managed the offense. We like to have the one throwback going in, but again, made some plays. I thought Alton ["Pig"] Howard stepped up, made some big plays – executed the one minute drill to perfection with no timeouts left. Again, they say the mark of a really good quarterback is the ability to lead their team from behind in the one-minute drill on the road – and Josh [Dobbs] was able to do that.

On being able to win a close game

Well, it feels good anytime you win, but I feel great for Vol Nation. You talk about a loyal fan base – we are going to need them as this season continues to progress. Our student body, our student section – I hope everyone in Vol Nation can have a great weekend and a great week. And I am proud of our seniors and everyone associated with our football program. You know, we've been on the other side of things – so we're going to enjoy the night.

On the defense getting stops at crucial moments in the game

I thought the defensive front, especially Curt Maggitt came off the edge with a whole other presence in overtime. Same thing with Derek Barnett and you know, forced them to go all the way back. We wanted the ball first in overtime and to kind of put our defense on the field and let them win it, because, you know, that's a very, very talented offensive football team. Coach Spurrier, as we all know, does a great job creating mismatches in one-on-one matchups, but again, it's a testament to these kids – the resiliency that they've shown all year long.

• Tennessee Players •

Jalen Reeves-Maybin • Linebacker • Sophomore

On getting the win

It was amazing. The theme of the game was "do whatever it takes." When it came down to it, we made plays and made it happen.

On winning a close game

It feels like we're getting over that hump. We made plays and had guys step up and make plays in big situations.

On the defense getting the stop in overtime

We felt like we had new life. We feel like you give us a place to stand, we can stop you. The offense gave us a place to stand. They put us in a good situation and we came up with the stop.

Aaron Medley • Kicker • Freshmen

On the celebration in the locker room

That was a special moment and it was great for the seniors to get a program win like this.

On making the game winning field goal in overtime and what the win meant to the team

It meant everything. This was a great team effort. The defense had the offense's back and then the special teams had the defense's back. Looking forward this was a great program win and this is going to propel us in the future.

Jalen Hurd • Tailback • Freshmen

On getting this win

It was amazing. It was our first really big win this year. I enjoyed every bit of it and the team played amazing. I was just doing my part and help anywhere I can.

On getting the win in comeback fashion

I just kept thinking back to whatever it takes. We busted our butts throughout this week getting ready for this game. Even in the Alabama game, we were down, but we didn't give up at all. That's exactly what we need and our wide receivers made some big plays. Our offense played great and didn't give up any sacks. We had a lot of rushing yards and the team played great.

Joshua Dobbs • Quarterback • Sophomore

On what he brings to the offense with his running ability and how it opens up the passing game

It keeps the defense on their heels and it allows us to have a balanced attack. We had a really good running game today and the offensive line did a good job of opening up holes. Then, when the receivers make plays, the defense doesn't know what's coming and it keeps them on their heels. We did a great job of executing the game plan.

On coming back after he threw the interception in the 4th quarter

I knew I was fine. I knew the defense would make a stop, and they did. We got good field position after the stop and we were able to capitalize on it.