

SOUTH CAROLINA (3-2) vs. S.C. STATE (1-3)

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2022 | WILLIAMS-BRICE STADIUM | COLUMBIA, S.C.

POSTGAME QUOTES

>>> SOUTH CAROLINA HEAD COACH SHANE BEAMER

Opening Statement

"First of all, before I start certainly prayers with everyone affected by the hurricane. I know we see the story tonight is football but there's a reason this game got moved to Thursday and those people in Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, and everyone certainly in our prayers as well. We've got players on our team from you know, Florida and those areas and along the coast of Georgia as well. So, keeping them in our prayers and want to thank everyone that allowed this game to be moved. The football part of it is easy to play and the coaching there's a lot that goes into moving a college football game so appreciate Coach Tanner and our administration and everyone here in the in the city of Columbia, the state, the SEC and South Carolina State and Coach Pough for allowing this to happen as well. Before I get started, I want to congratulate Coach Tanner was just telling me out in the hallway are Equestrian Team upset Baylor today our women's soccer team upset Florida tonight here as well. So, congrats to both of those two teams. Thursday nights are good around here. I talked about it earlier in the week at the press conference about some of the Thursday night games we had here when I was an assistant coach whether it be the NC State and Russell Wilson or Kentucky when they came in top 10 in the country or Ole Miss when they came in here top five in the country. So, Thursday nights are special and want to thank our fans as well. I know the Cockpit was excited that President Armidis called off class tomorrow so they showed up down there in the endzone. I appreciate them packing it and then everyone out there as well didn't know what to expect but should have known that we would have a great turnout tonight knowing how awesome our fans are and appreciate them coming out and the ones that stayed to the end as well. Got a lot to like to correct. Proud of the win and proud of our team, the way they handled this short week. Finding out on Tuesday morning they're in a team meeting, get ready to go out and have a Tuesday full-padded practice and then they found out that we're playing in a little over 48 hours and they really handled it well told them last week after we beat Charlotte that we found out a lot about the maturity of our team this upcoming week going into South Carolina State and then we found out even more obviously with the game time with the day being changed thought they handled it well. A lot to clean up obviously. The story of the first half were turnovers on offense and penalties on defense way too many pass interference calls but you know in the first half, we did a lot of really good things. But the penalties that allowed South Carolina State to sustain drives and then the turnovers that we had on offense just can't have it's not playing smart football and gotta be better there without a doubt. But like the way that our guys responded, thought we finished the half well got a great stop defensively at the end of the first half. Our offense had a 95-yard drive in the first half. And then right after the defense got the stop there before the half offense went to the two-minute drill and went right down the field as well and got points. Didn't start the third quarter great, giving up a drive to them but then our offense responded so really proud of the way that our offense responded tonight to some adverse situations never blamed anyone just kept coming back out there. And then the different turnovers that we were able to create told them at halftime that we needed to get better as a football team in the second half and feel like we did great to see Marcellas Dial get an interception, Sherrod Greene get an interception. Bam Martin-Scott made up for the ball that went through his hands and then on the very next play the block punt hit his helmet, he made up for it on the next drive by getting an interception as well so proud of those guys and that was good to get some young guys in there as well. So, a lot to correct. A lot of work to do for sure but proud of the team great win we'll enjoy this one and excited to have I know our players are excited to have a free weekend here".

Quote 1

On creating turnovers on the defensive side of the ball

"We just gave out three game balls in the locker room. The three guys that got turnovers, so we certainly want to celebrate it. You know, I think we told them when we weren't getting them early in the season. We didn't make a big deal about it. We just talked about continue to be in the right place and continue to play really, really hard and be around the football and when you are and you fly to the football and you play hard, those turnovers tend to come and we're certainly going to need them going forward as well. We'd love to get a lot more in the first half going forward in the second half. That would be nice, but now we emphasize that every day and in practice with drills that we do offense versus defense and things like that. So, we need to keep it coming and there's a reason we led the SEC in takeaways last year defensively you know we work at it, and we emphasize it and we've got to get back to that put ourselves in a little bit of a hole to begin the season. We gotta claw out so we can get back ahead in that stat, and we got to quit, you know turning the ball over ourselves."

Quote 2

On overall performance of the team since the Georgia game

"I think we're playing good football. You know I know people, winning, it's hard and I realized that people said okay coming off that Georgia game they got two nonconference games they're gonna win no matter what and all that and that's not the truth. I mean, you got to work hard. These are good football teams that we play that have good players that number one is going to play in the NFL for South Carolina State. And they've got some really talented guys on defense. So, I feel like we're playing better. Are we playing our best football? No, there's a lot to clean up but I saw a lot of signs of us getting better as a football team over the last couple of weeks. I saw signs of that at Arkansas saw positive things that believe it or not that I saw on the Georgia game, and we just have to continue to get better. We're a work in progress five games in. I think we're a better football team than we were two or three weeks ago, and I sat in here after the Georgia game and we've got to get a lot better though there's no question about it as we go into all SEC play and then Clemson at the end of the season."

Quote 3

On Christian Beal-Smith's productivity

"I think the biggest thing for CBS is just one getting healthy. That's why he maybe didn't see as much at the beginning of the season. He wasn't 100% healthy and he's healthier now. So, you see that, and I like what he's doing. You know, he's running the ball with physicality and that was a physical run he had over there on their sideline, and I think it was in the first half. He sought the guy out and tried to run over him. I mean, that's the physicality and mentality that he brings. And you know, we didn't have a ton of plays offensively tonight. I think the Arkansas game we had 90 and 61 It looks like tonight so there wasn't a ton of plays, but I think those guys are getting more and more confident and comfortable back there carrying the ball."