

#25 SOUTH CAROLINA (5-3, 2-3) vs. MISSOURI (4-4, 2-3)

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2022 | WILLIAMS-BRICE STADIUM | COLUMBIA, S.C.

POSTGAME QUOTES

>>> SOUTH CAROLINA HEAD COACH SHANE BEAMER

Opening Statement

"First of all, give Missouri credit. That's a good football team; I said it all week. I knew it was gonna be a battle. They came in and played really, really well. Give the quarterback credit; he played well. There's a lot of things that you can look at: we didn't do a great job obviously of creating turnovers tonight and a lot of things. So, start with me; [I] gotta coach better.

It's disappointing because, look, I get the narrative: we have four wins in a row, had a great win last week, we're ranked for the first time in forever, understanding that it's easy to say, 'Okay, South Carolina's gonna get complacent and not play with the same energy and fire and physicality that they had been and watch out.' The disappointing thing is we were obviously on guard for that all week. I thought we had a great week of practice. I really did. Guys were focused and, great energy, great physicality because we were watching closely – I was watching closely – in practice to make sure that that I didn't see signs of any complacency.

But, we sure looked like a team on all three phases in the first quarter, and really in the first quarter, we looked like a team that was on our heels and just assumed everything was going to be okay, just waiting for something to happen. I just told the team in this conference, it's so freakin' grind. Every single week, you better be at your best, and we weren't as at our best as coaches tonight, and we weren't at our best as players. It starts with me, and the only thing we can do is go right back to work because no weeks are easy. They never are and especially from here on out."

On if Missouri was doing anything unexpected

"No, they do a great job of just keeping you off balance with formations personnel groupings, motions, trick plays. That's kind of their M.O., and they did a great job tonight of getting the ball on the perimeter. We didn't leverage it correctly a couple of times. It's disappointing because a couple of times in the first half we felt like we had the perfect call for what they ran and pretty much anticipated what they ran, and they still were able to execute and convert on third downs. That was a key in the first half. I think they were I think it was six of eight if I'm not mistaken on third downs in the first half, and we couldn't get ourselves off the field. But, no, give them credit. Eli [Drinkwitz] is an offensive coach and does a good job. They've got skill at the receiver positions; I said that all week. Their quarterback is a good athlete; I said that all week. And, they showed it tonight."

On outside groups feeling like there should be changes on the offensive end

"I understand their frustration. We flat out laid an egg tonight. After every game, I've always talked about what tonight was not good enough in any phase, and start with me.

But, like every game, win or lose, we always get back to work on Sunday morning and see what the issues are what we did well, what we didn't well do well. But, certainly tonight, we were not good enough, and **we** gotta figure out how to be better."

On what the conversation at halftime was

"I felt like we got some really good momentum going into the going into the half, scoring right there before the half, got some great momentum. I thought we had a good plan to start the second half offensively.

Going into the game, we wanted to play with a little bit more tempo, a little bit more no-huddle. We didn't have a ton of plays in the first half, and we weren't really able to get into that. But, I felt like we gotten a pretty good rhythm there at the end of the first half and wanted to continue to do that.

We thought we had them right ... We were down last year, I think 14-0 to East Carolina and 14-0 to Auburn, I believe. So, we pride ourselves on being a second-half team and felt like, 'okay, we were awful in the first half, but we finished with some momentum.' I told them at halftime, 'we're a second half team that gets better as the game goes.' And, we didn't do it today.

You know, we went out on offense the first drive went three and out to start the second half and punted, which was disappointing. But, we just continue to try and coach throughout the game and go from there.”