SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2022 • WILLIAMS-BRICE STADIUM | COLUMBIA, S.C.

POSTGAME QUOTES

On the performance of the offensive line...

"I thought they did well, I felt they protected well for the most part. We did some decent things in the in the run game. The most disappointing thing was probably the penalties. That was sloppy at the end of the game. We had a holding penalty on a naked boot and then we had the drive where Luke was at quarterback, and we had two holding penalties on that drive where we're moving the ball. Then we have two holding penalties which was disappointing and I think one of them was on the backside of a counter, which no reason for that to happen. So we've got to clean up the penalties but I thought they protected well. They've got some got some guys with some size that can rush the passer up front so I thought they did a good job. Tree (Babalade) and Tro (Trovon Baugh) were great coming in there. We got Jatavius Shivers in at the end of the game too, so that's three true freshmen that played on the offensive line. Our plan going into the game zone was to get Tro and Tree in there by the second series, unless the first series was just a quick three and out so they went in by the third series. I think Tro was in the second series, an Tree was in there shortly thereafter. Both those guys played a lot. And as far as what we did to help them, we did a lot of the things we did last week. We tried to chip a little bit more to help the tackles out, move the pocket a little bit. Those guys held up pretty good and and they'll be better for it."

On LaNorris Sellers' performance...

"I thought he looked pretty dang good, I don't know about you. He was awesome. He's a tough kid. I mean, running the ball. He's a load to bring down so he's a weapon running the ball and that throw that he had was pretty dang impressive. I thought he was going to throw it into the Cockpit but Tyshawn Russell came out of nowhere and made that play. LaNorris is just a gamer. You guys saw it in the spring game when he gets in there, the moment's not too big for him. I really didn't have a chance to say anything to him because he came off the field after throwing that touchdown and I think giddy is probably the word to use. He was just so excited and I was so happy for him. All those guys they worked their butts off in practice and they're great kids. They are great, great, great young men and no one works harder. We have a lot of hard workers don't get me wrong, but those two guys spend an amount of extra time in the building. They're just so appreciative for everything and I'm proud to coach them."

On the Xavier Legette/Spencer Rattler connection...

"It's fantastic. And it goes back again to just how hard those guys work. We track our guys with how fast they run based on GPS numbers and if you run 20 miles an hour, it's really fast. Last week against UNC Xavier ran 21 miles per hour at one point in the game. Then he came back to practice on Tuesday when it's 90 degrees and he ran 21 miles an hour again, and then he came back the next day on Wednesday and ran like 20.5 miles per hour. So my point is the guy practices his butt off and he doesn't take plays off in practice. It's a great example for all of our players and all of our young guys, and Spencer trusts him because he knows that Xavier is not going to take a play off and he's covering punts as well for us. So that's a great combination that he and Spencer have as well along with Juice (Wells) and Trey Knox and all of our guys have put a lot of time into it and will continue to get better."

On the importance of gaining confidence and allowing more players the opportunities to play...

"It's kind of the perfect 'if you could draw the scenario'. You don't love facing adversity like we did, but we faced some adversity early in the game and our guys didn't panic. We talked about it in the coaching staff meeting this morning that they have a good team and if things don't go the way we want them to early, just hang in there. We got the better team so just keep playing, nobody panic, and keep poise and confidence. So we faced some adversity and were able to respond. Our best players played really well. Then being able to get as many young guys in there where they got game experience and they learned from it so they know the speed of the game in a lot of ways. don't get me wrong, it's going to ramp up a lot here starting next week, but for those guys to be able to get experience and play meaningful snaps was really good."

SOUTH CAROLINA (1-1, 0-1 SEC) at VANDERBILT (2-1, 0-0 SEC)

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2018 • VANDERBILT STADIUM | NASHVILLE, TENN.