

TEMPLE OWLS VS. CINCINNATI BEARCATS
11-10-2012

Temple Head Coach Steve Addazio

Opening statement:

"Obviously there were some tough moments in that game. There were some good moments in that game. I just talked to that football team and basically the message I just gave to our football team was we're putting that puzzle together right now. We're just going to keep fighting. We're not together yet; that hasn't happened yet. The pieces of all the puzzle aren't together yet. We have a lot of young guys in there and at times we make mistakes on both sides of the ball—critical errors that cost us dearly. I don't blame you if you get tired of hearing that and I understand that, but that's just the way it is. Those are the facts of life.

I like our football team. I really believe in our football team. I really believe that our day will come—our day will come. And we'll just keep grinding here and steadying the boat, developing these players and that will happen. We let up too many big plays today. The facts are the facts. A couple of plays there that are just crazy plays. One of them where they think they have us offsides and we're not offsides and it's a freebie, but it's not a freebie and they throw the ball down the field and we don't make a play on the ball and all of the sudden it's a touchdown just like that. That happened today—that really happened. We got beat a couple of times up top for some quick scores—that really happened. There's a couple deals in there—those fast-paced scores—that you look at and say 'Wow, there wasn't a lot of work done there and bam.' There's probably 24 points that could come off the board there if you could do things a little better.

We had a few third downs where we had a great chance to get off the field and all of the sudden the quarterback is pulling the ball down, running with it and we've got a guy assigned to him and that just doesn't get done. But you know what, that will get done. There will come a time when that will get done. And all of a sudden that 3rd and 12, you're off the field again.

There were also couple of times on defense where I thought we did a good job on stopping the run and getting off the field—that happened a couple of times. The difference today was the incredibly quick explosives that happened with the ball going way down the field. That happened. That's real. On offense in the first series we literally had a couple things where a couple of guys went the wrong way. Hard to fathom that could happen—it just doesn't happen in practice. It just happened. Those things were real.

We had a couple of beautiful looking drives—one by Chris [Coyer] one by Juice [Granger]. We got the ball down to the two yard line where we had two shots. I thought Ryan Day just did a phenomenal job with the play calls and both of them were just exactly what you want to happen but we didn't connect on them. But there will come a day where we do connect on those two plays. It's going to happen. And I'm excited about seeing that happen. That's kind of where we are.

Positives? We had 30 minutes in time of possession—pretty good. We actually threw the ball at times—I thought Juice did a nice job today. You saw some balls that he threw—he overthrew a couple. You're looking at a guy who hasn't played a lot of football. But I thought he stood in the pocket and threw some shots. I thought Kevin [Newsome] threw a nice ball at the end of the

day. I thought those were positives. I thought Matt Brown did a nice job for us. I thought Romond DeLoach—freshman—came into this game and he made some really nice catches. That big target out there—six foot five, six foot six. You can see the makings of a heck of a football player in Romond DeLoach—that's pretty obvious to the eye. You saw Sam Benjamin beating guys deep and all of the sudden it's the young freshman out there one time got twisted around and one time thought the ball would come right to him instead of making a play on the ball but beat the defender deep with great speed. I thought Jalen Fitzpatrick taking some wildcat snaps in there and giving us a little spark in there—I was excited to see that. So there were some really good positives in there and certainly some negatives.

Where are we? You'll get tired of this, but the reality is that we're a handful of plays where we've just got to keep pounding at. It's not your job to evaluate, that's my job. That's where we are. I'm going to keep pushing this football team. I told the team that I don't know when that's going to come together. Next week? Two weeks? Next month? September? I don't know. I know it will and I can't wait to be around when it happens. It'll be exciting and that's the development of a young football team and a young football program.

There's the old saying "momma said there would be days like this" and there are some days like this. We've got a lot of resolve in the other room. We've got a lot of excited guys. We've got a lot of guys that know somewhere as that train goes through that tunnel there's a light. And we'll get there. And that's what we're going to do. We're just going to keep working. We're going to get there. This is as fun of an outfit as I've been able to coach in my career. It's real moldable. It's frustrating, but it's moldable and that's exciting.

There's exciting times ahead for Temple. Exciting times ahead for this football program and for this football team and I'm looking forward to coaching it. I can't wait to get back to work on Monday and get back going again. We had a great week last week, now we've got to make that week turn into that game. What's the difference? The stadium. The competition. It blinks really quick for guys that don't have a lot of experience."

On QB Clinton Granger possibly being named the starter:

"Juice went in and I thought he did a nice job. I want to watch the tape, but I'm all about putting the guy in there that can move the football team. I thought Juice did a nice job. For me to stand up here and make proclamations, I'm just not wired that way. But I thought he did a nice job. I liked what I saw. I wanted to get him in the game and he went in the game and to the guy's credit, he orchestrated a nice drive and looked good doing it. Made some plays, made some throws, did some things, checked some protections—good for him. I can't wait to coach him. I can't wait for Monday. I'm not going to diddle around with it. I'll confirm my tape and you'll get an answer from me. But good for Juice. I'm really happy for him to step up. He's had a couple of shots now in bad situations—who knows? I can't wait to see Kevin Newsome play a little more too. I'm excited for that. I can't wait for that. Great. Terrific. And that's what we're going to do."

On the status of RB Montel Harris:

"I don't know. I can't answer that. I don't know the details of it. He seemed good. I don't know the depth. I haven't had a chance. I went in, addressed the team and then came in here. My anticipation is that he's going to be fine. He's disappointed because that guy's a baller. He's a football player and to not get out there today and run the ball, it really bothered him. But that's OK, we'll get him back. Matt Brown got back. Jaime Gilmore got going a little bit."

On Jalen Fitzpatrick's play via the wildcat formation:

"I thought he did a great job. We're trying to get him involved. We're trying to get our playmakers involved. Every week we sit there and say 'How do we get the ball in the hands of our playmakers?' We want to throw the ball to Cody Booth more. We want to get the ball in the hands of Jalen Fitzpatrick more. We wanted to get Romond Deloach really activated. I thought Ryan Day did a good job of getting him activated today. He got activated. Now there were some really great plays and there were some plays where we've got some work to do. But the future looks bright. It's exciting. I love his attitude. I just love Sam Benjamin's explosive speed. Now we've just got to give him some game experience so he's able to come out of those twists and turns and stay on his feet."

On the strong points of the defense:

"The future strength is in some very outstanding linebackers. But in that linebacker crew there's a lot of errors that cost us in that game. Their passion for the game and the way they play is really fun to watch. And we're working like crazy to get that out of there. I see that as a strength. I thought the defensive front played better. I was disappointed in the back end. I'm not going to hide that. I thought the two corners did a better job last week of attacking the ball. I don't know if we attacked it as well at the safety or corner position. That was a little bit of a disappointment today for me. The defensive front played a little better. I thought that we were stopping the run a little bit and I thought the linebackers again made a couple of costly errors. As we move forward we just need to keep developing those guys because they're the strength and future of this defense. But when you're a true freshman and you've got a couple of them working in concert and there's not an old vet in there steadying that ship out. One's making all the calls and there's a lot on the guy's plate. For every great play they make, they're still at the point where they're not making a few. But the back end, we've got to challenge them a little better."

On mistakes from the back end:

"I'm not going to sit there and chastise. I'm not going to bench young guys who I think are the future of our program, I'm going to have to get through this because that's what experience is. This is what this is—learning under fire. There will be a payoff for that. It's an annuity. You just keep paying it in. It'll come back. It may not come back exactly when you want it to come back. I'd like it to be back today or tomorrow. I can't wait, but it will come. I don't know when it'll come back—that's what I told them. Just keep working. I don't know when, but it'll happen. Trust me. Because we've got good guys that work hard and they have ability, but we've got to get glued together."

On big plays affecting his young team:

"Those things don't affect veteran teams as much. But when you're a young team, that stuff affects you. It has a stinging to it. I thought we came back after half time and said 'ok, let's get back in the fight here.' And that's what you can see. That's obvious. That's the good news hidden in the chaos. The feedback I get back from the people that we play against is that we've got a really tough football team and that it's a great team in the making—and I believe that too. And that's why I have the attitude that I have. That's what I really believe. It's exciting—it's frustrating, but it's exciting. It's exciting where we can go and how fast can we get this done. We're in a footrace to do it now. We need a little of that taste of victory. We need to get some of that again. That's important. When you work as hard as we work you need to feel that victory. And we need to get that done. We're going to battle and see if we can find that this Saturday. That's all I can tell you. I'm really committed to that and I think our team is really committed to that. That's where we are. It's frustrating and it's trying, but it's also exciting. Our day will come. It'll happen because we've got the right pieces in the foundation."

On the potential that the team might not make it to bowl eligible:

"Bottom line with that is just keep the faith. You never know what's going to happen. You never know what's going to pop up. It might be positive. You don't know that 5-6 won't make you bowl eligible. There's a lot going on. For us, the most important thing right now is just getting better and finding a win. We've got a big picture here. I hope we play more games because I want to practice more. I want to practice more. I want to play more. I want to keep growing because I know what's around the corner. The key thing to keep the thing going is, 'Do they love football?' And they do. I've been around those teams where right about now they don't want to do this. This team? They want to do this. They like it. And that's what's different about this. That's how you know that our day will come."

On QB Chris Coyer's development:

"I think he needs to develop a little more. I think we've given him a tremendous opportunity here to take the next step. He's played some good football and then he's had some tough football. The quarterback gets too much credit and gets too much blame. He's just got to keep competing, keep challenging and keep grinding. We're going to put the best players on the field. The job of the quarterback is to move the offense, to be the leader, to make plays. When Juice [Granger] went down on that drive he made plays. You've got to make plays, especially when they're there to be made. That's part of the responsibility of that position. Chris has made a number of good plays, but at this point right now if that's not happening at a good enough rate then someone else gets an opportunity to do that. We're going to make sure we've found the right guy to move this football team."

Cincinnati Head Coach Butch Jones**Opening Statement:**

"First of all, we got another gritty, gutty win going on the road again. This football team continues to show great resolve, [QB] Brendan Kay came in and did exactly what we wanted him to do and that was manage the football game. I thought his decision-making process was very good, we put a lot of confidence in him at the end of the first half. Part of managing is trying to score seven points, but if we don't have to be able to go in and kick a field goal and getting those three points that was set up by [DB] Drew Fry. I thought he did a great job we

made plays out in the perimeter, we knew we were going to get a lot of man coverage and obviously the big throw to [WR] [Kenbrell] Thompkins down the sideline. We really weren't in a rhythm and were kind of out of sync offensively. Throwing the deep ball helped and [WR] Chris Moore did a tremendous job of going to get the football and did a good job of manipulating the safety. They were in Man Three and he did a great job of controlling the safety. Defensively, we still have to do a better job we get teams at third and long and getting off the field but I thought it was a gutsy performance. We were able to play more individuals in this game than we have all season and some individuals made some career snaps. Great win and no doubt we are bowl eligible, playing meaningful games in November and I think this football team continues to show its resiliency and the overachievement that we have had all year. "

On what [QB] Brendan Kay did to earn today's start:

"I wanted him to earn it and the thing with Brendan is he is never emotionally too high or too low, he's just consistent. He has a lot of the same characteristics of [RB] George Winn. He is very confident and when he speaks, people listen and I didn't see any nervousness, and I thought 'Munchie' and Brendan fed off each other in practice. Overall, Kay has a poised demeanor and I think we saw that on the field today as well. He has lots of poise and didn't force the football. At practice we tried to simulate as many game conditions and playing quarterback is all about the ability to make split second decisions and they are the caretaker of the football. I just saw a level of confidence and poise in him that led us to believe that he would help us win this football game."

On how remarkable Kay's performance was after not starting a game since high school:

"If you think about it, you are right. That's why right, wrong, or different I didn't want to announce the starter. I let the guys battle it out and see who is going to start on gameday. I think that shows you the poise he has, and he's been through a lot and I think he paid his dues to get the opportunity. It's one thing to want that opportunity, but when you get that opportunity you make the most of it."

On his thoughts of his team's chance to win the BIG EAST:

"I think that it's a great illustration to our young football team and even to our fans, football season is a long season and there are going to be ups and downs, good days and bad days, and there are going to be adversities and it's about how you manage your adversities. Coming to work every day, putting your head down and don't look at the end results. Everybody wants a crown who is going to play in the BCS National Championship. Everyone wants a crown and be the Big East Conference Champion, but every game counts and that's why you just come to work every day. I said we are playing meaningful games in November and all three that we have left are going to be big games, but again this just shows resolve of our football team, our players our leaders. I'm happy for them, especially our seniors, but we still have a long way to go and we have three very, very tough football teams that we have to play."

On if he thought there was a new feel with the team today:

"I wouldn't say a different feel. I think we are a gritty overachieving group of individuals. I think that is great and we talk about them all. I don't think it's any different and it's the closest group of players I have ever been a part of. We talk about family and brotherhood and we use the saying, 'I've got your back' and these players really have each other's back and that's been formed throughout the year and also through our leadership—They don't care who's in it the linebackers, corners, d-line, quarterback, safety—They just keep believing in each other."

On if he is happy with the outcome today:

"I would have liked to score touchdowns and in our program one of our goals is for our offense to score touchdowns, not kick field goals. The big thing is that we have to score touchdowns, but I think [K] Tony [Miliano] did a great job of really turning in points. I think the play at the end of the half with [DB] Drew Frey's interception it was critical that we answer that and again everything is points off of turnovers and to go in and get those three points, I thought was big."

On what [WR] Chris Moore brings to the team:

"Chris is an individual who continues to develop and to progress each and every week. He can play the "D-box" exceptionally well and he's really worked on his craft as receiver. As a redshirt freshman, he gained a valuable experience and now he's stepped in and made a play when we needed a play. We were kind of out of rhythm, they did a good job taking away the run game making us earn everything. He's maturing. I think he went through that process of being away from home, what it means to be a student-athlete and the greatest thing about our football program is seeing these young players mature."

TEMPLE PLAYER QUOTES

QB Chris Coyer

On his errant throws during the game:

"There were definitely a few throws I wish I could have back, but I can't."

On what Coach Addazio said to him after the first half:

"We came in and made the adjustments that we wanted to make. I was told that 'Juice' [QB Clinton Granger] was going into the game."

On whether it has been tough to put together a complete game:

"The problem has been consistency. There are times that I made the right reads and made good throws, and there were times I did not. It's all about consistency."

QB Clinton 'Juice' Granger

On what he can bring to the team if he's named the starter:

"I feel like I could bring a lot – leadership, making good throws, good runs, check downs and just being an all-around good quarterback."

On how he feels about getting more playing time:

"It is a good learning experience. It's giving me the experience that I need. If I become the starter, I will hopefully do great things for this team."

DE John Youboty

On what the game came down to:

"The game came down to four or five plays where we had a second chance to stop the other team – it would have been a completely different game. We have to work on that and get better for next week."

On whether the defense has been making the same mistakes every week:

"I wouldn't say the same exact plays, but they're similar. Obviously we have to get that changed and turn the corner before our next game."

On how he will keep guys motivated when they may not be bowl-eligible:

"We're still hoping for that last extra game, so if that comes along, we'll still have an opportunity. But even without that, our coaches have kept us driven and motivated for every game."

WR Romond Deloatch

On when he knew he would get so much playing time:

"I found out Monday. WR Deon Miller got hurt this week, so Coach Addazio said that I had to come in and play a lot more. That's what I did."

On whether the game meant something extra due to Cincinnati recruiting him:

"It was exciting playing them. I didn't get to see their coach, but I went in ready and I was very excited to play in this game. They were going to try and move me to tight end so I told myself I was going to make a statement on the field."

CINCINNATI PLAYER QUOTES

QB Brendon Kay

On being named today's starter:

"It felt good. He let me know this morning. I said, 'let's go coach, we have to win. It's a must win.'"

On playing this well after not starting a game in five years:

"Just all the time you put in, all the hours you put in behind doors that people don't see. All the guys on the team see it so they trust in you. The time behind closed doors whether its watching film, working out, throwing with guys, all the little things."

On his touchdown pass to WR Kenbrell Thompkins:

"They were in Cover 2 and before the safety got over, I put it on him. I didn't know if he stepped out of bounds, because from my angle I thought he caught it out of bounds. But when I threw it, it felt good."

On what he thought he did best today

"Just managing the offense. I gave us an opportunity to win and protected the football. "

On throwing for 244 yards, running for 77, and catching a pass:

"As long as we win, I don't really care what I do. That's what it comes down to."

WR Chris Moore

On his excitement after his 65-yard touchdown reception:

"I knew I had to finish the play first, but when I was in the end zone, that's when I felt it."

On what he has done in the past year to get to this point:

"Learning the playbook more, because I knew that one of my biggest struggles was my knowledge of the playbook. "KT [Kenbrell Thompkins] has been coaching me up a lot in practice with reading defenses."

On what Coach Jones had to say after his touchdown:

"He told me congratulations. He said that I made a big play for the team and that he was proud of me."

SS Drew Frey

On his expectations for the rest of the season:

"We just have to focus on each week, bringing that level of consistent effort and intensity and the rest will play out itself."

On his interception:

"It's been a long time coming. It started on Sunday morning last week. Our defense does a great job of getting in the film room and holding each other accountable. When you know your assignment and you get some tendencies, making plays like that starts to make it come a little more naturally. I think our defense does a good job of being proactive instead of reactive."

On QB Brendon Kay's performance:

"He's always brought consistency to the table. You know exactly what you will get and that's his 100 percent. We honestly didn't know who was going to start for the game but it didn't matter whether Munchie started or Brendon started. We knew we were going to get their best effort and that's all that we care about. I thought that Brendon had tremendous poise and he played within the system and that really helped us in key situations."

On how he feels seeing Brendon get to play after all that he has been through:

"It's great for him. He's battled very strongly through injuries just like I have and it's great to see all that hard work that he put in over these past five years pay off as he led us to victory. I'm excited for him and we owe it to him because if he hadn't put that hard work in the past five years, then he wouldn't be able to be where he is today."