

LSU Head Coach Ed Orgeron– Postgame Quotes

Opening Statement...

“I just told the team I thought they fought really hard. We practiced well, a lot of 1-2. They fought through the very end. Obviously, we made some mistakes. Coach better, better scheme, better execution. You got to give them credit. They’re a good football team. No.6 is one of the best players I’ve seen and he had a tremendous game against us. Our guys are going to stick together and get ready for Florida.”

On if this helps or hurts recruiting...

“I think it helps recruiting. Recruiting has been fine. Our guys have stuck with us, the commits have stuck with us. I think we’re in good shape. I’m not going to say it helps recruiting. You don’t ever want to lose like that but when guys see that, “Hey, I can come in and play. There are some opportunities for me,” We have a lot of young guys, a lot of freshman are playing right now. I think that’s the way you take it.”

On why he got upset after DeVonta Smith’s second touchdown...

“Our plan was, for most of the game, double team him. That was one of his times that we weren’t. Then we got beat one on one, that’s nobody’s fault. We went into the game to stop No. 6 and you have to give them credit. Sometimes we had him doubled and he made some big plays. It was just frustrating seeing a player have 300 yards in the first half.”

On the amount of freshman that play...

“I told the team that. There’s a lot of young guys that played against Alabama for the first time. They got a real taste of the action; they know what its like. This experience today is going to help this young team down the road.”

On if there are areas of the game that LSU needs to improve at...

“Oh yeah, no question. It wasn’t just the line of scrimmage. The explosive plays and the passing. We just have to get better. We have to get better scheme-wise. I think we have talent in some places, I still have to do a better job recruiting. We beat them last year because we had an excellent offensive scheme and we had the Heisman trophy winner at quarterback. That’s why we beat them. We still have to get better on defense, we have to get better on offense, and special teams.”

LSU vs Alabama
LSU Players

Liam Shanahan

On what is on his mind after a game like this ...

“It was a tough game, of course. They are a good team. I thought we played hard, but we just made too many mistakes. If we’re going to beat a team like this, we have to play our perfect game and we didn’t do that tonight.”

On how he is going into the game next week after this game...

“That is part of the grind of playing in the SEC. We are in the meat of our schedule right now. We knew it was going to be like this for a few weeks now. At this point, we still have to dissect this game as a team and see what happened and then get right back to it. It is going to be next Saturday before we know it and we have to get right back out there.”

On what the vibe is like in the locker room after this loss ...

“Definitely not acceptance. Obviously, we were not favored to win this game. We put a lot into this. This isn’t something that is a hobby for us, this is our life, football year-round. This is what we work for. It is going to be tough whenever you lose a game. Especially when you have a big opportunity like we did today against one of the top teams.”

Jabril Cox

On what went wrong on defense during this game ...

“Just early on they hit us with some big plays. We didn’t adjust to them well as a whole defense. We were getting our eyes caught up in the back field a lot. As you can see, the wide receivers got behind us. As a defense, we weren’t on the same page.”

On how much they were able to double team Devonta Smith ...

“Early on in our calls we were able to. We just got mixed up in a couple switch routes and sometimes the safety was leaning towards the other way. Early on we were able to do it, but they just got behind us a few times and he was able to make a catch and score a touchdown.”

On if he played corner tonight & how their defense was ...

“I was playing in the boundary some and it looked like a corner some, but they have a pretty good O-Line. Have to give credit to them. They dominated up front for most part of the game. We just have to go back to the drawing board and focus on what we can and just fix that.”

On how good Alabama’s offense was tonight ...

“They have an athletic O-Line. On stretches you could see that they were all moving fast, either going to the boundary or the field. They were able to pull their guards and their tackles. They were big and athletic, and they got up on us a couple times, which helped the running back spread out for a few extra yards.”

On how confident he feels on the defensive scheme this season ...

“I feel confident. You can say it is a rebuilding year. It’s a lot of new faces on the defense, a lot of new guys. During this COVID period, a whole bunch of things are happening. The defense and the scheme, it works but it is just something new for all of us. We just have to get back to it.”

LSU Press Conference Quotes

December 5th, 2020

Alabama Football Coach Nick Saban

Opening Statement...

"I'm really proud of the way our guys came here and competed. I thought we did a fantastic job offensively and controlled the tempo of the game with our offense. Mac (Jones) did well, Smitty (DeVonta Smith) had a great game, and Najee (Harris) was great. We had a lot of guys contribute to that, particularly the offensive line did a nice job of controlling the line of scrimmage up front, which we thought was really important in the game. The defense made some mental errors in the first half that led to both their scores; big play touchdowns on absolute coverage busts in the back end. We made some adjustments at halftime and I think we played a little better in the second half. This team has done a great job all year. They won the (SEC) West today, which I'm very proud of them for their efforts all year long to be able to do that. Now we've got to talk about how we want to finish the season and how we want to improve, get better, and learn from some of the things that happened today and hopefully make progress in a very positive way. LSU has a lot of good players and they had a good gameplan against us in the first half, but our plans adapted and adjusted and did a really good job, so I'm really proud. Our coaches did a really good job today. We were down four coaches, including a receiver coach and three defensive coaches. Everybody in the organization stepped up and did a really good job and really didn't skip a beat today. Fortunately, it was none of the signal callers and that was very helpful, with people doing a good job of filling in."

On if he believes WR DeVonta Smith if the best player in the country...

"Well, I don't see every player play in the country. I love Smitty, and I think he's an outstanding player for our team. He's probably done as much this year for our team as any player that we've ever had and he's a great leader on the team. It's not fair to compare him to somebody else that you didn't even see, but I don't think there's many players in the country that have done more for their team than Smitty does for our team."

On the two touchdowns given up...

"We busted the first touchdown pass. We had a corner cat called and they changed played, so we responded by killing plays. The safeties have got to communicate to the corner who goes on the blitz and now he's not going on the blitz because we changed what we're doing. He went on the blitz and no one covered the X receiver, so it was a touchdown. On the long run, we misaligned. The STAR lined up in the wrong spot, so we didn't have an apex player on that side and had no force contain. The ball bounced outside and there was nobody around, so easily correctable things, but things we don't want to happen in games. At halftime we made some adjustments, the players understood what they did wrong, got it corrected, and played better."

On playing the game without four members of the staff...

"I think we knew Thursday when the tests were, I'm not 100% sure and can't be specific. I do know that Thursday we knew what we were going to have going into this game and made a lot of adaptations staff-wise that day for people to fill in. Our players have gotten so resilient to all the different things that

have happened. The electricity went off in the hotel today right when we were going to our religious service half an hour before pregame meal, which we had to eat in the dark. It's like, you know, stuff happens and everybody just keeps on keeping on because a lot of things happen. I was out last week and we had coaches out this week, but our players stayed focused. I think when you have good culture on your team and you've established that culture with your team that they can adapt and adjust to things that go like they don't expect it to, which we've certainly had a lot of opportunity to learn how to do that this season."

On how he felt to be back on the sideline and with the team...

"I was really pleased. You know, it's funny. It was a really tough adaptation to stay and do everything from home. But then, I felt sort of out of place going back to work, but it didn't take long. Within fifteen minutes I felt like I fit right back in. Mrs. Terry (Saban) wasn't on me anymore and I was able to get on with people in the office, so it was good. It was great to be back with the players, and I really appreciated the fact that several of the players were happy to see me back, so it was all good."

Alabama Linebacker Dylan Moses – Postgame Quotes

On if the game meant a little bit more to the players...

“Oh yeah, of course. Just to come back and play better than we did last year and finish strong. As a team effort we wanted to come in and play our best.”

On how the guys from Louisiana felt coming into the game...

“For us, it was just to come out there and play balls to the wall. Taking one play at a time and to not play with too much emotion. You know, we obviously remember what happened last year, but we wanted to come here and do our job.”

On how it was to play without the coaches...

“It was a big challenge, but we have really good assistants. For the most part I didn’t really notice any other coaches not being there until game day came. I saw our cornerback coach wasn’t there and our safety coach wasn’t there. So, for the most part it wasn’t really such a big loss. But we know that our assistants are great.”

On how it feels to capture the west...

“It means a lot. This is something we worked for throughout the offseason, and with everything that’s been going on with COVID, us battling through all the issues. This is definitely a great thing for me.”

Alabama Wide Receiver Davonte Smith – Postgame Quotes

On how he gets so wide open...

“Just coming down here and trusting the game plan. Executing the plays that coach calls.”

On his conversation with Jerry Jeudy...

“We are in a little group chat, and he just said to me to get 300 yards and three touchdowns. I got him his three touchdowns. That’s just something we always talk about every time before we play.”

On how it was without Coach [Holmon] Wiggins (Wide Receivers Coach)...

“We just came down here and trusted our training. He prepared us for even when he’s not there. He’s always been big on, no matter who is there, that we should still operate the same, and I think we did a great job of that.”

On the emotions on the field...

“It was most definitely chippy on the field. We necessarily weren’t going out there to do that. I just wanted to protect my teammates, and make sure that we all get back to our sidelines safely and that nobody got hurt.”