

LSU Head Coach Brian Kelly
April 22, 2023

Opening Statement...

“You know, it was what we hoped it to be in the sense that, as you saw, we tried to do some situational work and some special teams work that allowed us to shorten the format a little bit. Because we, as you know, are thin on the offensive line, and I told that second group in particular Wes Woodward and Kells Bush that moved over from defense to offense, that we wouldn’t have been able to have that kind of spring unless they stepped in and moved their positions. And they got better for us. It made for a really good spring opportunity for us today because they were competitive, and it allowed us to get a lot of guys some work in a game-like format. So, pleased with the outcome. First and foremost, we got out of it clean. No injuries which is always important as you look at the overall impact of a game like this. And then we had some guys step up and make plays. Obviously, the very first offensive possession with Kyren Lacy being very dynamic with the football in his hands adds to a mix of receivers that can be, obviously, very good for us in the SEC. I thought the quarterback in Jayden Daniels was very efficient. Played very well. I thought Garrett Nussmeier was equally as efficient and at times doesn’t have the same protection that Jayden Daniels does. Given those circumstances, you can make the case that he was equally if not better in some instances. So, pleased with the quarterbacks. Again, defensively guys were flashing. (Harold) Perkins, Omar (Speights) were outstanding; he gives us the kind of production that we are looking for. I thought we got strong play across the board. I think our safety play needs to continue to get better at the second level. We missed some tackles, but all-in-all a good day for us today to evaluate and take a step forward.”

On Kyren Lacy and him as a weapon this season...

“The work that Kyren [Lacy] is doing is much more about a consistent approach in practice. I think we are starting to see how that translates to his performance. At times he was trying to find himself relative to where he fit in on the team, but I think now he is comfortable in where he is in the rotation. His practice work ethic has been consistent and we can see it in terms of the way he is playing.”

On the new defensive line...

“I thought there were some really positive things. Ovie Oghoufu is a really good edition, certainly. I think he probably had a sack on each side against our right and left tackle. I thought that we were really clean inside, we played good, fundamentally sound football. Omar [Speights] addition is really big for us. He made a great tackle in space against one of our running backs. That says a little about his versatility in and out of the box. (Harold) Perkins was really good. The plays that stand out to me is that we ran a counter, and he was able to slip the second puller to make a TFL play. That requires training and he has been really good at picking those things up. I think all-in-all, the development of Perkins and the addition of Oghoufu and Speights have been really big for us. They were the holes that we were looking to fill with more mature players.”