

Stanford University Football Media Conference

Saturday, October 22, 2022
Stanford, California, USA

Coach David Shaw Postgame Media Conference



Stanford 15, Arizona State 14

DAVID SHAW: Interesting game, this football thing. A lot of credit to our guys, their preparation and how hard they play.

We didn't play a clean game. Execution-wise was down for us, especially on the offensive side. Effort was there. The energy was there. The fire, the passion was there.

Moved the ball, and it's very similar to last year's game against Arizona State where we moved the ball 20 to 20 very, very well, and they got down in the red zone and just missed the opportunities. Dropped two balls, missed two passes, ran a couple of bad routes, didn't sustain in the running game.

So a lot of those things that kept us out of the end zone. Those things that we did before we got to the red zone, we didn't continue to do there.

But a lot of credit goes to our defense. Three weeks in a row, defense playing their best football. Again, not perfect, but, man, the energy, the passion, the fire, the pressure on the quarterback, much better against the run. That whole group is playing better and better, even with the injuries.

A couple of obvious shout outs. Josh Karty, we talk about during recruiting, we watched his film thinking is that right? You're watching a high school kid kickoff and it's not going three yards deep in the end zone, not just going through the goalpost, it's going midway through the goalpost.

We kept watching and thinking at some point this kid is going to be the best kicker in America. We may be there. We may be there.

Does a great job on his kickoffs. Does a great job on his field goals. Steady and consistent. He's one of our leaders.

I've called him a weapon for years, and that's exactly what he is.

In the vein of preparation, a lot of kudos to our defensive staff also for getting ready for Ernest Cooper, a true freshman to play. Having him know what to do. He's been working extremely hard. A couple of injuries. We had to put him out there.

He pressured the quarterback. He got sacks. He ran some stuff down from the back side. He plays with energy and passion and fire, and fired up about what he showed today. Look forward to seeing him have some more opportunities as well, even as the other guys come back.

But bottom line for us is found a way to win, doesn't have to be perfect. Like I told the team, nobody asks how you won, just if you won, and we did.

That's two games in a row, and now we're going to play one of the hottest teams in our conference, one of the hottest teams in America down south.

We can play with those guys. It's going to take a much cleaner effort than we had today, but we're going to be ready. We're going to go down there and prepare and give it our all and try to give ourselves the best chance to win.

So I'll take questions.

Q. To see it overturned, what was that emotional roller coaster like for you?

DAVID SHAW: Those of you that know me, I don't typically do the emotional roller coaster. I feel for my wife. I know she does. A lot of our families and fans do.

But it's part of where we are right now. I've accepted where we are. There are a lot of positives about where we are and a lot of things that we have to correct.

I told a couple guys on our team today, hey, we've got to play through some of our bad plays. The world doesn't come to an end because we have a bad play. We had a couple of difficult plays and we came back and got a stop on defense. Had a couple of difficult plays on offense and came back and got a first down.



I thought we did a great job on third downs today and we put ourselves in some difficult third down positions. We have to clean up a lot of our -- you know, across the 50, but up to this point we've been pretty good.

We've got talented receivers, a talented quarterback can run, a talented tight end. We've just got to connect. We're not missing by much. We're missing by inches.

Just not going to wipe the whole thing clean. We're just going to work on the things that we need to work on.

Part of it is, hey, even our older guys, like we can't get so excited because it's there. We got so excited we missed the throw. We got so excited we ran a bad route. We got so excited we dropped the ball.

We're going to have opportunities to make plays. We've just got to step up and make them. The ups and downs have a lot to do with us, and we've just got to even some of those things out.

Q. Coach, how gratifying was it to get your first conference win at home, homecoming, and especially after that big win in South Bend?

DAVID SHAW: Yeah, it doesn't make any sense, but as an old coaching thing that I heard a long time ago that I say sometimes too, which is like, you win one game, win the second one and make it count. That can't just be a stand-alone game. You have to go on and win the next one to prove that it wasn't a fluke.

So for us to come back and find a way to win two in a row now. We've played well three weeks in a row, even though that Oregon State game, we didn't close it. But we're finding our groove in at least how hard we play and how hard we push in finishing those games.

The ball bounced our way a couple times, which is great. Because balls bounced against us a couple times too throughout the season.

Looking forward for this team to come back and see who's healthy this week from today, and then put together a good plan, have our guys get ready to go down to Southern California and fight, and looking forward to this week.

Q. Two things if I can. One, any initial word initially on Filkins and Bonner at this point?

DAVID SHAW: No word yet, but I would say next week is in doubt for both of them. We'll see where we are the next couple days.

Q. Pretty pass heavy approach, it seemed, today. 35 passes called versus just eight runs in the first half; 57 passes thrown by McKee today. What were some of the things that went into emphasizing, in particular, that phase of offense?

DAVID SHAW: So a lot of our offense right now is run/pass option, so I would say of those attempts -- which I heard that number a while ago and it kind of shocked me because we didn't call that many passes. We called quite a few runs.

He changed a couple of the runs to passes, and a couple of the runs have pass options. So a lot of those times you saw a ball go in the belly, that wasn't play action, those were runs, and he pulled it back out and threw the ball to, early on especially John Humphreys with some big plays. Two of those, I think, were pulled out and thrown to Elijah. A couple were thrown to Ben.

So a lot of those were called runs, and the quarterback did a great job of pulling it back out and taking advantage of some of those.

I thought Ben Yurosek did an outstanding job today. So much man coverage, which is the other part of the reason -- they had all the guys down in the box, playing a lot of single high, a lot of man-to-man. We ran in there a couple times, and it was hard to find space. We bounced out on a couple of them.

Casey slipped through on a couple of gap schemes, but for the most part it's just a tight box in there and a lot of man-to-man outside. Even when we did call runs they ended up being passes, and our passes -- we wanted to attack that man coverage as well.

Q. Defense obviously has been improving a lot over the last few weeks. What has been the key to that growth? Is it just guys gelling more? Is it anything you guys have done schematically or told them? What has been the key to the defense's growth over the last few weeks, would you say?

DAVID SHAW: So my answer to that question is kind of twofold. One is our defensive staff, I think, has done a good job of adjusting to our guys. We came out of training camp with kind of an idea of what we wanted to do, and we've had to adjust that to a certain degree.

We didn't have to take a bunch of stuff out and put a bunch of stuff in. It was just emphasizing certain things. I'm not going to be specific there before you ask.

But we've also had an interesting combination of high rep experience guys, right? Kyu, Ethan. These guys have played a lot of football. Ricky Miezan, a lot of guys.

But then some older guys that maybe hadn't played much. I out pat Fields in there as a guy who played a lot of football but hadn't played a lot of football with us. So finding where he's best.

And then some of the young inexperienced guys. They haven't played a lot of football. Tobin Phillips is playing a lot more football now than he played earlier, so he's playing better and better and better. He doesn't get any accolades, but he's playing better.

Then you get really younger guys, guys like Jaxson Moi and put Lance Keneley in that kind of getting used to playing. He missed a bunch of time, and now he's back.

David Bailey, him getting better and better. Ernest Cooper going in.

We have a lot of young guys getting better and better, and coaches are saying, now we have an idea of what we emphasize, and we're also being more aggressive as play callers and how we play.

Our younger guys are getting more experience, and we're just kind of getting better and better and better, and hopefully that continues next week.

Q. Can you just give us a little more background on Ernest Cooper, where he's come from, what he's shown, and how he got to this point.

DAVID SHAW: Yeah, Ernest, right outside of Dallas. Ernest is long, obviously long; he's explosive; he's athletic. Showed up, and our edge rushes are -- our edges are one of the deepest parts of our team.

So early on, David Bailey coming in spring really helped him jump and get ahead. So has been so dynamic. Ernest wasn't quite ready at the beginning of the season, not to mention we had so many veterans out there.

So he's just been working on the scout team. He and Teva, both of them, they've just been working. They're the first two guys out there before practice, working on all their technique. Both of those guys have gotten stronger. We knew one or both was going to have to play today. We leaned on Ernest. Ernest has a little bit more size and length.

It didn't surprise us because what we've seen every single day at practice, he's gotten better and better throughout the

year. His length, his speed, his athleticism. We knew he was going to be a superstar. We knew that when we recruited him. We just didn't know how soon.

In our locker room, he became a superstar today. His passion, his energy, one of his first plays was a run away from it, and he ran it down the back side. That's what we saw in his high school film. That's what we've seen every single day of practice.

Like I said, he's going to be a superstar for us, and looking forward to him getting more reps throughout the season.

Q. Bryce Young was here today, and then you have McCaffery being signed by the Niners, so he's back in the area. What type of morale does that -- I mean, what type of boost in morale does that do for your players and then also for you that you coach these guys?

DAVID SHAW: Talking about Bryce Love, Bryce Love was on the sidelines today. I think last time we played Arizona State at home he had 300 yards rushing, so a lot of guys remember that.

But just having him come and be around, any time our football alums come back it's an uplifting thing for our guys because they see somebody who is in their shoes. They see somebody who has success and still wants to come back and pour knowledge back into our team.

So excited to have Christian McCaffery back in the Bay Area. I know he's ecstatic. John Lynch is ecstatic. Callahan is ecstatic. The whole Niner Nation is ecstatic.

I'm excited to have Christian be around. He's got a job to do. It's going to be great, but he's not going to be too far away. I know they have their days off and love to see him. He's excited about being around. I'm excited for this push for him and that football team.

That's just another weapon for Kyle to have, and I'm excited for him and their future.

FastScripts by ASAP Sports

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Lance Keneley

Postgame Media Conference



Stanford 15, Arizona State 14

THE MODERATOR: Led the team in tackles today. Questions? I have no idea whose name they said.

Q. I asked coach the same question, but from your perspective, what's been the key to the defense's growth over these last few weeks?

LANCE KENELEY: From my perspective, I think the biggest thing for our defense has just been energy. Then the second biggest thing I think has been guys being unselfish.

Kevin Anderson was our honorary captain last week, and he gave a speech about doing your 1/11th and playing your play. I mean, I think the unique thing about defense is it takes 11 guys in the right spot every play, and you have to be unselfish.

The tackles will come to you. The moment you try to do too much or try to make a play, that's when there becomes holes, and that's when guys get big plays.

So I think that's the biggest thing for us is the energy and then guys being unselfish.

Q. You guys have strung together two back-to-back really good performances. How do you keep this momentum up against a really dynamic quarterback like DTR?

LANCE KENELEY: Yeah, that's a good question. For us the key is to focus on ourselves. We're getting some guys back at the edge. We obviously had Aaron Armitage down, we had David Bailey down.

Also to keep building on the performance today. We had guys step up, like Ernest Cooper. We had Teva, who was ready to go.

I think for us it's about focusing in on ourselves and making sure that we do the little things right. DTR is a very dynamic quarterback and is a dangerous weapon when

he's uncomfortable in the pocket, so I think it's going to take disciplined rushes and disciplined coverages, and I think we're up for the challenge.

Q. What were the emotions like for you on that last drive? I mean, you get them into fourth and long, they complete a long pass, fourth and long again. It seems like they complete another pass, but it's overturned. What was that like for you to experience?

LANCE KENELEY: Yeah, for sure. Like I said, I think in those key situations, where you have to play good defense to win, I think you've just got to fall back on your technique. You can't let yourself get blinded by the circumstance, right?

I think for me it was just having to go out there and realizing that all I had to do was do my job, and I think every one of us thought the same thing. All we had to do was just do our job and we'd be fine.

We had a shutout second half, and as long as we just kept doing what we were doing, it was going to stay that way.

Q. How satisfying is it for you guys in back to back weeks as a defense get the game-winning stops after that not being the case against Oregon State? How sort of satisfying is that to kind of see that redemption and growth from that moment.

LANCE KENELEY: I think it's incredibly satisfying. We have a mantra on our defense. We want to be excited when we get put on the field, whether that be a sudden change like a turnover or turnover on downs or the end of the game.

Like defense is an exciting part of the game, and you have to want to play defense and want to do your best. Obviously, you'd rather not be in that position, but it's good that the guys held it together and that we got our stops.

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Joshua Karty

Postgame Media Conference



Stanford 15, Arizona State 14

Q. First of all, how does your leg feel?

JOSHUA KARTY: It feels good. A little tired, just like always after a game. Feels good, though.

Q. Big moment today. Homecoming always a special moment. Did you feel that you would make this big of an impact on homecoming Saturday?

JOSHUA KARTY: Sorry. Could you repeat that?

Q. Did you feel you would make this big of an impact on homecoming Saturday when you woke up this morning?

JOSHUA KARTY: Oh, I try to keep like the external like dynamics kind of out of my head, like in a game. It was nice that it was homecoming, but for me, when I woke up this morning it was another game to stay locked in as usual.

Obviously the difference was instead of waking up and walking down to the elevator, eating breakfast, going back to my room, doing nothing for a couple of hours, it was get up and go for earlier kickoff. So not much time to think about anything.

But just glad I could contribute to the team and get a great team win today.

Q. How does it feel to kind of be one of the most clutch players in the country? Also, how good is the leg from? I don't know if we got to see the ultimate range today.

JOSHUA KARTY: Yeah, no, it feels really cool when people come up to you and say you got this in your veins and stuff. It's a lot of fun. I kind of try to embrace it as much as possible. It helps the confidence for sure and just can't wait to get back out there next week against the Bruins.

And, yeah, the range question, if it's a dead day either direction, I can feel comfortable about getting the distance like pretty much every single time from 60, maybe low 60s depending on like the temperature and stuff.

Today going through the tunnel I felt comfortable, maybe 60, 65. And then the other direction, a little bit less, probably like 57, 58, which is why we had to pass up on that 61 at the end of the half. Hopefully we can showcase it sooner or later. More importantly, I'd rather win by multiple touchdowns at the end of the game.

But yeah, thank you.

Q. Two things. 7 for 7 over the course of the last couple of weeks or so, which is fantastic. However, there's also the other side that you had to be called on to kick seven field goals. How do you kind of balance that out a little bit about your success kicking the ball, but maybe the offense's problems may be punching it in for six?

JOSHUA KARTY: I think I heard a little of Lance's interview before this about having to be excited to play defense. I think that's really good because for me, when we're in the red zone or when we're inside the 35, 40, it's great, like time to kick a field goal.

But at the same time, I'm kind of split because I want the team's success. Like six points instead of three -- or seven instead of three. So I'd rather be in PATs, but at the same time, I'd rather be hitting field goals because field goals are fun. That's what I'm here for. That's what my job is.

Ultimately, I want the team's success, and six points is better than three points all the time. But on days like today and a week ago, just being ready no matter what if you're in their half of the field, it kind of helps success. Thank you.

Q. A second thing. Any of the five field goals today stand out more than any of the others?

JOSHUA KARTY: Yeah, I liked -- my favorite field goal



was the last one, not because of kind of the game dynamics of being like the game winner, but I think it was the best hit of the day.

A couple of the hits -- I'm pretty critical, especially about myself. A couple of the hits, I think the second one -- the first one and the second one I wasn't very thrilled about, and the fourth one I wasn't very thrilled about.

But that's kind of my -- after each kick I analyze it and say I liked it, I didn't like it. Whether or not I made it, I analyze it a lot and then move on, but definitely the last one stuck out to me the most.

Q. Obviously, all five of your field goals today credit going to the long snapper and the holder as well. Just talk about the dynamic that you three as a trio have. Just talk about that.

JOSHUA KARTY: Yeah, I'm super lucky. Not every team has a snapper like Bailey on our team. I think he was perfect on laces every single time apart from being perfect on the spot for Sandy.

Bailey, what's great about what he can do is he can make Sandy's job super easy. I think today he made Sandy's holding job very easy. I don't want to take anything away from Sandy, but I'm really lucky to have the two of them in my unit, along with the other eight guys in protection, to make it easier for me.

Because hitting like the five field goals today, like it would be a lot harder if the ball is in a different spot every time and the timing of everything is different every time.

I'm just super fortunate to have them with me, and we're really close to each other off the field. To help create the trust between ourselves, and we all love each other. Thank you.

Q. Shaw just asked when he was in here with us the rhetorical question, is Joshua Karty the best kicker in America, and he said he might be there. Your reaction?

JOSHUA KARTY: Yeah, of course I believe I am the best kicker in America. I kind of have to. Even an unbiased view is I still think I am.

A lot of that is due to my coach, Coach Alamar. He kind of pulled me aside before the season and kind of reinforced why I'm here, who I am, and it kind of has helped me with my mentality a lot. Along with sports psychologists along the way.

Just to kind of reinforce that belief in yourself and that you can do anything when called upon.

FastScripts by ASAP Sports

Stanford University Football

Media Conference

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Stanford, California, USA

Tanner McKee

Postgame Media Conference



Stanford 15, Arizona State 14

Q. Tanner, pretty prolific game for you, over 300 yards passing, but none got in the end zone. Do you feel a void when that happens, or are you just happy with the five field goals that got the win on homecoming?

TANNER McKEE: Yeah, I obviously have a lot of things to learn from, a lot of things to improve on, but I came off the field and I was like, wow, that was a messy one to Coach Tavita, and he was like, well, you've got to win the messy ones.

It was enough to get the W, but obviously not enough moving forward. A lot of things to work on, a lot of things to get better at, but obviously happy with the result today.

Q. Just talk about what it's like having a kicker in Josh Karty, and how much -- obviously the goal is to get in the end zone every possession, but how much pressure does that take off of you when you know that, hey, if we don't get this drive done, you've got a kicker behind you like Karty that's almost an automatic three points?

TANNER McKEE: Yeah, it's huge. Like you said, our goal is to score a touchdown every single time. We're not playing out there to try to kick field goals, but it is nice, when we come up a little short, that Karty can be himself and can be automatic and get those three points because, as you can see, today was huge.

Yeah, it's definitely a huge weapon that we're going to use. Hopefully we'll be able to keep him off the field a little bit more by scoring touchdowns, but he's been doing great. So super excited for him.

Q. There seemed a couple times that you were a little hesitant to take off and run. You got sacked a couple times where you kind of looked like you were going to take off and then something caught your attention or something else. Could you just touch on maybe if you feel like you're going to end up running more in the

future or if there just wasn't a read that you liked?

TANNER McKEE: Yeah, we'll see. I feel like they did a good job of dropping guys late, running some pretty funky coverages. So just trying to play football and react. Honestly, when you're out there, you're not thinking about a ton of different stuff.

As a quarterback, your job is to deliver the ball into the play makers' hands, and that's what I try to do to the best of my ability. When that doesn't work, obviously I feel comfortable using my legs and running. Yeah, that's basically it.

Q. Casey ran 32 times last week. This week you throw 57 times. I guess what went into that change from last week to this week? Also, if Casey's not able to go next week, could we expect more of you throwing a lot against UCLA? Was this good practice for that?

TANNER McKEE: Yeah, I mean, last week they ran a ton of Cover 2 and made us run the ball, so that's what we did. That's what's great about our offense. We're just going to take what the defense gives us. They ran a ton of one hide, a lot of Cover 1, a lot of Cover 3, so we tried to take advantage of that and throw the ball as many times as possible.

Yeah, obviously we did throw a ton.

Q. And do you feel that prepares you for next week against UCLA?

TANNER McKEE: Yeah, I think so. Definitely a lot of things to iron out and a lot of things to get better on as far as a timing standpoint or me anticipating where guys are going to go or just different routes.

I said it before there's a few routes where we usually have Mike out there, but obviously he wasn't playing. So just getting comfortable and getting timing down with the other guys just so we don't have the dumb miscommunications when it should be an easy completion and we just don't get the conversion.



Q. Could you talk about what your emotions are like as a quarterback or just as an offensive player in general when the game is on the line and it's up to the defense to get a stop. Just kind of what's going through your mind there and just kind of emotions when you see -- yeah, when it's out of your control. Just how do you kind of deal with that emotionally?

TANNER McKEE: Yeah, it's kind of funny being a quarterback because you want to amp everybody up. You want to get super fired up. You want to bring the fire and you want to bring the juice, but internally you have to be cool, calm, collected, focused. This is my job. I'm thinking about a ton of different things. I can't be too frantic or things like that.

I mean, I have a lot of trust in our defense. They've proved it before in the season. Last week and again this week, that they're clutch in big time situations.

So just having a lot of confidence in them, being on the sidelines, trying to be a leader, trying to be a captain as much as I can. Yeah, just try and help in any way I can.

Obviously when we're off the field, there's only so much that we can do, but given run/pass calls or getting the guys juiced up or telling them on the sideline or things like that.

Q. Is there a sigh of relief to finally get this first conference win? How much more does that -- gratifying does that feel now that going down to L.A. that you guys got at least one conference win after that big win in Notre Dame?

TANNER McKEE: Yeah, it's big. Obviously it brings a lot of momentum. I think it just shows that we can be really good when we play up to our standard and our expectations, at least from an offensive perspective. I feel like in no way was this game up to our standard or our expectations. There's a ton that we can grow on, a ton that we can improve on.

But Coach said we're never going to play perfect. We have to play with the bumps. Obviously it gives us momentum, and we're very excited to go down to L.A. and play our best game that we've played so far.

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Stanford, California, USA

Coach Shaun Aguano

Postgame Media Conference



Stanford 15, Arizona State 14

SHAUN AGUANO: I think our kids played to the last whistle like I asked them to do. We weren't efficient enough on offense. Our defense did a great job, again, like you said, keeping them out of the end zone. 15 points shouldn't win football games.

Am I disappointed? Yes, I'm very, very disappointed, but I've got a team to make sure I take care of. So we'll get back at it.

I told them right before I came here is I'll never give up on them. They have two ways to go. We can get better than we were this week next week, or we can cash it in. They all told me they're all in.

So I'll make sure that I'm there for them.

Q. On the catch by Badger, from your take, could you tell if he was in or out? Did you see the replay like everybody else did? What was your thought as you think you're down there and then you're not?

SHAUN AGUANO: I thought his foot was probably out when I looked up there. And that's a moment we could have scored, to tell you the truth, but it didn't happen.

We wanted to rush our guys down there to kick a field goal, because if it was caught and it was out of bounds, the clock would have stopped and we would have had three seconds to kick a field goal for a win, but they called it out.

Q. What do you think happened the second half as far as how the offense stalled?

SHAUN AGUANO: I thought we had penalties to hold us back in the sticks. I didn't think we dominated the line to get ahead of the sticks in second and longs, trying to play catch-up the whole time.

I wasn't happy with us playing from behind and not being efficient on first downs. We made some big plays, but we

never finished. We always stalled. I'm not real happy with that.

Q. What did you think about Emory's play?

SHAUN AGUANO: I thought Emory's play was solid. I'm going to go back and look at the progressions, look at his decisions on some RPOs. I thought he did pretty well. I thought he put the ball in places where we needed it to be, and receivers made some catches.

They're all going to miss some, but I thought he did pretty well off the cuff, but I have to go back and look at film.

Q. Stanford hasn't done a good job against the run, obviously. You were kind of up and down a little bit in that respect. Is that related to the offensive line kind of shake-up that you have to do? What factored into that?

SHAUN AGUANO: I don't know. I didn't think we dominated up front like we did against Washington. I've got to go back and look from a schematic standpoint what was the right schemes.

Whenever you shake up a little on the offensive side, then there's always some mistrust. I wouldn't say mistrust, but they're not comfortable with playing some. So I've got to go back and look at the film and see where the miscues were.

Q. Did you think of going to Trenton at all in the second half?

SHAUN AGUANO: I didn't because I didn't think Emory was playing bad, so I didn't. I try not to never second-guess myself in those decisions. That's what the outside world will always do, especially if you didn't get that win.

But I told my guys that I'm going to make the best decision, I think for them, to win the football game. We came up short, so I'll take the blame for all of that.

Q. Sasha had a career high receiving yards in the first



half; then it kind of seemed like in the second half didn't get as many targets, third, fourth quarter obviously. Got the target on that last. Do you feel like Stanford put a lot of emphasis on trying to take him away, or was it just not getting the ball to him in critical moments?

SHAUN AGUANO: I think in the first half we kept him honest on second down. We were in second and mid in those situations and second and mid and third and mid. Now we have a little bit more time because of protection schemes. Whenever you're throwing from second and ten and third and ten and guys are coming after you and those D-line are jetting -- what we call jetting, get going.

Then it becomes a little harder. Then they anticipate what the calls is going to be, mostly the pass.

Q. What did you think about the defense's performance, especially (No microphone)

SHAUN AGUANO: I thought they did a good job. I thought they did a good job of coming up and playing man.

That kicker was on target today. He made five field goals, and that was the difference. Did we play good enough to win? I thought we did. We've just got to be better.

Q. Stanford's RPO with how slow developing it is, it's tough to simulate. Do you feel like your preparation during the week was sufficient enough to prepare your defense?

SHAUN AGUANO: Yeah, I think so. It's always hard because it asks your whole defense to run to the football. Now you're telling the secondary you can't run to the football because you need to keep your eyes on all the RPOs.

They do a pretty good job. They caught us a couple times on hot routes and on screens because we brought pressure from the perimeter. But overall I thought we did a good job against their run, and they had to pass a little bit more. They've got big receivers and they're pretty good too.

Q. (No microphone)...the first half. The second half there was definitely a slew there. What did you think about that?

SHAUN AGUANO: I'm never happy with those penalties. I thought we did a great job in the first half playing disciplined football. There's a late hit outside. There was a holding. There was a hand to the face. Our guys are trying to play hard, and I know Khoury Bethley took it real

hard that he made that mistake, but our guys to trying to play hard, and they're trying to play disciplined.

There's a little trip in there, and I expect that when you're competing, but overall I thought they did a good job with the penalties.

Q. It was a third and five where you guys ran the ball, second to last possession. What were you thinking about in that situation?

SHAUN AGUANO: It was an RPO that we handed off that they came up and played. We can go back and second guess, we should have gone for it. I think it was analytics says fourth and two to go for it.

But we didn't get those two, and we got stopped behind. I had the opportunity to make a decision to punt it, and I'm glad we did. I'm glad we did because we got the ball back to win the football game.

We didn't have any timeouts, but we practice that all the time. I thought we moved the ball down effectively enough to win that football game.

Q. You seem to get some defensive pressure, got a couple sacks today too, even had a corner blitz at one point. Is that something obviously you wanted to see?

SHAUN AGUANO: I wanted more pressure. I wanted us to attack instead of, like he said, the bend don't break. I thought we did a terrific job and held them to 15 points, and we should win those football games.

Offensively, we all take it pretty hard from the offensive and defensive side because I asked them to do their jobs. Sometimes you try so hard and you don't get that job done, but I'm going to make sure I put my hands around them, and we'll get back next week.

FastScripts by ASAP Sports

Stanford University Football

Media Conference

Saturday, October 22, 2022
Stanford, California, USA

Elijah Badger

Postgame Media Conference



Stanford 15, Arizona State 14

Q. Did you think you were in, or what was going through your mind after that play?

ELIJAH BADGER: I thought I was in fully. I thought I really scored at the time because the way my momentum was going. Yeah, I thought I was in.

Q. Did you then look at the replay like everybody else did and see maybe your toe was out?

ELIJAH BADGER: At first I didn't know they were replaying it because that's how much I thought I was in.

Q. What was it like adjusting to that because you had to very quickly get turned back around for it?

ELIJAH BADGER: It was just like a momentum thing. It just came out of me.

Q. Did they play you differently in the second half? Stanford?

ELIJAH BADGER: Yeah, like the defense?

Q. Yeah.

ELIJAH BADGER: Yeah, they played it a little different. They bracketed -- I'm pretty sure they bracketed some plays when I went into slot, and bracket safety, whoever was inside on the corner in some places, some routes.

Q. You had the play, I think in the first half too, where it was like 30 yards downfield. You came down with it and you were out of bounds too. Do you feel anything you can get a fingernail on you can catch?

ELIJAH BADGER: Yeah, that's how I feel honestly.

Q. What was it like keeping up in the first half especially playing not that far from home?

ELIJAH BADGER: It felt good. Showed my family what I can do back home. A lot of family members came, a lot of support. It just felt good.

Q. How many did you have here today watching you?

ELIJAH BADGER: About a good 15 to 20, yeah.

Q. How big of a setback is this for the team a couple weeks after an upset?

ELIJAH BADGER: I just think -- I don't think it's a really like -- I just think it's a mindset thing for the team. We've just got to practice harder and put more work into the field during practice week.

Q. Other than maybe not changing the way they were defending you, what do you think were other factors that maybe kept you guys from having the success you want on offense?

ELIJAH BADGER: Honestly, I think the play calling was a little different from the second half. I have no clue. I just did my job honestly.

Q. Were there any drives during the game where you felt like, all right, we're in a good rhythm now, especially for the first half?

ELIJAH BADGER: I feel like every drive I was in a pretty good rhythm, better than usual. I just feel like it just gets better every week. Just going to keep getting better.

Q. How do you feel with Emory, especially in this game?

ELIJAH BADGER: I feel pretty good about it. Still getting comfortable. Still getting there. That's about it.

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