

# Stanford Postgame Quotes

August 31, 2012 – Stanford Stadium

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### **Stanford Head Coach David Shaw**

*On San Jose State's offensive drive to open the game ...*

"Well, it wasn't what we wanted."

*On QB Josh Nunes' first career start ...*

"He played extremely well and was very poised under pressure. San Jose State gave a few looks we had not seen and Josh handled it all very, very well. He showed great leadership for our team out there and we look forward to having him do so throughout the season ... Josh played great tonight. He got us to the right plays and was spot on there. I was very proud of him. He never flinched all game. He played like the senior that he was. I was very pleased with his performance."

*On San Jose State's overall performance ...*

"They played very, very well. They play extremely hard. Coach (Mike MacIntyre) has an extremely good team. They played one heck of a game. When we needed it, our defense showed up and got them off the field. When we needed it on offense a couple of times, we didn't get a chance to stay on the field because of our execution."

*On the in-game adjustments ...*

"They made some adjustments, which always happens. We made some adjustments after that. Honestly, after that, we made a lot of mistakes. There were plays in the first half that were the same call against the same defense, and their guy beat our guy. We'll go back to the film, and there are a lot of things that we coaches will need to look at schematically. We need to make sure we step it up a notch, but at the same time, when we run a play against a defense and it's successful, and we run the same play against the same defense and it's not successful, we'll look to see why."

*On the play of the first-time starters...*

"There were a lot of first-time starters out there, and we'll see exactly what happened when we watch the film. There were opportunities for us to create more separation on the scoreboard than we did, and for whatever reason, it didn't happen, but we'll find out."

### **Senior QB Josh Nunes**

*On making his first career start ...*

"It was everything I dreamed. I wasn't nervous at all ... It was nice being back on the field again."

*On the Stanford offense...*

"As it goes, we have a lot to clean up. There were a lot of plays that I left out there on the field that could have helped us out. [San Jose State] had some big plays, we had some big plays. If they play good on defense we have to be able to account for it."

*On the Cardinal defense...*

"I have a ton of faith in our defense. They stepped it up there in the end. They had two really good defensive stands. It was a bad feeling having to come off the field. We love to just be able to run the ball and do what we do at Stanford, but like I said, I have the utmost faith in the defense."

*On feeling comfortable in the pocket ...*

"We practiced it so many times before, it wasn't even an issue."

### **Senior RB Stepfan Taylor**

*On the offense ...*

"We didn't hit them in the mouth. San Jose State came out with a plan, and they executed it. We'll watch the film. We can play better, because we want to come out and play a lot better than tonight ... We have to communicate and be on the same page a lot more."

*On the team's communication ...*

"Everybody needs to be on the same page all the time, from our tight ends to our freshmen to our wide receivers. All of us need to be on the same page before the play. We just need to be able to communicate and execute better."

### **Junior FS Ed Reynolds**

*On his fourth-quarter interception ...*

"It was cover-two. We knew it was going to be some kind of shot, something down the field. From film study all week, we knew that [Ryan Otten] was the quarterback target, so I played top-down. Our defensive coordinator, Coach [Derek] Mason preaches to us every day. I saw their quarterback, I saw him wait a little too long and I went and got one. It was great to get the pass rush and get him out of the pocket."

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### **San Jose State Head Coach Mike MacIntyre**

*On the season-opening game ...*

"Should of, could of, would of. Should have won it and got a bunch of broken hearted kids in there that played their butts off, and had opportunities to win the game and we didn't. But then again, Stanford made some plays to win the game so I tip my hat to them. They did enough to win the game tonight, but our guys are really heart-broken."

*On second half adjustments ...*

"Catching the football. When we caught the football, we moved it. When we dropped it, we didn't. It's as simple as that."

*On defensive side of the ball ...*

"Yeah, we've been working hard on that. We've got a good front seven, we really do. And we play four of the top running teams in the nation every year, so our rushing defense doesn't look quite as good on numbers. But we're pretty good at it and I thought we did well there, and I thought we started playing a little tighter on the pass as we went along. We've got a freshman corner and another guy – they were just throwing some little quick ones. That was my mistake at the beginning of the game not playing a little bit tighter, and we started playing tighter and I thought we did better."

*On QB David Fales ...*

"Yeah, I was very impressed with David. He had to make that last throw and we almost had it. That was a gutsy play to step in front and get it. Nice play by them, but David did good. (Ryan) Otten was not 100 percent, so we weren't able to play him all the time. But he came out of the game feeling better, so that was good."

*On QB Blake Jurich ...*

"Blake did a great job. He's a big, young man – six-foot-four and a half, 230 pounds – and can run. I thought Blake did really, really well. We had one little mishandle there. He wanted to give it and I think when we give it, we might have walked in. But that's the way football goes."

*On whether game was a moral victory and the progress of the program ...*

"Well, since we got our butts kicked last year, we could have won every game we've been in. And that sure wasn't the way my first year, so I think we are definitely making strides. No way, shape or form do we take a moral victory whatsoever. Those kids are really, really hurting in there and that's because they laid it on the line and we've gotten better. We've gotten bigger, we've gotten stronger, we've gotten faster – we're a better football team. Now, we've got to go finish it off against really good teams."

### **Junior QB David Fales**

*On the game in general ...*

"I thought we came out really good. We knew what we were capable of and still we haven't reached our potential, but we came out good – came out strong in the second half on that first drive. We said we were going to march down and we did it. We just need to finish, but I think we still haven't reached our potential. We came out good. It was good overall."

*On San Jose State's opening drive in second half ...*

"I think we got it on like the 20 (yard line) or something, and we decided we're going down, we're going to score and we did it. So, just made some plays, got down the field, had Blake (Jurich) come in on a couple key third down runs, get a first down and it was good."

*On first start as a Division I quarterback ...*

"We just didn't finish. I don't know. Just going out and play – it's another game. It's another game, just playing, not trying to make it more than it is. It's just football and playing the game."

*On the differences in the Spartans' offense between the first half and third quarter ...*

"Just recognizing what they were doing and making a plan for what they were doing – kind of just understanding. They threw a couple of different looks at us, so we made some adjustments, came back out and picked the different pressures. Had the right play calls at the right time, so we executed."

*On level of confidence between beginning of game and second half ...*

"Yeah, just knowing – just getting a couple of snaps and getting hit a couple of times, getting loose, relaxed, just getting in the game. Yeah, I guess build my confidence just getting those first couple of hits and snaps out of the way."

*On improvement for week two ...*

"Just being efficient. Just doing the same things. Doing the basics, just little stuff. It's little stuff, you know getting the count. We had a couple of ones where we had to take a timeout or just little stuff. Being more efficient and the little stuff we were doing."

*On using Blake [Jurich] in offense ...*

"Yeah, definitely. Blake's a good athlete, we want to get him out there on the field and just kind of throws a different look at them, so it definitely is good. He's a good athlete – get him on the field."

### **Junior WR Noel Grigsby**

*On difference between first half and second half ...*

"Just a couple of things that we saw in the first half that were there, we made second half adjustments. The ball came my way, they called my number and I just wanted to make a play for my team."

*On adjustments in game ...*

"Well, I can't really go into detail on the adjustments that we made but we saw certain coverages that they were playing and certain ways that they were playing. So, we capitalized on them."

*On closing late in the game ...*

"Yeah, I guess you could say that. When it comes time, the ball is in our hands and we have the opportunity to win, we all rise to the occasion. We want to march down there, we want to score, we want to win the game for the

team. Unfortunately, it didn't happen this time but we'll continue to work in practice and we'll continue to get better in situations like these. Later in the season, we'll be better."

*On QB David Fales ...*

"I told him after the game I feel like he played great. To come in and play Stanford in the defense that they're supposed to have, he led us and he led us well today. And you always need a good quarterback – a good, strong-headed quarterback who can direct the offense and get us in the right positions, and he did that today."