

Stanford 45 UCLA 19
October 1, 2011
Stanford Stadium

Stanford Head Coach David Shaw

On the start on offense...

“We talk all the time about efficiency. When Bill Walsh put the West Coast offense together, we talked about being efficient, gaining ground every single play. Our honorary captain Condoleezza Rice talked about acquiring real estate, just chewing up real estate play after play and our guys did that in the first half.”

On the goal line stand...

“It was huge, it was huge. You know when it happened, just for a split second I flashed back to my time in Baltimore. Ray Lewis used to always say opportunity for greatness. Ball’s on the one yard line it’s an opportunity for greatness. Our guys stepped up to the challenge and did a good job.”

On Stepfan Taylor...

“I think he’s one of the most underrated backs in the nation. All the guy does is get positive yardage. He’s sneaky quick. He’s low to the ground. He’s got big, great vision, great balance and he runs physical, he runs tough for not being the biggest and I think he probably doesn’t get all the credit because we rotate the backs.”

On Andrew Luck...

“There’s about five positions the guy can play - receiver, tight end, outside linebacker. We kind of like what he does at quarterback, but I’ll tell you what, we just put him a position to make plays and he never disappoints.”

Stanford QB Andrew Luck

On the mix of play calls for the offense

It’s a lot of fun. Our coaches challenge us...and we want to make it challenging on ourselves because I think it will play to an advantage and that is why I think guys come to Stanford because it challenges us both athletically and academically. Michael Thomas

On the improvement from the bye week

“We came out stronger and that was definitely emphasis on the ‘improvement (bye) week.’”

On his one-handed catch on wide receiver Drew Terrell’s pass

“Drew made a heck of a throw under pressure. It’s tough for guys to come in a football game who have never thrown and make a throw. He did a heck of a job and I just try to put my hands up there and catch the ball and hoped I had a foot in bounds.”

Stanford RB Stepfan Taylor

On the offensive line’s performance

“It was the same as every game. They go out there and attack up front, making names for themselves. Also the tight ends blocking and receivers blocking made it a well- balanced game.”

On the goal line stand during UCLA’s first possession of the game

“I’m pretty sure it did a lot for the confidence of the team and for momentum. We knew they were going to try to punch us in the face by running it down our throats because they are a running team. We just told ourselves go to the next play and knew we were going to have to put a stand up.”

UCLA Head Coach Rick Neuheisal

On UCLA’s play this game...

We played well in spurts, but we didn’t play well enough to win.

On the opening drive being stopped at the 1-yard line...

I’m irritated. We got stopped on the one. We had two chances. We’ve got to get it in.

On UCLA’s 2nd half performance...

We came out with a lot of energy. We had an unbelievable amount of energy and [Stanford] came out and score in two downs. We’ve got to be better than that. I was pleased that we responded by coming down and scoring on them. Ultimately we’ve got to learn and become the team that we’re capable of being. The biggest thing for me was the fumbled punt. We had a real chance to make this a real game and that would have been a terrific deal to come back from a 17-point deficit to getting ourselves to within a field goal or closer than that.

On what UCLA can improve on for Washington State...

Everything. We need to realize that we have the chance to be a good football team and we need to come back hungry to become that team.

QB Richard Brehaut

On missed opportunities...

“We were moving the ball the whole game, they weren’t stopping us. We had a couple of missed opportunities in the first half, that fourth down I have to find a way to get in the end zone and it’s a whole different ballgame. 17-14 going into halftime let’s us get back in the game.”

“We were moving the ball very well the entire game, we just missed some opportunities in the first half. In the second half the defense played well, got the Stanford offense off the field on some three-and-outs. A couple things went wrong or it’s a different ballgame.”

On not scoring on their first drive...

“The first few plays I didn’t get a chance to see what happened, I was rolling out. That last one was a quarterback fake and just find a way to get in there. On fourth down on the one-foot line, I have to find a way to get the ball in.”

DB Andrew Abbott

On the defensive effort...

“There were moments when we could have got back in the game and there were a couple of plays that just broke our back. We need to believe as a defense and everyone has to do their assignment. We need to know we can stop guys in critical situations.”

On the fumbled punt...

“The fumble on the punt was back. A lot of it was that they got the ball on a short field but as a defense we need to be able to respond, that’s when you establish you’re a great defense, when you can stop teams inside the 50. They have a prolific offense and if we buckled down on the little things we would have been fine.”

On injuries in the secondary...

“Everybody in our secondary can play. Some guys have more experience than others and everyone is capable. It may affect us from a depth perspective but everyone can play and we don’t use that as an excuse.”

On Andrew Luck...

“I think Andrew Luck is a great quarterback but that whole offense and that whole team, they do what they do and they do it well. He puts the ball where it needs to be.”