

Washington State Postgame Quotes

October 27, 2012 – Stanford Stadium

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Washington State head coach Mike Leach

On the mood in the locker room ...

“We played well, we played hard, we played a complete game. Stanford played more mature than we did. The maturity was ahead of us and they won the game. We outplayed them at most important aspects of the game, but they had that sense – that go for the kill, that expectation that we as a team need to get. We need to keep growing up, but I thought we improved.”

On QB Jeff Tuel’s play ...

“I thought he played really well. I thought he played tough, I thought he kept drives going, I thought he did a pretty good job overcoming adversity. We didn’t protect him really well at first. Most of our pressures came in spurts. You can add them all up, but there was something like seven sacks the first quarter and then there was three or four the last drive where we had to go downfield and make something happen. The middle of the game, we did a better job of it. That’s the thing. More mature teams avoid those little lulls and situational things. We’ve got to keep improving; keep getting better. I thought we played really hard, I thought we played well; we’ve just got to be a tougher, more mature team. And they’ve got a bunch of seniors out there and it showed.”

On the running game ...

“Well, nobody has run the ball real effectively against these guys, maybe Notre Dame. I don’t know what Notre Dame ended up with but nobody ran it really effectively against them and there was a mismatch there, their front and ours.”

Senior QB Jeff Tuel

On today's contest ...

"I think first off, the defense played a hell of a game. [It was] our best defensive performance and we were feeding off each other, and that's something this team has been missing is playing as a team. I'm not sure if people looking on the outside in will understand that but the defense gets a stop, it fires up the offense; offense goes down and scores, and the defense has got our back. So, one of the first times all season it felt like we really played as a unit tonight. As far as what we can take away from it – we can play with anybody if we play that kind of ball."

On what changed from previous weeks with offense ...

"I had a better understanding honestly of the offense and stuff, and Coach Leach and I have gotten on the same page with stuff. This is my first season with Coach Leach,