

September 7, 2013



An interview with:

COACH SHAW

COACH SHAW: First of all, I thought our guys played hard. I thought for the most part we played well. We had some periods in there where we maybe didn't play our best football. But as a whole, I'm really proud of the guys. The preparation was great. David Fales is a phenomenal quarterback. He is outstanding. You know, it's special when you see a guy that can throw the ball the way he throws it. There were about five throws tonight that were Sunday throws as we call them; they were NFL throws, and he's special.

With a guy like that, you've got to play smart, try to keep the ball in front of him. (Indiscernible) we were a little late sometimes. The ball gets there in a hurry, and the kids that are going to make the tackle, they probably did that offensively. Gaffney had a great game. Their offensive line played extremely well, both in pass throw, as well as run blocking.

I thought Wilkerson came in and ran the ball well. He had a couple of plays that just weren't blocked right, and you could see his speed and explosiveness at the end of the game. He has a phenomenal one-two punch, actually, one, two, three, four, five punch, maybe.

And the running backs, we're excited about that. Devon played well, especially in the first half. Devon's first attempt at playing time, first starting game, played great. Ty Montgomery came to play as well. We missed them on a couple of deep balls and their explosiveness. He's got a chance to be special. So I'll answer questions.

Q. (No microphone)?

COACH SHAW: Absolutely, absolutely. I got the question last week about my observations

from the teams that I watched play last week and earlier today, and there are not a lot of teams that look like us anymore, and that's fine. We don't live on stats. We don't worry about trying to score as many points as we can. We want to control the ball. We want to score on every possession, and we want to play great defense.

Q. (No microphone)?

COACH SHAW: Just that we play hard. We played hard, for the most part, we played smart. Got a little chippy at the end, and we had to counsel our guys to get back out of it. That's not our style of football. We play tough between the whistles, and it was good. It was a good, physical, running game. It was some good play-action passes, and I thought Kevin had a good game also.

Q. Fales was phenomenal. Given that, why were you able to corral him the way you were? What did you do on defense?

COACH SHAW: Well, we have to play smart. We have to play smart, and we can't get antsy; you can't get any hesitation. If you start coming up on the short balls, the things will go over your head in a hurry. I thought we played the deep ball extremely well. I don't know if there are too many offenses that make them play long field and consistently move the ball down the field on our guys.

We tightened up in the red zone. Played great red zone defense, which is one of our calling cards. We don't worry about what happens between the points. If we keep them out of the end zone, our defense will keep them out of the end zone on offense and we'll win games.

Q. (No microphone).

COACH SHAW: He was great when he came back. And I don't want to completely make this the Gaffney show. I thought Wilkerson ran great as well. He was just -- there were about three plays that should have been big hits for him

early on also, that just didn't block well, guys got off the block.

But those two guys were actually a great one-two punch. Gaffney was 220 and Wilkerson 215. They ran it great. So I really believe there are going to be times when Wilkerson has a day just like this, I can't wait for that day as well.

Q. (No microphone)?

COACH SHAW: There is no question. I mean he changed his number. He's been through a lot in his short two-plus years. He's excited about this opportunity. He's worked his tail off. He's about 212 pounds, he's about 4.42 in the sprint. Just fast, explosive, and loves to play the game of football. He's confident. He know what's he's doing. We know how to use him. We missed him twice on some deep balls that were really, really close.

We had a chance today. But he's set for a breakout year, and the combination of he and Devon, our two big guys. Devon's 230, a big, physical guy that can run like that, Ty Montgomery, the big physical guy that can run the way he can run. They have a chance to be pretty good.

Q. Ed Reynolds picked off (No microphone)?

COACH SHAW: That's one of the best safeties in the nation. He's proven that. We count on him first and foremost to be smart and be a good communicator. He and Jordan Richards did a great job on the back end making sure everybody knows the call and they know what their responsibilities are. Make sure the corners are playing with the leverage, and they're getting the jobs done also.

We just know if the ball hangs up there, we can get out the pass rush, and when they're hanging up there, Eddie's proven what he can do. I think Ed's only lament is he didn't have a chance to get both feet in bounds and get running.

Q. I asked this question (No microphone)?

COACH SHAW: We never do; we never do.

Q. Why not?

COACH SHAW: One of the things I learned early on as a player from coach walsh, which was you want to be balanced. You want to be balanced. In this west coast offense, you want to be balanced. You want to be big and physical

up front, but you also want to throw it. You want to get in and out. You want the big guys on the field and put the little guys on the field. You want to be efficient in everything you do.

I'm as excited about our offensive line. They are our bread and butter as usual. When Devon was throwing the ball, (Indiscernible) and making great plays. Got to convert on the third down. Michael's getting ready to make plays. We've got a really good group of guys in the receiving end, tight ends and the offensive line as well.

Q. (No microphone)?

COACH SHAW: No, I think that we want to be able to be balanced. We want to be efficient in the run and pass because you never know when someone's going to overplay the run. You've got to be able to come back and throw the ball.

Q. (No microphone).

COACH SHAW: You know, from the naked eye not looking at the film, I don't think he missed a block. It was impressive. Football is intense, and when he was in the right position like he was tonight, so athletic, so big and so long, had he no issues. For him to push himself and be his own worst critic, which he has been and try to strive for greatness on every play.

Q. (No microphone)?

COACH SHAW: This game is always special, and I'm excited about the victory today. Hopefully down the road we get (No microphone), but, yeah.

It doesn't seem like that long ago, though I know now it was because people are reminding me how long ago it was. But, yeah, it's just special. Hopefully, it continues on in the season.

Q. (No microphone)?

COACH SHAW: Seamless, seamless. Very good, very quick communication. We had two time issues, and they were completely my fault. So I'll get that corrected for next week. But as far as the coaching communication, it was outstanding, very quick, very efficient.

Q. (No microphone)?

COACH SHAW: You can't turn the ball over. You know? Careless, careless mistake, can't turn the ball over. And we're not going to

make the excuse that we're playing the (Indiscernible) guy. We're going to play the guys that are ready to play. They work extremely hard. And our standard for them is just as high for them as those who start the game. We need to play multiple guys, and they need to go and execute.

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An interview with:

**TYLER GAFFNEY
TRENT MURPHY
ED REYNOLDS**

Q. (No microphone)?

TYLER GAFFNEY: The first drive out there, I was light-headed, didn't have my legs under me. There were some butterflies, but after that, I started picking up things and felt more comfortable, it was like riding a bike.

Q. (No microphone)?

TYLER GAFFNEY: Baseball? No, no, I'm just glad to be back here. I'm happy with what I'm doing and my decision.

Q. Ed, can you talk about (No microphone)?

ED REYNOLDS: Yeah, he's a great quarterback. He's a lot of wideouts (No microphone).

Q. (No microphone)?

ED REYNOLDS: Yeah, to be honest, I felt on the defensive side of the ball, we played average out there. We definitely, I'm not sure if we had it tonight, kind of difficult for us. So happy to get the win, but on Monday, Tuesday, we need to do a lot more tackling drills and things like that. I mean, coverage is going really well. We had a lot of pressure on the quarterback and throwing the ball tonight. But it was fun. But I wouldn't say we played our best out there.

Q. (No microphone).

ED REYNOLDS: Well, I felt like we were pretty soft up front. We didn't play as physical as we can, that's for sure. But there were way too many yards after the catch, yards after first contact

that didn't come back. So we can do better than that.

Q. (No microphone)?

TYLER GAFFNEY: Well, their line does a great job with taking their job and it's man-to-man block. They're going to block nine guys, and there are going to be two free ones. You've just got to lower your shoulder and hope for the best.

Q. (No microphone)?

TYLER GAFFNEY: Yeah, I mean, I feel pretty good right now. I feel relatively healthy. I'm happy. I'm glad. I think we have a lot to improve on, but it was a good first game.

Q. (No microphone)?

TYLER GAFFNEY: Just being with my family out there. It was incredible, big plays happen, touchdowns happened. There is nothing really like it. The Stanford family, I'm blessed to be around these guys. When they score, I feel exactly the same way as if I scored. It's just getting in the end zone.

Q. Tyler, what can the team work on?

TYLER GAFFNEY: I think stuff we could work on is I think we had some missed assignments including myself. You want to play perfect. I'd say we did pretty good not using our punter today. But we go out there trying to be perfect. That is the goal. We had some slip-ups, but we're going to improve upon them.

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