

Stanford University Football Media Conference

Saturday November 14, 2015

David Shaw

OREGON - 38

STANFORD - 36

COACH SHAW: As we talked about during the week, we knew this was going to be a heck of a game. I told the team during the week, watching film, to say that Oregon was unranked was crazy. I'm sure they will be ranked this week. Very good football team. Very well coached. Very explosive football team.

Early in the first half, just gave them too many big plays. Too many big plays. Settled down for a little bit and then, offensively, didn't take advantage of our opportunities. In the red zone twice with opportunities to score touchdowns, we got field goals.

And we talked about it during the course of the week. This is a team you cannot take a bunch of field goals. We got a couple field goals and then we missed a field goal.

So that's what happens in tight games like this. You can't give up big plays, you can't turn the ball over, and can't miss opportunities. And that's what happened to us.

Now, typical guys, typical Stanford guys, we showed great heart, we showed great fight, got after it and came back. Every time we went down, we came back. And there's no quit in us. The guys fought all the way to the end. Needed to make one more play. Needed to make one more play and we didn't make it. So we didn't win the game.

But as I told our guys, and this press conference is not going to be any different, everybody is going to talk about how terrible this loss is, how awful this is. We got to win one game next week to win the PAC-12 championship game. Got to win one game next week to go to the PAC-12 championship game. It just happens to be our biggest rival, just happens to be for the Ax.

So this is what we're -- we're looking ahead. This a tough loss, against a really, really good football team. We fought like crazy, but we didn't fight very smart. And they took advantage of it.

So hats off to Coach Helfrich and his staff and the



players. They made a lot of big plays and we got close to recovering, but we couldn't recover all the way.

Q. On the two fumbled snaps, was there anything that you noticed that went wrong in particular?

COACH SHAW: Hard to say. Hard to say. We played two centers during the course of the game, has not been an issue. The fumbled snaps were one with one center and one with the other. So it wasn't like one guy over the other. They just didn't -- we didn't connect on it.

Q. On the two point conversion try, what was the play call and what happened out there?

COACH SHAW: Well, they blitzed us, and Kevin was going to get hit one way or the other. It was a play that we call. He's got a lot of options and the bottom line when that happens versus the blitz, just try to find a guy and give him a chance to make a play. The ball was a little bit low. Hooper had a chance maybe to get it. The ball might have got pulled out, a good play on the defensive side, look for the ball to be a little bit higher.

But in a pressure situation we're not going to get perfect balls, so we got to try to make those plays and more credit to them than bad on us. It was a pressure, it was a blitz, there was a guy coming after Kevin, scot-free, which we knew if they blitzed us, it was going to happen. Just didn't make the play. Either the throw or the catch.

Q. Do you have any thoughts on why there were so many big plays by Oregon other than that's what they do for a living?

COACH SHAW: Not yet. I don't have any thoughts yet. I will after I watch the film. It's what they live on. It's what they live on. If you make them go three, four yards at a time, you give yourself a chance.

You let them go 50 and 60, you end up in a shoot-out like this. If we were able to get stops, I can't tell you right now if guys were out of the gaps, I can't tell you what happened, all I know is we gave up some big plays.

But you combine that early in the game, offensively, with being down in the red zone and having chances for touchdowns and getting field goals. That's how this

game balanced out. We were moving the ball down the field and we didn't capitalize in the end zone. Defensively, we would get a stop, we would get a stop and then a big play. And you can't play these guys like that, they're too good.

Q. Your team still has its goal inside of winning the PAC-12. But how do you feel about basically having your chances of getting into the playoff erased here?

COACH SHAW: I don't have a comment on that. It was never in our hands as far as their being a committee and decision makers and we didn't focus on it.

So, like I said, we're living life in the windshield right now. That's in our rearview mirror. We got one game to go to the PAC-12 championship game and that's what we're going to focus on.

Q. Secondly, how do you think your team did against Vernon Adams? How did you say your coverage was on him specifically?

COACH SHAW: I don't think we did anything well enough, tonight. We bottled him up for the most part as a runner, but we dropped coverage twice as he was a scrambler, which we know that's how he makes yardage. He's a dynamic athlete, and he can make plays take a long time. And he was able to scramble back there and move back there and then find big plays down the field. And we just cannot give those up and we did.

Q. You mentioned having to settle for field goals. You had a fourth and two in the third quarter and you elected to kick it. Can you take us through the thought process there?

COACH SHAW: Fourth and two and we decided to kick a field goal. I mean, I don't know what else you want me to say. It's a decision we try to make. We go for a lot of fourth downs and I've given the guys that have been in the room kind of my situation there. When we have a lead, yeah, we'll go for those. If the game's, or especially early on and it's a close game, we're going to play field position or we're going to kick a field goal or punt it. We're within range and we decided to kick it.

Q. Do you have any comments on --

COACH SHAW: It's not complicated.

Q. Do you have any updates on Ronnie Harris at this point?

COACH SHAW: Ronnie's going to get checked again. We'll see, some kind of an ankle. I don't know how bad. But we'll check it out.

Q. Did you say Shuler was in the first fumbled snap?

COACH SHAW: I believe so.

Q. What about the second one?

COACH SHAW: That was Johnny Caspers.

Q. Kevin Anderson had a good game on the outside, Brennan Scarlett with three sacks. It was feast or famine. Was that you couldn't hold them in between, but there were plays to be made by the defense.

COACH SHAW: That's, that's exactly what happened. We made big plays and we gave up too many big plays. The effort was outstanding, the fight was outstanding. We're down two scores and the guys never stopped fighting. And I take my hat off to our guys for that.

We gave them way too much. We gave them way too much and really, in all three phases. But the fight, the battling, I'm really proud of my guys for that, because they spilled it out there. They gave everything they could. We just didn't make enough plays and gave them too many plays. The secondary, especially, seemed to have a rough day today. Was there anything Oregon was doing that kind of keyed into that?

COACH SHAW: They're good, they're a good team. They're good players. I don't know if you could say the secondary had a rough game more than anybody else. They made a couple of big runs. That's not on the DB's. We lost coverage a couple of times on the quarterback moving around.

But it's a team game and it all works together. And we can point at specific plays here and there, but the totality is pretty straightforward. We played a really, really hard. We made a lot of plays in all three phases and then gave them too many plays in all three phases.

So it's as much of a team victory, everybody feeling great, and this is a team loss. We didn't do enough in any of the three phases to give ourselves a chance to win. We gave ourselves a chance to tie, but we didn't give ourselves a chance to win.

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Kevin Anderson



OREGON - 38

STANFORD - 36

Q. Obviously tough on the fumble return. Did you see him coming? Did it kind of surprise you?

KEVIN ANDERSON: I don't know. It was all like a flash. And Brennan had an awesome sack and the ball came right to me. I knew somebody was going to catch me, I'm not the fastest guy in the world. But I probably should have just kept running and so.

Q. What's the -- you guys are in an unusual position where it's a devastating loss, the Rose Bowl is still on the table. What was the mood like in the locker room to reflect that?

KEVIN ANDERSON: Any time you lose, it stings, it's tough. But if you told me at the beginning of the season, you would have a chance to beat Cal to win the PAC-12 north, play in the PAC-12 championship and potentially go to the Rose Bowl, I would say that's awesome. So we need a little bit of perspective here, but it definitely stings right now.

Q. Coach talked about giving up the big plays. What was it?

KEVIN ANDERSON: The first half we gave up at least three long touchdowns and those are just a product of us not doing our job. We got to stay in the gap, we got to cover for an extra second longer. You just got to do the little things and those little things add up to, if you mess them up, they add up to big plays.

Q. Kevin, do you think your defense, in any way, got exposed in this game?

KEVIN ANDERSON: I don't know. That's tough to say. We have to do our job and if we did, that we're a great defense. But if we don't do our job, we're not a great defense.

Q. How much do you think experience played a role for Oregon today?

KEVIN ANDERSON: Every team in the PAC-12, it seems like it was fast, has that tempo. Got a lot of good athletes also. So I don't think it was too big of a shock, but they executed well and they got great athletes and it did go fast and so it made it difficult on us.

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Michael Rector



Oregon - 38

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Q. Those center snaps really cost you the game.

MICHAEL RECTOR: That's, obviously, very disappointing. But beyond that, there are other things that we could have done to win the game, so I'm not going to put all the blame on one thing. But that definitely hurts us, but we'll bounce back and be all right.

Q. It looked like there were a lot of opportunities out there in the passing game. What were some things that you saw in the Oregon secondary's game?

MICHAEL RECTOR: We saw a lot of single coverage, man-to-man, and we wanted to kind of attack those areas. We were able to do that, as you saw. Myself, Francis, Trent, Devon. And that was a big thing in the game plan for us tonight. But, hopefully, we come out with a better result next week.

Q. Coach talked about the fact that you guys didn't look down 35-23, you guys kept fighting. Was that the sense of you guys as well?

MICHAEL RECTOR: Absolutely. Our big thing was to stay the course and when it comes to the fourth quarter we'll be there ready to fight.

Unfortunately, we couldn't come up with it there at the end, but I'm proud of the guys for the way they fought down 12 points coming back. It was good for us.

Q. What's the big lesson for you coming off this game?

MICHAEL RECTOR: We just got to play the entire four quarters. We expected that to be back and forth, and we expect that again next week. So we're going to come back, try to have our best week of practice, and hopefully, have a better result.

Q. Good game for you, personally. What was working out there for you?

MICHAEL RECTOR: Kevin and I just had that connection going tonight. He threw great balls. I was able to get some separation and make those plays. But that goes all credit to the O line for protecting Kevin, and Kevin having that time and putting the ball

right where it should have been.

Q. Was there anything in particular in the red zone, that you felt like either wasn't working or that they were doing, that was effective?

MICHAEL RECTOR: No. They were kind of stopping our run a lot. But that's okay. We had our chances to make plays. Hopefully, we'll have a better -- we'll have better luck next time. But proud of the guys the way they fought, fought until the end.

Q. Coming right off the field, Devon really didn't seem that down about the game. Is it safe to say you guys won't have any trouble ramping back up for Cal this week?

MICHAEL RECTOR: Absolutely. As we come into every season, our thing is to win the PAC-12. And, obviously, we could have clinched the PAC-12 north with this win. But with a win next week against Cal, we'll be able to be there, right back in the PAC-12 championship. So, we know that this loss was tough, but we know that there's still our goal out there.

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Brennan Scarlett



Oregon - 38

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Q. Did they do anything you didn't expect or what was it like trying to defend those guys?

BRENNAN SCARLETT: Didn't really do too much we didn't expect. But as a defense, had a few misfits, missed assignments and they busted a couple big plays on us.

Q. You played a great game though, you really did. You really looked good.

BRENNAN SCARLETT: Thank you. I appreciate that.

Q. You got after Adams. You sacked him at least once, didn't you?

BRENNAN SCARLETT: Yeah. I guess. Couple times. A shout out to the DB's. They're back there covering their butts off.

Q. But there was some key sacks, just a couple of big plays that didn't work out.

BRENNAN SCARLETT: Yeah. Wanted to get that victory.

Q. How did you think their offensive line was? Did you think they were big and tough?

BRENNAN SCARLETT: Yeah, I think they're a good unit. Definitely, they're no easy task. We prepared this week, hard for them, knowing that the Ducks, Oregon's a great team, with a good O line. So we came in prepared for it.

Q. Obviously, you could win the PAC-12 north next week and there's still a lot to play for. It's probably going to be on the fifth-year senior guys to keep moving forward, do you think?

BRENNAN SCARLETT: Yeah, right. As we say, it lasts 24 hours, we will view film, see what we can do to improve for next week. And then it's on to the next one. Try to go get that PAC-12 championship.

Q. For you does it have special meaning?

BRENNAN SCARLETT: I would be lying if I said that it didn't.

Q. What are you thinking about? It's kind of interesting, don't you think?

BRENNAN SCARLETT: Yeah, it's definitely going to be an interesting day.

Q. You must know a lot of those guys, right?

BRENNAN SCARLETT: Yeah. I know all of them. Some of those guys I played with for four years. So good guys over there. But we'll prepare this week, I'll prepare this week.

Q. So you are going to be playing for us though, right?

BRENNAN SCARLETT: Oh, yeah. Come on.

Q. That was a joke.

BRENNAN SCARLETT: Come on.

Q. Is this something you put out of your mind until now, now that the game's here. Have you been able to not think ahead to the big game?

BRENNAN SCARLETT: Yeah, definitely, I've been taking every week one at a time. Every week try to go 1-0. And now this week, nothing changes. So we'll get after them.

Q. I wish you luck. You could stay and get a Ph.D. and play a couple more years. (Laughter.)

I don't know if the NCAA is going to let me do that.

(Laughter.)

Q. I really enjoyed watching you play.

BRENNAN SCARLETT: Thank you.

Q. Your brother plays here too, doesn't he?

BRENNAN SCARLETT: Yeah, he's actually a freshman here.

Q. That's great. Your whole family must be proud.

BRENNAN SCARLETT: They all came out for the game.

Q. That's great. I'll bet they will be here next week, too.

BRENNAN SCARLETT: Oh, yeah.

Q. Thank you very much.

BRENNAN SCARLETT: Yeah. No problem.

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Kodi Whitfield

Postgame



Oregon - 38, Stanford - 36

Q. (No microphone.)

KODI WHITFIELD: Just can't play well enough to win the game. Just got to bounce back. Our goal's still obtainable, which is to win the PAC-12 championship. So that's what we're going to focus on one week at a time, one practice at a time.

Q. Is there anything that, I mean, I know they have been playing better than their record indicated, but is there anything they did that caught you guys by surprise that you didn't think you guys countered properly?

KODI WHITFIELD: They played great. They executed their play. They did what they wanted to do and our task, especially on the defensive side, was just to execute, go out there and do our job, stop the run, get to the quarterback, that's how great defenses play. And we left a couple plays out there, maybe on both sides of the ball. But, yeah, Oregon played well enough to win the game.

Q. Anything in particular about, especially, the big runs early in the game? It seemed like you guys shored it up after that.

KODI WHITFIELD: Just gaps. Got to control the gaps.

Q. You guys are in an unusual position now. You're still in command of the PAC-12 north. But that's kind of a devastating blow. Was there a message from anybody in the locker room to kind of quickly refocus on next week?

KODI WHITFIELD: The biggest thing is, like our goal is still obtainable to win the PAC-12 championship and get there. So really it just comes back to refocusing, getting ready for our next opponent, the Cal Golden Bears.

Q. The PAC-12 seems to be eating itself alive. This is another example of the team that's on top loses to the team that has a few losses. Week in, week out, how tough is this conference?

KODI WHITFIELD: Yeah, it's really tough. We always go in respecting our opponent, so it's not like we undersold Oregon or thought any less of them. They're a great team. They did everything they could to win the game and that was the result.

As far as the conference, like you said, really challenging, a lot of great teams, and I mean, just got to refocus and get ready for next week.

Q. Did you see anything on the -- were you in the game on the fumbled snaps?

KODI WHITFIELD: No. I don't know. Can't speak on that. I'm just a fan at that point.

Q. They got behind you on one of those touchdowns, what happened on that play?

KODI WHITFIELD: Just bad eyes. Not sticking with my man, covering him twice. Oregon does a great job. Their receivers are well trained to once the quarterback breaks down, tries to make a play and scrambles, get up and that's what they got to do.

Q. How difficult is it to play against Vernon Adams in a situation like that?

KODI WHITFIELD: He's a great quarterback, great competitor, keeps plays alive. So this means on the back end we just have to do our job extra thorough, cover guys for longer than usual.

Q. How do you feel about the fact that your playoff hopes basically evaporated here. You still have the PAC-12 championship to shoot for, but you can't get into the playoff at this point with two losses. What do you think of that?

KODI WHITFIELD: Yeah, our goal each and every year is to win the PAC-12. So our goal, right now, is still obtainable. Have another PAC-12 north matchup against Cal next week who is another great opponent, so that's our goal right now, and we're only going to take it one step at a time.

Q. Coach was talking about turnovers, giving up big plays, and how you guys made lots of plays, but gave up too many. Is that the way you saw the game?

KODI WHITFIELD: It really came down to execution. So there were times when we didn't execute on the defensive side.

I can't speak on offense. Just a fan of my teammates. So I think they played great. I think the defense as a whole, we just maybe let one or two get away.

Q. Coach was saying it's crazy Oregon wasn't ranked. He watched film of them coming into this game and he said they will be ranked this week. Do you see more talent than the rankings?

KODI WHITFIELD: Yeah. They're a great team. It's not that we came into the game thinking any less of them just because of their record. We knew they were a great team and they have a ton of athletes all over the field. So this game came down to execution and Oregon did a great job this week.

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Mark Helfrich



Oregon - 38

Stanford - 36

Q. How good does this win feel for you?

COACH HELFRICH: Well, I'm not making this that -- it feels good for a lot of reasons, and none of them are that. We have a ton of respect for Stanford and how well they're coached how hard they play and our guys were excited for this week and I want to -- I thought our scout teams back home, a lot of those guys are back home, that were integral in recreating all the things that they do great. Whether it's multiple offensive linemen, special things in special teams that they do, different things defensively that they do. Those guys did a phenomenal job. And that's really hard to do.

And then that contributes to the output like tonight. But, yeah, we have a ton much respect for them and we want to beat whoever we're playing. Doesn't matter.

Q. What was your read on how big a play that fumble in the first half was?

COACH HELFRICH: Well, big. Had the one, obviously, the pick, I guess, I don't know if they ruled that a fumble or a pick. But taking care of the ball is paramount in this game. Scoring touchdowns rather than field goals is paramount in this game of just how efficient they are and how they kind of try to lull you to sleep, just banging and banging.

I thought our defense stayed confident throughout that and kind of we talked about it last week being aggressively patient. But still staying confident and playing hard and finishing things. But, yeah, a couple bounces went our way, a couple bounces went their way. It was a great battle.

Q. Were you surprised by the pass on the two-point play at the end? Did that surprise you?

COACH HELFRICH: No. No. There's probably a run/pass element in there. And Kevin Hogan is playing really, really well and put the ball in his hands and something normally good is going to happen. Obviously, I'm pretty happy it didn't work out that way.

Q. That said, you brought pressure on that play. How did that affect it?

COACH HELFRICH: Well, the way, when they shipped McCaffrey out, that opens up a bunch of things. Could be a QB run, could be the play action element because of how good a runner he is. Could be for McCaffrey, they've got a screen off that. So it's not one of those things where, as soon as he motions out, everybody zeroes in on the quarterback, it's almost the opposite. And so again, we defended it really well and needed that last play.

Q. Having said that, Kevin Hogan, experienced quarterback, fumbles twice in the fourth quarter. Is that something that you guys pulled him into something? Is it something you guys did or the linemen or something?

COACH HELFRICH: I think the big thing is playing with confidence and keeping up the pressure when they're lulling you to sleep and pounding two yards, three yards, four yards, seven yards, two yards, two yards, milking the play clock every play. That's a mental thing as much as it is a physical thing.

Getting as many hats to the ball, whether it's Hogan or McCaffrey or whoever has the ball was huge. It's hard, the position that they're in is hard.

We have been there, you have to run the table, play perfect, everybody's got to be perfect and those are hard moments. Again, a ton of respect for everything that they do and happy we got a couple bounces. But you have to earn those too.

Q. Do you guys think you've proven that Vernon might be the best QB in the conference?

COACH HELFRICH: Time will tell. We got a lot of business to take care of here for facing an unbelievably talented team next week. And, again, tonight was a good night, but we can improve, we, across the board, we can do things better in these circumstances against that opponent. Again, very proud of our effort.

Q. (No microphone.)

COACH HELFRICH: I don't -- I can't follow that question. It supersedes what might have happened? That's a Stanford question.

Q. When you play a team like Stanford, if Vernon doesn't get hurt, you guys could be a Top-10 team. Does it overcome that?

COACH HELFRICH: If I was George Clooney, my wife would be a lot happier. We can't live like that. We have to -- and again I think our assistant coaches did a great job of that, our players have done a great job of that, of what's left to play? We can't dwell on what hasn't happened or what didn't happen.

Q. Two games ago, your defense gave up over 700, almost 750 yards of offense but in the last two games particularly tonight, the defense played dominant. How do you account for that?

COACH HELFRICH: Well prideful guys, prideful coaches and everybody improving. Everybody knowing and taking stock and owning why things happen. It's very easy to blame this coach or this player and it has to be his fault. It's a combination of so many different things that go on and for every person to individually take ownership of the good and the bad.

Because we did a million great things, giving up 700 yards as hard as that is to believe. And whatever. Misalignment, communication, those are simple things, but you have to care and you have to have, you have to be a high character person to then fix it. So, by no means have we played perfect at all, but those guys have punched in every day and gone to work.

Q. (No microphone.)

COACH HELFRICH: Hopefully, there's some fruit in there. We got to keep weeding and fertilizing every day and every single day taking care of our business and now the reward is to play SC. So, yeah, we'll think about this tonight and get ready for USC tomorrow and I think it's a test that testament again to our assistant coach he's and those guys of believing in what we're doing and staying the course and all that stuff.

Q. Is this the best rushing defense you've played? What was going on in the first half?

COACH HELFRICH: The first couple plays we had were kind run/pass options and had the run there and then obviously the one play drive was huge. I think that was, was that it for the? Yeah, we're sitting there at halftime analyzing 24 snaps, and we're going, we like this play, we like this play, we like -- with you really worried but we haven't had a chance to get to it. So, yeah, it was one of those weird nights.

Q. (No microphone.)

COACH HELFRICH: That's hard. You have to talk about it, you have to address it, and our kind of phrase for that, again, similar to Arizona State, is just being aggressively patient. You have to stay confident, you have to stay aggressive, but it might not happen in one play. Against Arizona State it was, that type of team, that it's either a boom or bust and it's a huge play

and/or it's a five yard loss. So staying lose and not trying to make it up in one play.

Q. How big was it to get up by two scores? You count down the possessions for the other team and see how few possessions?

COACH HELFRICH: It's good to outscore the other team. Very good. No, that was huge. And it's great to see Taj finish a run like that. He had some other opportunities earlier and a guy that again that just keep seeing it coming, keep seeing it coming, but for him to finish that run was huge -- or pass, I guess -- and then again get the defense totally playing aggressively on the front foot, absolutely.

Q. What are your thoughts on Tyson and Torrodney on the edges? Seemed like they couldn't bounce anything outside.

COACH HELFRICH: Big.

University of Oregon Football Media Conference

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Vernon Adams

Postgame Oregon

Oregon - 38, Stanford - 36

VERNON ADAMS: We kept fighting out there. It was a great team win. And it shows us how good we can be. That's a really good team over there, Stanford. It was an awesome win for us.

Q. How did your offense stay in rhythm with those long stretches on the sidelines?

VERNON ADAMS: We just, our run game, really kept us in there. And we just knew every time we got the ball, we knew we had to score. We knew, because we knew they were going to run the clock down and try not to give us as many possessions. So, we knew we had to score every time and we didn't score every time. But I'm just glad our defense helped us out and we got enough points to win.

Q. Is this one of the more satisfying wins for you as a quarterback? You were 9-9 at one point with two key touchdowns and you just made the number 17. Was it one of more satisfying wins?

VERNON ADAMS: It's an awesome feeling. All the doubters out there who thought we couldn't do it. And like I said before, that team is a really good team. Like I said before, I'm just so proud of those guys in that locker room. I'm happy.

Q. You get limited looks on offense two weeks in a row. How much do you work Charles into the game plan and were you surprised by how he played?

VERNON ADAMS: He's that guy. He's Mr. Do it all, for us. And he knows what he's got to do and they gave him his play book. He played offense before, so he knows what he's doing. And when they call on him he comes in and he makes plays. So that's good for him.

Q. You guys want to be efficient going into this game but you guys were off to a really quick start. What was the mentality and energy? You guys, obviously, got rolling real quick?

VERNON ADAMS: That's just how we want it play. We want to play fast and that's football, playing fast. When we're playing fast, we're playing at our best, I feel like. We go out there and connect.

Q. When you guys got down in the red zone you scored instead of field goals tonight. You got



touchdowns, how key was that in this one?

VERNON ADAMS: That's huge. That's what we talked about a lot this week in a game plan. We can't get field goals, we can't throw interceptions. That fumble that I had, I'm getting tired of making turnovers by myself. We knew we had to get seven points, because that's a very good football team and it came down to the wire, so just happy. Thankful.

Q. How important was it to get a two score lead? 35-23 going into the fourth quarter, against a team like that, two scores?

VERNON ADAMS: That's huge. Because now they're in a game that they don't want to play. They don't want to catch up. But if they're ahead, then now they're in their perfect offense, running the clock down and getting us out of rhythm and stuff. So that was huge going up two scores.

Q. At what point are you going to allow yourself to ask, man, if I was just healthy this whole year, what it could be right now?

VERNON ADAMS: Man, everything happens for a reason. It sucks, but, hey, we're all right. We just got to take it one game at a time and we're going to be good.

Q. What did you tell Hegarty after the game?

VERNON ADAMS: I told him, man, I love you. Good stuff all night, man. Protecting my butt all night. And I know, I don't have to watch film, I know on those couple sacks that it was on me. Because the receivers either on my second read, he was there, I just couldn't see it. So, just did a great job all night, great team win, and man, couldn't be prouder.

Q. Fourth game in a row where you have hit a dagger, I mean you just have been a dagger for the other team. Do you guys set it up that way. Say it's almost time to hit Darren?

VERNON ADAMS: I don't know, it's crazy. He's always open. He's always open. He wasn't even part of the read, really on that play. And I saw him put his hand up and just threw it out there.

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Media Conference

Saturday November 14, 2015

Joe Walker



Oregon - 38

Stanford - 36

Q. So take us through that play and did you get your hands on the ball?

JOE WALKER: I might have touched it a little bit.

Q. You did touch it a little bit?

JOE WALKER: Just a little bit. Yeah.

Q. Okay. Because it was hard to tell?

JOE WALKER: Yeah, just a little bit.

Q. Finger tips, palm?

JOE WALKER: Whatever, I'm not sure.

Q. Take us through what you saw as they were lining it up. Coach said you kind of knew the tight end was coming over there?

JOE WALKER: When they motioned the back guy, we were playing man, corner took the back, me on the tight end, just tried to play him.

Q. It's been four weeks in a row where the defense has come up with an interception or a pass breakup to end the game.

JOE WALKER: It's been awesome. Coaches doing a great job, we have been practicing hard all week, and it's been -- I can't be prouder of this team.

Q. Neal has been coaching a long time he said, he said it's the most energy he's been around in a long time. What's it like in there?

JOE WALKER: It's fun. Those are some moments you'll never forget. Celebrating with your teammates.

Q. Why so much? Is it because Stanford is No. 7, it's a big game, is it because something that happened earlier in the season?

JOE WALKER: I think it's how hard we have been practicing, how hard we fought hard all game and just to come up with a win was awesome.

Q. When you guys are on the field as much as you are, how hard is that defensively?

JOE WALKER: We practice so hard that when game time comes, it's not a problem.

Q. Your offense had the ball for less than 18 minutes in this game. The they scored 38 points. But could you have believed that if somebody had told you that?

JOE WALKER: I mean, they practice so hard, we go against them every day, they're awesome. They're great.