

October 16, 2021
Virginia vs. Duke
Charlottesville, Va. (Scott Stadium)

Virginia Player Quotes

WR Billy Kemp

On Coach Hagans:

“Coach Hagans is everything to the group. On and off the field he’s a great mentor. He just pushes us every day to be the best we can. I feel like that’s the biggest difference with our group.”

On building a big lead in the first half:

“It was a pleasure to not be worrying in the second half. Those nail biter games are tough but a win is a win and at the end of the day you are happy with every one you get. Today really just showed the work we put in. It is just nice to not be so close for once.”

On the team’s confidence:

“We just want to come out and work every day. I feel like this team has the potential to do everything; all the goals we set out for. We can be anything we want to be, it’s just going to take a lot of work.”

C Olusegun Oluwatimi

On team confidence

“We’re a confident team right now and I think we’re playing like it just as you saw today. At the end of the day we just have to come in each weekend and just execute more than our opponent.”

On importance of stretch of two games at-home as favored team

“I mean, we see the Coastal race. All of these games matter. You know right now we're not at the top and we're gonna need some help for some other teams to lose and we need to keep playing well and keep handling our business. Hopefully at the end of the season we could be in the ACC Championship game.”

On going from two close games to a big shutout game

It’s fun dominating the opponent. Tough games are also very fun because they always go down to the wire. But it’s good not to have every game come down to a field goal kicker missing the field goal.”

On younger players getting playing time

“It’s good. Ty Furnish getting some reps in and that’s good because at the end of day, he’s the future of his program in the middle of the O-line. The more reps they can get in game and against other opponents, it’s just gonna make them a better player.”

ILB Nick Jackson

On maintaining a shutout:

“Man, it means the world. I mean definitely, just as a defense you never want anyone to cross the endzone. When we’re at home and defending our turf and right now, just to see that shoutout, I mean all the hard work throughout the week pays off.”

On how the defense has improved over the course of the season:

“We’re just playing more physically, we’re playing with more passion, we’re having fun out there. We just got back to going out there and having fun, we’re celebrating, having fun, just doing our little things. It was fun out there, we’re making it fun again.”

On the offense’s performance:

“It builds confidence. We build ourselves on them. If the offense scores first, the game should be over. That’s how we came out there today.”

On the team proving themselves today:

“I mean, it means the world. We want to put our best on tape, every time we come out on the field, and prove to the world that we’re back, we’re playing Virginia football, Virginia defense.”