

Head Coach Bronco Mendenhall

(Opening Statement)

"I don't know if I have the appropriate thoughts or words, but I'm grateful and thankful to be the coach at UVA. I'm thankful that our players allow me to coach and that they try hard and that it matters to them. 30 to 13 was where we were and credit Louisville and Coach Satterfield and their staff, it was a remarkable turn of events by them in the third quarter and they took over the game but to Brennan's (Armstrong) credit and our team's credit, they just kept chipping, climbing, and fighting and coming back and they're really resilient. We did prepare starting on Monday for this game to be the equivalent of a 15-round fight with the referee holding both hands and right at the end, someone's hand is going up and sure enough, that's exactly how it turned out and a few inches again, determines huge implications. It's ACC football and for Brennan (Armstrong) to come back from the third quarter he had, that's hard to do in the game, especially when you're on the road and I was really proud of him."

(Darrius Bratton's tackle on Hassan Hall in the fourth quarter and how it embodies the team's spirit)

"It does and he was the player. There's a lot of statistics that were remarkable, I think, for both teams, but the player that broke the rock for us was Darrius (Bratton). He didn't have a significant role tonight, in terms of number of plays, but there couldn't have been a bigger play made, and his effort and fortitude and commitment to our team. That play to me, I'm not going to forget as a coach. In fact, I might I only remember a couple plays from that whole game and that was the one I remember most."

(Assessment of his defense after the game)

"They're getting better each game and the idea is capacity and consistency. The first half, you saw the very first play of the game, Louisville did a really nice job throwing and catching and then from there, really nothing in the first half, but in the second half and there were turnovers. There were some other plays but down the stretch, enough plays and enough consistency, more positive plays longer than what we've been doing and two-minute defense. So, as we look at this team, this identity, and this race for the conference it's two-minute games. We'll keep chipping away at that too. You're going to have to make plays at the end on both sides is what we found out tonight."

(On this being the second game in a row winning on a missed FG)

"It's my first time in my career and I'm just grateful. I know what it's like to be on the other side. I know the margin for error and just grateful that we played well enough. We have one more play go our way than the opponent and I just I think Coach Satterfield and his team played hard and well and so did we, so one play is really what it comes down to and there's so many you could pick from the last one was just the most visible."

(Keytaon's Thompson's ability to produce)

"I hate using the word 'never' but there's no one that I see that makes so many plays in so many ways at critical times and he's got a broken hand, it's hard to catch with a broken hand. Billy (Kemp IV) is similar, just the volume of plays they're making and Ra'Shaun (Henry) and his emergence with Dantayvion

(Wicks) going down. Jelani (Woods) is in and out so it's just the entire collective program. Keytaon (Thompson) just seems to be there when you need him. When your heart is stopping and you're holding your breath and your stress is building, he's catching another one."

(Consecutive ACC road wins and what it means for the program)

"It's huge, we've targeted it, we've trained for it, we have worked and it's not glamorous, but they are road wins and they're hard as we've seen. I would love to say our training and our emphasis has prepared us for it and I don't think it's accidental. Who knows for sure, but I believe that we've trained and emphasized it and put so many design elements in place to help us and I must believe that that's one of the things but who the team is? I think that's something else and I don't know how much influence I have on that; I think they're just great at supporting each other and they believe."

(On defense coming through)

"I thought they were outstanding in the critical moment. The difference between this game and let's say the Wake Forest game, was the critical moment stops and the rest of it was about the same. The critical moment stops are how you have success and that's what they did. I hate to say it's all that matters, but it really matters and that's how you have success and they're to be credited for that because they've been working hard over the past couple of weeks."

(Brennan Armstrong's performance)

"He's just the guy if it's a neighborhood game, whatever side he's on, you want to be on that team because you think you're going to win just because he thinks he's going to win no matter what the circumstances are. When you throw a couple interceptions and things don't go your way, it sure didn't seem to bother him or maybe it bothered him, but he is just a fierce competitor and he's so capable and after the game he knew it wasn't perfect, but it was enough and that's kind of where our team is."

(On Grant Misch's go-ahead touchdown)

"There's not many below him on the depth chart but we we're hugging in the locker room and what a great moment for Grant (Misch) and Darrius (Bratton), that's what I'm taking away from this game. Those two plays, there's a million others in terms of volume and Grant (Misch) was holding his breath and his eyes were big and he's not used to having the ball thrown to him but he smiled and laughed so just had a great moment."

(Ra'Shaun Henry's emergence)

"He's been emerging and from fall camp, I thought he was the most improved and is going to have the most impact. He got his opportunity to be targeted more with an injury and he just showed that he's capable, which is great for us going forward."