

NOVEMBER 5, 2022

VIRGINIA VS. UNC

CHARLOTTEVILLE, VA. (SCOTT STADIUM)

UNC PLAYER QUOTES

Freshman Quarterback Drake Maye

On his touchdown:

“There was a leak in the backside. They (UVA Defense) had a lot of guys over there, around six or seven playing coverage. Instead of throwing it into the endzone, the backside was open, and I had a wall blocking them. I used my speed and made it into the endzone.”

On the second vs. first half:

“In the locker room at halftime, we regrouped. We took it like it was a 0-0 game, and once we got rolling, we got three scores in a row. I’m mad at myself when we go out there and don’t score because that is our job; we expect that, and it all starts upfront. I think we got into the swing of things and made some plays. It got to our guys that we needed to and along with that Virginia’s defense was playing tired and soft. We tried to crack some runs on them, and we used our tempo to take advantage of them. That’s what we practice all week, playing fast and getting defense tired.”

On being 5-0 on the road this year:

“That’s been the story all year on the road; squeaking out a way to win. We must give big credit to defense for huge stops. We (offense) must put it away when they get us the ball, and that starts with me. The first time we had it, I darted a slant to J.J. (J.J. Jones). So, it starts with me and we as the offensive line need to put the ball away. 5-0 on the road sounds good though. We have a big game coming up on the road and Wake Forest has a good team. We have to be ready because the games in the previous years with Wake Forest have been shootouts. Like I said, big credit to defense and we have to step up for them.”

Josh Downs, Junior, Wide Receiver

On his connection with quarterback Drake Maye

“Just a blessing to be honest. Drake is the best quarterback in the nation, so he puts the ball where it needs to be. I was in a good spot. I gotta do my job and get open. So it was clicking. We got the win, that’s the most important thing. But, it was a big day for me. Thanks for that.”

On his touchdown route

“It was a corner out. The play wasn’t designed for me, but it was cover one, so when we recognized that I pretty much knew that it was gonna be to me after that. I knew I just had to get open and Drake put the ball in a good place and I scored.”

On motivating coaches when down 21-17

“Coach [Mack] Brown, he just comes up to me and he’ll be like, you’ve got to make these plays. So then I went up to him and I just reciprocated the energy, and I said, ‘Coach, don’t worry, I got you right here’. I told that same thing to Coach [Phil] Longo too, I’m just like ‘I got you when you need it’. Just getting trust between the head coach and player, and the offensive coordinator and player, and just trying to keep doing that.”

On how he evades defenses

“Honestly, it’s just because we got other guys that make plays, too. Any given Saturday, any guy can make plays. Last week, AG (Antoine Green) had 180 (yards). Whoever’s day it is, the defense can say I’m gonna take away 11 or I’m gonna take away three. Or the tight ends, we’ve got dudes that can make plays there. They gotta play us straight up and it’s hard to play straight up when we’ve got two of the best in the nation.”