

**Louisville vs. Virginia**  
**Postgame Press Conference**  
**HC Tony Elliott**

**(Update on Perris Jones)**

We're getting some encouraging news. I know he's getting an MRI right now, but the news is encouraging. Before, you know, I make any public statement, I want to have all the facts and be accurate, but I know that the initial reports that we're getting are very encouraging according to the medical staff.

**(On difficulty of playing after Perris Jones injury)**

It's a very, very difficult reality of the sport that we play, that every play can end that way, and you don't wish that for anybody. Man, I know one thing: (Perris Jones) is a tough young man and he lays it on the line every time he goes out there for this football team. (We're) believing and praying that he's going to have a full recovery. I'm putting that in the Lord's hands and I'm asking for that in advance and believing that that's going to be the case. But you know, we saw the same thing up at Boston College, the opposite. It was reversed, where their guy had to go out on a stretcher, and nobody wants to see it and it's tough to get back motivated, but man, I believe the guys, I believe they responded. We just didn't make a couple of plays there at the end that we needed to make.

**(On another game being decided by four or five plays)**

It's the reality. When you're talking about good teams playing each other, it comes down to four or five plays, unless something just gets out of hand, but the close games, it's going to be four or five plays. I think back to, you know, we have a blocked punt right there in the first half, that's seven points. We had a turnover in the red zone, that takes points off the board. So those plays, you know, make a difference in the game, but there's also going to be a couple of just routine plays in the game that can change the complexion of the game, and you never know what play it is, and the biggest challenge is to stay focused. Play in, play out, play every single play as if it's going to be the most important decision.

**(On leaving offense on the field on 4<sup>th</sup> and 1 down 14 points)**

I mean, it was fourth and one, and that's a hard field goal to make from that short, so you're looking at it and you're playing the odds. Fourth and one, one yard. If you don't get it, and you don't lose yards, then you got the defense going out on the one-yard line. But I challenged the guy at halftime to go play a certain way, and so, if I'm going to ask them to play a certain way, then I need to coach a certain way and I need to have their back. If I'm asking them to have my back and play to win, then I need to have their back and coach to win.

**(On performance by Anthony Colandrea)**

I thought (Colandrea) showed some signs of maturity from the previous week and not putting the ball in as much risk, and I felt like he understood that we're playing against a good defensive front that can create pressure and that we're not going to be able to sit back there all day. He was very decisive when he pulled the ball down, and he continues to show that he's a competitor and he's going to run hard. So overall, I thought he battled his tail off, but I thought he did a great job of just managing the game. The interception was a bang-bang play there, but other than that, I thought he did a good job of managing the game and making big plays when we needed him, which shows the competitive toughness that he has.

**(On changes at halftime to improve offense)**

The biggest thing was that I just challenged the guys. (I said) we don't even look close to who I know we are and what we're capable of. There's no fear and there's nothing to be afraid of, just go play. I don't need anybody trying to be a superhero, just go have fun and play. This is what you pray for, these are the opportunities that you dream about. Just go play and have fun and hold each other accountable and make sure that all 11 guys are giving everything that they have to this football team, and the guys responded there in the second half.

**(On the blocked punt touchdown early in the game)**

Back in that area of the field, you know, you're going to get heavy pressure, guys are going to be trying to get off on the snap, and you cannot allow them to time the snap. With today's alignments in college football, it's all one-on-one box. We have to go execute better, and make sure that everybody's on the same page, and we got to coach better. We have to help guys fundamentally to be able to make those blocks consistently, and that's really what happened there.