

WASHINGTON STATE

F O O T B A L L

ARIZONA AT WASHINGTON STATE – NOV. 17, 2018 ARIZONA POSTGAME QUOTES

Head Coach Kevin Sumlin (First Half)

"I have to go back and look at it. The penalty early that extended the first drive - you can't do that against a team where every possession is critical. They took advantage of it and jumped out 7-0. We took turns, you can't have the ball on the ground six times. You've got a combination of things that happened early in the game that got out of hand. A team like this that can score points, you know you have to score points to win the game. We got a pick early in the game, and the turnovers and fumbles against a team that scores that kind of points, this can't happen. That's how the score gets to be the way it is."

(On if the cold weather affected their play)

"There's no excuse for that. We haven't been that team all year. We're not going to make any excuses about weather or anything like that, they played in it too. We haven't been that team all year and that's something we work on and talk about a lot. Against a team that can score points like that, possessions are critical. You've taken away your own possessions and given them at least three or four more with turnovers."

(On coming out in the second half with effort)

"That hasn't been an issue with the team's effort. Execution has been an issue. The last two weeks we were pretty good; tonight the execution was not there consistently. I give Washington State credit. Gardner Minshew is extremely accurate and their offensive line did a fabulous job. We thought, based on how we had played recently, that we could get to them – we could not; just like everybody else has all year, has not been able to get to them. Their offensive line did a nice job when pressured, we pressured and could not get to them. We played man-to-man and obviously they run a lot of mesh routes, and we played some zone and still couldn't get there with rushing three or four. They've got a great scheme, it's what they've run all year and that's why they're 10-1."

(Upcoming Game)

"We've got a lot to play for still. It's a rivalry game, a territory cup, and a chance to play in the post season. There's a lot to come back next week to work for and play for. The season's not over. We've got another opportunity to play next Saturday to play in the rivalry game. It really shouldn't be anything I need to say to get our guys to go. For our seniors it's a big deal, with senior night you've got the territorial cup and post season play on the line next Saturday."

Tony Fields (Overall thoughts)

"We played hard, we fought as much as we could. They had better players than us. They executed when they needed to, we didn't get off the field when we needed to. Our gameplan was to stop the pass. That's their main thing. We blitzed them. Sometimes we dropped a lot of guys in coverage. He's (Minshew II) a smart guy. They were able to pick apart our coverage. Nobody completely gave up. Everybody kept fighting in the second half. People gained a little bit more experience and game time."

(Feelings after the game)

"It's always frustrating to be losing. Being a leader on the team, I had to keep it positive, I had to motivate the team, and try and keep everybody upright."

(On upcoming game)

"We've got one more game. We've got the Territorial Cup next game. We've got to win that. It's the most important game of the season. Go into next week. Beat ASU, and let's go bowling."

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Khalil Tate - Quarterback**(On processing a night like tonight)**

"We lost, that's first of all. That's pretty evident. Washington State played exceptionally well in all phases, and that showed in the results. We've got one game left to get done what we need to get done as far as getting the Territorial Cup back and also getting to a bowl game for the seniors. It's all about maturity. We've got to bounce back. We've got a good opponent in ASU coming in town. "

(On whether penalties played a part early on)

It played a big part. There were a lot of penalties early on that affected us. We've got to do a better job so we aren't put behind that far

On message at halftime

Keep playing. We came out second half and played a little better, it just wasn't enough.

Biggest Positive

I would say we didn't give up necessarily. We kept playing hard. I think that's something that's big and we can continue to grow on.

(On Poindexter's three straight TD receptions)

That's something that he's worked on this offseason. Me and him have a pretty good connection.

(On offensive adjustments for future games)

Set the tone. It's all about setting the tone. If you don't set the tone early on, it's tough to get into rhythm. Especially against a good opponent like Washington State.

(On if weather affecting fumbles)

Maybe. In Tucson it was pretty chilly, so we prepared for it. There are no excuses.

(On passing instead of running)

I haven't been running a lot this year, so it's not anything that's new.

(On if they played closer or ahead, running more)

You kind of got to put the ball in the air to come back. Running the ball is only going to hurt you, because the clock is going to keep ticking. It's not going to be your friend.