Washington State University
FOOTBALL



Washington State vs. Washington
November 22, 2008
Postgame Quotes

WSU Head Coach Paul Wulff
Overall feeling about the game…
"It really got fun in the fourth quarter; it wasn't as fun the first three because we felt like we were missing many opportunities on offense, but defense kept us in the game. When we had to get tough we did."

On the long-term importance of the winning Apple Cup…
"It was important for the seniors to finish their final home game with a win, and for this young team to learn how to play in a tight game and then to win a tight game. We haven't had that this season, and when you have a young team and they get to experience that it is going to give them something to build off of as we move forward."

"I'm very proud of the players hanging in there and keep fighting to the end, they believed and fought to the end."

On quarterback Kevin Lopina's 48-yard pass to Jared Karstetter on final drive of fourth quarter…
"We were able to go vertical on the throw to Jared (Karstetter). It was Kevin's best throw of the day, he hit him in stride, and it was a big play that put us in a position to win the game. "

Senior Middle Linebacker Greg Trent
On what the seniors told the team…
"From the beginning of the game, the seniors knew the game was going to be close. It's going to come down to a matter of seconds. We just told them good things are going to happen, bad things are going to happen, but if you just keep on playing hard and execute the game plan, everything is going to turn out fine."

Sophomore Cornerback Romeo Pellum
On the Apple Cup…
"This game means a lot to a lot of people, the coaches and this team. It's the biggest game of the season. Everyone just went out there and executed their assignments. We needed to make plays and we did today."

On winning the Apple Cup...
"This is the greatest feeling I've had so far playing college football. Playing football period. Best feeling ever, swear to god."

Senior Wide Receiver Brandon Gibson
Reaction to winning the Apple Cup…
"I was really excited to get a win. I want to help start the new Cougar legacy with Coach Wulff, and I think this is a great way to shoot us up to that level. I think we are going to do a good job next week as well."

Sophomore Kicker Nico Grasu
On stutter step and pressure of kicking late in the game…
"It shows the little nuances of the game as a soccer player growing up. I thought the clock was winding down and they called it on a two count so I kind of flinched a little bit, but these guys do such a great job of snap and hold it doesn't really matter what I do. As long as I get a foot on it that is pretty much it, and without them I am nothing."

On the game winning kick…
"Every kicker dreams about it. I wish every drive ended with a kick. We've worked so hard and we have a tight bond, so when it comes down to crunch time we have faith in all three of us, we really trust each other."

"As soon as it came off my foot I knew it was good."

Apple Cup game winner compared to game winning kicks in high school…
"I'll take this any day, it is the greatest feeling ever."

Redshirt Junior Quarterback Kevin Lopina
On 48 yard pass to move into field goal range in fourth quarter…
"I told Karstetter in the huddle that we needed to take a chance here, so I pretty much knew where I was going to go with the ball if the corner sat and he did so it was just a great play on his part."

Freshman Wide Receiver Jared Karstetter
On his 48-yard reception...
"We just ran an out route with a go on the outside. Lopina pumped the out route and the corner bit just long enough where I could get behind him. I just went right up that seem it was a great throw and great protection."