

Marshall Head Coach Doc Holliday

Opening Statement...

Happy with the win. I thought defense was sensational. They had negative 26 yards rushing, which I believe is a school record. They just shut down that offensive team. Offensively we had 500 plus yards but we have to score points. We were kicking too many field goals, we have to get better at getting that ball into the end zone. I thought the special teams did well again. If you can play great defense like that and play great special team you can win a game. One thing we did offensively is we didn't turn the ball over. We have to continue to take care of the football, take care of it and you have a chance to win every game. That was a good win for us, I know it has been an emotional couple of weeks, between the game last week and today. Just happy to come out of that thing 2-0. Now we have to get ready to go to Florida to try and get win number eight.

On red zone offense...

The second half against FAU changed a little bit. At half time I felt a little the same way I did when we played FAU. We corrected it the second half. At the end of the day Isaiah threw for more yards than he ever has. Obi had some season highs and Tyree played well. We just have to get down in there and finish with touchdowns. We will get better at doing that.

On the negative 26 rushing yards by UTSA...

There has never been a team here in Marshall history to do that. There have been some really good defensive football teams run through here. You do that as a defense and that is special. Our defense has played really well and are continuing to get better. We have some players in there who are really starting to step up and do some good things.

On UTSA quarterback switch...

To be honest I was a little surprised they pulled him so soon. That was the fourth game he played and we are talking about that redshirt situation now. For them to start him and not play him more surprised me a little bit. End of the day we got after them pretty good. Any time you can stop the run like we did and force them to throw the ball, it will cause problems.

On defense picking up for offense...

This whole program is based off of playing great defense and taking care of the ball offensively. We took care of the ball but we should have scored more points than we scored. At the end of the day we won. We won the game and got us number seven, let's go get number eight this week. You never want to apologize for a win. One thing you can't fix is a loss. You can fix a lot of things when you win a game.

On the seniors...

We want to start fast, which we did. I think it is critical when you bring a team in here like that, that you start fast. This is a great group of seniors. They all bring something to the table and I am proud of all of them. We still have a lot of football left to play though. We will see where this thing goes and find a way to get number eight, see where nine takes place, and find a way to get to number ten. We will see where it goes.

On rumors of a potential 12th game...

I have heard the same thing you have heard. You probably know more than I do at this point. We just need to worry about FIU and trying to win that game. If something happens and Middle gets beat by UAB and it is a tie for the east then we move forward. I know our kids would be excited if that happens. We will see.

Adam Fuller, defensive coordinator

On UTSA's quarterback situation...

It's just good to get (win) No. 7 for the program. I didn't know if (Cordale) Grundy was going to play or not. We knew (Jordan) Weeks was going to play. (Bryce) Rivers, we watched tape on him. Last year, he played in two games. He played in just one game this year and had one throw (heading into tonight), so we weren't quite sure on who was going to play, but we knew they would be inexperienced, so we were going to bring pressure.

Isaiah Green, redshirt freshman quarterback

On the defense...

The defense was fantastic. Allowing a team to negative rushing yards, that's unheard of, so I really applaud them for that. They kept us in the game.

On the red zone inabilities...

It's frustrating when you can move the ball all the way down the field yet come up short of putting it in the end zone. Like I said last week, we want to live by (touchdowns), not (field goals), so we just have to focus on that more and put an emphasis on focusing and locking in when we get in the red zone so we can put the ball in the end zone and generate points.

On stretching the field...

Going into the week, we felt like (UTSA) had a pretty athletic defense but their weakness was the secondary. That's what we wanted to take advantage of and, obviously, that's what we did. I had a career day in passing, Obi had a career day in receiving and Tyre had a season-best in receiving, so things worked out. We just have to get better at putting it in the end zone so we can generate more points.

Obi Obialo, junior wide receiver

On the depth at wide receiver and the passing game...

It's exciting and it's fun, going out there and just playing, just like we do in practice. It's fun to see that play out in a game.

On preparing for FIU...

It's going to be big because they beat us last year, so we have something to prove, especially with these last games.

Chase Hancock, redshirt senior linebacker

On the emotions entering this game...

Coach Doc (Holliday) had me speak the night before and I got choked up and teared up, but I'm really thankful for this win.

On limiting UTSA to minus-26 rushing yards...

I don't think (I've ever done that). We had the mindset of making sure we made a statement. They beat us last year in a close game and it was kind of on the defense, so we wanted to make sure that didn't happen this year.

The guys were trying to come out and make sure the seniors went out on a good note. And, it wasn't even about the seniors, it wasn't just the seniors' last game at The Joan, it was everybody's last game at The Joan (this year), so it was a big night for all of us.

Omari Cobb, junior linebacker

On the depth and talent along the defensive front...

It's hard to mess up when you have Coach (Adam) Fuller and Coach (Byron) Thweatt and (JC) Price and the d-line with all those guys up front. Juwon (Young), (Ryan) Bee, Marquis (Couch) and Ty (Tyler), all of those guys are getting after it and somebody has to make a play on the defense because they're all-around good players, especially in our group with Chase (Hancock), Frankie (Hernandez), (Donyae) Moody and (Jaquan) Yulee and all the talent (with the linebackers) as well.

On Chase Hancock and Frankie Hernandez...

Chase helped me grow as a player, Frankie as well. It was emotional going out there and playing with them (on their final home game).

Juwon Young, redshirt senior defensive lineman

On continuing to play with maximum effort...

We just continue to stay focused and locked in. We've come to the end of the season, a lot of teams are beat up and ready for the season to be over, but here we're just going to keep chopping, staying focused and preparing for the next opponent.

On maintaining the defensive performance...

We just have to keep going, because at the end of the day, we have players who can make plays, so we just have to put those players in position to make plays.