

Marshall Thundering Herd vs. Rice University Owls
12/5/2020
Rice Post Game Quotes

Head Coach Mike Bloomgren

Opening Statement:

"I can't remember the last time I was really proud of a team. We shut out the number 15 team in America. What our defense did, shut out a football team, just how grimy we were. We knew we were playing a physical team. Offensively, we had some people step into roles. I'm just so proud of this group of guys."

On defensive effort:

"We had an inkling that they were going to take the ball. On the defense side, we take that personally. It was a great challenge, and we found a way to end it."

On defense control:

"Winning one-on-one and leaving trust. Today was really special. This defense is growing up and finding ways to make this happen."

On time possession:

"We possessed it for a long time today. It's just the way we believe that we can win games. How to control the clock and defense, it's the way we roll. I'm proud of the way we played, everything right down the line."

On last year's game compared to this year's:

"I think back to that game last year. This year the confidence it gave was, it was just on everything. It allowed our confidence to grow and you all saw how it went out today."

Players:

Naeem Smith

On the opportunity to play:

"You just hope for that opportunity to go out and play out there. I feel like throughout the week, we had all the confidence in the world."

On keeping the confidence:

"From my position, you can never get too high and you can never get too low. I think it was just really important. We have to keep our heads up. Those guys are a good team, and we have to play for a full four quarters."

On beating #15 Marshall:

"That may be one of the best feelings in the whole world. The entire sideline loves celebrating on big plays."

Blaze Alldredge

On Naeem's performance:

"It's great. Naeem is a great guy. I see us as a LeBron and D Wade. He is a guy that pushes me and prepares me. I'm happy for him. This is who we should be. We need to believe in ourselves."

On Rice's improvement as a football program:

"I think this a huge statement of what Rice could be. We are underdogs here. Seeing those numbers, those are amazing. I dream of making history."

On game-play confidence:

"We played with confidence. We're going to do a good job of seeing this on film and take this forward."