



No. 7 Texas 26, Iowa State 16

Nov. 18, 2023 * MidAmerica Energy Field at Jack Trice Stadium * Ames, Iowa

POSTGAME QUOTES

Iowa State

Head Coach Matt Campbell

On the Texas Defense:

“I think the flow of the game in the second half a little bit probably makes them unique in its own way. They are really good. They’re big and physical on the defensive line, obviously, in their front six, front seven, are outstanding. We knew that coming into the football game, you would have liked to have been in the situation the pace where you’re playing ahead a little bit because I think there were some things that maybe we would have had at our disposal. You’re kind of playing behind the chains most of the game and never put yourself in an advantageous situation in the run game, but certainly credit to them. They are big, physical, and really good on defense.”

On the Offense Being Behind the Chains:

“I think we’re kind of right where we wanted to be, at least in terms of a football game. We really played a style of game where we wanted to play and try to give ourselves a chance to go in the game in the fourth quarter. We just, in all three phases, we were an inch away from making the right play or the critical play we needed to make to win the football game.”

On the Blocked PAT:

“Obviously, we still didn’t get a stop. We never got a stop tonight. We were never able to get the stop when we needed to get the stop of a football game defensively. Offensively, we were kind of always playing catch-up during the football game. That play (blocked PAT) obviously wasn’t what you wanted to have happen, but we were still right there. We had to go get a stop. Getting a stop would’ve given us a chance to go back up. We felt really confident because we started to gain some confidence on offense but then we just never played at our best. When we’re at our best, we’re playing really good, complimentary football and we just never really had that much tonight in the football game. Credit to them.”

On the Fourth-and-One TD:

“You’ve got to make the play to totally swing the tide. Obviously, a great throw from Rocco, a great catch from Easton. It’s the second time in a row in the second half that you got the momentum back of the football game, and you’re just never able to capitalize on it. For me, I judge attitude and effort and character. I thought our kids, all the way to the last whistle, played their tails off. That’s a really good Texas team, we had our opportunities. I think on Tuesday, I said we had to execute. There were times we did but we just didn’t do it consistently enough in all three phases of the football game. At the end of the day, to beat that football team, you’re going to have to have great execution.”

Texas

Head Coach Steve Sarkisian

On the Game:

“I was really proud of our team. This was not a win in one phase or one aspect you know, this was this was a lot of different players making plays tonight making plays at some pretty critical moments. Cedric Baxter coming up and the opportunity to go for 117 yards and hard yards against that defense. I thought a variety of guys making plays in the passing game, clearly the tight ends showed up when we needed them. Xavier with some great runs. I think on defense, our front did it again.”

On the Difference Between 2021 Loss and Tonight’s Game:

“I’m proud of those same three-year guys that I keep bringing up because we were here. We were here three years ago, this was a tough scene. I think that was a moment when the program started to change after that, but that was a long week for us that year, that was a tough night to endure. So to come back, kind of on our farewell tour, and it gets some redemption here is a big one.”

On Impact of Defensive Line:

“So I thought our players did a nice job of staying focused on what we needed to do, particularly those two guys (Sweat and Murphy II). They went into the game focused on what they needed to do and that was to dominate the line of scrimmage and the interior of the line of scrimmage and that allowed everybody else to play.”

On Receiver Jordan Whittington:

“Well, Jordans been playing really good football for us. Sometimes you're not the primary target or the quarterback gets flushed (pressured), and he's been doing a great job of winning versus man coverage. He does so many little things for us. There's so many things for us. And we just kind of felt like at some point his time is going to come. That third and short touchdown pass was really designed for him.”

On the Program's Culture:

“I love it for these guys. When you go through what we went through in year one, and some somber locker rooms and some tough moments and some hard coaching, and for those three-year guys to continue to buy into what we were talking about. I talked about even before the season, we were trying to build a culture that we thought could be part of the winning formula here. The talent that we have is going to make us pretty tough but now they've gone to a whole another space. They're so close. They're so tight. That I really you say this I think a lot of people say it, but our guys play with love for one another. They're not just competing together like they're brothers and I still save the quote, you know that five star culture versus five star players. Well, now we have both. That's a pretty cool thing to be able to say.”