

**Postgame Quotes**  
**Texas 24, No. 10 Oklahoma 17**  
**Saturday, Oct. 10, 2015**

**Texas Quotes**

**Texas Head Coach Charlie Strong**

COACH CHARLIE STRONG: I can't be more proud of my team than this team, just the way we went out and competed. We've heard all week how the pride has been lost and how they don't play hard, and I don't have an answer to last week. We go out and kinda just lay an egg, and then this week we come out and we wanted to impose our will. We wanted to play physical, which we did, and just watch our team just go to work. Defensively we were able to get off their bill, and you look at it somewhere rushing around near 300 yards. Seth is doing that, and you watch big man D'Onta take off on a big play, but it's like they would answer, we would answer. And it would be where someone would step up at the right time. Like the play that Duke made there on the third down, you look at what Jerrod did with his legs, just keeping the drive going. And then you bring in Tyrone there to do the short yardage, scored a touchdown, and then he throws a touchdown pass.

Pete probably led us in tackles, made a lot of plays, a lot of tackles, and D'Onta, like I said, opened up big runs. But it was a total team effort. It was just so fun to watch how it came together.

And we needed this. We just needed -- you watch -- we go to Notre Dame, we don't play well. We go beat Rice and we played well. And we lose and we go last week and just looked God awful. I'm just so proud. I think they said they didn't want to see me get fired, so they were going to step up and play for me. (Laughter.)

**Q. Charlie, two things; number one, do you think the way that the games have gone the last few weeks, did you always feel like you know the talented break-out performance is in their bodies somewhere; it just hadn't come out? And No. 2, what about it, you heard all week the national pundits say you're not the right guy for Texas. What does this say?**

COACH CHARLIE STRONG: The first question is that -- I tell them this all the time, I say to our team, we're so talented; it is just a matter of us putting it all together, and we have yet to put it together.

The second part of that question is, I know this: I've been coaching a long time, and I know what I can do, and it's all about relationships with players and I know I can coach, so I don't worry about what anyone else says.

Everybody makes a big deal about nothing, but at the end of the day this is the University of Texas; this is Charlie Strong's program. Don't need to blame anyone else. They play bad, you blame me; they play good you give it to them, but there is no one else. So many times people want to say different things and try to move in a different direction, but it's not about that.

The thing about it is I had each and every week get a team prepared to go play. I had to have a team focused, a team that has the desire and the determination when they take that field like today, that was the University of Texas. Today was our day, and that's the team. And I just told them, you know what, you guys? It's too bad, you should have showed that performance today, because that's what we expect each and every week.

**Q. Charlie, it's a big signature win, you got a bye week coming. How do you launch this now into the rest of your schedule?**

COACH CHARLIE STRONG: Well, we play six tough opponents. The guys deserve a lot of rest, so they'll get some days off, and then later on in the week we will prepare a little for Kansas State, but then we will come back on Sunday and go to back work. But they deserve a rest. They've been beat up. So much has been said about them. Just mentally they're just beat down, so they need a rest.

**Q. Coach, when you talk about the team getting their confidence back, we kind of laugh about that. Is that something you really believe or just something you're saying?**

COACH CHARLIE STRONG: No, I really believe that. I know you guys may laugh when I say confidence, oh God, after this, what just happened? But when you have the players that we have and you have the coaching staff, and I'm so proud of our coaching staff to put together this plan that we put together, but they have the confidence.

The thing about these guys is they really believe that they're really good, and I know they don't always show it; they don't always play like they do, they have confidence. One thing they're not missing is confidence -- I know for sure Heard has plenty of it, but they're not missing that at all.

They can build on something special here.

**Q. Coach, speaking of confidence, Tyler Swoopes seems to be playing with more confidence than we have ever seen. What do you think has gotten into him? Do you think the packages are bringing out the best in him?**

COACH CHARLIE STRONG: The packages -- it's so funny when we were mentioning packages, I said to Ty, I forgot that we had the ball. I said, just put in there and let him keep running over people and then just keep running. And when we would run a play I said repeat that play, and then we would run it again. And then the next time he scored he didn't tuck the ball away. He was pretty close to that fumble, and then he loaded up. If you think about it when we came back the second time, he threw the touchdown pass, we had been running the quarterback killer, and he loaded up and he had two guys wide open.

But he does play with a lot of confidence. Both of those guys, they play with some confidence and -- Vaughn has done a great job of giving them confidence and building them up.

**Q. You've done this game now a couple years. Can you sense what a big win this game means to your fan base and why winning this one is so important for them, and you guys as well?**

COACH CHARLIE STRONG: It is such a big deal. I know Brian Davis said if I can this one, I had to win another one. But it's not true, though. But our fans -- I think what they were waiting

on, too, was just a break-out win because we hadn't had one in so long, and to go get this one was really big. It was a big-time rival game, and our players were just so up for it.

Even when we go out there to warm up, I said, you know something, we don't need to talk; ya'll don't need all the jabbing in the tunnel and all that. Let them do all the talking.

But the way we're going to work today it's going to speak for itself. We're going to run the football and we're going to run it right at 'em and we're gonna knock 'em off the ball and nothing else is going to need to be said because we're going to control the line of scrimmage.

**Q. Jerrod, talk about the mind-set of the team today. It was a complete win. Obviously, special teams played, defense big in pressure, your big run there at the end. Just your thoughts, mind-set of the team and getting a signature win for Charlie?**

JERROD HEARD: I think everyone had an edge today. We found that edge that we needed, and we wanted to come out with a victory today, so we did everything we could to get it, and we all worked together and it turned out great.

**Q. Charlie, what can a win like this do for your program moving forward, and I'm seeing all these pictures on Twitter with you wearing the golden hat. What was that like?**

COACH CHARLIE STRONG: The win, it's really big, but like I said, we needed that win. And we have just been so close before last week, before we were blown out. But just to see that win and just get a jump-start, and now we have six more to go play. So we get us a break and then go play those six. But putting on the hat, it was special because you know you won the game and it was just really special to go up and shake the governor's hand. And even before the game started, I said, listen, we're going to play today. I said, you're going to be very proud of us at the end of this game.

**Q. In the celebration afterwards, I heard several players hug you and say specifically, "We did this for you."**

**For you personally, how does that make you feel to hear that?**

COACH CHARLIE STRONG: It felt really good, and I told them, you don't have to do it for me because I wanted them to do it for themselves, but it's special to hear that, because what they've heard, just like everyone else, they hear the media; they hear what is said, and so what they want to say is, you know something, we'll show what our coach is all about.

**Q. Charlie, after Fort Worth I know you were wondering what you were going to get from your defense. What happened during the week, and when did it occur to you that this is a different defense than what we saw against TCU?**

COACH CHARLIE STRONG: Well, looking at TCU, it was like just a snowball effect, one big bad play ended in another bad play, and we never stopped them. And then today they just came out and competed. It was just a different mind-set, and all week long we talked about we were going to pressure. I guarantee you we pressured them early every snap. Maybe played three downs of space defense, but other than that the pressure was coming because we wanted to get the ball out of the quarterback's hands, make him make bad decisions and stop the run, because every pressure was set up to stop the run, get in the backfield and get around to the quarterback's

feet, we can make him make bad throws.

**Q. Tyrone, last year the OU game was one of your best, and then today you were pivotal on two scoring drives. Is there just a little more that you give for this game, a little extra juice that comes out of this game?**

TYRONE SWOOPES: I think it happens for everybody. This game is special for a lot of guys. (Indiscernible). There's a lot of families in the crowd, and the atmosphere is totally different, so I think it brings out something different in everybody.

**Q. Duke, after all the craziness last weekend and Monday, was the team just kind of fed up and how do you guys sustain this for the entire game?**

DUKE THOMAS: Definitely. I mean, a lot of things being said about our program. We knew what we had, and we just stayed in-house and we really just continued to build on each other, reel each other in and going through this week, we knew we had to get it done, and we just worked on that throughout this week in practice and we went out there and executed.

**Q. Charlie, you talked a lot about this team needing to learn how to win. There were some key moments down the stretch there where it was kind of hanging in the balance. Were you thinking, oh, no, here we go again and what did you think was different this time to that allowed them to close it out?**

COACH CHARLIE STRONG: We just were talking before the game. I said, listen, guys, they're going to catch a wave. We're going to catch a wave first where we're going to go we're going to score, score, and then they're going to catch a wave, but we gotta continue to play. And we can't be one of those like, okay, here we go again, because they answered. They got it to 7, and then we said to our offense, listen, go take the ball. We went 3 and out, but then we answered back with our defense without a stop, and now we get it back, and our offense gets us a big drive going.

But it was just them believing and having confidence, just believing in themselves and believing in their teammates, because it was one of those today definitely where the defense knew that the offense was going to take the ball and move it. There was no question. And the offense felt like, okay, the defense is going to go out and stop 'em and we're going to get the ball back.

And all we needed to do on defense was stop the ball on the third down. I don't know what the different conversion it was. Maybe they had like two or three. I'm not exactly sure, but just to watch our offense convert the big third downs was big.

**Q. Charlie, where did the confidence come from that this team could have this kind of performance, and what were you seeing that maybe nobody else had seen, and why did you so strongly believe that?**

COACH CHARLIE STRONG: Chuck, I just believed it. Every day they hear it from me, I just keep telling the guys, you're good players. Okay, we're not getting the wins, but just keep -- you have to keep battling. And there's a poem, I know you guys hear it, I gave it to them last night. "When things go wrong as they sometimes will, you can't quit. And the road you're trudging seems all uphill."

But last night we were just talking about that, and I said there is no quit in this team. You've just got to stick to the fight when you're hardest hit, and we just keep battling.

But I said, all of you have always had confidence and all of you have always believed in yourself. Why change now? What's different? Get your confidence back. We had more than enough, and I said, don't talk about youth; don't talk about age. Because you look at D'Onta, two straight weeks back-to-back 100 yard rushes, you know, 100 yards that he gained, so you think about that and just think about -- it's just -- there is enough. It's just pounding them every day, just pounding and pounding; believe in yourself, believe in yourself, you're good enough. And they have to hear that, and once they hear it enough, eventually it's going to get to them, and today was one of those days.

**Q. Charlie and Jerrod, Lorenzo Joe was a guy that wasn't even on the depth chart to start this year, and he was obviously frustrated by that. What has he done to show you that he can earn a start like he did today, and how special was he for the team?**

COACH CHARLIE STRONG: Well, L.J. is always working. Jerrod can add to it, but the thing about it, you can always count on him, and he's always going to do the little things. He may not be the fastest guy, but you ask him to block, he will block. Whenever he needs to catch the ball, he's going to catch it. And he brings so much energy. He's always positive, always upbeat, got a smile on his face. I'm joking, but I always said, man, you can play. What we have out there on the field. He's, okay, Coach, I'll show you what I got. But Jerrod can tell you, because he's so fun; he's fun to be around.

**Q. Coach, first off, congratulations. Second of all, all y'all did was play good today, really came down to one big play. You all have to have that sprint draw. And it worked really good and made the difference in the game. Talk about that a little bit.**

COACH CHARLIE STRONG: When we ran the sprint draw, they had us backed up, and D'Onta breaks out of there. And the thing about him, it's hard to tackle him. The first guy is not going to tackle him. He's going to make them miss and just run through them. So then he gets to the second level, and we knew once he got in open field -- you haven't had a chance to see him run like that, but he can run. And he broke it down, and I think their defensive back Sanchez ended up catching him down on the 10-yard line, but once he gets in open field, I knew -- because he ended up outrunning Lorenzo. We thought Lorenzo was going to end up cutting the corner off, and he just ran right by him. So the corner couldn't get the pursuit angle to push him out-of-bounds.

But it was just so many guys today with individual performances that just stepped up and made plays at the right time. And what we had to have, even in the kicking game, and the punting where we had it booming. And you know, we got a personal foul on the touchdown, and Nick Rose ended up kicking the ball down the field pretty good, and we ended up getting a fumble out of that. And DeShon Elliott makes a big hit and Colbert ends up recovering, but it was just fun, it was exciting, really exciting win for us.

**Assistant Wide Receivers Coach Jay Norvell**

**On the sprint draw:** We've used it some. We wanted to get our quarterback on the perimeter, and we had several perimeter runs for Jerrod [Heard]. He's a real threat out there, and it was a great complement to that. We could get the defense running with the threat of him on the sprint and then hand it off. In offensive football, it's just about complementing, and we did a good job today with that.

**On the win for him personally:** It's satisfying. I'm happy for Coach [Charlie] Strong. I really am. I feel so fortunate to work for Charlie. He's been through a lot this season, and college football needs more guys like Charlie Strong. It really does. He's humble; he cares about his players. He's for the kids, and that's really special. I'm happy for the players, and I'm really happy for Coach Strong.

**On the message of sticking together:** We've been through a lot in this young season. We have a lot of young players. We haven't played well on the road, and we've had some bad breaks. We really have. We've had two games we should've won that we lost on the last play of the game. We've got a good football team, and we played as a team today. We fought as a team today, and that's all we've been trying to get them to do. I think we have some confidence now from the way we played today that we could build on. We're going to go to work doing that.

**On this game turning the season around:** It's a big win. It's a rivalry win - whenever you can play well against a ranked team like Oklahoma and get a win like that. I was so proud of the way we ran the football. We ran for, I don't know, 300 hundred yards, and that doesn't happen against that team very often. I'm very proud of that, and I've very proud of the effort our kids had today.

**On coaching this game from the Oklahoma side:** We've talked about that a lot. I lived through that game two years ago, and we use a similar formula to be honest with you. It's the same formula that we've been using for the last seven years when I was at OU. The team that runs the ball, the team that protects the ball wins. That's what we tried to do today.

### **Junior DT Paul Boyette Jr.**

**On the great performance up front today:** I think it's just the position that we took, we held ourselves accountable this week. We told ourselves we would get out there and dominate the line and that's what we did.

**On the quarterback pressure:** Oh most definitely, that was the game plan, getting him to move his feet. We knew he couldn't make accurate throws on the move so that was the whole plan moving forward to make him move his feet and make him feel our presence.

**Is this a game changer:** Oh most definitely, we didn't get down on ourselves this whole week; we just moved forward and took practice to a whole other level. Everybody was focused, everybody was on time for everything and that's just a stepping-stone moving forward

**On your feeling at the end of the game:** I got kind of emotional; I teared up a little bit. We put so much effort, so much blood sweat and tears into this game. It's a rivalry game so it feels amazing coming out with the golden hat.

### **Sophomore RB D'Onta Foreman**

**On being conservative before breaking through:** We just wanted to gas them, to just run at them. I told the coaches let's just keep running at them, keep running at them. For some reason, I just have a lot of success running that play. They called it, and I felt like I was going to do good, and I did.

**On confidence today after running it well against TCU:** A lot of confidence. I feel like all of the backs can go out there and run well. We always talk, me and [Johnathan] Gray always tell each other before the series, no matter who is in just go out there and run hard, play hard and just give it your all out there.

**On the offensive line and tight ends:** They did a wonderful job. Just pushing them off the line and creating holes and separation for us to hit the hole. J Gray did a good job today running behind his pads, and I just wanted to go in there when I got my name called and do the same.

**On Caleb Bluiett's energy and effort:** Caleb Bluiett, he had a lot of energy at practice. Even off the field he had a lot of energy, so when he brought it on the field, he just motivated everybody else to have the same intensity.

### **Freshman QB Jerrod Heard**

**On the team's approach to today's game:** Being such an angry team that just wanted to be great, we had no choice. We knew one of these games was going to give in and favor us. So when something like this happens, we're just going to keep that momentum and feed it into next week.

**On trying to instill their will on offense with the Swoopes package:** Yeah, in practice we practice it a lot. We actually add four periods for that package so they line can link together and for everyone to know their assignments. I think that was the big main thing, was that short yardage and to get those two or three inches to get in the end zone.

**On Tyrone Swoopes' passing touchdown and if the team saw it coming:** You know, no. But we kept on running that same package with Swoopes and we know eventually that after the second time that they were going to load that box and we were just ready for it, it happened and it turned out great.

**On Texas wide receiver Lorenzo Joe's blocking:** I think for everyone, especially on the outside, it's real key for those receivers. When we can get on the outside it's real key for our

receivers to make key blocks. Lorenzo knew his assignment. Like Coach Strong has been saying, he's great at what he does, which is either to catch or block. He's an awesome player.

**On celebrating this win:** I've been up for that for a long time now. When I got to do that, I made sure I jumped all the way in the stands. I probably jumped a little too far because I couldn't get out for a little bit. But that's something that we strive for, and we know these fans have our backs from the get-go. So they deserve it and we deserve it as well.

**On shutting down the critics of Coach Charlie Strong:** I can understand that. When it's a new program that's building like this starting with a new coach and just new players and young guys all over the field, it takes time. But when it clicks together it's also dangerous, because we have great guys on the team.

**On rumors of Coach Strong's job security before the game:** Yeah, we definitely heard rumors about it. But I think it was that we couldn't get caught up in that. We just kept playing, and kept having fun, really. That was the main thing, just keep having fun instead of keeping it all professional and you get lost.

**On winning the game comfortably:** It wasn't part of the game plan. We really wanted to go deep, and we thought we could. And we didn't run deep because our run game was something crazy. Our o-line worked so hard, and when they were out there run blocking like that it was hard to stick with that game plan. It was high energy and we have to keep it together.

**On running back D'Onta Foreman's 81-yard run:** It was just like, everyone's eyes were so wide. We were just staring at each other like "I can't believe this is happening."

**On keeping the mood loose in the huddle:** I was joking a little bit out there, I was trying to dance, and I was doing a lot of different stuff out there. I do whatever it takes to relax.

**On playing for Bevo:** We were getting tweets from everybody saying #playforbevo, and that's real special. We definitely did play for Bevo, and I hope he gets well and I hope the best for Bevo.

## **Texas RB Johnathan Gray**

**On beating Oklahoma:** It means a lot. It's senior year and we were 1-4 coming in; it was time to get the job done. I think we have guys that get the job done, and for the guys to come out here in a rivalry game like this, to come out and win is just amazing and that's what we work for.

**On what the win means for him:** It means a lot. It's not just a game; this is war. Whoever comes out on top on this has the bragging rights for 365 days. So to come out here and win senior year it means a lot for my senior year to go out on top of Oklahoma. We just got to keep pushing this season.

**On how mad the team was coming into today's game:** Very pissed. We got called out because of our 1-4 record. We got called out for being soft, not tough, couldn't fight, and had no pride. We showed that today that we had a lot of pride and a lot of fight and at times it doesn't show but today we had it and we came out with a win.

**On the performance of the offensive line:** Yeah, the offensive line worked hard this week. To come out here, they knew what kind of [defensive] line OU was: physical, and they just strapped on their pads and went to work.

**On the celebration afterwards:** Oh yeah, I loved it. Oklahoma came out talking. I think they thought we were just going to lay down and we didn't do that. We had pride and we came out and fought. And our guys worked our tail off and we came out with a win. You gotta celebrate with your fans through the thick and thin.

**On the team not sharing any words with each other pregame:** Thank God for focus. Coach Strong came out and said we don't need any of that 'ooh-rah' talking or none of that stuff, and the guys bought into it. Guys were focus, mentally ready, physically ready, and it showed on the field, and that's what we have to have for the rest of the season.

### **Malik Jefferson, LB, Freshman**

**On winning close game after losing in last three:** It was amazing. It was really big for us. It shows you how good we can be if we just put our minds to it. We were tired of people talking and tired of people doubting us and it just took execution. We knew that from the get-go.

**On moving forward after big win:** Challenge now is to keep pushing. We know how to win. It's about pushing forward and getting better.

**On defensive line play:** Everybody is hungry. Everybody went out there hungry and they folded that quarterback multiple times. Everybody went for the ball, everybody was at the point of attack and that was big for us--really big.

**On win against No. 10 Oklahoma:** This is the spark that lights the fire. This was not the team you saw last week. Some people just didn't buy in enough. Some people put their heads down when we went down 9-0 against TCU, but today everybody was ready to buy in and it's going to be that way the rest of the year.

**On winning for Charlie Strong:** That is one of my number one reasons. He gets too much for what he hasn't done, but what he has done is bring in a recruiting class that is going to play for him every week. Everybody is ready to be on board. We are ready for this thing to be turned around and I am really proud of everybody who came out and put their hearts on the field.

**On the game:** Oh, it was just a really good football game. It was amazing. We went out there and had fun. We played our hearts out. We put our bodies on the line out there. That's what coach wanted since last week. After that loss (at TCU), we were embarrassed. You never want to

be in that situation again. It's an amazing feeling right now. I can't even describe how I feel. I am just ready to be back with my team.

**On needing the win:** We needed it real bad. This was the biggest confidence booster and a spark for our program. We still have to keep working to get everything going.

**On media about Charlie Strong:** Yeah, you can't judge off of what he hasn't done yet. Coach Strong just needs opportunities like everyone else, and so as for the freshman recruiting class, we have his back and the other guys do too. You saw it today, how much heart they came out with, and they executed out there.

**On the win here in Dallas:** Oh it's amazing. Definitely being back in Dallas, you know, the fair. I need a funnel cake. I am going to keep saying that.

**On difference in the defense:** We had to shake up the quarterback, and it obviously worked throughout the game. He had a couple good passes at the end, but at the beginning of the game, we kept coming after him, the pocket was collapsing on him and he didn't know what to do with it. He folded up sometimes, sometimes he had his little shake down, but we executed very well, and I am very proud of the D-line stepping up and actually playing out there at their max potential.

**On building off this performance:** You can't slow down, you can't look back. We won this game yes, but we have to get ready for K State and the next one after that.

**Naashon Hughes, DE, So.**

**On getting final sack:** That felt amazing. It basically summed up how hard we've been working and to get that last sack was tremendous

**On winning for Coach Strong:** We love Coach Strong, love him as a coach and as a mentor. For us to go out there and work hard and show what Coach Strong has been instilling in us since the first day of practice--it feels good.

**On being underdogs:** We all had a chip on our shoulders and we all took it very personally. We had to show the world that we could still play Texas defense and play Texas ball. Last week, we didn't show that, so this week we wanted to get back on track.

**On defense staying confident despite comeback:** They drove the whole field and punched it in. It was a one-touchdown lead and we all came over on the sideline and said, they still have to go back on offense and we have to play defense, so we came out with a chip on our shoulders and got it done.

**Sed Flowers, OG, Senior.**

**On winning for Charlie Strong:** To get a win for him is great. As a unit and as a team, we play for our coaches and they give us so much, that we want to be able to give them something back.

**On winning as underdog:** We came into the game never expecting to lose. You come into a game, you can't be expecting to lose. I like being the underdog, because at the end of the game, you have a chance to prove everybody wrong.

**On sprint draw play:** It has been in our repertoire, we just never used it. We hit it hard today. We came out hard and we were blowing guys up and they realized that the sprint draw would be a great play to run. D'Onta hit that seam and was gone.