

TCU QUOTES

November 25, 2016

Head coach Gary Patterson

Opening statement:

Well, we survived the first half, basically. Besides the first drive offensively, we just didn't do anything. We needed to run the football, we needed to get the quarterback involved, and we did both. So that really kind of changed the game, and our kids are getting stops on defense.

On playing with their "backs against the wall":

I was very proud of them, and that's what I told them in the locker room. You have to do some things like that. I knew if we could get out of the half after we did all of that and still be up, we would have a chance to win and we finally got going, and good things happen. We got bowl eligible, and not anything really good has happened for these guys this year. They haven't got a lot of breaks. They fought their tails off. We've had some down moments, but to be honest with you they really did an unbelievable job of fighting through. They're a really great group of kids. I'm proud of Foster [Sawyer] coming in, Kenny [Hill] trying to get back in; those guys fought back. There's a lot of good people that did a lot of good things today for us to get done what we needed to get done. And the coaches, to be honest. It's been a long season and it's been hard on everyone when it's not going the way you'd like it to go.

On if he sensed something "extra" on the Texas side in tonight's game:

Oh no, I didn't worry about Texas. I had enough problems and we had enough problems getting the offense going and playing defense. We're just glad to win.

On Kenny Hill's health and his two-touchdown performance:

He said he was ready to go. In fact, he said he was ready to go back in. Foster [Sawyer] was doing what he needed to do so there was no reason for us to change anything.

On freshman running back Darius Anderson's 100-yard game:

Well, I'm not ready to anoint him. As all freshmen are, some days he's here, some days he's not, but he had a good ball game and that one run was unbelievable. And then he had that one down the sideline, so I don't want to take anything away from him. They ease into the success part, then their sophomore, junior, and senior years they get a lot better when that happens. Everybody was excited for him, I'm excited for him, I'm excited for us that he did it, and now let's go and try to beat Kansas State.

Junior LB Travin Howard

On defending the goal-line stand in the second quarter: It felt real good. After that big of a run and all of that cheering, it felt good to stop the run. Especially in that situation where they were fourth and short, it gave us our energy and I felt like that was a big turnaround in our game.

On qualifying for a bowl game with their win tonight: I wasn't afraid, I knew it was going to come. That's expected.

On if this was the best games the TCU defense has played all year: It has been one of them. We came out executing, and we came out what we needed to do and played hard and stopped the run.

Junior QB Kenny Hill

On his injured foot: It will be alright. I felt like I could have went back in at the time, and then once I was sitting on the sideline I was like, "oof." I may need to get treatment, but it will be good. It will be all good by next week.

On rushing for 78 yards despite not practicing the week leading up to tonight's game: I mean, just paying attention and understanding the game plan and the guys up front. They were blocking great, and whenever I could get past the front then the receivers were getting blocks downfield, so they let me loose.

On his 41-yard touchdown run in the third quarter: That opened it up and the defense shut it down. They were shutting it down all day. I think that was just big for us. We got a touchdown, we took a deep breath and then we just kept going.

Sophomore LB Ty Summers

On the second quarter goal line stand:

Any stop that we can get, just everyone doing their job and making plays that need to be made. It just gets momentum and encourages our offense to know that if they ever do get stopped then we'll be there for them to back them up.

On making a couple of big plays inside the five yard line in the second quarter goal line stand:

Got to be a wall. When you're protecting and keeping a 250lb running back and possibly a 260lb quarterback like Swoopes out of the end zone from the four or the three, it's just everyone stepping up and thinking in their mind that they're not getting in. And of course the play-calling was huge too, blitzing off the edge and coming from where they don't expect it, making plays, guys making big time plays and stepping up.

On if playing quarterback in high school helped:

It helps to know what that quarterback is thinking. Because I know when I was a quarterback back in high school in that position that I wanted to pull it. Especially because everyone's thinking big backs, running inside. And so just thinking smart, being ahead.

On what he thought D'Onta Foreman was thinking:

He was thinking he was going to score but we were going to do whatever we were going to have to do to stop them.

On the job the defense did against D'Onta Foreman:

He still rushed for a good amount of yards and a lot of those came on big plays. But he runs hard, he's a competitor, he goes out there and he grinds for his team. And we found a way to stop him a lot of those times and that had a lot to do with coach Patterson's play calling and the preparation. But I know he's a competitor and it was a pleasure to play against him. He's done a great job this year.

On the last six weeks or so of defense:

We all realized that in order for us to win that the defense are going to have to step up and make plays. We started to feel how we're going to work together and do what we need to do to get stops when we need them.

On it being closer to what was expected at the start of the year: Obviously this showed what we are capable of and it just took time. So if we could have figured this out sooner, obviously we'd be a little bit better off but I mean, better late than never.

Sophomore QB Foster Sawyer

On the drive to secure the game:

Coach said let's get this 97-yards. Our goal was to get first downs so that we can get a touchdown. My first run I just fell down, I said; "now it's time to get up." That was my warm up rep, I like to say. I was proud of my guys, proud of my teammates. it makes my job a lot easier.

On the emotions of the game: A lot of things weren't going our way at first in the first half and we were still up by one. It definitely did feel like we all came together, it was go time and we weren't going to put our foot on the brake any time soon.

On seeing running back Darius Anderson in practice:

Me and him get a lot of reps together with the twos so I know he's a baller for sure, I'm proud of that guy.

On the impact of running back reserves:

All of our running backs can do that, they all have that ability but that's the best thing about TCU football is that when your number's called you've got to be ready to go. Our coaches do a great job of preparing us for that moment. Next guy up.

On what running back Darius Anderson is like as a player:

He's a hard worker, he's got that it factor. You can tell that he's passing the freshman wall, he's trying to grow up more. And with that comes playing time and trust.