



UConn vs. Fresno State

Saturday, October 1, 2022

East Hartford, Conn.

Pratt & Whitney Stadium

at Rentschler Field

Final Score - UConn 19 -- Fresno State 14



POST GAME QUOTES

UConn Head Coach Jim Mora

Opening Statement

“Good win against a good opponent. Our guys continue to believe. We start off a little bit slow on offense and it was fun to see our offense pick up some speed as the game went on. It was fun to see Zion play more confident. It was fun to see the ball thrown down the field a little bit, plays were made. I thought defensively we played well, we got some stops, some takeaways, which is always going to help you when you’re a young offense. We had some special teams miscues we have got to get cleaned up. We can’t let a guy go whatever he went, it was a lot, on a punt return. We were there again and we had guys that could make the play got to make the play. But I’m excited for this guy and I’ve preached it a lot, and told you guys this a lot, and told UConn football fans this a lot, that these guys are a little bit different than guys that have been around and they’ve been through a lot. And through the trials that they’ve been through, they’ve built resilience. And you know those things can start to sound like empty words or “coach-speak,” but a game like this to me confirms who these young men are. And they’re tough kids, they’re committed, they care about each other, they care about winning, they do the work that it takes to win. We talked after the game about, you know, let’s enjoy this game for 24 hours, but the key for us is to go back this thing up by having another good performance next week on the road to FIU.”

Coach Mora on Post Game Locker Room:

“Well, we were happy. The kids, the young men, were excited. They were enjoying the fruits of their labor; they were enjoying the fruits of their resiliency. It has not been easy on these young men and it’s fun to see them enjoying it and enjoying each other. And I think it’s especially important today to them because about fifty of our players were playing to honor somebody else. And I would say that we probably drew a little strength from that. When you put that helmet on we talked about the only way you can honor somebody else is to go out and fight like the people battling cancer fought, and our kids did that today, and it was fun to see them do that. There was an intensity to them and they were not going to be denied.”

Sophomore, Defensive Lineman Jelani Stafford

On the win

“I wasn’t a part of the team last year, now I am worrying about this team. This is the Husky Revolution, this is the start of it. We have a couple games coming up and make strides with this game. Focus up on next week.”

On sacks throughout the game

“Honestly, just the ball to the offensive, and try to do our best on defense. Play as a unit. Get the guys on the ground. That was the main focus, get the ball to the offensive. They make plays for us, we make plays for them.”

Sophomore Running Back Devontae Houston

On the win

“We just stuck to our rule, worked hard and come out with a victory. And that’s what we did. It was the execution.”

On the Offensive Line

“The O-line did great. You can not leave out the receiving corner on the perimeter. Everyone had good blocking. We are prepared hard during the week. We knew their front and we knew we were going to get it. They executed with their blocks and I just read everything else.”

Fresno State Head Coach Jeff Tedford**Opening Statement -**

“Everything really. Turnovers, couldn’t protect the passer, penalties. Not disciplined enough. Couple of unfortunate things, the ball on the first drive slipped out of his hand. The ball gets tipped for the interception in the redzone. Give them (UConn) a lot of credit, they’re really strong up front, that’s the strength of their team. At the end we couldn’t really stop them, the run game either, let a couple third downs go on some slants, some gimme throws.”