

California at Washington Post-Game Quotes

Husky Stadium

Sept. 7, 2019

Washington Head Coach Chris Petersen

Opening Statement:

I just want to thank the fans that stayed. That was impressive, those who stayed. I appreciate their energy and support. Hats off to Cal. They played better than us. I think that we need to tackle better, that showed up tonight. We missed too many tackles. We need to get our pass game into a better rhythm. We were not throwing the ball like we are capable of. We had some drops that stymied us. We ran the ball but we did not move the ball. We need to go back to work and clean some things up.

What is your approach when you have an indefinite delay?

We went into the locker room and relaxed. Our team did a good job rallying when the weather finally broke. Both sides had to do the same thing, and I don't think it had anything to do with the outcome. It would have been nice to play the game and keep all of the fans in the stadium. I think the people that stayed, did a great job and helped us a bunch.

Have you had a delay like that in your career?

No. Never.

What happened with the eight seconds that ran off the clock before the last timeout?

I wish that we called that a little bit sooner. I wanted to get them in a stance before I called it.

Were guys not in the right position to make tackles?

I will have to look at the tape on that one. I am sure that our guys were a little out of position and not working off each other the way that I would like them to. It seemed to me that it was more tackles than we have missed in a while.

How much faith did you have in Peyton Henry to make that kick?

I just didn't want to put him in a bad position. That is a long kick. It was in the grey area. He has been kicking really well in the last couple of weeks. He ironed out his steps in the last weeks of camp, and once he did that, he had really been good. He has good leg strength, that wasn't the issue. If he can get all lined up, then he can make field goals. It wasn't a matter of if he was going to get it there. It was just if he was going to be accurate.

Was there any thought to letting them score after they got the first down at the end there?

Yeah. We always have that conversation. They were running the ball and watching them kick field goals, he had a lower trajectory. It shouldn't have gotten to that situation, when your back is up against the wall. That was a thought for a second.

When you are having drop issues, do you think about putting some younger guys in?

Yeah, it is always about competition, and if guys aren't doing what they have to do, then yeah. It's "one me, one guy." The younger guys will keep developing and working hard and we plan on getting them in the game more as we go. Sometimes we just have to grow them a little bit when they are still young.

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OL Nick Harris

How strange was it playing with the delay?

I mean, obviously with the weather delay it was a little strange. But, we've got to adjust when stuff like that happens. That was probably the main thing that was weird. Yeah that's it.

What did you guys do during the delay?

We just sat in the locker room and just waited. We're sitting there just waiting for the call, whatever we were doing.

Were you talking to each other?

Yeah for sure. For sure. We were trying to stay in it, keep locked in, and make sure the vibe was right. Not getting too comfortable in there.

What did you think of the offense?

I think we definitely had a good day, we just didn't finish. We didn't finish drives. We were having really good drives. I mean, we ran the ball pretty well. We just weren't finishing drives. That kind of hurt us. We were getting good field position and we'd get all the way down to the redone and we couldn't finish. So, we've definitely got to clean that up in order to take this offense to the next step.

DB Myles Bryant

What did you do for two and half hours when you guys weren't playing?

We were just like, talking with each other, just relaxing, but still at the same time doing stuff to get ready for the game. All of us knew that the game was going to resume regardless of what was going on out there. So, we just tried our best to stay ready and when it happened, we were just ready to go out there.

How quickly do you absorb this loss and move on?

It's only the second game so we've still got a lot more football ahead of us. We'll look at it tonight, look at it tomorrow a little, and once Monday hits we're getting ready for Hawai'i. We understand that a lot of teams are going to try and hit us. They are going to try and hit us to where we missed a lot of plays. So, we've got to learn from those mistakes and move forward.

What was the delay like?

We just watched other football games, but also did stuff with our bodies, stretching, exercises, and all that just to try and maintain some kind of warmth in our bodies.

Did it feel any different when it restarted?

Not necessarily. I feel like the game picked right back where it was. But, we just needed to come out with a little bit more edge and energy, and I don't think we did a good job doing that.

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Cal Head Coach Justin Wilcox

How did you deal with the elements on and off the field?

The elements off the field we really don't have any control over, so we're just rolling with the punches there. I'm just really proud of the guys and how they battled. It was a really gritty win. Washington's an excellent football team in all phases. We didn't start great, especially on offense, getting some penalties, which got us behind. We didn't cover well in some of our special teams and defensive units, but we really battled back.

The first drive of the second half of the game really set the tone for the rest of the game, the way the offense came out. I'm just really proud of the team because it wasn't the cleanest, but they keep fighting. They're a tough bunch of guys.

How'd you get your run game going?

It took everybody. It took the offensive line obviously, and we had some new faces in there. The tight ends, quarterbacks, and receivers blocking down field. Our guys gave us a nice spark in there. In the first half we'd have some movement and then get a penalty that was hard to come back from. So I think it was really a combination of things.

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Cal Players

Kicker Greg Thomas

What was it like making a game winning kick for your team?

It is just one of those kicks where the whole team did so great, so you almost can't miss for the team. I kind of zoned out in a way, it was a dream come true and what you ask for as a kicker.

What goes through your head as your team moves downfield into range?

I just really wanted a chance to kick it for the team. That is what it comes down to, every kicker wants to make big kicks and if you get the chance it is what you want.

Linebacker Evan Weaver

What did it mean to have such a big game in your home state?

It was great to play that way for my team and family, it was great having so many family members here, but just being able to come out with the 'W' in the end was great. Our whole team played great, offensive moved the ball awesome, and on defense we stopped them when we needed to. It was a really good team win.

How did you keep Jacob Eason in check in the passing game?

Jacob is a great quarterback, I grew up in the state so I played him a few times. He is obviously really good, you saw what he did last week. This is a tribute to our coaches and the secondary. The secondary does a great job covering and our D-line does a great job putting pressure on him.

What was the mood being pulled off the field five minutes into the game?

Honestly, I thought it was funny, it reminded me of high school. Playing in Washington you get a few of these games. It was kind of interesting but we all kept our minds straight and had a little fun with it but not too much and focused ready to play.