

UW at Arizona State, Oct. 8, 2022

Quotes

University of Washington Head Coach, Kalen DeBoer

Opening Statement:

"Second week in a row coming down to the wire and we're giving ourselves a chance late in the game, but we have to do a better job earlier in the game. Especially in the first quarter, second quarter we were just digging ourselves a hole. Some plays that can be made out there just were a step slow in getting off the field and a turnover that was the difference in the game as well. I don't fault the guys for fighting all game but it is one of those things where in our program... it's alright to be upset and mad. What transpired today, and the key is you can be upset but we've got to make sure we move on because there is a lot of football left to be played. There are six games left. We're a 4-2 football team. We're disappointed in what's happened in the last two weeks, but we gotta take that next jump from not just being an okay or a good team, but to being a good to great team. It's just going back to work in practice and we have to get some guys healthy that will certainly help some things out too, but I love the fight in our guys. There's no questioning that, they keep believing. At some point we have to find ways to win and not just ride out throughout the fourth quarter and hope that happens."

On anything early in the season that indicated they'd have defensive struggles

"No, because it was different guys on the football field playing together. We knew we did not have a lot of depth as far as experience and that's showing up. A lot of what we practice during the course of the week, it's not those guys on the field just because we're pretty dinged up. There's a lot of guys that played some snaps today that I wouldn't have expected to play many at all. Some were brought along as an emergency and had a low pitch count whether it was through special teams or on the field defensively, and they ended up having to be out there quite a bit. So, that continuity is what it is. The game of football is a physical sport and we just have to get over this hump and try to get some guys back. Having Asa (Turner) make the trip was a really big positive for us, kind of a morale boost. He played so well in the short span, and to have him out there with us for pretty much most of the game... pretty much the guys that are out there are the guys that are healthy. The healthiest."

On when Michael Penix Jr. went down:

"I didn't think that he was going to be coming back in. He was hurting pretty good. There came a point where he kind of got his wind back and he really quickly turned the corner and all of a sudden I went from 'ok, he's got a chance to maybe get back out there.' It says a lot about him. He's been a fighter his entire life and I am super proud of him. I know he always wants to be better, and he's going to look back on probably the pick six that went the other way, a bad bounce but that's just the way he is. He wants to be great, and he's done some great things for us helping us win. He's been a great leader for us too. Just the fighter in him is something I think a lot of guys see and we need him to continue to do that and bring the team along."

On what he said when Michael Penix Jr. went down:

"He didn't tell me anything... he was hurting pretty bad. It was a matter of just survival at that time for a minute or two there."

On the third down struggle and cleaning it up:

"Unfortunately you go in with a plan and wrenches get thrown into the plan and guys are out. Certain guys with certain roles. There is some youth out there that you just can't throw everything at them because there are so many looks that they're going to see. There were specific down and distances and moments where we were going to have certain packages with the rotation that gets thrown off. With guys getting dinged up and guys not being in the game. Asa (Turner) again, one of those situations. A lot of it has to

do with... we go through the week right now we're just trying to get to Saturday because of health-wise. Practicing right now we're putting everything into it and guys are grinding through it but we just need their bodies to feel better. There were a lot of snaps that were played today that were above and beyond what I imagined for many players."

University of Washington Edge, Jeremiah Martin

On UW's biggest issues right now:

"I mean, from the D-line perspective, we got to get a better rush. I feel like, just get a better rush up front and it will help out the back guys a lot more. So, I feel like it's on the defensive front right now, trying to get a pass rush. Playing UCLA and this team, they're chipping us and trying to take us out of the game as edges. We got to work off of things like that and just keep pushing."

On taking advantage of facing a backup quarterback

"With a backup, you never know. I know when I was a backup, I prepared like I was a starter. So, he came in and did his job. Hats off to him. I respect him for that. He did his job, read his keys, and picked apart the defense. We just gotta get better as a whole, as a defense, right now we got to fill in the holes that we have as a defense and keep moving forward."

University of Washington Quarterback, Michael Penix Jr.

On how he's feeling his fourth quarter injury:

"I'm alright ... we've just got to win the football game. I'm good, I'll be back. I'll be at practice tomorrow and for sure I'll be there next Saturday."

On his message to the team after the tough loss:

"We just can't beat ourselves. Don't get me wrong we played a good team, but we've got to do a lot better executing and just controlling what we can control. Yeah, we've got to put our head down and we've got to do better executing the small things and not beating ourselves and putting ourselves in bad situations."

On the failed fourth down conversion in the third quarter:

"Yeah, I don't know, it was just a tackle for a loss ... I was going the other way so I couldn't see it. We had the look we wanted. I know Coach (Ryan) Grubb called it, I know he wanted to call it with the right look and we didn't get it so it had to be something with execution so we've just got to be sure we execute."

How he felt immediately after his fourth quarter injury:

"It was just shocking. I'm good though. It was scary but I'm good. I didn't know (I would be able to get back on the field) when it first happened. But I was able to catch my breath and stuff. And it stopped hurting as much. And then I was like, 'I was getting back out there no matter what.' I want to say no matter what ... but if I was hospitalized, it would have been bad. But if I knew I could play, I was gonna play and that's what I did. I never quit on my team. And, I know if I could play, I'll never back down from that. No matter what the situation is, even if it's not the best

situation, I want to be a part of something great. So, you know, I definitely wanted to get back on the field as soon as I was able to realize I was good.”

~~~ASU PORTION~~~

Arizona State Interim Head Coach, Shaun Aguano

Opening Statement:

“I like to say thank you to all of our coaches who have been through a hard three weeks, the time they put into loving the kids. I’d like to thank the administration for all of the support, anybody who is a part of our program, I call it our ohana, our family. How much they’ve put in and believed in what I was trying to say. I would like to thank you guys (The Media), I know you guys are doing your job and you guys have been gracious with me. It’s hard and I look back and say “is this one of the greatest days of my coaching career?” Absolutely. I feel like i’m the richest man in the world right now, not by monetary trust me, but just because of the wealth of love and trust these kids have given me. As an educator you try to correct and hopefully they get it. You try to speak to them and teach them and hoping that they get it. You ask them to love and trust and hopefully they get it. Today shows there is no secret to success in coaching. It is loving these kids and making sure you inspire them and I can’t wait to go and hug my wife and kids and just celebrate. Thank you guys.”

Arizona State Quarterback, Trenton Bourquet

On initial thoughts coming into the game:

“It’s the last thing you want to see, a starter going down especially with a head injury like that. Prayers go out to Emory (Jones), I think he’s doing fine I saw him in the locker room and glad to see he’s okay and he got banged up but he’ll be good. After the last four years, I’m the starter, you’re always a play away I was told that. Southern Utah a couple of years ago, I got a half in but today was a lot different and prepared like a starter the whole time. At the end of the day, we came out victorious against a really good Washington team and it was very fun.”

On mindset moving forward after an interception:

“The defensive back made a great play and I’m not trying to force that one, that play was over and just trying to learn from it. I think at that time it ended up tying it up after that. Just make sure the defense had their back and I think we go done and score it. But he made a good play and I can’t force the ball like that.”

On trying not to push the ball down the field and finding rhythm:

“That first play was a great, first play to hand it off and we score on a handoff. That really got my confidence going and it’s kind of tough to get in rhythm coming into the game but I think the wide receivers did a good job catching contested balls and the line game had some pretty decent timing. The running backs made it easy because they’re finding holes and made it a lot easier. Coach (Glenn) Thomas called a great game.”

Arizona State Defensive Lineman, Nesta Jade Silvera

On how it feels:

"I can't even put it into words, it just feels so good. It's been a long time coming. Guys like B.T. stay down, wait their turn. Big-time players show up."

On the exchange between Coach Aguano and himself after the game:

"I've been in college five years now. I'm a player that plays my heart out every week, and Coach Aguano has been a coach that, ever since he stepped in, he lets me know he appreciates it. That's someone that I can play for any Saturday. I could play for him any game of the week, because that's someone that is going to let his players know that he appreciates him. It's a mutual respect with him and for that, I really love that dude. I appreciate him."

On what it means for Coach Aguano's first win to come in this game:

"He's been pushing us. It's been a long three weeks. We took a bad loss two weeks ago. We could've won the game last week, but should've, could've, would've. Now, it just feels great to finally get that win after a long month. It's been a long month of losing, and it's not easy for any of us. People come in and ask these questions, and they think it's easy for us to answer them. We come out to everyday to prepare to win. We don't come out here to lose. So, just to get that win, and finally see the fruit of the labor pay off for a moment to enjoy it for a day. We have to go back to work, because no game is a guarantee."