



No. 19 Florida State vs. No. 20 Virginia Tech
Monday, Sept. 3, 2018
FSU Defensive Player Quotes

Junior defensive end Brian Burns:

On level of disappointment in first season opener...

"It was very disappointing. It's embarrassing to have such high expectations for a season opener and not live up to them."

On what happened to defense on the first drive...

"Basically, first drive jitters and not really knowing what to expect. They were running a quick game perimeter with a lot of bubbles and a lot of quick passes, so we didn't really know what to expect, but it wasn't much to adjust."

On offense's practice versus performance...

"They have been doing very well in practice. They've been very explosive. They've really been the epitome of lethal simplicity. But every dog has his day. Things happen, but we've just got to bounce back and get back to the drawing board."

On how to bounce back from this loss...

"We have to evaluate the film, find out what went wrong, and fix it."

On getting back on schedule after a Monday night game...

"It's a quick turnaround, but we knew it was coming so it's nothing that we weren't prepared for. We already know we just have to get in the treatment room, look at the film, evaluate it, and forget about it. It's over."

On Coach Barnett's reaction to first drive...

"He didn't say anything, he was just relaxed. He basically kept everybody calm. I was keeping everybody together and letting them know that that drive didn't mean anything."

Senior Defensive Lineman Frederick Jones:

On the senior class speaking up after the game:

"We spoke up and said it's a long season, mistakes happen, we just got to execute better. We have to practice hard every day and take on each week."

On his reaction to how the game went and if he was surprised with outcome:

"They played well. We played (well) and it was just mistakes that costed us the game. We made too many mistakes. We are a great team and I know we are a great team. In the long run, it was those little mistakes that gave us this outcome."

On what happened on that first drive and did Virginia Tech throw anything at them they weren't prepared for?

"I would say everybody had a lot of adrenaline going and a lot of juice flowing. It's the first game we haven't play in like a year. After the first drive, we brought ourselves together to calm down and just execute together. We all know what happened after that."

On if he felt like the defense showed what they could do in the second and third quarter:

"Yes it did but we can still be better and execute more. Not make those little mistakes and we are just going to keep getting better week to week. Just focus on fixing our mistakes, focus on Samford, and just go take one game at a time."

FSU Offensive Player Quotes

Junior Quarterback Deondre Francois

On if he felt like he saw all the looks that Virginia Tech gave him tonight in practice:

"Yeah tonight I'd seen it well from the jump to the end. Everything they threw at me on defense I had seen in practice and like I said we just had to capitalize on certain things in the red zone. We had too many penalties, too many turnovers, and too many mistakes."

On if he thought his pass to senior wide receiver Nyqwan Murray in the first half was a touchdown:

"I'm not sure honestly but what I know is that it was not called a touchdown and we did not get the seven points. We got to move on from that, we are in the red zone, we have to move on and go for a touchdown. We just didn't capitalize."

On if only getting three points from the four red zone trips had a common problem:

"Not really, it seemed that there was something different each time. Little mistakes here and there, missed assignments, bad execution by me. It seemed like we just took turns making mistakes. We just did execute together like we should've."

On if him being in a new offense impacted that way that they played tonight:

"I feel very comfortable with the new offense. It was not the reason why we didn't execute well; it was the mistakes that we made. We knew what we were doing, we were practicing hard, everybody knew their assignments, it was just execution. Who was going to run zone, were we going to run zone? Were we going to throw the ball better than they were going to cover us? Tonight, Virginia Tech just did a great job."

Senior Center Alec Eberle

On the one on one losses on the offensive end:

"We had glimpses of what we can be upfront for most of the game. I think we have to come out and practice and we can be better"

On preparations coming into the game:

"We were 100 percent prepared, it was just that there were some self-inflicted wounds like fumbles and miscommunications that hurt us."

On positives from the game:

"There were a lot of plays where we showed everyone of what we are capable of like long passes and long runs."

On mentality of players:

"We have to go out there and practice and show that we are capable of doing better."

On Virginia Tech's defensive line:

"I think they played hard and we made some mistakes which hurt us in the game."

On improvements for next game:

"We have to eliminate the mistakes and focus in practice and get back better for the next game."