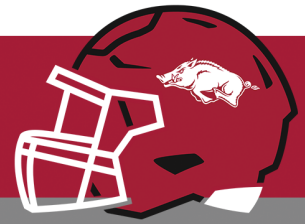




ARKANSAS

FOOTBALL



MISSOURI vs ARKANSAS

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 29 | LITTLE ROCK, AR

POSTGAME QUOTES: ARKANSAS INTERIM HC BARRY LUNNEY JR. & PLAYERS

BARRY LUNNEY JR.

Opening statement

"First of all, I'd just like to say, I can't thank Little Rock and our fans enough. You saw today what our fans and our people are made of. They showed up in an incredible fashion. They gave our team fuel and energy like the teams before. I am so thankful for the way our fans rallied around our team, despite the circumstances. It was very moving for me and our football team. I am very proud of the way the guys played. We obviously didn't play well enough to win; we didn't deserve to win. But for two weeks these guys, through a difficult situation, very clearly gave everything they had in an effort to win the game tonight. And for that I am very thankful."

On the game plan without several players...

"It's been a challenge. It's not an excuse, but it's been a challenge. I've never seen anything like it. And I don't know if I will again. We've been dealt some tough blows, not only through injuries, but through sickness and illness. We were kind of a shell of our normal selves in some areas out there today. From a moral standpoint, it's hard to overcome with that many guys out. It's been very unique to deal with in my short time here"

On the importance of in-state players...

"It's everything. It's very critical. If they get away, it has to because they want to get away. It can't be because they weren't pursued or they weren't evaluated properly"

On his time as interim head coach...

"It's been a special time. Despite the circumstances, it's been a special time. I will always remember the way these guys have gotten behind me and listened to me; followed me. Very disappointed that we didn't get to come out with one today. I thought we were really going to get one today, I really did. That's our takeaway from this being a very special time for me."

On the crowd today...

"I felt like it was 53,000 to be honest with you. They were into it from the Hog Walk to the moment we took the field. Again, those are our people. And I know we had that many rooting us on from home and on the radios. That's the beauty of this state - on Saturdays we can come together in the fall and get behind the Razorbacks. It's a very sacred thing to me and for that I'm very thankful."

On the offense in the second half...

"We just had to eek our way down the field, and that's a tough thing to do. This was a top-20 defense that we were playing today. This is a very well-coached and proven defense. You get to week 12 in our league and you're in the top-20 in total defense - that's just a good defense. We knew it was going to be a challenge and we were going to have to have field position and a turnover or two and we had that going. The formula for the win was coming to fruition but we just didn't have enough to finish that out."

LINEBACKER DE'JON HARRIS

On the game...

"I appreciate the fight from my teammates, that is basically the message we gave tonight. Just go out there, don't give up and keep fighting. Even though the coaches are not coming back and the seniors are not coming back, we just have to build momentum and come together and that's exactly what we did today."

On the last two years...

"Yeah it has been frustrating. I don't think I have ever not been frustrated these last three years. But, I just was thankful to even be a part of it. I wouldn't change where I went to school. I learned a lot, I've gained a lot of relationships with a lot of people and I care about a lot of the people here. It has been frustrating, but I am thankful for it."

LINEBACKER BUMPER POOL

On today's game and the season overall..

"I thought we fought pretty hard. This season hasn't necessarily been what we wanted or anyway close to that, but tonight I feel like we came together as a team and rallied around Coach Lunney. Losing is never acceptable, but seeing the fight in everybody, especially for the seniors tonight was really cool to see."

On coming to War Memorial Stadium yesterday...

"It was awesome, he brought us in here to watch the video, kind of a little hype video, told us a little history. That's one thing he has done so well in the past couple weeks is getting us back to the roots of being a Razorback. Before last week, we pulled up to the stadium and he hopped out of the bus, stood on a bench in front of all of us, no cameras, just to tell us the history of how we got our name. I get chills thinking about how great of a job he did coming in, because he is a true Razorback at heart. Me being a fan since I was a little kid, it was really cool to see, and he rallied the troops. I am so proud of coach; I love that guy."

On what having a new coach will be like...

"I went through two coaching changes in high school and came in with a new coach. You just have to buy in. No matter who it is, you have to buy in. You have to give them your best, because if you don't, you are part of the problem. Just trying to buy into a culture and give them your all."

WIDE RECEIVER TREY KNOX

On missing so many guys today...

"It was very tough, but you know that is adversity, life comes at you, so you got to figure out a way to battle through that and fight through that. It was very tough though."

On his touchdown...

"It felt good, but at the end of the day all I want to do is win. We still came out with a loss, so I still feel bad."

On how hard it is playing with five different quarterbacks...

"It has been tough, but at the end of the day our receiver group, Coach Stepp just tells us control what we can control. So, we just got to get open, make tough catches, and get the quarterbacks confidence up, cause we are going to play with whoever is back there and whoever has the hot hand. We just got to do what we got to do."

RUNNING BACK RAKEEM BOYD

On the game...

"I thought we played well. We didn't quite finish at the end, couple of bombed plays but it is what it is."

On starting five different quarterbacks...

"I think it's tough on the wide receivers because you don't know who your guy is. Those guys stick through it and deal with whoever it is at quarterback. But for me, it doesn't matter who the quarterback is I still end up getting the ball and still got to do my job."

On how tough it is to decide on his future...

"It is pretty tough, but I am going to talk to my family about it. One guy on this staff that will help me with this decision is Coach Traylor he is like a father figure to me that's how it will be done."