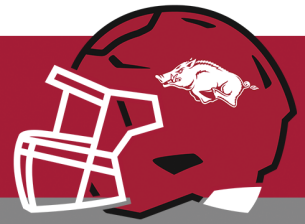


ARKANSAS

FOOTBALL



MISSISSIPPI STATE vs ARKANSAS

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 2 | FAYETTEVILLE, AR

POSTGAME QUOTES: ARKANSAS HC CHAD MORRIS & PLAYERS

CHAD MORRIS

On the quarterback play...

"I think when you look at Treyton Burks, how many all-purpose yards he had and opportunities to try and get him the football as much as we possibly can. I do think, as I have said before, that the inconsistency at the quarterback position has not benefitted us."

On the defense's performance...

"Very disappointed. We knew they were a run first football team. They lead the league in rushing. It was evident that we could not stop the run today. Very disappointed in that."

On K.J. Jefferson...

"I don't have any regrets of not playing him early in the season. I thought he played well today. We kept it as simple as possible with him. He did a really good job, he led us down the field. He had a good run and scored a touchdown. It was pretty impressive for your first drive."

On falling behind early...

"When you get put behind that quick, it is difficult. I thought they owned the time of possession in the first half and, for the most part, the entire game. I think that we had the ball two series and you are down. It is tough when you are falling behind, and you are trying to create some kind of momentum. That is hard to do."

On John Stephen Jones...

"He has grit and toughness. I think that he settled in and did a really good job on that fourth down throw. I'm really proud of him."

LINEBACKER DE'JON HARRIS

On Mississippi State's offense...

"I don't think we showed up today. I don't know what's going on. I just have to watch the film for myself. We were in the right positions on time, we just didn't make tackles. We just didn't execute the game plan really. They [Mississippi St.] did the same thing we practiced for, we just didn't make the plays or just make the tackles period. I just felt like overall the defense, we just tackled poorly. It's probably one of the worst tackling games we've had. We've been poor basically all year really."

On K.J. Jefferson in practice...

"He's been giving us a great look all year basically. He's just a dual threat quarterback that can do it both. Just going against him at scout team betters us and just prepares us for upcoming opponents. He showed flashes here and there. We never got to check and see his speed during practice. We were just as excited as the fans to see him. I told him before he went in to tune out the crowd because everyone is going to cheer for you, just settle down after your first drive and do what you do."

On tackling in the SEC...

"It's the SEC. It's a hard, physical conference. I feel like Coach Chavis did a pretty good job in the beginning of the week, we did a lot of tackling, we just didn't make tackles today."

On the team's morale...

"The same way we do every week. We come in every Sunday with our heads up and just put it away after we finish, and just try to make the best corrections and get everybody to understand what they're doing within the game-plan."

DEFENSIVE TACKLE McTELVIN AGIM

On Mississippi State's rushing ability...

"They were basically out-showing us. We weren't tackling well. We weren't setting the edge well, so they basically just took advantage of it. He's [Hill] just a good running back. There's a reason why he's leading the league in rushing."

On keeping the team intact the rest of the year...

"We have 3 games left. A bowl game is out of contention now, but we still have 3 games left. We can't just go out there and lay down. We have to actually play, and basically just build for next year."

On losing C.J. O'Grady and Colton Jackson...

"It was tough to lose both of those guys in the same week. We just have to keep pounding and keep going. Life goes on, it's hard to say it and it's hard to keep pushing forward but we can't stop. This train has to keep going."

On the team morale...

"In the locker room we felt very energized. The game just started and things just weren't going our way. We've had energy against everybody."

WIDE RECEIVER MIKE WOODS

On what he saw from K.J. Jefferson and John Stephen Jones..

"I thought they came in and played great for us. They both provided a spark."

On K.J. Jefferson's performance and how he looked in practice...

"I think he did great. He came in and did what he could. We drove right down the field when he got in. I thought he took advantage of his opportunity. He has looked great in practice. He looked good out there today; the same way he has been looking in practice."

On bouncing back...

"You got to have amnesia, forget about it. The past is the past. We can't do anything about what just happened. Only thing we can do is come back and have a good practice tomorrow."

On how the team finishes this year...

"We got to do our best to keep the young guys up and do our best by leading by example. Come in and work hard every day."

RUNNING BACK RAKEEM BOYD

On K.J. Jefferson & John Stephen Jones...

"They gave us big spark when they got in there. The holes opened more because they are running quarterbacks. They open up the holes a lot more for me."

On Jefferson in practice...

"I knew he was a good quarterback. He had to wait his time, wait his turn. We will see how he is in the future, but I know he is a good quarterback."

On Jones...

"What we saw against Alabama. He passed the ball well. I was pretty shocked with the pass he made to (Mike) Woods. He's a player. He's a state champ. He can play ball like that."

On falling behind early...

"Like I said, it's about pride. It's about effort. You got to finish. We fell behind early. We tried to get back up, but we got to keep fighting."