

NO. 7 AUBURN VS. NO. 12 LSU
September 15, 2018
Jordan-Hare Stadium >> Auburn, AL

AUBURN HEAD COACH GUS MALZAHN QUOTES

Opening statement...

"Obviously, that was a tough way to lose at home and ended a long winning streak here. Losing that way was extremely tough. Give them credit, they made plays at the end and we didn't.

"It was a dogfight from the get-go. We had the turnover early and they got the score. We got behind but dug ourselves out of the hole with a halftime lead. Third quarter we were doing a good job; we were close to getting some distance with a chance to put the game away. We didn't make the plays to do that.

"Fourth quarter we had some holding penalties that were very unfortunate. We had some third down and longs and didn't convert. They made the plays down at the end and got themselves in position to kick the field goal to win. Two turnovers on offense, and we didn't have any on defense. Any time it's a close game, you have to make the plays to win the game and we didn't. You have to give those guys credit."

On the mindset going forward...

"We are a team, and I think we have a chance to have a good offense before it's all said and done. Our defense is a good defense. Obviously, it was a disappointing loss here, but this team is going to rebound, I'm confident in that."

"The message (to the team) was that we didn't make the plays to win the game and (LSU) did. We have to be big boys and keep our chin up. We've got to put this setback, understand it, and move forward and put this behind us. That's what quality teams do, and that's what we are going to have to do."

Marlon Davidson, DL

On the loss...

"It's very tough. Words can't explain this loss. We played a hard fought game. We just have to keep playing, prepare for the next game and beat Arkansas. Move on."

On if it made it harder because it was a home game...

"If it was away, it would still be tough. Every game is the same. Just knowing that we had it, that's what makes it real tough."

On what the defense was expecting on the 4th and 7 during the last drive...

“You expect for them not to get it, but you just have to play football. They caught it, we went out there, we had a chance to block it and we didn’t.”

On LSU’s third down conversions...

“You always want to put yourself above and get a three-and-out. Sometimes it doesn’t go your way, so you have to just play the next play. In the next game we’ll just have to work on three-and-out.”

On LSU’s changes they made toward the end of the game...

“No, we just lost our focus. They just made good plays. We played the same, we had the same intensity, but they just kept making plays. Plays that we didn’t stop.”

Chandler Cox, FB

On the loss...

“It’s an emotional rollercoaster. It’s heartbreaking. We wish we were the winning team and they were the losing team, but it’s college football. It happens. There has to be one winner and one loser. We just have to move on. We’ll be okay.”

On something positive they can take away moving forward...

“Just that we can play with anybody. We’re a very good team. We’re still trying to jell as an offense and as a defense. It’s starting to come together more and more. Obviously we lost today and people will question that, but there’s a lot of positives from that game. Also a lot of negatives, so we should focus on turning those negatives into positives. We’ll learn from it. It’s like life. You get knocked down, but you have to keep going. Tomorrow we’re going to flush it, and move onto Arkansas.”

On the running game...

“We need to execute and be more physical. We’re starting to click a little bit today, but it has to be consistent. We need to give each play 110 percent. That starts with me too. I have to do better. We all have to do better.”

Jarrett Stidham, QB

“We just didn’t do our part. You know we did, we did our part some of the time; we just didn’t do it all of the time. I obviously think we have one of the better defenses in the country, and offensively we just have to help them out a little bit more”

Darius Slayton, WR

On the slow start...

“I was (surprised), I thought we’d pop out a little better. But eventually we got better, and it ended that way.”

On the offense having control in the second half...

"We started to gash them a little bit in the run game, and made some plays down the field. Now we've got to work on a little bit offensively."

On his touchdown...

"It was a good play call, they ran hard....just left a gap right there and I kind of settled down and Jarrett found me."

Deshaun Davis, LB

On his near-interception...

"I thought I did. I judged the ball wrong I guess. (The LSU player) made a good catch and they scored"

On third-down plays...

"They executed, and we didn't. That's all there is to it."

On how the locker room was afterwards...

"Everybody is hurt. We should have won, and we didn't."

On the positives to tell the younger guys...

"We've got to take the good from it, correct the bad and put it behind us. Go to practice and watch film tomorrow. Take the good from it, correct the bad and go to the next one."

Derrick Brown, DE

On what the team was told in the locker room...

"We as a team didn't get it done tonight. We just have to put it behind us and get back to work. Let the leaders lead and try to get the team turned around and go the right way."

On the message to the defense on the last drive...

"Shut it down, you've got to shut it down. When you can put it out at the end of the game for that situation, you've got to shut it down."

On where the team goes from this game...

"Go back (review film). Tell everybody to brush it off, and we've got to get to work next week. SEC play is nothing to play (around) with. We need to play well if we plan on pursuing our hopes. We were in the same situation last year, so if we plan on pursuing our hopes of playing in the SEC Championship, we've got to go to do our thing."

LSU HEAD COACH ED ORGERON QUOTES

Opening statement...

"Very proud of our team. Hard-fought battle. Great job by our coaching staff. Total team victory. We talked about poise going into this game. We knew it was going to be tough. We talked about exploding at 2:39 Central Standard Time and not before. It was an emotional game for our players and our coaches. We knew it was going to take all we had and it did.

"Give Auburn credit, they are a very, very good football team. They are very well-coached. Give our coaching staff credit, we never gave up. We always thought we were going to win the football game. A lot of things went well, a lot of things didn't go well, but we won the football game. We are 3-0. That's the reason we came and we were playing. Give the credit to our players, our coaches, and our leadership of our football team. The way they prepare, the way they believe in each other. They are a galvanized group right now. Obviously, a very happy football team. Just like any other week. We're 3-0. We'll look at the film and enjoy tonight. Protect the team and go back to work tomorrow."

On battling through adversity...

"We talked to the team about that. There was going to be adversity today, in all SEC games there is going to be adversity. We have to fight through it. One of the things we have developed with this team is leadership and character. Character is going to fight through that. We believed in each other. We didn't panic. Obviously, we made some plays. We made some conversions when we needed to. The defense made some stops when they needed to, plus-two in the turnover ratio again and the field goal at the end. We put ourselves in position to make a play."

On game winning field goal...

"I've just seen him make a bunch of field goals in practice. I feel good about the kid. I know his character. I watch him practice. I watch him prepare. There was no doubt in my mind that he would make it."

LSU PLAYER QUOTES

Cole Tracy, PK

On comparing kicking field goals between small and large stadiums...

"The uprights are the exact same that they were in Worcester, they were in Jerry World, they were in Tiger Stadium and now at Auburn. So, I just want to go out there and perform every week and keep that same mindset that it doesn't necessarily matter where you're playing, you've just got to go out and do what you've been doing."

On the game-winning field goal...

"The entire game you could feel it, that it was potentially leading this way. All three phases we knew had to keep our poise. It was something Coach O wanted to make a point of this week, keep your poise and go out there and take care of your job. Defense played incredible, offense

didn't turn over the ball and they moved the ball up and down the field. Special teams did what they needed to do as well. But, the kick, you could kind of feel that we were in the position to execute and it ended up going down the field and I just wanted to go through my preparations. My routine, that's something that's really important to me, is doing the same thing over and over again. So, I noticed Joe was starting to make nice plays, like he was doing all game, and I'm happy that it worked out the way it did."

Joe Burrow, QB

On the throws during the final drive of the game...

"On the fourth down I saw the safety coming down into the box and we had a one-on-one. He is 6-6, so it is easy to throw to him. You just have to put it right in his face and you make the play."

On winning a big game...

"It is a pretty big game, it is good for our confidence and it is good for our season. Looking forward to it, we are obviously 3-0 but we have a lot of big ones coming forward too with all the SEC teams."

On if the game validated him...

"I didn't play great, especially during the first half when I misses throws that I usually make, and I was upset with myself at halftime because we should have been up. My coaches kept trusting me, and my teammates kept trusting me, and I tried to execute the game plan as good as I could."

On the 71-yard touchdown pass...

"It was huge. These games are about momentum. We started out strong, trailed by the end of the half and they started picking it up, and we didn't get it going until the fourth quarter. I think that play sparked us throughout the rest of the game."

On what got the team back on track...

"I just tried to be a leader, that's usually what gets me going. Trying to get my guys going because when they go, I go. We feed off of each other, we kept confidence on each other and positivity on the sideline and that really helped us."

On what it means to beat two Top-10 teams in three weeks...

"I think it shows that we are a tough team. Auburn is a great team, obviously. We practiced all week like if we were going to play in front of 100,000 people. We had speakers that were louder than the stadium out there, we couldn't hear a single thing in practice. We came out and executed the game plan as good as we could."

On the feeling during the winning field goal...

"I didn't watch it. I had my hands all over my head, but I mean, I trust Cole. I just didn't want to watch it that time. He has been great for us all year. He doesn't miss at practice."