



Florida State vs. Samford
Saturday, Sept. 8, 2018
FSU Player Quotes

RS-Sophomore Quarterback Deondre Francois

On what it meant to win this game...

"It meant a lot to get our first win as a team - our first win for Coach Taggart - and now we have some momentum going into week 3. Any win is a good win, no matter who we're playing."

On moving forward from this game...

"We're going to get the mistakes corrected, we're going to go out and practice, and we're going to evaluate all the mistakes we made and fix them."

On offensive line...

"At the end of the game we had a couple of guys cramping up but I feel like my offensive line played tremendously in big moments. They had a couple of penalties here and there, but when we needed a play to be made, those guys held up and they blocked. Coach Taggart called great plays and we, as skilled players, executed and the only way we could've executed was from our offensive line. So they did a great job."

On weather delay...

"The weather delay didn't make it tough. We just stayed mellow, stayed in the locker room and talked a lot; laughed a lot. We stayed grounded; didn't get too high and didn't get too low."

On what he told team during halftime...

"I told them that we needed to keep executing. Let's stop leaving plays on the field. This team can't play with us so let's continue to do what we do well and even do it better. They had a great defense. They came prepared. Those guys hit hard, so they were well prepared."

Junior Cornerback Kyle Meyers:

On what it was like to get out with a win:

"I'm thankful we were able to get out of there with a win. To get over the adversity we faced, we finally got over the hump."

On what it meant to get the game out of the way:

"It's big. Big for Coach Taggart; big for the team. Hopefully we can just transition and help us next week."

On adjustments in approach and mentality as game went on:

"We had adjustments and we just went to a different package. Our delta package had more defensive backs on the field."

On turnovers being contagious to the defense:

"That's what we preach. Turnovers, turnovers. We were thankful we were able to get a lot of them this week. We've been practicing getting those turnovers and getting the ball back to our offense."

On the "turnover bag" (backpack):

"We in our bag. We getting our bag all year. It makes us want to make a big play so everyone is in their bag this year."

On emotions on Levonta Taylor's interception:

"I was happy for Levonta. That was Levonta being Levonta. That guy is special."

On breaking down his two interceptions and what he saw:

"I just wanted to get the ball back to our offense. Making the play. No matter if I have to run across the field and go get it, I'm going to go get it."

On what Coach Harlon Barnett was like during halftime:

"He was calm. 'Just do your job. Don't worry about past plays and worry about the next.' The game wasn't over so we were able to lock it down the second half."

On Samford's success in the first half:

"It was just guys not doing their jobs. We have to win our one-on-one battles all the time. You do your job, the whole defense works."

Sophomore tight end Tre' McKitty,

On the performance of Deondre Francois and his leadership -

"Deondre (Francois) had a great game. You need to get that from Deondre and the main thing is that on the sideline, when we were not playing well, he was speaking to everyone about improvements. This helped us a lot during the game."

On whether he assumed the last play was coming to him –

"I was the first one to read it and he was throwing it to me. Hence, it went well."

On how frustrating the second half was –

"There was pressure everywhere. I knew we had to get it together, which we did. We spoke to each other on the sideline and finished it out"

On the mood in the locker room when the team was down –

"We couldn't do much at that time. We thought about it. We had to go out, fight and finish the game. We knew that we played a bad game and we needed to do well in fourth quarter."

On his feelings after the game –

"It was more of a sense of relief. We finally got this thing out. We are excited about this win but we know that we should not look at this game that long. We got to do better in the next game."