San Jose State Postgame Quotes Ron Caragher

Opening Statement...

I'm really proud of our team and the way we fought; very valiant. It didn't come like we wanted to in the first quarter, give credit, hats off to UNLV. Tony (Sanchez), he's doing a great job with that group. They jumped out to a 10-nothing lead, but the momentum swung there; 17-unanswered points. I was proud of our guys to keep battling, keep competing. Came into the locker room and knew we had to keep going, keep our foot on the throttle. But it just wasn't working in the second half, offensively for some reason. Both offenses were kind of struggling. Credit to UNLV, they just kept coming and coming and they got some big plays out of some guys; that tight end (Andrew Price) for a touchdown. There up with four minutes left in the game; hey let's see what happens. Kenny Potter this is his first opportunity in a two-minute offense and I'm with Kenny and how he led the team down the field and he came up with a clutch fourth and eight, I believe it was, throwback to Tyler (Ervin) for a big touchdown on fourth down. So, I was pleased. And again, my hat's off to UNLV for their drive there after with their quarterback (Kurt Palandech); first game starting for him and he did a good job managing the clock. I told Tony that I didn't any team should have lost that game because both teams fought to the very end and we're happy to be on this side of it, but they shouldn't hang their heads because they played a really good, competitive game."

On losing the lead late in the fourth...

We, up 10, wanted to get another touchdown, so our guys know 10 is not enough. We want to get 17. We wanted to get 24. They'd stopped us on the fourth down and they capitalized on our offense not converting those fourth downs, not moving the chains and putting points up, and credit to UNLV they capitalized on it and made some big plays, got back in it and got ahead of us. They played a really good football game.

On San Jose State's special team's play...

Very pleased. I congratulated – in the locker room – Austin Lopez. I think he kicked six out of seven out of the end zone, and as a coach on the coverage unit you want your guys coached up to cover well, but that's really nice to have that every once and awhile and he did that six out of seven times touchback kicks and he was 2-of-2 on field goals. Very proud of that unit. Michael Carrizosa, I thought he boomed the ball really well. I'm don't know what his average was, but it must have been up there ... 51, right. That's pretty impressive. He's really kicking the ball well and so proud of our special teams. This was our best game, so far.

On the choice to start Kenny Potter...

We had to shake off the rust. I'm glad I brought a can of Rustoleum and had it on the sideline to help him out. Really, think about it, he really hasn't been practicing two of the last three weeks. Last week he got into it, and so there was some rust our there, but once he shook it off, I think he turned the corner and played some really good football for us.

On UNLV's defense bottling up San Jose State's running game...

They did a really nice job of putting pressure at the line of scrimmage; bringing those safeties up, creating trouble for us to account for blocking all of their people. I think they did a good job of containing Tyler Ervin in the running game. I think he had 75 yards rushing, but there were a lot of zero gains, and we are not used to that. Our offensive line has had good movement the last couple weeks and their down lineman did a tremendous job, but Tyler did show us what he can do. He surfaced in the passing game. He had 70-something yards receiving, so credit to him, he's going to surface one way shape or form and he really did it both. You combine those two, 150 yards and that's a pretty darn good night for a running back.