

Navy-SJSU Football Post-Game Quotes

October 25, 2014

Visitors

Head Coach Ron Caragher

Opening thoughts ...

"I told the team that I thought the effort and preparation was there. I thought we had a good week of practice. The focus was there. We even prepared for Navy in weeks prior to this. Though you don't want to sacrifice the opponent at hand. The triple option is such a unique offense and they run it so well. Ken does a good job with those guys. The onslaught of preparing the week of; it comes fast. I thought our guys played hard. I thought we overcame a tough mistake early. Our defense did a great job recovering a fumble. Unfortunately, we turned it over. I'm proud of Joe; he played pretty good football after turning the ball over. I told the guys that all is not lost. It's a tough loss and we all have that bitter taste in our mouth that makes you sick to your stomach, but all is not lost. This is a non-conference game and we go back into the Mountain West Conference. We have a good record there and we can still control our fate with how we play from here on out. We learned some valuable lessons and how important it is to be on point because Navy certainly was on point and they played a very good game. Let's carry that forward and finish strong in the second half of our 2014 season."

Similarities to last year's high scoring game ...

"I thought it would be different. There hadn't been a touchdown scored here between these two teams in a while with 2012 being field goals only. I was encouraged by how we were moving the ball, but it was also tough; those slow, time-consuming drives that Navy did and they just grind you out. They have so many mid-line options, quarterback follows, quarterback options, key quarterback option and pitches in both directions. You just have to be prepared. You'd like two weeks to prepare for this opponent, but it isn't going to happen unless the scheduling gods are in your favor. I was encouraged. I thought our guys played hard."

Defensive results ...

"It's tough and I believe in our guys. I believe in our coaches. We gave up a lot of yards and a lot of slow, grind it out yards that were really tough. All is not lost. I believe in our guys. I think they know after the talk we had in the locker room, that we just have to roll up our sleeves and get back to work. We're going to watch this game tonight and then bury it and move on. We can't let this drag on because I like this team. I like our energy. I like our player's enthusiasm and I don't want this to be a damper. We'll all feel the pain and it'll be tough, but we've made too many strides especially on that side of the ball to let it all go for naught. We'll keep plugging away."

On Keenan Reynolds ...

"I'm very pleased that we won't have to face him again. He's a good football player. He's had two career days against the Spartans and I'm glad they are not on the schedule next year. We'll move onto some other non-conference opponents."

Offensive results ...

"We had some guys open, we just had some misses. Whether it was pressure, whether his [Joe Gray] feet weren't set properly to throw, maybe the receiver came open a bit late. He passed for a good number of yards, but I think we left some opportunities on the table that we didn't take advantage of. To be the team we want to be, we certainly have to take advantage of that every time."

Thoughts on scheduling Navy in the future ...

"I do hope to put Navy on the schedule in the future. It's a great rivalry. As many nightmares and nights of lost sleep I have with them, I respect Ken and the academics. I think it's been a good, balanced game. This year's wasn't as competitive as the previous two. I do respect them. They do things the right way and with good sportsmanship. I'm all for this non-conference game. I do think this is a good matchup. [Joking tone] Have them come to our place from here on out. This is a long trip from the West Coast."