



POSTGAME QUOTES

UAB BLAZERS 14 (1-1)
AT
LIBERTY FLAMES 21 (2-0)
WILLIAMS STADIUM | SATURDAY, SEPT. 10, 2022

Liberty Head Coach Hugh Freeze

Overall thoughts on the home opener...

"I feel like I've been in a 15-round fist fight. Our kids have a lot of grit, a lot of fight. Certainly, it's not always pretty right now, and that drives me crazy. I've got to get us improved. Our coaches and players are just going to fight and battle for 60 minutes and try to figure out a way to create enough plays to win the game. I felt like we should have won it by two scores. We've got to clean up the four-minute offense a bit. Kaidon (Salter) made a lot of good plays and made some that hurt us. That's going to come with some growing pains. I've got to coach him better. Our defense got turnovers. They played with such heart. That's a really good offensive line and really good running backs. I thought we limited the explosive pass plays. They got theirs in the run game. We sure bowed our neck when we needed to. I couldn't be prouder of our coaches and our kids. What a great atmosphere on the mountain tonight."

On second half adjustments...

"We played a few more kids and tried to get some fresher legs out there because we weren't converting a lot of the third downs and they were having to play a lot of snaps. We certainly made some at halftime, and I thought they were really adjustments for us. It obviously helped us win the game."

On Salter's big run late in the fourth quarter...

"It was Coach K (Kent Austin), he's been wanting to run that one for a while. I asked him (Kaidon) how good he felt about it, and he said 'I feel really good'. They were going Bear 0 there. We needed three first downs, really. Shedro (Louis) got the first one, and that one was big. Good call by Coach K there."

On the defense's performance tonight...

"The chemistry we all have in the building is easy to see from our kids. Even though I don't spend a ton of time in the defensive staff room, I have a great trust in both of them. I know that we're united. I know our kids are playing hard for them. They put pressure on our quarterback just with our front four. I'm very proud of our staff and those kids on that side."

On the student body tonight...

"I can't say enough about our students. I thought they were absolutely incredible, phenomenal, better than any school I have been at. Our student body was that good from the start of pregame to throughout the game. I'm just thankful that our students show up, and they're so into it. They're the best."

UAB Interim Head Coach Bryant Vincent

Overall thoughts on the game...

“We have a lot of confidence in our offensive line. We have a lot of confidence in our tight ends, our running backs, quarterbacks and receivers. We just felt like we could run the ball, period, doesn’t matter who we are playing. We just have to do a great job of fixing these mistakes, cleaning up the things that we’ll see tonight on this film and move forward.”

On his team’s turnovers tonight...

“We have won a lot of games here with these guys. We have won a lot of games at UAB with these same players. I have tremendous confidence in all of our players. I have tremendous confidence in Skoa. I have tremendous confidence in D-Bo, all of them. I have to do a better job of coaching, period, because our kids played their tails off. They fought their tails off all the way until the end, and this season is not over. We have a lot of football in front of us, and we are going to stick together. You saw that today throughout this game. We faced a lot of adversity, and we stuck together. That is a good sign moving forward.”

Thoughts on the play of quarterback Dylan Hopkins...

“I’ve got all the confidence in the world in Dylan Hopkins. He’s our quarterback. He’ll see this film and correct some things, and we’ll take it to next week. We’re on a journey. This season’s a journey. We’ve had setbacks before, and this is a setback. We’re going to be able to clean this thing up and move forward. We’ve got a good football team. We’ve got great leadership. We’ve got great coaches. This is just a setback. We’ve got to be able to move forward.”