

SAN JOSE STATE QUOTES

September 9, 2017

San Jose State head coach Brent Brennan

Opening statement: Obviously, Texas was better than us. I thought that there were some chances there in the first half where we could have made it interesting, whether it was a dropped ball or a little overthrown, a penalty here and there. But then the score they got late in the first half, I thought, hurt. Coming out of half time, we just had trouble getting going on offense, I thought. The times that we did, we got stopped on fourth-and-one with a close spot. Give credit to them, they kicked our butts fair and square and it was not a good day for the Spartans.

On San Jose State struggling defensively against Texas' rushing offense: I think we had some good players go down, get nicked last week against Cal Poly. Weren't at full strength, I think. But I thought they blocked us better than we were in position to make plays. I thought Coach Herman called some really good plays in the run game and we missed some tackles at the point of attack, had a bad fit with a puller on the wrong side who could spill to an unblocked defender, then hit a crease that shouldn't have been there.

On Texas generating pressure on defense: The pressure thing, they were bringing a lot of pressure. I don't think we had a bunch of sacks in the game. He had to move a little bit, but that's going to happen naturally when you start a redshirt freshman in his first true start, I guess his second start. So, he battled, he did some good stuff when he escaped, kind of kept some plays alive. But they were better than us.

On how San Jose State needs to improve at quarterback: I think he just needs to keep growing. Anytime you've got a young player at that position, coming into an environment like this, it's going to be challenging. I thought for the most part he handled it pretty good. I thought our inability to run the football makes it harder on a young quarterback. They beat us fair and square at the line of scrimmage.

On positive takeaways from the game: I think our special teams play continues to be a bright point. Michael Carrizosa continues to kick the ball well, did a nice job in limiting return yardage from their guy, who's a good returner. So I felt good about that. I thought that effort was there, popped a couple of kick returns that showed up pretty good. Unfortunately we didn't get a whole lot of kickoff opportunities or punt return opportunities, so it's hard to say how it feels.

Freshman quarterback Montel Aaron

On what made the Texas defense so effective: They were pretty fast. Laterally, they were really good at covering the field. They did a really good job of linebackers filling in holes when we wanted to pound the ball inside. They played pretty good man defense this game. They had some nice drop-backs that we weren't expecting. We need to get ready for next week.

On what happened in the pick six: I take full responsibility for that. I just need a better ball. If there is nothing there I need to pull it down to do something with my feet, or just get rid of it.

On struggling in the first half: We never lost confidence. At times it did get frustrating. But we never lost confidence. Our goal was to put points on the board, stick to the game plan and try not to get fazed that the game wasn't going our way. At halftime that is the mindset we try and keep.

On the biggest offensive improvement they need to make moving forward: I need to connect with my receivers. We need to really rep it out this week. Game plan it. Whatever we need to do, but I need to connect better with my receivers.

On if there were miscommunication issues on the field: I wouldn't necessarily say miscommunication issues. I would say it was something we need to go back on this next week and really rep out. Work on our reps and timing.

On if sophomore quarterback Josh Love will be the full-time starter: I don't know. It isn't a concern of mine. Like I said, we are just a team. We just want to win.

San Jose State junior defensive end Bryson Bridges

On the loss: It was unfortunate. We came out strong but things didn't go our way. The next thing for us to do is to learn from our mistakes and come back next week ready to play. We can't be in our feelings for the rest of the week because we have a game next week. So just learning from our mistakes and coming back strong next week against Utah.

On defending Texas' run game: It was really just mistakes from us. Lack of tackling and missed fits. But like I said we just have to learn from the mistakes on the tape and come back next week.

On being surprised by Texas' rushing offense: We came out ready to play but they took us by storm a little bit. We gave everything we had and just came up a little bit short.

On whether not knowing who Texas' starting quarterback would be affected their play: No. It doesn't matter who the starting quarterback is. We just come to play every week.

On improvements for next week: There were just too many mistakes. Wrong fits. Pressure fits. Run fits. And like you said, 400 yards rushing so obviously something was going wrong. We'll just watch the film and fix it.

On bouncing back from a loss: Learn from our mistakes and better preparation for us as players. We have to come in next week with a better mindset and we'll be fine.