



# OKLAHOMA FOOTBALL

## OU POSTGAME QUOTES • HEAD COACH LINCOLN RILEY

OKLAHOMA 49, UCLA 21 • SEPT. 8, 2018

### HEAD COACH LINCOLN RILEY

#### Opening statement:

“Really, really good win. Really good win. That’s good a football team there. You can see some of their improvements they’ve made from week one to week two. I certainly felt that out there on the field. Very proud of our defense and the way they played. Offensively, we weren’t quite our best – weren’t super sharp. UCLA certainly had something to do with that and we had chances there to separate ourselves there in the first half and we couldn’t do it but defensively, I thought we were really strong the whole day other than the third and long that we gave up – the post down the middle to the tight end. The rest of the day, our defense was really, really good. They were active. We got some good pressure on the quarterback, which was key. We knew that would be a young guy coming in. Fly him around the football, a lot of guys making plays. And then, once again, probably the most dominant side of the ball was special teams. Two huge, huge plays – the punt return and kickoff return – that gave us momentum and got our team, the crowd, everybody energized and we continued to make some strides there and make some plays. Proud of that group and another big, nonconference win, We talked a lot about this game. This is one that you don’t get every year. You get your Big 12 games every year but you don’t get some of these marquee out-of-conference matchups, teams from different conferences, different parts of the country. You only get a few of them throughout your career here so you want to make the most of them and I think we, as a team, did that today. I think, injury-wise, we’ll see on Rodney (Anderson). Don’t have anything definitive. We’ll hope for the best and get some official word and see where he’s at.”

#### On the Sooners’ defense:

“We had some pressures from different people where, in the past, it’s pretty much been Ogbo (Okoronkwo) or nothing. I think we did better there. I think we’re starting to be able to do more things with those guys. I think those guys are starting to understanding what we’re doing, what Mike (Stoops) and the group wants to do schematically and starting to settle in with it. We’re pretty active up front right now. We’ve got a pretty nice rotation with some of the depth and that was definitely a critical factor.”

#### On Rodney Anderson’s injury:

“We’re lucky. Rodney’s a great player. We’re going to certainly hope for the best, but we’ve got other good players in there. And honestly, play calling-wise and design, it’s not going to change a whole lot. We’ve got confidence in the guys we have there. They all have dynamic skillsets, they can all run, all catch the ball – we have no issue throwing the ball to any of them. They can all pass protect, and so that’s part of the deal at that position. It’s a physical position and you understand that that’s part of the game and we’ve worked hard to build depth and we got a chance to show it today.”

#### On CeeDee Lamb and A.D. Miller:

“I was proud of CeeDee (Lamb). We didn’t start CeeDee, not really because of anything negative he did – we just thought A.D. Miller practiced better. CeeDee and A.D. both want it and they both play tremendous. That exposition is really strength for us right now, two games in. You feel like when you take one out, you don’t lose anything by putting the other guy in. I thought they both made competitive catches, they both blocked well, obviously, CeeDee had the punt return. We thought he maybe danced a little bit too much on the ones the previous week. Give the kid credit – he took that coaching point and he trusted it and he hit the punt return and it was a thing of beauty, so I was proud of the way he responded. I think he played much better – he’s the type of playmaker we need him to be.”

#### On Tre Brown’s kick return:

“It gave us a much-needed jolt. There’s just something – of course, we all get excited when on offense we make a play or defense when we make a play, but when you get a special teams play, that’s your offensive guys and some defensive guys, it’s kind of a collaborative effort. It’s just something different when you block a punt or you have a big return. To me, it does something to football that – one side of the ball, it’s kind of hard to do by themselves. It was a big momentum boost. Tre Brown’s, especially, after they had scored, to flip the field that quickly and we got a quick touchdown off that that was very important. I like what we’re doing. Tre (Brown) as a returner – he’s been on our radar for it ever since coming out of high school. We knew he was explosive and we knew he was strong and could run



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through tackles and we've worked him hard enough that we've gotten to the point where we trust his ball skills, both catching the ball and securing it through. He's definitely got some game-breaking ability, and also, we're blocking well. It's not like we ran through eight tackles on those returns. Give the ten guys there a lot of credit."

**On the Sooners' running game:**

"For the most part, they just had more people down there than we did. They loaded it up and if you blocked it up perfect, most of the time, there's going to be one free guy and occasionally, there were going to be two free guys. We didn't get loose as much as we thought we would there, but it did give us some things in the passing game. We did have a couple of runs where we did not do well, obviously, the 4th-and-1 was one of the more disappointing. I thought we missed a couple of cuts with the backs. I thought we didn't come out of the gate right and super strong, so I think there a few more things that we'll go back there and correct."



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## OU POSTGAME QUOTES • DEFENSIVE COORDINATOR MIKE STOOPS

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### DEFENSIVE COORDINATOR MIKE STOOPS

#### **On the number of quarterback sacks:**

“Our D-Line continues to play well. I thought our pressures were good. Gave up one bad third down play, but after that I thought our first group played really well through three quarters. Our front played well. I thought Curtis (Bolton), Mark Jackson showed up more, and Kenneth Murray played better. Neville looked like he played better. A lot of positive signs. It’s hard to tell when you’re up just watching everything and the game’s going and you’re trying to put calls together, but there are some things that I thought worked good just from watching it. You have to critique it tomorrow and figure out where we go and continue to move forward.”

#### **On taking control early in the game:**

“I thought we pressured them and held the line of scrimmage well and got penetration well, so those are always good signs.”

#### **On putting pressure on UCLA’s offense:**

“We try to change up our angles and who’s coming. I thought the pressure was outstanding. I thought some pressures got home.”



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### REDSHIRT FRESHMAN DEFENSIVE BACK JUSTIN BROILES

#### On his performance against UCLA:

"It's never about me. I could care less about how I play. The defense - we came out, did what we were supposed to do and I think that's all that matters."

#### On his mentality on the field:

"I've always been one to try to get in your head. If I can get in your head, it's over with then ... When they start getting frustrated, when they start trying to get extra after the whistle, that's when I know it's over with now, I've got you."

#### On improving the defense:

"We're just trying to change the culture. We're tired of it always being 'Oklahoma offense, Oklahoma offense.' We think Oklahoma, and we think defense. Teddy Lehman and all them, you thought 'defense' when you thought Oklahoma ... We just go out there and do our job and play ball."

### REDSHIRT SENIOR LINEBACKER CURTIS BOLTON

#### On the targeting review:

"I feel like it was a good hit. I tried to move my head out of the way, but I guess they saw it somewhere else. Nowadays when you hit a quarterback and the quarterback goes down, the flag automatically comes up and it's call it now and review later. I'm just glad it went my way, I feel like it was a good hit."

#### On team's mindset and approach this season:

"I feel like he made a good point about that. We are the guys that made the checks, we are the guys that make the calls. If we don't have our game, it kind of makes it a lot harder for our DB's to play solid, it makes it a lot harder for our (defensive) lines to stay solid, because everyone is looking at us to sort of guide them. We are kind of like the quarterbacks of the defense, so to have us out there and I feel like we are playing some good ball and the way we are communicating, the way we are getting after it is letting a lot of other guys now focus on the tough stuff and just playing ball out there. Our back is playing a lot better and not giving up deep balls. It's an overall process and I feel like we are doing a great job at getting everybody locked in and ready to play ball."

#### On creating a pass rush:

"I think we can take it a lot harder than we showed today. I think we kept it real light. It looked like we were just coming after him from every angle and I see that, but I feel like we kept it light on defense. Guys were making great individual efforts and if I make a great individual effort and also a linebacker makes a great individual effort it results in stuff like when you got the (defensive) line pressure in the pocket where he can't step up or if he can't roll out because when he rolls out he is getting hit by the outside rushers it's a beautiful thing."

### JUNIOR WIDE RECEIVER MARQUISE BROWN:

#### On the team's offensive performance:

"I think we came out. Some stuff we need to clean up and get fixed, but we did our best executing and when players names were called, certain players stepped up."

#### On if CeeDee Lamb felt any pressure today:

"He did not feel any pressure. He came out in practice and he dominated all week in practice so I knew he was going to have a good game this week. I pushed him to come out and have a great game and he did."

#### On the offense's ability to put up big numbers:

"We just play out there. If something does not happen the way, we want we just keep going no matter what."

#### On this offense's explosiveness:

"Coach Riley is a great play caller so whoever is out there we just have to go out there and execute."

### SOPHOMORE CORNERBACK TRE BROWN

#### On the performance of Antonio Perkins in 2003 and the successful return day:

"I mean the coaches do not really try to talk about it that much. We were just worried about doing our job and doing what we are supposed to do because they cannot do too much for us to help us ... It was really actually crazy because I was watching it like 'wow, three of them?', it must have been something in the water."

#### On wanting to be the primary kick returner:

"Yeah, it was something that I wanted to do from day one. I honestly wanted to play offense too. Kickoff return was



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actually something that I really wanted to do coming in.”

### **On being more physical today:**

“Just having that dog mentality. That is every week for me. From last week to this week, I want to play harder, come down and be the physical one. The coaches talk about being more physical than the other team and that is something that we really wanted to do and we did that today.”

### **On the defensive mentality this year:**

“A lot of young guys early are starting to step up. We saw what happened last year and we wanted to change the culture, that was something that we wanted to do. It was like ‘wow we can’t bring last year into this year’ so we have to have that dog mentality. A lot of players have stepped up and really preached that.”

### **SOPHOMORE WIDE RECEIVER CEEDEE LAMB**

#### **On if he’s ever made a one-handed catch before:**

“I’ll be honest, I’ve never made a catch like that, not even in practice. I got it in my hand and it just stuck there... I really believed I was inbounds at the time.”

#### **On whether today felt like ‘his day’:**

“Me and Kyler were on another level. The whole offense. I gotta thank the five blocking up front, they gave us the protection to give me the ball.”

#### **On his punt return performance:**

“They definitely got on me for that, trust me, they handled that. I just gotta be more aggressive, obviously. Just hit it.”

#### **On if today was his best game:**

“Personally, yeah, I think it was my best so, but I’m obviously looking for more. I’m always trying to improve on my game and get better.”

### **SOPHOMORE LINEBACKER KENNETH MURRAY**

On the overall performance of the front seven:

“The physicality of the front seven, for sure, set the tone for the game from the jump. When you have guys like that who are able to control the run, stuff like that, everything is

so much easier.”

### **On the high rate of tackles for loss:**

“Definitely good, definitely something to build on. We’re out there trying to be hungry, trying to get plays in the negative behind the line of scrimmage, stuff like that, so it was definitely good to see everyone continue to improve. We’re starting to see the fruits of our work, we’re going out there and working. Ten more games to play, so we have to keep going, keep getting better every week.”

### **On how his game is affected by the defensive line making plays in the backfield:**

“Tremendously easier. It makes my games—I gotta take those guys out to eat or something, just because of the way they play. They keep me safe, keep me going. It’s so much easier when you don’t have a lot of trash in your face, you don’t have O-linemen get at you, so like I said, they set the tone from the jump and kept me safe.”

### **REDSHIRT JUNIOR QUARTERBACK KYLER MURRAY**

#### **On the rhythm of the offense:**

“I thought we moved the ball a lot. Penalties, honestly, just those bumps in the road that stall the drive. Kind of frustrating. We knew there was going to be some adversity in this game, and I think it was good for us to see it. Especially with last week being near perfect, so this week was definitely an actual game where we had to fight back. We had penalties, and you have to overcome penalties. It was good for us.”

#### **On CeeDee Lamb’s performance:**

“Obviously, it’s always great to see your guys go off. He came out here ready to go today. He was a little disappointed last week. He didn’t get a lot of touches, so he came out here with a vengeance and ready to go. Good to see him go.

#### **On the defense’s performance:**

“Incredible. Getting us the ball back, holding them to 14 points until that last little deal at the end. We can’t ask for much more than for them to keep doing what they’re doing.”



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### **On feeding off momentum from special teams:**

“Yes. It’s been an emphasis of ours. Special teams is an intricate part of our team, and they’ve done that so far. It’s been good.”

### **On competition between A.D. Miller and CeeDee Lamb:**

“I think they push each other a lot. It’s obviously a competition. They both want to see each other do well, but at the same time it’s good for that position... I have faith in both of those guys.”

### **SENIOR RUNNING BACK MARCELIAS SUTTON:**

#### **On playing well at home:**

“I feel like we’re going to play like that at our away games too. Home crowd, home field advantage, that definitely plays a part.”

#### **On offense:**

“I think offense started off a little slow tonight, but we played through it and picked it up. I feel like that’s going to be the key to next week. Going in there and playing how we finished.”

#### **On special teams:**

“Special teams is a big momentum changer, I feel like that was a big key to getting us rolling.”

#### **On CeeDee Lamb:**

“That’s my boy. He told me he was going to do some crazy stuff at breakfast this morning. The he came out and actually did it. Shout out to CeeDee.”

#### **On Kyler Murray:**

“Kyler is a playmaker; everyone made their plays. I feel like him at quarterback position that’s a dangerous spot for him to be in. He’s versatile, he can throw the rock. He started reading his keys a little better and he’s quicker at his decisions now, he’s definitely doing his thing out there.”



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## UCLA POSTGAME QUOTES • HEAD COACH CHIP KELLY

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### **On if he felt like this was a step forward this week:**

“We’ll look at the film and make that determination. The penalties – we didn’t have many but the 15-yarders really kills a drive. Sometimes they extended drives on that so we’ve got to clean that up.”

### **On freshman QB Dorian Thompson-Robinson’s performance in his first career start:**

“The same as last week. He doesn’t get flustered in the moment. He has kind of a good feel for playing football. He’s inexperienced because he didn’t play a lot of football in high school either. I was really impressed with him again today. He did get banged around a little bit, but I thought he did a really nice job competing.”

### **On how he’d evaluate the offensive line’s play:**

“I’d have to watch film to give you that information, but there’s some stuff on third and long that we didn’t handle very well. The biggest thing is we don’t want to be in third and long and not be in those long yardage situations.”

### **On what fans can expect going forward:**

“That this team is going to compete, always play with good effort and give everything they have. It’s a learning process for a lot of them just because they’re young and that’s what this is all about. We’ve got to continue to grow on a weekly basis. The cool part about being here (UCLA) is that you get to play in places like this. This is a great experience for our players and our coaching staff, to play at an Oklahoma. I’m a big fan of home-and-homes against really good teams and I hope we can continue to do that. That’s one thing about this school that I really admire. We’re not going to play I-AA teams. I don’t know how teams get better that way when you go out and score 50 and take your starters out in the first quarter. That doesn’t make you better, but this will help our team grow. They’ll compete and they got an opportunity to play a really good team today.”

### **On Kyler Murray:**

“The only guy I’m disappointed in is (Oakland A’s general manager) Billy Beane. I wish he gave the kid (Kyler Murray) more money and give him a little bigger prize so maybe No. 1 wouldn’t be out there, because he’s a real talented player. You think there’s going to be a big drop off when you go from a Heisman Trophy winner, but that kid’s pretty special. He was very difficult for us to tackle, but it was a great experience for our players. The Oklahoma fans were great; it’s a great environment here and we love playing in games like this.”

### **On his defense’s performance:**

“I think they competed. I think the biggest thing we have to talk about is the penalties. We extended drives from some of those interferences so we have to talk to our guys on how to play the ball a little bit better, but they competed. Containing that quarterback was a difficult deal. He’s a heck of a player. He’s dynamic to watch out there and he keeps plays alive and obviously the receiving corps is outstanding, looking at some of the catches they made.”



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### FRESHMAN QB DORIAN THOMPSON-ROBINSON

#### On if he knew he would be starting:

“Yeah, I knew after last game that unless Wilt (Wilton Speight) was ready to go, then I’d be the next guy up.”

#### On how he felt today:

“I’ll tell you what, it was a lot better than last week. I think everybody improved. There’s still a lot more improving to be done but overall I’m happy with how my guys fought.”

#### On his own performance:

“From last week, it was a big improvement. I’m still young, I’m still learning but I think I hung in there and fought with my guys. It’s more about getting the ball out on time.”

#### On balancing the disappointment from the loss but keeping focused on their goals:

“For me and for the rest of these guys, it’s taking one game at a time. That’s what the coaches are preaching right now because every week is going to be a dogfight with the conference we play in and teams we play this year. We’re in it for the long haul. We’re going to go back and watch tape and correct our mistakes and get ready for the next one.”

#### On what the toughest transition is for him from high school to UCLA:

“I wouldn’t say it’s hard to learn everything, it’s more being able to process it and go through your reads as fast as possible. It’s more of a process thing than learning everything.”

### JUNIOR TIGHT END CALEB WILSON

#### On coming back to play in Oklahoma:

“Definitely wish we had a different result, but I am thankful for every experience to be out there playing back where I grew up at in front of all my family; my dad, my mom. So, I am thankful for it all, but I definitely wish we had had a different result and came out on top.”

#### On playing in front of his dad:

“It is definitely a special feeling to get to play on the same field that he played on, to be a captain today like he was when he was here. That was definitely an honor just to be in front of them because I cherish that guy and being able to do something that he did just means a lot to me.”

#### On his memories of growing up in Norman:

“Growing up around great players and the game, being able to go to practice with Coach (Bob) Stoops, my dad and Coach (Cale) Gundy. Just being around the game allowed me to do so much, allowed me to travel on the plane, go to meetings, and go to practice. They treat me so well and pretty much just cherishing everything, being able to do what my dad loved (that was a lot).”

#### On the big catch in the first quarter:

“I found an open end and we ran verticals. I found an opening and Dorian (Thompson-Robinson) threw a really good ball. I just tried to make a play and run as fast as I could and do a stiff arm; it had a pretty good gain so that was a good explosive play for us....I was trying to score, but that was neat to just be in the same stadium in front of my family, just showing my family my talents and letting everyone see. A lot of my family from Texas can’t come to my games so everyone is going to see me in an awesome atmosphere and making a big play, that was really cool.”

### SOPHOMORE CORNERBACK DARNAY HOMES

#### On the defensive performance:

“We played our butts off today. It is a game of inches and we came up short today, but we have to rebound and get back and ready for our game next week.”

#### On defending the Oklahoma receivers:

“It is what I play this game for. I want to be put on a high level with the best and Oklahoma definitely has one of the best receiving corps. It was just a blessing to have them on the schedule this year and next year.”



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### **On Kyler Murray's ability:**

"He is a guy who is blessed. He can do what he wants. He can sling it right, he can run it because he is a guy with a blessed arm and he can do pretty much anything."

### **SOPHOMORE OFFENSIVE LINEMAN MICHAEL ALVES**

### **On UCLA QB Dorian Thompson-Robinson:**

"He's a good quarterback. He's a smart player, so with 86,000 people and to deal with the silent count and all those things is kind of impressive for a freshman quarterback. Obviously there's some things he needs to improve on, as well as the rest of the team, but he's shown that he can be a starting quarterback for us, and we like him there."

### **On Thompson-Robinson's confidence in particular:**

"He's starting to be friends with everybody on the line and all the wide receivers. You can tell he's throwing the ball with confidence and his reads are better. He's just getting better."

### **On the offensive line's performance:**

"I'll say it's better than last week. I think that we still have tons of stuff to improve on. We're a young line but that's no excuse for not playing well. Like I said, better than last week, but there's still a couple things we need to improve on. You've got to give credit to their defensive line, they're good players, but we're also hurting ourselves."

### **On the absence of injured OL Boss Tagaloa:**

"Boss will help a lot (when he's back). I think Chris (Murray) is doing well right now - he's still improving. He (Murray) knows the offense really well and he's able to read defenses well, but Boss will help."