

Chick-fil-A Peach Bowl: Texas vs Arizona State

Monday, December 30, 2024

Atlanta, Georgia, USA

Mercedes-Benz Stadium

Texas Longhorns

Jaydon Blue

Press Conference

Q. Talk about Quinn and what he means for you guys.

JAYDON BLUE: He's the head of the snake for us. He puts confidence in me and for everyone on this team. When things don't go our way, he's the guy that makes sure we stay on track and that we have a next play mentality. He's probably one of the smartest and one of the best guys that I've been around my whole football career.

Q. Who is the one that gives you fits?

JAYDON BLUE: For me, probably A c. He's very strong and everyone knows how good he is. But he's hard for us to block. I would say that's the one guy that gives us trouble in practice.

Q. Who is the one that maybe people aren't familiar with and could make a big impact?

JAYDON BLUE: I would say Jared Gibson. You know, he's wait his time and he's had some plays here and there but I think that if I gets his chance Wednesday, he can make a huge impact on this game.

Q. There's been a lot of comparison between you and SCAT bow. How do you think you stack up?

JAYDON BLUE: First thing, he's a great player to start off with. He has a lot of good things that you need in a running back. He's strong, physical. He's their leading receiver. For us it's a big challenge in the running back room to step up to the plate and match his intensity. In order for us to have a chance to win this game, we know we have to play our best in that room.

Q. Do you think about matching numbers?

JAYDON BLUE: No, I think about putting myself in the



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best position to help this team win.

Q. What does this mean to be here?

JAYDON BLUE: This game is huge. Every game is huge from now on. For us to get to the next one we have to win this one. We know how much this game means for us and we know Arizona State is a good team. We have to make sure we prepare well the next two days in order for to us get the job done Wednesday.

Q. As a fellow running back what do you see in Cam Skattebo's game?

JAYDON BLUE: First thing, he's a great player. He has great balance. He's able to break tackles and he can make people miss. He's their leading receiver and we know he has the ability to catch the ball. He's probably one of the best backs in this league and he's really good.

Q. What issues do they present to you as a running back?

JAYDON BLUE: They move a lot and they are very physical. They are a high-effort team. They play with a lot of effort. We have to match their intensity and in order to be successful against this defense, we have to make sure we finish and don't take any plays off.

Q. What do you expect out of this game? Is it going to be a physical game? Wide-open game?

JAYDON BLUE: It's going to be a physical game for sure. With them having a great running back and with us being a run-first offense, we know both of these teams are going to have to run to win. We know it's going to be very physical in the trenches.

Q. How big has your offensive line been? What can you say about your offensive line that makes it one of the best in the country?

JAYDON BLUE: It's huge, man. They do a lot of things to make them great. To start off, it starts with us in the run

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game. They are the ones who lead the way for us and clear the path for us, and I think the last few games you can really see them see us take off in the run game.

Like you said, it starts with those guys and those guys put in just as much work as us so we know those guys, we know we can always lean on the O-line to get a job done for us and lead us away.

Q. Did you have any personal connections with any players at Texas?

JAYDON BLUE: I was there when a lot of those players were there. I watched them practice. Xavier, I wasn't there when he was there but I play in the 707 and trained with him. He's a very good player. He's very smart and he's able to do a lot of things on the defensive side that a lot of people can't do.

Q. And then kind of what do you see about the culture that's changed at ASU? What do you admire about playing a team that's come through a completely different mindset than you guys, not expected to be here?

JAYDON BLUE: Main thing is, like you said, they didn't have very high expectations and a lot of people didn't have they will be here. But they are here. We know that they have a target on us and they are going to come out and give us their best shot. So we know we have to make sure we're prepared in order to win the game.

Q. And lastly, it's unique and interesting that one team could play in the same stadium three times in the span of a month. What is that excitement for you guys to get back into Mercedes-Benz Stadium again and how important is that from an advantage standpoint to play on that field?

JAYDON BLUE: Of course we'll be very excited to get back to Atlanta, of course. That's the National Championship Game. That's one of our goals entering into the season was to be national champions. In order for us to get back to Atlanta, we have to win this one this week. I think there's -- we don't want to look too far ahead and we want to stay focused on this week. But to get back to Atlanta January 20th would be huge for us.

Q. What makes you different from running backs they have seen all season and what's your main skill set and what drives you and makes you unique?

JAYDON BLUE: Main thing is I think just the versatility. I'm not just a back that can run the ball. I can play receiver, as well. I think that's different because there's a

lot of running backs that just pride their receives on being running backs but I value a receiver just as much as I do at the running back position. I just think that me being able to do different things on the offensive side is, you know, a big advantage to my other opponents.

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