

University of Florida Football Media Conference

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Trikweze Bridges

Press Conference



Georgia 34, Florida 20

Q. How was it seeing some of your guys get hurt and when to you realize you were going to have to go play corner?

TRIKWEZE BRIDGES: When I seen Dijon Johnson coming off the sideline I knew then that's when I was going to have to step up. We already had talked about it of the beginning of the season and just like this week if anything would happen. So I'm emergency corner. Those times come, I show up.

Q. How tough was it to deal with all the injuries in the secondary and guys continuing to go down?

TRIKWEZE BRIDGES: Like Chim said, next-man-up and execute what the game plan is. We just have to do that. It was tough seeing like some of the guys -- all the guys who went down to go down. We had a lot of guys get back up and go out there and play again.

Q. How do you feel like the defense played today?

TRIKWEZE BRIDGES: I feel like first half we did what we was supposed to do: went out there and executed. Had a lot of turnovers. The team was -- Georgia was not prepared, ready for us to do that.

At the end of the day, that's our mentality every week, week in and week out. We just got to go out there and dominate.

Q. Three interceptions against a quarterback that some people said at the different point in the season might be the No. 1 pick in the draft next year. What do you think is the reason you guys were able to rattle back so much?

TRIKWEZE BRIDGES: First off, it's a really great quarterback. He's very smart and talent. I would just say just our culture that we have as a defense and just like get the ball back to our quarterback to score points and

whatnot.

So that's the main thing. Getting the ball back, go out there and execute.

Q. And then just when DJ goes down, Aidan comes in. It's going to get tougher for the offense. It there talks on the defense like, listen, we really got to step now. Of course you got to play a great game anyway against the No. 2 team. Was that something that was discussed among the defensive unit?

TRIKWEZE BRIDGES: Yeah, of course. We had to just turn it up a notch and just keep executing. We have to get him an opportunity to just warm up and get into his mode and in his game and just be able to play.

I was on the sideline saying, let's go on defense as well as the offense is scoring on offense. So our mindset was just like, let's turn it up a notch and keep going.

Q. How many injuries in the secondary, how important do you think it is for yourself to step up as a leader, and especially for some of the young guys that are probably going to have to play a larger role moving forward?

TRIKWEZE BRIDGES: It's going to take a lot of communication as a group. It's going to take a lot of film, going a lot of things together and just like really just get those guys in the game, in the mindset to be ready to play and ready for your name to be called.

No matter what situation we in, everybody have to be ready. Everybody. All hands on deck.

Q. How would you compare the confidence level of the defense compared to the beginning of the season? How much more confident do you guys feel being able to go out there and play with anyone?

TRIKWEZE BRIDGES: We always feel like that. We just had to clean the things up. Beginning of the season just kept going, kept going and believing in ourselves. Block outside noise and whatnot. All we doing is keep going.

Every day, every week we trying to show up and show out.

We know what we can do. We wasn't surprised what we did today. That's something that we want to put out for you guys to see and that's what we going to continue to do.

Q. Obviously Cormani has seen an uptick of playing time with injuries and other things. What did you see from him today and how have you seen him grow from when you first got on campus to now? Billy has been speaking highly of him.

TRIKWEZE BRIDGES: Yeah, I was excited to see him make a lot of plays today. Few good tackles I seen. I was just excited four him. Pretty good in coverage. When I see him again I'm just going to talk to him like, bro, keep going; keep doing your thing and keep that confidence up.

When you have confidence like that, can't be stopped.

Q. I know it's early, but how much more do you expect to play corner moving forward?

TRIKWEZE BRIDGES: That's a good question. I mean, if they need me at corner that's what I be playing. I'm glad the coaches are able to trust me to be able to play that position and be able to contribute and just help the team out.

I always told them like I can play corner. I can play safety. Wherever you can put me is like that's good for me. Be able to show my versatility off. I'll be able to do that, so I'm happy to do that for the team.

Q. How did that work in practice this week? Spend time at both?

TRIKWEZE BRIDGES: Well, not really. I want to focus -- me personally I wanted to focus on the things to do at safety. Just being a safety, you know what everybody is doing, so it was just me having to go out there and do the things that I know and what I have learning at corner.

Been times where I go corner and do some drills with them to keep my technique clean and stuff like that. So I be doing a lot of that this week, next week coming up, and just be able to play safety and corner. Show up where they need me.

Q. Earlier Chim was talking to us and he said it was a good performance, but he said no moral victories at the University of Florida. How do you feel about the team's performance today and do you think anything positive away from this?

TRIKWEZE BRIDGES: Yes, of course. Just like we know who we are. Doesn't matter like who goes down, what happens. Like we still have to show up as a team. That's the major goal. Showing up and doing the things.

Because we trust in everybody on the team. We trust in Aidan, so as a defense it's our job to get him harder looks, give him a lot of pressure and stuff like that so he can be ready for next week.

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