

2009 Florida Football

Post-Game Quotes

Urban Meyer

Florida Head Coach

Orange & Blue Debut

April 18, 2009

Opening Statement

“First of all, I just want to thank everyone for coming. I think I could talk about our crowd for days. We had an excellent day and they were able to see some guys make some plays. John Brantley managed the game well, Jon Bostic battled for playing time, Frankie Hammond, Jr. finished an impressive spring, T.J. Lawrence, Jaye Howard, I could go on and on. But to have 65,000 people show up to this game when the fans knew they wouldn’t see much of Tim Tebow, Aaron Hernandez and Brandon Spikes is amazing. We had more people at our spring game than some schools have at a regular season game.”

On the change of game format and not playing many defensive starters

“Well we changed the game format to offense versus defense for a couple reasons. Mainly, it allowed us to substitute freely. Certain players need work and we also need to find some playmakers at certain positions. I know that you can’t coach scared but you never want to put players in danger. I have seen enough out of some guys and many of them have developed skill levels already.”

On Jon Bostic

“I love that guy. I love his professionalism. His father played in the NFL and when we recruited him he told us that he would be serious about his job, take care of himself off the field and he has done all of those things. He is playing. There is no redshirt so now he just has to compete for a starting spot.”

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Florida Players

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Senior QB Tim Tebow

Opening Statement:

Today was great and it was really good to see young guys get into the action. That is what today is all about. For those guys to get out there and play in The Swamp in front of all of the fans and all of the excitement.”

On who performed well

“I think Johnny Brantley did a great job. Brendan Beal is doing a great job and really getting back to being healthy. There are plenty of guys who did well: Frankie Hammond, Jr., Christopher Scott. All those guys are doing well and will continue to do well going into summer and eventually the fall. They will all contribute.”

On his role as a mentor to John Brantley

I think its not much about the x’s and o’s, but more about how to handle different situations. Like when he should show intensity, when to go out and have fun, etc. I just encourage him as much as I can and I know he will be a great quarterback at Florida. He’s not necessarily a running quarterback like people usually consider someone to be, but he is athletic and he will make plays when he needs to. He is going to do whatever he needs to in order to make a play and he’s going to do great.”

Senior S Dorian Munroe

On his interception

“The D-line did a good job pressuring the quarterback and (Jonathan) Bostic did a good job tipping the ball. I saw the ball in the air and I told myself, there is no way I am letting this ball hit the ground.”

On his recovery

“I had a long journey and I am not yet 100 percent. I am going into this off-season to strengthen up a little bit more, put some more time in, and I should be good to go.”

On starting

Everyone’s goal is to start but I know I have to just go out there and do the best that I can. Whatever role I am doing, I am going to do it to the best of my ability.”

Redshirt Freshman C Sam Robey

“I am finally feeling healthy. I am going to work as hard as I can and try and prove myself out there on the field. I am working hard and trying to keep my spot for the fall.”

Redshirt Sophomore WR Deonte Thompson

“I am the type of guy who is going to keep on going hard and continue what I am doing. I learned so much from these guys and now it is time for me to step up and start making plays.”

“A lot of guys stepped up today. The young guys had a lot of opportunities to make plays and they stepped up a lot.”

Junior QB John Brantley

On the game

“I think I played fairly decently. My line did a great job and my receivers really stepped up. I just tried to get the ball to my playmakers and let them make plays for me.”

On the play of Frankie Hammond, Jr.

“He was the man I was going to because he is a playmaker. Today he really stepped and made a lot of plays for us.”

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Post-Game Notes

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GAME FORMAT

The 2009 Orange & Blue Debut Spring Game will consist of four 10-minute quarters with a running clock in the second half.

At all times, the first-team will square off against the first-team defense, while the second-team offense will face the second-team defense. When the first-team offense (Blue team) has the ball, they will drive toward the south end zone, while the second-team offense (Orange team) will attempt to score in the north end zone. The teams will not switch directions at halftime.

There will be no live kickoff or punt returns. When one team scores, the opponent will begin the subsequent drive at their own 25-yard line. On all punts, the returner will call a fair catch. Extra points and field goals will be live.

Regardless of Orange or Blue team designation, the offense will wear blue jerseys and the defense will wear white.

- The Florida Spring Game was attended by an estimated 65,000 fans, the largest Spring Game crowd since Urban Meyer's coaching debut.
- **T.J. Pridemore** caught a two-yard touchdown pass from **Tim Tebow** with 5:43 left in the 1st quarter. The Blue team has scored on its opening drive for the third consecutive year.
- QB **John Brantley** completed a one yard touchdown pass to **Rick Burgess** to put the Orange on the board with 6:07 remaining in the second quarter.
- The first sack of the game was registered by **Duke Lemmens**, when he reached QB **John Brantley** for a loss of seven yards. **Earl Okine** and **Willie Green** also recorded sacks on the day.
- **Dorian Munroe** had a 30-yard return when he picked off **Tim Tebow** for the first interception of the game with 6:06 remaining the second quarter.
- Wide Receiver **Carl Moore** completed a pass to fellow wide receiver **Deonte Thompson** for 19-yards.
- Running back **Chris Rainey** scored on a one-yard touchdown run with 1:21 left in the first half.
- The score at the end of the first half was 17-14 Orange.
- At halftime, **Tim Tebow** received the Touchdown Club of Atlanta's 2008 Wally Butts Award as the Southeast's top offensive back. It is the second consecutive year **Tebow** has won the award.
- Redshirt junior **Christopher Scott** was the leading rusher of the day, carrying the ball 12 times for 80-yards.

- The longest pass of the day was completed when redshirt freshman **Frankie Hammond, Jr.** caught a 50-yard touchdown pass from **John Brantley** on the second play of the second half.
- The 52-yard field goals made by kickers **Jonathan Phillips** and **Caleb Sturgis** tie Chris Hetland's 2006 record for longest field goal made during the Orange and Blue debut.
- The final score was 31-21 Orange over Blue. Fifty-two is the third most points ever scored in the Orange & Blue Game. Orange is now 9-5 in the spring game.
- The Fastest Gator on Campus Contest was held for the second consecutive year. Approximately 80 students entered this year's contest.
 - Finalists in the Under 225-pound Division were Jeff Mesadieu, Bloaji Agbebe, Ryan Stallings, Wale Agbebe, Jason Jarnagin, and Davide Gunderman. Mesadieu claimed the student crown over last year's champion Bolaji Agbebe.
 - Running back **Chris Rainey** blazed past fellow teammates **Emmanuel Moody**, **Frankie Hammond, Jr.**, and **Adrian Bushell** and the other finalists to claim the Division-I (under 225-pounds) Fastest Gator on Campus.
 - Tight end **Aaron Hernandez** squeezed past linebacker **Brandon Hicks** at the line to win the Fastest Gator on Campus Contest for Division-II (over 225-pounds).
 - Aaron Fever won the over 225-pound division, when he beat fellow students Brendan O'Neil, Ivo Huahua, and John Mark Snyder.

Field Goal Sequences:

- In the first quarter, with 5:43 on the clock after a scoring possession, **Jonathan Phillips** attempt two-field goals (27 made, 37 missed)
- In the second quarter, with 6:07 on the clock after a scoring possession, **Caleb Sturgis** attempt four-field goals (32 missed, 32 made, 52 made, 62 missed).
- **Caleb Sturgis** nailed 44-yard field goal with 5:05 remaining in the second quarter.
- In the second quarter, with 1:21 on the clock after a scoring possession, **Jonathan Phillips** attempt two-field goals (42 missed, 42 made).
- At the end of the first half, **Caleb Sturgis** attempted three-field goals (52 missed, 52 missed, 52 made) and while teammate **Jonathan Phillips** notched his lone attempt (52 made).