



2025 Mississippi State Football Postgame Quotes

Starkville, Miss. // Davis Wade Stadium

Mississippi State 38, #22 Texas 45

Jeff Lebbby, Head Football Coach

On what it takes to finish the game–

“Talking in the locker room with the guys, it takes us being together. That’s the only way this happens. Everybody having great ownership, taking great responsibility and not finding a way to just go close the game out as we are up 17 points two different times in the fourth quarter. That’s the only way we get done what we want to get done. Being together, putting our head down and fixing it.”

On last couple of drives being 3 and out-

“We struggled there with some negatives in the run game and then in the RPO game, we gave up some negative plays there was pressure on Blake a couple of times where he’s not able to get the ball where he needs to and for us, offensively those are the moments, right there where instead of being three and out, we know we have a chance to go and win the game and we do a great job answering as they cut it to 10 we go down the field in a three play drive and have the big play by Von and come back and don’t find a way to close out the game in the next two drives.”

On the defense and conversions-

“It was 3rd & 1 and really short yardage. We Thought we had a really good clean run on 3rd & 1 that we normally don’t execute cleanly so I came right back to it with tempo and we ended up getting chased down with penetration and ended up not converting. 4th down was a killer for us, obviously not being able to stay on the field right there was a huge deal again in the second half.”

Blake Shapen, Quarterback

On turning the ball over on downs back-to-back in the third quarter...

“We have to be able to sustain those drives. Those are critical in a game, so anyway to stay on the field in that situation is huge. To make them keep the clock running and use timeouts, we weren’t able to do that.”

On how big plays affect the sideline and the team's mentality...

“I feel like it ups the energy on the sideline, for sure. It gives everybody confidence in that situation, but we still have to go win the football game and we have to keep that mindset. Maybe we relax a bit too much after those situations happen, so we have to be better moving forward. We have to realize that we are in the SEC. Every game is going to be a game no matter what. We have to know that and never get relaxed during any of these games.”

Jahron Manning, Safety

On the fourth quarter defensively-



"I just felt like as a defense we got complacent. We got to learn how to close out games and finish games. So that's going to be the stress this week during practice, finishing games and closing them out. We had them exactly where we wanted them. We just have to finish it and do the rest."

On the difficulty as a team not to dwell on the loss and what the record should be-

"It's pretty difficult. You know, it's a couple of plays during the game that might be game changers, well, that are game changers for us. Just got to learn from it, continue to build and put it behind us and move onto the next. "
