



# POSTGAME NOTES



GAME EIGHT • ARKANSAS (4-5, 0-5 SEC) AT NO. 1 MISSISSIPPI STATE (8-0, 5-0 SEC) • NOV. 1, 2014 • DAVIS WADE STADIUM

## TEAM NOTABLES

- Mississippi State won its 11th-straight game, setting a new mark for the second-longest winning streak in school history. The Bulldogs previously won 10 in a row from Oct. 19, 1940 - Oct. 4, 1941, as well as a school-record 13-consecutive victories from Oct. 17, 1942 - Nov. 11, 1944.
- The winning streak is the second-longest in the nation behind Florida State (24).
- Dan Mullen improved to 4-24 when trailing at halftime.
- The win helped MSU to its first 8-0 start since starting 8-0 in 1999 and its first 5-0 SEC start since starting 5-0 in league play in 1999.
- The Maroon and White have shattered the school record for points (316) and total yards (4,179) through the first eight games of the season.
- The Bulldogs did not allow the opposition to record a sack for the first time since Sept. 14, 2013 vs. Auburn.
- 22 members of the MSU defense recorded multiple tackles on the night, with 13 having recorded four or more tackles.
- Tonight's attendance of 62,307 ranks second all time in Davis Wade Stadium history, behind an attendance of 62,945 against Auburn (Oct. 11, 2014)
- The 10-point comeback by MSU is the first double-digit comeback for the Bulldogs since having trailed Arkansas by 10 (10-0) in their Nov. 23, 2013 meeting. (MSU won 24-17)
- Arkansas was averaging 258.9 rushing yards per game entering the day, but the MSU defense held the Razorbacks to 163 yards on the ground. The Razorbacks entered averaging 5.9 yards per rush on the season, but only averaged 4.3 per rush against the Bulldogs.
- The Maroon and White finished 8-for-14 (57.1 percent) on third down, marking a season best.

## PLAYER NOTABLES

- Prescott's first touchdown of the night tied him for the MSU single-season record of touchdowns responsible for with 26. (Tyler Russell, 2012)
- Prescott recorded the first 300-yard passing game of his career (331) and is the first Dan Mullen-coached quarterback to throw for 300 yards in a game since Tim Tebow (319) vs. Ole Miss (Sept. 27, 2008).
- Prescott now has a passing or rushing touchdown in 10 consecutive games.
- Dak Prescott is the first MSU quarterback to throw for 300+ yards since Wesley Carrol in 2007 (421, vs. Arkansas).
- Doak Walker Award candidate Josh Robinson's 47-yard first-quarter catch set a new high for longest career reception. (39, vs. South Alabama, Sept. 13, 2014)
- Robinson is the only SEC player who has rushed for a touchdown in seven-straight games this season.
- True freshman J.T. Gray made his first-career appearance tonight. Gray is the fifth true freshman to play this season for the Bulldogs (Graves, Cooke, Graham, Dixon).
- Butkus Award semifinalist Benardrick McKinney has now recorded a tackle in 34 consecutive games.
- Robinson also set a new career high for receiving yards in a game with 110. (49, four times, last vs. Texas A&M, Oct. 4, 2014)
- Preston Smith has recorded a tackle behind the line of scrimmage in seven straight games.
- In the third quarter, Nick Griffin's 23-yard reception set a new career long. (18, vs. Alcorn State, Sept. 7, 2013)
- Evan Sobiesk's 37-yard field goal set a new season long (28, vs. LSU, Sept. 20) and ranks as the second-longest field goal of his career. (38, vs. South Carolina, Nov. 2, 2013)
- Sobiesk is now 5-for-5 on the season when it comes to field goals of 40 yards or fewer.
- Matt Wells' nine tackles on the night set a season high. (Five, three times)
- Fred Ross set a new career high for receiving yards with 91. (61, Kentucky, Oct. 25, 2014)

# RAZORBACKS

## COMMUNICATIONS

### GAME NOTES

Nov. 1, 2014

VS. Mississippi State (Starkville, Miss.)

### TEAM NOTES

- The Razorbacks led the Bulldogs 10-7 after the first half, the first time Mississippi State has trailed this season heading into the locker room.
- Following a 1-yard rushing score in the second quarter, Alex Collins joined fellow Razorback Jonathan Williams with 10 rushing touchdowns on the season. The last time two Razorbacks had 10-plus rushing touchdowns on a season was in 2007 when Darren McFadden collected 16 and Felix Jones tallied 11.
- Entering the contest, Mississippi State only trailed two opponents (UAB and Texas A&M) for a total of 7:19. The Razorbacks led the Bulldogs for 31:35 before Mississippi State scored a game-tying touchdown in the third quarter.
- The Razorback defense held the Bulldogs to 163 rushing yards, their lowest offensive output on the ground this season. Mississippi State entered the matchup averaging 273.1 yards per game.
- The Arkansas defense held the Bulldogs scoreless in the first quarter, the first time this season Mississippi State has not put any points on the board in the opening frame.
- Arkansas' 3-0 lead over MSU in the first quarter was the first time the Bulldogs have trailed after the first quarter since last season at Arkansas, when the Razorbacks led Mississippi State 7-0 heading into the second quarter.
- Arkansas' two interceptions ties for the most picks in a game this season since the Razorbacks tallied two interceptions at Texas Tech.

### LB Martrell Spaight

- Set a new career-high tackles with 15. His previous high was 13 against Texas A&M this season.

### LB Brooks Ellis

- Set a new career-high in tackles with 12. His previous high was 11 at Ole Miss in 2013.
- With less than a minute remaining in the first half, Ellis tallied his first career interception and returned it for 27 yards.

### QB Brandon Allen

- Allen's 238 passing yards marks his fourth consecutive 200-plus yard passing game.

### RB Alex Collins

- Collins' 1-yard rushing score in the second quarter marked his career-high 10th touchdown of the season.

### S Alan Turner

- Turner tallied his first interception of the season in the first half on Mississippi's first drive of the game.



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## **DAN MULLEN QUOTES**

**Nov. 1, 2014**

**Arkansas vs. #1 Mississippi State**

### **Opening Statement:**

“What a football game. Great battle against two very good football teams. As coaches, we all know how hard it is to win in this league. That was a huge win for our team tonight against an excellent Arkansas football team. Fortunately we were able to make one more play there at the end of the game. Our guys are finding ways to win, and that’s all that matters.”

### **On quarterback Dak Prescott’s second-half performance:**

“He was a little bit more relaxed in the second half. He knows we have great confidence in him. He expects to make plays. The great thing about him is that he’s going to study the film and learn from it and not make mistakes a second time.”

### **On stopping Arkansas in the red zone:**

“I thought both offenses moved the ball and both defenses stopped them in the red zone. Both defenses have played well in the red zone all year. I’m proud of our guys. We made stops when we needed to make stops at the end.”

### **On defensive back Will Redmond:**

“Will is playing very well and he plays aggressive. He’s a smart young man. I think he really studies the game and wants to be a great player. He has a great work ethic, and you see that on the field. His number was called (tonight) and he went out and made a play.”



## MSU PLAYER QUOTES

Nov. 1, 2014

Arkansas vs. #1 Mississippi State

### **15 – DAK PRESCOTT – QB**

#### **On his touchdown pass being a potential “Heisman moment”:**

“We had to make a play, and the line did a good job and held up. I just got out of the pocket and Fred Ross got open. That could be a Heisman moment for him but I didn’t do much there.”

#### **On what was said a halftime:**

“We just had to relax. We knew it was going to be a good game. We knew we were playing a good team. Although we were down, we weren’t worried about. We just had to come out and play our offense.”

#### **On a tough win:**

“It means a lot. It’s good for the team and it’s good for everyone to fight adversity. This is the type of game we needed to have.”

### **13 – JOSH ROBINSON – RB**

#### **On his one-handed catch:**

“It just came to me. It isn’t anything too big for me.”

#### **On taking away the run:**

“Everyone in the country is going to try to take the run away. We just have to stay focused and do what we do.”

#### **On trailing double digits for the first time this season:**

“Throughout the season we are going to have to face adversity, and that just shows you what kind of team we are. If we just keep playing Mississippi State ball, we’ll be fine.”

### **96 – CHRIS JONES – DL**

#### **On struggling with stopping the run:**

“We had to fix some things on defense. It was good to adjust and be able to play our football.”

#### **On rushing the quarterback:**

“They brought the tight end in strong and we were on the rush and everyone was double teamed so it made it more difficult.”



## **BRET BIELEMA QUOTES**

**Nov. 1, 2014**

**Arkansas vs. #1 Mississippi State**

### **Opening Statement:**

“Unfortunately, we came out on the wrong end of another really close game. Give a lot of credit to Mississippi State. They’re a very, very good football team and are deserving of their number one ranking. They came to play like our guys did too. We just did too many things against ourselves. We preached all week about this game being about Arkansas, which is kind of crazy to think about when you’re playing the number one team in the country, but that’s the way our guys are wired and that’s the way they will be wired from this point forward. We just didn’t have enough of what you need to finish these things out. But that shows the resiliency that our guys have. At this point it’s almost numbing to be so close and not be able to come out on top with one of these opportunities. We’ll take a bye week and get a little bit better, get healthy, and nobody will attack these last three games like the Arkansas Razorbacks. Good opportunities in front of us, but I wish we could have had this one today.”

### **On Arkansas’ game plan to stop Mississippi State:**

“We felt that if they could run the ball, that they would be able to have success. We tried to make them play a little left-handed. We thought that if we could make them throw, we would be able to take advantage of some opportunities. I thought our guys did that very well in the first half. That one scoring drive they had in the first half, we had a little bit of a miscue as well. Again, it’s 11 guys playing defense, but they found that one guy who missed the call. It was a deep ball in the second half. (Our) guy didn’t get the call and wasn’t in his deep third and the result is a touchdown.”

### **On Dak Prescott:**

“He’s a very good player; he’s a physical quarterback, and I think that’s a very rare combination. He can run the football. He’s a guy that’s got good awareness out there on the field. He always comes up with a play. It seemed like we were just right there a couple times to sack him, and he just got the ball off in the nick of time.”



## **ARKANSAS PLAYER QUOTES**

**Nov. 1, 2014**

**Arkansas vs. #1 Mississippi State**

### **27 – ALAN TURNER – S**

#### **Alan's thoughts about the game:**

"It was another hard game. There were a few plays that we were not able to make that they could, and that is why they won."

#### **Alan's thoughts on Arkansas's first interception:**

"I was just reading the quarterback, and I saw his eyes were looking to that side. I believe that he overthrew the receiver and I was able to make the play."

#### **Thoughts about MSU's comeback and in-game outlook:**

"Our mentality is just one play at a time. Even if we give up one, we just forget about it and move on to the next play."

### **10 – BRANDON ALLEN – QB**

#### **Opening Statement:**

"It's tough, but they are a really good team, we played them four quarters down to the wire."

#### **On the game-clinching interception:**

"We got things going, Hunter made a couple great catches and was moving the chains. We called kind of a fade-out kind of thing. I give a lot of credit to the DB, he made a good play."

#### **On the ball possibly being underthrown:**

"You can always go back and see what you did. Obviously to critique it now is a lot easier. On the field I was thinking give him a shot; give him a chance to catch it, and like you said he made a good play."

### **74 – BREY COOK – G**

#### **Thoughts on the game:**

"Its frustrating, it's the same as almost every other story. We beat ourselves. We came in and made mistakes that we cannot make. We came in today, and we fought hard, but we didn't do what we needed to do."

#### **On not being able to catch a break:**

"We didn't catch a break, but it's our fault. We shot ourselves in the foot over and over, and it just kind of reappeared today like it has all season."

#### **On the last two drives:**

"Its frustrating is all I can really say for it. We are doing the things we want to do as an offense. We are completing passes, making the runs that we need to, and being successful. We just can't finish. We didn't today, and we shot ourselves in the foot."

**86 – TREY FLOWERS – DE**

**On the result of the game:**

“It is pretty tough for how much we worked, and how much we put into it. How close we are is pretty tough.”

**On responding to such a close loss:**

“We are going to keep working. It’s going to take a while for me to get over it. We are just going to have to get over it, go back to work and work even harder.”