

# Nebraska vs. South Alabama (Sept. 12, 2015)

## Nebraska Player Quotes

### Junior Running Back Terrell Newby

#### On the opening drive and the tone it set for the rest of the game

"It felt real good. I felt like we were starting to get going real early. The offensive line had a great push up front, so it was easier for me to read the holes. I felt like we were real confident as an offense as a whole that first drive."

#### On if he knew the amount of running between the tackles going into the game

"I knew we were going to want to implement a running game early, so obviously that's what we did. When we started to get things going, we just kept going for it."

#### On his increased workload compared to last week

"I didn't know I had that many carries until after the game, but I'm kind of feeling the side effects a little bit, but I'm feeling good, just a little sore."

#### On how confident he's feeling running the ball

"I'm feeling real good, I felt confident coming out for the first drive, getting a great push up front, I just felt like as an offense as a whole, once we get rolling, I feel like we can't be stopped."

#### On if he knew he would get more carries going into the game

"I knew we were going to establish the running game, so obviously when Coach Langs (Offensive Coordinator Danny Langsdorf) wants to do that, it's going to be a big part of the offense, so we have to be ready for it."

#### On how he was able to establish a rapport with the rest of the offense this week in practice

"I guess things just started going well for me early in the game."

#### On his thoughts on career highs in yards (198) and carries (28)

"It always feels good when you can get things going, especially early. I definitely thought that contributed to our confidence, coming out in a first drive like that, and the second drive going out and scoring. It felt really good."

#### On his film study during the week

"Me personally, I looked over all the plays from last game. As an offense, we had some (missed assignments), me personally, I had some (missed assignments), and we definitely wanted to clean those up throughout the week. We hit on those early and worked on it throughout the week. We wanted to go out there and execute everything that we had messed up on last week today."

#### On if he could feel momentum building throughout the game

"Yeah, real early, probably in that first drive, I just started feeling really comfortable and loose. Once things started getting going, started going inside a lot, I just felt really good."

### Junior Linebacker Michael Rose-Ivey

#### On feelings

"It felt good. I thought I was in a lot better shape than I thought I would be. Being out there as many plays, it was just fun to be out there. Last week was tough for me and the other four guys that were out. This week was tough for Cethan (Carter) sitting out and watching everybody else play. It's going to feel good next week having everyone back and being able to contribute. I felt good though. I still have some rust as far as managing my wind before the game. I think I was a little too jacked up before the game. I guess that comes with not being able to play for almost two years now. It was a great start, but I still have a lot of things to work on."

#### On pregame routine

"With the game being scheduled so late, I was worried about how I was going to manage myself. I had people texting me and telling me all these things. I just turned off the texting and tried to focus as much as I can on everything. I think I had everything down so it wasn't much trying to get last second notes in. I think I just have to control myself. That was tough sitting in a hotel all day. I don't think people realize how tough that is, being in a hotel all day but that's our job. Hopefully we can take this schedule we use to the hotel and use it for our night games down the road."

#### On how tough it was watching last week

"It was tough. It was something I expected for a while but dealing with the whole ACL thing was tough. It's always tough when you have the opportunity to go compete and whatever the case was, I let my teammates down in a moment of weakness and not doing the right things. It's been a journey but I don't want to get into how tough it was. Everyone has a story and everyone has struggles. It was tough, that's all I can say."

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### Junior Quarterback Tommy Armstrong Jr.

#### On how he thought Terrell Newby played

"He played amazing. I liked everything he did. He caught the ball well, he ran well, and I kind of just gave him a challenge before the game. I just told him just to "set the challenges the coaches give you, make sure you just run hard. Be that guy that wants the ball in tough situations." He said "I got you, I understand, I understand exactly where you're coming from." He went out there and ran like he was getting chased by everybody and I'm proud of him, being able to come in as a (junior) and play like he's playing. He's doing a great job. I kind of talked to him afterwards and said, 'Hey, just have that mindset each and every game. You just got to have that mindset that you're going to get every single yard and fight for it. Sometimes it's not going to be there, sometimes you may have to cut back. Sometimes we may make a mistake but make sure you make it 100 miles an hour, and I think that's the way he took it, and he just went out there and did a great job, and now I'm proud of him."

#### On what he had going at different targets other than Jordan Westerkamp

"I've said it time in and time out. Those guys are talented. You just got to be able to get them the ball in the right situation and I think that's what I try to do and my coaches put me in a great position to do that. You got guys like that that can make plays, put their feet and catch balls in certain situations, and then you just got to be able to give them ball. That's my job, I just got to make sure I put the ball on them in the right situation. I felt myself kind of underthrowing some balls here and there, but overall as a unit in the passing game I thought we did well. We can do better and we're looking forward to improving this week."

#### On if he knew defenses would try to lock down Jordan Westerkamp

"Sort of kind of, the way our offense is, it's not sitting around anymore. Like I said, we got a lot of talent. We're just going to take what the defense gives us, and we kind of spreaded them out a little bit to see who can make plays in certain situations based on their defense, based on how they play, and based on what kind of leverage they gave us, we just made plays out wide and I think that's what opened up the run game for us."

#### On if he's having fun in this offense

"Yes I am. I'm enjoying it and our receivers are enjoying, our offensive linemen are enjoying it and our running backs are. It's great, we got a lot of weapons and we just got to give them the ball. When everyone's clicking and we're all on the same page, we're working our tails off each and every day of the summer, and to just be able to do what we're doing right now, it's fun. When you know what you're doing, and we're able to go out there and go 100 miles per hour, have no regrets when it comes to whether you did this right or did this wrong. It's fun, and you can see it out there from everybody when things are going right, when things are on the same page up front out wide and in the backfield. It's fun, we got a lot of guys out there that are energetic and going out there and going 100 miles per hour and they're making plays."

#### On if he thought tonight was good for the confidence for Nebraska's younger receivers

"Yeah, we had a lot of guys step up. They got a little bit of time to get in and things like that. It's always a great thing to see guys go in there and make plays. It kind of shows you where they are mentally just by being able to go out there. Like I said before, you never know what may happen. A young guy may have to go in and step in for a veteran guy that goes down and we just got to be prepared and make sure that we're on the same page when it comes to everyone. I think that young guys getting in there and rotating and things like that kind of builds the chemistry for everyone."

#### On if it was good to have a solid first drive for the second straight week

"Yeah, as an offense as a unit we got to have a great start. We got to make sure that we have a great statement and I think that's what we did. For a second we just got to make sure that we start off on the right page and we start clicking and we start moving chains and just being able to move the ball and capitalize on third and short, third and long, that's helped us a lot as a unit. Just being able to get out there and do what we have to do in order to move the chains and I think as a whole team in general we did a great job at it."

#### On how the guys reacted to the 'Hip-Hip-Hooray' chant

"Oh, it was old school but we can get used to it. It's something fun, and if you win then you got something to look forward to. Something new, but at the same time it's kind of old school style celebration. We keep winning we can do it all the time, so we just got to make sure that we win games and have something to look forward to."

#### On what he thought about establishing the run game early on

Yeah, I think it's just spreading guys out and making sure we have great assignments up front and I think they did a great job. They were able to get in there and cut guys down and the fullbacks and tight ends were able to kick out guys when we needed them to. I don't think it's just Newby, I think it's guys up front and those receivers. They don't really get credit when it's due, but those guys block their tails off for four quarters and that's why we had as many yards as we had. In the past, we've had receivers that block well also and I think that's where it all starts is up front and out wide and being able to get that guy or myself a hole or a crease and get down the field and gain some yards. Newby did a great job but you also got to give credit to the offensive line that did a great job, and the outside, the receivers by blocking."

### Junior Wide Receiver Lane Hovey

#### On if it feels like everything has corrected itself in the first couple games after all of the trouble and injuries through camp

"Yeah, I really feel like everything is starting to come together. Receiver wise, we had different guys out at different times so I think it was hard for us and for the coaches to really figure out who was gonna be able to do what for the offense and I think that with most of the guys back now we're starting to get it figured out and get it all meshing together well."

#### On if he knew this was an offense that would give a lot of different guys opportunities

"Yeah, I mean the coaches are really good at being able to isolate who they want in certain matchups, things like that. So I really think it helps us be able to target certain guys and just have a lot of options when we need them."

#### On if he knew going in to the game that he was going to get some looks

"You always hope that you will and through practice this week, we'd work on some stuff, and I think I knew just kind of, with their secondary being a little undersized, being a bigger guy that's something we really wanted to exploit."

#### On his two important catches in the first drive and if that's something he can look at and see how he performed in a critical situation

"I guess I just always try and make the play when the ball is thrown my way, so no matter the situation I try and make sure that I make it happen and I was glad I was able to make it happen at critical moments tonight."

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**On if they felt a little pressure that they would have to step up and find something that work consistently with players out**

"I think there is pressure on us, but we like it that way. We tell each other before every game, you know, that the receivers are the guys that gonna make this game or break this game and we just have to go out and make plays. And I think that we all as a group really enjoy having that put on our shoulders and like going out there and making plays."

**On if he sensed a difference in what the defense was doing to him in the second half**

"Yeah, I mean I think it was a little bit what we were trying to do on offense too as far as clock management but just matchups and stuff like that, they were trying to make sure I couldn't get across the middle as easy wide open."

**On if they were as worried about South Alabama as much as they were about BYU**

"You've gotta take every opponent as a formidable matchup. I think just the difference in competitiveness between teams in college football, is just, the gap is growing smaller and smaller and so I just think that we have to have a mindset going in to a game, no matter who it is, that we just have to take care of business."