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Sports Journalism

Topic: To boo or not to boo

On the evening of Saturday September 25th, the college football world was turned upside down when the student section at the University of Oklahoma football game, poured down boos and chants of “we want Caleb” during the primetime game against West Virginia. A bad look for everyone involved in the boos and chants was due to the poor performance of the offense from Oklahoma including the play from quarterback Spencer Rattler.

The game itself against West Virginia, went down to the wire as Oklahoma barely squeaked out a 16 to 13 win on a game winning field goal. As soon as the game ended, discussions began. From social media to the press conference to on the field post-game interviews, the topic consisted of the same, were the boos warranted and were they ok to boo the Sooners.

Booing in sports has been around since the beginning and usually is directed towards an opposing player or team. But is it ok to boo your own team? Yes, it is. For many fans, including myself, an expectation has been set for how the Oklahoma offense needs to be run and until Caleb Williams stepped in against Texas, it had not been there. As fans realized that as well, they utilized the moment to voice their frustrations to the team. Paying good money to be at these events, along with wanting your team to perform to the best of their ability, if the play wasn’t there, then there is nothing wrong with booing your team. Personally, I have booed my favorite team in the world [Chicago Blackhawks] many times as I was disappointed in their play and wanted to see better. Whether it's college or the pros, booing is a way for fans to express their frustrations and voice their opinions on how they see things. In terms of the Sooners, it brought up the topic of the quarterback play and that discussion brought light to Caleb Williams and when he stepped in and led the Sooners to a comeback victory of a lifetime, it was apparent that that is how the offense can be at its best and it wasn’t with the usual guy under center.

In the game against Texas, Spencer Rattler’s offense ran 31 plays leading to only 151 yards, one touchdown and two turnovers. When Caleb Williams stepped in, the offense looked brand new and like the offenses Oklahoma fans have seen before. They ran 50 plays, accumulating over 500 yards, 511 to be exact, and 5 total touchdowns plus a victory.

Overall, did it look bad at primetime that the Sooner faithful booed their own team and quarterback, yes. But, if it didn’t bring up the conversation, we may not have had Caleb Williams lead the team to the biggest comeback in OU vs Texas history. By booing the team and their performance it made Lincoln and the coaches go and figure out how they can get this offense going and putting up points. Since that game they have put up 37, and 55 points and look to continue this trend as the season progresses.

So, remember, Booing is ok. Booing is allowed. Whether it's college or professionals, there is no issue with booing, it’s the fans’ way of showing that they want better and are displeased with the play and you never know it may just pay off.