



SEC Football Media Day Player Quotes

Session 2: Georgia, Arkansas

July 22, 2010, 8:00 a.m.

The Wynfrey Hotel; Birmingham, Ala.

Arkansas Player Quotes

TEDJWilliams

(On expectations) “Our expectations are high. They’ve been high in the past but we understand that this year we have a chance to do something special....What comes along with high expectations and goals is actually believing that it can happen and I see that in every players’ eyes this year, being able to push themselves.”

(On Ryan Mallet) “You don’t see college quarterbacks make the kind of throws that he makes. Ryan puts it on the money...He has that pro-type arm and the ability to make every throw. With that talent comes the confidence that he brings to the huddle.”

(On spotlight) “This is a completely different Arkansas team. We are going to set the standard for what Arkansas football could and should be for years to come. Coach Petrino has done a great job of establishing that since the day he first stepped on the field here on campus.”

(On Petrino and the Atmosphere) “I think he is comfortable and where he wants to be. It’s a good feeling to see that in your coach and that he believes he can win with this group of guys. It’s a great environment and you can feel it in the air in Fayetteville that something special is going to happen this year.”

(On team experience) “The biggest thing we have coming into this year is experience. We have almost everybody coming back on offense and almost everybody coming back on defense so everyone has been there before and knows what it takes to win a game.”

(On playing piano at media days) “You know it helps me relax and lighten up the room and I enjoy doing it. I was fine, you know, just wanting to put on a little bit of show for everybody. Everybody looked a little bored.”

Defensive End Jake Bequette

(On Expectations) “I think it’s a good thing. As far as our team, we’ve been using it more as excitement than pressure.”

(On Defense) “I think we’re a faster, more confident defense. Coach has done a great job of simplifying our schemes and really finding the right combination of guys at certain positions to make us play our best.”

(On Spring Preparations) “We’ve (Defense) been focusing on eliminating the big plays and keeping everything in front of us and playing faster.”

(On close games) “The 4th quarter is where games are won and lost. We had a lot of close games last year against big time opponents that went down to the wire and we didn’t come out on top. We have to be able to dig deep and make the biggest plays in the game, late in the game, which championship teams do.”

(On Petrino’s impact) “Coach Petrino is all business. He is very regimented and I think a team takes on the identity of its coach. And we’ve done that. He realizes what is at hand and knows that if we’re going to be successful we all need to be focused and mindful of everything we do every day. He has been a bit more relaxed but when it comes to football there is no relaxation. It’s all business and we’re ready to work.”

(On the Offense/Defenses relationship) “It’s nice to have one of the best offenses in the country. People don’t realize but we get to go against and compete against in practice some of the most talented athletes in the country. As a defense, we use that to our advantage but we also carry a good-natured chip on our shoulder. This defense shouldn’t be taken lightly and we have to prove ourselves so we are held in the same respect as our offense.”