



2015 SEC Football Media Days Alabama Player Quotes Wednesday, July 15, 2015

Senior Offensive Line Ryan Kelly

On Quarterback Situation at Alabama

“If you look at last year going into the season, we didn’t really know who the starting quarterback would be. Would it be Blake (Simms)? Would it be Jake (Coker)? Looking at this year, there are five great candidates. And, I don’t mean candidates in that we aren’t friends with them. They are great guys, great leaders in the locker room. We like to be around them. Regardless of who ends up starting when we are in Dallas, I know they are going to do a great job, be a great team leader and have great energy. We’ve seen a lot of leadership out of them just because the young guys are getting talked about with the older guys, and they are competing. That’s what we want to do, and that is what makes our team better. Regardless of who is out there when we are in Dallas, they’re going to do a great job.”

On Experience Playing for Nick Saban

“It has been incredible. When I first signed up, I never really knew just how fast and detail-oriented [he is], how he goes about his day. It has made me the man I am today. The assets that he surrounds himself with every player—if a player keeps up, he is going to get it for him. I think the biggest thing that separates Nick Saban at Alabama from other coaches is the detail he goes in to every single season. There is never going to be a game we go into where we don’t know what they are going to do, their tendencies. Not only on the field, but off the field, he allowed me to get a bachelor’s. I am about to get my master’s, which I never thought of getting when I first signed on. It has been the greatest experience of my life, and he has made me the man I am today.”

On Consistency of Winning Seasons at Alabama

“It’s cliché here, but it is the process. Everyone wants to talk about it, but it’s the real thing. No matter who you bring in, we aren’t going to change our standards for who you are. This is the Bama Way. This is a special place. It’s not for everybody to come to. I think that is one of the biggest things Coach Saban has drilled in is that if you come here, you are a part of something bigger than you. Every guy who has had success here has partaken in that. All the success, the way he recruits—you can’t get around [the process], the hard work, the dedication, and he’s taught me to be a good person as well.”