



MD16

**2016 SEC Football Media Days
Mississippi State Player Quotes**
Tuesday, July 12, 2016

Senior Linebacker Richie Brown

On being at media days...

"It's really exciting and good to be here. It is fun seeing the other teams and interacting with each other in this setting. I'm very honored to be chosen by my coaches to represent my team."

On new defensive staff...

"Coach Sirmon is great; He is an ex-NFL guy. He has done a lot for our defense already. He relates really well to the players, NFL guys tend to relate to us a lot better because they kind of know what we have been through. He is bringing new things to the table but we are still Mississippi State defense. I'm really excited for this season."

On toughest offensive plays faced...

"Some of them have been pretty recent, Derrick Henry was a really tough one, Leonard Fournette. They are really good. They are kind of freaky guys that are so big you don't expect them to move as fast as they do. Players like that can really stress a defense."



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Senior Defensive End A.J. Jefferson

On coming to SEC Media Days:

“Coming to school here, I never thought I’d be able to come to something like this, but I’m blessed and just lucky to be here.”

On the defensive coordinator changes:

“Playing defense doesn’t change. Every defensive coordinator we’ve had come here might dress it up a different way, but it’s all the same thing. They want us to be juiced and have energy and just go out there and play – to love what we’re doing and have fun doing it. Tackling is one of the ones that all the coaches touch on. That, being juiced up, and having fun, just loving being out there on defense.”

On the rivalry with Ole Miss:

“Being from Mississippi, of course the Egg Bowl is something serious. But I feel like both teams have improved so much that the winner of that game could be the team to represent the SEC West in the SEC Championship game. I feel like it is what it is. I feel like it’s not that bad of a rivalry, but I’ve never experienced anything crazy. Of course you’re going to say words across the field, but that’s every game. I don’t feel like it’s gone too far.”

On new defensive coordinator Coach Peter Sirmon:

“Coach Sirmon is a great guy, a real people person. You can tell he’s been in California for a while, because he really just brightens up everybody’s mood. With him, we have defensive meetings. Every coach is in the business of getting you better, and I like that about him. I can tell he’s very passionate about what he does, and he loves it. As far as getting us better, I can tell you he’s in the business of getting me better because he wanted me to learn every position up front. I can tell he wants me to be versatile so I can show what I can do.”



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Senior Wide Receiver Fred Ross

On the difference of the first spring practice with out Dak Prescott

“It has definitely been different without Dak. All of the quarterbacks have been working hard and doing things the coaches have asked of them.”

On what is it like as you a wide out

“Trying to just do my job and doing what I have to do. Also, just standing on my own and figuring things out and try to get back.”

On losing De’runnya Wilson leaving and who will step in his place

“We have a lot of young players, who are talented and ready to play.”

On playing for Coach Mullen and the threats of Mullen leaving

“No, I have heard a lot of rumors. Coach Mullen has been right here though with us the whole time. I do not think there has been one time where I thought he was leaving.”