



MD16

2016 SEC Football Media Days

Tennessee Player Quotes

Tuesday, July 12, 2016

Senior Quarterback Joshua Dobbs

On his personal and team goals for the season

“I am excited for the upcoming season. I am excited to get back on the field and compete again. Our goals and expectations for ourselves are getting better each and every game of the season. How can we be the best football players we can possibly be by September first. We are pushing ourselves everyday trying to find the one thing to make us better. It has been a great mindset for our team and we will be ready when the first game comes around”

On the excitement surrounding the 2013 recruiting class

“You look back at it and Cameron Sutton was my roommate freshman year. Jalen, Cam and I are all close. I look back on the times in the dorm room where we talked about where we wanted to get to at this time in our careers. It is really great to look up and see what we have done and what is yet to be done. It is definitely exciting to look back at that class and at the guys who are still productive and competing on the field for us. That class was Coach Jones’ first class and we have definitely done lot for the program and we look forward to this season and finishing strong. “

On the hype surrounding Tennessee this year and the challenge that presents

“It is no challenge at all. We have the highest expectations for ourselves. We hold ourselves to high standard when we perform on the field, when we practice, and when we work out. We look at the little details and the things you might not want to do and we do those things in order to become great. We hold the highest standards of ourselves to be great this upcoming season each and every time we step on the field. We are excited and we are pushing each other everyday. There is always constant competition even with the littlest things so it is good to see that healthy competition across the team and guys are realizing that this is going to be an exciting year and we will be ready to compete once September first comes. “

On being mentioned as a Heisman contender

“It is cool to be mentioned along side the Heisman. It is a very prestigious award and a lot of amazing college football players have won that award, but personally the only thing I can worry about is being the best quarterback for Tennessee. The awards and accolades will come if you go out and compete and try to be the best quarterback you can be for Tennessee so I hold myself to a high standard and I hold my teammates to a high standard and I try to raise the level of play amongst everyone around me so that when we step on the field we are playing at a high level. If we play like that then everything we could ever imagine will be at our fingertips. “



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Senior Linebacker Jalen Reeves-Maybin

On the message UT is trying to get out about media days

“Our summer is going great, nothing has changed. We have the same mentality, same work ethic, trying to build and get better every day. Not focus on too much, just focus on each other, take care of the football family.”

On how Jalen and teammates handle lofty expectations

“We have higher expectations for ourselves than anybody. We see each other and work out with each other every day so we know how capable we are.”

On the importance of the Florida game

“Every game is important; you can’t slip up in college football. It’s not like basketball where you can lose a few games and get by. We come out with a mentality that any given Saturday anyone can be beat. We’re focused on ourselves, having each other’s back, developing all from an internal standpoint. From the outside there’s dissecting the schedule, but we just come in to work and know everything will handle itself.”

On the Battle at Bristol game atmosphere

“We need to take of our first game first, Appalachian State, they have a great program. The Battle at Bristol game we try not to get caught up on the experience, the hype, the stadium, stage, and number of people that are going to be there. We focus on each other, focus on grinding, and don’t focus on all the outside things.”

On the swagger being back at Tennessee

“The swagger never left. We might have lost a couple games and losing seasons but as long as I’ve been there I’ve never seen guys fold and shy away from anything and attack full speed during the season. We lost some games back-to-back but we always bounce back. That’s what Tennessee is, the way we bounce back and keep pushing.”

On SEC East expectations

“They’ve seen what we’ve done and what we have coming back. We’re focused on our preparation, our setbacks, and what we’ve got coming up. We’re coming in to playing Tennessee football.”

On Joshua Dobbs being a potential Heisman Trophy candidate

“Let’s hope so, Dobbs is my boy. We’ve been watching the team and the whole program grow the past few years. He’s one of the top quarterbacks in the nation and he does a lot of things that make him unique. I would love for Dobbs to win the Heisman. If he won, I would probably be happier than him.”



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Senior Defensive Back Cameron Sutton

On Florida being a rivalry

"I don't really get into that or get involved in that. That's not my priority or something I worry about, but obviously we see it because a lot of our guys are connected to social media and it's something we cannot really turn ourselves from, but we have a lot more to worry about than just that."

On how it feels to be wearing No. 23 again and reuniting with Gaulden

"Obviously he (Rashaan Gaulden) missed last year due to an injury, and that's why I wore the number seven jersey, for him. I wanted to represent him and this university, but he brings another aspect to the game. From being versatile, to him being able to play any position as secondary. He does well; he has the size and the speed to complement his game. It's great to have him back on the field especially now knowing he is behind me and knowing we will be working together a lot on the field."

On why he decided to stay at Tennessee and not go to the NFL

"The process started after the season; obviously because that is my main priority at the time. After our bowl win against Northwestern, I started my process after that. I took it to my family and the coaching staff and a lot of people that were influential in my life, but at the end of the day, it was my decision. It is bigger than me; it is not just about me. It impacts everyone around me. I would say I have had an impact on my teammates and the coaches, the university, and the community and I realized it is another opportunity to do what I love with people I love."