



2017 SEC Football Media Days Vanderbilt Player Quotes Tuesday, July 11, 2017

Senior Linebacker Oren Burks

On the SEC East...

“We have always been the underdog in the SEC. We kind of like that and we know what work we are putting in. We know we are setting ourselves up for a great season. So that is all that matters and all this talk will go on. It matters about getting to the ball.”

On the seniors in the defense...

“With experience comes confidence and as the years have gone by, we become more confident with our defense even though it hasn’t changed much. I am becoming more confident in Coach Mason’s schemes and knowing where your eyes are. We’re ready to play a lot faster. It all adds up to performing better to get that experience.”

On moving from cornerback to linebacker...

“I am more confident and actually have been playing a little bit of inside linebacker this year. So moved positions quite a bit, and I am becoming comfortable with this role. Whatever Coach Mason needs me to do in that scheme and whatever is the best interest for the team. The midway between hybrid outside linebacker to safety I was before to now dropping coverage and running a lot more, I look forward to this role.”

On the organization he started...

“Revamp is an organization that I cofounded my junior year. Revamp is Revitalizing, Empowering Vanderbilt’s African American Male Population and it has really taken off more than I would have ever thought it would. Around campus we have done a lot of events with different other organizations. Just trying to empower black men to really be better on and off the field within society. ProjectSafe is about being an active bystander, making sure people are doing the right thing, and holding people accountable ”

On who is going to replace Zach Cunningham...

“I think it will be a collective effort. There won’t just one guy to step in that role. With a lot of senior leaders they’re going to have to experience and have to step up with a lot of confidence. Playing inside linebacker, I am looking forward to the role. It will be a team effort to make up the collection”