



## 2017 SEC Football Media Days Kentucky Player Quotes Wednesday, July 12, 2017

### Senior Linebacker Courtney Love

*On how the atmosphere around the football program has changed since he arrived...*

"The atmosphere has definitely changed a lot, but the goal has always been the same. We obviously want bigger goals, but I got recruited on changing the culture of this program with Coach Stoops. He's done that and more. As players, we have to do our part. I think we did last year. We have to continue to do that. We have to continue to get better and buy into his vision for the program. Among our president at the university, Dr. Capilouto, Mitch Barnhart and Coach Stoops, all three of those guys are 110 percent behind us no matter what we do. Whether it's on the field, in our personal life or in the community, they're always there for us. That's something players want. I think all three of those guys have that, and I think that's something that really changed our program. Our program is well run now. This morning, for instance, we had practice among ourselves. We had individuals with the coaches, and then after that, we did a little bit of team work and seven-on-seven type things. Coaches can't be around for that, so it has to be run by the players. Two years ago, it was like a jungle. It was chaos because guys weren't doing what they were supposed to do, but moving on to now, it looks like we're a real team out there. We're making sure we do what we have to do. We know if we put this work in now and get better, it'll make camp that much easier, which will make us that much better for the regular season and SEC play."

*On making a bowl in his first year at Kentucky...*

"I think it was very rewarding. It was something that I wanted to do as a player. When I transferred in, I wanted to come in and have an impact on the team. I think I definitely have so far with my teammates and in the community. It's been awesome. I've done different programs. I'm doing a mentoring program and a lot more related to community service. On the field, we're getting so much better. We can work out more and do things we weren't able to do when I first came in because we didn't have the depth or facilities. We have everything we need now. You have to have the best to be the best, and I think we have the very best. We're just trying to do the best we can."

*On the process of transferring schools...*

"I wasn't a leader when I was at Nebraska. I was within my circle of friends and guys in my classes, but I wasn't seeing a lot of playing time. Then I transferred to Kentucky and had to sit out, so I was trying to tell guys to go harder and get to class, but they looked at me funny because I hadn't played a down yet. Some guys did start to buy into that though. We formed a group of guys that really had my back, and I had their back. We helped change the program. Last season really speaks for itself as for how the culture has changed. Coach Stoops and his staff have done a tremendous job at developing us not only as players, but as young men. There are a lot more opportunities the guys have to do outside of football. Guys don't have to play football or be a coach. They can be engineers, teachers and things like that. I think Coach Stoops has definitely grooming us into great young men."

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