



HAWAII DEFENSIVE PRESS CONFERENCE QUOTES

Friday, Dec. 28, 2007

Session 2

LB SOLOMON ELIMIMIAN, DB MYRON NEWBERRY, DB JACOB PATEK

Opening Statement from Solomon Elimimian: "It's an outstanding experience to be here in this city. We understand though we are here for one game. Also, the people are great and have been very hospitable to us since we have arrived. This will be the biggest game of our lives and we have to understand why we are here."

Opening Statement from Myron Newberry: "It's a great city to be in. We are all happy to be here, individually and as a team. We know we are here to take care of business and we just have to go out and do just that."

Opening Statement from Jacob Patek: "Howdy! We are just blessed, though I haven't really explored the city or anything like that. The way the Allstate Sugar Bowl has treated us has been great. Having our fans come in and the road we have taken this season to have it end here; the Lord has truly blessed us with this opportunity."

Question for Solomon Elimimian - You keep hearing, it's the mighty SEC; It's just the WAC. Does that get irritating? – "That is just something you have to deal with. People are always saying that, we get a lot of skeptics. We get a lot of criticism of our defense all year, but as I said earlier our defense makes stops and when we need them we make those stops. Just like Boise State and Oklahoma from last year, no one gave Boise a chance and thought Oklahoma would overpower them. It didn't happen like that and the team that wanted it more, and had the most heart came out on top."

Jacob Patek –"You can't really judge what conference you are in or how good your guys are. It's always how much heart you have. I mean just look at Appalachian State and Michigan. Guys come out and are ready to play. I know Georgia is going to be ready to play and I know we are going to be ready to play. It's going to be a good game and I encourage you guys to watch."

Question for Jacob Patek – We hear how well Coach (June) Jones relates to his players. Can you give some examples of that? – "Coach is a character. Just stands on the field with his playbook, crossing his arms. He doesn't really say much but when he does say something, you listen. He has a great knowledge of the game and what he says is crucial. It is important that we understand it. I know he talks a lot to Colt (Brennan) and I think Colt has really taken that into consideration of how Coach Jones is such a great coach that you have to listen. Coach Jones doesn't really talk too much to the defense but when he does talk to us, you can really get a feel from listening to him that he has a feel for the whole game and he's not just an offensive coach. He understands where you need to be and why you are there, what technique you are using. He is also a comedian too. When he does open up to you and you're able to just talk to him, it's amazing."

Myron Newberry –"Coach Jones is a character, but also a great coach. He makes you laugh and shows you by example and by doing. He shows us the way to do things and the right way to do it. And the players try to emulate that."