



Ohio State Offensive Interviews

Tuesday, December 26, 2017
Omni Dallas Hotel, Dallas, Texas



QUESTIONS FOR OFFENSIVE COORDINATOR KEVIN WILSON

Q. As someone who has been around the Big Ten for a few years, is it hard to believe that this would be the last time J.T. Barrett is playing for Ohio State?

COACH WILSON: He's had a phenomenal career. I think, as kids, those guys sometimes get ready to move on. As a coach, I feel like Groundhog Day. You wish years didn't change. He's been a joy to be around. It's been special.

Q. You have the perspective of having competed against him a couple times. Did you learn anything about him this year, something you didn't know from the other side of the field?

COACH WILSON: Again from afar, I had the utmost -- just the way he played as a freshman with the pressure of the position in college offense and the pressure of the position in a place like Ohio State and the demands of having to play so well. The way he played was so unusual.

And then to me, from afar, that second year, there's competition and you don't win but you're still a great teammate and part of a great team. And to handle that and come back the way he played last year, I think he's the best player in the country. I appreciate him as a teammate and having been around him now, he's a better person, better worker, better teammate. As a player, he's one of the all-time great players and leaders but he's a phenomenal person, great parents. Blessed to have been around him for a year.

Q. What have you seen the last couple days about this bowl experience? A lot of people are talking about this being the consolation bowl, so to speak, Ohio State-USC. You aren't in the playoffs but what have you noticed about your players? Are they into it?

COACH WILSON: Very much. We had a very strong year but also had some setbacks and didn't play our best. Things didn't go our way or we didn't execute our plays as well as we wanted to or get the outcomes we wanted all the time. But these guys came back with purpose.

And I think our coaching staff has a lot of respect for these players. It's a great group of seniors, very, very talented team. We didn't play well a couple times. But the way they played down the stretch, we've practiced. We're a tremendously competitive team in practice. And our practices have been awesome.

We are going to have to play very, very well against a talented great USC team. I don't know if it's consolation, two champions playing. It's the Cotton Bowl we're in and we're excited to be here.

Quotes provided by Caption Northwest, Inc. – 425-343-4946

www.captionnorthwest.com





Ohio State Offensive Interviews

Tuesday, December 26, 2017
Omni Dallas Hotel, Dallas, Texas



We play in a great offensive state. Southern California plays in a great offensive state. There's a couple states in our country known for offense and people love it. And the passion and the way they treat you in the bowl games, it's a blessing to be here. It's where we're at on the record. Our kids are excited. Our coaches are excited. It sets up to be a good game. We practiced well.

Q. Twenty years ago this would have been the Rose Bowl. If you looked and reviewed 12, 13 games, what is that game that you would hold up as this offense was about this year? After you guys finally got something going, is there one game where you thought you all really in your mind put it all together?

COACH WILSON: To me, there's a couple of them. They're kind of different. I thought at Nebraska on the road the way J.T. [Barrett] executed, and we threw the ball and still had a good running game. We had a strong outing on the road. But that was an impressive offensive outing.

The finish of the Penn State game was impressive. The way we came out against a great Michigan State team and ran the ball was unusual because people don't do that. And those guys came in playing really strong. I think those three games were different. That Michigan State game got into a strong running game. And to me, when you're a really good offense, talk about balance, I think balance is when you have the ability to run or pass, not that you're 50/50.

Q. Any time we mention Tate Martell's name with the fan base, they get pretty excited about him and his future. So this morning with him getting to work with starters around him for 15 minutes of open practice, we see some of that frenzy again. Is that just a product of bowl practices, that he gets a chance to do something different? Has he always gotten to do hand-offs to whoever played behind Jamarco [Jones] a couple times in practice? Is that a common setup with a red-shirt quarterback like him?

COACH WILSON: A little bit. There's different times of the year or spots in practices where there's certain plays you're getting ready for, certain looks, and other times you're mixing guys in. You don't want to mix so much that you don't get ebb and flow.

The thing to me, we were just talking about J.T. [Barrett] a second ago. The best thing about this offensive team, you work hard to coach them well.

The way J.T. has prepped and practiced has been great and the way Coach [Ryan] Day is coaching him. And in time, Tate [Martell] became a sponge and started absorbing. The highly touted quarterback and all the accolades that he comes in with kind of get shoved aside. He really took off midpoint of this season and he used to play tailback for us and receiver, and he's been a phenomenal quarterback.

Quotes provided by Caption Northwest, Inc. – 425-343-4946

www.captionnorthwest.com





Ohio State Offensive Interviews

Tuesday, December 26, 2017
Omni Dallas Hotel, Dallas, Texas



Based on the look, there were weeks we thought we needed him at tailback and he went and played tailback because he's a nice athlete. But for a freshman and as a quarterback, he has grown a lot. He's still young but he has grown up being a good teammate.

That's hard at quarterback because at quarterback, you're always "the guy." And because of that, he's earned a lot of respect from a lot of peers on this team. And he sets up well.

QUESTIONS FOR QB J.T. BARRETT

Q. In terms of not talking to media but actually playing your last game, that it's closer, do you have different emotions than other games? Does this feel special or weird or anything, that that's going to be the last time you put on that helmet?

QB J.T. BARRETT: Not really. Like I said, I've been given enough questions about it being my last game. I'm definitely fully aware.

I don't know. I haven't put a lot of thought into it. Just focusing on each day as it comes and with that, just trying to put my best foot forward as far as practice and then spend time with my brothers at the Cotton Bowl, the seniors, being our last game and things like that.

But we've just been enjoying it each and every day. I haven't looked too far ahead and try not to think as far as it being the last game. Just taking it day by day and enjoying it and being thankful for each day.

Q. Have you allowed yourself to reflect on your accomplishments, what you've done here? And, if so, any particular accomplishments that you really cherished?

QB J.T. BARRETT: Not really. I haven't thought about it. I've done some good things here at Ohio State, but I haven't sat down and really thought about those things. That will be something I'll probably do later on in life, look back at just life in general and reflect.

But right now in my life it's taking each day by day, learning from the past, not thinking too much about the future, letting the future come when it does and treat each day as a gift and blessing.

Q. Is it exciting to play your last game in the state of Texas?

QB J.T. BARRETT: Yeah, it's cool. Like I was saying, my family being able to come see me play, I went to their house today. Family members of mine are from Houston in a little town

Quotes provided by Caption Northwest, Inc. – 425-343-4946

www.captionnorthwest.com





Ohio State Offensive Interviews

Tuesday, December 26, 2017
Omni Dallas Hotel, Dallas, Texas



called Bruner, Texas, being able to come to the game was hard for them. But being in Arlington, it's good for them to come watch.

Q. J.T, when you look at J.K. [Dobbins] and his season, what stands out the most to you? What impresses you most about what he's done on or off the team?

QB J.T. BARRETT: I think any time you come in as a true freshman and play like he has at Ohio State and playing as a true freshman is not an easy task. Not a lot of people do that.

And talking about J.K. this year, just being able to fight through different things that come along with playing as a true freshman, I remember when I was a true freshman, I didn't play. But it was definitely, I want to say, week 10 or 11, we call it the freshman wall that you hit. It's almost like, man, we're still playing offense. It's like pushing through the grind of those things.

QUESTIONS FOR C BILLY PRICE

Q. Over the course of the year, I've asked you a lot of big-picture requests about how this program is built, players coming into the program and people you're with and being a top three, top two program in the country. In your mind, is this year a success?

C BILLY PRICE: Absolutely. The Big Ten East is probably one of the strongest conferences right now in college football, us and the SEC East, whatever 'Bama is in. SEC West, too. With us our conference itself being the strongest most consistent in college football right now. And then you win the Big Ten championship, and so you can go put your name on it. You can look at recruits and look at everybody else and say, "Yeah, we did this." You don't have to throw jabs at schools or people and recruit, whatever. It's, again, the product that you have and the product that you've done and the work you've done. And the past couple years, absolutely, I think this is a success. Is it the overall goal every year to win a national championship? No. We start at Big Ten. Get in the Big Ten East. Win the Big Ten championship. Get the Big Ten and just dominate from there. Because you start playing your best football in November and December and let things take off.

Q. Winning the championship isn't the first goal?

C BILLY PRICE: Not national championship, no. I would say that to Coach Meyer. You don't go into a season saying I want to win a national championship. If we fall short of it, then it's wrong.

Quotes provided by Caption Northwest, Inc. – 425-343-4946

www.captionnorthwest.com





Ohio State Offensive Interviews

Tuesday, December 26, 2017
Omni Dallas Hotel, Dallas, Texas



Q. Are fans thinking of it wrong?

C BILLY PRICE: Fans are entitled to their opinion. If you look at a win or success or failure of a season based on national championship, then you're in the wrong business. Because, again, if you're that uptight about having to win a national championship every single year or you're defined as a failure, not a good situation.

Q. That's where Ohio State is, though.

C BILLY PRICE: The expectation is. But not every day I wake up going to win a national championship. I wake up going to win Big Ten championship, because of your peers around you and pride. The league is based on, to me, that Big Ten championship. So, yeah, I play these guys. I've played guys for five years straight, four years straight, three years, two years, played with unique athletes who are dominating in the NFL. I was watching Jihad Ward playing for Oakland. I played against him two years in a row. It's a pride thing for me. I'm not in recruiting or fancy dancing. I'm into let's win the Big Ten championship and take care week in and week out and let everything else fall where it may.

QUESTIONS FOR RB J.K. DOBBINS

Q. You've had a few weeks to get over selection Sunday and not getting in. But it seems like it's still in your mind and you might not ever truly get over it. What were the discussions like with the team about moving forward in this game and handling that disappointment?

RB J.K. DOBBINS: Us as a team, we've moved forward. We're over that. We are here to win this Cotton Bowl. I mean, I think about it sometimes because who doesn't want to play in the national championship or compete for one. So that's why I kind of think about it, but I think this is a great bowl as well.

Q. Urban [Meyer] talked about selection Sunday. Can you describe it as devastating? How does the team sort of transition from being devastated to being motivated to try and win the Cotton Bowl?

RB J.K. DOBBINS: The leadership. That's where leadership takes part. We don't want to send the great seniors we have on our team now out with a loss because we were devastated about not making the playoffs. So as a team we decided to move past that and just get ready for this bowl game.

Q. If you guys win, you'll be 12-2, have beaten Penn State, Michigan, and USC. How good a
Quotes provided by Caption Northwest, Inc. – 425-343-4946

www.captionnorthwest.com





Ohio State Offensive Interviews

Tuesday, December 26, 2017
Omni Dallas Hotel, Dallas, Texas



year will it be? And on the other hand, if you lose, it will be the first three loss season with Urban Meyer. So how do you think about the season and how important 14 games are in determining whether it's been a success or not?

RB J.K. DOBBINS: Well, we want to go win because 12-2 isn't bad. Isn't a bad season, you know? It's not great. It's not what's expected in Columbus, Ohio, but it's a great season. And this will be one of the best teams that we've had. That's what we're trying to do. Me, personally, I wouldn't want to let Coach Meyer down and give him his first three-game loss season.

Q. When you think about everything, not just the season but your life, the things that you have overcome, your father obviously and breaking a leg as a senior, when you think about your season now, how do you put it in perspective?

RB J.K. DOBBINS: Never give up. That's one of the things I've learned. It's just been a wild life for me. A lot of people don't see that, but that's what makes me the person I am because I've had to fight for everything. Never has come easy to me. So that I see as a blessing.

Q. This is sort of a Texas homecoming for you. Did you know Ronald Jones at all from USC?

RB J.K. DOBBINS: No, I don't know him personally, but I know he's really good, really, really good.

Q. He's excited about coming back to Texas. Is this the same deal for you?

RB J.K. DOBBINS: Yeah, very excited.

Q. What about this year, they've given up yards but they seem to be able to make plays when they need to. What do you see in the USC defense?

RB J.K. DOBBINS: I see an athletic defense, guys that play well together, and I feel like nothing will come easy against them and it will be pretty hard to run against them.

Q. I don't know if you pay any attention to your fan base and all that. They think your offense is going to run right through them, if you read the message boards and all that. And I know you probably don't do a lot of that.

RB J.K. DOBBINS: Yeah, I don't. But we have the best fans in the world, so that's what I expect out of them. So that doesn't surprise me. But hopefully we can do that for them.

Quotes provided by Caption Northwest, Inc. – 425-343-4946

www.captionnorthwest.com





Ohio State Offensive Interviews

Tuesday, December 26, 2017
Omni Dallas Hotel, Dallas, Texas



Q. I'm guessing you watched a lot of USC film. Is there anybody on that defense that you look at and say, "This guy could be a problem"?

RB J.K. DOBBINS: The defensive end, Number 42 (Uchenna Nwosu). He's long. He's a long guy. He's impressive. The safety, Number 7 (Marvell Tell), is pretty good. And, I mean, the whole defense is pretty athletic; but those two guys stand out pretty well.

QUESTIONS FOR WR TERRY McLAURIN

On how RB J.K. Dobbins has handled his freshman campaign:

WR TERRY McLAURIN: We all go through adversity in our lives. And for him [J. K. Dobbins] to use that to almost motivate him to do better for him and his family is, like I said, for an 18-year-old kid to do that and come in, I don't know if I'd be able to do that, especially with all this coming at him so fast at a place like Ohio State. He's handled it with grace. I pray he continues to stay healthy and keep getting better.

Q. How is his personality on the team?

WR TERRY McLAURIN: We love him. And we almost think of him as a little brother because I'm older. But everybody loved J.K. [Dobbins]. People don't necessarily even understand, like, he takes rep after rep after rep. He's a workhorse in practice. He never complains. I've never, ever heard him say, "I need a break." As an older guy, you're going to notice that. And that's what's going to make you like him even more.

Q. I think we asked you back in Columbus, you have a decision to make after this game. What are your thoughts right now on that?

WR TERRY McLAURIN: I'm not thinking about it right now. After the game, I'll talk to my family about it and talk to who I need to talk to. But I'm trying to focus on winning this game for this team and these seniors.

Q. Terry, what do you remember about being here two years ago, three years ago? And does it feel the same right now?

WR TERRY McLAURIN: Yeah, the same in the sense that we're playing in a big game, obviously not the national championship. But we're back in Dallas. The hospitality has been great. I remember the confetti falling after the clock hitting zero. And, wow, you just won the first national title in the playoff era, which is really cool.

Quotes provided by Caption Northwest, Inc. – 425-343-4946

www.captionnorthwest.com





Ohio State Offensive Interviews

Tuesday, December 26, 2017
Omni Dallas Hotel, Dallas, Texas



And now it's different for me because my role is different. I'm playing a more prominent role in offense. And freshman year I was trying to get the defense ready. So that feel of it is different. But I like being in Dallas. It's a really cool city.

Q. It's dressed up the same, but there's a big difference between what you were playing for then and what you're playing for now. I'm wondering with how beautiful everything is and the way they've done this hotel up and the hospitality and the stadium and everything. Does it feel different?

WR TERRY McLAURIN: There's going to be a little difference. But, in the same sense, we're trying to play and win a football game. We just approached that. We try not to make this seem bigger than it is, too. At the same time, we prepare all year to win football games. And we're going against a really good team just like we were back in 2015. So the feel of it is similar.

Q. You are the first team in the playoff era who went into selection Sunday thinking you're in and not getting it. And a lot of people said we're excited to play USC and we've got an opportunity. It's like the old Rose Bowl games, but it's a big difference.

Can you tell me, how did you react to being left out and how you're able to spend the last month realizing that you didn't get to accomplish the top goal but also playing in a game that looks just like that, a game you won it all at?

WR TERRY McLAURIN: Yeah, I see what you're saying. And when you go into a season, you go in to win the conference and the national title. So I feel that's most teams' goals going in, and we did one of them. We won the Big Ten championship. And it's a shame people let that go over our head because we didn't do that two previous years. So that's something we haven't done in a little bit.

But, at the same time, you're obviously disappointed because we feel like we did our part. But the committee didn't see it that way, so you've got to move on. As a grown man, I thought it was a really mature team. And we had that day of "Aw shucks." But at the same time, after that, it was like all USC now. And we want to win this game and prove why we are one of the top teams in the country.

Q. Was this a successful season for Ohio State football with the way this is going?

WR TERRY McLAURIN: I feel like it's been a very successful season. You're not playing for the national championship, but we won the Big Ten title. We haven't done that in a while. We

Quotes provided by Caption Northwest, Inc. – 425-343-4946

www.captionnorthwest.com





Ohio State Offensive Interviews

Tuesday, December 26, 2017
Omni Dallas Hotel, Dallas, Texas



can hang our hat on that. We have a great group of seniors, and we want to send them out on the right note.

Q. Did you feel like a big part of the championship on the field game day?

WR TERRY McLAURIN: I feel like I had my role. And Coach [Urban] Meyer does a good job of emphasizing everybody has a role on this team to make the train move. That was my role, to simulate Amari Cooper in Alabama and their receiver at the time at Oregon. I did all I could to give our guys the best look possible, so I felt like I did my job.

Q. You all have been to the stadium since you've been here. Did you get a good vibe going in? Memories come back?

WR TERRY McLAURIN: You get that feel back. My role is different from then and now so I have a different mindset. I'm really preparing to win the game, where I was preparing just to get the defense ready. So that's different. But you go into that big stadium, it kind of takes your breath away, especially it's the Dallas Cowboys. But you also kind of compartmentalize and focus, especially when you're going to be a big part of the game plan.

QUESTIONS FOR WR PARRIS CAMPBELL

Q. Do you feel like your regular season this year was a success, with what this program has been built to do and the players you have on this team?

WR PARRIS CAMPBELL: Yeah. I mean, you never want to obviously. We have two losses, which were disappointing. But I don't want to just separate the regular season from what's going on now. That all accumulates together.

We overcame a lot of adversity. Obviously losing to Oklahoma early on and going down the stretch run that we did and losing to Iowa, overcoming that, finishing the season strong and obviously winning the Big Ten championship, I think we overcame a lot of stuff.

Q. Was that the craziest loss of your life when you think about it? It seems like it would be one of the craziest, most unexpected losses in Ohio State history.

WR PARRIS CAMPBELL: Yeah, for sure, I wasn't even there. I wasn't playing. I was out.

Q. What was your perspective of it when you were watching?

Quotes provided by Caption Northwest, Inc. – 425-343-4946

www.captionnorthwest.com





Ohio State Offensive Interviews

Tuesday, December 26, 2017
Omni Dallas Hotel, Dallas, Texas



WR PARRIS CAMPBELL: Honestly, I couldn't tell you because I was just so -- I was stressed out. I was angry, not at my teammates or my coaches. I was angry at myself even though the injury that I had was uncontrollable, out of my hands. It was hard just to see my partners, watching my team, go through that and me not contributing at all, having no value.

Q. Parris, what was your first memory that came to mind when you stepped in the stadium for practice yesterday?

WR PARRIS CAMPBELL: Well, I guess walking in the national championship and looking up and seeing all those fans is crazy, a different atmosphere. You kind of just get chills when you walk in that place for sure.

Q. When you stepped in there, that was your freshman year. What was it like to see that video board and see all the people there? I'm really playing for the national championship today. What was that like?

WR PARRIS CAMPBELL: I wasn't registered so I wasn't playing. Even for me now, I get chills still playing the game. But I can only imagine what it was like for those guys that had an extreme role in that game. But it was different, something that you really can't describe.

Q. What was it like seeing highlights before practice on the board?

WR PARRIS CAMPBELL: Just brought back a lot of memories and brought back a lot of memories of older guys that I was around and got to learn from and what they did and what they accomplished. It was pretty cool.

Q. Was there any anger or a different feeling when you look at it, thinking you're watching what happened in that stadium two years ago and you're back here? Is there any thought that isn't, "Wow, that was awesome"?

WR PARRIS CAMPBELL: No, not for me at least. I was just kind of all positive thinking because that was a moment that you'll never forget. It was all positive.

Q. What was it like to have to be away from your family on Christmas?

WR PARRIS CAMPBELL: It was rough. I'm not going to lie. I'm used to waking up Christmas morning -- getting woke up by my little sister on Christmas morning and opening presents and spending time with them. It was rough. But at the end of the day, these guys here are my family as well. So it was comfortable just to be around them because we all were going

Quotes provided by Caption Northwest, Inc. – 425-343-4946

www.captionnorthwest.com





Ohio State Offensive Interviews

Tuesday, December 26, 2017
Omni Dallas Hotel, Dallas, Texas



through the same thing, not having our families.

But then again, we all kind of picked each other up, just go out and have a great practice, a lot of energy actually. And that lifted me up. Our coaching staff, they were really good about it as well because some of them are away from their kids. Everyone just picked everyone up.

QUESTIONS OT JAMARCO JONES

Q. When you look at the USC rush defense, what do you feel like your responsibility is? And maybe that's an easy question. But what's your responsibility when you already know they're going to come in and try to stop the run against you?

OT JAMARCO JONES: You want to make sure you focus on doing your job. You have to try to understand the player next to you is going to do his job and make sure you focus on executing your job. If everyone executes on a play, usually good things happen. That's one thing you can't do, once those things happen, is worry about everybody's job. Just think about your job. Communicate as fast as you can before the ball is snapped and roll with it. Good and bad is going to happen, but you have to move on to the next play.

Q. Stats haven't backed up the defense. When you watch film, what stands out and what challenge do they present?

OT JAMARCO JONES: They're athletic on defense. They have guys flying all over the place. They've got guys in the middle. They bring everything to the table that you want in a defense. I would say they bring some exotic looks. They blitz from all different areas. Sometimes the tail will come in front.

It's going to be a challenge going into this game, executing when you don't really know what's going to happen, who's going to be where and things like that. It's going to definitely be a challenge, but it's going to be a fun challenge. As an offensive line, we faced quite a few teams this year who have done different things defensively that we hadn't seen too much before. But throughout the game, good and bad is going to happen. Make sure we focus on the next play and communicate and get focused.

Q. When you have a team that has exotic blitzes, how important is it to have a line like you and Billy [Price] and Michael [Jordan] and Isaiah [Prince] start and even a senior quarterback in J.T. [Barrett], how important is that, in your experience, to have that veteran leadership when you're going up against a team that does so many different things?

Quotes provided by Caption Northwest, Inc. – 425-343-4946

www.captionnorthwest.com





Ohio State Offensive Interviews

Tuesday, December 26, 2017
Omni Dallas Hotel, Dallas, Texas



OT JAMARCO JONES: It's very important. The experience we have is going to help Friday. Seeing so much over the years and being multiple year starters, we know how to prepare for games. We know how to watch film and study the opponent. Things like that help along the way.

Q. Looking ahead to the NFL draft, to winning this game, and preparing your successor left tackle -- how do you balance all those things?

OT JAMARCO JONES: I haven't thought much about the NFL part. That will come in its time. I try to focus on getting some of the younger guys on the line ready for next year. They've been getting a lot of reps post-season. They've been playing really well, making sure they're ready to kind of step into their new roles or take the next leap. Whatever I could do in these last few weeks I had, I was trying to help those guys out just beat USC. Whatever it takes to beat USC.

Q. It was announced you're going to the Shrine game. Is that something you're excited for, to have that opportunity in front of you?

OT JAMARCO JONES: Yeah, just a chance to play against really good opponents. It's going to be players all over the country. And just to go up against those guys is going to be a great experience for myself.

Q. Do you view this as, "This is my last game, my opportunity to make a statement about myself and show what kind of player I am"?

OT JAMARCO JONES: It's not even really about that. Just, as a senior, I want to go out with a win in the last college game. It wasn't necessarily about my stock or anything like that.

Quotes provided by Caption Northwest, Inc. – 425-343-4946

www.captionnorthwest.com

