LCA Football Coach Oakley Watkins Show Season 2 Episode 1 presented by The Joint Preservation Center Transcript

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Show Opening and Sponsor Intro

It's time for the LCA football coach It's time for the LCA football coach [music] Oakley Watkins show live from [music] Oakley Watkins show live from the home of the Eagles in Lexington, the home of the Eagles in Lexington, Kentucky on the Ortholink Sports [music] Kentucky on the Ortholink Sports [music] Network. The Coach Oakley Watkins Show Network. The Coach Oakley Watkins Show is presented by Dr. Jason Hunt with the is presented by Dr. Jason Hunt with the Joint Preservation Center [music] and Joint Preservation Center [music] and the Kentucky Bluebird Grill and Pub.

the Kentucky Bluebird Grill and Pub.

Season Opener Recap

Now, here's the host of the Coach Oakley Now, here's the host of the Coach Oakley Watkins Show, Jason Hunt. Watkins Show, Jason Hunt. >> All right, we're back here live for the >> All right, we're back here live for the first time of the year on Reynolds Road, first time of the year on Reynolds Road, home of the Eagles for the Coach Oakley home of the Eagles for the Coach Oakley Watkins Show. Coach, welcome. Season two Watkins Show. Coach, welcome. Season two of the Coach Oakley Walking Show.

of the Coach Oakley Walking Show. >> Hey, we're back at it. >> Hey, we're back at it. >> We got brand new graphics, a hot new >> We got brand new graphics, a hot new theme song, so we should be good to go.

theme song, so we should be good to go. Um, let's talk a little bit about last Um, let's talk a little bit about last week. So, first game of the season. Um, week. So, first game of the season. Um, for a little bit, I thought we weren't for a little bit, I thought we weren't going to be able to score the ball for going to be able to score the ball for the whole game. So, give me your big the whole game. So, give me your big impression on uh what you think after impression on uh what you think after you looked at the tape and thought about you looked at the tape and thought about their win at North Harden.

their win at North Harden. >> Yeah, I mean we were obviously sloppy. I >> Yeah, I mean we were obviously sloppy. I mean, that's something that um week one mean, that's something that um week one and our guys have heard me say this, our and our guys have heard me say this, our staff's heard me say that's probably staff's heard me say that's probably where they're tired of me saying it is I where they're tired of me saying it is I don't want to be playing our best don't want to be playing our best football right now. But there are some football right now. But there are some things that happened Friday that were things that happened Friday that were just unsound part. We weren't just unsound part. We weren't fundamentally sound and uh different fundamentally sound and uh different phases. But I did think when you look at phases. But I did think when you look at how we played, I think we've got to play how we played, I think we've got to play complimentary football to play late in complimentary football to play late in the season. And I did think our special the season. And I did think our special teams was awesome. Thought we played teams was awesome. Thought we played well in special teams. Benalis, well in special teams. Benalis, >> how surprised were you of how well Sam >> how surprised were you of how well Sam Pearson punts the football? He's still Pearson punts the football? He's still in practice already.

in practice already.

Special Teams and Game Adjustments

>> Yeah, not at all. Sam is a he's a gamer. >> Yeah, not at all. Sam is a he's a gamer. I mean, he is I mean, I I've said it to I mean, he is I mean, I I've said it to Sam. I don't know that the school is Sam. I don't know that the school

is going to experience having an athlete going to experience having an athlete like Sam for a really long time. I mean, like Sam for a really long time. I mean, you think about he's 11th region you think about he's 11th region baseball player of the year. He's one of baseball player of the year. He's one of the best wide receivers in the state of the best wide receivers in the state of Kentucky. He has the ability to play uh Kentucky. He has the ability to play uh division one football or ba baseball.

division one football or ba baseball. And then he's kicking like no other. And And then he's kicking like no other. And Sam tells all the college coaches that Sam tells all the college coaches that come in here, his dad will love this.

come in here, his dad will love this. But he says, "I get my athleticism from But he says, "I get my athleticism from my mother." Well, his mother was a good my mother." Well, his mother was a good soccer player, soccer player, >> so maybe that's where he gets the leg >> so maybe that's where he gets the leg from, but he can he can boot it now.

from, but he can he can boot it now. >> He changed the field two times. It was >> He changed the field two times. It was massive and we got a turnover on one of massive and we got a turnover on one of them. It led to to some points. So, um, them. It led to to some points. So, um, when you say playing complimentary when you say playing complimentary football, we talked about that a whole football, we talked about that a whole lot through the year last year. And when lot through the year last year. And when offense is not clicking like it was, the offense is not clicking like it was, the defense stepped up and held court and defense stepped up and held court and the special teams did what they were the special teams did what they were supposed to do until we could till we supposed to do until we could till we get some scores on the board. um when get some scores on the board. um when you think about u game plan going in to you think about u game plan going in to what we were trying to do versus what we what we were trying to do versus what we were able to pull off, what would you were able to pull off, what would you say uh percentage wise?

say uh percentage wise? >> Yeah, I mean defensively we changed what >> Yeah, I mean defensively we changed what we were doing two weeks ago and have we were doing two weeks ago and have kind of morphed into a different um kind of morphed into a different um schematically philosophically different schematically philosophically different defense than what we were last year with defense than what we were last year with personnel. So I thought we executed personnel. So I thought we executed really well on defense. I thought once really well on defense. I thought once we settled in first drive of year is we settled in first drive of year is always slow. Uh last year we gave up a always slow. Uh last year we gave up a touchdown the first drive of the year, touchdown the first drive of the year, but we got off the field there. Uh but we got off the field there. Uh special teams I thought we were great.

special teams I thought we were great. Offensively they blitzed a ton Friday Offensively they blitzed a ton Friday night which was something that we had night which was something that we had not seen on tape as much as they did and not seen on tape as much as they did and there was some things that was just was there was some things that was just was confusing for a young O line that's been confusing for a young O line that's been experienced in places but I thought we experienced in places but I thought we got better from it. I mean North got better from it. I mean North Harden's extremely fast on defense. So, Harden's extremely fast on defense.

Senior Leadership and Team Culture

So, I do think the game plan there, some of I do think the game plan there, some of our vertical shot plays that I thought our vertical shot plays that I thought we were going to run in the game going we were going to run in the game going in, we ended up being more RPO based in in, we ended up being more RPO based in the second half just because of what the second half just because of what they were doing blitz-wise. We were just they were doing blitz-wise. We were just replacing blitzers and [snorts] treating replacing blitzers and [snorts] treating it that way because that's what you got it that way because that's what you got to do to teams of blitz is RPO them and to do to teams of blitz is RPO them and screen them. And I felt like we got screen them. And I felt like we got better as the game went on. But there's better as the game went on. But there's definitely things that we've got to fix.

definitely things that we've got to fix. But I've also said scored 28 points But I've also said scored 28 points against

a really good 6A football team against a really good 6A football team and we did not play well in the first and we did not play well in the first half at all.

half at all. >> Well, they have athletes. They're going >> Well, they have athletes. They're going to fly all over the field for sure. to fly all over the field for sure.

>> So, there's still positives from that. I >> So, there's still positives from that. I mean, there's obviously I I'm I try to mean, there's obviously I I'm I try to be a glass half full guy. So, like we be a glass half full guy. So, like we taught from the tape. I mean, our guys taught from the tape. I mean, our guys it was difficult film sessions, but um I it was difficult film sessions, but um I mean it's all about the players. I mean, mean it's all about the players. I mean, they're the obviously stepped up and they're the obviously stepped up and faced some adversity and played really faced some adversity and played really well. So, well. So, >> one thing that's really important, and >> one thing that's really important, and we talked about it from day one last we talked about it from day one last year when we started the show, is your year when we started the show, is your senior leadership and seniors owning the senior leadership and seniors owning the responsibility of leading this team. Um, responsibility of leading this team. Um, what do what did you see about that what do what did you see about that leading up in the offseason to the uh leading up in the offseason to the uh scrimmage games until our first regular scrimmage games until our first regular season game? What what can you say about season game? What what can you say about the senior class?

the senior class? >> Yeah, that's a great question. Each >> Yeah, that's a great question. Each senior class is different. I mean, senior class is different. I mean, that's one thing that we last year we that's one thing that we last year we started the February Chick-fil-A started the February Chick-fil-A sessions, which was we meet at 7 a.m.

sessions, which was we meet at 7 a.m. every Thursday in the offseason and just every Thursday in the offseason and just talk through things. We get vulnerable talk through things. We get vulnerable with each other talking through like with each other talking through like tough topics. We challenge each other, tough topics. We challenge each other, but at the end of the day, our goal is but at the end of the day, our goal is we want to lead by example first and we want to lead by example first and foremost, which everybody should do. We foremost, which everybody should do. We want to find ways to get others people want to find ways to get others people to follow us is our second phase. And to follow us is our second phase. And the third phase, we're all trying to be the third phase, we're all trying to be servant leaders, which I define that as servant leaders, which I define that as doing things for others that don't doing things for others that don't directly benefit you. And this senior directly benefit you. And this senior class is learning those things. And each class is learning those things. And each year, like last year, it took we had year, like last year, it took we had difficult conversations in July and in difficult conversations in July and in August. I'm hard on seniors. The senior August. I'm hard on seniors. The senior class will tell you they've probably class will tell you they've probably seen a difference in the way that I've seen a difference in the way that I've treated them from juniors to seniors, treated them from juniors to seniors, but they are really they're taking it in but they are really they're taking it in stride and they're we're starting to see stride and they're we're starting to see some guys really step up from a some guys really step up from a leadership standpoint. I won't call any leadership standpoint. I won't call any of them out individually uh with things of them out individually uh with things that they're doing just because I'm a that they're doing just because I'm a big believer in mutual alignment as a big believer in mutual alignment as a whole class whole class >> and that class is doing a really good >> and that class is doing a really good job of that. cleaning the locker room, job of that. cleaning the locker room, doing things like that.

doing things like that. >> I heard you mention something uh that >> I heard you mention something uh that for a lot of people would be off the for a lot of people would be off the cuff at the end of practice. You ask cuff at the end of practice. You ask your players, "How was lunch? What's your players, "How was lunch? What's that about?" Talk to us about like the that about?" Talk to us about like the culture that they have to set inside culture that they have to set inside these school walls.

these school walls. >> Yeah, that's that's a funny one because >> Yeah, that's that's a funny one because that is something that I talk about. that is something that I talk about.

We've got 58 guys on a roster. Well, you We've got 58 guys on a roster. Well, you think about how many people

are at the think about how many people are at the school, right? I mean, that's we're school, right? I mean, that's we're probably a fourth of the boy pop male probably a fourth of the boy pop male population here. So everything they do population here. So everything they do is magnified. So when I ask them like is magnified. So when I ask them like lunch, classroom, those things, like lunch, classroom, those things, like >> there's a purpose behind that because >> there's a purpose behind that because they're able to set an example and I they're able to set an example and I don't want it to be like don't want it to be like >> a lot of places it gets to the point >> a lot of places it gets to the point where it's like well there's football where it's like well there's football guys, they did this. I want it to be guys, they did this. I want it to be like man like man >> I'm glad we had a bunch of football like >> I'm glad we had a bunch of football like this is a great group of kids like they this is a great group of kids like they clean up after themselves in lunch which clean up after themselves in lunch which was the conversation we were having was the conversation we were having because we had some that were not.

because we had some that were not. >> Um but that's my responsibility. People >> Um but that's my responsibility. People love you. They're going to tell you the love you. They're going to tell you the tr tell you the truth. And same way in tr tell you the truth. And same way in the classroom. Like if somebody's not the classroom. Like if somebody's not doing what they're supposed to do, I doing what they're supposed to do, I tell our team like courage is a pillar tell our team like courage is a pillar in our program. Well, you better have in our program.

Introducing the Senior Guests

Well, you better have the courage. If Dr. Hunt's doing the courage. If Dr. Hunt's doing something he's not supposed to do in the something he's not supposed to do in the classroom, like I grab you and be like, classroom, like I grab you and be like, "No, like that's not the standard here." "No, like that's not the standard here." >> So that's why I ask about school. We >> So that's why I ask about school. We actually talk about homework tonight.

actually talk about homework tonight. Like we're we have those conversations Like we're we have those conversations because you this thing's bigger than because you this thing's bigger than football.

football. football. >> We don't set our expert. We said again >> We don't set our expert. We said again this every every time we sat down even this every every time we sat down even we're one and three last year like we're we're one and three last year like we're not setting our expectations on if we not setting our expectations on if we won or lost on Friday night. That won or lost on Friday night. That doesn't define our program. What defines doesn't define our program. What defines our program is what kind of young men our program is what kind of young men come out of it. And I think that uh come out of it. And I think that uh >> you can be we've proven for many years >> you can be we've proven for many years now. You can be successful on both now. You can be successful on both sides. You can be a college football sides. You can be a college football player coming from LCA and you can be a player coming from LCA and you can be a leader, a servant leader in these leader, a servant leader in these hallways. So it's really important.

hallways. So it's really important. >> We do have an exciting segment this year >> We do have an exciting segment this year that's new. So, we're literally going to that's new. So, we're literally going to turn you loose with some game film and turn you loose with some game film and allow you to speak through it and talk allow you to speak through it and talk through some game film. And our goal for through some game film. And our goal for that is is if there's a young kid that is is if there's a young kid watching, they can get something out of watching, they can get something out of it. A young coach watching, they can get it. A young coach watching, they can get something out of it. But a way to engage something out of it. But a way to engage people who are watching the to kind of people who are watching the to kind of see behind the scenes stuff that you see behind the scenes stuff that you would never get to do because not would never get to do because not everyone gets to come in and sit on your everyone gets to come in and sit on your film session and and talk about the fine film session and and talk about the fine things. So, I'm going to turn you loose things. So, I'm going to turn you loose with a camera and let you do some film with a camera and let you do some film work. We'll be able to put that on each work. We'll be able to put that on each week. uh I don't know if I'll tell you week. uh I don't know if I'll tell you which clips are coming because it' be which clips are coming because it' be more exciting if you're surprised. Um more exciting if you're surprised. Um but then if something comes up uh they but then if something comes up uh they can go back and kind of watch those can go back and kind of watch those episodes that kind of give some value to episodes that kind of give

some value to the public too. So we're really excited the public too. So we're really excited about that. But before that, we got two about that. But before that, we got two seniors who are showing up. So give us seniors who are showing up. So give us an intro for the two guys who we're an intro for the two guys who we're going to talk to tonight.

going to talk to tonight. >> Yeah. I'll just go based on our numbers. >> Yeah. I'll just go based on our numbers. We've got number 55 and number 63 We've got number 55 and number 63 tonight with us. So, our first one's tonight with us. So, our first one's number 55, Max District, who is a senior number 55, Max District, who is a senior offensive lineman, plays linebacker for offensive lineman, plays linebacker for us, ultimate teammate, extremely us, ultimate teammate, extremely selfless. He's just an absolute joy to selfless. He's just an absolute joy to coach. He uh teammates love him. He coach. He uh teammates love him. He brings so much joy to our program. He's brings so much joy to our program. He's somebody that Friday night, it was so somebody that Friday night, it was so cool to see him play on a big stage as a cool to see him play on a big stage as a senior and come off the field with such senior and come off the field with such a smile because he's earned that right.

a smile because he's earned that right. He's worked his tail off. Um, and again, He's worked his tail off. Um, and again, he's a great teammate. So, he's one that he's a great teammate. So, he's one that it's really exciting for me to see him it's really exciting for me to see him in a senior role step into that in a senior role step into that leadership role and uh see him also leadership role and uh see him also impact games on Friday nights and in his impact games on Friday nights and in his way, which is which is really cool to way, which is which is really cool to see. Uh the second senior is number 63, see. Uh the second senior is number 63, Don Riddick. Um just multiaceted in Don Riddick. Um just multiaceted in terms of his talent. Obviously, people terms of his talent. Obviously, people see he's a really good football player.

see he's a really good football player. Uh but he's also somebody in the Uh but he's also somebody in the community that he's really involved in community that he's really involved in the arts. Like I watched him go in the the arts. Like I watched him go in the Michael Jackson parade this year and Michael Jackson parade this year and he's the featured guy and he's got an he's the featured guy and he's got an ability to dance and do those things and ability to dance and do those things and that talks a lot about his courage that that talks a lot about his courage that he's got courage to be a great football he's got courage to be a great football player but he's also got courage to be player but he's also got courage to be somebody that's a really integral part somebody that's a really integral part of uh just the greater Lexington of uh just the greater Lexington community. Uh so it's it's really cool community. Uh so it's it's really cool to see him as a first time starter this to see him as a first time starter this year at the work that he's put in.

year at the work that he's put in. Coach's older brother uh Dorian as well. Coach's older brother uh Dorian as well. So, both of these guys though, they're So, both of these guys though, they're they're special special guys that I just they're special special guys that I just love coaching. Like they when I get here love coaching. Like they when I get here and see those two guys, like they always and see those two guys, like they always put a smile on my face like genuinely put a smile on my face like genuinely that that's not just saying that. I that that's not just saying that. I listened to their conversation before we listened to their conversation before we got started here. That just speaks to got started here. That just speaks to the kind of guys that they are and the the kind of guys that they are and the sense of humor that they have. So, I'm sense of humor that they have. So, I'm looking forward to our LCA community looking forward to our LCA community getting to getting to learn more about getting to getting to learn more about these two guys.

these two guys. >> All right, we'll take a short break and >> All right, we'll take a short break and we'll be right back. we'll be right back.

Max's Preparation and Goals

>> Are you ready for a different type of >> Are you ready for a different type of orthopedic practice? one that is free of orthopedic practice? one that is free of hospital systems, outside influence, hospital systems, outside influence, crowded waiting rooms, and rushed crowded waiting rooms, and rushed appointments. Dr. Hunt is already well appointments. Dr. Hunt is already well known in central Kentucky for his known in central Kentucky for his ability to

get injured athletes back to ability to get injured athletes back to play faster. And now he has raised the play faster. And now he has raised the bar again with the introduction of the bar again with the introduction of the Joint Preservation Center in Lexington, Joint Preservation Center in Lexington, sports medicine expertise, personalized sports medicine expertise, personalized care, and advanced surgical techniques care, and advanced surgical techniques that can't be found at other practices that can't be found at other practices in Lexington. If you are looking for in Lexington. If you are looking for something different, something better something different, something better for your orthopedic surgery needs, call for your orthopedic surgery needs, call Dr. Hunt and the Joint Preservation Dr. Hunt and the Joint Preservation >> All right, we're back here with Max.

>> All right, we're back here with Max. Max, welcome to the show. Max, welcome to the show. >> Thank you for having me. >> Thank you for having me. >> Um, we were just talking about senior >> Um, we were just talking about senior leadership and so talk a little bit leadership and so talk a little bit about your preparation coming into this about your preparation coming into this season. How did you get ready for this season. How did you get ready for this season and then tell us some goals that season and then tell us some goals that you have for this season? Well, uh, just you have for this season? Well, uh, just coming in every day, trying to be coming in every day, trying to be consistent with like just arriving in on consistent with like just arriving in on time, just making sure like everybody time, just making sure like everybody else is on time and like just remaining else is on time and like just remaining consistent when showing up to practice consistent when showing up to practice and to like lifts, making sure just like and to like lifts, making sure just like you're never late, never skipping for you're never late, never skipping for useless reasons. Like just doing stuff useless reasons. Like just doing stuff you can do today, like just do it now you can do today, like just do it now and not push it off till later.

and not push it off till later. >> And then um, for people who don't know, >> And then um, for people who don't know, who are listening, who haven't met you, who are listening, who haven't met you, tell us what position you play and uh, tell us what position you play and uh, you're you're obviously a senior. We you're you're obviously a senior. We talked about that.

talked about that. >> Uh, I'm a linebacker and I play >> Uh, I'm a linebacker and I play offensive line. I play left tackle. offensive line. I play left tackle.

>> Okay. And for your preference, if you >> Okay. And for your preference, if you had a choice, which one do you like had a choice, which one do you like most, offense or defense?

most, offense or defense? >> Sorry to coach Oakley, but I I love >> Sorry to coach Oakley, but I I love playing linebacker offense. playing linebacker offense.

>> Fair enough. Fair enough. Um, you like >> Fair enough. Fair enough. Um, you like to hit somebody and not get hit. to hit somebody and not get hit. >> Yeah. I I hate like being the tackling >> Yeah. I I hate like being the tackling dummy, just absorbing all the hits.

dummy, just absorbing all the hits. >> Understood. Understood. Um, one thing I >> Understood. Understood. Um, one thing I talked to you about before we got talked to you about before we got started is I was going to ask you like started is I was going to ask you like who's your biggest influence in who's your biggest influence in football? Whether it's been a coach or football? Whether it's been a coach or another player, uh, who would you say is another player, uh, who would you say is your biggest influence for football?

your biggest influence for football? >> Well, I say like my parents. >> Well, I say like my parents. >> Yeah, >> Yeah, >> Yeah, >> I'd say probably my dad. Uh, he I was >> I'd say probably my dad. Uh, he I was going through like during my junior going through like during my junior year, I was like considering like the year, I was like considering like the whole time like quitting and like just whole time like quitting and like just not playing my senior year. And then my not playing my senior year. And then my dad told me he actually went uh division dad told me he actually went uh division two. He got a full ride scholarship for two. He got a full ride scholarship for basketball.

basketball. basketball. >> Yeah. And he said he played football his >> Yeah. And he said he played football his senior year and he said he quit and then senior year and he said he quit and then he said it was the biggest

mistake of he said it was the biggest mistake of his life. He was like his life. He was like >> I don't want to force you to play if >> I don't want to force you to play if your heart's not in it. But he goes like your heart's not in it. But he goes like I would recommend you play. I was like I would recommend you play. I was like all right.

all right. >> Yeah. And then now that camp's over and >> Yeah. And then now that camp's over and the really tough part's over. You're the really tough part's over. You're like that's probably a good like that's probably a good >> news. Honestly, I think it's one of the >> news. Honestly, I think it's one of the best decisions of my life. I've had a best decisions of my life. I've had a blast all through through and through.

blast all through through and through. >> Yeah. And then goals as a senior class. >> Yeah. And then goals as a senior class. Um what's your goal for this team both Um what's your goal for this team both on and off the field?

on and off the field? I'd say off the field I want like uh I'd say off the field I want like uh mainly like kind of the school body to mainly like kind of the school body to like recognize like say like hey that's like recognize like say like hey that's like a good group of guys who all like like a good group of guys who all like just like a band of brothers just like just like a band of brothers just like we all love each other. We all want to we all love each other.

Don's Journey, Music, and LCA Identity

We all want to like see the best for each other and like see the best for each other and hopefully like we all kind of stay hopefully like we all kind of stay connected past high school like it's not connected past high school like it's not just like soon as season's over soon as just like soon as season's over soon as uh we just like as soon as playoffs are uh we just like as soon as playoffs are over we just disband like we don't talk over we just disband like we don't talk anymore. Well, the good news is we have anymore. Well, the good news is we have uh Sandlot and Senior Assassin to keep uh Sandlot and Senior Assassin to keep everybody after each other. So, that's everybody after each other. So, that's good news. Everyone looks forward to good news. Everyone looks forward to that. Playing Sandlot for sure.

that. Playing Sandlot for sure. >> Senior Assassin's Cool. >> Senior Assassin's Cool. >> All right. Well, thanks for your time >> All right. Well, thanks for your time and uh it's great meeting you. We look and uh it's great meeting you. We look forward to Friday nights. All right. We forward to Friday nights. All right. We are back here with Don, another member are back here with Don, another member of the senior class LCA football. Uh you of the senior class LCA football. Uh you heard what your coach said about you heard what your coach said about you before you came down. He was talking before you came down. He was talking about the senior class, about the senior class, >> talking about your dancing skills and >> talking about your dancing skills and lots of things. And so we um we always lots of things. And so we um we always ask one question u about each year. Last ask one question u about each year. Last year we asked everybody kind of the same year we asked everybody kind of the same thing. One was like what did you do to thing. One was like what did you do to get ready for this season? Like what did get ready for this season? Like what did you do in the off season and how did you you do in the off season and how did you prepare for your senior year at LCA?

prepare for your senior year at LCA? >> All right. So it was a lot of mental >> All right. So it was a lot of mental stuff. So I'll be honest here real stuff. So I'll be honest here real quick. When it came to state, I didn't quick. When it came to state, I didn't play that much and I saw my teammates play that much and I saw my teammates celebrating and but I wasn't celebrating celebrating and but I wasn't celebrating because my heart wasn't in it. So, I had because my heart wasn't in it. So, I had to switch from what am I doing to switch from what am I doing physically to what am I doing mentally?

physically to what am I doing mentally? So, I had to think about how I'm going So, I had to think about how I'm going to contribute to the team next year. So, to contribute to the team next year. So, that trans that transferred on into that trans that transferred on into physical, you know, stuff. So, I started physical, you know, stuff. So, I started working out more. I started bonding with working out more. I started bonding with my teammates, talking to the freshman.

my teammates, talking to the freshman. That's That's That's >> magically like, oh goodness, I'm find >> magically

like, oh goodness, I'm find myself in the starting lineup. Exactly.

myself in the starting lineup. Exactly. >> It all works out. You got to take that >> It all works out. You got to take that time. You got to be slow with it. it time. You got to be slow with it. it works out.

works out. >> Talk about that. Like what does it mean >> Talk about that. Like what does it mean to you if you hear like he's a good to you if you hear like he's a good teammate? What do you What would you teammate? What do you What would you describe as a good teammate?

describe as a good teammate? >> Well, first off, that means a lot. But, >> Well, first off, that means a lot. But, uh, a good teammate is someone who who uh, a good teammate is someone who who cares about the whole team as a whole cares about the whole team as a whole and not about themselves. Uh, I don't and not about themselves. Uh, I don't like selfishness. That's my least like selfishness. That's my least favorite thing. Um, I feel like a good favorite thing. Um, I feel like a good teammate always lifts up and doesn't um teammate always lifts up and doesn't um just focus on what they messed up on.

just focus on what they messed up on. And if they do mess up, they pick up And if they do mess up, they pick up from what they messed up on before. from what they messed up on before.

>> Yeah. We were talking about uh with >> Yeah. We were talking about uh with coach that um offense obviously didn't coach that um offense obviously didn't turn out like we'd like to straight out turn out like we'd like to straight out of the gate last week. So a little bit of the gate last week. So a little bit behind the ball in regards to offense, behind the ball in regards to offense, but the special teams and the defense but the special teams and the defense stepped up.

stepped up. >> Yes. >> Yes. >> Yes. >> So you're talking about being a good >> So you're talking about being a good teammate when you play in all three teammate when you play in all three phases. If the other team steps up, phases. If the other team steps up, that's is similar to that.

that's is similar to that. >> Uh similar question I asked Max is like >> Uh similar question I asked Max is like who would you say your biggest influence who would you say your biggest influence for football is? Whether it's a coach or for football is? Whether it's a coach or player, someone else.

player, someone else. >> I would definitely say coach Oakley. and >> I would definitely say coach Oakley. and we'd always just bond and over random we'd always just bond and over random stuff, but I saw the care he had for me stuff, but I saw the care he had for me and that really inspired me to play hard and that really inspired me to play hard for him. And then uh of course my for him. And then uh of course my teammates, my freshman, when I came into teammates, my freshman, when I came into this year, I was trying to still figure this year, I was trying to still figure out why.

out why. >> Yeah, >> Yeah, >> Yeah, >> it took a long took a long time, but I >> it took a long took a long time, but I saw the freshman and how excited we were saw the freshman and how excited we were to be here and that excited me.

to be here and that excited me. >> Yeah. Yeah. What talk about the halls of >> Yeah. Yeah. What talk about the halls of LCA? What does LCA mean to you? What LCA? What does LCA mean to you? What would you say to someone who's not would you say to someone who's not familiar with LCA as a school, not just familiar with LCA as a school, not just a football team? So, how would you a football team? So, how would you describe LCA as a school?

describe LCA as a school? >> It's really welcoming. The teachers are >> It's really welcoming. The teachers are great. Um, I built so many personal great. Um, I built so many personal relationships with the teachers and of relationships with the teachers and of course they promote Christianity, but course they promote Christianity, but it's serious. Like, it's always talked it's serious. Like, it's always talked about and it really challenges your about and it really challenges your faith and really question stuff and faith and really question stuff and really um really um

follow your journey with God and with follow your journey with God and with Jesus. Yeah, I love it here.

Jesus. Yeah, I love it here. >> Awesome. How long when did you start at >> Awesome. How long when did you start at LCA? Which grade? LCA? Which grade?

>> I started in I started football on the >> I started in I started football on the bull on the Bulldogs in third grade, but bull on the Bulldogs in third grade, but I started actually going to school here I started actually going to school here in fourth grade. Awesome. Awesome. And in fourth grade. Awesome. Awesome. And then we also talk about personal goals then we also talk about personal goals and team goals. So what's your personal and team goals. So what's your personal goal? If you look back hopefully goal? If you look back hopefully at Kroger Field at the end of this year at Kroger Field at the end of this year and you say, "Man, I really accomplished and you say, "Man, I really accomplished what I was trying going out to do what I was trying going out to do personally." What would you what would personally." What would you what would you say that is for you?

you say that is for you? >> I say two things. No regrets and I built >> I say two things. No regrets and I built great relationships with all of my great relationships with all of my teammates.

teammates. teammates. >> Yeah, >> Yeah, >> Yeah, >> that matters more to me than anything >> that matters more to me than anything else. I want to be able to talk to these else. I want to be able to talk to these guys after school is over.

guys after school is over. >> Yeah, that's something that everyone >> Yeah, that's something that everyone said and and something that's ranged said and and something that's ranged true for the senior classes is left true for the senior classes is left before you too that they build lifelong before you too that they build lifelong relationships. And then if we were um if relationships. And then if we were um if we were saying something that we would we were saying something that we would never know about you and something that never know about you and something that people are listening would find people are listening would find interesting. What would you say that interesting. What would you say that some even the people who are kind of some even the people who are kind of close to you, acquaintances might not close to you, acquaintances might not know about you? Well, a lot of people do know about you? Well, a lot of people do know I love music, but at a minimum I know I love music, but at a minimum I listen to three albums a day.

listen to three albums a day. >> Yeah. >> Yeah. >> Yeah. >> What's your go-to? You want to be >> What's your go-to? You want to be something different every day or you do something different every day or you do stuff that's repeated?

stuff that's repeated? >> Usually repeated, but at times, usually >> Usually repeated, but at times, usually twice a month, I throw in twice a month, I throw in >> a different type of genre. I'm usually >> a different type of genre. I'm usually an R&B person. Yeah.

an R&B person. Yeah. >> Maybe one day I go into country, one day >> Maybe one day I go into country, one day I go into rock. I love to jump to every I go into rock. I love to jump to every other genre.

other genre. >> Do you also sing? >> Do you also sing? >> Don't sing. >> Don't sing. >> Do you Do you play an instrument? >> Do you Do you play an instrument?

>> Uh, learning piano. >> Uh, learning piano. >> Learning piano. Yeah. So, what do you >> Learning piano. Yeah. So, what do you think it is about music? Like, what's in think it is about music? Like, what's in your headphones pregame to get you ready your headphones pregame to get you ready for a game?

for a game? >> Uh, Guns and Roses. >> Uh, Guns and Roses. >> Guns and Roses. >> Guns and Roses. >> Love Guns and Roses. It's always them, >> Love Guns and Roses. It's always them, >> Metallica.

>> Metallica. >> Metallica. Um, yeah, those Um, yeah, those >> same thing you'd expect to hear from a >> same thing you'd expect to hear from a lineman.

lineman. lineman. >> Yeah. [laughter] >> Yeah. [laughter] >> Awesome. Well, you did a great job. >> Awesome. Well, you did a great job. Welcome to the show and I hope you have Welcome to the show and I hope you have a an amazing senior year.

a an amazing senior year. >> I hope we get a bunch of wins on the >> I hope we get a bunch of wins on the football field, but more than it more football field, but more than it more than that, more important than that, I than that, more important than that, I hope you build those relationships that hope you build those relationships that you're talking about.

you're talking about. >> Thank you. Awesome. Great job. >> Thank you. Awesome. Great job.

Film Study: Short Yardage and Goal Line

>> So, here we we've got one of our >> So, here we we've got one of our [clears throat] short yardage situations [clears throat] short yardage situations that we like to do, which is out of out that we like to do, which is out of out of a muddle um muddle huddle, which just of a muddle um muddle huddle, which just means it's a lot of people call it sugar means it's a lot of people call it sugar huddle where you're getting set and huddle where you're getting set and getting a line quickly. Uh we had a getting a line quickly. Uh we had a misalignment formationwise here, which misalignment formationwise here, which is one of the reasons that uh we had is one of the reasons that uh we had somebody run it down from behind, which somebody run it down from behind, which when I say running it down from behind, when I say running it down from behind, it's this this guy here off the edge it's this this guy here off the edge opposite the run. Um which again was opposite the run. Um which again was just because of the misalignment that we just because of the misalignment that we had. But again, you talk about week one had. But again, you talk about week one being something that you're trying to being something that you're trying to fix and take care of. Um this was a this fix and take care of. Um this was a this And what it ends up being here is it's And what it ends up being here is it's really this guy um that we allow as a really this guy um that we allow as a free rusher because we didn't um we free rusher because we didn't um we didn't align correctly in our formation.

didn't align correctly in our formation. So we're pulling the backside guard So we're pulling the backside guard which is our uh which is our tackle or which is our uh which is our tackle or our guard on this tackle's got to pull our guard on this tackle's got to pull tight. So they're doing a good job being tight. So they're doing a good job being well coached getting in the hip pocket well coached getting in the hip pocket there which is a big part of the part of there which is a big part of the part of And then the nice piece is when you And then the nice piece is when you watch plays like this is the end zone watch plays like this is the end zone cutups, you're able to see cutups, you're able to see one thing that we always want to be able one thing that we always want to be able So front side here 31, So front side here 31, we can't let him get across our face.

we can't let him get across our face. We've got to step down and wash him We've got to step down and wash him down. And what I mean by that here is we down. And what I mean by that here is we we want this all blue shirts when our we want this all blue shirts when our backs see it hitting up tight so that backs see it hitting up tight so that our guard pulling can be tight which we our guard pulling can be tight which we call it strike the match as if you're call it strike the match as if you're trying to create a match create a fire trying to create a match create a fire when you you get a match stick out. You when you you get a match stick out. You want to be able to when this guard want to be able to when this guard pulls, he's so tight to all this down pulls, he's so tight to all this down block action that he's able to light a block action that he's able to light a match off their butt if he was pulling match off their butt if he was pulling >> The one thing we started getting a lot >> The one thing we started getting a lot of again in this game was a lot of of again in this game was a lot of blitz. Um, we had a mental error on this blitz. Um, we had a mental error on this in terms of who we were kicking out in terms of who we were kicking out front side. Um, but this is one of our front side. Um, but this is one of our RPO concepts as we were getting a lot of RPO concepts as we were getting a lot of blitz. So, we're trying to replace blitz. So, we're trying to replace blitzers. Um, pretty good read by our blitzers. Um, pretty good read by our quarterback here. Um, quarterback here. Um, and really good job by our back. But and really good job by our back. But we're running a stick bubble RPO up here we're running a stick bubble RPO up here to the field. Um, we're running a slant to the field. Um, we're running a slant to the boundary and just reading the D to the boundary and just reading the D gap defender. Um, Nash hands it because gap defender. Um, Nash hands it because So, the end of half here. Um, I won't go So, the end of half

here. Um, I won't go too much into what we were trying to do.

too much into what we were trying to do. Um, but in the half, you always want to Um, but in the half, you always want to give your guys a chance. Uh, and Hail give your guys a chance. Uh, and Hail Marys. In the half, you want to run guys Marys. In the half, you want to run guys to the same spot. There's different guys to the same spot. There's different guys have different philosophies at the end have different philosophies at the end of halves in the games, but ours we want of halves in the games, but ours we want to try and get guys to the same spot to try and get guys to the same spot where it's a jump ball. Dawson Farmer, where it's a jump ball. Dawson Farmer, one of best basketball players in the one of best basketball players in the 11th region. Uh it just goes up high 11th region. Uh it just goes up high points at big rebound. We got two of our points at big rebound. We got two of our best jump ball guys in Jeremiah and best jump ball guys in Jeremiah and Dawson right there. Nash has just got to Dawson right there. Nash has just got to give him a chance. Tell them to go get give him a chance. Tell them to go get it. We had really good protection up it. We had really good protection up front, too. Uh this is something that front, too. Uh this is something that different defenses approach end of half different defenses approach end of half end of game scenarios in a different end of game scenarios in a different way. Um which we work this on Thursdays way. Um which we work this on Thursdays every every Thursday. Um but really good every every Thursday. Um but really good job by Nash here just giving them a job by Nash here just giving them a chance, putting them where they can go chance, putting them where they can go get it. Great job by Dawson going to get get it. Great job by Dawson going to get And you can see in this picture here, And you can see in this picture here, Nick Cer, our center is getting all our Nick Cer, our center is getting all our front calls out. That's his front calls out. That's his responsibility as our as our center to responsibility as our as our center to be able to do that. He's got to call out be able to do that. He's got to call out all the blitz pickup and identify all the blitz pickup and identify everything. So, first play of the second everything. So, first play of the second half here, again, you talk about blitz half here, again, you talk about blitz that we had. We experienced a ton. We that we had. We experienced a ton. We got a lot of blitz early in the game.

got a lot of blitz early in the game. So, one thing that we came out wanting So, one thing that we came out wanting to do was make sure we got back to our to do was make sure we got back to our screen game. We struggled a little bit screen game. We struggled a little bit in the screen game. We were just a block in the screen game. We were just a block or two away. Um or just uh we had a or two away. Um or just uh we had a procedural penalty on one of our screens procedural penalty on one of our screens too early, but we want to get our guys too early, but we want to get our guys ball in space. Here we're running a slow ball in space. Here we're running a slow screen to slow screen to our tight end.

screen to slow screen to our tight end. Conrad Hart would like to see him be a Conrad Hart would like to see him be a little bit slower here in terms of little bit slower here in terms of taking on the the defensive lineman or taking on the the defensive lineman or blitz and linebacker to get there. But blitz and linebacker to get there. But it's pretty good timing. Um big big play it's pretty good timing. Um big big play to to start the half. Anytime you start to to start the half. Anytime you start a half with a positive play, especially a half with a positive play, especially a first down, it's pretty good. That's a first down, it's pretty good. That's really good job by Matthew McGomery and really good job by Matthew McGomery and Nick Greer at the point of attack on the Nick Greer at the point of attack on the screen.

screen. screen. Also like Dash's timing on this, getting Also like Dash's timing on this, getting big on the screen, getting up over the D big on the screen, getting up over the D Another shot of it here.

Another shot of it here. See if we get the flash fake on the run. See if we get the flash fake on the run. Conrad does a good job collisioning. Conrad does a good job collisioning.

just like to see him go thousand1,0002 just like to see him go thousand1,0002 uh instead of the count that he was at uh instead of the count that he was at here. But really good job on the catch here. But really good job on the catch get north and south when you get ball in get north and south when you get ball in good players hands like Conrad really good players hands like Conrad really So, this is um So, this is um shortly after we felt like after we'd shortly after we felt like after we'd screened them early that we could get a screened them early that we could get a shot play. Uh slow down that blitz. And shot play. Uh slow down that blitz. And so, we went seven man pro here,

meaning so, we went seven man pro here, meaning we've got tight end to tight end in the we've got tight end to tight end in the protection. I went double post to the protection. I went double post to the field here against cover three, which field here against cover three, which [clears throat] is uh a good good cover [clears throat] is uh a good good cover protection up front. Pretty clean. One protection up front. Pretty clean. One thing we like to tell, like you see this thing we like to tell, like you see this big gap here. I'd like to see shoulder big gap here. I'd like to see shoulder square, pound it back down inside here.

square, pound it back down inside here. It's one thing we talk about when we It's one thing we talk about when we watch tape. It's a hard thing for Oama watch tape. It's a hard thing for Oama to do. Christian does a good job to do. Christian does a good job correcting it late here. We want to help correcting it late here. We want to help set back inside our center. But pretty set back inside our center. But pretty good protection here. Good ball by Nash.

good protection here. Good ball by Nash. Well, here we go. So, Dr. Hunt, this is Well, here we go. So, Dr. Hunt, this is his idea here. He's got a penalty on his idea here.

Second-Half Adjustments and Defensive Highlights

He's got a penalty on here, which I love seeing. Um, which here, which I love seeing. Um, which full transparency here. This idea from full transparency here. This idea from Dr. Hunt. Um, pretty [clears throat] Dr. Hunt. Um, pretty [clears throat] cool. I mean, to be able to go through cool. I mean, to be able to go through this and and talk about our plan, how we this and and talk about our plan, how we attack other people. But we're on a attack other people. But we're on a screen here. Uh we got a procedural screen here. Uh we got a procedural penalty which they called false start on penalty which they called false start on us. Um you can see a little a little us. Um you can see a little a little flinch there on the offensive line. Um flinch there on the offensive line. Um but we're trying to run a boundary but we're trying to run a boundary screen here that we liked. Um we ran screen here that we liked. Um we ran this motion early in the game with that this motion early in the game with that but can't get behind the chains. It's but can't get behind the chains. It's one thing we always talk about is is uh one thing we always talk about is is uh not being behind the chains. So, got to not being behind the chains. So, got to continue to improve upon that as we move continue to improve upon that as we move forward here.

forward here. Um, one thing I'll say about our Um, one thing I'll say about our defense, what we're doing right now is defense, what we're doing right now is we we got a lot of athletes on the we we got a lot of athletes on the field, which is great. Um, obviously field, which is great. Um, obviously North Harden's quarterback on Friday was North Harden's quarterback on Friday was elusive. I thought their quarterback elusive. I thought their quarterback last year was the same way. Uh, so this last year was the same way. Uh, so this was a a blitz combination here that we was a a blitz combination here that we sent that um hit home and um really good sent that um hit home and um really good job pursuit of the football. um getting job pursuit of the football. um getting hands-on too um with us in the box. So, hands-on too um with us in the box. So, good job here. Hit home understanding good job here. Hit home understanding North Harden, what we call this is ace.

North Harden, what we call this is ace. They're in 2 by two here. Um, two by They're in 2 by two here. Um, two by two, meaning there's two receivers on two, meaning there's two receivers on Again, sending another Again, sending another And when you get guys like Thomas And when you get guys like Thomas Eismore, I mean, I could run this clip Eismore, I mean, I could run this clip back and forth. I mean, I just talk back and forth. I mean, I just talk about Thomas all the time. Dude just about Thomas all the time. Dude just loves football.

loves football. um hits home here. Um um hits home here. Um big time play for us and a and a big big time play for us and a and a big And you can see the excitement. Like I And you can see the excitement. Like I love seeing our guys celebrate together love seeing our guys celebrate together when it's us celebrating as a team. But when it's us celebrating as a team. But Brady and and Brady and and Brady and uh Thomas here being a little Brady and uh Thomas here being a little So, this one here, I mean, obviously, So, this one here, I mean, obviously, you don't want to see this happen. Uh, you don't want to see this happen. Uh, we work on tackling a lot. Coach Lebrick we work on tackling a lot. Coach Lebrick and and the defensive staff do a and and the defensive staff do a fantastic job of making sure we're doing fantastic job of making sure we're doing tackling circuit every single day. But, tackling circuit every single day. But, this is late in the game. Um, we're a this is late in the game. Um, we're a little tired and

this is again, you talk little tired and this is again, you talk about championship football teams, about championship football teams, December habits, which is what we're December habits, which is what we're talking about is having habits that are talking about is having habits that are reflective of a team that wants to play reflective of a team that wants to play in December on a daily basis, enjoying in December on a daily basis, enjoying that process. Like this is something we that process. Like this is something we were able to coach from in film, which were able to coach from in film, which is just continue to pursue the football, is just continue to pursue the football, wrap up, make sure we make plays, um, wrap up, make sure we make plays, um, finish plays even when it's late in the finish plays even when it's late in the game, we're tired, we've got a game, we're tired, we've got a comfortable lead, we don't want to let comfortable lead, we don't want to let teams, uh, teams get back in it. want to teams, uh, teams get back in it. want to finish it off. But this quarterback's a finish it off. But this quarterback's a talented player. Um, talented player. Um, I mean, he's hard to tackle, gets out in I mean, he's hard to tackle, gets out in space, but yeah, this was one that we were we but yeah, this was one that we were we were able to talk about quite a bit.

were able to talk about quite a bit. So, this was fourth down play here. So, this was fourth down play here.

Late-Game Effort and Closing Film Review

running a little double post wheel. running a little double post wheel. Good timing, good ball by Nash. Reading Good timing, good ball by Nash. Reading it out. We got him reading this thing it out. We got him reading this thing inside out. Um, good ball, good inside out. Um, good ball, good placement, great catch by Sam.

placement, great catch by Sam. But what you want to do when you run But what you want to do when you run this is almost create a natural rub um this is almost create a natural rub um on this action, which on this action, which I'd like to see more of that here from a I'd like to see more of that here from a collisioning standpoint, but it's still collisioning standpoint, but it's still a still a pretty good job. I mean, in a still a pretty good job. I mean, in terms of pitch and catch, can't ask for terms of pitch and catch, can't ask for And this one here honestly is one of my And this one here honestly is one of my favorite plays of the game. Uh we favorite plays of the game. Uh we challenged our guys quite a bit and I challenged our guys quite a bit and I remember at this point in the game again remember at this point in the game again you talk about being tired in the game.

you talk about being tired in the game. you're down here on the goal line and you're down here on the goal line and probably going to win the game being up probably going to win the game being up three scores with 40 seconds left. A lot three scores with 40 seconds left. A lot of bad things that have to happen for of bad things that have to happen for that not to happen, but you can see our that not to happen, but you can see our guys continuing to relentlessly pursue guys continuing to relentlessly pursue the football. Um Thomas here gets out of the football. Um Thomas here gets out of a hold, makes a play and Matthew do just a hold, makes a play and Matthew do just pursuing it. Again, you see the joy pursuing it. Again, you see the joy again. Thomas plays if you like you can again. Thomas plays if you like you can tell who loves football and u that's one tell who loves football and u that's one of the things I love about coaching this of the things I love about coaching this great game is just seeing guys just great game is just seeing guys just enjoy a passion of theirs and you watch enjoy a passion of theirs and you watch Thomas play and then just excitement he Thomas play and then just excitement he This is a great way though to end the This is a great way though to end the game out again. One of my one of my game out again. One of my one of my favorites for that reason.

favorites for that reason. >> All right, we're back here after a short >> All right, we're back here after a short break. Uh we're wrapping up. Uh you guys break. Uh we're wrapping up. Uh you guys just got to visit a little film session just got to visit a little film session with coach Oakley Walkkins. So I hope with coach Oakley Walkkins. So I hope you enjoyed that. Coach, looking forward you enjoyed that. Coach, looking forward this week. Tell us um preparation for this week. Tell us um preparation for this week, how it's going so far and this week, how it's going so far and then what we can expect to see from a then what we can expect to see from a Palaski group that's really talented.

Palaski group that's really talented.

Previewing Pulaski County

>> Yeah, they are a really good football >> Yeah, they are a really good football team. They played in the 5A state team. They played in the 5A state championship game last year. They return championship game last year. They return a lot of that team that's back. They're a lot of that team that's back. They're super physical, uh which is kind of super physical, uh which is kind of their calling card. and you look at who their calling card. and you look at who they are in the box and even their guys they are in the box and even their guys on the perimeter are they're just more on the perimeter are they're just more physical than your typical high school physical than your typical high school football team. So, that's something like football team. So, that's something like today's practice for us offensively is today's practice for us offensively is probably our most physical offensive probably our most physical offensive practice we've had. Just trying to get practice we've had. Just trying to get prepared for what we're going to see on prepared for what we're going to see on on Saturday. Uh it's going to be hot.

on Saturday. Uh it's going to be hot. Five o'clock kickoff on a Saturday at Five o'clock kickoff on a Saturday at the Rebel Bowl is real. the Rebel Bowl is real.

>> Yeah, it's going to be hot. But that's >> Yeah, it's going to be hot. But that's another thing for us, conditioning, another thing for us, conditioning, making sure that we're hydrating, making sure that we're hydrating, staying staying staying ahead of the curve from that standpoint ahead of the curve from that standpoint because cramps and games like that is a because cramps and games like that is a real deal. But I think our our kids are real deal. But I think our our kids are excited about playing in a big time excited about playing in a big time game. They know I mean it's the same way game. They know I mean it's the same way with our schedule next year. I just with our schedule next year. I just finished like we're going to play in big finished like we're going to play in big time games and big- time environments time games and big- time environments against big time teams and I want to against big time teams and I want to learn about ourselves, right? I want to learn about ourselves, right? I want to know like know like what our weaknesses are. I mean, we see what our weaknesses are. I mean, we see it in practice, but sometimes you don't it in practice, but sometimes you don't really really really >> see it until you play in games so that >> see it until you play in games so that we can work on these things. I know a we can work on these things. I know a team like Pilaski is going to be well team like Pilaski is going to be well coached and they're going to push us and coached and they're going to push us and uh I think we've got a good plan, but I uh I think we've got a good plan, but I mean you just this time of year you you mean you just this time of year you you want to go out and compete, learn a lot want to go out and compete, learn a lot about yourself, and uh obviously the about yourself, and uh obviously the ultimate goal is to win, but um I think ultimate goal is to win, but um I think this group's going to be a a a really this group's going to be a a a really tough team for us to play this early in tough team for us to play this early in the year, which is exciting for me.

the year, which is exciting for me. >> Well, we don't ever look at our schedule >> Well, we don't ever look at our schedule as far back as you can look and say, as far back as you can look and say, "Oh, we got some cupcakes coming up." "Oh, we got some cupcakes coming up." Uh, so big-time games. I'm going to give Uh, so big-time games. I'm going to give you an opportunity to do what you've you an opportunity to do what you've done many, many times already, which is done many, many times already, which is talk about how important it is for LCA talk about how important it is for LCA to be on broadcast TV on a on a bowl to be on broadcast TV on a on a bowl game at the eCampus bowl. As game at the eCampus bowl. As professionally and as well done as that professionally and as well done as that as that thing was, talked about how as that thing was, talked about how special that is for LCA to be involved special that is for LCA to be involved in something like that.

in something like that. >> Yeah, you know, the partnership with >> Yeah, you know, the partnership with eCampus eCampus eCampus has been awesome. First and foremost, I has been awesome. First and foremost, I think Matt McGomery and Tiffany Lavoy, think Matt McGomery and Tiffany Lavoy, who does a lot of Matt's marketing stuff who does a lot of Matt's marketing stuff for like their commitment to just high for like their commitment to just high school sports first off, is really school sports first off, is really really awesome to put on really what I really awesome to put on really what I think is turning into a perennial bowl think is turning into a perennial bowl game in in the state of Kentucky. Next game in in the state of Kentucky.

LCA Mission, Values, and Community Impact

Next year it's us and Boil County and the year it's us and Boil County and the night cap and then Franklin County

plays night cap and then Franklin County plays uh Brian Station. So, you got four teams uh Brian Station. So, you got four teams from the viewing area that are going to from the viewing area that are going to be on that. But, it's been upped. I be on that. But, it's been upped. I mean, the antie has been upped with the mean, the antie has been upped with the relationship with Fox and and that's relationship with Fox and and that's another kudos to Matt because eCampus another kudos to Matt because eCampus and Fox signed a three-year deal and Fox signed a three-year deal together this year to where we're going together this year to where we're going to be on on broadcast television the to be on on broadcast television the next two years. So, you look at our kids next two years. So, you look at our kids and we talk about providing them with a and we talk about providing them with a college-like experience. Some of these college-like experience. Some of these guys want to go play college, some of guys want to go play college, some of them don't. Well, guess what? They get them don't. Well, guess what? They get to be high school student athletes one to be high school student athletes one time. So, like I'm going to work my tail time. So, like I'm going to work my tail off to make sure it's the best high off to make sure it's the best high school football experience they can ever school football experience they can ever have. And I know that eCampus and Fox have. And I know that eCampus and Fox like that partnership has helped just like that partnership has helped just really drive that home. But for our kids really drive that home. But for our kids to get out there and you've got sports to get out there and you've got sports center like tables in the end zone like center like tables in the end zone like a Sunday night football game and they're a Sunday night football game and they're playing on a big stage like that. I mean playing on a big stage like that. I mean it's it's awesome.

it's it's awesome. >> Student body showed up again. >> Student body showed up again. >> Great crowd. I mean they had a pep rally >> Great crowd. I mean they had a pep rally in the morning. Fox did. And then the in the morning. Fox did. And then the school you talk about administrative school you talk about administrative support again like school had a great support again like school had a great pep rally for the kids. introduced all pep rally for the kids. introduced all the sports teams from across the state the sports teams from across the state or across the school. But the cool thing or across the school. But the cool thing is across the state LCA when you flip on is across the state LCA when you flip on the TV, people are able to learn about the TV, people are able to learn about LCA. Like the logo is front and center LCA. Like the logo is front and center and that for me when you talk about and that for me when you talk about football, what it can do for people like football, what it can do for people like people are learn about our school, which people are learn about our school, which is an awesome place where we've got some is an awesome place where we've got some awesome young people. We got some awesome young people. We got some awesome administrators that just and awesome administrators that just and staff, teachers that just pour countless staff, teachers that just pour countless hours into helping make these young hours into helping make these young people just I mean more well-rounded.

people just I mean more well-rounded. And you talk about I've had some players And you talk about I've had some players here recently get married. Ran into one here recently get married. Ran into one the other day at Chipotle and he's got a the other day at Chipotle and he's got a young son. And just seeing those people young son. And just seeing those people now that I've been here 13 years, that now that I've been here 13 years, that is so awesome for me. And I think I is so awesome for me. And I think I think about when LCA is put out in that think about when LCA is put out in that fashion on broadcast television, people fashion on broadcast television, people are learn about how special this place are learn about how special this place really is. And I wouldn't have been here really is. And I wouldn't have been here that long if it weren't that special.

that long if it weren't that special. >> For sure. Well, let's wrap up with this. >> For sure. Well, let's wrap up with this. And for the people who may not have And for the people who may not have listened last year, because we we talked listened last year, because we we talked about it early in the season last year, about it early in the season last year, talk about your mantra for this program talk about your mantra for this program and what LCA means. and uh just kind of and what LCA means. and uh just kind of give people an overview of of if they give people an overview of of if they knew nothing about LCA football and you knew nothing about LCA football and you had to give a little slur little blurb had to give a little slur little blurb about what it was about. Tell us about about what it was about. Tell us about that.

that. that. >> Yeah, I think a lot of that's kudos to >> Yeah, I think a lot of that's kudos to Doug Charles, our last head coach. He Doug Charles, our last head coach. He then and it's really our athletics then and it's really our athletics department now is we as an athletics department now is we as an athletics department here at LCA play

for what we department here at LCA play for what we call the middle C which is Lexon call the middle C which is Lexon Christian Academy. Um so middle C when Christian Academy. Um so middle C when we say that that means Christian on our we say that that means Christian on our jerseys of LCA but the athletics jerseys of LCA but the athletics department mantra is playing for an department mantra is playing for an audience of one. So we talk about that I audience of one. So we talk about that I mean all the time in our programs and mean all the time in our programs and that's not just with the football that's not just with the football program now. started out as a football program now. started out as a football program piece but has now kind of moved program piece but has now kind of moved into pro the athletics department's into pro the athletics department's mantra but our football program we've mantra but our football program we've taken that to we're playing for an taken that to we're playing for an audience of one but it's together we win audience of one but it's together we win playing for an audience of one with playing for an audience of one with together we win means is we build a together we win means is we build a program here one family one player at a program here one family one player at a time what that means is we everybody time what that means is we everybody here in our program has a role and I here in our program has a role and I don't care if it's somebody that's don't care if it's somebody that's working the chains on Friday nights if working the chains on Friday nights if it's uh our PA Wayne Hulcom our PA it's uh our PA Wayne Hulcom our PA announcer Friday night, if it's a parent announcer Friday night, if it's a parent that has brought orange slices at that has brought orange slices at halftime of a game, like you don't have halftime of a game, like you don't have the experience that these kids get if the experience that these kids get if it's not all hands on deck, everybody it's not all hands on deck, everybody pulling in the same direction and you pulling in the same direction and you don't win at the level that we want to don't win at the level that we want to win at if everybody doesn't see it that win at if everybody doesn't see it that way. Because if there's my college O way. Because if there's my college O line coach used to always talk about O line coach used to always talk about O line plays, five five guys. Well, if you line plays, five five guys. Well, if you go try and punch somebody with one go try and punch somebody with one finger, well, guess what? That finger's finger, well, guess what? That finger's going to break. Well, it's together. And going to break. Well, it's together. And he'd always talk about being a fist. And he'd always talk about being a fist. And that always resonated with me. And you that always resonated with me. And you talk about a high school football talk about a high school football program, how many fists that takes. Like program, how many fists that takes. Like it can't be one person poking out doing it can't be one person poking out doing their own thing. It's got to be their own thing. It's got to be everybody understand what the common everybody understand what the common good is. So that's our overarching theme good is. So that's our overarching theme is together we win, playing for an is together we win, playing for an audience of one. But we also have LCA, audience of one. But we also have LCA, the acronym, which we've taken to love, the acronym, which we've taken to love, courage, accountability. That love courage, accountability. That love piece is we want to love people. We want to is we want to love people. We want to show love. loving the community. We want show love. loving the community. We want to go do service events like we were at to go do service events like we were at Sunrise Boys Home just a couple weeks Sunrise Boys Home just a couple weeks ago. We're getting ready to work the ago. We're getting ready to work the Miracle League. Uh we just committed to Miracle League. Uh we just committed to doing a big pink out in October, which doing a big pink out in October, which that's the first time I've really said that's the first time I've really said that. We're going to do that and that. We're going to do that and celebrate some uh or bring some celebrate some uh or bring some awareness to to breast cancer. Um so awareness to to breast cancer. Um so like we're we're going to do that and like we're we're going to do that and show people like we care deeply for show people like we care deeply for other people. We've got a staff other people. We've got a staff appreciation game that we're going to appreciation game that we're going to do. Uh actually we played Franklin do. Uh actually we played Franklin County this year on 911 which is 25 County this year on 911 which is 25 years post that uh horrific day and and years post that uh horrific day and and we're going to honor first responders we're going to honor first responders and uh military personnel at that game and uh military personnel at that game with something unique and special. Uh we with something unique and special. Uh we we just really talk about in our program we just really talk about in our program that this is bigger than anybody. It's that this is bigger than anybody. It's bigger than me. It's bigger than any bigger than me. It's bigger than any player. And our players laugh at times player. And our players laugh at times because I say it so much. But there's so because I say it so much. But there's so many people that have come before us and many people that have come before us and so many people that have made it so many people that have made it possible for us to be able to play this possible for us to be able to play this great game. But then we talk about great game. But then we talk about courage which is we want to have courage courage which is we want to have courage to do things right the first time and to do things right the first time and that's in the classroom outside the that's in the classroom outside the classroom and then courage to play the classroom and then courage

to play the next play that's in life and in football next play that's in life and in football and then our players know if they fall and then our players know if they fall short of that love and courage short of that love and courage expectation we have that accountability expectation we have that accountability piece we don't punish in this program.

piece we don't punish in this program. We hold people accountable so they can We hold people accountable so they can learn learn life lessons from uh learn learn life lessons from uh shortfalls because we're all going to shortfalls because we're all going to fall short. Um, but that's what we're fall short. Um, but that's what we're here to do is is learn together and uh here to do is is learn together and uh glorify Christ and all that we do. And I glorify Christ and all that we do. And I say that's uh about as short of a say that's uh about as short of a synopsis as I can do talking about what synopsis as I can do talking about what we are.

we are. >> That's perfect. I just want everyone to >> That's perfect. I just want everyone to hear that at the beginning of the year hear that at the beginning of the year because um we do we started this show because um we do we started this show just kind of out of like what can we do just kind of out of like what can we do to help athletes, our athletes who are to help athletes, our athletes who are here. What can we do to serve the here. What can we do to serve the community? somebody can get some inside community? somebody can get some inside information into what we're doing and information into what we're doing and what we saw and didn't know what the what we saw and didn't know what the response was going to be. Turns out when response was going to be. Turns out when we miss a week, we get calls and texts we miss a week, we get calls and texts like, "Hold on a second. Where's where's like, "Hold on a second. Where's where's the Oak Show?" Uh so we're really happy the Oak Show?" Uh so we're really happy to do it. Um and we're glad for this to do it. Um and we're glad for this season to kick off. It's like Christmas season to kick off. It's like Christmas time that first Friday night uh in time that first Friday night uh in August. We'll get into uh September and August. We'll get into uh September and then the grind. And uh we talked about then the grind. And uh we talked about the phases of of going through three the phases of of going through three phases through the season. and we'll phases through the season. and we'll talk about that a little bit more going talk about that a little bit more going forward, but let's go get a win at the forward, but let's go get a win at the 5:00 Burning Hot Rebel Bowl and we'll 5:00 Burning Hot Rebel Bowl and we'll come back and do it again next week.

come back and do it again next week. >> That's that's great. >> That's that's great. >> Thanks for joining us for the LCA >> Thanks for joining us for the LCA football [music] coach Oakley Watkins football [music] coach Oakley Watkins show. Tune in next week to hear from show. Tune in next week to hear from more LCA players and Coach Oakley more LCA players and Coach Oakley [music] Watkins. Don't forget to contact [music] Watkins. Don't forget to contact our sponsor, Dr. Jason Hunt, and the our sponsor, Dr. Jason Hunt, and the Joint Preservation Center for all your Joint Preservation Center for all your sports medicine needs. And until next sports medicine needs. And until next week, go Eagles.

week, go Eagles. >> [music]