LCA Football Coach Oakley Watkins Show Season 2 Episode 4 w/ Nick Greer, Matt Montgomery 9/16/2026 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 Oakley [music] Watkins show live from Oakley [music] Watkins show live from the home of the Eagles in Lexington, the home of the Eagles in Lexington, Kentucky on the Ortholink Sports Kentucky on the Ortholink Sports 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 and the Joint Preservation Center and the Kentucky [music] Bluebird Grill and Pub.

Kentucky [music] Bluebird Grill and Pub. 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.

Ceremony and Military Recognition

>> All right, we're back here live. Uh, >> All right, we're back here live. Uh, always feels better after a win, coach. always feels better after a win, coach.

Uh, it was u it was a great night. So, Uh, it was u it was a great night. So, let's start off with talking about uh let's start off with talking about uh how the night started with the ceremony how the night started with the ceremony and and what your feedback is after and and what your feedback is after going through that. It's probably uh going through that. It's probably uh we've seen a lot of social media posts we've seen a lot of social media posts about it, uh a lot of coverage about it.

about it, uh a lot of coverage about it. Just talk about how you think that went Just talk about how you think that went at the beginning of the game. Oh, it was at the beginning of the game. Oh, it was it was great. I mean, it's one of my it was great. I mean, it's one of my favorite things we've done in my 13 favorite things we've done in my 13 years 13 years here at LCA, getting to years 13 years here at LCA, getting to see our play, like an image that'll see our play, like an image that'll forever stick with me is after we forever stick with me is after we recognized and awarded uh presented each recognized and awarded uh presented each military and first responder that was at military and first responder that was at midfield with a challenge coin, each midfield with a challenge coin, each player on our team walked the line and player on our team walked the line and shook the hands and looked them in the shook the hands and looked them in the eye. Um, thank them for their service eye. Um, thank them for their service and their selflessness. Like for me, I and their selflessness. Like for me, I mean, that is an image like I genuinely mean, that is an image like I genuinely will will never forget. It was pretty will will never forget. It was pretty cool to to see our guys take that in and cool to to see our guys take that in and just to see how much it meant to just to see how much it meant to everybody that was there and the everybody that was there and the relationships that were really formed relationships that were really formed out there and also rekindled like out there and also rekindled like Franklin Countyy's representative who's Franklin Countyy's representative who's 38 years in military service. Like 38 years in military service. Like that's somebody that's pou a lot into that's somebody that's pou a lot into me, too. So like to be able to see him me, too. So like to be able to see him recognized in that fashion, it was it recognized in that fashion, it was it was just incredible. I mean special, was just incredible. I mean special, really powerful. um just uh that's really powerful. um just uh that's something that obviously we always talk something that obviously we always talk about never forgetting that day and some about never forgetting that day and some way able to honor people but also uh way able to honor people but also uh remember those that were lost. So it was remember those that were lost.

Franklin County Game Recap

So it was really special. really special. >> Lots of times we make efforts to pull >> Lots of times we make efforts to

pull something off like that and you're like something off like that and you're like ah we kind of swung and miss a little ah we kind of swung and miss a little bit but I sure don't think we did and bit but I sure don't think we did and that's when it came it was very uh very that's when it came it was very uh very meaningful for a lot of people. So it meaningful for a lot of people. So it was awesome way to start and then let's was awesome way to start and then let's get okay the emotions are high and then get okay the emotions are high and then we got a football game to play. Uh, so we got a football game to play. Uh, so talk to me about what your initial talk to me about what your initial response was when you watched the film response was when you watched the film uh against Franklin County.

uh against Franklin County. >> Yeah, I mean I said this going in. I >> Yeah, I mean I said this going in. I told coach Eddie James over Franklin told coach Eddie James over Franklin County, I think they've gotten better County, I think they've gotten better each and every week. So I think that's a each and every week. So I think that's a good football team we played. Um, I was good football team we played. Um, I was extremely proud of our offensive line extremely proud of our offensive line group and that's why we've got two of group and that's why we've got two of those guys we're going to talk to today those guys we're going to talk to today just because they got after it Friday just because they got after it Friday night. I I went into the game thinking night. I I went into the game thinking we were going to try and throw it around we were going to try and throw it around the yard a little bit just off of some the yard a little bit just off of some things we had seen on tape and our things we had seen on tape and our offensive line just really I mean took a offensive line just really I mean took a huge step forward. Um played their tails huge step forward. Um played their tails off really set the line of scrimmage and off really set the line of scrimmage and I thought our defense too like there I thought our defense too like there were some plays effort-wise creating were some plays effort-wise creating turnovers and creating more turnovers and creating more opportunities for us on offense to get opportunities for us on offense to get out there. You talking about again out there. You talking about again complimentary football like Sam's complimentary football like Sam's playing the end zone punching that thing playing the end zone punching that thing out was that's a next level football out was that's a next level football play.

play. >> No doubt he never gave up on that. >> No doubt he never gave up on that. That's a That's a game changer. And That's a That's a game changer. And flipped the I think we probably won the flipped the I think we probably won the hidden yardage again uh this week where hidden yardage again uh this week where we had kind of fell off on that the week we had kind of fell off on that the week before. So, we flipped the field.

before. So, we flipped the field. Another big punt from Sam. And uh Another big punt from Sam. And uh >> if it weren't for weren't for that one, >> if it weren't for weren't for that one, it'd been close cuz we got to get better it'd been close cuz we got to get better in the kickoff kickoff return world.

in the kickoff kickoff return world. >> Yeah, for sure. Um >> Yeah, for sure. Um >> and then because the offensive line >> and then because the offensive line stepped up like Davin was able to run stepped up like Davin was able to run the ball more effectively and he gave a the ball more effectively and he gave a great effort. He was uh it turns out great effort. He was uh it turns out that if people are pulling and you that if people are pulling and you follow him, good things happen.

follow him, good things happen. >> Yeah. Yes. Hey, that was a big topic of >> Yeah. Yes. Hey, that was a big topic of conversation. Then I think for Bennett conversation. Then I think for Bennett and Davin both having coach Ryan Timmans and Davin both having coach Ryan Timmans on the other sideline who had been their on the other sideline who had been their position coach the last two years. I position coach the last two years. I think there was think there was >> a little motivation there. They think >> a little motivation there. They think the world of him and obviously that's a the world of him and obviously that's a relationship that's special to us still relationship that's special to us still here today and Ryan's poured a lot of here today and Ryan's poured a lot of time into this program. So for him to be time into this program. So for him to be on the other side, I think there was an on the other side, I think there was an extra extra added incentive there for extra extra added incentive there for those two guys, too. So those two guys, too. So >> we don't know what it is, but in a big >> we don't know what it is, but in a big game, whatever big is for Davin, he's game, whatever big is for Davin, he's really hard to tackle.

really hard to tackle. >> He is. >> He is. >> So it's been year after year, we've seen >> So it's been year after year,

we've seen that that that >> very much so.

>> very much so. >> In a big game, uh he has a little extra >> In a big game, uh he has a little extra spunk. spunk. spunk. >> So we like that from him.

>> So we like that from him. >> Yes. >> Yes. >> Yes. >> Um and then we always talk each week, uh >> Um and then we always talk each week, uh this is what we wanted to get better at this is what we wanted to get better at and this is what we still need to work and this is what we still need to work on. So, let's go there on what do we on. So, let's go there on what do we need to work on from last week to this need to work on from last week to this week uh to make another step forward.

week uh to make another step forward. >> Yeah, I think in terms of just >> Yeah, I think in terms of just completing the ball downfield a little completing the ball downfield a little bit more consistently, we had some bit more consistently, we had some opportunities at times of getting behind opportunities at times of getting behind the defense and we just just missed and the defense and we just just missed and those are hard balls to complete, but those are hard balls to complete, but we're continue to work on our receivers we're continue to work on our receivers about restacking once we get past that about restacking once we get past that that third level defender. Uh but just that third level defender. Uh but just being at a higher percentage when we're being at a higher percentage when we're talking about completing the ball talking about completing the ball downfield is is one thing offensively.

downfield is is one thing offensively. Um in the special teams world we've got Um in the special teams world we've got to be better on in the kickoff game and to be better on in the kickoff game and the kickoffs. I mean we had some snafoos the kickoffs. I mean we had some snafoos there um Friday that we just we've got there um Friday that we just we've got to continue to improve upon. And then to continue to improve upon.

Areas to Improve After the Win

And then really that middle eight, which is the really that middle eight, which is the last four of the first half, and then last four of the first half, and then the first four of the second half, like the first four of the second half, like we've been better coming out of the we've been better coming out of the second half, but closing the first half second half, but closing the first half on Friday, I thought we had a real on Friday, I thought we had a real opportunity to double them up with the opportunity to double them up with the score. We kick it off and we had a deal score. We kick it off and we had a deal we're working on. And then we're working on. And then >> [laughter] >> [laughter] >> [laughter] >> um the way the half ended just I mean >> um the way the half ended just I mean it's a one-sore game instead of a it's a one-sore game instead of a two-score game, us getting the ball at two-score game, us getting the ball at the half. like those those details like the half. like those those details like continue to hone in on the the middle continue to hone in on the the middle eight I think is going to be really eight I think is going to be really important.

important. important. >> Yeah. And then to wrap it up or wrap >> Yeah. And then to wrap it up or wrap Franklin County up it's uh obviously a Franklin County up it's uh obviously a big game for us. We we never shied away big game for us. We we never shied away and said this is a big game for us and and said this is a big game for us and we performed very well but also when we performed very well but also when it's bigger than football. You have this it's bigger than football. You have this emotional start. It's a program that's emotional start. It's a program that's near and dear to your heart. Obviously near and dear to your heart. Obviously it's where you went to school and then it's where you went to school and then um coach came over at the end of the um coach came over at the end of the game hugged you and said I'm proud of game hugged you and said I'm proud of you. And so that biggest, you know, you. And so that biggest, you know, going f full circle and then your going f full circle and then your players gave you three at the end of the players gave you three at the end of the game because you just beat your alma mo.

game because you just beat your alma mo. So it's it was a huge kind of momentum So it's it was a huge kind of momentum swing to let people know that if we keep swing to let people know that if we keep getting better and laying down, then getting better and laying down, then good things are going to happen, I good things are going to happen, I think. So I think that had a not just a think. So I think that had a not just a scoreboard, not just getting

another scoreboard, not just getting another win. I think we we built this week and win. I think we we built this week and went forward. So uh we got a couple of went forward.

Offensive Line Spotlight: Nick Greer

So uh we got a couple of uh couple football players with us uh couple football players with us today, so I'll let you take over, give today, so I'll let you take over, give the intro. uh they're not uh newbies to the intro. uh they're not uh newbies to the podcast. They came last year. So, uh the podcast. They came last year. So, uh give an intro to each of the guys that give an intro to each of the guys that are here and we'll go from there.

are here and we'll go from there. >> Yeah. Again, just wanted to highlight >> Yeah. Again, just wanted to highlight our offensive line this this week. I our offensive line this this week. I know we had I've had have Christian and know we had I've had have Christian and Don and Max on already as our upper Don and Max on already as our upper class guys and these two are the the class guys and these two are the the other ones that really were impactful on other ones that really were impactful on Friday night for us. So, I'll go in the Friday night for us. So, I'll go in the chronological order again with 56 and chronological order again with 56 and 57. So, we've got number 56, Nick Greer, 57. So, we've got number 56, Nick Greer, who was a all-state player last year as who was a all-state player last year as a sophomore. Um, started as a as a a sophomore. Um, started as a as a freshman at times for us, which I think freshman at times for us, which I think is a hard thing to do when you talk is a hard thing to do when you talk about the box. Really challenged him about the box. Really challenged him because now being a junior, really because now being a junior, really three-year starter in my eyes, playing three-year starter in my eyes, playing center, he's responsible for making center, he's responsible for making front calls, making sure our scheme, our front calls, making sure our scheme, our blocking schemes are aligned correctly blocking schemes are aligned correctly with what that defense is doing if they with what that defense is doing if they give us a different look. But, he's just give us a different look. But, he's just a a great leader. uh just a joy to coach a a great leader. uh just a joy to coach and uh a blessing to this program and and uh a blessing to this program and and makes me better as a coach every and makes me better as a coach every day. And uh he's uh tough as nails. I'll day. And uh he's uh tough as nails. I'll say that about him. I've been given a say that about him. I've been given a hard time a little bit this week, but he hard time a little bit this week, but he is tough and uh that's kind of mindset is tough and uh that's kind of mindset you got to have up front.

you got to have up front. >> Sounds good. >> Sounds good. >> So then we've got number 57, Matthew >> So then we've got number 57, Matthew McGomery. Matthew is another one that's McGomery. Matthew is another one that's it's extremely rare when you have two, it's extremely rare when you have two, threeear starters in your program on the threeear starters in your program on the offensive line as juniors. Uh, Matthew offensive line as juniors. Uh, Matthew is one of the most athletic offensive is one of the most athletic offensive linemen I've seen at the high school linemen I've seen at the high school level. He's extremely well-versed in level. He's extremely well-versed in being able to get on the perimeter being able to get on the perimeter perimeter from a pinn standpoint. We perimeter from a pinn standpoint. We like to pull him a lot. Moving him to like to pull him a lot. Moving him to tackle. We did that because of his tackle. We did that because of his athletic ability and the pass rushes athletic ability and the pass rushes we're getting off the edge and have been we're getting off the edge and have been able to really change some things up to able to really change some things up to make sure he's still a guy that's make sure he's still a guy that's pulling consistently for us. But he's pulling consistently for us. But he's another one just loves football. I mean, another one just loves football. I mean, he comes every day with a smile. Another he comes every day with a smile. Another one that makes me better as a coach. Um, one that makes me better as a coach. Um, I'm just glad that I get to coach him I'm just glad that I get to coach him for for another year and a half. Uh, for for another year and a half.

Offensive Line Spotlight: Matt McGomery

Uh, because he's he's that much fun to because he's he's that much fun to coach. So proud of both of these guys. coach. So proud of both of these guys.

>> All right, we'll take a short break. >> All right, we'll take a short break. We'll be right back with Nick Greer. All We'll be right back with Nick Greer. All right, we're back after a short break.

right, we're back after a short break. We have Nick Greer here. So, uh, you We have Nick Greer here. So, uh, you heard what your coach said about you.

heard what your coach said about you. Obviously got a big big shoes to fill Obviously got a big big shoes to fill now after all those compliments, right?

now after all those compliments, right? >> Yeah, big shoes. >> Yeah, big shoes. >> Talk about uh we talked to you last >> Talk about uh we talked to you last year. Talk about offseason preparation year. Talk about offseason preparation knowing what you know about what you knowing what you know about what you need to do to get better at. What did need to do to get better at. What did you do in the offseason to get ready for you do in the offseason to get ready for this season? Yeah. So, the offseason I this season? Yeah. So, the offseason I really just stayed in the weight room a really just stayed in the weight room a lot. Uh, my weights went up a lot more lot. Uh, my weights went up a lot more than they did freshman year, sophomore than they did freshman year, sophomore year this year. And then got on the year this year. And then got on the field a little, you know, worked on my field a little, you know, worked on my technique and everything like that and technique and everything like that and got out there with some of my buddies, got out there with some of my buddies, just worked on some like pass rush and just worked on some like pass rush and run blocking and just got mentally run blocking and just got mentally prepared.

prepared. prepared. >> Gotcha. So, a lot of time in the weight >> Gotcha. So, a lot of time in the weight room um getting ready. Sometimes we had room um getting ready. Sometimes we had to um to um we have to enjoy the experience that we we have to enjoy the experience that we had last year winning the state had last year winning the state championship but the people who are championship but the people who are coming back it's good for the seniors to coming back it's good for the seniors to go away people coming back we can't go away people coming back we can't become complacent and you had to put become complacent and you had to put work in the same so talk about that like work in the same so talk about that like what's your personal goals and team what's your personal goals and team goals coming into this year goals coming into this year >> definitely my personal goals are just to >> definitely my personal goals are just to keep getting better every day you know keep getting better every day you know just to keep developing my game and just to keep developing my game and developing my body and then team goals developing my body and then team goals obviously to get back to Kroger Field obviously to get back to Kroger Field and win a win another state championship and win a win another state championship and just keep getting better every week, and just keep getting better every week, which we're doing right now. We're which we're doing right now. We're definitely getting better week in and definitely getting better week in and week out.

week out. >> How's it to have a head coach that was >> How's it to have a head coach that was an offensive lineman? an offensive lineman? >> It's awesome. You know, he definitely >> It's awesome. You know, he definitely definitely pushes us harder than any definitely pushes us harder than any other position group on the field, but other position group on the field, but it makes us a lot better. So, it's it makes us a lot better. So, it's really great to have him. Yeah. Talk really great to have him. Yeah. Talk about how much uh not saying it's easy, about how much uh not saying it's easy, but talk about how much easier it is for but talk about how much easier it is for you to recognize defenses and kind of you to recognize defenses and kind of run the offense. What What's that run the offense. What What's that process like? kind of speak to like a process like? kind of speak to like a young guy who's coming in to to be a young guy who's coming in to to be a center and be the head of the offense.

center and be the head of the offense. Talk about that progression of you Talk about that progression of you understanding defense and then what you understanding defense and then what you need to do to get better at that each need to do to get better at that each week. You know, this year it's it's week. You know, this year it's it's definitely a lot easier after last year.

definitely a lot easier after last year. You know, especially playing most of the You know, especially playing most of the same teams we played last year, but you same teams we played last year, but you still got to spend a bunch of time in still got to spend a bunch of time in the film room every day. you know, just the film room every day. you know, just making sure you know how they line up to making sure you know how they line up to each formation, each play, making sure each formation, each play, making sure you know what they're all going to do, you know what they're all going to do, so you know where everyone's got to go.

so you know where everyone's got to go. So, I'd say the most important thing is So, I'd say the most important thing is definitely just spending a bunch of time definitely just spending a bunch of time on the film.

on the film. >> When we start grading out how the >> When we start grading out how the offensive line's doing, obviously, the offensive line's doing, obviously, the film work as a team was probably a film work as a team was probably a little more pleasant this week than it little more pleasant this week than it was in the previous weeks.

was in the previous weeks. >> Yes. >> Yes. >> Yes. >> Because he talked about you guys >> Because he talked about you guys stepping up, you made a big step, but stepping up, you made a big step, but you made the Davin's job easier and you made the Davin's job easier and Bennett's job easier to run the football Bennett's job easier to run the football and kind of dominate. on the line and and kind of dominate. on the line and times where they needed big plays. Um, times where they needed big plays. Um, talk about that like what you've seen talk about that like what you've seen with your teammates and the progression with your teammates and the progression of people off the offensive line. Nash of people off the offensive line. Nash throwing the ball, Bennett, Davin throwing the ball, Bennett, Davin running the ball. Um, what have you running the ball. Um, what have you noticed through their progression this noticed through their progression this year?

year? year? >> Their progression, they've definitely, >> Their progression, they've definitely, you know, just filled in. Um, gotten you know, just filled in. Um, gotten better from last year, learned, gotten better from last year, learned, gotten stronger, faster, everything like that.

stronger, faster, everything like that. You know, they just got a lot better. You know, they just got a lot better. >> Gotcha. And now let's uh we talked a >> Gotcha. And now let's uh we talked a little bit about LCA as a school last little bit about LCA as a school last year so we won't rehash all of that but year so we won't rehash all of that but um we also talked with Oakley earlier in um we also talked with Oakley earlier in the year like there's a large number of the year like there's a large number of guys in the high school who played guys in the high school who played football. So talk about culture at LCA football. So talk about culture at LCA and how important and what role the and how important and what role the football players play in that.

football players play in that. >> Yeah, you know the football players >> Yeah, you know the football players definitely play a huge role. Um I think definitely play a huge role. Um I think we have a little over 200 boys in the we have a little over 200 boys in the high school and I think there's over a high school and I think there's over a little over 50 on the team. So a little little over 50 on the team. So a little over 25% of the all the boys in the high over 25% of the all the boys in the high school play football. So it definitely school play football. So it definitely makes us a big you know target on how makes us a big you know target on how the school operates and there's big the school operates and there's big influence on how everyone acts.

influence on how everyone acts. >> Yeah. And we have a tremendous support >> Yeah. And we have a tremendous support from the administration and the school from the administration and the school um and it's our job uh obviously to pay um and it's our job uh obviously to pay that back and make sure that we set good that back and make sure that we set good culture and and do that. So you guys culture and and do that.

Film Breakdown: Franklin County Plays

So you guys work really hard at doing that. Uh also work really hard at doing that. Uh also give you an opportunity to leave the give you an opportunity to leave the fans with something. So, anybody who's fans with something. So, anybody who's watching who wonders what LCA football's watching who wonders what LCA football's about, the fans who are coming out to about, the fans who are coming out to watch, say something uh to the fans, watch, say something uh to the fans, either what you expect when they come either what you expect when they come and watch you play or anything you want and watch you play or anything you want to say and leave leave the fans with.

to say and leave leave the fans with. >> Uh this Friday, Lexington Catholic, be >> Uh this Friday, Lexington Catholic, be there, wear white, be loud, and let's there, wear white, be loud, and let's drain it.

drain it. >> All right. I love it. That's what I was >> All right. I love it. That's what I was hoping you would pick. All

right. So, hoping you would pick. All right. So, we'll take a short break. We'll be back we'll take a short break. We'll be back with Matt McGomery.

with Matt McGomery. All right. Short break. We're back. Matt All right. Short break. We're back. Matt Montgomery. So, I guess today is the day Montgomery. So, I guess today is the day of the juniors. Uh, we've had a lot of of the juniors. Uh, we've had a lot of seniors on. Uh, but you also heard what seniors on. Uh, but you also heard what your coach said about you. So, Yes, sir.

your coach said about you. So, Yes, sir. >> expectations are pretty high for you, >> expectations are pretty high for you, too. too. too. >> And, uh, >> And, uh, >> talk about the same thing I asked Nick >> talk about the same thing I asked Nick about like what was your mindset? You about like what was your mindset? You win the state championship.

win the state championship. >> You have some time to enjoy that. It's a >> You have some time to enjoy that. It's a big deal. It's a huge deal for us.

big deal. It's a huge deal for us. >> Uh, then the smoke starts to clear and >> Uh, then the smoke starts to clear and you start preparing for the next season.

you start preparing for the next season. uh what did you do in the offseason to uh what did you do in the offseason to get better and what was your mindset get better and what was your mindset coming into the season?

coming into the season? >> Um during the offseason I really just >> Um during the offseason I really just focused on my fundamentals, my footwork focused on my fundamentals, my footwork really and I just made sure I ate well really and I just made sure I ate well and try to get bigger and like Nick and try to get bigger and like Nick said, get in the weight room, get said, get in the weight room, get stronger and everything. So, stronger and everything. So, >> and then when the season starts, um we >> and then when the season starts, um we have a we play lots of big time games on have a we play lots of big time games on big time stages. So, we start right off big time stages. So, we start right off with being on broadcast TV with the with being on broadcast TV with the eCampus bowl and then we're going to eCampus bowl and then we're going to play um games that are very difficult uh play um games that are very difficult uh to have success in which and now the to have success in which and now the smoke kind of doesn't get any better.

smoke kind of doesn't get any better. We're coming into Lexon Catholic. So, We're coming into Lexon Catholic. So, talk about that. Talk about where we talk about that. Talk about where we started as a team started as a team >> uh and where you think we are now as a >> uh and where you think we are now as a team uh in regards to not just the team uh in regards to not just the offensive line but as a team what our offensive line but as a team what our trajectory is trajectory is >> continuing now. I I could feel the >> continuing now. I I could feel the leadership already getting better. Um leadership already getting better. Um we're communicating better and we're we're communicating better and we're just we're all being more focused.

just we're all being more focused. >> Yeah. And then the focus that you take, >> Yeah. And then the focus that you take, obviously it's a rivalry game coming up.

obviously it's a rivalry game coming up. Uh it really doesn't matter who's the Uh it really doesn't matter who's the most talented team. It really doesn't most talented team. It really doesn't matter who has the best players or who's matter who has the best players or who's the fastest or strongest. Like this is a the fastest or strongest. Like this is a rivalry game and we we see this every rivalry game and we we see this every year. Do you do anything different as a year. Do you do anything different as a team going into a rivalry game as any team going into a rivalry game as any other game that you prepare for each other game that you prepare for each week?

week? week? >> Oh, yeah. It's it's definitely a big >> Oh, yeah. It's it's definitely a big game this week compared to every other game this week compared to every other game, especially since it's known as the game, especially since it's known as the the holy war. So, we really take this the holy war. So, we really take this serious. We focus harder. Um, we really serious. We focus harder. Um, we really we lock in during practice and we go a we lock in

during practice and we go a little harder against each other in little harder against each other in practice.

practice. practice. >> And then the adrenaline we flowing on >> And then the adrenaline we flowing on Friday. Unfortunately, this week we have Friday. Unfortunately, this week we have to go there. Uh, it's always better when to go there. Uh, it's always better when we play at home. What does it feel like we play at home. What does it feel like to play on that level when everything's to play on that level when everything's running on adrenaline? How do you focus running on adrenaline? How do you focus and still make sure your technique is and still make sure your technique is good and you do what you're you're good and you do what you're you're designed to do when all the adrenaline's designed to do when all the adrenaline's going? It's a rivalry game.

going? It's a rivalry game. >> Um, I really just try to focus on my >> Um, I really just try to focus on my job, not when what everyone else is job, not when what everyone else is doing, like not caring what Davin's doing, like not caring what Davin's behind me going to do. I just really behind me going to do. I just really focus on being intentional with my focus on being intentional with my footsteps and making sure I get do my footsteps and making sure I get do my job. when uh your coach saying how job. when uh your coach saying how athletic you are and we're able to move athletic you are and we're able to move you on the line and do different jobs.

you on the line and do different jobs. Um what's your favorite thing about Um what's your favorite thing about being an offensive lineman? What do you being an offensive lineman? What do you think is uh either your best at or your think is uh either your best at or your favorite thing about that position?

favorite thing about that position? >> My favorite thing is definitely pulling >> My favorite thing is definitely pulling going out on a skipp and getting up on going out on a skipp and getting up on the backer or something just mauling the backer or something just mauling them.

them. them. >> Yeah. >> Yeah. >> Yeah. >> Yeah. I love doing that. >> Yeah. I love doing that. >> Awesome. Um and also let's we talked >> Awesome. Um and also let's we talked about culture here at with football about culture here at with football players and LCA as a school. um say players and LCA as a school. um say something about LCA, either what it something about LCA, either what it means to you as a school or the culture means to you as a school or the culture that you guys have set as a football that you guys have set as a football team or uh how important it is uh for team or uh how important it is uh for your guys who are on the team um to set your guys who are on the team um to set culture inside the walls of the school.

culture inside the walls of the school. >> Yeah, we really have a loving football >> Yeah, we really have a loving football team. Um like I always say hi to like team. Um like I always say hi to like one of the freshman, bring them up if one of the freshman, bring them up if they're down. Um everyone just loves they're down. Um everyone just loves each other. You can just tell there's each other. You can just tell there's love in the football team and it's just love in the football team and it's just I love the culture around LCA and our I love the culture around LCA and our team and everything. It's it's very team and everything. It's it's very loving.

loving. loving. >> Yeah. And you you said you're a lifer so >> Yeah. And you you said you're a lifer so you've been at LCA for the last 42 years you've been at LCA for the last 42 years even though you're not 42 years old.

even though you're not 42 years old. That's what it feels like. That's what it feels like. >> Um so having people who've been through >> Um so having people who've been through that and you're now you're it's your that and you're now you're it's your junior year, you've been here the whole junior year, you've been here the whole time. You kind of understand what the time. You kind of understand what the expectations are.

expectations are. >> So you're able to pick up younger people >> So you're able to pick up younger people even if they someone who transfers in. even if they someone who transfers in.

We have a couple kids who are seniors We have a couple kids who are seniors who are like playing football for the who are like playing football for the first time, right? We have Nathaniel who first time, right? We have Nathaniel who came in as a soccer player and so came in as a soccer player and so >> uh we start pulling people in and >> uh we start pulling people in and showing them what the culture is. I showing them what the culture is. I think you

guys have done an amazing job think you guys have done an amazing job doing that. They said that themselves doing that. They said that themselves that you guys welcome them with open that you guys welcome them with open arms, arms, arms, >> they feel right at home. So I think >> they feel right at home. So I think that's important.

that's important. >> Um I'll also give you the ability to say >> Um I'll also give you the ability to say something to the fans. We have a rivalry something to the fans. We have a rivalry game coming out. It's a wide out for game coming out. It's a wide out for LCA. So uh give give the fans something LCA. So uh give give the fans something they need to hear about Friday night.

they need to hear about Friday night. You just got to show out and be loud. You just got to show out and be loud. >> Yeah, show out and be loud. Or would it?

>> Yeah, show out and be loud. Or would it? Show up and transfer. Show up and transfer. >> Show up or transfer. Yeah. >> Show up or transfer. Yeah. >> All right. All right.

>> All right. All right. >> All right. Here we go. Let's see what >> All right. Here we go. Let's see what Dr. Hunt has got pulled up this week. Dr. Hunt has got pulled up this week.

It's always fun for me because I really It's always fun for me because I really don't see these plays before as the don't see these plays before as the which 10 to 15 that he picked. So, which 10 to 15 that he picked. So, this one here actually looks like first this one here actually looks like first play of the game for us on offense. Um, play of the game for us on offense. Um, one thing that we do a lot of as a as an one thing that we do a lot of as a as an offense is run a lot of counter, which offense is run a lot of counter, which is usually pulling two people. Um, but is usually pulling two people. Um, but one thing that this week against one thing that this week against Franklin County we thought would be Franklin County we thought would be really good just off of their alignment really good just off of their alignment was running just true power.

was running just true power. um power meaning you're pulling a um power meaning you're pulling a backside player, guard or tackle um to backside player, guard or tackle um to the second level. And we skipp pull on the second level. And we skipp pull on that, meaning you're going to see our that, meaning you're going to see our guys cross over on the skip. So here in guys cross over on the skip. So here in the picture, we're running weak power, the picture, we're running weak power, which means we're running away from the which means we're running away from the tight end.

tight end. Tight ends Conrad on the backside, which Tight ends Conrad on the backside, which Conrad did a great job in this play. Um, Conrad did a great job in this play. Um, and we actually ended up going tackle and we actually ended up going tackle power, which a lot of people will call power, which a lot of people will call this dart. Um, we did not block this this dart. Um, we did not block this correctly up front. Really, what this correctly up front. Really, what this should be is Conrad, should be is Conrad, I'll draw it here. Conrad was right. And I'll draw it here. Conrad was right. And then what we're going to do here on the then what we're going to do here on the back side is we're going to double here.

back side is we're going to double here. And then Christian should be man on. And then Christian should be man on. We're not worried about this defender We're not worried about this defender here. We got RPO type stuff on for him.

here. We got RPO type stuff on for him. Blocking out. Blocking out. And then Don is skipping And then Don is skipping here. Then if we get nosy safeties in here. Then if we get nosy safeties in there, we got play action stuff that there, we got play action stuff that we'll use to take care of him. So this we'll use to take care of him. So this is a safety here.

is a safety here. It's good job by Matthew here. Good job It's good job by Matthew here. Good job by Conrad. Um good pull by Don. I'd like by Conrad. Um good pull by Don. I'd like to see him not catch. Uh, what I mean by to see him not catch. Uh, what I mean by that is really shoot his hips at the that is really shoot his hips at the second level, but we can't have that second level, but we can't have that that middle air here. Again, this should that middle air

here. Again, this should be a double at Garden Center. Still good be a double at Garden Center. Still good Uh, this play here was [snorts] Uh, this play here was [snorts] third and one, third and short for us.

third and one, third and short for us. And And And really what we're doing here is just really what we're doing here is just running ISO at the point of attack. Um, running ISO at the point of attack. Um, good job here on the line of scrimmage good job here on the line of scrimmage from Matthew. I told Matthew in film from Matthew. I told Matthew in film when we watched this earlier this week when we watched this earlier this week that we're always talking about what I'd that we're always talking about what I'd like to see him not fall step with that like to see him not fall step with that left foot. But if we can take that left left foot. But if we can take that left foot forward through the hip, which foot forward through the hip, which Matthew does here, and collapse that hip Matthew does here, and collapse that hip on the double and get on the high on the double and get on the high shoulder, which he does here. I mean, shoulder, which he does here. I mean, you see the hole that creates. It ain't you see the hole that creates. It ain't big, but when you're talking about big, but when you're talking about fourth and one, you get a hole like fourth and one, you get a hole like that, that's a pretty big deal. Um, that, that's a pretty big deal. Um, pretty good job by Aiden there. I'd like pretty good job by Aiden there. I'd like to see him be a little lower um to where to see him be a little lower um to where we are able to kick out 20 instead of 20 we are able to kick out 20 instead of 20 being able to get his hands on him, being able to get his hands on him, but it's good job by Dav.

but it's good job by Dav. Good job by the line. Good job by the line. So quads alignment here that we get from So quads alignment here that we get from Franklin County quads with a nub tight Franklin County quads with a nub tight end. Nub tight end meaning there's no end. Nub tight end meaning there's no receivers outside of them. Um give us a receivers outside of them. Um give us a little quarterback run here which is little quarterback run here which is what a lot of teams like to do. Um when what a lot of teams like to do. Um when you get spread out is quarterback run.

you get spread out is quarterback run. Uh especially against what we're doing Uh especially against what we're doing defensively here. What we like to see defensively here. What we like to see here is when we call this a wrong arm here is when we call this a wrong arm technique, which would be Conrad take technique, which would be Conrad take he's got to get hands on this guy here he's got to get hands on this guy here and he's going to throw that opposite and he's going to throw that opposite shoulder through the pulling guard. We shoulder through the pulling guard. We would have liked to have seen that in would have liked to have seen that in this picture. Um, but really good job by this picture. Um, but really good job by uh Thomas rallying at the point of uh Thomas rallying at the point of I will say it's good job by um Allen I will say it's good job by um Allen still being ready to go fit this here still being ready to go fit this here too.

So this was Franklin County's what So this was Franklin County's what looked like it was going to be their looked like it was going to be their first touchdown of the game. Um motion first touchdown of the game. Um motion across and they just ran quarterback read on and they just ran quarterback read on the backside here. So it's like an ISO the backside here. So it's like an ISO uh insert zone type deal from them.

uh insert zone type deal from them. And And And what happens here is our backside what happens here is our backside contained crashes hard. But what I will contained crashes hard. But what I will say about this that's really special say about this that's really special about this play specifically is Sam about this play specifically is Sam Pearson's effort here. um for Sam to I Pearson's effort here. um for Sam to I mean right here it's I mean it looks mean right here it's I mean it looks like it's going to be a touchdown or like it's going to be a touchdown or just a big explosive play and we work just a big explosive play and we work this in practice all the time um which this in practice all the time um which is just fighting punching it out and you is just fighting punching it out and you can see here Sam from behind just keeps can see here Sam from behind just keeps punching the football punching the punching the football punching the football trying to create turnovers and football trying to create turnovers and this ended up being a huge huge play this ended up being a huge huge play here a touchback. We recover it. We get the a touchback. We recover it. We get the ball, go down, score on that next drive, ball, go down, score on that next drive, So, this was a trick play we had this So, this was a trick play we had this week. We felt like stretch to the field week. We felt like stretch to the field that we'd get real hard pursuit from that we'd get real hard pursuit from their corner and safety. We felt like their corner and safety. We felt like their players were run first guys that their players were run first guys that wanted to stop the run. So get to the wanted to stop the run. So get to the point of attack

here. Hand it to Dave.

point of attack here. Hand it to Dave. This is good protection up front. This is good protection up front. Throwing it back. Davin throws it back. Throwing it back. Davin throws it back.

It's got to be a backward pass for us to It's got to be a backward pass for us to throw another forward one here. And uh throw another forward one here. And uh there we go. Pax is running over. One there we go. Pax is running over. One thing we did on this concept too that I thing we did on this concept too that I liked uh this is just speaks to liked uh this is just speaks to experience of our staff here too. Like experience of our staff here too. Like we could have thrown it here to Dawson we could have thrown it here to Dawson as well. That was one of those like late as well. That was one of those like late release cuz we knew we would get a release cuz we knew we would get a little pressure in the face for Nash.

little pressure in the face for Nash. Like he gets it right here. We'd like to Like he gets it right here. We'd like to seen us stay outside on that outside seen us stay outside on that outside shoulder that DN. Um but we had late shoulder that DN. Um but we had late release in case he wasn't able to turn release in case he wasn't able to turn his body out here to to Dawson on the his body out here to to Dawson on the wheel. So we want to keep something wheel.

Rivalry Week and Team Focus

So we want to keep something and this is one thing I always love my and this is one thing I always love my man Jack down here. You look at the man Jack down here. You look at the celebrations on the sideline, what celebrations on the sideline, what people do. Look at him. That's what this people do. Look at him. That's what this thing's all about.

thing's all about. Seeing the joy that others have Seeing the joy that others have you from the backside here, good job by you from the backside here, good job by Now, this play here by Jeremiah, I Now, this play here by Jeremiah, I really challenged Jeremiah last week and really challenged Jeremiah last week and I mean this is I mean unbelievable I mean this is I mean unbelievable timing for him using his length, making timing for him using his length, making a big tackle for loss here. Like that's a big tackle for loss here. Like that's that is big time play by Jeremiah.

that is big time play by Jeremiah. I could watch this play over and over I could watch this play over and over Once again, another nub. Tight end. Once again, another nub. Tight end.

Tight end over here to the boundary. Tight end over here to the boundary. trips to the field. Little roll out trips to the field. Little roll out Pretty good job by Conrad on line of Pretty good job by Conrad on line of scrimmage here. Rolling out to him, scrimmage here. Rolling out to him, trying to work it to keep his hand free.

trying to work it to keep his hand free. Just keep him fighting. Just keep him fighting. This is really, really awesome by This is really, really awesome by Dawson.

Dawson. Obviously would love to see him make the Obviously would love to see him make the make the interception here and he gets make the interception here and he gets one later in the game, but like that's one later in the game, but like that's really that's instead of just dropping a really that's instead of just dropping a zone just to be dropping like he's zone just to be dropping like he's finding number one here dropping in that finding number one here dropping in that See what play this is here.

See what play this is here. Oh, this is So, this is a run screen Oh, this is So, this is a run screen option here. A lot of people also just option here. A lot of people also just call it an RPO. What we're doing here in call it an RPO. What we're doing here in the in the box is we're running power.

the in the box is we're running power. Uh, tackle power dart here. And all Uh, tackle power dart here. And all we're doing is we're reading numbers. If we're doing is we're reading numbers. If we've got So, there's one, one, we've got So, there's one, one, two, three. What we're doing here is two, three. What we're doing here is reading this

defender. Is he flatfooted reading this defender. Is he flatfooted And I would have been okay here if he And I would have been okay here if he would have held it. But the reason he would have held it. But the reason he ended up throwing it is that third ended up throwing it is that third defender as that safety. He felt like defender as that safety. He felt like numbers wise the depth he's playing at numbers wise the depth he's playing at which he's playing about seven to eight which he's playing about seven to eight yards that we're getting Sam one-on-one yards that we're getting Sam one-on-one here here here which is fine. That's a great play.

which is fine. That's a great play. That's a good first down play. Great That's a good first down play. Great effort by Sam. Good read by Nash. Could effort by Sam. Good read by Nash. Could have handed it as well and we would have have handed it as well and we would have been fine. But throwing it with that been fine. But throwing it with that safety's leverage, we're good to go with safety's leverage, we're good to go with it.

This here was awesome This here was awesome across the board. Obviously, anybody was across the board. Obviously, anybody was at the game on Friday with Pax like this at the game on Friday with Pax like this run by him. I'll just show the I'll just run by him. I'll just show the I'll just let it play so you can see Paxton's run let it play so you can see Paxton's run around. Then we'll come back and teach around. Then we'll come back and teach high level stuff from from packs there.

high level stuff from from packs there. But you see up here on the line of But you see up here on the line of scrimmage here, again, you've heard me scrimmage here, again, you've heard me say it. How you play without the say it. How you play without the football tells me how much you care football tells me how much you care about your teammates.

about your teammates. You watch Jeremiah and Sam, two You watch Jeremiah and Sam, two receivers at the point of attack here. receivers at the point of attack here.

Watch Jeremiah. This is a second Watch Jeremiah. This is a second straight game that Jeremiah has been straight game that Jeremiah has been incredible at the point of attack. Packs incredible at the point of attack. Packs his touchdown against Cal on the hook his touchdown against Cal on the hook and ladder was a big part of of Jeremiah and ladder was a big part of of Jeremiah blocking on the perimeter. But then you blocking on the perimeter. But then you watch Sam here. Sam doesn't take a great watch Sam here. Sam doesn't take a great angle to start. He does get his helmet angle to start. He does get his helmet across, but he just keeps fighting with across, but he just keeps fighting with one arm to make sure he's working. And one arm to make sure he's working. And look at all that effort. I mean, if that look at all that effort. I mean, if that guy would have made the tackle, he'd guy would have made the tackle, he'd And then the other one I love watching And then the other one I love watching here, Matthew McGomery, great. I mean, here, Matthew McGomery, great. I mean, that's unbelievable job on stretch here.

that's unbelievable job on stretch here. But you watch Nick Greer at center. We But you watch Nick Greer at center. We skip pull him out. Watch him find work.

skip pull him out. Watch him find work. And what I mean by that is Nick, if you And what I mean by that is Nick, if you watch Nick, start watching him about watch Nick, start watching him about here.

here. here. Watch him Watch him get him one and he keeps work going to get him one and he keeps work going to find work here. And he's out there. find work here. And he's out there.

Anytime you're I tell our guys, how you Anytime you're I tell our guys, how you get your picture in the paper if you're get your picture in the paper if you're an offensive lineman? Get out there in an offensive lineman? Get out there in space when guys are getting ready to go space when guys are getting ready to go score and find guys. And yeah, he gets score and find guys. And yeah, he gets knocked down here, but he's still making knocked down here, but he's still making plays here. Now, we talk about joy on plays here. Now, we talk about joy on our staff, joy on our team. Like, you our staff, joy on our team. Like, you should have fun playing and coaching should have fun playing and coaching this game. So, you watch our man Coach this game. So, you watch our man Coach Hyde here.

Hyde here. Look at him having a little fun. Look at him having a little fun. That's the type of stuff we like to see, That's the type of stuff we like to see, right?

right? right? Have fun. Why play if you're not having Have fun. Why play if you're not having fun? Why coach if you're not having fun? fun? Why coach if you're not having fun?

So, this was unbelievable. I mean they So, this was unbelievable. I mean they run a little run a little sale levels type concept. So they're sale levels type concept. So they're running out running out comeback. So really in smash instead and comeback. So really in smash instead and smash being corner corner post or corner smash being corner corner post or corner comeback and then they had the flat comeback and then they had the flat control defender here.

control defender here. Like that's a tough deal for a Like that's a tough deal for a quarterback when you're flat like you quarterback when you're flat like you got the comeback. We're on it. like to got the comeback. We're on it. like to see us get over top of this quick. Um, see us get over top of this quick. Um, but to have to settle for the comeback but to have to settle for the comeback and you've got three guys with Thomas and you've got three guys with Thomas behind it rallying the football, I mean, behind it rallying the football, I mean, that's that's great. Like to see Davin that's that's great. Like to see Davin keep his feet to make the play here. Um, keep his feet to make the play here. Um, but really good job by by Davin and but really good job by by Davin and Allen.

Now, this was we the first drive for Now, this was we the first drive for Bryce and Drew back in the back field Bryce and Drew back in the back field here. We went GT here. We went GT um um um GT quarterback bash, which means that GT quarterback bash, which means that you can handstretch to the field. And you can handstretch to the field. And what we're doing here is we're reading what we're doing here is we're reading that DM. That DM plays the stretch, that DM. That DM plays the stretch, which he does here, then we pull it. If which he does here, then we pull it. If that DM would have crashed, we would that DM would have crashed, we would have handed stretch. And you can see out have handed stretch. And you can see out here on the perimeter, we're three for here on the perimeter, we're three for three.

But he plays the run or plays the But he plays the run or plays the stretch. So Bryce reads it correctly and stretch. So Bryce reads it correctly and pulls. Um, only thing I would have liked pulls. Um, only thing I would have liked to have seen here on the pool is we get to have seen here on the pool is we get it's good job by Matthew I would have it's good job by Matthew I would have liked to have seen Don liked to have seen Don come up underneath a Christian here.

come up underneath a Christian here. Christian does a good job kicking out Christian does a good job kicking out and you can see it from the endzone view and you can see it from the endzone view here.

So Christian does a good job kicking So Christian does a good job kicking out. We would like to see Don go out. We would like to see Don go underneath.

And then Jeremiah's pick here. It's just And then Jeremiah's pick here. It's just high point in the football which is what high point in the football which is what we're always coaching our guys to do.

we're always coaching our guys to do. like that's I mean great play by him like that's I mean great play by him talking about going up and getting it.

talking about going up and getting it. >> Um so we just did some film breakdown >> Um so we just did some film breakdown and now um it's Catholic week. Uh you and now um it's Catholic week. Uh you never know how things go like you have u never know how things go like you have u it's part of having a football season.

it's part of having a football season. It's middle of September 100 degrees It's middle of September 100 degrees outside. So it's really messed with a outside. So it's really messed with a little bit of the uh practice schedule little bit of the uh practice schedule and it's not an excuse. It's just and it's not an excuse. It's just reality. So, how do you uh how do you reality. So, how do you uh how do you adjust and get the best out of it and adjust and get the best out

of it and and move forward for a big rivalry game?

and move forward for a big rivalry game? >> Yeah, I mean I told our team yesterday >> Yeah, I mean I told our team yesterday like football is a game that there's like football is a game that there's sudden change all the time, right? And sudden change all the time, right? And that's something that there may be a that's something that there may be a turnover, there may be a uh you score turnover, there may be a uh you score and then the other team like the end of and then the other team like the end of second quarter on Friday night, we second quarter on Friday night, we scored. We thought we were going to be scored. We thought we were going to be up two scores going in and they come up two scores going in and they come right back. Sudden change. So, that's right back. Sudden change. So, that's what I've told our teams like that's what I've told our teams like that's what this week is. Yesterday we weren't what this week is. Yesterday we weren't able to get outside after school cuz the able to get outside after school cuz the heat had to walk through and then got heat had to walk through and then got out late and then tonight we've moved out late and then tonight we've moved practice to later so we're able to get practice to later so we're able to get it in. So those are examples of sudden it in. So those are examples of sudden change. Well, how do you respond? Well, change. Well, how do you respond? Well, adversity in a weird way is hit. Um I adversity in a weird way is hit. Um I know it's not like true true adversity, know it's not like true true adversity, but it is when your schedule is is is but it is when your schedule is is is changed. So it's an example of sudden changed. So it's an example of sudden change, which is what football is. So change, which is what football is. So I'm comparing these practices being I'm comparing these practices being moved and changed around to what a moved and changed around to what a game's like. and and when you have a game's like. and and when you have a game like this against a a rival, um I game like this against a a rival, um I as a coach hate rivalries um just as a coach hate rivalries um just because it's for me it's another game because it's for me it's another game truly like I I take each week I mean truly like I I take each week I mean it's a new opponent I want to focus on it's a new opponent I want to focus on ourselves but when you've got high ourselves but when you've got high school boys that are young men that are school boys that are young men that are ready to play somebody that they're five ready to play somebody that they're five minutes down the road from like it's a minutes down the road from like it's a hard thing. It's I mean it's not even an hard thing. It's I mean it's not even an elephant in the room. It's like it's elephant in the room. It's like it's it's Catholic. It's Catholic. So, it's Catholic. It's Catholic. So, everybody feels that, understands it.

everybody feels that, understands it. >> Yeah. I I personally just I I'm not a >> Yeah. I I personally just I I'm not a And it's like I told Eddie on Friday, And it's like I told Eddie on Friday, James with Franklin County, I said, you James with Franklin County, I said, you know what? Do we really need to keep know what? Do we really need to keep playing this game? It's like there's a playing this game? It's like there's a lot of emotions involved with it. Like lot of emotions involved with it. Like >> I I just for me, every week is a new >> I I just for me, every week is a new week that I just want to see our team week that I just want to see our team get better. That and that's not a coach get better. That and that's not a coach speak piece. That's really how I feel.

speak piece. That's really how I feel. Like I just want to see us continue to Like I just want to see us continue to have growth. within the biggest have growth. within the biggest challenge more than likely is to um to challenge more than likely is to um to make a young man like you said feel that make a young man like you said feel that and it's different like when the rivalry and it's different like when the rivalry happens the adrenaline's higher we're happens the adrenaline's higher we're going on the road um it's never uh it going on the road um it's never uh it doesn't matter who's the most talented doesn't matter who's the most talented team it doesn't matter who has the best team it doesn't matter who has the best roster like it's going to be a battle roster like it's going to be a battle regardless and uh we had a a dramatic regardless and uh we had a a dramatic win last year at home in many ways uh win last year at home in many ways uh they have nothing to lose except trying they have nothing to lose except trying to pay us back and so um talk about that to pay us back and so um talk about that the discipline that that's required uh the discipline that that's required uh to take this high energy like emotional to take this high energy like emotional game and still perform.

game and still perform. >> Yeah. Well, and I I think the way they >> Yeah. Well, and I I think the way they play as a team now too makes this game play as a team now too makes this game even more intriguing from a standpoint even more intriguing from a standpoint like you've got to execute at a high like you've got to execute at a high high level against this bunch. And the high level against this bunch. And the reason being is they're really good on reason being is they're really good on defense. And now with what they do defense. And now with what they do

offensively from a schematic standpoint, offensively from a schematic standpoint, they want to shorten games. They want to they want to shorten games. They want to run it right at you. And they want to be run it right at you. And they want to be a team that talk about playing a team that talk about playing complimentary football. Like they want complimentary football. Like they want to be really sound on offense, but they to be really sound on offense, but they want their defense to be what drives want their defense to be what drives what they're doing. And coach Clark said what they're doing. And coach Clark said that like that's not me saying that. I that like that's not me saying that. I mean, you can watch on tape and see it, mean, you can watch on tape and see it, but he's also said that himself. Like but he's also said that himself. Like >> he wants to be a defensive minded >> he wants to be a defensive minded football team and and that's what they football team and and that's what they are. So like when you have a team that's are. So like when you have a team that's built that way and they're good in built that way and they're good in special teams or kicking game is I mean special teams or kicking game is I mean it's great. Um you've got to be sound in it's great. Um you've got to be sound in all phases. So, it's going to be a it's all phases. So, it's going to be a it's going to be a test for us. And again, going to be a test for us. And again, the rivalries, it always seems like our the rivalries, it always seems like our games are always competitive no matter games are always competitive no matter what. So, it's uh I know it's going to what. So, it's uh I know it's going to be a good football game on Friday night.

be a good football game on Friday night. >> Yeah. Um so, talk about uh we talk about >> Yeah. Um so, talk about uh we talk about it every single week.

LCA Culture and Alumni Success

Uh we want to make it every single week. Uh we want to make steps and uh where we made steps in the steps and uh where we made steps in the right direction. Uh what we want to do right direction. Uh what we want to do as we prepare this week, even though, as we prepare this week, even though, you know, like you said, the practice you know, like you said, the practice schedule isn't what we want it to be. uh schedule isn't what we want it to be. uh what are we focusing on ourselves what are we focusing on ourselves internally this week to get better at?

internally this week to get better at? >> Yeah, and I mean I alluded to it a >> Yeah, and I mean I alluded to it a little bit earlier just the the special little bit earlier just the the special teams piece for us again use the word teams piece for us again use the word complimentary football or phrase complimentary football or phrase complimentary football a lot which it's complimentary football a lot which it's purposeful and intentional because I purposeful and intentional because I want our kids to hear that too cuz we've want our kids to hear that too cuz we've got to be better on the special teams got to be better on the special teams this week. We we did win the h and this week. We we did win the h and yardage on Friday but kicking game like yardage on Friday but kicking game like we gave up some things that we we don't we gave up some things that we we don't need to give up for us. We had some good need to give up for us. We had some good returns which is good to see. Um, but returns which is good to see. Um, but we've got to be better in that phase. No we've got to be better in that phase. No question. Because when you play a really question. Because when you play a really good football team, like that stuff good football team, like that stuff shows up. I think that was something was shows up. I think that was something was true for our team last year was really, true for our team last year was really, really good collectively in the kicking really good collectively in the kicking game. Uh, so that's something we've got game. Uh, so that's something we've got to be better at. And then just more to be better at. And then just more urgency on both sides of the football.

urgency on both sides of the football. like when we're in a position to where like when we're in a position to where you can really jump on a team a little you can really jump on a team a little bit like I talked about it on Friday is bit like I talked about it on Friday is like there were times and outside of the like there were times and outside of the last play of the first half I felt like last play of the first half I felt like there were still times in the third there were still times in the third quarter we played really really well but quarter we played really really well but I still want us to see us I still want us to see us >> take that sense of urgency and say okay >> take that sense of urgency and say okay let's take this thing to the next level let's take this thing to the next level and exactly not let them make them quit and exactly not let them make them quit yeah I think that's something for us yeah I think that's something for us like like like >> we just we've got to get that mentality >> we just we've got to get that mentality and we're still working to get and we're still working to get >> Where do you think that comes Um, who >> Where do you think that comes Um, who how's the best way to spark that? You how's the best way to spark that? You can want it as a coach like

or as a can want it as a coach like or as a player le team who has to step up and player le team who has to step up and make that happen.

make that happen. >> Yeah, I think I mean you hit the nail on >> Yeah, I think I mean you hit the nail on the head just saying the player le the head just saying the player le piece. I talk to our team about that all piece. I talk to our team about that all the time. Like as the season goes on for the time. Like as the season goes on for us like you all should hear my voice us like you all should hear my voice less and less and less. I know some less and less and less. I know some people don't agree with that as coaches, people don't agree with that as coaches, but like for me, I feel like when we get but like for me, I feel like when we get into senior week, first round of the into senior week, first round of the playoffs, like really like yeah, I've playoffs, like really like yeah, I've got the plan and Matty's got the plan got the plan and Matty's got the plan defensively, I've got the plan defensively, I've got the plan offensively, and we've got our offensively, and we've got our collective group as a whole as how three collective group as a whole as how three phases are going to complement each phases are going to complement each other, but like it should be like we get other, but like it should be like we get out there, they run the individual out there, they run the individual drills, and yeah, we're going to be drills, and yeah, we're going to be there to watch, but like that's the there to watch, but like that's the mindset we've got to have. And we and mindset we've got to have. And we and we've entered and incorporated more we've entered and incorporated more competition phases into practice because competition phases into practice because this time of year you are doing a lot of this time of year you are doing a lot of preparation and you're not able to do as preparation and you're not able to do as much competing against one another with much competing against one another with our numbers. But we have incorporated our numbers. But we have incorporated some individual competition stuff kind some individual competition stuff kind of like what Kentucky did in their of like what Kentucky did in their >> uh what they called it their mamba >> uh what they called it their mamba period. It's been something similar to period. It's been something similar to that just to try and compete in a that just to try and compete in a different way. our heart behind making different way. our heart behind making this uh program all together through this uh program all together through podcast like it's developed into podcast like it's developed into something that is really cool that something that is really cool that people really like. Parents love hearing people really like. Parents love hearing their kids talk. That's one awesome part their kids talk. That's one awesome part of it. Uh we also wanted to showcase our of it. Uh we also wanted to showcase our athletes in light and have them talk athletes in light and have them talk like have college coaches listen to them like have college coaches listen to them and how they respond to questions and and how they respond to questions and all the other stuff. But one cool thing all the other stuff. But one cool thing that's happened this week is and and we that's happened this week is and and we started talking about our players like started talking about our players like we have a bunch of players who are we have a bunch of players who are playing college football right now that playing college football right now that are graduates from LCA and u you do an are graduates from LCA and u you do an amazing job of still keeping up with amazing job of still keeping up with them and reposting their stuff on X and them and reposting their stuff on X and doing all the other stuff. But it's doing all the other stuff. But it's cool. We have uh even at Eastern we had cool. We have uh even at Eastern we had an offensive lineman grade out as the an offensive lineman grade out as the highest offensive lineman with John's in highest offensive lineman with John's in the in the conference and this morning the in the conference and this morning this is it impressive. Yeah, his was in this is it impressive. Yeah, his was in the Well, he was top left guard rated in the Well, he was top left guard rated in the country. And then Brady is leading the country. And then Brady is leading the country in yards per carry.

the country in yards per carry. >> Yeah. >> Yeah. >> Yeah. >> And then Cutter Bolley two weeks ago was >> And then Cutter Bolley two weeks ago was Big 12 player of the week. Um Xavier Big 12 player of the week. Um Xavier Brown could have been week one national Brown could have been week one national player of the week in a lot of rounds.

player of the week in a lot of rounds. He had two touchdowns and his yards per He had two touchdowns and his yards per touch was ridiculous. Parker Cheney had touch was ridiculous. Parker Cheney had an interception. I mean, we've got guys an interception. I mean, we've got guys Kenyatta Hard was playing at Penn State Kenyatta Hard was playing at Penn State uh last week. He had a pass deflection uh last week. He had a pass deflection and was commanding double teams against and was commanding double teams against one of the best teams in the country.

one of the best teams in the country. So, it's like I got you tell how excited So, it's like I got you tell how excited I get. I get. >> Well, that's that's what I'm leading to.

>> Well, that's that's what I'm leading to. It's like um when you leave this It's like um when you leave this program, you're not done with us. You're program, you're not done with us. You're an equal for life and and it's really an equal for life and and it's really cool. One of the coaches paydays is cool. One of the coaches paydays is seeing your kiddos perform uh on seeing your kiddos perform uh on Saturday and then um then even on Saturday and then um then even on Sunday, you want to see kids who are Sunday, you want to see kids who are playing at the next level. So, it allows playing at the next level. So, it allows you to to see where they came from and you to to see where they came from and where they go. So, it's one of the where they go. So, it's one of the reasons that it's the main reason behind reasons that it's the main reason behind having a show is to highlight the kids, having a show is to highlight the kids, but then it's really cool to see them but then it's really cool to see them performing at the next level, too. So, performing at the next level, too. So, um I appreciate you appreciating them um I appreciate you appreciating them still putting it out. Um I was down at still putting it out. Um I was down at Eastern uh last week. Um their team has Eastern uh last week. Um their team has kind of taken an affinity to to kind of taken an affinity to to treatment now. So, I've kind of treatment now. So, I've kind of >> become an Eastern dad now. A bunch of >> become an Eastern dad now. A bunch of kiddos there.

kiddos there. >> Yeah. >> Yeah. >> Yeah. >> Um and so that's important. But, uh, I >> Um and so that's important. But, uh, I think it's really cool seeing Eagles think it's really cool seeing Eagles Eagles perform at the next level as Eagles perform at the next level as well. So, I want to say thanks for you well. So, I want to say thanks for you for for always being encouraged to them, for for always being encouraged to them, but also um, that's what it's about.

but also um, that's what it's about. People have dreams to play at the next People have dreams to play at the next level. We want those dreams to come true level. We want those dreams to come true here. Uh, and we've been doing a good here. Uh, and we've been doing a good job of doing that. So, job of doing that. So, >> well, sat Saturday at EKU, there's going >> well, sat Saturday at EKU, there's going to be five of them playing on the same to be five of them playing on the same field. Matt, TK, Brady, Anthony, and field. Matt, TK, Brady, Anthony, and then Parker Cheney on the other side of then Parker Cheney on the other side of Dayton. So, be pretty neat. We hope that Dayton. So, be pretty neat. We hope that um the difference between red and maroon um the difference between red and maroon maroon still wins. That's the homer part maroon still wins. That's the homer part of it. But uh I wouldn't mind if Parker of it. But uh I wouldn't mind if Parker had like three pick six and EKU wins on had like three pick six and EKU wins on a last second field goal. So it' be a last second field goal. So it' be nice.

nice. nice. >> Thanks for joining us for the LCA >> Thanks for joining us for the LCA football coach Oakley Watkins show. Tune football coach Oakley Watkins show. Tune in [music] next week to hear from more in [music] next week to hear from more LCA players and coach Oakley Watkins.

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