

Georgia Defense Player Quotes - 2020 Allstate Sugar Bowl December 30, 2019

DT Michael Barnett

On getting excited for a non-playoff game: “It is not harder necessarily, but I feel like with all our coaches, Coach Scott especially, the pressure is a privilege. So, the fact that all the pressure is on Georgia to be great, to do better, you need to work harder on off season. Whether it is a practice, workouts, or training, you just have to go harder. When you think you are going hard, go harder. The pressure is a privilege. You just have to keep pushing harder. It makes the game easier. The pressure is a privilege.”

On Baylor quarterback Charlie Brewer: “He really has an arm on him. He can also beat you with your legs, so you have to make sure you do a good job of keeping him in the pocket. And making sure he does not get on the outside. Somehow swim up the middle and get those extra yards.”

On the key to Georgia’s success on defense: “Everyone has a role and does it really well. We do not really try to go outside of our role, because everyone knows their role is the key to helping the defense. Once you play outside of your role is when you hurt the defense.”

On his final season with the team and what has stuck out in his experience: “I feel like growing with the team, and seeing everything change, I was there since Mark Gregory, just seeing the whole coaching change and just loving one another. It is a brotherhood; it is a bond. Everyone wants to see everyone grow. I feel like Georgia as a whole is taking the steps to becoming a top-10 team.”

DB Richard LeCounte

On if this will be his last game with Georgia: “I am not really thinking too much about that. I am focused on getting this win against Baylor. Whatever happens, happens after that. I will be able to sit down with my family and weigh out my decision.”

On their “no-name defense” and what he would name it: “I do not want to say ‘no-name defense’ because we have eleven players that are able to make plays for us. It is not like none of us can make a play or anything like that. It is just that we all put in so much work and stuff like that. Coach [Smart] is just saying our defense is solid. As far as anything else that [the defense] goes by, there are no names or anything like that. It just defines how we are on the ball, where our hearts are at, and how we really play football.”

On who has made the most progress on the defense this year: “I’d probably have to say Monty [Rice]. Every game he got better. He is become a guy who is now known more for stopping the run and being able to control everything in front of him. That is really special. I love being out there with him.”

LB Azeez Ojulari

On if this year was a “coming out” year for him: “I just wanted to get my name out there and do what the coaches asked of me. I know I can play, but I wanted to show everyone that I can play and continue to execute.”

On his first chance to play this time last year: “It was a blessing. I was nervous having not played the whole season. It was a big game, but I realized that all the hard work I had put in was finally paying off. I wanted to display what I could do out there.”

On the challenges Baylor’s offense presents: “They are very explosive. They have good receivers, good running backs, and an elusive quarterback. We have to take account for all of them.”

On playing with Monty Rice: “Monty [Rice] is physical and can really get to the ball. He brings it every game, every down. He shows that he is a leader. He is very vocal. Once you see what he is doing, you follow him. He makes you want to go hard because he always goes hard.”

LB Monty Rice

On the most enjoyable parts of the season: “Being out there with my team and enjoying the highs and lows during this year.”

On the matchup against Baylor’s offense: “They have a great running backs that can run good routes, and a good quarterback that does not slide when he runs the ball and solid receivers to match. So it is definitely going to be a great matchup.”

On playing with most of his fellow defensive linemen one last time: “They are very energetic. They make the plays they are supposed to make, and I wish I could play one more season with them.”

DB Eric Stokes

On Baylor’s offense: “It is a great offense. You already know that they go fast, they do a lot of RPO’s and the quarterback can absolutely run. I know for a fact once he runs he is not looking to go out of bounds, he is looking to go ahead and get extra yards. He is a physical quarterback, and the wide receivers are tough and physical. They are trying to get after you.”

On the matchup with Denzel Mims: “He [Denzel Mims] is a tremendous wide receiver. He is the key to their offense. You will have to do everything in your power to stick with him, to slow him down. He is just a great wide receiver. I am always looking forward to the next opponent, and so far he is my next opponent.”

On what the high point of the season for him personally: “People might look at it as a downfall, but after the South Carolina loss. Just seeing how we regrouped, how we stayed together. We did not let all the outside noise affect us. We went right into a win streak and made it to the SEC championship when people doubted us right after losing to South Carolina. That was the high point for me, because we could have listened to the outside noise, went downhill and not have ended up here. We stuck together as a brotherhood, and we made it all the way through.”