



**Texas Offensive Player Quotes**  
**Marriott at the Convention Center**  
**December 29, 2018**

**Senior Tight End Quotes**  
**Andrew Beck (Tampa, Fla.)**

**On playing in the Superdome**

“The superdome is obviously a really exciting place to play. The environment they have created here in New Orleans is second to no one. I actually had the chance to play against John Curtis here in high school. The final score was not what I wanted it to be and I am happy to come back for hopefully a different outcome.”

**On the reaction from fans regarding his ability to sign at the hospital visit**

“It is incredible to have the opportunity to promote and impact people in the deaf community. It raises awareness to people outside of the deaf community who not aware of the things they go through.”

**On Texas’ physicality resembling that of the SEC**

“We pride ourselves on being one of the most physical teams in the country. This will be a game for us to step out and prove that. There is a lot of talk on conference comparisons, and the Sugar Bowl is going to be a great chance for Texas football to showcase and show the nation what we are capable of doing.”

**On how the defensive losses Georgia sustained will impact the game**

“It is going to be interesting in the way they come out onto the field. We are not sure yet on their overall game planning, but we are going to get in there and do what we do best.”

**On Georgia’s defense and their ability to stop one of the most explosive offenses in Alabama**

“They are a really big and physical group when you look at them upfront. They have incredible depth at every position, and it certainly is going to be a great challenge for us. A lot of their success was being able to aggravate Tua (Tagovailoa), and I think they will try to do the same to us.”

**Sophomore Quarterback Quotes**  
**Sam Ehlinger (Austin, Texas)**

**On the personnel of the Georgia defense**

“I think the guys up front that they have are big, physical guys. They are good at moving their fronts around, causing pressure and movement for the quarterbacks. The secondary, with the speed and skills that they have and provide for their team, is pretty incredible. Overall, they are so polished at every end in their categories of positioning. That is why they are very good.”

**On the significance of playing in the Superdome where Westlake High School alumni Drew Brees plays**

“I think that he is, obviously, a Hall-of-Famer. There is a lot to be said that we went to the same high school. I think

that is really cool that I am able to do that. I have pride in the fact that I went to his high school and to be able to play in the Superdome where he has absolutely gone off and set records and done those things for the Saints organization. It is really cool.”

**On learning from Drew Brees at his camps**

“I really value and idolize his throwing motions, accuracy and how quickly he gets the ball out. I think being around him and how quickly he gets the ball out and how tight his mechanics are, is something that has helped me to understand to continue to be a better quarterback.”

**On the Georgia defense scheme and their similarities to the teams he has faced**

“The Big 12 does a good job of changing up what they do from team to team. I think Georgia changes it up a little bit up front. They love to switch their fronts around. Coverage-wise, they run some similar things that we have seen this year. Just because we faced so many different styles of defenses in the Big 12 this year.”

**On sliding, protecting his body and taking hits**

“You know, I have told myself when I am not in the pads, I should slide more. But when the lights come on, and the adrenaline is moving and the crowd is yelling, it is really hard for me to take that instinct away. I think that moving forward, as my body cannot handle hits like that, then hopefully I will learn.”

**On the Georgia defense without Deandre Baker**

“The fun thing about playing a school like Georgia is when they lose a first-rounder like (Georgia defensive back) Deandre (Baker), another one is replacing him. That is what is really cool about playing big teams like this. It doesn’t matter the name of who you are playing. Obviously, he is an incredible player, but you are always going to be facing top-tier athleticism, top-tier athletes. Everywhere that you look on their defense, they are all athletic, they are all highly recruited guys and they play well all season.”

**On his relationship with Georgia quarterback Jake Fromm**

“I am very good friends with Jake. We have texted a few times since we have been here. I met up with him a couple of times at camps in the past throughout high school and college. I look forward to seeing him and playing against him.”

**Junior Wide Receiver Quotes**

**Lil’Jordan Humphrey (Southlake, Texas)**

**On his favorite part about being in New Orleans**

“The food.”

**On the mindset off the team**

“Oh yeah, our mind is right. We are focused and ready to play. We’re just ready for Tuesday to come.”

**On the successful culture at Texas**

“We’re just doing everything right. The small things, the little things, it’s doing those right. Being on time for meetings, it’s just doing everything right that sets us apart.”

**On not being perceived as the more physical team**

“We’re just going to try to spread our culture a little bit. After the game, we’ll see.”

**On the decision to return to the team next year**

“I thought about it a little bit early on, but right now, I’m just focused on playing Georgia and beating them. That is

what my mind is set on now.”

**On talking with coaches about the decision to return next year**

“We talked a little bit, like I said, early on but right now they do not want me to get too distracted on that. And I do not want to get distracted on it, because we have a big game ahead of us.”

**On his reaction to Deandre Baker’s choice to not play**

“You definitely want to go against the best in every game, but he’s making the best decision for him. I respect that.”

**On Georgia defensive back Tyson Campbell**

“(He is) a great player. He is going to be another challenge. I respect him, so we will go out there and give him our best.”

**On Texas quarterback Sam Ehlinger’s physicality**

“If a very important guy on the team like that does it, it makes you want to go out there and be more physical and dominate. It definitely brings energy to the team.”

**Junior Wide Receiver Quotes**

**Collin Johnson (San Jose, Calif.)**

**On what he is looking forward to in playing in the Sugar Bowl**

“Just going out there and competing, showing people what we are made of. My goal is to end this season the right way. It has always been about us, not about our competition. We are going to have to bring our best. (Texas Head) Coach (Tom) Herman said our best can beat anyone in the country.”

**On the Texas wide receiver core**

“We are a close group of brothers. We hold each other accountable. We are a group that has been through a lot, with the transition between Coach (Charlie) Strong and Coach (Tom) Herman. There is nothing more bonding than going through adversity together.”

**On Texas quarterback Sam Ehlinger’s physical play style**

“It is the epitome of our culture. Quarterbacks are known for being finesse guys, dropping back and not wanting to get hit. When we see a quarterback lower their shoulder, it is great to see. It is very motivating for the offense. The team loves seeing that stuff.”

**On the recommendation from the NFL advisory committee**

“They recommend I stay in school. They have a great committee in place. They have been fairly accurate when you look at it over the past couple of years. With that being said, you still have to weigh out your options and talk to your family. Right now, I am just focused on finishing out the season and playing Georgia.”

**On the key of the game**

“Playing our best football, no matter the opponent. I know Georgia is a big time team and program. I know we are the underdogs, but it is about us. Coach (Tom) Herman says if we play our best football, we can beat anyone in the nation, and I truly believe that.”

**On playing in the Sugar Bowl**

“We were 0-1 at the beginning of the season, which was a similar trend to how last year started. We believed in ourselves, and no one in the locker room doubted. Sitting here now is unbelievable.”

**On his relationship with Georgia quarterback Jake Fromm**

“It is hard to say, but we really brought it against Oklahoma. That was big time for our offense. We realized we could be really good. It is something we have been trying to build off of.”

**Senior Offensive Lineman Quotes**

**Elijah Rodriguez (Houston, Texas)**

**On if quarterbacks playing hard-nosed makes things easier on him**

“Absolutely, absolutely. We can always get more yards and it helps with the morale of the team and our momentum. So, it really helps the entire team.”

**On when opposing players make a “horns down” motion**

“I don’t really pay much attention to it. So, no it doesn’t really bother me all that much.”

**On if the “horns down” gesture is considered taunting**

“No. Our focus is always on ourselves and what we can control. We never have control over what other people do. There’s no reason to worry about it. We just like to focus on us and working hard and having a great attitude all the time.”

**On the level of excitement to play in the Sugar Bowl**

“We’re super excited to be in this Bowl. As a team, it’s a tremendous opportunity to be in the Sugar Bowl and play a team like Georgia. Personally, this is my last football game as a Longhorn, and I get to play in the Sugar Bowl and against Georgia so I can’t complain.”

**On the comparison of the SEC and Big 12 from a line of scrimmage standpoint**

“I don’t really mind that all that much either. I don’t know which conference is better but when we play against a team like Georgia, both teams are going to be competing and it’s going to be a whole lot of fun. As far as which conference is better, I’ll leave that for you guys to decide.”