
**2007 ACC Football Championship
Jacksonville, FL**

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Coaches Press Conference**

AN INTERVIEW WITH COACH JEFF JAGODZINSKI

THE MODERATOR: Coach, congratulations on a great year, just your thoughts just entering tomorrow's game.

COACH JEFF JAGODZINSKI: We are really excited about getting a chance to play Virginia Tech again. We thought we had a real good game with them the last time we played them, so our kids are really excited about playing in this championship game. From the beginning our whole goal was to get to the championship game and now we are here.

THE MODERATOR: Questions?

Q. I just want to see if you could talk about the difference between where you are now this game and where you were the game in Blacksburg as a team?

COACH JEFF JAGODZINSKI: Well, I think we've gotten a little bit more experience, obviously. I think that we have a chance to exploit their defense a little bit more because we've seen them before. Any time that you play a like team, and they've got the same thing because they've played us before. Some of the things will be similar and some of the things will have a lot of window wash on them.

Q. Is Tribble going to play or what's his status?

COACH JEFF JAGODZINSKI: He will be a game time decision.

Q. Looking at both quarterbacks, talk about defending two quarterback system? What problems does it bring?

COACH JEFF JAGODZINSKI: I think it gives you different challenges because one guy is a thrower and one guy is a runner, so we are going to have to do a good job containing both of those jobs but they present different types of challenges for our defense. But Frank does a great job as far as utilizing both of those guys and even in the same series. So that presents our defense with some challenges.

Q. Coach, have you noticed that Tech has opened up there offense a little bit more since your

game? They are putting up many more points since they've played you guys and much more yardage?

COACH JEFF JAGODZINSKI: Well, again it's their quarterback. That opens up a lot of things. It could open up their offense because they run a little bit different scheme when Taylor is in there. They like to run the ball a little bit more. One of the things that's unique about Taylor, when something breaks down, he can make a play when nothing is there. He is a lot like the Michael Vick that played there and played in Atlanta; that type of athlete.

Q. Coach, obviously, they're going to have a little bit of different offensive situation than when you played them before.

Is there anything that you guys have done since you played them on defense that might present a different look to them, or is there anything you are doing better, perhaps, than back then?

COACH JEFF JAGODZINSKI: Hang on, let me give you my game plan for this. You can take a look at it. No, we are not going to do anything different. We are going to try to make some more plays and let our guys go.

Q. Coach, why have you guys been so strong against the run this year?

COACH JEFF JAGODZINSKI: We don't have a lot of superstars on our football team, but we have a lot of guys that are team players. Frank Spaziani, our defense coordinator, has done a really nice job as far as putting these kids into position to be successful. We don't ask our guys to do anything other than their job. Do your job. If you have 11 guys doing their job, that's how we stop the run.

Q. Coach, everyone has talked about how different Virginia Tech's offense is with Taylor, but how different is Virginia Tech defense with Vince Hall?

COACH JEFF JAGODZINSKI: He is a play maker. He is another guy that can step up for them and make a play. If you have your second team guy, and all of a sudden your first guy, ours is going to be better. One of the things they did, he wasn't playing, they created some depth with their second guy. They are a good football team, real good. You don't win 10 games and get to a championship if you are not.

Q. If you are able to reflect at all what are your feelings on getting to the ACC Championship in your first season. Is it something that you expected? What's your feelings of being able to do that so soon?

COACH JEFF JAGODZINSKI: From the first day I took this job, and I had the luxury of having a lot of returning starters on this football team. I had the luxury of having 17 seniors on this football team, 23 overall. Our goal from the beginning, the first day I walked in, was to go win the championship. We talked about take daily. And that's what we are all about. That's what we wanted to get to. Even we had a couple bumps in the road this year, it never changed our focus on where we wanted to go, what we wanted to accomplish.

Q. Matt Ryan, can you speak to the type of player that he has been for you, the types of games that he has pulled out and how good a quarterback he really is?

COACH JEFF JAGODZINSKI: Any time that you have a quarterback that can make plays for you to win games at the end, and any time you have a player -- a special player will want the ball in his hands at crunch time; that's him. He does a great job of managing our games. He never panics. As far as him playing on the next level, I think he is a first round draft pick.

Q. What were the challenges of inheriting a program that had been obviously very successful for the last few years? You had some history with, but what did you try to keep the same and

what did you try to infuse into the program?

COACH JEFF JAGODZINSKI: One of the things I wanted to do, I wanted these kids to enjoy playing the game. And enjoying having fun playing this game together. That was one of the goals I had when I took this job.

I think to be in a program where everybody is miserable, I wasn't going to have any part of that. That's just not how I wanted to run a program.

I wanted to make it fun for these guys, when they look back at their careers, sitting there with their degree, they look back and say, you know what, that was just a blast playing football at BC. That's one of the things.

The other thing is, the kids that I have now are exactly like the kids I had back then. The only thing different, their names and faces. Rather than Hassleback, I have Ryan.

Q. Coach, you're likely to have your fans out numbered by a good margin tomorrow, but your team plays well on the road. What is it in your character, or their nature they can play well in hostile situations?

COACH JEFF JAGODZINSKI: I just think it's the character of the type of guy that is recruited at Boston College. We get smart, tough kids, that's what we get. They get the big picture. They're going to play for 60 minutes. It doesn't matter where. In fact, I'm thrilled that we are underdogs again down here. Every place we've been. We were under dogs at Georgia Tech. We were underdogs at Virginia Tech. We were underdogs at Clemson. It doesn't matter. The best way to take care of a crowd is to go make another play.

THE MODERATOR: Any other questions for Coach?

Q. You mentioned the seniors, what was that like for you stepping in as sort of the new guy with this team?

COACH JEFF JAGODZINSKI: It was great. They already had success in this program. The last few years, BC has been real close of getting to this type game. We've really been about one game away. It was their turn to go get it done. These guys have done some things that haven't been done in this program. This program has never won 10 and 10 back-to-back winning seasons. They've never won 10 games in a regular season since 1940. They never beat Miami before, since 1984, Flutie. So they've done a lot of things. Now they put themselves in position through hard work, playing as a team to get to this game tomorrow. They will play for 60 minutes.

Q. Coach, could you talk about the logistics of playing in the conference championship game just in terms of, I guess, it must be a tremendous rush to get everybody down here on one week's notice and then also could you talk about the job Steve Logan has done with your offense this year?

COACH JEFF JAGODZINSKI: Our guys are real excited. Our work week hasn't changed. Anything that we did throughout our schedule is exactly the same. The only thing we did different, we came down here last night on a Thursday night for a Saturday game. But that was because of this luncheon. We had about a 3 hour flight and we got in about 11 o'clock last night and put them to bed.

As far as Steve Logan, I believe Steve Logan, in my opinion, is one of the best offensive minds in football. I don't say that because he is my guy. I've been around him. Every place he's been, it doesn't matter, East Carolina, all-time winningest coach there with 69 wins. It didn't matter if he was in NFL Europe. It doesn't matter if he is at Boston College. His offenses have always produced points and yardage. The quarterback position, he has always been able to develop that guy and different styles. He had guys like Jeff Blake and David Gerard (phn), who is a local

guy. David was recruited as a tight end and defensive tackle at Tennessee. Logan goes, no, you're a quarterback, he had him in camps since 9th grade. He knew David. He said he could play quarterback.

He has had guys like Matt Ryan. He had Rohan Davie (phn). He had Timmy Chang. He has had a numerous amount of guys, or different guys, different styles, but the results are always the same. I think that's a mark of a good quarterback. He is as good a teacher as I've been around teaching the game.

THE MODERATOR: Any other questions?

Q. Jeff, obviously the two quarterback system is unpredictable by its nature, just by the fact that Tech has had only really one full game where they were running that system. Does that make it more difficult or unpredictable because it seems to be an offense that still sort of in its developmental stages?

COACH JEFF JAGODZINSKI: Yes, I think it's going to be a challenge for our defense and our defensive staff to have a game plan for both of those guys . They may have to switch in midstream. Remember this, they have to also. You are right, they've only done that for one week. They got good players at Virginia Tech. Our guys are really excited about playing this game.

Q. Did weather conditions the first time around change that game in any way?

COACH JEFF JAGODZINSKI: I believe it did. I believe it did. One of the things that we had, first of all, going into the Lane Stadium, a Thursday night, national TV game, is hard enough. In my opinion, it was the hardest place to play this year, that's including Clemson. It was very hostile. On top of that, the weather. We do throw the football, and the weather was a factor, and in the last game, as far as how we went about our business as far as moving the football. So that was a factor.

If you take away that touchdown that Tech had, it clearly showed on the TV copy it wasn't a touchdown. It's 3-0 at the end of the game. We had some mistakes down in the red zone also. I think those things came into a factor in the game. I'm glad we are on a neutral field. I'm glad we are playing in good weather. I think that's to our benefit

THE MODERATOR: Anyone else? Thanks, Coach. See you tomorrow afternoon.

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