

Winn...  
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put together and is more uptempo. I think everybody knows the playbook a lot better. It is more simplified this year. I think everybody is ready to go, honestly.”

He admits there were some parts to each game he thinks could have gone better for him and the team. He wishes he could have made the adjustments to make it better for the Skyhawks.

“I think with me personally I could have slowed things down,” Winn said. “Not to just slow it down for myself, but to make it a little bit easier for everyone. You can’t replicate an OVC game in the spring practice or going into the season in fall camp. I am really glad we got in those five games and I think we will be better because of that.”

This young man does not ever lose his composure no matter what the situation is. Whether he throws a bad pass, stays in the pocket too long, or just has a somewhat embarrassing moment, like what happened the final game of the season against TTU.

“There was a play where we went, ‘set, hut,’ the ball was snapped and it hit him in an awkward place,” Simpson said. “It was kind of embarrassing, but he actually picked the ball up and threw a touchdown. That does not happen to a lot of guys. He did not panic and we laughed about it on the sideline.

“It was embarrassing and his teammates ragged all over him. It even hit social media the next day. He was so calm and collected about it. He picked the football up and threw a touchdown. It kind of rearranges the conference when you see him make those kinds of plays.”

Winn took the ribbing he received from his teammates in stride and can now laugh at that situation.

There were parts of the game he says were difficult for him at first. Changing plays at the line and the speed of college football is much faster than in high school.

“Audibles at the line, seeing what I wanted to get to based on the techniques of the defense was different,” Winn said. “I knew what to do. There were just some points where I did not need to do it, but I did it anyway. I think this year I am going to try to roll with the play they go with. We have athletes everywhere so if you can just get the ball then they can make the plays.”

That is how humble Winn is. He would rather let his teammates



UT Martin starting quarterback Dresser Winn

make the plays and give them the credit when he throws a good pass and his receiver makes a great catch. That is the way he was in high school and even in middle school, no matter which sport he was playing.

He was a three-sport athlete in high school and won at each of them. That seems to be in his blood as his father, Albert “Peanut” Winn, was also a three-sport athlete and won each year in all three of them.

That legacy has been passed down to the next generation. Winn’s two sisters, Loral and Tinley, are also exceptional and gifted athletes. Loral won two states titles

in track last season and Tinley, who is a junior this year, has already been to two state basketball tournaments.

“In the year and a half I have been working with him, I have never seen him be envious of somebody,” Simpson said. “I have never seen him not respect the game and that is a credit to his family. We are always talking about the success of him and his sisters and there accolades.

“Dresser is very proud of that and he always knows what is going on with them. My kids keep up with Dresser and his sisters. It is good for our program when you

have a local kid who is the face of the program. That is just great for all of us.”

Winn is passing down his knowledge to Simpson’s son, Ty, who will be the starting quarterback for Westview this season as a freshman. Winn helps him with his passing technique, reading defenses and understanding the different aspects of the game.

He is also helping the younger Simpson handle the pressure as the head coach’s son is getting the attention he received in high school and is continuing to receive as a college quarterback.

“I see Dresser do things on his

own to help Ty that I am not even involved in,” the head coach said. “I totally trust Dresser and his outlook on things. He is going to help Ty to be better. I can’t tell you enough about him. I look forward to going to quarterback meetings, whether we are talking football or talking baseball. We were talking the history of college football 10 years ago from around the country. He is just a guy you want to be around.”

Simpson will get to be around him for another three years and that makes him, the Skyhawks, the university, the fans, and the people who know Winn very happy.



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