

Coke Zero Presents
Classic Rivalries

BORDER DISPUTE

On Oct. 8, Texas and Oklahoma will meet in the 106th edition of the Red River Rivalry at the Cotton Bowl, in the midst of the State Fair of Texas. Two recent standouts—Oklahoma quarterback Jason White, the 2003 Heisman Trophy winner, and Texas receiver Jordan Shipley, now with the Cincinnati Bengals—spoke with Nando Di Fino about just how high passions can run.

A DAY AT THE FAIR

WHITE: My first time playing at the Cotton Bowl, in 1999, was unbelievable. You just pull up on the bus and drive through the actual fair. People can touch the bus, and you get out and there's this huge line of people. One side is completely OU and the other side is Texas. You got the OU fans cheering and the Texas fans booing.

SHIPLEY: In my later years, I remember always being really hungry after the game. We'd sneak out and get a funnel cake and corn dog or something like that. And when we did that we had all kinds of run-ins with OU fans.

Jordan Shipley



SIGNATURE GAMES

In the 2001 game, White replaced injured starting quarterback Nate Hybl and led the Sooners to a 14-3 victory.

WHITE: There was something weird about the game. I was the backup quarterback and I remember the night before the game I couldn't sleep at all. Most of the games I wasn't nervous because I never played. I got mop-up time. The next day I got up and I was super nervous the whole morning. I was jittery and shaky. And then in the second quarter, Nate got hurt and I came in. I'd never played that much in a college game, and to play that much for the first time against Texas, that was huge for me. That is one of my favorite football memories.

In the 2008 game, Shipley caught 11 passes for 112 yards and a touchdown, while returning a kickoff 96 yards for another score.

SHIPLEY: I remember being pretty nervous beforehand, but at the same time I was really excited because coach [Greg] Davis [the offensive coordinator] had been saving this package and he broke it out that week. I was already playing slot for the most part, but I moved in and played almost like a flex tight end, and Oklahoma hadn't seen that before. I think that was a big part of our success. Man, it was incredible. I think my whole family was so excited, they couldn't stand it.

Jason White



LASTING MEMORIES

WHITE: After the game in '03 [OU won 65-13], I was sitting on the bus, waiting to go home, and I'm looking out the window and there's this older man there. And he's looking right at me and you could tell he's saying *Jason White*. And next thing I know, he just throws up his middle finger.

SHIPLEY: You have to try to approach it like it's just another game, but at the same time, looking back, those are the games that you remember. There's no bigger victory, especially during the regular season. The whole town, it's electric. Everybody's so excited.

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