





John Boccacino:

You've prided yourself, and so as the football team, on having a strong relationship with VNF and our military connected students, and our great resources here at Syracuse's campus. You have a personal tie to the military. Your father, Luther, was in the Navy for more than 20 years. How did you first develop an affinity for the military based on your father and his service time?

Dino Babers:

We grew up, I grew up on military bases, and when my dad started to move up and rank and stuff you'd have an option of whether you wanted to live in town or live on the base, and almost seems like he would alternate back and forth. He probably had a reason for it, but he's passed away, I'm not quite sure what that reason was. But it really makes you understand, when you're growing up in the sixties and the seventies, and there's certain things that are going on on military bases that's not going on in the real world, you're not having an issue with what water fountain you want to drink out of in the sixties when you're on a military base, everybody drinks out the same water fountain, you can go through the gates and go into town and you better know exactly what water fountain you're going to drink out of.

Dino Babers:

So we used to have what we called base rules and town rules, and as a young person, and I'm talking about 6, 7, 8, 9 years of age, you had to know the difference and you had to make sure your brothers and sisters knew the difference as well.

John Boccacino:

How can you describe the relationship you had with your father?

Dino Babers:

I'll tell you exactly what I told my football team, I said 50% of all the good in me came from my dad, and 50% of all the bad from me came from my dad. You can learn from both situations, you look at a situation and say, that's exactly what I want to do with my son or my daughter. And you can also look at a situation and go, when I get my opportunity, that's not what I'm going to do with my son and my daughter. Both are learning experiences, you need to take the positive out of both.

John Boccacino:

I've read some stories about your relationship with your dad, and I did want to talk, if you don't mind, about discipline and how, I hear there's a story about making your bed that really taught you a valuable life lesson.

Dino Babers:

Yeah, he came in and he showed us, first of all he showed us how to make a bed, and then





can be achieved.

Well Dino, before I let you go, it's hard to believe but we're less than three months away from the start of the football season, Louisville coming to the Loud House September 3rd. What makes you so excited about this team coming up this year?

Dino Babers:

I'm excited about where we would go with this. This is the toughest schedule we've ever had, and that's awesome, we wouldn't have it any other way. But I really think this team's coming together, I'm excited about the new coaches, our new special teams coach, our new quarterback coach, our new offensive coordinator tight end coach, and I'm excited about the new attitude. I really think the culture's good, I really think the young men have bought in, and they're ready to do something different. Five and seven last year wasn't almost okay, but I think they're ready to do something different and see if they can't surprise some people.

John Boccacino:

You have a lot of great opportunities, a lot of great home games to go out and cheer on the Orange this fall in, again, the JMA Wireless Dome. Dino, you have been a treat to have on the podcast, I really appreciate you making the time. Happy Father's Day, and enjoy yourself on the recruiting road.

Dino Babers:

John, thank you so much, this has been awesome. I wish I could do stuff like this all the time, but I am busy, but Happy Father's Day back at you as well.

John Boccacino:

Thanks for checking out the latest installment of the 'Cuse Conversations podcast. My name is John Boccacino, signing off for the 'Cuse Conversations podcast.