

Walker family expresses appreciation for support for Devon

September 10, 2012 5:15 AM Carol Schlueter
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Tulane Athletics Director Rick Dickson stepped to the press conference microphone in Tulsa, Okla., this afternoon (Sept. 10) with a heavy responsibility ? talking to the news media about injured Tulane student-athlete Devon Walker, who had spinal surgery yesterday at St. Francis Hospital in Tulsa.

Doctors have said that it's too early to draw conclusions about Devon's progress. Dickson added that Devon "is alert and responsive." He praised the work of the St. Francis medical professionals "in giving this young man the best care we could hope for. We are unbelievably appreciative of what's been done here."

Back at Tulane, he said, counselors and administrators have worked with the Green Wave football team. "This is family; we're all impacted," Dickson said. Devon was injured on Saturday during the University of Tulsa's Tulane football game.

Devon's parents, Inez and Booker Walker, asked Dickson to convey their family's sincere thanks and appreciation for the amazing outpouring of prayers and support for Devon. The parents asked Dickson to read the following statement on their behalf.

"We have been overwhelmed by the amount of concerned well wishes we have received from all over the world. Although we cannot respond individually to all, we thank everyone for the love and support shown to Devon and our family. The medical care that our son has received so far has been outstanding. We are also very grateful for the care and concern shown to us by those here at Tulsa University, in the city of Tulsa, at Tulane University and of course by everyone at home in New Orleans.

"We appreciate you respecting our family's request for privacy. We do ask that you continue to keep Devon in your prayers."

The statement has been posted on the [Devon Walker website](#).