

49ers Clips – January 24, 2017

Local Media

Kyle Shanahan 'nailed' balance between 49ers, Falcons gigs

By Cam Inman, San Jose Mercury News

<http://www.mercurynews.com/2017/01/23/kyle-shanahan-nailed-balance-between-49ers-falcons-gigs/>

FALCONS COACH QUINN: KYLE SHANAHAN 'TOTALLY NAILED THAT' VS PACKERS

By Matt Maiocco, CSNBayArea.com

<http://www.csnbayarea.com/49ers/falcons-coach-quinn-kyle-shanahan-totally-nailed-vs-packers>

49ers take notice of Kyle Shanahan's dynamic Falcons offense

By Nick Wagoner, ESPN.com

http://www.espn.com/blog/san-francisco-49ers/post/_/id/22980/49ers-take-notice-of-kyle-shanahans-dynamic-falcons-offense

Falcons' Kyle Shanahan clear for second meeting with 49ers this weekend

By Vaughn McClure, ESPN.com

http://www.espn.com/nfl/story/_/id/18540392/falcons-kyle-shanahan-clear-second-meeting-49ers-weekend

Dan Quinn impressed with Kyle Shanahan's balancing act

By Darin Gantt, ProFootballTalk.com

<http://profootballtalk.nbcsports.com/2017/01/24/dan-quinn-impressed-with-kyle-shanahans-balancing-act/>

Three-round mock draft: Deshaun Watson goes No. 1 to Browns

By Chad Reuter, NFL.com

<http://www.nfl.com/news/story/0ap3000000778266/article/threeround-mock-draft-deshaun-watson-goes-no-1-to-browns>

National Media

Report: Colts expected to interview Seahawks' execs Fitterer, Kirchner for GM job

By Bob Condotta, The Seattle Times

<http://www.seattletimes.com/sports/seahawks/report-colts-expected-to-interview-seahawks-execs-fitterer-kirchner-for-gm-job/>

It might be time for Rams to splurge on a No. 1 receiver

By Alden Gonzalez, ESPN.com

http://www.espn.com/blog/los-angeles-rams/post/_id/32841/it-may-be-time-for-rams-to-splurge-on-a-no-1-receiver

Bucs' coach Koetter unlikely to give up play-calling duties

By Rick Stroud, Tampa Bay Times

<http://www.tampabay.com/sports/football/bucs/bucs-coach-koetter-unlikely-to-give-up-play-calling-duties/2310449>

Jamie Collins signs new 4-year, \$50 million contract with Cleveland Browns, \$26 million guaranteed

By Mary Kay Cabot, Cleveland Plain Dealer

http://www.cleveland.com/browns/index.ssf/2017/01/jamie_collins_new_deal.html#incart_river_index

Raiders add John Pagano as assistant head coach/defense

By Jerry McDonald, Bay Area News Group

<http://www.eastbaytimes.com/2017/01/23/raiders-add-john-pagano-as-assistant-head-coachdefense/>

Can Patriots carry over success vs. Steelers defense to the Falcons?

By Jeff Howe, Boston Herald

http://www.bostonherald.com/sports/patriots/2017/01/can_patriots_carry_over_success_vs_steelers_defense_to_the_falcons

Local Clips – Full Version

Kyle Shanahan 'nailed' balance between 49ers, Falcons gigs

By Cam Inman, San Jose Mercury News

Kyle Shanahan "honestly nailed it" in the NFC Championship Game when it came to balancing his duties as the Atlanta Falcons offensive coordinator and the 49ers' presumptive next coach, so said Falcons coach Dan Quinn on Monday.

"I'm really proud of him," Quinn said at his press conference. "It's not easy to do when there's a lot of speculation and things going on outside of your world to stay dialed in. "It's one that should be commended," Quinn added. "Being on point and going for it, he totally nailed that, knowing how to attack and how we're going through it."

Once the Super Bowl-bound Falcons finish this week's practices and meetings Friday, Shanahan will be free to meet with the 49ers that night and perhaps Saturday, marking their first formal talks since his initial interview Jan. 6. He emerged a week ago as the remaining candidate, at least out of six they interviewed, in their search to replace Chip Kelly.

General manager candidates are expected to interview along with Shanahan, including the Minnesota Vikings' George Paton and possibly the Arizona Cardinals' Terry McDonough.

Quinn went through a similar balancing act two years ago, serving as the Seattle Seahawks defensive coordinator en route to their Super Bowl win while also closing in on the Falcons' head-coach job. League rules prevent teams from finalizing deals until candidates' season's end.

"I tried to just give him my experience," Quinn said. "Not tell him what to do, but tell him this is some of the pitfalls and these are some of the things that went well. I tried to do the same this week, to make sure these are the guidelines, and as long as you know how to use them, then you don't get jammed up.

"You definitely have to use your imagination some to make sure everything will be dialed in like you want it. He honestly nailed it."

FALCONS COACH QUINN: KYLE SHANAHAN 'TOTALLY NAILED THAT' VS PACKERS

By Matt Maiocco, CSNBayArea.com

The Atlanta Falcons have provided the 49ers with a window from Friday afternoon through Saturday to meet with offensive coordinator Kyle Shanahan, a source told CSNBayArea.com.

Falcons coach Dan Quinn has structured a normal work week to begin preparations to face the New England Patriots in Super Bowl 51, Quinn said at a press conference on Monday. The Falcons will have a day off on Saturday before the team travels to Houston on Sunday.

The 49ers are not allowed to officially hire Shanahan until after the Super Bowl on Feb. 5.

Shanahan is the presumptive 49ers coach -- the only candidate remaining among the six whom 49ers executives Jed York and Paraag Marathe interviewed. Shanahan's offense rolled up 493 total yards and converted 10 of 13 (77 percent) third-down opportunities en route to a 44-21 victory over the Green Bay Packers on Sunday in the NFC Championship game.

"I'm really proud of him," said Quinn, who was hired by the Falcons two years ago after he served as Seattle Seahawks defensive coordinator in Super Bowl 49.

"It's not easy to do when there's a lot of speculation and things going on outside your world to stay dialed in. I think it's one that should be commended. Being on point and going for it, he totally nailed that."

Shanahan is also expected to be heavily involved in the 49ers' search for a general manager. The two remaining candidates among the nine who previously interviewed are Minnesota assistant general manager George Paton and Arizona vice president of player personnel Terry McDonough.

The 49ers have left open the possibility of adding more GM candidates to the list, according to a source.

49ers take notice of Kyle Shanahan's dynamic Falcons offense

By Nick Wagoner, ESPN.com

SANTA CLARA, Calif. -- As the members of the San Francisco 49ers wait along with the rest of the organization for the hiring of offensive coordinator Kyle Shanahan as head coach, there isn't much to do other than watch as Shanahan continues calling the shots for the Super Bowl-bound Atlanta Falcons.

While Shanahan's offense dismantled the Green Bay Packers in Sunday's NFC championship Game, multiple 49ers players took to Twitter to make it clear that Shanahan's work had their attention.

Wide receiver Torrey Smith noted the balance of the Falcons' attack early in the game.

Torrey Smith ✓ @TorreySmithWR

The Falcons offense is balanced and gets EVERYONE involved EARLY ☐

Rookie offensive tackle John Theus kept it short and sweet.

John Theus ✓ @jtheus71

Wow..

Outside linebacker Eli Harold was a bit more general but no less impressed by what Atlanta was able to do.

MadMax ✓ @EliHarold_

Falcons r good man !!!

And offensive tackle Joe Staley tweeted a gif of Jonah Hill expressing his excitement during the game.

Of course, there were plenty of reasons for the Niners (and anyone else watching) to be impressed with what Shanahan, quarterback Matt Ryan, receiver Julio Jones & Co. did against the Packers and throughout the postseason.

Here's a small sampling courtesy of ESPN Stats & Information research:

-- With Sunday's win, the Falcons became just the seventh team to score 35 or more points in back-to-back games in a postseason during the Super Bowl era. Their 44 points were the second most they have scored in a playoff game.

-- Ryan became the fourth player in NFL history to post four passing scores and one rushing touchdown in a playoff game and the first since Aaron Rodgers did it in 2009. Ryan also became the first quarterback in NFL history with at least three passing touchdowns in four straight postseason contests.

-- To get a flavor for how Shanahan called Sunday's game, one can look at the offense's success from the shotgun and pistol. Atlanta ran out of those looks on 86 percent of their drop backs this season, fifth

most in the league. That has continued in the postseason, with Ryan lighting it up the most out of those formations. He was 21-of-26 with four touchdowns from the shotgun or pistol on Sunday. He is 40-of-47 for 586 yards with five scores in the two postseason contests thus far; that 85.1 percent completion rate is the best of any quarterback in the past 10 postseasons by nearly nine percentage points.

-- Obviously, Shanahan is working with a talented group of skill position players, but it's hard to argue that his scheme isn't helping create room for them to operate. Atlanta posted 493 yards of offense against the Packers, and 386 of those yards came before first contact. That worked out to an average of 6.8 yards before first contact on 57 rushes and receptions in the game, the most of any team in a game this season.

The Niners are scheduled to meet with Shanahan again later this week as they attempt to work out details so they can finalize a deal when allowed. They can't officially make it happen until after the Super Bowl.

USA Today reported Sunday that Shanahan coached with the stomach flu on Sunday. Shanahan told the newspaper that he's planning a busy week, including another meeting with the 49ers, but his focus will be on the New England Patriots and the Super Bowl.

"Now that this is over, I'll have a chance to talk with [the 49ers] a little bit more, and after that week, I've got to go back to blocking it out and go to the Super Bowl, which shouldn't be too hard," Shanahan said. "It's the Super Bowl. It's a lot to juggle, but it's definitely something that I'm happy I'm a part of."

Falcons' Kyle Shanahan clear for second meeting with 49ers this weekend

By Vaughn McClure, ESPN.com

FLOWERY BRANCH, Ga. -- Atlanta Falcons coach Dan Quinn said offensive coordinator Kyle Shanahan will be able to go through a second interview with the San Francisco 49ers this weekend, as NFL rules permit, as the Falcons have a lull before their Feb. 5 Super Bowl matchup against the New England Patriots.

Atlanta Falcons owner Arthur Blank vows to take all his team's employees to Houston for the Super Bowl. Shanahan had a first interview during the first week of the playoffs, when the Falcons had a first-round bye as the NFC's No. 2 seed. Shanahan acknowledged there is mutual interest but said no contract has been offered yet.

The 49ers have been given a window of Friday afternoon through Saturday to meet with Shanahan, a source tells ESPN's Adam Scheffer.

The players are off Saturday before the team leaves Sunday for Houston.

Quinn said he admires how Shanahan has handled the process and hasn't allowed it to become a distraction for the league's top-scoring offense. The Falcons have scored 44 and 36 points in their two playoff games.

"I'm really proud of him because it's not easy to do, when there's a lot of speculation and things going on outside your world, to stay dialed in," Quinn said. "I think it's one that should be commended. Being on point and going for it, he totally nailed that, knowing how to attack and how we were going to go through. It gets more attention, obviously, the longer it goes. We recognize that. The league does structures that there's another opportunity for them to talk, and I'm sure they'll do that."

NFL rules state that no contract between Shanahan and the 49ers can be finalized until after the Super Bowl. The second interview would give Shanahan a better idea of which general manager might work best alongside him. The 49ers still need to fill their GM role.

Quinn went through a similar process when he was the defensive coordinator for the Seattle Seahawks and became the Falcons' head coach after the Seahawks lost to the Patriots in the Super Bowl two years ago.

"I tried to just give him my experience," Quinn said, "not tell him what to do, but tell him, 'This is some of the pitfalls that happen; these are some of things I thought went well.' I tried to do the same things with him this week."

Dan Quinn impressed with Kyle Shanahan's balancing act

By Darin Gantt, ProFootballTalk.com

Falcons coach Dan Quinn knows how stressful it can be, when you're balancing game-planning for the playoffs with thinking about a future head coaching job.

And he said he's been impressed with the way Kyle Shanahan has been able to handle both.

Via Vaughn McClure of ESPN.com, Quinn said he admired the way his offensive coordinator was able to keep his focus, as the Falcons have scored 80 points in two playoff games.

"I'm really proud of him because it's not easy to do, when there's a lot of speculation and things going on outside your world, to stay dialed in," Quinn said. "I think it's one that should be commended. Being on point and going for it, he totally nailed that, knowing how to attack and how we were going to go through. It gets more attention, obviously, the longer it goes. We recognize that. The league does structures that there's another opportunity for them to talk, and I'm sure they'll do that."

Shanahan will be able to meet with the 49ers Saturday, where he'll get a chance to go over potential General Manager candidates. But they can't formally hire him until after the Super Bowl.

Quinn was in the same spot when the Falcons hired him away from the Seahawks two years ago, and it doesn't seem to have hurt.

"I tried to just give him my experience," Quinn said. "Not tell him what to do, but tell him, 'This is some of the pitfalls that happen; these are some of things I thought went well.' I tried to do the same things with him this week."

Shanahan's ability to compartmentalize the task at hand has been impressive, and that ability earned him some comparisons to a coach he'll see next week.

Three-round mock draft: Deshaun Watson goes No. 1 to Browns

By Chad Reuter, NFL.com

The 2017 Senior Bowl is kicking off with a series of practices this week and culminating with a game on Saturday, all live on NFL Network. Of course, this mock draft was written before many of the top college seniors started gathering in Mobile, Ala., for a week that could alter their draft positioning. It also comes before many other events -- like the scouting combine, free agency and pro days -- that will shape and re-shape this draft. With that said, here is an early look at the first three rounds and how the picks could play out in three months:

PICK 2 Myles Garrett - OLB, Texas A&M

The 49ers get a difference-making pass rusher.

34. San Francisco 49ers: Christian McCaffrey, RB, Stanford

66. San Francisco 49ers: Brad Kaaya, QB, Miami