

49ers Clips – January 13, 2017

Local Media

***NFL Insider Ian Rapoport Commends 49ers Approach to General Manager/Head Coach Search***

By Joe Fann, 49ers.com

<http://www.49ers.com/news/article-2/NFL-Insider-Ian-Rapoport-Commends-49ers-Approach-to-General-ManagerHead-Coach-Search/e62ea4d7-3a54-48d5-a604-9ab88aa710ed>

***Patience a virtue in 49ers' coaching search, but sense of urgency should kick in***

By Nick Wagoner, ESPN.com

[http://www.espn.com/blog/san-francisco-49ers/post/\\_id/22819/patience-a-virtue-for-49ers-coaching-search-but-urgency-should-increase-now](http://www.espn.com/blog/san-francisco-49ers/post/_id/22819/patience-a-virtue-for-49ers-coaching-search-but-urgency-should-increase-now)

National Media

***Seahawks' Paul Richardson can make an impact beyond one-handed catches***

By Bob Condotta, The Seattle Times

<http://www.seattletimes.com/sports/seahawks/seahawks-paul-richardson-can-make-an-impact-beyond-one-handed-catches/>

***Rams' Sean McVay: Portrait of an up-and-coming coach***

By Gary Klein, Los Angeles Times

<http://www.latimes.com/sports/rams/la-sp-rams-coach-mcvay-20170112-story.html>

***2016 not special for Arizona Cardinals special teams***

By Kent Somers, The Arizona Republic

<http://www.azcentral.com/story/sports/nfl/cardinals/2017/01/12/2016-not-special-arizona-cardinals-special-teams/96490586/>

***Source: Chargers agree to 4-year deal with Anthony Lynn***

By Eric Williams, ESPN.com

[http://www.espn.com/nfl/story/\\_/id/18463139/chargers-plan-hire-anthony-lynn-new-coach](http://www.espn.com/nfl/story/_/id/18463139/chargers-plan-hire-anthony-lynn-new-coach)

***Vance Joseph wants an attacking offense; Mike McCoy expected to run it as Broncos offensive coordinator***

By Cameron Wolfe, Denver Post

<http://www.denverpost.com/2017/01/12/vance-joseph-attacking-offense/>

***Jets plan to interview Broncos assistant coach Eric Studesville for offensive coordinator job: source***

By Manish Mehta, New York Daily News

<http://www.nydailynews.com/sports/football/jets/jets-plan-interview-broncos-coach-eric-studesville-oc-job-article-1.2944963>

Local Clips – Full Version

***NFL Insider Ian Rapoport Commends 49ers Approach to General Manager/Head Coach Search***

By Joe Fann, 49ers.com

Knowledge is power, and Ian Rapoport is at the top of the information pyramid when it comes to NFL news. That makes the national insider for NFL Network and NFL.com a great resource for insight into the San Francisco 49ers search for a new head coach and general manager.

Rapoport joined 49ers Studios earlier in the week to update what he's been hearing about the 49ers interview process.

"One of the things that has really interested a lot of the candidates is the ability to start new," Rapoport said. "They need to restock the roster a little bit. That's something for a lot of these candidates, they really like that. Rarely do you get to come in and make your imprint on things, and that's the opportunity that will be presented."

With that clean slate comes the No. 2 overall pick in the 2017 NFL draft, nearly \$78 million in cap space and the absence of bad contracts that limit roster flexibility. Rapoport explained that those factors are "very, very appealing" for each candidate who has interviewed thus far.

"I've heard that from several people," he said. "The fact that you come in, and you have all the tools. There's certainly some young talent (on the roster). If you look at the last two drafts, there's some stuff to like there, especially on the defensive side of the ball. Then you have endless cap space, and you have a lot of draft capital. The No. 2 pick is either a great pick, a great opportunity, or it's something you turn into a lot of picks in the future."

Jed York spoke at length during his press conference on Jan. 2 about the importance of finding cohesion between the next general manager and head coach. Ultimately, the two hires will need to share similar football philosophy and a mutual respect for one another.

During each interview, the 49ers are not only learning about the candidate in front of them, but they're also inquiring about who each person would prefer to work with if they were to land the job.

"It sounds like that's sort of what's happening," Rapoport said. "How it's been explained to me, candidates are being asked to discuss the relationship they may or may not have with some of the other candidates. I can't say that I've seen this approach before, but I really like it."

"Candidates seem to be intrigued with the possibility that the coach won't pick the GM, and I don't get the sense that the GM is going to pick the coach, but it sounds like they're going to pick each other. That's kind of a cool thing."

The 49ers are the only team with an opening at general manager. That means Eliot Wolf, Brian Gutekunst, Jimmy Raye III, George Paton, Brandon Beane and Louis Riddick are all still options to fill the role.

Three of the five candidates who have interviewed for head coach are still on the table as well: Anthony Lynn, Kyle Shanahan and Josh McDaniels. The two exceptions are Sean McDermott, who was hired on Wednesday as the next head coach of the Buffalo Bills and Sean McVay, who was hired on Thursday as the head coach of the Los Angeles Rams.

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***Patience a virtue in 49ers' coaching search, but sense of urgency should kick in***

By Nick Wagoner, ESPN.com

SANTA CLARA, Calif. -- While San Francisco 49ers CEO Jed York has yet to go on the record with any proclamations about his favored candidates for the team's open general manager and head coaching jobs, the search for the latter has become clear simply by process of elimination.

On Thursday, the Los Angeles Rams officially announced Washington Redskins offensive coordinator Sean McVay as their head coach, and the newly christened Los Angeles Chargers closed in on doing the same with Anthony Lynn. That came a day after the Denver Broncos hired Vance Joseph and the Buffalo Bills hired Sean McDermott, and three days after the Jacksonville Jaguars removed the interim tag from Doug Marrone.

Of the six jobs that were once available, only one remains: the 49ers'. And of the candidates the 49ers have interviewed, only two are still available.

Namely, New England Patriots offensive coordinator Josh McDaniels and Atlanta Falcons offensive coordinator Kyle Shanahan. San Francisco is also expected to interview Seattle Seahawks offensive line coach Tom Cable on Sunday after his team plays the Falcons in the NFC divisional playoffs. At this point, it's probably fair to call McDaniels the favorite, though there are still some things to iron out.

There are plenty of ways this could still play out, especially because the 49ers are prioritizing pairing whoever the new coach is with a general manager who can build a strong rapport and relationship with said coach.

"We need to be open and flexible to structure," York said. "We need to make sure that the head coach and the general manager know each other, have a good understanding for each other. Doesn't mean that they had to have worked together in the past, but they have to have a good respect for each other and a good understanding and know that they have similar visions and philosophies on building a football team. And, whatever structure is the best with the people that we're interviewing is the structure that we're going to go with."

One of the biggest factors for the 49ers moving forward is timing. McDaniels and Shanahan have long been considered the top two candidates for the job, though the Niners were reportedly impressed with McVay before he landed in Los Angeles. With most of the other coaching jobs filled, hiring McDaniels, Shanahan or even Cable doesn't seem to come with many obstacles other than striking an agreement. Although the 49ers are positioned to get a coach they covet, they also have to wait for it to happen.

None of the coaches still in the postseason is eligible to interview again until the bye week between the conference championships and the Super Bowl or if their team is eliminated from the playoffs, whichever comes first. Cable can interview this weekend because his team played in the wild-card round and he wasn't eligible to do so then.

The 49ers are able to be patient before officially hiring a head coach, but they also have to handle the important matter of hiring a coaching staff. The Jaguars, Bills, Rams, Chargers and Broncos are already in the process of hiring theirs, and if the Niners don't work toward getting resolution soon, they could miss out on assistants unwilling to pass on guaranteed opportunities now for potential ones down the line.

It's understandable, wise even, for the 49ers to be willing to wait a couple of extra weeks to hire the coach and general manager they want most. But it would also be smart to start trying to hone in on the top candidate, say McDaniels, and begin putting together a staff. There's recent precedent for such an approach as the Falcons did it two years ago with coach Dan Quinn.

At the time, Quinn was the defensive coordinator for the Seahawks, who were in the midst of a run to the Super Bowl. The Falcons had a clear direction with Quinn but could not announce his hire until after the Super Bowl. In the meantime, they began putting a staff together, including the hiring of, coincidentally, Shanahan as offensive coordinator.

The 49ers' deliberate approach is also a logical one, assuming they still land someone like McDaniels or Shanahan. But while their patience can pay off in getting the head coach they want, they must also get the ball rolling soon so that he can get the staff he wants.