

TRANSCRIPTIONS



**Head Coach Kyle Shanahan
Conference Call – August 20, 2019
San Francisco 49ers
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Now that you're back and you've been able to kind of size up what happened with the first-team offense, any revelations, any concerns about what you saw?

"I mean, you always want to play better. But, to get concerned over 10 plays or however many it was, that's pretty irresponsible. You try to evaluate those 10 plays. I think it's pretty similar to how I did it with you guys last night. The one thing that I saw differently once I watched the tape was the interception. It wasn't a TE. We got miscommunication in protection, so some guys came in there so the D-End, what's his name, [Denver Broncos OLB Bradley] Chubb, got in there early, earlier than expected. I thought [QB] Jimmy [Garoppolo] got hit as he was throwing it, he didn't. He got rid of it too early to avoid the hit and the route hadn't developed yet, so it didn't go far enough down the field. We need to do a better job in protection there by getting everyone on the same page and we need to do better at throwing that ball away, or if you can't, you have to take that sack."

I noticed you kept Jimmy Garoppolo in the gun for all six of his pass attempts. Was there any particular reason for that?

"No, it probably had to do with some of the down and distance that we wanted to motion to empty. When you go to empty, there's not much point in being under center unless you're going to do a quarterback sneak. So, when you go to empty, you might as well be in gun, because there's no threat of run. I think two of his passes were empty, I think the others were on third down. He only got 10 plays, so."

What did you think about TE Kaden Smith's blocking, especially in the RB Raheem Mostert touchdown and the second one when he pulled up the middle?

"I thought he's done a good job. He's gotten better here with these opportunities with the tight ends being down. He had a good week of practice and he did real well in the game, those two runs in particular, and he helped us out in the pass game also."

I think over these next couple days we're going to get to that 18 days out for RB Jerick McKinnon. Do you have an update on where he's at with his PRP and is he going to practice this week?

"Yeah, I was hoping that he could, starting, I think, tomorrow is 18 days. With it being the short week and the practices that we have, I don't think we will do it tomorrow. Maybe the day after we'll start putting him in individual and stuff, but I don't think he's going to be able to do team drills and stuff this week."

How encouraging was it to see DL Solomon Thomas? He was pretty active all night. Can you just talk about his performance?

“Yeah, I was real happy for Solomon. He’s been that way in practice every day for us. He’s been moving around a lot. We like to get him inside more than outside, but he still had to be outside with all these injuries that we’ve had, even in the preseason. He’s moving different. He’s playing a lot more aggressive, I think his mind’s a lot clearer and it’s showing. I thought he had a good game yesterday and we expect him to because it’s been looking that way in practice.”

On a scale of 1-10, how shocked or surprised were you with P Mitch Wishnowsky’s tackle?

“I was not shocked at all. That’s what rugby players do. I don’t know if we want to make a living out of that, but it’s good for the other 10 guys to see. If they’re not on it, he might get down there and take their stats away. I was very impressed with it. It was a perfect form leverage side tackle that was very impressive.”

What’s your impression of DL Kevin Givens? It seemed like he was in the backfield a lot last night?

“I thought he did a good job. A lot of our guys were making those guys miss at the line and getting back there. Sometimes, they were off on a couple of their calls and stuff and our guys took advantage of it by not hesitating coming off the ball, but we’ve gotten a lot of opportunities for these guys with so many people out, and it’s been very cool and very encouraging to watch guys who have been towards the bottom of the 90 who are making names for themselves and taking advantage of these opportunities. Kevin did that yesterday and I think a bunch of these guys have done that in both of these games.”

Did you make any transactions today?

“No, we haven’t yet. I heard that it was reported on a receiver, [WR Shawn] Poindexter still has to get his x-rays and everything. We were expecting the worst with the ACL, but we haven’t gotten it confirmed yet. When we do, we plan on making that move with [WR] Chris Thompson.”

Kind of looking at the wide receivers’ snap counts, WR Kendrick Bourne and WR Richie James, Jr. had the most. Is that kind of they are battling out a roster spot? You kind of kept WR Jalen Hurd out, he was only in there for eight snaps.

“Yeah, Hurd was going to play more, but he had some back tightness all week in practice and then he had a little bit in the game, so he definitely could’ve gone, but that was just the decision I made to get him out of there. Didn’t want that to be worse with the fact that we have three games in 10 days, so we did that. The other guys we planned on playing awhile, and I thought they did a good job taking advantage of that.”

Is there a guy that you think gave the team more than you expected from him yesterday in any position?

“No, because when I give you guys quotes like that, then everyone knows the guys that I really like and I want to have on practice squad and stuff, so I’ve got to be smarter than that. I was impressed with Mitch’s hit. That was pretty cool.”

Has WR Deebo Samuel earned more playing time with the starters or would you still like to see more from him?

“Yeah, I want to see more from all of them. We’ve got a very good group and they’re all tight and so I’m trying to get those guys to take the spot from people and make it an easy decision. I think we’ve got a lot of candidates to start on our team, guys who have been here and the new guys. There’s two positions, depending on if we start in 12 or 21 and there’s three positions if we start in 11. Especially with [WR] Trent [Taylor] being down right now, there’s a lot of opportunities for these guys. Deebo had a good play on the reverse or the round, we call it the round, but the reverse he had yesterday. But, that’s what we expect him to do. The D-End closed and he’s fast and we expect him to outrun people, but all these guys can keep getting better a lot. We want them to be good at blocking, be good at running the ball when it’s in their hands and they need to be able to get open. Deebo has the ability to do everything, but he’s still continuing to develop.”

When you guys were in 11 yesterday, WR Jordan Matthews was the number three receiver in the slot. So, is that going to be a thing moving forward or is that going to just switch with Taylor down?

“That’s what we’ll go over this afternoon. We’ll have two practices to prepare for Kansas City. We kind of think all this stuff out, we give guys different opportunities certain weeks, but by no means is anything set for Week 1. We’ve got an idea of what some guys can do, some guys we need to see more from and some guys we already feel like we know what they can do. So, we mix it all around and I wouldn’t look into anything until you guys see our final 53.”

Speaking of Jordan Matthews, does special teams ability factor into the mix for him? Is that something that he’s going to have to do to be on the 53-man?

“It factors in for everybody. If you’re not a starter, and if you are a starter sometimes you help, but you usually like to keep six receivers, usually only have five up on game day. So, sometimes that sixth one isn’t necessarily your best special teams guy because he doesn’t even get up. The sixth’s one got to be able to come in and play if you lose a starter. Yes, it matters, but it’s not as clear cut as that. It depends on who makes the 53 and who’s up on the 46 on gamedays. Usually your fifth guy is going to be that special teams player where your sixth guy is usually a better receiver.”

In regards to Jimmy’s confidence, I know you said it was 10 snaps last night, but obviously that becomes somewhat of a national story and then even just his practice performance from Wednesday becomes a bit of a story. Do you have to check in with him or do you know what he’s made out of and where his head’s at?

“That’s something we deal with with all our players every day. We’re around these guys a lot, so it’s not like, it doesn’t take a brain surgeon to realize that stuff is hard on people. I don’t ever sense it from Jimmy. Jimmy comes in and he’s the same guy every day. He’s great in the meetings, he works, he listens. That doesn’t change much. I know anytime

that you get all that publicity for things that you're not happy with, that's going to affect a lot of people. You've got to go out there and play and you get your confidence back by playing. There's not a magical motivational speech or anything. Jimmy's got the ability to do it. We know he will do it. What stinks is when you go out there and you just get a few opportunities and it doesn't go right and you're not in a position to play yourself out of it. Hopefully he'll get to be in there longer versus Kansas City. I hope it's all good things, but most likely there will be some good, some bad and then we'll see how long he can stay in and grow from it."

Do you have an idea when OL Mike Person could get back into the mix and also is there an update on C/G Weston Richburg and when he might come back off PUP?

"Richburg, we're hoping the Chargers week where he can maybe get out and practice a little bit and if he could then we'd decide whether to play him in that game, get him ready for Week 1. That's what we're kind of hoping for. We'll see. Then Mike Person, he's still day-to-day. Knowing Person, I'm sure he's going to try to practice tomorrow, but we've just got to see where he's at. We've still got to decide on what type of practice we're going to have. We've got to do the reps and stuff because we're only going to get two practices in before a game. But, I don't see us having a full-speed practice tomorrow anyways. Hopefully he'll be out there two days from now."

With those backup line positions, OL Justin Skule and OL Najee Toran seemed to struggle with holding calls. How much does that concern you and how comfortable do you feel with the depth on that offensive line?

"It concerns me. You need to be able to block and you need to be able to do it without holding and we've gotten way too many of those in these last two weeks. It's something that we definitely have to improve. Depth in an O-Line is something that every team is trying to work at and we need some guys to step up. We've lost the two guys who were competing at guard, with Person and [G] Joshua Garnett. That's opened up some opportunities for these guys and that's why they've been there a ton in these two games. They have had some really good plays that show that they can play in this league. But, just like you guys have noticed, they've had too many penalties and they've had some bad plays. The good thing about this stuff is that we do have two more games. It's something that we haven't seen yet to where we can figure it out. We need more game tape and hopefully one of these guys will step it up."

What did you see of T Sam Young yesterday in his first game and what did the tape tell you about QB C.J. Beathard and QB Nick Mullens' game?

"Sam was solid. We didn't put him in a bunch of tough situations, but he was solid. Then, C.J. and Nick, C.J. played the most. Every time C.J.'s in there you've got a chance for a big play. He loves the big play. He missed one to Richie that was a little him, it was a little Richie and then he had a really good throw to Bourne that would have been a real big one that Bourne didn't get. I thought C.J. missed a couple plays early, but nothing too bad and then Nick came in and didn't have many opportunities but made the best, I think the throw he had was the fade for the touchdown, but he didn't really get a chance to play too much."

Is DL Dee Ford going to practice this week?

“That was the goal. We got back from traveling. Right now, if you had to ask me I don’t think we would throw him in tomorrow just traveling like this and the fact that we’re going to not be full speed. We’ll look at it again the next day. With this short week happening, I know that was the goal for it or we thought there was a possibility. I still think there is, but I think we are going to be leaning a little bit more towards next week.”

Where are you in deciding who’s going to be your backup quarterback?

“I’m in a pretty good spot, where are you? (laughter)”

I think pretty good as well.

“Alright, do you want me to tell you?”

Yes.

“I believe in both those guys. I believe they can play. We’ll see who we decide to go with in the second group this week. I haven’t decided that yet and whoever we do we plan on the next guy getting a lot in Week 4. I’ll never make a decision before the fourth preseason game comes, but usually the backups are the guys who play really the entire game. So, there’s a lot more playing time for both of them to get here. I feel very good with both the guys, we’ve had both of the guys here in a lot of game situations. But, it’s been a fun battle to watch. I think both of them are playing better than they have the last two years.”

Are you saying whoever goes in second in game three will be the backup?

“No, I didn’t say that. Nope.”

Okay.

“There are so many things that play into this. The stuff that goes into this for the final 53 to the quarterbacks on. I know we have two backup quarterbacks who are both capable of starting and I would be happy with either one as our backup. One of those guys is going to win the job and we will make that decision. I do not see myself making that decision until I absolutely have to and that probably won’t be until the final 53. But, if we make it before that and there’s no advantage in hiding it, I promise we’ll let you guys know.”

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**Head Coach Kyle Shanahan
Press Conference – August 17, 2019
San Francisco 49ers**

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What was at stake on the field goal?

“We just did it at the end of the game, two-minute drive. So, we were down one point, [Denver Broncos head coach] Vic [Fangio] made the score 1-0, defensive guy. I thought it was more like 39-38, but we were down one, so it was just last second for the field goal. It was neat, Vic and [K] Robbie [Gould] had a relationship in Chicago, so he iced him, tried to ice him, called a timeout, so it was a good kick.”

How long was that kick?

“I’m not sure, I’m guessing about 47.”

The scoreboard said it was on the 37.

“Robbie probably said it was 65.”

There was some chirping going on before that.

“Yeah, oh, you mean real chirping? Yeah, they got into a little scuffle over there. I actually wasn’t on the field, so I didn’t see much of it. By the time I got over there, it was pretty much broken up. I know a couple guys got sent in. I was told none of our guys threw punches, so when I see the tape, we’ll see if they were telling the truth. Hopefully they were.”

What kind of feedback was defensive coordinator Robert Saleh giving you on how the defense practiced these last two days?

“I think he was real excited with it. There were some good things and some bad. I thought, I’ve got to really see the tape today, because we’re on separate fields, but yesterday I was really happy with how we carried ourselves, how we played as a team, our tenacity, how we ran to the ball and I thought that gave us a chance to do pretty well. We were not perfect by any means. We had a bunch of mistakes, left a few open guys where the quarterback, unfortunately, went the other way. So, you just try to temper that. I like the team we have, love the players and how they’re really playing aggressive and things like that, but if you really want to be not just a high defense, you want to be one of the best, you’ve got to be very detailed in what you do also.”

What did QB Jimmy Garoppolo get out of these two days and how much are you going to play him on Monday night?

“I haven’t decided how much we’re going to play him on Monday night. Want to play him. A lot has to do with when we watch his film from these two practices, how long we do play all our starters, what O-Linemen are available and things like that. I’d like him to get in there for a little bit. Not as much as Week 3. Anytime you go against a different defense, it gets very monotonous in camp going against the same coverages every day, some different fronts, different looks, different techniques, so it was a good day. We get more out of these two practices than we will in the game.”

Do you feel like WR Richie James Jr. kind of stepped up a little bit in these last few days?

“Yeah. I mean, I think he’s done a good job and stepped it up throughout camp, so I wouldn’t say there was a big difference in these two days. I think he’s done a real good job. We had a few guys go out, especially coming here, too, we’re a little low on receivers. It’s been a challenge for these guys to get through these high rep practices. All of them are working pretty hard and I know all of them are pretty gassed and hopefully they’ll be able to recover here over the next two days before our game.”

How nice is it to see that Mike Shanahan guy walking around here again?

“It’s pretty cool. I didn’t see him at all at practice because I was pretty focused on practice. I heard he was doing a press conference in between it, that’s what these guys told me. No, I love having my dad out. He comes out to San Francisco, too, so that’s not that unusual to see him out there. But, this is my first time back here since my dad left, which is college for me. Looks completely different. This thing was never here, there used to be a bubble that blew down one day, so the facility looks great. It’s good to see a lot of old people and really enjoyed our time here.”

Is it kind of surreal you get to walk the same footsteps your dad did for so many years, regardless of what this looks like, it’s still the same facility?

“Yeah. I mean, I’ve been in the NFL for a pretty long time, so I’ve gone through a lot of that stuff, just doing the same job as my dad, which I think a lot of kids do. But, it was different walking into this building, walking up to the office the first day we got here to go see Vic. It’s been remodeled a bunch, so I was a little confused in there, but it was really neat to be in there. I’ve got a lot of memories here. I spent probably every day from when we came here as a freshman in high school until I left. Every time I’d come back from college I spent time here. So, the relationships I had and how much that helped me in my career, it’s a very special place.”

Do you go through with Vic, like talk about each other’s rosters, like is there any area where you’re deep where we need some help? Have you done that with Vic?

“Yeah, you always do that with people that you’re close to and that you trust and respect. Vic is as high in that in any category as any guy in this league. We talk a lot, but you’ve also got to be careful. He’s also very smart. No, we want to help each other out, but you also always want to win, too. You’ve got to think of your team first, but anytime you have someone that you can be close to like that and is in a different conference, it does give you an advantage to communicate a little bit more.”

It seems like when a play breaks down Jimmy's always trying to make something out of it. How do you balance that instinct, I'm sure you'd like to see him throwing into available situations, throwing picks?

"I love people that makes plays, but interceptions lose games. So, you can't keep both teams in the game. You've got to make plays for your own team. You can't make them for both teams. If you keep both teams in the game, you're going to have to be a lot more conservative to make sure you're not put in those situations."

Where do you see him as far as that balance? Would you like him to throw the ball out of bounds more than he does?

"Yeah, definitely. It's also about, I think guys who have very talented arms think they can make every throw. Sometimes, you've got to learn that, I know you can make it, but the percentages go way down, progress to the next guy. If there's two guys on this guy, I know you can get it in there, you're that talented, but it's a lot easier if you can just move to the next guy. I think it can be a compliment, but also it can be a detriment to him, too. You see that with a lot of big-arm quarterbacks who have talent and that's what practice is for. You want to go through that and test it and I think that's the challenge of practice in this day and age, that we get the stats every day. I don't, but I know you guys do, which means the players do, so it is a little tougher when you have a practice like he did a few days ago. I'm actually kind of glad that happened, because sometimes you get close to that and you get fortunate on a few things instead of unlucky on a few things. But, you learn from it. It wakes guys up and makes it easier to coach them, and it makes them correct their mistakes."

From what you know about Denver Broncos offensive coordinator Rich Scangarello, what gives you confidence that he can thrive as first time play caller for the Broncos?

"Well, he knows what he's doing. He's a very good coach, he's been in a lot of systems, knows a lot of football. He's paid his dues throughout college, throughout this league, he's coached a number of different positions. He's been around a number of different guys, and he's more than ready for this opportunity."

It looked like WR Dante Pettis was challenged quite a bit yesterday. Did he bounce back a little bit more today?

"It seemed like it. We'll see on the tape. Dante's getting challenged every day, from our own team and from teams that play him. Dante's a talented guy and if people just sit back on him, he's going to make anybody miss. Guys are challenging him, so he's starting to get used to that a little bit more. He's not great at it right away, but that's been the challenge for him this camp. He's been up and down with it, but what I like seeing from him is he's not backing away. He's fighting, and I think he's better at that now than he was two weeks ago."

Denver Broncos quarterbacks coach T.C. McCartney is another guy who was on your staff and is here now. Is he kind of a rising star in your mind in the coaching world, what you saw from him?

“Yeah, definitely. I mean, I got to work with T.C. in Cleveland when I was there for a year and then we brought him to San Francisco for three years. T.C. is someone we gave a lot of responsibility to. He was my personal quality control for four years, the other guys who have done that are all coordinators or head coaches in this league, so he’s gotten a lot of experience, he’s paid his dues, he’s been working for a long time and I was really happy for him that Rich gave him an opportunity, or ultimately Vic did. But, he deserved it.”

What kind of camp is WR Marquise Goodwin having? We talk so much about everybody else, but it seems like--?

“I think Quise is having a real good camp. I mean, Quise always does. Quise is always well prepared, is in shape, he has great stamina and he’s had an unbelievable camp three years in a row. The key for Quise is are we going to be able to keep it up throughout the year? I do think, you never know until the year goes, and you can’t control a lot of that stuff, but the way he’s just gone about his business, the way he’s practiced day in and day out, even when he’s not getting the ball and he’s not involved that much, he’s looking the same and just the effort that he has. I think Quise has put himself in position to have a more durable year, and also the fortunate thing is we’ve got some other guys in here that takes a little pressure off Quise to have to do this stuff day in and day out.”

How much do you think about what he was able to accomplish with Jimmy in 2017 in terms of his evaluation and just where you’re at with him and what you think is possible for him this year?

“I think anytime you have success in a short span, it shows how talented these guys are. That’s what everyone knows about Jimmy, that’s what people know about Quise. This league’s about doing it week in and week out. That’s the difference between being a guy who just scares people and a guy who’s there no matter what. Both of them are fighting through that and they both haven’t played a lot, haven’t played a lot together, but that’s what I’m enjoying in camp this year. It’s been awhile since we’ve had the two of them together.”

Any update on DB Antone Exum Jr.?

“I don’t have a term, tweaked his knee, so he’s day-to-day.”

Any relief about OL Mike Person?

“Yeah, definitely. I mean, Person, we don’t have a lot of depth there right now, especially with [G Joshua] Garnett being out and things like that. Person made it through practice, had a little bit of a scare after, but with the x-rays and stuff, going well and he’s day-to-day. So, scary at first, but day-to-day. It’s a good sign.”

What’s the feeling about TE George Kittle’s injury?

“Same thing, day-to-day. I can guarantee you if we were playing today, he’d be out there.”

You said about Week 2 and 3 about Jimmy, you’d like him to play Week 2 but not as much as Week 3?

“Yeah, we always try to get our starters the most playing time in Week 3. Rarely are we going to do that equal in 2 and 3. Again, we haven’t decided yet, it’s also a little bit different with how close all these games are. Once the Broncos game happens, it’s going to be three games in 10 days, so we’ve got a lot to evaluate with that. A lot of it doesn’t just depend on Jimmy. It depends what O-Linemen can go, depends on who they’re playing, how long they go. So, there’s a lot of things that go into it.”

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**General Manager John Lynch
Press Conference – August 17, 2019
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What did you see from the first joint practice yesterday?

“I thought it was a good day’s work. I think both sides, you get out of these things, particularly when you have a great partner to work with, there’s so much that you get out of this work. You get to see different looks. Now, the one thing with this team is we’re both seeing the same offense, but the defensive looks, that’s invaluable for our guys. It’s also great to watch your players when the competitive juice comes up a little because you’re playing against someone else and get to see, much like a game, how some guys can handle it in practice and you take the next step up. This is still practice, but it’s going against someone else. Some guys handle it really well, some guys take a step back. That’s all part of the evaluation. But, I think it was good, solid work. I thought the coaches did a tremendous job of letting our guys know, I think [Denver Broncos head coach] Vic [Fangio] even said to his guys, ‘Hey, these are our teammates for the next couple days,’ and [head coach] Kyle [Shanahan] reiterated it. That doesn’t mean that you’re not competing your tail off, but it means let’s respect each other. I felt like the guys did a real good job of that.”

Were you able to spend much time with Denver Broncos president of football operations/general manager John Elway yesterday and what kind of resource was he for you when you got into the business?

“Yeah, I was able to spend time with John and [Denver Broncos director of player personnel] Matt Russell, and all these guys. John was a tremendous resource. He’s a good friend and we’ve got a lot of parallels from where we went to school, two-sport players, and I used to try to walk pigeon toed so I’d be more like him and all of those things. Now to call him a friend, I think the little bit of time in an offseason when he had me come in here was very integral in my motivation to do this and saying, ‘Hey, this might be something that someday I’d like to do.’ He’s been a tremendous resource. I have great respect and admiration for him and everything he’s done.”

Any Broncos jump out at you as you watched the tape yesterday?

“That 58 [Denver Broncos OLB Von Miller] was alright. He’s quite a player. They’ve got a nice roster, so I think there’s reason to be excited. I think Vic’s doing a tremendous job of running a tough camp. They’ve got some players on that roster and I think it’s going to be a good football team, I really do.”

What do you think of Vic and his 60-year-old first time as a head coach?

“I think it’s probably long overdue that he got his shot. I’ve long respected his style. I remember being in a production meeting with him when he was with the Niners and one of the things I love about him, there’s some old school. I remember saying, ‘Hey, you just came from Stanford. I know you’ve been in the league, but you’ve got [former 49ers LB] Pat Willis and [former 49ers LB] Navarro Bowman.’ He said, ‘eh, they’re alright.’ His point was, and I talked to him later, there’s a few great players, and if we use great all the time, I think it’s the way he looks at things. He doesn’t get too blown away. He believes in sound football and his teams play that way and they have over the years and they’ve also made a ton of plays. I think he deserves this opportunity. I’m thrilled to see him have it.”

What did you learn about Denver Broncos offensive coordinator Rich Scangarello in his time in San Francisco and did you expect him to be pretty solid after as a coordinator?

“Yeah, I think I was telling someone yesterday, I think the time that I probably, where I saw Scangs kind of show us what he had was when we traded for [QB] Jimmy [Garoppolo]. He had other quarterbacks that he was preparing to play and building the game plan each week, but he also had this job of getting a quarterback who we had invested a lot in up to speed in a completely different offense, a lot of verbiage where they didn’t have that in New England. And so, just to watch his work ethic and the effectiveness with which he did that and got Jimmy to a point where we could stick him in and play him. I think he impressed the heck out of me there. I think his story, everything from basically volunteering in Atlanta, sleeping on couches and all those things to going off to Wagoner College because he wanted to call plays. All those things impressed me, and I think he’s deserving of the opportunity. I think he’ll do really well.”

You have nice facilities like this across the league now as opposed to when you were playing the game, it was a little bit bare. What do you think of the challenges, even though it’s nice to have these luxury places, what are the challenges of camp nowadays?

“It’s a little different than, [Denver Broncos executive vice president of public and community relations] Patrick [Smyth] can attest, at old One Buc Place where we had coaches in closets and things. I think these players have every resource available to them, and it’s what they want to do with it. They have great things, but nice facilities don’t win games. They may help you bring a free agent in or something like that and they’re sure nice, but that’s not what wins and loses games. It’s still what’s done on those lines, and those fields still look very similar to when I was here, so I think that will never change.”

Have you gotten a chance to connect with former Denver Broncos CB Champ Bailey at all since his induction?

“Yeah, we’ve talked a lot. Just extremely proud of Champ and the way he handled himself. That was a no brainer in my mind and he’s a first ballot. Played with a lot of great players, but there’s a few, the [former NFL DL] Warren Sapp’s, the Champ Bailey’s, the [former NFL LB] Derrick Brooks’, the [former NFL CB] Ronde Barber’s, that kind of were up there and just different. He was one of those. Had so much respect once I was around him,

because you knew how athletic he was, but the way he prepared himself each week, and he did so quietly, but I learned a lot from him. Hopefully, he learned something from me.”

Were you taken aback by your banner up there?

“Yeah, I had not seen that, so that was pretty cool. That was cool.”

How about the facilities around here?

“They’ve done such a great job. One thing that I saw with Mr. B [former Broncos owner Pat Bowlen] when I was here, which I always appreciated, was every year, there were a couple of projects going on and I think when you do that, the place never gets to, ‘We’ve got to completely redo it.’ This is an example, and I haven’t had a chance to go inside yet, but I’m looking forward to going and seeing the new stuff in there. They’ve done a tremendous job here and gives me a lot to go home and talk to [CEO] Jed [York] about.”

TRANSCRIPTIONS



**Defensive Coordinator Robert Saleh
Press Conference – August 16, 2019
San Francisco 49ers**

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It seemed as though the tone of practice was what you guys would want? Lively but not--?

“You know what, I’m pumped for our guys because they came out with the intent to continue with the message that we’ve been delivering with, that relentless pursuit, being violent, but obviously being clean. They came out here today and they didn’t skip a beat being on the road. Felt good, felt their energy out there, so it was good. It was a good day.”

It seemed like early in practice, even like after stretches that the linebackers started getting going vocally. How different is that this year?

“[LB] Fred’s [Warner] coming into his own. He wanted to, obviously, last year as a rookie, but having [LB] Kwon [Alexander] with him, because Kwon’s very vocal, it’s brining out Fred. Fred’s very confident and just a good football player, so they do what a linebacker group is supposed to do, so I won’t pump them up for doing what they’re supposed to do. It’s a good group, though.”

I think we ask every week about DB Tarvarius Moore and his progress. What are you seeing from him at this point specifically here to help him make that step?

“He’s made tremendous strides from just getting aligned, being more vocal, giving out alerts, talking to the linebackers, talking to the safeties, talking to the corners, even talking to the D-Line which he has to do at safety. He’s made tremendous strides. He hasn’t scratched the ceiling yet, so he’s got to continue working. Every single rep there’s something new for him and he’s definitely going in the right direction, so I’m pumped for him.”

How much of it for him was really he had the cornerback thing and I know he played safety before that, but relearning to ride the bike so to speak?

“I don’t know if he’s relearning to ride the bike, but he’s doing pretty good. I’ll argue that him playing corner is going to be good for him, because there are going to be times where he’s, we may not have the ability to use him in a matchup with receivers. He’s got that in his bag. So, he’s doing a nice job and he’s got to continue to compete and make that safety room tight.”

How difficult is that decision going to be when DB Jimmie Ward comes back?

“It’s definitely something to talk about. Tarvarius, you know, he had the door open, but we always talk about, if you get your foot in the door, it’s your job to blow that thing open. He’s doing a good job. He’s going to make it very difficult.”

What were your impressions of Denver Broncos offensive coordinator Rich Scangarello when he was on the staff here and now that he’s got an opportunity to call plays, what do you make of his chance here?

“Rich, everything happens so fast during practice, I’ve got to see it all, and I know they’ve got a lot of things scripted, but Rich is very smart, very detailed. He’s got a great grasp of the system that he’s running, he’s got tremendous confidence, knows exactly what he’s looking for and what he’s doing. There’s no doubt in my mind that Denver offense is going to gain yards and score points this year with him calling plays. [Denver Broncos offensive line coach] Mike Munchak, the O-Line coach is one of the best in the league, so they’ve got a great staff on the offensive side of the ball.”

Did head coach Kyle Shanahan talk about how it’s unique for him to come back here, being a Colorado native with his dad, and what he has done for this franchise? Was that discussed at all?

“No, you know what, he’s been, I’m sure it means something to him, but he hasn’t talked about it. He’s been here plenty of times since his dad lives here, but I’m sure it means something to him.”

On Wednesday’s practice, the story was about a quarterback throwing five interceptions and not your defense having five interceptions. What went on there? Were you pretty pleased with their performance?

“We’re obviously trying to set records the other way. [QB] Jimmy [Garoppolo], I’m sure he would want a couple throws back. It was a good day. For Jimmy, I know he got a lot of flak for it, but not all of them were his fault, believe it or not. But no, I’m pumped up. Anytime we get the ball, got the ball a couple times here, dropped a couple, so we’ve got to continue to preach on getting the ball, whether it’s our offense, another team’s offense, it doesn’t matter. We’ve just got to keep doing it.”

Did DL Solomon Thomas get a couple sacks on the two interceptions in the red zone that Garoppolo threw in that practice?

“He may have. My eyes were in the backfield, so he may have.”

When you say Jimmy got flak, was that from the media or from his teammates?

“I’m guessing from the media. Everyone in the building knows what actually happens during a play and I think jimmy went all camp with only throwing two interceptions, so I think it’s okay to excuse him for one bad day. He’s going to be special, so no one’s skipping a beat in our building.”

Have you crossed paths with Denver Broncos head coach Vic Fangio in your coaching career?

“Yeah, my first NFL job was with Vic as a quality control. I got in late, it was about a week before training camp, and I think his first meaningful words to me were about Week 8.

Now that I actually know him, I realize it was nothing personal. It's just his personality, which, he's a great man, so it was a great learning experience to be with him."

First head coaching job, he's 60 years old, shows how much he loves the game. Why do you think it maybe took so long for him to get that shot?

"You know what, I don't know. That's more of a question for management. I think he should've been a head coach a long time ago."

How beneficial is the timing for these joint practices towards the end of training camp, keeping the motivation going?

"Big time. Anytime you get into, I love these practices. I think every team should, too, personally. You just get a chance to see different bodies. It's just like Denver's offense. They've been playing a two-gap system and now they've got to play a penetrating system. So, for them, it's great. For us, it's great because we get to see things that our offense doesn't do. And the same thing for our offense going against them. They've been seeing our type of style and they play more of a two-gap system we get to practice against it. So, it's a great thing for us, it's a great thing for them and I think they're priceless, personally."

What did you see out of CB Quinten Rollins? It seemed like he made a play there?

"Yeah, he made a pass break up. Quinten had a great college career, was a second-round pick, so he's got good history, he's had some injuries to him, but he feels good, feels healthy. And so, it's the same thing, he's got his foot in the door and it's his job to, along with us, to help him, coach him to blow that door open."

Did Fred have a forced fumble there?

"Yeah, Fred started it with a forced fumble. He's starting to get a knack for that so it's pretty cool."

TRANSCRIPTIONS



**QB Jimmy Garoppolo
Press Conference – August 16, 2019
San Francisco 49ers**

[Listen to Audio](#) | [Media Center](#)

I know there are a lot of milestones that you hit when you come back from an injury, but getting to face another team, was it more meaningful to you today?

“Yeah, I love these crossover practices that we have. It’s a change up to training camp, kind of gets you out of the routine and gives you some different looks. The competition always cranks up. It’s fun out there.”

Do you have to be more cognizant at all? CB Richard Sherman was just talking about how they don’t have any vested interest in you when there’s bodies around you and things like that. Do you have to pay more attention?

“Yeah, I mean, it’s football at the end of the day, so you know what you’re doing out there. You know what the risks are, but yeah, just be conscious, you can’t overthink it though.”

There were a few headlines due to your five interceptions in practice. Obviously, it’s kind of a weird, fluky deal, but what did you take away and after a training camp practice, were you like legitimately ticked off or how do you deal with it?

“Yeah, that day, I mean you guys have seen me a couple days removed, but that day I was pretty ticked off. The defense got the best of me that day. We’ve had battles back and forth, and it’s been good for us, good for them and it’s only going to lead to a better football team.”

Head coach Kyle Shanahan indicted that maybe you were ticked off in the moment, I don’t know, that you were going to make up for it and make up for that pick. Did it snowball like that?

“No. I mean, it was just five bad decisions. The defense got me, like I said. There’s going to be days like that, but you can’t dwell on those things. We’re past that, onto Denver now.”

On the interception you threw today, one of the Broncos pass rushers was rolling right towards your leg. Did you see that? Were you thinking about it?

“I didn’t know that. Was he really? He was rolling?”

He was coming towards you.

“No, I just left it a little short, didn’t get enough air on it. He made a nice play on it.”

Do you need that kind of contact, though? Not obviously you want it, but just to get hit so you kind of get over any mental hurdles?

“I think that’ll just come with time. With the preseason and everything like that, as a quarterback, you’re not trying to get hit obviously, but yeah, that stuff will happen I think naturally.”

How would you describe your relationship with Denver Broncos defensive coordinator Rich Scangarello when he was here and the opportunity he has in Denver?

“Rich is awesome. I mean, since the day I got traded here, he was the first guy to start teaching me the offense. I remember the Bye week that we had together was literally just me and him at the stadium, we’re talking two years ago, but he’s a guy who works hard, does a great job, and he’s a great coach.”

How much different is the confidence level of the 49ers defense going against them in training camp do you think?

“They’ve got some players out there. It makes it hard on us offensively. It’s good for us, though, to go against that every day, because you’ll train yourself against that, get used to it, and everything seems a little easier after that.”

How much do you notice just the energy level that LB Kwon Alexander and LB Fred Warner are bringing?

“It’s awesome. All of those guys, though, even the D-Line, [CB Richard Sherman] Sherm’s always talking out there, and I love that stuff, because it leads to competition when we’re going back and forth. It’s going to make us all better.”

How do you focus and correct the pre-snap penalties that have been happening?

“I think it’s just honing in on the details. Those little things, it’s all mental. There’s really nothing physical that goes along with that. You just have to lock in mentally. I think guys are starting to do that, but we still have too many of them, so we’ve just got the cut those down as quickly as we can.”

I have one more five interception question for you. Do your teammates give you crap about that? Like either right then or now, now that some time has passed?

“Oh yeah, I would do the same thing if I threw five TDs on them. It goes back and forth, and I love that. If they weren’t giving me crap about that, I would be a little concerned.”

Did you get a chance to meet Peyton Manning and talk to him out here?

“No, I didn’t get a chance to today. Hopefully tomorrow.”

TRANSCRIPTIONS



**Head Coach Kyle Shanahan
Press Conference – August 14, 2019
San Francisco 49ers**

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What was going on with QB Jimmy Garoppolo there? He had five-consecutive passes intercepted. Was there anything that you could tell was happening?

“He threw it to the wrong team five plays in a row. I was a defensive coach today, so I was pumped. But no, the defense did great today and obviously he struggled. You hope to never have a day like that, but I don’t think it’s never not happened to anyone. When you do that, you hope you can practice long enough and give him a chance to play out of it and use it as an opportunity that hopefully you can do in a game. Hopefully you don’t have five in the game, but you can play yourself out of two in a row or something like that. I thought he did play better at the end of the two-minute drive and in the red zone. We hit a rough spot. I was happy for the defense, but the offense is going to have about a day and a half to think about it.”

When those things start to steamroll a little bit, or snowball, did you sense any body language, negative body language or anything like that?

“No, I think there’s frustration, and it’s more competitive and I think sometimes you’ve got to balance out. Whether that’s a good thing or a bad thing, you want so badly to make it up the next play, but the next play you’ve still got to make the right decisions and take what the defense gives you. Sometimes it’s hard to make the right decisions when you’re fired up and competitive and usually when you make a bad play it makes your mind go a little bit sideways. So, that’s why it is sometimes a good situation to put guys in. When that does happen, sometimes you try to protect them a little bit in the game, but in practice, it’s the exact opposite. When there’s an issue, you kind of poke at it a little bit more to see how guys react.”

If all goes well in practice against the Broncos, will he play more than one or two series?

“I haven’t decided yet. That depends on how the practices go this week. That’s something I’ll probably decide on Sunday.”

Why wasn’t T Joe Staley participating in team drills?

“He had some, he went in and did individual, had some soreness in his pec and with us leaving right after this in about an hour to get on the plane, we didn’t want to risk anything, so we pulled him out to be safe. We’ll check it out when we get there.”

Is TE George Kittle day-to-day?

“Yes. Yeah, he had some calf tightness he reported two days ago, so he’s day-to-day.”

There’s so much familiarity between the two teams that will be scrimmaging later this week. When you have those things, is there an element of kind of scouting, not you, but your staff, other players from other teams and areas where you’re weak where you might be long, the Broncos might be long?

“Yeah, always. I think you should always use these opportunities as an advantage to learn other teams and things like that as much as you can. Not just knowing each other, but also scouts, everyone. It helps you for trade possibilities, but it also helps you, I mean, each year, guys eventually become free agents and sometimes it’s nice to see how guys work and things like that as opposed to watching guys on game tape. It’s nice to see how guys practice and things like that. So, it’s always good to be around other people in this league, because it’s a pretty close fraternity and usually your paths cross more than once.”

Have you spent time with Denver Broncos head coach Vic Fangio yet over the phone kind of scripting things out?

“Yeah, we set it up all over the phone, just talking to each other, then we have the coordinators script it out. I’m sure I’ll see him tonight when we get there and we’ll talk throughout the week.”

Will there be music?

“I haven’t asked that yet. I’m really hoping so, but I have a feeling there won’t be.”

Will he have the final call, obviously?

“Yeah, it’s his spot. So yeah, he’s got it.”

Did you talk with the team at all about so much travel that’s coming in the next 30 days?

“We talk about it a lot just so they’re aware of it because if you don’t eventually they’re going to wake up one day and say, what the hell is going on. You’ve got to show them what’s ahead of us, what’s right now, today, what we’re doing tomorrow, once we go there, when we come back, how weird it’s going to get when we play three games in 10 days. There’s a lot of challenges with that, also with the injuries and the 90-man roster. That’s one of the biggest things in camp is it’s not just focusing on football, it’s about focusing on how to balance all the stuff out. They are aware of it. It is what it is so you’ve got to make the best of it and our guys are pretty mature with that.”

Have you gotten into the regular season aspect of it yet?

“We don’t get into the regular season yet. I mean, we know that we’re starting on the road. We know that we are going to the east coast on both of those games. We also know that it’s a lot more humid out there than it is here. It’s stuff we talk about, but it’s not stuff that you can worry about too much right now. We’ll deal with that when our preparation will help us.”

Do you have updates on DL Jullian Taylor, LB Dre Greenlaw and TE Levine Toilolo?

“Yeah, Jullian Taylor is just a stiff back so we kept him out today. Greenlaw had a stinger, I believe it was in practice yesterday so he was out. We had him in a blue jersey today just doing individuals so he didn’t have contact. Levine had some shoulder soreness. He’s day-to-day, but I’ll probably be surprised if he’s going to be able to practice this week in Denver.”

What about DB Jimmie Ward?

“Jimmie Ward is cleared and everything, but coming off a collarbone, we’re trying to ease him in to when he can hit. We know Jimmie is going to hit every single second he has a chance to so we’ve got to protect him from himself a little bit.”

Nothing on Friday and Saturday?

“No. I’d be very surprised if he did.”

Where is DL Dee Ford in his return?

“He’s close. Usually when you get what he got done I think it’s usually about two weeks, so we’re getting closer to that. We’ll see Kansas City week. I know he’s not going to go this week, but Kansas City at least we’ll have him practicing, I know that.”

And DL Nick Bosa’s been starting to do some light conditioning and rehab?

“I haven’t seen him here in the last couple days, but I think he’s out of his boot and on track, proceeding healthy.”

Going back to Saturday night, there were two guys that made their 49ers debut in DL Kentavious Street and P Mitch Wishnowsky. What did you think of those two guys?

“I thought they both did a solid job. By no means were they perfect, but I was real happy for Street. Just the battle he’s had in this last year since his injury coming out of college. It’s been a long road for him to get healthy and he’s been battling through camp. We’ve got a lot of depth there and he’s competing and I thought he did a good job in the game. Wish did some good stuff too, had some real good punts. I know he had a couple kickoffs that were off, but I think it was good for him to get out there and get his jitters out of the way. I was happy with him.”

TRANSCRIPTIONS



**Defensive Coordinator Robert Saleh
Press Conference – August 13, 2019
San Francisco 49ers**

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How did you feel about, just assignment-wise, how your guys performed on Saturday night?

“I thought for the most part it was a clean game. Obviously, there are things that everyone can improve on with the details with regard to technique and all that, but from an assignment standpoint I felt like it was very clean.”

How was LB Dre Greenlaw from that aspect?

“Dre did a nice job. Again, same thing, he can clean up some details. There are some nuances that he can clean up, taking his game to another level with understanding when a back flares this is what happens versus a back to the flat. Just simple nuances that happen in our scheme that tells you to do something post-snap is where he can get cleaner and he will as he gets reps.”

Is that stuff that he’s been already taught that he just needs to refresh or stuff that’s still being introduced?

“It’s stuff that, it’s just refreshing, it’s seeing it over and over because defensively you’re just on reaction. So, you can see it on paper all you want, but until you’ve actually gone through it and react where it becomes second nature. That’s the beauty of this whole training camp thing, you just get so many opportunities at it to perfect it.”

He seemed to bite on the play action in the first quarter. How has he been just in the practice as far as pass coverage and those types of things?

“He’s been really good in coverage. Again, it’s simple nuances, so Dallas presented different things that our offense doesn’t do that attack our system and that’s the beauty of these preseason games and why I’m excited to go up to Denver. They’re going to give us certain things that our offense doesn’t and our offensive is going to see certain things that we don’t give them. For him, being able to recognize those different nuances and how we get attacked and understanding how to play within yourself and to your issues, it will only help him. So, getting those scars, that’s a good thing.

Dallas is a good rushing team, they didn’t rush for very many yards in the game. Can you figure anything out from that? Were you happy with the run defense and how that looked?

“For the most part. There are some things that we can obviously improve on too, from a run game standpoint. For the first go of it, I thought the guys did a good job. We were gap disciplined. People staying disciplined within their gap strain and to get off blocks, making each other right. If one person did get gapped out, another person was overlapping because they were playing so, there was a relentless feel to the defense and how we were playing and when you’ve got that a lot of guys can make people right on the fly. But, it was clean. The run game was clean for the most part. They didn’t present us with a lot of different things. They ran three runs that we’ve been wanting to work against and I think those three carries, one yard, on a particular yard that I think we are going to see a lot this year and we knocked it out. Those were the three runs I wanted to see, everything else was no different than what we’ve been getting from our offense.”

You guys sat, obviously, all your starters with the exception of maybe a couple guys. But, in terms of the injured guys, particularly the defensive ends, what are they missing at this point in training camp? Obviously, you want everybody healthy, but are you concerned about their lack of work getting ramped up to the preseason?

“As a coach I’m always paranoid, but a lot of those guys are proven that they can come out. I mean, [Los Angeles Rams DT] Aaron Donald comes out and doesn’t skip a beat. [Los Angeles Chargers DE] Joey Bosa’s missed time, doesn’t skip a beat. To me, you’re missing that, you’ve got a new D-Line coach, you’ve got new nuances to different techniques that he’s teaching especially from a game standpoint when you’re working with a three technique and you’re trying to create that continuity. That stuff, to me, is important. Do I think it will hinder us from still being able to get after the passer? No, I don’t think it will be too bad. I feel like there’s going to be an adjustment in terms of, we’re going to have a high ceiling once those guys get back of trying to master those techniques and master the relationship they have with one another so they can operate at a very high level.”

Last year at this time we were talking about how raw DL Jullian Taylor was because he hadn’t played too much. Now a year later having a chance to develop, how would you kind of characterize his progress from Point A to Point B.

“He’s put on about 20 to 30 pounds from last year. Last year he played around 270, now he’s around 305 which we challenged him in the offseason to do that because we wanted to move him exclusively inside. And he’s taken that challenge. He’s been doing a very nice job. He’s heavy handed, he’s violent when he plays. He’s got that old school flatback great balance and footwork. What happened to him a year ago was more, he just got tired towards the end of training camp. He’s been doing a good job taking care of his body, making sure that he stays fresh. But, when he’s fresh and he’s on it, he is a very violent player and he moves people. He’s been good so far and he’s got to continue to just get better”

How do you view that DB Adrian Colbert play? You just used the word violent and that was a very violent hit. Is there a part of you that likes that aggression, but channeling it in that way where he ends up getting disqualified and a penalty? How do you look back on that play?

“We’re fortunate, because we had two plays exactly like that for [DB Antone] Exum [Jr.], delivered a shoulder shot right to the chest, which is what we teach. You’ve got to do everything as a defender to make sure that you’re not leading with your head and be deliberate to show the refs that you are not trying to lead with your head. I don’t think Adrian was trying to lead with his head. I know his intent, I know the man. Being able to show why he got flagged versus why Exum did not get flagged, when really, it was the same type of play, it was great for us so we could teach them, to show them exactly where it went wrong. From an ejection standpoint, the league office decided that. I know the intent of the man. You could see it. It’s such a bang-bang play. They’re going to call it 100-percent of the time, I just don’t know about the ejection. I’m still trying to learn that one.”

As far as Adrian goes, last year he was a starter. Any sense now that maybe he didn’t approach that the right way with some distractions and stuff? Do you see that he’s more focused this year, and it looks like there’s quite a numbers game going on at that safety position, where does he stand?

“There’s a great competition going on in that safety room. There are legitimate safeties all over the place in that group. I’m very excited about them. I’ll go back to the second-year issue of most second-year players, not all of them understand what made them great their first year. They think they do, but they forget. They always go into that second year thinking they’ve got it. The three most dangerous words in the NFL are, “I’ve got it.” For him, getting back in touch to what made him great as a rookie, I was really excited for him to play in that game. If you remember the play before he got knocked out, if you guys got a chance to go watch it, they have what to me should be a 50-yard run, and when the back spilled out the back door, broke a couple tackles, and Adrian Colbert comes flying out of the middle of the field and tackles for nine. Those are the plays that made him special his rookie year, and when you watch that clip, it was awesome. For him, I mean, it leads to a second and one, which we get the sack, goes to third and five which goes to him getting knocked out of the game. If he can reconnect to what he was as a rookie in terms of just playing disciplined in the middle of the field and understanding that he’s got a special talent with regards to tracking, his speed, finding the ball from the middle of the field, going red line to red line, and tracking the ball coming out. He’ll have a chance. Again, for that safety room to answer your question, there’s great competition all over the place”

I think in June, he got up to 210 pounds. Has that affected his speed? Do you want to see a free safety at 210 or would you rather have more of a smaller?

“We always, I’m on the same philosophy as coach [head coach Kyle] Shanahan in terms of be as big and as strong as you can without sacrificing your speed. If you watch the play before, the first down before he gets ejected, he has not lost a step. He actually looked faster. I think he clocked in as the second fastest time during the game on whatever the GPS thing is. His speed is not an issue.”

Who was the fastest?

“I don’t know. I think it was [WR] Deebo [Samuel], A.C. and I don’t know. You’d have to ask coach. I think he has it.”

LB Azeez Al-Shaair showed up a couple times, particularly on that screen. What is your assessment of him during the summer?

“Azeez, you know, he’s been doing good. He missed all of OTAs, undrafted rookie. He’s progressing the right way. These next two weeks are going to be big for him in terms of proving that the league’s not too big for him. Still trying to make sure that we get a good evaluation on him before we speak up. You figure he’s still fresh in terms of just getting here. So, this Denver week, Kansas City and then, of course, our fourth preseason game will go a long way. So, a lot of stuff for him before I could put a stamp on him.”

He had that serious knee injury last year. Have you been careful with him because of that or are you treating him like OK, now--?

“Are we still talking about Azeez? Yeah, we’re following the direction of the performance staff. Day-to-day, they’ve got a plan for him and we’re just adhering to it.”

What do you hope to accomplish when you guys go to Denver and looking a little bit beyond that, it seems like the schedule gets a little bit strained? How are you guys going to manage that?

“From a defensive standpoint with Denver, the message is no different. You can feel a defense. When you watch tape, when you watch a live copy, when you’re watching football, you can feel a defense on TV just turn off the sound and just watch it. So, the intent is to go up there, compete our tails off and make sure that Denver feels every last bit of you. It’s not from a cheap shot or anything, but just your speed, your technique, your effort, all of it that was kind of represented in that Dallas game. Take that up to Denver along with the execution part and that’s all we’re looking for. The results, we never talk about results, but with Denver, it’s to go up there, compete, and do exactly what they’ve been doing all camp. It’s just going up against a different team.”

Do you plan on having more starters play on Monday night?

“That’s up to Kyle. We haven’t talked about that one yet.”