

WASHINGTON

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INOVA SPORTS PERFORMANCE CENTER - LOUDOUN COUNTY, VA

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Offensive Coordinator Scott Turner

On how WR Terry McLaurin has grown:

“It's hard to say, I mean he's improved a lot. He already was really good at a lot of things, and he's improved a lot as a route runner. There's a lot of intricacies that maybe you don't necessarily see. He's getting a lot more consistent with his contested catches. I think we talked about that last week. I mean, those have been outstanding and it's hard to say whether he's improved on it or he's just had more opportunities to show it, you know, because I think he was pretty good at that in the past. I think his just overall physical strength has improved and I think that shows up with a lot of the things I was talking about. But I mean, he's such a grinder, so he just keeps growing in every area and he does a great job of kind of showing leadership now that he's getting to be more of a veteran player.”

On if he thinks WR Terry McLaurin is underrated:

“When we play teams, they don't underwrite him. There they're trying to stop him, and he gets special attention from defenses. So I don't really pay attention to whatever the rankings or something like that, but I know that he produces, and the other defenses that we play got a lot of respect for him.”

On TE Logan Thomas being out with injury:

“It's really just like he did on Sunday. [TE] Ricky [Seals-Jones]'s got to step in and play. And Ricky is a good target and he's a tough guy. He can run and it isn't too big for him at all, you know, he's played before, and he did an outstanding job on Sunday of stepping in and making plays. He had a really nice run after catch and did a nice job in the blocking. I expect the same from him, you know, he's got to step in and that's part of being a backup player in this league. When a guy gets hurt, you got to step up and that's your job to come in and produce. And it's also exciting for him because it's an opportunity to go and say, hey, maybe I should be playing a little bit more. So that's the opportunity that Ricky has, and I'm really excited for him because he's really been working hard through camp and I think he's a good player and he's ready for it.”

On TE Ricky Seals-Jones expectations:

“So we signed him, he was on the street and brought him in as a free agent and he just kind of started making some plays where you start noticing him and he truly worked his way into the role that he was in. We didn't sign him thinking, hey, this is a big free agent signing. He's going to be back up tight end and I don't think anyone looked at it that way. But he worked his way into that spot. We got into opportunities, and I've said this before about other guys, you do a nice job of the opportunity you have. The goal is more opportunities and that's what happened with Ricky. And now he's got a really big opportunity coming up Sunday.”

On switching tendencies in play calling for RB's Antonio Gibson and J.D. McKissic:

“I think they both have been doing great, they can both fill in for each other. Antonio's the one that sometimes if he's in back-to-back-to-back plays or he needs a blow, that's where J.D. most of the time does that. [RB Jaret Patterson] has gone in there sometimes and done that. But those guys they do a great job, they're kind of like brothers. They give each other a hard time and they're really close. And J.D. has done a great job of really mentoring Antonio as a professional. But I think their roles have been perfect so far. Not perfect, but they play

well off each other. They're both been very productive, and I think that that will continue as the season goes on."

On having two RB's with similar skillsets:

"There's not really limitations with those guys. And sometimes at that position there's some plays that you're not necessarily comfortable calling. But with those guys, there's some players that I'd rather have one than the other, but nothing that you're like, oh man, I can't call this with those guys. So that makes it really easy. It's funny that we talked about them being similar in, Antonio's like basically 235 pounds, and it's a little bit different, but they do have some similar skillsets."

On QB Taylor Heinicke extending plays:

"That's how it always is. When you got a guy like Taylor, you can call the game a little bit more free, I guess you would say. And if they cover it and it's not just because he can run it's because he makes good decisions, and you can maybe be a little more aggressive or not have to worry about if it has got to be the perfect call because you trust the guy that he's going to make it right. You know what I mean? I think Taylor's done a nice job, and we sat in here and it was a little bit different mood last week and we talked about him making a couple of mistakes. It's that, it's just walking that line. Then you walk in that line of being fearless and being reckless, and we'd rather have a guy like him that's going to push it then someone that's going to be afraid to pull the trigger."

On knowing Former Washington Director of Sports Medicine Bubba Tyer:

"So I worked for Bubba. I was carrying around ice, filling up coolers and pushing things around back and forth to the training room and stock and tape and stuff like that. So I've known Bubba since I was 11 and I've seen him around. I saw him at the driving range at Lansdowne in the spring a couple of times. And I told him he was like, Michael Jordan coming out of retirement when I saw him today, so no, it was good. It's good to have him around while the other stuff gets cleaned up."

On if the injured players are getting what they need:

"You just check in on those guys and, and I don't worry about that. I know that they got it handled down there and of course this happens with all the injuries right now, but it's part of playing in the league and you just got to get the other guys ready. And with the guys that are hurt, get them rehabbed. Then if they're available, we'll get them ready to go."

On WR DeAndre Carter:

"Deandre is a very serious professional. He is prepared. He went in and made that play. I told him in the locker room, the kick return was great, but I was more excited about the big catch he had in that last two-minute drive. I don't know if he's ever run that route before to be honest. He definitely didn't do it this week in practice. We lost [WR] Dyami [Brown] and [WR] Cam [Sims] like back-to-back and Curtis [Samuel], we had him on a pitch count and he exceeded that pitch count by quite a bit. We had the long drive right before that. Curtis was a little bit tired, so we had to start it off with DeAndre. He made a huge play that helped us win the game, and that's the kind of thing that I'm kind of talking about with all the backup players. It's a good example of it because he was ready to go. He knew what to do and he made the play when the ball came his way. He's got some good reps in practice. He's mostly a guy that plays inside, but he can play outside as well. He's quick and he's strong and we trust him to go make the plays."

On if he anticipated this level of play from Carter:

“I didn't know anything about him to be honest with you. I know that we signed him as a returner. I watched, I knew we'd played some offense. I've been impressed with him since the day he got here and the way he works. I thought to myself, wow, this is a guy that we could use on offense. We've done it a little bit and then obviously played a lot, the most he's played. He'll get ready to play more this next game.”

On the last few minutes of the Falcons game:

“I knew we still had Terry, you know what I mean? I asked our receiver coach Drew [Terrell] before we scored the touchdown and we're getting the ball back and I said to Drew, ‘who's playing receiver and what positions?’ He told me and I said, ‘okay, here we go.’ I said they're good with everything? He said. Yeah, of course. And I said, all right. And then I just called our two-minute things, and they prepared. You gotta trust the guys that they're prepared to go do their jobs too because otherwise you don't have a chance anyway. So I did, and those guys stepped up and made the plays.”

On the second touchdown to McLaurin:

“It is a risky throw. If you watch, like I know a lot of you guys watch the all 22. If you watch it all 22 on that, we had a route set up to Terry and he won. The guy fell down, you know what I mean? He beat him bad. I mean, it was a really nice route. And I didn't see that because I saw that we had a protection issue. So I saw that and I saw Taylor [Heinicke] scramble and his timing was off. I saw him throw the ball and it wasn't a great reaction by me at the time. But then when I saw I understand why he threw it. Now, what happened was he got hit as he was throwing it too. So now it leads to the ball even hanging out longer. If he would've got off clean, I think it wouldn't have even looked as bad as what it did because the guy was getting up trying to try and scramble back to make a play. Obviously, they didn't throw a flag for PI, but I think that's just because Terry caught it. He looked like he made a grab for his flag. Anyways, Taylor makes a great play. It's at the heat of the moment. You know what I mean? It's hard to fault him for that, but that's kind of what I'm talking. You're walking the line right there for that.”

On QB Taylor Heinicke's progress:

“It's just confirming the stuff I already knew. I think I've said this before to you guys, but he plays like he played when he played in preseason. He's better now. He's more experienced. He's been around the game longer. Now when he was doing it before, it was against twos and threes later in games, and he wasn't ever doing it as a starter in real rigorous. He's a gamer and you don't ever know until you see it. He can play and like I said, he's fearless. The guys believe in him and he's a good decision maker. And like I said, nothing has changed. It's just kind of to me confirming what I already thought.”

On his reaction when Taylor made the second touchdown throw to McLaurin:

“Yeah, I was like, what's he doing? (laughs) Because it was so late and he's moving around. It was and then he caught it and I said, all right, here we go.”

On the tight ends:

“Yeah. So, it's going to be Ricky [Seals-Jones]. Ricky will fill in like the Logan [Thomas] role and then [John] Bates will kind of fill in like what Ricky's role was when he was playing in however many snaps where he played a game before Logan got hurt. And then Sammis [Reyes] has got to get himself ready and we could have some packages for him. Those guys, they're big special teams contributors too. Ricky is so that role has gotta be filled by the similar body type. Sammis will get ready to do that kind of stuff. We brought in Jase [Sternberger], but he just got here so we'll get him ready to go and see where we can use him in the future because it's going to

be a couple of weeks at least, or whatever. I know you saw Logan got put on IR, so at least three weeks. We gotta get those guys up, get guys go on and ready to play.”

