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Offensive Coordinator Scott Turner

On how QB Taylor Heinicke has had to adjust to defenses learning more about him:

"I think every team's defensive game plan is gonna be different. I think some of this stuff maybe he took guys by surprise with his athleticism maybe last year where he would scramble take off and run. I mean, Green Bay had a couple plays where they had some spies for him. Like in third down situation, they weren't gonna let him take off and run. He ran for 90 yards on him a year ago, so there's some of that. Teams are gonna play their scheme, you know what I mean? Teams play their defensive scheme. That's a slight adjustment that you'll see and we kind of see that from quarterbacks that run well, people don't play a lot of two man. They didn't play a lot of two man against the Chiefs. We said, 'Hey, probably they're gonna play us a little bit more like that. Just some minor adjustments like that.'"

On if Heinicke is thinking less, reacting more:

"No, I think his decision making is just getting better and better. He's anticipating. I think he had a lot of situations in the game where he anticipated the ball came out of his hand early and he threw the ball at his spot and trusted that his guys were gonna be there. Obviously, the touchdown passes is an example of that to Terry [McLaurin]. The last third down is like an extreme example of that but with experience, he comes that and he's not only experienced playing in the NFL but playing with these guys that he's playing with for the most part. So, that part of it I think is just the trust and that he knows the plays. He's run a lot of these plays. He's run multiple times and he just turns it loose."

On how valuable Heinicke's athleticism is:

"I think it's huge. I mean anytime whether you're gonna move a little bit or get the ball outta your hand, I mean that's what a lot of playing quarterback is about. I think we saw a lot of that where he was getting the ball out and taking a hit right after the ball was getting outta his hand or just to allude pressure a little bit. That's huge into what he does."

On if he remembers scouting Colts QB Sam Ehlinger:

"Just a little bit. I watched this tape. Athletic guy, physical, tough. The thing you saw was this toughness. I remember him coming out. They were the number one offense in in that conference, the Big 12, which is saying a lot cause they score a lot of points in that conference. You haven't really seen much of him obviously since then. I haven't thought much about it other than when I saw the announcement. We're obviously working on the other side of the ball."

On the number one consequence of a good running game that he appreciates as a coordinator:

"All the things you said. I mean, the time of possession is a team stat. Obviously our defense holding them to whatever that was, 0 for whatever on third down. We got the ball back and then I told the guys I'll call 38 runs every game. I got no issue with that but we gotta convert third downs in order to do that. I mean, you can't call a run if you're not on the field. So, us able to convert third downs, I thought that was one of the biggest parts of the game. I know seven for 16, but we started 0 for four and then the pick six was the fourth

one. From that point on, I thought we did a great job on third down that allows you to run the ball. That was the number one third down defense in the NFL and they weren't letting anybody, once you got past third and seven, there just wasn't a conversion and we got four of those. To me that was the difference in the game.”

On if he noticed a difference in the offensive line with Heinicke under center:

“Yeah, I think our guys did a great job. I mean, they got some really good rushers up front and then someone just asked about it just getting the ball out and anticipating, I mean, that's part of it as well. Again, when we talked about past protection when it was going bad the last couple weeks or whatever that was, a couple weeks ago and I said it then and it's still true now. It's a team deal. The receivers gotta get open. Guys gotta get where there need to be. The ball's gotta come out and then ultimately, we gotta block them too. It all gets tied together.”

On his feedback to Heinicke after the third down play to WR Terry McLaurin:

“Yeah, absolutely. I mean, that's what this game is about. I mean, that's why we practice. Terry got pushed a little bit wide on the route. It's not necessarily what it's supposed to look like, but he got to the spot where he is supposed to be. They wanted to follow, what's his name? 23, [Jaire] Alexander followed Terry. So we felt good about that matchup. So, we got it at the end of the game and we went to it and Taylor had some pressure in his face, but he threw the ball on time to the spot and Terry made the play. But that's why we spent all this time and they spent all the time, the players working together Taylor obviously hasn't had a lot of those reps this year with Terry but he has in the past and he knows the play and he put it out there where, where it's supposed to be and he did it on time which is a major point as well. And again, Terry made the play.”

On if he saw a different side of McLaurin after his third down catch:

“Yeah, he was. The guys were telling me about it. They said he was more fired up after the touchdown which is good. Terry's a prideful guy and he's a really good guy. You don't see a lot of it but there's been a little bit of frustration and he knows like what he's capable of and maybe the numbers haven't reflected that. He got an opportunity to show it a couple times in that game and he came up big. So, I was happy for him.”

On what he thought of Heinicke throwing the ball with his eyes closed:

“I think they caught him mid blink. I mean, he threw it to the right spot, so whatever, I mean, it worked out. Like I said, he got to his drop, he hitched and threw. Kenny Clark was about an inch on his face. So, I think that's just a natural human reaction. I didn't see it until like a day or two ago. Someone showed it to me but yeah, I guess I don't know. I'll have to think of it.”

On workload of RB Antonio Gibson:

“I mean I think there, I think it all gets affected. I mean he's faster because maybe he's not getting hit as much. You know, that might have something to do with it kind of flow of the game has something to do with it. I said this before and again, we'll see if it proves true. I think it will, there's going to be some games where those numbers may be flipped, you know what I mean? Where Antonio gets rolling early and we stick with him more and [RB Brian Robinson Jr.] doesn't get quite as much. Or it's more even, you know, how it is. Brob obviously had the lower yards per carry, but that's because he was in there for some of those grinded out type of moments and runs and Antonio hit a couple splash plays that are going to, boost your stats. I thought he was going to hit a 75-yard touchdown. He got tripped up barely, you know. I'm happy with how it is. There's going to be some back and forth with it. The type of guys they are, they both want to play all the time, you want 'em to be like that. But I think it's a good combination between the two of them and there's going to be some give and take between that group.”

On if he thinks the difference of QB Taylor Henicke being able to get WR Terry McLaurin the ball is built trust:

“No, I don't think so. And it's not a negative towards [QB] Carson [Wentz], it's just situations sometimes. I mean whether it was a pass pro issue where Terry might have been open on a play and we didn't get it to him. Maybe some things with the quarterback, but they're playing a lot of man and we got some one-on-ones. It's easy to say, hey, pick out your guy and go to him in this last game. And a lot of it is more situational I think than anything else.”

On the running game opening up the playbook:

“I think there's always some of that, you know, you're running successfully and then you pick and choose when you're going to take your shots. I already talked about it like they have a very good pass rush, and we were able to keep them at bay a little bit because they had to play both that part of that had to do with it, the run and the pass. There's a lot of times where you want to be aggressive, but the offensive line is doing a great job of wearing those guys down and the backs are running it. But I think that all of it plays off of each other and it's stuff that we're going to always look at and do going forward.”