

November 18, 2022

Head Coach Ron Rivera

On if TE Armani Rogers injury came from the game against Philadelphia:

“Yes.”

On LB Jamin Davis wearing the green dot against Philadelphia:

“Yeah. We've expanded Jamin's role where he wasn't coming off the field initially when we first started. We gave it to [S] Kam [Curl], but because the fact that Jamin wasn't coming off the field, we stuck with it and just stayed that way.”

On how big of a step that is in the development in LB Jamin Davis:

“Huge. It really is. Not only just handling the huddle, but getting the calls out and setting everything up. He's really grown in probably the last six, seven weeks. You've really seen the growth.”

On what he saw from him that would earn him the green dot:

“After the Minnesota game, just thinking about, hey, you know what, his role's expanded. It's time and so we did.”

On the communication of LB Jamin Davis:

“It looked like it was pretty good. It really did. He made a couple errors, but not communication errors. But he's played well. he really has.”

On giving LB Jamin Davis the green dot based on what he hears in the meeting rooms:

“I think the biggest thing more anything else is just listening to him, not just in the meeting rooms, but what he does out on the field. And it's interesting the one thing I told you guys about this is that [Defensive Coordinator] Jack [Del Rio]'s confidence in this just really been growing and that's big.”

On what's been the difference for LB Jamin Davis between Week 1 and now:

“We talked about it. I got on him a little bit, but Jack jumped his ass. I mean, he really got after him, he got after him in the press too. And all of a sudden, the realization that crap, that's what we should have been doing because he grew up with two military parents. So he's used to being pushed or at least that's what I felt. And so I said that, Jack, we missed early. This is a kid that needs to be pushed, that needs to be challenged, needs to be gotten after because he's used to it. That's kind of how we feel like, okay, we've gotten a lot out of him and just get after him and he stays with him. So you learned a little bit about how to deal with the personality.”

On how hard it is to figure out a player's learning style and personality:

“It's one of those things that you got to kind of see how you get after a player, how you deal with a player, how you talk to a player, how does he respond? And like you said, it takes a while because of different situation, different circumstances, and after a while you see how a guy responds with you and say, okay, this

is how I could deal with him. This is how I could treat him.”

On Former Cowboys Head Coach Jimmy Johnson dealing with different players personalities:

“Coach Johnson, I was on [Former Chicago Bears Head Coach] Dave Wannstedt’s staff and they’re really close and so coach was there and somebody asked him a question, how do you deal with stars and everything like that. So he tells a story that their first run at the Super Bowl, they had a player that fell asleep in the meeting and they cut that guy and they traded for him as former second round, they cut him. So I get into a meeting, press conference and one of the press said, well, what if that had been Troy [Aikman]? He said, I would turn around to Troy to see if he needs some more coffee . So we asked somebody else asked him a question and, and coach said, look, you treat everybody fair, but you don’t treat everybody the same. Everybody has a value to your team. So I’ve always remembered that and it’s kind of a true statement.”

On the status of DE Chase Young:

“We’re going to sit down tomorrow and talk about it. If we activate him tomorrow, then decision will come game day.”

On his decision-making process for starting DE Chase Young’s practice window:

“Well, decision making process is once we start practicing him, we’re going to get to a point where we will activate. We’ve got till next Tuesday, I believe it is. So if we don’t activate him tomorrow, most certainly going to activate him by Tuesday or by the deadline. Just now, we’ve gotten his reps going, he’s part of the practice so he provides the extra body as well. So we’ll be fine either way it’s just a matter of when do we play him.”

On if he thinks it would have been beneficial to wait to start him practicing again:

“No, this was always going to happen because if you think about it, if we push it back another week, we’re going to be in the same boat. Because when you talk to the trainers and listen to the strength conditioning guys, there’s nothing else they can do for him. Now it’s about the football part of it. You’re going to get pushed differently. You’re going to have to read different keys to get yourself ready to play. And that’s where we are with him right now. It’s how confident, how comfortable, how well does he do the football aspect of it now. He can go straight ahead and everybody else sits there getting fired up because he’s going to run somewhere around 19-20 [Mph] on the GPSs you’re going to feel well. But now it’s moving when you’ve got 300 pounds pushing one direction or 600 pounds, you’re trying to hold the point. That’s the different thing. That’s the thing you can’t mimic during your rehab program. So this is the important time for us. So starting it when we did gives us the opportunity for him to do these things now. And if it turns out he needs five weeks before he goes or four weeks before it goes whatever, 28 days. Well thank goodness we started it when we did you know what I’m saying? So that’s what we’re trying to do right now.”

On if he always thought it would have taken this long to gradually acclimate that way:

“We figured somewhere along the line there was going to be an acclimation two weeks, three weeks, even maybe a little bit longer, but whatever it was going to be starting it when we did, we felt we had to do just to make sure.”

On other things he’s going to try to do with DE Chase Young in practice:

“Well, the reps have been increasing. The only problem is if you increase the reps too much and he doesn’t play, you just took ‘em away from the guys that have to play. So, you know, in some cases we’ve had him do some scout stuff, but then you don’t necessarily want him doing scout stuff because you didn’t want developing bad habits. So, we have to pick and choose exactly when we’re going to get him in there.”

On what DE Chase Young has developed from a technique perspective:

“Yes, that's what we're trying to look at too and see where is he with the technique. And so you see these things gradually coming. I mean, again, he missed a lot of reps, so when he does play it'll be a pitch count and those will be the things that we'll be watching is exactly where is he with his technique.”

On DE Chase Young getting back to the power rushing style:

“That's one of the things it's one of the comments he made to me is hey, I got to continue to do this. I got to continue to get used to doing this. I got to get back to what I did my first year. So he's aware of it as well.”

On if DE Chase Young can easily compensate for lost time in his development:

“I wouldn't say it makes it difficult. I think what it is, it makes it a challenge and it's one of these things that if you take it as the challenge and you develop as it goes along, it becomes part of what you do now. And hopefully it's something that could help him.”

On an injury sharpening your focus because you can't be everything you were before:

“You can, you could work to being towards it and I think that's what it's been for him, is that he wants to work towards being what he was when he first got started. So, you see that, you see the desire.”

On balancing Young playing with two turf fields coming up:

“Yeah, that's the big thing is he's just got to get comfortable with it. He has to now. I mean, whether it's turf or his grass, you have to get yourself in that position where you're confident and you're comfortable and you just go out and cut it loose.”

On if he is surprised by the defensive line play so far with the absence of Young:

“Well, I think the guys have played well that have had the opportunities. I mean, you look at James Smith-Williams, you see the positive things that he's done. You see Casey [Toohill]. You seen Efe [Obada]. Those guys have given us a boost in some situations in other situations, they've been good. Could they have been better? You'd love to and that's why you'd love to have Chase [Young] back to form, so now you got those four guys going. I mean, one of the things that we've done this year a couple of times too and Jack [Del Rio] has done it consciously in that is we've tried to rush to pass it with just four to keep the coverage sound back there, so there's some give and take with it when you don't have that fourth guy. Now you have to decide, do we want to run pressures? Are we to help a little bit more? So that's part of strategy as well and if Chase comes back and can be the guy that he has, that'll be a huge boost for what Jack wants to do.

On if he has to have conversations with Young about being patient:

“I initially had to do it several times just so, hey, you know, this is about making sure you're right, you're ready to roll. Now it's like he gets it and you see him working and focusing and concentrating on things that he needs to improve on.”

On when he first had that conversation with Young:

“Oh gosh, the summer.”

On if the past year has changed Young's perspective in anyway:

“Oh, I think it has. I think it's creating a, an inner burning desire to get back and get out there and show what he is capable of and what he can't do, and I think it's a big deal for him.”

On how he will monitor rush lane discipline when Chase comes back:

"Well, we'll see. It's a valid question because when you have guys that are right now orchestrated in terms of how they're feeling and feeding off of each other, it's impressive. When you watch and you study it and you see it you see how these guys are coordinated, you know, Montez [Sweat] starts up on an outside rush and you got a defensive tackle. You see Daron [Payne] get engaged as the three technique gets engaged with the guard and you see his head look outside to see where Montez is. All of a sudden, Montez starts wrapping around him and then you see Daron continue to get vertical. Then you look to the other side when Montez is over there and he's got Jonathan [Allen] and he knows Jonathan's as he's going, you see him start to hesitate. Like he wants to go inside what he sees Jonathan just driving through, so he stays outside and that's kind of guy's understanding. Whereas if Jonathan's working inside and also Montez goes inside, there's that escape line that the quarterback's looking for. Those are some of the things that when you talk about the rush line discipline, that's important and that's something that Chase will have to develop and get a feel for again and that's understanding who am I rushing with."

On QB Carson Wentz starting to throw again:

"Right. You increase the amount of volume, and it works on the hand grip and all that stuff. That's the way being explained to me, so we'll see where he is come Monday."

On S Bobby McCain being the slot guy moving forward:

"Yes. Going forward, absolutely. What that's done is the one thing that putting Bobby there gives you is you give you the guy that can fit the run better than a corner. He's a little more physical. Bobby's also a very good blitzing, so if you go back and get an opportunity to watch it, watch how he plays what we call the apex. If you're the the slot receiver and you're the tackle, I play the midpoint for my run reach and if I see it's run, I'll fit inside the gap and Bobby fits it downhill and he reads it pretty quickly, he reads it. I don't wanna say as well as a linebacker, but like a linebacker and at the same time, once he recognize it, he can get to his man and play his technique, whether it's match or man or zone."

On if this is because they want S Darrick Forrest on the field more now:

"Yes. We want who we think are the three best run fitters for us on the field and it's something that Jack [Del Rio] and Chris [Harris] and Richard [Rodgers] talked about and Coach [Brett] Visselmeier is big on this as well, cause Coach Visselmeier coaches for the most part, the nickels and the buffalos and he's always said that Bobby could be one of our really good nickles."

On how McCain is taking the change:

"Oh, he loves it. Oh yeah, he does it. It's funny but the safety's like to get up into the box and fit the run. A lot of them do."

On if he engages in college trash talk:

"We engage in that all the time. We won't let it go but it's fun. It really is. I mean, because there's nothing like college rivalry. I mean in the NFL there's rivalries, like us and Dallas, you have that type of rivalry. But there's nothing like college one though. I mean, college rivalries are special. They really are and there's so many great ones. They have such history. Cal- Stanford have been playing against each other for over a hundred years and that's a really cool."

On if he trash talks with DE Casey Toohill:

"Oh yeah. Casey keeps trying to get me to bet. I keep telling Casey, I've always told you Casey, the only person I bet on is me. I don't bet on anybody else. I really don't. I really don't and so he come on bet on this. No, I told you Casey, if I can't control it, I ain't betting it but that's kind of my stance on it. But it's really kind

of neat and it's fun to listen to the players trash talk each other. It's hilarious cuz so many of 'em, especially the guys from the SEC they take everything so personal, that's even more fun right now. Our guys from Alabama have been struggling because they've struggling.”