

Philadelphia Eagles Media Conference

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Nick Sirianni

Weekday Press Conference



NICK SIRIANNI: Good week of practice, really good week.

You'll see the injury report. Giving them some rest. At this stage in the season, been a long -- been a long road, so giving them some rest yesterday to make sure that he's in the best shape he can be to play on Sunday.

Q. How about the fact that Jalen has not really been able to practice, obviously the last few weeks, and now AJ is on the field with him, to sort of reestablish the rhythm in front of this playoff game?

NICK SIRIANNI: Yeah, they worked a lot -- they have got a lot of reps together. You know, prior to, you know, this last couple weeks, a lot, a lot of reps together. So that's not a concern of mine. And I just feel like we're in a good spot going into this game.

Q. As Jalen went through the protocol, how much was he able to do as far as film study?

NICK SIRIANNI: Yeah, not going to get too much into all what he did and what -- there's different rules for when you're in it.

So again, just feel like he's had a good week of practice and good week of preparation and ready to roll.

Q. This year with Dallas, AJ and DeVonta all together, do you feel like there's another gear where the passing game can come together in the Pope?

NICK SIRIANNI: Yeah, obviously they are all three really, really good players. Any time you can have them all on the field at the same time, it's a good thing. And so I think that's a good question, and definitely those guys are -- yeah, they are really good players. We are excited about the opportunity to -- that they will have together.

Q. The given the nature of Jalen's injury, obviously he's going to run. How do you manage that?

NICK SIRIANNI: We are always careful with him. He's our quarterback so we always want to be careful with him. I think that's been a question I've probably got here since 2021, right.

So we always think about his health first and foremost because you never want him not to be on the field. You always want Jalen Hurts on the field. You always feel better what Jalen Hurts is on the field.

And so it's always part of our process and our plan to make sure that when we do -- when he does carry the football, you know, on planned runs that we try to protect him, and he protects himself when he's on a scramble and stuff like that.

Q. What about Kenny as a backup, ribs --

NICK SIRIANNI: We'll see. We'll get you the practice report from today but he'll see as the week goes on. Again he's had a good week of practice as well on the scout team.

Q. Lewis Cine. Someone you got to know in the draft process?

NICK SIRIANNI: Yeah, obviously, Howie and his staff do such a good job of getting all of the information on guys. You get so many opportunities to talk to these guys, a lot of opportunity to talk to those guys, and I thought I was impressed by him out in practice yesterday and doing -- yesterday, and he made some good plays. You can really see -- you'll see him in the loom, right. Big guy, strong. Great size and really fast when I was watching him on some teams yesterday.

Yeah, excited that he's here.

Q. Zach Baun finished among linebackers in all pro voting. What can you say about how far he's become and first year in a new position?

NICK SIRIANNI: Yeah, highly impressive. What you see with Zach is just a guy that's tough, physical, loves football. You know, those guys that love -- you know, great work ethic, those guys that have all that, usually have an opportunity to reach their -- God willing, have an opportunity to reach their ceiling.



And he just keeps getting better, so I don't think we know what his ceiling is. You know, he keeps getting better with every rep that he gets on the inside at linebacker. Very versatile, the different things that he can do. He's worked really hard at that. You know, there's -- Vic has done a great job of putting him in positions to succeed. Bobby King and Ronell Williams have done a great job of helping him with his fundamentals day and day out.

Nakobi has done a great job of playing right beside him. Can't be great without the greatness of others. So the defensive line have done a good job of allowing them to run and take on plays, the way they take on blocks, and again that group, it takes everybody but all the credit, most of the credit goes to Zach because he's went out there and done it and played at a very high level for the entire year. I'm proud of him and proud of all the things that he's accomplished this first year as an Eagle.

Q. You've been around Lane Johnson for a while. What have you seen from him in the season that you didn't know in the past, either in the locker room or on the field?

NICK SIRIANNI: Lane is the best offensive lineman in the NFL. I have no doubt about that. I think -- but you said "knew."

I've known Lane has been the best offensive lineman in the NFL from the moment I got here and all of the things, like Lane -- I think Lane is a phenomenal leader. He's always, always talking and helping -- helping out the younger guys, and always, you know, very -- what is it -- very -- just when the scout team is giving them -- not complementary is not the word, but just so thankful for the scout team that they help him get better as a football player. I love the connection he has with his teammates and the offensive lineman.

I guess you just, every time you have an opportunity to be around Lane and watch him play, I can't tell you how many times I'm watching the tape and I'm like, man, this guy -- this guy is one of the best football players in the world. This guy is the best offensive line man in the world.

Like I can't tell you how many times I've watched the pass protection and said that to myself or paused it and said it to the offensive staff when we're watching tape together because he does things that are so, like, crazy athletic and for how big he is. Like I have one thing I like to say to guys on the offensive staff, too. When you watch him move his feet in pass pro and get his hands on a guy, but just how he moves his feet. I go, if you guys think you can score one bucket on Lane Johnson in basketball, you are dead

wrong. He would lock you up. I don't care how many points you averaged in high school.

Just he's the best offensive line man in the world, and I have no doubt in my mind about that. I love him. I love everything that he brings to this football team as a player, as a leader, as a person. He's a great teammate. But I keep going back to, yeah, best offensive line man in the world.

Q. What can make Kellen more efficient?

NICK SIRIANNI: Yeah, I think Kellen is very detailed in everything that he does. Very smart. Has a great -- played at a very high level and done this at a very high level, so can relate to the players in that aspect.

Puts the guys in good positions to succeed. Can lead men. Is a good leader of men. You know, as I get to sit here and watch him install the offense, you know, just you can see that and you can say, man, he'd be great in front of the team. He's in front of the offense right now but man, he'd be great in front of -- in front of the entire team, inspiring the team, getting his message across to the team, coaching football to the team. You know, coaching the ins and outs of football.

You know, just can't say enough good things about what he's done here as our coordinator, how much I think of him as a play caller and offensive coordinator. I think of him very highly as a person. Got great man of character and everything he stands for, I think he would be -- yeah, I should temper -- he would be a great head coach. I have no doubt in my mind, he will be a great head coach.

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