

Houston Texans Media Conference

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David Culley

Press Conference



DAVID CULLEY: The two-minute drill. Although it is the Texans playing each other, if I was on the offensive side of the ball, I'd have felt like we lost the game today, but I do realize that was the Texans on the other side of the ball and that was our defense, so I'm feeling better about it right now.

Q. David, do you have any update on Watson?

DAVID CULLEY: No, no update at all. As we said from the start, every day Nick and I sit down, and we talk about what we want to do in practice and how we want to do things. We don't talk about personnel situations or contract or injuries publicly. We keep that in house, and things are the same.

Q. Bradley Roby won't be available for the first game. Just overall what do you think of Bradley as a cover corner for you guys?

DAVID CULLEY: Bradley has been a quality player in this league. I've gone against him previously in his previous team that he had, and he's a quality player. He's doing everything that we want him to do. That group that he's with right now is a group that has a lot of depth, and I'll tell you, it's good to see that back here. Although he won't be ready to play that first game because of the suspension, we got guys that right now step right in there, and we just keep moving.

Q. Jonathan Owens gets a lot of publicity because of his girlfriend. What can you tell us about Owens as a football player? What kind of off-season camp has he had?

DAVID CULLEY: I'll tell you, one thing he does, he plays with a lot of energy, I mean all the time. Speaking of him, when I was at another place coaching, we used to -- he was in college, and he was there, and he used to clean up my room when I was with the Kansas City Chiefs when he was a player up there. So I don't remember him then, but he's told me the story about him cleaning up my room. All I told him was, listen, it wasn't so messy that you talked

about me back then. He said, Coach, if it was, I would have told you right now.

The point is he's doing a great job of picking up this system. He's doing a heck of a job. He flies around. He does exactly what you want done from that position. Again, as I said before, that position, there's a lot of depth there, and nothing makes you better than competition, and we have great competition at that position.

Q. David, has he offered to clean up your room again?

DAVID CULLEY: He has not offered to clean up my room again.

Q. Would you allow that?

DAVID CULLEY: Yes, I would because he did a nice job.

Q. What is your relationship with Nick Caserio like, and how much do you guys get to talk every day?

DAVID CULLEY: Every day. We talk every day. We talk every night. We leave home at night talking to each other. We come back in the morning talking to each other. We have a plan. We're on the same page. We have the same idea of how this thing should go and how it should be run. It's been really, really good.

I'll tell you what, the big thing is, when you look at the players that we've got out here that Nick and his staff has brought in, it's the kind of players that we feel like we need to be able to go where we need to go. They're quality guys. They're really good guys. They're the kind of guys that we feel like we need to do to be able to go where we need to go, and it's been really good.

Q. Do you appreciate his interest in coaching because he's more involved than most GMs?

DAVID CULLEY: Well, you've got to remember he was a coach at one time, and you've got to remember way back when, my first interaction with Nick was at the NFL combine. He had just got moved to coaching wide receivers. I used to run the wide receiver drills at the

combine. I can remember all the coaches that were there helping.

All of a sudden, I saw this one guy back there, and he's looking at everything. If you see Nick in practice right now, he's got that sheet of paper he's always writing down with all of our players and stuff on it. I saw him sitting back there, really kind of doing it, and I went up to him, introduced myself to him. I knew who he was, but I knew he had just got introduced. I said, listen, come up here, this is what we do. I want you to get involved with this. At that point right there, that coaching has never left him.

Q. It was a good thing you were nice to him.

DAVID CULLEY: It's a really good thing I was nice to him. I was the only guy at that point that went and talked to him.

Q. How is Kevin Pierre-Louis? He wasn't practicing.

DAVID CULLEY: He's fine. He's doing fine. It was just a precautionary thing with him, so he's fine.

Q. A lot is being made about how good a wide receiver Nico Collins is as a rookie. Can you talk about Brevin Jordan as well?

DAVID CULLEY: I'll tell you what, those two rookies we've got right there are the kind of guys, when Nick drafted those guys to come here, we knew they had the kind of talent at their particular positions to be able to be quality players here. Here's one thing about them right now, they're rookies. There's a lot of time on the field they look like rookies, they act like rookies, and they play like rookies.

But at this point in training camp, we don't have rookies, we don't have veterans, we have Texans. And they have to understand that, and they're actually doing a heck of a job of understanding you're not a rookie here, you're a Texan. This is how we do things, and this is how you've got to do things, and they're starting to respond very well to that, both of those two guys.

Q. Shaq Lawson?

DAVID CULLEY: I spent a couple of years with Shaq in Buffalo. Shaq's come in. We got him from the Dolphins. We know Shaq's had good pass rushing ability in the past, and he's brought it here. Again, I'm going to go back. That group that Shaq is with right now, that's a quality group. I look over there sometimes and look at that defensive line, defensive ends, and I say I think I've got a whole football team over there. But that's a really good group, and he's fitting in really well with that group.

Q. How is Charlie Heck this year from what you saw from him last year?

DAVID CULLEY: A big improvement. It started in the off-season. He's gotten stronger. Charlie knew what he needed to do. He's done everything. The one thing about him, because his pedigree is pretty good, he's basically done everything you would want done to be able to improve from year 1 to year 2, and we're starting to see that, and he's got to continue to do that.

Q. Have you reminded Nick you were nice to him back in the day?

DAVID CULLEY: I haven't yet, but I know at some point I may have to remind him when things aren't right, but right now everything is good.

Q. Can you talk about the defense? You said that both sides are Texans. What do you like most about the defense?

DAVID CULLEY: The thing about them is a Lovie Smith defense have always been aggressive. They've always flew to the ball. It's been a defense that has created turnovers, and basically we're seeing that right now, especially in pads. I saw it when we were in shorts and Shells, but now I mean, they're flying around.

I can't tell you, every time a play happens and we do a play, man, I see all kind of white shirts everywhere, and that's what you want to do with a defense is to see them around the ball, and they've done a great job of doing that.

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