

Houston Texans Media Conference

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Houston, Texas, USA

David Culley

Press Conference



DAVID CULLEY: Good morning. How are we doing? Before we get started, I'll let you know about this, I'm finding out about the Texas weather right now. When I came out of the NRG this morning, my glasses fogged up, and when they fogged up, it's not the first time it's fogged up, but I realized then that, when I was in Philly, we used to go to Lehigh University, and we actually had to drive to practice, and when you would see the fog, the clouds up, the fog and whatnot, and all of a sudden you knew that day in practice it's going to be pretty tough.

So I'm expecting that today, but I've already made those guys aware of that.

Q. So that's just the stock weather until October.

DAVID CULLEY: October, well, okay.

Q. Can you tell us, Watson came out yesterday and said he's not going to Green Bay. Could you talk about that?

DAVID CULLEY: Well, as I said before, it's day-to-day with him. He'd been out for a while, and he was back today. We're just taking it day-to-day, as it has been from the start of training camp.

Q. What goes into the decision about whether or not someone travels to a preseason game?

DAVID CULLEY: We haven't made that decision yet on who all is going to travel and who is not going to travel. We're going to make that decision probably around Thursday and go from there with it.

Q. What goes into that decision?

DAVID CULLEY: Injuries. There are some guys that we'll sit down and decide if we want to play them or not. That doesn't mean they won't travel to the game, but they may not play in the game.

Q. Elaborate a little bit more, just reiterate the fact,

that said this morning that (inaudible). What went into that decision, that kind of thing? That's all.

DAVID CULLEY: He's unlikely to play in the game for sure. We'll make a decision later on in the week as to what's going to happen with that.

Q. Is that based off of the injury?

DAVID CULLEY: Well, it's based off the fact that the limited reps he's had in practice and that kind of thing.

Q. Do you expect him to play at all this preseason?

DAVID CULLEY: No comment.

Q. You mentioned last week about Maliek Collins. What is it about his game that you like so much?

DAVID CULLEY: Well, again, when you have a defensive lineman that plays the way he plays the game, it trickles down to everybody else on the defense. He's just -- he's like what we say, he's an all out player. He's all out all the time. It's almost like sometimes you want to kind of slow him down a little bit, but he never does that, and you love that about him.

Even when he makes a mistake, he makes a mistake going full speed, and a lot of times when you do that as a player, good thing happen.

Q. How valuable for you as a coach is it to see Davis Mills and Nico Collins in a game environment?

DAVID CULLEY: I'm looking forward to not only seeing them but all our rookies we have. And there's a lot of guys on this team that we haven't seen and we're going to be able to get to see, and we're looking forward to all of those guys.

Q. When you think about where each of those guys are, since they're third round picks, at some point they're going to (inaudible)?

DAVID CULLEY: Again, training camp is to find that out.



They've been doing a nice job in training camp. As you said, it's been a very competitive situation all training camp with those guys, and they've been up to par with the standpoint of competing every day and not letting it be too big for them.

Q. What is it about the rookies on the defensive end like Garret Wallow and Roy Lopez?

DAVID CULLEY: I'll say this about those two. John, you mentioned about Maliek Collins. Those two guys play the game the same way. They played that way when they were in college coming out. Those guys are all out players all the time. It's encouraging to see. Although they don't know what they don't know right now, but what they do know is they know how to hustle and they know how to play the game right.

Q. How much improvement have you seen in Davis Mills?

DAVID CULLEY: Each day in practice, he gets better and better. Just like Jeff, Tyrod, all those guys. Each day they get better and better. I'll say that from the scrimmage coming into practice yesterday, I was so encouraged as a coach to see us, especially offensive, make progress from the standpoint of eliminating the penalties, our tempo being a little bit faster, and that was so encouraging yesterday.

It was the first time this training camp that I've seen that consistently from the start of practice to the end of practice, and it was the first time when I left practice and I said that's what I want to see.

Q. How is Brevin Jordan doing?

DAVID CULLEY: He's working hard. He's working hard. He comes to work every day. He gets after it. He has that same kind of mentality that those guys that -- all those rookies that we've got, those guys flat out love to play the game. He's doing that. He's learning. We want him to get a little bit more consistent. He's starting to get that way. We're starting to see that day to day, and that's what training camp is about.

Q. With your defensive line, so far how are they doing?

DAVID CULLEY: Well, with the competition with that group, every day guys can't come to practice and not have your A game with you because, when you do that with the group that we've got right there, with the numbers that we've got there, those guys are all competing for positions, and the competition each day out here in practice just keeps all those guys getting better and better.

Q. What are the things you've seen from Davis Mills that make him a good fit in this offense? What can you do with them?

DAVID CULLEY: Well, he would be a good fit in any offense from the standpoint in this league. We knew when we drafted him what we were getting. He hasn't not shown those things we felt like he was going to be, and he's progressing every day and getting there.

Q. What specifically do you want to see from him in preseason?

DAVID CULLEY: More consistency in running the offense.

Q. You as a coach, what's the biggest thing you look for in a preseason game?

DAVID CULLEY: I want to see how they perform in the game type situations. We haven't been in that yet. Our scrimmage was actually a manufactured kind of scrimmage. This right here, I mean, it's live. It will be the first time other than the goal line that we've done where it's going to be live.

Q. Has there been anything you've learned about yourself or the coaches in training camp or maybe something as a staff you all want to improve upon?

DAVID CULLEY: Again, the thing that's going to happen in this first preseason game, it's going to be the first time as a staff we're going to be able to do the game day thing about how we handle things, what happens from the press box, the communication, and those kind of things will be the first time this group has all been together to do that.

Q. Are your coordinators going to be on the field?

DAVID CULLEY: On the field.

Q. What does it say about Davis Mills that he bounced back so well after having bad reps all day?

DAVID CULLEY: That he has the right stuff that a quarterback has to have because there's going to be bad plays. Not only going to be bad plays, but there will be bad series. I'm going to go back to what happened yesterday in practice.

When we were in practice yesterday and we had three groups going and our tempo got faster and faster and faster, and when his group got up there, he started doing the exact same thing. What happened is, when things happen and you've got that tempo going, they are -- the

front people that we got up there, whenever things happen, it's all a reflection of what's happening with the quarterback with his tempo.

He showed yesterday, as well as Jeff, that Tyrod had a really good tempo going because we were doing some up tempo stuff, and when those two guys got up there, all of a sudden you could see that same tempo, and it showed in the success that we were having with consistency.

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