

Houston Texans Media Conference

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David Culley

Press Conference



DAVID CULLEY: Consistency, coming off the ball, communicating, everybody being on the same page and here is the thing about that, being our first game is we've been moving those guys all across all during training camp, I mean, guys been playing different positions and so now, once we get in there, obviously the communication has to be really, really good because guys may be playing one position a little bit longer than what he been doing in practice and the communication is big thing with the offensive line as far as us doing the things that we need to do in our running game and our pass game. Their communication is critical.

Q. How will you have time to stop rotating at the line and in general, how are you dividing up the reps?

DAVID CULLEY: As far as dividing up the reps, we haven't decided how we want to divide up those reps and we're going to wait till the end of this week when we practice tomorrow and see how the situation is with injuries and the situation as far as who is available and who we may not play and we are not sure of that yet, and then we'll gauge it on that.

Q. Tell us about Roy Lopez.

DAVID CULLEY: He's jumped into a group of guys as a rookie with some veteran guys that know how to practice and know how to play and he has fell right in there and there are times when I don't even know that he's a rookie with that group when he's out there.

Again, coming from where he comes from, the way he played when we drafted him, we knew what we were getting when we got him and he's been everything that we wanted him to be from that standpoint and he's just falling right in with those guys. He never says a word. I like the fact that he's tough, aggressive, he's a grinder. He's grinding every play, every play that he's out there.

Q. As running back, some guys that play a lot, how do you handle preseason as far as figuring out who should get carries?

DAVID CULLEY: The thing about it is when you talk about it, you're right, some of those guys about been Pro Bowlers and whatnot. It doesn't matter what they have been before. Right now we have been rotating those guys. We've been trying to figure out what the right combination is for those guys. We feel like there's a role for all of those guys at some point and during the preseason, we'll find that out and what best fits from that standpoint.

Q. Can you talk about your relationship with Romeo and how he's been able to help you in this transition to head coach?

DAVID CULLEY: I felt comfortable when I came here because as an 18-year-old out of high school, he recruited me, so I've known him from that standpoint way back when and he's always been a mentor through that time. Having him here, having had the experience that he's had, he's had a wonderful, wonderful career in this league as an assistant coach, defensive coordinator, head coach and just a great person to have to lean on and he's been invaluable for me.

Q. What was the experience of being recruited?

DAVID CULLEY: When I was being recruited by him, it's ironic, not only being recruited by him at the time but I was being recruited by Bill Parcells at another college and what ended up happening, as it moves on, four years later before I graduated they were coaching together at Texas Tech. So I've got two mentors guys that as an 18-year-old I remember and I look at now, and being where I am right now in my career and having those guys to go through already what I'm going through right now through all aspects of it NFL football is tremendous value for me.

Q. You have a lot of enthusiasm and that comes across from talking to you. How do you as an NFL coach maintain that every day and through the entire season, knowing whatever happens to the team, there are going to be ups and downs. How do you maintain that level?

DAVID CULLEY: I know this is a marathon. The NFL is



not a sprint; it's a marathon. The thing about it is when you love when you do and you have passion for what you do, those things don't come into it. I have a job to do, every day to come to work and be what they expect me to be and from my entire career to now from college to this point, I don't feel like that's an issue.

I feel like it's going to help me because again the longer you play, the better, you know, the longer you go into the season, the better. That's our plans and that's how we approach it every day. I don't know any better. Maybe it will hit me later on, we'll see.

Q. Darius Jackson --

DAVID CULLEY: Basically we added some depth right there. We have some guys that are a little nicked up right now and some guys that may not be able to play in the game and we wanted to make sure that those guys were available and Nick did his due diligence in making sure the availability with the backs and O-Line that were available out there to be able to help us at this point with the situation that we're in.

Q. Who might possibly not play?

DAVID CULLEY: We're not sure. We'll evaluate that after practice tomorrow.

Q. How do you go from being in training camp mode to being game day or regular season mode?

DAVID CULLEY: This week will basically be the last week we feel like we'll be in training camp mode. Next week we start into -- because next week is going to be the same as this week going into Dallas. We'll approach it as if it is a game week and we'll use the last week of preseason the same way as we are in -- in a regular game. So it gives us a chance to do that.

Right now, we feel like that we still needed to stay in training camp mode. Green Bay hasn't played a game. It's their first game, it's our first game, and we're going to go up there and play each other and take it from there.

Q. Obviously not every can make the team, defensive line, you're trying to rotate a lot. When you're looking Saturday to see who you are going to keep, how do you divvy up and try to get most looks at a guy?

DAVID CULLEY: Well, we have three preseason games so we have plenty of time for that to iron itself out and I'll say this here: It always works itself out as you are going through training camp, when you are going through preseason games, is when they get their reps and they get

in and we get to see and evaluate -- and that's why it's so important now, as opposed to last year, to have those three preseason games. We will know. It will iron itself out.

Q. You have so many running backs, three present games; how do you divvy up the carries when there are so many backs and so few games?

DAVID CULLEY: Well, again, the three present games. There's plenty and we've been getting enough in practice that that won't be an issue as far as how much you give them, how much they need.

We will know when these three preseason games are over what we have, where we are, and where we need to go.

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