

New York Giants Media Conference

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New York, New York, USA

Bobby Okereke

Press Conference



Q. What's it been like to get to work with these guys and kind of start to feel your way?

BOBBY OKEREKE: It's been great. Great team building out here. Love the atmosphere, love the team camaraderie, so it's been fun.

Q. Do you expect to wear the green dot?

BOBBY OKEREKE: I don't expect to. Whatever is best for the team. I don't have an ego about it. I know a couple different guys are wearing it throughout this process.

Q. Did you wear it with the Colts?

BOBBY OKEREKE: I've worn it a couple games in the past.

Q. Are you wearing it now?

BOBBY OKEREKE: Yes.

Q. You played against Waller with the Colts, right? What did you learn about him playing against him?

BOBBY OKEREKE: He's a threat on the field. He's a playmaker. He's big. He's strong, he's fast. He's a good player.

Q. When a guy like that goes into motion and you're a linebacker and you're in there, I know you take pride in your coverage, but a matchup like that, what's running through your mind when you see the guy come into motion, a guy that size?

BOBBY OKEREKE: If I'm covering him, I've got good size too. Obviously he's a great playmaker, so you just want to compete.

Q. How's it been starting to sit down and learn schemes and actually see that as a player on his team?

BOBBY OKEREKE: It's been good. It's been fun. It's a process growing and growing every day. Just trying to get better, learn the blitz schemes, learn the coverage schemes. There's different nuances. So just trying to learn and be a student.

Q. Has anything surprised you so far as you're kind of learning the playbook?

BOBBY OKEREKE: Not really. Just excited to be part of the group. It's a really tight group. Excited to be part of it.

Q. What changes when a guy signs a big contract? Obviously expectations outside are now, oh, is he going to play like an X million dollar a year player versus a guy where you were drafted. Does that change anything for you in terms of what people expect of you?

BOBBY OKEREKE: No, I think that's the biggest thing that changes is outside perspective and outside noise, quote, unquote. For me, it's the same process. I'm trying to get better. I'm trying to grow as a player and just help my team win as best I can.

Q. Bobby, how much have you been able to contribute your experience, your knowledge to this defense. I understand Coach Wink is very receptive to hearing what the players have to say. Have you been able to do that?

BOBBY OKEREKE: Yeah, a good bit. I think especially with the linebacker room, just sharing my experiences, sharing different techniques, different drills we've done, different ways we've played coverages. Just trying to help the process as we go through it this OTAs.

Q. Who has impressed you? Behind you, it's just a bunch of young linebackers. Does anybody flash? Has anybody impressed you? Has there been a guy where you're like, wow, this guy's got something. He reminds me of a young me maybe?

BOBBY OKEREKE: I love Micah McFadden. I think he's a



technician, smart guy. Obviously Jarrad Davis is a great leader. And Darrian Beavers is a guy who has a lot of potential.

Q. When you come to a team like this and you're coming off the year you had last year, are you looking to make as many tackles? How does that work out?

BOBBY OKEREKE: I think for me it's just gelling with this team as best I can, trying to find a role that I can express myself in and play well. But really just find a way to help this team win as best as I can.

Q. One of your strengths, if I'm not mistaken -- please correct me if I am -- is pass coverage, right?

BOBBY OKEREKE: Yes.

Q. How did that manifest itself? Not every linebacker can play the pass. How did that become a strength in your game?

BOBBY OKEREKE: I think just my athleticism. I'm big. I'm fast and long. But then just from a mental processing standpoint, understanding how offenses are trying to attack you and where I fit in coverage with my teammates. Just kind of putting it all together.

Q. We asked you this back when you first signed about your meeting with Daniel. Have you guys talked about that at all, what happened in the game?

BOBBY OKEREKE: We talked about it briefly when we first got here. Daniel is a great leader. I'm excited to get to know him even better being his teammate. It's been fun.

Q. Did you have to go crazy with Carter to get (indiscernible)? How did that work out?

BOBBY OKEREKE: No, Carter, he's a great guy. We talked about it. Yeah, I'll leave it at that.

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