

Head Coach Jim Haslett

October 9, 2008

(On if he can elaborate on what he means when he says he wants the playmakers to touch the ball more)

"I think we've got some guys that need to touch the ball; you only have one ball so you can only give it to one guy on every play, but there's enough guys that if we can, you know, (RB) Steven (Jackson), and obviously (WR) Torry (Holt), and then we have (WR) Donnie (Avery) now involved and we have a couple other guys and as we get healthy we'll have some more, so I just want to get the guys that I feel can make plays, I want to give them the ball in more situations."

"We're going to try to find our playmakers different ways to get them to the ball. There's a million different ways to get guys the ball, throw it, pass it, kick it. Last week, we had (WR) Donnie (Avery) in the backfield and ran a toss to him. So obviously, we're trying to get the playmakers more touches, that's all."

(On who is going to be the holder this Sunday)

"(P) Donnie Jones is going to be the holder. The good thing about our kicker, (K) Josh (Brown), is nothing phases the kid. He could have, well I'm not a very good holder, but I could hold and it wouldn't bother him. (QB) Trent's (Green) held some for him and besides being a great kicker, the kid's a great kid. Unlike most kickers like if he's lost his holder, most kickers would panic, but this guy nothing bothers him. I don't know if you saw yesterday if you were out at practice he kicked a 61-yarder on grass and made it by about five yards, the guy's got great leg strength."

(On if there is any news about WR Dane Looker)

"No, matter of fact, he was doing his test while when we came out here to practice so we'll know something more. Obviously, we're wishing him nothing but the best. We don't think there's anything major, but obviously for precautionary reasons he had to have a procedure today and he won't play because of the procedure he had."

(On his comfort level with playing CB Jason Craft early in his Ram's career if it helps that he knows him from previous coaching experience)

"Well, yeah he knows the defense. He played for me for four years. I tried to recruit him for a bunch of years when he was at Jacksonville. I think he's a great nickel and he's going to start for us and play corner, he'll do fine. He's competitive, he's smart, he's got great feet, great ball skills. He'll do a great job for us."

(On how things will change on game day between him and defensive coordinator Rick Venturi in their new positions)

"I get to yell at him more. No, nothing. We've worked together for so long, we've been together on and off since '96. I hired him in '96 to be my linebacker coach

and then he stayed there with Mike Ditka and then I went to Pittsburgh to be the coordinator and then I came back as the head coach and I hired him as the assistant head coach and then I hired Ron Zuck as the defensive coordinator. So, Ron and we all worked together and when Ron took the Florida job, Rick actually took the defense over.”

(On if he will still have the same involvement with the defense on game days or if he will step away completely)

“I don’t step away from anything completely. I’ve been spending more time with the offense this week obviously and a lot of times with special teams, but I’ve been in and out of the defensive room.”

(On his recollection of playing LB London Fletcher and if he is still the same guy)

“The guy still makes a lot of plays, he covers a lot of ground, makes a lot of plays. You can tell he’s smart, he’s tough as nails. You try to figure out why this is with his third team because the guy’s heck of a football player and a great leader.”

(On what his experience has been playing at Washington)

“Well, I think it’s a great football atmosphere first of all. They’ve got 92,000 people screaming and yelling and they’re dressing up as the hogs and women and all that stuff. Then they have a band, so you have a little college atmosphere and it really is a great atmosphere. I told our players to go down there and enjoy it. You don’t get too many of those games, this will be like back in college. So, don’t worry about the crowd, don’t worry about what happens, just go out and have fun, but enjoy the atmosphere, you really, really do. It’s a great football town.”

(On if he sees offensive coordinator Al Saunder’s stamp on the Washington offense)

“I tell you what you see, you see the running game is what they did last year and what they did with Joe (Gibbs) and Al and then the passing game is strictly Seattle. It’s Mike’s (Hogren) passing game or Jim’s (Zorn) or whoever you want to say, it’s that west coast offense passing game.”

(On how many times he hit Washington Head Coach Jim Zorn in his career)

“You know what, I don’t know. I played Jim I want to say just one time and that’s when they had (Steve) Largent and they had a pretty good team and I don’t know if I ever got to him at all. But here’s a guy that played a long time in the league. Understands the game, understands the players and he’ll be fine as a head coach because players respect guys that played in the league and understand what they’ve gone through. So, he’ll do a nice job there; he is right now obviously.”

(On what makes Redskins RB Clinton Portis a threat)

“I wish I knew. He’s a guy they say weighs 205 (lbs.) and he plays like he’s 240 (lbs.). He’s got great vision, great cut-back ability, good hands, and probably one of the best, if not the best blocker as a running back in the NFL, so he’s got the whole package. And (RB) Ladell Betts is a heck of a running back, so they’ve got a really good one, two punch.”