



DENVER BRONCOS QUOTES

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CORNERBACK AQIB TALIB

On whether it was a relief when he learned he would not be suspended by the NFL

“Definitely a relief. Just glad I can put it behind me, move onto the season and worry about what I really need to worry about.”

On whether last summer’s incident weighed on him during the season

“Last year, I was just excited to be able to run around and not miss any action because of it. That was really on my mind last year, just how am I going to shake back and how my body is going to react to it. It reacted pretty good.”

On how his experience will affect how he safely handles guns

“I think it will. It definitely has so far. I have to do a few safety things here and there, but it definitely will.”

On his back issues from 2016 and his physical health

“This is the time you deal with those back issues. I’m about eight months removed from the gunshot wound, so this is the time to heal all that stuff up, heal everything and get healthy. This is how you deal with it instead of sitting on the couch—waking up every morning and going to do something productive.”

On the vibe he gets from the team

“I feel like our urgency is there. In all honesty, I don’t think our urgency was there last year. We were kind of in recovery mode the whole offseason. Our urgency is there. I think that is where it starts. We’re going to work. It’s just about how urgent we are. I feel like the urgency is definitely there.”

On the changes to the defensive staff and Joe Woods’ promotion to defensive coordinator

“It’s still a real Joe Woods-like feeling in our room with ‘Marc-Rob’ (Defensive Backs Coach Marcus Robertson) and [Assistant Defensive Backs Coach] Johnnie Lynn. It’s kind of similar; it’s very similar as a matter of fact. A few new things, but it’s pretty similar.”

On earning Associated Press All-Pro honors along with CB Chris Harris Jr.

“It was huge. We talked about it before the season, we talked about during the season and of course we talked about it after the season. It was a goal that both of us had going into the year. It’s always great when you can accomplish a goal.”

On his memories of draft day

“I do remember it like it was yesterday. It was one of the best feelings in the world. I had all the people who really love me at my house. All of the people who believed in me all of my life, they were actually there to experience it with me. It was nerve racking, but it was fun at the same time. I’m a light-hearted guy, so I kind of kept it fun. A couple of GMs that said they were going to pick me didn’t pick me. [Former Tampa Bay Head Coach John] Gruden was a man of his word. He said if I get there at No. 20, he was going to pick me. As soon as 20 came, I saw that 813 area code. It was a great day.”

On teammates making fun of him for the pants he was wearing in his draft video

"That was the style. If you go back in the day, they were Crown Holder jeans. Crown Holder was fully in. Crown Holder, Cool-G, that was all in then. I was in fashion then. Those guys are young though. They don't really know (laughing)."

On this part of the offseason and whether he pays attention to the draft

"I love this time of year. The free agency frenzy, the draft, you get to watch [Cleveland Cavaliers F] LeBron [James] drag people. You watch Kansas [basketball] drag people. I love this offseason time. I'm in tune with what we're doing. I don't know who we're going to pick, but I definitely know who I like."

On types of players he likes in the draft

"Guys who can do multiple things."

On cornerbacks he likes in the draft

"I really like [USC CB] Adoree' Jackson, the guy from 'SC.' I think he's going to be the one of out of this class. He just has that 'it' factor. Any time you leave college scoring that many touchdowns doing that many things, you're a hell of a football player."

On the additions of NT Domata Peko and DE Zach Kerr

"They have size in there. I felt like we were kind of light inside last year. We had guys playing good football, but you've got 600 pounds pushing on 285 pounds. It's different when a guy comes in and he's 330 pounds in there. That size, just that size, that beef in there, is going to help us out a lot."

On if he can add 'juice' on offense

"My juice on offense days are gone (laughing). When I get the ball in my hand, that's the most juice you're going to see from me. Hopefully I'll score."

On DeMarcus Ware's retirement and if that changes his approach as a leader

"I don't feel pressure, but I feel like it's my job. D-Ware was one of our main leaders in this locker room and he's gone. I wouldn't say pressure, but it's definitely my job and my role. I take on that role anyway."