



DENVER BRONCOS QUOTES

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CORNERBACK CHRIS HARRIS JR.

On his thoughts about the NFL's new National Anthem policy as a co-union rep

"It's something where they've made it clear-cut for us. It doesn't take away what we do in the community and how everybody is united together in the NFL—how we give back and try to improve every community around the nation. So it's not going to change what we do off the field. Guys have a clear-cut [policy]. If you're out on the field, you've got to stand. If you don't want to stand then go stay in the locker room. They kind of gave guys a choice of what to do—they have a choice of what they want to do on gameday."

On if it would be difficult for some players to be on the field and some in the locker room

"I don't think it would be an issue at all. It's a guy's choice if he's staying in the locker room for the anthem. As soon as the anthem is over he'll be right back on the field. So it's not a big deal at all for us. As long as they're ready to go on the field, ready to play, it shouldn't affect us."

On if he is worried about fans keeping a scoreboard of players not on the field during the National Anthem

"We know you all are going to keep the scorecard (laughing). You all are going to say who is going to be out there or not. Guys will still probably be judged in that situation but that's their choice. There is no telling how many guys are going to be in the locker room. I see it as probably a lot. You all are going to take the score. They made that choice for us. It's a clear-cut stance that the NFL made and guys can either stay on the field or stay in the locker room."

On if he wishes the players were consulted about the National Anthem policy

"I think so. I think it kind of died down anyway. To come up with the rule this fast—I think it was pretty much over with. They just wanted to make sure it was over with—the NFL—and I guess get us focusing straight on football. If you all don't take the score about people staying in the locker room then we can just focus straight on football (laughing)."

On where he will be during the National Anthem

"I'll probably be on the field. I like keeping my same routine I've done eight years—seven, this is my eighth year. I want to keep my same routine and go out there and make plays."

On the NFL's Top 100 list

"It's about winning. It's team wins. I think if you win you get up there. I've had years where I was rated No. 1 PFF (ProFootballFocus.com), gave up no touchdowns and still didn't make it. There is a lot of popularity and your team has to win. I think it's like a team award."

On how diverse NFL locker rooms are able to work through different opinions to become unified

"It's very unique. There are very few sports where you have 53 guys that have to come together. Right now, we've got almost 100 players where we've got to all work together and all be on the same page. Everybody is from different backgrounds and different ethnicity. It's just different. You have to learn to work together. Some guys might see it as, 'I'm staying in the locker room. I'm not ever coming out.' You have to respect their opinions and they will respect yours. It's about winning. I think as long as everybody has their mind on just winning a Super Bowl this year—that should be our main focus."

On why the National Anthem is an issue in the NFL but not the NBA

"It's funny because I always wondered that too. I think we do more on social justice than the NBA. They have their head guys. They have their best players that speak out and talk—LeBron [James], Chris Paul, Carmelo [Anthony], D-Wade (Dwyane Wade)—but I think we do more in the outreach of giving back in the community. Other than probably LeBron. I think LeBron kind of carries it."

On his early impressions of rookie WR DaeSean Hamilton

"I haven't gone against him. I go against D.T. (WR Demaryius Thomas) and [WR] Emmanuel [Sanders]. That's who I go against."

On former CB Aqib Talib saying 'No Fly Zone' didn't exist without him

"Lib' is going to talk mess but I know he's happy where he's at now (laughing). He's in a good spot. I started the 'No Fly' so it's going to always be here."

On if it feels different on defense with the new offensive weapons

"I think so. I think [QB] Case [Keenum], he has great command of the offense already. He wants it. It's good when you have a quarterback that's hungry. Just like any other player out there on the field, he wants it. He wants to be the best. He wants to prove to Minnesota, 'You all should have never let me go.' He's hungry out there, I like that chip that he has on his shoulder and it's good to have a quarterback that really wants it and really wants to be the best."

On how adding rookie OLB Bradley Chubb to the pass rush helps the secondary

"It's huge. Being able to have more weapons—we've added more defenses to put him on the field to help him bring that rush. It's about Von, too. He needs to take some pressure off his back. He's getting double-teamed almost every game. The whole offense is trying to stop him so now he has another guy along with [OLB] Shane [Ray] and [OLB] Shaq [Barrett] to be able to get that rush."

On what he's noticed about how QB Case Keenum operates

"I remember today—just now—the offense was kind of jogging but he was like, 'Huddle up!' He takes command out there. he gets them right and let's them know, 'I've got the play here.' He's a leader out there on the field so far. So right now he's looking good. I'm ready to see how he keep progressing and we're going to keep making it hard for him [as a defense]."

On what he looks for in young players

"I'm looking to see if they can compete. If they can learn everything and not have mental errors, I think that's a bonus. I think right now you want to see if guys can come out and play 100 percent—if they are going to challenge the receivers or challenge their position they are going against every time. If they do that every time they have a chance to make it in this league."

On how he feels physically entering his eighth NFL season

"I feel great. I feel good. I spend tons of money on my body to stay healthy all year long and to be able to play 1,000 snaps every year—I think I've done that since I've been in the league. I feel good. I like the role that I have this year. They changed up how I'm playing a little bit so I think we'll be on a good page this year. I like T-Brock (CB Tramaine Brock), bringing him in—another vet coming in. And B-Lang (CB Brendan Langley) is playing well, too."

On how his role is changing

"Just new techniques that we've added to let me be a little bit more aggressive—be able to jump some routes more, blitzing more. Last year, I was supposed to blitz a lot more but I ended up blitzing like five times. I think [Defensive Coordinator] Joe [Woods] will blitz me more this year."

On whether he will play more outside

“I want to but I don’t think anybody can play my position (laughing). I don’t think anybody can go in the slot and play straight man [coverage] and be asked to do what I’m asked to do, even in the league. What Joe Woods wants me to play in the slot and how I have to play man and be able to take them all over the field—nobody can do that. It’s looking like I’ll be inside for sure.”

On whether playing inside could prevent him from getting All-Pro consideration

“They’ve still got the three defensive backs. They still have three DBs. I’ve gotten first-team All-Pro, getting it in the slot, so I can do it again.”