



## **DENVER BRONCOS QUOTES**

Patrick Smyth, *Executive Vice President of Public & Community Relations* (patrick.smyth@broncos.nfl.net)

Erich Schubert, *Director of Media Relations* (erich.schubert@broncos.nfl.net)

Seth Medvin, *Strategic Communications Manager* (seth.medvin@broncos.nfl.net)

### **DENVER BRONCOS OTA QUOTES (5/30/18)**

#### **DEFENSIVE END SHELBY HARRIS**

##### **On the vibe of the team for the upcoming season compared to last season**

"I like the vibe. It's a sense of urgency. Everyone has something to prove. There is competition at every level. At every position, except for finally the quarterback—there's really not that much of a competition. On the D-Line, our room is loaded. It pushes everyone to be the best that they can be at every practice. You can't take any days off. You've got to prepare and do everything like you job depends on it. Which is does for a lot of guys. I love the atmosphere. I love the competitiveness. And I that this is OTA No. 5—having a great time out there. We're working and getting better every day."

##### **On how the defense has changed during the offseason**

"People are playing towards their strengths this year. We're going to have guys rushing the passer. We're going to have guys trying to stop guys from catching the ball and everything. I like what we're doing this year a lot. I feel like it fits our strengths a lot more. We added a little bit more. So, we'll see once we actually get to real competition. Because everything was good during OTAs. Everything from OTAs it's like, 'Oh yeah! We're going to win the Super Bowl 100-0 (laughing).' But we've got to wait until we actually start getting some live competition. And then judge it from there."

##### **On how long it takes to realize what you're going to get out of defense**

"Remember last year? We looked great during the preseason. Undefeated, the practice against the 49ers—we all did well. It's a continuous effort to get better during the season. You've got to prove yourself every week in this league. You can't ever thrive off of the Super Bowl they won a couple of years ago. Because most of those guys aren't here anymore. It's a continuous effort every week to prove that you're the best that you can be, and the best in the league. Which I feel like we can do."

##### **On the importance of growing during the season as a team**

"The teams that don't get better are the ones that don't make the playoffs. You have to continuously make improvements throughout the year. You can never stay complacent—you can't get complacent. You have to be able to work and adjust because that's what the league is. It's all about adjustments. It's all about fixing things. Yeah, you may have a problem here one week, but then the next week you can't go out and have the same problem or else teams are going to expose it. So, you have to get better in this league or you won't be successful."

##### **On his role on the defensive line**

"I just want to help us win. I'm not here for the personal accolades. I'm not here for anything like that. Anything I can do to help the team win, I'm game for it."

##### **On how helpful it is having a set starting quarterback**

"You have a bona fide leader. You have one guy that you can look towards—like, 'This is our guy for the season.' Don't get me wrong, I thought [QB] Trevor [Siemian] was a great quarterback. I thought he did great things last year. And I think [QB] Paxton [Lynch] is a good quarterback. But when you have a QB battle, it's like, 'Who takes the reigns?' Who's the one who steps up and is

©2018 Denver Broncos Football Club. All rights reserved. The individual quotes cited in this document may be used for the purpose of news reporting and other fair uses as defined by Section 107 of the Copyright Act. Duplication or posting of this quote sheet, in its entirety, or any other use of this material which is not a fair use as defined by Section 107 of the Copyright Act is strictly prohibited without the prior written consent of the Denver Broncos Football Club.

the leader?’ But this year with [QB] Case [Keenum], you have a leader. You have a guy you can go to, a guy that has won games in the league. You saw what he did with the Vikings last year. So, it’s a great relief for our team to be able to have that guy for this year and hopefully for years to come.”

#### **On working with Defensive Line Coach Bill Kollar**

“How do I describe Bill? Bill is Bill. It’s hard to describe Bill. Bill is—he’s out there. For someone that has never played for Bill, it’s an adjustment period. Like last year for me, it was an adjustment period. He gets the best out of his players and he demands the best out of his players. So you have to respect that. His way of doing it sometimes is a little unorthodox. But he has good intentions and he gets results. I had five-and-a-half sacks last year. Look at [DE] Adam [Gostis]. Adam had a great year last year. You had guys that weren’t necessarily proven in the league that worked with Bill and got better with Bill. And it showed during the season last year.”

#### **On how he adjusts to working with Kollar**

“Practice (laughter). Just the demands of practice. Especially being in the altitude—that was something new for me. Just listen—but don’t take things too critically. That’s the biggest thing. Don’t take things too critically, but try to listen to the deeper meaning of what he’s trying to say.”

#### **On if anybody talks back to Coach Kollar**

“Oh, no (laughing). No man, I’m telling you—he’s like one of those old-school coaches. He has the respect of the room where you’re not going to say anything back. Regardless if you think he’s wrong. Regardless if you think he’s right. He’s our coach. We’re going to ride for him—and he could tell us anything—but at the end of the day he’s our coach. And he has respect in our room where we will never say anything back.”

#### **On working with OLB DeMarcus Ware out at practice**

“I thought he was good. He showed us some stuff. I wasn’t here when DeMarcus was here. But he showed us some stuff. He came in and worked with some of the inside guys a little bit. And the outside guys a little bit. He showed us a couple of little moves that I’m going to try out tomorrow and when the pads come on. Hopefully we get to see more of him. Hopefully he gets to come in and help us with our pass rushing a little bit more. But I loved it—I thought he had some great insight on some things.”

#### **On if it is different listening to a former player like Ware**

“Hey, don’t forget, Bill Kollar was a first-round draft pick. Don’t forget he wrestled a bear too (laughing). When he says something, you listen. When DeMarcus says something, you listen. Because you know he’s one of the all-time greats when it comes to getting to the quarterback. He has a lot of good insight and you want to pick his brain. You want to sit there and see what he thinks, and the way he thinks when it comes to rushing the passer. And so yeah—when he comes in and he says something, you want to listen. You should’ve seen today. He was talking to us and all the D-Linemen were circled around him and listened to what had to say. Because how often do you get a first-ballot Hall of famer to come in and talk to you and try to teach you about pass rushing? So, you’ve got to take it and you’ve got to enjoy it. That’s the reason we’re all out here. We all want to be great. We all want to win. We all want to win championships. We all want to make the Hall of Fame. So, why not take tips from someone going there?”

#### **On who can be the vocal, edgy leader for the defense**

“[DE Derek] Wolfe is pretty edgy (laughing). I feel like every guy brings different traits and Wolfe is more of like a lead by example type of guy. But also, when things come down to it, he has a lot to say and people listen. Like [NT] Domata [Peko Sr], we all follow his examples. He’s 13 years in. How often do you get a 13-year vet? We haven’t really had [DL] Clint [McDonald] around that much. But I feel like Clint knows what he’s talking about. But when it comes to the more edgy—like ‘rah-rah!’—it’s probably Wolfe.”

#### **On his style of leadership**

“Honestly, I’ll say something here and there. But I’m more of a talk to you one-on-one type of person. I don’t really have much to say when it come to the full team. but one-on-one, we can talk and we’ll go over what we need to do. And what might help you. Also, I’ll take it. Like what might help me? You’ve got to be able to talk to guys.”

**On the progress Wolfe has made with his health**

“I’ve seen him practice. I’ve seen him be perfectly fine at practice. I think he’s 100 percent healed. I think he’s healthy. I think this year will be a great year for him. I feel like we have nothing to worry about when it comes to Wolfe.”