



DENVER BRONCOS QUOTES

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DENVER BRONCOS OTA QUOTES (6/6/18)

WIDE RECIEVER EMMANUEL SANDERS

On nearing the end of OTAs

"It's going good. I tell you what, everybody—like at practice today—everybody was making plays on the offensive side. A lot of big-time plays. We went off [as] wide receivers, and [had] great balls by the quarterbacks. I'm optimistic; I like what I'm seeing. I think offensively, from a schematics standpoint, you have so many different options in how we can attack people. I like that, so I'm optimistic about the season."

On the younger offensive weapons

"You can go from [WR] Courtland [Sutton] to [WR] DaeSean [Hamilton] to [TE] Jake Butt to [TE] Jeff Heuerman. Guys are making plays. You can even go in the backfield. We got guys that are going out here at OTAs—it's feeling like training camp right now. Guys are diving for balls, heated arguments and whatnot. But we definitely have guys that want to go out there and make those plays. And they're making them in OTAs."

On teams playing zone coverage against him and WR Demaryius Thomas

"I feel like yeah, that's what teams were doing. But obviously, this year is a different year. Different ways of attacking people, different offense. Different guys out there, different quarterback, different running back. New tight ends. So, we're going to see how we can attack them this year."

On how he describes the new offense style

"I think right now we're just trying to find the formula. That's what OTAs is about. We're trying different ways—how we can attack people in different ways in two minutes, in no huddles. Just to see our vision. But it's going to be hard to really find out the direction we're going to go until we put on pads, obviously. See how the O-Line can handle the run blocking and the pass blocking, and the whole nine yards. So, we'll see, but I think right now from a package standpoint we're sitting pretty good."

On working with QB Case Keenum after OTAs are finished

"We're still working that out. I actually texted D.T. (WR Demaryius Thomas) like a week ago and I told him the dates I'm available. We still have to set that up. We're trying to set it up. Everybody's talking about Texas, but I'm trying to set it up for Arizona or something. Demaryius has some trainers out there. He has a field. You can get an Airbnb or something like that. Just go out there for like two or three days and throw the football around and hang out and gain team chemistry."

On the current status of his ankle

"It's good, it's good. I think ever since I got that cortisone shot, that really kind of took me over the hill. Every now and then it has its day, but I'm able to push through that a lot better than what it was. I still have two or three months to keep strengthening, keep getting it better and be ready to go for the season."

On Keenum as a leader on the offense

“Yeah, he’s a great leader. Every day—the majority of the days—he’ll come in and ask me and D.T. to go and watch practices and we’ll sit in the back room and watch film and go over what he’s thinking and what we’re thinking. I’ve been a part of two Super Bowl teams and that’s what it takes. That extra work that’s not mandatory, where guys are in there working out or working on their mental game. That right there, when it’s fourth quarter or when it’s fourth-and-5 or third-and-8. That’s the stuff that gets you over the hill.”

On WR Isaiah McKenzie’s rookie season

“He was a rookie. I remember when me and [Steelers WR] Antonio Brown came into the league. [Steelers Head Coach] Mike Tomlin said he wouldn’t even put us back there. I think he put me back there once. But [WR Antwaan] Randle El was the true punt returner. But he was a rookie people don’t understand—they’re sitting in the stands—but punt returning is hard. It’s a tough job but he has to reset. He doesn’t have a choice. Obviously with all the muffs he had last year, he has to take a step back and say, ‘OK how can break down film and get better?’ I think that’s what he’s been doing and we’re going to see if it pays off when the season comes.”

On if he enjoys playing in the slot position

“I do, I do. If the ball is coming there. If the ball is not coming there, I don’t want to be there (laughing). Point blank, period.”

On getting to know new Wide Receivers Coach Zach Azzanni

“Oh yeah, we butted heads at the beginning. Obviously, the new coach coming in, he has his ways, and I have my ways of doing it—it took me to go the two Super Bowls and two Pro Bowls. We butt heads, but at the end of the day we have a common goal and we want to win. We’ve been working it out and I’ve been listening to him, he’s been listening to me. It’s starting to pay off because he always tells me, ‘You can get better, you know, that right?’ and I’m like, ‘OK, OK’ and I’m listening. It’s starting to work.”

On what he has seen in WR DaeSean Hamilton

“Oh, he’s a playmaker. I think he is one of those diamonds in the rough type of guys. A lot of people don’t know about him but he has deceptive speed. He can get open on routes. He has good hands. He’s been making plays the whole entire time at OTAs. So, he’s going to be one of those guys where I think Broncos [Country]—obviously they know about Courtland—but when the season starts they’re going to be like, ‘Who is that guy out there making those plays?’ as well.”

On his knowledge of Sutton’s basketball background

“He does look like a basketball player. He looks like a linebacker or a safety or something. I mean this dude is swole. But he’s a receiver, he’s a good receiver.”