



WASHINGTON REDSKINS

INOVA SPORTS PERFORMANCE CENTER AT REDSKINS PARK – LOUDOUN COUNTY, VA.

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Defensive Coordinator Greg Manusky

On what he wants to improve on after seeing self-scouting of the defense:

“I just think overall, pressuring the quarterback No. 1, No. 2 third down situations. We’ve got to get better, we know that. First downs, we’re pretty good. Second downs, we gotta make sure we buckle down exactly [on] second downs. [Opponents are] gaining a little too much yardage – missed tackles or coverages that we did not play correctly.”

On what the outside linebackers can do to generate more pressure:

“Just basically [winning] the one-on-one battles. I think when we’re faced up against our opponents, when we’re put in those one-on-one battles, we’ve gotta make sure that we press the pocket and beat the guys on the edge, especially the outside linebackers. Up front, I think the inside [guys] are doing a good job of trying to press the pocket. We just need a bit more pressure on the edge.”

On what improved from the first quarter of the season to the second quarter:

“Overall, I think we have a lot of young guys on the team. There wasn’t a lot of – I think there was only three or four veterans over four years – but just meshing together as a team as well. We had a couple injuries throughout the season, but overall I think just coming together and understanding the concepts that we’re going to present each and every week and they’re trying to grow and they keep on growing with it.”

On what they can do to clean up tackling issues:

“Basically before [Interim Head Coach] Bill Callahan gives us a session, about three or four minutes, we work on tackling drills out on the practice [field]. Just get the guys in balance, make sure they bring their feet with them and try to tackle as much as they can against a bag or something else. It’s a little bit different, but every time that you’re out there, you’ve got to tackle guys – and that’s the second down situation stuff that I was talking about earlier.”

On whether there are any young defensive players he’d like to see in the back half of the season:

“Across the board, I think all the young guys, they contributed. [S Troy Apke] has been playing, [LB] Cole [Holcomb] has been playing, [LB Ryan] Anderson has been put in a situation where he’s gotten a couple rushes, so we’d like to see him as well. All the young guys, which there are a decent amount of, that we gotta take a look at.”

On how LB Montez Sweat has performed so far this season:

“For a young guy, he’s coming into the league. You look across the league, I think [Broncos LB] Von [Miller] his first year had six sacks. I think [Bears LB] Khalil [Mack] had five or six, something like that. It’s a process with a kid like that. Every young guy that comes into the National Football League is a process. You learn through all the sets and the powerful tackles that are in the league, they just try to work against them. He’s making progress, he’s just got to continue to make progress.”

On whether Sweat is delivering on his draft position:

“Oh yeah. It’s all on him and he knows that. He knows he’s got to get better at his position, but his sight line and his vision and his angles are getting better every week that we’re playing and we’ll see when he goes up against these tackles this week.”