

Houston Texans Transcripts
Training Camp Practice #6
Saturday, August 2, 2014
(Transcribed by Seth Medvin)

Head Coach Bill O'Brien

(on DeAndre Hopkins standing out at practice and taking the next step in his career) "He's one of the guys out there that I think is much improved from April 7 when we started to where we are now. He just has to keep it going. He's a very hard worker. It's very important to him. He's a guy that really gets, in our opinion, better and better every day. Just got to keep it going."

(on some of the situational work today at practice) "We did a lot today. We were in the red area. We had a lot of third down situations and then obviously, two minute at the end. So now that's the time of camp, now is the time of camp where you are really going to work on those types of things every single day. We had a no huddle period to try and force communication against a high tempo offense and things like that. You know, we'll continue to do those things every day."

(on an update to Jadeveon Clowney's status) "No, I think again, we're just trying to manage him. He's coming off surgery and we're just trying to manage him. He's out there and wants to go every rep. I'm sure just like all of the guys, after seven practices I'm sure he's a little sore and we'll just continue to manage him."

(on if he specifically tweaked something today) "No."

(on if Johnathan Joseph leaving practice early was planned) "Yeah, you know, same thing. We're just trying to manage those guys through, you know, long training camp, long season."

(on wearing the 'DQ Strong' t-shirt) "It means a lot. David Quessenberry is a guy that I got to know when I first came here. You know, really promising young offensive lineman. Twenty-three years old. To have the news that was delivered to him a few months ago was tough. He's fighting it. This whole team is behind him. He's a very bright guy, he's a fighter; He's back in Sand Diego right now watching tape. He called our video guy the other day to make sure that he could fix what was going on with his surface tablet or whatever to make sure he got film of practice to watch film. He's just a special guy. He means a lot to this team and to especially the offensive linemen. We just wanted to represent him out there at practice."

(on what it says about veterans Chris Myers and Duane Brown to put the 'DQ Strong' shirts together) "Again, those guys are really good guys, they're good teammates, they're really good veteran players, they care about their teammates, they care about winning, they work extremely hard, they're very much involved in the community here in Houston, and so I thought it was a very nice thing that they did, a nice gesture to try and raise money and raise awareness for cancer research, specifically lymphoma research. It's just a testament again to those guys. Those are two really good veteran players, Duane Brown and Chris Myers."

(on the red line that separates the end zone into two halves) "We have a red line up the sideline that is five yards inside the sideline that is something we talk about all the time in the passing game. That on certain routes that we run, if we're too far outside of the red line then it is very difficult for the quarterback to put the ball in there. It's like trying to drive it into a small window, so we try to tell the DBs and the receivers, 'hey look, the receivers are trying to win the red line.' So that is why it is painted there. The red line in the end zone, I'm not sure, I don't know. That might be a design or something. I'll take a walk back out there and see what it is."

(on what it means to wear the 'DQ Strong' t-shirt) "Again, David Quessenberry is a very special young man to us here. He was a guy that I got to know right away. He was here when I first got here. The previous staff and Rick Smith had spoken very highly of this guy. That he was a guy that was a very promising offensive lineman. He was a guy that could play all five sports: tackle, guard and center."

Twenty-three years old, and then he was hit with that news. I'll tell you one other thing about him. He knew at some point during minicamp that there was something wrong, but he kept going out there to practice. It was amazing because he did have a big mass inside of him and he was practicing with that. That is an amazing, amazing thing I think, I believe. We're all behind him. He's fighting. We stay in touch with text message. I know Chris Myers spoke with him last night. It was just something we wanted to show support him and try to raise money for cancer."

(on an update to Jedgeveon Clowney) "Again, I think we're just, we're trying to monitor him. I go with Geoff Kaplan on that. We try to measure how many, you know, count how many reps he has at practice and kind of keep him on a pitch count there. He wants to be in every drill. We'll just continue to do that."

(on installing new things on offense and defense and if he is starting to see more of players just playing and not thinking) "I believe we're seeing more comfort with our schemes on both sides of the ball and on special teams. Yeah, I definitely see guys out there playing faster, not doing much thinking. We've got to eliminate the mistakes. All of you are out there at practice today and we can't fumble quarterback-center exchanges. We can't fumble the ball. We've got to eliminate those types of mistakes. As far as these guys really paying attention to the scheme and what their assignments are, I believe we are becoming more comfortable with our systems."