

Head Coach and General Manager James Wade Media Day Availability July 18, 2020



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On if he's making any adjustments this season due to it being shortened

"I think the only adjustment is we're probably going to have to do a lot more film study because we're going to try to keep them off of their legs as much as possible. So that's probably the main thing-more film study, less time in the gym."

On the reaction he's received from his *Players Tribune* story

"I've gotten a lot of support from within the W and outside of the W. It's opened some people's eyes. I had a great conversation just coming over to media day with Gary Kloppenburg, who was one of the first people that were vocal about it. But from a lot of players on our team they were very supportive as always. Players on other teams and coaches and it was pretty nice to have conversations. Eric Thibault, I talked to him this morning too. I talked to a few coaches but it's been nothing but an outpouring of support and of course it is really appreciated."

On the emotions he had when he wrote the piece

"A lot and it's a difficult place to express it. But a lot of emotions go through it, especially when it makes you reminisce about times prior to that have been similar. So a lot of emotions. I don't think it's a place where you want somebody to be emotionally because it caused so much pain and so much hurt, and it's so real. I'm not a big fan of going there but it's where I've been forced to go more often than not."

On what it means to open up the season on a nationally televised game

"I couldn't have imagined us being on ABC to start the season. I think it's an ode to our players and their level of play, and who they are and where they are as players. So for us to get one of those prime slots on ABC this early in the season, I think our players warranted that and deserve it. I guess it means that somebody is doing something good."

On how he has mentally prepared for this season

"The good thing about it is when I was in quarantine in France and I had a chance to just really collect my thoughts because we couldn't go anywhere. I spent a lot of time with my family. We just talked about different scenarios, different things. How important it was to get your mind right for a long haul and we also did some meetings with the team as well. We talked about the things we had to do to be mentally OK. So, we decided that we were going to go there and come here and lean on each other. That's the whole approach that I want us to [take]. Right now we're in a bubble but we're with our family and and so that's how we have to approach it. We have to make it a family environment within ourselves, within our group, within our team. That's how we're going to get through it, we're going to lean on each other, we're going to get through it."