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Ceremonies

Dave Dickenson, Head Coach, Calgary Stampeders Rick Campbell, Head Coach, Ottawa REDBLACKS

SUBJECT/SUJET: The 2018 Grey Cup Head Coaches' news conference with Calgary Coach Dave Dickenson and Ottawa Coach Rick Campbell.

Olivier Poulin: Good morning, everyone, and welcome to the 106th Grey Cup Head Coaches' Press Conference. I'm Olivier Poulin, Director of Communications and Public Affairs at the CFL. To my left on the stage is Head Coach Dave Dickenson of the Calgary Stampeders and Head Coach Rich Campbell of the Ottawa REDBLACKS. Both coaches have a little something to say before we start, so I'd like to pass it over to Coach Dickenson.

Dave Dickenson: OK, guys. I thought I'd try to be a little proactive here. I do need to address my poor choice of words that I used at the Bomber game. I just want to let you know I let my emotions get the best of me. And I talk to my players a lot about having poise, and I lacked poise, I did. So I just want to make sure that people know that at no time were my comments directed at the Canadian people or the CFL. Talking to Rick. I really, truly believe I am Canadian, not by birth certificate but by choice. I've lived up here for 22 years, I got a Canadian wife, two Canadian kids, and Calgary's home. So at no time were those comments ever directed towards Canadians, and I do want to apologize for anything like that in my remarks. But I have apologized to Mike himself. Sometimes in football you maybe cross a line, and I certainly apologize for that, and I own those remarks. And I'm hoping, guys, that we could just move forward and talk about football. So I appreciate you guys letting me have the opening remarks.

Rick Campbell: And I just want to say part of the reason I like the CFL is there's a lot of good people in it, and this guy's right at the top. And I'm proud to be a part of the league with Dave in it. I just wanted to mention a little bit on the Jonathan Rose situation, because I was flying all day yesterday and it was kind of a whirlwind. Anyways, if he's – when he – that he's eligible to play in this game because of how the whole process is working is we will use him and have him play in the game, and I'm going to stay away from commenting on it, and our team's going to stay away from commenting on it, just because there's a whole process that's got to happen between the league and the union, and let that whole thing play out.

Olivier Poulin: Alright. We're going to go to questions now. Process is pretty easy. If you have a question, please raise your hand. I'm going to direct the microphone over to you so you can ask one. Dave is already there. We've got Terry.

Please identify yourselves and the media you are representing. Terry, you want to go first?

Question: Yeah. For Dave, two parts. In the beginning, how are you doing at – do you think you're doing at converting the Edmonton people to cheer for Calgary this weekend? And the second half of that question is you mentioned, leading to this game, that getting here, you don't want to repeat all the same things you've done in the previous two years. But I haven't heard you identify what changes you'd make.

Dave Dickenson: Yeah.

Question: And – and the extension of that is it seems like, I mean, you're both got this image of soft-spoken, you know, mild-mannered type of guys, but it seems like you're coming into this game with a little bit more of an edge. Is that true?

Dave Dickenson: I'd rather be known as a soft-spoken, mild-mannered guy. I'm a competitor. I want to win. I think most people that are successful in life have to have a little bit of an edge. I've actually driven up this road a lot lately. I got kids, and it seems like we're always in Edmonton for sporting events. Been on record in saying in Calgary I'd like to have a little better facilities. And I get very jealous when I come to Edmonton and see all the sport facilities, including this place right here. It's a great – to me, it's a sports town. It has great tradition. Rick was part of that with his family. And you know, ultimately, I'm pumped that the Grey Cup's in Edmonton and it's not 25 below, hopefully.

As far as what I'm going to do different, that's kind of between me and my team there. But I think I've been on record saying I got to do something different. Doesn't mean it's going to work, but I'm certainly, you know, trying to stay focused with our guys. But we are going to try some different type of things, and hopefully it pays off on Sunday.

Question: Rick Campbell, Dave Jamieson from TSN 1260 in Edmonton. You grew up in this city. You grew up in Commonwealth Stadium, and you got your coaching start with the Eskimos. And I'm just wondering what it would mean for you and your family to do something your dad did not do in his long and illustrious career, which is win a Grey Cup coaching in Commonwealth Stadium.

Rick Campbell: Well, I will say that obviously Edmonton's been a big part of my life, and I definitely have a love for this city and always will and, you know, know a lot of people in this city, and it's been great to me and great to my family. Honestly, for me, I'm – whatever the word is, I'm compartmentalizing and that I just – I'm just worried about preparing the football team the best we can for playing good football on Sunday. So really, that's what my focus is, is just, you know, being here. I know I'm in Edmonton, but it's a work week for me, and I'm going to do whatever I can so that we can play good football on Sunday, and then maybe have more time to reflect on it after this week.

Olivier Poulin: Going to go to the back row, right there. Yeah.

Question: Yeah. Just following up on that, Coach Campbell, you played high school football at Ainlay here in the city.

Rick Campbell: Yeah, go Titans.

Question: Your old coach recalls the story of when they actually called on you in a pinch to play quarterback one season. Do you have any memories of playing football there? What stands out most from your time there?

Rick Campbell: Yeah, it was fun. You know, Edmonton's a good football town, and we were able to win a provincial championship. And I know that the Ainlay Titans, my old school, are playing for the provincial championship again this Saturday, so I'll be rooting hard for them. And yeah, like I said, ton of memories for me in this town, and I'm definitely thrilled to be back.

Question: I guess – Danny Austin, Calgary Sun and/or Herald. I guess for either Dave or Rick, these teams have been in – each of you has been in now three of the last four Grey Cups. I mean, were there similarities that you guys see in terms of team building that's gotten you guys this success?

Dave Dickenson: Well, I think I've come from a football family as well. My dad's not as famous as Rick's and hasn't won as many championships, but was a football coach, a teacher. I think we have similar backgrounds. For us – for me, at least – a lot of the groundwork was laid by Huff and Wally Buono. Those are two guys you want to follow and at least try to emulate, try to do things similar to what they did. They're winners, so it was easy for me. Knowing Rick personally, I knew, when he got his job over there, that he would definitely do everything in his power to do it the right way. He builds from – from inside. He hires good people. I think he's a winner. So you know, I certainly respect the job he does, and I'm not surprised that he's having the success that he's had.

Rick Campbell: Yeah, same thing. I came to Ottawa from Calgary, and you know, couldn't be from a better place when you have guys like Dave and Huff and everything that works with the Stampeders because it's really all about winning football and surrounding yourself with good people. And I was fortunate enough to go to Ottawa with a guy like Marcel Desjardins, who, again, is another guy that I align with philosophically on that. We just want to surround ourselves with talented people because you need talented people to win, but also people with character, people that can ride out the tough times, and people that are interested in being part of a team, making it not about themselves but making it about the Redblacks. And you know, that's what we strive to do every year.

Question: Dan Barnes from Postmedia. This is for Rick. You – I think you worked with something like seven head coaches in your time between Edmonton, Calgary, or Winnipeg. Sorry.

Rick Campbell: Yeah. (Crosstalk) Winnipeg.

Question: So what did you – I mean, was there one thing or two things, or whatever it is, that you learned from each of those coaches, and what stands out? And what would you like your staff to learn from you?

Rick Campbell: You're right, that's a big question because there's a lot of

guys that – I think the big thing is to never stop learning, is that you can learn something from everybody. Even if you don't agree exactly with someone, there's still something you can always take from people, and there's always ways to evolve. And I think that's part of the key in football, is to evolve with the game and evolve with the times. And I'm fortunate enough to be around some pretty big, legendary guys – Don Matthews was the first guy I coached with here. I don't want to leave people out, but you know, the first guy I was with was Don, the last guy was with Huff here. And you know, those bookends would be, you know, two pretty good examples of guys that are Hall of Fame type guys that endured in football for a long time.

And I think the biggest thing is keeping your eye on the prize, and that you're trying to – the goal is to put people in the best position possible so they can contribute to the team and try to win games. And really, that's what it's about at the end of the day.

Olivier Poulin: We'll go to Arash, to the back, and then Farhan.

Question: Guys, for both of you – in the back. As two coaches who got started as assistants then moved up to coordinators before becoming head coaches, are you concerned with this staff salary cap that's being put in, for what impact it could make on the profession and what impact it could make on your teams down the road?

Rick Campbell: Go ahead, Dave. Ha-ha.

Dave Dickenson: That's a loaded question with my boss sitting right back there. I think, honestly, I just don't really want to comment on it. I think it does – there will be some things that will need to be talked about after the season. I'm more concerned about the game, and the management money side is above me, so I would like to keep it there.

Rick Campbell: I know too, I don't know all the impact it's going to have. I'm kind of in the same boat as Dave, in that I was going to get through this season, and obviously the whole focus this week is on this game. And then it's going to be interesting to see how that all plays out because I don't have all the information on it. Like Dave said, there's some people above me that know a lot more than I do, and, you know, we'll cross that bridge when we get to it.

Olivier Poulin: We'll go to Steve Simmons and then Farhan. Steve.

Question: For Dave Dickenson, Steve Simmons, Toronto Sun. Talking to Wally Buono after his last game, he said one of the things that he found the hardest was carrying the losses with him, and how he's not going to miss that feeling. Based on the last two Grey Cups, how hard has it been for you, in games that probably you should have won and didn't, to carry that through and deal with it?

Dave Dickenson: Well, I want to make sure to – there's no – we not necessarily should have won any of those games. They earned their victory, no doubt about it, Toronto as well. So I don't want to short sell any other team on that. There's stress. I talked to Wally a lot lately too because sometimes when you have tough times, you reach out to people that you respect. And I certainly didn't want Wally's last game to go like it did. I I felt bad for him because, in my sense, it never ends right. How many

times did it really end the way you want it to end? Because usually when it does end right, you say you know what, I can keep doing this, give me another chance at this. So when it went down like it did, I reached out to Wally, and the losses hurt. I think they sting more than any of the great feeling of a win, which is sad.

You should cherish the other side. You should remember the good times, not necessarily the pain. But I think we're all been there. I think certain things in your life will always stay with you. Get over it, though. Time to live in today and take advantage of the moment. US Thanksgiving is coming quick. I think about that stuff. You know, I'm really proud to be here with Rick and two teams that are fighting for something so historic. And I realize it's going to be a great game and a great opportunity, and we're excited to be here.

Question: Dave, over here. Two questions. One, the end to this season was a lot different than what you're used to, where you've been able to have first place comfortably, and you're making different kinds of decisions. This was a much more challenging finish to a regular season. Has that made you better?

Dave Dickenson: I don't know if we're better. I think we showed some resiliency, though, and I think that's missing in life these days. You have to – we want a resilient team. We want guys that can overcome adversity. There were a lot of doubters. A lot of people thought we were on our way out. We found some energy, we found some new blood, some new players stepped up, and we're trying to create momentum. So I – it's definitely a different year, and we're a different team. I feel good about the guys in our locker room, and hoping to use that momentum to win one more game.

Question: You mentioned the doubters, and after the Western Final you had some interesting comments suggesting that people around Canada didn't want you to be here. Do you believe that, that people don't want you to be here?

Dave Dickenson: Well, sometimes you just talk too much. I definitely am guilty of that. So sorry. But it's not that, it's just that sometimes you —you know, I'm the same way. I mentioned Tiger Woods because I liked Tiger Woods a lot and then he won a lot more championships than we have, let's put it — make sure it's clear on that. But I found myself at times, like, rooting for the other guy. Like, oh, he's already been there, let the other guy get there. And I felt that was the case last week. You know, for — the good thing is Ottawa's been here an awful lot as well, so there's — it's basically kind of a give-and-take there. So it really was more me — I don't know, maybe I fabricated my own little storyline, but I did feel like people were talking a lot about Sask and Winnipeg, and not as much about us. Doesn't help you win or lose a football game, but maybe, like you said, I should have just kept those comments to myself.

Olivier Poulin: We'll go back row, towards the middle. Sir.

Question: Yes, hi. Raffy Boudjikanian, CBC News. I was wondering if either of you could talk at all about the St. Michael's story and if that's been resonating at all with your players. What, if anything, have they been saying about it?

Dave Dickenson: You're up, buddy. It's Toronto. It's closer to you.

Rick Campbell: Yeah. I'm aware of it. I just don't know enough information about it. It's been kind of a whirlwind for me lately. But... yeah, I need to stay away from that one right now. I mean, I'm not downplaying it. That's quite a significant thing, and I would like to think that through more before speaking on that.

Dave Dickenson: See? I learned from Rick. I need to say less. I need to say less. No, it's very serious, though, and I wouldn't like —when I grew up playing sports, that stuff is not tolerated. And it's not what we're about. Sports is an uplifting experience, and you should be a team. So I don't know the details either, but let's be honest, we put our kids into sports for a positive experience. So I want to make sure, whatever's going on there I'm sure is way more than Rick and I know about. Certainly we follow, though, and we're concerned.

Rick Campbell: I'm not downplaying it either, I just... yeah. It's a serious

topic.

Olivier Poulin: We'll go to the back of the room.

Question: Hi, Dave. Jim Morris from CFL.ca. Just wanted to ask you a little bit about Micah Johnson. Incredible season for an interior lineman. Can you talk a little bit about the man on the field, and maybe the man off the field?

Dave Dickenson: Yeah. Rick's been around him as well. He's a good football player first. Very passionate, as you guys probably can see on the field. Sometimes it's tough to keep him, you know, with his poise. He wants to do well, and when it's not going well that's when sometimes he bubbles over a little bit. But he's been, I think, as good as anybody on our team this year. He won our President's Ring. It means players respect him, and as a leader and that. I think he's growing as a man. And his performance is getting better and better. And you know, there's a lot of good defensive tackles in this football league, in fact I think as good as any year I can remember. But I do think Micah has separated himself right there at the top of that, and I just thought he had an outstanding year. And yeah, I think he has become – he's got a family, he's just – you can see that he's becoming a better man, and that's always something we try to strive for, not necessarily just win football games. Let's grow. Let's grow as people and make people better men.

Rick Campbell: I'm hoping he's busy on Sunday doing something else. Maybe he could go do something else.

Dave Dickenson: I think he'll be ready.

Rick Campbell: Dang it!

Olivier Poulin: We'll go to Dan Ralph.

Question: Hi. Dan Ralph from Canadian Press. Just in front here. For both of you two, when you worked together, what's the one thing you took from one another, good or bad, in terms of football or from a personal standpoint?

Rick Campbell: For me, it was his poor music selection of when he would --

Dave Dickenson: He said this two years ago. Right?

Rick Campbell: -- when you walk into his office and Dave's watching film and coming up with stuff, and you got Britney Spears and Katie Perry and all that stuff. So that was --

Dave Dickenson: I've got a daughter.

Rick Campbell: -- (laughs) that was my one thing. No, Dave's super smart, treats people the right way, treats people with respect, treated – you know, I'm a fan of Dave's because I think he's a quality person but he's also a really good coach. And you knew he was going to be a good head coach when he had the opportunity.

Dave Dickenson: For me, it was Rick never leaves any stone unturned. I mean, just so organized and committed to what he's doing. The fun part for Rick was we worked together on offence too, and it wasn't, like, his expertise, but the way he took over and we had many, many conversations about what would this do to a defence, and I became a much better coach just by talking with Rick because of his knowledge on that other side of the ball. And I also, like you said, I just think there's not many guys that are more organized than Rick, that do things the right way, so it's a lot of mutual respect and admiration.

Olivier Poulin: We'll go to Steve Simmons in the back of the room.

Question: Steve Simmons, Toronto Sun, for both coaches. A while back a lot of us were shocked by the passing of Mike Labinjo, and he played a significant role in Canadian football, and certainly in Toronto football. And I'm wondering your thoughts on him going so soon, and memories, if you have any of him.

Dave Dickenson: OK. Yeah, it was definitely – I had lost track of what Binjo was up to. I knew he was in the city. I try to actually connect as much as I can with the alumni because it brings back good memories. And when he passed, it was very shocking, very sad. Don't know the details still to this day, exactly what went down, but it really doesn't matter because when you pass, you pass, and you should remember the good times. And his performance in the '08 stretch run there was outstanding. You know, I had a lot of friends out in BC, and I was playing for Calgary, and they basically feel like Labinjo won the game. He stopped us twice on short yardage, was harassing the quarterback all game, and ultimately then went and had a great Grey Cup.

So take advantage of the moment, guys. That's my whole thing. But then I know Mike would also say that, is live for these moments, take advantage of them. And I am the same way. I want to create a legacy. I want people having positive memories of myself. And I have a lot of positive memories about Mike Labinjo.

Rick Campbell: Yeah, I agree. It makes you grateful and thankful for the days we have and for weeks like this, and to be able to do it. And you know, he was a really good football player, and anytime someone passes that early, it's too bad. But I'm glad there's positive memories of him, and him making an impact in this league.

Olivier Poulin: I'll go to Dave J., followed by Scott Stinson.

Question: Coach Dickenson, Dave Jamieson, TSN 1260. O-linemen are obviously underappreciated, but I wonder if you could appreciate for us the work of Shane Bergman, who I think has given up three sacks in three seasons, and what he means to that group.

Dave Dickenson: Yeah, we just got to keep him onside. That's – you know. Shane is – Shane'll never talk to you guys. I mean, he's just so quiet. I love his family. His dad and mom come out all the time, and he's actually just, to me, a real person. There's nothing fake about him. He a great teammate, underappreciated because, like you said, if you don't notice an O lineman, a lot of times he's doing a hell of a job. And he's just very, very steady, and has grown into that guy. I mean, we drafted him, like, fifth round. He came in, worked hard, and he's a super big man, and ultimately I think he's one of our best. Staying fairly healthy, so I'm knocking on a little wood there. I think that's his leadership and basically the strides of him playing in the same system now multiple years with Pat DelMonaco has increased his game. But great person, great family, damned good football player.

Olivier Poulin: Go to Scott.

Question: Scott Stinson with Postmedia. This is for Coach Dickenson. Over here, sir. Coach, over here.

Dave Dickenson: Sorry. Alright. There's a glare coming off up here.

Question: (Laughs). It's coming off the trophy. Do you expect this to be a particularly pro-Ottawa, which is to say anti-Calgary, crowd? And if so, will it affect your approach to the game?

Dave Dickenson: Not sure. Like I said, why I'd go into that I have no idea, especially when I have no control on it. We're going to play hard. We're going to play hard. We're prepared for crowd noise for and against us. We've played in a lot of opposing stadiums. Who knows? Let people make that decision. We're going to play hard, though, and hopefully come out on the right end.

Olivier Poulin: Oh, yeah, I know, Terry, I know. Dan Ralph. Could you get the microphone to Dan, please? Thank you. I got you covered, Terry.

Question: Dan Ralph from Canadian Press. A question for both of you, and it's two-part. Dave, when you saw Ottawa's offensive performance on Sunday, I mean, it was nothing short of stellar, and I'm wondering what defensive challenges they present. And then Rick, conversely, to you, when you're going to be playing the CFL's top-ranked defence, what sort of challenges it presents.

Dave Dickenson: Do you mind?

Rick Campbell: Go for it.

Dave Dickenson: Yeah, it was impressive. Because Hamilton's good, and for them to just have their way with them was very impressive. They were sharp. You could tell they used the bye week to their advantage. But I think they're a full team, all three phases, three of the best. We know we've got our hands full. It's huge challenge because they have multiple weapons. I think honestly, well, all their coaches will have a wrinkle for us, so it's up to us to try to make adjustments. And in order to win, though, we're going to have to step up. We know we're playing a great opponent that's on fire right now and playing their best football, so we got to elevate our game.

Rick Campbell: Yeah, their defence, Calgary's defence sure was impressive in the West Final. You know, Winnipeg was a team pretty much on a roll and doing a lot of good things offensively, and man, Calgary's defence did a good job of shutting them down. Very physical, coming downhill, tackling really well, and it was an impressive performance. Same thing I'd say about Calgary, though, is they're so good on all three sides of the ball, and they always play good football and they force you to beat them. So we're definitely going to have to, you know, elevate our game on offence and match their physicality because they're a physical, athletic group, and you know, they have a lot of continuity with their coaches and players and so they know what they're doing. And so it's going to be a tough challenge.

Olivier Poulin: We'll go to Joel.

Question: Rick, here in the front row. It's Joel from 3DownNation. A question for you regarding Bob Dyce. Since you brought him on staff, what has he brought to your team?

Rick Campbell: Bob Dyce. Alright. I'd worked with Bob originally in Winnipeg. That was my connection to him, back in '09. And then we ended up losing our Special Teams Coach, and he was at the top of my list. He was the first guy I called. I love how Bob interacts with the players, how he treats them. He's a really good teacher. Just been great to have. The other thing, he's a CFL lifer and appreciates the league. A lot of people in the league know who he is. And the other thing I was impressed with Bob is he's always been an offensive coach. He's been a receiver coach or a coordinator, and he made the transition into special teams and he's really embraced it and has done a great job for him, and I know our players really love him, and he's done a great job for us.

Olivier Poulin: We'll go to Ryan up front.

Question: For both coaches – Ryan Ballantine with 3DownNation and The Horsemen radio podcast. Before Hamilton won their semi-final game, they brought in Ric Flair. Before the Stampeders win their West final game, they bring in Bret Hart. Any WWE champions on the tour for either team this week?

Rick Campbell: Where did this all come from? This sounds fun. I don't know how this started.

Dave Dickenson: Get with it. (Laughter). No, it's so weird, though, because, OK, we had reached out to Bret Hart the week before. We bought a belt. We were going to make some fun with it. And I'm watching the game, and all of a sudden there's

Ric Flair, and then Simoni brings out a belt, and I'm like damn. You snooze, you lose. But I'd already been talking to Bret. I had Bret in because I really feel like Bret is Calgarian. I mean, you can feel it when you talk to him, how proud he is to be from Calgary. He represents this country, and it was good for our team. And he's a man of few words, OK, but when he talks, you listen. So I didn't pay for his bus ride up, so if he shows up I'll be happy to see him, but I'm not expecting Hulk Hogan or anything like that this week, unless Rick has something tucked under his sleeve there.

Rick Campbell: Yeah, I don't -

Dave Dickenson: No.

Rick Campbell: -- I don't where to go with that one. I'll leave it at that.

Olivier Poulin: Alright. We'll go to Arash, and we'll have time for maybe one or two other questions, and then one last questions from Terry. Arash?

Question: For both of you guys, the game two years ago, Rick, what was the moment that stood out the most to you? Dave, what was the moment in that game that stung the most for you?

Rick Campbell: The last play of the game. I just remember that game. You know, we were up at halftime, things were going well, but we know how these guys compete and fight their way back, and knew it was going to – it was – we call it a 60-minute game. Well, that was 60 minutes plus. So you just keep fighting all the way to the end and keep competing because you know they're never going to stop fighting. So a pretty special moment for us. But that's definitely something that we've put in the rear-view mirror and, you know, going to worry about this week.

Dave Dickenson: (Crosstalk) special for me. But it was just – it was a learning experience. I think you have to make sure – look ahead, but learn from the past. And you know, I honestly think that squad, Ottawa, that was fully committed and prepared and outplayed us. So I look back at the game. Yeah, we had our chances, but certainly you got to give them credit. They outplayed us that night.

Question: Dave, Jim Morris again here from CFL.ca. Going a little bit back to Micah Johnson, has that position, the defensive tackle, has it evolved a little bit? Like, BC has a defensive tackle now, Saskatchewan. It's a position that may be – have the – I guess has the position evolved? Is it played different now?

Dave Dickenson: Well, every team has a guy playing that position, not just BC and Sask. But I think the whole game has become more athletic. The defensive ends are faster than the quarterbacks. The D linemen are not only strong, they're so agile, and they can move so fast. And even the offensive linemen, you can't just have a big, you know, hulking guy in there because you get too many holding calls because they're so quick. I have kids, and man, are people getting big. You know, I mean, like, my son's 78 pounds, 12 years old, and he's playing against a 180-pound kid in football this year.

And I just feel like people have gotten not only – like, Micah Johnson is a running back in a D lineman's body. I mean, he is athletic. Sewell up here, Ted Laurent, I mean,

these guys are killers inside. You're right, with Coleman and all that. So the whole league, across the board – and Ottawa's got the same. Look at their ends, look at their end side guys. They run from sideline to sideline as well as receivers, and I just – sometimes you've really got to appreciate the athleticism that's in this league. It's amazing, and the guys here, I think you can put them up against anybody. They're as good as anybody, and I feel like Micah's in that conversation.

Olivier Poulin: Tim Baines.

Question: Tim Baines from (inaudible).

Dave Dickenson: More coffee. Get some coffee.

Rick Campbell: Rough day, Tim? (Laughter).

Question: It's my Grey Cup too.

Question: Tim Baines from Postmedia. I'd like to ask each of you to speak on the other team's quarterbacks, the strengths. Rick, speak about Bo, and Dave, what do you think about Trevor Harris?

Rick Campbell: Well, Bo's obviously a good football player. And you just look at his record. Done some amazing things, and obviously he's coached by a guy that knows what he's doing. So I got to see Bo from the get-go. I actually knew him all the way from back at his Eastern Washington days. I knew who he was and all that because I know that neck of the woods pretty well. And he was a winner in college, he's won with Calgary, and you know, he's a fun guy to watch because he's a competitor and a good football player.

Dave Dickenson: Yeah, I mean, probably I find it easier to comment on my own guys. I don't know Trevor that much personally. I respect the way he plays. I respect his game. I think he's getting better and better each and every week. Other than that, though, I'd like to just talk about our guys because I don't know Trevor personally, but I do have a lot of respect. Played an amazing football game. And he's a good footb—I think he's a good dude. Like I said, it's hard for me to always comment on another team's players, but I think Rick could probably back that. But we're up against it. We'll know he'll be sharp, and we'll have to play well.

Olivier Poulin: Great. Then I guess I'm going to turn it over to Terry Jones. Terry?

Question: You guys know what's coming here, so I'd like to thank you ahead of time for the spirit and creativity you've shown answering this question. For the people new to this room, in 1999 Jim "Shaky" Hunt covered his 50th Grey Cup game, and for just about every one that I went to he asked this Grey Cup sex question. So I'd like to go there again, formalize it. Dave, you lost your last game. Are you going to change your philosophy on the answer to your question? And I just wonder, Rick, if you could possibly top your answer from 2015.

Dave Dickenson: I'd like to go down the road that I heard a great coach a

couple of years ago that had just lost a Grey Cup. He told his players if at first you don't succeed, try again. And I'm going to live by that motto this year. So thank you, Rick, for the line. (Laughter). Because that was you. And yeah, they put us out about eight kilometres away from the downtown, so we'll see if that helps.

Rick Campbell: Well, I got a call yesterday from my mother, and she informed me that she's coming up to the game. She hasn't been to the two Grey Cups I was the head coach in before, and so she's coming up here. So I don't want to get in trouble with my mom and be talking about sex in public like this, so I probably should stay away from that. But you know, I think it's just like the football game on Sunday: it's time to rise to the occasion and close the deal. (Laughter).

Olivier Poulin: Alright. Alright, thank you, gentlemen. For the media, I just want to let you know that the bus departing to the practice field will be leaving from the assembly level entrance, so that's a few levels down. Thank you, everybody. Thank you.