

## Carter the starter...for the scrimmage only

08/03/2003

By MATT MOSLEY / Dallas Web Staff

SAN ANTONIO – This is not going to go smoothly. That’s what Bill Parcells had to say about the upcoming Cowboys season.

Parcells, presiding over his daily news conference/football history session, said tonight’s scrimmage with Houston is just another opportunity to look at players. He announced that Quincy Carter would probably start the scrimmage at quarterback. When asked if Carter’s starting had any significance, Parcells responded with a resounding “no.”

Carter and Chad Hutchinson will get about 20 plays each at quarterback. Either Tony Romo or Clint Stoerner will get the leftovers.

The scrimmage, at 7 p.m. in the Alamodome, will allow each team to run five sets of 10 plays on offense. Special teams will only play if one of the teams gets in field goal range.

Parcells said rookie center Al Johnson (6-5, 303) could miss the scrimmage because of a twisted knee. Johnson, a second-round draft pick, has been working with the first string for several days. Parcells also said that receiver Antonio Bryant might sit out with a tight quadriceps muscle.

The message Parcells delivered after Saturday’s joint practice with Houston was that he’s not interested in his players’ potential.

“Performance is everything,” Parcells said. “Potential is nothing.”

Cowboys

- ▶ [Send Matt Mosley your Cowboys questions](#)
- ▶ [More training camp reports](#)
- ▶ [More Cowboys](#)

### CAMPFIRES

**Bill Parcells** indicated that former SMU cornerback **Donald Mitchell** is making solid progress. Parcells had chided Mitchell for appearing slow in earlier practices, but on Saturday, he blamed an ankle injury for slowing Mitchell down. ... The Cowboys released an unofficial depth chart Saturday morning, but Parcells dismissed it, saying it was something from the “publicity people.” ... Parcells said he wouldn’t take credit for **Randal Williams**’ improved hands. Williams has caught almost every ball thrown to him during camp after getting a “stone hands” reputation last year.

“I spoke to him about it in the spring,” Parcells said. “And I told him that good hands are always together.”

### TALENT SHOW

**Derek Ross** has made some outstanding plays at cornerback the last two days. In Friday afternoon’s practice, Ross dove to pick off a pass. He was at it again Saturday morning, closing quickly on a Houston receiver to swat away a **David Carr** pass. ... Cornerback looks like one of the deepest positions for the Cowboys. **Pete Hunter**, who has been working with the second-team defense, made a spectacular play to break up a Mike Quinn pass. ... Ross and rookie cornerback **Terence Newman** worked with the first-team defense during Saturday’s practice. ... **Ebenezer Ekuban** and **Colston Weatherington** blew by the Texans’ offensive linemen during pass rush drills.

### MORNING ACTIVITIES

Texans safety **Travares Tillman** broke his forearm during Saturday morning's practice. ... Baylor's new football coach **Guy Morriss** and several members of his coaching staff observed practice Saturday. After the practice, the former head coach at Kentucky and his staff spent several minutes visiting with former Wildcats receiver **Aaron Boone**. ... Boone has been on the biggest surprises of camp, making difficult catches on a daily basis.

## QUOTE OF THE DAY

“There are some [players] that just don't get it,” Parcells said. “Like there are some journalists that just don't get it. ... No disrespect intended.”

E-mail [mmosley@dallasnews.com](mailto:mmosley@dallasnews.com)

---

Online at: <http://www.dallasnews.com/sharedcontent/dallas/cowboys/campreports/stories/080303dnspocowreport.ed1000d8.html>