



Head Coach Dan Quinn

Opening Statement:

“Alright, good to see you guys. Starting off thinking, with the team after the game, I thought first things first, man, tough division win. And that's what division games are. All week you'd heard me talk about play style and identity and if we get that part right, the other things can come and that's what I was looking for first. There's plenty to clean up. I thought, prior to the next game, that part, but I wanted to make sure identity, toughness, physicality, that is how we get down and how we play. We knew this to be a line of scrimmage game on both sides. Their defensive line, our offensive line was going to be a battle. I liked how we took care of the ball. We did not create any, and so that's a big deal for us. I thought they did a good job of taking care of it. Didn't seem like it was in harm's way, but thought the inside guys battled and the outside guys were going to get tested. And so, that was, defensively, what I thought would happen. Offensively I thought we hurt ourselves with some penalties that created some tough third downs to go. So, we didn't get quite as many ops as I would've liked but at the end to finish with the ball end of game, that's the toughness, that's the winning time moments that we talk about. So, that part I'm pleased with, but lots to clean up. I'm pleased with the win.”

On the defensive effort:

“Yeah, I really thought that was a strong performance and you heard me talk about identity, the tackling. We didn't create the takeaways today, but man, seeing some plays down inside the 10-yard line, the red zone, the guys have worked hard at that. And for our new players that are added to our group, I thought that was a good mix of what they can be and JK [DT Javon Kinlaw] and [S] Will [Harris] and [OLB] Von [Miller] and some of the others that I spoke to postgame, just knowing they're a big part of what we're doing and how we're going to improve. I was pleased to see, especially down in the low red zone, I thought that was the real game changer part of this game. Two stops down there, that was a big deal.”

On having multiple contributors at the end of the game:

“Yeah, that was a big deal and I love the run at the end and with Bill [RB Jacory Croskey-Merritt] at the end, but you're right because that's what it's going to take. It's going to take all of us, so for guys to step in, I was pleased to see [WR] Deebo [Samuel Sr.] get to kind of express that play of being aggressive. If you'd ask us, I would say we had too many, the 50-50 balls and drops and penalties that were not what were normal there, but to know that we can lean on one another, and I know you've heard me say this before, but I do like our team and that's how you have to win games, some ways in different phases to go through it. And so, to be able to lean in on the defense today, I thought that was a good sign.”

On the performance from the offensive line versus a really good New York Giants front:

“Yes, and that's kind of what we talked about going into the game, that's the real strength of their

team and I really think their defensive line is going to be an impactful one. So, there's times, there's good pro times. I thought maybe we could have thrown it away and take the incomplete and that's still [QB] Jayden [Daniels] too, to say, 'Okay, this one's over, go to the next play.' That's part of the competitor too, we're on the fourth down-and-something, you keep it going maybe on second down let's play for third down. And so, he'll learn from that. That's one thing you can, and I've learned from him over the year, okay, watch out. There's something to fix, he goes after it pretty good."

On how Samuel Sr. is being used in the offense:

"Yeah, he's a lot of fun to coach too. He plays aggressive and downhill. We missed some [opportunities], so we'll be wanting to look at those. But also the touchdown run, that was like to me quintessential him. We've seen that movie, we know what that looks like and had a feature into this offense. And so, I think that was part of the reasoning with [General Manager] Adam [Peters] and the trade and why it was such a good fit. Because when you see what somebody can do and you know how to put that into the offense, that's the blend of scouting and coaching to say, I know what a player can do and how we would do it. And so, I hadn't known him, but man, it was cool to get to know him and coach him now and find out what he can do."

On if the New York defense caused some confusion for their offense:

"Yeah, [RB Austin] Ekeler made another play that was just a third down conversion that he makes some of these plays that is an absolute X-factor. But we still have a lot of execution that we can clean up and that's part of the run game, passing game, but we're at our best when both are hitting. And so, I thought the run game made the marks. We just didn't hit all the markers in the passing game today. We need togetherness, we need all that. We won't get it this week. I told the team when we broke, I said, 'Alright, enjoy it and sleep fast, tomorrow's Wednesday as we're going to get rocking again.' But we've got plenty to clean up on. I do love the way that the team finished the game, having the ball, kneeling it, that was a big moment to say, 'Okay, that's the physicality I'm looking for.'"

On Kinlaw and DT Daron Payne:

"I liked the intentionality of the work that I've seen from them. I know Daron was here and we got to coach him last year, but there was another space that he went to in practice and performance and I'd just spoken to him. It was better, it was different, it was higher, it was more elevated and he was just so locked in and JK [Kinlaw] coming here with things to prove and back into this space, I was really pleased to see what they could do."

On T Josh Conerly Jr.'s performance:

"Yeah, we knew this was going to be a tough matchup just with the style of [DE Brian] Burns and [New York Giants LB Abdul] Carter are going to be there, [New York Giants DL Kayvon] Thibodeaux, and like good matchups, good tough things. But one thing that I've learned about Conerly, like he really does like a challenge. And in the early part of training camp, he was good. I would see it. And then we went to New England, and he elevated. And when you are a young player and you get your first start, there's things you like, things you don't, same with [CB Trey] Amos, to say, 'Okay, you got a P.I., I thought it was a good aggressive play. How do we learn from it?' And so the fact that it, it'll be a division game now, he'll have something to pull back on from when we play them weeks from now. So, all of those things matter. Like the younger you are, man, like you want to like eat experience, I need them, I need every bit of it. And so, you grow, you make mistakes, you fail some, you do well and then he's the type of player that does learn from it. And so that's kind of what

happens as you grow, and they seem to grow faster when you have the mindset like, I'm not going to do that again. I liked how this went and Josh certainly has that."

On what LB Nick Bellore brings to the special teams unit:

"Yeah, it's more than just the speed. It's the physicality, the tackling, the matchups because Nick, like, he could absolutely fly. That's like as a special teams featured player, that's the superpower and the speed, but the physicality I thought was a good hit, man. The ball almost looked like it was going to come out. It didn't. But he is really what we lean on in that way. We felt like we got a lot of cleanup in that area too. The protection wasn't like we quite like, the kickoff coverage part was good. I thought it was strong and tough like we liked, but we got plenty of work to do. That's usually where you see it and you build it and then you build it in the first month, it's ups and downs and you know, you're trying to clean things up to have this many penalties and I was pissed but back to Bellore, I just think he's somebody that's so consistent and helps develop others. It's a big part of who we are and identity and attitude."

On if the ability to have starters play more in training camp still exists in today's NFL:

"Yeah, yeah. It still exists. I think that's fair. To get more turns and how do you balance back and forth. I thought the penalties went down and then they climbed back up again today. But yeah, it's definitely a factor into it. Sometimes just the health and the injuries factor in it too during training camp. But yeah, I don't disagree with that."

On the young secondary players performances today:

"Yeah, this is a strong receiving core. We thought coming in, I thought the strength of New York was receivers, D-line and those would be kind of the areas that they would push us and test us. I thought [New York Giants QB Russell] Russ [Wilson] is somebody that can just throw a fantastic deep ball and they did test us. So, to see us battle for it, downfield, that was a big step in the right direction for us, knowing that's how you got to play, that's what life outside is. And to see them deliver that was a big piece for us."

QB Jayden Daniels

On how offense performed throughout the game:

"We were sloppy but it's always better to come out with a win than a loss, so we'll learn from that."

On the performance of his two new teammates, WR Deebo Samuel Sr. and RB Jacory Croskey-Merritt:

"They showed up. They made plays on plays that needed to be made, and I'm super pumped for them to have them on our team."

On the defense's effort in today's game:

"I mean you guys saw it. They made stops when they needed [to], when we're stalling and I'm being sloppy on the offensive side of the ball, so kudos to them."

On the sloppiness of the offense possibly coming from having new players joining the team:

"There's always first game jitters or whatever. You know you're not gonna be at your peak form in Week 1 and you don't want to, but there's little stuff that we gotta clean up and be more attentive on. We'll hit that in film and get ready for the game in a short week."

On his thoughts on RB Jacory Croskey-Merritt's performance:

"He ran hard. He ran hard."

On WR Deebo Samuel Sr. being a threat to other defenses and them needing to react to that:

"I would think they have to. He's a guy with many talents on the football field."

On knowing the team doesn't need to be at their best to play the clock and manage to win the game:

"I mean it's a complementary sport. It's good to know that the defense was flying around today, and they made plays, but we don't wanna rely on defense getting stops even though we play well off each other but we wanna go out there and execute at a high level."

On the timing of playing again with WR Terry McLaurin as of the last couple weeks:

"The timing was there. They were doubling {WR} Terry {McLaurin} a lot, rightfully so. He's earned that right in this league, so other guys stepped up and made plays, but when the plays were there for Terry to show up, like that third down on the little curl route, he made a play and we kept the chains moving."

On the biggest thing he wants the offense to clean up this week:

"I gotta go back and watch the film, but I know we didn't play at our best I would've played."

On Samuel Sr.'s touchdown from his perspective:

"I didn't see a lot. I just saw people score a touchdown. I didn't really decipher how everybody did their job and let Deebo run through a couple tackles and score."

On the significance of the Japanese flag on the back of his helmet:

"My great grandmother is Japanese, so [I'm] showing love to her."

On whether the team accomplished the tone he wanted to set for the game:

"I mean it's always good to get a win versus a division rival. I would think we still got room to grow, but it's always good to start 1-0, especially in the division too."

On what happened during the end of the half:

"Miscommunication. It starts with me, so I gotta be better."

On what it says about the team that they're 1-0 in the division Week 1 yet he isn't that thrilled with the game itself:

"We're not gonna really be content with everything. We won the game, but we have a short week now. We can't live off that high that we just did. You kind of got 24 hours to get over it, really less than that, because we're going to Green Bay."

On how their body treatment clock starts sooner during a short week:

"I think you have to. I learned that from [LB] Bobby [Wagner] last year in a short week, so obviously [we] kind of gotta start that back up now cause we don't get a full week to get our bodies back right."

RB Jacory Croskey Merritt

On his first regular-season NFL game:

"This whole day was amazing, just being able to be on the field with my teammates. I've waited a long time for this, and I just want to give these guys thanks for just pushing me and believing me."

On scoring his first NFL touchdown:

"I forgot the ball again. I told myself, when I score, I'm going to make sure I keep my football. I think the excitement just takes over me, and I just end up dropping it. [WR] Terry [McLaurin] ended up finding the ball and giving it to me."

On his expectations for today:

"It was whatever the coaches wanted me to do, and I was going to do that one hundred percent. I just appreciate my teammates being there for being there the whole time."

On his performance today:

"I just go out there and do me. It's football at the end of the day. I just go out there and have fun."

On his touchdown celebration:

"I'm still trying to figure out the celebration situation, because in college, I didn't really celebrate. My friends were like, 'You need to do something in the end zone.' I'm thinking that's going to be my signature move. I don't know yet. I might have to switch it up. I'm still searching right now."

On if his touchdown celebration has a name:

"No [laughs], it's just something I like doing."

On the offensive weapons:

"Yeah, for sure, I feel like that just makes things a thousand times better, just having a lot of playmakers around you. It just keeps people guessing and me being around these guys makes me want to step up to the level that these guys are at."

On New York's defensive front:

"I would say we have physical d-line, and we see those guys every day. We just can't go to the ground, but the defense we faced they were definitely physical and I was kind of used to it, our defense got me ready for it every day during the week at practice."

On how he felt today:

"No, I felt like it was great football weather. I was just excited to be out there."

WR Deebo Samuel Sr.

On the jet sweep play and running it with the team:

"First of all, it starts up front. It started with the offensive line and then [WR] Luke [McCaffrey] just getting a great pin block. Just following the guys all the way to the end zone, and I just did what I had to do."

On if his connection with QB Jayden Daniels matches his expectations:

"I didn't know what it was going to look like to be honest, just getting here. But as the flow kept going throughout OTAs and camp, how well we were connecting, we just started to build chemistry and we just showed it today."

On his preferred number of carries per game:

"I like to touch the ball, for sure."

On the right number of touches per game to him:

"The right number is the right number."

On how he and the new offensive players ease pressure off of QB Jayden Daniels and WR Terry McLaurin:

"My goal is to come out there and just be the best self that we can, and win games, for sure. Jayden and Terry, and the rest of the guys had an outstanding season last year. Hopefully, we just take it game by game, we just see how the season goes."

On if the offense left plays on the field:

"Oh, for sure. I had two drops. We had a couple penalties that kind of set us back. You never want to be in 2nd and Long, 3rd and Long, so little learning things like that. But, we got the win and we just move on past it and just try to correct it. We got a short week this week."

On if his performance today disproved the off-season narrative that he lost speed:

"I just go out there and just do my job. And I mean, [if] they have something to say, they have something to say. It doesn't affect the way I come in and come to work every day."

On the defense's performance:

"Oh, yeah. Defense looks amazing. Definitely start with the guys up front. And the secondary, we've been playing against them all camp. They just showed what they've been showing week in and week out in camp."

On preparing for the short week and road game at Green Bay:

"The main thing is to get as healthy as you can for the quick week. Not too much going to be full speed, and I think [Head Coach] "DQ" [Dan Quinn] does a great job of taking care of the guys and giving the guys enough time to recover and get their body right. So, like I just stated, we got a short week. Just take care of our bodies and just getting ready for Thursday."

On the process of working in new pieces in the team:

"Kind of like what [QB] "Jay" [Jayden Daniels] said. We had a little ups and down through this game. We got out with the win. But like I just stated, this week, we're just going to get better and just go out there and try to get the win on Thursday."

T Josh Conerly Jr.**On facing Giants' D-line in first career NFL start:**

"I mean, I feel like it was great for me because I was able to get out there and kind of do what I do. Obviously, let up a side, have some pressures, but at the same time, I feel like it was good to start

out with someone like that. So, I know where to adjust and how to get better from there. And I feel like there's a little bit of everything I need to get better at."

On any nerves going into first NFL start:

"No, not really."

On if he leaned on the veterans:

"100%. I feel like I always have to. We all have to lean on each other. That's how we get through a full game."

On his performance:

"It was okay. Lots of ups and downs, but it's all it started. And you can only go up from here."

On General Manager Adam Peters' message:

"Just congrats on the dub. We just gonna keep rolling from here."

On short turnaround and facing Packers DL Micah Parsons on Thursday:

"I feel like he's gonna be a great challenge for me and for the rest of us."

On getting a couple big runs to ice the game:

"It felt great to finish, and you worked the whole game for big runs like that. I'm gonna say we were inching along the whole game and finally broke a couple soon. Felt good."

On getting his first NFL win:

"Yeah, I mean, really, that was my first win in 2025 of football. So, it felt great."

LB Bobby Wagner

On his overall view of the game:

"Anytime you hold a team to six points is really dope. This is the NFL, it's hard to stop teams, they did a good job last year moving the ball and I felt like we did better today."

On how the guys on the front line played:

"The D-line did a great job. They were in the backfield making it easy on us. It really was a testament to them on how much they were just in the backfield causing havoc."

On the talk of offseason and growing the defensive line:

"Yeah, bigger guys, obviously we emphasize it all offseason. That is something that we want to improve on and it's a good first step."

On the aggressiveness of the defense:

"Yeah, I think so. Some of those things we can clean up, and they're more on us, so we just got to be better."

On teammate DT Daron Payne:

"Daron did a great job. Sacks, causing pressures in the backfield, tipping the balls, he made life easy for us. All those guys did, but him specifically made life easier for the linebackers."

On the roughing the passer call:

"I was just trying to match his hands. The ball was right there. I went for the ball, I felt like I avoided his head, I made sure I didn't fall on him. I thought I did everything that they said in the rule book to do, and they called it. I really can't control that. I did the best I could, and they called it, and I just have to do better next time."

On how he prepares for the next game:

"I'm about to eat something and then go get in the cold tub and start preparation today."

CB Trey Amos

On soaking it all in before the game:

"I took a couple of breathers and just thank God. I just went out there and do what I had to do."

On the kickoff of his season:

"That's the standard, we do have to keep on playing our roles, and doing our job at the end of the day"

DT Daron Payne

On the defense today:

"Whatever we can do, we stop the run and play good on defense."

On how it feels making big plays:

"I'm having fun, man. I think it just shows you what you are capable of."

On if he had fun during today's game:

"I had a lot of fun, and it's just getting started."