

DALLAS COWBOYS vs. WASHINGTON COMMANDERS – OCTOBER 19, 2025 WASHINGTON COMMANDERS HEAD COACH DAN QUINN



"Injuries are not the reason that we lost. Others may talk about who we did or who we didn't have today, and I'm here to say it doesn't matter who you have or who is out when you don't give yourself a real chance at it. The turnover margin, the penalties, the missed tackles, the drops. Dallas beat us, and we beat ourselves as well. We were the ones who got ourselves into the holes, and we're the same ones who have got to dig ourselves out. Make no mistake, we did not play to the standard we've set. Like I said, we dug ourselves into it, and we're the only ones who can get ourselves out. As for Jayden, we definitely wanted him back in. He'll get an MRI on the hamstring tomorrow, so I'll have a better update for you after I visit with the guys in the afternoon. I don't want to say one way or another and not give you accurate info on that, so I want to make sure that's clear. As we begin, we have lots to dig into. We play again in eight days and we have a lot of things to get better at."

On the frustration with big plays that keep happening.

"It's very frustrating. We're going to look at everything. When you have a play that goes downfield and you throw it over their head or something like that, I can live with that. But the big explosive plays, I can't put my finger on. That's a lot for us to dig into."

On if the score had anything to do with Jayden staying out.

"No, he definitely wanted to come back. I'll have a better sense for you guys tomorrow. I'd just be guessing, and I don't want to do that."

On when he says he'll look at everything, is he talking about personnel changes?

"Yeah, that's fair. I think that's what I want to dig into and find and look at. It's all things. When you have a performance like that, I think that's fair. What are the things that need to be different, and what are the things that need to continue to improve upon? In eight days, we play again, and it has to be better. That's my message, so the adjustments, the changes, the things that we'll make, that's what we're going to have to do."

On the collective over these last few weeks on defense, what's the biggest issue in your mind? Execution? Scheme? Coaching?

"I wish I could have just one thing, because then I could say, "Okay, it's that." I think you've probably heard me say it for the last year and a half — execution is players and coaches. So we'll dial into are we putting the guys in the right spots, digging into the right locations. As a coach, you always ask, "What's the right amount? What's too much?" So we've got a lot to look into. We'll have an extra day to go. A good bit of it is going to be about us before we begin preparation for Kansas City eight days from now. There's a lot to improve upon. That's also why I said at the beginning the injuries are not the reason we lost."

On the players' mindsets when the score got out of hand in the second half.

"Yes — mad, frustrated, all the emotions that you'd expect when you're not hitting the mark. I like the group. I'm going to ask them to look at themselves, where are we at, and where do we need to get better. Same thing with the coaches. It's got to come from ourselves. In terms of execution and playing to the standard that we want, we're far below those standards."

On if he's surprised with where things are at.

"Yes, very."

I know you don't want to make injuries the reason, but you go through OTAs and camp to get guys reps with each other, and now you're missing that continuity. How difficult is that to overcome?

"That's fair — it's a difficult one to overcome. It doesn't make up the whole margin to me. We didn't find our edges. We didn't run the ball as effectively as I thought we could, and that would help when he gets into the play-pass game for things. We knew there was a specific way for us to go win this game going into it, whether you're shorthanded at one spot or another, and when it doesn't go that way, obviously it gets frustrating."

On, without going into specifics on Jayden's injury, do you know what happened on that play?

"I know it was hamstring — maybe he felt it on the play even prior. As far as the specific play, I don't have an update for you. I haven't seen the film, but I'll get with you guys tomorrow with our assessment and evaluation."



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On what happened on the play of the Daniels injury

"I know it was hamstring. He might have felt it on the play prior. As far as the specific play, I don't have an update. I haven't seen film. I'll be on with you guys tomorrow. We'll have a better assessment and give you the evaluation of what it is."

On what changed for the offense after the Daniels injury

"Honestly, I don't know. I don't want to (BS) by saying this changed or that changed. We didn't hit the mark in a lot of ways. Going in, there was a specific way we wanted to play and going win it. When you don't do that, it's collective. It's not about one."

On if there was a time when he decide that he would call the plays

"No, I'm on the headset talking through ideas, discussions, game management, all of it. So, I'm pretty talkative throughout...offensively, when we would go on some of the fourth downs...defensively, third downs and some of the ideas. But I guess when performances are like that, you didn't get any fine answers."

On the series before halftime

"Words cannot explain. I was hot."

On if there's an update on Bobby Wagner

"No update from an injury standpoint...We'll have a better assessment tomorrow. At the end, we took a few guys out but it wasn't due to injury...It was at point of no return and we had to dig in again. We didn't want to make an injury situation worse than we were. It wasn't performance or any other factor."