

August 28, 2025

## **Head Coach Dan Quinn**

### **Opening Statement:**

“Alright, what's up everybody? Our final, kind of wrap up training camp, roster decisions, all of that, to kind of discuss that after today's practice, the players will also get a three-day break over the weekend and they need it too. Our times together with them are really intense, so their time to recharge and go, but practice today is really squarely on us and things that we need to hit on, things we need to work, timing, execution, our skill work, end of the game situation. So, we're going to go right back into it into that spot. And finally, and most importantly [CB] Mike Sainristil and [CB] Jon Jones are excused today for two very good and special reasons.”

### **On QB Jayden Daniels and WR Terry McLaurin establishing their connection again:**

“Yeah, I think, more of it just time on task, honestly to say, do they have experience together? Yes, bank reps, yes. But still, yesterday we ran a deep play action that was over to Terry. That was good route that you'd seen before, so now let's, hey, let's work this one some more, this one a little bit more. So, Jayden's excellent with that to work a specific route with a specific player on some things. And so, that's what you'll see more with him and Terry, extras, early's, this specific route, this timing because it's not all the same for every player. And so, that's kind of the challenge of it from a quarterback and a receiver, not the playing zone where you're back facing the quarterback, but deep overs, comebacks, the timing of it. So, that's what they'll continue to work through.”

### **On Daniels and McLaurin's connection:**

“Yeah, I would say the complimentary reason that comes to mind first, I would think is, one's an exceptional deep ball ability to go track it and the other's exceptionally throwing it. So, I think maybe, I've never really thought of it in that way, but there's probably some complimentary football that goes to one another. So, here's a guy that can really go and get on top of people and catch it over different shoulders on a deep ball and a quarterback who's got the touch to do it. So, I think that's probably the biggest complimentary piece of their games that they're able to support one another on two of the things that they both do really well.”

### **On how the coaching staff and front office react to forming the 53-man roster:**

“Yeah, it's a hard thing. It's not as hard as the players going through it, that's for sure. They have the toughest spot, but there were a lot of ones that kept us up at night. Let's think through it again, get a late text from [General Manager] Adam [Peters], this and this. So, an either or, a scenario. And so, I like going through those exercises with him because it also gets me to think and think of it in different ways. And so, I had from my own knowledge, I wanted the coaches, they're going to rank everybody at this spot and what their roles would be week one, what about week five? So, we could think about what it looks like today and then what it looks like a month or two from now. So as coaches, you do have to think that way. And then also I really just, I know we talked about practice squad and what not but I think of it like 70 men knowing that here you're counted on to be responsible to be ready. And so, if that's an elevation this week or a following week, it's going to

happen. So, I want them to just prepare and play in that way. So, it's not like they don't get reps at practice, they do and I want to make sure that like these are the standards and how we have to go about them.”

**On RB Chris Rodriguez’s evolution as a running back:**

“Consistent for one, I would say when somebody can demonstrate over and over again that they're willing to put the work in, find the right read, not just the physical skill, but mentally on the special teams. He's a player that this team really trusts. If you ask [Special Teams Coordinator] Larry [Izzo], yesterday he was giving the look on punt to another player who's playing the wing. That's the same spot Chris often plays. So, that move that he hit, he knows what stresses him. And so, I thought what a great example of [S] Jeremy [Reaves] and him providing the look of things that can be troublesome to some of the other players. And if you can get your team to a spot like that where they're testing one another and pushing one another, that's a really big deal. And I think Chris is a great example of that. I saw it in the preseason games, whether he was just excited when Bill [RB Jacory Croskey-Merritt] had a big run against Cincinnati as he was for himself. And so, that doesn't happen all the time, but I like his fight. I like that he really worked hard to change his body, and those are things that when can people continue to show you that and then you pay attention.”

**On keeping four running backs on the 53-man roster:**

“Yeah, it's a good question and I think it was definitely, usually it's at the skill spot, how many tight ends, how many running backs, the evolution also of the return game. That's influenced me too because those are more plays and examples to go see if we can further even that starting field position. Right now at the touchback on the 35, we're anticipating a lot of people putting it into play, but we don't know that yet. And so, I think that part of the game does, it feels running back-ish. Not to say that [WR] Deebo [Samuel Sr.] is a receiver, but he runs hard like a back in a lot of ways. So, he's certainly another one that we'll have but I think that is a big part of it. We think of an A-back and a B-back, [RB] Austin [Ekeler] out of the backfield third down. So, it's not one size fits all, but I do like the versatility of the room.”

**On seeing the potential of the offense with most of the pieces back on the field:**

“Maybe not fully, but I do know that we've still run the same, so it's not like the system changes. So, putting them into some of those plays may look differently because of who the ballplayer is at that spot but it's not like a new system comes in. So, I think that's important to know for 10 others on that specific play. They'll be doing the same exact job, so let's face it with one length. Well that I think it grows, I'm hopeful that the team we are and one is going to be really strong and stronger in four and stronger in eight as we're building it. And if we hit all the marks, then we should do that. Our skills should get sharper but I like the competitiveness at the receiver spot and it's not just Terry and Deebo and [WR] Noah [Brown], but [WR] Jaylin [Lane] is that way, [WR] Luke [McCaffrey] is that way. These are guys that like to battle for it. Our league is made up of a lot of contested catches and it's one of the things Terry's exceptional at Deebo's in that same space. Noah is there, certainly Luke and Jaylin, they make up a fierce competitive group and so that's important. And knowing that in tight coverage, these guys are going to go fight for the ball.”

**On the direction he'd like to run to in a short yardage situation:**

“I like that you included [TE] John [Bates], I think [Former Washington TE] Don Warren would be awful proud of you to put the tight end as part of the O-line. He is an exceptional blocker. I don't know that yet, no, but I do like the athleticism of the group and so we have tested gap pulling schemes to the left, to the right, putting different guys in different spots. [T Brandon] Coleman's

been back in there. He's another guy that can get to the move. We've improved also in the screen games because we're ready to go to one side, but as far as a fourth down, gotta have it going to this side, we're not there yet to say this is where the ball is going to go. Yeah, or I'm not there to share that with you yet [laughs]. I might be closer to that than I'm letting on, but I'm closer than you."

**On how much of Green Bay goes into the scouting report next week:**

"The coaches really had to be the ones to put it in over the weekend, Sunday, Monday and Tuesday. So, while Adam and I were busy with that, they really dug in on Green Bay. And so, that way they could then as the week went on that it kind of shifted. But having a Thursday game is challenging. Having a Thursday game at week two is better than week seven because having, I don't know if the term would be exactly right, a preseason bye, you know how we've changed the schedule. So, this window allows flexibility. I'm sure some teams are just doing, hey, two weeks on the opponent they're playing in the opener but with that Thursday there is some windows that the coaches aren't with the players, and they had Sunday off. I met with them by myself Monday, the players that had off Tuesday to begin practice Wednesday. So, there was some pockets that they were able to do that and then you have to shut the folders and put that in the drawer and it doesn't come back out again until that Monday but it did help."

**On trying to achieve the same fourth down success as last season:**

"It's not all one, going into the game sometimes it's, I want to make sure we're stealing another possession. So, there's some strategy going on with that. It's about like nine drives or so a game as you're going through it. And so how do we gain an advantage on somebody sometimes going forward on fourth does that, where's the kicker, comfort level to go into that space and then it's really by the distance you look at the opponent where do they fall on the end ones? How about in twos? Where do they play on the threes and fours? If it's a certain style, maybe you're more apt to know what you're going to expect. But yeah Jayden was a big factor in that 87% or whatever the number was. There was a handful for sure that was called one thing and then something happened and like he made the rest go down, like we don't have a play called that. You don't want to count on that. That's a reactive way of the ball player doing his thing. But you don't want to lean into that. I think that's irresponsible. You want to make sure this is what we think we're going to do, how we're going to go down, but really by game as we make those decisions as much as we can before the game. So going in the coordinators know what to expect, how we're going to do it, and then as the game unfolds, I'll communicate with them where we're at. But I think the secret for me on the telling the coordinators is early in the drive, so no one's ever caught off guard, 'Hey, we're going to go forward here' because it can impact some of your third down calls if it's in the fourth down. Knowing that you may have two downs."

**On what makes a great quarterback/receiver duo:**

"From my defensive perspective, you know this route's going to happen and they still complete it [laugh] like that's the hardest. Like [expletive] we talked about this throw or this route. And they're so exceptional at that they were able to put it in the right location at the right spot but it is a real thing. The connection, chemistry, all of that matters. The best of the best players. They spend a lot of time together that's even outside of coaching and that to make sure those moments are delivered upon. But we're fortunate that, Jayden and Terry are too that do that extra."

**On WR Jaylin Lane's training camp:**

"We knew the punt return ability was really strong. What I probably didn't know, and I knew he was fast and explosive, but the way that he's taken to coaching from [Wide Receivers Coach] Bobby

[Engram], you can almost see the drill work come into the play. And so, there's a specific way you run an option route when somebody's on you, you don't want to hustle too quickly because then the defender's not really into the stress. So, seeing him fully express how to work somebody into a technique, that's a really big deal because in college, especially on offenses that play really fast, there's not as much man-to-man. And so, that's one of the things that can be more challenging for a slot or a wide receiver that's playing in a tempo offense. Because college plays faster than we play, so you see less matching and tight coverage. So, they're able to run their routes at full speed and hit it and go to the next play. And so, running an option route, defeating leverage, beating people in man-to-man, that's been an impressive, I'm not going to call it catch up, but development from the time he's arrived to where he is today.”

### **On players who had parents who coached them growing up:**

“That's a better question for Jaylin. I would say it's gotta factor in somehow. When you're five years old and you're at football practice when other people aren't, you solve things that happen and I'm sure it matters. Kliff's [Offensive Coordinator Kliff Kingsbury] father was the defensive coordinator, so different sides of the ball and coached him, so he said, yeah, try throwing an interception in high school when your dad's the D-coordinator, not so easy [laughs]. So, with Jaylin being around football his whole life, is that a factor on why some of those things are coming easier? Possibly, but at the end of it, man, I like just the work that he's putting in. For these rookies, what they're doing right now, this is the hardest thing they've ever done and that's a real thing but they'll make it, but they have to put in the work, whether you grew up as a coach's kid or not. It comes down to what we do out on the field, on the grass, at practice, that's where it has to go down. And I'm encouraged because what I've seen from him is this steady rise.”

### **On lessons he's learned from his first stint as a head coach to now:**

“I really lean in, and you'll appreciate this from the military side, is the after actions. What did I like, what did we need to do differently? What needs to stay the same? And so, that prepared me to go into, okay, from a coaching side in these practices, we changed the length of our individual session to being longer. They wanted more time on more skill work. The team's in better shape now, so we practiced a little bit longer. We got more reps than we did last year in almost the same amount of time. So, we're becoming more efficient, but because the guys are really fit and they're ready in the system, it's allowed us to practice more. So, that's been a benefit, so I would say looking back before you begin the planning of what took place on the last training camp, what did I like? And I just finished this year's of things I liked, so that'll go into the drawer and be ready for '26. But it does help to have an after-action process to say, this went well, we need to do this more and that's how I went about it.”

### **On his takeaways from the run defense during the preseason:**

“Sure, I would say our tackling got better as we went. So, first game I didn't like it at all. Second game got better, as we got to Baltimore I liked it better. As far as the run defense goes, if I just counted the preseason games, it'd be incomplete. So, in totality, I like where we've added guys into the mix, [DT] Eddie [Goldman], JK [DT Javon Kinlaw], [DE Deatrich] Wise [Jr.], these are some big strong guys inside. So, I'm pleased with the trajectory there. So, it was a combination of adding some personnel and then I would say the technique feels better going into it. It'll always be something I see us working on, but our tackling, that's to me the top of the pile and we're not where I think we need to be and will be. I feel that way every year at this time because it's the thing we don't do full on. And so, tackling feels like it gets better defensively kind of as the season grows and you gotta stay on the skill for that. But I'm more, much more pleased than I am a year ago

sitting here at this time, that's for sure.”

**On wow moments during the preseason:**

“Man, that’s a good one. Going into the season, the communication defensively reached a new level, and I was pleased to see that. And that may not seem like a wow one for the fans or for somebody watching practice but the level of focus it takes to get that communication right. I know that the players and the coaches, man, they are putting in work. And so, the walkthroughs, the consistency of that. The wow moment probably came for me, it was before Baltimore, we had a practice that was designed only for situations and I really pushed us to ones that come up a lot and some that don't come up very often, but their ability to execute on that day and what I would call winning time moments that showed me wow, they've put in the work and they have an understanding of what we want to get done. Sideline catches, timeouts, long field goals, onside kicks, those are the separators between winning and losing so many times. So, I really wanted us to get tested and test the times, the thresholds. So, that would've been my wow moment I was expecting. Let's hit that one again, let's repeat that play. And I only did that probably twice in that whole practice where I was expecting, I bet five or six more times. That wasn't quite right because you don't really get a second chance when there's six seconds left and you have no timeouts and you gotta get the ball out of bounds. Either you do or you don't, and so that was a good sign for me that both sides of the ball on teams, they've been putting in that work in the winning time. So, that would be my wow moment. We got a lot of work to do, just that's how I feel about practice, man. You just keep going for it. And eventually you keep getting better and better but I like that we had a really good practice yesterday. It sometimes feels weird, okay, who's here, who's back? It's like this unusual spot. It's better than for some of the old heads in the room that when you covered the team, it went from a lot to a little really fast. So, with the extended practice squad, that helps, but I was pleased on the first day that we were able to really step into a rhythm together.”