

Head Coach Dan Quinn

Opening Statement:
“Alright, let's get rolling. Frustrating game. And once again, we have not nailed our complementary football, and I'll keep saying it until we do. We're halfway through the season, and that all has to click. After stops, I don't think we capitalized. We had two takeaways. I think we only got three points out of it. We had some opportunities for fourth down stops defensively to get those stops to get it flipped the other way. So, all that said, it's a short week against our division leader on the road, and we gotta go. And we have to play all three phases together. Seen too much of it where it's part of it, not the whole thing. And so that's what we're gonna continue to do. Just practice it and that has to get right. It just has to. Too far along to not have it all working together.”

On the offense starting off strong but then not being able to sustain that level of play:
“Yeah, I did like the way that we started too. I felt that way. To see us have some runs, have action to go, and I didn't feel like we were able to sustain that. And to get ahead and then here's a chance even to get a takeaway and go further to [extend the lead]. But my biggest example is even the complementary [football], we had a chance to be on our two-minute to go. We got a takeaway. I think it was maybe a fumble recovery. And then we turned it over again. They get a field goal. So, looking back to it, like I'll give them credit too. I wanna watch the tape from a front standpoint, but I liked how we started. But like just to not see that sustain that's the thing that makes it especially frustrating.”

On what made them challenge the incomplete pass ruling on the CB Amik Robertson punch out:
“They said the first catch was the bobble that we're seeing, and then the second step maybe then was established. So, we're thinking, all right, the first one, the second one was showing completion of the catch. And so, after review, they thought maybe it was bobbled on the first step, so then that didn't make it into the second step, meaning that became the first. But I think on those ones sometimes like it takes a shot too, when it's one that you think is reasonable to go. When it's clear and obvious, many times that gets replay assisted. But in that moment, I felt like this was one, if it's close, roll the dice. If I didn't think it was, I wouldn't have done it.”

On the decision to have a lateral play versus a shot directly at the end zone for the final play of the game:
“Yeah. So, there's two plays that you come in [with], and so on the first one you're taking a shot to the end zone, just like you described, and sometimes to check for that against a team that does what we call a zero blitz or a max blitz, you wanna, ‘Okay, here's the other play where you can't block them all up.’ And so, they did a good job in showing that one. So, we got to the second play of what would've been everybody blitzing, check it down and move forward from there. So, with eight seconds left, you want two chances at something. And so, to not have those, didn't love our execution at our end.”

On if he has an injury update for C Lucas Patrick and CB Amik Robertson:
“The only one I do have is that with Lucas not coming back, he's in the concussion protocol. But I'll give you some updates tomorrow whenever we talk next regarding anyone else. That's the only one that the medical team hit me on prior [to the press conference].”

On the challenges in defending Los Angeles Rams WR Puka Nacua and on the Rams really beating them on two types of plays:
“Yeah, for sure. And I give him credit too. So, the inside style of runs, I guess what they've been demonstrating of like the run game and inside, and I knew that was going to be one of the strengths of their team. I thought both the backs had showed good production doing that. With Nacua, I knew there had also been some on the screen side of things, so it's not all drop backs to go. And I think that's part of what makes him unique is his catch and run ability where it's not just downfield throws. So, on those, you have to be able to roll up and tackle well too. Like he may get X number of catches for not too far down the field, but knowing that like, ‘Hey, man, you gotta go get your tackle too’, so having too many yards, that was big for me.”

On if the team is running out of time:
“Yeah, I think it speaks to the importance of [playing] a division leader right away. And so, it's a difficult locker room, we gotta turn the page quickly to get to that because we talked earlier, ‘Okay, this is where we are, but we also know, we have to play at our best.’”

On how C Matt Gulbin earned the backup spot and on why C/G Nick Allegretti didn’t enter the game:
“We went with how we've been practicing more like Nick at guard. And so, both of those and Matt there. So, in that moment, I would've felt comfortable with Nick as well, but I thought, let's give the guy whose got the most reps of where we've been hitting and putting Nick at guard. So that was the decision behind it. It's difficult, but this is part of the gig.”

On T Brandon Coleman struggling with pre-snap penalties:
“Yes. And I want to go back to look. We've put a lot of work into what could change to get some of these false starts off and to have still two remain. I think [G] Sam [Cosmi]'s might’ve been a holding, that one that was prior to the turnover. So I'd like to look. We've made adjustments on how many cadences, what types, and that. So, I just wanna see if it's a product of too much anticipation against a good rusher. And that's different to me than a lack of focus. Does that make sense? So, I'll give you a better answer once I have a chance to look at him.”

On if Allegretti is healthy:
“Yes. Yeah, we’ve just been working him more at guard and Matt [Gulbin] at center. And, you know, if we have to change, we'll see what next week looks like as well.

On if the last two plays of the game were the original plan:
“Yeah, it has to be one that you get to a second play. And, you know, it's the right adjustment to make it and going. So how long do you wait? You get the full protection and try to throw Hail Mary because it's hard on Hail Mary, get everybody scrambling and buy time when they're bringing everyone. So that's the juxtapose of, like, get to a max protection, buy time or that's another alternative play. So, the one before, it was really the one I wanted to see more execution when there was maybe eight seconds. At that point, there's just two plays remaining in the game and you wanna give yourself a chance.”

On why that last call was made instead of a Hail Mary attempt:
“I think just more, like, tape history, too, of what could [they could call] and what they've done. Also, I wanna give them [credit]. I'm not looking to take [anything] away [from] them, but I just wanna see us give ourself a real shot at it.”

On why it looked like WR Stefon Diggs wasn’t playing much in the first half:
“Nope. It wasn't any further design than another. We've actually done less multiples of who and what, especially when we were lighter than we have been. So no, there was no design of having less, just how we were gonna feature a certain play.”

On if he anticipated WR Van Jefferson being a major part of the passing offense today:
“Yeah. I wouldn't say it was anticipated, but I would say this is somebody that is a respected player around here. And I can remember after camp having a hard conversation and him coming back on the practice squad when we had a very healthy wide receiver room, knowing it would take a leap of faith to still come [back], knowing that there were six players already on the active. So putting the trust into it to put the work in and here he is getting a chance. And so, the score early and, you know, came back, getting banged up and made another big catch later.”

On what went well in the first half and what shifted in the second half:
“Yeah, I was pleased overall on third down, to be honest with you. I'd like to go back and look to see the fourth downs of why. I've seen us play with good discipline on a lot of the third downs, and they put a lot of work into that. Sometimes it can be easier to go to one person, one location. But the long one at the end, I think it was like a big conversion in the fourth. That was the one man we'd certainly like to have back. So, they're gaining on some things. I like that we got the ball again, and so that might be five or six games in a row. So, I'm feeling some of that. It was good to see that take place and we'll need more of that for sure.”

On the offensive line’s performance in this game:
“I'd rather give you a better answer tomorrow. There's a lot to go in and consider and see what matchups did we chip, where'd we help, you know, what was in the run game, why did some go early and some not? I don't wanna just cast out and say where I think it is, but I'll certainly look at it tonight and watch it. And then, like I said, we'll make any adjustments that we need to as we head into tomorrow because 72 hours back on the plane and ready to go again.”

On OLB Myles Garrett’s first performance back from his injury:
“I was expecting him to play well. That's usually what you see with him. He's got unique get off and leverage to go, so he looked like a guy who hadn't been out. That's what I saw. Like I said, I wanna look at our tape and see where they go and how they deployed them but not surprised to see him perform well. We see that pretty regularly.”

On if there’s anything else they could do to stop a player like Nacua:
“You can. And I do like their screen package. [LA Rams Head Coach] Sean [McVay]'s had a good one. Running backs, tight ends, they tried the tight end one, the running backs to go. So, there'll be some that we'll want back when we call a cloud to a certain player. Man-to-mans, it's harder unless you're doubling someone, but in the zones, it can be challenging due to [LA Rams QB] Matthew [Stafford]'s ability to deliver the ball to the right location, so that can be true in zone where, like if the quarterback knows right where to go, that's hard. But still 150, still 150.”

On if they had a play call in when they got called for a delay of game in the fourth quarter on fourth down:
“We did.”

QB Jayden Daniels

On the frustration of losing close games:
"Frustrating. It's, yeah, frustrating."

On why the offense fell short:
"The whole unit just didn't execute. Regardless, like first, second down, credit to them. When we go to our third down, they got into their packages that were really just go out there and let these all pros and Hall of Famers rush. So, let them back in, and they knew the ball had to come out quick. So, we just didn't execute any of the play calls that were called as a whole unit."

On the apparent miscommunication on the incomplete pass to WR Antonio Williams:
"Yeah, I mean, just a miscommunication between both of us."

On the pre-snap read that led to his decision on the play:
"Oh, I mean, watching the film, I think they had one versus, I want to say, the [Las Vegas] Raiders, I want to say, I'm not too sure. Don't quote me on that. But it brings pressure in those moments. Last play of the game, I think like seven, eight seconds left on the play clock. They want to get the ball out of the quarterback's hands as fast as possible. So, knowing that you have to take a shot to the end zone so they can get home before you get the ball up or you let your guys get it down there. That's probably ideal. So that was the play call that was called when we had to execute it."

On the defensive look and play adjustment options on the final play:
"It's the play call. You have to execute it."

On what happened with the fumble:
"I mean, I gotta have, I tried to step up. I saw, I want to say Van [Jefferson], on the corner. I was trying to throw it, and then Myles Garrett happened."

On the urgency to turn the season around:
"Yeah. I think next week is a must win."

On the offensive line's performance:
"I think they battled. It's tough, and you're asking a lot of people to hold up and block [DE] Aaron Donald and [OLB] Myles Garrett. But we have to be able to go out there and communicate, and pass things off, and just hold up as much as we can. You can't really stop a lot of people, but you can slow them down."

On getting the run game going better:
"I think it's just the play calls. We have to be able to execute, hit our landmarks within the offense and go from there."

On C Matt Gulbin coming in after an injury:

"I mean, if I was [C] Matt [Gulbin], it would be very difficult. If I was him, it's super difficult in that moment and come out at halftime. It's the first game that you're ever playing, and you have to go and block that front."

On what is preventing the team from executing consistently:
"I mean, I don't know. I think at that point in time, you just execute. I don't know what to really say about that. Just, we get in those moments, and we have to finish. We have to make plays; that's for myself, that's for the o-line [offensive line], for the running backs, receivers, the play calls, and everything like that. We have to make plays. Regardless of what they call, we have to make plays."

On the screen play to RB Rachaad White in the first quarter:
"We caught him in a double cover pressure. Just based off of our formation, our alignment, they blitzed both of the corners and we caught them at the right time. That's what went well, and he did the rest."

On what prevented them from getting the snap in time when the delay of game penalty was called in the fourth quarter:
"Cover zero. They're about to bring the pressure, trying to communicate, get the ball in my hand. We just then, when I went to get the ball, we just didn't snap it. So, we just didn't get the ball, and it's on us as players."

On him running downfield during the last play and if it was designed:
"No, it's just me trying to stay alive, chase the ball. In that situation, [TE] Chig [Okonkwo] made a play and got a miss, and I'm just trying to chase the ball just in case. A lot of people come around [the ball], and then with a lateral with me, we can play that game from there."

On turning around for the rest of the season:
“I think it’s just a focus thing. Focus. Sometimes we can’t communicate perfectly. Regardless, I have to go out there, check something or call something. We’re dealing with a play clock also, and it’s just a lapse of focus. That's the main thing. Like, we just gotta mentally be in tune to each and every play. Reset, refocus, so we can go out there and be the best that we can.”

On making sure his cadence is consistent:
“I go to feedback. They have to hog the o-line [offensive line]. They tell me, ‘Can you be louder?’ and stuff like that. Most definitely, I have some that I have to adjust, but for the most part, I’m just trying to give them mental cues like, ‘We’re about to go. Like, I’m about to call for the snap,’ and stuff like that. But I try to be consistent. They need me to go over there and voice-record or keep going through that. You know, I’m willing to do whatever, but we gotta get this cleaned up.”

On mentally adjusting to the injuries and bringing new guys up:
“Just dealing with the cards that I was dealt. You know, playing the hands. So, we gotta go out there. Those guys, I gotta trust those guys to make plays. Like you said, [WR] Van [Jefferson] made some plays. [WR] Jaden Bradley made a big catch at the end of the game. So, just trusting those guys, and I see the work that they put in, what they’ve done from OTA’s [Organized Team Activities] all the way up to this point. So, I trust them to go out there and make plays.”

RB Rachaad White

On processing this game:
“We came out fast, we came out pretty smooth, obviously. Then we got stagnant coming out of halftime, so we keep talking about, ‘you just gotta play a complete game.’ That's the biggest thing it come down to is trying to play a complete game. You're gonna get stagnant, but you get out of them humps. It comes with it.”

On what he saw on the 45-yard screen pass:
“It was good. Coach called it, got me out in the space. They sent a blitzer, things like that. It was kind of big guys running in front of you, out in the space and you gotta be able to do something with that.”

On the offense being stagnant in the second half:
“I don't know. Maybe we just came out too flat, things like that. I don't know. Maybe energy was off. Just some mishaps. I actually think we had sometimes where we was good. Some penalties probably killed us and pushed us back again. Once again, we came out, defense got us the ball again, I remember. Then we had a good chunk run again for 15 or so, 20 or whatever, and then got called back for holding or something. Just some little things that you just gotta clean up if you wanna win, especially beat teams like that.”

On bouncing back after the tough loss and the message in the locker room:
“I mean, it's just a short week, so I mean you get an opportunity for a short week to get it off your mind. You gotta go back to work in the morning.”

On having a short week to reset and refocus:
“I don’t know. I don't know. I guess it's pros and cons to everything, but it's tough on the body and things like that, but it is what it is. You can't complain. You know what you signed up for.”

On one word to describe what has held the offense back:
“One thing, one word. Penalties.”

G Sam Cosmi

On the quick turn around and focusing on the next game:
“You know, like, tonight, we'll dissect it, and I watch my film, but, like, tomorrow, it's on to New York. That's kind of just how Thursday nights roll. Um, you know, you learn from the mistakes, and then try to build on the good things, but, like, um, you know, there's obviously every game, there's gonna be mistakes.”

On the evaluation of the offensive line performance:
“I mean, I would have to watch it, but from a standpoint, I mean, you know, I think we held our own. There are some things we need to put out from penalties wise, and operational wise, you know, the guy's not hearing the cadence, or stuff like that. So, obviously, that was the problem today. But from an O-Line perspective, you know, I think we did a lot of good things out there. There's obviously things we are just sticking out.”

On transition to [C] Matt Gulbin in at center:
“You know, I mean, it's a hard ask to go out there and go one-on-one versus [DE] Myles Garrett, you know, when they put him up. For the most part, I think he went out there and really competed and fought, you know, and that's all he can ask for him, and, you know, we try to help him as much as we could out there, but, like, for the most part, like, um, you know, he's kind of throwing the fire and and, uh, he fought. So, at the end of the day, like, we're proud of him”

OLB K’Lavon Chaisson

On how he processes the loss heading into a short week:
“I think you see the progress regardless of the results. Obviously, that's the main thing, you want the win. But progress is steady. We're inching our way, getting closer. I think we're making great strides. We just have to find a way to come out with the win for sure.”

On how the defense stays motivated when the offense struggles to match its performance:
“We just have to keep finding ways to make plays. Today, I feel like it was good for us. They ran the same play all day, feeding the same person the same ball all day. So, as a defense, you have to figure out how you're going to stop that. You know what I'm saying? If you're not going to let it happen anymore. So, regardless of the individual results, when you have a game plan that easy, and they're not hiding what they're doing and running duo all day, they will find a way to get the ball to [WR] Puka [Nacua]. So, that's what you have to hone in on, and find the ways to stop that and get your defense off the field and limit the points.”

On why it was so difficult to get the defense off the field and limit the points:
“Obviously, we're going to figure it out when we watch the film today and get to it.”

On whether having a short week helps the team move past a loss and refocus:
“Yeah, it can be, but it also can go the same way as well when you're still kind of holding on to something that you need to flush and go on to next week. It's tough because you need to clean up the things that hurt us to go into next week. Obviously, it's a copycat league. So, we expect New York to run the same thing since they are a run-first team. I'm sure they'll look over the film and do the same thing. So, it's going to be huge on us to clean up the mistakes and move on to the next.”

On whether he worries the team is running out of time to turn things around:
“Damn right. No, of course. Obviously, you want to stay competitive, stay in that race, to play football throughout the year. We never want to neglect that or seem like that's not the goal. So, it's something that we want to clean up with urgency. That’s our word throughout the year. We have to clean up the self-inflicted wounds. On days like this, it hurts a little more for the defense because they threw the ball to one person all day. They ran one play all day. So, when the game plan is that constricted, when you just have to do a nine-on-seven matchup and stop one person from catching the ball, a defense should have an advantage on that for sure.”