

August 19, 2026

Head Coach Dan Quinn

Opening Statement:

“Let’s get rocking today. We’ll get a good padded, big session today with the guys, kind of like our peak of camp in a lot of ways for reps and some situations. But, first one, man, it’s been an incredible training camp with the fans. Last day of them today, I wanted them to know how hard their team is working for them and we felt their energy as fans. So, that meant a lot to the guys. All that said, let’s get rocking.”

On the status of the guys who weren’t practicing yesterday:

“Let’s start with [OLB] K’Lavon [Chaisson]. He injured his knee in the joint practice. Not significant, but we are being smart in that spot. [DT Jer’Zhan] Johnny Newton injured his pec during the game. He’s currently in New York seeing a specialist there, so I’ll give you an update tomorrow after their meeting. [OLB Odafe] Oweh has a strained calf, kind of the early phase of that. We’re just being smart there. [LB] Jordan Magee, I think was the other one you asked about. [He] injured his shoulder in the game. We’ll hold him out this week, but nothing that’s gonna linger into the season or any of that.”

On if Newton’s injury is a long-term concern:

“It could be. I’ll have an update later today. Anytime you go see a specialist with a pec, it could be [long-term].”

On the defense and what he wants to see more of from them:

“I think yesterday, there’s a couple opportunities to get the ball and we did. There was a time and a two minute at the end, a punch out by [S Tyler] Owens. So that part is improving. I think just the awareness to practice it, the process of going through that. I like where I’m seeing the different packages and the people going in and out and the disguises that go with that. [DC] Daronte [Jones] has done a good job of when it’s an all-out blitz, when we’re back and having those two look alike. And that, in fact, was some of yesterday’s emphasis. Can they look the same but play out differently? Those would be a few of the things that I’ve seen. There’s still a number of spots, like we’re at safety and different spaces to say where are we at? But I do like our mindset for the ball, that’s improving. And the different packages. Now that we’ve gotten more reps at it, we’re starting to get more comfortable there.”

On monitoring injured guys coming back to practice:

“A little bit of both. We do a ramp up for sure. What you don’t want to do is be susceptible to a re-injury, not just to that body part, but something else based on not having enough training to go. So, they do a good job in our return to play format. There’s obviously the treatment phase in the rehab, and then the return to play, the on-field work. But yeah, we definitely limit the reps and then ramp that up as it goes. So, [C] Nick [Allegretti] was maybe at 15 or so yesterday and a few more into it,

but that's kind of the process that we go through. And then we take it day to day and listen, honestly, to the player about where they were, how to go, and then make any modifications.”

On the guys who played well vs. Miami and bringing that to Detroit this weekend:

“I like the competitive group of where we're at. I thought Bill's [RB Jacory Croskey-Merritt] had a good camp as well. So between him, [RB] Kaytron [Allen], we've added [RB] Craig Reynolds yesterday to it. But specifically with [RB] Rob [Henry Jr.], I was pleased to see pass protection. We know he's got good hands. You see him punt return and that. So, what else can he do for third downs? That's a big deal. You have to be able to nail the pass protection. And as a running back, that can be the hardest space. I was pleased to see that part coming together early. He's got very good quickness and vision. I'm excited to see him over the next couple weeks.”

On what's standing out with the team as a whole and what he wants to see more of:

“I'll first start off with the things that are standing out. I like the competitive makeup of the training camp practices that the guys have had. I thought they've really pushed it against one another. Even in a practice like yesterday when I highlighted the film, there was one-on-ones from O-line to running backs to linebackers, down to the wide receivers and corners of the red zone. I like the situational football that the guys have done. You'll see some more of that today on some two-minute and four-minute at the end of the game. So those would be two of the things that I'm pleased with. And then the things that I want to see cleaned up is pre-snap mistakes. We've had bad starts in practice. We've had them in the game. I'm just talking specifically to offense. Defensively, kind of the same thing. Communication has to be on point. It's every single play. Those are the things I'd like to see, get rid of some of the self-inflicted penalty and those ones. I recognize when you're moving fast, mistakes will happen, but those pre-snap ones, we've got to get rid of that.”

On his takeaways from the defensive line after watching film from the game vs. Miami:

“I liked the versatility. We have ability to be in three down or five down packages, four down packages. So, that takes training. I thought, [Defensive Line Coach/Run Game Coordinator] Eric Henderson's done a nice job with the interior guys. You've seen [DT Daron] Payne and JK [DT Javon Kinlaw] out on the edges. That's a nice matchup to see that type of size and strength playing over tight ends. We still need a lot of work from a pass rush in games and stunts. That takes timing. Days like today and the padded days helps the most for that. It's not something that you can do on air and be effective, like think about a receiver or running a route. Those would be some things that I'm looking to see more of. It was nice to see the guys work together in practice because most of it was unscripted, just play ball and see the guys go. Those are the practices I like the most because that's the best time to evaluate them. They don't know what's coming, how are they gonna play? I thought we're making progress there, and I like the work that the group's putting in so far. Sometimes, like I said for instance, today with KC and Oweh out, the lesson is, here's the opportunity for some others. And then the second lesson is, that's the opportunity, and what are you gonna do with it? Although I don't love injuries at all, I do like when people recognize there's an opportunity and, what are they gonna do about it? So I like looking for that.”

On QB Jayden Daniels:

“I love that he's decisive as a quarterback. He's got a unique ability to put the ball in the right location. And not just to a, what's his completion percentage, but what's the accuracy? And that's even above the completion percentage, or it could have been a drop or something, but it was in the right location. I like that he's in a system that he is now at the line of scrimmage working more

things. That might be the biggest difference between the last couple years and this year is him at the line of scrimmage and working through. He's done a good job with cadence. That's not something that we've done here before. Those are a few of the things that don't show up on the stat sheet that he's doing a really good job with.”

On if Jayden and any of the other starters will play in the next preseason game:

“No. No decision yet, but we'll go through today and then tomorrow, and then we'll hit onto those after we see the health of everybody and where we're at. But he's throwing a really good camp. I'm very pleased with what I've seen from him. New system, owning it, being in charge of it. So, he's off to a hell of a start.”

On communicating with the linebackers and learning a new defense:

“I think you want to make sure, when in charge, be in charge. In other words, if there's a check that has to be made, oftentimes you guys have seen an offense, ‘Hey, I'm going to a kill. I'm going to an alert, to make sure it gets to all the people.’ As a signal caller on defense, you want to have that same demonstrative effect to make sure, not just these four or five guys in front of me get calls, but the people on all the edges. So, the communication hub is really the linebackers and the safeties. They're the ones that just have to be able to relay the information quickly, be on the same page, and that's the group that spends probably the most time together, because they have to be in sync, much like a quarterback with an offensive line.”

On DT Tim Settle's status:

“He's making good progress, got a big marker in that return to play today. If he can hit all those, and we're hopeful as he gets into next week, that we could start ramping him back up into practice. If he hits all the good spots, that would be a good thing for us.”

On balancing practices with preseason:

“No. Good question. It hasn't been a change of plan. So, going into it, you wanted to make sure where could we put those practices to have the highest return for that space. The joints are obviously one, today's one, the earlier ones to go. Each of those practices features a little bit more line of scrimmage work, and not the loose downs of second-and-longs and third downs, but actually, like today, we have a short yardage period that's that type of emphasis. When I lay it all out, you kind of look to those days and then make the specific emphasis for it.”

On the tone he sets during huddles:

“I wanted to make sure that this is what I wanna see. The one after a special team's break and a hydration, I didn't love how we came out for the second half in our preseason game as much. I reminded them of that. This is coming out of halftime right now. So, we use that tent, like a halftime, get hydrated, but there's a process to go into that. I just didn't wanna miss the moment to, ‘Hey, man, this is a third quarter. How are you gonna go enter it?’ Those were where it's almost like cues that I'm giving them in that spot. This is what I wanna see in this period. This is the emphasis to make sure we nail it.”

On if he thinks defensive momentum is building:

“I like the process that we're going through. In a game, you want three takeaways. Everybody's said that for a long time, but that doesn't always happen. Sometimes it's the offense doing a really good job taking care of it, but what I'm pleased about is, they're staying true to the process. How many shots on the ball? Are we mindful to go take our shot? Are we getting a pass breakup when it's

there? Those are the things that I'm tracking on a regular basis. So, it was nice to see in the second half of the game. The rush and the coverage, I thought, was the real factor in getting the interception. Certainly, one with [LB] Ale [Kaho] and with [S] Malik [Spencer] firing inside, hitting the quarterback, another stunt. When I see that in coordination, that's when I know we're at our best. We've got a ways to go to be a true ball hawking unit, but the process of getting there is good. We can't just talk about the outcome. It's gotta be how often, how many shots, how much are we thinking about it? Those are the things that I think the years that I've had really good takeaway teams, it was all the time. It was in practice. It was in the meetings. It was just a way of life that we thought about it. I'm seeing signs of that. It's not everybody, but that's what I'm building towards."

On being a coach when there were four preseason games as opposed to three:

"Yeah, it is different, I would agree. I'm in favor of it, the regular season games. As much as I love the preseason games, I love it for the new players that we spend so much time developing to see what's next, how are they gonna go? And they're the ones that usually – I haven't had tons of rookies in their first preseason game [say], 'Man. I really nailed it.' It's like anxious, nervous, mistakes, and then it gets better and better. So, there's value to that, for sure. I would say when you had four, you kind of timed it up a little bit more. And then, a lot of times with four, I didn't have other joint practices, knowing that you had other preseason games. Now that there's three, having two seems the appropriate amount to do with the joint, and then one without. I don't know if there's any set way that's best, but it's definitely different, and I'm sure one day it'll go to 18 and two, and that we'll have some adjustments that go with the two. But yeah, I'm in favor of the less and then more in the regular."

On if they plan to bring anyone onto the defensive line with all the injuries occurring:

"No. Right now, we added Mo [DT Maurice] Hurst [II] yesterday or two days ago. And I thought [DT] Byron [Coward] did a nice job in his first action of getting up and getting to speed. We're hopeful that Tim's [Settle Sr.] gonna be back here soon, and the other guys aren't long-term. So, no other plans in the group that we've had so far."

On if Jayden changed anything during the offseason to improve his accuracy:

"He worked extremely hard, but that's him in that way. I just feel like the pocket that he's in, his routine is right. The team around him of getting everything organized and ready for him to play. I saw him this morning early getting ready with [Head Strength and Conditioning Coach] Chad [Englehart]. He's got a good routine, a good process, and I think what we're seeing is some of the result of that. But also, his connection with the players, this much depth, this much route. They've spent a lot of time together, so it's nice to see even early on, like he and [WR] Stef[on Diggs], [WR] Terry [McLaurin] and he have all this time now, so it feels good adding Stef into that group. That's been a big deal. He might have 10 or 12 targets so far, Stef does, and I bet he has 10 or 11 completions. That speaks to also Jayden in the right spot, in the right location. And also to Stef when do I sit down? When do I try to beat this guy? It's been nice to see that relationship grow too."

On G Brandon Coleman learning from T Laremy Tunsil:

"They definitely worked together, even through the offseason of some time where Brandon was working guard and tackle when he did do some of that. That'd be a better one for him on the specifics of it. Brandon's got really good feet. We can always feel that part of him. I think he's definitely comfortable at tackle. It seems natural in a lot of ways for him to be in that space. I don't know if I feel a different spot, in between, but that'd be a good one for him. They've definitely spent

a good bit of time together, and I would imagine if you spend much time with Laramy, there's gonna be some tips to learn and some insight to gain, offense or defense.”