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QB Jayden Daniels

On his emotions going into this season:

“Excitement. I think everybody's excited around this time. Football is back, so just true excitement.”

On what he hopes to show this Sunday in Philadelphia:

“Whatever it takes to help win a football game.”

On some of the challenges with facing the Philadelphia Eagles' defense:

“I mean, they're a very sound defense. A lot of good players, a lot of respect for them and what they do, not only defense, but just as an organization as a whole, the whole team. You gotta be in you're A game, man, because if not, they're gonna make you pay. So, we gotta go out there and just try to execute our game plan to the best of our abilities. Yeah, it's gonna be a dog fight.”

On working with WR Stefon Diggs and what he's learned about him:

“Football IQ, very savvy, great vet, great guy in the locker room, great locker room guy. Super competitive and he's a dog, man. He wants the best, not for himself, but just everybody around him too.”

On facing more criticism and how he responds to those moments:

“I think everybody has an opinion, no matter whether it's good or bad. It's nothing I can really control, to the point everybody's gonna say something. I just gotta - the only thing that matters to me is the people inside that building, you know, my family and helping the Washington Commanders win football games to be the best version of myself.”

On what helps him stay levelheaded amidst criticism:

“I would just say my faith. My faith in Jesus Christ, man. I mean, without him, I wouldn't be here in this point. So, you know, never get too high, never get too low, try to stay even keeled. You know, like I said, they're gonna talk about you regardless, good or bad.”

On how he maintains the same confidence that he had coming into the league after a tough season:

“The work. Not really focused on the result. It's the process, day in and day out, man, it's just about getting better and the work's gonna show at some point, so.”

On what the offensive is capable of under Offensive Coordinator David Blough:

“I don't really got anything for you. I guess we all gotta see on Sunday. So, we'll see week one and then next week and hopefully we look up Week 15, we're a better offense than we were Week One.”

On feeling like he has to prove what he's capable of after missing some games last year:

"I just gotta go out there and play football and be myself. Be the best version of myself for this football team. Be a leader and do whatever it takes to help this team win some football games."

On if he noticed a difference in the type of pressures he received in year one versus year two of his career:

"I just think I didn't get into a flow in and out the lineup with injuries. But as for all the analytics people, stats, whatever it is what it is, man. What I did year one, what I did year two, doesn't matter. I mean, that's what people are gonna talk about. Recency biases and all that. Year two is, it is what it is. Now we're on year three. Whatever happens on Sunday, that's what people are gonna talk about more than what they talk about year two."

On the collaboration process between him and Blough:

"I think it's just always just having answers and within this offense, and I think that's just with any offense, you gotta have some answer for the blitz, protection, stuff like that. A lot of people throw a lot of different stuff defensively at you within their scheme, so it's always having answers regardless who you're playing. That started back in OTAs, started back before when he got hired. Just being collaborative on every down, on the same page. So come Sunday, come these types of moments, we're on the same page and we see it the same way."

On his confidence in his playing with G Nick Allegretti:

"I mean, super confident. Me and Nick been together for three years now. The first two, he was a guard and stuff like that, moving around the O-line. Now he's playing center, so we always been in there and we had conversations, not just with me, but the whole line about different protections and how we see things and just communicating, that's kind of the biggest thing and the more you communicate now, the easier it becomes hopefully on the game days."

On if he's reminisced on the fact that the last time he started versus the Philadelphia Eagles was the for the 2024 NFC Championship game:

"What you think? [Laugh]"

On if he's excited to surprise people with the new offensive scheme:

"It don't matter who we play. At the end of the day, I know this is who's on our schedule and everything but I mean, it's an exciting time just in general. Like, just football is back. Like, it doesn't matter who you play. I know they're not worried about who they play, who's on the schedule. They're just worried about executing and being the best version of themselves and us too. So go out there and just try to execute at high level. Like I said, they got really good players over there. We got good players over here too. And it's gonna be a hard fought game."

On if he's gotten used to the attention that comes with his job:

"Yeah, I think so. I think it's always different when people wanna know about the person and your life and stuff like that. But I mean, it just comes with the territory, right? I mean, I was blessed enough to be a starting quarterback in the NFL and as a kid, you dream of that, but you don't really know what actually comes with it and having some success in this league obviously brings more attention and stuff like that, but, you gotta just stay grounded, keep, protect your peace and everything, keep your peace of mind, just focus on one day at a time."

On what he's seen from the offensive line:

“I mean, I'm confident. I'm confident on the O-line. Confident in five guys up there to give me some time to help protect and do their job, and that's what you gotta do. You gotta trust everybody around you to go out there and make plays. And then when the plays are out there, we all gotta make them. So, they prepare super hard, they work super hard, so I'm confident in them and can't wait to see what they could do on Sunday.”

On if how Head Coach Dan Quinn's treats the team's leadership and its captains has changed:

“Nah, I mean, the leaders have been the leaders, for the past couple years. We just got season, we got blessed enough to be named season long captains and, and stuff like that, have a C on our jersey. But he's always been, ‘you guys run everything’ and we had a lot of different guys throughout my first couple years here. Be vets, be leaders, stuff like that. So, it's kind of been the same thing. But the only thing different, we just got a C on our jersey now.”

On if having new talent in the players the team has signed makes things easier for him:

“Yeah, I think, just the guys that they brought in, drafted offensively, defensively, special teams. We got a lot of guys that fly around the ball and honestly just guys that like, bonding and chemistry, like being around each other, hanging out, stuff like that. So, it's a good group of guys that we have in the locker room.”

On if the new offensive scheme has made the offense speed up or slow down for him:

“I think it's slowed down. I think there's still some moving parts and as the season go on, you get more comfortable with stuff. Like I said, I don't wanna be my final product week one. I just wanna go out there and continue to just get better each and every day, each and every game. And like I said, do whatever it takes to help the team win some football games.”

On balancing fun and his leadership responsibilities:

“I don't know. I don't think you balance fun. I think that's just football, man. If you're not having fun, then why are you doing it? So, you gotta go out there and have fun. It's a kids' game. At the end of the day, we just get paid a lot of money to go out there and play it right. So, for us, it's just going out there having fun, but when it's time to joke around, it's time to do stuff like that, but when it's time to work, we gotta go work. But at the end of the day, you should wake up every day and have a gratitude, humbleness of, like, man, I get to do this for a living. So, it's most definitely fun for me.”

On not trying to be a hero and how much faith he has in the team's offensive weapons to step up in tough moments:

“Like I said, I trust those guys to go out there and make plays. For me, it's just going out there and I mean, I love basketball just being a point guard, getting the ball, play makers, the ball in space, let them do their thing. When it's time for me, I guess to say to go get a bucket, I gotta go do that sometimes. So, that's kinda how I look at it.”