

September 16, 2026

## **QB Jayden Daniels**

### **On how he felt about his performance at the Week 1 game in Philadelphia:**

"I would say overall, I would say just find little ways to still get better. You know, it was the first game in a while, but that's no excuse for passes I missed or anybody really. We didn't execute how we wanted to, I guess say first three and a half quarters, whatever. Fourth quarter we found our groove, came alive, but versus a good team like that, we gotta capitalize early."

### **On whether he finds his groove individually or by getting in sync with the offense during the game:**

"I think it's both. I think it just comes with time and everything. Like I said, I haven't played football in a very long time, but it's no excuse. It's just moving on, learning from that and getting ready for the next game."

### **On what felt better in the fourth quarter compared to earlier in the game:**

"It was just executing. I wouldn't say we were going tempo every time, but it was just executing. It just comes down to getting the play call, getting in and out the huddle, executing that play call. You know, finding completions or scrambles here and there and keeping progressing, moving the ball from down the field."

### **On the shotgun vs. under-center split:**

"I think it was what I expected. I know a lot of people thought it was gonna be like, oh, like 80 percent under or, you know, I was not 90 percent under, but I think that's kind of the split that [Offensive Coordinator David] Blough envisioned for the offense and what we game plan. So, I kinda expected it, but at that point, not really even thinking about am I under center on this play or how many times I've been under center or how many times I've been the gun. It was more so just hearing the play call, getting it to the guys and try to go out there and execute it."

### **On CB Mike Sainristil bouncing back from a rough Week 1:**

"I mean, he's a pro and he's very mature in his approach and everything. You're gonna have good and bad games in this league and like I said, people are gonna have opinions, talk about you, whatever. But it's all about the process. It's all about at the end of the day, you know, you take the lesson from what happened, what occurred, you try to move on, move forward. And everybody in that locker room has his back. I have his back, the coaching staff, everybody in the organization, the building has his back and we believe in him. So, he just knows he has a belief from us. We know what type of player he is, we know what he did in college, we know what he's done first, second year or whatever. I know he'll bounce back."

### **On WR Antonio Williams' debut performance:**

"I think everything what you guys [have] seen. He's been displaying all at camp. Just a knack to get

open plays with quickness, wins versus man and stuff like that. And then go-to moments, man, he made a hell of a catch. So happy to see him and that confidence continue to grow and rise. Just like I told him, it's ebbs and flows in this and I guess it's a notorious thing called a rookie wall. So, if that ever happens or occurs, man, just know it's something on the other side of that."

**On how he connects with WR Terry McLaurin during plays:**

"Nah. I mean, play call formationally, that's where everything is and we're moving Terry to different spots and based on concepts or stuff like that, formation. So going out there and just executing the play, going through my progressions, going through my read and find an open guy."

**On playing his first full game back after being injured most of last season:**

"It's a blessing. Like I said, I don't take it for granted. When you go through stuff and you have something for so long, you kind of start taking it for granted. And, obviously that happened to me last year and I got football taken away from me, so now, just humbled and grateful just to be able to play this game I love. At the end of the day, I'm gonna take it for granted, so like I said, it's been a long time since I finished the game from start to finish, so just to be able to do that and have that confidence moving forward, man, just going out there and just thanking God and being grateful for the opportunities."

**On if having the first game done boosts his readiness and confidence going into Week 2:**

"Yeah, I think so. I think it's the anxiousness of getting back out there on the field. And it's been a while since I played a live football game, before last Sunday, and going out there and really just now it's in the past. It's done, it's moved on, and you're moving forward to the next game versus Dallas."

**On keeping McLaurin engaged in the offense even when he's given extra attention from the defense:**

"I think we just have answers for that, and you try to predict what you could see. You're not gonna get every answer to the test right, but you try to have predictions of like this could happen and obviously Philly did a great job with their game plan of taking Terry away and forcing other guys to make plays, which they did. And when those opportunities present itself for Terry to make plays we gotta make them at the end of the day. I gotta give him a good ball, he gotta catch it, a lot has to go on to successfully have a play. But moving forward, man, we just have answers for that and not gonna force feed Terry the ball, but still go through my reads, but when those opportunities present itself for Terry to go make plays, I know he'll make them."

**On quarterback-receiver pregame meetings:**

"Just a conversation, everybody on the same page and how I see something, how he sees something, versus this leverage, versus this technique, because ultimately, we're both going against that defender, but he has a runner out versus him. I have to be able to play some football where my receiver could catch it. And it's just being on the same page, like, 'this is how I see if he's playing this technique' or something like that versus this cover. So that's kind of what we try to get out of it and just that open communication, open dialogue of everything and moving forward we'll continue to have those."

**On how his approach to studying film has grown compared to previous years:**

"I think just being able to pick up on little tendencies within different schemes or the defense, right? And really just be able to, you play a lot of ball and you see a lot of different things and it's trends in the NFL and you try to see, like, 'okay, this the flavor of the season' or, you know, this is

guy's flavor of the game, and you try to pick up on those trends, but ultimately, you just try to go out there and execute the offense, execute the play call. Just go out there and just play clean football.”

**On his throwaways during the game versus Philadelphia:**

“I think at the end of the day I still could have played better and I know at the end of the day, like, there's throws that I wish I had back, and obviously there's, I guess, guys who go out there and receivers go out there, there's plays I wish I had. Like everybody wish they had plays back, right? But at the end of the day, throwaways and I still gave, ourself, instead of a third and 15, don't wanna put too much stress on the offensive coordinator, on [David] Blough. Maybe it's first and 10 and a throwaway on first down, and then we're playing second and 10 instead of second and 15 or second and 13, you're behind the sticks, especially versus a very good team like that and their defense that's been together for going on three years, you don't wanna get behind those sticks in a place like that.”

**On playing in year one versus going into year three:**

“I don't think I was ever on a leash [laugh]. I just think at the end of the day, like, going on year three and he knows me, he knows the competitor I am, knows the player I am, and he trusts me ultimately to go out there and do whatever it takes to help win this football team a game and trusting me with everything. And when a play needs to be made, I gotta go out there and make a play. Like when we need a spark, I can provide that, but I don't have to do every play. So, I think that's kind of the fine line of that, but he still knows at the end of the day I'm still gonna be me and we kinda have those talks. It's just all about protecting yourself.”

**On the process of getting calls from Blough in the first game:**

“It was good. We still need to work on a lot of different things. Obviously, two delay game penalties aren't acceptable, but that's game one type of things, especially in a new system. So, we'll clean it up and as the season goes on, we'll get cleaner and cleaner. But it was good. I mean, it was his first time calling plays, my first time in the system in that atmosphere and that thing. So, it'll get better as time goes on.”