THE WASHINGTON COMMANDERS
21300 COACH GIBBS DR.
ASHBURN, VA 20147

BigBear.ai PERFORMANCE CENTER

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Offensive Coordinator David Blough

Opening Statement:
“Hey, how are we doing y'all? Happy Thanksgiving. First and foremost, I'm incredibly thankful for our group of players and then getting the chance to work with DQ [Head Coach Dan Quinn] and our entire staff. It's just reflecting on Thanksgiving, a lot of gratitude today for our group. And then, Monday Night Football, our guys really battled and proud of how they kind of overcame a lot, but we've got a lot to improve on and looking forward to it this week in Arizona.”

On his thoughts on WR Brandon Aiyuk and how he’ll incorporate him being on the practice squad:
“The production kind of speaks for itself. He's got the speed and the range and we're looking forward to getting him acclimated and caught up to speed on what we're trying to do. So, you know, obviously it starts with that and working our way on from there.”

On what’s made them more successful in end of game scenarios:
“Well, I think it's cool to see over the last two weeks, [QB] Jayden [Daniels] into half has been excellent. Jayden in the game has been fantastic. So, just trying to put him in spots playing concepts that he knows really well, and he has made the plays, protection's been great. And then, we've had to do a deep dive on all the situational work and to see it come to life through Q's leadership and the offensive defense closing it out a couple weeks in a row. So, it's encouraging spot to be at, that's for sure.”

On the challenge of getting Aiyuk reps being on the practice squad:
“I wouldn't necessarily use the word challenging. I just think we have to be really intentional about the routes that we're asking him to run and how we use him on scout team and then him learning our stuff as well.”

On improving the speed and accuracy of snaps and center;
“It’s certainly something to improve on. [G] Lucas [Patrick] would tell you the same thing and we're diving full head on into that. So we'll make that improvement there.”

On the growth of WR Antonio Williams and finding success on outside plays:
“I think you certainly saw it on the Clemson tape in ‘24. He was playing more on the perimeter, and then ‘25, he was in the slot. So, he has that flex to his game, which gives us a lot of variability as an offense, whether it's [WR] Stefon [Diggs] in the slot or Tone outside. We kinda view him how we need him for the concepts. And I've heard those guys say it a bunch over the last week, but the trust is growing with Jayden and you see it on the field. So, we're gonna continue to kinda just grow that relationship and he's earned the opportunities that have come his way. If you guys saw

practice, nobody would've been surprised by how he played on Monday night. He's been really going for it and it's fun to see his growth."

On Williams having a smaller build yet successfully managing physical defenders:
"The quickness certainly helps but he's a natural football player. Everybody who's going out to their Turkey Bowl today wishes they had the savvy of somebody with Antonio out there. And, Stefon has the same thing and it's cool to see it kinda develop in his releases and how he catches it and navigates defenders. He just has a natural knack for space and timing."

On switching up the run blocking scheme and finding more success with new routes:
"We've reflected on it every week of the season and sometimes you come away thinking, okay, this is how we're gonna attack this opponent this week. It showed up well and we found a couple things that we liked in the game. And I think having the variability of being able to run the zones and the gaps and the duo, you know, it's important for us to kind of just find what will keep us the most efficient. And that's to say, there's some explosives on both schemes and we just wanted to find what would put us in the best position against the Bengals specifically to have a chance to win it."

On what he thinks of Aiyuk as a run blocker and receiver overall:
"When you turn on the play style clips of him, whether it's cracking a defensive end or finishing down the field, there's no questioning how much he loves playing the game of football and how he's going to impact an offense with his play style."

On RB Jacory Croskey-Merritt being back and the impact he's had:
"Big boost. See you repping the players association there, hoodie. It was a big boost, man. It was good to have him and he made some great plays in the pass game as well, and just having him in the backfield, it was physical. He was physical all night, [RB] Austin [Ekeler] as well. Establishing identity was big for us."

On the challenge of a condensed week and travel to the west coast:
"It's unique. It's different than kind of what we've had but thankfully we had the Thursday night. So, it's not quite as abbreviated, call it, as the Thursday game that we just played in New York. But, you know, we wanna do things that we do well and that our players know well and allow them to have the walkthrough reps and the limited full speed reps to be able to go and play fast in Phoenix."

On the benefit of having such intelligent players when considering moving things around to fit in Aiyuk:
"It is very valuable. We value it in this system certainly with, you know, [WR] Van Jefferson displays that trade and [WR] Treylon [Burks] and [WR] Luke [McCaffrey] and [WR] Dyami Brown. All these guys, you're able to kinda interchange. And so, we've got an onboarding process that [Wide Receivers] Coach [Bobby] Engram and [Assistant Wide Receivers] Coach [Andre] Coleman have kinda developed to help, whether it was Stefon during training camp come in and learn the system, or it's been receivers throughout the system who have come in, or throughout the season come in to learn the system. It's really important for us to get them onboarded in a way that we simplified things for them. And that certainly helps having guys like Stef and Antonio out there and Treylon who can point them in the right direction."

On his appreciation for the last two throws Daniels made in the Monday night game, especially as a former quarterback:

“Yeah, as good as it gets, especially the first one, it was a now or never throw staring right down the barrel into a tight window. We teach that timing rhythm and you've seen his growth over time. It’s fun for me throwing that big end cut. I've never seen anybody throw it better than [Former Minnesota Vikings QB] Teddy Bridgewater. I got to watch Teddy in Detroit, and so a lot of the teach tape clips of watching Teddy layer that football in there like he did on the first one, Jayden has seen. And then, seeing that come to life was really cool. And then he drilled the second one. Antonio ran a great route and it's all the work. If you watched our practice clips of that play specifically, you'd have had no doubt that Jayden and Antonio would have hooked up on those connections.”

On how difficult it is for a quarterback to make a successful throw like Daniels did at the end of the Monday night game:
“That's the difference in this league. the tenths of seconds, the inches, that's the difference. And you saw two really special players and all 11. Stefon was running right through the safeties to pull the window open. [TE] Chig [Okonkwo] was in the perfect spot to attach the underneath players. The protection held up long enough and that's what we preach on is trust and that's what it looks like when it's done really well. So, it's just a glimpse of what we wanna continue to build on.”