



BENGALS POSTGAME QUOTES

SEPT. 23, 2024

WASHINGTON AT CINCINNATI

ZAC TAYLOR

Head coach

What are your overall thoughts on tonight's game?

"Frustrating. We didn't envision ourselves in this spot, but here we are. We've got to own it. We have to take accountability in all areas. I knew that that was going to be a difficult football team (to beat). I saw what they did last week on offense — they scored on every possession last week (and) they scored on every possession this week. I knew that was a dangerous team, and they were ready for us, and they made more plays than we did today. You've got to give them a ton of credit. They dictated the flow of the game, and we just couldn't do enough to create a turnover, make a play for ourselves and go win the game."

Are you more surprised or disappointed in the defense tonight?

"You know, (Washington is) a good offense, (but) we gotta get stops. We never really put them in a third-and-long situation until that last one. That was really the first time that we put them behind the chains. When they dictated the tempo, which they did — they were on the ball; they dictated the tempo — they kept themselves in really manageable situations. I thought their quarterback (Jayden Daniels) played great — (he only had) two incompletions (total). He made a lot of plays with his feet. He was a difficult challenge and, obviously, it wasn't enough for us today."

What adjustments did you try to make at halftime that just could not be made tonight?

"It was a tough start to start the (second) half. We're coming out of the half (and) we give up a big kickoff return (that) put them right down there. There was one play in each drive that we needed to make that stop.

"There was one situation where we had them behind the sticks and there was some tackling in the perimeter. Certainly, that's gotta improve. But it's a disappointing way to lose."

How much did a lack of a pass rush open things up for Jayden Daniels and the Washington Commanders' offense tonight?

"When you've got an athletic quarterback who can make plays with his feet, it's tough. It's (a) similar (situation) to some guys that we play in our division in terms of how he can beat you that way. And again, we didn't do enough to defeat them today."

When you look at fixing the defense, does it start right now with stopping the run?

"There were some tackles (we missed) on the perimeter. I think we had a chance to get the ball carrier down on some quick screens and some perimeter bubbles and things like that. You can call those run plays; it's really just an extended handoff out there at the perimeter. I thought there were some opportunities to put them in second-and-10, second-and-11, and get them to a good third down (distance), and they made those plays and we didn't. We take a lot of pride in that stuff — I know our defense does — and we've got to get back to work and do a better job next week."

Cam Taylor-Britt made some headlines with his comments about the Commanders' offense saying that Washington was running a "nice college offense." Do you have an issue with that, and feel like it was a distraction?

"That's not what we do. That's not what we do. We praise our own team. We praise the other team. We don't need to take shots like that. That team hasn't punted in two weeks. They've scored on every single possession the last two weeks. I've got a tremendous respect for what they're doing over there. I've known (Washington Offensive Coordinator) Kliff (Kingsbury) a long time. I knew with that quarterback (that) this was going to be a very dangerous offense to play against, and they've proven that."

Will you have a conversation with Cam about those comments?

"That's between us."

Do you fear Trent Brown's injury to his knee to be serious?

"It doesn't look good."

Were there struggles getting the right personnel on the field during goal-line situations tonight?

"There were some substitutions they had (where) we were just trying to match the substitutions, and there was one in particular where we struggled."

What besides being 0-3, is particularly frustrating if anything for you right now?

"We have to create our own opportunities. When you lose three one-score games, no one's going to give you anything. Again, there's no gift we're expecting to receive. We have to go take it. We haven't done enough, really, dictating the tempo of the game, collectively (on) offense, defense (and) special teams. There hasn't been one unit that's really dominated to take the pressure off the other unit, so this falls on everybody. It's frustrating. It's a kick in the gut when you put in all this work in the offseason, in training camp, and (you) feel really good about the team, and you start off 0-3. But again, that is where we are right now, and I told these guys we've got to find a way to get a win next Sunday and we'll get this thing moving in the right direction. But right now, there's a lot of frustration I know from the people that are supporting us, and we're frustrated with ourselves that we haven't found a way to win yet. We've just got to figure that out, but no one's going to point fingers. We've put ourselves in a hole that I firmly believe we can dig ourselves out of. I'm excited to watch and see how this team responds."

What led to the offense struggling in the red zone tonight?

"You know, we kind of wasted a possession. We thought there might have been a fumble, so we rushed the ball one time and then we ran a screen on second-down play and the corner blitzed and blew it up. That's the one that kind of kills me there, because we had two plays that didn't get us yardage, and I felt like the other plays on other drives, we were pretty efficient. That was a tough one. We needed seven points there and we only got three. We might have missed that field goal there and gotten no points."

JOE BURROW
Quarterback

What was the most frustrating thing about how tonight played out?

"That was a tough one. We didn't get the win."

I don't think I've ever seen you go inside the other entrance and not the locker room, what was that about?

"It was just a private conversation with Zac (Taylor)."

At 0-3, the focus is to get a win next week in Carolina. As the leader of this team, how do you get this locker room in a feeling of carrying on?

"We come back to work on Wednesday. We come in tomorrow, watch the tape and improve the things that we can improve. Come back on Wednesday and have a great practice and bring great energy and try to get better. That's all you can do. 0-3 is obviously not where we want to be. We have to come back on Wednesday and try to get better."

Facing two teams that drafted in the top three last year and losing at home, does that add to any of the frustration about the way things are going?

"No game is easy. They played great on offense today. Jayden (Daniels) played unbelievable. We had our opportunities and didn't cash in on them. That's been the common denominator from the first three weeks. We've had opportunities and didn't cash in on those. Whatever we have to do to get better this week, so we can come back on Sunday and execute in the spots that we need to."

What did you feel went wrong tonight?

"We played really well. We stalled out on some drives in the first half, that's really what it came down to. We need to get seven in those situations in a game like that."

Can you figure out why you couldn't get to the end zone in those situations?

"There was a sack. I missed Zack (Moss) on a scramble on second down. Those are the two off the top of my head without watching the tape."

Did you go into this game paying attention to the fact that you guys were down key players on your defensive line, and approached it thinking your offense would have to score a lot of points?

"No, I wouldn't say I approached it that way. I go into every game ready to adapt to what I need to do to win the game. We knew pretty early what kind of game it was going to be. For the most part, we answered. I think there were two drives there where we couldn't come up with seven."

Did you have a sense that this team had a long way to go if you wanted to get back to where you were at?

"We have a long way to go."

Jayden Daniels went 21 of 23. Did you catch yourself watching him at all?

"I'm watching him, he played great. I told him that after the game. Congrats to him. Big time performance. Credit to them. They played unbelievable. We didn't quite match their level of execution."

Why did you feel the need to have that conversation with Zac Taylor immediately?

"It was a very positive conversation. We're not happy with where we're at, but by no means is the season over. We're 0-3. There's 14 left to play. We just have to continue to get better and see where the cards fall in the next 10 weeks. We just have to go into this week preparing to get better and trying to get a win. That's all I can do."

Was that your idea or Zac's to have a conversation?

"It was mutual."

How did you feel physically?

"I feel great."

Do you find yourself needing to do anything different from a leadership style when you're 0-3 heading into a must win game next week?

"There will be some critical thinking I'll have to do to see what kind of leader I want to be going forward and what I feel like the team needs from me going forward."

Are you still confident in your defense?

"Of course. We've got the players. I'm not sure what happened tonight. I know that we have great coaches and we have really good players that are willing to improve and take coaching. So just like any game, if you don't play great, you're going to learn from your mistakes and get better, and that's all you can do."

How do you think Tee Higgins looked tonight?

"He looked good. He made some big plays for us on third down. He's getting his feet back under him, so he's going to continue to improve."

Was it nice to get that connection with Ja'Marr Chase going?

"We caught a couple, one in single-high coverage today. I'm not sure how much more we're going to see of that. He caught it two times and we scored two touchdowns. We'll see if teams continue to do that. I hope they do. We're going to continue to try to take advantage of our opportunities."

When you saw that pre snap, what did you think?

"I liked the calls we had. We executed them. That was exciting to see. We'll watch the tape and see some red zone opportunities that we could have had. We have to find some plays to still get him (Ja'Marr Chase) the ball in those situations. We can't just let a team take him away like that going forward."

The touchdown to Andrei Iosivas on fourth down, was that a similar route he ran to that of last week's game?

“Yes, a double move. Not exactly the look we want in that situation, but we made it work.”

A lot of your football career has been about you overcoming adversity and odds when they're stacked against you. You seem to take pride in being able to do that. How do you feel about that challenge and knowing that the odds are stacked against you?

“It's an exciting opportunity, just like every season is. There's going to be some big games down the stretch that we're going to have to step up for. We haven't played any division opponents yet. The Steelers are 3-0, other teams are 1-2, we're 0-3. We play all six of those games coming up. We're by no means out of it. Playoffs and winning the division is the furthest thing from my mind. We have got to get better this week.”

CAM TAYLOR-BRITT

Cornerback

What happened out there tonight?

“Running downhill with (Brian) Robinson Jr. outside, and a couple of deep balls. I had one and one of my teammates had one, but those were the only very explosive plays.”

They had some extended plays ...

“Yeah, most definitely with the quarterback they have, they can extend plays.”

How frustrating was it to know what the offense was going to look like and they came out and scored on every drive?

“Very frustrating. They went on long drives the whole game. They had a lot of third-and-two. We wanted to get them in third-and-long so they had to pass the ball to the outside, but it didn't turn out that way.”

Why was Jayden Daniels 21-of-23 tonight? How did that happen?

“It was those quick throws.”

GENO STONE

Safety

How do you come to grips with where you are at 0-3?

“Try to embrace it and we've got to move forward. We have to get on to next week with Carolina and get ready to play.”

Is there a feeling of disbelief?

“No, I mean not really. We know we can do it. We had chances against these guys and we just have to capitalize on every chance we get.”

Their offense in third-and-short, fourth-and-short seemed very poised. Did that stand out to you?

“Yeah, they were doing a lot of hurry-up and speed-breaking us. That's on us. We have to communicate and make sure we're all on the same page. I tip my hat to him (Jayden Daniels). He played a great game.”

You entered the season with high expectations. Where are you emotionally right now?

“I'm in great spirits. You know, it's the NFL. Crazy things happen in this league. Anyone can beat anyone each week. We just have to put it together. We got it. Every game we've lost is a one-score game. It's not like we're not there.”

DAX HILL

Cornerback

When Jayden Daniels threw the touchdown, it looked like you were out in front of Terry McLaurin. Was there an issue in tracking the ball and that's how he ended up getting it?

“I was off zero coverage and he put the ball in his hands.”

You guys never expected to be 0-3. How do you wrap your brain around that right now?

“At this point you really just have to move on. You can't think about being 0-3.”

ZACK MOSS

Halfback

The Bengals averaged more than six yards per rush today. What was going on? What did you guys see? How did you guys execute so well?

“We knew the run game would be an emphasis. We knew these guys gave up a lot of yards in the run game. So, we had a lot of stuff schemed up. We went out there and we executed at a high level and tried to do that consistently.”

I can't remember the last time I saw a game where neither team punted and neither team turned it over. It was an incredible football game in that regard. You've ever been in a game like that?

“Not where both teams didn't punt. We just have to do a better job at playing complementary football. When I saw us staying on the field a little bit more, we always have to think like that. But like Chase (Brown) said, we'll watch the film, figure out a way to get better, and try to duplicate that again on Sunday and, you know, come up with a win.”

CHASE BROWN

Halfback

What was going on? The Commanders' two defensive tackles — that's as good as a duo that there is in the league. Did you guys attack them a little bit and go right at them?

“I guess, in a way. But we knew that they were going to penetrate hard and we're going to take advantage of that, on some of the run schemes. But obviously would have wanted to leave this game with a win. So that's what we're focused on right now. And just looking at the film and just finding ways to get better.”

And then the running game set it up for Joe Burrow. Joe passed for over 300 yards, three touchdowns and a high completion percentage. When you run the football like that, it's easier to throw it, isn't it?

“Yeah. No doubt. No doubt about it. It opened up the passing game. And we're just going to look to continue this trend and keeping being an explosive offense.”

JA'MARR CHASE

Wide receiver

How does it feel to be 0-3 at this point?

"Doesn't feel good, but it happens. We just have to learn from it. Move on. And get ready for next week."

The offense obviously was cooking, but you had three possessions where you settled for field goal tries. Unfortunately, in a game like this, that proved costly ...

"Yeah, we have to score (TDs) when we get into that red zone. We have to capitalize on them."

What about your performance? One hundred-plus yards, two touchdowns catches ... how'd you feel about it?

"It was a good overall game, but I'm more of a team-win (guy). So, I think it would be good to have one with that."

Where do you go from here?

"Come back to work. Watch the film. Corrections. And we have to move on. But we can't have games like this. We have to win games like this, so we can move on."

Is there a sense of desperation at this point, even though it's three games in?

"I don't know. I've never been here, bro. I never felt this before. So, it's a first time for everything. Because you have to be on one team. You have to stay together — stay as a unit. That's the only way we're going to win."

How good was it to have Tee Higgins back out there? It looked like it certainly benefited you a little bit, too ...

"Yeah. It was great having Tee out there, man. It was like old times, just having fun."

When you look at what you, Joe Burrow and Tee Higgins did, do you see that as the path forward for you guys? Big plays that show you what you can make?

"That's more of the standard that we have. It's not it's not really something that we have to show. It's really the standard that we need to be."

Jayden Daniels is extremely impressive. I don't know how closely you could watch his performance, but it was a very good rookie quarterback performance. What did you think?

"He's a great player. I'm not going to lie. That was my first time sitting down and watching him besides the spring game. So, he's a very outstanding player."

Do you have confidence that the defense can bounce back from what happened tonight?

"Yeah. One hundred percent. Defensively is leading our pack when we're playing (good) football games. But tonight it was the opposite. The defense is still going to be good. They have their pack; we (on offense) have ours. We just have to keep going moving forward (together)."



COMMANDERS POSTGAME QUOTES

SEPT. 23, 2024

WASHINGTON AT CINCINNATI

DAN QUINN

Head coach

Initial comments ...

"I thought this was going to be a 'Take an entire team' effort. It was a great team win. We know how talented Cincinnati is and we knew it was going to be an absolute battle. We were going to be aggressive and we knew that was going to include some fourth downs, give us a shot to go and we did and we knew the red zone was going to be big. It was really one of the areas we needed to emphasize coming out of last week. On the special teams side, big return, we controlled field position. We knew to put on all three phases together for us to have good shot tonight and we certainly did that. I was pleased with the guys. But the team across was pretty tough too."

Talk about Jayden Daniels' management of the game ...

"He's a really cool customer and he's got real poise about him. He knew the importance of the ball and the decision making for that. He could get them into short fields and chances to go, his ability to know when to and when not to make a play with his legs, we've seen a lot of this in practice and now it's carrying over into the games where with the decision making, sliding, going, taking the shot. I thought it was a really strong performance from him."

Talk about how he was able to make those passes to Terry McLaurin as you've talked about all summer ...

"Well, it makes sense by giving those two a shot. They put the time in and if they hadn't put that time in, then you wouldn't have the confidence to throw into that space. Of all the work they've done, obviously they haven't connected on the deep points area in the first two games, but we knew that wasn't going to be the case moving forward, so when we had our chances with moments to go it took a really good throw and a really great catch from Terry."

That was 14 consecutive drives where you've scored not counting the kneel down. What is Kliff Kingsbury seeing?

"I thought Kliff called a really great game. And I've been listening through it all week — all the different looks, the things that would have to go through especially down if we got into the red zone, we knew the third down in the red zone was going to be a really big part of this. He and the staff had a really clear understanding of what we had to do. You have those moments that come up and you take your shot and deliver and they weren't going to miss it."

Was there a play earlier in the game where you felt Jayden Daniels' comfortability and progressing doing the things you want him to?

"It was probably that early fourth down and delivering on some of those, it was a big deal. For us to have balance is a really big deal from the run, the pass, when able to huddle — it's just a hard group to defend. When we attack and when we sit back, when we change groups and I just thought overall, his talent and poise. I'd say it was on some of the fourth downs that we knew he was fully ready, I've already mentioned his poise before and I really admire that."

Talk about that Trent Scott touchdown ...

"I don't know if that's a record that your first touchdown thrown is to a lineman. When he was coming off I thought that was pretty cool. But one of the main things, just executing in the red zone. Last week, obviously he had some opportunities where we were frustrated not that we were making kicks, just more that we were kicking, so tonight having the ability to score down there was huge for us."

I take it Trent Scott is not keeping the ball?

"That is absolutely the truth. Maybe we'll think of something for Trent. I think that he'd gladly hand over, but like I said is that this was really a team win and that's the cool stuff."

Austin Ekeler gave you a lot of production tonight, what did you make of that and is there an update on his health?

"I don't have an update, but I will give one tomorrow. But we saw the return and he gave us the field position that changes everything. He has such a unique ability to make guys miss in space and that's why I love the combination of him and Brian (Robinson Jr.). I'll have more information regarding his health tomorrow afternoon."

Defensively it seemed like it was a bend but don't break. Was that were you guys talking about going into the game?

"I really felt, and you've heard me talk about identity, the running, and the hitting. There was a great tackle made by Quan Martin and some spaces to go. The difficult part of their receivers is the matchups as Joe (Burrow) is accustomed to go when that shot is there. They make it difficult to go when they take their shot and they make you pay, those are hard. But I was pleased with the styles, the attitudes, the effort and if we get those things right, the scheme parts will come and you have to have those pieces in place first. I thought we took a step forward and tonight I liked the running and the hitting, we'll get into the tape and we'll go through the scheme and I think both the team and Joe (Whitt Jr.) were tasked with knowing that we were going to have to give up some things in order to be on top and for a good bit of the game we saw that."

What did you think of how the offensive line did tonight?

"We knew that was going to be the one that had to help. We've seen where (Trey) Hendrickson can go and we just knew we couldn't leave (Jayden Daniels) vulnerable out there, that's with the run action and the passes that go with that. It's a big piece where you can just rear back and go and I thought that was one of the real factors. On our team, we have a lot of respect for (Trey Hendrickson) and with the production that he has had and what he is capable of. That was going to be a real challenge and they really answered the bell."

On that fourth-and-four, was Jayden Daniels telling you to go for it or was that your call?

"Nope. We were going to go. Sometimes we look for the yard marker and go, but we wanted to. I certainly didn't want to give (Jayden Daniels) that win when he had others. Yeah, that was a shot where we said 'Hey, if we have a shot and we can go take it, go take it,' and that's where the decision came from. We basically were trying to win the game right there. And it takes some space to go there and Jayden and Terry (McLaurin) have put a lot of work there together although they have not seen that come to fruition in the first two weeks and with us back in Ashburn, when you put the work in and you have confidence, when the moment comes, we'll take those shots."

In that fourth-and-four situation and similar situations, what does that say about your hesitation in your rookie quarterback?

"I didn't. We knew we had to be aggressive going into that game. Extend possessions, to give ourselves a chance, that's why we thought the special teams play was a big piece of this from the field position standpoint that if there is a gap or if there is an edge to find, were going to dig for it and that included going on certain distances on fourth down or in that part of the field. We knew we didn't meet the mark last week in the red zone and we're not mentioning kicking field goals, but we knew that wasn't sustainable. I thought the third down in the red zone is one of the areas we really dug deep on and fed off of the rest of the night."

This might sound like a stupid question, but do you now know more about Jayden Daniels than you did four hours ago?

"It's not a stupid question. I thought he's been continuing to grow on the job and that is part of it. He and all of his teammates that are first year guys that are growing, like when to extend a play, when to get down, when he should use his legs. A few days ago, I asked him what he learned in the first two games and it happened again tonight, but as far as the competitor I've known that and as far as talent or arm, I've already known that, it was good to see the next step of him of when to take the shot and when not to. So, I did learn a lot more tonight and he's listening too and knowing the importance of that.

Back in January, knowing the history of rookie quarterbacks, could you imagine then that you would have this much trust in him?

"No, I probably didn't even go there. We just knew this was the guy for us. That's what we knew. And it was the competitor and the work ethic, it was all of those things that itemized what we were looking for as a Commander and that was Jayden, and it was also for a good number of his teammates as well. To see some of those guys take on early roles, they had a sense of really good balance of confidence, hard work and humility. To see that take place, and veterans in the locker room saw that too, that this guys is really serious about what he is doing and wanted to work their (behinds) off to help him too."

Does a situation like this on a national stage help you prepare for Arizona next week?

"We really don't think in those terms. I get what you're saying, as that might give us confidence in winning, and in certain parts of the game we need to improve, and that's honestly what we are chasing — like, how can we go get it there? how can we fight together? But one the things I was most pleased with was all three phases, knowing that's what wins, and it's the complimentary football, it's the kick return that goes out, stopping a two-point play, going for it on fourth down, knowing the defense has got your back if you don't make it. Those are things I look for — I don't know if that's the confidence from the men — but that's what we're looking for. Just continue playing our play style and how to do it."

Have you ever gone two games without punting?

"I don't know. I don't think so. I'd say on some of those fourth downs, knowing when to kick and when not to, it was probably really unique in that way of where we had possibly three punts and we went after it. I don't think so. If it's in the right spot, this is a group that is capable of being in those spaces, and when we have our chances to, we'll be smart but we'll be aggressive too. That's how our nature is, and when the moments are there, we won't be foolish about it, and be aggressive and take our chances."

Is Austin Ekeler getting on a flight tonight to Arizona?

"No. I don't know that yet, but I'll have all that information for you all tomorrow, once I have a better update. I just don't want to give you information that isn't accurate."

JAYDEN DANIELS

Quarterback

What's that win feel like for you?

"It's great, not just for me, but for the whole team. The work we put into training camp being able to pay off. Obviously, it's not how we wanted to start the season, but we kept working, kept growing and keep improving each and every week."

Jayden, what do you feel like you most showed the NFL with the win?

"I'm just a competitor. I want to compete at the highest level, and obviously it's a blessing to be able to go out there each and every Sunday to do things that a lot of people in the world can't do. I'm blessed to be a part of one of the 32 teams that go out there and compete every Sunday, or Monday, or whenever we play."

What do you recall on the second touchdown to Terry McLaurin?

"Yeah ... cover zero, and just give Terry a chance to go make a play."

Did McLaurin ask for that play?

"Yeah, he said, 'trust me,' and that's what we did — trusted him."

When a coaching staff on fourth down says 'we're going for it,' what does that tell you? Obviously they have confidence in you. What does that tell the team?

"It's just a blessing that the coaching staff has faith in me to go out there and make a play in a critical moment. But that's a testament to, not just me, but the whole offense. It's how much faith they have in us, and the poise we showed throughout the game."

We saw on camera you say 'let's go.' Were you referencing going for fourth down or just getting the play in? What was that?

"I don't know. I was blacking out. I was focusing in the zone, so I couldn't even tell you when I said that."

The second throw to Terry McLaurin, you know it's cover zero. Geno Stone got free release there. What are you expecting to see on a zero coverage there?

"Go take a shot and give your player a chance to make a play."

How good did it feel to connect with Terry after not connecting on the first drive?

"It felt good. I mean we continue to work. We'll still face some adversity. It's not smooth sailing from the jump. There will be ups and downs, but just staying even keel, keep working and improving."

Third game in the NFL with that level of success, does any of that surprise you?

"Yes and no. Yes because obviously it's something new to me as I continue the journey in my rookie year. But also knowing the aspect that I continue to put in the work and what's done in the dark will always come to light, so knowing I'm prepared for these moments week-in and week-out. I just gotta go out there play football and execute."

Your first career touchdown to an offensive lineman. Take us through that ...

"Yeah it was awesome. Kliff (Kingsbury) called in the play kind of low on the shot clock. So getting the guys set and going — and they were all discombobulated on defense — we got a sneaky one for Trent (Scott). It was awesome for him, and awesome for me."

Who gets that ball?

"That's what we're discussing right now."

Are you opening to sawing it in half?

"If that's what we gotta do, that's what we gotta do."

Jayden, could you talk about the game Kliff Kingsbury dialed up today? He was throwing everything at them ...

"Yeah he called a hell of a game. We were just executing. That's the thing — Kliff is going to call the plays, but at the end of the day, we still gotta go out there and execute the plays. So given 10 other guys are on the same page and one cord, that's my job to try and manage the down and manage the guys around me ... get them on the same page around me, and (then) roll."

Sam Cosmi and Nick Allegretti both said I haven't seen a guy's eyes, especially a rookie, like that in a huddle where nothing fazes him.

When did that come for you? What age? When did you have that?

"I don't know. That's something you have to ask my parents, but it's just a testament to how I was raised. Shout out to my mom and my dad for instilling that in me, and for never letting a moment ever get too big or too little for you."

That 30-yard pass there on the two, what did you see there?

"Yeah, I saw Luke and Nolan in the same area. Somebody's going to catch the ball, and he caught it."

The final drive to seal the game, not the kneel down obviously, you guys have a couple of penalties and are facing second and 20 and end up overcoming all of that, getting the first down and going down the field. How big is that to overcome those setbacks to seal that game?

"It's huge. We still have a lot to improve on. We don't want any more penalties in those situations, but there's room for improvement. But it just shows that we're going to fight through the adversity that we go through and keep battling and play on."

Did you and Joe have a chance to talk after the game, and if so, what did you guys talk about?

"Yeah we talked a little bit, but just keep going. Obviously we both have a lot of respect for each other. So that's the main thing and main points we talked about."

You've talked about replacing him to some degree and being in the shadow. I know it's not personal, but to get that win on this stage and he happens to be that guy. How ironic is that?

"No matter who the opponent is, especially in a primetime game, or just getting a win in general, is huge for the team, for the fanbase, for the organization."

Cleat slide tonight. Did DQ say anything to you after?

"I don't know, probably. He probably said something, but I don't know. I was too focused on the next play."

Jayden, you talk a lot about keeping your eyes up as you scramble. Did you feel like you did more of that tonight, and was that another step for you?

"Yeah, it's something you can improve on and grow on. I feel like we still have a lot more to improve on offense. You can never get too comfortable in what we're doing, but it's just the starting point."

As much football as you've played in your life. Have you ever played a game where you didn't complete two passes in a game?

"I don't know, probably. I don't know. I couldn't tell you. I think the closest one was last year versus Mississippi State. I think I missed four or something like that, but it's just a blessing to go out there. Shout out to my O-Line for giving me time. Shout out to the running back for protecting me. And shout out to the receivers for making plays."

TERRY MCLAURIN

Wide receiver

Can you describe what tonight was like for you and this team?

"Man, that was one of the most fun games I've ever been a part of, honestly, because of the way we fought. We came out with a different energy. I think this came from our Friday practice. Going into the New York game, we knew we didn't have our best practice, but we ended up winning. And sometimes you've got to find a way to win. DQ (Dan Quinn) talks about it all the time, putting the work in during the week, and now we can be confident in the work we put in and we can cut it loose, and I feel like we did that tonight. To come out here against a team that had to get a win, playoff caliber team, I think we came out here and really set the tone, and we fought at the end when they tried to make a run back."

What did you think of Jayden Daniels?

"Hey, that kid has poise, man. I think he grew up tonight. On that deep pass to me, that was a little bit of double coverage, and I've been pushing and pushing and pushing like trust me with that safety flat, and give me enough air I can go get it. And for us to make that play, and for him to continue to make throws like that, use his feet to get first downs, the dude is tough, man, and he grew up tonight. He's been doing a great job in camp making those throws, but to come out here and do it when you've got to have it with the game on the line — that's what great players are about, and I think he's going to be well on his way if he continues to work."

The feeling you have about Jayden Daniels tonight, have you felt that before?

"Maybe felt it a few times, but with the game on the line, honestly, to be able to go to him and Kliff (Kingsbury) and say 'Put me in the boundary, and give me the go route,' and for them to actually do it, I think that's the first time that's happened with the game on the line in my career. So, for them to have that kind of trust in me, both Jayden, Kliff, and our team — the O-line did a great job of keeping Jayden clean, and for him to take that shot, and give me enough air to run under that ball, like I said, sometimes I try to give the basketball reference, when your jump shot's not falling you keep shooting, and when that ball fell out the air a couple times, I think that's really going to help our momentum going forward."

How good did it feel to get that first deep one, the 55-yard catch?

"It felt amazing, because I just try to stay patient, and I think when you have a rookie quarterback who is just getting adjusted, I didn't want to put too much pressure on him and make it all about myself, because he's still progressing. But I knew we were going to have to start creating explosive plays and not have to go down in 13-14 plays to score. So, for us to hit that play and next play we get in, that's unbelievable NFL football. Going forward, we're going to continue to stack on that. We put that on film and I think that's going to open up a lot of other things for us. But for him, to clearly walk that ball to me with the game on the line, those were big-time throws for a rookie to make. Like I said, I can't say enough about the o-line. They did a great job, and the other receivers — Luke (McCaffrey), Noah (Brown), Zach (Ertz), everybody just had a hand in making this win possible."

Not only was Jayden throwing to you deep and trusting you to make a play, but he puts it on your numbers twice ...

"Yeah, and the crazy thing about it is he's a leader. He's trying to keep my head right, and I do a good job of staying focused. He's been telling me ever since the Tampa game when we missed it, 'I'm going to keep coming back to you, so stay ready.' And to have that confidence from your quarterback, that means a lot to me, especially from a young guy. So, for him to walk those two passes to me, it was unbelievable. Those are big-time throws that he's going to be able to build off, so I think that's going to help us going forward. I'm so excited for this team and I'm so excited for him, because now as a rookie once you see those throws, you get more confidence, and I think his confidence is going through the roof right now."

JONATHAN ALLEN

Defensive tackle

When you're on the sideline watching your young quarterback do what he did, what's going through your head?

"He's special. I think you're seeing why he was drafted No. 2 overall. I'm not super surprised seeing what he did, because I see it every day in practice."

Talk about going on the road, on Monday Night Football, and doing what you had to do ...

"Thank God for our offense. Our offense played unbelievable. Got to give Coach (Kliff) Kingsbury, Jayden (Daniels), Terry (McLaurin), and all them boys on the O-line all the credit. They won it for us today. Defense, we've got to be better. No other way around it."

What's it feel like for you that there's been so much turn at quarterback as long as you've been in Washington, to finally have a guy that looks like he could be the answer?

"He is the answer, and we know he is. We're just going to do everything we can to help him out, because we didn't help him out at all tonight. Thank God for the offense."

NICK ALLEGRETTI

Guard

Could you talk about the touchdown by Trent Scott? It looked like you and Sam Cosmi were talking a little bit before that. What was being

said there?

"That's one of those plays that we only run maybe once a week, so I was just asking everyone what the play was. I saw Trent in there, so we're just checking the play, I run my pull and I look up and saw Trent, and it felt like he was waiting for eight seconds. Man, that's awesome. It doesn't happen a lot, and that's a super cool part of the game."

Could you talk about the production of the offense today?

"Man, it's been a lot of fun to play in this offense. Kliff (Kingsbury) has done an incredible job, Jayden (Daniels) has done an incredible job. We had an outstanding chance to get Terry (McLaurin) going today. There's just so many playmakers on this offense, and they're a lot of fun to play with, and I'm honored to get a chance to play with this offense."

It looked like Kliff Kingsbury was really dialing up the plays tonight. Can you talk more about his impact on the offense?

"I feel like he just kind of shoots from the hip, and he lives in the moment. He may set up one, two, three in a row, but situation by situation he's ready with the play call, and it's really impressive how we were able to mix the run and the pass, and read option today. It's only my third game playing in this offense, so I'm still learning so much about Kliff. It's been a lot of fun, and I'm having a blast playing for him."

When you guys went for it on fourth-and-four, were you expecting that?

"As soon as we got inside the 40 (yard line), I thought there was a chance we would kick. Not that we don't trust Austin (Seibert), but he hasn't had a lot of long kicks yet. That's one of those that in my prior location, I knew how we played things. We're a new organization, so many new pieces — coaches, players, management. I'm ready to go for it on fourth down, but I'm still learning how DQ (Dan Quinn) wants to play games, and how Kliff (Kingsbury) wants to call games. I was ready for it, wasn't sure what we were going to do, but fired up when we called it. I love having the game in our hands. Such a cool thing to get the chance to go win the game, because in these type of games, you have to go win. You can't just sit there and take the three and give the ball back to Joe Burrow. Not a great idea. You've got to go win the game, and we did, and that was very cool."

BOBBY WAGNER**Linebacker****What did you think of Jayden Daniels tonight, particularly in high-pressure situations?**

"He played amazing. Some of those throws were just on point. I didn't realize he had only two incompletions — that's crazy. So, he's growing and gaining confidence, and you can see it."

You talked earlier this week about how you need to learn how to win. What does a game like this do for the team to win this style of game?

"When you come into a hostile environment like this, against a team that just got beat in a close game, facing 0-3, and to come in like that and get a win on Monday Night Football, it's definitely something we can build on."

What was it like standing on the sidelines watching Jayden Daniels and that offense operate tonight?

"It was amazing. We watch it in practice all the time, but to watch it happen against another team and see him make some gutsy throws and get some gutsy fourth downs, that's exciting for the defense. We want to do our job to complement them."

You've now got a short week, and on to Arizona. How do you prepare for the short week?

"We've got to enjoy this win and start getting the body right now, and get ready to play a really good Arizona team and another really good quarterback."

What was the scene like in the locker room after the game?

"It was amazing. The atmosphere was amazing. It kind of reminds me — I'm so used to winning, so when guys that may not be, to see the faces and the energy, it was cool."