

# Transcript

Thursday, September 2, 2021

## COACH SHANE STEICHEN



THE MODERATOR: Hey, Coach. Thanks for taking the time today.

SHANE STEICHEN: Thank you. Appreciate it.

THE MODERATOR: We'll get started here with Jeff McLane, and then Jeff Mosher.

**Q. Hi, Shane. I'm wondering when you guys, as a staff, you're deciding you're going to an 11 or 12-personnel on any given series. Is that usually a decision based on the talent you have at the position, getting it on the field, or trying to dictate a certain defense?**

SHANE STEICHEN: Yeah, I think it's a little bit of both. I think that's week by week. When we go into game plans, we say, Hey, what gives us the best chance to win?

If it's 12, it's 12. If it's 11, it's 11. That will be week to week for game plan.

THE MODERATOR: Don and then Dave.

**Q. Hey, Shane.**

SHANE STEICHEN: How are you doing?

**Q. What are some of the challenges bringing in a new quarterback, somebody new to the room so close to the regular season? Especially when you got to get, obviously, game planning perspective, get Jalen ready to go, get Joe ready, what are some of the challenges to get Gardner up to speed?**

SHANE STEICHEN: I think the biggest thing is, obviously, just learning the system. Any time you bring in a new quarterback, regardless what it is, they got to learn the system.

And once they learn the system, they got operate at a high level on the field. So I think that's the biggest thing, learn the system. But happy to have Gardener here.

THE MODERATOR: Steve and then Martin.

**Q. Hey, Shane. With the lack of experience your**

**starting receivers have in the NFL, how do you know they're ready for this role?**

SHANE STEICHEN: Well, I think they improved so much during training camp. And I think we put them in a lot of game-like atmospheres practicing against the Patriots, the Jets, and seeing what they're capable of during practice.

So, excited to -- looking forward to seeing them play against Atlanta coming up here soon.

THE MODERATOR: Martin and then Zack.

**Q. Hey, Shane. We haven't seen a lot of, obviously, Miles Sanders in the preseason games. Where do you see him as far as, you know, his readiness for the start of the season? And also by only keeping three running backs, I mean, how do you see that unit overall especially, like, in short yardage type of situations?**

SHANE STEICHEN: Yeah, no, I'm excited about that group. With Miles and Boston and Kenny. I mean, Miles has played in this league. He's done a lot of really good things. So I like where he's at.

Same with Boston, he's an experienced guy who's done a lot of good things. And then Kenny being the young guy, he's shown some really good things through training camp and in the preseason games. That group in a whole, very excited about those guys.

THE MODERATOR: We'll go to Zack and then Jeff.

**Q. Hey, Shane, what have you learned about Jalen Hurts, as a quarterback, as a person, that you didn't know before you started working with him every day?**

SHANE STEICHEN: Well, I've said this multiple times about him and I heard it when I got here: But to see it day in and day out, his work ethic and how he prepares for practice, how he goes about his business, he doesn't take anything lightly.

So that's been good to see. And I think when you have that mentality week in and week out going in and preparing for games, it's going to give him success on Sundays. So we're really looking forward to the season --



**Q. Every --**

SHANE STEICHEN: -- that we're about to come up on.

**Q. Every quarterback, obviously, has a different personality. What's he like behind closed doors?**

SHANE STEICHEN: He has -- he's very intentional about everything. He asks really good questions in the meetings. He wants to know the why behind everything and I love that at the quarterback position.

Because if you don't know the why, you're probably not going to have a lot of success out there. And he always wants know to know the why and the plays we're doing. I love that about him.

THE MODERATOR: Go ahead, Jeff.

**Q. Sorry about that, Shane. What will be your role in game management on the headset? And do you think that Nick, just having known him, been around him, he'll be aggressive in his play calling on fourth downs and two-point conversions?**

SHANE STEICHEN: Yeah, I think that stuff is a game-by-game basis. That stuff's going to be talked about throughout the week in general.

And then the communication, like I said before, Nick will give me the plays, I'll call them into the quarterback and we'll go from there.

THE MODERATOR: All right. Are there any other questions for coach? All right. Thanks for the time, Coach.

SHANE STEICHEN: All right. I appreciate you guys.