

Tampa Bay Buccaneers Media Conference

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Washington Commanders

Jayden Daniels

Visitors Postgame Press Conference

Commanders - 23, Buccaneers - 20

Q. Tell us about that moment, the ball goes off the upright, goes in. What was the feeling that you felt?

JAYDEN DANIELS: I don't know. I can't really explain it. Obviously I'm grateful to have the opportunity. I'm happy for the fan base, the franchise, everything, it's been through to get to this point. I'm just going to say I'm grateful and happy for everybody, including myself, too.

Q. As calm as you are, you've played football all your life, to have those moments where you're waiting to see this thing hit the goal post, pop through, what were you going through?

JAYDEN DANIELS: I don't know. I don't think I even smiled. I think I was looking at Charlie. We've got some interviews. I don't know. I can't even tell you.

Q. (Indiscernible). What happened there?

JAYDEN DANIELS: I don't know. I didn't know I was bleeding until they told me. I wiped it and, like, oh, I'm bleeding.

Q. Stitches?

JAYDEN DANIELS: No.

Q. Why does this team keep coming through in these moments?

JAYDEN DANIELS: I mean, that's just the brotherhood and that DQ -- that DQ set, the brotherhood and togetherness we have within the locker room. Obviously the people that have been in the locker room, you can see how close we are off the field. We're always hanging around each other, everybody gets along with each other those moments, when times get tough we fall back on those moments.



Q. Every time you see a little bit more fight in this team. Could you talk a little bit about the fight over and over in this team.

JAYDEN DANIELS: We're not going to give up until the clock hits zero. Win, lose or draw, whether it's week one to now or week 19, we're going to keep fighting to the end.

Q. You got the ball with five minutes left, the chance to get the win. What's your approach there in that final drive?

JAYDEN DANIELS: One play at a time, make some plays.

Q. (Indiscernible) in that situation, yes, you need to score, but more importantly (indiscernible)?

JAYDEN DANIELS: Selfishly I wanted to score but that's why I don't coach. Just go out there and play. DQ and them make those decisions.

But obviously we want to be smart. We don't want to give them the opportunity to go out there -- you never know what's going to happen in this game. So obviously we get a couple first downs, slow some things down, make them use their timeouts, keep going from there.

Q. The touchdown pass to Terry (inaudible), what did you see on that play?

JAYDEN DANIELS: Yeah, I mean, everybody was pushed. Essentially it was 4 over 3 to our receivers. Terry wasn't necessarily one-on-one, but he had a corner outside leverage, you had the safety inside leverage to take away anything. I was able to check some, and Terry made the play.

Q. Coming out of the two-minute warning, you went over and talked to Marcus. What was the message there?

JAYDEN DANIELS: I don't even remember. That wasn't like a message. Hey, just be smart, tell the guys to be smart. I don't know. I kind of blacked out.

Q. When you get into these finals, do you not hear anything? Do you get in the zone?

JAYDEN DANIELS: Yeah, I think you just kind of find that zone. And you don't hear; you just focus on your fundamentals and you focus on playing the playoff.

Q. (Question off microphone) and now you're here (indiscernible)?

JAYDEN DANIELS: Not at all. I think like this place will have a special meaning to me. Obviously my first career start, first career playoff win. So that will be memories, but it wasn't anything different. I was just focussed on doing my job and how can I help these guys win.

Q. What was the play on third-and-2? And how did you see that play unfold?

JAYDEN DANIELS: The last one? Kliff called my number, and I was, like -- essentially before I told him, hey, you can put the ball in my hands. So he called my number. Made Kancey miss, and the O line did a great job blocking.

Q. How do you approach the running game when the backs had a hard time getting going?

JAYDEN DANIELS: It doesn't affect anything. We just go out there, work off each other. Some days the passing game might not work and the run game picks us up. Might be vice versa.

We don't really focus on that. We leave it to the outside. We just focus on what we can control.

Q. How often do you tell him to put the ball in your hands?

JAYDEN DANIELS: Not often. I guess you can say what's understood doesn't need to be explained. But I know Kliff has the utmost confidence in me. I know the team does. I know they have the utmost confidence in him and the guys to go out there and make plays. That's why I distribute the ball out to the guys and they go out there and make plays.

Like, Dyami made huge plays. And obviously Terry. And O.Z. and Ekeler. We've got guys around that can make a lot of plays.

Q. You have said it's a long season, what you've been through, college and the draft and otherwise. At what point do you get re-energize?

JAYDEN DANIELS: After we beat Tennessee and had

that bye week. Obviously it was a late bye, but we knew at the end of the day it was going to benefit us to make this push.

One game at a time. We'll see where it takes us.

Q. How does it feel? Your first playoff -- your first playoff win. Does it feel real yet?

JAYDEN DANIELS: Not at all. I don't know, probably won't hit me until whenever it is, this rookie campaign ends. Kind of in the mode, hey, one game at a time.

Now we're focusing on Detroit. Got a short week. We've got to get our bodies back right to move forward for Saturday night.

Q. (Question on fourth down and mindset)

JAYDEN DANIELS: Obviously they're confident in us to get the first down, so I'm confident in the guys to go out there and block, make plays and move the chains.

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