



Duke University

Player Quotes

Sept. 3 – N.C. Central Game

17 – Daniel Jones – RFr. – QB

On the emotions going into the first game of the season ...

“I was really excited coming out. Obviously there were a little bit of nerves, being the first game at this level, but once we got a few snaps in, it was just back to playing football, doing what we love. It was a good time.”

On the game plan coming into the game ...

“We tried to take advantage of what they were giving us and we tried to just play our game. We tried to do what we do well, while executing at the highest level. That was our thought going in.”

On the strong play of the defense ...

“The defense was great tonight. A lot of guys stepped up and made big plays. Joe Giles-Harris made a lot of plays. Just seeing that put us in good field position the first half. That makes our job a whole lot easier, just working with a shorter field. That was really exciting seeing our defense go out and play lights out.”

On moving into ACC play ...

“We just have to bring it to practice every day and make sure we know what the other team is trying to do. We have to watch film and understand the game plan going in. We just have to try and prepare as best we can.”

25 – Jela Duncan – RSr. – RB

On his 50-yard touchdown run ...

“There was great blocking up front by the offensive line. The tight end made a great block. I was able to get outside of him. Two guys tried to tackle me and I wasn’t going to let them take me down. I had to make it to the end zone somehow.”

On competing in the first game of the season ...

“It felt great. We came out in the first half with a lot of energy and enthusiasm. We were clicking on all cylinders. Daniel Jones was out there dropping dimes, like I knew he could. Even though he’s young, we tell him all the time that we have his back.”

On Daniel Jones’ demeanor on the field ...

“He’s a little quiet. He’s a little shy off the field, but he comes with a lot of enthusiasm. I tell him all the time, ‘Make the plays you’re supposed to make, and make the plays you’re not supposed to make, and we’ve got your back.’ With him being young, we have to lean on him a little bit, but we’re going to take care of him.”

On his mentality in short-yardage situations ...

“I don’t let anyone stop me. If there’s two tacklers, one tackler, you need to BYOB: Be your own blocker. I’m not going to let anyone stop me when I’m in that range.”