

WEEK TWO
DUKE AT NORTHWESTERN
EVANSTON, Ill. -- Daniel Jones dropped back to pass when he got driven to the ground by a blindside hit.

He came down on his left side and left the game with an injured clavicle, which could mean a lengthy absence for the star quarterback and a huge loss for Duke.

Jones threw for three touchdowns before getting knocked out of the game, and the Blue Devils beat Northwestern 21-7 on Saturday.

Coach David Cutcliffe said it “doesn’t look great” and was bracing for his quarterback to miss a big chunk of time. He added Jones would be examined when the team returned home.

Cutcliffe doesn’t expect star cornerback Mark Gilbert to return anytime soon, either, after he exited with an injury to the left hip area in the second quarter.

Those were two big losses on a day when the Blue Devils (2-0) beat the Wildcats (1-1) again after pounding them at home last year.

Jones passed for three TDs in the second quarter but left the game after he was sacked by Joe Gaziano at the end of the third. Quentin Harris played the fourth.

Jones completed 16 of 22 passes for 192 yards in another big game against Northwestern. He accounted for 413 total yards and four touchdowns in last year’s 41-17 romp.

“He was playing lights out,” Cutcliffe said. “He’s prepared hard. And that preparation, you can visibly see it. Anybody can see it. A lot of confidence. He’s not through, so we’ll be cranking it up moving forward.”

Jonathan Lloyd had 94 yards receiving, including a 52-yard touchdown catch in the second quarter. Davis Koppenhaver had a one-handed TD grab late in the first half, and the Blue Devils won for the 21st time in 24 games against non-Atlantic Coast Conference opponents.

Northwestern’s Clayton Thorson was 22 of 38 for 198 yards and an interception in his second game back from a torn anterior cruciate ligament in his right knee. He again shared time with TJ Green, who went 9 for 18 for 84 yards and an interception.

Thorson said he was feeling good after taking some hits to the lower body. But the medical staff is determining his playing time.

“I wish I had control over that,” Thorson said. “I’m just told whether or not (Thorson) is in or (Thorson) is out.”

Jeremy Larkin ran for 121 yards and a touchdown after going for a career-high 143 in the opener against Purdue. Flynn Nagel had 12 catches for 133 yards -- both personal bests. But the Wildcats lost for the first time since Penn State beat them last Oct. 7.

THE TAKEAWAY

Duke: The Blue Devils could be in trouble if they have to get by without Jones and Gilbert.

Northwestern: The Wildcats clearly need a healthier Thorson if they’re going to make a run in the Big Ten. Larkin, meanwhile, showed again he’s ready to become the workhorse running back with career rushing leader Justin Jackson in the NFL.

QUOTABLE

“It’s always good to get wins against Power Five schools and great competition. But we made a lot of mistakes, things that need to be fixed. We need to learn as much from a win as we do from a loss. This is a great tape to watch and get better and learn from.” -- Lloyd on the victory.

EARLY TURNAROUND

Jones threw for 159 yards and three touchdowns in the first half to help the Blue Devils grab a 21-7 lead.

Northwestern’s lone points came on the game’s opening drive, when Larkin broke off a 40-yard run to the 4 and carried it in from the 2. But three TD passes by Jones in the second quarter gave Duke a 14-point lead.

He connected with T.J. Rahming on a 9-yarder just over a minute in and the Blue Devils scored on back-to-back possessions to go up 21-7.

Marquis Waters intercepted Thorson in double coverage, leading to the Wildcats’ Cameron Green getting ejected for a helmet-to-helmet hit on him. Jones connected with Lloyd deep down the middle on the next play for a 52-yard touchdown to put Duke on top. An open Koppenhaver made it a 14-point game with 2:18 left in the half when he reached up with his right hand and hauled in a 9-yard touchdown in the back of the end zone.

Northwestern had a first down at the Duke 9 early in the third. But the drive stalled, with Thorson getting sacked on fourth down at the 4.

Final	1	2	3	4	T
DUKE	0	21	0	0	21
NW	7	0	0	0	7

Scoring Summary -----

FIRST QUARTER		DUKE	NW
NW TD 9:50			
Jeremy Larkin 2 Yd Run (Charlie Kuhbander Kick)			
11 plays, 79 yards, 5:10		0	7
SECOND QUARTER		DUKE	NW
DUKE TD 13:57			
T.J. Rahming 9 Yd pass from Daniel Jones (Collin Wareham Kick)			
14 plays, 75 yards, 5:58		7	7
DUKE TD 8:40			
Johnathan Lloyd 52 Yd pass from Daniel Jones (Collin Wareham Kick)			
1 play, 52 yards, 0:09		14	7
DUKE TD 2:18			
Davis Koppenhaver 7 Yd pass from Daniel Jones (Collin Wareham Kick)			
8 plays, 60 yards, 3:13		21	7

Team Stats	DUKE	NW
First Downs	17	24
Total Yards	301	381
Total Plays	63	88
Avg Gain Per Play	4.8	4.3
Net Yards Rushing	97	99
Rushes	39	32
Yards Per Rush	2.5	3.1
Net Yards Passing	204	282
Comp-Att	18-24	31-56
Yards Per Pass	8.5	5.0
Times Sacked	4	3
Yds Lost To Sacks	-24	-23
Interceptions	0	2
Punts	9	5
Punt Average	0.0	0.0
Penalties	4	2
Penalty Yards	40	20
Fumbles	1	0
Fumbles Lost	0	0
Possession	28:31	31:29

Individual Stats

RUSHING							
DUKE	Rush	Yds	Avg	TD	Long		
Deon Jackson	18	52	2.9	0	8		
Brittain Brown	13	34	2.6	0	10		
Quentin Harris	5	14	2.8	0	25		
T.J. Rahming	1	0	0.0	0	0		
Daniel Jones	2	-3	-1.5	0	8		
NW	Rush	Yds	Avg	TD	Long		
Jeremy Larkin	24	121	5.0	1	40		
John Moten IV	2	1	0.5	0	2		
Flynn Nagel	1	0	0.0	0	0		
TJ Green	2	-4	-2.0	0	1		
Clayton Thorson	3	-19	-6.3	0	0		
PASSING							
DUKE	Comp	Att	Yds	Y/A	TD	Int	QBRat
Daniel Jones	16	22	192	8.7	3	0	81.9
Quentin Harris	2	2	12	6.0	0	0	55.2
NW	Comp	Att	Yds	Y/A	TD	Int	QBRat
Clayton Thorson	22	38	198	5.2	0	1	26.7
TJ Green	9	18	84	4.7	0	1	3.6
RECEIVING							
DUKE	Rec	Yds	Avg	TD	Long		
Johnathan Lloyd	5	94	18.8	1	52		
T.J. Rahming	4	32	8.0	1	18		
Noah Gray	2	26	13.0	0	26		
Daniel Helm	3	17	5.7	0	11		
Davis Koppenhaver	2	13	6.5	1	7		
Deon Jackson	1	13	13.0	0	13		
Chris Taylor	1	9	9.0	0	9		
NW	Rec	Yds	Avg	TD	Long		
Flynn Nagel	12	133	11.1	0	32		
Jeremy Larkin	7	55	7.9	0	17		
Bennett Skowronek	4	37	9.3	0	18		
Ramaud ChiaoKhiao-Bowman	2	19	9.5	0	14		
James Prather	2	14	7.0	0	12		
Riley Lees	1	9	9.0	0	9		
Cameron Green	1	8	8.0	0	8		
Jelani Roberts	1	5	5.0	0	5		
Kyric McGowan	1	2	2.0	0	2		