



Head Coach Dan Quinn

Opening Statement:

“Alright guys, we can get rolling. Visited with the team and we make a big deal about, you know, our Commander standards and we sure as hell aren't coaching or playing up to it. We're way off and that's up to us to fix that and also told the team, it's for us to go away [to Madrid next week], get it together. Not the worst thing for us. We got to find solutions, where we're at and doing that together. That's the right space to go do it. So, we'll take it on the road tomorrow night and we got a lot of things to fix. Like I said, we're off course. Things to address and being together is the best way to go do that.”

On defensive changes not working:

“Yeah, we're all obviously disappointed, like just execution, not creating takeaways, the ones to go. And I think why you're seeing that. Like yeah, that's definitely frustrating, and we all are baffled, frustrated, all of that. You know, like all those emotions, it's accurate. We got to channel that in defining the things that we can do well and play that because when we can't, you know, like it's too easy, too difficult too for us or too difficult, too easy for them, whatever that looks like. But, play style, identity, like all that feels off.”

On what other changes he can make to the defense:

“Yeah, I understand you have to ask that. Honestly postgame, I'm not there yet. Want to have thoughtful answers and decisions on personnel. But like I said, I understand you have to ask that, but I'm not there yet to figure it out. I got a lot to look at tonight as we get into the week and we have this game and then a bye, we better put everything we can into this week to make sure we can play like we're capable, fix some of these issues. And so, to me that's like kind of where my tunnel vision is of like start with that.”

On if he's shocked at the differences between this season and the last:

“Yeah, we definitely are. That's why like the frustration, man. Like I get that and it's not an excuse. We got to find a way to channel that frustration. Like you saw at the end of the half, penalties and actions. Like we can't have it. It's all coming from that, from the frustration, the angst, that feeling, the darkness of it all. Yeah, no one saw that obviously coming about where we're at. But I also told him like that's the chapter, that's where we are and we have to be the ones to get it out. I'm not saying it's going to go this much better, but it has to be and we're the ones that go do that. We got to be the ones to dig it out. And that's why I kind of just want like everything I can into this game, this moment and see what we can go get better at. That's what we'll do.”

On if he wants to make changes heading to Madrid:

“No, just the opposite. Like, I'm feeling fortunate that we are hitting the road tonight together. Sometimes when you're going through it you need everybody together. You talk about it and what's the thing you can do better and you can do. And so, all of us start collectively thinking that way together. It forces you to do that. And so, we got a good group, man. Like, you have to have these

standards that you go to, but this is where we're at and so we got to fix it together. And so, by them doing that together, it's fortunate that we're in this time. If we hadn't, I wish we could move it up to go and spend as much as we can to get answers and solutions. The practice and the preparation, I thought last week hit the mark, the performance didn't, so there's more to it. It's not where are we missing, where are we missing? There's like a gap that's taken place and like I said, it's everybody.”

On looking at big picture things during the bye week:

“Yeah, you want to start and say, ‘Okay, what are the things featuring the players?’ Put them in the best spots they can do their thing. I don't have a sense for who will be back after that but that will be a factor eventually. But in the meantime, how do we look at just finding ways to improve? And that is a number one top of the pile. That means shifting people, personnel, more scheme of this, less of that, like everything's on the table. But in the next six days, man, it's just like, lock in for this. And then while the guys get that break coming back, that's the staff part to say, ‘Okay, from the view up top, no bias, it looks bad. Why are we not hitting the right spots?’ And like, why, you know, leave that aside to say this is what it has to look like moving forward. And so that's kind of the head space I'm in. I'm not there to the bye yet, but that's my focus this week. There's a process to go through during that one and ours will be more lengthy than usual, but in the meantime it's like short term solutions for this week to get it better.”

On TE Ben Sinnott:

“Yes, yep. The group is a good one at tight end. And what I've seen from Ben is more urgency in his play. The confidence has come through. It really almost started on the special teams side first, where in the preseason saw tackles and making plays and then it kind of carried over into the offense. But to see the other players have the belief in him, he's got real speed, he's physical as a blocker. So, it was good to see him make the jumps that you want to see a player going from year one into year two. You want that to happen, it doesn't always. So, it's good to see him making those improvements and seeing that come to life. It gives you confidence knowing that okay, he's making the plays to take it to the next spot.”

On the personal foul penalties:

“Yeah, it wasn't spilling over into the locker room, it was more like the – I get the frustration, but we've got to find a way to channel our frustration better or different than that, a penalties or in actions that hurt our team. That part obviously addressed it hard at halftime about our poise and what it's got to look like and where it goes. And so, to see that happen, that's good, but I don't know what the difference in penalties, all those things like, man, that can't happen. Margins are here and so, when you make it harder like that, that takes away from it. So, the frustration is not an excuse, I guess that's I'm trying to say.”

On if he worries about the team fracturing due to the frustration of losing:

“No, I worry about the emotion of it, but not fracture. They're tight, they're connected, the work's there, frustration, visibly upset, just why isn't it going like we wanted to, and that's kind of what I was referring to earlier, a little bit about it's not the worst thing to go away together right now. And it's kind of like, not going away to camp, but going away. Alright, let's talk through, find these spaces and it might be these small things that we need to do differently that can add to it. Everybody's searching, we're frustrated, players, coaches, everyone, but ultimately like I said, first things first, man. Just into this week, what can we do better? Heading into this game and then breathe and, okay, next step and then I'll go from there.”

On the frustrations on defense:

“Yeah, the last two and a half games I've been obviously super disappointed. I thought, I guess what was in Kansas City at the first half, I thought that was like, okay moving in the right space, moving in the right space and what's the saying? A step forward and then two steps backwards. And so, it's not what we want and that's a big part of us. Like I said, the identity and play style and all of it.”

On keeping optimism for the defense to correct its mistakes:

“Yeah, I think when you show the examples when it's right, okay, this is what we look like, this is what it needs to be. When you find the ups and downs, that's the part that is frustrating for everybody. Yes here, no here, yes here, no here. And so, I think I referred to it last week, sometimes you see somebody over trying and getting out of a gap. I didn't sense that tonight, honestly. Frustration for why we're not executing, why we're not hitting our marks, but I didn't feel like somebody was way out of space. I'm going to go try to make this play on this one, but I'll have a better chance to look at that tonight. Anger, frustration, all the normal motions you'd expect everybody to have right now. And like I said, I'm just kind of locked in on this week to say, ‘Alright, what do we do this week to play like we're more capable of?’ And that's a short-term answer and solution, but we're not going to stay like it is either.”

On if he was aware that Air Force One flew over the stadium:

“No [laughs], not even. One thing I really appreciate about being here with the team on Salute to Service and here, the amount of military leaders that are here and that I got to meet today. And it hits differently here. My background with Salute to Service has been one that I really value and think highly of. And so, for me to be here as coach of this team, in this location, man, that's a big deal and that's not ever lost on me. Some of the biggest heavy hitters in our country, in the military were here at our game today watching football and being around us and so having football be a big part of what we do for our country and here in the NFL and how important it is, that is never lost on me. And I definitely wanted to give them a better performance today than we did.”

QB Marcus Mariota

On the feeling in the locker room:

“Yeah, for us, I think everyone's frustrated, upset, which I think those are emotions that you want to feel at this point. Like, nobody's in there giving up at all. But at the same time, we have to figure this out. We gotta get it right. [LB] Bobby [Wagner] said something at halftime, and I really appreciate the fact that he led us, and said, ‘Hey, this is on us. We have to figure it out. It's not just offense, it's not just defense, it's not just special teams, it's on everybody.’ And at the end of the day, like I said, going into this game, I believe in the guys in this locker room. But, we have to figure out what it is and what these details are if we're missing the lack of execution. It takes all of us. So, regardless of where we are, at the end of the day, it doesn't matter who we're playing, it's on us, and how we got to figure out together how we can get this right.”

On Head Coach Dan Quinn's message after the game:

“Yeah, he basically was very much the same way that I feel, and kind of what I said. It's an interesting time for our team. I think it's a good time to go as a team together early, where we can all kind of sit down and be together for the next seven days and figure out how we can get this right. So, it's interesting how the schedule kind of played out that way. But I do feel like this is a

good opportunity for us to, one, figure out who we are and who we want to be, and two, just to get this thing right.”

On how far away it feels from being the team that you think you're capable of being:

“Yeah, I mean, it's a great question. I don't feel we're close. And at the same time, though, day in and day out, I see guys coming in, giving it their all. So I do feel like we have the motivation, the determination to get this right. But we're running out of games, and we're running out of time. So, there has to be a sense of urgency, which I do believe there is in the locker room, and we'll figure it out.”

On still having to figure out who you are after ten games:

“Yeah, I'm one, I don't think we should shy away from that. I think that's the truth. And I think that's transparency, and at the end of the day, in order to get things going in the right direction, you have to be transparent, you have to be honest. And I don't think we are who we think we are. So, with that being said, it's a quick turnaround. It's a trip to Europe. It's an opportunity for us to kind of dive in together. I believe in this brotherhood. I believe in the guys in the locker room. But, like I said, there's got to be a sense of urgency, and I think our guys feel that.”

On why it seems hard to figure out the team's identity this year:

“Every year is very unique. Every year poses different challenges. So, with that being said, I don't really know, and I think that's why we are all standing here today, kind of where we're at. So, it's gonna take a collective effort to get this thing going in the right direction. With that being said, I believe in these guys.”

On his message to Washington Commanders fans:

“Well, one, we do appreciate the support. We're not where we want to be, and we understand that. Secondly, continue to believe in this team, continue to believe in Q [Head Coach Dan Quinn], continue to believe in the leaders of this group, because I've been in very many different locker rooms. I've been a part of different teams that would have shut this down two, three weeks ago. So, with that being said, there's fight in this dog. I believe in it, and we're gonna get this right.”

On keeping the team together amid visible frustrations on the field:

“Well, you said it's the brotherhood, right? As much as we talk about it, the accountability is there. Because when you are day in and day out with these guys, you have to be able to look them in the face and say, okay, I'm doing what I'm supposed to be doing. And, unfortunately, I think, with the way the game went today, frustrations did boil over, and I appreciate Bobby because he did say some things that happened, one, I think, represented kind of all what we were thinking, and two, like, hey, setting the standard of who we want to be. So, I have no doubt in my mind that we have the group here to get this thing right, and it's gonna take some time, but we gotta figure it out soon.”

DT Javon Kinlaw

On what was going on when frustration started:

“I just felt like, I just felt like in the moment we were being cheated, to be honest. [DT] Daron [Payne] only retaliated because the refs literally saw the first punch, you know what I'm saying. I don't blame him for the way he reacted, you know and tempers got to flying. I mean, it is what it is.”

It's a physical game. Shit happens. But on my end, I just got to be smarter in certain situations and protect the team."

On whether he saw Detroit Lions WR Amon-Ra St. Brown hit DT Daron Payne:

"Yeah, for sure and they did too. That shit was some bullshit 100%."

On where the team goes from here:

"All we can do is go back to the drawing board and try to find a way to get better. That's the only way we can do it. Just gotta find a way to get better."

On the gap between expectations when he signed and where the season is now:

"Next question, man."

On the mindset heading into next week's game and trying to bounce back:

"The mindset is the same come out, put the pads on, and try to do my job. Do my one of 11. Just get better. Point blank, period."

RB Jeremy McNichols

On the team this year vs. last year:

"We're not where we wanna be right now, but all we can do is continue to practice and continue to play hard, and practice hard, and continue to just try and go 1-0 every week."

On the upcoming trip to Spain and bouncing back from recent struggles:

"Oh, like every other week. You know, 24-hour rule, and we got Miami next week. And we're gonna prepare for them and try and beat them, have a good week at practice, and go out there and play hard and go 1-0. That's our goal every single week."

On how QB Marcus Mariota played tonight:

"I think he did great. He led us. Offense, we did what we were supposed to do. You know, I think he did great just with his leadership and being in the league for this long, and being able to go out there and execute this offense tonight."

S Quan Martin

On the importance of staying together as a team through this losing streak:

"It's tough. Every week is kind of something different, so really just being able to stick together. The team, we talk about brotherhood. I think that's when we become close through these hard times."

On the mindset of the defense after consistently surrendering points in consecutive drives:

"Stuff will happen throughout the course of the game, so you just gotta be able to respond. They're gonna score, we gonna score, it's just how you respond and how you adjust."

On if this upcoming trip to Spain can be a culture building trip:

"Anytime you are somewhere with your brothers, it's always a good time, honestly, despite what's going on right now. But, just sticking together, we talk about brotherhood and it's not something we

take lightly. So, just sticking together and knowing the guys that I step on the field with every week got my back and I got theirs. Just continue to be a good teammate.”