



## **Head Coach Dan Quinn**

### **Opening Statement:**

“Alright, good afternoon everybody. Just kind of looking back and visiting with it postgame and talking to the team, to me, the ball was the issue. And so, for us to finish at minus four, not creating takeaways, man that is not a recipe. So, not creating them on defense, not taking care of it at a winning level, that is no recipe. I thought, honestly just got beat in all three phases, but the ball is such a big, big part of who we are and what we do. We've got to get that part of our football right. That's what I told the team tonight, so glad to open up to you guys and get rolling.”

### **On trading RB Brian Robinson Jr.:**

“We knew this was going to be a competitive group all the way back from the very beginning, and we certainly wish BRob the best in San Francisco, in terms of style and fit and all that. So, all that was a factor, but also the room here too.”

### **On if a running back emerged to make the decision easier:**

“We knew that, like I said, just honestly, just the competition of it all. I don't know if emerging, but we were pretty confident going into the camp what we'd see and how we'd go. And so, when the opportunity with [General Manager] Adam [Peters] and team to go that way, that seemed to make the most sense and from a fit and the whole thing forward, so it made sense.”

### **On LB Ale Kaho:**

“Yeah, one thing about playing linebacker and behind the line of scrimmage, you want to see guys who can play square and tackle, and that is one thing from him, really instinctual. I like how he can do that, and he's had a good run here on the special team side of things. So yeah, he is really just improving as it's going. He's worked really hard from the time the minicamp ended to going into the training camp. He's really somebody that's absolutely going for it.”

### **On RB Chris Rodriguez's performance:**

“Yeah, it's important for us and that part of the offense really takes the most work. It's the traps, the combination blocks getting downhill and so oftentimes the throwing game is ahead of the running game just from how you practice and train. So, going into the games we wanted to get real looks at it.”

### **On what happens between now and Tuesday for him and Peters:**

“Yeah, this is a challenging time for us. You have to make difficult decisions, but we've been meeting a lot leading up until now. So, we watch practice together every day. We spend a lot of time and so the evaluations keep going and then we're just talking now what time we're going to go watch it together tomorrow. Oftentimes we'll watch practice or a game and it's a conversation about a player. It's our time to spend together, talk about the team, what we would do, contingency planning, 53-man roster, 70-man roster. And then of course from his side then there's acquisitions or trades that go into all those. So, it is a busy time for sure, but most things, big decisions, take our

time and work our way through them, but the game will be another one to go. And certainly there were some guys today that impressed me and [CB] Antonio Hamilton [Jr.] was another one that played physical. I was so pumped to see [LB] Jordan Magee out on the field today. He's such a good linebacker and so for him to get back out and get some playing experience today, I thought that was really important. But we go through the next few days together and just kind of make sure going through all the looks and where it's at and then as it gets in from Tuesday to Wednesday, slight changes take place then too."

**On having three quarterbacks on the roster and on the competition for the third spot:**

"Yeah, we haven't decided from three in practice squads and those types of things yet, but I think what do you find when you get a lot of quarters and that type? So, with [QB] Marcus [Mariota] being out that created more playing time and so just like we were saying with the whole team, they got more ops to play than they normally would have. And so, I think those are important parts of the evaluation as it goes into it but as far as numbers in terms of how many, we haven't finalized any of those things yet."

**On draft status impacting the 53-man roster:**

"Probably early it does, but not later. Meaning like early picks I could see that, but not as much on the later side. One thing that we really stand for here is the competition. And that's been Adam from the very beginning. And we knew that was the case going in, there wasn't going to be this or that. That's how we stand for how we do things. So yeah, I would say not from a – you can't rule that over a performance based thing."

**On where WR Luke McCaffrey has grown:**

"Yeah, we've pushed him in two spots, which he's definitely capable of handling, both playing outside and inside. The things that I've seen improve for him is the route running and the precision doing that. The footwork that goes with that. He's always been one hell of a competitor, he's got punt return background, kick return background for us. So, we like all the things that Luke brings, but it's really the competitor that kind of sets it apart in that way. But I do like the versatility that [he] does [have], outside to inside. I thought it won't maybe show up all the way on the stat sheet, but he's made an impact on the team side last week. I thought for him covering kicks, man, I felt it."

**On WR Terry McLaurin being present and on what the difference was between this game and last game in terms of his attendance:**

"Yeah, he had, just based on how the calendar went from like big work yesterday, so not today, different than last weekend. So that's how it did. Kinda the way that his workouts fell with the game and the calendar. But yeah, it was awesome to have him here today as well."

**On RB Jacory Croskey-Merritt not playing and on if his shoulder injury played a factor in this:**

"We just like wanted to use all the caution we could to make sure that he's hitting it good and at that spot. I think we all recognize it's a pretty physical spot and so it's a deep crew for us at that position. So, we thought we haven't seen enough from [RB Kazmier] Kaz [Allen] and [RB Demetric] Felt [Felton] in some of those ways, and though by design we said, 'Okay, let's feature them more today.'"

**On WR Noah Brown's pregame workout and on his future return:**

"Yeah, I was really encouraged by what I saw today too. He is such a competitor, so like to see him full speed, making all the stops, you've heard me use the word like decel – how aggressively he can

stop and that's what makes playing the position so unique. Not just the speed to get over the top, but all of it. But he really looked like himself today and so I asked him afterwards where he was at and how he was feeling. He really felt strong, and the workout looked really strong too.”

**On the ability to assess receivers based on QB Sam Hartman’s performance:**

“You really have to look at, from the receiver spot, where was the route? Like for instance, there was a time last week that Luke absolutely got on top of somebody on a deep route. Now we didn't throw it that way and so maybe we didn't take the attempt to him, but you felt the speed of him absolutely. Going forward, I would say it's, are you in the right spot doing the right route? And if the ball doesn't go your way, I think that's more difficult than if you are getting covered. You got beat and the ball wasn't able to go your way because of getting guarded in that way. So, it is a good question. I don't think it hampers the receiver unless there was an errant throw or a decision not to go to the correct read. But, as far as the routes and the physicality and going to do things, there's always good things to hit on that way.”

**On what he’s learned about Magee:**

“I think the word I think of when I think of Jordan is resilience. This is a really hardened, tough competitor. When the injuries happen, you can see on some it can be ‘Ugh, not again. Here we go.’ But not this guy. Like he is just built differently. He's very mentally hardened in that way. And so for him, we weren't going to let him miss one step in his way on the way back. And I was very excited to see him play and get rolling today, like he's worked hard to get back. I knew that he would, but it was still excellent to see him [DE] Javontae [John-Baptiste] out there, [T] Brandon Coleman. We had some guys that were on the way back. I was pleased that they got some extra work today, [CB Trey] Amos, so there were some that were, as we got into some work last week, can we get them some into the game? And so even sometimes five or six plays, it's worth it, the pregame getting out there, getting ready. I was pleased to see it with those four. But Jordan especially.”

**On S Jeremy Reaves conversing with the team on the sidelines:**

“I love the guy. He is like an absolute warrior and Commander, like through and through. He's also now established himself as a leader because of the high standards that he holds himself to. And now seeing him bring others along as a leader, that's a really big deal. And so not too many years ago he earned his way on the team, on special teams and making plays. And so to see him live that life fully and now adding more roles on defense, that's a really big deal. But I think just the love of football, the love of his teammates, those are a few things that stick out to me. But I'd heard him say, like he was coaching somebody up before I even got to the sideline today.”

**On Coleman advocating to play today:**

“I think it really speaks to like the readiness and a mindset to say, ‘Hey, I know, you know, regular season here is coming and I need this work’. And so that takes a lot of self-awareness because probably the easy narrative is to say back off and not, and so for him to advocate, ‘Hey, it's strong enough, it's ready’. So that's why we did the pregame to see how he felt. And we'll always make the right decisions for the players, but I trust them too. And to say, ‘Hey, I need this work and I want to get ready’. Like I know what that's like and some I'll have to protect them from themselves. That's the Noah Brown’s of the world. Like, no, no, you're not going to go. Even though he would no matter what. But there's others that like, I really trust, ‘hey, I got to get some, doesn't have to be the whole thing, but I'd like some’ and I believe in them too.”

## **LB Jordan Magee**

### **On being healthy:**

“Just for me, the main thing is being healthy. The best ability is availability. I know I can play football, it’s just about being healthy at the end of the day. I was having a good training camp until I got hurt about two weeks in. That was a minor setback. Coming off this game, I felt good out there. Got one drive, 12 plays. It was a long drive. Defense did well. We’ve got some things to clean up, but as a whole, I loved what everybody did. We’ll go out there in the regular season and play the [New York] Giants.”

### **On trying to make the 53-Man Roster:**

“You never really know at the end of the day. I try to come in, play to the best of my ability, and let the coaches and upper guys decide that.”

### **On his growth since last season:**

“During training camp, I feel like I showed a lot of growth and development from my first year. Having command of the playbook and the calls. Coming off this game, my first preseason game, it was good to get game action in before the regular season. That’s how I feel.”

### **On the next few days before roster cuts:**

“Just stay in the routine, right back to it. Tomorrow, I’ll be in the facility doing recovery, and that’s it.”

### **On battling injuries:**

“You just have to trust God, he has a plan for everyone. That’s what I always do. It is tough at the end of the day, but you have to fall back on God. He has a plan for you.”

### **On playing in the preseason:**

“For sure. These live reps are very meaningful for the regular season.”

## **WR Luke McCaffrey**

### **On his performance today:**

“I think it just comes down to doing our game. Sticking to our plan, our base offense and going from there.”

### **On TE Colson Yankoff’s 52-yard catch:**

“It was awesome. He’s one of the hardest workers on the team. He’s a beast. He’s a stud on special team. I’m glad people are seeing the type of playmaker he can be.”

### **On where he thinks he has improved the most from OTAs to now:**

“I think a lot. I think again, you go every day, hopefully learn something. If you can get a little better every single rep, a little bit better every single day, that’s how you make gains. Come in to learn. Come in to be consistent. I think that’s the biggest thing in the NFL is trying to gain consistency constantly. You can always improve there, and that’s what makes the best players the best.”

**On Head Coach Dan Quinn's message to the team:**

"It was just to play our style of football. You know, run and hit, and take care of the ball. I think those are two things we can learn from and we can correct."

**On the upcoming days ahead and what those are like:**

"I think it's one of the worst times in football because you see so many people have a little bit of a shake up and whatever it looks like. I think again when it comes to being in the NFL, it's just that consistency, not just your play but who you are and your approach to the game is what makes the best players the best. So, I think, just strive for that and strive to compete against yourself and keep getting better."

## **TE Colson Yankoff**

**On how he feels about the cuts coming up for the team:**

"I really just try to control what I can control at this point, trust in God, and the rest is up to Him, you know?"

**On whether he has done enough to land on this roster:**

"You know, that's not my call ultimately. It's totally up to them [the coaches] um, I just try to go out there and give it all I got every day and leave the rest up to them."

**On his 52-yard run this game:**

"I just had to make a play when the opportunity presents itself. You know what I mean? Get the ball in your hands and go."

**On taking a hit from his catch and continuing to power forward:**

"Yeah, just reps I guess, run the play and try to make a guy miss and run fast."

**On motivating himself to make a play like that each game:**

"Yeah, I don't think I try to psych myself up to make a play, you know, it's just get ready to go do what we do every day, right? Compete, work your butt off and ultimately just give it all you got out there and whatever happens, happens."

**On what the next couple days will be like for him and his teammates:**

"Yeah it's interesting. It's cut day coming up, right? I think people know that. It's an interesting time. Guys will come and guys will go but you know, like I said earlier, ultimately it's not up to us, it's up to the coaches and the upper management, so just really trusting God and stay the course."

**On what he'll be doing the next few days to get his mind right:**

"Yeah absolutely. Hangout with the boys, enjoy some time off to a degree, go get some dinner tonight and just enjoy each other."

## **RB Chris Rodriguez Jr.**

### **On training camp through the preseason:**

"Yeah, I mean, I wouldn't even say going just going through preseason. I say going through the off season. It's been a journey, and it's been one that I'm very proud of. And as far as where I see myself, you know, I just see myself in a running back room. I think, you know, where we end up is not up to me. Just kind of continue to control the things I can control at the end of the day."

### **On progression from last season to this season:**

"Yeah, I think I'm way better than I was last year. You know, last year, new system, I played kind of slow at times, and that was one of my challenges this year, is to continue to play fast and don't take a rep off, or if I'm tired, you know, you let coach know, or power through it, you know, get through it. But I think for the most part, things have slowed down for me."

### **On roster cut down:**

"Yeah. I mean, it's hard, you know? I mean, it's something that is very uncertain. And, you know, DQ [Head Coach Dan Quinn] challenges us, you know, to not think about next week and just, you know, focus on the game. But you know, now the game's over. It's tough, it can be tough on you, but I think if you just control the things you can control and know that you know God has a plan for you, and at the end of the day, his story is already written for you. It's just up to you to run your own race."

## **LG Brandon Coleman**

### **On playing today:**

"I was feeling good, kind of building up to today. So I just had to pull the trigger on and DQ [Dan Quinn] and OBJ [Offensive Line Coach Bobby Johnson] are, like, really cool about it, and just left it all up to my hands. And, like I said, I feel good. There's always communication, and there's a, like, big step for me and where I'm at."

### **On if he asked to play:**

"Yeah."

### **On having any physical limitations going into the regular season:**

No. I mean, obviously I got drafted injured. So It's going to be building my strength next week and then we have that build up for week one. So it's getting better every day, and then week one comes, I'll be ready."

### **On feeling good while playing:**

"For sure."

### **On the importance of playing during the preseason:**

"Yeah, I mean, it was, I feel huge for me. Like I saw last year, I didn't play any obviously, dealing with the injury, and I saw it too. Everybody saw like, those first couple weeks were rough for me. Man, it's like you go from not doing anything to having to get thrown in fire, especially in rookie year. So that's why I really wanted to push to get in, just because it like knocks the rust off. You

kind of get those game speed reps, especially with a new position. But like I said, I feel great and just builds confidence going into week one."

**On getting prepared for the regular season after a poor preseason record:**

"Like you said, it's different players out there, but everyone that's going is giving it their all. They all know what they have to do. They're all trying to earn a spot or just get better in general, you know. And even though the scores might look the way they do, like, everybody's having energy, you know, on all three phases. I feel like, obviously, there's things that we can correct and things that we can do better, but the energy was high known, I'm proud of the guys that were out there, and proud, like, my guys in the O line, boss, or the whole team for how they fought."

**On players being cut to make the 53-man roster before the regular season:**

"Yeah, I mean, I saw it last year for the first time. And, you know, it's a business, and it's the NFL, and no matter what those going to be my guys, if I see them wherever else, with other teams, you know. I mean, so wish everybody luck and good health and whatever they're doing, for sure."