



***Kansas City Chiefs vs. Washington Commanders
Monday, October 27, 2025***

Week 8

Commanders Head Coach Dan Quinn Quotes



OPENING STATEMENT: “I thought heading into the game and early in, the energy, the juice and the speed, I saw and I felt it the minute we stepped onto the field. That is honestly what we are looking for. Man did we leave a lot of opportunities out there tonight. You cannot leave that many chances out there and expect to win, especially against this team. Not capitalizing on the turnovers, not winning our fourth downs and they did. It was great to see some of the takeaways. That has been an emphasis on what we have been hitting on, but leaving here, you cannot leave that many opportunities there and walk away from this place with a win. I liked the intensity of the first half, but I just thought we had opportunities for us to make our mark, and we didn’t nail those. We are not going to walk away with a win with those missed opportunities.”

Q: On upping the speed and intensity in play...

QUINN: “Yes, I did. I felt the urgency and speed, especially in the first half. It really helps create the takeaways. This is a group that can really run. I wanted to see if we could process. Could we play quicker? Could we play with more urgency? We were able to see this. This is not to say it was all clean, especially in the second half, but I did feel that.”

Q: What are your initial thoughts on the offensive performance?

QUINN: “Not capitalizing on the early takeaways, maybe three trips into their territory, and not coming away with points is the story of the game for me. We have to take advantage of our opportunities when we get them there. Some of those fourth downs, that was by choice, knowing that this is not going to be a game you will win with field goals but with touchdowns. We knew we were going to live on the edge. I thought that was the right call going into it. I don’t like the result, but I like the aggressive nature of going for it.”

Q: When you are showing the zone defense, how critical is it to get Patrick Mahomes moving?

QUINN: “It’s important and even when he gets off schedule. Those are some plays that are good. On the quickness, we use disguise and know where your drops are. They hit some big plays. It was a big piece for us to create a negative play or two and drive the other way.”

Q: On player injuries...

QUINN: “I don’t know yet. I did not get to visit with (Terry McLaurin) specifically. JK (Javon Kinlaw) could but that was me at the end saying I am going to wait. He was itching to go for sure. I will have a better update on Terry tomorrow, but I have not talked to him and the medical staff just yet.”

Q: What was the kicker situation like tonight?

QUINN: “Yeah, we’ve had our run at that haven’t we. Matt [Gay]’s back was bothering him. It was a chance for Matthew Wright to come. Would he play, would he not, we didn’t know. I appreciate Matt Wright coming into this space where we may not even sign him to the practice squad. It would be to go for a tryout, so to speak. Once we found out that it was best for Matt Gay not to go and we could elevate Matt Wright, I couldn’t think of two better people to work alongside of them, Tress [Way] and Tyler Ott. Those two are pros. They have been through this before. I was watching from a distance in pregame to see distances and that stuff. Going into it, we also knew that we were going to be bolder on fourth down. We just thought this was a game that you come in and lived on the edge. If you’re going to come here and get a win, you’re not going to do it with a bunch of field goals. I knew that and we knew that. That was not a reflection on the situation.”

Q: What was the difference between the first half and the second half in your opinion?

QUINN: “I really want to watch it. It felt off. A penalty on one, a personal foul. I thought by the time we go to the fourth, they were making out of the pocket plays like he can, throws it hard when he needs. I just thought there were missed opportunities in the game. You can’t come here and expect to win and miss on those, you have to nail them. I thought we were going to play bold and live on the edge. That’s how we needed to play here. When we missed those, I thought those were the ones that we needed to nail.”

Q: I know we got a Tunsil injury later, but in terms of what happened, did it happen right at the beginning of the game? Did you kind of see?

QUINN: “I did see it was a hamstring injury, but I didn’t see the way he finished, it wasn’t like he came out on the play. You could tell it bothered him on the one. He was working like hell to try to get back, that’s no surprise. He’s tough as hell.”

Q: How did the line take this in general, without him being such a rock for you guys?

QUINN: “I’d rather not speculate on it and go. When the game gets turned also it changes, you know. When they’re blitzing and going. We knew that’s not the game we wanted to get into. So, we’ll have a better assessment on that honestly.”

Q: The big plays you allowed, especially in the first half. What did you see there in times when your guys are running free again? Is that miscommunication? Blown coverage?

QUINN: “No. Yup. It wasn’t a miscommunication. Mike had thought guys going to the flat instead of up. He’s got to carry his one. TO on his own just got to hinge back. No, it wasn’t a communication issue, John. Just plays we got to get right.”

Q: Offensively you guys were driving to the territory 5 times but only came up with one touchdown. What was happening to that side of the ball, what do you think the issue was?

QUINN: “I thought we had a chance with the fourth downs obviously, you know that’s a big one to go. But, we zero out and take a shot down the field. Sustaining those drives was gonna be a big deal for us. I liked the tempo early on, to work at it. Once it got into behind, that makes it way more difficult. But yeah, that opportunity of not scoring on our chances there. That was a big deal.”

Q: Was there like a caveance to this. You guys kind of got away from the running game or the run game. What’s changed and how frustrating is it?

QUINN: “Well, let’s also give some credit to Kansas City’s defense. They’ve got a good group, so I get the whole point of it all. We want the balance; there’s no question about it. You know, always, in all spots. It’ll take all three phases for us to really nail that. But it also leans into being ahead and getting into those spaces you know and not being where you’re behind. Kind of playing off your back foot a little bit and I feel like that was the case over the last couple of weeks. So, I would imagine that has some factor into that. Just, in terms of overall yards per game or that kind of stuff so. I’ll have to look more into the first half to have a better sense of that.”



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Commanders QB Marcus Mariota Quotes***



Q: In that first half, you guys were moving the ball but just couldn’t convert. How much did that affect what you guys did?

MARIOTA: “We’ve got to clean those up. I feel like we’ve moved the ball well throughout the season. It’s getting to that point, the fringe area, where whether it’s a penalty, a turnover, it just stalls and kills drives. It’s unfortunate. We’ve got to look at the tape and figure out ways to get better. That is definitely something we have to face.”

Q: What happened in the second half? Were they doing anything different?

MARIOTA: “No, they did a good job. We made a couple of third downs but for the most part, we didn’t execute. I took a bad sack, should’ve just thrown the ball away and given us a chance to maybe go for it on fourth. You’ve got to give credit to them. They played well in the second half.”

Q: What was the game plan to try to slow them down?

MARIOTA: “I thought we came out well. I thought our guys battled. At the end of the day, when you’re not converting drives against this type of team, it’s tough because they’ll get going. I thought our defense did a great job holding them off and making plays, creating turnovers. We just didn’t do our part on offense.”

Q: What was the mood in the locker room at halftime? What was the mood after the game?

MARIOTA: “Yeah, the mood was good. For the most part, we were moving the ball and defense created turnovers. We just weren’t able to finish our drives. We felt like we were getting things going. Unfortunately, we didn’t sustain that momentum. Those will be things that we’ll have to look back on and see what we can fix. But I like the way that we started today. I think that is something that we can build off of and looking forward, we can do better next week.”

Q: Obviously this wasn’t enough, but what did you think of that touchdown to [Terry] McLaurin?

MARIOTA: “Oh, it was sick. Anytime you give Terry a chance, he’s going to make a play. Even on that third down, to get his body in bounds there is ridiculous. He is a huge boost for us on offense. The more that we get him involved and get him going again, it’s going to help us out.”

Q: Right as you were getting Terry McLaurin going, he leaves for the locker room. Was that a bit demoralizing? I know you trust other guys, but what did it mean to not have him out there?

MARIOTA: “Yeah, we’ll have to wait and see what that looks like. However we can get Terry out on the field is important for us.”

Q: What did you think of the offensive line play?

MARIOTA: “Yeah, BC [Brandon Coleman] came in and played well. That’s not an easy position to be in at any spot, regardless of the offensive line. When you’re playing a defensive front like this that creates movement, does a lot of games and twists, I thought he came in and held his own. I thought all our guys did a good job. I took a bad sack on that third down, but for the most part, I thought they did a good job of holding their own.”

Q: Did you guys know before the game that Laremy [Tunsil] was a little off with his injury?

MARIOTA: “Yeah, I’m not sure. That’s probably a question for him.”

Q: You guys didn’t have a kicker until right before the game. Did that change the game plan to go for it more often?

MARIOTA: “Not necessarily, I don’t think. I really felt like we were going to have to be aggressive today. It seemed like that was the mindset all week. That’s probably a better question for DQ [Head Coach Dan Quinn] than me, but you know, I like being able to have that in our pocket where we are aggressive. I like having four downs, where you don’t feel like you have to get it every single time on third down. Unfortunately, we just didn’t convert those fourth downs to keep those drives going. But like I said, I thought our guys did a great job of moving the football. We’ll look back on it to see what we can improve.”

Q: On that one fourth down to Terry [McLaurin], what were you expecting there?

MARIOTA: “That was just a miscommunication on my part. I could have overemphasized what route I wanted just with the pressure and them bringing zero. I thought I could get a chance with him one-on-one. I can do a better job of communicating so that we are on the same page.”

Q: How big was the emphasis on you running in this game?

MARIOTA: “They kind of mixed it in. I feel like that is a big part of what I do. Being able to do that and create opportunities in the running game was good. I think Kliff [Offensive Coordinator Kliff Kingsbury] did a good job of mixing those things in and we made some plays here and there.”

Q: Your run plays seemed to get away from you in the second half. Was that just how the game was unfolding or was it something they were doing?

MARIOTA: “Kind of a combination of both, I would say. You don’t want to get to a point where you’re chasing points, but you also have to go and make some plays. At the end of the day, I thought Kliff did a great job of calling the game. We just didn’t execute when we needed to.”

