

August 2, 2025

Head Coach Dan Quinn

Opening Statement:

“Good morning, everybody. Before we get rolling, I thought I'd give a quick shout out to [Managing Partner] Josh Harris and his team, so much gratitude on how strong their commitment is to the team now and to the future, doing what was necessary to secure their critical next step in the road back to RFK. How much it means to the team, the community. Man, that's really cool. I was super pumped for him and for all the members and the limited partners that are with him, a lot of gratitude for how strong he's shown that support for us. I'm looking forward to you seeing the updates in the building, but yesterday's news, that's a really big deal. So, why don't we get rocking today?”

On WR Terry McLaurin's request for a trade:

“Yeah, he let me know that that was happening too. So, I definitely appreciated that. Look, I think it's easy, we love Terry. I'm really glad he is here and hopefully he is out practicing soon. And we also understand there's the business side of these things that [General Manager] Adam [Peters] and his side and Terry and his reps are working through. I just kind of stay in that space. We recognize both are happening, but like I said, I'm really glad he's here. I love coaching him, but the business side, that's kind of where it's at and it's not, somebody asked me is it a distraction? It is not. The players today, they're more aware of contracts and things maybe than they used to be. And they recognize that business part happens as well. So, for the team, we're just rocking and going and throwing some great practices. For Terry and the trade requests, man, that's part of normal business that's happening around the NFL. It's normal, we understand it and we just throw our very best practices out on the field.”

On if he addresses the trade request with the team:

“No, no need. There's just no need to do that and compare and talk and compare another man's money. That's just not it. And so, like I said, around the NFL, I think there's more awareness maybe than there's ever been of teammates and contracts and business. And so, we don't address it and this group is tight and honestly they're really focused on what they have to do in that time, knowing that behind the scenes, they know Adam and the guys are also working really hard at it too.”

On rotating tackles last season and on if it influenced their decision this year with T Josh Conerly Jr. and T Andrew Wylie:

“We just want to make competition as the central theme. And if we do that at quarterback last year with [QB] Jayden [Daniels] and [QB] Marcus [Mariota] and at tackle with [T] Brandon [Coleman] and Luke [Cleveland Browns T Cornelius Lucas], and we're doing it again right now with Andrew and Josh. It's part of who we are. And I never wanted a player to ever feel anything other than that. If you get this gig, you earned it and you had to fight for it. And that's the world of a competitor. And so, it's designed some by day, some by period and it takes a while to get there. You have to go through some more evaluations, but it's important.”

On if there will be a rotation at tackle this season:

“Yeah, definitely too early to say. Some of Brandon's injury was a factor in that during training camp last year, so we started that way, but too early to call.”

On the rookie class:

“Yeah, it's a good class. They have maturity, the work ethic is strong. I had told the coaches I was impressed by the amount of work they did in the spring rookie camp, getting the guys ready. It doesn't show itself at minicamp. They're still swimming, there's still too much information. But it does show now, it does show when they're able to now compete and fully express who they are, how they play. And so, they're off to a good start, man. I've been impressed by [WR Jaylin] Lane. There's a number of guys that have jumped out to me so far and as we're getting kind of into this and into some practices and preseason games, it's really cool man to see them really stand and fight for it and they put themselves in a good position to do that.”

On a plan at quarterback against New England:

“Yeah, Marcus is back full at it today. And so that will adjust, but that is the silver lining that happens where [QB] Josh [Johnson] and [QB] Sam [Hartman] got more reps. They're certainly in their own battle as we're looking at the third quarterback spot. So often we say at this starting spot or this starting spot, but there's this type of competition all over and there's a long way to go for that. But we're going to be creative in how we get the playing time for them. And some of that will include game time and we'll look forward to that. But we've not finalized any of that until we kind of get ready for our trip. We're kind of in this space. We'll take a day and then we'll begin to prep for New England and how much practice versus playing along those lines.”

On if he's surprised it's gotten to this point with McLaurin:

“I'm not surprised. Honestly, I'm glad he is here and I do love coaching him. So, I've tried to avoid judging it. I can't be in his spots. I recognize the players are trying to set themselves and their families up, so I try not to put myself into that spot. It's too easy to say, man, if I had that much I'd be this or that. And so, I don't go there. Try to support them as best I can, but we don't discuss the finance part of things. That's the partnership with Adam and I, where's our strengths, how do we work together and many things we do together, this is not one of them.”

On McLaurin's routine while on PUP and on how much interaction he gets with his teammates:

“Good. Like I said, the mornings are different because he is doing the strength work and soon to be some field work too. But then the afternoons is kind of normal. We do team meetings and then in the walkthroughs he can't participate in them, but he's around, he is standing next to [Wide Receivers Coach] Bobby [Engram] and hearing the calls. So, it's good to be around teammates. It really is because those are the people we spend so much time with. And that's why having an environment where you work at, it's so important. We spend half our lives together here. And so, creating an environment of one that's, man, I enjoy coming here, I get better, people challenge me. It's a really cool place to come work and play football. And we work hard at that too, the environment. And so, he's definitely part of that and feels those guys. And even though he's not participating, there's still plenty to do.”

On not making a holdout emotional:

“You're right, I'm glad that you brought it up because sometimes those are the emotions and that's the human side of it, right? And knowing there can be emotions, that's the ones you attach to at that moment. And so, for me as the coach, give the support, give the insights. Do you want advice [laughs]? And so that's the way that you do it, but it is an emotional time, it's so important. And each player won't be quite the same in how that's happening, their support, their age, all of that. So, I just try to not judge it as best I can. And it's not always that easy to do knowing it's an emotional time. Our times together are intense for different reasons. Sometimes it's the competitive intensity, other times it's something like this where you're just ‘Ah’, and you're feeling some kind of way. I just try to make sure, man, support the player as best they can knowing that they're accessing emotions that are hard.”

On the number of running backs he likes to keep on the roster:

“It does evolve, it does change. There's also the special team side of things and I think with kickoff returning at a premium now too. Okay, does the returner have those running back traits? I think you're on a great topic. It'll be interesting to see in this year and the years ahead, how many of those returners are running backs, how many are receivers, and it will definitely factor into the final roster. Most teams also have additional running backs on the practice squad that can get elevated but it's definitely more, and I do think that the special teams are a really big factor into that. So, having that additional value, that's a big deal.”

On working with Peters on player evaluation and the roster:

“Yeah, the one thing we do together just the two of us every day is we watch practice together. And some of the time it's about practice when we're watching it, other times it's around other things that goes. Just having that time together every day to talk, it's important for us, for our relationship, for the team. And so, you'd be surprised if you just put the tape on, leads into one thing, you hit pause, something else comes up, you talk through it. And so, we do that every day of practice. We watch just practice, the two of us together. He may catch me up on things. I try to give him insight on some of the things that a guy may be being coached on or how they're performing. There's a lot of players to evaluate, so it's not like you can see 90 players every day, every moment. I try to highlight those players and he gives me insights back. So, I enjoy that time that we do that.”

On the potential return to RFK Stadium:

“Yeah, I know these guys have been working incredibly hard, man. A lot of big steps that they're putting together. So, as much as I think about down the road, I also think about the work that's going in right now. And the type of attitude it takes to stand up and fight for what you want. I haven't thought much about down the road, but I think at this point gratitude for Josh and his team to make this happen. I always have a real appreciation for people that put in the work and obviously this takes a lot of work to do that. I wish I had coached at RFK, I didn't, but I saw it a lot. And as a member of this organization, the DMV. And so, for all former Redskins, Commanders, everybody, there's that energy about it. So, I'll leave it till then, but in this moment, I appreciate the work it takes to get to that next step.”