

August 20, 2025

Head Coach Dan Quinn

Opening Statement:

“Alright, good to see everybody. I would figure I'd start just going through the game and getting a chance to watch it. Figure I'd hit you up on some things that I liked. First, I thought run game wise and pass protection from the offensive line. I thought, I liked where that's headed. I liked what I saw. You've heard me talk about the gap schemes and people on the move and pulling. That was something that I saw improvement that the guys had been working hard at. I liked the energy of the defense in the first part of the game. I thought that felt a lot more like us. Just in terms of the tackling, the physicality. I liked a couple plays early by [S] Quan [Martin] and [Javon] JK [Kinlaw] down near the goal line. So that was good to see. On the sideline, I thought I saw countless examples of brotherhood of people coaching one another up, going through things together and I thought the three captains really represented themselves. That was [DE Jacob] Martin and [Julian] Good-Jones and [TE Colson] Yankoff. Some areas I wanted to see improve. I'm not happy with the ball being at a minus two for the game. Not likely going to win a lot doing that. And our tackling and breaking tackles, we're not near the space we need to be on that. And then on our kickoff, covering our kickoff return, those are two of the groups I'm most proud of and are the biggest part of our identity. And I've got super high standards for them. I'd like to see, you know, more consistent kick plays on that group. I saw it after the first kickoff. I saw one of the returns later. But those are two groups that I just have such high standards for in our team, and I want to consistently see that higher. All that said, let's get rocking with you guys and let's get it going.”

On RB Brian Robinson Jr.:

“Yes, no updates. Brian's been excused from the practice for today, and we hope to have some resolution on that soon.”

On WR Terry McLaurin:

“The return to play part is, that's the good news so we're out of the rehab phase with Terry. His ankle's good, he's healthy, so now it's a return to play. What goes into all that at that position specifically, like the max speeds, the decelerations, the route tree of going through that. So that's kind of the good news of where we're at is just conditioning and football and returning to play. And so almost all the guys are at some phase along that way. You're going to see [LB Jordan] Magee at practice, you're going to see [DE Javontae Jean-] Baptiste, they just have kind of gone through that process as well where they're out of the rehab portion of their returning to play and then it's back into like the football simulated work. So yeah, we're excited that he is back and getting better conditioning and getting things going.”

On the return to play format and the offensive line for the next game:

“We're on the return to play format. So, it starts off as rehab. I can go through it again if you want [laughs]. I saw some things, honestly going through, still a lot of moving parts. Not at the entire offensive line, so it'll be more customized in this game. Not as many players from the game against Cincinnati [Bengals], but there's definitely a lot of battles that I'm looking forward to seeing still at a number of spots, but it won't be as many that we played in Cincinnati for sure.”

On trying to construct the final 53-man roster:

“It's all part of the whole process and this time of year can be most challenging for the players that may see themselves on the roster bubble or the practice squad bubble. And you just try to encourage them, man, like, ‘Try not to count, best foot forward, what's your best look like?’ And I've seen a lot of that from guys at practice. I've been also impressed by some players that we've added late and then have worked their butts off to get caught up. I've seen that with [CB Antonio] Hamilton [Sr.], he played on defense, he played on teams. I was impressed by that and then we added another new offensive tackle in [T George] Fant today, so I'll be excited to get on the field with him. But, this time of year, man, it does get heated in that space, but that's my messaging to make sure man, like don't get into the accounting business. Like whatever your best looks like. We talked about it early, just that competition of going for it with one another and supporting each other. And I liked what I've seen from that side, but it's a real thing. It's a real emotion. They want it badly to make it, and they know this is a team they want to be a part of, so I want to make sure they stay in that pocket of doing right.”

On if McLaurin will be out at practice:

“Not at the practice portion. He had a big part of the run that went along today, but I'm not going to play ‘Where is Waldo’, guys moving forward. Alright? So just so we're clear on that. Terry's return to play format is no different than any of the other players, and so I'm not jumping at you, but I wanted to make sure like the next question, the next question doesn't go down this line. He's healthy, which is now a good step to getting closer to being back on the field. So, you'll see that earlier than later. I don't have a date circled on my whiteboard in my office this day for him, this day for him, but the good news is we're getting closer to that for sure.”

On RB Chris Rodriguez Jr.'s improvement:

“Conditioning for sure. This is a guy who's changed his body and now is allowed, the passing game he's more fluid to go into that. He's always been a strong runner. That was Chris coming out from college at Kentucky to here. And you saw that in the way he got his opportunity, some in some four minutes to finish some games, but he's very consistent in his tracks, in his run game. I've seen that, what I have seen, this elevated conditioning that allows him, now there's more ops on punt, there's more ops on other spaces, so he's really, by doing that, giving himself more ops and he's off to a good start.”

On CB Trey Amos' injury return:

“Trey will be back out today. I'm excited for you guys to see practice tomorrow. We have referees coming, so if he can hit all the markers back today, then I would say like, then we're ready to begin him back with it as well.”

On G Sam Cosmi's status:

“I originally, earlier had said, I don't have a date on some people that's different because of PUP and not. So that is a date that you do have to say, ‘Okay by this time are you able to get into that?’ Good news for Sam, I'm glad you brought him up. He has hit all the markers along the way to set himself up to begin that process where then it begins the individual work into that. As we get closer, we'll have a better shot for him to start into the practice phase of things. I'm encouraged by the work that he's put in. I'm certainly, I'm hopeful that's where it goes, that otherwise it's like a longer four-week process to wait. All signs today would indicate that he's hitting those marks.”

On McLaurin and Cosmi not attending Monday night's game:

“It's really custom to how we want to do things by player. Some big rehab here, some not on those particular days. So, that's how we decide to go through all the guys. If I would show you a list of who's rehabbing, who's doing what on what day and how they go, they have that mapped out pretty good.”

On T Josh Conerly jr. transitioning from left to right tackle:

“I'll tell you, one of the things that jumped out to be more than even left to right was in the run game. And I thought he would make that transition just athletically, he'll put it in, and guys have moved that one. I'm not going to say I was surprised by it, but the run game part of him was even better than I had thought. Sometimes you think of an athletic tackle and you automatically, your mind goes to pass protection, but he's a very strong run defender. He can clamp on you, he can move you. You saw that with some double teams the other day. We've seen him pull, so that would be, probably, as big a shift for me as it was even from left to right, is in the run game. I thought he'd acclimate to that just based on the athleticism, but the running game part, I've certainly been impressed by that so far.”

On the offensive line changing throughout camp:

“Yeah, it's not ideal and I think you want to control the things you can, so Coleman's [T Brandon Coleman] back into some practice today. So, that's a good sign. There's nothing like the practice work. We can do it in the walkthrough, we can do it in the meeting room, but it does help when the guys are side by side and going through it together. So, it's not ideal, but I also know there's a silver lining in the contingency plans that go along with that, where when somebody's out and the next person comes in, they get to do their thing. And I think it's opened up some spaces for [G] Chris Paul and I've seen more versatility from him than I ever have. But no, you'd like for those guys to get the reps in together and as a coach I want them all, man, just so I can think of how to do it and how to get there and whether that's Terry or Sam or Brandon who was out or [QB] Marcus [Mariota]. So, I think about them a lot and how quickly we need them back to get ready. But I guess I look at it also from the silver lining to say, when there's been some spaces for some chances to move it around guys have responded.”

On T Andrew Wylie's versatility:

“Yeah, his attitude has been so on point from the offseason, so far in this training camp he's played right tackle, he's played left guard, he started at left tackle the other day and so it really comes from his mindset first. Honestly, there was zero resistance on the day that Coleman had gotten injured in practice, all of a sudden you just saw Wylie just go in at left guard. It was like, there wasn't even a play that changed, 'I'll move.' And I like what he brings to us in that way.”

On conversations with other running backs based on Robinson Jr.'s status:

“I didn't have any extra conversations with any of the other runners. I had a discussion with the whole team, but not specifically with [RB] Austin [Ekeler] or Chris or Bill [RB Jacory Croskey-Merritt] or Kaz [RB Kazmeir Allen] or Felt [RB Demetric Felton] or any of the guys. So, I just wanted to tell everybody. I don't want to have one code for these guys and something for somebody else. So, they're big guys, they know what's at stake and that's what I like seeing in the game, prove it in competition. And I knew this is a very competitive group, fortunately at the spot look no further than Austin Ekeler and [RB] Jeremy McNichols of what a pro's pro would look like. They're the absolute standard and for those in the room that's covered those two, they know exactly on the field, off the field, their drill work, their special teams play, they're just an epitome, kind of, of the Commander way that way we want to get down at running back and just at football.”

On Fant:

“The length, obviously for tackle, he looks great. He had a workout with us last week and then [General Manager] Adam [Peters], the team, we're able to finalize all that over the weekend. So, that's a really big deal for us to add somebody with George's experience and length and at offensive tackle. It's very, very cool to have somebody with his experience and background and play style and skill, all that. So yeah, we're really pumped to add him to the crew.”

On position groups who have been challenging to evaluate:

“Yeah, we knew going in tight ends had a deep crew, running backs would have a deep crew. Certainly, the safeties have been that way, so all of them have their own competitions. And this morning I had made some individual cutups on individual players. Sometimes as a coach you can, I'm watching all 22 on this play and all 22, and then we'll just look back in at one player. I want to see the last two games every rep. And we'll do that a lot too. If you were comparing you and I, here's all your plays, watch them, here's all my plays, watch them. And that's a good way to do it as well. And then quite honestly, there's also around the league. One thing that I admire from Adam is, give Fant as an example, with he and with [Assistant General Manager] Lance [Newmark], they're not backing off competing and if there are ways and times that we can improve the team, they've proven that like they're down for that. And it's one of the things I really respect about Adam, knowing it's not just here that everybody's competing against, it's around the National Football League and scouting and looking at guys. So, when you're in the building you don't think of that way, you're just looking at this practice and these people. But that's why I was referring to Chick earlier, not counting because it's not just this room that you're counting, it's a standard, it's a way and how you play. And so, I think that's really important and the best of the best from a player's standpoint know that. And so, you got to produce all the time.”