

November 12, 2025

Head Coach Dan Quinn

Opening Statement:

“Alright, good to see you guys and we'll get rolling. A quick shout out to the Madrid Bravos from the ELF [European League of Football]. We get our workouts over at their facility today. And then also a big thanks to everybody here at Real Madrid, what an awesome spot. These guys are heavy hitters and allowing us to come and practice, it's a great setup. And then lastly, there's been an army of people with the commanders that's worked tirelessly, a lot of hours, to help set this up, to get everything rolling. So, man, we appreciate all of them. So, for those of you covering the team for the first time, a week layout in an NFL game usually consists of a Wednesday, a Thursday, a Friday, Saturday. And so, the Wednesday is the first day of putting in a game plan, some practice against one another to get your skills right. Thursday and Friday, more of the situational work, third downs and red zone. And then you tie the whole thing together again Saturday in preparation for the game. I just wanted to give you that layout of what an NFL week typically looks like. And all that said, we'll get ready to get rocking with you guys.”

On how his week has changed since taking over the defensive play calling:

“It's more in the preparation phase, going to that. And so, obviously I'm always involved with the defense, but team meetings and special teams and those are staying the same, but just in and out of the practices and it's been a big collaboration so far. So, all is good.”

On if there are foundational problems with the team or if it's execution based:

“I really feel it's execution. That's where I do feel that way. And the reason why, I've seen where it hits good and I've seen where it doesn't. So, had we not seen where we could hit the marks, I'd feel otherwise. So, that's what we're digging in hard on, to have this time together here on this trip to do those things, that's important for us. But that's what I've been digging in the hardest, man. We want all this dog competing, but man, we want it with the discipline to get it right as well.”

On the challenge of getting consistency with all of the injuries:

“I think you can, you want the continuity, that's what you're talking about also. So, on offense in the passing game, the alignments, the route depths, just the different timing with different players and how that can go. Defensively, you want to make sure you know who's into these spots that their communication with the other players can get heightened and do that quickly and do it fast. And that's what we intend to do.”

On WR Terry McLaurin's status:

“Yeah, so he is actually, he's here and he'll do some of the movement and begin the on-field portions of the rehab. So, the first couple weeks he was not able to do that. And so, now he's able to begin some of the on field portions of the rehab. And so, that'll take the buildup time to do that, but we're glad he is here taking the next step on the on field side. So, sometimes these injuries take longer than you want and they're not predictable to say it's going to be this set time. And so, we're

just going to continue to say, okay, next step, next step, next step. And so, the on-field portion is a good sign that, okay, we can now take the next steps.”

On if someone will help more with the head coach responsibilities on game days:

“Yeah on game day, [Senior Vice President of Football Initiatives] Dave Gardi is one that helps me quite a bit and [Assistant Head Coach/Offensive Pass Game Coordinator] Brian Johnson also does as well. So, I'll lean in on Brian as well. So, those are the two that can assist me into that space.”

On anything the team is doing differently this week:

“I think it's the time together, that's the most thing. I wouldn't say it's different, but in the evenings, the watching the films together, doing all of our film together where we're maybe not even splitting up as much as groups. So, sometimes the tightest, smallest meeting rooms are the best because everybody's hearing the same word the same way. And so, that's been a good start. That's what we started with today and that'll continue into tonight and through the week.”

On his relationship with Miami Dolphins Head Coach Mike McDaniel:

“Yes, and so one, I've known Mike to be an excellent coach. He can process things so quickly, it's no surprise to see that his offense can throw the ball quickest. They can have the fastest motions. That's Mike to a T, where he can just think so quickly on it. When Mike left Atlanta into San Francisco, I knew he'd make an impact there. And then you'd see that during his time in Miami. And so, the work with the quarterback, with the offense, that's where he is at his best. He's quick, he can get to the next play quickly, to the next concept. So yeah, man, I really enjoyed working with Mike, he's one of my favorite coaches.”

On not having DT Daron Payne this week:

“Yeah, we'll miss Daron for sure inside, his presence, the physicality. [DT] Johnny [Jer'Zhan] Newton and [DT] Javon Kinlaw will be the two that will feature the most inside. And then [DT] Eddie Goldman and [DT] Sheldon Day would be there behind, but we're pleased with where the development that Johnny's taking, especially on the pass rush side. He had had some injuries coming into last year and I felt like it took him this season, this preseason, to hit his stride and hit to the next spot. And I feel like he's doing that. So, we'll lean in more on him for sure here.”

On how this trip can help the team the rest of the season and on QB Marcus Mariota mentoring QB Jayden Daniels:

“The first part of the question I'd like to hit on, and I actually told the team that today as a group, we're coming here to actually get stronger and some of that is connection. Some of that is our practice and the way that we can do that together but all of it will be done together. It'll be seen in the game on Sunday of those things that we address and how we go there. So, that's the first part of us getting stronger together. Can we bring the competition at practice? Can we get the communication that we want? Can we get the skills and the technique aligned like we wanted? But that was the main goal, to get connected and actually get stronger during this week here together. And we think we can do that. As far as Marcus goes as a quarterback, not only was he a leader in the quarterback room, he was also a leader on the team. And you feel his support, he puts in all of the work behind the scenes and all of his teammates know that he challenges one another for his teammates that practice with his skill, with his technique. But I think you feel his support the most. And that's where as a leader I felt his impact, not just with Jayden from a mentoring role, all that significant, but it's with other players as well. And he's certainly one that we count on and it's times like now that, hey, this is why Marcus is here and this is the moment. And so, he's really ready for

that challenge.”

On if he addressed the in-game player frustration with individual players or the team:

“With the entire team first and it was directly at the half. And to make sure, those things, you don't want to wait, you want to hit it now, you want to get right to it and having the chance to address it right off the bat, you clench the fists, you're upset, it's emotional, all that. We feel it too as coaches when you're not hitting your marks and you get frustration, but it's also what's the techniques that we need to do to move on to the next? And a lot of that will come back to our focus. What are things we can control? Expect that it's going to feel off and feel shitty when it's not going your way. And so, how do we turn ourself into the next space, into the next moment? And that's what we work on. So, our mental game, that's where we try to dig in on that.”

On helping McDaniel during a rough time in his life:

“Yeah, I think for us, all of us, I think when there's an issue, sometimes you don't want to let somebody you're with know, you're counting on them, they're counting on you, but really your leaning in that's the biggest strength we can do. And in that space, all I want to do is help and give support and then the real work begins for the person who's in that spot. And that's exactly what Mike did to say, this is what I'm going to work on and how I'm going to go do it. And then that's when the real work begins. And it's part of the reason I'm so proud of him, to make sure, okay, this is something that's happening, this is how I'm going to go deal with it. And then I'm staying connected to that and sharing that with other people. So, anybody now, he now can help and pay that forward. And I think that takes a lot of guts to do that. And that's one of the reasons I'm you real proud of him.”

On if he talked with Payne after the incident Sunday and on an update for RB Chris Rodriguez:

“First, let's talk about Daron Payne. So, yes, we actually had a chance to visit about that he also had a chance to visit with the NFL and to state what he did. ‘Hey, this is wrong, this is what I wanted to express to them.’ And make sure he knew that the player had only been penalized one time for the season. So, it had been out of character for him to do that. So, he wanted to be able to express his remorse for that incident. As far as Chris Rodriguez at running back, yeah, he did injure his shoulder in the game, but he is going to be able to play this week. We'll start the practice today and we're excited. Chris, he was a captain in our last game and is one of our more consistent players, so yeah, we'll lean in on him. He's somebody we all count on.”