

## THE WASHINGTON COMMANDERS

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**BigBear.ai**  
PERFORMANCE CENTER

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### **QB Marcus Mariota**

#### **On having WR Deebo Samuel Sr., WR Terry McLaurin and WR Noah Brown all out at practice:**

“Yeah, it's awesome. And we understand they're all working back, but at the same time, to see them out in the field running around doing their thing, it was really cool for all of us.”

#### **On what kind of impact McLaurin and Brown can have on Samuel Sr.:**

“Yeah, I think being able just to create matchups in our favor and create advantages. We like our matchups with any of those guys outside and then add that on top of what Deebo and [TE] Zach [Ertz] can do inside, I think that creates a lot of versatility.”

#### **On Denver's pass rush:**

“They've done an unbelievable job. They do a great job of getting off the rock. And it's not just one, I think across the board, they all do an unbelievable job of that. And then on top of that, they do some exotic things on situations, they create pressures from different looks and at the same time, being able to communicate that across the board for us is going to be huge. But like I said, from tape just seeing how fast they get off the ball is going to pressure.”

#### **On the importance of establishing the run game against Denver:**

“Yeah, huge, huge. And I think for us, just creates more versatility. The more that we can do those little things, create advantages in the run game, I think it'll open up the pass game.”

#### **On what he's seen from QB Jayden Daniels at practice:**

“It was awesome. It was awesome just to have him again, guys are working back but this is what we do. We play football and I think for all of us it's nice to be out there to do our thing. And it was cool to Jay out there.”

#### **On the importance of seeing the offense at its full potential:**

“Yeah, I think it's important. At the same time, we understand what our situation is as a team, but when it comes down to it, the more that we can all practice together, compete together and see what we can do, I think it's going to create a sense of success in a sense and I think that's important.”

#### **On being able to hit big plays with McLaurin and Brown:**

“Yeah, it, at the end of the day, if you have an opportunity to get those guys the rock that's going to help us out. They're great players and the more that we can get those matchups with those guys, I think we can take advantage of them.”

#### **On working with McLaurin and Brown on their timing:**

“I think it happens organically the way that we practice. We get opportunities in team reps, we get

opportunities in just routes on air and things like that. So, it's just little things like that over the course of the week and I think we'll all feel confident going there."

**On playing coming off of a bye week:**

"I mean, at the end of the day it's still football and I think these guys understand the urgency that we have to play with. And like I said earlier, these first couple days, just being back on the field with these guys, you can see it. So, it's one of those things, we're going to take it one play at a time, one day at a time, but at the end of the day it's football, we gotta go out there and we gotta do our job."

**On what makes Brown great at drawing pass interference calls:**

"I think there's a few things. I think one, he's very explosive in and out of his cuts and I think he surprises a lot of people. And then secondly, he's just a savvy guy. When you have experience in this league, understanding body positions and opportunities maybe to create a foul is something that you learn over time. And I think those combination of those things is why he tends to get a flag here and there."

**On if players are acting differently with Hard Knocks in the building:**

"[Laughs] Nah, it's actually been pretty just same old, same old but it is interesting. This is the first time I've been on hard knocks and to have the cameras in the meeting rooms and all those things, it is different. But I think they do a good job in terms of, the NFL films crew, just being not there. So, hats off to them. It's a credit to them and I think when people watch it, they'll see just kind of how organic everything is for us."

**On the importance of finishing the season strong:**

"Yeah, I think it just starts in practice. Just kind of building one day at a time. Q [Head Coach Dan Quinn] talked about, we have 40 days, right? And that's all we're ever promised in this season. And right now, it's just how can we improve today and just kind of stack those days one after another and at the end of it kind of pick our heads up and see where we're at. So, there is a sense of urgency, but also we just want to find ways to improve and see what that looks like for us."

**On being inducted into Oregon's Sports Hall of Fame:**

"It was an unbelievable honor and a privilege. Very special weekend for my family and I, and it was an awesome reunion with a lot of teammates. It was just an awesome couple of days and very thankful for it."