

December 10, 2025

QB Marcus Mariota

On his conversation with QB Jayden Daniels:

“Yeah, for him it's just taking it one day at a time, get healthy. I know he is doing everything in his power to do that. And then for us, it's just a great opportunity to go play football and I'm looking forward to it and making sure our guys are ready.”

On keeping the team engaged:

“I think first and foremost, just perspective. You play a children's game and at the end of the day, it's fun to be out there bringing energy, bringing positivity, that's all that matters. At the end of the day, I think guys are going to do that.”

On how frustrating it is for Daniels to be in and out of the lineup:

“I think at this point it, it's part of the role. And I know it's tough on kind of everybody, right? We're both kind of similar players, but we're very different in our own regards. And I think for everybody to kind of gel and come together, it is hard but our guys have done a good job of just rallying in whoever it is at that position. And again, like I said, for Jay, it's just continuing to take all this and learn and use it for his career and hopefully his experiences will help him in the future.”

On how hard this has been on him:

“Again, it's part of the job. I look forward to the opportunities to play, at the same time, it is what it is and you're asked to do that in this position. There are moments where it's been great, there's moments where it hasn't been so good but those are all learning tools for me personally as well and things that I can hopefully bring to this team.”

On how impactful these next four weeks can be for the team:

“Yeah, you're setting a foundation. We talked about it in the team room and amongst the team, it's setting a culture. We talk about a culture, we talk about the brotherhood, it's really these moments that tell you who you are. And it's never easy, it's not easy to go out here when it's 20 degrees in the practice. And at the same time, it's great learning tools for everybody here. And the more that we can just build off of that and build for each other, the future will be better.”

On the difference between Denver and Minnesota defensively:

“Well, you gotta give credit to Minnesota. I thought they did a good job of dictating to us how the game was going to be played. I thought for Denver we were able to kind of play the way that we wanted to play. And those are learning things for us. It's tough on the road in an environment like that. And to play a defensive coordinator like that, you gotta give a lot of credit to Flo [Minnesota Defensive Coordinator Brian Flores]. I think he's one of the best coordinators in the league, and when he's able to get you into these second and third, tough situations, these longer down and

distances, he can really kind of pin his ears back and start to get creative. And it was tough on all of us, but like I said, I think it's a great learning tool, especially for our young players to learn that those environments are tough to play.”

On how difficult it is for a quarterback to come in halfway through a game:

“Yeah, it's a tough ask for sure. At the end of the day, there's moments where, for me personally, you come in and play well and there's moments where you don't. And unfortunately, I didn't play very well last week, but again, those are learning tools and, and things that I can get better from. And more specifically, it's coming off a game like Denver and then having to switch across with Jay, just making sure that I'm very involved and very engaged because it is, for me personally, when you kind of step back into that backup role again it becomes, ‘How do I help Jay out? How to help Jay out?’ And when you do that, sometimes you lose track of kind of getting prepared yourself. So, that was a fault of mine, something that I'll learned from. And again, it's all part of this growing process for each and every single one of us and at the end of the day, we want to be able to play our best on Sunday's, and that's what we're doing when we'll take the lessons and learn from it.”

On the current state of the brotherhood:

“Yeah, I think it's clean. At the end of the day, we're not where we want to be. It is tough, right? You expect to be playing in meaningful football games in December, but at the same time, there is a young core players here that I think this entirety of this year will help them learn and build. But yeah, it's never easy, but I do appreciate how guys are coming in the building and working hard and it's not that way everywhere. And when it's this time of the year and you're not in it, guys can very easily check out, but it's not that way with our guys.”

On Daniels wanting to play:

“It's a credit to him, right? I think with everybody outside of this building telling him that he should be out, he should not do all this stuff. He's very much engaged, very much trying to help where he can. And I think that's great for him. I think it's not always going to be clean. Not everything's going to be nice and smooth sailing. And I think for him to be able to go through some of this, to go through this adversity, it's really going to set himself up for his future and his career. And the more that we can continue to engage him and making sure that he's feeling like he's a part of it is also very important.”

On what he expects to see from TE Ben Sinnott and TE John Bates the rest of the season:

“It's a great room, really good room. Zach's [TE Zach Ertz] done an unbelievable job, I think being a leader for those guys and setting the tempo. And then these guys just kind of all fall in line, so they understand what the expectation is and they understand that there's going to be more opportunities and I'm excited to give these guys a shot.”