

THE WASHINGTON COMMANDERS

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PERFORMANCE CENTER

December 16, 2025

QB Marcus Mariota

On learning he will be playing for the remainder of the season:

"You know, it was exciting news for me, you know, I know that's tough on [QB Jayden] Jay [Daniels], but at the same time we got a game here on Saturday and just get you guys ready to go."

On how he can help Daniels during this process:

"Well, I think it's just coming out here day after day and improving. You know, they're building for the future and he should feel confident in that they're making a decision that they feel is best for the entire organization. And, you know, it's, at the same time, tough as an athlete. You want to be out there. We all understand that. We know that for Jay. So just being here for him, being out here to practice and finding ways to just help him."

On what he learned when he went through a similar experience to Daniels:

"Yeah, really well, it just comes down to when you're not playing, you have an opportunity to kind of see it from a different house. And unfortunately, I think he's had a few opportunities to do that this season. And there's always things that you can kind of learn and absorb and I think he's done a great job of just understanding that and, and doing his best to ask questions and see where to go."

On how Daniels has been helping and supporting him:

"Yeah, absolutely. Just throughout the preparation. Things that he felt during the games that he played in, and also just what he's seen on tape. And at the same time, it's always been about whoever the guy's playing, we just try to do whatever we can to help him out and that's been no different with Jay and I appreciate that. I know that's not an easy role to be in, and he's been great at it."

On what he tells Daniels to focus on outside of football:

"For sure. Just be himself regardless of the situation, circumstance, never lose that. He's such a great dude that the frustrations and those things they can amount to maybe him being not who he is and just, I think the same advice that I've tried to give some of our younger players is don't let this day-to-day job kind of change who you are. And I think he's kind of taking that with great respect and you know, whatever we can do to help him and, and manage it during this time. But he's got a smile on his face like he always does. And we appreciate that."

On what taught him to be a better quarterback when he was starting:

"Just be out at practice and I think the way that we compete here and the way that it's built, the way that [Head Coach Dan Quinn] DQ has built it is the closest that he's going to get. And I think being able to go against our defense, do things against them day to day, it's going to help him and get those game bike reps."

On Dan Quinn maintaining faith in the locker room:

“Well, I think he's always the same, regardless of the and down, and a lot of guys respect that. When you're out there making decisions as the head ball coach, guys have to feel like they're, they're decisions that are best for them too. And we always feel that DQ's done that and I really think that's why the respect in the locker room has always been the same. When you come every single day and you're consistent guys believe in that and don't trust him. And it's been no different. So, we just kind of fall around.”

On what he wants to prove in the last three games:

“No, I mean, at the end of the day, I want to tell you one day at a time and continue to improve, love the opportunity to play. It's been fun to get out there and whatever the case, whatever the scenario like we talked about, like you can never, uh, replicate kind of the NFL experience. And I love playing. I love the opportunity to be out there and just take it one day at a time and really just kind of enjoy it.”

On the Philadelphia Eagles:

“Yeah, I mean, a great defense. You can talk about every single player on that front and on the back end, they're great players. Being there for a year and being around those guys, it'll be fun to just kind of play against some of those old friends. So, I'm looking forward to it. It's always a great atmosphere. It'll be fun.”