

WASHINGTON

FOOTBALL TEAM, EST. 1932

INOVA SPORTS PERFORMANCE CENTER - LOUDOUN COUNTY, VA

September 21, 2021

QB Taylor Heinicke

On what he took away from the last game:

“I mean, it was a wild game as you guys know. There's a lot of good situations that popped up throughout the game. Getting a score there before half was huge for us. And then obviously there at the end, we're trying to run that four-minute offense and we want to get a little aggressive. We wanted to end the game with us on the field. So we're trying to get that last first down, unfortunately, through a pick. Defense did a great job of holding to a field goal and giving us enough time to go down and score that last field goal. For those situations to pop up at the end and see us execute it pretty well, that was big for us. So, something to build on.”

On the sock on his leg:

“No, I mean, I got a little banged up against the Chargers. I think I got leg whipped a little bit, so there's a little bruise there. I wore the same thing during the game on Thursday. Just being precautious, nothing serious.”

On beating a team from the pocket:

“Yeah, I kind of go back and look at their defensive line. They're bigger guys that really just wanted to collapse the pocket. The biggest thing was just kind of staying in the pocket and getting the ball to those playmakers. That's what you want to do anyways. It was good for that to happen, get the ball in those guys' hands, let them do their thing. And as you can see if you look at the stat sheet, a lot of guys touch the ball. It was a good deal of getting the ball out to everybody.”

On his first start on the road and if he has to do anything different:

“Not really. It'll be my first road game starting, like you said, but it's at Buffalo with fans, so it's going to be loud. There's going to be some silent count stuff that we're working on this week. It's a good defense and we're excited for the opportunity and the challenge.”

On if it is an adjustment staying in the pocket:

“I won't say it's a hard adjustment. It's something that every quarterback should try and do and you want to get that ball on those guys' hands. It's what we pay him to do, and that's why they're playing. That was my first job. And again, it's something I work on every week to get the ball in those guys' hands first. And if a lane pops open, then I can use my legs. And again, on Thursday there was no lanes to be had. It was really about getting the ball in those guys' hands.”

On if there were times in practice where he had to remind himself to go through progressions:

“Well, that's a cool thing about practices. That's what you're trying to do. You don't want to scramble during practice. You're not really getting that look during practice. You always try and stay in the pocket, go through the right reads and make the right decision. For the last five, six years I've been working on that. And again, it's just something to work on every day.”

On his attire:

“I just like wearing like graphic tees with stuff that I like. I just ordered a Jimmy Hendrix shirt the other day. I'm probably rocking that soon and asked [WR] Terry [McLaurin] for one of his Scary Terry shirts. I haven't been the biggest dressy type of guy, but those guys in the locker room were trying to get me right.”

On wearing a Fleetwood Mac shirt on game day:

“No, they were actually giving me a lot of flack last year because I was wearing some beat up vans and I was wearing the same sweatpants every day. I heard a lot from it last year.”

On how he blocks out the noise from the attention he has received since Thursday:

“My biggest thing is I don't want the success from last week to equal the non-success of this week, if that makes sense. Sometimes a lot of people get caught up in how they played the previous week, and it hurts them the next week. So, we had a long weekend, it was nice to enjoy it, but once Sunday and Monday came around, it was time for Buffalo. So again, the biggest thing is to keep doing it every week and that's the goal.”

On how long he reviews previous game film before moving on:

“So in a regular week we come in on Mondays and we watch the film from that Sunday. Then that's it, you know, once Tuesday comes around, it's time on for the next opponent. Again, it was nice this week to have a long weekend and enjoy ourselves. It was a short week, and we were back in here yesterday watching film on Buffalo and getting ready for them.”

On why the play action was so effective:

“Yeah play action is great especially when you're running the ball well and when you have [RB Antonio Gibson] back there running as hard as he is. It's good to get those backers kind of up and kind of hit it right behind them with big guys like [TE] Logan [Thomas] and, and fast guys like [WR] Terry [McLaurin] and [WR Adam] Humphries. So as long as we can keep running the ball pretty well, the play actions are a good compliment to that, and I think it's a great part of our game.”

On if he enjoys play action as a QB or if it is scheme opponent dependent:

“Both. I think there's a play action for any defense out there, but again, you have to run the ball for those play actions to be successful. So that's our biggest deal.”

On if watching Buffalo's defense has similarities to what he saw in Carolina:

“So I wasn't there when their head coach was there, [Head Coach Sean] McDermott, I believe he wasn't there when I was there, but you kind of see a lot of the same players, like [DT] Vernon Butler, [DE] Mario Addison, those type of guys. But they've been playing together for about three or four years and they're very sound, a lot of good players. They play well together. So again, it's going to be a really good challenge for us. And we're excited about it.”

On how Buffalo's continuity helps them as a team:

“That's true, you watch the film and they know how to disguise and they know what each other are thinking, which is huge as a defense. So again it's just going to be big for our offense to stay on cue and keep the ball rolling.”

On his weekend:

“Watched a lot of college football, a lot of NFL football, had a couple of Heinekens. A lot of resting. It was a nice relaxing weekend.”

On if he has an endorsement deal with Heineken:

“I’m trying, man, I’m trying. At some point, I might just start calling out Bud Light (joking).”

On Ravens QB Lamar Jackson:

“That’s awesome. I saw the clip where John [Ravens Head Coach John Harbaugh] was asking him, ‘Hey, do you want to go for it?’ And you know, he was all about it. I think that that’s super cool. And again, he came out on top and good for those guys.”

On if the Heineken joke started in Washington:

“Really picked up in Washington. It was after the Tampa game last year. I really tried to get something. My agent said that they had sent me a 24-pack at home, never received it. And they said they can’t deliver to my address when there’s a gas station a block away that has Heineken.”

On if he sees any similarities between himself and Bills QB Josh Allen:

“He’s a gamer. He goes out there and he makes a lot of plays. Obviously, he’s five inches taller than me and he has a rocket arm. But you know, I see some similarities in the way that if something breaks down, he can kind of make something happen. He’s a fun quarterback to watch, and I’m excited for our defense to go against them.”

On if he has always liked Heineken:

“I like to enjoy, you know, three, four beers. Just kick back and watch some football. I’d rather drink some beers than take some shots.”

On the XFL clip:

“I was just talking to Mike Silver about this. He was asking about that. The thing about the XFL that was cool is there’s a lot of incentives. So when you won, you got like a \$4,000 bonus. The one thing that we didn’t know is the team that won, you go back in the locker room, there’s Bud Light Seltzer in there for you. So we’re all getting back in the locker room, there’s I want to say like four 24-packs of Bud Light Seltzers. We’re like, ‘what’s this for?’ You guys one, it’s for you guys. With that and everyone just winning \$4,000, we were all pretty pumped. We were having a good time in there. That was a cool thing about the XFL, we had a lot of fun.”