

September 17, 2025

QB Marcus Mariota

On the support he gets from his teammates and coaches:

“Yeah, for sure. It's huge, really. I think that's what's been awesome about this team. We kind of preach it every single day, but just the brotherhood, the connection, regardless of how this situation plays out, just knowing that the guys have my back gives me confidence. Just go out there and be myself and play to the best of my abilities.”

On any difference for the offense with him playing versus QB Jayden Daniels:

“Again, we just have to wait and see, but what's been nice is we've been able to kind of keep things very similar regardless of who's playing at the position even during preseason. And if it comes down to it, [Offensive Coordinator] Kliff [Kingsbury] will ask me what things I like, what I don't like, and then we'll just roll. But from that standpoint, from an offensive standpoint, with our abilities across the quarterback room it's been nice, the fact that we can kind of keep the same system throughout each guy.”

On how he feels physically and on when he felt like himself again:

“Yeah, I would say I started to kind of feel like myself over the course last couple weeks. It's one of those things with the tendonitis you just kind of have to rest and the team was willing to kind of let me do that through training camp. We do a great job of getting a bunch of walkthrough reps, so for me, from a mental standpoint, I felt like I was always engaged and once I felt good physically I could just kind of come back and roll with everybody.”

On his impression of Las Vegas through two weeks:

“Yeah, I think one person that's really stood out to me is [Las Vegas Raiders LB] Devin White. I've played against him a few times in my career, but I think him just being around the ball, flying around, it's impressive. And you add [Las Vegas Raiders DE] Maxx [Crosby], Maxx is going to get his, he always has. Being around that team for a couple years, you understand that he's kind of the heart and soul of that team and he's going to give it everything he's got every single play. So, we understand that, and they got a young back end, but they're great. I think they've played really well. They had tough couple tasks early on in the year to play some of these guys and [Las Vegas Raiders CB] Kyu [Blu Kelly] was here with us last year. I think he's an awesome player and he's really showed out and made a few plays and it's kind of splashed. So again, we've got our work cut out for us but I think for us it's just about doing what we do and staying ahead of the change and executing.”

On preparing to play versus preparing to potentially play:

“For me, I've always tried to approach it the same. So, I always try to approach it like I'm going to play that way. If the scenario happens or I'm given the opportunity to play, nothing changes for me on a week-to-week basis. So, my routine stays the same and I think it's just kind of creates that

normal procedure for me and it allows me just to go out there and play and not have to worry about, okay, I gotta do this extra, I gotta do that.' I just kind of stick to my process and allow that process to work."

On potentially starting on Sunday:

"Well, just grateful and I think for me, I've just been very thankful for my time here and being around these guys. It's such a fun group but like you said, you never really know what this is going to look like through the course of your career and every opportunity you get to play. I'm just grateful for it. So, if it comes down to that, I'll be excited to play and I'll be really looking forward to it."

On what he's told Daniels this week:

"Yeah, I think it comes down to if you feel like you can do what you normally do, then go ahead. I've been in situations, scenarios like this where you try to fight through it and maybe you're not playing like yourself and it's hard because you want to be able to be out there for your team and kind of tough it out, so to say. But I think at the end of the day, like you want to be able to be the best version of yourself and we understand Jay's [Daniels] going to do everything in his power to be able to be ready to play but I think that's what's cool about our quarterback room is that we're so close and regardless, whoever's in there, we're going to support that guy. So, we always tell him, man, just be you. And if you feel like through the course of this week you get back to that point, great and we'll support you, you'll be ready to roll. If you need a week, then that's okay. I'll be ready to go too. So, it comes down to just having that communication and just making sure he understands that we support his decision whatever that is."

On why this offense suits him well:

"I think there's a lot of aspects. I really feel like for us as quarterbacks, we have a really great connection with Kliff. I feel like through the course of those games last year, I could kind of get a feel of how he wanted to call it. And when you have that type of connection with your play caller, you feel good about what's coming in. So, I think for me, I just love the aspect of being able to control the tempo of the game. We can huddle, we can get on the ball, we can do all sorts of different things but I think for all of us it's just being confident in what's being called and knowing that Kliff's going to put us in a situation to be successful."

On how much Daniels is in communication Kingsbury and the quarterback room during this process:

"Oh yeah, every day. Every day. And I think it's important too. I think for all of us, we don't ever want to deal with the uncertainty or what's going on, so just being able to understand and being transparent about what the situation looks like. So yeah, again, like we said, we communicate throughout the day, see how he's feeling. I'm sure he is tired of everybody asking him how he's feeling, but again, when it comes down to it, if he's ready to roll we'll support in him and give him everything he's got."

On drawing from the lead up to the Chicago game last season to help him this week:

"Well, I think for me personally, we were talking about a little bit earlier, just sticking to my process and trusting that process. I've been through this journey for quite some time now, so just understanding that the way that I've prepared for years has given me the confidence to go out there and play well and just continuing to lean on that."

On what he's seen from the offense that he likes:

“I just love the fact that we're putting our guys in situations to be successful. I think we're not really pigeonholing guys, or you only run this route or you only do this. Our guys are able to do everything. And the versatility of that allows some cool things within the system to allow guys to just go out there and play. So, I love the speed at which we play. I think guys fly around here and just the unselfishness really, guys are going to touch the ball maybe five or six times a game. And then there's going to be times where maybe you're only going to get it once, but these guys are willing to do whatever it takes to win. And I think for me that's quite enjoyable.”

On getting focused after a tough loss:

“Well, for me personally, it's flushing it the next day. I try to give myself a 24-hour window of just really reflecting on what that game was and how we can be better and where we can improve. And then from there it's just move on. It's always nice to come back on the practice field. Thursday night losses are tough because you have an extra couple of days to sit there and kind of just listen to everybody talk about it and how come you didn't do this and that but at the same time, I think when you're able to take a moment and step back and look at it you can find ways to improve. And when you get back on the practice field is when it just kind of allows you to do that. And that's when I feel like for me personally, I love just getting back on the field and getting back on the grass and just finding ways to improve.”

On the risk-reward of getting extra yards and sliding as a quarterback:

“It's definitely a happy medium. There's a balance and as a competitor you always want to get that first down or make that splash play or never give up on a play. And it's hard and I think over time it's just things that you have to experience to be able to kind of find those windows of, ‘Okay, I gotta get down here,’ or maybe just throw that on away. And it's hard because for us in a quarterback room, we all try to go off of our experiences and explain to Jay [Daniels], ‘Hey, here's the moment where maybe you can get the ball out,’ but at the same time we never want to take away his superpower and that's being able to create and use his legs and the more that we can kind of create those things naturally and allow him to just be himself and play instinctually, that's when he is at his best. So, the more that we can just continue to hone in our own experiences and explain, ‘Hey, maybe this is where we could have done a little better job,’ but at the same time it's just allowing him to be him.”