



# 2022 SEC Football Media Days

## Tennessee Player Quotes

Thursday, July 21

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### **Redshirt Senior Quarterback Hendon Hooker**

#### *On spring practice...*

"Spring went by well. Everyone has had their head down and keeps coming out to get better and better. I am looking forward to the season."

#### *On Head Coach Josh Heupel and bringing Tennessee back to the top...*

"Really what we were trying to do was progress forward from where we were. Accountability wise, just as individuals and as a team collective. So just trying to build a goal and win ballgames and build a new culture at Tennessee."

#### *On the mindset this season...*

"It has been no different. I approach the season the same way whether I am the starter going in or not. I am ready to come out and compete, day in and day out, and am looking forward to fall camp and looking to get under our defense. Having the same mindset coming in and trying to be the first one in and the last one to leave."

#### *On changes during the offseason...*

"I was trying to learn more and perfect. I feel like progressing on my game. I mean, I know it will never be perfect. So there is always room to grow, and I will never go a day without trying to improve my game."

#### *On improvements since last season...*

"Just being patient and not trying to rush my reads and not rush my decisions. Just being relaxed and in total control of the offense. Trying to lead my teammates is my end goal and motivate them on and off the field. Just having a positive attitude and bring joy every day on and off the field."

#### *On his ability to run...*

"Honestly, I only want to run when I have to. I love getting the ball to my players and letting them be play makers. I will give everybody else the ball before I run it. Really, whenever I need to or I'm in the position the team wants me to, because I will do what it takes to win."

#### *On this July verses last July...*

"I feel the exact same. I am excited to play ball. It is a blessing. It is what I love to do. It is my happy place. Whenever I am on the field, I take it and run with it, because it is my passion. Anytime I am around my teammates or in the facility, it is a blessing. I am going to make plays. I am here to play ball and win ballgames."