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# Kickoff '24: Morgan healthy and ready to make an impact

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Marietta defensive back Shawn Morgan has recovered from a broken leg and is ready to have a healthy senior season.

Anthony Stalcup

Marietta's Shawn Morgan is primed to have his best season yet in 2024.

The senior defensive back has been recovering from a broken leg the past two seas and says he is finally fully recovered and ready to excel in his final season.

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In 2022, Marietta was playing Archer in its spring game when Morgan went up to catch a pass. When he fell to the ground, a Tiger player landed on his right leg, causing it to break.

“I just felt defeated because like my whole summer was over,” he said. “I really had no time to get back better, stronger, faster or anything.”

This injury started a long recovery process. While his team was competing on the field he was bedridden trying to recover.

Morgan said at first the doctor gave him a machine which moved his leg back and forth in order to get rid of the scar tissue.

“I just kept on trying to take easy little steps every day until I finally got back to the process where I can just start walking with the brace on,” he said. “Sooner or later the brace came off and then I was just trying to run and do training at the facility.”

He was eventually able to return to the field for his sophomore season where coach Richard Morgan said he was not the same player.

Shawn Morgan continued rehabbing and ended up starting at defensive back for the Blue Devils his junior year, where he finished with 17 tackles and one pass break up.

“It felt amazing,” he said. “ I was nervous at first because it was my first time really on a big stage like (Class AAAAAAA) Georgia football, but it was amazing.”

However, Morgan said he was still not fully recovered and was still trying to get back up to speed.

“I think it was a struggle for him and it was a little bit painful for him to go through because he just wasn’t himself,” Richard Morgan said. “But I think as we got midway through the season last year, he started changing a little bit and got more confident, and now you know he’s out there playing with confidence, leading with confidence.”

Shawn Morgan now enters his final high school season fully recovered and ready to make an impact on the field.

“I just want to make as many plays as I can,” he said. “Just get as many picks, knock downs, tackles, forced fumbles, anything that can help the team out.”

Morgan will not only have to step up with his play on the field this season, but as a leader as well. He will have the honor of being a senior captain for the Blue Devils.

“Shawn kind of epitomizes what we’re all about. He’s a high character kid who loves football, and Marietta football matters to him,” Richard Morgan said. “It’s important to have guys like that, that are seniors that are leaders that can show the young guys this is

what you want to do."

Shawn Morgan said that being a senior captain will come with a lot of responsibilities.

"It's keeping the team in check. Making sure they're working hard every day," he said. "I have to be the one that leaves an example of working hard and always doing the right thing."

Morgan will try and lead the Blue Devils to achieve his goals for this upcoming season.

"I want to win every single game. Try to beat everybody, make sure it's not close and try to win state," Morgan said.




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