

DALLAS COWBOYS VS. CINCINNATI BENGALS POSTGAME TRANSCRIPTS
CINCINNATI BENGALS QB JOE BURROW

QB, Joe Burrow

On what may have allowed them to get into a rhythm in the second half

"It's tough to say. I felt like in the second half we were able to get rolling a little bit. We didn't have a lot of possessions in the first half. Obviously you'd like to capitalize on the ones that you can, but you've got to give credit to them. They're a really good defense. Food secondary, good rush. Not our day."

On any potential reasons for two slow starts this season on offense

"It's tough to say. You'd like to start faster obviously. No touchdowns in either first half. It's not up to our standard. We would like to start faster, but the defenses that we're getting earlier are always different than the ones that are on film. I think that probably plays a part in it, but we've just got to do a better job of adjusting fast."

On if communication was a problem this week

"Communication was great today. I thought third down communication was good. Obviously got to eliminate the false starts to get out of first and fifteen. The whole first half felt like we were in first and fifteen, so we've got to eliminate that. But, other than that, I thought the communication was good."

On the challenge of wanting to make explosive plays but not quite finding it yet

"Teams are going to keep playing us in a soft zone until we prove that we can beat them that way. So, we're going to have win a different way this year and we need to figure that out quickly so that we can get on the win column."

On the key to getting the quick game established

"I thought we were good in the quick game today. Hit some slants, hit Joe Mixon on some check downs. I thought we were good."

On the number of sacks in the first two weeks

"Well, week one there were several sacks on me. We'll go back and watch the film on the ones today and put the blame where it is, I'm not sure. GO back and watch the film and get those corrections made. But week one, there were a lot on me."

On the importance of the run game

"The run game is critical, especially when teams are going to play '2 Tampa' the whole game against us. I thought we were efficient. We lacked the big explosive runs today, but those will come. Thought we were efficient in the run game."

On the nineteen play drive

"That's how it's supposed to look. That's what we need to get the whole game. Whatever we've got to do to move the chains on third down, find those completions and get those chains moving, we're going to have to have a lot of drives like that, the way defenses are playing us. We've got to bank that one and remember how that feels."

On pressure early in the game

"Second half, I thought the protections was great. They have a great rush, I would say top two or three best rushed in the league. They've got DeMarcus Lawrence, Micah, they do a really good job with their picks in game too. And so, early in the game, you're going to have those and I can do a better job of getting the ball out quickly. I thought, for the most part, we protected the ball well in those situations and that was my goal this week. And then in the second half, I thought the offensive line protected great. We kind of warmed-up in the run game and then we're able to have some more time in the pass game and that's what comes off of that. When we're able to run the ball well, they might be thinking 'run' and so then they're not so quick to get into their pass rush. So, the second half was more efficient, better for us, but just need to prolong that for the entire game."

On Hurst's play and Sample's injury

"Hayden has been awesome for us. He's just going to keep getting batter. I'm really excited about what he's been doing for us. He brings an element to our offense that I don't think we've had in the past. He's a big, explosive guy that is learning how we do things and what we want to do and he's just going to keep getting a bigger and bigger role for us. Drew going down was tough. We had a big package for him on third down, he was a big part of our protection. But I thought Samaje came in and executed Drew's job very well."

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On balancing taking deep shots versus needing to maintain protection for a longer time

"It's give and take. We think if we start running the ball a little better than that will open it up and teams will have to get out of '2 Tampa' shell. The second half tun game is how it should look. The first half we were in first and fifteen in every series so we're just going to get third down defenses when we're in first and fifteen. So, we've got to eliminate those early penalties, stay on track for the chains, and we'll be able to take more shorts."

On what he thinks about in the locker room after a loss

"You just look back and see what kind of plays you could have made differently to maybe pull that game out. We'll go back and watch the film and see our corrections. 0-2 is tough, but it's no panic. We've lost two games in a row before, we lost two games in a row several times last year. Lot of football left to be played."

On what is the key to winning after multiple losses

"Moving on from those games and making the corrections that you're supposed to make. We've got a great coaching staff who I know will make the corrections for us and tell us what we need to do to get better. We've got the players to go and make it happen. I think we've got to make more explosive plays, maybe find a couple of '2 Tampa' beaters that will get us some explosive plays. But I'll go back and watch the film."

On the most important steps to take to get a win next week

"I will go back and watch the film from today, but obviously week one was turnovers and today was we protected the ball and it's try and find some explosive plays in different situations. Maybe get into a check or two if I see an opportunity for a big play, but we'll go back and look."