



Eagles Head Coach Doug Pederson

Q. You held them to I think 106 yards total offense before those final three possessions. What happened? (*Mike Sielski*)

DOUG PEDERSON: Well, quite frankly, we didn't make enough plays, offensively [and] defensively, in the second half. We had opportunities to get off the field defensively we didn't. We had an opportunity to stay on the field offensively, and we didn't. So, it's something we've just got to take a look at. There were some positive things, obviously, but those are areas that have hurt us in a couple of games this season already.

Q. What changed in the fourth quarter? (*Zach Berman*)

DOUG PEDERSON: They just made more plays. Nothing changed. Same guys, same people out there. They just made more plays than we did. So really, schematically, nothing changed. We just didn't make enough [plays] in the second half of this game.

Q. Once you get down there in the final possession, pass interference play, you had RB Wendell Smallwood go for about eight yards. Take us through the thought process there on the play calling. What are you trying to do there? Get in the end zone? Get the first down? (*Mike Sielski*)

DOUG PEDERSON: We had to get in the end zone to win the game. Our thought there was give [QB] Carson [Wentz] a pass, an audible, give him a run, so if they play a certain defense, we can get to the run, and we were able to do that, and we got positive yards. And then get right back on the ball and go tempo a little bit right there and try to get the first down. We still had time-outs. So we still had a lot of options available to us with the amount of time and time-outs in the game. So try to get the first down, but ultimately try to get in the end zone.

Q. On the 4th-and-10 conversion they had, what did you see? (*Zach Berman*)

DOUG PEDERSON: It felt like -- I believe it was [CB] Jalen [Mills] at the time may have slipped, may have fell down, and just [Panthers WR] Torrey [Smith] was standing right there wide open. We were real close to getting to [Panthers QB] Cam [Newton] and getting him on the ground at the time. We were just a step behind.

Q. At 17-14, you went three-and-out offensively there. What sputtered? (*Zach Berman*)

DOUG PEDERSON: We didn't execute. We just broke down, and we can't have that. Those are things that our guys pride themselves on, whether it's I look at -- I'll go back and look at the couple of play calls there, and see if I can do a little better there, help our team out there. We had an opportunity on the third down, [WR] Alshon [Jeffery]-- 24, [Panthers CB James] Bradberry for them came back and really recovered well. Alshon was wide open, and 24 just came back and got a hand in there late and knocked the ball away. Otherwise, we're on the field at that point too.

Q. What was the message to the team after a collapse like this? (*Reporter*)

DOUG PEDERSON: The message is that -- quite frankly I told them we have to learn from these. These are games that galvanize football teams, and this is going to do that. This is going to bring us even closer together. Basically told them pressure's off of us. Nobody on the outside world is giving us a chance to



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do much of anything. Pressure's off, so we can go play, have fun, and just relax. A lot of football ahead too. We still have a bunch of games, and still anything's possible, anything can happen. We still treat it as one week at a time.

Q. You guys lost a game earlier this season where you were ahead 17-3 in the second half. What did you not learn from that one? Was there some kind of connective thread there between what happened in Nashville and what's happened here? (Mike Sielski)

DOUG PEDERSON: Well, 4th and 15, 4th and 10. We've just got to go look at those two plays, and that's probably the answer. We've got to, as players and coaches, make sure we're putting our guys in position, and then secondly, we've got to execute the play. Flat out, this is a players' game. Players have to make plays. We try to, as coaches, we put them in position to be successful, so we've got to evaluate that and just coach better and play better.

Q. Is working on the way you close out games something you'll be looking to work on, say, this week and for the rest of the season? (Reporter)

DOUG PEDERSON: I think we're going to work on a lot of things, but that's one of them. We talk about finishing all the time, and it just doesn't mean the first half of games. We've got to finish the second half too.

Q. Are other teams making adjustments that you're not adjusting to? (Les Bowen)

DOUG PEDERSON: No. Carolina just stuck to their game plan. Nothing we didn't expect. So no.

Q. What did you think of the way QB Carson Wentz played? (Zach Berman)

DOUG PEDERSON: I thought, overall, pretty good. I think his numbers were decent. I haven't looked at the actual stats, but bottom line is we lost, and so it's not an individual sport. He's part of it, obviously, and did some good things. We've got to take a look at the whole pie right now.

Q. What do you mean by the pressure's off now? What do you mean by that when you say that to your team? (Sal Paolantonio)

DOUG PEDERSON: Number one, I think no one has really given us a chance anyway. Whether we're putting pressure on ourselves to perform, to play, whatever it is, live up to a certain expectation, I think that it's that point where I think that no one has given us that type of -- maybe with the amount of injuries or whatever it is -- given us much credit going into games. And I think sometimes we force issues. We try to press just a little bit instead of just -- we don't have to go searching for plays. When the plays come, let's just make the plays that come to us, and right now we're not doing that. So I think that's the pressure that's off of us, and we just have to get back to playing and executing better.

Q. Just to be clear, are you saying that the players are feeling pressure to live up to what you guys accomplished last year? (Mike Sielski)

DOUG PEDERSON: No, I don't think so. I just think that each week -- and this is something I have talked about all season. When we talk about embracing something, it's a choice, and we know that we get everybody's best every week. It's a good football team. Carolina's a playoff caliber team. They were in the Super Bowl a couple years ago. It's a good football team. And we know that -- we don't use injury, we don't use whatever it might be as an excuse not to perform. Sometimes I think players [and] coaches



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just put added pressure when they don't have to, and that's something that we've got to – it starts with me there and just make sure we're doing everything, even during the week, getting ourselves in position to win games.

Q. You're still the defending Super Bowl champs. That doesn't change. At 3-4, do you really think that pressure is off you guys? (Zach Berman)

DOUG PEDERSON: No, it won't be, but it doesn't have to come from us. There's enough pressure. Just the game itself brings its own sort of pressure. We don't have to go force anything. Like I said earlier, we don't have to go looking for plays. Let the plays come to you and then make them when they come, and that's where we're at.

Q. As a play caller, when you see the momentum shift like it did drastically, are you aware of that? You mentioned it's a players' game, but do you feel the need to kind of fuel things when you see the momentum change? (John McMullen)

DOUG PEDERSON: Yeah, you feel it, and you sense it. I don't think it necessarily has to get you out of your rhythm offensively because I thought we were doing some good things. Even in the run game, RPOs, play-action pass, some of the things we were able to take advantage of. But, yeah, I didn't feel like I had to get ultra-aggressive or anything like that just because the tide was sort of changing just a little bit there in the second half.

Eagles QB Carson Wentz

On how disappointing it is to not win the game:

“Very, very disappointing. We had chances to win there at the end. Offensively, we had a chance to seal the deal with the drive before, really the two drives before. We just didn't do it. When you're on the field at the end like that, with a shot, ball is in your hand and you don't win, it's frustrating.”

On why the offense was not as productive in the second half:

“It's hard to say. It's a combination of things. We have to go back and watch the tape. That's just not a way for us to finish a game. I thought we were moving the ball well, early. [We] did some things well that we know we are capable of and then it just seemed like we let off the gas as an offense, just stopped making plays.”

On how to recover from this loss:

“You just isolate this game in this week and move on to the next. You learn from it. I sound like a broken record every time we lose up here, but it's on to the next. There is no time to feel sorry for yourself. There is no time to be pissed about it. You have to learn from it quick and bounce back to next week.”

On the final two plays of the game:

“Fourth down, I saw [WR] Alshon [Jeffery] open across the middle. As I stepped up and tried to make the throw, got hit and the ball came out. The play before, I tried to force one in there that I probably shouldn't have.”



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On what happened in the fourth quarter:

“It’s really hard to say right now. We have to watch the tape and see where our errors were. I know later in the game we didn’t stay ahead of the chains well [which] resulted in some tough third downs. We just weren’t able to stay on the field.”

On the overruled interception play:

“That was a miscommunication on [TE] Zach [Ertz] and my part. We have to get that ironed out and we will.”

On taking time post-game at his locker:

“Obviously, extremely frustrated about this game. Just really praying. Praying just to ease my mind, ease my heart going forward.”

On what it will take to get consistency with the offense:

“We’re going to find out what we’re made of now going forward. I feel like we said that two weeks ago, saying it again. We’re at make-or-break time, almost. It’s hard to say exactly what it’s going to take. Again, we know what we can do, we do it here and there some weeks, but we just have to put it all together.”

On if closing out games is the problem:

“I don’t know how you work on closing out games, so to speak, in practice, but it’s something that we have to do. Without a doubt, I thought it was something we did well last year. I think we’ve shown that we can do it, but offensively we have to look hard in the mirror, myself included, and know late in games we have to be better.”

On if there is week-to-week pressure on this team from the Super Bowl and all that comes with it:

“This town and the way I carry myself, the way everyone in that locker room [carries themselves], we put high expectations on ourselves every week. Whether we are 7-9, like my rookie year [or] on that hot stretch last year, it doesn’t matter. I think we put high expectations on ourselves. My approach will never change, win or lose, on to the next week and that’s the way I’m going to approach it.”

Eagles RB Wendell Smallwood

On how disappointing this loss is:

“It’s very disappointing. These are the ones that hurt me. We were up 17 points and we couldn’t finish the game. That’s not us, that’s not who we are, that’s not how we play. We don’t give up games, we don’t blow leads, we don’t not execute – that’s not who we are. So for us to do that, I’d rather lose a close one all game than lose a big one that we had pretty much sealed.”

On how hard it is to bounce back after a game like this one:



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“It brings us together. We’ve been through a lot together. Everyone on this team, and like [Eagles head coach] Doug [Pederson] said after we met, after we just brought it up, this brings us together. We’re going through things like this. Everyone can go through something good and be happy, but what about the bad stuff? Are you going to buy in? Or are you going to go the other way? This team is never going to go the other way. We all buy in. Everything matters to us. We play for each other, so this hurts, and we just have to take it back and I know we’ll do everything to get it fixed and everyone is going to come back ready for next week.”

On whether he felt like they had control of the game leading 17-0:

“Absolutely. We felt in control. We felt like we were getting what we wanted. We were executing a lot of plays, and made big plays, and that was a huge thing going into it. Let’s make a bunch of big plays, let’s take it to them, and we felt like those guys were reacting to us. We were backing those guys up and had them gassed. We had a bunch of hurry up stuff. They just couldn’t stop us. They fought hard and they didn’t give up, so I give credit to them on that.”

On if he can explain how the game turned around:

“They took the lead. They won. They came back and they made plays. We gave up some kind of plays that we don’t need to give up. Once you get the momentum, teams start believing. Those guys believed all game that they could win and they never gave up, so I think we just didn’t finish. You think you never say that about this team because that’s one thing we do. Even if we lose, we finish the game. We didn’t come back and finish this one, they finished it.”

Eagles TE Zach Ertz

On his thoughts on the game:

“I am very disappointed. Obviously, 17-0, we were in the same boat a few weeks ago and we have to find a way to finish. It is not the ending of the game that I envisioned. We have to keep our foot on the gas and can’t have mental mistakes. Little things at the end of the game come back to bite you. Even little mistakes that you are doing at the beginning of the game come back to bite you. Tough, tough loss and no other way to put it.”

On whether the team was beyond not closing out a game:

“I don’t really reflect on that. I just take it week by week. When we are up 17 points in the fourth quarter, we have to win the game. That is the bottom line and there is no other way to put it. There is no feel good around that we were up 17 points is really irrelevant when you find a way to lose like that.”

On how the loss feels after being dominant for three quarters:

“It is extremely difficult. We pride ourselves on being a physical football team that wears teams down in the fourth quarter and there have been two times this year where we have not just finished. We have to play better in the fourth quarter and finish games and that is the mindset. We have to have the mentality that we finish everything we start. We started off hot. We were preaching for so many weeks that we have to start fast and we were normally finishing most of the time, but now it is almost the



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opposite. We have to get back to the basics and focus on little things that don't add up to losses at the end of the day."

On whether the third quarter, 9:22 long offensive drive made the offense tired:

"I don't know. I didn't feel winded or I didn't feel gassed by any means. I can only speak for myself but we pride ourselves on being one of the well-conditioned teams in the league, so in terms of running out of gas, I do not think that was the issue. I think it comes down to execution."

On whether the third quarter, 9:22 long offensive drive made the offense take a foot off the gas:

"No. We just didn't execute. That is the bottom line. We were not going out there and saying we are good up 17-0. We just didn't execute. They executed much better than we did in the fourth quarter."

On whether the Panthers changed up their defense in the fourth quarter:

"I don't know. I would have to look back at the film and see if there was much change. They kind of played man on the third down to Alshon [Jeffery]. Those guys were making plays all day too like Alshon [Jeffery], [Dallas] Goedert played extremely well, so [Carson Wentz] is going to throw the ball to whoever is open. It is what it is."

On the challenge to bounce back with the long trip next week:

"It is not ideal obviously. I wish we had a home game. I wish we were playing on Thursday honestly to get this game out of our system. Jacksonville is a physical football team and we just played a really physical football team so we have to get our bodies right early in the week and attack this week of practice. We can't go through the the motions by any means, so we have to attack this week and it starts on Wednesday."

On the mental challenge to prepare for the next game:

"It is tough. We have to learn from it and can't let this get our spirits down. We have a whole season in front of us. We keep saying after every loss that we cannot get too down. We have to find a way to win games. We just let games slip when we have no business of losing. Good teams and championship teams do not let that happen. We have to attack this week of practice and attack the Jaguars on Sunday, then hopefully get some time off to rest our bodies."

Eagles DT Fletcher Cox

On what happened in the fourth quarter:

"They won the game. We have to go back and watch it and see what happened. We lost the game and it's time to get back to the drawing board."

On whether the game plan changed:

"No. We had pressure the whole game. [Carolina Panthers QB Cam Newton] made some plays with his feet. There were a couple plays where me, myself, I could have got him down on the ground. It didn't happen, so they won the football game."



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On how difficult it is to stop Panthers QB Cam Newton:

“It’s not difficult at all. We face so many mobile quarterbacks, that it’s really nothing new to us. I think we just have to get him on the ground. We know what kind of threat he is when he starts to run around, with his feet. We could have done a better job, but at the end of the day they made more plays than we did, and they won the game.”

On the Eagles defense as a whole:

“It’s a tough loss. I think the biggest thing for us is that we need to go back and watch it and see where the breakdowns were. We have another game coming up here soon, next Sunday against another really good football team that were in the playoffs last year. I know they’ll be ready. We’re coming off a tough loss like this and I know it’ll make every guy in this locker room more hungry for next week.”

Eagles DE Brandon Graham

On what happened to the defense in the fourth quarter:

“They just made more plays than we did. It sucks right now because, like you said, we came in, started fast and played all the way through. They made plays when they needed to win the game.”

On whether the Panthers changed the way they attacked the defense in the fourth quarter:

“I just saw they were running a lot more quick game, getting the ball out. They just made some plays down field. Fourth-down I wish we could get it back because we had them right there. Like I said, we just have to make a play.”

On the fourth-and-10 conversion from the Panthers offense in the fourth quarter:

“It’s tough right now because we played our hearts out. You see it. We play hard, but we just have to finish the game. We can’t keep giving away games, especially when we have them. I mean, that’s a good Carolina team. We knew it was going to be 60 minutes the whole game. It showed right there they came to play 60 minutes.”

On the Eagles defense overall:

“We’re more of the three quarters. We just have to keep proving it. Keep going out there and finish the game. For us we take it personal because we have to get off the field for them not to go up or at least tie the game. We [can’t] allow touchdowns in the red zone and they just made the plays to win the game.”

On how he describes the loss:

“This one stung but we’re going to keep working. We’re going to keep going. The NFC East is up for grabs and that’s the biggest thing. That’s our number one goal is to win the NFC East and we just have to make sure we just take it 1-0 every week and we just have to stop beating ourselves.”

Eagles DE Chris Long



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On whether the Panthers showed anything that wasn't on the film:

"I'd have to back and look at it. I think we knew what to expect. I don't know. It's really hard for me to say after a game when I haven't seen the film yet. We had a chance to get them off the field a couple of times at the end of the game. It's hard for me to see what's going on."

On his reaction if he was told the outcome of the game ahead of time:

"I'd be very disappointed with the defense. I don't know what to tell you. I try to control what I can control and play the best I can and everyone needs to worry about themselves. That's how we can get better."

Eagles S Malcolm Jenkins

On what changed from holding them to 100 yards in the first three quarters to being outscored 21-0 in the fourth:

"They made some plays at the end of the day. It was a few plays here and there that got them down the field. They converted a good play on the right side and cut down there in the goal line. They just drove the ball. They didn't run anything particular. We had a fourth-and-ten opportunity. There was a third-down opportunity the drive before that and they just extended it."

On how this loss ranks in terms of disappointment in his career:

"I mean, you know going into the fourth quarter and you're up pretty big and had control of the game. To kind of just starve completely as a team was just disappointing. At the end of the day, you handle what you control. Our effort is never something we question. It's just about detail and small parts. It's one play here, one play there that turn into big deals. Margin of error in this league is tight especially against a good team like the Panthers. So we have to be able to finish that game."

On the Panthers adjustments in the fourth quarter:

"They went to improve their passing game and got the ball out of [Panthers QB] Cam's [Newton] hand a little bit. They had a completion of slants here and there which didn't put them in a negative situation so they were ahead of the sticks. They could convert third down and stay on the field. They had a couple of big plays here and there to keep the drives going."

On the fourth down pass to WR Torrey Smith in the fourth quarter:

"I mean it was fourth-and-10 and we're playing man coverage. Cam extended the play just a little bit for [Panthers WR] Torrey [Smith] waiting to get open and it's tough to cover an NFL receiver for that long. You know it was just a good play made by them."

On whether the defense changed their plans once they were up by 17:

"Yeah, I think throughout the game we made a few adjustments. We moved to a lot of man-to-man just to kind of handle the quarterback scramble. But we don't get into any kind of prevent or anything like that."



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On whether the defense is more of what was seen in the first three quarters or more of what was seen during the fourth:

“I think we have to look at our tape. So we can be both obviously at the same time. We have to continue what we had for three quarters into the fourth. But you can’t just run out there and do that. You have to win on every snap. The small plays were there, and it’s not going to make a big difference when they happen but as you add them up it leads to extended drives and points, and in this case a loss.”

Panthers Head Coach Ron Rivera

On the Panthers’ fourth quarter comeback:

“[It was a] tale of two halves, basically. [The Eagles] came out and they played really well in the first half and we made some mistakes. Unfortunately, we didn’t take advantage of the opportunities we had in the first half. In the second half, I know they sustained a nice drive and put more points on the board. But again, I really liked the way the offensive line held together. They protected the quarterback [and] gave him time. When we had to run it, we ran it effectively. Then again, I think [Panthers QB] Cam [Newton] made some real good decisions and delivered some really good balls. That’s what gave us the opportunity to win. Some of the corrections we made on the defensive side coming out in the fourth quarter – some of the things [Panthers defensive coordinator] Eric [Washington] did a little bit differently really helped us. I’m real proud of the way we bounced back.”

On how the deep routes opened up opportunities for RB Christian McCaffrey in the flat:

“It did, but also at the same time I think catching [the Eagles secondary] in man coverage and having their backs to the line of scrimmage a couple times really helped to make some of those quick passes a little more effective.”

On the Panthers’ comeback victory:

“Well this is special just because [the Eagles] are the defending champs. We talk about wanting to be the champs, then we have to beat those guys and today we had that opportunity. That’s a very good football team we played against and they’re finding their way. We’re trying to find our way, but when you win this type of game coming back the way we did, a lot of credit goes to our guys. The players in this room were terrific.”

On avenging last week’s loss to the Redskins:

“I think it’s a great way to really come back and to win. Again, it can be one of those statement wins. Again, we’re going to enjoy it, appreciate it, then get ready for next week. But we played against a good football team that did a lot of things to give us a lot of trouble. Those will be the things we go back and look at to correct.”

On the Panthers’ defensive performance late in the game:

“I was very impressed. As I said earlier, we’re pleased with the decisions [Panthers Defensive Coordinator] Eric [Washington] was making at the end of the third quarter going into the fourth



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[quarter]. I liked some of the calls that we made and some of the things we executed in that fourth quarter really gave us a chance to get the ball back. I was really excited about that.”

On Panthers S Eric Reid’s demeanor before and during the game:

“It’s something you’re going to have to ask Eric. For me personally, as long as we’re able to keep him under control – and I don’t want to use that word control – as long as we’re able to get him calm so he can get focused back on playing the game. I really appreciate the effort he put in the game – playing the game.”

On whether that was the reason Reid was taken out of the game in the second quarter:

“No. It was part of the rotation.”

On the fourth-and-ten play to WR Torrey Smith:

“In all honesty, we put ourselves in a tough position and with the fourth-and-10, all we really wanted to do was try and create a little spacing. We saw a couple people juke and then broke him underneath with the deeper routes.”

On what changed defensively for the Panthers:

“I’m not going to talk about specific changes, but we made plays when we had to. We were able to put them in second- and third-and-long. Their offensive is so effective when they get you into second-and-short, third-and-short. [Eagles Head Coach] Doug [Pederson] does a great job calling plays and the execution is pretty solid, but we were very fortunate.”

On the team’s first road win today and what his message is for the team:

“Message is we’re not where we want to be. We had an opportunity late to take another step. We have a big game coming up next week. We’ll enjoy this one until Monday when [we] get a chance to watch the tape tomorrow.”

On the Eagles’ tight ends being so effective during the game:

“Early on we were playing zone coverage and they were sitting down in the open areas. Again, they did a real nice job finding those open areas. The quarterback had some time. As our pass rush became more effective, I think we were able to get to the quarterback and not give him as much time.”

On getting into more manageable situations on offense during the fourth quarter:

“I think it’s very important. If you get into manageable situations, you get a chance to use a bigger portion of your playbook. That’s probably the biggest thing that happened for us. We were fortunate we were in third-and-mediums, fourth-and shorts, especially down in the fourth quarter.”

On Newton’s composure in the fourth quarter and whether he has come to expect that type of play from him:

“You do expect him to play the way he does. He likes to thrive in these types of [situations], trying to make the type of plays to help us win football games. That’s what makes him a special player. He wants that type of responsibility. He wants the ball in his hands and we were able to put him in that position.”



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On whether Newton got the game ball:

“Yes he did. For his composure in the fourth quarter. Getting us into three scoring opportunities that he converted. That was huge.”

Panthers QB Cam Newton

On how fast they were able to come back in the fourth quarter:

“I feel like just our edge at some particular times is being in a hurry up. And coach always says it, being in a hurry up doesn’t mean rush, doesn’t mean mayhem, it’s just controlled tempo and we are in control of that. When we got in the second half, things started to change for us. Just getting completions for my part and getting the ball in the right guy’s hands.”

On this being a statement win today:

“I think every win is a statement win. But I think we were against the ropes to a degree. We didn’t have a good performance in the first half. We understand that, we know that, we know that can’t happen especially versus a good team like this. But moving forward, this is a confidence booster for us. Something that you can accelerate production offensively, defensively, as well as special teams.”

On why things clicked so well in the no huddle:

“I don’t know. I have been doing it my whole career to a degree. But we know in this league, given defenses’ wrinkles is what it’s all about, making mid-game adjustments and that’s what we did at halftime.”

On the fourth-and-10 play to WR Torrey Smith on the last drive:

“Well, pardon my English, but it was a ---- throw on the play before. I knew I had to come back and put my team in the best situation possible. I just wanted to evaluate the whole circumstance and what not. I saw his man had slipped and fell and he was uncovered wide open. I just knew I had to get the ball in his hands. It wasn’t pretty but the results were.”

On whether he knew he was in such close proximity to the defender and it looked like he got rid of the pass at the same time the defender collided with him:

“I don’t know what it was but it’s funny how a week’s difference. Last week – I don’t always do good with losing – but I just took that one personal, extremely personal. Just being that there were so many things that were against us, starting slow, turnovers. I thought we had an opportunity to win. And I told myself, just preparing all week, that if we ever get in that position again I very well better hold up my end of the bargain. There are a lot of guys that trust in me in that locker room, there are a lot of people depending on me to put this team in the best situation. And to a degree, I think I could have been better last week. And this week we were in the same situation and I didn’t want to let anyone down.”

On what the difference was in the last three drives of the game:

“It wasn’t a magic play. It wasn’t a magic whatever. We just stay in our rhythm. Stay in our rhythm. Outside of that fourth-and-10, that was probably the only play that we were desperate for some type of



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movement in the drive. I feel like for the whole second half, we were methodical, moving the chains and just being persistent throughout this whole time. We have guys like [RB Christian McCaffrey] who can catch the ball out of the backfield, [TE] Greg [Olsen], [WR Devin Funchess] showed up today. Everybody just really had their heads in making big plays for this team and that's what we were looking for."

On having an opportunity to win a close game:

"God works in mysterious ways. I believe in putting good energy in the earth and knowing that when that opportunity presents itself again, you just better be ready for it. We're lucky to be on this side, because it's the difference between two or three plays. Every single close game. And today was one of those days. We were on the receiving end of a lot of beneficial things in the latter part of the game. I felt like early on, we couldn't do anything right. And [in the] second half, it felt like we couldn't do anything wrong."

On what two or three plays did he feel were the game changers:

"Obviously the fourth down play. Just guys making plays. The much needed third down. And I'm just thinking about it off the top of my head right now without even evaluating anything. I think the play to [McCaffrey] was big too on third down for him. Just knowing and playing teams with really stingy defenses like this, those plays make all the difference."

On defeating the defending Super Bowl champions while on the road:

"This place was advertised. Playing in a hostile environment. It felt like a lot of things were holding us back and then thrown at us, even pylons. But at the end of the day, we overcame that and we still kept pushing through it. You talk about good teams and the development DNA of good teams, winning on the road, winning close games is something that you have to do."

Panthers RB Christian McCaffrey

On his thoughts on the fourth quarter comeback:

"Oh man, I mean we have a team of fighters. Never out of a fight. I think that showed today, doing what we did in the second half. We'd love to start faster than we did. And we will clean up a lot of those mistakes. But, I mean shoot, the good teams win those ones."

On whether there was anything said heading into the fourth quarter:

"No, I mean, we all kind of collectively got together and knew that we had to up the tempo a little bit and have a sense of urgency getting to the ball, have a sense of urgency after we get a first down. There was no magical – nothing said. We kind of all just came together at the right time. I mean, to see what [QB] Cam [Newton] did and everybody on the field making plays when they needed to."

On getting a second chance at the same game-winning drive and to be able to close it out:

"It means a lot. I mean, the defense stepped up as well. They bailed us out a lot of times. When you have a defense that plays as hard as they do, it gives you confidence, too. I think it all came together at the right time in this game. And we never lulled, we kept playing hard and came out with the win."



Philadelphia Eagles vs. Carolina Panthers Post-Game Quotes

On building off the energy of watching the defense get stops in the fourth quarter:

“We just know everybody is out there still playing hard and we know that we have to do the same thing. If we all just collectively do our job on every play, we can be extremely good. We just have to execute and take away all of the mistakes that we are causing on ourselves. That was a fun one and it was really good to come out with a win there against a tough team in an away atmosphere.”

Panthers WR Torrey Smith

On his 35-yard catch-and-run to convert for a first down on fourth-and-10 on the game-winning drive:

“I was running an inside dig route and I kind of saw [Panthers QB] Cam [Newton] pulling up so I knew it wouldn’t be on time, so I stopped to kind of feel out where he was because I wasn’t going to break out while he was scrambling. He ended up getting it off, and I guess [Eagles CB] Jalen [Mills] kind of slipped behind me and Cam saw it. I honestly don’t know how he got it off, he muscled it out when it got busy.”

On picking up yards after the catch on the fourth-down conversion:

“It was huge. In my mind, I knew we had the two-minute [warning] coming up, so I didn’t have to try to run out of bounds. I knew that if I caught it, I could fight for extra yards because it wouldn’t take extra time off. I was trying to cut up field and get us in field goal range without having to dink it and dunk it downfield.”

On winning on the road in comeback fashion:

“It means a lot. It shows the character of this team and what we’re capable of. To do it on the road in this environment – it’s a tough place to play – against one of the best teams in the league. One of the teams that is a standard in the league. It means a lot to win on the road. I think it’s our first [road] win this year, so that’s huge.”

On bouncing back from last week’s loss to the Redskins:

“This team is full of men who are, first of all, committed to what we’re doing, hungry, and full of grit. There’s nothing too big. The motto here is to ‘keep pounding it’ and that’s the way we work each and every day and it showed today. No matter what happened, we were still in it until the end, just like last week. There was no doubt we were going to win the game until the clock hit zero. It’d be real nice to not be in those situations, but we believe in ourselves when the game’s on the line.”

Panthers TE Greg Olsen

On whether there was a point in the fourth quarter that he felt like they had the game:

“After the [Panthers WR Devin] Funchess touchdown, we got the two-point conversion to make it down three with four-something left, I felt like if we got the ball back, we kind of had it going there offensively. We thought in that no huddle, tempo, kind of had them on their heels. We thought if we got the ball back, we’d have a chance and obviously fourth-and-10 is not a great situation, but that was [Panthers QB] Cam [Newton] and [Panthers WR] Torrey [Smith] just making a great play and they kept our hopes alive.”



Philadelphia Eagles vs. Carolina Panthers Post-Game Quotes

On the game-winning drive, the play call which involved run-action, to set you free for the game-winning score:

“Yes, that was all play-calling. That’s as easy as it-I didn’t have to do too much there. It was a great scheme. We talked all week how that was going to be our first goal to go down there in the goal line area. When Cam got stopped on the real short there, the play before, everybody knew what was coming, everybody sold it real well. That was pretty easy.”

On what changed the last three drives of the game:

“I think we’re really good when we don’t huddle. I think it just took staying ahead of the chains. Even if you just get a couple yards and be second-and-8, second-and-7 – in the first half, we’d be doing alright and then we would have a tackle for loss or a penalty, a sack, or something, and I guess that front, it’s going to be hard to just drop back all day and throw the ball. They are getting close there, that’s as good as it gets. Those guys up front fought their asses off. I think when we got into that tempo, and just stayed on rhythm, stayed ahead of the chains, it allowed us to just kind of settle in a little bit and then we saw guys, all different guys, making plays. [Panthers WR] Curtis [Samuel], [Panthers WR] DJ [Moore] on the big third-down there. Curtis’ touchdown, Funchess had a good game, big games, and big catches. [Panthers WR] Torrey [Smith], I don’t know if he caught another ball, but that was the biggest play of the game on fourth-and-10. It was scattered around to a lot of guys.”

On whether he can sense Cam getting on a roll and what it feels like when he does that out there:

“Yes. After we scored the first one, we felt we were at least within striking distance, we knew we had some work to do. Then getting that ball back and going the length of the field again, capped off by Funchess touchdown, which was pretty much the same play from last week. Our two-point conversions are really good. So when it was down three with four minutes, I felt, and I think everyone felt that if we got the ball back, we were probably going to win, and we did.”

Panthers CB James Bradberry

On what he was thinking during the final drive:

“Pretty much that we have to make a play. Try to give our offense the chance to win the game for us. That’s pretty much it.”

On what he saw on the final play from his vantage point:

“The final play? I just saw the ball go up in the air. We were in cover 2 so I was happy when I saw that. Fortunately we got the win and that’s all that matters.”

On how much of a challenge it was facing Eagles WR Alshon Jeffery:

“It was definitely a challenge. He made some good plays on me today. He just had my number. That was pretty much it.”

On what he saw during the defensive pass interference play:

“We were in quarters and he ran a nine route from a cut split and I was chilling pretty much. I was expecting something else and he ran a nine route. So I pretty much had to chase him down and try to give us a chance to win.”



Philadelphia Eagles vs. Carolina Panthers Post-Game Quotes

On what the defense can do to find more consistency:

“Go into the film room, watch the mistakes, correct them, and then go on the practice field and move onto the next game. That’s pretty much it.”

On whether the play calls have been the issue or is it more of player execution:

“It is all about player execution. No matter what the coordinator calls we have to go out there and execute the calls. So it’s pretty much on us.”

On how he keeps his composure after giving up a penalty for big yards:

“Well in my head I knew that they still had to score. They didn’t have a touchdown, they weren’t winning, so at the end of the day we still had a chance to win the game and you just have to move on.”

On how difficult it is to defend against Eagles QB Carson Wentz:

“Very hard because he’s a dual-threat quarterback. He can run, he has a strong arm, and he’s very accurate. So he has his challenges.”

On how much of a relief it was for him when the defense came up with the ball on fourth down:

“I was so happy. It didn’t show on my face but I was very happy. I was mad at how I played but, I was glad that we got the win.”

On what this win means for the season going forward:

“Just giving us momentum going into the next game. Any time you get a win, especially against an opponent like that, the defending champs, it just gives us momentum and confidence going into the next game.”

Panthers S Mike Adams

On the comeback victory:

“It was a great win. I’ll put it in my top three [games] and probably my best win because they were the [defending Super Bowl] champs and we were down 17-0. We came out and made some adjustments at halftime, and we didn’t quit. We just kept playing hard. Once we scored and got off the field on defense, I knew they were in trouble.”

On how the fourth quarter play of the offense was able to spark the fourth quarter play of the defense:

“When you’re away, you have to feed off of each other. You can’t feed off of the crowd. They were the home team, and we just fed off of each other. [Our offense] would get a first down and get the chains moving, then [the defense] felt like it was our turn. We got out there and got some stops, and now the offense is feeding off of us. That’s what you have to do on the road. All we have is each other when we’re on the road. We just relied on us. It was about us, and that’s why we were victorious today.”

On what the comeback today says about this year’s Carolina team:

“That we’re capable. We’re capable of doing whatever we want to do whenever we want to do it. We just have to be consistent doing it. I don’t want to keep dwelling on it, but when you think about last week [at Washington] it was should’ve, could’ve, would’ve. This week we really got it done. We just have to be consistent in terms of what we do as a whole.”



Philadelphia Eagles vs. Carolina Panthers Post-Game Quotes

On how the defense can achieve consistency:

“Just keep working, practicing, focusing, and doing all of the little things. It happens in football because we have to understand that we’re not playing the Little Giants every week. We’re playing NFL teams that get paid to shut us down as well. They’re saying the same things like, ‘We have to start fast, we have to do this, and we have to do that.’”

On how confident he was that the defense would come up with a stop after the Eagles offense had 1st-and-10 at the Carolina 22-yard line:

“We didn’t blink. When the [pass interference penalty] happened to [CB James Bradberry] we didn’t blink. We said, ‘So what? They’re not going to score. They’re not going to score.’”

On whether he got assurances from Bradberry that he would bounce back after his pass interference penalty on Eagles WR Alshon Jeffery:

“Like I said, we didn’t blink. We said that they were not going to score. I don’t have to get [assurances] from him, because I already know. [Jeffery] got behind him. So what? Let’s go. We’re going to line up again and play. I’ve got full confidence in him.”

On embracing his leadership role on the team as a 15th-year former undrafted rookie free agent:

“I embrace it. I accept the old jokes from my boys and it’s all good. I accept it and I embrace it. I embrace it to the point where I feel like I’m one of the leaders on this team. I take pride in it because I’ve been around a while and I’ve seen a lot. I definitely take pride in being a leader and leading these guys.”