



OAKLAND RAIDERS vs. INDIANAPOLIS COLTS

Sunday, Oct. 28, 2018

Oakland-Alameda County Coliseum

Postgame Quotes



Raiders Head Coach Jon Gruden

Opening statement: "It was a tough loss. They took control of the game offensively, they ran the ball repeatedly, they possessed the ball and made it tough on us. I thought we hung in there and fought, but I'll answer any questions that I can."

Q: Do you think the criticism this week helped light a fire under [Derek] Carr this week?

Gruden: "I don't think the criticism is anything we're going to address this week. Critics are going to be critics. I've said I think he's a great player. I thought our rookie [offensive] tackles played well today, our backup left guard [Jon] Feliciano did great, and I thought Doug Martin stepped up besides the fumble late in the game. It's not all Derek Carr, but I will say I think he's the strength of this team and I'm excited about him."

Q: Why do you think the Colts were able to run the ball so effectively today?

Gruden: "Obviously they imposed their will today. They physically did a great job with not only their schemes and their blocking combinations, they did a great job. We're playing without a couple veterans, too. We hope to get [Defensive Tackle] Eddie Vanderdoes and [Defensive Tackle] Justin Ellis back soon, but I'll make no excuses. It wasn't good enough today."

Q: So far this season, it seems like in the fourth quarter you guys run out of gas or is that an anomaly?

Gruden: "I take responsibility for that. I thought we came out and played a good game offensively besides the fumble. We don't get many possessions, we don't get the ball very often. I don't think they ran out of gas, I just think defensively we have to take a long look at who can be out there and help us right now. We're struggling."

Q: 18 offensive plays in the first half, defense couldn't get off the field. What sort of pressure does that put on the offense?

Gruden: "It's been that way pretty much the entire season. Three possessions in the second half against the [Los Angeles] Chargers. We had three possessions in the second half against the Seahawks, and I think we had three possessions in the first half today. It just goes to show you we have a long way to go like I've been saying. We got a short week and we have to get ready for the [San Francisco] 49ers."

Q: Field position is obviously important. That 25-yard punt from [Johnny] Townsend...

Gruden: "Yeah, that didn't help. Did not help."

Q: Jon, what type of options do you have? Do you pretty much have what you have at this point?

Gruden: "We tried to make some changes a little bit today. We put [Safety] Karl Joseph up for the first time in a month to take a long look at him. We brought up [cornerback] Nick Nelson, first time he's really been healthy to take look at our fourth-round corner to let him play a little bit in the nickel [package]. We brought [Jason] Cabinda up to the team to play the middle linebacker position and we'll continue to look at our personnel and try to get the best 11 men on the field this Thursday night."

Q: With the three tight end touchdowns scored by the Colts, was it just a bad matchup?

Gruden: "The guy made a one-handed Michael Jordan catch, got to give the kid credit. The other time they threw a jump ball over [Safety] Karl Joseph which was a tough play. I'll take credit for all of them, but Andrew Luck is a pretty good player and I think he showcased that today."



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Q: Do you think all the players in there are on the same page with the reality that this might take a while?

Gruden: "I'm not going to speak for anybody. We're going to build this team. We're excited about the players that we have in there that are working hard. It's a tough defeat and hopefully we get some healthy bodies next week. Between Vanderdoes and Ellis, two guys who have proven they can play in this league and hopefully [Kelechi] Osemele can come back, too. We're going to keep grinding, keep working, and keep getting better."

Q: Do you have any injury updates from today?

Gruden: "I don't have any updates today besides [Offensive Tackle] T.J. Clemmings who we're concerned about, he hurt his knee. We had to shuffle the roster today to carry eight offensive linemen for the first time this year. That's why you saw [Safety] Reggie Nelson down, we had a couple guys down. We had to make room because we weren't sure about [Offensive Lineman] Jon Feliciano's health and we had to put [Offensive Lineman] Denver Kirkland up. We also had to make sure [Offensive Lineman] Ian Silberman was ready in case something happened to [Center] Rodney Hudson. We're doing everything we can and obviously we'll continue to do that."

Q: Did you want to see your players fight through the trade controversy from this past week?

Gruden: "I don't know where the controversy is coming from. The reality is we made a trade. I don't think it hurt the offense and I hope Amari [Cooper] does great, I want to make that perfectly clear. We need to address this roster and we're doing the best we can. It's hard on this team right, certainly, but I'm not going to keep talking about the critics and controversy because we need to get better in a lot of areas."

Q: Do you think your players played hard for you today?

Gruden: "I don't think playing hard is an issue. I think it was a tight ballgame and I think we had the lead in the fourth quarter. I don't think playing hard is an issue, but you can replay the game and be the judge of that yourself, too."

Q: Are you strictly trying to find your best mix for next week and this season? Or are you evaluating beyond that as well and looking ahead?

Gruden: "This is pro football, I mean you can only have 53 guys, that's it. You might be able to shuffle it around a little bit, which we did today, because of injuries to the offensive line. We're going to continue to play the best people that deserve a chance to play and that we feel can give us a chance to win. We're not trying to come out here and evaluate players like some audition."

Q: Are you open to changes at punter, or is Johnny [Townsend] your guys' guy?

Gruden: "Obviously the last punt wasn't very good. He had a couple pretty good punts today, but I'm still waiting for Johnny Townsend the kid we drafted to really put it all together. I'm not going to give up on Townsend and I'm not going to give up, period. I just hope the Raiders fans out there understand we're doing everything we can. I know it gets ugly at times, but in a lot of ways I'm excited about the future."

OAKLAND RAIDERS QB DEREK CARR

Q: How did it feel to perform well offensively today?

Carr: "It shows that everything we're doing is right. Everything that [Head Coach Jon Gruden] Coach is asking me to do. Obviously, the results haven't been what we wanted. I wish I could tell you there is some magical thing that we did different because that would make for a better story, but I've been doing the same thing. Just listening to my coaches, listening to Coach Gruden and just trying to get better every week. I don't have some magical answer so that the outcome of our stats were different, you know? I



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know that with certain guys gone that I do have to step up being more vocal, that kind of stuff. Nothing football wise, nothing physical, leadership-wise - I do need to do those things better and I will."

Q: Do you feel reassured on offense based on today's performance?

Carr: "When everything is clicking like we know it can. Obviously, we've done some really good thing in the first half of this season. As an offense, at times we've some really nice things. Sometimes we get down. Defense has played different things. Some of the game plan stuff is different. For the most part, we've done some really good things. Today was another thing - just reaffirming what I already knew. When the wins come, hopefully everyone will know, too."

Q: Can you talk about your mindset coming into today's game after a tough week in the media?

Carr: "I had to answer some funny questions, but you know I know that you guys have to do your jobs. It's nothing personal, I know that. It was different. If I'm being honest as a human, it was hard. A lot of the stuff that was going around, I was like man, that's just not true and that hurts. Especially just as a man, not even a football player. My goodness, enough is enough. Just to be able to go out here and play football again. The best part - I knew media day was Wednesday and the best part of my day was being able to get back on the field and just play football and keep learning from Coach Gruden. I'm not even close to where I can be. I still missed a few passes today that I wish I hadn't. I know that things can be better. It was hard, but just to go out there and score some points and be efficient - it does help you feel better as a human. At the same time, I didn't really feel good because we lost. I'm tired of losing."

Q: Did you have to push yourself to be motivated internally this week?

Carr: "No, I'm the same every day. I try to be, I'm not perfect. I try to be the same every day. But just as a man, sometimes it's hard to hear those things. But there's nothing in me that says I need to go prove it. With all due respect, I'm not trying to prove anything to you guys, fan or anybody. I'm just trying to be my best for everybody, all the time - if that makes sense. I'm just doing my best and what I think I know is right. There was nothing that was different in my mindset going into the game. I'm already a pretty fiery guy - not here, but when I'm about to play and those kinds of things. It was the same. We were just able to execute. Everyone did their job right for the most part on offense, but it just wasn't enough today."

Q: Do you truly believe that everyone believes in the future of the team?

Carr: "I can't speak for everybody. The guys that I've talked to, the guys that I believe in and the guys that are going to be around here for a while - absolutely. I truly do believe. We truly believe we can win. We have great practices, the most intense practices and all these things, so when you hit the field and we're so prepared with our coaches, we always believe we're going to win these things. It makes it hard when you lose and keep losing, but it doesn't change the fact that the strong-minded people get through it. Strong-minded people are the ones that last. I hate to say it, but I've been here before. I know how to get out of it and it's not by pointing fingers. It's not by getting with your buddy and taking trash. It's about getting together with your buddies and figuring things out, asking your teammates what can I do better, what should I do. That's how we fix it. I believe that we have guys like that."

Q: Can you talk about being 1-6 after today's game?

Carr: "Coach Del Rio always told me, you are what you earn in this league. So we're 1-6. We can sit here and say but we did this, we're 1-6. We have to own that. But I do know this, there are guys and a core of people on this team that I believe in with everything in me. I know when it gets tough and when the good times come, they're not going to change. They're going to continue to do what's right every day, take care of their bodies, watch film, listen to when their coach corrects them. That's the hardest thing in the NFL, when you're losing and you get a coach that wants to correct you and someone gets a little upset about that. We have guys that listen to that coach and that's how I know we're a good team meaning from the chemistry to brotherhood, we got it. But, we need to win football games."



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Q: Did the Raiders staff tell you that you would not be traded for the foreseeable future recently?

Carr: "No. Well yeah, media people told me this morning. I'll say this, the conversation that I've had with those guys makes me confident that I'm going to be here. When I heard all that stuff, I have to be honest – it doesn't worry me. It's just more fun for other people to talk about and figure out on ESPN. I'm not worried. I'm an Oakland Raider, I'm a Raider, I'm not going anywhere. I love this place and I want to win a championship for the Raiders."

Q: Can you talk about how your frustrations built up in the last few weeks?

Carr: "I will say that just being a human, there are things inside you – I didn't change anything I did, but it's just the way stuff work out. You jump through two tackles from a guy who ripped your head off in college, junior year about seven times and you get a touchdown, you just laugh. It's just funny how this game works. It was relieving in those moments, but I think that I can bring that fire all the time and I need to."

Q: You were basically watching the game the entire first quarter, how did that make you feel?

Carr: "Yeah that was tough. I think we only had 47 plays – one series in the first quarter, three total in the first half. I think we were supposed to have eight or nine, something like that. It was just a weird deal. It's tough. It makes us think as an offense – when we get the ball, we have to score every time. We have to be perfect. That's not a knock on anything at all, it is what it is. Some games are like that. Some games are about clawing to get six points to win the football game. You sit there and you watch and it does make it tough."

RAIDERS RB DOUG MARTIN

Q: Safe to say you're disappointed?

Doug Martin: "Very disappointed. Both sides were playing hard, having a good game, offensively, defensively. To fumble like that at the end, it sucks but a lot of guys went out there and played their hearts out. They put it all out there on the field. I'm really proud of ourselves."

Q: It's a drill teams work on during the week, the fumble drill, hanging onto the football. Is it just one of those things?

Martin: "I thought my stiff arm was going to be to the point where he wasn't going to be able to reach back. But I need to hang onto it, no excuses. It's a short week, need to get ready for this next game."

Q: With all the turmoil during the week, did you guys enter today with a different resolve?

Martin: "Definitely. It's not a distraction. We know who we are, we know what we're capable of doing. We're playing for each other. We're playing for Oakland. We need to go into this upcoming week and play the same way."

Q: What happened from the first quarter to thee second, it was like two different teams? You guys had three possessions in the first half.

Martin: "You have to hand it to the coaches. We didn't have many opportunities in the first half but we came out in the second half swinging."

Q: The line is so fine between a loss and a win in the NFL, one fumble, screen pass, the line is so fine.

Martin: "Definitely. To win in this league is hard, very hard. It can come down to a matter of inches. The little things, the tiny things. Whoever makes the most mistakes loses. We played a hard game, offensive, defense. Guys played their hearts out, we need to play this next game the same way."



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RAIDERS RB JALEN RICHARD

Q: How different was the run game from this week to last week?

Jalen Richard : "Every running back has a different skill set. Nothing really changed about the run game, it's really just the position. Doug [Martin] in there instead of Marshawn [Lynch]. Me in there, running the same things. These are the same plays we've been running since training camp. No way to switch up the run game. We came out and made some good plays, some good runs today."

Q: What can you say about the offensive line considering Derek [Carr] didn't take a sack?

Richard: "They were better. We did real good today. The defensive held up to. We just didn't get away with the 'W'. I like how everyone fought again. I still see everybody fighting, I see guys improving, I see guys wanting to win. As long as we continue to have that vibe in here and don't let it go we can get some things clicking for sure."

RAIDERS S ERIK HARRIS

Q: Can you talk about your drop?

Erik Harris: "It's a play I should have made. Guys keep teasing me that I need to work with the juggling machines. You laugh about it but really I should have made the play and they wouldn't have been in the position to score on the next one."

Q: You guys weren't getting a lot of pressure on Andrew Luck. How difficult is it when you give him a passing opportunity?

Harris: "We have to execute, play the calls that are played. We'll get our pass rush but we have to cover on the backend as well."

Q: Jon [Gruden] has said a couple times this is going to take a while to turn around, do you think everyone is on the same page in this locker room in accepting that?

Harris: "I think so. I thought we had a great week of practice. I thought everyone had a great sense of urgency. The results didn't show up today but things don't happen overnight. As long as guys keep buying in and sticking together we have a great group of guys in here. I think things will change."

Q: Where did the breakdowns come from today?

Harris: "Just keeping leverage, understanding where they were trying to attack us. They have good tight ends, one of the best pair of tight ends we've played this year. They're a different team when Jack Doyle is out there. We just have to do a better job."

Q: Was there any miscommunication out there or were they just doing things you didn't expect?

Harris: "Maybe one or two guys out of position. That's something we'll watch film and get corrected."

Q: How much was it a rough day for you guys and how much was credit to Andrew Luck?

Harris: "He's a great guy, he puts the ball where it's supposed to be in the pass game. They're the number one offense in the league on third downs. We have to get off the field. We have to make plays, I have to make plays. We'll get things corrected."



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RAIDERS WR BRANDON LAFELL

Q: It seemed like a shootout. You were matching these guys step-for-step, touchdown-for-touchdown. What was it like out there?

LaFell: "It definitely was, and they just got the better of us. The first quarter they possessed it. I think we had three plays in the first quarter. We had three possessions in the first half and we scored on two, so that was pretty good. Like you said, it was a shootout and we kicked our self in the foot in the second half with a fumble then we couldn't do nothing with it after that. Those guys, every time they pretty much touched the ball, they converted the third down. They went down and scored points like they're supposed to."

Q: It looks like in the second quarter you guys opened the playbook a little bit?

LaFell: "We just got into a flow and whatever they were doing out there they just couldn't stop us. Just don't know what happened that second half. I wish we could have continued that same effort in that second half and got points like we did in the second quarter."

Q: What was it like to play today after waiting so long since arriving in Oakland?

LaFell: "It felt great to get back out there, bang around, get hit and lay some hits on a few people. It felt good, kind of like my first game. I haven't played in four or five weeks, so it felt good to get back out there with the guys. I'm looking forward to Thursday."

Q: What happened on the touchdown?

LaFell: "It was crazy, man. Before the play DC [Derek Carr] was in the huddle calling the play and every guy was talking, 'I'm going to be open' and I just winked at him. I'm like, 'hey, all week you ain't throw me the ball on this play but I'm telling you I'm going to be wide open.' It happened just the way I thought it would. It just took a little longer because they were playing zone and I went out to the flat and just reversed back in and found a hole in the defense and DC found me."

Q: What was it seeing Derek Carr comfortable and poised in the pocket today?

LaFell: "It was great because we didn't have a great performance two weeks ago in London. We put a lot of emphasis on our offensive line this last week and during the bye week. A number of those guys came out there protecting him. With DC able to sit back there and pick the defense apart he can do things like that. If the line continues to block the way they did today and we continue to get open down the field in a timely fashion DC is one of the better quarterbacks in this league."

Q: With Amari Cooper gone, the coaching staff wants more guys to step up. What did that mean for you and the other guys today. What was your mentality?

LaFell: "My mentality is the same as I've been since I got here. Fit in with the offense, get open within the offense and do whatever these guys need me to do. Whether it be starting or coming off the bench whenever my number is called, just go out there and try to make a play. With Coop [Amari Cooper] gone and Beast Mode [Marshawn Lynch] on the IR, that's two huge losses. A lot of teams wouldn't be able to bounce back from that, but we got to collect a few guys and be able to take what those guys did and continue to move forward."



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RAIDERS CB DARYL WORLEY

Q: How much of this loss do you put on the defense versus Andrew Luck making his passes?

Daryl Worley: "I put it all on us. On any given play I felt like we could be better. At the same time, those guys get paid paychecks on offense to make plays. We always feel like we want to execute. We are our biggest critics, especially when it comes to myself"

Q: When you get your game plan, are you guys still feeling like 'This is going to work'?

Worley: "What we've done over the last few weeks is cut things back so everyone is playing simpler so everyone is playing faster. It's not a scheme thing where people don't understand what their job may be. [Defensive Coordinator Paul Guenther] is doing a great thing of keeping things pretty vanilla so guys should be playing fast making plays."

Q: Do you feel like people look from the outside and see you not getting stops and people question 'are they still fighting'?

Worley: "Yeah, definitely. If you could be at our practices, practice we had last week was some of the best we've had all year. That's me talking from a perspective of what I've seen being around a winning team. It felt like we had one of those good weeks where we put in the work and the result didn't come out as we expected."

Q: So you must be surprised then?

Worley: "Definitely surprised. It was a back-and-forth game for a while then it just got out of hand."

Q: They had a play there on defense where their guy reached in and stripped the ball. Is that the thing that you guys are missing, that one play to turn things around?

Worley: "That's one thing we kept saying on the sideline. We needed 1 to 2 turnovers and this game would be won. Unfortunately we didn't win the turnover battle and they did and that's where the game was won."

Q: There were some new faces in the secondary, new guys at linebacker working in. Coach Gruden said it wasn't an audition, but did it feel like you guys were out there fighting for playing time?

Worley: "No, I don't feel that way at all. You have to see what we have. We have 53 guys on the roster for a reason. It's going to take every man. That's what it's going to take. I thought the new faces out there, people did the best of their abilities. You're not going to be perfect on every play. That's why we're going to watch film and make corrections. Everyone will learn from their mistakes."

Q: What'd you think of [Gareon] Conley who didn't play against the Seahawks but was able to bounce back today and his ups and downs of playing then not playing?

Worley: "He's dealing with it pretty well. [Gareon] Conley is like me. He's a quiet guy. I always talk to him. Regardless of what's going on, if you're a young guy the best way to learn is through experience. With the play that happened today, with the catch, the guy that caught it gets paid too. So that's just a play he can learn from, move forward and get better."

Q: Do the trade rumors creep into your psyche at all?

Worley: "I feel like it shouldn't. Business is business. We can't control that. There's literally nothing we can do. All you can do is go about your business, handle your job, show up to work and work."

Q: When someone is up and down like Reggie [Nelson] and Rashaan [Melvin] that's not hard for the defense as a whole and morale?



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Worley: "I wouldn't say that it should be any difficulty at all. During the week we rotate guys in so we get used to playing with every personnel, whether it's in the secondary or wherever. That's not an excuse."

Q: Has it been apparent who will be in the lineup each week?

Worley: "There's usually a meeting Saturday night where guys really find out what's going on. We go through the week, everyone has full intentions to play."

Q: Where is the disconnect between the game plan and the results?

Worley: "Honestly it was hard fought. No one gave up. We just need to finish. It was a result of us not finishing as a team."

RAIDERS S KARL JOSEPH

Q: Have you paid attention to any trade reports that you may be involved in? And you are fine just staying here and fighting through it?

Joseph: "I'd be lying if I said I didn't, but I just got to control what I can control and let God handle the rest. A lot of that is out of my control. What I can control is my attitude and how I handle it and just let everything else handle itself. I definitely want to be here, but like I said I got to control what I can control. That's not my decision to make. I trust that God is going to put me where he wants me to be and everything will work itself out."

Q: There were several new guys on defense getting more playing time. Do you understand what the plan is with that?

Joseph: "It's up to the coaches. That's not our decision to make. They make that decision and I think it's our job, that whoever is up comes ready to play. We all get the plan during practice but at the end of the day it's not our decision. Whoever is out there has got to be ready to play. One thing that Coach Guenther talks about every week is the standard doesn't change. It doesn't matter who is out there, if you're a young guy or an older guy you just got to be ready to play."

Q: Do you still look at the scheme every week and go out there thinking it's going to work?

Joseph: "Yeah, I think we always have a great game plan. It's just about how you execute it. I think we always do a great job with coming up with a game plan and a scheme. At the end of the day it's not the scheme or what they draw up. The coaches can draw up whatever scheme it is but we got to be able to be the ones that go out there and execute it. I just don't think we've been doing a great job of executing our responsibilities."



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Colts Head Coach Frank Reich

Opening Statement: “Just a quick update (on an) injury. Mike Mitchell had a calf so we’ll evaluate that and hopefully he’ll be ok. Wow, what a game. What a great team effort, going toe-to-toe on the road. A lot of positive things to wrap the whole game. I just love the way the guys hung together, fought every series. Obviously, the offense ran the ball well again. Over 200 yards rushing, no sacks. That’s incredible. That’s an incredible performance by the offensive line. Defense got us the big turnover at the end. They had the stops that we needed, but great team effort. And then, of course, the icing on the cake was that we got to witness something really special today. We saw the greatest kicker of all time break that record. That’s pretty special. We just celebrated that in the locker room and that’s pretty cool. We just could not be more proud that Pat Vinatieri is on our team and what he means to us.”

Q: There have been so many games this year that were back and forth like this one and you guys haven’t pulled out in the end, but you’ve done so the past two games. Are you starting to see the team that you always thought this team could be with the run game and finishing?

Reich: “No doubt. I think there’s been a progression. You like to establish your identity in Week 1 and you get that going right from the start. On offense it’s taken us a few weeks to get that going, but right now we like where we’re at. The guys up front are playing great. The division has always been for a great run game and a great play action game off of that and then being good in situational football, so that’s good to see. We’ve got a long way to go. Two weeks is hardly enough to celebrate too much about, but there’s two positive outcomes so we’re very pleased with that.”

Q: Speaking of finishing, on a day when your defense didn’t have its best game, can you address LB Darius Leonard and the play he made?

Reich: “What a day. Both offenses were rolling a little bit. That happens when you got two good quarterbacks and good players and make some plays, but the defense came up with the big turnover. Darius makes that play. That’s what playmakers do. That’s what a playmaker is defined by. They find a way to make the play in the clutch. Our offense kept answering and we just needed to get the pressure on them and the defense got that big stop. Obviously, the offense put it in and that was huge.”

Q: How much of that play was instinctive?

Reich: “It looks like it was all instinctive to be honest. You saw him just swat at the ball like he had a laser, like he’s running for it and it’s like you can see those planes when they zero in on their target and go ‘do, do, do, WHACK.’ And he got it. Man, that was sweet.”

Q: When you’re playing close games, you have to find different ways to win. Did the offensive line help?

Reich: “There’s no doubt. It all starts up front. From day one, when GM Chris Ballard and I sat down to start talking about the identity of this team and what it would look like, we’ll say it over and over again because we really believe it, but it really starts up front on both sides of the ball. That’s as old as time, but that’s what football is all about. You have to win at the line of scrimmage and it opens up a lot of things. I feel good about the direction we’re headed there.”

Q: You had three touchdowns by your tight ends. Can you talk about Mo Alie-Cox’s catch?

Reich: “It was unreal. I don’t get too emotional on the sideline, but I got pretty jacked up after that catch. That was unreal. That catch will rival anything that we’ll see. Big time. As we’ve said it all offseason, the tight ends are a point of strength for this team and this offensive roster and they showed up big today.”



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Q: Why did it take so long for the defense to figure out? Why were they struggling for so long in the middle of the game?

Reich: "That's just football. Sometimes that's just the way it goes. You go back and forth and they get a couple breaks and they got good players. We just missed, I remember there was one conversion that we didn't get by a couple inches and they go down and score and that's the difference in this game. They have a 3rd and 8. They converted by about two inches. You're going to have those and it's good in this game. You're going to have games when the offense is trading scores and you find a way to win and then vice versa. This was a good deal for us as a team in that regard."

Q: I know you weren't here with RB Marlon Mack last year, but what is the biggest difference you've seen out of him as far as the way he's running?

Reich: "Just patient, explosive, tough. Just runs tough. He's getting tough yards. He's getting explosive yards. He's getting patient. He's seeing we're all trusting him. He's just been playing really well and playing great in the pass game. He's doing great in protection. Honestly, at first I thought when he came back we should keep him out of some pass situations, let him gradually (get back in it). He's doing great in pass situations and protection as well."

Q: As far as the running game, he hasn't had a consistent game in his career. You being a former quarterback, how much does that help the quarterback when you know you got guys that can get on the pass rushers?

Reich: "It means everything. It literally means everything. It makes it so much easier to play quarterback. Don't get me wrong, it's hard. It's hard. To do what we did on third down and to make some of the plays that Andrew (Luck) made, he made some incredible plays today. I mean some incredible plays, conversions on third downs, plays that he shouldn't make. Plays that normal quarterbacks don't make, he made today on third down to keep drives alive and put us in this position. Even an elite quarterback like him is going to appreciate that run game big time."

Q: Did RB Nyheim Hines play bigger than his stature today?

Reich: "He really did. It was unreal. We know he's tough, but he got tough inside yards today. Just seemed to not go down. Spinning, turning, fighting for the extra yards. It was fun to watch him get that kind of yards."

INDIANAPOLIS COLTS QB ANDREW LUCK

Q: What enabled you guys to break things open in the 4th quarter?

Luck: "The stop by the defense. The stop by the defense turned the trajectory of the game right on its head. We overcame a bit of a lull at the middle/end of that first half and I think we did a great job offensively of sticking with them and not letting the game get out of hand and answering every time. And then our defense had an opportunistic stop, boom, guys made some good plays, scored a touchdown. Now it felt like we were in the driver's seat. Then that fumble that the guys caused at the end and the recovery, and Marlon just punching it in there. It was awesome."

Q: Is this game an example of your run game complementing the passing game?

Luck: "Yeah absolutely. A balance is key. When you can run for over 200 yards as an offense and give up zero sacks, that's awesome. I think that's what we did last week as well. I think the guys up front are doing a heck of a job in terms of the run game and pass protection. Certainly you noticed that TY (Hilton) wasn't involved today but when you've got two guys essentially double covering him each time first and second down, the opportunity to run the ball is going to be there and other guys can make plays. Truly a team



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effort today and I'd be remiss not to mention Vinny (Adam Vinatieri), the greatest of all time making his big kicks, so it was a fun game."

Q: Does it feel refreshing to finally have a compliment running back that allows you not to have to throw 60 times and for 400 yards a game?

Luck: "Yeah I'm not going to go back and compare and contrast. I don't like playing that game but I'll tell you this season when we've managed that balance we've done some good things as an offense and we'll continue to work at that. I think we're believing in it now. I really do. I think we've proven it to ourselves that we can do it and that this is a winning formula. This is how you play complimentary football. You need to put drives together to give your defense a rest. Field position is so important. I think as a team we're believing in it and we're practicing hard."

Q: Can you touch on your offensive line? You've had to juggle some pieces this year, their opening up holes and protecting you despite dealing with some injuries.

Luck: "Heck of a job. This is the second weekend in a row that we've had the same line and they're playing well. Those rookies don't play like rookies. Castonzo's back to playing at a very high level and Ryan Kelly is probably the most underrated offensive lineman in the NFL."

Q: Have you ever seen a better catch than the one Mo Alie-Cox made today from the patchy throw you made?

Luck: "No, I have not. He swallowed the ball with his hand. It was truly some type of gravitational pool. He just flopped it in there. And what an awesome job our tight end group does to compliment this offense, to compliment the wide outs, to compliment each other in the way we play. I think there's a lot of different personnel's that run out on that field. It basically allows us to be successful in all those personnel's and I think that puts a lot of pressure on a defense. Shoot, three of our tight ends caught touchdown passes today. They're playing great ball."

Q: Since you're back in the Bay Area, did you have some flashbacks to playing at Stanford?

Luck: "A little bit. I'm a little salty the Cardinals lost last night. That's no fun. But yeah, we've talked about balance. We know we have to run the ball and we believe in that and we've proving we can. It doesn't get any easier. We've got to keep working and keep getting better and find a way to improve during this bye week."

Q: What does the record Adam Vinatieri got today mean to the locker room?

Luck: "I really don't think we fully appreciate what just happened or really playing with Vinny. He just doesn't make a big deal out of anything. He approaches everything with such a professionalism and humility and deflects attention sometimes that I think we get lulled to sleep. I love playing with him. He's taught me so much. How to handle yourself, and how to be a pro. I've said this before and I'll say it again, I'll get to tell my grand kids and kids down the road that right now I play with Adam Vinatieri and at some point I got to play with Adam Vinatieri. He's the best, the best ever."

COLTS LB DARIUS LEONARD

Q: We haven't heard a roar in the locker room like that in some time. What was said after today's comeback?

Leonard: "Just how we finished. Defensively, I know we didn't play well in the first three quarters. And we just fought back all the way through and just finished. And that's what a team is about man; not giving up and just fighting until the end. And we got a late turnover and finally got a win. With Vinny [Adam



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Vinatieri], being the all-time leading scorer, that's just a great, great, great thing. I'm just honored to be a part of it and be a teammate of Vinny's."

Q: Both defenses were looking for a turnover. What was in your mind when you created that fumble?

Leonard: "I just wanted to make the play for our team. And I saw where it was a little bit of air when he tried to run me over, and I just knew I had to go for the ball."

Q: How did it go as you approached the fourth quarter, knowing 3-5 could put you guys in a good spot?

Leonard: "We just knew what was in front of us. And we knew that being 2-6, especially after the bye week, we didn't want that. We wanted to be 3-5. We wanted to have two games winning, a winning streak. We're just ready for the next game now."

Q: Your quarterback was nearly perfect again today, are you getting used to life with Andrew Luck?

Leonard: "Yeah, he's phenomenal. The way he carries himself, the way he carries that offense man. When I'm on the sideline, I just love watching that offense and they help us out a whole lot. I mean the defense was struggling today, and the offense put points on the board just to back the defense up. We appreciate that."

Q: Did you have to win this one for [Adam] Vinatieri?

Leonard: "Yeah, without a doubt man. With him being the all-time leading scorer, we had to come out with a victory."

COLTS TE JACK DOYLE

Q: You scored 21 unanswered points to finish the game, what does that say about this team?

Doyle: "Yeah, we finished. We finished this week and that's something we can build on. We won two in a row, that's something you can build on. We have to take care of our business, be professionals on the bye. Stay in shape. Stay ready to go. Like I said, just try to keep building on the momentum, and we can be as good as we want to be."

Q: What does Andrew Luck's ability to stay positive when the defense is struggling do?

Doyle: "Yeah, I mean that's everybody. Andrew does a great job of leading us, obviously. Everyone knows that. That's just how games goes sometimes. Defense gave up five points last week or three, and then this week they had a tougher matchup. Some weeks we'll have tougher matchups and they'll have to bail us out, like they did early in the year. That's what makes football the best. It's a team sport. Just trying to keep building and get better every week."

Q: Is this one for Adam Vinatieri?

Doyle: "Oh yeah, Vinny is the man. I was joking with him, I wish I had been out there with him on the field goal. They didn't let me on field goal this week coming back from the injury. I've been out there for a lot of his. There's not a better guy, not a harder worker, not a better pro to just watch and observe and see how he works every day. Shows up every day. He's the greatest of all time. It's obvious and it's an honor to play with him."

Q: Can you talk about just being back out there and being a part of the game-winning drive?

Doyle: "Yeah, I loved it. I love being a part of the team. It was hard being out. It's hard watching road games. It's hard, man, it is. I'm just happy to be out there. I just tried to be in the right spot and make the plays when they come to me."



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Q: Offensively would you say this is your most complete game?

Doyle: "Oh I don't know. Yeah, I don't know. It seems like it was a good one. We ran the ball and threw the ball well. Yeah, maybe so, but I don't know."

Q: Does Luck just continue to amaze you with how well he can play?

Doyle: "Yeah, it's a credit to the way he practices and the way he prepares. When you're preparing for redzone, and credit to Erik [Swoope] who's leading us in touchdowns, who's done a great job down there. It's a credit to both of those guys. The way they prepare and the way we practice on Friday when we do redzone and study the film. That's what happens, it shows up in games."

COLTS TE ERIC EBRON

Q: Can you explain that big catch in the end?

Ebron: "Okay, so this is what Mo [Alie-Cox] did. He ran a nice corner route. This was the second corner route where he made a great catch. So Mo goes up, and Andrew [Luck] put the ball in there. And I'm like, damn! Next thing I see Mo's Giganticasaurus Rex arm come out of nowhere and grab that thing. That's great, I'm proud of him man. He works hard every day, trying to learn the game of football more than anyone; coming from playing basketball, never playing football. Every time his number was called, he contributed. And that's all you can ask for."

Q: That fourth quarter, is that a season saver?

Ebron: "Not a season saver, but more it developed into something that everyone is grabbing ahold to. And what I mean was, we can't finish, we can't start fast. Yet, we opened up the game with a drive for a touchdown. We can't start fast and we can't finish games. All you have to do is believe. And on the sideline we believed, and we won. The defense got us a stop, and that's all we needed. That's all we can ask for. We knew we had the players in here to put the ball in the end zone at any point in time. So all we needed is that one stop. So, we get that one stop, we move the ball down the field, and we score with it. And we knew we had to score because [the Raiders] were also doing the same thing on us. And it's not the defense's fault. When they're clicking, they're clicking. Derek [Carr], that's their quarterback. You can expect him to make plays and make plays. That's what they were doing."

Q: You had a little chatter with the Black Hole, how were those fans treating you?

Ebron: "Oh! They're just jealous because I got all these touchdowns, it's cool [*laughter*]! Yeah, that's it, they aren't anything, they're not talking about nothing."

Q: How about Vinatieri?

Ebron: "Oh man! I love that dude. This is my first year with him. And he works his butt off, always in the training room getting treatment before me. Which makes me mad, because I can't move him out the way. He's an old head; I'm not that old. I love him man, I'm extremely proud of his success. Anytime you are number one in anything, that's huge."

COLTS TE MO ALIE-COX

Q: Is that fourth quarter catch the best catch you ever made?

Alie-Cox: "It's up there, definitely. In practice, I've definitely made a lot of catches. So that's why a lot of the guys weren't that surprised. But in the game, I'd definitely say yeah; because I only have four catches."

Q: What was your focus coming into the season?



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Alie-Cox: "I'd probably say my run blocking, because that is what I specialize in. I'm pretty much on the roster for it. I'm a real good run blocker. On top of that I'm improving on my route running every day working with Jack [Doyle], [Eric] Ebron, and coach. SO, that's something I'm really improving on. They are giving me more passes in the passing game as I'm improving on it. So I would say my route running is coming along."

Q: The catch today and the catch against the Jets last week seemed pretty natural. Why do you think blocking is the reason you're on the roster?

Alie-Cox: "They all know I can catch the ball, I catch the ball regularly. But you have to do more. We have Jack and Ebron to catch the ball. So I have to do something to set myself apart from everybody else. So I just embraced the blocking with an open mindset, and a lot of tight end in the league don't really like to block. We talked about it, my agent; they were like if you really embrace the blocking you'll find yourself in the league for a long time. So that's something I try to work on every day, especially my footwork. I'm light-years ahead of where I was at this point, so that is something I have to work on every day. And I'm a real big body, so I know I can make an impact in the running game."

Q: Does Andrew know to get it up in the air when throwing to you? More like a rebound?

Alie-Cox: "I don't really get too many reps with him. He always tells me to keep working and keep working hard, be ready. He always tells me to be ready just in case, because you never know what's going to happen. We get reps in practice, but not too many because he's always working with Jack and Ebron. But he always tells me when I get the opportunity just be ready for the ball. He gave me an opportunity today."

Colts RB Marlon Mack

Q: Have you arrived? Is your game officially at the top?

Mack: "I don't know, man. It's still my second year, so I don't really know. I'm just still working. Just trying to get better each week."

Q: You gave your offensive line a shout out.

Mack: "Yeah those guys got me two touchdowns today. Those guys got me over 100 once again. If they keep doing what they're doing, we'll be good."

Q: What does it mean to get a win coming into the Bye Week?

Mack: "It feels great. Definitely coming in, being 2-0 going into the Bye Week. Definitely got things rolling, now we just have to keep it up especially after the Bye Week. Make sure we lock in and get ready for Jacksonville. I think that's who we have next."

Q: Do you feel like the team is starting to turn the corner with these tough wins?

Mack: "Definitely turning. We're just staying together. Andrew [Luck] talks about staying focus, staying locked in and that's what we're doing."

Q: Have you ever seen the O-Line play better from your vantage point?

Mack: "From my vantage point? No, not really because last year I was only getting so many carries so I couldn't really tell. This year we're just doing different thing. We're just really finishing. Those guys are working hard and doing what they do out there and blocking for us so we have to make sure we're doing our job and finishing."



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Q: How much does it help to get so many carries?

Mack: "Whatever the team feels like they need me to do. If that's 24 carries, then I got to go out there and do it."

Q: But does it help you in terms of getting used to it?

Mack: "Yeah, definitely as a running back, more carries you feel like you get more comfortable in the game. That really, truly helps you out. Even if you do get less, you have to make what [they give you] work."

COLTS K ADAM VINATIERI

Q: Vinny, you entered the NFL an undrafted kicker and now you sit at the top with the throne, can you tell us about that feeling?

Vinatieri: "Yeah, you know I never thought I'd play this long and have the opportunity to be standing here talking about this right now. There's been a lot of great kickers that I've looked up to for a long, long time, and just to be able to play with this many great players and just have the opportunity to step on the field for 23 years, you know. I never thought I'd play that long, never thought I'd be standing here talking to you guys about all-time records. But you know I love my teammates, all of them, for the last 23 years unselfishly, for going out there and letting me do my job and help me do my job and [make] a lot of great memories along the way. Being in that locker room after – and that's the best part about today; it's less the record but more that we got the record on a win, you know what I mean. The atmosphere in the locker room and the guys there and the support, you know, it's hard to explain on how I just love and respect the players and the game and all the guys. It's just one of those situations where I guess you can look back on in a little bit after all these years and go, 'man there's been a lot of relationships and friendships'. And for the guys just to come up and you know say congratulations and give me a hug or give me a tap or whatever you know, it's just a special moment."

Q: Have you talked much to Morton [Anderson]?

Vinatieri: "You know I think the last time was probably when I congratulated him for making the Hall of Fame. We – we're not super close friends, I mean I've got obviously a ton of respect for what he did in the league and how he changed [it]. I mean, for so long he was the greatest kicker. I looked up to him and I look at Jan Stenerud and some of the guys that changed kicking, but Morton [Anderson] was that guy as I grew up and I just remember watching him. He's a lefty so I didn't try completely to do exactly as he did but what an amazing football player and a great kicker."

Q: Can you take us through that moment on the field, thoughts going through your head?

Vinatieri: "You know, down 14-10, you know you're sitting there thinking; the only thing I was thinking about is 'we need those points to get back within striking distance.' So I don't want to say it was anticlimactic by any means, you know. I guess it would've been better breaking the record on an extra point because we could've scored seven points at that point. But it was a special moment, like I said, my teammates obviously knew where we were at. You know, Rigo [Rigoberto Sanchez] and Luke [Rhodes] came running up to me right away, and all the other guys embracing and talking about it too. My main thing is I didn't want it to be a distraction to the situation, the game and to my teammates and stuff like that. The way it kind of happened right before halftime might have been pretty much the right situation and we came in at halftime and made corrections and went back out and fought and won a football game. So that was pretty awesome."

Q: How close were you to not playing in this game?

Vinatieri: "I'm not going to lie to you, I was a little sore at the beginning of the week. [We] brought in a couple kickers to see if I couldn't go. And I hated – I hate watching anybody for a day, you know, doing my



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job. So, hats off to Erin Barill and our training staff, we worked very long and very hard, very long hours to make sure I felt good enough to go. And we got it under control, and you know [I] just felt good. It was one of those situations, [I] kicked on Thursday and felt like we could get through it, had a couple of days to make sure we were even that much closer to game-time. It wasn't even in the back of my mind."

Q: Adam, can you recall how many years ago where you thought this day might happen and you were on that trajectory?

Vinatieri: "You know, honestly, man I suppose two or three years ago, and I said 'hey this might be.'" I remember seeing him, I played against him back in '97 I think, no, 2007, when he was in Atlanta and it might have been about his last year and I just thought, 'man, this is unbelievable. This is a record that will never be touched - he's done it so long for so many years and so prolifically', that you know I just thought man it's untouchable. But I guess as you keep going and you just stack years upon years the numbers start stacking up and I think probably a couple two three years ago I said, 'yeah, actually if you play for three or four years, five years, you might have a chance.' So it was always way back in the back of my mind, it was never a driving thing for me, I think it was more just I've wanted to help my team win games and do my job. And everything else kind of stacks up and the records take care of themselves. [Chuck] Pagano used to say 'there's plenty of accolades to go along with winning', and I kind of think of it that way in the sense that you just do your job, points will stack up and at some point this day will happen. So, pretty awesome."

Q: Are you year to year at this point, have you thought you might have a few years left?

Vinatieri: "I've always sat there and said, 'as long as I'm an asset and not a liability'. You know, if I can do it at a high level, there's no place in the world I'd rather be. Being in an NFL locker room is a very special place. I mean, the older you get the more difficult it is to keep your body where it needs to be but there's something about the family of this locker room. Being on West 56th Street with all these guys is a special place to be and I'm not setting a stop or a timer or anything. You know, if I feel well and I can still do it, I don't see why I shouldn't continue."

Q: Make an impression?

Vinatieri: "That's right. Set that record even farther for the next guy."