

Atlanta Falcons Media Conference

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Atlanta, Georgia, USA

Matt Ryan

Postgame Press Conference



New England 25, Atlanta 0

Q. How difficult was it not having C.P. today?

MATT RYAN: Yeah, it's always tough when you don't have some of your guys out there. C.P. has been such a big part of what we've done offensively. But the rest of the group, we didn't do enough to be as productive as we needed to be.

It's always tough when guys are out, but it's never an excuse. You got to find a way to get the job done. Wasn't a good enough effort from us on the offensive side of the ball.

Q. How was the toe? What did they do to take away Kyle Pitts?

MATT RYAN: Toe is fine. I think it will be okay moving forward.

I thought they had a plan coming in to try and disrupt some of the things that Kyle does for us, whether it be dropping guys into zone underneath, some of the crossing routes he had, some of the corner routes that he had, then trying to jam and reroute at the line of scrimmage.

Credit to them. I thought New England had a good plan and played very well.

Q. We haven't seen a double-digit game yet this year. What happened at the front to lead you to four sacks and 12 quarterback hits today?

MATT RYAN: Yeah, I think that's one of the things we've got to watch the film. Again, I thought they did a good job defensively of trying to create internal pressure and stressing some of the things we do. We certainly have to be better than we were today.

But credit to them. I thought they played well.

Q. How much did the toe impact your ability to throw the ball, maybe move around?

MATT RYAN: I don't think it impacted throwing. I moved fine. I didn't think it impacted it too much.

Q. There was a point where you got into Parker Hesse a little bit to say, Start doing what we're coached. Is that accurate? What message were you trying to deliver?

MATT RYAN: Yeah, just get guys going, try and create a spark. When it's not going that way, you're always trying to find the thing that's going to connect, click, get guys going.

It was just saying basically, We don't need to do anything extra, we just have to do what we're coached to do and do it really well. Across the board, myself included, we didn't do a good enough job of that the entire night.

Q. Why is this offense struggling the last two games?

MATT RYAN: Yeah, it's been a tough five days offensively. It's just across the board. We haven't thrown the ball well enough. We haven't run the ball well enough. I've got to be more accurate. We've all got to be more effective with what we're asked to do in terms of the game plan.

We got a nice little extra few days to take a deep dive into what we can do better moving forward. We certainly got to take advantage of that.

Q. Of the things you're listing, is there maybe one or two things that when it comes to the offensive struggle you look at as what you feel like is the most disappointing?

MATT RYAN: Well, lack of production. Whatever that is caused by, that's the most disappointing. I think our defense did a nice job keeping us in the game the entire night well into the fourth quarter, making it a two-score game. We had chances.

We've got to find a way. Whatever it is, whatever we have



to do moving forward, we got to find a way to be more productive than we've been.

Q. Arthur kept saying, We're going to fix it. What kind of gives you the confidence in what he's saying, it is something that can be done?

MATT RYAN: Well, there's also evidence throughout the year of what it can look like. That's what you have to look at. I know the last two games, the last five days, have been tough. I mean, there's no question about it. It's been frustrating.

There has been production and good play throughout the year. We got to find a way to get back to that.

Q. When you have consecutive games like this, what is the level of concern?

MATT RYAN: Yeah, I think that's where you got to have -- that's where good leadership comes in, keeping the belief there. Seven games to go. Certainly everything is still right in front of us. It's got to get corrected.

That's the biggest thing I think in these type of situations. I've been through all kinds of different situations throughout my career. I think good leadership, holding people accountable, making sure that we're getting the things corrected that we need to get corrected. Those are the two things I think will be key.

Q. Any doubt in your mind you'll be able to play next week?

MATT RYAN: No. I felt good enough to go in the second half. I think I'll be good to go.

Q. This is obviously your first time facing the Patriots without Tom Brady on the other side. What were your impressions of Mac Jones don't?

MATT RYAN: I thought Mac did a nice job. He's done a great job all year. He's been really efficient, accurate with the football, made some great throws tonight into some tough coverage.

I thought he played well and I think he's played well most of the year.

Q. What happened on the interception? Looked like you were going to Kyle Pitts. What did you see or not see there?

MATT RYAN: It was man-to-man coverage. I was trying to lay it out in front. It felt like there was a lot of contact.

We didn't get a call there, so it was trying to put it over the top, give him a chance to run and make a play. Didn't work out.

Q. Belichick has had a lot of success through the years. Did you enter the game knowing they were going to focus on Pitts, you were going to have to find other ways?

MATT RYAN: Yeah, having gone against them, having watched them in the past, that's one of the things they're very good at. When C.P. wasn't able to go tonight, when we found out, you obviously come into it saying, Okay, probably next in line would be Kyle.

He still did some good things for us, for sure. But credit to them. I really think they played well.

Q. How tough is it when the run game production is so low?

MATT RYAN: Yeah, it's one of the things we got to do better. We got to find a way. It sets up so many things. It slows down pass-rush, helps you set up some of the play-action pass you're doing. It wears out the defense when you run the ball effectively. That's something we certainly would like to do better.

Q. (Question about a possible sneak play.)

MATT RYAN: We had two chances. The third-and-one and the fourth-and-one. Art felt like both were going to be successful for us.

In terms of a sneak front, they were kind of loaded on the inside. I don't think it would have made a difference.

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