

Atlanta Falcons Media Conference

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Coach Raheem Morris Postgame Press Conference



Chiefs 22, Falcons 17

RAHEEM MORRIS: You know, tough one, guys. Obviously didn't get the results you want. Played a tough game, hard game, hard-fought game and they came out on top. With that, I'll open it up.

Q. Coach, any updates on Dalman and McGary?

RAHEEM MORRIS: I'm not sure right now. I'll get better detailed information on these guys. I just know they doesn't return to the game, know they wanted to if they could and they were unable to go, so don't have anything on those guys yet.

Q. How difficult was that without those two guys on the line?

RAHEEM MORRIS: We won't excuses about that. I got a 69-man roster. Like I told everybody at the beginning of the season, love the guys I got and the guys that went out there and they fought for us against whoever and I'll go out there around battle with whoever we got on our football team.

Q. Third week in a row this offense is two of nine on third down. I know it's not one-size-fits-all, but how crucial are those moments for those games?

RAHEEM MORRIS: Each individual week is its week and we were two of nine this week on third down and we got to go out there and get better. In order to keep Patrick Mahomes off the field, you like to be able to convert some of those. That will help affect some of possession, affect some of the plays they get on our defense. That can also affect the scoreboard, so every individual week, that's something we got to get better at and we'll go work on those things and get better.

Q. Run game was pretty bottled up throughout a majority of the four quarters. What were you kind of seeing their defense do to kind of bottle that up a little

bit?

RAHEEM MORRIS: They did a nice job of standing in some jam fronts, nice job of getting some 25 fronts, doing some different things in the under. Nice job of sending some saw zeros getting some pressure and things of that nature. They just did a nice job. You got to give Spags a lot of credit for what he's able to do, able to force the issue, trying to make you pass the ball, not allowing you to run. Didn't let Bijan and Allgeier get going. Great job by those guys. Hats off.

Q. Coach, we were just on the phone with the legal office. They said that third down play was a just a minute call on the field. They didn't see the pass interference it looked like it was clearly pass interference on the replay.

RAHEEM MORRIS: I like my money, Led. I like my money that Arthur Blank gives me.

Q. You don't have to get fined for that.

RAHEEM MORRIS: Yeah, you do. (Laughter) Very smart enough to be aware enough to talk about officials. They made the call or they didn't make the call. It is what it is. We had a chance to win the football game on the last play of the game.

Q. Thank you.

Q. Yeah, coach, what went into your assessment and decision to go for it there on fourth down late in the fourth quarter as opposed to taking the field goal relying on your defense to get you the ball back?

RAHEEM MORRIS: I was in four-down territory for a while there. We were going out there to win this football game. We didn't come here to tie. We didn't come here to lose. We didn't come here to hope we win. We didn't come here to allow Patrick Mahomes to work his magic. We came here to win the football game on our terms and I lost it, so I'll take that medicine all day.

Q. Coach, second week in a row, two of nine on third



down, what's happening there?

RAHEEM MORRIS: He just missed that question, Led. You know, every week in a row, every week is very different. You know, this week, we were not allowed to get our third downs. They did a nice job. You want to be able to do those things and convert those so you can have time of possession differences. You can have more conversions, more runs, more opportunities at it and all those things were affected by the game in the outcome.

Q. Right here in the second row. When you go down two offensive line men, does that change your call playing perspective?

RAHEEM MORRIS: It can't, you got to trust your guys. You got to believe in your guys, you have to go out there and execute your game plan. There's a reason it's called a team. You believe in your guys, you go out there and do it and you rely heavily on the guys that's out there, the veterans that are able to do it. You're decisive in your decisions and you go make them and you live with them.

Q. Speaking to that, the last third and fourth down there, the short runs.

RAHEEM MORRIS: Yes.

Q. You feel good about those play calls or would you like to do those over given the result?

RAHEEM MORRIS: Obviously you don't feel good about them now. They didn't work, right? But you run one up the middle with Ty Allgeier. You don't get it, you get knocked back. You get no yards on that play. You get fourth down with Bijan and you get no yards on that play so you don't like the call, you don't like the results, but, you know, that was our plan and we were decisive. We called him, we were very aggressive and we lost the football game.

Q. In general did you feel like you'd have a little more success running the ball then you did against them today?

RAHEEM MORRIS: We really did. We thought we'd have more success. They did a nice job of sending some zero packages, some palms looks and being able to get a bunch of people at the line of scrimmage. They did a nice job shooting some gaps, making some plays there. Good football team, you know, Bolton did a really nice job being able to shoot the gap and really make some plays. You know, all those guys, Chris Jones is Chris Jones and that's a good football team. That is a very good football team and they were able to come out today and Bolton stopped the run. And vice versa. We were not. They ran the ball

pretty well.

Q. Overall were you pleased with the play of your defense?

RAHEEM MORRIS: It's hard to say you're pleased with the play of your defense. Like, you don't choose sides up here, you don't pack people in the back losses. We're not here to do that, you know, we played well enough to give ourself a chance to win the football game but there's always things you can do better.

Q. How do you assess where your ball club is at each of these being one-score games in the first three?

RAHEEM MORRIS: We're 1-2. It's pretty easy. The record assesses it for you.

Q. Just does the fact that you have division opponents in the next two weeks salve some of that because you know you have an opportunity in front of you to get right back in?

RAHEEM MORRIS: We got the pen in our hand and we can't worry about the next two weeks. We have to apply on and be focused on the next opponent which happens to be a southern opponent and we'll prepare ourself and go out there and play that football game.

MODERATOR: Anything else? Thanks.

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