

Chicago Bears Media Conference

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Chicago, Illinois, USA

Matt Nagy

Press Conference

Indianapolis Colts 19, Chicago Bears 11

MATT NAGY: Start off by stating the obvious that that was a tough game to be a part of just the fact of the way things went. You start off and you end up punting the ball and you get a block and that's a tough start and I think for our guys we have to understand that we have to be better at that point. Obviously offensively, we know that we've got to be a lot better. 11 points doesn't do it, getting a free touchdown at the end of the half and cover two the whole way down the field is not about enough.

You have to be able to run for more than 28 yards in a game, and I think that that's where our guys will know that, and then you can't become as one-dimensional when you can't run.

So you know, I thought the defense again situationally played well and forced field goals. 19 points on defense, you should be able to win game. Third down, we were 4-for-14. That part there, again, we need to be better. 17 yards rushing on 11 attempts in the first half, longest run of the game, six yards. There was really never a rhythm in the game and then too many penalties I thought; I just felt penalties at inopportune times.

So what we need to do now is obviously on a short week, we have to pick up the pieces. We just had a talk in the locker room of just understanding that we stick together and that we have a short week against a good football team. But I have a lot of respect for our players and I know that they along with our coaches will do everything we can to get better.

Q. Did you have a view on the interception? Were you able to tell what went wrong on that sequence?

MATT NAGY: No. I didn't. You know, I just think that, again, that's -- I'll have to go back and look at it and see exactly a better view of that.

Q. Do you not have any feel for why it was such tough



sledding running the football today?

MATT NAGY: I think No. 1 is this defense and I want to give credit to their coaching staff and their players. That's a really good defense and again, this is their fourth week in a row that they have done this.

Again, a credit to who they are and how they play together. We knew going into this game that it was going to be this style of game just because of how they play and what they do. We knew it wasn't going to be easy to run the ball, but I thought that, you know, you just felt like a rush for two, a rush for three, a rush for two, a rush for three, a rush for two, a long rush of six; you felt that. Then all of a sudden you look up and it's the end of the third quarter, and we are trying to get a rhythm, and it just is -- it was hard, and that's a credit to them.

But again, I'll go back to saying this: I know that our guys as on offense collectively, they will figure out the why part. Coach Castillo will get that right. We all care about it and we all want to be get better and we know we've got to be better on that point. It will be a good challenge for us on Thursday.

Q. It's just one loss and you're 3-1, but to come out as flat as you did and just not sharp in multiple phases, is that a little mystifying? Are you scratching your head?

MATT NAGY: No, I'm not scratching my head, because I think when you scratch your said is when you start -- you wonder if it's effort and none of it was effort. Our guys all care.

So you would love to be 4-0 right now. We're not. We're 3-1. It's the first time all year that we lost a game, so being in that locker room, just understanding, how do we react to that, and again, responding to adversity. Can we play better? Absolutely. Can we coach better? Absolutely. And that's what we've got to do.

We've got guys that care, and when you care, you figure out answers moving forward, and I hope that's what we do.

Q. Did you see recurring issues that you had in the first three games even though you won today and, then did Foles look a little bit out of sync to you as far as his chemistry with the receivers and things like that

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today?

MATT NAGY: Yeah, I thought that there was a little bit with timing here or there, and again, with Nick getting into it. Last week, just being thrown into it in the third quarter and then playing, being down, you are automatically one dimensional and so you're out there playing and everything just happens fast. And again, I think that this is not going to happen overnight with Nick. There's going to be -- this is going to take a little bit of time as gets going with the timing of these players and what we get to. So there's a little bit of that.

At the same time, we all know that we need -- we've got to keep pressing forward, but hopefully we get better there in that area, and we grow and we understand that we don't get frustrated and we just -- but we all know that we've got to be -- we've got to score more points and that's what we'll do.

Q. I know every week is a different opponent to a different match-up and different story, but how surprising or frustrating was it that some of the same third down, not being able to score, came up with all the changes you guys made?

MATT NAGY: Well, yeah. Again we want to be better. Being 4-for-14 is 29 percent, and you have to be able to convert third downs, because when you're able to convert those third downs. You're able to get into more of a rhythm and we didn't have that. Again, it's a credit to the Colts and who they are and what they do.

Again we have to make sure that we put our guys in great situations and when we get a chance to execute, we execute.

Q. I know you said 19 points should be enough to win the game. Overall how do you feel that your defense played today?

MATT NAGY: Well, without watching the tape, I felt like -- my gut feeling just tells me they played well. I thought there was a couple pass interferences that we had that were big, chunk plays that it felt like they got some downfield throws with pis.

At the same time, I love coming out in the third quarter, they get a three-and-out and the first play for us on offense, we get a loss of nine yards on a playaction pass. It's like our defense comes out and they do their job and continue to hold them to field goals or get them to punt, but we just could not get into a rhythm on offense and let that defense play from either a tie or from -- with a lead. It just didn't happen. I thought the defense played well. I just

have to go back and watch it.

Q. Back downfield in the second quarter -- was there a reason because of -- were the Colts taking that away -- one of Nick's strengths is seeing the downfield throws and attack downfield. Was there a reason why that was delayed happening?

MATT NAGY: I think probably when you go back, and just from what I feel, they started out playing some shell, some cover two and they are going to protect with the shots. And when you do that and you play cover two, you've got to be able to run the ball. And what was happening was they were playing cover two and stopping the run and when that's the case, you just can't get quite as many shots downfield.

Now, they will still come down and play one-high and certain times try to mix up coverages because they have to keep you honest, but they do a good job of different things there with their defense, and then they have the players that can make that defense run.

Again it's a credit to them. So yeah, you didn't feel as many shots until there in that second quarter. We had a couple downfield and we didn't score in the red zone, so I think he felt that.

Q. You talked about the rhythm Foles needs to get into. With the short turnaround this week, is this something you'll focus on specifically going into this week?

MATT NAGY: Not necessarily. Again, the beauty of a short week when you come off a loss is that you can get rid of it. You can get rid of it and you need to move on. We have no time, like in the next hour, we've got to get right on to Tampa.

So that's the positive for that. But we've just got to figure out, okay, what can we do, how can we get better to help out all these guys. I'll say this about Nick, too. I know you guys know this but in these type of games and situations, you're going to see somebody that just understands and keeps things in perspective and understands that we've got to get better and that we've got to do better on offense, but there's no panic. I think you guys will see that, feel that, and we've just got to go do it.

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