

Chicago Bears Media Conference

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Chicago, Illinois, USA

Justin Fields

Postgame Press Conference



Chicago 20, Miami 13

Q. What was the significance of the drive just before halftime?

JUSTIN FIELDS: Yeah, Coach Nagy before that possession, he told me that he was going to try to get us another possession. I think was very important just to get points up on the board and kind of just get some momentum going our way because we knew we were going to get the ball coming out of the second half. It was definitely a big part of the game.

Q. Last two passes of that drive, the one to Hardy on the roll-out and the one to Jesse, can you walk us through those two?

JUSTIN FIELDS: We were trying to of course be smart, 2-minute drill we go over in a lot of meetings. Of course getting the ball to the perimeter and getting out-of-bounds to stop the clock and just getting in field goal range. The one that I guess Justin, I was just rolling out and I saw him late last minute and jumped it up to him. The one to Jesse was a check down to get in field goal range and I was trying to of course pay attention to the clock and also throw it to the perimeter so he would have a chance to get out-of-bounds.

Q. What did you see develop on your touchdown run?

JUSTIN FIELDS: Yeah, they were playing man coverage, my man, Jesse, he got tripped up. I was looking to go to him. Of course I know my routes were coming my way back side but I knew they were in man coverage and knew nobody really had me. He went to the left and saw everybody gloved up, everybody covered, so started to run to the end zone and of course it was a touchdown.

Q. What was the feeling?

JUSTIN FIELDS: It was awesome. Definitely a dream come true, first NFL touchdown and have my teammates

celebrate, it was a nice moment. All glory to God and hopefully it was the first of many for sure.

Q. On the throwback pass to Jesse, when you first saw it, did you sit there and go, are we sure this is open?

JUSTIN FIELDS: I mean, of course when a person that is that wide open, you have to make sure nobody is around lingering. Of course it was a great execution by the offensive line on the run and then of course great execution by everybody else on the field. So it was a well drawn-out play by Coach.

Q. What was it like adjusting to the NFL speed?

JUSTIN FIELDS: It was actually kind of slow to me to be honest. I think I was expecting it to be a little bit faster but practicing, game speed, going at it with my teammates every day and of course we have a great defense, so me going against them every day, it definitely slowed the game up a little bit for me. I felt comfortable out there and of course I have room to grow so I'm going to try to get better each and every day.

Q. Draft fumble it looked like David Montgomery pulled you aside on the sideline. What did that mean to you?

JUSTIN FIELDS: I think he just said, "You're good." That fumble wasn't anything. Of course it was like, what, third and 15 on that or something. As long as they didn't get the ball back, I think that would have been a big turning point. I'm just glad I got back on the ball. David is a great teammate and great brother. It's no surprise to see him trying to come for me on the sideline and keep anymore all up. He's a great teammate.

Q. Coach Nagy says he wants you to focus on today. How do you separate focusing on today versus the starting job?

JUSTIN FIELDS: I think when you look too far in the future, you start worrying about way too much stuff. You start thinking too much in your head. Alex Smith came and talked to the team and told us just to worry about today and just to live. That was his main point, just to live, because of course him coming off that injury, you know he



was just telling us how grateful he was to get back on the field and play. He played every game like it was his last game and that's what I was doing all day.

Today, last night, my mindset was going out there and no matter what happened, just play for today and kind of just try to act like it was my last time on the field and just take every opportunity and make the most of it.

Q. What did you learn from the fumble?

JUSTIN FIELDS: Yeah, so after that, I think I'm going to officially retire the spin move. I don't see that coming out any time soon. But yeah, I just need to be smarter with ball security, and either slide or get out-of-bounds in that situation.

Q. Coach said you were calm the entire time. What did you do to get past the first couple drives so you could execute?

JUSTIN FIELDS: I just told everybody on the offense, we're shooting ourselves in the foot. If we just stay on track and stay on schedule and instead of putting ourselves in situations second and 12, second and 13, that's hard to be successful on offense if you're in offense and dealing with second and 13, second and 14.

If we get a positive play each play we give ourselves a better chance to convert on third downs and stuff like that. I was trying to get the guys to understand that and just play ball and go out there and execute like we do in practice.

Q. Felt like you got deeper in the play clock than you wanted to.

JUSTIN FIELDS: No, I think we definitely have to work on our cadences more, and of course, we have to get better in all subjects. So of course we had a great game today but of course there's always room to improve. Myself and my teammates, I know we are going to get back to work Monday and just get back at it.

Q. The first drive of the third quarter, you hit Rodney.

JUSTIN FIELDS: You talking about the fade? Yeah, I just thought, man, me and Rodney have had a great connection in training camp and I trust him a lot. Threw it up there and gave him a chance and he made an awesome catch. That was an awesome catch by him and an explosive play for sure.

Q. Was there ever a point there where were jitters or was it just another game?

JUSTIN FIELDS: Surprisingly, no. I was as calm as to be today. I was trying to take it play-by-play and win every play. I think when you focus on the moment, of course, our whole point this week is focus on today, focus on the moment. I was trying to take it play-by-play and that's what I was telling the O-Line, take every play, play-by-play, don't worry about the next play. Worry about this play and we'll keep stacking like that.

Q. How did you feel about this first NFL experience?

JUSTIN FIELDS: It was awesome. Of course the fans were great and always great seeing support from them. I don't think you could set up a better day. The weather was great outside and the fans were excited and of course our team was excited and I think our team played well. Of course like I said before, there's always room to improve so we are going to get back to work.

Q. The Tweet from LeBron?

JUSTIN FIELDS: Yeah, I've never met LeBron before but it's an honor getting a shout-out by him. I think it's my second thought out from the Clemson game. It's definitely awesome, a prestigious athlete like that to give me a shout-out. I've been a LeBron fan since I was 6 or 7 years old. I had his poster up in my room. It's definitely awesome. I think the first one was after the Clemson game.

Q. No secret the whole town is rooting for you to get the starting job as soon as possible. How do you manage your relationships with Andy and Nick?

JUSTIN FIELDS: To be honest we are not worried what the outside has to say. We are worried about our team and getting better every day. We are not worried about outside voices, who wants who. Andy and Nick are going to do what's best for the team and we are all going to do what's best for the team and keep working and all keep getting better. Of course there's outside voices but you can't pay attention to that because I mean those voices don't know what's going on inside the building and of course me, Andy and Nick we all have a great relationship and of course those guys have taught me a lot from up to this point. So I'm going to keep learning from them and keep getting better.

Q. All of your teammates have pointed out your poise, and I see it most outside the pocket. What allows to you be yourself?

JUSTIN FIELDS: I definitely feel good outside of the pocket. I feel very comfortable but I mean, it just puts a lot of stress on the defense. Like today I think there was one situation

where might have been roll-out or naked play to the right and a defender was on Rodney and he had to come off me late so I dumped it off to him. Puts a lot of pressure on the defense and allows me to really play backyard football with the receivers and scramble, and the more that happens and the more we can get on the same page when I do get out-of-the-pocket, the better we can be and of course I also have to be able to make smart decisions. I can't always force the ball. Of course sometimes I have to throw the ball away but yeah, it's definitely a part of my game where I feel very comfortable at for sure.

Q. In the course of your football life, how much stress have those backyard football situations put on other defenses?

JUSTIN FIELDS: Yeah, especially when a team is playing man on man defense, that's going to put a lot of stress on because they don't know whether to come and get me or stay in their man. With zone teams, it's a little bit different, but man, literally you're playing backyard football.

Q. Without seeing the film, do you already know what the biggest correction is you'll have to make based on what you did out there today? Is there a play or something, you just know?

JUSTIN FIELDS: I don't think there was one major play in the game where I would say I have to get better at. Of course the fumble we have to take care of the ball. I'm just going to watch the film tonight and Coach is going to watch the film and I know he's going to have a whole list of stuff for me to get better at, and I'm all about getting better.

I want to be the best that I can be, so I'm going to do whatever I have to do be that guy.

Q. What energy did you feel building after you get the points on the board at halftime and you come right out and match it with a touchdown to start the third quarter?

JUSTIN FIELDS: Practicing against the Dolphins, of course, Wednesday and Thursday, I knew our offense could put up points on them. So I was just trying to tell those guys, just take it back to practice and just execute. I mean, if we -- like I said earlier, if we don't have any negative plays, I think it was going to make it easier for us to drive on the field. I told those guys, let's go and drive it on the field to score a touchdown and that's what we did.

Q. Did you use that red zone drill as a springboard?

JUSTIN FIELDS: I feel like it helped for sure. Just kind of seeing their defense and getting a feel for how their players

play and stuff like that.

But I mean, me, it's just like for me, I think every day matters and I'm literally trying to take it day-by-day and literally get better every day, because I know it's a nonstop grind. And I'm just going to continue to study and continue to work and continue to I guess bring my teammates with me to keep getting better and that way we can be the best team that we can be.

Q. How do you feel physically coming out of the game?

JUSTIN FIELDS: I feel good. What did I get hit, one time? So I feel good. Body is all good.

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