

Seattle Seahawks Media Conference

Friday, August 15, 2025

Seattle, Washington, USA

Coach Mike Macdonald

Postgame Press Conference



Seahawks 33, Chiefs 16

MIKE MACDONALD: All right. Obviously really pleased with our performance. Thought the guys been getting after it this camp, and had a big practice two days ago coming back getting our bodies, spirits, minds right to go play a game. And perfect weather for Seattle football.

But just really pleased how we started the game. Defensively would've been great to get off the field in third down. A little miscommunication there on that first third down, but I think how we finished the first half and how we started the second half was great for us.

So can build on that. A lot of stuff to build on. Look there is plenty that we're going to need to fix and go attack moving forward.

Then, you know, big week for us going to practice against a great Green Bay team and finish the preseason out. Looking forward to that trip, and onward we go. Really pleased with our performance here, especially at home.

Q. What did you like most about the run game tonight?

MIKE MACDONALD: I mean, I think just right now our offensive operation I'm very pleased with. How we take the ball, the decisiveness in how we move and shift. Felt like we called our targets right. Just felt like we were going to the right guys for the most part really until about the fourth quarter.

Backs ran really hard. Every back today I thought ran the ball hard and going forward how we finish plays, can't wait to watch it.

Q. How about Sam on that opening drive?

MIKE MACDONALD: Really sharp. Pretty sure he wanted to keep going, but, you know, he showed what he can do, so really great drive.

Q. In the preseason when you're sending your starters out there, is that about the perfect way, just go out, drive down the field...

MIKE MACDONALD: Yeah, it's about -- well, offensively it's about how you would script it. Defensively I thought we would play a little bit better.

Q. You said the word "relentless" is an attribute you guys want to be described as. Was tonight a good example of what you're looking for there?

MIKE MACDONALD: Yeah. Yeah, a lot of great stuff. You can do it within a play. You can do it within a drive, within a half, within a game. Would love to have covered that punt better. That's stuck in the back of your mind, and our coverage units need to improve, but I think it improved from the first game for sure. Just the mentality of, hey, let's go finish this thing out the right way.

Q. Dareke Young is a guy that's been making plays in camp and then three catches today. Obviously been a big special teams guy. Where have you seen him grow offensively this year?

MIKE MACDONALD: I think this is a great system for him because he can show his physicality in the run game and he's really fast, so all the vertical stretch stuff. And then really I mean, like just him in and out of his breaks is just way more decisive. You feel the burst, feel the flexibility, which is a tribute to his work ethic and the work he put on his body. The guy looks like a figurine out there, man. It's impressive.

Q. Vanilla not the way you like to run. Why is vanilla not the way you guys go into these games?

MIKE MACDONALD: It's just who we are. Like it's boring to play two calls. We're going to -- we're not like -- we have a menu that we have throughout the whole preseason. We run the same stuff every preseason. It's kind of a smorgasbord of all things our system. Just a sampler. Yeah, that's what we do. Been doing it forever.

Q. Was the Milroe third and short part of that sampler?

MIKE MACDONALD: I would say more defensively, but

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that's something we're looking at.

Q. What did you think the way Jalen played right now walking off the field?

MIKE MACDONALD: I thought he did well. There are some things operationally we still want to improve on. Couple throws right down there in the red zone I think could've been more on target. Moved the chains. I think we had an eight-minute drive there in the fourth quarter. Got to move forward and finished with a field goal. Would've been great to finish with a touchdown there.

Q. You mentioned the missed opportunities on the first drive for the defense, but six of their last possessions, nine or less yards on offense.

MIKE MACDONALD: Yeah.

Q. How do you feel about the way the entire defense, top to bottom depth chart...

MIKE MACDONALD: Yeah, yeah, I think coming into this game felt like we didn't finish it right against Vegas and these guys did a great job. They came in and I thought we played physical. Couple things we -- you know, you're always thinking of like -- it's great, but you're thinking of stuff, hey, we can build off.

The guys are working really hard, making calls, running to the ball, leveraging the ball. I think we are tackling really well, which is great.

Q. You say operationally with Jalen. Talking about pre-snap?

MIKE MACDONALD: Yeah, just getting in and out of the huddle, motion, shifting, getting all call and everything, cannon plays, all that.

Q. Is Cam Walker still dealing with the foot thing?

MIKE MACDONALD: Yep.

Q. The play that Julian made, the fourth down, to have a veteran guy in a preseason game, what does that show?

MIKE MACDONALD: Julian? Oh, on the fourth down.

Q. Yeah.

MIKE MACDONALD: Yeah, these guys got a lot of pride to them, man. That was a heck of a play. In order for him to make that the D-line has to be stout. It's a tough play to

stop in short yardage. Julian shot his gun and made a great play. That was a team stop right there.

Q. Going back to the offensive line, the holes that were there for the running backs, you've allowed one sack in two games. Just the way you're seeing that whole group work, the time they had to throw, what are you seeing collectively out of that group and the success they've had so far?

MIKE MACDONALD: We're just plugging away, man. We're just -- our offensive line coaches are doing a heck of a job. John Benton, Rico, JO, Quinshon. It's really clear what we're asking them to do. They're determined and playing really hard and practicing really hard. A lot of great stuff. A lot of great stuff.

But I just told the team, hey, this is what we're capable of to a certain extent. These are things that you get a feel for what we can do. There is a lot of stuff we can improve on and it's also the second week of preseason.

Like it's great, but it's a building block for us moving into the season, and we want to be playing our best football throughout the season but keep getting better all the way from here on out.

Q. There was some question about Tory Horton and whether he was dinged up at all.

MIKE MACDONALD: Yeah, Tory got a little bit of ankle. He could've gone back in. We just shut him down. He wanted to go back in. That was my call.

Q. Any other injuries coming out of th?

MIKE MACDONALD: Let me see here. I don't think so. Bryce had a little bit of an elbow. Came back in. Pili had a chest. We think it's a contusion, we'll see. He was doing an interview after the game and looked pretty happy.

Q. How much does the clarity of mission helping the offensive line, do you think?

MIKE MACDONALD: I think it's a driving force behind what we're doing. There is no gray. There is no changing things. There is no maybes. There is no kinda, sortas. These are the rules; this is how we identify it. These are your targets; this is your footwork. Let's rock and roll.

If I was a player that's the way I would want it so I could go do my job, so that's the expectation.

Q. After Kenny went down, how do you feel about the way the young backs like Jacardia Wright and Tyus



coming in...

MIKE MACDONALD: Look, these guys work really hard. You ask our guys, we get a lot of reps. We're going to take advantage of the time and we believe in getting volume and experience and stacking those things and callousing. These guys take a lot of it, especially those bottom guys in the running back room. Not bottom, but you know what I mean, not the starters.

So I'm glad they had that opportunity to go put their work on display.

Q. Jake Bobo punt returner; is that a new specialty?

MIKE MACDONALD: It's a possibility. Looked pretty good out there.

Q. How would you assess Drew Lock's night?

MIKE MACDONALD: I thought Drew was really sharp. He's decisive. I felt his footwork and timing, which is something we wanted to work obviously on coming off the first game. Got to ask him how he slowed down on that scramble. That was pretty cool. Yeah, Drew is doing a great job. Really great quarterback. We love him. I love having him around. Really great guy and so great for our football team.

Q. What about Bobo with the two touchdown catches?

MIKE MACDONALD: Yeah, yeah. Look, he's another one just working away, doing all the great things. He hasn't had that many opportunities. I felt like he made -- had probably more opportunities last camp, like highlight type plays. But, man, this guy is a Seahawk. The way he operates and then he goes and attacks the football. It was great to see him have that opportunity.

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