

Pittsburgh Steelers

Media Conference

Monday, October 18, 2021

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, USA

Geno Smith

Visitors Postgame Press Conference



Seattle Seahawks 20, Pittsburgh Steelers 23

Q. What was kind of going through your mind when you took the field that final drive?

GENO SMITH: Score. Score, man. Gosh, man, hate coming up short, you know. But hard fought game. I love the way our line played, man. They really set the tone in that second half. Really gave us a chance to come back and win it.

That last drive, man, that's all I was thinking, man, just take us down there and score somehow, some way.

Man, we can't keep coming up short. I can't keep coming up short. I put that on myself. Back to back weeks. Our defense gives us a chance to go out there and score. Give me the ball. And we don't get it done. So that's solely on me. I've got to be better.

Q. What do you make of everything else that happened leading up to that, the way you played?

GENO SMITH: I mean, honestly, man, it's a lot to take in right now. But I think we showed for the most part who we are as a team. To be down and to come out that second half and play the way that we did, that speaks to every man in that locker room.

And it's tough. It's super tough. But one thing I know about this team, we're not going to hang our heads. We're going to bounce back. We're going to find a way to bounce back and get a win.

Q. What changes did you guys make between the first half and the second half to move the ball so well and score?

GENO SMITH: Well, number one, our line, they were moving guys, they were mowing guys the whole second half, man. They did a phenomenal job in the run game and in pass protection. And I think as far as changes go, I

wouldn't say there were many changes. I just think we finished better. We finished better. We played with clean hands. Didn't have many penalties. And we got in the end zone.

Q. What asset was Russell Wilson for you this whole week and tonight?

GENO SMITH: Man, Russell is great, as always, man. He was great on the sidelines. He's been great throughout the entire week. Obviously, rehabbing and getting himself back ready but also helping us out, helping that QB room out.

And on the sideline, man, he was in my ear the whole time, feeding me good knowledge and also being positive. And so I just -- I appreciate Russ for that.

Q. On the last play you were running up the field, did you see Watt at all? Did that come from out of nowhere?

GENO SMITH: No. I didn't see him. I had two hands on the ball, was getting ready to tuck it and get as many yards as I could and slide. He's a great player.

Q. What was the whole experience like for you getting your first start in a long time?

GENO SMITH: It was pretty much the same as always. I'm always focused on the task at hand. I wasn't thinking about myself. But I would say I was super calm in the moment. I just felt like the whole time I was just staying in the moment. And it was fun. It was awesome. It really was. To be out there with the guys competing. Giving ourselves a chance to win. Obviously, we didn't get it done, but it was fun to be out there.

Q. What kind of spark did Alex Collins give you?

GENO SMITH: Man, Alex is an amazing player. Amazing player, man. He's a stud. He just does what he's supposed to do. He comes to work every day. He's always on point. He's always positive and he's a stud. I can't say enough good things about Alex.



