

Pittsburgh Steelers

Media Conference

Sunday, October 29, 2023

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, USA

Mitch Trubisky

Postgame Press Conference

Jacksonville - 20, Pittsburgh - 10

Q. Mitch, did you know coming out of the locker room that you were going to start the second half? Did it go the whole way, or what was the deal?

MITCH TRUBISKY: We were still going through that at halftime. I was preparing like I was. I was ready to go in, and they were trying to figure out if he could go, and then he couldn't, so I was in. That's pretty much how it went.

Q. Talk about the momentum you guys gained on that touchdown drive and the touchdown.

MITCH TRUBISKY: We had one good drive. We were executing well. We were able to stay balanced, and we went down and finished in the end zone. George made a great play. We protected well on that drive and finished with six.

It was a good drive, and those are the types of drives we've got to have more of just to be a more consistent offense.

Q. What happened on the interception when you're down seven?

MITCH TRUBISKY: Forced the throw on my part, trying to make a play downfield. They were playing a lot of two in the second half, us playing behind. We needed to push the ball down the field a little bit.

Clouding to George lot. That specifically was invert. I was trying to get the ball to A. Rob. It was a force. Good play by them.

That's on me. I've got to be better. Take what they gave me. Especially with us only being down seven at that point, I should have probably checked it down and hopefully move on from there.

Q. When the offense has been struggling, is there a desire to maybe try to get things back quickly?



MITCH TRUBISKY: Forcing the throw, absolutely. I've got to be smarter. I'm out there trying to win the game. We're not just trying to run the ball or check it down every time. That was a force on my part, but I wanted to come in and try to make plays for this offense.

Maybe on that instance I was doing too much, and that's where you get in trouble. I wanted to push the ball down the field, and that was the wrong thing to do on that play. Got to learn from it.

Q. As a whole, why has the offense been so inconsistent?

MITCH TRUBISKY: Execution. We've just got to be better at executing our plays, getting everybody on the same page, and staying balanced as an offense.

Q. How tough is it to kind of put this game away and get ready for Thursday, especially knowing that Kenny's status is a little bit up in the air right now?

MITCH TRUBISKY: Just got to prepare on a short week. That's the job. We play on a Thursday. Sometimes it's a positive thing because we get to flush the game quickly and get the taste out of our mouth and get back to the game on Thursday.

We've got to flush it. Everybody's got to prepare and get ready to go on Thursday night.

Q. You guys have hung around in games and won with some late drives. Is today's game an example of why that's not always a sustainable blueprint?

MITCH TRUBISKY: Yeah, I don't know because we were down by two scores late, late in the fourth quarter. Maybe if I don't turn the ball over, it's a little closer. Defense played really well again. We've got to be more consistent on offense. Just continue to go out there, execute, and make plays.

We had one good drive where we went down and scored. It's got to be more consistent than that. We've got to pull together and flush this one and get ready on a short week.



Q. Did you watch Kenny at all when he tried to warm up? Was it clear to you that he just wasn't going to be able to do it?

MITCH TRUBISKY: Yeah. Kenny knows his body better than anybody. He tried to go out there and throw, and if he didn't feel like he was 100 percent, he shouldn't put himself in that position.

Same thing with all the trainers and coaches. I feel like they made the right choice by protecting him and him protecting himself. Hopefully he's okay, and we'll see where he's at.

Q. I know Kenny was still in the game at the end of the first half when there were a lot of different officiating calls. It seemed like maybe there was some inconsistency. How much confusion were some of those calls causing? What were some of the discussions you guys were having?

MITCH TRUBISKY: For me, I'm just focused on whether I was going in or not. I'm not really too concerned with the officiating. For me, it's just us executing and guys being on the same page. No matter if the call was for us or against us, we've got to be on the same page of what the down and distance is so we don't have confusion in communication on our part.

I think that's something we can get better at, just communicating where we're at on the field, down and distance, and getting the right guys in the huddle so we can operate faster.

Q. You had the one touchdown pass to George, but what were they doing to take Pickens away offensively?

MITCH TRUBISKY: They were playing Cover 2 to the side, clouding them, taking away the downfield stuff. We've got to figure out ways to continue to get him the ball. On that instance, they blitzed to the side, and he had a one-on-one matchup. He went on a slant, made an incredible play jumping over that safety and getting in the end zone.

That's the type of player he is. We know that. We've got to find ways to get him the ball in this offense but also staying balanced and leaning on the run game and guys up front.

Q. You had a good rapport with Diontae on that one drive. Was that a by-product of George being covered so much?

MITCH TRUBISKY: Yeah, if they're double-teaming George's side, Diontae is going to get more one-on-ones, and that's going to benefit him.

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