

Indianapolis Colts Media Conference

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Indianapolis, Indiana, USA

Trevor Lawrence

Visitors Postgame Press Conference

Jacksonville Jaguars 31, Indianapolis Colts 21

Q. Overall thoughts?

TREVOR LAWRENCE: Feels good to win, first season opener won here. So feels good, especially in this stadium. Haven't had a ton of success over here lately so feels good. That's a good team. Presented some challenges for us. Offensively, pretty sloppy game.

Obviously some good points in the game for us. We made some plays. We ended up making the plays we had to make to win. Defense really kept us in the game, I thought, so only giving up 14 points, we put them in a bad spot a few times where they got some huge stops. Turnover on downs some, turnovers, it was big it. Was great to see them pick us up when we needed it. Obviously it wasn't a super clean game offensively. There's a lot of things to clean up but can't be too upset with a win. It's hard to win in this league and division game, too, so that's big for us. Good start.

Q. Can you chalk that up, maybe not all the way, but just Week 1, everything is kind of new. Do you cast a little of that aside because of Week 1?

TREVOR LAWRENCE: Yeah, Week 1 is more challenging sometimes for a lot of different reasons. Sometimes defenses might do things a little differently, not to say that the colds did. I think they stuck to who they were, and they just did a really good job of making things difficult up front for us.

Those guys, I mean, that's one of the best fronts, especially interior in the whole NFL. Those guys are really good. They make it challenging for you.

So they do some really good things. Their back end played sticky. They do a good job. They are really sound. They did a good job. They put us in a lot of second and third and longs and that's harder obviously from an offensive perspective. Your call sheet slings a lot when



that happens. We have to do a better job of being efficient on first down. We have to be better on third down. We have to be better on fourth down. I mean, all the downs.

But yeah, obviously it's a lot better to be able to learn from a win than a loss. Still a win's a win.

Q. The fumble -- Tank got the ball --

TREVOR LAWRENCE: Crazy play.

Q. But then he comes back, the go ahead-touchdown. Did you or anybody directly remind him that, hey --

TREVOR LAWRENCE: I think everybody rallied behind him. Kind of a weird play. It's tough. Obviously you get hit and you don't know if it's a fumble or an incompleteness. We teach our guys to treat every loose ball like it's a fumble, because of that. And he even recovered it, and just standing there and they punch the ball out because the ref didn't blow the whistle.

So that's a crazy play and one to learn from. It's a shame it happened to a rookie because that would have been a tough play for anyone, really. You're covering, and you end up getting it punched out. Yeah, you learn from it and you move on. That just shows the faith that we have in him, to put it back in his hands there, and to give us that bit touchdown and go up ten in the end.

So doesn't concern me. He's going to keep learning. Obviously he's a rookie, and I think he did some good things today. So we'll keep getting better.

Q. What do you think, Doug said -- guys have had some up and downs early and able to finish. Did it feel like that at all to you?

TREVOR LAWRENCE: A little bit. Obviously we started the game better, besides the first drive, we had a three-and-out, which you want to start better than that. But we scored a couple touchdowns early, put a little pressure on them. They answered, and then our defense really, really bowed up.

And then we just got sloppy in the second and third quarter, even the beginning of the fourth, we just got sloppy and I think we could have taken advantage of more things out there and really put ourselves in even better position obviously going into the end of the game, just to put them away, and we didn't do that but it's hard in the NFL.

Like I said, they are not going to lay down. They have the same job we do and they are going to make it challenging for us. It's a good football team and so it's a good game and obviously it's better when you can find a way to win.

Q. With so much about the positive publicity in the preseason has been tailored toward the offense. But today it felt like the defense in the second quarter with those three consecutive stops kind of set the tone and making, I don't want to say bailed you guys out but certainly complemented you.

TREVOR LAWRENCE: Played great. That's the game, it's three phases. If it was all about the offense, you know, we would have been in trouble today and same thing in different games, it was all about the defense.

So we pick each other up. We feed off one another. That's what makes teams great and we've got to continue to do that. There's going to be a week where we are going to have to pick our defense up. This week we got some huge stops that we really needed. We got some bad possessions in a row and they were able to come through, get a turnover, turnover on downs, make a stop, make a punt, whatever it was.

They played great. Hats off to them. I think they played with that chip on their shoulder like you want your defense to and it was cool to see them fly around and make some huge plays for us.

Q. Do you remember your first start in the NFL, obviously Anthony Richardson's today, some good, some bad. Did you catch up with him after the game and what did you think?

TREVOR LAWRENCE: Yeah, I thought he made some great plays. Obviously being a rookie quarterback, it's a tough spot. There's a lot of learning that you have to do and it's just every week, learning and getting better. The only thing I told him after the game was "Great game." He made some unbelievable plays but just try to protect yourself. The hits add up in this league and they are a little different than in college.

So I just told him to protect himself. I'm excited to watch his career unfold. I think he's going to be a great player

and obviously we'll see him again later in the season but that was my only message to him, really, protect yourself. It's a long season, and I think he's going to be a great player.

Q. (Inaudible).

TREVOR LAWRENCE: Obviously like today, I can't really state how valuable it is to have a guy like Schet (ph) not only on the field, but the guy he is off the field, good leader, consistent, one of the most consistent guys on our team. Doesn't matter if he's a starter, if he's not starting, if he's a swing guy, whatever. He comes to work the same way, and that's why you need a guy like that, and he's so valuable for us. He can play center, he can play either guard. He did a great job filling in when he needed to.

Q. What did you make of Calvin Wrigley's performance, touchdown, 100-something yards?

TREVOR LAWRENCE: It's great, not a turning point to me. I don't think it was to anybody. He played great. It was cool to see him in his first game back. He was amped up and ready to go and play well and make some huge plays for us. It was awesome.

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