### Indianapolis Colts Media Conference

Sunday, September 10, 2023 *Indianapolis, Indiana, USA* 

#### **Anthony Richardson**

Postgame Press Conference

Jaguars 31, Colts 21

#### Q. How are you feeling? You took that hit at the end.

ANTHONY RICHARDSON: I'm all right. More so hurt that we lost than my knee, but other than that, I'm good. I've just got to get to the drawing board and focus on next week.

### Q. How did you think you did today? Tell us what you thought about it.

ANTHONY RICHARDSON: We didn't win, so I didn't do good enough. But first game, first experience, felt good just being out there with my teammates. The energy was good. We've just got to clean some things up, including myself, but it was fun out there just being back out there playing football.

# Q. Shane said that there were some times you guys had some stuff dialed up to go down the field. Was it tough to do that with the coverage they were playing?

ANTHONY RICHARDSON: Not so much. We were practicing against certain looks. We were preparing for certain looks. They didn't run those certain looks all the time, so we just tried to find a way to make it work, just get the ball down the field, move the ball for the offense, because our defense played well, so we just tried to make something work for them.

## Q. What were kind of your thoughts and emotions when you scored that first touchdown?

ANTHONY RICHARDSON: You know, it felt good. I felt excited. At that point I just thought everything was rolling for us. Just getting in the box for the first time in my NFL career felt good. Shout-out to my O-line for opening up the hole for me. Shout-out to everybody else for even helping us get the ball down the field. But it was good. Felt good. Hopefully I get more.



#### Q. How long did it take you to settle into this game? Was it immediate?

ANTHONY RICHARDSON: I guess I was settled the first couple drives. I knew everything wasn't going to be perfect. I didn't want everything to be perfect because that's part of the game, that's part of life. Everything is not going to be perfect. I was just trying to stay calm the whole time, including the first drive. We went three-and-out, but got my feet wet a little bit, let me know how things were going to be, and we just had to push.

# Q. 2 of 12 on 3rd down, 1 of 5 on 4th down. Those are numbers that obviously have to get better. What do you have to do in those situations to make sure you're at your best to make it the best possible outcome?

ANTHONY RICHARDSON: I've just got to help the team. Going into the game, we knew we were going to be aggressive when it came down to the conversion downs. We just got to find a way to convert, stop getting penalties.

One of those are on me, just trying to communicate with Alec. Thought I had a match-up, but just trying to communicate. But it's just us getting back in the film room and just understanding what we have to do to convert.

# Q. Talk about the interception and what you saw on that play and then realizing that's one that I can't get back?

ANTHONY RICHARDSON: That's one of our good plays. We trust that play a lot, so we called it. I saw the corner, but I just threw it a little too flat, and we weren't trying to attack him the whole game, but I saw that match-up and I thought I could get it over his head, but I threw it a little too flat. But he made a good play. Hopefully it doesn't happen again. We just grow from it.

## Q. What's the biggest lesson you think you'll take away from this first game?

ANTHONY RICHARDSON: How different it is from college. Every possession matters, every down matters, every play matters. You can't just take off one play



because you think it's all right. You can't take off one quarter because you think you've got the lead and think you're going to get a W. Every play, every detail, everything matters in this league, so that's one thing I took away for sure.

#### Q. What knee was it and what happened?

ANTHONY RICHARDSON: The left knee. First quarter, I can't remember exactly what play it was, but I had a zone read, hit my knee on the turf. Just a little bruise on it, that's it. I'll be all right.

Q. What did you take away from the game? You didn't win, but fourth quarter you're right there, got the lead. Do you feel like at least you guys were in position?

ANTHONY RICHARDSON: We definitely were in position. We had it the whole way, I believe. I felt like we had the game the whole way. Our defense played great. They played lights out. They helped us a lot. Almost every possession, almost every drive for them was a turnover, and we've just got to help them out. They can't get a turnover when you go three-and-out. That's not good for them or for us. We've just got to get better because our defense played good. Shout-out to those guys, but also we've got to plan some things to make it easier for them.

#### Q. Do you keep souvenir footballs from touchdowns?

ANTHONY RICHARDSON: I threw the first one to Pitt and he scored, and he gave it to me. I don't know what was going through my head at the time, but I grabbed it and I gave it to somebody. I don't know where it is, but hopefully I can find it.

Q. What was the balance like of deciding when to scramble, when to leave the pocket versus letting things develop?

ANTHONY RICHARDSON: Just looking through my reads, just trusting it. Certain guys were getting open and everything was working for us and just trust it, stay in the pocket and make it work. If not I'm part of the offense as well so using my legs definitely helps us. It's just a matter of just seeing if I have a lane or not.

Q. What went through your head going into this game? I think you got here pretty early this morning. What was the pregame routine and what was going through your head as you were walking off the field?

ANTHONY RICHARDSON: Pregame, I like to get here early, get my body right, get my mind right. Go through the script of the game, make sure I'm precise on plays, make

sure I'm getting extra reps with the receivers if they need them. Just making sure I'm here, feeling the building, feeling the atmosphere, feeling everything. I was pretty hyped getting here. I was pretty focused, pretty calm. Throughout the game, emotions were everywhere. I was happy, I was a little bit more chill, then I was happy again. So that was that.

Then after the game, I was a little hurt because I felt like we had it. We've just got to clean some things up as an offense. I feel like the defense helped us out a lot. We just couldn't do anything for them at the time. I felt good throughout the whole thing, but this is something we've got to learn from and just work on.

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. . . when all is said, we're done. Sports