

Indianapolis Colts Media Conference

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Indianapolis, Indiana, USA

Coach Shane Steichen Postgame Press Conference



Colts 27, Buccaneers 20

SHANE STEICHEN: ... no injuries; came out clean. Great team win. Huge to get to 6-5 and then heading into obviously a good division game next week against Tennessee will be big.

But huge team win. Defense came up big there at the end with the sack fumble; offense did a good job moving the ball in the first half, got 17 points, and then finding a way at the end in four-minute to put them down, so good team win.

Q. Shane, you went for it on fourth down four times. What went into the aggressiveness there?

SHANE STEICHEN: Yeah, the game. There is no out, you know. You're in this situation, (indiscernible.)

Q. How long have you had this play in your pocket?

SHANE STEICHEN: Put it in this week actually. Our tight end coach, Tom, he came to me with the idea of (indiscernible) short yardage and I said, shoot, that looks pretty good. That looks like a walk-in touchdown. Let's dial that one up for sure.

Let's put Z in there at full back, and they gave us the look and it worked.

Q. (Indiscernible.)

SHANE STEICHEN: Oh, no, I hit up during the week. I said, hey, you're coming in on power. You're going to walk inside out on power. He goes, well, no, I'll pass to the flat. (Laughter.) Hold on now. Power first and then maybe something down the road.

No, it was awesome to see. Huge play.

Q. Did you think about going hurry-up and keeping that personnel on the field?

SHANE STEICHEN: No. Felt good about that call. We were just waiting for the right time to call it, and it came up in a big time situation and we went for it and hit it.

Q. What about the early one to Pitt? You guys, you know, play-action to Zach and then...

SHANE STEICHEN: Yeah, looked good. That's all I got for you.

Q. Ronnie Harrison was elevated last week. Comes in, gets a pick. How big of an impact was that?

SHANE STEICHEN: Yeah, no doubt. That's huge obviously getting in the system, learning the system, and then obviously getting a lot of action out there today and come up with that pick.

That came from the preparation. Guys are wired up on that play. Heard everyone calling it out. It was awesome to see. Got underneath it and made the pick, so it was neat.

Q. You've had some struggles moving the ball the last couple you games. Today I think almost 400 yards in offense. Why the difference do you think?

SHANE STEICHEN: If I had the answer for you I would tell you. You always try to go out there and have that type of performance moving the football.

You know, we played well. Guys went out there and played hard and made play.

Q. (Indiscernible) is one of the better run defending defensive tackles in the league. To have Wesley play the way he did and be able to run the ball against a front with that guy, what does that say about the O-line?

SHANE STEICHEN: It was big. I'll say this about Wesley, he loves ball. He's prepared. He prepares every week when he gets his opportunity, and he's had his opportunity a few times to go in there and play and he fights and



scratches and claws, and it's a testament to him and Tony, our line coach getting those guys ready to go.

Q. What do you think has got into Dayo the past month or so? Played well for a while, really has turned it on.

SHANE STEICHEN: Yeah, he's definitely turned it on. He's making a ton of plays. Always around the quarterback. Line coach does a heck of a job with those guys, Matt Raich. Dayo is playing at a high level and just got to keep going in that direction.

Q. How important is it to see the defense come out and make those plays?

SHANE STEICHEN: Oh, it's huge, it's huge. Any time you have the opportunity to go in -- whether it's an offense and defense, get the strip sack fumble there with Samson getting that done and getting the recovery, and then obviously on the flip side finishing the game out in the four-minute situation.

They got three timeouts. We got to get first down to end the game, stay in bounds. Good job by JT getting the first and going down to end it.

Q. How do you think JT and Zach set tone?

SHANE STEICHEN: It was huge. I know we came out throwing it there early a good amount and then settled into the run game. JT popped a few big ones; Zach popped a few.

It was good. That one-two punch back there is good.

Q. Do you think you had some matchups that allowed you to come out and go a little bit fast so heavy early on?

SHANE STEICHEN: Yeah, there are some certain things. Obviously you have an idea what you think that are going to play. Like I said, I got a ton of respect for Todd and you never know until you get out there and see the different stuff they're going to do from a front standpoint and the back end standpoint with coverages.

Few things we hit and few things he did a good job disguising, but it was good. I thought our guys, like I said, moved the ball. We got to clean some things up, too. We had some penalties we got to get cleaned up there. Overall just a great team win.

Q. Three straight wins and it was the full team effort. You've been preaching complementary football. How

does this win help propel you into the next six?

SHANE STEICHEN: I think it's big. Obviously playing your best football in November and December to give yourself a chance there to get in is huge. But we got to take it one game at a time. Obviously go in and having a division opponent on the road with Tennessee coming up, got a lot of respect for them, but we got to prepare the right way and be ready to go.

Q. ...delivering in a moment like that, is that something that helps an offense grow?

SHANE STEICHEN: Say that again. The touchdown drive.

Q. The final touchdown drive, how much did that help the offense?

SHANE STEICHEN: It's huge. Any time you can create a big play, you hit the big play, the big play to Mo Alie right there you get a ton momentum. That stuff a real in football. That's real. But it was huge to finish that off there with a touchdown.

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