

Indianapolis Colts Media Conference

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Indianapolis, Indiana, USA

Coach Mike Tomlin

Visitors Postgame Press Conference

Steelers 13, Colts 30

MIKE TOMLIN: All right, let's be honest, right? We are a fundamentally poor football group right now. We're playing losing football. I take responsibility for that.

By losing football I mean we're just not doing fundamental things well enough. We're not. We're turning the ball over. We're highly penalized. We don't play good in situations.

So I'm just acknowledging that. I don't necessarily have the answers as we sit here today. If I had the answers we would've played differently today.

But I will acknowledge things won't continue the way they are. We're not going to keep doing the same things we're doing and expect or hope for a different result.

So we got a seven-day turnaround. See what those seven days hold for us. But I'm just acknowledging right now that we're playing losing football and I own that.

Not a good day.

A myriad of injuries and so forth. Minkah is the only one we got a little bit of clarity on. He had a knee injury and wasn't able to return. Get him evaluated as soon as we get back to town. Some other bumps and bruises associated with play.

Q. Were you thinking of changing the way you prep, changing who is playing?

MIKE TOMLIN: Everything is on the table at this juncture. We can't play football like that.

Q. I know it's easier to do after looking at film, but why couldn't the run game get going?

MIKE TOMLIN: We just played poorly today. I'm not going to try to explain it or make excuses for it. We didn't play well today. In really any area. You know, run game or



what have you. We didn't play well enough in any area.

Q. You said things are going to change. You sound confident in that. What tells you that you guys you can change?

MIKE TOMLIN: I say we're going to do things differently. That, I assure you.

Q. The run defense, they were moving the ball pretty well in the second half.

MIKE TOMLIN: They played well and we didn't.

Q. Mike, is your team bought in right now?

MIKE TOMLIN: We're playing poorly. I don't know about buy-in component and all that. We're not playing fundamentally well as I opened up.

We're highly penalized. Turn the ball over. When you're doing those things you're not going to position yourself to win a lot of football games.

I don't know that buy-in is a component of that. We're not doing fundamental things well enough.

Q. Will Mitch start next week?

MIKE TOMLIN: Again, I don't have the answers as I sit here. I know we better do some things differently. We better approach some things differently. We're not going to roll that ball out there like that next week.

Q. What did you make of Mitch's...(indiscernible.)

MIKE TOMLIN: None of us were good enough first and foremost starting with myself.

Q. ...quarterbacks like that and why did you decide to make it...

MIKE TOMLIN: As I opened, you know, we didn't do enough of anything well today.



Q. Such a big game. Were you surprised or disappointed that your team didn't respond?

MIKE TOMLIN: You know, I don't know about surprised and disappointed. I come into games prepared to win and feeling good about it.

We didn't get it done today.

Q. You had a chance to kick a 57-yard field goal and make it a one-score game. Why did you decide not to?

MIKE TOMLIN: Not a lot had gone our way at that juncture that made me feel good about banging a 57-yard field goal, particularly on the down before. I thought we might take a shot or check it down, and we end up throwing the ball out of bounds.

So I didn't like that field positioning.

Q. What did you see? What were you told?

MIKE TOMLIN: You know, I think it came from New York.

Q. Mike, did you interpret this as a playoff type game, and how do you clean up...

MIKE TOMLIN: I interpret all of them at this juncture as really significant. So what was the second part of your question?

Q. There is a finality attached to the result of that. How do you get those guys to keep going?

MIKE TOMLIN: Man, we got a game next week. We're professionals. We'll work and be prepared. I'm not taking a big-picture approach. I'm just talking about the things that we're doing that have to change. Small picture.

Q. I think they went 14 straight running plays. Was it attrition at that point or...

MIKE TOMLIN: Yes.

Q. You feel like you guys (indiscernible) Kaze and Minkah, back to back plays like that.

MIKE TOMLIN: Man, we got some attrition going on in the interior portions of our defense at linebacker and safety, so we got to assess that.

Q. Do you have do you have sense that Minkah might be seriously hurt?

MIKE TOMLIN: I don't know to speculate at this juncture.

Q. Najee doesn't fumble often. How deflating was that play? You guys had just got a three and out.

MIKE TOMLIN: Not good.

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