

Indianapolis Colts Media Conference

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Indianapolis, Indiana, USA

Shane Steichen

Postgame Press Conference



Colts 23, Raiders 20

SHANE STEICHEN: All right, no injuries to report. Any time you win this late, it's good and we've got to get ready to go to Houston now.

Q. Your thoughts on just putting yourself in this position and just how it's a reflection of all the work you've kind of put in, I guess?

SHANE STEICHEN: Yeah, it's a team game. Have a chance, obviously, with one game left, it's huge. So it's a credit to the players, credit to the coaches and we've got to do our very, very, very best next week.

Q. You've been trying but you got back to the run game, maybe really when it really mattered. That's kind of your blueprint.

SHANE STEICHEN: Yeah, a little bit. Obviously when you're popping some runs there, keep running it. If it's working, right. J.T. popped a few big ones there and shoot when you're down to one, two yards it's hard to call runs sometimes but when you're popping pore four, five, six, seven, ten, it's good to run.

Q. How good to have Smith back in the run game?

SHANE STEICHEN: It's height. You get a player back like that with his presence out there and his physicality, is big. Got to look at the tape but I thought he did a good job today.

Q. The touchdowns, interception to start the game, kind of set the tone?

SHANE STEICHEN: It was huge. Third down scramble there by Gardner, and then wheeling back out of that thing was huge. To go down there, get 7 points, six-play drive I believe was huge. The next drive we scored on I think this was six plays and to hit out there on a third and one for the big one was huge.

Q. Really young defense, especially the secondary. How proud are you of these guys?

SHANE STEICHEN: Shoots, Jones and JuJu on the corner, I love those guys. I think they are going to have a hell of a future in this league. They play physical and play hard. It means something to them. Nick back there is doing a heck of a job. It was a good, all around victory obviously for everybody.

Q. What did you think of Rodney Harrison stepping into a different position and what he was able to give you guys?

SHANE STEICHEN: It was great to see that. Playing linebacker and playing on the back end, as well, that's where he played a lot in college and obviously been in that position in the NFL, too. It was great to see him switch that role a little bit and credit to mile oh and those guys getting him ready.

Q. Two of the biggest plays were punt recovery and defensive pass interference. What was it like having him get those margins to win?

SHANE STEICHEN: It's huge, getting a player like that, any time you have a really, really good player back out there it's huge. You can just tell his presence out there how it helped the team.

Q. What did you see on the deep ball that let that play be successful?

SHANE STEICHEN: They were in a zero look, no deep safeties and something we saw on tape, if they go like that, we have a chance to one over the at that point and max it up and got the look, and shoot, Gardner made a heck of a play stepping into that throw leading out across the field. No one was across the field and catch it in stride and score was huge.

Q. Was that a play call or a check?

SHANE STEICHEN: We called it that way. Depending on



obviously who we are going to throw.

Q. And kill it if it's not a zero?

SHANE STEICHEN: Yeah, there's certain looks -- you know I'm not (Laughter).

Q. Getting back to the run game, how big were those plays in the fourth quarter?

SHANE STEICHEN: It was huge. Credit to the guys up front leading the charge, creating those holes for them. I know we got some stuff on the perimeter today, the one Trey hit around the edge was huge, to get those runs, pop those runs, it's good. And then the guys feed off that stuff. The offensive line feeds off it. Tight ends feed off it. Running backs feed off it. Sidelines feed off it. It's good momentum when you're popping runs like that.

Q. I'm not sure if we know all the scenarios yet but just how eager are you to learn about your team in a win or take all situation?

SHANE STEICHEN: Great question. I think we are going to find out a lot about ourselves. Obviously we found out a lot about ourselves throughout the season but tomorrow we know that we've got to win, or next week we have to win. Our focus is strictly on Houston now.

Q. What do you think it is about this team that's able to bounce back from Cincinnati game, Falcons game, the way that they have those two games?

SHANE STEICHEN: I think it's resilience, right. Shoot, in this league, sometimes you get beat. You don't want to get beat like we did in Cincinnati. You don't want to get beat like we did in Atlanta. How we have responded -- we can't let that happen week-in and week-out and you have to bounce back. Our guys have done a heck of a job bouncing back the last two times that's happened to us and we have a great opportunity at home, again, against Houston.

Q. Do you give yourself any time to enjoy this win? I get the sense you are already literally on to Houston in your head?

SHANE STEICHEN: No. Zero time.

Q. Is that normal for you or is this week different because of what's at stake?

SHANE STEICHEN: It's pretty normal. I mean, I might enjoy it for an hour or so but that's about it.

Q. When you were putting things together -- did you envision this week when you took the job?

SHANE STEICHEN: I don't know if --

Q. With the playoffs on the line?

SHANE STEICHEN: I think in this league, every year is a new year, whether you're on one team or another team, right. You put in the work in the off-season. You put in the work in training camp and you have to go out and execute on Sunday and everyone in that locker room, they are all together doing this thing. Because it ain't about one man. It's about everybody. I think when you have that belief in this league, whatever team it is, you give it everything you've got, you're going to have a chance to win every Sunday and that's what these guys have been doing.

Q. In the conversation with Harrison, Reggie Wayne and Dallas with over a hundred catches, what makes it so elite to be in that category?

SHANE STEICHEN: Yeah, I've said this a few times in my press conferences during the week. Just his preparation, the way he works, obviously he's got a huge catch radius. He makes plays when the balls are thrown to him and it's just a pleasant to have him on this football team.

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