

# Tampa Bay Buccaneers

## Media Conference

Monday, October 21, 2024

Tampa, Florida, USA

## Baker Mayfield

### Postgame Press Conference



Ravens 41, Buccaneers 31

**Q. Baker, obviously the loss is one thing. Take us through the emotions of seeing what happened to Chris.**

BAKER MAYFIELD: Just absolutely sucks. Yeah, it sucks for our team, but Chris deserves better than that. He's an unbelievable guy, unbelievable teammate. Obviously you guys have seen he's been playing extraordinary this year.

Yeah, got a heavy heart right now. It's never something you want to see to any of your guys. Yeah, just I don't know what we're going to do. Have some guys step up.

Yeah, thoughts and prayers with Chris and his family right now. Just sucks.

**Q. Can you just tell everybody what Chris Godwin means to this team, to your locker room?**

BAKER MAYFIELD: Chris is an unbelievable veteran presence. Obviously consistent on-the-field play, but what he does, it goes throughout the whole building. How consistent he is. He's a pro's pro. Does everything the right way. Shows up, goes to work every single day and goes out of his way to teach the young guys and bring them under his wing.

Yeah, he's somebody that anybody in the NFL would want on your team. That's why this one hurts.

**Q. Mike Evans, he got hurt; dropped a touchdown. Obviously understandable given the pain he was feeling.**

BAKER MAYFIELD: Uh-huh.

**Q. The chain of events there, couple plays later you throw an interception. Is that where the game turned?**

BAKER MAYFIELD: Yeah, wind kind of got taken out of

our sails at that point. Any time you're in the red zone, have a turnover, obviously can't do that. Marlon Humphrey made a good play falling off it, but I got to be careful with it down there knowing we already have points.

Yeah, that really was the swing of the game and they the got ball and went down and scored. Yeah, that was a big momentum shift in the game.

Still at halftime going in, it's still a one-score game. Still we've been in those situations before and understanding we're still in this ballgame. Yeah, that was a huge swing.

Got to take care of the ball. And the second one was just absolutely horrible. Definitely worst pick of the year so far. Can't do that. Third and long, got it check it down. They're playing the deep stuff. Trying to give us the short stuff. Got to check it down to Cade and move on.

**Q. Were you just trying to do too much?**

BAKER MAYFIELD: That play, yeah. I mean, you just got to -- knowing they're going to sink underneath all that stuff, just got to take what they're giving you.

**Q. Have you ever been part of a game where not one but two really special players to a team both went down with injury like that?**

BAKER MAYFIELD: Not that I can recall. Definitely not two of the guys that are huge heartbeat of this team. Yeah, but like I said, we have to find a way. Short week. We're going to be playing for first place in the division next week at home against Atlanta. Got to have guys step up. That's the nature of this business.

It sucks. Going to be thinking about Chris and Mike for a while here, but going to have move forward. This group is going to have to be resilient. Going to have to have guys step up.

That's just the way it is. There is no other way around it. Going to have to look this thing in the face and take it head on.



**Q. I know it's your nature as a player to compete until the final seconds go off the clock. Down 10, 40 something seconds, no timeouts; realistically, was it time to protect your players at that point or just want to fight until the last?**

BAKER MAYFIELD: You know, we talked about it on the sideline thinking if we get a quick touchdown - obviously already got an onside kick during the game - get a quick touchdown an onside kick, have a possibility for a Hail Mary. We have a group of fighters. We all wanted a chance to try and win that thing any way, some way, somehow.

**Q. Baker, your running backs have stepped up in the last couple weeks. How much are you going to have to lean on that running back room to help even more so with carrying the load if they can?**

BAKER MAYFIELD: Yeah, running back room, tight end room, and the rest of our receivers. Everybody has to step up. Obviously those two guys are a huge part of our production on offense.

Yeah, we're going to of a lot of guys step up and find a way to do this. It'll be interesting and exciting to see how we get creative with this thing, understanding a lot of our passing game runs through those two guys. Yeah, see how it goes. Yeah, everybody has to step up.

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