

PATRIOTS QUARTERBACK BAILEY ZAPPE

POSTGAME VIDEO CONFERENCE
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Q. Congrats on the win. How much more comfortable were you today compared to last week in Green Bay?

BZ: I would say a fair amount. Getting another week of practice in, getting mental reps, physical reps taking every day this past week. Taking every rep as a game rep.

Continuing to work with receivers, O-line before and after practice, and just building that comfortability with everybody. It was a great way to come out this Sunday and get a win.

Q. How much better did it feel getting a win than a lost last week?

BZ: Of course, it always feels better getting a win. We played team football today. Defense pitched a shutout. O-line played really well. Receivers played well. It was a team effort today, and it was nice to get the win.

Q. Jakobi Meyers was back for you today. How nice was it to have him out there? It seemed like you guys put together something special out there today.

BZ: Of course, it's nice to have Kobs back out there. He has been in the league for a few years, so to have that veteran mentality back in the group is amazing. We know we have an all-around really good receiving group. Really the only job for us quarterbacks is to get those guys the ball and let them do what they do.

Q. Bailey, last time the Patriots took the field here, you were inactive, third string on the depth chart. Quick turnaround now to you're here today. End of the game we're getting "Zappe, Zappe" chants across Gillette Stadium. What have the last couple of weeks been like to the turnaround being thrust in the starting line-up?

BZ: It's kind of like I've always been told. Taking advantage of your opportunity. We had an opportunity today as a team to go out there and get a win, and we played really well, played team football. Defense played well. Offense played well. Special teams played well.

To be able to play like that as a team, it was amazing to get the win.

Q. Some of the things you guys did on the ground and with the play action game, how much confidence right now do you have in the run game?

BZ: A lot. To have Rhamondre, to have Damien, to have our O-line be able to pound the rock like we can, that's awesome. It opens up everything else for us.

We kind of showed that today. O-line played their butts off, and it was nice to see that, and we got the win.

Q. In what areas do you think you felt more comfortable in this game as compared to the last one, and how much did having a week to prepare for the Lions and their tendencies versus getting thrust into the fire last week maybe play a role in that being more comfortable?

BZ: Yeah, I think I felt comfortable in almost really everything. Being able to practice with those guys, before and after practice, during practice, taking those reps with those guys.

To be honest, I couldn't really pick out one distinct thing, but I think really I felt more comfortable with really everything. To have my teammates around me, they helped-Packard me a lot this week into Sunday.

Q. In your first NFL start how exactly did it feel to hear fans chanting your name throughout and especially at the end of the game?

BZ: I like the support, but to be honest with you, I was just more excited about the win. To get a win with my team, that was really the focus point for this week. That was going to be the focus point for the rest of the season.

Q. How many people did you have in the stands today? Did any friends or family make the trip?

BZ: Mom, dad, and then girlfriend.

Q. How big of an adjustment was it learning how to prepare at this level compared to being in college? How much better have you gotten at it, and how much did that help you this week when you knew there was a good chance you were going to be starting?



BZ: I think the biggest thing, the transition is the way you prepare, the more you put into it.

College you have school. You have all that other stuff, but now it's just straight ball. So that's what you do all day every day. I love it. I love playing football. I love learning football.

To be a part of this organization and learn from these coaches and players, I think has really helped me continue to grow my game.

I know there's a lot of things that I could continue to work on and continue to get better at, but I have a great team around me to help me out.

Q. You mentioned your parents and your girlfriend were here. As much as you've tried to focus on what you have to do each day in practice and to prepare for this game, what have the last couple of weeks been like for your family and those closest to you as you've been thrust into the action in Green Bay and today prepared for and gone out and made your first start?

BZ: Well, to be quite honest with you, you might have to ask them. I haven't asked those questions.

They've kind of left me alone, let me play football, so that's the biggest thing is just focusing on football. I let them handle that, and I'll ask the questions about football and do that.

Q. Bailey, how important was your offensive line today and the sense that I noticed a couple of times -- maybe even more than a couple -- that you had the protection to come off your first read, which wasn't there, and complete the play to your second or third read?

BZ: They played amazing today. To be honest with you, all five of those guys -- actually six, including Marcus Cannon, were the MVPs of today.

We ran the ball well. For the offensive-wise, MVP, they ran the ball well, play action well, kept me clean in the pocket. Like you said, we were able to go through second, third reads, get to your check-down. They played really well today. To be able to have those guys up front is amazing to have that.

Q. Can you just take us through the touchdown to Jakobi? It looked like maybe cover two or something like that.

BZ: Yeah, you're right. It was a good play. We've been

practicing that throughout the week. We got a lot of reps at it.

Once we were able to see that coverage, go up solid, was able to find the hole in the spot, and I was able to get him the ball, and he did the rest.

Thank you, all.

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