



REGULAR SEASON - WEEK 2
WASHINGTON REDSKINS vs. DALLAS COWBOYS

Sunday, Sept. 18 | 1 p.m. ET
FedExField (82,000) | Landover, Md.



COWBOYS HEAD COACH JASON GARRETT

On how the offense and defense responded in the fourth quarter:

"I thought we did an outstanding job at the end of the ballgame. We got off to a good start and then they did a good job coming back in the middle portion of the game. Coming out in the second half, I think our defense did an excellent job in a couple of those sudden change situations. After the onside kick attempt and then after the turnover that we had, we did a really good job holding them to field goals. Then the game was going to come down to what happened in the fourth quarter and we did what was necessary defensively to make stops. And the interception by [S Barry] Church in the end zone was a huge play in the game, obviously. Then, from an offensive standpoint, we drove the ball and in a critical moment we made a long third down and got down in the red zone and were able to knock it in. So I thought we did what we needed to do to win the game in all three areas and I thought we really fought our asses off and played the right way. We played as a team and I'm really proud of the guys."

On the onside kick attempt:

"They were moving the ball a lot starting in the late first quarter. They had three or four drives in a row where they were really having success. They had success coming out in the second half, so I just wanted to change it. We were doing a good job offensively, we stole a possession right there. [K] Dan [Bailey] is so good at those kinds of plays, so we wanted to give him a chance, unfortunately it didn't go far enough."

On if they thought the Redskins would be vulnerable to an onside kick:

"Yeah, obviously we liked the look of it."

On QB Dak Prescott's movement in the pocket:

"He certainly has the physical ability to do that. He's very good on the move. We saw that last week and throughout the preseason. He can be very effective throwing the ball from the pocket and dropback game, the shotgun game, the play-action, run-action game and then the movement game. So I think you saw all of that today. I thought [Offensive Coordinator] Scott Linehan did a great job mixing things, mixing personnel, mixing formation, moving guys around. I thought we stayed aggressive throughout the game. They did a good job early on a couple of those drives with keeping us out of the end zone. Our guys just kept great poise, played with composure throughout the game and obviously at the end of the ballgame we did what we needed to win it."

On Prescott's poise on the final drive:

"He did an outstanding job in that situation, but really throughout the game. A number of different things came up throughout the game and he just handles it with poise and composure. He gives us a chance to execute on ball plays because the demeanor that he plays with is infectious throughout our team. Guys see that and respond to that. That was obviously a big play in the game and gave us the go-ahead score."

On RB Ezekiel Elliott's game and fumbles:

"I thought he did a good job running the football as it wore on. Teams are around the line of scrimmage, they want to make us one-dimensional. Again, I think we did some good things in the running game. We were persistent in it. As the game went on, he got more opportunities and did a good job. I thought he ran hard. He ran tough, a lot of dirty runs. Obviously you have to protect the football, that's line one in football, and certainly line one for a running back. He'll learn from the experiences."

On Prescott's progress in this game because of his experience last week:

"Not really, he has been very impressive from a poise and composure standpoint from day one. Obviously he's experiencing new things every week. He had his first start in the NFL last week, we lost the game, I thought he handled himself really well during the week; he came right back to work. I feel like everybody fed off of that during our week of preparation, and they fed off that during the game. He really handled himself well."

On RB Alfred Morris' opportunities throughout the game:

"Alfred is a pro. He's a pro. He handles himself in the right way each and every day. He comes to work, he gets himself ready, and when he gets an opportunity in the game he's ready for it. I thought he ran the ball well. There were tough runs at the end of the ballgame, a couple of the situations he was in. I thought he did a great job getting in the end zone for the touchdown that put us ahead in the game. He's a true professional and he really helped our football team."

On having an aggressive mindset coming into this game:

"That's just the way we want to play, we want to be aggressive and we want to be downhill. That applies to players, that applies to coaches and to all phases on our team."

On giving WR Dez Bryant more opportunities this game:

"Dez is a guy since he's come into this league that has gotten a lot of attention in every game played, since I've been around. We just try to get him the ball. He's a playmaking-type player. We move him around, he plays outside, he plays inside, he runs vertical routes, he runs underneath routes, he's done a variety of things for us throughout his career and that's why he's been such a productive player, and today was no different."

On bringing back LB Justin Durant:

"JD is a good football player. He – like [RB] Alfred [Morris] – is a real professional in his approach. He's excited for every opportunity he gets, he's ready for them, he plays the right way. And last week if you look at what he did in the game, he didn't have that many snaps. But his hits on the ball and production per snap was really, really good and we'll go back and watch the tape and tally things up but it certainly seemed that way again today."

On the impact of the Cowboys' defense:

"I thought they did an outstanding job in this game and you said it, Washington did make some plays, they made some big plays in the game. We gave them some scoring opportunities but at nut-cutting time our defense did a really good job keeping them out of the end zone."

On defensive plans and communication on surprise onside kicks:

"Obviously the communication is with [Special Teams Coordinator Rich] Bisaccia more than anyone else, and as much as anything else you're talking to the offensive guys to make sure they know to be ready. Defense is going to be ready anyway, so if it doesn't work out they're ready to go play defense. And again, I thought they did an outstanding job handling that situation and keeping the Redskins out of the end zone."

On moving DT Tyrone Crawford:

"He's a versatile guy and at different times in the game like this it was hot out and we just wanted to get guys out there and be fresh going after the quarterback. They did a good job protecting against us. We didn't get around them as much as we wanted to but you want to give guys some snaps and get them out there and have them put their hand in the ground and come off the ball and go affect the guy."

On putting CB Morris Claiborne on the outside:

"We'll watch the tape but from my vantage point it looked like he made a lot of plays on the ball, did a good job covering those guys."

COWBOYS QB DAK PRESCOTT

On the final play:

"It was just excitement. I wanted to scream, jump up and down, run all around. I was just excited to get that first win to a big team, most importantly."

On S Barry Church's interception:

"He won the game right there. I told the offense, 'Let's do this.' Put a drive together, what we've been doing the whole game pretty much, and just continue to stay within ourselves and just work the ball. We did that. We had great protection, great catches and some good runs."

On the final drive:

"I knew our defense was going to make the play. Coach [Jason] Garrett stresses the fact that when you know you know. At that moment, I said that to one of my teammates at that particular time because I knew the defense was going to make that play. I had all the confidence in them and they went up and they did it."

On his thoughts during his scoring drive:

"Just finish it off. There was probably like five minutes or so, maybe a little more, left on the clock so I knew I may have to get back out there and do it again. I was proud of our offense at that moment for coming back and responding on a big drive. I knew we might have to do it again."

On his experience so far:

"It's been fun. I've got great coaches, unbelievable coaching staff, great teammates just to pick me up every day. I come in and focus on the moment, focus on the day and just try to live in the moment. I have great people around me to help me do that."

On getting WR Dez Bryant more involved this week:

"Honestly, I don't know if there was anything special we did. We just moved him around, I guess you can say, from the outside to the inside a couple of times, but we run the same plays we've been running since the beginning of training camp. Nothing has changed in that matter, he was just on the good end of it."

On CB Josh Norman following Bryant at times:

"Yeah, he did at some point. A guy like that you've got to give credit to and pay attention to where he is and when he does travel, so I noticed that. But I trust my guys. I stress to them all the time, that I trust them against anybody. We've got great playmakers on this team."

On what this win means to him:

"It's exciting, but I mean I just have to enjoy it tonight and move on tomorrow. I have to get ready for next week in Chicago. So I know how this whole deal works, I know how the season works and I want to get a lot more wins for this team."

On what was said on the sidelines when they were down:

"Not much was said, I don't think anything really had to be said. We're all pros, we knew exactly what we had to do, we had to go down there and respond so it's just believing in ourselves and going down there and doing just that."

COWBOYS RB ALFRED MORRIS

On scoring the game-winning touchdown against Washington:

"No vindication, no hard feelings, no anything. It was just another game and I wasn't really sure if I meant that until I got out on the field, then I approached it like any other game."

On QB Dak Prescott and what he does for the team:

"He does a lot of exciting things. He's very composed in the pocket and he's a great natural leader and I've been saying that about him the whole time since he came in and he brings a dual threat. That's always tough to defend. He can get it done with his legs if there's nothing open downfield so definitely that's very helpful and us as veterans are the guys that are really rallying around him and making it easier for him so that this transition can be easier for him."

On his emotions returning to Washington:

"It was the same as any other game. I was just excited for the opportunity to play and excited to do what I love to do. People probably say I'm joking when I say that but from the bottom of my heart I have no hard feelings for the Redskins or the organization. It was good to see everybody, it was like a family reunion, but it was just another game for me."

COWBOYS RB EZEKIEL ELLIOTT

On his second fumble:

"I just ran into the back of the line and lost it."

On what the coaches said after the fumble:

"Just to keep my head up."

On what he learned and is taking into next game:

"The ball is a team, got to protect it. That's on me."

On his thoughts on RB Alfred Morris' winning touchdown:

"He deserved it, he definitely deserved it. We all go to work together and we work together to make each other better on and off the field. We critique each other and I was glad to see him get in there."

COWBOYS C TRAVIS FREDERICK

On QB Dak Prescott's personality:

"You can tell that he understands the game. He's a workman so he's a guy that comes in everyday and tries to get better and it translates – the improvements that he makes in the classroom and on the practice field during the games."

On if there was desperation to not go 0-2 in the division:

"No, there's not a desperate feeling there because we're not 0-2 and I don't think there would have been a desperate feeling for us. We're happy to get a win. It's hard to get a win in the NFL and it's definitely hard to get a win in the division so those are all positive things for us."

On winning four straight at FedExField:

"You know each game is a new game for us. It doesn't really matter where we play, we say it doesn't matter if we're playing at home, away, on a parking lot, or on the moon. We need to do our best every time that we go out there."

COWBOYS LB JUSTIN DURANT

On if he had an impactful game:

"We did alright. It's a couple of things I have to clean up. I made a play at the end but I always think about the things I didn't right and didn't do well during the game. So we got to get that back."

On the win:

"Obviously it's major then. 90% of the time [teams go 0-2] you basically don't make it. Definitely a huge win for the team. You can feel it in the air right now in the locker room. Guys are feeling good about it."

On key plays in the end:

"It was great for us. Coach [Jason Garrett] talks about finishing all the time. Competitive greatness is finishing well in times of adversity and that was definitely a time for us to make a play. We had about three or four huge right there in the fourth quarter."

COWBOYS CB MORRIS CLAIBORNE**On finding a way to step up late in the game:**

"You've got to find a way to step up. You have to pin your ears back and find ways to get off the field."

On having a short-term memory after a bad play:

"I feel like we did well. Like you said, we gave up a couple of chunk plays out there. We got back to the ball and stood up. We got off the field on third down. We also held them to field goals."

On his performance:

"I mean, you keep going up. I feel like it was a solid game. We have to go plus-two in the turnover margin and I feel like I could have had one of those. We've just got to keep pushing."

COWBOYS DT TYRONE CRAWFORD**On his play today:**

"I ended up getting a sack at the end of the game. Overall, I feel like I played a poor game. I've just got to bounce back and it feels good walking out of here with a win. I missed a lot of training camp. My steps aren't as good as they would be had I not missed training camp. I've just got to get that down and take more time like I did last week on my steps. I've got to work on my reads and keys. I will bounce back."

On the defensive line:

"We have low numbers. We have to make do with what we have. I know everyone held it down. Everyone stepped up. We have people playing nose tackle and defensive end. Our young guy [DT] Maliek [Collins] has been a baller. He has good moves inside and has to keep doing it."

On the win:

"This loss would have torn us apart. We definitely needed this. It would have really torn us apart as a team, mentally. Good thing we got this and now we can kind of relax. Now we can move on to the next game this week."

REDSKINS HEAD COACH JAY GRUDEN

On injuries:

"Kedric Golston has a hamstring injury, he has an MRI. Will Compton had cramps, he returned. Preston Smith had his ankle, taped it up and he returned."

On the level of frustration following the loss:

"Yeah, that's what this game's about, opportunities, and we had plenty. Hats off to Dallas and Jason Garrett and Dak Prescott. They played extremely well, and their defense, they made the plays when they needed to and we didn't make the plays when we desperately needed it. Back to the drawing board. 0-2 at home is not the way we wanted to start, without a doubt, but still a lot of football is in front of us."

On QB Kirk Cousins' performance and fixing missed opportunities:

"I don't know. We'll work to do whatever we can to fix it, that's for sure. We're going to get back to the grind. We've got the New York Giants as soon as we leave here, so he can watch the tape, find out what's going on if he's not sure what the indecision might be, why he's missing some throws, but you know, it's a tough game. He's got people around his feet. He's got to make some tough throws and usually ones he would normally hit but he missed a few today. We'll coach him up. Can't put it all on Kirk, you know. There's a lot of other issues that we had today, that's for sure—coaching, playing, offense, defense, we all had our hand in that one."

On the level of urgency for facing the New York Giants next week:

"I think every week you have a level of urgency in the National Football League, without a doubt, especially playing a division game on the road. Knowing that we've lost our first two games, not only our first two games, but our first two home games, is very, very important. We have to know where we are. We're 0-2, we're in last place and we have to get it turned around quick or the season can slip away from us if not. A lot of football left, like I said. We're going to keep grinding and get back to work."

On the reasoning behind throwing several fades:

"Well, a lot of times we see a one-on-one matchup. We like to take a chance with a fade or back shoulder fade. Sometimes when the box is loaded, we don't feel like we have the numbers in our favor, and that's something we need to work on and just plow it in there from the five. You know, I think in hindsight... but we did have Jordan Reed, Josh Doctson, Pierre [Garçon] – you know, great one-on-one matchups outside. I like to think I'll take advantage of that any day all day, we just didn't win them today."

On Cousins' interception:

"I don't know what he saw on the interception. You know, I think we had a play called that I thought he saw, and I didn't see who got it or what happened. I just saw that happen."

On keeping the team positive:

"Yeah, I think we have a good group of guys that have strong will, and we faced adversity before. We faced it last year and unfortunately we faced it a little bit earlier than anticipated this year. Now it's up to the men in the room, the coaches, and people to have belief and get back to work. That's all we can do. We can hang our heads and cry all we want to but the fact of the matter is we've got a game 1:00 next Sunday, and it's going to be a tough one against the Giants, who I think won today and they're 2-0. Going to be a great game and we have a lot of pride and a lot of people who want to play and a lot of tough-minded players, good leaders. We're going to come out fighting, that's for sure."

On play calling on third- and fourth-and-short:

"Third-and-1? Yeah, we just had an outside zone call and I thought we had a nice count look. And I think, I don't know who it was, it might have been a three-technique or the linebacker snuck through there and put a big hit on Chris [Thompson] and then we thought we'd get the first down there. Unfortunately that's fourth

and about closer to two. It was closer to two than the one. So we got into a good formation block, felt like it was good matchups, and they played Cover 1 and we had good one-on-one matchups across. He chose Pierre [Garçon] going across the middle, and Sean Lee I think it was, made a good play.”

On if he felt like it was a 4-and-1:

“No, no, no. It was more of a one-and-a-half, two.”

On if Dallas took WR DeSean Jackson out of the game:

“I don’t know. I’ll have to watch the tape and see what happens. They played some zone and mixed in their man coverage. They gave us some different looks. We tried to get him the ball in a couple of good holes. We shot plays downfield. We did that and they played some zone. We had to check it down. That’s what football is all about. We have to take advantage of our zone coverages and he’s got to make the reads and throw it to the right guy. We get one-on-ones, he’s got to win. We have to make a throw and catch, and it didn’t happen consistently enough today.”

On what the Dallas game means to the fans and if this game stings a bit more:

“This game sticks in my craw no matter how you cut it when you lose at home to the Cowboys. I phase out the noise but I know how big this game is to a lot of people. The ownership group, the fan base—it hurts to let them down. It hurts to let the players down. This one will sting for a while, that’s for sure, but we have to get back to work.”

On if he can pinpoint the Redskins’ areas of regression:

“No, I can’t put my finger on them right now. I think it’s a combination of a lot of things. We have to fix them quick. I’m sure you guys will know the areas more than I will in the paper, but we will address everything that we think needs to be addressed, and that’s quite a lot.”

On the roughing the passer and false start penalties:

“The roughing the passer penalty it looked like Dak [Prescott] was a runner, so we’re allowed to go and try to tackle him. I don’t know why he had pocket protection when he was spinning around doing 360s—that’s a tough call. The false start at the end, I don’t know what happened there – the one on Kory [Lichtensteiger]. We have to fix those. We’re not a good enough team to overcome those.”

On CB Josh Norman:

“He moved around a little bit today. He was around a little bit today. I feel good about our corners. We just have to get the defense fixed up. Too many guys were wide open. Third down conversions were big plays. Easy throws and catches. We’ve got to challenge them, push them, play a little more coverage. We have to check it out. Hats off to Dak Prescott and that offensive line for Dallas and the receivers. I think they did a great job and we need to do better.”

REDSKINS QB KIRK COUSINS

On how he played during the game:

“Yeah, it wasn’t good enough, obviously. I need to play better. I can play better, and I believe going forward I will play better.”

On losing to the Cowboys:

“It’s hard to answer just because, like you said, I do want to credit the Cowboys. They did a great job. They played hard, made plays and they made more plays than we did and that’s the bottom line.”

On comparing the start of last season to now:

“I think we just need to be mentally and emotionally tough right now. When you make it all the way to the NFL, this is not the first time you face adversity on the football field. We’re going to have to regroup and just come back as a stronger group together. Adversity is a part of playing this game and we’re certainly facing a little bit. We have to rise to that challenge moving forward.”

On the red zone:

“Without watching the film, I may be speaking incorrectly, but there were a couple of times potentially where we were expecting, or I was expecting, a different look than what they played. Again, I don’t know that I fully [correct] the same evidence that I felt on the field, and you know, obviously anytime you don’t go in and get a touchdown, you feel like you did something that wasn’t good enough. We feel like we can be better in the red zone. It’s the same thing in any game when you come up short or when you win. You can go back and point to red zone offense or converting third downs or protecting the football. It’s reasons for a win or a loss. Right now in those areas, I don’t know if we’re good enough or if we’ve been good enough. I think what’s disappointing is we feel like there is the talent, there is the capability to be very good in those areas and we’ve shown that. So, we just have to do it more consistently than what we are right now.”

On the interception:

“I felt like I needed to work not off-schedule, but just needed to let the play develop a little longer. Backside safety made a good play coming over. He was the one who made the play. I thought that once Pierre [Garçon] got around the near safety that I had a space in the back of the end zone between the two safeties and I could throw that ball. When you wait that long and look at it that long, that’s when the backside safety is able to make their way over and that’s what happened.”

On the frustration of an 0-2 start:

“Yeah, I think no matter what we face, we always have to focus on what are the positives, what do we have to look forward to, what do we have to get done going forward, and I think to just dwell on frustration or dwell on ‘would’ve, could’ve, should’ve’ isn’t going to get us anywhere. That wouldn’t be a mentally tough team. So we’re going to focus on the fact that we do have 14 weeks to go, the fact that we can identify where we are coming up short, and the fact that we know we can be better and have a glass-half-full approach, and I think that’s our best chance to play better in the future.”

On overthrowing wide receivers:

“I have to watch the film to go back and say what exactly took place, but the one to DeSean [Jackson], I felt like I needed to let it go pretty deep and just misjudged it. I mean, you’re talking about throwing the ball 60 yards and the difference of three or four yards is small comparably, but it’s the difference between making a catch or a punt and in hindsight, I would’ve taken a little off that one. The other one to Jamison [Crowder], I think I just led him up the field more than his route was initially taking him. Again, I need to go back and watch the film and see it, but part of me thinks he breaks at a certain angle. I threw it at a slightly different angle and that margin of error is so small and we’ll go back and look at it and maybe I hold onto the ball a tick longer to see the angle he’s coming out at. Those are the types of things we’ll go back and try to go over.”

On Head Coach Jay Gruden saying he needs to step up:

“Yeah, I think this is a quarterback-driven league. I think on our team, I need to play at a high level week-in and week-out and I don’t think that is any mystery. You mention that quote as if it’s surprising or determines something and I would say that’s common sense.”

On the fourth-and-1 play:

“They played man coverage and we talked about if they go to man coverage to get to a certain route and combination. I didn’t like my initial option, so I had to get off of that and went to where I threw the football and taking a little longer to get there that allowed the inside linebacker a chance to make a play on the ball, so this is where you say, ‘Good play by them.’ They made plays too.”

On WR DeSean Jackson’s limited touches:

“It’s a mixture of things. On the play we hit Josh Doctson deep, and again I don’t have film to go off of, but I think DeSean [Jackson] was wide open. So there are times when I could’ve thrown to DeSean [Jackson] and when I could’ve thrown to Josh [Doctson]. If we’re getting a 50-yard gain on either one, I don’t know if I would say they took him away on that play. Sometimes it’s just where the football goes, but I think when you hit a 30-yard route to a guy, I think it’s smart by Dallas to say we’re not going to let him have a big day and they were able to do some things in coverage that do make it harder to get him the ball. Again, there were other opportunities where maybe the ball just went somewhere else and could’ve gone to him.”

On losing to Dallas:

“This game, this rivalry means so much to this fan base and we want to do everything in our power to give those fans something to cheer about and I’ve said for a long time, those fans are dying to cheer for us and looking for any reason to get behind us and support us and that’s why we want to work so hard to provide a good product they can get behind. All we can do now is look forward to the 14 games ahead and hopefully we deliver. We knew it was an important game. I think everybody played hard and the effort is there, but it is a small margin for error and we weren’t on the right side of it today.”

REDSKINS RB MATT JONES**On the feeling of back-to-back losses:**

"It’s a bad taste in our mouth. Going down 0-2, and definitely losing to the Cowboys, it was a big game and we just came up short.”

On his performance and how it changed his mindset of going inside:

“Oh, man, it was just getting into a rhythm and just getting downhill, getting ready for contact. It was a big game and just getting better every week. I just want to keep running like that and hopefully we come out with some victories later on.”

On what will get the team through this rough stretch:

“Like I said, we’ve got a bad taste in our mouth and we’re going to come to practice ready to go next week. We’re just going to hit it hard. Like I said, I’ve got a bad taste in my mouth, so I’m going to really get around the guys and try to pick them up and try to get it done. We can’t dwell on the past, we have to put it past us and get ready for next week.”

On his touchdown run:

“Yeah, I knew I was in. But it doesn’t mean anything without a ‘W.’”

REDSKINS WR DESEAN JACKSON

On the offense's red zone struggles:

"Obviously that's what's causing us to lose right now. We're 0-2 at home. We're just sticking ourselves in the foot with a knife. We had some great opportunities driving the ball down the field and just came up short."

On the difference in the offense now compared to the end of last season:

"It's not my job to pinpoint. I'm here to make plays, do the best I can and come out and be successful. We'll watch film and see what's going on and fix it. That's all I can say."

On building on the opportunities they had:

"I think everyone's doing a good job of at least getting the ball down there. Once we get in there in that red area, we have to figure out how to come out on top of something. Instead of field goals, six points. It's frustrating, 0-2. It's not a good feeling."

REDSKINS TE VERNON DAVIS

On the game:

"We just made it tough on ourselves. Division opponent came in today, we weren't able to come away with a victory, but we get another opportunity."

On the frustration of not being able to get into the end zone:

"I just can't put my finger on it at the moment. I think it's hard to analyze what's going on, but it's not my business or my right to analyze. I leave that up to the coaches and the upper management. That's their job. For an organization like this that has so many terrific people and specialists, they're going to do their best to make it right. So we're all counting on one another and I look forward to the next match. I look forward to it."

On his first Redskins-Cowboys game:

"To be out there playing against Dallas, it was great. It was great to being out there. I'm having a lot of fun. These guys are awesome, just being in the locker room. A lot of good talent. The energy that we were able to blend together has been unparalleled. Like I said, I'm having a wonderful time."

On what causes the pre-snap penalties:

"That's another area we have to get better at. My teammates, myself, we all have to get better at being more disciplined. As you know, it's not just about the red zone. It's about being onside and not getting those penalties that could hurt us and put us in bad situations. So we have to correct that as well and get ready for the next opponent."

REDSKINS LT TRENT WILLIAMS

On the red zone struggles:

"We've got to be better. You can't be coming away with three in the red zone."

On the poor play so far:

“It’s frustrating, man, it’s frustrating, especially when you know you can play better. I’d say we were out-manned and we just didn’t have the people to compete, but that’s just not the case. Self-inflicting wounds. We just have to be better. We can’t blame it on rust anymore, we just have to put our best foot forward.”

On if rust was a factor in the Pittsburgh game:

“I’m not saying rust is a factor for anything. That tends to be what everyone blames it on at the beginning of the season, but I don’t believe that that’s the case with us. We just have to focus, man. We’ve got the talent, I just think that we thought the talent would overtake at times, but we really have to focus.”

On rebounding from the slow start:

“We just have to show up to work on Tuesday with a mindset that we aren’t going to pout, we aren’t going to feel sorry for ourselves. We are 0-2, we know the season isn’t over, but we do have to pick it up. We have to get some tempo. We can’t just sit around and expect the light to just turn on. We have to kind of force the issue.”

REDSKINS LB RYAN KERRIGAN**On the Cowboys’ rushing attack:**

“Their run is such a point of emphasis, they’ve got so many good backs, with their offensive line you are really trying to hunker down on the run game, so it was a good job by them to prep for that.”

On falling to 0-2:

“It’s still a long season. We have 14 games left, two disappointing games so far. We dropped two at home, which is really not good, but we’ve still got a long way to go and we’ve got to come back and prepare well this week for New York.”

On getting the team ready after two disappointing losses:

“It starts with Tuesday when we get back in the building. You know, injured guys have to get treatment tomorrow, just got to come back ready to play. It’s a long season and we got a long way to go so, no one is going in the tank yet. It’s two disappointing home losses, but we’ve got a long season to go.”

On the opportunities to win this game:

“Yeah, it’s disappointing. We didn’t close them out defensively. We couldn’t get off the field when we needed to and have got to do better on that touchdown run by Alfred [Morris]. Got to be more gap sound.”

On if the Redskins did anything better in Week 2:

“Yeah, I feel like we got after the quarterback a little better but it’s also part of the scheme. Pittsburgh was getting the ball out so quick, they weren’t going to let us have an impact on the game, but I thought we rushed the passer a little better today. We’ve still got to be better against the run.”

On staying positive this week:

“Knowing it’s a long season. We’ve still got 14 opportunities, so you can’t go in the tank yet. That’s it.”

On success of LB Trent Murphy:

“Yeah, he did really well. He had a great week of practice, so I’m not really surprised he did so well. He’s really improved his craft over the years. He did well today.”

REDSKINS G BRANDON SCHERFF

On the offense:

"We just have to execute. We just have to keep Kirk [Cousins] safe and give him time back there to allow him to do his job."

On the running game today:

"Yeah, you know, we're just trying to improve every day, take what Coach [Bill] Callahan gives us on the field during practice and take it out during gameplay. We just need to keep improving."

On the frustration of being 0-2:

"Oh, it's very frustrating. I said before, we have to take advantage of the home crowd. We're 0-2 at home right now, but we just have to watch film and improve on that."

On staying positive with 14 games to go:

"We have 14 games left. We still have plenty of time to turn things around and that's what we're going to do. We have a day off tomorrow and we'll come in Tuesday and turn things around."

REDSKINS CB BASHAUD BREELAND

On adjusting the coverage in the second half:

"They chose to match up at the end of the fourth quarter, and that's what we did."

On if the adjustment affected his assignment:

"No, not really. Just go to the opposite side and do the same thing. I mean, I used to play on that side. It wasn't hard to adjust."

On how he feels about his performance:

"Yeah, I feel like I played pretty good. I made some mistakes out there. I could have been more aggressive, but I felt like I played pretty good."

On the amount of attention he got last week:

"Man, I don't follow that. That don't bother me. I come to play ball every day, you know what I mean? Do my job every week. They can go to hell, all I care."

On the sense of urgency being down 0-2:

"The urgency is immediate. We got to come out here and win. We can't go 0-3. Season is shot if you go 0-3; our goals aren't going to be able to be accomplished."

On the level of frustration in the locker room:

"I mean, it's frustrating, but I mean, we can't be mad at nobody but ourselves. We have to go out there and play better."

REDSKINS CB JOSH NORMAN

On if he is still processing the loss:

"Yeah, I mean, we lost. Got to tip your caps off to the guys, you know. Gave it our all, put our best foot forward, guess it wasn't good enough so you've got to get back on the practice field and go a little bit harder, a little bit extra, continue to fight hard and not be down on ourselves. That is all I think. The thing is you've just got to execute when our number is called and do the things we're supposed to do—do things our coaches

ask us to do. Execute better, I think that's the biggest thing. Win these games that come down to one or two plays."

On what led to the strategy change in the fourth quarter:

"I don't know, ask Coach [Jay Gruden] that. Don't ask me. I'm one of the soldiers on the field so you've got to ask the field generals on the sidelines."

On what he thought about the strategy change:

"Like I said, I'm asked to do what I am asked to do. All this and the coaches ask me to do something, I'm going to do it to the full extent of it of my abilities, and I'm going to get the job done and execute flawlessly and that's what I did. Sucks that we came up a little short, but at the end of the day, you take solace in understanding that God gave us these challenges to see if we can overcome and be stronger from it, so of course we are going to get back out there and start on Tuesday and get to work."

On when the strategic change was made:

"I don't know, I mean, he's in one time, out one time, I was just doing what I was asked to do, giving it my all no matter what the situation is, who I am facing, who I am not facing. I just want to win so, it really don't matter to me."

REDSKINS WR JOSH DOCTSON

On if miscommunications were the causes of the offensive miscues:

"No, there was no miscommunication. We just need to execute better. I guess it just goes back to we need to practice harder. We just have to execute better. I have to execute better."

On what helped the first drive of the second half:

"I guess we just changed the play calling a little bit. We went out there in the second half and just went a little bit faster. I guess that's what happened."

On playing against his hometown team:

"It probably didn't really mean a lot. It's just a different logo. I just wanted to win, man, I just wanted to win, that's all."

REDSKINS WR JAMISON CROWDER

On his play today:

"I feel like I played OK. I wouldn't say it was a great game for me. I just try to do what I can. Anytime I'm there, I'm just trying to get open. If Kirk [Cousins] decides to throw it my way, I just try to take advantage of the opportunity and do something for the team and put us in the best position to score."

On what he did not like about the game today:

"I feel like that was a game that we gave away. Credit to the Cowboys, they fought. They played hard. We were in position to increase our lead, but we didn't take advantage of the opportunity. But we still had a chance to win. We have to execute on the small things – the small details, the little details. But I feel like we'll get back on track."