

**Head Coach Chip Kelly
Press Conference – October 2, 2016
San Francisco 49ers vs. Dallas Cowboys**

Do you have any preliminary word on LB NaVorro Bowman's injury?

"I haven't got anything. Sorry. I literally just finished with the team and just walked in here, so I'll go see [49ers vice president of football operations Jeff Ferguson] Ferg right after this. But, I did not get anything."

The way you guys started offensively, converting third downs then kind of fell back into what plagued you guys in Seattle. What do you--?

"I don't look at this like Seattle. I thought we did a really good job early on the two opening drives and then just did sustain. We had two other drives in the first half. I think we only had four in the first half. So, we didn't stay on the field like we wanted too. Those are the things you have to clean up to be consistent. I thought early on we did a nice job. Then we came out the first drive of the second half and did a nice job moving the ball down the field, kind of stalled in the red zone and then ended up with a field goal. Against a team like this, we've got to do a better job on the offensive side."

On the interception, it seemed like the quarterback, receiver weren't on the same page on that?

"No, I think we were trying to throw a post route over the top. We ran two deep routes and the first route the free safety jumped the first route. So, go to the second post over the top. I don't know, I was looking at the route, it looked like it was under thrown but I don't know if [QB] Blaine [Gabbert] got caught up in the pocket, because usually he throws that ball. He's got a very strong arm. He was just throwing a post down the middle of the field."

I know you never want to focus on one person individually, but do you have to start looking at Blaine Gabbert as the starting quarterback?

"No, I thought Blaine played well today to be honest with you. Besides that one throw and again I have to see the film. I don't know if he had a chance to step up in the pocket and make the throw, but besides that I thought Blaine played a good game."

On the unnecessary roughness penalty, what did you see there and did you feel a change in the way the game was going at that point? You had a chance to get off the field.

"Which one was that?"

It would have been a sack. It was third-and-six in the second quarter, and then they stay on the field.

"I think we had two mistakes. We had the penalty and then the short punt resulted in their two scores in the first half. We talk about all the time, penalties that keep drives alive are things that hurt you. I didn't see it. They said they blew a whistle, I didn't hear a whistle on the field. I don't think anybody heard a whistle on the field. But, if they called it then it happened."

After the interception WR Torrey Smith came off and threw his helmet. I don't know if you saw that. Do you sense any frustration?

"No, I think when a receiver is open he wants the ball. Again, I don't know what happened with the protection in the pocket and did the quarterback have an opportunity to step up and make the throw."

LB Gerald Hodges didn't play on defense, why was that?

"We were trying to get [LB Michael] Wilhoite involved a little bit. He's played really well for us in practice and in games and just trying to get Mike in there as the WILL linebacker. He's really worked very hard

in practice and that's what we thought we were going to go. That was a decision we made early in the week, to get Mike out there with NaVorro."

LB Nick Bellore?

"Bellore is always the back up MIKE, so that's kind of how that works. So, Nick plays the backup MIKE. Gerald and Mike play the WILL position and Bo and Bellore play the MIKE position."

On how the linebacker position will change if Bowman is out for an extended period of time:

"We'll have to talk about all of it because if Bo is out, we have to figure out exactly what we've got left at inside linebacker and then we'll go from there."

What did you tell the guys in the locker room afterwards?

"That I thought they competed and I thought they did a great job on the goal line stand and sometimes the ball doesn't go your way. We have to come right back tomorrow morning and get ready because we have a game on Thursday. So, probably the best thing for us is to get ready to go play a football game again very quickly on a short turnaround."

Is DL DeForest Buckner's injury--?

"Again, I haven't talked to Ferg. I really talk to our team and then [49ers vice president of communications] Bob [Lange] brings me in here, so I did not get any updates on any player whether it be [WR Jeremy] Kerley or DeForest or whoever else left the game at any point in time."

After the Seattle game you said you weren't throwing as much on first down generally because you didn't want to get behind the chains. Today, was there a more aggressive offense approach?

"No, it just depends on how they are playing us. There was a stretch there that I think we ran seven straight on first down, but we were having success on first down. You're always trying to stay in positive, stay out of the negative yardage plays. So, if it's incomplete on first down you're in second-and-10. I thought overall they did a good job. We just didn't convert on that last drive and that hurt us obviously. We moved the ball. We have to make a play there on third-and-six and fourth-and-six."

What determines whether Blaine has a big game running the ball? It seemed like week one, this week, he did a lot of it.

"It just depends on how the defense is going to defend you. If they are going to try to take away one aspect, if they have one extra defender on you, then the quarterback has to become an option in some of our run schemes, not all of our run schemes, but in some of our run schemes. If they are going to try to have the end take the running back out then now someone has to be responsible for the quarterback. If you can block the person who's responsible for the quarterback then you have an opportunity to gain some yards."

You don't go into the game thinking this is going to be a bigger opportunity for Blaine?

"We just practice and then it depends on how they defend us. Sometimes the defensive end sits and allows you to hand the ball off and then they rally down. You don't really know. They had done both going in. Sometimes the defensive end sat. Sometimes the defensive end chased the ball carrier. It kind of went back and forth."

We talked a lot about offense, but defensively you're going against a team that was playing a rookie quarterback without their best receiver, without their left tackle. Were your guys in the right positions?

"I think so, but I think there's other weapons there too. They've got a Hall of Fame tight end. They've got an outstanding running back. They have three other offensive linemen that I think are really good,

so I wouldn't shortchange them from a talent standpoint. I know [Dallas Cowboys WR] Dez [Bryant] didn't play but it wasn't like if Dez is out there's no one else to go to. We knew the matchup with [WR] Cole Beasley is a difficult matchup. [Dallas Cowboys WR] Terrance Williams is another really good receiver. We didn't feel bad that Dez was out and they had nobody over there. I think they've got a lot of weapons. That's one thing that makes them such a viable group on the offensive side of the ball because its not just one player. There's multiple players on that offensive side of the ball that are pretty good."

What did CB Rashard Robinson do to win that starting job and how did you feel he played today?

"He just had a really good week of practice. We kind of put it on practice and then the other thing is we asked [CB Keith] Reaser to play some nickel. So, we're kind of asking Rease to kind of go back and fourth. So, with Rashard, we just left him at one spot and obviously like we said we were going to watch how the week of training went and he did a really nice job in the week of training. We felt like he deserved the opportunity. I thought he stepped up and did some really nice things today."

As you know, Blaine's taken a fair amount of criticism for throwing short of the sticks on third down. On the final fourth down play--?

"We had two guys, there were actually three guys vertical on the play. A couple of them were grabbed. I don't know what happened after that and then obviously Blaine got flushed in the pocket, so now we're into scramble mechanic. Torrey was actually running an in route, but when the quarterback scrambled he stuck his foot in the ground and went back outside. I can't tell you from where I'm standing what happened with the other guys deep. I know that two of our receivers were grabbed immediately right at the start of the play, but I don't know what transpired after that. We had three guys going vertical on the play and just one guy underneath it."

So given the situation, you thought it was an acceptable decision?

"Again, if I can see the film I can tell you what I think the decision is. But, I know what we started with play with. We had three vertical routes on the play with a tight end on the backside and the two receivers over here and Torrey was coming back underneath on a squirrel route. You can't send all of them deep. You've got to have some options in there especially if they are playing in zone coverage where you have to high-low somebody. Again, it was six yards, so we have to be able to convert them, but Blaine got flushed. And then we turned into scramble mechanics, so kind of the routes are off when it's scramble drill. It's who can uncover and who can get open. But, obviously I think Torrey separated from his guy but he was short of the sticks."

The S Jaquiski Tartt penalty there in the second quarter, what did you see on it and did it really change the game?

"I think it changed the game and we have to do a better job avoiding that. I didn't see, I really didn't see. He said he blew the whistle to stop the play. I don't think anybody heard a whistle. I know no one on our sideline heard a whistle, but if the referee makes a call then it's correct. That's the way we always approach it."

**QB Blaine Gabbert
Press Conference – October 2, 2016
San Francisco 49ers vs. Dallas Cowboys**

You got off to a really hot start in the first quarter. How did it just cool off after that?

"Yeah. We started fast like we wanted to all week. Got the run game going. Got some passes in there. Jumped up to 14-0 and just stalled there a little bit. We got to watch the film to really see the reasons

why. But, when we have momentum like that, when we're clicking on all cylinders, we can't have errors on our side of the ball that prevent us from executing up and down the football field."

What happened on the deep ball to WR Torrey Smith? It looked like he was running--.

"Yeah. That's on me. I go to throw him to the middle of the field. I got to throw him to the hash and I just cut it a little too earlier and just missed him wide."

Was there pressure in your face at that moment?

"No, not that I remember. I haven't watched the film and saw what really happened. But, that's a throw I've got to throw to the middle of the field and let him go get and make a play on the ball."

Did you talk to him afterwards? He looked frustrated you--.

"Yeah. We were both frustrated. I mean, that was a huge play in the game. Every game in the league comes down to one or two plays that change the outcome and that definitely had an impact on it and that's on me. I got to throw that ball to the middle of the field and let him go get it."

Trying to put too much air under it, you think?

"No. That's the route and like I said, I just got to throw the ball to the middle of the field, especially with the free safety cheating to the left hash and let Torrey go make a play."

You hadn't targeted him up to that point. Was there a concerted effort saying, 'No matter what, we're going to him right now,' or was it the--?

"No. We were just executing our offense. Our reads had been there all day. We were just going through our progressions and on that play, that's where the read dictated the ball to go. I made a poor throw and that's it."

You kept the ball a lot on those zone-reads. Was that just reading the linebacker or did you feel going into this game, maybe that was--?

"It was the way they were playing it. It was their defensive scheme for the day. They were trying to gap exchange and play the linebacker over the top with the end crash and you just got to pull it, keep it tight and get as many yards as you can."

This is your guys' third straight loss now. I mean, compared to last year at this point, where is this team?

"We've got a competitive group of guys and the guys in that locker room fought to the end and that's why that locker room is so great. Nobody's giving up. Nobody's pointing fingers. We're all in this together and like I've always said, the beautiful thing about the NFL is you got a game the next week and we just happen to have one on Thursday night. So, we're going to watch this film as quickly as possible and start our preparation on Arizona."

Can you take me through the fourth down play? Obviously, the route was short of the first down marker.

"Yeah. We called a play. They were in man coverage and you know, we just got flushed and tried to make a play. Let our guys win and see if we could get the fourth down and we came up a yard short. That's the way it goes. We're three feet short and that's a tough pill to swallow. We were driving there pretty good there on that last drive of the game and they just rallied to the ball."

You called timeout right before. Was it a formation issue?

"Yeah. We were just in a different personnel group. We were just trying to get a line on the formation. The clock was running down. So, we had to use a timeout."

49ers S Antoine Bethea
Postgame Quotes – October 2, 2016
San Francisco 49ers vs. Dallas Cowboys

You guys did a good job holding them in the first quarter, what happened in the second?

“They got some plays, some drives, and they started running the ball a little bit and that kind of opened some things up for them. That was really the main thing.”

Looks like the penalties were achilles heel for you today, was that a factor of what you were going through?

“Yes, especially on third downs getting penalties when we are in positions to get off the field, which allows them to prolong the drives. That is tough on the defense, staying out there. That is definitely something that we can’t do.”

You guys have a few injuries, how do you turn things around from here on Thursday night?

“We have no choice. It’s the next man up. Injuries are a tough part of this game. It happens to all the teams. We have a game on Thursday so next man up.”

This defense prides itself on stopping the run, how difficult as a defense to see Dallas Cowboys RB Ezekiel Elliott to get those yards?

“It sucks. Like you said we have to stop the run. That is what it is. We are always looking to make a team one dimensional. Elliott was having a good start of the year. We knew what he was capable of but we just have to do better.”

49ers RB Carlos Hyde
Postgame Quotes – October 2, 2016
San Francisco 49ers vs. Dallas Cowboys

The offensive game plan worked very well early on and then it didn’t work as well. What was the difference?

“I was slipping a couple times on a couple of runs. I could have done better getting us in third and shorts so we could convert those and keep it moving. I’ve just got to do better moving my feet and keep running hard.”

Do you feel like the defense adjusted to the things that were working well early in the game?

“No. I think we still had what we wanted. We just need to keep pressing on. I feel like I’ve got to do better. I don’t think I did that well.”

What adjustments do you have to make before coming back for Thursday’s game?

“I don’t know, you have to ask [49ers head coach] Chip Kelly that. As a player, you just got to execute. Whatever play call coach makes, execute.”

This offense really struggled on third downs against the Seahawks but came out seven-for-seven today on third downs. Obviously that was a point of emphasis, but what made you so successful on third downs?

“[49ers QB] Blaine Gabbert. Blaine was on the money today. When he’s clicking in the passing game and the receivers are catching the ball it just opens everything up for us. That’s why the run game was clicking also. The offense as a whole just needs to stay on pace and keep getting those third downs and take our time down the field.”

How different was this offensive game plan? We saw a lot of five receiver sets with nobody in the backfield. How different was this game plan than the first three?

"I don't really feel it was any different. I just think guys were more fired up. I think guys had that bitter taste in their mouths from losing the two previous games. Guys were eager to get back out there to prove themselves. I don't think it was about the game plan. I think guys were just eager."

It looked like there were a couple new formations we hadn't seen the first few games.

"That's coach Kelly. He's got a bunch of formations and plays nobody has seen, so each week it's something different. But, we already went through this in training camp so we already know what to expect."

The way you guys started, did you feel like you were maybe going to put up 30 with the way it was moving?

"I don't know if we were going to put up 30, but I definitely feel like we could have rushed for more yards. Each week it's something to learn from and grow from so I've got a quick turnaround playing against a divisional opponent so I've got to be ready, and we will be."

**49ers WR Jeremy Kerley
Postgame Quotes – October 2, 2016
San Francisco 49ers vs. Dallas Cowboys**

It was a combination of good and bad. You started out really good and then things didn't go so well as the game wore on.

"That's how it goes sometimes."

It has to be a game that felt for a while that you had control of. Can you put your finger on what went wrong in this game?

"We just have to execute in times where we need to execute. If the defense gives us the ball we have to take it down and score. I've just got to work harder, that's it."

There was one play, on a third down conversion that looked kind of tight with tight coverage on you, maybe that wasn't the best throw. Are you guys still working on the communication with those kinds of things?

"No, that was the best throw. That was the call for that. I just have to come up with it. That's all that is. It's just execution. I have to execute better. That's just how it's got to go."

How about just the way you guys came out. You hit your first seven third downs. Was there something clicking that you could put your finger on early?

"I don't know. We got the looks that we were looking for. We made the plays that we needed to make. Later on, down the stretch, we just have to make sure that we keep the momentum going."

How did you come out of the game? Are you feeling OK, like you'll be ready for Thursday?

"Yeah, I'm feeling good."

**49ers S Eric Reid
Postgame Quotes – October 2, 2016
San Francisco 49ers vs. Dallas Cowboys**

There were several big plays was there almost a shock in the system to see him go out like that?

"They made some plays. It is the same story line on third down. We got penalties that kept them on the field, which led to points for them. So if we can get off the field on third down, then we give ourselves a better chance to win the game."

Did you feel like there was a shift change after the roughing the passer penalty?

"They scored a touchdown after that. So what can you do."

Are you disappointed with the next series then, that you guys weren't able to stop them and they scored 14 points pretty quick there going into the half?

"Going into the half we have to get off the field. There is no other way to say it. We were in a comfortable position, getting the ball back at halftime. We just have to get off the field and give our offense a better situation to play in."

How concerned are you with LB NaVorro Bowman's injury?

"It is tough to see anyone go down. We will see what happens and the next guy has to step in and that is what we have to do. That next guy has some big shoes to fill."

**49ers CB Rashard Robinson
Postgame Quotes – October 2, 2016
San Francisco 49ers vs. Dallas Cowboys**

It seemed like you had a pretty solid game with a lot of pass breakups.

"Yes, I felt like I had a pretty solid game. I probably could've helped the defense more, but everybody was communicating which helped me get settled in faster. I felt good about my performance."

What do you think happened after the call against San Francisco 49ers S Jaquiski Tartt? It seemed like that changed things in the game.

"It was a sudden change. That's the thing about the game of football. We had a good defensive drive going, penalty happens, so that kind of kills the juice a little bit. Stuff happens, but we've just got to keep standing there as a team and look forward."

In terms of the play in the end zone, it looked like a pretty good pass and Dallas Cowboys WR Brice Butler almost had it but you knocked it away.

"Yeah, just using my tools and everything that coach taught us. You knew he had to be doing something to the outside based on how he was lined up. Just playing fundamentals, going out there and attacking the ball, and being aggressive."

What has this week of prep been like for you?

"I think it's one of my best weeks of practice. I had a lot of vets getting me comfortable with the defense and running with the ones. Running in with the ones, getting acclimated to everything, it was pretty good. I felt good about it."

**49ers T Joe Staley
Postgame Quotes – October 2, 2016
San Francisco 49ers vs. Dallas Cowboys**

What's the team-wide impact of a loss of a player as good as San Francisco 49ers LB NaVorro Bowman?

"It stinks. It's really, really bad. NaVorro is a captain for us, one of our team leaders. We're going to have to have a guy step up. That's a huge role to fill. You can't really replace a guy like NaVorro, but we have to have guys step up and be ready to go."

The team showed what it's capable of offensively in the first quarter, but couldn't really finish. What do you chalk that up to?

"I don't know really. It's hard for me to sit right here after the game not seeing the whole film and what's going on. I think they came in with a game plan to stop the run and were forcing Blaine to keep it a lot of times on those zone reads. I've got to do a better job of getting up on [Dallas Cowboys LB] Sean Lee a couple times early on. I don't really know what it was. We just have to execute better."

How about the quick week and turning around for the Thursday game?

"We're playing at night, playing at home and don't have to travel. I've been a part of Thursday games where you have to travel and play the game in Baltimore. We don't have to travel which is nice. Coming off this disappointing loss, it'll be nice to get right back to practice tomorrow. We've got a divisional opponent coming in. They're a big, tough test for us. They're a big, physical front on defense. It's going to be a good test for our offensive line."

Did they make any adjustments after you scored those first two touchdowns?

"I think they were doing pretty much the same. I'm not sure as far as coverage and stuff like that. Up front they kind of stuck true to who they are. They're a big movement team so they were moving a lot and bringing a lot of nickel pressure. They were doing a lot of stuff with Sean Lee. We adjusted then they adjusted, typical football."

**49ers S Jaquiski Tartt
Postgame Quotes – October 2, 2016
San Francisco 49ers vs. Dallas Cowboys**

Did the refs tell you anything about the ruffing the passer penalty?

"No. I didn't realize that it was on me. I couldn't hear the whistle. Everybody was still playing. Their linemen were still trying to block me, so I don't know."

To be clear, you didn't hear any whistle, correct?

"No. No one heard the whistle. We were just playing. The crowd was really into it and really loud."

When did you realize the penalty was on you?

"After the offense received the ball. The coaches told me that the penalty was on me."

The drive in general that led to Dallas' first touchdown, what changed for this defense between the first and second half?

"We just have to stay sound and stay disciplined. In the second half for two plays we didn't stay disciplined and they made a play."

You knew that Dallas Cowboys RB Ezekiel Elliott was going to be a handful. Why is he so difficult?

"A back like Ezekiel, he is fast, strong and he can do a lot. You have to defend the whole field when he runs."

Obviously 49ers LB NaVorro Bowman lost for this defense as well, what changes when a veteran leader like that goes out?

"Nothing changes, but he is definitely a big key on our defense. Hopefully he will feel better and get back soon. We just have to keep getting better."

Cowboys Head Coach Jason Garrett
Press Conference – October 2, 2016
San Francisco 49ers vs. Dallas Cowboys

Can you talk about the way your team came back down 14-0 early in the game?

“Yeah, that’s what this team’s all about. That’s what this team’s all about. That’s how we built this team. Great character guys who work hard every day, prepare themselves the right way and just fight. They fight through adversity, and I thought that was evident today. Obviously, a lot of different guys in the lineup for us. You know, guys playing, backups playing, nobody blinked. Nobody blinked when we were down 14 on the road. It was a hell-of-a team win for us.”

How special that you have two rookies coming through like that for you in both Dallas Cowboys QB Dak Prescott and--?

“Yeah, and not all the rookies but the backups. There were a number of backups in the lineup on both sides of the ball. Guys just stepping up prepared, accountable, come to work every day, do their job. It was a hell-of-a day.”

Talk about the late hit penalty on Dak, it seemed it gave him new life and set up your first touchdown. Did you see that as a late hit or how did you see that play?

“I don’t know. They threw a flag, and it was a good opportunity for us to take advantage of and our guys did.”

Talk about the plays Dallas Cowboys CB Morris Claiborne made in the second half, the interception, the sack, the--?

“Great illustration of what he’s all about, what this team’s all about, what we build each and every day. Mo’s overcome a lot throughout his career. He’s playing the best football of his career. I think you saw that in the early part of the season. You saw that throughout the game. Makes the big interception. Makes the big tackle. At the end of the ball game he’s a tough guy. He’s a tough guy. He’s mentally tough. He’s physically tough. He did a damn good job today.”

Second straight week that Dallas Cowboys RB Ezekiel Elliott has gone over 100 yards. Do you feel like the reps are starting to make him more comfortable?

“Yeah, no question Zeke is improving. The run game’s improving week-to-week. He did a good job right from the start against the Giants, got better the next week, better last week, today. Hard-fought. They put a lot of guys around the line of scrimmage, still able to run the football, dominate the line of scrimmage. Physical, tough effort by the guys up front. I thought he ran, [Dallas Cowboys RB] Alfred [Morris] went in and ran hard. Really did a good job for us, allowed us to control the game in the second half.”

Going back to Dak, down 14-0, you get the touchdown, on the final I guess drive of the half he’s 8-10, still flawless, still unflappable, can you be more impressed with what he’s done?

“Yeah, again the kind of team we want to build. Handle any situation, go on the road, down 14-0, you want to have the kind of guys that are going to respond the right way. We’ve certainly done that all year long.”

Can you talk about how things shifted with Dallas Cowboys DT Tyrone Crawford’s sack? It seemed like momentum really shifted on that play.

“Yeah, they challenge you. They’re a really good offensive football team and they can get you on your heels real quickly, and they did early on in the ball game. But, the biggest thing for us is to somehow, someway get them off schedule, and sacks were able to do that. And you get them in a longer down and distance situation like everybody in this league, it’s hard to convert, and that certainly was a big

play of the game. We were able to kind of, you know, stop their rhythm, stop their momentum a little bit, and get the game swung around.”

How impressed were you with Dallas Cowboys T Chaz Green second week in a row--?

“Yeah again, backup player ready to play, accountable, comes to work every day, and just ready to step in. A number of guys on our football team have done that. A tribute to the individual player, tribute to the guys coaching them, and you take advantage of the opportunity and what’s there. He’s done a hell-of-a job. Not perfect by any means. Accountable does not mean you don’t make mistakes, right? It doesn’t mean you don’t make mistakes. It doesn’t mean infallible. Accountable just means you’re ready to go and you’re prepared for the opportunity when you get them, and you learn from the opportunities. I think he’s a great example of that.”

Dallas Cowboys WR Brice Butler and Dallas Cowboys WR Terrance Williams step in, and they both had touchdown passes. Can you talk about that?

“Yeah again, young guys stepping in and getting an opportunity, preparing themselves for the opportunity. It’s not perfect, but again accountable for the opportunity that they do get. It doesn’t mean they’re not going to make mistakes. It doesn’t mean they can’t get better, but approached it the right way. When he had some opportunities, he made some of the plays. A couple other times he didn’t make the plays, but he’ll learn from the experience.”

It’s a surprise that a rookie quarterback can start a career with 131 consecutive passes without a pick.

“You’re talking about Dak? Yeah, Dak’s certainly done a nice job.”

Defensively, what did you do different in the second half certainly got one big one play, but--?

“Oh no, we made a ton of changes. What you want to do against this team is you want to make sure that you mix it up defensively throughout the game. And again, the biggest thing is somehow, someway to get them off schedule. Get a minus run, get a sack, do something that gets them out of their rhythm, and you’ve got to win on third down. We were able to do that as the game wore on. We mixed man, we’ve mixed zone. They made some plays in the passing game. You have to give them credit. They ran the ball throughout the ball game, but our guys just kept fighting. Guys just kept battling. Guys somehow, someway were going to figure out a way to get it done. A damn good win for our team.”

Is something going on with the kicker, does he have a back injury or something?

“Yeah, he had a little bit of an issue before the game, and he went back out and warmed up and [Dallas Cowboys K] Dan [Bailey] just played through it. Obviously missed the first field goal, but kicked off adequately enough in the ball game. He too is a tough guy.”

**Cowboys QB Dak Prescott
Press Conference – October 2, 2016
San Francisco 49ers vs. Dallas Cowboys**

Talk about the come from behind win and not giving up on the team today.

“This is a great team and I think this win just shows our character. We had more guys go down last week and guys had to step in and they got the job done. So it’s kind of the theme you could say that if someone goes down just step up and do a good job and we’ve done a good job going down 14-0 this game. We didn’t blink. The defense made some plays to get the thing rolling and we got it done.”

How does this team come together and not just be able to have that comeback but with guys who are playing in their first year in the league and being able to do that in a hostile environment?

"This team has great chemistry and guys who hang off the field just away from the facilities really come together. We all have the same goal. We want to do whatever it takes to win and it showed today."

How do you stay even-keeled when you're down 14-0?

"I just like to play and play independently. I do my best to just focus on each and every play and allow the rest to just play out for itself. Other than the first half we were just stepping on our own toes, making mental errors, and jumping offside or false starts, things like that. Once we got going, things worked out."

There was a pass early in the game San Francisco 49ers S Eric Reid got his hands on. Is that one you'd like to take back?

"Yeah, definitely. He didn't intercept it so I was fortunate for that, but that was just bad on my part with [Dallas Cowboys TE Jason] Witten running his route a little different than I thought and we weren't on the same page. That's on me."

Talk about that two-minute drive at the end of the first half.

"[Dallas Cowboys Offensive Coordinator] Coach Linehan did a great job just calling the plays and allowing us to go fast. That's when I feel comfortable. When we're going fast, run the ball, putting the pressure on the defense. The guys got open, Witten specifically, on that drive. He made some catches and we ended with a touchdown."

It's been a couple weeks in a row now with Dallas Cowboys RB Ezekiel Elliott rushing for over 100 yards. When he's running the ball like that, the offensive line's got him in that way, what does that do for you?

"It allows the passing game to open up, the play action pass. It allows our offense to be diverse and we can come at you in anyway when he's running that ball and has the ground game like that. That's no surprise. The guy works his butt off each and every day."

Talk about the fan support you guys got here today. Even though you're at the Levi's Stadium you guys had a lot of Dallas fans.

"It's America's team and we kind of expect that everywhere we go the fans to show up like that, so we're thankful for them."

Talk about your receivers playing with Dallas Cowboys WR Dez Bryant out and how Dallas Cowboys WR Terrence Williams and Dallas Cowboys WR Brice Butler have stepped up.

"They've done what's asked of them each and every day at practice and each and every week. Don't worry about who's down, come in and do your job. Run your routes to the best of your abilities, block to your best abilities, and those guys are tremendous and show up every day."

You've talked a lot about giving Dez Bryant that one-on-one chance by throwing it up to allow him to make plays. It seemed similar with Terrence Williams on that play. Did you have a similar read to throw it up to make a play?

"The quarterback technique to try and catch up and play over the top and Terrence made a great play to get in the end zone to score right there. Later in the game, when Brice [Butler] brought down the catch, that's when we felt comfortable by throwing the ball and going out there to make some plays. He did it earlier, he'll make that touchdown catch. He's a very physical guy who's doing his job."

Did their defense do anything without Dez Bryant in that you might have not seen when he was in the game or other games?

"It's kind of hard to say I mean it was my first time playing against those guys. I hadn't played against them with Dez before so, it's hard for me to say. I expect they would have given him a little attention."

Are you spending extra time with WR Brice Butler at practices?

"Yeah, not just this week, it's every week. We have our defense goals with me and the receivers to get down with red zone plays or specific routes they want to work on. That's a play we've worked on for a couple of weeks and then this week coach called it and he did a good job. The defense showed a lot of attention with [Dallas Cowboys WR Cole] Beasley in the flat and he got open and made a good catch."

We've asked you this every week but still a lot of people are surprised by your success. How would you evaluate your first four weeks and how you've carried yourself?

"I say it every time you ask me, but I'd like to be 4-0. We got a good road win, good team win today so it's big to keep going and move forward."

How much belief comes after a game like this with no Dallas Cowboys QB Tony Romo, Dez Bryant, no Dallas Cowboys DT Tyrone Crawford, no Dallas Cowboys CB Orlando Scandrick? That you're able to come here on the road and win.

"It's a good team win as I said. It shows the character with people stepping up and doing their job and not blinking to get it done."

Talk about the play call to Cole Beasley there at the end. Instead of just trying to run out the clock, did you like him as a mismatch there?

"It's a screen play setup just as much as a run. As long as he catches the ball it's just like a run. Just a little pass and without the blocks and he made a great run. He got some good yards to finish the game off."

Was it a gutsy call for Dallas Cowboys Offensive Coordinator Scott Linehan to throw in that moment or did you think it was a safe call?

"I think it's one of the safer calls with the offense. Like I said, it's a three-yard little throw and a three-yard screen is no different than a run as long as you've got those blockers out in front to protect those throws."

**Cowboys WR Brice Butler
Postgame Quotes – October 2, 2016
San Francisco 49ers vs. Dallas Cowboys**

What does it mean for you guys to step up the way you did today?

"It was great. We went down 14-0 quick. Levi's Stadium was rocking for those boys. When [Dallas Cowboys WR] Terrence [Williams] got that touchdown, we were like, if we can get one more before halftime it's a different ballgame. We came out in the second half and I felt like we controlled the pace of the game. [Dallas Cowboys RB] Zeke [Elliott] did a great job and [Dallas Cowboys RB] Alfred [Morris] did a great job. We managed the game for the second half."

What about your contribution, and what about the contribution of WR Terrence Williams and all the unsung heroes of the game?

"We talked about it earlier in the week. We're going to be ready to go. I was telling him after the game that I almost blew it with the fade in the end zone, but I feel like everybody stepped up and did what they're supposed to do. We expected that."

Can you talk about your rookie quarterback and not blinking despite being down 14-0 on the road?

"He's not going to blink. He's a grown man, he's 23 years old, and I don't think any scenario is too big for him. We expect that from him, and I believe he expects that from himself."

That says a lot for a rookie quarterback in this league.

"It is. It shows you how calm he is in the moment, too."

How much did you guys have to step up, you, WR Terrance Williams and WR Cole Beasley today?

"We just had to play ball. I was telling Cole all game that they were trying to take him out of the game plan with their defense and how they were playing him. He makes that big play at the end of the game that seals it. Everybody was ready to go. We all expected to do that."

What happened on the taunting penalty?

"Me and 33 [San Francisco 49ers CB Rashard Robinson] were going at it all game. He's a good player. I just let my emotions get the best of myself. I didn't really think they would throw it because I threw the ball in the other direction, but I was looking at him as I threw the ball. After that [Dallas Cowboys QB] Dak [Prescott] was cussing me out like, 'What are you doing?' I turned around and saw the penalty and I knew it was me. I can't do that anymore."

How would you describe the confidence and the belief in this team after today?

"There's no limit in the sky to what we can do. We have a great ball team. A lot of guys were out today, especially on the offense. We just expect to go out there and execute plays."

Was there any pressure on you to step up when you were inserted into the lineup?

"No. I knew we're just playing football. It's nothing different. I'm back in the Bay Area. I played here for a couple of years. I felt calm in that moment knowing that I was coming back up here to play."

**Cowboys CB Morris Claiborne
Postgame Quotes – October 3, 2016
San Francisco 49ers vs. Dallas Cowboys**

Can you describe that interception you got?

"I tried to stay on top of it as much as I can. I had a good look at the ball as it was thrown and I was running down the field. I was fortunate enough to come up with the play."

He looked like he had a step on you for a second. Did he actually have one? What was going through your mind?

"He was a little over the top, but I was playing to his low hip. I wasn't worried about him passing me. I was fortunate enough to track that ball down and come up with it."

I noticed when you came into the locker room and looked at the Dallas media and gave them a "finally." Is it a relief? Is it excitement? How does it feel?

"It feels good to get an interception anytime in a game. It's been a long time since I had one. It feels great to finally get one and to get one in a win."

You said on Friday you've been dreaming of one [interception]. How literal were you being?

"It's every day. It's non-stop. As the game was going on, I was praying to myself, 'God, I know it's not too late. I'm still here. I still want one.' I remember walking around telling the training staff, 'I'm going to get you one.' I even told our linebackers coach, 'Hey, I'm going to get you one.' It just so happened that I came back over with one."

Are you happier with the pick or the fourth down tackle?

"I'm happy with both of them. The fourth down tackle is what closed it out. I'm thankful."

Cowboys RB Ezekiel Elliott
Postgame Quotes – October 2, 2016
San Francisco 49ers vs. Dallas Cowboys

How do you feel after today's game?

"I felt like the offense was rolling. I'm really falling into place in the offense. I'm getting used to the run schemes. Honestly, I just want to focus on getting into the film room and getting better."

It seemed like you broke off the big runs after 49ers LB NaVorro Bowman went out. What did you see once he left the field in terms of creating opportunities?

"He's a great player. He definitely is. We were doing a good job up front. As the game goes on, the defense gets tired and that's when the big ones are going to pop."

Are things falling into place that may have been hard for you in Week 1 and Week 2?

"I'm just working on being consistent with my pace, my landmarks and my reads. I came from a spread offense that's a little bit different. I wasn't really used to running from under center. It took me a while to get used to it and get comfortable."

You got most of your yards in the second half. Do you think your offensive line was wearing them down?

"Definitely. That's how it is. Those runs that are dirty or tough are in the first half. As the game goes on, the other team gets tired and fatigued and that's when the big ones pop off."

Cowboys T Chaz Green
Postgame Quotes – October 2, 2016
San Francisco 49ers vs. Dallas Cowboys

These last two weeks you've had an opportunity not the way that you want to play because of Dallas Cowboys T Tyron Smith's situation, but it seems like you've taken advantage of it.

"That's all I can do. I'm just trying to do my part. I don't want there to be a dropoff when I get in there. I just want to step up and help the team out the best that I can."

Dallas Cowboys head coach Jason Garrett said that he's so impressed with how you were ready for the opportunity. How hard has that been for you stay focused to say I'm ready to go?

"We have a great group. It really hasn't been that hard. We just put so much work in throughout the week. Those guys are constantly trying to get better each week and improve upon themselves."

When there's talk about the offensive linemen being the best in the league and then an injury happens and you step in and they don't even take a step back. You have to feel good about that.

"I don't want to get into all of that talk. We just want to work hard, cleanup the things that we can cleanup and just keep getting better every week. That's all we can focus on, and the results will show from there."

Cowboys LB Sean Lee
Postgame Quotes – October 2, 2016
San Francisco 49ers vs. Dallas Cowboys

How good was it in the middle of the fourth quarter when Dallas Cowboys CB Morris Claiborne had that interception?

“Mo has had an unbelievable season. He’s worked extremely hard. Really since all his injuries, the amount of work that he has put in has been unbelievable. You can see it on the field. He’s been fantastic for us. He deserves it because of all the work that he has put in.”

Do you think that’s why everybody mobbed him after that interception?

“No doubt. Everybody loves Mo, and everybody sees the work that he’s put in. Especially when a guy gets injured and he battles back from these injuries. He’s played extremely well. He played great last year in a lot of situations, dealt with some injuries and had an unbelievable offseason. To see him thrive is something special.”

They started off 7-for-7 on third down conversions and then dropped off dramatically after that.

“They had a couple of big plays, but we couldn’t get off the field the first two drives. That’s something we’ve been pretty good at this year and something we weren’t able to get done early. We found a way to do it, and you can see how that can change a game.”

On the other side, does Dallas Cowboys QB Dak Prescott just continue to impress you?

“The offense is unbelievable how they kept grinding and how they kept playing. Like us, both sides of the ball didn’t start as fast as we would like, but we kept playing. You saw by the end of the game that we started to take control.”

**Cowboys G Zack Martin
Postgame Quotes – October 2, 2016
San Francisco 49ers vs. Dallas Cowboys**

Dallas Cowboys RB Ezekiel Elliott had a good game and you guys seemed to take over after 49ers LB NaVorro Bowman went out.

“Zeke ran extremely hard. He’s very talented. If we can get him covered up front, he’s going to make some plays. He was awesome today. We didn’t start where we wanted to. The defense was awesome in the second half getting that turnover and that allowed us to do what we do best. It was a great team win.”

This is a stupid question, but how much more enjoyable is this job when you can get a win?

“It’s a hundred times better. Wins are hard to come by, especially on the road. We’ll learn by watching the tape, but this was a great team win.”

People have been critical of Ezekiel Elliott and the running game in the first few weeks. Obviously, it worked pretty well today.

“We need to get on the same page. Everything’s tied together. All 11 guys are tied together. We’re doing a better job, but we still have a long way to go. We are playing more as a team, more as a unit.”