



## **REDSKINS HEAD COACH JAY GRUDEN**

### **On injuries:**

"Quinton Dunbar had a hamstring stinger. [T] [Donald] Penn, hamstring. [TE] [Jerome] Cunningham was in concussion evaluation process."

### **On the momentum shift in the second half:**

"They took the opening drive and ripped it down our throats and made it 19-7. We came back, had a nice drive going. We got a first down, got another first down. We got a hand to the face, backed us up. They took the drive down and scored. It's hard to come back against those guys 26-7."

### **On QB Colt McCoy's performance:**

"I think he rushed a couple things early in the game and rightfully so. We had trouble picking up some stuff, which we have practiced and worked with, worked against all week, all year. So, it's an unfair evaluation right now. I gotta check out the protection first. But, he handled some things pretty well I think. We have to do a better job around him, we have to give him better plays, we have to play better around him. For him, any quarterback in this offense or any offense to succeed, we have got to have strong performances by others."

### **On the defense's performance:**

"They played pretty good in the first half. They had a great sudden change at the end of the half, they held them to a field goal and kept us right in the game. Then the third quarter, they went touchdown, touchdown, touchdown. We've had really major problems coming out of halftime, and contrary to beliefs, it's not about second half adjustments as much as it's about second half mentality. For whatever reason, we have gotten beaten up in the third and fourth quarter. Penalties, turnovers, lack of third down play-making that killed us."

### **On his job security:**

"Nobody told me anything and I don't have a concern. I'll just wait and see. If the key works on Monday, I'll keep working. Go attack the Miami Dolphins and plan on getting on first win next week."

### **On staff changes moving forward:**

"No. This time of the year, you're not going to install a whole new defense or a whole new offense with all the new people we have around here and some of the injuries we have pilling up. Consistency is going to be good. We're going to have to perform better and do a better job."

### **On theoretically making staff changes:**

"Theoretically, I can make changes everywhere. We're 0-5. We have not played up to par in any phase of football other than special teams. They've been outstanding. Just have to take a look at it tomorrow and see what happens."

### **On turning things around this season:**

"Yes, I've been provided ample opportunities to succeed around here. I've got good players, I've got a good staff. We just haven't produced on Sundays or Mondays. We gotta do better."

### **On Patriots TE Ryan Izzo's touchdown:**

“I don’t know. I have to look. I have no idea. I just know he was wide open. It was a play-action pass. Somebody might’ve tripped or got caught up. I don’t know, I’ll have to wait and see.”



## **REDSKINS QUARTERBACK COLT MCCOY**

### **On how he felt the game went:**

"Tough day. I don't want to paint any other picture. We want to score more than seven points. I felt fine physically. But when you get down a couple scores to these guys, it's a hard thing to just drop back and throw with their pass rush and their defense. We put ourselves in a hole, we had a lot of penalties that unfortunately stopped a couple of our drives. We just got to go back to the drawing board. We got a good group of guys in this locker room, good leaders, guys who want to win, who care. We'll just circle the wagon and figure out a way to get one on the board. That's the only thing we can do right now."

### **On the New England Patriots defense:**

"I don't want to make any excuses for me. We're playing in the National Football League, and I know my job and responsibility. I think I did maybe move out of pocket a couple times in the first quarter where I may have had a pocket there. But after that, I felt like I settled in. I had no issues seeing coverage and what they were doing. It was just a matter of getting my foot in the ground and trying to find the open guy, find number two. But when those guys knew we were throwing the football, that's hard to do. So we battled, we fought and we just came up short today. It was tough."

### **On the offensive struggles:**

"I certainly don't take for granted playing in the National Football League. You're one of 32 guys out there. I think we have a good offense. We just were missing some guys and we're doing our best and there's no excuse for what we put out there today. I think as a unit we have to continue to just figure out a way to start in the run game, and I think everything will build off of that. We've had a tough time with that the last couple weeks. We'll be all right though."

### **On the interception at the end of the half:**

"That's a hard one. I haven't played with these guys a lot. I haven't practiced with them a lot. But I'll take the blame for me. I think I have to see that throw, maybe, and maybe progress. We'll go back and look at that."

### **On Head Coach Jay Gruden's comment about the team's 2<sup>nd</sup> half mentality:**

"Well, I think we put a nice drive together to start the third quarter. We hit a couple balls and moved across the 50 [yard line]. And then I looked up again and it was third and 20. We just keep hurting ourselves. I thought we did a nice job getting off of the goal line. I mean look, they're not going to give us much. They're a very good defense, so whenever they present an opportunity, we've got to make it. The worst thing you can do is get penalties and back yourself up. We got across the 20 and it was a like a nine play drive for five yards or something. We just can't do that as an offense. The false starts, just the little stuff, that's where we've got to clean these things up. We think we can move the ball. We do think we can score points, but we're not good enough to beat the New England Patriots when we're in second and 20 and third and 20 all of the time. I don't think you can beat anybody that way. That's what really, really hurt us today."

### **On speaking to the team as a leader:**

"You definitely speak up. Being 0-5 is not fun. I've never been 0-5. I don't think very many guys in there have ever been 0-5. It's a place that's no fun. We've got to find a way to dig ourselves out of this hole. But I do believe in each one of the guys in there. We didn't play great today, but we're going to have to turn that around quickly. My message to the guys in the huddle was just that I appreciate the fight. This wasn't

because of lack of effort. This wasn't a lack of going out there and doing the best job you can. We just have to clean up a lot of little things that keep biting us, and I think we will."

**On the running game:**

"This is my first time out there. I felt like we had a good plan. I did. But, what happens in these games when you get down a couple of scores and you're playing against Tom Brady, you've got to throw the football. I hate to say you have to abandon the run game, but you sort of have to get into the mentality of 'we've got to create something and make something happen.' And before I leave out, I just want to say I felt like the defense played a great game and had a great first half. We couldn't get anything going and they were battling and battling. We turned the ball over deep and they [Redskins defense] stopped them [Patriots] for a field goal. Those are the things that good teams do. We, as an offense, just have to find ways to get the ball across the 50 [yard line], get the ball in the red zone, and punch it in. We had a whole call sheet of red zone plays, and we never even called one of them. That part is frustrating, but I believe in the guys in this room. I think we believe in each other. We just have to figure out a way to get it done."

**REDSKINS WIDE RECEIVER STEVEN SIMS JR.**

**On what it felt like to score his first touchdown:**

"It felt great. I'm hungry for more. It's been a long time coming, finally got to get in the end zone. It's hard getting in the end zone, so you have to cherish that moment every time you get in."

**On his touchdown play and what he saw on the big play:**

"Pretty much just like a little reverse, kind of, a little hand-back. I kind of get hidden behind the line when I go back across and they kind of lose me with the Z-motion or whatever. I just got out there and the guys in front of me blocked well, I made a good cut, they missed tackles and I scored."

**On when he knew he'd be a prominent player in the scheme this week:**

"This week we installed a lot of plays, new formations, stuff like that, so I kind of knew that my reps would be picked up a little bit. I was happy, I was ready to go contribute any way I can to the team."

**On how to move forward from 0-5:**

"We've just got to keep going forward, put our heads down, keep grinding. Nobody is going to give us a win just because we're 0-5, we've got to go take it. So next week, we're just going to go to work hard and hopefully we get our first win in Miami."

**On what he saw from QB Colt McCoy in his start:**

"He played a good game, he got his feet wet. First time back from injury, so I know things were moving pretty fast at first, but he settled down. He was getting comfortable and we started rolling a little bit, but the pre-snap penalties on offense are killing us right now."

**REDSKINS WIDE RECEIVER TERRY McLAURIN**

**On what could be improved on offense:**

"Just [minimizing] the negative plays, converting third downs and when we get in the red zone, we've got to score."

**On if the Patriots presented any surprises on defense:**

"They played a little less man than we anticipated. They played a lot more Cover-2, but either way we prepare for it all."

**On whether there's anything particularly tough about the Patriots defense:**

“I mean, they force you to drive it down the field. That’s why they’re the Patriots, that’s why they haven’t given up many touchdowns. Very well-coached. They tackle in the open field.”

## **REDSKINS RUNNING BACK ADRIAN PETERSON**

### **On if the offensive play-calling is working with the offensive personnel:**

“I don’t think that we really have established an identity over the past five weeks. That’s just kind of my [outlook] on it.”

### **On the culture difference between this team and his previous teams:**

“I’ve never been 0-5. I’m sure there are some other guys on this team that haven’t dealt with that before. I’m not going to backtrack on what I’ve said in the previous weeks because the talent is here, but obviously we’re not getting it done. We need to try something different because we all know we haven’t been successful here in the past five weeks. I don’t know what more to say. You guys are watching the game too, what do you guys think?”

## **REDSKINS TACKLE DONALD PENN**

### **On what changed after a quick start:**

“A whole bunch, man. We’ve got to figure out how to be more consistent. I think another big thing is we’ve got to figure out is coming out in the second half strong, finish games off. It’s bad though. We’ve got to learn and we’ve got to learn fast because we’re getting tired of losing. 0-5 is not good. Some of the things we’ve got to get better – sustaining drives, starting faster, we’ve got to get the run game going. There’s a lot of stuff we’ve got to work on, but we’re going to keep working, man. It’s tough right now, 0-5 sucks.”

### **On whether the issues are mental or physical:**

“It’s a little bit of both. We’re making good adjustments, we’ve got to go out there and execute. It’s tough though because it’s always like one person here, one person there. I had my share today, it’s tough. We’ve got to be all together. So, it’s working, it’s just tough right now. We’ve been working hard during the week, everybody has been putting work in practice and stuff, and it’s just tough when it’s not showing on Sunday. But all we can do is keep working, man, that’s all we can do is keep working. Keep staying positive and stay together, so that’s what we’re trying to do. We’re trying to keep everybody together in this locker room and just keep going. We’ve got a long season ahead of us so that’s the only positive we can look at, but 0-5 sucks.”

### **On where things are breaking down on offense:**

“I wish I could pinpoint it because if I could pinpoint it, it’d be fixed right now, you know what I mean? But I feel like we need to be a little more consistent in the run game. Coach is calling them, we just need to execute better and more often. And we need to stop with these penalties. I played for the Raiders and I thought the Raiders had an ‘X’ on their back when it came to penalties. But with the Redskins, it’s totally different. It’s ridiculous out there. I was getting mad at the refs out there. I explained to the ref, I said, ‘it ain’t you, man. We’re just frustrated. These penalties keep happening. I know you’ve got to do your job.’ I said, ‘It’s just frustration, so don’t get mad at us if we’re yelling at you all.’ We’re frustrated, so we’ve got to find a way to get it better. It’s hard when you get a nice positive first down play, then you come in second down and get a penalty, and now you turn second and 5 into second and 15 or second and 20. It’s tough, you know, we’re always playing behind the sticks, so we’ve got to help ourselves better with all those penalties. We had a long run with [RB Adrian Peterson] and they called a penalty. I think AP might’ve took that to the house. Little stuff like that, that could’ve changed the game. We’ve just got to keep working. It’s going to fall into place, I just wish it had fallen into place sooner before we go 0-5.”

## **CORNERBACK JOSH NORMAN**

**On the positives from the game:**

"I don't know where you get positives from a loss 7-33. Yeah, it [stinks]."

**On what happened in the second half:**

"I don't know. It got away from us. It just got away from us."

**On team morale:**

"No. It's tough, It's tough, it's tough, it's tough. [We] go to work every day, we practice hard, we come out here play hard, just can't catch breaks. We got players that [are] just really good. It's just sometimes things happen that [are] just not in our control. Yeah, it's tough."

**On the coaching staff:**

"That's not a question I can answer. That's dealing with up top. I'm not going to put myself in a situation and comment on that. That's got to deal with the people that's up at the top of the office who make those decisions. We just play the game. We try to play it to the best of our abilities."

**On the feeling in the locker room:**

"We [are] going to band together. That's all we got. [We] got nobody else that's for sure. Dig ourselves out of the hole that we put ourselves into. That's all we got. I think the teams we've been playing are really good teams. They've done a good job of scouting us and doing what they know necessary to get a W. We just have to be better in situations and critical moments to be able to help the football team in any way we can."

## **LINEBACKER RYAN KERRIGAN**

**On the success against the Patriots offensive line:**

"I think we liked our matchups. I was happy with a lot of the pressure we were able to put on. We just allowed them to be too balanced in the second half. And that was kind of what went bad."

**On struggles in the second half:**

"It's tough because I feel like we come into the locker room for half time and we're like excited. We're like, 'Alright, let's go. We're playing well. Let's do it for 30 minutes.' I don't necessarily think it's a mentality. I just feel like we haven't executed well. It's just the little things each play that leads ultimately to them getting down the field on us."

**On the idea of playing for Head Coach Jay Gruden's job:**

"We can't concern ourselves with that. We got to try and find a way to win as players. We got to be better as players. That's our focus."

**On staying focused at 0-5:**

"We still know that we are professionals. We have a long season ahead. We still have 11 games left. Those games are going to be there no matter what our record is right now. So, we got to be ready to play those games."

**On what can be improved:**

"Usually, it's little things in terms of maybe a guy's not in the right place or a missed tackle. Those lead to big chunks plays that ultimately allow them to extend drives and move the ball pretty efficiently."

**On sacking Patriots QB Tom Brady:**

"Yeah, cool for sure. I hadn't got one on him before so that was pretty neat. Of course, I wish it would have come in a different circumstance."



## **PATRIOTS HEAD COACH BILL BELICHICK**

### **On his thought of the game:**

“Well, I thought they had a solid effort from all three phases today and that’s really what you need to win on the road. [We] ran the ball better. Scored 33-points. Played our kind of defense and had good field position. Good solid team effort. Proud of the way the guys prepared this week. Players went out there and really thought we improved our execution. It’s not perfect, we still have a long way to go but we’re making progress. Good turnaround this week we’ll have to grind through it here. Good to come out of here with a win.”

### **On the defensive effort:**

“Well we have a lot of good players played hard, we hit the quarterback. Played pretty well on third down. Still things we can work on and things we can do better, missed a couple opportunities. It’s a really good group that communicates well. Good effort and good awareness. Very fortunate that we have a lot of good players.”

### **On fan support in today’s game:**

“It was amazing. Oh my God, there were so many Patriot fans here it was surprising and overwhelming. It was great seeing that and appreciate the support from all of the traveling Patriot fans, or maybe they’re from here, I don’t know. Great to see them it was awesome.”

### **On the first two drives in the second half:**

“We did some good things. Some things we can improve on. Those drives were big, took it from 12-7 to 26-7, or whatever it was. Those were big drives combined with some defensive stops. [We] missed a couple of opportunities with some field position in the first half. Put together some good drives and combination of runs and passes. Tempo. Offense did a good job. [Offensive Coordinator] Josh [Daniels] did a good job organizing it this week. There were some things he had to work through. It was good to have two tight ends out there and a full back and be able to get some production out of that group.”

### **On making adjustments after the 65-yard touchdown run:**

“It happened early. It was obviously a bad play. We can certainly coach it better. We can play better. They bounced right back. They had a higher level of determination to execute better. Like I said, we fixed a couple things. The Redskins used a lot of 10 personnel, lot of four receivers, we knew they were down a tight end. We anticipated some of that. Not as much as they did. We probably could have done a little bit to prepare for it. It was good job by the secondary adjusting to those formations. We made a couple calls in the second quarter and at halftime to handle it better. The players did a good job adjusting to that.”

### **On what lead to the decision of using two tight ends:**

“We always try to take the match up and the game plan we feel will be the best game plan for the game. It’s what we do every week.”

### **On if they will evaluate the kicker position this week:**

“I don’t think so. We just need to do things better. We can do them better in all phases of the game – offense, defense and special teams. We’ll keep working on it.”

### **On biggest challenge of playing on Thursday:**

“It’s a combination. A: Understanding of the Giants and getting mentally ready. They have a very challenging schemes on offense, defense, and special teams. We saw them earlier in the preseason but that really didn’t do much. The mental part of it is challenging, certainly the physical part of it. When you think about, tonight’s Wednesday and we play on Sunday. It’s a lot for the players to rebound from. I’m sure they will do everything they can to be as physically ready as possible. So it’s a combination of two things, you have to just balance it. One without the other is not enough so you have to try and get both. We will do the best we can on short notice and the players will do the best that they can to get ready in the less amount of time that they normally have. It’s the same time the Giants have, it’s the same for both teams. [We will] do the best we can to be ready to go.”





## **PATRIOTS QUARTERBACK TOM BRADY**

### **On their performance in the second half:**

“Typical halftime, just make some adjustments. And I thought we did a better job executing. So not much other than that, I mean, just playing better football.”

### **On the fan support here in DC:**

“It was ridiculous and pretty amazing. It felt like a home game. And right from the time that we got to the hotel yesterday afternoon, to run in after the game, it was pretty sweet. We appreciate all the support down here and it felt good to come down here and get a win in front of them.”

### **On what happened in run play when he was checking his knee brace:**

“Well, just sod gets stuck inside of the brace. It just jammed, it's like turf just stuck trying to push it out. But it's like super glued in there. Yeah, I appreciated [CB Josh Norman helping me out]. It probably looked pretty bad because it just stops. But the metal the brace on the side just digs into the turf. And I should slide on my right side, but on the turf it usually doesn't do that but on grass sometimes it sticks. Gotta get a new brace.”

### **On why the run game was more effective in the second half:**

“I'm not sure I'd be guessing if I said something now, but it was good to see. I think one thing that did help was the play count got up there pretty high. We had quite a few plays by halftime. Anytime you feel like you do that, you feel like you're going to wear the other team out and those three-yard runs become six and then finally, you can break one and [RB] Sony [Michel] did one, Sony broke a long one going with down our sideline for a touchdown run. It was great to see he ran hard and ran his butt off, so I am proud of him.”

### **On being 11-0 when Michel rushes for a touchdown:**

“Good, we are going to start him off and just give him the ball and put him in the end zone in the first quarter and everyone can go home.”

### **On the play of the defense:**

“They got a lot of great players on the field whether offense or defense they are going to be helpful to us scoring points. We obviously have a great strength in our defense. [They] turn the ball over and they just make it so hard to complete every pass. And we realized that in training camp, and it's just amazing to watch those guys play right now. So we just gotta keep it going. And hopefully we can we can pick up on offense.”

### **On if his brace broke:**

“Yeah, there's a bunch of little buckles that get all contorted and stuff, so we'll get it back next week.”

### **On feeling his way with the offense:**

“It could be a lot better. I guess that's how we feel.”

### **On how they plan to get mentally ready for Thursday with the quick turnaround:**

“I think that's something we're all prepared for and talked about and just it's quick. So, use the time every bit from now till game time to get ready physically and mentally and, you know, go play a good football team and try to get to 6-0.”

## **PATRIOTS WIDE RECEIVER JULIAN EDELMAN**

### **On what [QB Colt] McCoy does well as a quarterback:**

“Honestly, I don’t know. I’ve only been playing here, so what they tell me to do I try to do that as best as I possibly can and go from there. These are way above my pay grade questions.”

### **On the culture the Patriots have developed over the years:**

“I mean, there’s a standard. People expect you to go out and work hard, practice hard, play hard and if you do those things good things happen. That’s something we try to emphasize here. We go out and practice each week, and when we have good weeks of practice it usually carries over in a game.”

## **PATRIOTS WIDE RECEIVER JOSH GORDON**

### **On second half performance:**

“It felt good. Good run game, good ball movement, once we started getting in that rhythm things started opening up. We wanted to finish strong, most importantly, finish every drive. I think we wore them down, kept the pace, kept the tempo going and then something changed. It was great.”

### **On heavy running attack in the game:**

“When we get to this juncture, it depends on how we want to see things develop. In the second half, we were able to start the run game up, get the guys going in the run game and with everything else – downfield blocking, offensive line. Tremendous effort.”

### **On attitude change after success in running the ball:**

“The game is easier when you’re running the ball. The routes become easier, not nearly as tired and morale is high. We’re just happy the offensive line was pushing down field and the running backs were running hard. It’s good ol’ fashion football and when you’re playing the game, you love to see it.”

### **On Patriots being able to adjust:**

“I guess that goes on [Head Coach Bill] Belichick, [Offensive Coordinator Josh] McDaniels, [QB] Tom [Brady], guys who see the field and they can make adjustments on the fly or second half adjustments, they kind of see it. See what the feel is for the defense, what we studied in practice, what has changed in the outcome of the game and making adjustments on the fly. We prepare for that each week and sometimes it works out.”

### **On Patriots fan presence:**

“It was confusing. It felt like a home game, just like Foxborough [Ma]. To be honest, I’m just grateful to have that support, our fans traveling, maybe we got some Redskins fans. It was awesome though, I’m blessed.”

## **PATRIOTS SAFETY DEVIN MCCOURTY**

### **On settling down after giving up an early touchdown:**

“It’s football, we had one bad play defensively but it was really just a good play call. It should have been a 15-yard or 18-yard gain with a tackle. We got to the sideline and talked about it then we moved on. It was one play, we’re going to continue to play good defense and from that point out we did a good job adjusting. They came out in a lot of four wide receiver sets and Sims (Steven Sims) being able to do some counter plays but we did a good job adjusting.”

### **On if Washington did anything unexpected on offense:**

“No, it was just a lot more four wide receiver sets without [TE] Vernon Davis in the game. We knew it was a possibility that they would do some different things. [Davis] usually plays 85 percent of the plays so that takes some adjusting.”

**On the two turnovers created by CB Jason McCourty and DB Jonathan Jones**

“We talk about creating turnovers each and both of those were great plays. [Jonathan] Jones going for the punch was a great play to get the ball out especially in that part of the field and the same thing for [Jason McCourty] to jump the route was huge for us defensively. That’s what got the game going for us, being able to turn the ball over and then coming back in the second half ready to go. Defensively if we turn the ball we know good things will happen.”

**On 11 team interceptions and opponents lack of success passing:**

“We always talk about turning the ball over and limiting points. [Head Coach] Bill [Belichick] says if we don’t give up points we won’t lose. As a defense we care about giving up points, if you look back at the game we had one bad play and it came down to tackling. If we do a better job of that we give ourselves a better chance to make them drive down the field instead of one big play. That’s some we have to keep trying to do week in and week out while we continue to get better.”

**On Patriot supporting in the stands:**

“It was awesome especially compared to last week going to Buffalo we weren’t greeted nicely and coming here today saw a lot of Patriots jerseys in the stadium. That’s always a plus when you come on the road and you get a lot of people traveling to support you, as a team we really appreciate that.”

**PATRIOTS CORNERBACK STEPHON GILMORE**

**On how the defense reacted after the long touchdown run by the Redskins to start the game:**

“We went to the sideline and made adjustments and looked at what went wrong, then went out the next series and just tried to do better. It’s football, there is going to be adversity. Worst thing you can do is shut down, it’s one play, plays are going to be made in a football game. I think it would be naïve to say that every play they’re going to go three-and-out. We know its football and the biggest thing for us is to just comeback from that adversity.”

**On not giving up points in the second half:**

“We want to build on that. We didn’t start how we wanted to, but we finished how we wanted to.”

**On getting pressure on the quarterback:**

“It makes our job easier. Those guys get to the quarterback fast and it helps us out a lot.”

**PATRIOTS LINEBACKER DONT’A HIGHTOWER**

**On the adjustments made in the second half:**

“We came in and made the adjustments we needed to make and went out and play the way we needed to play. Getting them off the field on third down and getting our offense the ball or getting sacks and pushing a first down to a second-and-10, 15 or causing the offense to commit certain penalties like false starts or a holding call. That means we are getting the edge and [we] want it to be that way.”

**On having a defense that expects to shut offenses down:**

“That’s our thoughts, we want to get the ball and give it back to our offense and in some situations, we want to score. Whenever we go out, we have the attitude that there’s no reason why we can’t force them to go three-and-out, there’s no reason why we can’t get a pick on the first play, there’s no reason why we can’t

knock the ball out. Whenever you have 11 guys on the field that are conscious of the ball or the quarterback, and running back good things happen.”

**On knowing offenses tendencies:**

“I felt like I knew the play was coming. [QB] Colt [McCoy] called in [WR Trey] Quinn to block the backside. There was no reason for him to call him in to block the backside. It was either going to be a run play or that play, and I took my guts and was right.”