



CLEVELAND BROWNS POSTGAME TRANSCRIPTS & QUOTES

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HEAD COACH KEVIN STEFANSKI

Opening Statement:

The injury front, Alex Wright has a quad injury. We'll evaluate that in the morning. Obviously, we're going to win as a team, we're going to lose as a team, so we'll all own that, including myself. But it's extremely disappointing, some of the moments in that game. In terms of how that game unfolded, obviously you can't give up two return touchdowns, in the first quarter, that kind of set us back initially. We just didn't do a good enough job in any facet, just didn't do a good enough job. That's the disappointing part for me and for this football team, but we're just going to keep swinging. With that, I'll take any questions.

On what he attributes the special teams errors to...

You know, you have to look at those, Mary Kay, to really find out. But anytime something like that happens, we have to do a better job in all facets. We've got to put the guys in position, then they've got to go make a play in those, but special teams are so much of just 11 guys doing their job, and we just didn't do our job.

On what he liked from the offense early compared to what was missing later on...

Yeah, obviously things that we need to clean up, staying on the football field, scoring points. Like early, there were some good moments coming out, going into halftime, obviously getting that field goal, executed, but plenty to clean up.

On the fourth-and-1 call with 10 minutes to go and where the ball was supposed to go...

I'd have to look at it. I mean, it's a pass, it can go to multiple people.

On Offensive Coordinator Tommy Rees calling plays...

Yeah, obviously, like I told you guys, I have a total trust in Tommy (Rees). Obviously, we fell short as a team, but we'll just continue to try to find ways to put our guys in position."

On the untimely penalties ...

Yeah, listen, like I said earlier, Daniel, we'll win as a team, we'll lose as a team. It's never going to be about one play, but bottom line is we have to play smart. That's a key to winning and losing.

On the neutral zone infraction on the last drive and if it was a mental error...

Yeah, again, it's never about one play. We have to do our job, all of us, and in that moment, that's very disappointing.

On QB Dillon Gabriel and if he's seen any improvements over the first four games...

I have to always, to give you a better evaluation, have to look at it, but I know there's plays that he's going to want back. I thought he made some plays with his feet also in this long game, but can always improve.

On not calling a timeout when then the Jets had the ball and there was three minutes left in the game...

Yeah, obviously, you're thinking about when to call those things, and depending on, I think they got a first down on the first play there, you're going to stop it to try and get it back. Again, all things, it's easy to look at the end of that

ballgame, and we will, and we'll certainly be transparent with each other, but it's a 60-minute football game, and we've got to do our job for 60 minutes.

On if getting WR Jerry Jeudy more involved this week was a point of emphasis...

Yes, and it should be an emphasis every week, really.

On giving up six sacks on offense...

Again, probably premature to say anything until I look at it, Mary Kay, but it's very typically a combination of things, whether it's offensive line, protection plan, getting open, all those things.

On if QB Dillon Gabriel isn't seeing the field quickly potentially which is causing some of the sacks...

Yeah, not fair until I look at it, Daniel, but it's very easy to put sacks just right on the offensive line. We've got to look at all of it and find ways to work together in those areas.

On what is an adequate sample size to evaluate a quarterback, especially a rookie quarterback...

Yeah, it's hard for me to speculate. Every single outing that our guys get, we're going to look at it and try to learn from it.

On if they'll think about making a change at the quarterback position...

Yeah, we're going to stick with Dillion. Obviously, this is a young player that you're always trying to get one game better and those type of things, but we have to play better as an offense, we have to coach better, all the above.

On the defense's performance overall and how they contained Justin Fields most of the game...

Yeah, I thought really good moments. Obviously, we hadn't given up much on defense, but the game script had changed with them getting those early points. I thought the guys battled throughout, but I know there's plenty that we can probably do better.

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QUARTERBACK DILLON GABRIEL

On the differences between Kevin Stefanski and Tommy Rees calling plays on offense today...

Honestly, I think it just had great flow. And I think at times, we got it going. There's a lot of things that, execution wise, we can help ourselves, but felt good going into it, and we'll stand by that for sure.

On Coach Stefanski sticking with him as quarterback next week...

Yeah, when things aren't going well, there's always going to be change, that's part of it, because keep doing the same thing and don't change anything then, that's insanity. Just feel like at times, there's things that went well and we sustained and executed, and then in certain moments we didn't execute, and that starts with me. It's always frustrating when it's not going the way you want it to, and you put in the work and time, but in crucial moments, you got to have it and execute.

On what he saw on the 4th-and-1 with about 10 minutes to go...

Yeah, I'm hot, and we're in our five man Pro, and got to create something there. I was in between knowing that it's fourth and one, getting outside, we're getting vertical, and there was a chance that I could have slipped through but didn't. But that's why I stayed on that side when I was hot.

On getting sacked six times today...

I don't want to take those. I want to be able to dish it and find a safe place to dish it, but in those moments too, can't take sacks.

On the play-calling being able to get him out of the pocket...

I think, for anyone, it's versatility. And you want to have that, you want to move launch points, you want to keep the defense off balance. It helps the run, it helps the O-line, it helps me, it helps everyone involved. And I think the more versatile you are, it helps. But I think that, in general, it helped us throughout the day.

On being able to get Jerry Jeudy more involved today...

Jerry's a great player, and want to continue to do that and he played great. I want to get the ball to the best players on our team. That would be emphasis forever.

On the touchdown pass to Jerry Jeudy...

Just got single high, got weak rotation. We had two plays at the line, wanted to keep it and roll with it, and then Jerry did a great job winning at the top of the route.

On the touchdown pass to David Njoku and the 95-yard drive...

Yeah, I think when we're at our best, it's efficient. We're executing at a high level. That's when you can sustain drives and third downs, making big time plays, explosives here and there, but that's why I keep going back to you got to execute in crucial moments to play winning football, and we didn't, but want to continue to get better at that, because we've got to.

On if he thought the offense was more efficient today...

I think you got to know [expletive] ain't never going to be perfect, but you want to try your best to get to that point. And I just feel like, when we have chunks and we're efficient in the run game, we're setting things up, it helps us, it does. Then we're clicking, and then there's momentum and rhythm within a drive, within series, so that helps, too. You're not living in three downs within a series. So, that helps too, but it's finding that balance. And there's times that we miss things. And like I said, this starts with me. We got to create consistency to have more efficient drives. But I think you saw at times there were efficient drives, but then there's times as well where it's a three-and-out, and we got to find a better balance, but no moral victories. But, you know, I think Wyatt was trying to say that there's direction with it.

On the communication between him and Tommy Rees...

Yeah, it was good communication. It was like practice. So, there's comfortability there. I think we were good in and out of the huddle. There's at times, personnels and things that happen within a game that you try to avoid, but I felt like within it, there was great communication.

On if the few penalties derailed the offense at all...

It's just not winning football, and you got to have a winning process to play winning football, and then you got to execute in key moments. There's times where you beat yourself, and then there's times where you just don't execute within that moment. The Jets definitely played better than us today, but I still think there's times where we got to execute and help ourselves, for sure.

On if he can see the offense gradually improving...

That's the hard part of a change, too, right? You're trying to create continuity and then see it long enough to reap benefits. You don't want to plant a seed and then rip it up before it can even grow. But I think, for us, it's just building out. We got to, but at the end of the day, we got to find a way to win. And that's what we're building towards.

On if he thinks they'll ever turn to Shadeur Sanders at quarterback...

No, all I can do is control what I can, and that's what you got to do. That's all you got.

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GRANT DELPIT

On how it feels to give up two touchdowns on special teams...

It's unacceptable really. I don't know. I was out there for both of those plays so it's not like there wasn't anyone on defense out there.

On what he thinks happened on both of those touchdowns...

I haven't looked at the plays yet. Obviously, nothing good.

On how demoralizing it was to not give the offense the football back on the final drive...

Yeah, I don't think the final drive lost us the game, but it sure didn't help us. We've been punching ourselves for a few months giving up plays that shouldn't be given up. Just bad ball.

On the screen play to Breece Hall...

Yeah, we were just in cover zero. You all saw the play. I don't know what happened but it's cool.

On what's next after this loss...

Wake up and go to work. That's all you can do.

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MYLES GARRETT

On a frustrating team loss...

Frustration is frustration. You try your best not to point fingers. You do what you can, execute the best you can and be part of the solution. We just have to be better.

On the Jets offensive improvements in the second half...

They stuck to the running game, they didn't want to turn it into a drop-back game. They were moving in the pocket, doing what they could to take the [pass] rush out of it. I think their commitment to that, trying to wear us down, they made the plays they needed to. It was a good screen [on the Breece Hall touchdown]. Credit to them, they made the plays they needed to down the stretch.

On the neutral zone infraction at the end of the game...

It's frustrating. There are plenty of frustrating things to go around. I don't want my guy Cam [Thomas] to lose confidence and think that he lost the game for us, that's not the case. There were so many plays in the game and you can't let one hang on you and take away your confidence in who you are as a player. This is a learning moment for him. He'll have more opportunities to make the most out of it.

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JERRY JEUDY

On overall performance and first touchdown of the season...

They did a good job of getting me going. [The early receptions] kept me locked in and brought me confidence, feeling like I was in the game.

On losing despite the strong offensive performance...

We just have to do better. We just have to finish, play together, and do better. It hurts having a big play and scoring a touchdown and then giving up a kick return. Those two big plays were the game.

On Dillon Gabriel at quarterback...

Postgame, 11.9

I think Dillon's confidence is growing each game. Each game he's getting better and better. All a quarterback needs is opportunity and consistency. So him being out there and getting more reps builds his confidence. I see him growing each week. The more we work together the more chemistry we have.

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