

Cleveland Browns Head Coach Kevin Stefanski
Cleveland Browns vs. Baltimore Ravens
Week 11
11-16-25

Opening Statement:

"All right. Injury front Cam Robinson has a right knee injury. We'll MRI that. Dillon's (Gabriel) in concussion protocol. Dom Jones has a left knee injury. Jack Conklin has a right knee injury. Obviously, with all those, we'll get more information tomorrow. You know, man, the guys were fighting till the end, but we got to find a way to close that one out. And it's disappointing, frustrating with where we were there at the end of the game. But I appreciate how this group's fighting. I appreciate how they're fighting through some tough - the injuries at tackle and those types of things, but, man, some good stuff on that football field. But we got to close those games out and have a win with those performances. But we'll get back to work like we always do. With that I'll take any questions."

Kevin, what prompted Dillon's concussion check?

"He got checked at halftime. I don't know all the details exactly."

And just how would you assess how Shedeur (Sanders) came in there and played?

"Yeah, obviously all players - we'll look at it, but he's going to battle like he does. So, I'm sure there's things that we can clean up, but those are things we'll look at tomorrow."

So, you don't know if Dillon was concussed on that one designed run?

"I don't know. I don't know."

The (Baltimore) Ravens show that tush push play at all before?

"Yeah, they've done QB sneaks with the tight ends. Yes."

If Dillon clears concussion protocol, he'd be back as your starter?

"Yes. But he's got to - that's obviously a lot into that protocol. A lot goes into that. So, we'll see."

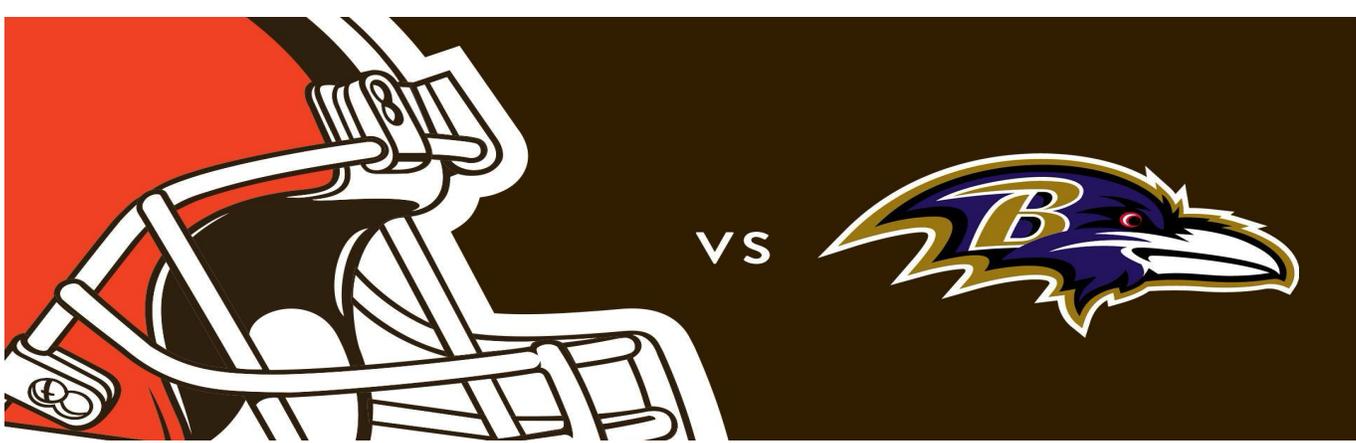
How did you think Shedeur handled everything that comes with first NFL start taking over versus the Ravens team?

"Yeah, listen, we trust all of our guys. We trust our guys to perform. He's no different. You know, and playing a backup quarterback role, as we've talked about over the years, that's tough to come in there, but we trust him. I know there's things that he's going to want to do better, but that's why we work."

You talk so much about, or we asked you a lot about Shedeur not getting any reps with the starting units. So that was like really his first legitimate snaps and reps with the starting offense, correct?

"Yes."

I mean, do you think that there was any maybe rust or...



"Yeah, I understand the question. I would tell you, we do so much work with the quarterback position and the entire team, not just those reps on the practice field. And those are, as we all know, those are tough reps for when you have a young starter as well. But there's so much that we do to supplement that type of thing."

It almost seemed like, especially when Shedeur got there. I mean, I think the entire game showed a lot of cover zero and dropped out and, you know, seemed like Shedeur kind of struggled with that and Dillon as well. Do you think that as a staff, you guys could have done anything better?

"I always think we can do better. Always."

Was the whole playbook available to Shedeur in the second half?

"Yes. Yes."

Can you talk about the defensive effort and just the performance of Myles Garrett today?

"Yeah, I thought there was some outstanding moments out there from our defense. Obviously, Myles got to the quarterback a bunch of times. I thought he and the defensive line provided pressure throughout the game. Obviously, there's plays that we want back, but I thought to stand up and hold them to field goals in the red zone was a big deal in that football game."

On the pass with (Gage) Larvadain in the end zone, do you think he should have caught it or was it a great defensive play?

"Yeah, that's - I trust our guys."

Kevin, does it mean anything that you guys played better than the game in Baltimore? Can you take anything away from that?

"Yeah, we're out here to get a win."

Kevin, knowing that you guys might have had to throw Shedeur into a situation like this at some point once he became QB2, why wouldn't he get any first team reps with the starters in practice?

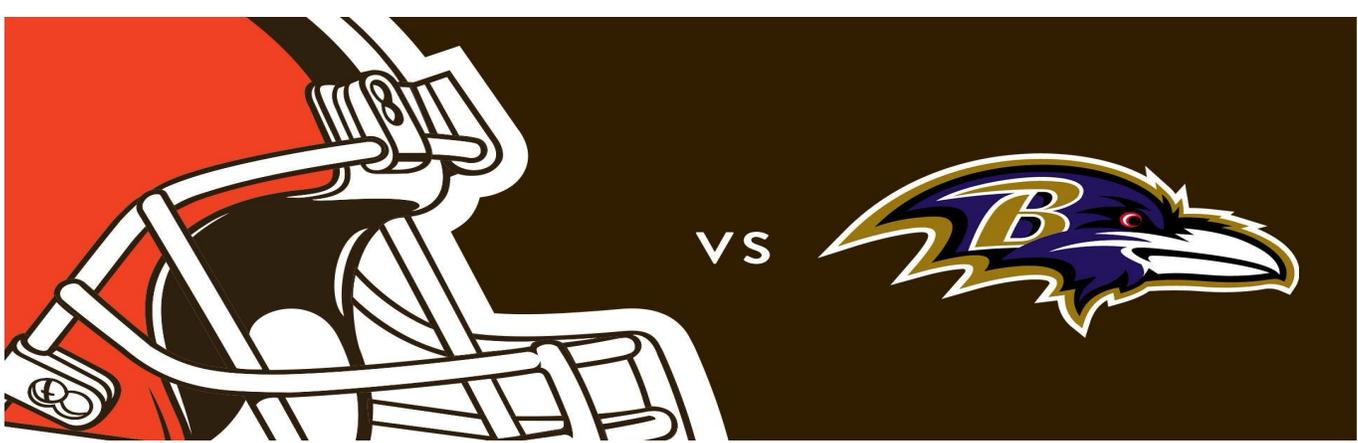
"Yeah, I understand the question, Mary Kay (Cabot). I would tell you; you're always trying to get your starter ready to play and certainly, when your starter is a rookie, those are very valuable reps. When your starter, when your backup is a rookie also, you do everything in your power to get our quarterbacks as many reps as possible. Post practice, after practice, extra meeting time. So that's just part of how it goes. But the bottom line is we trust both of our players. We trust all of our players because of the work that they put in."

How do you feel like Shedeur managed the pressure that the Ravens put on him?

"Yeah, we didn't do a good enough job period, as a team and certainly as an offense in there. So, we'll make sure that we get back to work."

Is it fair to say that you think Shedeur would have a much better chance of being successful if you guys' game planned for him and played to his strengths and he's got those reps and things?

"Yeah, I think that's true, probably of every backup. Mary Kay and I think it's - listen, that was a part of, earlier in the season with Joe (Flacco) as your starter and Dillon as your backup, there's things that you're going to lean into with



a different player. So that's no different for all of your players. You want to make sure that your players, particularly that position, have plays that they're comfortable with. So, to Zac's (Jackson) question, of course the playbook's open, but there's stuff that you're going to make sure you call, that there's a comfort level for your quarterback."

Kevin, the challenge, you waited. Were you still collecting information or were you just waiting for them to...?

"Collecting information. It's tough when replay assist is...really what hurt us there is the call on the field. Once the call on the field was what they called. It's really hard to overturn. Obviously, replay assist got involved, didn't overturn it. So, there's risk to doing that. I just felt like maybe, I thought the visual evidence was pretty overwhelming. They felt differently."

How about the way your special teams played today, Kevin, after a tough week?

"Yeah, I thought there were some really good moments. Again, we can be better. There's a couple coverage reps that I know we can better. But like I told you this week, we have a prideful group that wants to better for this football team."

Maybe this goes without saying, but is it safe to say that Shedeur will start if Dillon does not pass the protocol?

"Yes."

Are you comfortable without adding a quarterback?

"We'll work through that this week."

Were there any conversations on the last play there about them not calling it offsides? Did you guys notice anything, that they jumped around?

"Yeah, I thought they did, but [they] didn't call it."

So, I mean, obviously the concussion protocol takes on different forms for every player, but with Dillon being a rookie quarterback, would you need him to log some practice hours?

"Yeah, I understand the question. I need to get to Monday."

In the first set, it looked like Dillon was late out of bounds and you were pretty mad. Did you get any explanation on that?

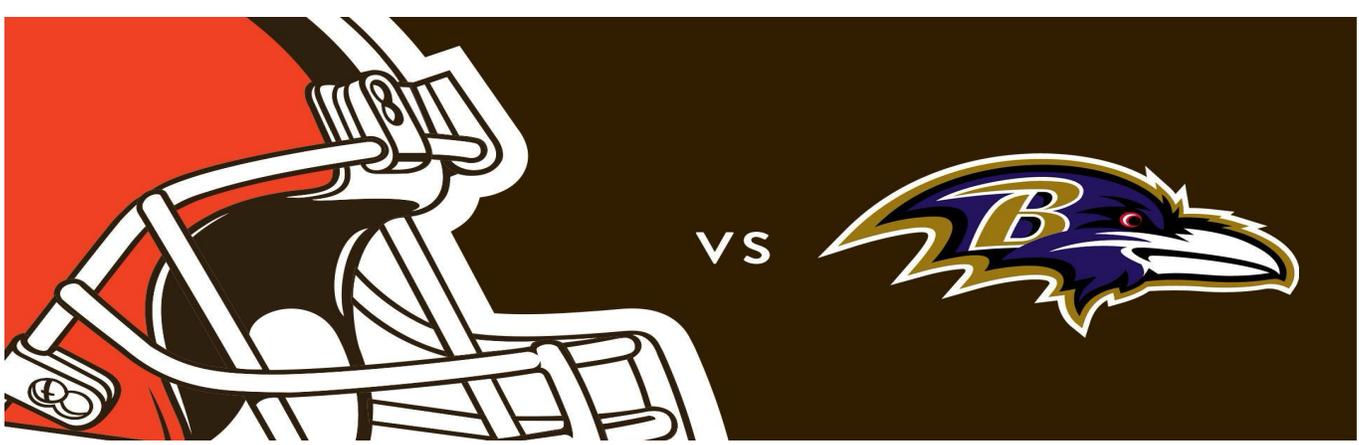
"I did."

What did they say?

"Yeah. It doesn't matter. Sorry. Doesn't matter."

Kevin, is playing on time the greatest challenge for Shedeur?

"No, I think, listen, all of us are constantly improving. He will improve every day, like he has, he'll improve every single day. He'll put the work in like he's doing. There's plays I know that he wants back, but he'll keep working. We



have a ton of faith in our players and that includes our starters, our backups, our young guys, our vets. We trust our guys. "

You were talking about on Friday the progress that you've seen Shedeur make. How has that manifested itself? Like, what kinds of things have you seen at practice that were really good?

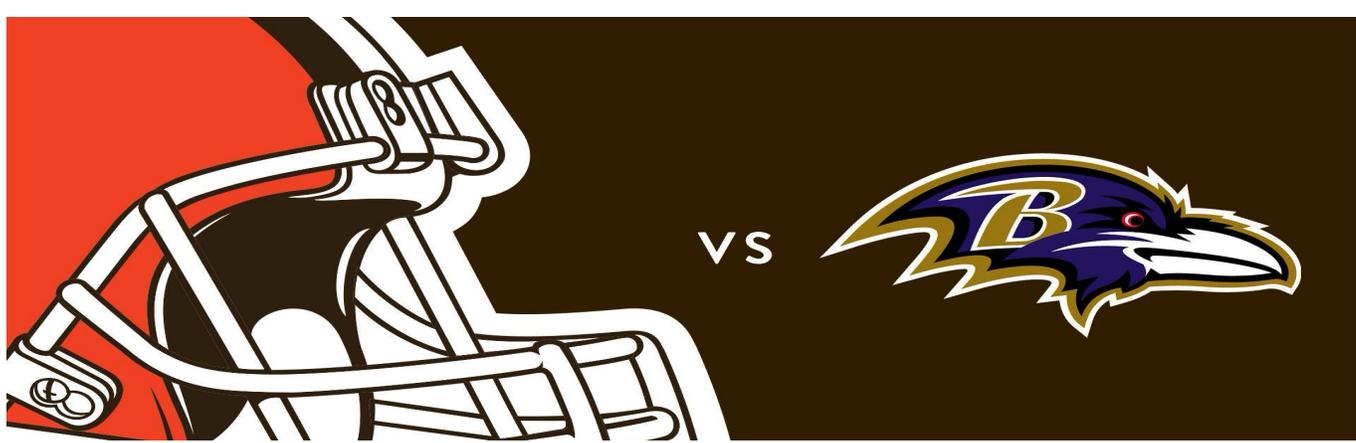
"Yeah, I think with - I mean, Shedeur specifically, but it's hard for me because our young players work so hard, Mary Kay, they've done such a nice job. So, it's hard to single our guys out because as a rookie class, they've taken the development piece of this game so seriously. So, it's fun for me as a coach and for our guys to work with our players and get them better every single day. So, Shedeur's made unbelievable strides in the meeting room on the practice field. I know he wants to be better and he will be better, but that's just going to come from hard work."

On that (Mark) Andrew's run for the touchdown at the end, is it just so hard not to oversell in the middle and make the call?

"I think you see that over; you see that around in different short yardage situations. Philly (Philadelphia Eagles) has the sweep off of it, so you know that there's plays that they have off of those looks, obviously well designed by them."

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***Defensive End Myles Garrett
Cleveland Browns vs. Baltimore Ravens
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Myles (Garrett) how tough is it to have another huge game that winds up being a loss?

“Just thinking about it, thinking about the things I could have done, not going to put it on anything other than myself. First thing I do is look in the mirror. Now I got four ops [opportunities] on Lamar (Jackson), didn't get the ball out. Got a hit on (Derrick) Henry right as soon as he got the handoff. I got to make bigger plays.”

That sneak from (Mark) Andrews, the one that ends up winning the game. Yeah, I know that they expect him to go up the middle. Is that just, you got to sell out on that play or you just need to be more disciplined as a group there and not let him do that?

“Nah, I mean, I'm not certain as to who has them in that moment. I know that we all committed on the sneak and well executed play by them. And I'm not gonna point the finger at anybody, I don't know whose responsibility that was. But they just, they had a good call for what we were in.”

Myles, I'm sure you would probably give back the four sacks just the way you would have with the five sacks if you guys could have gotten this victory.

“It's a blessing to have an opportunity to have five, four, however many it is. So, I'm just grateful for that. You know, those guys were rushing their behinds off, and we always talk about four rushers equaling one, and I think we had a great day rushing the passer, and we all want some plays back.”

Myles, I know you said last week that whatever the offense, quarterback, we leave them to you, we take care of the defense. But when you see Shedeur (Sanders) making his debut in a high leverage moment like that, do you say anything to him during the break, or do you say anything to him after the game?

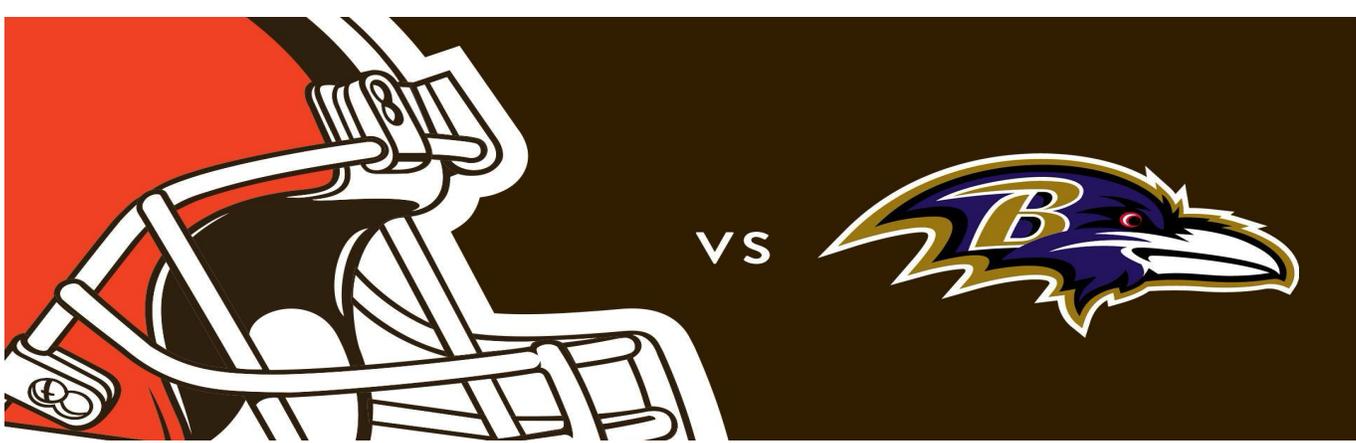
“For sure. I mean, just tell him to keep his head up. I know there was one drive in which he kind of walked off and I saw him, he was putting his head down. He was kind of thinking about...I know he wants to make the play. He wants to have that game-changing drive because he feels like he has that ability, and we've seen it. So, don't be discouraged from one drive or two drives - it's a good football team over there. So, I'm just trying to keep him to keep his confidence high and keep on chasing that standard in which he's set, and we're going to continue to support him. He spoke after the game and he wanted to pin it on himself and his performance, but we're not going to allow him to do that. It's a team game, so we're all in this together.”

You say he addressed the entire team in the locker room?

“Yeah.”

Myles, you said you wonder what more you could have done, but is there anything specific? I mean, you basically dominated, especially that first half.

“Get the ball out. I mean, forced fumbles definitely changes the game, and I know they're doing their best to protect that. You know, I got to be even more violent trying to take it away. I felt like there were opportunities which we lost contain, and we could have had even more sacks, whether from me or from other guys. And that's just discipline on our part and things we can learn from. They're a good team.”



Myles, you mentioned you got a hit on Henry. Was that on the long run or just a different play you're talking about?

“Oh, just a TFL in the red zone.”

Myles, we've heard, we haven't seen this ourselves, but we've heard a lot about the progress that Shedeur has been making, like when he runs the scout team against you guys. Have you seen some really nice progress in him over these past couple months that we've been not there? And if so, do you feel pretty confident about going forward if he gets in there with a game plan?

“It's not my position or my role to evaluate how he's doing. He's there to run an offense that's not ours, so I'm not going to say whether he's doing good or bad - he's doing what he's supposed to. And no, he doesn't complain, he doesn't b*tch and moan about it - he just goes out there and does his job, and then he goes home and gets extra work.”

Myles, seeing Devin (Bush) get that pick six and then also Carson (Schwesinger) had the interception. We talked about the importance of those takeaways. How have you continued to see those build and then those two plays having an importance in this game?

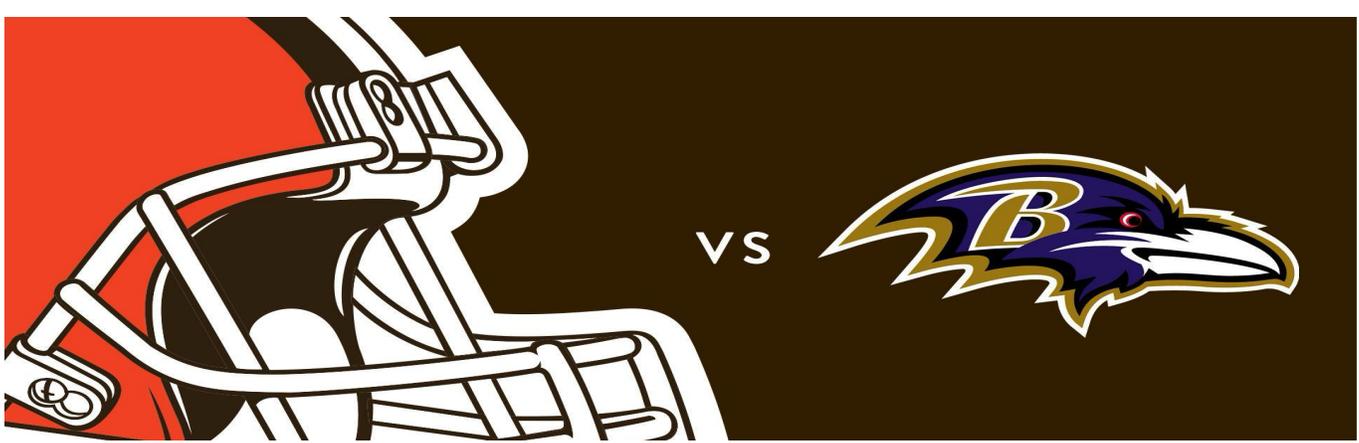
“I mean, first and foremost, those guys are playing at an outstanding level right now. Carson, especially as a rookie, he's the guy for, if it's rookie of the year, I don't think there's anyone ahead of him currently. And D. Bush is having an absolute resurgence, feeling more comfortable in this game and playing with his hair on fire. So, those guys are taking the ball away. That kind of eluded D. Bush at the beginning of the season, and now he's really starting to put it all together and they're really playing off each other. I couldn't be prouder of how they're playing and the secondary in general. I think the defense looks good. You know, there'll always be some plays in which we can be a little bit sharper. We got to get better. But that was a solid performance, but then the standard's got to be even higher.”

You guys did so well against Henry in that first matchup. Did they do things differently, schematically? I mean, he had a better day with that one long run.

“Yeah, I mean, you don't want to give up any explosives, and, I mean, that one was the majority of the work that he did. But, I mean, the guys a Hall of Famer - he's going to get one, and you try to just limit him, limit the damage. And they stuck with the run, getting him the rock, getting downhill, and just getting movement, trying to keep him from shuffling or stopping his feet. And they were able to create a nice gap with no wham trap playing. So kudos to them. That's well executed.”

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Quarterback Shedeur Sanders
Cleveland Browns vs. Baltimore Ravens
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Opening Statement:

"First and foremost, I want to thank God for giving me the opportunity to get out there. That's all you could ask for, honestly, a chance to get out there, get your feet wet, to experience how it feels to even be out there with the team, with the first group, with everybody. So it truly was exciting."

When did you know you're going into the game?

"Right at halftime. So right before you seen me, right when you seen me."

What was going through your mind at that moment when you found out that you were going to be out there leading the offense?

"It's time for me to step up."

How do you think you played?

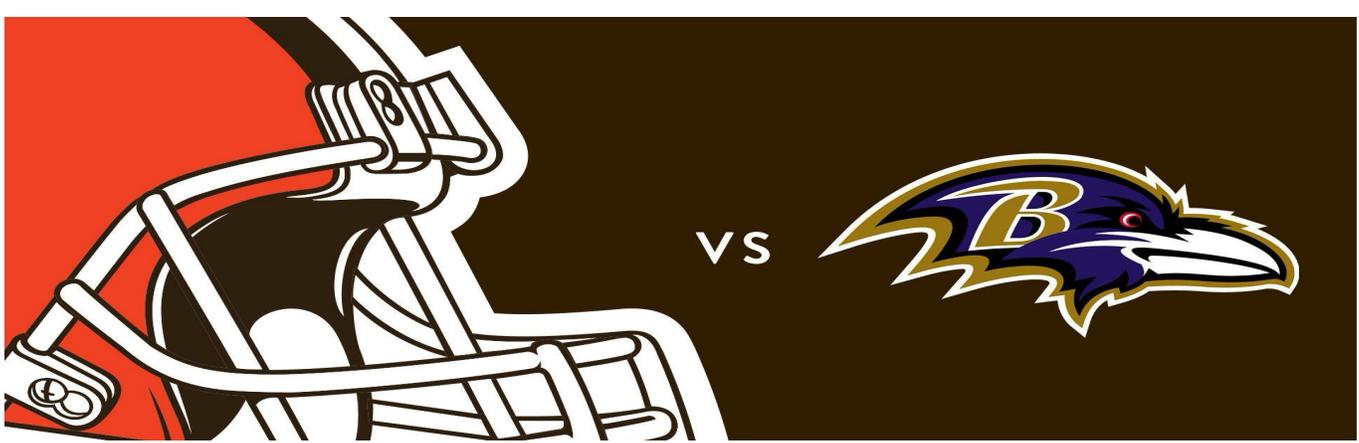
"I don't think I played good. I don't think I played good at all. I think it's a lot of things, you know, we need to look at, during the week and go and just get comfortable, even throwing routes, you know, with Jerry (Jeudy) and throwing routes with all those guys. So I think that was my first ball to him all year. But other than that, I just think overall we just got to go next week and understand so then we have a week to prepare stuff I like to do."

Shedeur, do you think that if you play next week, if Dillon doesn't clear protocol, do you feel like if the game plan is designed for you and you get those first team reps, those starting reps in practice, that this is just going to be a whole different ball game for you when you get out there?

"No, the most I can ask for is opportunities. See, like that's an uncontrollable thing that I'm not able to control. And that's not nothing I should speak on. Just being the quarterback of this team, this franchise, you know, they gave me an opportunity. I ain't do up to my expectation, enough to get us a win, you know, so I just got to take that one to the chin."

You mentioned that you hadn't really thrown to Jerry and these guys in the starting unit. Kevin alluded to that as well. How much of there was maybe like a rust factor or acclimation period with those pass catchers in that in the second half?

"I think you've seen it was just rough overall. It was a rough day overall. But the thing that I was excited about is just being able to get out there. You know, it's the first time I got hit, like since my last game at Colorado. So just having that feeling back, you know, is good and, you know, I feel fulfilled overall when it comes to being out there practicing, going in between the lines, seeing actually what it's like. And I know I'm made for it. You know, I don't think there's a doubt in my mind that that final drive was going to go down there and score. Things happen and we didn't. But I was just excited because I knew what I was going to be able to do out there. And for the team, for the linemen and even getting snapped from Po (Ethan Pocic), you know, like, that was amazing. You know, going out there in a live game, being able to do that with him. And the way the guys, the way the O line, running back,



receivers, defense, like all riding around, that's all you can ask for, for a quarterback."

Did you think your last catch to Gage (Larvadain) was going to be a touchdown?

"I think every throw, you know, is going to be complete until it's not. You know, I know Gage is a dog. I have the most reps with Gage than everybody out there. So we out there like hungry dogs going at it every day. So yeah."

It just seemed like a really good play by the defender there. It was a nice throw by you. Is that how you saw it?

"No, I don't think too much in it, you know, I don't think too much in that. I just take what come with it. Okay, cool. Next play."

Shedeur, Kevin's talked a lot about those extra periods you mentioned, the hungry dog periods just as opportunities to get extra reps and everything. How much, have you, did you feel like those extra reps have at least helped prepare you for when you were out there finally, if at all?

"Yeah, it helped me understand the concepts live, you know, but it's different when there's different body types going out there, different way how people get out of routes. Like what I seen on the pick initially was I see his hips turn. So I'm like, okay, we going to be able to get out there. But at the same time, playing quarterback is extremely hard. So it's like I like knowing every detail about my receivers. I like knowing the small things, what they're good at, what they're not good at. It's like so many details that helps me play confident with those guys. And I know we at the bottom right now. This performance, everything, it will never be like this. But, you know, I'm dedicated to being able to get those opportunities with those guys, to have a relationship. You know, I got a relationship with all the hungry dogs, though. We like clockwork out there, but you just got to see. You just got to see everything a little bit more. You know, they can come out and do all different type of stuff."

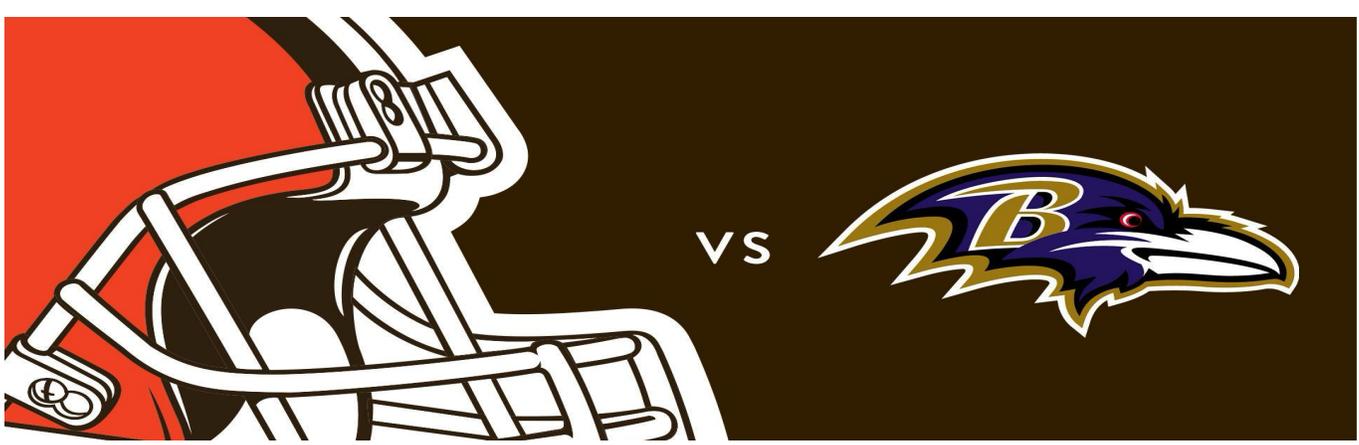
So besides that, not having the familiarity with the first team guys, what was the most difficult part of it? The Ravens coverage, the pressure they brought, the speed of it. What did you find difficult?

"No. I'm going to give them their props. They were a good football team. But I know this. I know the only way is up for sure."

You came into a very intense game against a division rival, a close game, and you said you didn't feel like you played well, but what did you think went right and what went right for you to build upon for your next start?

"Losing isn't something I'm comfortable with at all. So, I just got to take this one, you know, I got to take this one. I got to decompress. I got to understand, like, you know, this really happened, you know, on my watch. I don't like the feeling. And I know offensively, if I'm able to get out there and have an opportunity, I know that I'll be able to take everything to a different level. Like I said, I still have the same confidence. I'm still me. I'll never go anywhere. You know, just going out there, seeing daylight, that's all I needed, you know, to see how they move out there. Playing against a great defense. You got guys from the Pro bowl out there, so it's like, it's exciting to see. Okay, this is what it's like? Alright. This is what it's like? I'm excited for it. So, you know, I just got to take this one and build on it."

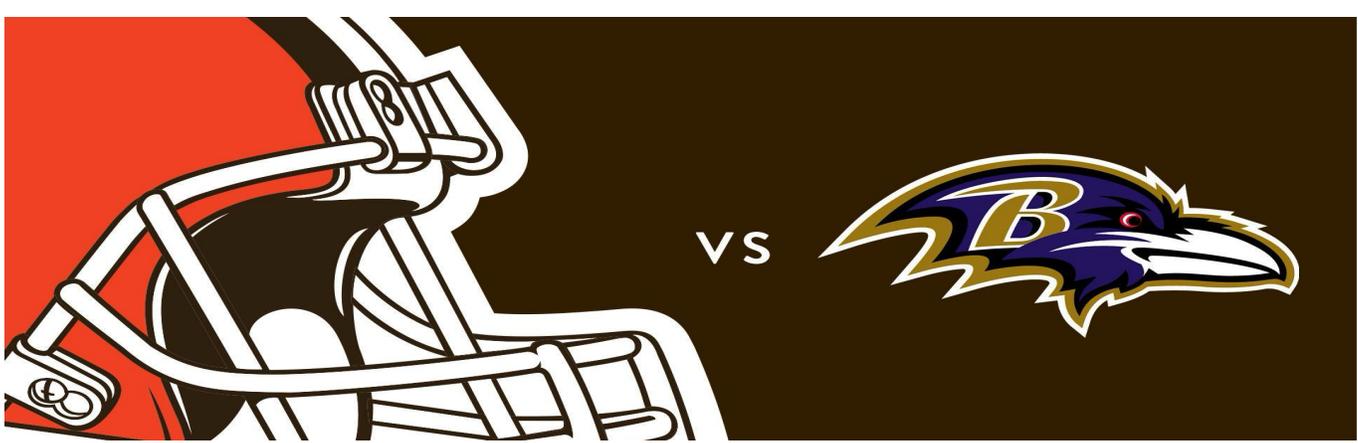
Did you notice the reaction from the fans when you came into the game? Were you able to soak that in?



“Yeah, I'm extremely thankful. Well, first, let me say this. When Dillon out there playing and all that, I appreciate the fans. I appreciate everybody, but I'm a good person overall, so I don't really like him not feeling comfortable, confident when he get out there, so it puts everything in a tough spot, and it's not helping the team. So, that could be taken as, 'okay, I'm being a distraction', even though I ain't doing that, even though I'm not doing nothing. But I'm thankful for the supporters, thankful for the fans, thankful for everybody out there that believes. And yeah, when I got out there, I definitely felt them, and I'm truly thankful for it. I'm just thankful that I'm out here, I'm thankful for the opportunity. Thankful seeing all them 12 jerseys out there, and it was a great feeling for that, but the feeling of losing, that ain't nothing we going to get comfortable with, like, on my watch, for sure.”

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Cleveland Browns Players
Cleveland Browns vs. Baltimore Ravens
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G Joel Bitonio

I think you guys were frustrated at that one, did you think (DT Travis) Jones was offsides? Are you surprised you didn't get a flag there?

"Obviously I didn't see it as I was going but looking at the replay. I mean they call that on (DE) Myles (Garrett) like once a game, so it's a big call you gotta make that call."

To have another game where (DE) Myles (Garrett) and to not get a win after a performance like that, how frustrating does that get for you guys?

"He's the best defensive player in the league. Him and (LB) Carson's (Schwesinger) playing like an All-Pro linebacker. He's playing great. They have a lot of great performances on defense and it's a story where we just haven't done enough on offense and special teams to keep up with those guys."

A couple tackles go down in this one, how tough is it to shuffle both of those positions?

"Credit to (G Tevin Jenkins) Tev and (T) KT (Leveston) for coming in and performing. I thought they did a great job. When they got in there and got comfortable, especially Tev. I mean that's right tackle going for a two minute drive trying to win the game, against a good rush. That's tough to do, but it's a credit to them and how prepared they are. It's never easy when that has to happen on the o-line."

DL Shelby Harris

Where are you guys with another week with a loss where the offense couldn't get into the endzone

"Nothing changes. The mission is still the same. It's a week-to-week league and you've got to respond. That's the league. Obviously, things didn't go the way the offense wanted today, that very well could change next week. It's our job to just worry about the defense, and just do what we are supposed to do. No matter what, we had them where we wanted. It was 4th and 1 and we have to get that stop. You can bring up the offense all you want to, but it's defense. We have to bring a complete game - we can't have these little lapses here and there. No matter what, my focus is always on the defense."

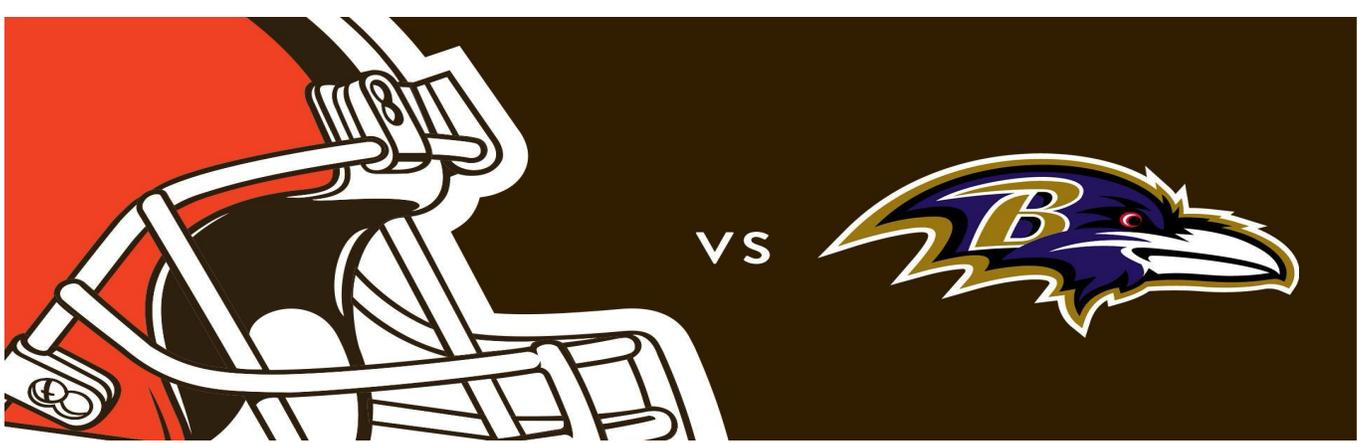
What do you think about Myles getting four sacks a couple weeks after the five sack game?

"Yeah, it's a little freaky. You know, I've been blessed to play with some great edge rushers. I've been around Bradley Chubb, Von Miller, Kahlil Mack and now Myles. It's crazy when you expect something like that, you know, it's expected for him to go out there and have crazy games. He puts the work in throughout the week. He put the work in the offseason, and that's the most rewarding part. You put the work in the offseason and you start to see the rewards during the season. Good for him, but it's just the beginning."

WR Jerry Jeudy

How did the team rally around him (QB Shedeur Sanders)?

"He did good. For the time he was in there. I think we can get better in certain areas."



You had that first down catch, fought for those yards, what was your mindset going into that?

“We just finish. It was a third down and we needed a first. I would do anything in my power to get that first and have that drive keep going. Yeah, that's what I was thinking.”

How do you continue to deal with this as these losses pile up even though you're fighting for these wins?

“It's frustrating. It's very frustrating. You know, just soak it all in today. Then go over the film, see what we need to correct, and then go onto the next game. That's all we can do.”

LB Carson Schwesinger

I know it's a loss, but how good does it feel for you guys to be making plays?

“Oh, it was great to watch. Really like when everybody goes in there and makes plays, and that's what you want.”

Are you losing your voice? Just from calling the defense?

“A little bit, yeah. Yeah, it's getting a little cold.”

Guys keep talking about how well you're playing. Joel said you're playing at an All-Pro level and I know you're getting Defensive Rookie of the Year buzz. What do you think of all that and the season you're having, even though you guys are 2-8 right now.

“For me, I care about what the guys on the team think of me and that's about it. And what the guys in the building think. Every time I go out there I try to make them proud, and show them that when I'm out there I will play my 100%.”

Was this the coldest game you've ever played in?

“Probably. It wasn't that cold, but probably, yeah. You don't get much colder than this in Southern California.”

How much is your mindset built around the idea of trying to keep the team afloat as a defense as the offense tries to figure things out?

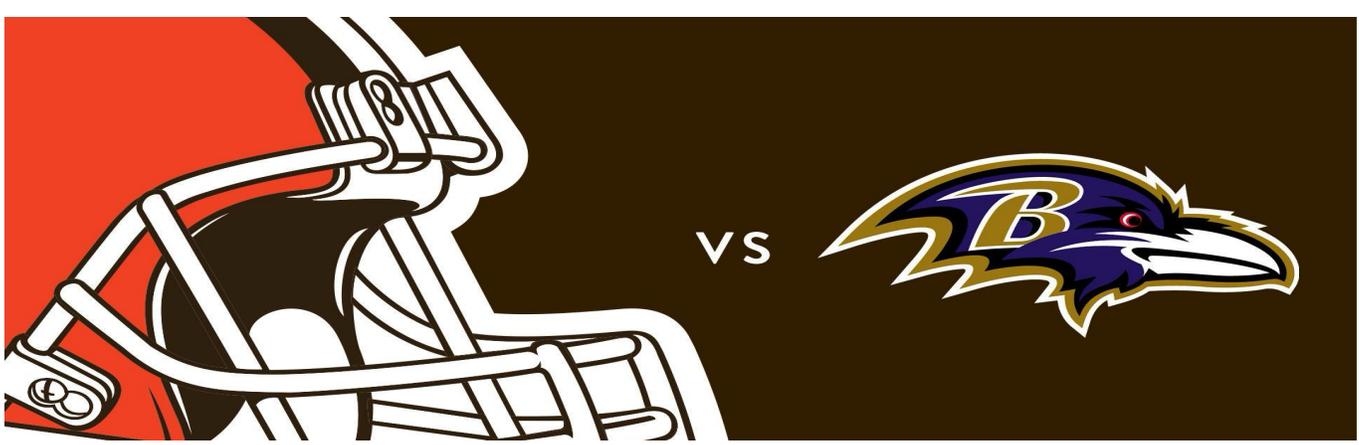
“I think every single defense, the job is to go get the ball back to the offense. Every time we step on the field that is the goal and give up no points. Whether it's a punt, turnover on downs, or interception, we're trying to get the ball back to the offense as fast as we can and with the best field position we can.”

The (TE Mark) Andrews direct snap for the go ahead score, what happened on that play?

“Obviously, you think sneak in those situations. We just have to be ready in all phases, it's a hard play to stop especially when you're trying to stop the sneak because of how that play works. Just have to try and see everything you can, that'll give you a key that they're not running a sneak there.”

G Wyatt Teller

What was the team's mindset, after (QB) Dillon (Gabriel) goes out then (QB) Shedeur (Sanders) gets put in there? How did you guys rally around him and how did you adjust after the quarterback change?



“I think I have heard his cadence like, two or three times. I think going out of halftime, we all got on the line, and he said his cadence and we kind of got through it. Again, a lot of learning, but he played his heart off, put his heart out. We just fell short.”

Did he seem to get a little more comfortable, you guys had a couple shots on that last series?

“Yeah, his first pass was a completion and then he found a little bit of confidence. Then we had a chance at the end and anytime you have a chance at the end it is a good thing. We just have to finish.”

You don’t want to make any assumptions or anything but if (QB) Dillion (Gabriel) can’t go, do you think it would be beneficial for the offense for (QB) Shedeur (Sanders) getting some reps in practice to prepare for a moment like this?

“I feel like, if (QB) Dillon (Gabriel) can’t go, then (QB) Shedeur’s (Sanders) the second quarterback. As long as they don’t put me at quarterback, then it’s going to be okay. All jokes aside. I think Shedeur is going to do good things. He’s taken a lot of weight and that was a hard defense to beat. The record doesn’t show how good that team is.”

WR Cedric Tillman

Did it feel like (QB) Shedeur (Sanders) was getting more comfortable out there?

“I think he was. He just kind of got thrown out there but I think he handled it well. We know what type of player he is and it was good to see him out there.”

What can you say about the defense and their efforts to try and seal this one?

“Our defense has been holding it down all season. They’ve been doing their thing all season. We just got to complement their game and we often have to do a better job of scoring points and sustaining drives and finishing games, like we just had the chance to do right here.”

How did you see (QB) Shedeur (Sanders) grow from that first drive to the final drive, giving you guys a chance to win?

“You can just tell he was slowly gaining confidence. The first drive got his feet wet, and after that he’ll just get more and more and more confident towards throwing some better balls and giving people more chances. Like I said, we all got to be better in some areas for him.”

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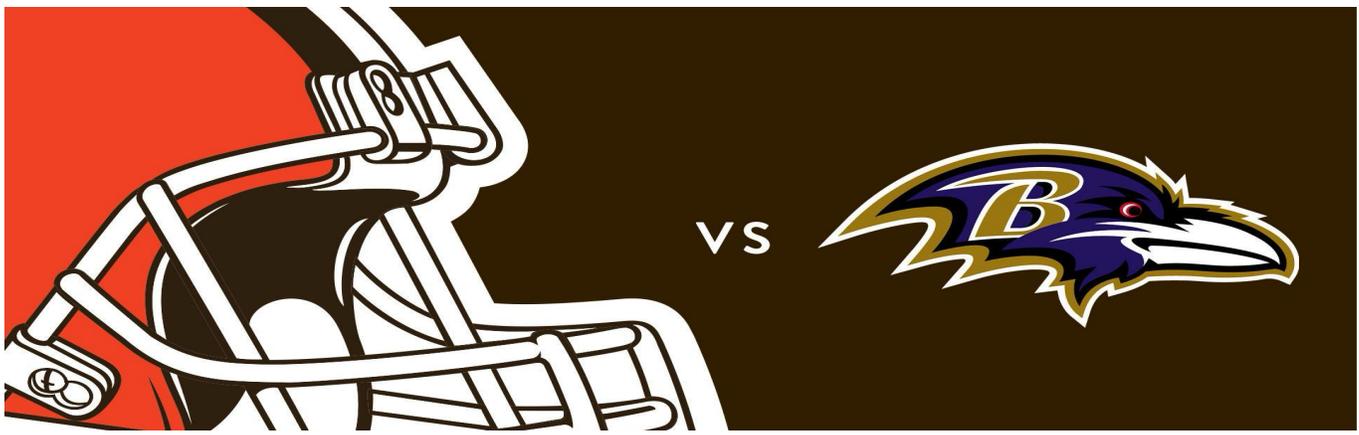
What happened on the direct snap to TE Mark Andrews?

“We were just trying to stop the QB sneak, and we had two five techniques, and they had the perfect play call, honestly.”

What can you say about DE Myles Garrett’s four-sack performance, two weeks after his five-sack performance?

“I mean he’s the greatest of all time. He’s the best I’ve seen do it. I’m glad that he’s on my team. His motor, his engine, it’s still going. He really sets the pace for the defense.”

How big was it to make that special teams play to bounce back from last week?



“It was a great play for us. (P Corey) Bojorquez hit a great ball. The returner had trouble. We’re just doing what we can to get the offense the ball.”

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