

## ]ARIZONA CARDINALS VS. SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS NOVEMBER 16, 2025 49ers Head Coach Kyle Shanahan

#### **Opening Statement:**

"Alright guy, injuries from the game (are as follows): (CB) (Upton) Stout had a stinger, he returned. (LB) Tatum Bethune had an ankle, did not return. (DL) Robert Beal Jr. left with a concussion. (K) Eddy Pineiro had a hamstring, didn't return. (LB) Curtis Robinson (was) evaluated for a concussion, cleared and returned. (LB) Luke Gifford, same thing—cleared and returned."

#### On Pineiro's injury:

"We think he pulled it, but not sure. We'll have to check tomorrow."

### On Bethune's injury:

"I'm not sure. He wasn't able to come back (and) you always worry about that. We'll have to check tomorrow to see if it's a high ankle."

## On QB Brock Purdy's first game back after injury:

"I thought he did a good job. He made some good plays in there (and) ran the offense real well. A real good first game back."

#### On the defensive takeaways:

"It was huge. We've been waiting for that and I thought those guys were huge today. I think it was (S) Malik (Mustapha) who started it off. 'Deemo' (DB Deommodore Lenoir) (was) huge and had a really good return too. I thought Stout had an unbelievable play, ripping that ball out. I think it was (DL) Keion (White) who recovered it, but those guys with those three turnovers and the way the special teams played today, that kind of set the tone for the whole game."

## On whether the message to take care of business was emphasized as the Cardinals were heavily penalized:

"No, because that's how we are anyway. Just because they're getting more doesn't really change what we're doing. I know they did something to (CB) Renardo (Green) that pissed him off, which they missed, but they always get the second guy, so we were pissed about that. Renardo came back and had a good game after that."

#### On WR Skyv Moore's 98-vard return on opening kickoff:

"That was huge. I mean, that's the way you want to start out when you lose a coin toss. Have a huge return like that. He's been close for what we feel like every week now. It's been getting closer and closer, and it's good to see him get one."

#### On TE George Kittle moving up to fifth place in touchdowns in franchise history:

"He's been here since I've been here, so it's been an awesome nine years with him. He's a Hall of Fame tight end. Keeps padding those stats and is still playing at an extremely high level."

## On WR Ricky Pearsall's performance after his return from injury:

"I didn't see any rust. I thought Rick had a good game. I'll see more on the plane, but it seemed like Rick played pretty well."

## On Purdy's first touchdown pass to Kittle:

"It was a man check and we had (RB) Christian (McCaffrey) and George on both of those sides. I think both of them beat their man and Brock worked away from the safety. It was a great route (and) he threw a real good ball—great protection."

#### On Purdy's excitement level to be back on the field:

"I think it made him feel more normal again. I mean it's always tough for football players when you're out and you can't play, especially watching the guys just do it week in and week out. I could feel he was more

comfortable throughout the week just getting back into the full routine of practice and more comfortable in the meetings when you know you're playing and I thought he carried it over today so it's a good first week."

## On how McCaffrey played today:

"I thought Christian was awesome. That comeback that he made at the end on that third and long was huge. We were expecting just a zone coverage, where you're kind of doing them more on-air, seeing if an underneath guy could get to it. He ended up getting man-to-man on a corner and ran a really good comeback round and made a hell of a catch."

## On Cardinals QB Jacoby Brissett throwing an NFL record 47 completions today:

"I didn't know that, but it felt like that at times. I've got a lot of respect for Jacoby. Every time we've played him--which I feel like it's (been like) three times in the last couple years, and we were expecting him versus Washington a few years ago, but he didn't end up playing. He always looks like that on tape. He looked like that all week in studying him and looked like that in person. He made a few of those big throws down the field where we were hitting him as he let it go and he hung in there. Real tough player and a guy I've got a lot of respect for."

#### On Purdy's mastery of his offense versus other quarterbacks he's worked with:

"I don't want to compare him to everybody else, but Brock's done it--you've just got to look at his numbers and stuff throughout his playing and everything, and not many people have done it better than him. He's been as efficient as anyone, he's made as big of plays as anyone and he's led us to a lot of wins."

#### On how well 49ers fans show up for road games:

"It means a ton. It's really cool. I think it's one of the coolest things about our franchise. Just the fact that all week, what we can watch on film (with) other people using silent cadence and we can sit and talk (about how we probably won't have to on first and second down because we know our fans will show up. When my wife flies commercial with my son on Saturday morning and tells me that when they land the whole plane's doing a Niner chant, it makes me feel better telling everyone during meetings two hours later that we probably don't have to use silent cadence because of my wife's plane ride. It's awesome. They do it everywhere, and I haven't had that at any organization I've ever been in."



## ARIZONA CARDINALS VS. SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS NOVEMBER 16, 2025 49ers QB Brock Purdy

#### On what he saw on the first touchdown to TE George Kittle:

"We just had two plays on. And for me, with the look that we had, we wanted that play on that look. So, (I) got back to gun and thought George did a great job of winning his matchup, and gave himself a chance. So he went under it, got it and it was perfectly executed. Just with the O-line, George's route. So it felt really good from the jump."

### On whether he thought it would be a touchdown when he adjusted the play:

"Where we (were) on the field, it was a good chance of that, yes. But for me it was like, let's complete this ball for a big gain. We're taking a shot here."

### On if he had practiced that play recently with Kittle:

"That route specifically has been from over the years, so we're sort of used to that. But that play in general was a new play."

## On what WR Skyy Moore's opening return did for the offense:

"It's huge. I think this whole season, the way Skyy hits it, we were all just waiting for him to have a big one. Nothing was different with this one. He obviously hit it. And then when he got caught at the one, we were like, dang it. We wanted it for him. That set the tone for the whole game really. Going out, scoring right away with 15 seconds on the clock, and then our next drive scoring. Shout out to Skyy, that's huge."

#### On if his first touchdown to Kittle helped settle any nerves he had coming back from injury:

"It felt good just to get into a rhythm for sure and hit the guys, and have some big gains. Then to hit that one, it was like, yeah we're playing. We're in an NFL game. (I) put a good throw onto George, and he completes it. It just felt good for my confidence. Outside of that, it's football. I've been here before and was just trying to settle back into who I am and how I play quarterback."

#### On whether today's nerves were different coming back from injury in his home state of Arizona:

"I would just say a lot of excitement. I'm always excited every Sunday. But to come back and to miss six weeks, and then my comeback game is here in Arizona where I grew up. So I just thought it was pretty special. But outside of that, all that mattered was playing together as a team, getting a team dub. And I'm just so excited that we all were able to play together. (The) offense played with the defense (and) special teams. I feel like everybody across the board made plays, and it was a good team win."

## On whether he had any anxiety before the game about how his toe would respond to real game speed:

"I was pretty good going into the game. This is the reason why I told (Head Coach) Kyle (Shanahan) (that) it's time. It's ready because I feel great at practice running around all the things. So, coming into it, I just didn't want to think about it at all and I didn't. I just went out and played quarterback how I've always played. That's how I went about it. It feels great now and onto the next one."

# On how many running backs can run a deep comeback route like RB Christian McCaffrey did today:

"I don't know any other running backs that can do that, to be honest. Split them out like that and run a 20-yard comeback like a receiver and come down with it. We have one of a kind, so shout out (to) 23 (McCaffrey)."

#### On the challenges coming back from a six week injury:

"Obviously it's my first time missing that much time in a season. For me, it was new. How do I handle it? I'm the starter and we put in all this work from OTAs to camp, and then we go into Seattle (and get a) big win. Then I'm just dealing with this toe thing for all these weeks. It was frustrating. I had to learn how to deal with it and mentally just take it one day at a time, one week at a time. And trust that there's a process

to this and the trainers, the strength staff, and everybody that they do this. This is their profession. So trusting in them, our plan that we put together and when I do come back, mentally I'm ready to roll. I'm going to drop back with confidence, rip it with confidence, play quarterback, go through my reads. It was getting to that point. And so, that was all new for me. But, overall it felt good and I loved our plan and I feel great now. I'm glad we won and now it's onto the next."

## On there being a specific play this game where he felt confident moving past his toe injury during the game:

"No, I didn't even think about it honestly in the game or anything. At practice and everything, that's where I tested it all out. I'm at practice rolling out, 'Alright, do I feel it, do I not? No, I don't. I feel great.' And then come (the) game, when I warmed up everything I didn't even think about it. (I) felt great. Throughout the game I was able to do everything: scramble, keepers, rollouts, step up in the pocket. (I) played quarterback."

## On Cardinals LB Josh Sweat hitting his hand on a third down:

"No, that was all good. He made a good play on it and it's third down. I had to get the ball out. But yeah, he made a good play on it."

## On how he feels the team is positioned right now to put together a run:

"I'm excited just with the momentum that we have going and guys ready to go in on this challenge of finishing out the season strong. But it's one game at a time. It's one practice at a time. But I think more than anything, we all believe in each other. We've gotten tight. We've lost some guys, which has sucked, some big names and everything. But guys just stepped up to the challenge and this is what NFL football is all about. You find out who you are under pressure but we have the right guys in the building and we're ready for it."



## ARIZONA CARDINALS VS. SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS NOVEMBER 16, 2025 49ers RB Christian McCaffrey

#### On his 20-yard run:

"That's awesome. Keep them rolling."

## On how often has he ran the comeback route that led to his reception and how it felt today:

"It was great. (I) ran it twice this week in practice and the look we had in practice wasn't man versus their corner, but (49ers QB) Brock (Purdy) made a throw that gave me a chance and allowed me to go up and make a play."

## On being such a versatile running back:

"I love football. I feel blessed every time I'm able to go out there. (I) love the game so much and I try to be a complete back. Something that my whole life I've tried to focus on and being able to do everything. I just love playing with my buddies and going out there and competing and trying to do whatever it takes to get a win."

### On the status of the team's running game and it getting back on track:

"Yeah, I think so. I think we're getting better. That's what it's all about, getting better every week."

## On QB Brock Purdy's temperament coming back after injury:

"He was vintage Brock, and that's a huge compliment. He was poised, made some great plays, made some huge third down throws. Kept us in the game, was smart the whole game. To miss games like that is really hard. And to come back in the middle of the year, I think people kind of just watch and he had a good game. But to be out that long and to come in and do what he did today is extremely impressive."

#### On how Purdy was smart today:

"Throwing the ball on time. Not making bad decisions. And just being a great quarterback."

## On wanting to be a wide receiver as a kid and if he ever wished to be one as he became older:

"No, I never played. All my brothers played. My older brother played. Obviously, my dad played, and both my little brothers played quarterback. And then Luke, my youngest (brother) would kind of play receiver and quarterback when Dylan was the quarterback. We had a hell of a 4 on 4 football team in the backyard. But it was always something that I worked on my whole life. I always played running back. I never played receiver, but I was fortunate enough to be on teams, even in little league, where they would throw the ball to me. And so it was kind of always a natural thing and I enjoyed doing it. It was another way to get the ball in my hands."



## ARIZONA CARDINALS VS. SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS NOVEMBER 16, 2025 49ers TE George Kittle

#### On WR Skyy Moore's kickoff return to open the game:

"I'm not lying, I was standing on the sideline next to (OL) Colton McKivitz and I was like, 'It would just be so nice if he just housed this right now.' When he started his return we just looked at each other and were like. 'Yeah, that works too.' But, we all need (RB) Christian McCaffrey touchdowns in our life so that's why he got tackled just for Christian McCaffrey fantasy owners. That's what it was for."

#### On the tone Moore's return set for the rest of game:

"Just a spark. When you can start the game off with a huge return and score one play in and have seven points in 16 seconds, it's just huge. I feel like our entire season it's taken ten to 15 plays to score on every single drive, which is fine and I'm okay with that, but having explosive and big plays is huge. Just to get that one to set the tone for the entire game was fantastic."

## On the kind of spark QB Brock Purdy gave to the team:

"I think I've only said this about two quarterbacks. Brock's presence in the huddle is just so elite and how he talks to the players—but he plays the game with this joy that's so infectious and it's just so much fun to play football with him. Especially five plays into the game, he hits me 30 yards down the field for a pass. He was definitely feeling it. I think he's got the confidence. He's got his swagger. More people were celebrating with Brock after his touchdown pass rather than me so I was a little jealous but he was definitely feeling it today. I will say the one pass to Christian (McCaffrey) on third down, it was like he clicked too many Madden buttons on his controller and said screw it, and what a play by Christian.

#### On the other quarterback he's given praise to for their presence in the huddle:

"Jimmy G's (Former 49ers Quarterback Jimmy Garoppolo) presence in the huddle was pretty damn good. He had a very good voice for the huddle. Some guys just have a piercing voice that when they speak and talk, everybody's attention shifts no matter what is going on, and he does that. Brock is very good at that."

# On McCaffrey's catch on a 20-yard comeback route on third-down and if he's seen any other running back be able to do that type of play:

"No. I mean, I could be wrong but I don't think so. I don't think there's any other running backs that are doing that, and I don't know how many guys can do that. He's just so unique in what he can do for our offense and the fact that he was able to run that and kind of be open too because people are like, 'Oh it's a running back. He's not going to do anything.' Then, all of a sudden he's making a jumping awesome acrobatic catch, and then also while he's running the ball. I mean did you guys see the one run where it couldn't have been for very many yards, but he spun out of it and drove the guy for a couple of yards. He's definitely feeling himself, and if Christian McCaffrey is feeling himself that's great news for the 49ers offense."

## On what the defensive takeaways did for the team:

"I feel like 'Deemo's' (CB Deommodore Lenoir) is one of our best players on defense, especially at this point. When your best player gets a turnover, the juice that it gives the whole team because that's what you expect them to do, and for him to go out and do that is huge. The fact that (S) Malik (Mustapha) got an interception is fantastic and (CB) Upton's (Stout) strip at the end was fantastic. He gave up a big play earlier in the game and was like 'Dude, flush it. There's so many plays and so many opportunities to make today. You have an opportunity to go out there and make a hell of a play, so just flush it and move on to the next one.' Then, as time came he made a hell of a rip so it's awesome for our defense to be making that. No idea how many guys got hurt today, that was a little nerve-racking, but we'll figure it out. I will also say two things, shoutout to (FB) Kyle Juszczyk as today was his 200th (NFL) game, I don't know if you guys knew that so that's a pretty incredible stuff. Shoutout to him for having an awesome, long career. He's only 29 though. That's what he keeps telling me. Two, I can't get over (DL) Alfred Collins and his effort on every single play. It's one of the things that stands out to me the most, but Alfred Collins and just his effort on every single play. I'm used to watching (DL Nick) Bosa and (LB) Fred Warner. That's who I usually watch, but now I just watch the d-line and I've just got to pick and choose but Alfred has just stood

to me. Just his constant effort of no matter where the ball is he just chases it down and I really appreciate that from a young player.

#### On whether he believes the team is in a position to go on a run:

"The nice thing is we haven't had a bye (week) yet, which is crazy to me. I could talk about that for an hour, but I'm not going to — not going to go on a roll there. We have a Monday night game, so we have an extra day to get our bodies right, figure out what we have to do (and) then a short week into Cleveland. We're positioned right where we want to be. Our offense is basically healthy. We're at whatever we're going to be at. If we can just keep rolling, keep making plays, (and Head Coach) Kyle (Shanahan) keeps scheming it up for us— the crazy thing too is that (WR) Ricky (Pearsall) had what, one catch today? I mean that was more than I had my first game back. He's going to pop off here in a second because—I wish you guys could watch practice the whole week because he was just on fire the entire week and just some of the looks weren't there (today). He's going to have a great game and when Ricky is running his routes full speed, you get (WR) Jauan (Jennings) involved and me, Christian and 'Juice' (FB Kyle Juszczyk), it's a very lethal offense."

## On how it feels to have the injured offensive players back:

"Yeah. One of my favorite things about Ricky is just the juice he brings in the huddle. It's just so much fun to see him out there because he has so much fun playing football and he has so much confidence. I need that too. I need to feel that confidence from guys in my huddle. Ricky brings that from the second he's in the huddle. He's going to have a great one. My guess is he's going to pop off on Monday Night Football. I'm not going to put any money on it."