



HEAD COACH KYLE SHANAHAN

KYLE SHANAHAN: Injuries from the game. Alfred Collins had a shoulder. He returned. Christian McCaffrey with a stinger came back for a little bit ended up taking him out. Jake Tonges had a foot, didn't return. And Winters evaluated for concussion, got cleared.

Q. What do you tell your team after this game, after the season you had?

KYLE SHANAHAN: We're disappointed today. We obviously didn't have it today. Credit to them. Try not to harp on that. We can discuss some of that stuff on Monday when we get back together. I thanked them for the whole season, how much they battled for everything. I know everyone was sick about tonight how it went in every facet, but I tried not to make it about tonight when I was with them. Thanked them for what they've done all year and been extremely proud of everyone in that room throughout this year.

Q. On the first drive, your first drive, your fourth down, looked like you had a conversion. Blew it for a timeout. What was the explanation, they said they just got a timeout?

KYLE SHANAHAN: I was upset with it. We were able to run the play, but when it's noisy, can't totally fault them for that. I don't know exactly how it happened. I didn't know there was a timeout called. So I saw the play. So did they obviously. Sometimes when a coach calls a timeout you sometimes can't get it to the main guy. So that's what it is.

Q. You seemed to have some harsh words for Renardo or intense dialogue. Can you give us background on what was going on?

KYLE SHANAHAN: Nothing in particular coaching him on a certain play technique and coaching aggressively.

Q. You benched him briefly, was that related to a play --

KYLE SHANAHAN: We called him over, tried to talk to him over a certain coverage. Got him right back.

Q. That kickoff return was exactly what you cannot have happen... digging out of a hole after that?

KYLE SHANAHAN: Not totally. If they score on the opening drive it's the same issue too. It sucks when it's the first play, how it gets the stadium going and everything like that. But I thought we weathered that storm to a degree. It would be nice to go down and answer right away. We got stopped on third-and-1 and fourth-and-1. Then the next drive we got the ball, we fumbled. So we gave them two scores like that, got down to a 17-0 deficit, which was tough and not at all what we wanted. I thought we weathered the storm, made it 17-6. Was hoping to go into halftime with that score. Would have felt good about it based on how things went. I thought them converting on the last drive, they got the one on the penalty I believe, if I'm remembering right, that allowed them to convert it. And on them scoring at the end of the second quarter, I thought, was a huge deal in that game. That made us to where we had to answer on the first drive

coming out, and we got stopped on fourth-and-1 on that first drive coming out and really after that then the game was out of hand.

Q. You performed well most of the season. Why do you think they struggled so much against Seattle?

KYLE SHANAHAN: Because they've got a real good defense. I liked how we came to play the first half a lot more. I thought we were much more ready. I thought we were moving the ball. But when you get stopped on third-and-1 and fourth-and-1, nothing counts for it. And the next time up we had a turnover with the fumble. And then when we got stopped on downs in the beginning of the third quarter, then it was out of hand. And then we got away from the run, trying to get back into it, and that team doesn't give up big plays. That's why they're number one in the league over the last two years not giving up big plays. When you get down a lot, it's going to be tough to get back. You can't generate those big plays.

Q. With how Brock played, only a couple of sacks, but running for his life a lot.

KYLE SHANAHAN: No one played perfect. No one played great today. No one coached great today. They got us pretty good. I thought Brock made a number of plays out there. But in the second half, it got away from all of us.

Q. While this is fresh right now, how do you process the resilience you guys showed to get this far with all the stuff you had to deal with during the season and the way it ends tonight?

KYLE SHANAHAN: I'm going to process that a lot tonight. I'll do it a lot tomorrow. I'll do it over the next month. You think about the season always throughout the offseason. Tonight is a little hard. I tried to articulate that to the guys. We didn't get caught up so much tonight. Like I said, I'm very proud of a lot of guys in there. We're extremely disappointed right now, but it doesn't take away for how I feel about them right now.

Q. Warner wanted to play. You had to keep him at bay. He was in the box, came down at some point to get the team together. Can you say what he was able to kind of do out there to kind of help the defense to push through, because they had a few plays where they were stopping the Seahawks offense quite a bit?

KYLE SHANAHAN: Fred was awesome in how he tried to come back and try to get ready to play for next week. Nothing matters with guys coming on the sidelines.

Q. This loss is historic in terms of 49er playoff losses. Just wondering, to have a season end like this, do you just flush it or do you think that the balance of this loss is going to --

KYLE SHANAHAN: No, it's a loss. So it's very understandable to see how it got away. We'll do that from a football standpoint, and you evaluate it throughout the offseason. But it was a tough playoff loss, but definitely don't make more of it than it was, it was a loss.

Q. Third-and-1 and fourth-and-1, you got stopped. You've had a lot of success with Purdy sneaking in there. Didn't like the look on either of those? Or what was behind the play call there?

KYLE SHANAHAN: If the sneak was there, we would have done it. They took away the sneak. We sneak if it's there. They played off the sneaks, and they took up all the gaps on the inside. We like the pass. And then on the fourth down we thought we could get to the edge because they're all inside playing the gaps to take away the sneak. We thought we could leave one on the edge to option. We missed that and there was two on the edge, which made it a problem.

Q. It's reflection you'll have to think about some, but what you accomplished this season with all the injuries, the young players playing, does it lead you to believe what's possible next season? Do you start thinking about that?

KYLE SHANAHAN: I always will think about what's possible and stuff. But it's definitely the last thing I thought about. I haven't thought about it at all recently. And haven't thought about it all up to this moment. But a lot of guys got to play this year that haven't played in the past, and that should help us for the future. But we'll come in Monday and we'll deal with all this stuff, put this game to bed and deal with all the players, and then we'll very quickly start on our offseason plan, how to build this team the best way possible to give us a shot next year.

Q. Sam, with the oblique strain and not going through warmups, did you feel you wanted to attack him and the pressure just hadn't been there throughout the season?

KYLE SHANAHAN: I mean I know Sam having the oblique stuff, but warmups are like that. But it takes a while for the Toradol to kick in. We knew he'd be fine once kickoff came, which that doesn't really have to do with pressure and stuff. Sometimes it can affect how they throw, but usually when that Toradol kicks in it doesn't. Sam played really well today. But it was also just with the turnovers, the special teams touchdown, us getting stopped on fourth-and-1 twice, which is the same as a turnover, I think it would be five, actually, if you count those. It was a whole team deal.

Q. What can you say about Christian and his ability to stay up through the historic amount of touches? I'm sure there's stuff he battled through the season?

KYLE SHANAHAN: I think this was one of the most impressive seasons by an individual player ever. Just in terms of what a warrior and man he is week in, week out. People who do that every week, to do it for 17 weeks in a row, not getting a bye week until December, and then to do it these last two games, like, Christian finds a way every week. He commits himself 24 hours a day, seven days a week, to get his body possible to go out there and compete. I've never been around anything like that. The dude was unbelievable. His dedication to really empty the tank every single game and to be able to do that that many games in a row is something that I've never really seen before.

Q. Distinct possibility you may lose both coordinators. What can you say about Saleh and Kubiak, the job they did for you this year?

KYLE SHANAHAN: They've been unbelievable. I love both those guys. Two as good of coaches I've been around and both will be head coaches, whether it's in a week or so or whether it's over the next two years. We're lucky to have those guys, and for our sake I hope we'll still have them next year.

Q. Would you let Kubiak go if it was (inaudible) with the play calling role as an offensive coordinator?

KYLE SHANAHAN: No, he calls a lot of plays here. He's our offensive coordinator, so I don't know, why would you let him be somebody else's offensive coordinator?

FastScripts Transcript by ASAP Sports

QB BROCK PURDY

Q. What was your perspective on a tough game for you guys?

BROCK PURDY: Obviously a good team, but I feel sort of similar as the last game in terms of you need to capitalize on third downs and some of those fourth-and-shorts. That's what comes to mind first. And then once we get down to the red zone, still finding a way to score touchdowns. And the field goals are great, yes, but I don't know, I just feel like those turnovers on downs were spotting them in good field position. I just feel that was the theme of the game.

Q. Kyle (Shanahan) said he was sort of telling you guys don't feel so down. Obviously it hurts to lose this game but he was proud of what happened. Can you get there at this moment, understand what this team kind of overcame?

BROCK PURDY: We're fresh out of the game. And our goal was obviously to come in here and win and go to the NFC Championship game and go from there. But obviously when it just got taken away from us and Kyle's (Shanahan) talking to us just about the year and you reflect a little bit, it does feel good just in terms of being reminded of like guys stepping up and the resiliency, like the character and the heart of this team was unlike anything I've ever been a part of. I know a lot of guys are saying that. Kyle said it, Trent Williams. Everyone feels it. Like the heart, man. And so for us it does excite us in terms of we're going to regroup and get guys healthy and get back after it. So we are excited for the future, but obviously right now it just sucks because the loss is fresh in our mouth.

Q. This offense is, when it's humming it's rhythm and timing. And today, there was so much of you running around, kind of the playground type of stuff. Is that just a testament to their pressure and what they can do to kind of get you guys out of what you do best?

BROCK PURDY: It's no secret in terms of their style of play. It's try to make the quarterback check it down and play deep to short. And then within that, have a good pass rush. And that's a good defense, man. Like, it's a smart way to play. And bring some pressures and stuff also and try to make them mess up. They did a good job with that. I do think there were still some (opportunities) for us to stay on the field and grit it out. Those are kind of the wins that we've done in the past, too. But tonight just wasn't our night with that. It's a tip the cap to them, though.

Q. They have a good defense. You have a good offense, but the last few times you faced them you haven't scored that many points. Why do you think they have your number right now, your offense?

BROCK PURDY: Probably just what I just said, in terms of you really have to play smart football, check the ball down and stay on the field on third downs. And they're a kind of defense, they're not going to give up the big shot plays, or when you have one-on-one match-ups and you capitalize, you get all the yards off of it. They're going to play soft zone and make you go through your read and check it down, and a gain of six, seven yards, and really play that the whole game. And so they've done a good job with that. I think for all of us, including myself, we've got to understand that when we're going against these guys -- and that's why it's crucial to capitalize on third downs and stay on the field.

Q. You looked frustrated after the interception. I know you don't want to single out a teammate, but were you upset about how that happened?

BROCK PURDY: Yeah, we were off schedule. And at that point I'm just trying to figure out which way Luke (Farrell) was going to go. And honestly, I shouldn't have thrown it. That's not on him. He got put in a tough situation. If anything, throw the ball away, live to see another down. It's on me.

Q. (On having very few healthy receivers a lot of times this season)

BROCK PURDY: Yeah, but I think guys have done such a good job stepping up. I don't want to use that as an excuse at all. We've got a really good receiver corps I think. Demarcus Robinson jumped up and Skyy Moore, we got him thrown into the fire. And J.J. (Jauan Jennings) is a baller. Ricky (Pearsall) is fighting his thing, but when he's out there, he's doing great. I don't want to use that at all as an excuse.

Q. You mentioned the future. Is this a team capable of winning a Super Bowl next season?

BROCK PURDY: 100 percent.

Q. Obviously this year was a rough year for you with the toe, but after you came back from week 11 you had great numbers. Is it safe to say that the toe, you're beyond that? Or are you still experiencing pain with the toe after you came back?

BROCK PURDY: No, I'm in a good spot with that. For me to go out, play the way I need to play, obviously the way I can run around and scramble and things, Obviously I'm doing my rehab and stuff with it still, and I will in the offseason, but I feel really good with that. So I'm good.

Q. Why are you so confident that this team can win a Super Bowl next season given the way this season went?

BROCK PURDY: I believe we have the right guys. Obviously it didn't end the way we wanted it to. But I really do think with some guys getting healthy and what we stand for and how we always bounce back, I feel like our backs were against the wall really all season with guys going down, but we always found a way. So I think once we're 100 percent and feel good about ourselves and learn, we'll be just fine.

Q. DeMarcus Lawrence, smashed you pretty good, your last dropback got you again. How big of a handful is he, and how can he wreck a game plan?

BROCK PURDY: Really good player, obviously. Same with 99, (Leo) Williams. They've got a good front. So across the board, they've got guys that are going to not make it easy. If one guy doesn't win, then the other guy might. It's a good defensive front. It's a good scheme that they have behind them as well. It's just across the board, they've got good playmakers. It's a good defense.

DB DEOMMODORE LENOIR

(On the outcome) "For me, yeah, it hurts, just knowing the fight that these guys have in this locker room. It just hurt me to lose like that. Just lose a game, period. I had most hope in this team. I was praying that we went forward. It just sucks."

(On the team's resilience) "Oh, yeah. This year has been next man up. Just plugging guys in that have barely been here, just trying to fight, just giving each other a chance. That's just really what this whole season has been about. I was proud that we came out and fought."

(On what went wrong tonight) "I would just say we have to stop the run and eliminate turnovers."

(On having Fred Warner on the sidelines) "It was great. It's always good to hear from a guy like Fred, a vocal leader, our captain, one of the best players in this league. He's a blessing to have around."

(On working under Robert Saleh) "It's been great. I learned a lot of new things about football and schematically. He's one of the best coaches. I pray he doesn't leave so we can get another run at this, but I wish him the best if he do."

RB CHRISTIAN MCCAFFREY

(On if he can feel any positives right now) "It's such a weird, emotional roller coaster that you go through. Everything you've gone through with this team for what it feels like 25 weeks in a row, and then it just ended. I think it takes time to process everything because it just comes to an end. What I will say is this is, in all my years playing, the proudest I've ever been to be a part of a team, and it's this team; I love everybody in that locker room."

(On how you process getting this far despite having to replace so many players) "I think you processed it with time, obviously it wasn't our day. We didn't play good enough to win, and obviously that stings and that hurts right now, but I think with time, you learn to appreciate everything that happened this season and all the people that made it happen. Again, I just feel very fortunate to be a part of this football team."

(On how much time he gives himself off from training) "[SEP] I don't know, probably a couple weeks. I haven't thought about that yet."

(On when the stinger occurred) "Pretty early, and then just kept getting worse. I'll have to check out what it is, but gave it everything I had, just wasn't working."

WR KENDRICK BOURNE

(On how it felt ending the game with a loss) "It sucks. They did a good job though. Shout out to them, they're a good team. We fought; we battled. It's tough, it's tough."

(On how tough Seattle's defense is) "They're good. They have a good shot of winning it all and you could tell. They are the number one seed for a reason. They did a good job, they are a sound team overall."

(On how he looks at this season overall) "I love John (Lynch) and Kyle (Shanahan) and the opportunity. I always think about it. I started here, came back, you plug and play, and it was awesome for me. I'm thankful, just the environment and being around Brock (Purdy). Ultimate competitor, and a lot of the guys. It's a natural energy, so I'm just thankful for that (opportunity)."

OL DOMINICK PUNI

(On being proud of facing adversity this season) "Yeah, it's something to be proud of. We talked about it after the game. With all of the injuries and everything that happened. There's a lot of star talent on the team. To be able to do what we did last week in Philadelphia and come today, obviously the result was not good but we fought as a team. I'm very proud of how we fought."

(On how Brock Purdy was in the huddle) "Every time someone asks me that, the answer never changes. He's always the same. He never wavers, just makes sure we're all in check."

(On how hard it was to play from behind today) "It's always hard. I think when it got down to like 30, it's very tough, make notes. The attitude we have in the organization is to go out there and keep fighting. That was the message on the sideline for the offense. We don't care about what the score is, just go out there and give it your all. Finish every play."

S MALIK MUSTAPHA

(On if there is an urgency to play Seattle next season) "Always, definitely. Especially as a division rival, how they are, the history behind them. Not a lot to be said, I think everyone understands that. Can't wait for the opportunity and we're going to have to wait a little longer, but I know guys will be ready for them when the time comes."

(On if there was a difference between tonight and the Week 18 game) "I think maybe execution. They made good plays, and we didn't make ours. The better team won today. As a man, when you take defeat, make sure when the opportunity comes again, be ready for it. Give credit to them but knowing that there's a lot of things that we can do on our end to be better. That's really it."

(On if it felt like the outcome tonight was self-inflicted) "Yeah, self-inflicted wounds and when you're playing playoff football, they are going to capitalize. That's what you're going to see. That's what happened tonight. They had the momentum, they were rolling, and you have to give credit where it's due. You have to be able to give respect when respect is earned. Credit to them, but I look at the guys in this locker room and there's another step we can take. I know guys are going to take those necessary precautions to make sure we never have this situation happen again."

DL C.J. WEST

(On the team's resiliency all season) "That's cool, but we lost, so none of that means much."

(On his progress) "Just using these last few games; playoff experience is something that's real special. Not everybody gets that opportunity. Using these last few games to help my offseason and know what I need to work on. Go into the offseason strong, comeback next season prepared to win it all and take it for another run."

(On the difference in Seattle's offense tonight compared to two weeks ago...) "They run the ball. It's the same plays; it's almost the same plays, outside zone, stuff like that, bounce plays. Nothing really different. We weren't ready to play today, and we didn't come out doing what we needed to do."

(On why that happened) "It just wasn't our day."

(On if not having a week of rest as Seattle did played a factor) "Man, you can't use that as an excuse. You have to go out there and play ball when it's time, when your number's called. You have to go out there and do it, rest or not, short weeks or not, it doesn't really matter."

(On if news about Sam Darnold was a factor) "I didn't even know about it. I didn't really care about it either. Hurt or not, we've still got to play damn ball, no matter who's playing, so we didn't focus on it. Nobody even brought it up."

(On what adversity taught the team) "Man, it taught us a lot. Seeing how injuries happen, with Nick (Bosa) and then Fred (Warner) going down. The resiliency that the team had kind of showed that regardless of what happens, we're going to go out there and play our hardest. It just shows what we have in this locker room. Our standard is very high in this locker room, regardless of who's out there playing, who's out there balling. Just go out there and do it."

T TRENT WILLIAMS

(On if this season was special to him) "It was extremely special to me because I've never been part of a team that found a way to compete every week. So many rosters were fully loaded while we were playing with guys that we got a week ago, two weeks ago, some guys signed at the beginning of the season, some guys signed in the middle of the season. The fact that we were able to get to this part of the season, divisional round in the playoffs and give ourselves a chance to get in the NFC Championship and we're extremely shorthanded. I'm proud of this team. Like Christian (McCaffrey) said, we had a lot of young guys that contributed to our success. They have a bright future. I'm proud of this team. It didn't go the way we wanted to, but the future is bright."

(On what the season says about Kyle Shanahan) "Coach of the year in my opinion. Y'all see what he does on game days, but what he does during the week, the message he conveys to the team every week, the way we prepares, the way he has guys bought in to give him their all, no matter what the scoreboard look like, no matter what, guys are playing their butts off. A lot of that goes towards Kyle (Shanahan), because he's the leader of his team, but it all starts and stops with him. He does a great job getting us started."

(On if the way the Seahawks defense plays reminds him of other great defenses) "Nah. We played some great defenses. What DeMeco (Ryans) is doing in Houston, is impressive. Hats off to Seattle, they're a good defense. They played two shell. They make you have to dig and dunk down the field. Keep everything in front of them. It's a good game plan."

WR RICKY PEARSALL

(On how good the Seahawks defense was today) "They are a really solid defense. They're very sound. Hats off to them for holding us to six points tonight, and I've got respect for them and they are a very solid defense over there."

(On what the atmosphere was like out there) "It was a really good atmosphere. It was probably one of the loudest games I have been in, but I am used to the loud from playing in the SEC. They definitely put on a good scene out there."

FB KYLE JUSZCZYK

(On if he will reflect on this positively even though they didn't get to their final goal) "Yeah of course. A couple of hours ago, we were one of eight teams left in the NFL, and when you're in that position, your goal is to win the Super Bowl and we didn't accomplish that goal. I think any of us, going back to the offseason and the beginning of the year, would say that we did accomplish a lot of goals this season."

(On if the Seahawks felt any different than two weeks ago in Week 18 in San Francisco) “No, honestly. They're a good defense, but I don't feel like they felt that different than two weeks ago.”

(On the outcome of the game) “We didn't play well, and we dug ourselves a hole. It was a lot of bad situational football. Not converting on fourth down, them getting that kickoff return to start the game definitely doesn't help. We just didn't play well. We've got to finish in the end zone as an offense. We know that, and we have all the capability to do that. We knew field goals weren't going to win this game.”

C JAKE BRENDDEL

(On how important the third-and-one was that they didn't get after the opening kickoff touchdown and how it felt that early in the game) “It's tough. You can ask any of the special teams guys. They work their asses off every single day for that not to happen, so it's really unfortunate that it did. But, it's not like we can't overcome that adversity early in the game.”

(On the two sacks they allowed from the defensive front, and if the pressure disrupted the timing of the offense) “I think this defensive front is one of the best in the league at bringing pressure. They are a very selfless group, and they rush very selflessly. One guy might pick a guy for the guy next to him to get open. You don't see that across the league, you see a lot of more selfish groups. They executed on third downs, and second-and-long. I feel like if we were more productive on first and second downs, we wouldn't be in those situations.”

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