

Seattle Seahawks Media Conference

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Seattle, Washington, USA

San Francisco 49ers

Coach Kyle Shanahan

Visitors Postgame Press Conference



Seahawks - 41, 49ers - 6

KYLE SHANAHAN: Injuries from the game. Alfred Collins had a shoulder. He returned. Chris 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. I try to -- 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 -- and 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. (Indiscernible) 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: I thought -- 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'll process that over the next -- 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: Yeah, 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: Yeah, 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?

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