



FOX NFL SUNDAY NOTES - 11/15/09

Bradshaw on Jay Cutler: He's the Disappointment of the Year
Strahan: Saints Defense Has More Touchdowns than Rams Offense
Long: Jim Caldwell Has to be Considered for Coach of the Year
Johnson: Rivers Should Have a Big Day Against Philadelphia
Glazer Reports NFLPA to Meet with Browns Players about Mangini's Behavior

Co-host Terry Bradshaw, analysts Jimmy Johnson & Michael Strahan assess Chicago Bears QB Jay Cutler's performance this season:

Bradshaw: "He's the disappointment of the year but I wouldn't call him a bust. When I had bad games in Pittsburgh, it wasn't uncommon for Joe Greene or Jack Lambert to get in my face. Did I resent it? No. It actually helped me focus and realize it's all about the team."

Johnson: "It's all about attitude. Jay Cutler has thrown seven red zone interceptions in his last 11 games. Tom Brady has six red zone interceptions in his entire career. Now, we shouldn't be comparing Cutler to Brady. We should be comparing Jay Cutler to Rex Grossman."

Strahan: "The disappointing thing is that they brought him in to win the type of game that they ended up losing against the 49ers. Very rarely, when you already have four interceptions, do you have the chance to win the game and he threw a pick to end it. GM Jerry Angelo, who took all the credit for bringing Cutler in, needs to take some of the criticism now that Cutler's not playing as well."

Analyst Howie Long thinks highly of the job done by Indianapolis Colts Head Coach Jim Caldwell: "Jim Caldwell has a new defensive coordinator, an entirely new scheme, a slew of injured defensive players and has been forced to play a couple of rookies on offense. When you talk about coach of the year here at the midway point, he has to get consideration."

Co-host Terry Bradshaw predicts a win by the Steelers this afternoon in Pittsburgh: "Some things are certain in life and that is Cincinnati is not going to beat Pittsburgh in Pittsburgh. There is no way the Bengals will beat Pittsburgh."

FOX NFL SUNDAY Insider Jay Glazer reports the NFLPA will meet with Browns players about the behavior of head coach Eric Mangini: "Things in Cleveland look bad and it just keeps getting worse and worse. In fact unbeknownst to Eric Mangini, I've learned that the NFLPA is actually going out to Cleveland on Wednesday to have a meeting with the players. The NFLPA wants to get to the bottom of exactly what Eric Mangini is doing with these guys. Not sure what they can really do but they're going out to see if there is anyway they can protect them."

Glazer on what Browns players are saying: "They are absolutely exhausted. It's not just Jamal Lewis (who last week went public with negative comments on Mangini's practice methods). It's funny, Eric Mangini said this week, 'I just practice these guys for two hours.' The players I talked to said, 'two hours? What practices is he talking about?' He's giving these guys three hours. Sometimes, like this past week, one guy said practice was for three hours and 25 minutes in full pads, they were completely exhausted. A big problem is that they're so



exhausted that after practice Mangini has these *extra reps* and that's when guys are really getting hurt. In fact one guy shredded his patella this week. They think it's career ending."

Analyst Howie Long believes the Vikings should rest Favre, if they get the opportunity: "Don't worry about the message you're sending to your team. The Vikings have three home games coming up. If you get a chance, you rest Favre. You don't treat all your players the same. Brett is different."

Analyst Jimmy Johnson on how he would handle Favre: "Play him. Run the football, play defense and let him do his thing."

Strahan compares the Saints defense, to the Rams offense: "Defensive coordinator Gregg Williams has done a great job in New Orleans. The Saints defense has actually scored more touchdowns than the Rams offense."

Analyst Jimmy Johnson on Philadelphia's struggles when traveling to the West Coast: "The last time that Philadelphia had to come to the West Coast they lost to Oakland. Now they are traveling to San Diego who blitzes as much as anyone in the league. I think it's a big day for Phillip Rivers against Philadelphia."

NFL Insider Jay Glazer reports on Packers players-only meeting: "Aaron Rodgers stood up in an offensive, players-only meeting and he got after everybody. It was followed by every body getting on each other and guys saying 'this is what I'm doing wrong; this is what this guy is doing wrong.' It wasn't a confrontational thing where guys were pointing fingers but more of a productive thing. It spilled over into the locker room where the defensive guys got involved also. Last night Coach McCarthy told me, 'We're going to be aggressive about fixing this.' In fact they've changed an awful lot of blocking schemes up front for this game and have put even more in the lap of Aaron Rodgers."

Analyst Howie Long's Midseason Awards:

Biggest Disappointment: Tennessee Titans

Sideline Enforcer: Mike Smith

Surprise Team: Cincinnati Bengals

Coach of the Year: Josh McDaniels

Rookie of the Year: Percy Harvin

Comeback Player of the Year: Tom Brady

Defensive Player of the Year: Jared Allen

MVP: Peyton Manning

Free Agent Pickup of the Year: Brett Favre

-- FOX SPORTS --