

49ers Clips – February 17, 2017

Local Media

With big job ahead, Kyle Shanahan moves past Super Bowl loss

By Nick Wagoner, ESPN.com

http://www.espn.com/blog/san-francisco-49ers/post/_id/23248/kyle-shanahan-faces-tough-task-moving-on-from-super-bowl-disappointment

Torrey Smith excited to see Shanahan's plan for 49ers

By Conor Orr, NFL.com

<http://www.nfl.com/news/story/0ap3000000786411/article/torrey-smith-excited-to-see-shanahans-plan-for-49ers>

Reuter 4-round mock draft: Top talent drops with early QB run

By Chad Reuter, NFL.com

<http://www.nfl.com/news/story/0ap3000000786173/article/reuter-4round-mock-draft-top-talent-drops-with-early-qb-run>

National Media

Which Seahawks' free agents might return in 2017? Here's a look

By Bob Condotta, The Seattle Times

<http://www.seattletimes.com/sports/seahawks/which-seahawks-free-agents-might-return-in-2017-heres-a-look/>

Matt LaFleur, new Rams offensive coordinator, will try to get run and pass games working together

By Gary Klein, Los Angeles Times

<http://www.latimes.com/sports/rams/la-sp-rams-matt-lafleur-20170216-story.html>

Jets' Darrelle Revis charged after weekend altercation in Pittsburgh

By Rich Cimini, ESPN.com

http://www.espn.com/nfl/story/_/id/18701016/darrelle-revis-new-york-jets-reportedly-injured-pittsburgh-altercation

Steelers GM: Ben Roethlisberger expected to return next season

By Gerry Dulac, Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

<http://www.post-gazette.com/sports/steelers/2017/02/16/Steelers-GM-says-team-plans-on-Roethlisberger-returning-next-season/stories/201702160191>

Tom Brady: 'I'd like to play until my mid-40s'

By Stephen Hewitt, Boston Herald

http://www.bostonherald.com/sports/patriots/the_bltz/2017/02/tom_brady_id_like_to_play_until_my_mid_40s

Local Clips – Full Version

With big job ahead, Kyle Shanahan moves past Super Bowl loss

By Nick Wagoner, ESPN.com

SANTA CLARA, Calif. -- By his own admission, San Francisco 49ers coach Kyle Shanahan will go back through every play of the Atlanta Falcons' devastating loss to the New England Patriots in Super Bowl LI for the rest of his life.

In the first overtime game in Super Bowl history, the Patriots overcame a 25-point deficit, shattering the record for the largest comeback in a Super Bowl. The comeback was also the third largest in NFL postseason history overall and the biggest in Patriots franchise history. At its peak, the Falcons had a win probability of greater than 99.5 percent at one point in the third quarter.

But Shanahan's Atlanta offense couldn't close it out. When the game needed salting away, Atlanta either didn't run the ball at all or didn't run it effectively. As the offensive coordinator, Shanahan became the focus of postgame criticism, especially for a sequence late in the game when he opted to throw instead of run when the Falcons were in field goal range.

"Obviously, you guys know the result of that, which wasn't easy," Shanahan said. "It's as hard as anything I've gone through."

Such a disappointment on such a big stage will surely stick with Shanahan for a long time. But if there ever was a task that would help him move on and focus on the present and future rather than the past, it's the one now in front of him.

In the immediate aftermath of the overtime loss to the Patriots, 49ers CEO Jed York offered Shanahan a day to stop, reflect on, and grieve the loss with his Atlanta players. Shanahan referred to it as getting "closure" before officially taking the job in San Francisco.

As you'd expect, Shanahan received no shortage of support and advice on how to forge ahead.

"Everyone just tried to tell me to be proud of yourself," Shanahan said. "Don't kill yourself. Everyone tries to compliment you and stuff, make you feel better, and it doesn't work. It's like, thank you, thank you, thank you, I've got to deal with this a little bit. Time helps, but getting out here was the best thing."

Indeed, Shanahan has no time to fret about how things ended in Atlanta if he wants to create a happier ending with the 49ers. Upon arrival in the Bay Area, he took over a team that has gone 15-33 over the past three seasons, seeming to bottom out in 2016 with a 2-14 record. It's a team with little in the way of clear roster building blocks and in desperate need of a franchise quarterback. More than anything, it needs some real, genuine stability after changing coaches for a third time in as many offseasons.

Shanahan will have plenty of help in all of those facets from new general manager John Lynch, who should help take some of the face-of-the-franchise responsibilities off Shanahan's plate. That should clear the way for Shanahan to focus on the football aspects of the rebuild. That includes finalizing his coaching staff and meticulous film study of the Niners from last season, as well as getting up to speed on potential free agents and draft prospects.

And while Shanahan has been accused of being cocky or arrogant in the past, he isn't making any outlandish promises about the immediate future. Neither he nor Lynch offered any clues that they believe this will be a quick turnaround as they attempt to re-establish what York calls a "championship culture."

"You get humbled every single day [in this game]," Shanahan said. "As soon as you feel good about yourself, you're going to get humbled very quickly. So I never really feel that good. I don't think it's fair to

say I'm cocky and arrogant. I'm a very focused person. I'm either 1,000 percent focused and overly focused, or I'm totally checked out on vacation. It's very extreme.

"When I come into an office, I'm pretty locked in on my job. I don't just hang out there just to hang out. I do my work, and I get home to my family. I think that can come off to people who don't know me like, 'Man, that guy just walked by me and didn't even say hi.' Well, I promise I didn't even know that person just walked by me. I am a very social person; I've always had friends and been liked. I haven't always been liked when things don't go well in the football business."

It's a feeling Shanahan has lived for nearly two weeks after his biggest letdown in the sport, but he's also determined to make sure it doesn't define him. After all, there's too much to do to make sure there are better days ahead.

Torrey Smith excited to see Shanahan's plan for 49ers

By Conor Orr, NFL.com

Kyle Shanahan left a team armed with Matt Ryan, Taylor Gabriel, Mohamed Sanu, Devonta Freeman, Tevin Coleman and the best wide receiver in football, Julio Jones.

Now in San Francisco, his list of professional-grade weapons includes Carlos Hyde and ... Torrey Smith?

Either way, Smith is excited.

"It's not rocket science. Football is football. Plays are plays," Smith told CSN Bay Area. "It's the way they scheme it up and put it together. The way I watch it from afar, (Shanahan) tailors it to people's strengths, which is always a plus. So I'm excited to see what his plan is for us."

Smith did not become a bad wide receiver after he signed a four-year deal with the 49ers back in 2015. Instead, he entered a massively confused Jim Tomsula system followed by the equally puzzling Chip Kelly era. Neither offense seemed interested in dialing up the long, vertical plays that have become a respected part of Smith's repertoire. In 2015, his targets dropped by 30 from his last year in Baltimore. The following season, by another 13.

"The offense, I have experience with it," Smith said. "I'm interested to see how he teaches it. You just have to execute. But with his track record, it kind of speaks for itself. I'm excited for him to have that opportunity. He's a young guy. I feel like he could fit in our locker room. He looks that young. He has a proven track record and he knows what he's doing. It's his time, so I'm excited for him."

Shanahan did not establish himself with the Falcons, of course. He got the most out of some replacement-level offenses in Cleveland and Houston, coaching Matt Schaub to a Pro Bowl. He is still the only coordinator to squeeze something out of Robert Griffin III.

So his tenure will be interesting not only because it's being overseen by a first-time general manager in John Lynch, but because in Year 1, Shanahan will have no choice but to make the best of the talent he has on the roster. The offense was neglected for years, to the point where journeyman Jeremy Kerley led the club with a staggering 115 targets. Who will be Shanahan's version of Gabriel or Sanu in San Francisco?

Reuter 4-round mock draft: Top talent drops with early QB run

By Chad Reuter, NFL.com

RANK 2

49ERS

Mitch Trubisky - QB, North Carolina: Trubisky's accuracy and mobility make him a talented prospect.

34. San Francisco 49ers: Curtis Samuel, WR, Ohio State

66. San Francisco 49ers: Tim Williams, OLB, Alabama

104. San Francisco 49ers: Carlos Henderson, WR, Louisiana Tech