



## BENGALS POSTGAME QUOTES

NOV. 11, 2018

NEW ORLEANS AT CINCINNATI

### MARVIN LEWIS

#### Head coach

##### Initial Comments ...

"Obviously in the football game, both teams took the ball and drove down the field. We didn't do things well enough on the first drive to get them off the field. After that, we seemed to erode as the day went on with our responsibilities and our execution. Offensively, I think we had a three-out-out the next time (after the first drive). It seemed in the game like we'd get a little off rhythm, come back and make a few plays the next series, and then stall at midfield. As I told them, you can't lose sight of where we are. This hurts everybody, but we have to get better. We have to coach better, play better, and the focus has to come down to preparing better and getting ready for the next game."

##### The team has allowed over 500 yards in three straight games. Can you put your finger on what's gone wrong with the defense the past few weeks?

"It's hard to speak for today. We talked about the other things we need to do better. We need to play better, and we need to do better on third downs. I looked up (at the scoreboard) at halftime, and they were six out of six on third downs. That's the key to winning football games, and we're not doing a good enough job right now."

##### Do you think it's a problem with the scheme?

"I'm not going to get into any observations today with that."

##### Looking at the stats, your defense is on pace to break the record for most yards allowed in a season. At what point would you consider coaching changes or anything like that?

"Again, I'm not going to talk about any of that stuff."

##### How much after a game like this do you worry about rebuilding confidence that may have been lost with your team?

"Obviously your confidence gets shaken. I just addressed that with them. They have to focus and get determined. It's their job to do it right."

##### HB Joe Mixon had a good start to the game. It kind of seemed like you guys went away from him ...

"We didn't go away from him. We had an interception, then had an incomplete pass, so we didn't go away from him, the scope of the game changed. We came out in the second half and handed it off on the very first play. Nobody goes away from things. We continue to try to run the football, but we have to make first downs, which is part of the game. We're not just going to hand it off and expect to roll up and down the field. The reason he was successful early is because we were able to mix up the run and the pass. That was the thing that continued with Bill (Lazor) all the way through. He did a good job of trying to do that, but at some point you get off-rhythm a bit, and that makes a big difference. We had a sack on second-down, and that hurt us. Every time it's second-and-long, we won't fool anyone by handing it off and making eight, ten or twelve yards, whatever the down and distance is."

##### I meant Mixon specifically not the run game overall ...

"Again, the offense unfolds based on coverages, defenses and so forth. Andy (Dalton) does a good job of distributing the football based on what he sees."

### ANDY DALTON

#### Quarterback

##### Andy, can you put your finger on the level of frustration after looking up and seeing the other team scoring 51 points?

"Yeah, I mean it's very frustrating, but we all had a hand in it and we obviously didn't play well today."

##### On the offense, does it feel like you have to outscore teams with the way things have been going during these games?

"We go out there to score every time we have the ball. This game was just tough. We hurt ourselves. With the second drive we have, we're going to go for it on the fourth down and jump off-sides. We hurt ourselves. You look back and we're going to try to see what we can do better. We have to be better. Regardless of what they were doing offensively, we have to score."

##### Obviously, you're a leader in this locker room. How do you make sure 1-3 in the last four games doesn't snowball into something bigger?

"It's one game right now. We can't let this affect our next one. So, as we start to move on, we've got to figure out where we need to play better and everybody's got to challenge themselves, on Sundays, to play their best. If we do that, we'll move on quickly."

##### With the first series, things were obviously clicking really well right down the field. Going forward, the game changed a lot. Was it challenging without A.J. Green or do you think this offense can do what it needs to do without him?

"We definitely feel like we can still do things without A.J. (Green). Obviously, we want him out there but we've got guys that can win. We've got to just go out there and do it."

##### This team has struggled against teams like the Chiefs, like the Saints who are viewed as some of the best teams in the NFL. I know you guys want to get there, does it feel like you're a long ways from that when you have an offense like this?

"No. I mean, for us, it's unfortunate we played the way we did against those two teams. I mean we're still in a good spot. We've just got to focus up and find a way to win next week. I think that's what it comes down to. There's still so much in front of us, so much ahead of us that we can achieve and we've just got to put the work in."

**Andy, you've talked about when you face a Hall-of-Famer like Drew Brees and when you're on the side watching him, it couldn't have been very pleasant to watch what he was doing today. What was it like for you not being able to get back on the field because they were converting all the time?**

"Yeah, it's tough. Drew (Brees) is so good. Like you said, he's going to be in the Hall of Fame. He's one of the best players in his position and it's what he can do. He can keep drives going and keep drives alive. It's what they did and they kept scoring touchdowns."

**What was the big difference between matching them on your opening drive and not being able to get in the end zone again until late?**

"Negative plays hurt us. For us, we've got to keep trying to gain yards, keep trying to stay out of the three-and-out situations. We've got to get better on the third down. Obviously, we didn't convert well on third-down, but if you do that, you give yourself a chance. We didn't give ourselves a chance today."

**What do you think went wrong for the offense today? You started out with a great drive and it just kind of sputtered after that**

...

"I think the negative plays hurt us — not scoring early, obviously we scored on the first drive, but not putting another drive together. They got points and we got behind. You can't get in those situations against a team like this."

**With the fourth-and-one, it's a tough play when it's a false start ...**

"That's tough. You can't have that happen. I think everybody understands that. We convert there, it could be a different game, but that's just one play that we'll go back and look at and see that we have to have it fixed."

**The other fourth down pass to John Ross, what happened? It didn't look like it was that far away from him, it looked like he didn't see the ball ...**

"I'm going to have to look at it. I think, for me, I can give him a better shot to get it."

## **SHAWN WILLIAMS**

### **Safety**

**What was the main problem that resulted in today's loss from your perspective?**

"I don't know. We didn't tackle well, and we didn't get off the field on third down. It's the same thing that we've been doing all along. We didn't tackle well, we didn't get off the field, we never got them behind the chains. A lot of stuff didn't go our way."

"I don't think the ball that was in the end zone (on one play) was a catch. I got blocked in the back on a touchdown (and) they didn't call it. A dude came back and pushed off on a touchdown, they didn't call that. I don't know. You just have to play football I guess."

**Are you growing more and frustrated by the week?**

"I'm always frustrated when we lose. I don't play or do this to lose. I expect to win every time I play."

**Are you able to put a finger on the problem or is this just one of those days that things snowballed, as they say?**

"It's just not one thing. Like you said, it's a snowball. There's a lot of things we're just not doing well enough. We're not tackling well enough. We're not breaking up passes, we're not getting them behind the chains. It's always second-and-five, or second-and-four. How do you expect to let your (defensive) ends rush when they're in second-and-two, or third-and-one?"

"We just have to figure out what we need to do better. Obviously, we've got a lot of guys out that we depend on, so we have to get those guys back. But you've got to play with the cards you're dealt, so for right now, guys have to grow. We've got to play and figure out what we're doing (wrong)."

## **VINCENT REY**

### **Linebacker**

**How do you prevent losses like today's from happening again?**

"(Guys need to ask themselves,) 'What are you not doing right? How are you hurting the team? How are you contributing to us being a losing team today?' Don't blame anybody else — blame yourself, because you're one of the reasons we lost. Myself included."

**If you win the next two weeks, you're 7-4 and back in the playoff mix ...**

"That's the funny part about it. It feels like things have been going haywire, but we're going to Baltimore — a team that we handled at our house, and a team that win (in the season finale) last year. Right when it feels like the sky is falling, you go to Baltimore and take care of business, and you're right in the middle of the fight (again). Coaches are going to be on our tails tomorrow, and rightly so. Every man needs to point (the finger at) themselves, because each person had stock in this loss. Everyone had a share in it."

**Do you think we'll see in the following two weeks what this team is truly made of?**

"Yeah. It's November. You become who you are in November. Once Thanksgiving comes, that's who you are — and Thanksgiving is coming. We're going to find out who we are. Thankfully, we've got guys like Nick Vigil coming back, Vontaze Burfict coming back, Darqueze Dennard, Tyler Kroft. We've got a lot of these guys coming back that are going to help us. The rest of us, (though), we're still going to be in the jerseys. We've got to go out and make plays, get off blocks, hit guys and make plays, and not let our guy make the catch. Just fight, fight, fight. There's no cavalry coming, as some people say. They're not coming. Yeah, we've got some guys coming back like Vontaze, but hey, we're the same guys. We're going to have to go out there and make plays."

## **JEFF DRISKEL**

### **Quarterback**

**You had over 30 yards rushing, a high completion percentage of passes and a touchdown. Despite today's team result, you have to be happy with your performance, right?**

"Yeah, it was a tough game overall. We didn't really get much going there on offense so (we) came out with a great drive to start the game and it felt like we were doing everything we wanted out there — I don't think we even had a third down on that drive. We were staying in front of the chains and making things happen, and then at the end of the game there, I just got in, went in there and competed and put a nice drive together."

**The Saints' Taysom Hill showed a lot of athleticism in the game, and the Ravens — next week's opponent — have Lamar Jackson, who has done the same. You showed athleticism today as well ...**

"Yeah, I'm athletic, but I'm a quarterback. That's what I am first. When I'm called on to run the football, I feel like I make explosive plays, but that's not what I am first."

## **WILLIAM JACKSON**

### **Cornerback**

#### **You guys had some plays to disrupt Drew Brees. Why didn't that work out?**

"I have no idea. I'm not a lineman or a linebacker. I just have my guy on the outside, and thought they threw a play in the end zone, which they dropped, but he's Drew Brees, so they gave it to him. It is what it is, so we'll get back to work this week."

#### **What do you need to do as a team to bounce back from this loss?**

"We've just got to stay level-headed. We know we're about to get all the fake fans all on our (social media/news) page(s) bashing us, but we're just going to get back to us, and, hopefully, next week, we'll get the win."

#### **What did Marvin Lewis say to you guys after the game?**

"We've got to go on to the next game. We're still in the hunt. We can still do this thing. We've got a division game next week, and that's what we're focused on."

#### **Are the Saints' offensive numbers mind-boggling to you? Two of the last three games have been kind of ugly ...**

"Yeah, there have been some ugly games, but we've just got to figure it out, and hopefully next week we get the win."

## **BILLY PRICE**

### **Center**

#### **You've missed time with an injury — do you feel like the mental reps you've had while you missed time were on par with what you needed today?**

"Yeah, I saw what the defense was doing, the tendencies and things that they like to do. I saw that and expected it. I've got to be quicker with the eyes, (though). I think the eyes really tell a lot because you can block a man physically or you can block him with your eyes, and that's what I have to improve on."

## **TYLER BOYD**

### **Wide receiver**

#### **You guys had a shot on a fourth-and-one play that didn't come together due to a penalty while the score was close early in the game. Was that a significant moment in your opinion?**

"That was definitely the turning point of us (staying) in the game, in my opinion. I mean, we still had other opportunities to score and cut the lead down and at least give us a shot in the second half, but I really can't say much about that. That was just a tough loss."

#### **The first offensive drive of the game looked pretty good, though ...**

"Right. When you get a great drive like that, it seems like everything is clicking: This is our home field, we've got the advantage, we're controlling the game. It's tough to go back (for) the rest of our drives and put up no points. It's disgusting."

#### **Is something like this a game that shakes confidence? If so, how do you get that back?**

"For me, I'm going to continue to play and be a hard-nosed football player and grind no matter what. Hopefully, the rest of the players have that same mentality. Everybody just didn't click this game. I think the way for us to bounce back is for us to beat the Ravens. That's going to be a game for us to solidify our spot going forward and try to go into the postseason. This is a huge one, and if we get past this one, we'll be fine still."

## **PRESTON BROWN**

### **Linebacker**

#### **Can you describe your frustration right now?**

"It's at an all-time high for me. I haven't seen anything like it. Every week we're giving up too many yards. I got to look at myself and find a way to help this team. I need to help a lot better if we're going to be better at defense."

#### **During the Saints opening 15-play drive it looked like there were several opportunities to get off the field. But after that there weren't many third downs the rest of the game ...**

"We did a poor job on first and second down. If they did have a third down it was third-and-two or third-and-one. They were converting. I don't know if they punted but it didn't seem like they did. We have to find a way. All of us have to look at ourselves and it starts with me. I have to look at myself and find a way to help this defense get better."

#### **The team is now 5-4, how do you find a way to bounce back and stay in the playoff race?**

"We have a lot to play for. We have a lot of division games to play. We have to go to Baltimore (next week) and get a big win. We don't know who the quarterback is going to be, but we have to find a way to get a big win and shake this rust off. We can't keep giving up 500 yards and expect the offense to score 50 if we can't get anything. So, we have to get better."

## **JORDAN EVANS**

### **Linebacker**

#### **Is it embarrassing for you as a competitor to lose like this?**

"Yeah. Obviously."

#### **What is causing the issues defensively?**

"I can only speak for myself, I have to do a better job."

#### **Where do you go from here and how do you bounce back from this?**

"We will watch film and we will be hard on ourselves. We need to be our hardest self-critic and don't worry about the "buts" or point fingers. Just focus on myself and what I can do personally better and collectively if we do that we will be alright."

#### **In your mind, is the only way this team makes the playoffs is if the defense gets better?**

"I feel like we are complimentary. The offense needs us to do a better job. It's hard for the offense to win when we're giving up 50 points. We have to do better."

## **MICHAEL JOHNSON**

### **Defensive end**

**What were you thinking as the Saints offense continued to tally up points?**

"I just kept saying, 'let's just get one stop' and go from there. In order to get two (stops) you have to get one. The whole time we were saying 'let's just get one'. We weren't able to do that today. We will have to go back and be really critical of ourselves tomorrow as we come back and review the film. We just have to keep working. In 2012 — all I have to draw from is history — we were 3-5 and we won seven of our last eight to make the playoffs. We started 3-5 and we came out of the bye and we lost to Denver at home similar to this, but it wasn't as bad as this. Who knows maybe we look back at this as a turning point. Hopefully we can turn it into that where we're playing better. We all have to look at ourselves and just do better and do our jobs better. There's no magic or this is going or that is going. We all need to do our jobs better."

**JOHN ROSS****Wide receiver****After the first two drives it looked like it was going to be a shootout, what happened?**

"I can't tell you. We got to get back and watch the film. It's hard for me to point a finger on what went wrong. We all know we didn't play our best game and we need to come in tomorrow and correct it and move forward."

**Did you feel good after the first drive? How did the mentality change?**

"We knew from the start of the game we can run with anybody. We have the offense with or without everybody, we have a lot of talented guys that can go out and play. We just have to be consistent and everybody has to do their job and do it to the best of their ability."

**What's it like as an offensive player to see Saints QB Drew Brees keep converting and keep the ball away from the Bengals offense?**

"It's more about us. That's what we talk about. When we see that we get excited because we get another opportunity to make the game even more special than it already is. We want to go out there and put just as many points on the board as they did, of course more. We want to do the same thing."

**How did you feel psychically?**

"Good. I felt really good out there. It was the first time in a long time I had a chance to do a little more. I felt really good."

**Is it embarrassing for you as a competitor to be on the wrong end of a score like today?**

"It's tough. It's real tough. I think you can tell we fight hard all week long and nobody likes losing. A lot of us don't like losing at all so it's real tough to see that. It's something we just have to go out there and continue to fix and move forward from."

**The team has only won one of their last four. How do you make sure things don't backslide?**

"Keep fighting. We still have a fighting chance. A lot of things can change. This is the league that we play in and everybody understands that. You can start off great and slow down or you can start slow and speed up. There's a lot of things that can change."



## SAINTS POSTGAME QUOTES

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NEW ORLEANS AT CINCINNATI

### **SEAN PAYTON**

#### **Head coach**

##### **Initial Comments ...**

"I thought we did a lot of things well today. I thought the time of possession was significant. We talked about getting off to a fast start — I thought we did that. It was a good win against I think a good team on the road. They're a little nicked up right now, and so we are, but I was proud of how we played."

##### **What are your thoughts on the offense in the first half, with five touchdowns?**

"I'm sure when we see the tape, we're going to see some things that we need to clean up. But overall, I thought the third-down numbers were real good. All in all, we'll look at it and get on to the next game. It was an important road win."

##### **The offensive line has been great all year, and they really seemed to dominate today ...**

"We had the balance that we were looking for. I felt like that the run and the pass complemented each other, and I also thought it complemented what we were doing defensively. The third down numbers on defense were great; we were able to get off the field. So, all in all it was a pretty solid game."

##### **Some of the players made Dez Bryant's "X" celebration today. Just how much was he appreciated by his teammates?**

"Well look, two days is not a lot of time, and yet there's a lot of respect. It's always difficult when you see an injury like that happen, and as unusual as it was. More than anything, I'm sure it's out of respect."

##### **It had to be nice to see Mark Ingram going over 150 yards from scrimmage today ...**

"I thought we ran the ball well. Our first and second down numbers were good, so therefore we didn't have as many third down attempts, but overall it was good to see him run."

##### **How encouraging was it to have the big win a week ago and then have it carry over on the road?**

"My concern this week was that really we've been playing these late-start times in the evenings, in the late afternoon. This was the first time we've played the early game in six weeks, and so just focus all week on our thoughts and being ready to play early — that was my concern of coming on the road. Fortunately, we were able to do that and kept the momentum going."

##### **Your defense had two turnovers today. What are your thoughts on their overall performance?**

"Those were big. Obviously with the third down numbers, we had some really good timely pressure, with either a pressure call or just a rush. But we made those plays when we needed them. And the turnovers, obviously, are significant. We were smart with the ball. We only had, I think, one penalty. That was encouraging."

##### **You always try to reach the perfect game. Was this as close to a perfect game as you can get?**

"No, this wasn't. This was a good game, but it wasn't the perfect game. There were a lot of things early on. We dropped some coverages early, left some guys open in 'man' schemes, the QB got hit at the end of the half there. Look, I'm sure there will be a lot of things that we like, but there will be a number of things we need to clean up."

##### **When you make the decision to go from Drew (Brees) to Teddy (Bridgewater), when did you start feeling that change? It seemed like it could have been earlier to put Teddy in ...**

"One thing that's not understood is when someone says, 'Let's get all the backups in,' (do they) ever take a look at the sideline? Forty-six (players active) — just do the math. You have one backup lineman, there's a backup tight end, a couple running backs, quarterback. So there's more to it than that, and we felt it was the right time to make that switch. Defensively, we did the same thing in a number of positions and we also did the same thing on offense. It's a little more challenging just because of the roster. Obviously, when you're at 46 (active players), which is too small if you're asking me on game day, but it is what it is and you've got to deal with it."

##### **This was the sixth time this year that the opening drive went for a touchdown. Does starting fast like that set you up for the rest of the game?**

"You hope so. You want to start fast. We felt this was an important game. We're always looking to try and come out and play our best football, recognizing that there are times where it may not happen on the first drive. But it did today."

##### **Losing Dez Bryant when you did, did it affect your game plan today?**

"No, it didn't. Our plan was really to work and develop and bring him up to speed over a period of time, and it wasn't any time soon. Kirk (WR Keith Kirkwood) was coming up this week regardless and will be up next week as well."

##### **Do you think you will need to address that position because of the injuries?**

"I think we'll see where we're at, but we feel really comfortable with the experience we've got and the depth we have. Certainly you lose Cam Meredith, but Tommylee (Lewis) is coming back soon, Teddy Ginn's coming back soon. So we'll see."

##### **Are you surprised the game went as smoothly as it did?**

"Honestly, in our league — and I say this in a very humble way — there's nothing that surprises you. Sometimes you think your team is ready, and you get out and you don't start like you want to. And then there are other games that concern you a lot, and all of a sudden you jump out to an early lead. So, there really aren't a lot of surprises."

### **DREW BREES**

## **Quarterback**

### **How does it feel to start the game like you did?**

"It feels good. You're so focused on each play one at a time. You want to possess the ball and try to be efficient in everything you do, both running and passing. We set the tone and were able to take some minutes off the clock. It was a good way to establish our presence at the line of scrimmage. Then the defense got some turnovers, so we were able to add to it. Those were big plays."

### **Was this the team's most complete game?**

"I think so. From start to finish, both sides of the ball, it was really executed well."

### **Did the Bengals do anything that surprised you?**

"I don't think so. Every game has wrinkles, so you try to anticipate what they might do. They brought some pressure early and we were able to handle it. We moved the ball well and made some plays. It got out of hand in the third quarter."

### **You passed Brett Favre for second place on the all-time touchdowns list. What does that mean to you?**

"You play long enough, these things happen. I consider myself very blessed for the opportunity to play this game for as long as I have. I love this game, I love my teammates. Hopefully there's more of that to come."

### **What did you think of Keith Kirkwood making his debut?**

"We are excited for him. He's been a young guy who has impressed us all this season. He's been biding his time, waiting for his opportunity. I thought he did a good job and has a lot to build on, and a lot of confidence going forward."

### **It seems Dez Bryant ingratiated himself with the team in only a few days ...**

"You can tell how excited he was to get back. That's something he wanted for a while. For things to go the way they did, we all felt like he made an impression. Our guys felt his desire and passion for the game. That says a lot about our team, the way we embrace guys."

### **Did you feel like everything you did out there ended up working?**

"No. You run plays expecting to chip away. It's not like you're expecting them to bust through. You have to have the mentality where you earn every inch or yard. The run game for the most part today was solid. We would get four or five yards here and there, and it was methodical."

### **You avoided the 'trap game' ...**

"There are no trap games against a 5-3 opponent on the road. We felt like they're a talented team, and we wanted to make sure we had our best performance. We value each win; they equal the same. It doesn't matter if it's AFC or NFC, a win is a win. This one is just as valuable as any other win."

### **Is there anything more fun than a postgame celebration on the road?**

"It's a good time. We know how to have fun when it's time to have fun."

### **What's it like to play behind this offensive line?**

"They're playing great. They're so together. I love watching them go to work every day. I love their mentality, toughness, and leadership. The attention to detail with those guys is awesome. They're all professionals and gel so well. We throw a lot on their plate, and they handle it. It's a group effort in there, and it's as good as any group in the NFL."

### **Mark Ingram had a great game ...**

"He was great all around. Everyone took advantage of their opportunities today."

### **Was this as close to a perfect game as you've had?**

"We'll take that every time, especially when you get touchdowns. We have high expectations for ourselves and expect to come out and execute. We understand the importance of sustaining drives and taking care of the football. All of those elements are critical."

### **How hard is it to put together those long drives?**

"It's hard. It pays dividends as the game goes on though, because you wear a defense down. There's just one missed tackle that can give you an opportunity for a big play. We say, 'Don't get bored with the completions, the four-yard runs. They result in big plays if we keep it up.'"

### **The team seemed like it was paying tribute to Dez Bryant a couple times today ...**

"The team embraced Dez. We were all excited to have the opportunity to play with him and see what he can do. It's unfortunate, but his future is still bright. It says a lot about our guys, the way we embraced Dez."

## **MARCUS WILLIAMS**

### **Safety**

#### **What happened on the interception?**

"I don't know what happened. I was just trying to make a play, the ball was in the air and I made it. Credit goes to all our guys who are just doing their jobs. The defensive line is doing a great job of getting to the quarterback, the linebackers are doing a good job of covering, the corners are doing a good job of covering."

#### **Did you think you were going to take that all the way back?**

"I always think I'm going to take every one back, but it ain't ever happened yet. But I think I'm going to get one one day."

#### **How did it feel out there today?**

"It felt like we were dominating. We can always do better. We'll look at the film. Every time we go out there we don't want them to score. That's our mentality."

#### **What's it like for the defense when you see the offense playing like that?**

"Yeah, you know they're going to do their thing every week. We just got to come out there and do our job. Every play is a chance for us to stop them or get a turnover and get the ball back on offense."

### **Do you guys feel like you guys are hitting your stride with the turnovers?**

“Every week is a new week. We get out there at practice and try and get those turnovers, and try and get them in the game and get some momentum going. We work so hard in practice that we want to make it happen in the game.”

### **How big was the pass rush today?**

“They’re big every day. They practice it in practice, and then they come out here and execute.”

## **MARK INGRAM and ALVIN KAMARA Running backs**

### **You both threw up the “X” today when you scored touchdowns. Why did you do that?**

Ingram: “Dez (Bryant), man, he came in right away and he was just one of the guys. We were all excited about him being a part of our team. Great playmaker, good dude, and we all hated to see what happened on Friday. We just want to let him know he’s still part of us and we’re holding him down.”

### **He was only on the team for like 36 hours ...**

Kamara: “Like Mark said, he was just one of the guys when he came in. He just came in the room, and wanted to make plays and be a part of it. It’s unfortunate any time anybody gets hurt. You don’t want to see that — especially a player of his caliber. We wanted to show love to him.”

### **Can you describe this offense right now?**

Kamara: “Savage.”

Ingram: “Oooooo, savage. Some dogs. Dogs — the whole squad. Not just offense, the whole squad.”

### **Mark, how big was it for you to get over 100 yards today?**

Ingram: “Man, all glory to God. I’m grateful. I’ve been working my butt off. I’m just trying to take advantage of my opportunities. When my number gets called, and I have an opportunity to make some plays, I just try to do my job and make that happen.”

### **Is it hard to get in football shape when you’re not out there playing the game?**

Ingram: “There’s no exception to playing with pads and a helmet on and getting hit, but I feel like I was in good shape — the best shape I could’ve possibly been in without playing a game. Like I said, I just want to thank the Lord for blessing me with health, blessing me with a good team, and being able to contribute. So, thank you.”

### **A lot of people thought this could be a trap game for you guys and you could overlook this Bengals team that is banged up. What was the mentality coming into this game?**

Kamara: “Trap game? Our mentality is focusing on winning, focusing on this locker room, and focusing on this team. We’re not worried about the other side of the ball, whoever else we’re playing. We’re worried about us. We had a good week of preparation to do what we needed to do. And we did what we said we were going to do all throughout the week. I don’t think this team is the type of team that’s worried about a trap game I guess.”

### **We talked about this with you guys last year. We were having the same conversations, you’re on a win streak here. Is there anything different about this team this year from what you experienced last year?**

Kamara: “It’s a new year. That was 2017, this is 2018. That’s all I’ve got to say.”

### **What does it say that you scored on every possession? That hasn’t happened in a long time in the NFL ...**

Ingram: “Every time we got on the ball, we tried to make it happen. We’re focused on us. We know if we do our job, everybody does their job, everybody executes, nobody has to be superman, nobody has to be the hulk — you just have to be the best you. I think that’s what we had on this team — everybody doing their jobs and executing their jobs. Once we do that we’ll be alright.”

## **MICHAEL THOMAS Wide receiver**

### **The tribute to WR Dez Bryant out there today — it was pretty cool to watch. Can you talk about who came up with it?**

“We sacrifice so much to play this game. Dez is a competitor. He brought new life the first time he entered our locker room, and we appreciated him. When you go through something like that, you know you’ve got to have your brother’s back. We’re here to support him, and we wanted to show that off with our play.”

### **This team has been clicking on all cylinders with a ton of playmakers. Talk about what’s been going on here ...**

“The week of preparation, we’re keeping ourselves real honest, we’re going hard after a week of preparation and practice getting ready for these teams. We’re not underestimating any team. We’re just coming in and playing confidently and playing together.”

### **Were you surprised at all by how easy this was today?**

“Credit to my offensive coordinator, and the offensive personnel, and the quarterback under center. It was a complete win — we played together. That’s what happens when you execute at a high level. We’re always trying to play a perfect game.”

### **It seems like this offense is getting better each week. What is it like being involved in this? At times it looks like you guys are unstoppable ...**

“We won’t compliment ourselves or anything. We’ll just keep doing what we’re doing, keep ascending in the right direction, and keep taking steps in the right direction and see where we end. I love playing with these guys, we love playing for each other. We definitely have something special going on. We’re just going to keep seeing how far we can take it.”