

NFL | BROWNS

Garrett says Browns lack focus, CB Newsome has concussion

By The Associated Press

CLEVELAND

Just moments after Browns coach Kevin Stefanski ruled out three starters for Sunday's important game against first-place Baltimore, star defensive end Myles Garrett said something else is missing this week.

Focus. After Friday's workout, Garrett was asked if the Browns (6-6), coming off their bye week and in the thick of a playoff race, had worked with a sense of urgency and attention to detail as they prepared for the season's biggest game.

"Not as much as I wanted to," the 2020 All-Pro edge rusher said. "But we still got another two days. Guys will sharpen up and we've got leaders that are on this team who will make them get prepared and get ready for Sunday, because it's not end all be all today."

"But when the time comes, we need everybody on their Ps and Qs and ready because it's win or go home right now."

Before Garrett's curious remarks, Stefanski said tight end David Njoku, linebacker Anthony Walker Jr. and punter Jamie Gillan will all miss Sunday's game after testing positive for COVID-19.

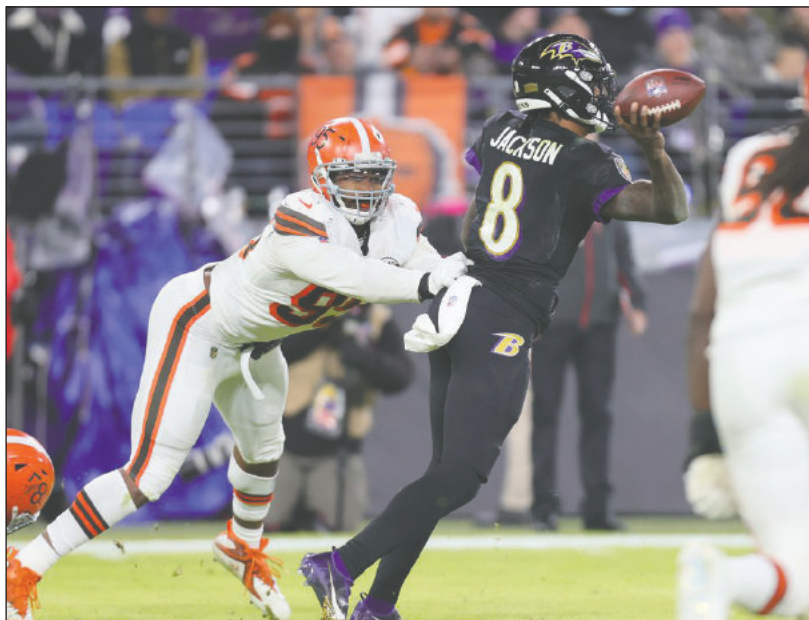
Njoku leads the team in yards receiving, Walker is the Browns' leading tackler and Cleveland signed veteran free agent Dustin Colquitt on Friday to handle punting and holding duties.

If all that wasn't troubling enough, starting rookie cornerback Greg Newsome suffered a concussion when he fell and hit his head on the final play of practice. Newsome, a first-round pick from Northwestern who has had an impressive first season, left the field with a trainer holding his helmet.

It's less than an ideal situation for the Browns, who trail the Ravens (8-4) by two games in the AFC North with five to play and have zero margin for error. Cleveland probably needs to win four games to qualify for the postseason for the second straight year.

While Garrett wasn't pleased with how practice went, he stressed there was time to get things together.

"I'm not going to sulk or sink my head," said Garrett, who has 14 sacks, two behind Pittsburgh's T.J. Watt for the league lead. "I mean, guys go about things differently. It's not only on us as players, it's coaches,



Browns defensive end Myles Garrett pursues Ravens quarterback Lamar Jackson as he makes a pass in the teams' meeting earlier this season.

it's everyone having a focus on the task at hand.

"We all have to look in the mirror and say obviously if we don't win this one, there won't be any postseason for us. We've just got to come together tomorrow, today in meetings and we'll get right. We've still got another 48-plus hours."

This isn't the first time Garrett has challenged his teammates. Earlier this season, he said if teams were going to focus on stopping him, then others needed to step up. The Browns did just that, getting nine sacks — Garrett had 4 1/2 — and holding Chicago to 47 total yards in a 26-6 win.

While he's got a chance to win the sacks title and perhaps the NFL Defensive Player of the Year, Garrett said all he wants to get his hands on are wins.

"Nothing matters if we don't make the playoffs," Garrett said. "I mean DPOY is nice, but I want to be remembered for bringing some Super Bowls here.

"Individual glory, that will come and go, but the city will remember a Super Bowl. If I win DPOY and then we don't win

anything, then our names won't go down and be remembered for anything."

It's been a strange few days for Colquitt, who spent 15 seasons with the Kansas City Chiefs and was released by Atlanta earlier this week. He averaged a career-best 47.7 yards per punt in six games for Falcons.

A two-time Pro Bowler, Colquitt had barely gotten home to Kansas when the Browns called.

"I had to throw stuff in two bags and go," the 39-year-old said. "I literally got back from Atlanta and in like 36 hours I was like in a plane and coming up here. It was a tight window."

It's even tighter for him to get up to speed with long snapper Charley Hughlett and kicker Chase McLaughlin before Sunday. The trio spent the early portion of practice going over the nuances that make kicking an art form.

Colquitt's younger brother, Britton, punted for the Browns from 2016-18.

"As I've been walking around the facility I'm seeing a lot of heads stick out of rooms," he said. "I see people looking out, 'Is that Britton? No, it's Dustin.'"

BALTIMORE (8-4) AT CLEVELAND (6-6)

TV: Sunday, 1 p.m. EST, CBS
BETTING LINE: Browns by 2 1/2, according to FanDuel Sportsbook.
AGAINST THE SPREAD: Baltimore 5-7; Cleveland 5-7.
SERIES RECORD: Ravens lead 34-11.
LAST MEETING: Ravens beat the Browns 16-10 on Nov. 28 at Baltimore.
LAST WEEK: Ravens lost to Steelers 20-19; Browns had bye, lost to Ravens 16-10 on Nov. 28.
RAVENS OFFENSE: OVERALL (4), RUSH (T-3), PASS (13), SCORING (16).
RAVENS DEFENSE: OVERALL (20), RUSH (1), PASS (31), SCORING (9).
BROWNS OFFENSE: OVERALL (17), RUSH (T-3), PASS (24), SCORING (19).
BROWNS DEFENSE: OVERALL (4), RUSH (11), PASS (8), SCORING (T-13).
TURNOVER DIFFERENTIAL: Ravens minus-8; Browns plus-1.
RAVENS PLAYER TO WATCH: WR Rashod Bateman. The first-round draft

pick started his rookie season late because of injury problems, but he was making solid contributions (25 catches, 301 yards) until last weekend, when he was held without a catch against Pittsburgh.
KEY INJURIES: Baltimore was hit by another significant injury when CB Marlon Humphrey went down with a season-ending pectoral injury. That was another blow for a team that has faced adversity ever since RBs J.K. Dobbins and Gus Edwards and CB Marcus Peters were lost to season-ending injuries during the preseason. ... The Browns could be missing several key pieces due to positive COVID-19 tests. TE David Njoku, LB Anthony Walker Jr. and P Jamie Gillan were all placed on the COVID-19 reserve list earlier this week. Njoku leads the team in yards receiving (407) and scored Cleveland's only touchdown in the first matchup with Baltimore. ... The Browns signed veteran punter Dustin Colquitt to replace Gillan. A two-time Pro Bowler, Colquitt sent 15 seasons with Kansas City. WR Jarvis Landry (knee) missed practice time but should be good to go.

CLEVELAND BROWNS WATCH LAST GAME Sunday, Nov. 28 at Baltimore 16-10 NEXT GAME vs. Baltimore 1 p.m., Sunday TV: CBS RADIO: WMJK 100.9 FM RECORD 6-6 PCT. .500 PF 254 PA 267

NFL Standings table showing American Conference and National Conference standings for East and South divisions.

Thursday, Dec. 9 and Sunday, Dec. 12 game schedule for the NFL.

NBA Eastern Conference and Western Conference standings tables.

NBA Thursday's Games and Friday's Games schedule.

COLLEGE BASKETBALL TOP 25 SCHEDULE for Saturday and Sunday.

COLLEGE FOOTBALL BOWL GLANCE listing various bowl games.

BASKETBALL | ELKS

Local HoopShoot champions crowned

From staff reports

The annual Elks Lodge 285 HoopShoot was held last Saturday at Sandusky Intermediate School.

Each contestant shot 25 free throws. Winners advance to district competition.

- Winners included: 12-13 Boys 1st: Mason Souter, Perkins, 23/25 2nd: Q'Marion Hunter, Sandusky, 22/25 3rd (tie): Dale Johnson and Bryce Davie, both Perkins, 18/25



The Sandusky Elks Lodge 285 HoopShoot was held last Saturday. Winners included, from left, Mason Souter, 12-13 boys; Brock Parker, 10-11, boys; Brock Davie, 8-9 boys; Braelyn Davie, 10-11 girls; and Akiyla Jones, 12-13 girls. In back is Elks 285 Exalted Ruler Bill Kelley.

- 10-11 Boys 1st: Brock Parker, Perkins, 14/25 (4 for 5 in shoot-off) 2nd: DeWade Moore, Sandusky, 14/25 3rd: Zion Henlon, Sandusky, 14/25

NBA | GOLDEN STATE

Curry closes in on NBA 3-point record

By The Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO

Ray Allen fondly remembers when a young Stephen Curry and his little brother, Seth, used to tag along with father Dell and take part in Bucks shootarounds.

"They'd come and we'd go through drills and they'd be right there with us, and they'd hold their own," said Allen, who was a teammate of Dell Curry in Milwaukee at the time and Dell was the best shooter Allen had been around so far as a third-year guard. That was years before Allen would make his own enduring mark as a shooter.

Now, Stephen Curry is that guy for Golden State — and the two-time MVP is on the brink of breaking Allen's career 3-point

record. His next chance comes Saturday night at Philadelphia, where the Warriors (21-4) are embarking on a five-game road trip.

Curry needs nine 3-pointers to match Allen's mark of 2,973 regular-season 3s and 10 to top him. Allen accomplished the feat over 18 seasons from 1996-2014. Curry would be doing it in his 13th season.

"His (Allen's) journey was interesting because he was such an athlete, he'd dunk on you, he'd drive, he could shoot the 3 but from what I remember it wasn't a huge part of his game, because he could do so many other things," Curry said. "As it evolved, he adapted and made it more of a feature."

Curry called Allen's work ethic "a common theme" for the two shooting stars,

recalling how Allen arrived at the arena three hours before games to shoot when nobody was inside to watch. That's a stark difference from the pregame show Curry puts on for the masses night after night, thousands holding up their phones to shoot video and capture a glimpse of one of the greatest NBA performers ever.

"He had a very specific routine that he stuck to," Curry said. "I learned a lot from that."

At 33, reigning NBA scoring champion Curry continues to let it fly from every spot on the court, recently knocking down half-court shots in consecutive games.

"I work hard to try to put myself in position to have success, and confidence in my game and how I play, and all that goes into it," Curry said.

"With that confidence does come creativity and ability to go out and stretch your imagination for what's possible out there and honestly, I just love what I do. So, there's always joy that comes with it." Curry went a quiet 6 of 17 from beyond the arc in Wednesday's 104-94 win against Portland. Some thought he might somehow break the record against the Trail Blazers. While he would have preferred to become the 3-point leader in front of the raucous home crowd, Curry acknowledged: "It is the weirdest thing to be picky about breaking a record like that. ... I feel like it will be special no matter what because I'll make it special and it will be an amazing experience for me and my teammates."