



DENVER BRONCOS QUOTES

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DENVER BRONCOS vs. NEW YORK JETS

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Postgame Quotes Summary (click links for easy navigation):

Broncos Quotes: [Head Coach Vance Joseph](#) (press conference); OLB [Von Miller](#) (press conference); QB [Trevor Siemian](#) (press conference); WR [Demaryius Thomas](#) (press conference); RB [C.J. Anderson](#); ILB [Todd Davis](#); DE [Adam Gotsis](#); CB [Chris Harris Jr.](#); DE [Shelby Harris](#); ILB [Brandon Marshall](#); WR [Emmanuel Sanders](#); S [Darrian Stewart](#); CB [Aqib Talib](#)

Jets Quotes: [Head Coach Todd Bowles](#) (press conference); QB [Josh McCown](#) (press conference); QB [Bryce Petty](#) (press conference); C [Wesley Johnson](#); WR [Jermaine Kearse](#); DL [Steve McLendon](#)

HEAD COACH VANCE JOSEPH

On the injuries in the game

“We have a couple injuries from the game. [S] Justin Simmons with a left ankle, he did not return. [S] Jamal Carter with a left shoulder, he did not return.”

On getting a win

“We knew if we played clean football, it could look like that. Obviously today, we were plus two in turnovers today. That’s huge. The field position, our average start was 4 and theirs was 20. It’s really a flip game of what we’ve seen in the last two months.”

On WR Demaryius Thomas’ performance today

“He played inspired football. I challenged those guys last night, all of our team leaders, to play better football. He came out and he played inspired football. He’s second all-time in Broncos history with yards and touchdowns. It speaks to his career, but today, he played inspired for us.”

On the defensive performance today

“I’ll say this, that offense scored 38 points last week versus the Chiefs and had over 500 yards in offense. That defense played without [NT Domata] Peko [Sr.], without [DE Derek] Wolfe and without [DE Jared] Crick. It was our d-line that really stepped up as backup players and played at a high level today. Our secondary played really well. We had four sacks on the quarterback, no big plays [allowed]. I’m very proud of those guys to have a shutout. It’s our first in 12 years here. It speaks to our defense. If we can get a lead, we can be the difference in the football game. That was fun to see.”

On the fan turnout

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“The fans have been great through his eight game losing streak. They never left us. It’s been frustrating for all of us involved here; players and fans alike. But the fans came out today. They were loud. They made a difference today. Big props to the fans, 70,000 strong.”

On playing a turnover-free game

“It feels great when you’re plus two and you control the field position, you have a chance to win football games. It looks really simple to do that, but it’s not. Our guys have been working hard. The effort has been there every week. It’s just we haven’t played clean football, but today we did. It speaks to what we can be if we played clean football.”

On the difference in today’s game

“The difference is that we didn’t turn the ball over. We played complimentary football today. We ran the ball and ran the ball. We had short third downs. We didn’t convert. We simply punted the ball back and played good defense and kept those guys really backed up the entire football game. It’s really complimentary, simple football. When you don’t turn the ball over, our games could look just like that because our defense can be a difference if we’re in the football game.”

On who was awarded a game ball

“We gave D.T. (Demaryius Thomas) a game ball for obviously his accomplishments. We gave the entire defense for our shut out game balls and those (defensive) coaches also.”

On who stood out on defense

“I haven’t watched the tape, but I thought [DE] Shelby [Harris] played really well in his role. [DE Adam] Gotsis played really well. [DE Zach] Kerr was very solid. But, I haven’t watched. The run defense was very stout and the pass rush was efficient today.”

On the decision to start QB Trevor Siemian this week

“Trevor has won this job two years in a row. He’s won the job because he’s very smart, he’s a tough guy and he’s accurate passer. To get Trevor back under the center after one week to simply bench him again wasn’t fair in my mind. It wasn’t right for our football team. Again, our offensive issues have not been on one person or player. It’s a unit deal. I was proud of how he managed the football game. That’s his job. He was careful with the football. He put us in good plays and he converted third downs. So, to stick with Trevor, that was easy for me because he’s earned that right.”

On whether he thinks this win can spark a winning streak

“I’m hoping. We have a game on Thursday. We can win two games in five days. There have been teams that have won their last four after having a rough season that has carried over into the following season. That’s what I’m hoping for. Our guys again have never stopped working. Everyone is believing. Every Saturday night, we meet and it’s like a party because we’re all so confident because the work was put in. I’m hoping it does spark us. Thursday is our next game, but pushing forward in the future, it sparks us in the right direction.”

On WR Jordan Taylor’s performance returning punts

“Jordan did a fine job. That’s a hard job. It’s not only talent based, it’s decision based. He made great decisions with the football, when to fair catch the ball, when to return the football and to get vertical with the ball. He did a fine job us. Very solid.”

On the plan for the offense

“Our plan was to run the ball efficiently on first and second down and to keep the third downs manageable. If not, punt the ball back. It’s the formula we set out to accomplish and it worked. It worked perfectly.”

OUTSIDE LINEBACKER VON MILLER

On getting a win

“It feels great. Wins, that’s what this league is about. That’s what the Broncos organization is about and that’s what my teammates are about. Getting back in the winning column is an amazing feeling. We just want hold on to this emotion and remember how it feels to win and just carry it on through the rest of the season.”

On the defensive line's performance despite missing multiple starters

"Just because those guys come off the bench doesn't mean they can't rush. If you give those guys the opportunity – Shelby [Harris] has done time and time again all year and Zach [Kerr] has done it as well. There's no surprise from the productivity of the defensive line. It was a great day. It was a great team win and great defensive win and wonderful feeling."

On what the win means for the fans

"We play this game for our families and for each other, but we play this game for the fans. We want to entertain the fans and we want the fans to be proud of their hometown team. To win the way we did here at home, it feels great to get the emotions back up. This is a wonderful feeling to push through the season."

On what the defense did to get a shutout

"We just preached technique and effort. Our technique had been killing us on defense. We've been playing solid defense all year, but we we'd get beat on a technique here or on a run here and they'd break it and score a touchdown. We were solid on technique today. We were solid across the board and didn't give up too many plays or made too many mental errors. When you play like that, we put out a game like we did today."

On recording double-digit sacks in six of the last seven seasons

"It's amazing. It just shows you the type of patience the Broncos and my teammates have for me and the type of belief they have in me to go out there and do my job. It's a great feeling. It really just tells you I've been in this league a long time. It's scary and it's dope at the same time; time flies. I was talking to James Carpenter, the guard for the Jets. We were at the Senior Bowl together and that was in 2011. It's a great accomplishment. It shows you the type of leaders and type of rushers I've had around me, from Elvis [Dumervil] to Shaun Phillips to Shane [Ray] to Demarcus [Ware]."

On what part of the game was the most impressive

"The win. I'll take it like that. We haven't won in two months, so we can't act like that. It does feel good to go out there and win."

On what the team can carry over to the future

"To do exactly like we did this week, that's the goal. Come in with great energy, help your brother out, pay attention to detail and just go out there and play and have fun. That's the goal. Every single player on this team has individual goals. If you put those individual goals first, then the team will be great. To all the individuals on the team, keep playing the way you've been playing and go and try to get those individual goals and we'll be great for these last three weeks of the season."

On Head Coach Vance Joseph challenging the team leaders

"Whenever coach talks, it's always on point. The message last night was the basic message, to me. He said that this speech was not a ra-ra speech. It's not for the fringe guys. The fringe guys need the ra-ra speech to go in there to be motivated and play. The ballers are just going to ball, regardless of the circumstances, the score or the game. They're just going to go out there and ball. He challenged all the ballers, which we have a team full of ballers. He challenged everybody to go out there and ball and we did that."

QUARTERBACK TREVOR SIEMIAN

On WR Demaryius Thomas's performance today

"I think we just felt like the last couple of weeks we haven't challenged people with the ball enough. Even last week against Miami, it kind of felt like we weren't challenging people down the field and with the guys we have we have to be able to do that. Everything kind of goes along with that. With these guys we knew there were going to be a lot of contested catches, tough catches and tough throws. But we had to get some big ones and he (Thomas) stepped up big time."

On the fan's support throughout the game

"It was so cool. I think as tough as it is on us the last two months, we understand how tough it is on the fans. It stinks. For those guys to be they were today was pretty awesome. They're good fans. They're smart and they know the game. That was cool, that was really cool to see."

On whether he felt he did anything different to protect the football

“You don’t really ever go into a game saying, ‘I’m not going to turn it over. I’m not going to get stripped-sacked.’ You just say, ‘I’m going to have a good, smart process about everything.’ There’s going to be times in the game you’re smart but you’re aggressive at the same time. There’s been a couple of times this year where I’ve been stupid and aggressive, which you can’t be. You just want to have a good process. This is the NFL, you’re going to have bad breaks every once in a while and you’re going to have good breaks every now and then. You just want to feel good about making good decisions and trusting what you see.”

On his touchdown pass to Thomas

“I wish we would have thrown a couple more of those to be honest with you, but we wanted to throw some go-balls to our guys this week, especially knowing these guys were going to challenge us. Wish we could’ve got to it more to be honest with you—heck of a catch.”

On whether tonight’s win can carry momentum into Thursday’s game

“I think you hear a lot of guys upset about the Thursday games, but in our case this is perfect. Our first win—it feels like 100 years and we get to hopefully carry some momentum going into Thursday. I think it sets up pretty nicely for us.”

On playing with Thomas

“It’s been really cool. I think the world of him. He’s such a good player. Even [WR] Emmanuel [Sanders], but D.T. (Demaryius Thomas) too, people don’t see the injuries he plays through, how tough he is, how good of a player he is and how much respect I have for him. He’s a better teammate and a better guy if you’ve gotten to know him. I couldn’t be happier for him. I kind of think that those guys don’t this season, they deserve more. I’m happy for him. Hopefully all those guys—those vet guys—we can play well for them going forward.”

On the importance of not holding onto the ball

“I think early in these games when the d-line is fresh, no matter who your offensive line is—they’re (defensive line) is going to get there pretty quick. I think that’s just how you see a lot of games unfold. You want to get the ball up and out pretty quickly, especially early in games. You don’t want to hang on to it too long. I just wish we could have gotten to a couple more of those, but shoot, we won. I’m not complaining about anything.”

On WR Jordan Taylor’s performance at punt returner

“Obviously, right with the defense, they shut them out and held them to 100 yards. Aside from D.T., Jordan Taylor is the MVP of the game. We had good field position all game and made some plays. I think he averaged 12 yard a return. You can’t say enough of what that does for an offense when you get to start around the 50. You can’t really say how much that matters.”

WIDE RECEIVER DEMARYIUS THOMAS**On playing inspiring football in today’s win**

“I think I’ve been playing like that all season. I just got more opportunities and took advantage of them. We went out as a team today and we came out with a win as a group. Like I said, I took advantage of my opportunities.”

On whether he had more fun playing today

“I think so. We came out and we started fast, and it was opposite of what we’re used to. We’re used to going out, starting fast and either turning the ball over or getting the team points. We were able to go out and get points and then come back and score a touchdown. That was basically it. The game is about always having fun and that’s what I was doing.”

On reaching out to Pro Football Hall of Fame TE Shannon Sharpe after passing him on the franchise’s all-time receiving yardage and receiving touchdown lists

“I still won’t call Shannon. You don’t want to talk to Shannon, especially as a player that’s going to play for the Broncos and the way our season is going right now. He’ll take the subject from one thing to another, so I won’t call Shannon (laughing).”

On his receiving touchdown

“It was basically just bringing it down. [Broncos QB] Trev [Siemian] gave me a chance to make a play, and that’s all we talked about this week in practice. The sun was in my eyes so it was a little tough, but I got the opportunity and I just took advantage of it. Put our team in the position to help us out and put some points on the board.”

On Siemian’s running play

“I was on the sideline. It was just players doing what they’ve been doing all season. We’ve been playing hard all season. It’s just it hasn’t been what we’ve wanted. We haven’t come out on the right side. He was doing what he’s been doing all season, playing hard for the team. That’s what we do all season. That’s what we’ve been doing all season. To see him do that as a quarterback, he’s been doing it his whole season. I was excited about it because that was a big third down we picked up.”

On holding and maintaining the lead the entire game

“We have had some games where a long time ago we were up and came out on the back end where we didn’t win. It was basically just playing for 60 minutes for the guys on the left and right to you, and that’s what we did.”

On moving into to second all-time in Broncos history in receiving yards and receiving touchdowns

“Man, it means the world. It just shows the hard work I’ve put in paying off. I’m going to continuously do what I do best, [which is] to try and go out and catch footballs and score touchdowns and try to catch [Ring of Fame WR] Rod Smith. It means the world, but the only thing that bothers me right now is still that we didn’t make the playoffs. You’ve just got to build from it and keep going.”

RUNNING BACK C.J. ANDERSON

On the team’s commitment to the run

“That way you can keep the defense honest. Also, in 20-some touches, you never know when you’re going to pop one. I was close to stepping out a couple of times, and [RB Devontae Booker] was close to stepping out another one. When you run the ball, and we try to establish the run, we’re going in with a certain mindset and the offensive line is going in with a mindset saying, ‘One big pop will deflate the defense.’ Give credit to the Jets because they did a good job against that, but we got the ‘W’ so that’s all that matters.”

On getting a win

“People don’t fast for 60 days so imagine not eating. That’s what losing felt like. We finally got a win, and now we’ve got a quick turnaround to try and go get Indianapolis next week.”

On the team’s effort today

“That’s how we’ve been playing, we’ve been playing hard. Now we played hard with a consistent style of playing football, not turning the ball over and trying to play a clean game. That’s what [Head Coach Vance Joseph] has been preaching to us for the last 10 weeks.”

INSIDE LINEBACKER TODD DAVIS

On getting a win

“It feels great. We definitely needed it. We fought hard for it and we’ve been fighting for nine weeks now, so it definitely feels good to get a win.”

On if there was a more focused mindset today

“We weren’t going out without a win today. We definitely made that a priority today. It’s a priority every week, but there was something special about this week in the way we prepared and the way we worked. I knew we were going to come out and get this win.”

On the potential to win two games in five days

“That’s amazing. Going from losing eight straight to having two great victories in five days is huge. That’s definitely what we’re shooting for and we’re definitely going to get after it.”

DEFENSIVE END ADAM GOTSIS

On carrying momentum from today into a short week

“It’s a long week if you lose and it’s tough. It’d be nine straight down the drain. It’s a big win for us and we’ve got to keep rolling.”

On if he feels a weight has come off his shoulders with today’s win

“Yeah, a little. We’ve been playing good football lately. We’ve been playing good football. It’s just making costly mistakes at times. I feel like when we play well and we execute in all three phases, we can play like this. Hopefully we can go into Indy on a short week and go get a win as well.”

On getting a shutout today

“I feel like all year we’ve been able to do this. The way we’ve played up front and the way we’ve covered guys and been getting off the field, we’re fortunate that we made some plays and got some turnovers today. Offense did a great job of driving down the field and putting points up. When we have all three phases firing like that, it’s a good thing. We’ve just got to keep that thing rolling.”

CORNERBACK CHRIS HARRIS JR.

On the shutout win

“We just kept preparing. It’s been a hard year, but we just kept using the same study habits. Today, we played a complete game.”

On the defensive performance

“We played smart and we didn’t have any turnovers. We took what they gave us and we didn’t give up any explosive plays on defense. When we can do that, we’re capable of beating anybody.”

On the defense creating turnovers

“He (QB Josh McCown) was playing very protective of the ball and we still were able to come out with them.”

On the defense being able to play with a lead

“That’s something that we haven’t been in that situation in a long time. It’s good to have those opportunities. They still didn’t even throw the ball. They ran the ball really. We still didn’t get the opportunities that we want to be in where they have to throw the ball all the time.”

On the feeling of the win

“Everybody’s been sick all season, but we’ve been working hard; we haven’t stopped working. Coach Joseph just told us to keep making plays and the difference makers had to come out and be the difference today. I feel like they did that.”

On what the they are playing for

“A lot of guys are playing to stay in the league or stay here. Everybody’s being evaluated at this time right now. You’re trying to put on good tape for next season.”

On playing the Colts on a short week

“I’m glad we won for sure, but I’ve got a tough week next week with T.Y. Hilton. I’ve got big goals. I’m trying to strap him up next week.”

DEFENSIVE END SHELBY HARRIS

On the resiliency of the Broncos’ defensive line

“We have a bunch of dogs on the defensive line like my boys [DE] Adam [Gotsis], [DE] Zach [Kerr], [NT] Kyle Peko and [DE] DeMarcus [Walker]. Everyone is out here grinding. Everyone steps up when they need to. At the end of the day, it is unfortunate people get

hurt. But with the ‘next man up’ mentality, we have five or six guys on the defensive line that could start anywhere in the league. Everyone is over here grinding. We play for each other. You can see it in our emotions on the field. We love the game. We love playing. I am just happy to be a part of this. It might not be the best season in our eyes but I love the guys I’m with – I love the guys I am playing with. This is a blessing just being here with them.”

On initial emotions after today’s victory

“It was excitement because we got the shutout. Denver hasn’t had a shutout since 2005, I believe. That is big. We are just trying to reestablish our dominant culture. We have to keep it going. This is just the first step of three games left. We have three games left so hopefully we go 4-0 to end the season—just ending on a positive note.”

On exhaustion at this point in the season

“You hurt less when you win. The day after a game, you feel a lot better when you win. We have a bunch of guys that work their tail off every week, especially all of the older guys. To reward them with a win, even though some said the defensive line was shorthanded, we are out there just grinding and playing so it feels great. I can’t complain.”

INSIDE LINEBACKER BRANDON MARSHALL

On if this game gives the team confidence for the remainder of the season

“It is a great reminder and we just want to continue this momentum to get better for next year. We want to finish this year strong because we know what type of team we are. Obviously, the playoffs are out of reach, but we want to finish the best we can.”

On being able to hold the Jets to 100 yards

“That was my first time in my career and it was great. It felt good. This is a special day for the whole team, especially for the defense. They said it had been 12 years or something close to that, that is a long time. For us to come out here and give a boost, it was great. We were hitting on all cylinders from the first play. We just want to continue this effort and continue this production into next week.”

On what the team has to do to get the win next week

“We have got to keep doing the same thing. We have to keep studying, keep working hard, keep practicing and keep sleep whatever we are doing. Whatever our guys got to do to get right we have to keep doing. We have to carry this momentum into next game to get another W.”

On getting a win today

“I think it is more excitement than relief. Everybody is excited because we played a clean game. No turnovers and we got two takeaways. This is what happens when we don’t give the game away. We beat ourselves the last two months and when we don’t beat ourselves than we can win.”

On what the team has to do to get the win next week

“We have got to keep doing the same thing. We have to keep studying, keep working hard, keep practicing and keep sleep whatever we are doing. Whatever our guys got to do to get right, we have to keep doing. We have to carry this momentum into next game to get another ‘W.’”

WIDE RECEIVER EMMANUEL SANDERS

On Demaryius Thomas

“DT is the guy. The fans are always hard on him, I never understood it, the guy has six or seven thousand yard seasons. He’s a player man, big time player, great teammate and humble, and he deserves everything he’s going to get.”

On playing a clean game and putting everything together

“Yeah, it feels good. I just wish it were Week 5. At the end of the day, I’m going to take the win, and definitely enjoy this one.”

On playing the Colts on a short week

“The mindset is to go out and get five wins, and that’s going to feel even better. I’m looking forward to the plane ride on the way back with a win, that’s going to be fun.”

On QB Trevor Siemian’s performance

“He came out and he stayed aggressive. On Demaryius’ touchdown he ended up calling a go, and it was supposed to be a comeback. That just shows his mindset. It has to stay that way. If we’re down or we’re up, if we’re playing against the Patriots or playing for the Jets, we have to remain aggressive and try and throw the ball down the field. I think that’s the reason why we were successful today because we were aggressive.”

On playing with pride

“We are just going out and having fun honestly. That’s my mindset, go out, have fun and enjoy football. My whole life I played this game for fun and for the love of it and I am going to keep that energy and that passion for it.”

SAFETY DARIAN STEWART

On how it felt to get the win today

“It was excitement. We’re happy we finally got this win on under our belt. We’re not satisfied, but we stayed together and kept working. It worked out for us today.

On what clicked for them today to get the win

“Today I thought we played efficient on all three phases. We didn’t beat ourselves today and that’s what we’ve been doing the past eight games. It turned the corner for us today.”

On the defense pitching shutout

“It’s big. The defense, we talked about it all week, just trying to get to that top ranking as a defense. Just take away the big plays, eliminate the big plays and everything will work for us and today we did. We pitched our shutout.”

On his interception

“I needed it. I knew [Jets WR Robby Anderson] ‘11’ was the only that could hurt us. He’s the only one that can take the top off and I made sure I knew where he was at all times.”

On what it meant to get the win before the quick turnaround on Thursday against Indianapolis

“It was huge and we’ve got our opportunity to get two wins in five days. That’s where our mindset is. We’re going to enjoy tonight and get ready to go back to work on this short week.”

On the offensive performance

“They played huge. We played huge as a team and we didn’t beat ourselves. The playmakers made plays and that’s all it was about today.”

On how nice it is to go into the locker room after getting a win

“It feels great. You see nothing but smiles in this locker room and we want to keep this feeling and we want to go to Indy with a fresh mind and leave there with a win.”

CORNERBACK AQIB TALIB

On getting back in the win column

“A win is a win. You want that action, especially with a lead like that. You want them to start throwing the ball around and throw it at you 10 times, 12 times, but we’ll take it. We came out with an interception. I’m happy for [Broncos S Darian] ‘Stew’ [Stewart]. I’m happy for B-Marsh (Brandon Marshall) getting that first fumble, [Broncos DE Adam] Gotsis picking it up. We’ll take it.”

On the difficulty of shutting out teams in the NFL

"It felt great. You just see the number of players in our league, like 1,500, 1,600 guys in our league, period. So everybody is talented. Every team is good. Any given Sunday, any team can come out and score any amount of points. So to hold somebody to zero points, that's a big accomplishment for us."

On the preparation leading into today's game

"We practiced hard this week. We got in arguments with each other. We practiced hard. We wanted it. You could see how much we all wanted it. We all came out, as a team, as a defense, as an offense, special teams, we all came out and played well as a team."

On if today's win shows the Broncos' potential

"We knew that all along. You look at all eight or nine or however many losses we have, you can pinpoint something that was terrible. One of the units was terrible. We all played together. We put it together as a team. We know how good we can be."

On the Broncos' overall performance today

"It was a good team win. Any time the offense, they're moving the ball, they're scoring points and they throw for 200, getting the ball downfield. 'D.T.' [Broncos WR Demaryius Thomas] catching passes downfield. We love that. Sunshine [Broncos WR Jordan Taylor] fielding those punts, getting upfield. That was great. Any time we play together as a team like that, we'll be happy in the locker room after the game. It's been a long time coming. We were due for a win, though. We aren't that bad. We were due for a win and we got it today. We got it as a team."

JETS HEAD COACH TODD BOWLES**On the struggles on both sides of the ball**

"They had a good gameplan. They outcoached us, they outplayed us, they outthit us and they beat us in every phase. We played hard—we didn't play smart and we didn't execute. They made plays, they executed and they did a good job."

On whether this game is a setback on the season

"It's not a setback, it's a loss. We haven't been beaten like this since the Raiders, but all losses hurt obviously. When you don't score and you get beat 23-0, that hurts. It hurts every time you lose, but it's not a setback. We'll regroup and we'll get ready for New Orleans."

On QB Josh McCown's injury

"He broke his left hand."

On if McCown is out for the year

"We've got a couple more tests to run. I don't know for sure, we'll see."

On if today's performance surprises him

"Not surprised, but disappointed. Anytime you get your butt kicked like that and don't execute—they did a good job and we'll take our hats off to them."

On the decision to run the ball late in the game

"The game was out of reach. We ran it real late in the game. We tried to throw the ball, but obviously we couldn't get anything going offensively."

On gaining only 100 yards of total offense

"That's what we put out there. Obviously we didn't execute at all, in any phase, and they beat us up pretty good."

On if the wide receivers struggled against the Broncos cornerbacks

"They're good cornerbacks. I'll have to see the film to see what happened in that regard, but I know our quarterback got hit hard a few times."

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On if the Jets took the Broncos seriously

“We didn’t look at their record, we just didn’t execute. They executed and we didn’t. We didn’t look at their record at all. We know they have a talented team.”

On CB Morris Claiborne’s struggles against Broncos WR Demaryius Thomas

“He’s a big receiver. He’s All-Pro for a reason. Obviously we put our best guy against their best guy and he made more plays than [Morris Claiborne] did.”

On who played well

“Judging by us getting 100 yards, nobody on the offense played well. Nobody on defense or special teams did either.”

On if he saw this loss coming

“If I’d seen it coming, I’d have stopped it. We had a good week of practice and we were up in pre-game. They played hard, we just didn’t execute.”

On QB Bryce Petty’s improvement from the preseason

“He improved, but anytime you don’t play in a couple months—the preseason is completely different. If he has to play, we’ll find out and go from there. We’ll find out more later.”

On if he has seen McCown since the injury

“I have not.”

On Petty’s struggles in the game

“He was getting hit some. Some of it was rust and some of it was missed timing. When you don’t play all year and then go in there, sometimes you [struggle].”

On who the quarterback would be if McCown is out

“It would be Bryce [Petty].”

JETS QUARTERBACK JOSH MCCOWN**On what happened on the play he injured his hand**

“I look to the right, reset, came back to [Running Back] Matt [Forte], when I threw I got hit and kind of got rolled up. He kind of rolled over me and either a knee or a foot or something of his caught my hand and it bent funny. I knew when it happened something wasn’t right.”

On being shutout

“Yeah, it just sucks. You know we started slow and trying to get back going and guys are fighting. When you can’t be out there with your guys that’s the hardest thing. It’s just disappointing and I hate that it went this way today.”

On when he came out of the game the first time

“I got a hip pointer on the side and that hurt pretty bad, but I was able to get it back loose where I felt good, felt like I could throw and wanted to go back in there.”

On if he felt healthy enough after coming back into the game the first time

“Yeah, I felt ok. I just feel like it was a little bit different look and some of those things [Jets WR] Robby [Anderson] and I talked about and I didn’t communicate clearly to him the way we needed to handle that one. I thought it was going to be something that would happen quicker. The safety made a good play and he came over there, but I didn’t feel like when I threw the ball my hip was a factor. It was just a bad read.”

On if he thinks he’ll be able to play again this season with his hand injury

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“We’ll see. I’ll do whatever I can to get ready to go and we’ll see where that leaves me. We still have some more tests and things that we can do and will look at, but my heart is with these guys. I want to finish with these guys and if I can be out there I would love to be out there.”

On him saying that this has been one of the best years of his careers and his current emotional state after the injury

“It’s been the best because of the guys, not the numbers. It’s been the best because of the group of men in the locker room and I’m just proud to be a part of it. I’m so thankful they let me be a part of this team and we’ll see what happens, but if I can finish then I’ll love to finish, and we’ll see what the tests say.”

On if he was aware that he tied his personal best for most starts in a season today

“No, I really wasn’t thinking about it. I wasn’t thinking about it, I was just thinking about going out and playing well.”

On what it means to have the respect of the guys in the locker room

“Like I said, it’s a good group of men. When anybody goes down, one gets hurt we’re all hurt, we all want the best for him and they were just very gracious and wished me well and all those things. Like I said, it’s a special group.”

On how big of a challenge it was to face Denver’s defense today

“It’s a good group. We said it on Wednesday and they’ve got top notch players at every position group and it showed today. They’ve played well. We just never got started slow start kind of hurt us and obviously turnovers hurt us. Hats off to them, they continue to fight, especially considering where they’re at with their record and everything, they continue to fight and play hard. Credit to their coaches, credit to their veteran leaders in that locker room and get those guys going.”

JETS QUARTERBACK BRYCE PETTY

On how tough it was seeing Jets QB Josh McCown injured

“Injuries are part of this game, but you never want them. For as tough as a competitor he is, and as good of a person on and off the field, it’s tough. He pours his heart and his soul into the guys, he comes out and is prepared and plays. You can see his emotions and whatever happens with his hand, whether he can go or not, you never want to see him hurt. We have to pick up the slack in the room. It is going to be a big opportunity for us but we are going to have to replace him and make him proud too just as much as anybody else.”

On how prepared he feels if he were to start next week

“I am ready to go. That is the tough part about being a backup, limited reps. Now we will get some reps and hopefully fix the things I am feeling I need to fix. From a middle standpoint, from a preparation standpoint, nothing will change. We will go in there I am the starter and now you get to try to combat that with some physical reps in there which will be good.”

On whether this will be his last opportunity to show the team what he can do

“I am not really worried about that. We have three games left or really how ever you want to lay it out we have one game left. I am going to give my heart and soul and prepare for this week for New Orleans. Whatever happens in the future happens, but all I can do is worry about things I can control. Whether Josh plays, or whether he doesn’t, I am going to go in there prepared and ready to lead this team.”

On when he entered the game for McCown for the first time

“I know it was tough just because a lot of times I will watch coverage and sometimes when he takes off I will watch him and I knew that one as soon as he got up. I have seen him get up from stuff pretty quick and that one was a little tougher. He played his butt off, he fought and fought and fought. That is what you want in a leader, in a veteran guy. We get to see his grit day in and day out and his passion for it.”

On how his experience in the preseason will help him for next week’s game

“Like I said, its reps, reps are important and reps are big. The more you get in there the timing is different, so then you can get in there with them and have the physical reps, along with the mental reps.”

JETS CENTER WESLEY JOHNSON

On not taking advantage of the losing streak and winning the game

“We weren’t as focus as we need to be, that’s on us as players, and we need to get it fixed.”

On their losing road record

“We have to figure it out.”

On what the team is going to do going forward

“We have to get on a run, do our best and beat the Saints. That’s it. That’s all we can do.”

On the team putting this game behind them

“I’d ride with our team no doubt, I have no doubts about us.”

JETS WIDE RECEIVER JERMAINE KEARSE

On matching up against the Broncos’ defense

“We weren’t able to move. We hit the red zone. Inconsistency, just no plays, we’ll take a look at the film and come back and see where we go from there.”

On the frustration of today’s loss

“We’re definitely frustrated, but it’s the next man up. We had a chance to continue to try to move the ball down the field and we were unsuccessful, so we’ve just got to find ways to be better.”

On why the Jets struggled offensively

“We’ve just got to find ways to win on the road. We can find the energy at home. We’ve got to bring that same energy on the road and find a way to find a way.”

On what Jets Head Coach Todd Bowles told the team after today’s loss

“We just got beat. We’ve got to come back tomorrow. We’re going to take a look at the film, correct our mistakes and get right back on it on Wednesday. We’ve got another opportunity on the road to win a game and that’s what we’re going to look forward to.”

On if he’s spoken to Jets QB Josh McCown

“I haven’t. I haven’t seen him yet. I mean, it’s big. He’s done a great job of staying healthy throughout the season, and unfortunately, he got caught one time. We’ve just got to move on from here. Next man up is the situation.”

On whether he was surprised with today’s offensive struggles

“It’s definitely disappointing. We didn’t want to come out here and play the game that we did. We’ve just got to look at ourselves and find ways to get better. Kind of see where we went wrong and see what we can do for next week.”

JETS DEFENSIVE LINEMAN STEVE MCLENDON

On playing on the road

“When you go on the road to a hostile environment, the one thing you have to pay attention to is details. We knew exactly what they were going to do. I am not going to say it is embarrassing. I take my hat off to them first and foremost. The biggest thing that we have to do on the road is continue to play smart and play with that same passion and energy that we play with at home. This is the way I think of it, when they are booing or when they are cheering, just put it in your head that they are doing it for you. That

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is what you have to do. Do not worry about little stuff. [Take it] one play at a time, one snap at a time, one game at a time and one day at a time. Just take advantage of the moment. Once the moment passes it is gone.”

On tonight’s game

“We did not get any takeaways. We did not get the ball for the offense. We just did not score. We just have to put them (offense) in certain situations so they can score. That is what a team effort is about.”

On what is necessary to win

“We most definitely have the players. We have the team. We have the coaches. We have everything we need in this locker room. The one thing we have to do is just go on the road and breathe in at home. The three things I have been talking about all season; you have to play fast, you have to play hard, but most of all you have to play smart.”