# **BALTIMORE RAVENS POST-GAME QUOTES**



### Miami Dolphins vs. Baltimore Ravens

Sunday, Dec. 4, 2016 M&T Bank Stadium

#### **Head Coach John Harbaugh**

(opening statement) "I'll just echo what [Eric Weddle] said. I think what he said is it. It was just a heck of a team victory. It is something that has been in our minds. Our vision is how we played today as a team. It's what we've been working for, and it's nice to see it happen. Now, we have to go to work on next week, [when] we have our toughest challenge of the year – Monday night, up in New England – that's what our focus goes to."

(on how much playoff experience helps teams at this point in the season) "That's a great point. I think we have really great leadership. As you pointed out, those guys have been there. Joe [Flacco] has been there, Terrell [Suggs] has been there, Lardarius [Webb] has been there. Right on down the line. To bring a guy like Eric [Weddle] in, that has the kind of experience that he has ... We have phenomenal leadership. Our leaders have taken charge of this team from a preparation standpoint and just a focus standpoint. The result is, I think, the way we played. We talked about the offense a lot in the locker room, and the offense got the game balls. But, the defense was out of sight. To get the turnovers the way they did, the pressure, [they] stopped the run ... [Jay Ajayi] is a heck of a back. That's a very good football team. It's a very well-coached football team. It's a football team that was hot, and they're going to win a lot of games yet, and they're going to make a playoff run yet. But, our defense kept them under control, and essentially, except for the sudden-change play, shut them out. It comes back to that leadership and that experience you're talking about."

(on the emphasis on the passing game) "I don't know what the numbers are exactly. I felt we ran the ball well at the end, but the idea was just to score points. That was our thing. We wanted to go after them, attack them and mix the run and the pass. I think once the game gets going, you kind of do what's working and just try to keep the pressure on as much as you can. That was really our idea – to keep the pressure on them – and score as many points as we could. That's what happened."

(on team leaders coming back from injury) "The best leadership is by example, as you're saying. Those guys were injured. They were still leading, and they were fighting, trying to get back. Elvis Dumervil is probably the ultimate example of that. He had been really struggling with his injury and was frustrated by the fact that he was probably 10 weeks late from when we thought he would be back. Now he's playing at such a high level ... But, you're exactly right."

(on the persistence of the offense all game) "The thing that was good, and I think you're recognizing, was the fact that we got 7 [points], and then we got 14 [points]. We got another stop, and then we got 21 [points]. And that's what we haven't done. We've been stuck at 10 [points] really, in probably four or five games. To keep the pedal to the metal, as you say, to continue to make plays ... I thought Joe [Flacco] played just phenomenally well. Joe and the offensive line got the game balls in the locker room. That's a really good defensive front. We knew going in we'd have to control the front, we [would] have to control the ends. We had to control the front. Our offensive line did that. That's quite a statement against that defense. Joe, he made the plays after that was done. I thought his vision was phenomenal. His accuracy and athleticism in the pocket ... He moved around and made plays on the run. Guys made catch-and-run plays. It just looked like you want it to look."

(on TE Dennis Pitta's two touchdowns) "I feel great for Dennis. He won't take as much heat from all of us now. We've been on him pretty hard, pretty much all year. For him to break out like that ... It was good to see. He played really well."

(on offensive coordinator Marty Mornhinweg's game plan for this week) "I think Marty always tries to be aggressive. One thing Marty has never been accused of is being conservative – that's not a label he takes too kindly to, as Joe [Flacco] can probably attest. They had a little back-and-forth in one of the quarterback meetings – that was fun to watch. I heard about it; I didn't actually witness it. But, that's what I think. Iron sharpens iron. We challenge each other, and everybody is able to do it in a way that makes



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each other better. I thought Marty just had a phenomenal game. Coaches deserve a lot of credit. Marty, [defensive coordinator] Dean [Pees], [special teams coordinator/associate head coach] Jerry [Rosburg], all of the position coaches ... I just think the leadership starts in those rooms. We have a bunch of strong leaders, and really smart football coaches. Marty, obviously, had a great day."

(on going for it twice on fourth down) "We went into the game, and we wanted to do what we had to – we had a good fourth-down plan, let's put it that way. It wasn't something where we said we're going to go for it on fourth down. That wasn't the idea. When you feel like you have a play, and have a situation where we can find a play, or find a way to find a play, you want to give it a shot. Really, the important thing is that the guys make the play and execute. That's what Joe [Flacco] and our guys on offense did. It's really not so much about going for it – it's about executing and making a play, and getting it done. I think that's the way tougher thing. It's easy to say, 'Go for it.' It's tougher to make it work. Those guys made it work."

(on the chemistry between LG Marshal Yanda and LT Ronnie Stanley on the left side of the line) "I have to see the tape to see exactly how well they played, but the result is tremendous, for the whole offensive line. It seems like those guys are doing really well. Ronnie is playing really well. That's probably the main thing. You know Marshal is going to play well, even on the left side. I guess he has proven that. Ronnie has – from when he came back, he probably took a step back, technique wise – because he missed four weeks as a rookie. He has worked really hard along with [offensive line coach] Juan Castillo, every single day, putting in overtime. He's a quick learner, he's a good athlete, and he has made his technique really good. That's why he was playing so well against that pass rusher [Andre] Branch on the left side. That's quite a statement."