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Excerpts from CBS Broadcast of Indianapolis Colts @ Baltimore Ravens Sunday 29 November 1998

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KEY TERMS

Art Modell, Baltimore Colts, Baltimore Ravens, Ian Eagle, Indianapolis Colts, John Unitas, National Football League, Mark May, Robert Irsay

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Excerpts from the CBS television broadcast of the Indianapolis Colts @ Baltimore Ravens game played on Sunday 29 November 1998.

I. INTRODUCTION

This document reports commentary by play-by-play man Ian Eagle and color commentator Mark May during the first-ever visit to Baltimore by the Indianapolis Colts. The full game is currently available on YouTube @ "Indianapolis Colts vs. Baltimore Ravens Full Game Week 13, 1998," <https://youtu.be/m46qlhWqVwM?si=YMdhWfHRZWe6CbeA>.

II. EXCERPTS

PREGAME

Screen shows black and white clips of John Unitas, Lenny Moore, Art Donovan, Gino Marchetti, Raymond Berry, Weeb Ewbank, and Don Shula, then closes with a touchdown pass from Mike Pagel to Pat Beach at Memorial Stadium in the 1983-84 season, the Colts' last in Baltimore.

Ian Eagle: Baltimore and the Colts. A marriage between a city and its heroes. A love affair that lasted thirty eight years. Many have passed through Baltimore on their way to enshrinement in Canton. No one could have ever imagined that this touchdown would be the Colts' final points in Memorial Stadium. And they abandoned Baltimore in the dead of the night. Sixty years ago Thomas Wolfe wrote "you can never go home again." Today we find out if the Colts can go home again.

After fourteen years the Horseshoe returns to the city of Baltimore. Hi everybody. Ian Eagle along with Mark May, and a lot of emotion involved in this game Mark. The story really begins back in March of 1984. You think back Robert Irsay the late owner of the Colts, moving the team from Baltimore to Indianapolis. Today, they return to Maryland for the very first time.

Back in 1984 you were here in this area, a member of the Washington Redskins. What do you remember from that night?

Mark May: As an athlete it's one of those moments you never forget. Because as a young player for the Redskins, first, you see Oakland leave Oakland and go to Los Angeles and now Baltimore, just up the road, leaving Baltimore, and as a player for the Washington Redskins your next thought is "Could it ever happen to us?"

Eagle: Well it didn't happen to the Redskins, it did happen to the Colts. But these Baltimore fans, great football fans, there's never been a question about that. They've accepted the Ravens as their new team, but they have not forgotten about that fateful night fourteen years ago when they lost their beloved Colts. We'll come back with the opening kickoff. Colts and Ravens here on CBS...

KICKOFF – FIRST QUARTER

Eagle: A man that has a very unique perspective on this game the head coach of the Baltimore Ravens Ted Marchibroda. Once the head man for the Baltimore Colts back in the late '70s, former head coach of the Indianapolis Colts earlier this decade now leading the Baltimore Ravens. And Jim Mora first year as the head coach of the Colts. What's his connection? Well he coached the USFL team here in Baltimore, the Baltimore Stars, in fact led them to a championship.

May: When he was here as a coach, the first thing he said to us when we asked him about it, the fans here are wonderful, they played at the old Memorial Stadium here in Baltimore, he said the fans here are loud, they believe in the team, by the sound of it, they definitely are.¹

SECOND QUARTER zero minutes and twenty seconds remaining (Q2: 0:20)

Eagle: This not the first meeting between these two teams. They met back in 1996 in October, Indianapolis with a victory over Baltimore 26 to 21. The big difference though, that game was at the RCA Dome and it didn't have the added element of the Colts returning to the city of Baltimore like this storyline that has emerged today. Jim Harbaugh was the quarterback of the Indianapolis Colts.

HALFTIME

Eagle: Halftime in Baltimore the Colts lead the Ravens 24 to 13. CBS Sports coverage of the National Football League will continue after a word from your local station. It's halftime, the Colts are back in Baltimore and you know what they've been enjoying themselves 24 to 13 our

¹ The USFL Stars actually played home games in College Park, Maryland, not Memorial Stadium.

score here at Camden Yards welcome back everybody Ian Eagle along with Mark May. These fans came in very charged up and some have called this the biggest game in franchise history considering this is just the third year of existence for the Ravens and last year they beat the Washington Redskins, a local matchup, and that was considered a huge win. But with all the emotion and all the energy that we felt early on, the crowd was taken out of this game very early.

May: They were. This is like a Super Bowl for the fans of the Ravens because they finally wanted to exorcise the Baltimore Colts out of their system. And the offense for the Indianapolis Colts Peyton Manning, Marshall Faulk, the key players that had to come up with big plays. Marshall Faulk quieted this crowd down right off the bat.

Eagle: I don't know if a Baltimore victory would actually mean absolute closure for this franchise or not and you might have more insight because you are from the local area but they have put so much pressure on this team to win this game and the Ravens just came up empty in the first half offensively, and defensively.

May: They were on both sides of the ball they were very flat. And I think it was the pressure provided by the community. I think guys were saying "We've gotta win this game." They didn't have to win this game just for the fans, this is a major game in their season, they've got to win it for themselves. Not only for the fans in Baltimore but for this team to get to 5 and 7.

Eagle: And Rod Woodson who is a longtime NFL veteran and a future Hall of Famer told us "Hey, if it takes this kind of game to get you ready, then you're not really a professional." We understand that maybe the media creates and concocts these stories but I think the fans felt that this one meant a lot to the franchise and we'll see if the Ravens can actually do something in the second half of action. There's a reason why the Colts have only two victories this season.

THIRD QUARTER Q3: 9:55

Eagle: It was March of 1984 Robert Irsay moving the Colts from Baltimore to Indianapolis, that indelible image of the Mayflower moving trucks packing all the belongings away and making the trip to Indy. There is pro football back in Baltimore, third year of existence for the Ravens. Fourteen, 28 and 1 that's their record in three years of competition.

Q3: 7:36 *Screen shows Ravens owner Art Modell in owner's box.*

Eagle: Adding to the element of the Colts returning to Baltimore today is Art Modell who moved the Cleveland Browns to Baltimore and formed the Ravens. The big difference: the Browns got to keep their name in Cleveland.

Q3: 1:25.

Eagle: When you put on that Colts uniform there's a lot of tradition and excellence that goes along with it not necessarily in Indianapolis but going back to the days in Baltimore.

Q3 1:13 *Screen shows John Unitas with his son on the Ravens sideline.*

Johnny Unitas, Hall of Famer, likes what he sees. Baltimore Colts quarterback from '56 to '72, and Mark, he said it publicly, his records, his Colt records, are being held hostage in Indianapolis. He believes they should be here in Baltimore.

May: I think he's right. He played here in Baltimore, won championships, Hall of Famer, one of the best ever. He loves Baltimore, he wants his records right here in this city where he played.

Eagle: Now the Ravens records in their media guide are strictly Baltimore Ravens records. They do have a separate section for Baltimore pro football records where you'll see the name "Johnny Unitas" mentioned quite often.

FOURTH QUARTER Q4: 15:00 *Screen shows Ravens helmet with Flying B logo.*

Eagle: Mark, just to revisit a comment I had in the first half (Q2 @ 0:11 see video of game) , I understand. We'll never see the Baltimore Colts again. They are the Baltimore Ravens, they have an entirely new image to uphold, and that's fine. But don't you think that teams that do leave cities should leave the names of the teams behind in that city? Like the Browns are doing in Cleveland.

May: Well that's the only team that's done that. Most of the teams take their name with them. The Cardinals left, they took the name, the Raiders took their name, the Colts took their name. And I think, I understand where you're going with this, but I believe it's a business. You're taking your business, you own the name, you got the right to that franchise name, you're moving out to a different city, it's your call, it's your decision as well.

Eagle: You look at the Tennessee Oilers, they moved from Houston. I believe there might be three oil refineries in the entire state of Tennessee. It makes no sense. Go to the NBA and the Utah Jazz. I defy you to find jazz in Salt Lake City. You can't find it. The Los Angeles Lakers, of course the Minneapolis Lakers made sense. I think you get my point here. But they are the Baltimore Ravens, they have a new identity. The fans have embraced this team, they've shown up, sold out the stadium game after game after game including their new stadium, 220 million dollars publicly-funded stadium, here at Camden yards. And a beautiful stadium at that.

Q4: 2:49 Screen shows Ravens owner Art Modell.

Eagle: A lot of buildup this week for a game that means very little in the standings but does mean a great deal emotionally for these Baltimore football fans. They've waited for professional football to come back here. It finally did in the form of the Baltimore Ravens. And now the Colts making their first-ever trip into Baltimore as the visiting team. It's been topsy-turvy but these fans did a good job here today, a full house.

May: It's not only been topsy-turvy, it's been a great game to watch. They were down when it looked most bleak, and they were down by a couple touchdowns to the Colts, they hung in there, supported their team, and their team responded and came back in the second half, and came out with a vengeance, scored points when they had to score points. They moved the ball on the ground when they had to, and they responded to the fans. And I think, you know, the fans can always help you get over that hump and carry you on and get that momentum back when you're playing at home.

Q4: 2:00 (two minute warning)

Eagle: Yes, it is a nail-biter with two minutes left in the fourth, 38-31, Baltimore has the lead on Indianapolis. The Colts making their first-ever trip into Baltimore as the visiting team.

Q4: 0:20

Eagle: Indianapolis was driving down the field with relative ease, hoping to go in for the game tying touchdown.

May: But for the fans, they got their money's worth today. An outstanding game played by both teams that comes right down to the wire.

Eagle: The Ravens will take a knee. And there's nothing the Colts can do about it. Tempers flaring as we wrap up this game. Unfortunate because it's been a well-played game, and a clean game, back and forth we went, Ravens taking control in the second half of action. In the first half, I'll tell you what, the Colts were looking like a playoff team at least from the offensive end.

May: They were a well-oiled machine offensively but the bragging rights go to the Baltimore Ravens, the monkey's off their back, they can finally have closure in their victory today.

Eagle: Baltimore football fans have been waiting for this moment for a very long time. The Colts return to the city they once called home. And they leave on the losing end. The Ravens win it 38-31 over the Indianapolis Colts. For Mark May, this is Ian Eagle saying so long from Baltimore. Our final 38-31 Ravens.

END OF GAME AND DOCUMENT