

Well, it's over.



A View From The Cheap Seats **Practice Week 4 - Cleveland vs Chicago**

Well, it's over. The Preseason is over. For months and months, we eagerly await its arrival. And, when it gets here, we can't wait for it to end.

In this, the 4th and final game of the Preseason, Romeo wanted the Browns to look "decent", and they looked decent.

Romeo wanted the Browns to win, and they, well, if there's ever a game where it really, really doesn't matter who wins, it's Preseason Game 4.

I'm not going to be foolish enough to be one of those people that proclaims that the Preseason doesn't matter. It does. Don't believe that teams can't be mentally (and, clearly, physically) affected by the results of these games. Sure, established, veteran teams can turn it on like a light switch come Week 1 of the Regular Season, but the Cleveland Browns don't have one of those. They have a young, hopeful team full of personal, fan, and media expectations. They can be affected by getting physically and executionally shellacked throughout the Practice Games.

Let's hope they get past that by Halftime of the Cowboys games. Sadly, I have my doubts. I sense a slow start in the Browns future, and that could end up being the difference in getting into the playoffs or not.

To state an obvious point - this team's youth, inexperience, and lack of depth should scare the frill off your bloomers.

I really do believe this team is talented, and I think that

they will get stronger and better as the year progresses. I just hope it isn't too late.

My prediction? I'm thinking 8-8, 7-9, something like that. Or, should injuries ravage the roster - worse. I hate the fact that I think it and can't shake it, but I sense an 0-2 start at home.

We'll see. At this point (or maybe any point), my opinion isn't worth a dead groundhog in a septic tank. But, there it is nonetheless.

Sometimes teams on the brink of greatness need to take one step back before making the giant leap forward. That's the positive spin I'm going to put on this. Which is a bonus, since years of sporting and, hell, life disappointment has driven me to a constant state of cynicism, a state which will not let me believe in miracles, which drives my hopes right into oncoming traffic.

So it could just be that my endless skepticism is the

cause for my gray horizons. Honestly, my expectations for this year are much higher than they were, say, last year. And look how that turned out.

That, sports fans, is my second attempt at a positive spin.

Pregame

Nothing interesting happened before the game. However, after the game, later that night, I went to the store to acquire more adult beverages. As I walked towards the front door of the establishment, I noticed a woman emerging from a car nearby. The colors on her jacket elicited an immediate negative reaction - black and yella. *Perhaps just an unfortunate color scheme*, I thought to myself. But no, as she turned, her jacket revealed the hated symbol of the Pittsburgh Steelers.

I reached the door just ahead of her, and my initial impulse was to shut it in her face. But my instincts as a gentleman took over, and I held the door open for her instead. Part of my brain was screaming *This is Wrong!* *Wrong!*

The other part told me to just get my beer and go home. There was no honor at yelling insults at a thin middle-aged woman just because she had terrible taste in NFL teams.

There was a significant line at the checkout, and the woman in black and yella stood behind me. Two people ahead was a 50-something waitress, obviously just off her shift and just as obviously having already dipped into the libations. She had a case in her hand, and glanced back at the woman behind me. "Ugh," the waitress said. "Steelers fan."

Steelers woman pretended like she hadn't heard. "I'm a Browns fan
," waitress continued. "
I'm going to go put my jacket on my car like a flag
."

Then everyone in line started discussing the Browns and the Bears game. Someone made a pointed remark about the Steelers. The waitress made a rude joke about terrible towels. The clerk wanted to know how Brady Quinn had looked in the game.

I was flabbergasted. Down here in the Akron-Canton area, it often seems that there are more Steelers fans than Browns. Or people just don't care about either. But here was a whole line of people - save one, of course - randomly talking Cleveland football. I was so proud.

Then 4 men walked in the door, probably fresh from coming from the game, each wearing some kind of Browns jersey. Seeing the Steelers woman, they booed her as they walked towards the beer cooler. The rest of the line laughed. No one felt any pity for her.

Turning, I looked at her. Her face made it clear that she'd love to do nothing more than to disappear. She was uncomfortable and obviously hadn't expected this response to her attire. *"You're a stranger in a strange land,"* I told her.

"You should stop wearing that jacket."

First Quarter

Brady Quinn needed to look a helluva lot better than he did against Detroit, and what better way to get a QB going than a safe screen pass to the RB for 11. Travis Wilson had a few nice catches, and Jason Wright was picking up huge chunks of yardage up the middle and to the left. The Offensive Line was blocking much better. But on 3rd and 4 from the CHI 8, Quinn had plenty of time and just completely missed an open Kellen Winslow in the End Zone. Brady needs to settle down when he's in there. ***Browns 3, Bears 0.***

Chicago got a 1st Down easily and moved to about

midfield, where they had a 3rd and 7. But the Browns D line was getting some pressure and caused the Bears O line to get ancy, which netted them two quick penalties (both of which featured Shaun Rogers getting significant penetration). 3

rd

and 17 usually results in a stop, but not if you completely overplay the screen to Matt Forte, and definitely not if your Middle Linebacker D'Qwell Jackson utterly whiffs on his tackle attempt.

However, on the next play, Robaire Smith hit Kyle Orton as he threw, causing a floater that was easily picked by Brandon McDonald. The play was encouraging because the Browns didn't blitz - they ran what looked like a hybrid 4-3 with Robaire and Alex Hall lining up at the DE positions, and both of them got excellent pressure on a standard 4 man rush.

Wright and Jerome Harrison were running well again on the next series (despite Rex Hadnot going down with an injury), and Steve Sanders made a very nice 17 yard reception to get the ball to the CHI 5. Harrison then made a great run out of a broken play, breaking out of the pile-up and sprinting to the left, just barely missing a TD by getting tackled by the head at the 1.

On 4th and Goal from there, the Browns went for it. Quinn faked the inside handoff and pitched to Harrison, who easily took it to the house - a beautifully conceived play. **Bro
wns 10, Bears 0.**

End of 1st :👉 Browns 10, Bears 0.

Second Quarter

The Bears converted a 3rd and short for 21 to Greg Olsen, but the Run D stuffed Kevin Jones, Orton threw a lateral out of bounds (due to nice pressure), and the Bears were stopped again. The 1st

Team Defense looked pretty sharp against the Bears' 1st

Team O.

In came Ken Dorsey, and these descriptions will get shorter. Dorsey

hit Wilson a couple times, and the Browns ran a gorgeous screen to Harrison, who dashed and dodged for 22. But Dorsey wasn't able to connect with Efram Hill on a 3rd and short slant pass (it looked like a bad pass, but, in actuality, was probably not Ken's fault).

Pinned deep by a nice Zastudil punt, Rex Grossman entered the game, and Adrian Peterson was ripping off big chunks of yardage and looking like his Minnesota namesake. It was obvious that the Browns backups were in - the

middle was open and the field was littered with players who are no longer on the team.

Rex abused the reserve Corners time and again, picking them apart on a steady march down the field. On 3rd and 10 from the CLE 19, Alex Hall rushed and nearly got there, but Grossman hit Brandon Rideau on a crossing pattern, Brandon Mitchell missed the tackle, and the Bears had themselves a TD. ***Browns 10, Bears 7.***

Dorsey made a couple nice passes, moving the Browns into Chicago territory. On 1st and 10 from the CHI 45, Ken threw a beautiful pass to Travis Wilson down the right sideline, and Wilson flat out dropped it. A brutal butchering. We didn't know it at the time, but that was the last ball that would ever be thrown in Wilson's direction as a Brown. If he had caught that ball, he might still be around today.

The Browns drive stalled after that, and they punted.

Grossman was out already, replaced by some guy named Caleb Hanie. And Hanie immediately took up where Rex left off, scrambling, picking apart the awful Browns secondary. He threw a nice 23 yard TD pass over some schmuck disguised as a Defender, but it was called

back by a Holding penalty.
This effectively killed the End
Zone push, and the Bears took
the FG. ***Browns 10, Bears 10.***

***Halftime: □ Browns 10, Bears
10.***

Third Quarter

The Browns D came out and did well shutting down water bug Garrett Wolfe, and Hanie heaved up a long pass on 3rd that Travis Key easily cut in front of for the INT, returning the ball Chicago 39, and add on 15 for Brandon Rideau's horse collar.

Cleveland wasted no time in wasting the field position, wiping out a converted 3rd

Down with an Isaac Sowell's Hold. Big Ike followed that with a False Start, so it was suddenly 3rd

and 23 from the 37. Darnell Dinkens got some of it back with a short catch, but Jason Reda, trying to pad his resume for the Free Agency market, just missed a 47 yard attempt.

Gerard Lawson got burned on a 38 yard pass, and the Bears were suddenly at the CLE 14. But Hanie missed an open WR in the End Zone, got a False Start, and they had to take a FG. ***Bears 13, Browns 10.***

Ken Dorsey, as is his wont, led the Browns absolutely nowhere on the next series.

3 and Out.

Wolfe was looking good on a couple runs, getting Chicago a 1st Down.

However, Travis Daniels made a nice defensive play on a deep pass on 3rd

Down ('bout time), and the Bears punted right back.

The Browns were backed up after a penalty on the punt, and Dorsey figured *Why bother*? So he went incomplete bad pass that could've been picked, incomplete bad pass that could've been picked, sack. Sigh. Even Bernie Kosar was having trouble defending him.

On 2nd and 6 from the CHI 36, Travis Key shot the gap and sacked the hell out of Hanie. Plus Wolfe got nailed with a Chop Block, so the Bears were hopelessly backed up and were afforded the opportunity to boot the ball away once again.

***End of 3rd: □ Bears 13,
Browns 10.***

Fourth Quarter

Travis Thomas (how many Travi are on this team?) finally got loose

and ripped off a 33 yard run to start the drive. But it stalled at the CHI 27, Nathan Bennett got hit with a Holding penalty, and Dorsey severely underthrew and open Lance Leggett on 3rd and 19. Yep, you guessed it - time to punt.

The Bears did absolutely nothing (although Jereme Perry got away with Face Guarding on 3rd and Long), and they got to return the punting favor.

The next drive was a long, well-executed, grinding drive that really should've ended better. It was the Travis Thomas show, who was supposed to get the bulk of the carries for the rest of the night as the Browns only had 4

RB's on the roster.
And he ran hard,
picking up nice chunks
of turf. Hubbard had a
decent gain on a
reverse, and Charles
Ali converted a 4th and
short. The Browns got
to the CHI 2, where
Dorsey was flushed to
his left on 3

rd

Down and lobbed the ball to Paul Hubbard, who absolutely butchered the catch. 4th

Down was a desperation throw into coverage, and managed to also get

Thomas hurt.

Chicago got one 1st
Down, but was shut
down easily
thereafter, and they
did that punt thing
again.

But Ken Dorsey
threw a weak pick on
the 1st play of the
following drive, and
Chicago took over at
the CLE 32.

Ahtyba Rubin made

2 nice tackles on the following CHI drive, and they didn't go anywhere. They didn't have to. When the Bears kicked through the FG, there was only 34 seconds left in

the game. ***Bears
16, Browns 10.***

The Browns had no intention of trying to do anything, but yet they handed off to Jerome Harrison.

To which I must
ask... WHY THE
HELL ARE YOU
RISKING
HARRISON ON A
MEANINGLESS
FREAKIN' PLAY?
He's not going for
the Heisman.

There's no reason
to pad his stats.

And then the game
ended, and the
Browns went 0-4 for
the Preseason.

One day, far off in
the future, your
grandchildren are
going to ask you
about this. "Grandpa/Grandma
?" they'll say.
"Tell me about the

*time the Browns
went 0-4 in the
Preseason*

."

*" Well, "
you'll say, "
it's a long, long, long*

story. □ *Get
comfortable*
.";

Final: □ ***Bears 16,
Browns 10.***

Offensive MVP: □
Jerome Harrison -
He had 7 rushes for
35 yards (5 per
carry) and 2 catches
for 22. I thought
about giving this
award to Travis
Wilson as a parting

gift, but figured I
wouldn't waste it.

Defensive MVP: □

Brandon

McDonald - After
getting abused by
the Motown Cats,

he rebounded and played well, tackling solidly and getting a pick.

Conclusion

~~~Hark O Ye  
People! - Here's  
your 2008  
Cleveland Browns  
team (at least as of  
the start of the  
season):

QB: *Derek  
Anderson, Brady  
Quinn, Ken Dorsey.*

RB: *Jamal Lewis,  
Jerome Harrison,  
Jason Wright.*

FB: *Lawrence*  
*Vickers, Charles Ali.*

WR: *Braylon*  
*Edwards, Donte*  
*Stallworth, Josh*  
*Cribbs, Syndric*

*Steptoe, Paul  
Hubbard.*

*TE: Kellen Winslow,  
Steve Heiden,  
Darnell Dinkins,  
Martin Rucker.*

*OL: Joe Thomas,  
Eric Steinbach,  
Hank Fraley, Seth  
McKinney, Kevin  
Shaffer, Rex  
Hadnot, Ryan  
Tucker, Isaac  
Sowells, Scott  
Young (via waivers).*

*DL: Corey Williams,  
Shaun Rogers,  
Robaire Smith,  
Shaun Smith, Louis  
Leonard, Ahtyba  
Rubin.*

*LB: Kamerion  
Wimbley, Andra  
Davis, D'Qwell  
Jackson, Willie  
McGinest, Antwan  
Peek, Leon  
Williams, Alex Hall,  
Beau Bell, Kris  
Griffin.*

*S: Sean Jones,  
Brodney Pool, Mike  
Adams, Nick  
Sorensen.*

*CB: Brandon  
McDonald, Eric  
Wright, Terry*

*Cousin, Travis  
Daniels, Gerard  
Lawson.*

*K: Phil Dawson.*

P: *Dave Zastudil.*

LS: *Ryan  
Pontbriand.*

That means the

following gentlemen  
were given their  
walking papers:

*Travis Thomas  
(RB), Steve  
Sanders (WR),  
Travis Wilson (WR),*

*Lance Leggett  
(WR), Efrem Hill  
(WR), Brad Cieslak  
(TE), Kolomona  
Kapanui (TE),  
James Lee (OT),  
Nathan Bennett  
(OL), Jonathan  
Palmer (OL),*

*Derrick Morse (OL),  
Marvin Philip (OL),  
Melila Purcell (DE),  
Chase Pittman  
(DE), David  
McMillan (LB),  
Shantee Orr (LB),  
Chase Ortiz (LB),  
A.J. Davis (CB),*

*Jereme Perry (CB),  
Travis Key (S),  
Brandon Mitchell  
(S), Jason Reda  
(K).*

*Lennie Friedman  
was put on IR.*

~ ~ ~ I was a bit  
surprised to see  
Travis Wilson and  
Shantee Orr get cut.

I figured with the  
relative weakness

and unsettled-ness  
of the WR position  
that the Browns  
would keep 6, and  
that one of those 6  
would be either  
Wilson or Steve  
Sanders. There's  
no guarantee Cribbs

will be back for the  
1<sup>st</sup> game, Syndric  
Steptoe got his  
shoulder dinged, so  
the Browns would  
be running with only  
3 healthy Receivers  
on the roster  
(assuming Braylon

is healthy).

Further evidence  
how Kellen  
Winslow will be  
used this year, and  
why they kept 4

TE's.

Plus, I guess they  
assume they'll get  
Joe Jurevicius back  
at some point.

Wilson just never got out of Romeo's doghouse. That, and he was utterly ordinary and replaceable.

Orr was highly regarded when the Browns brought him in as a Free Agent, and it's not like they're stocked at the LB position either. But, I must admit, I don't really

remember Orr  
making many  
plays, and it  
seemed that the  
longer the  
Preseason went  
on, the later he was  
getting into the  
game. And still not

doing much against  
3<sup>rd</sup> stringers. So I  
guess I won't cry  
him a river.

~ ~ ~ As far as  
players that I was

surprised to see  
make the team,  
well, um, neither  
Travis Daniels nor  
Gerard Lawson  
excites me. Now,  
as I said before,  
Lawson had a  
chance to make

this team due to his effectiveness relative to what all his competition was doing (which is in no way an endorsement of his talents). The only reason - the

sole reason - he's  
on the squad is the  
fact that with  
Cribbs and  
Steptoe dinged up,  
he might have to  
return kicks.

And I guess that I shouldn't be surprised by Daniels, since he just got traded for, and cutting the man after having him in camp for a week would seem

like a pretty foul  
waste of a 7<sup>th</sup>  
Round pick. But  
he was getting  
burned just like the  
rest of 'em.

I would've much preferred to see one of those two replaced by Travis Key, who, despite being undersized at Safety, made a lot of plays when

he was on the  
field.

And Paul  
Hubbard, what  
have you done  
other than drop

Touchdowns?  
Fine, you did  
make a really nice  
catch against the  
Jets in the 1<sup>st</sup>  
game, but your  
participation in the  
Preseason as a

whole - as a 3  
rd

stringer, no less -  
was negligible at  
best. I suppose  
that Phil/Romeo  
had hope for your  
future due to your

size and speed,  
and didn't think  
you'd clear  
waivers so they  
could stash you  
on the Practice  
Squad. But your  
hands... your

routes... ick.

You better  
sacrifice a goat to  
your god of  
choice, because -

at this point in  
time - several  
Receivers better  
than you were let  
go.

~~~~Why is Ken  
Dorsey still on
this squad?
Certainly, for the
love of Pete (and
Paul and Mary),
there's GOT to be
a developmental

QB floating
around out there
on waivers that's
worth a shot.
Ain't that how
Derek Anderson
got here? And
that worked out

OK, didn't it?
Dorsey is
WASTING A
ROSTER SPOT.
I don't care if he's
"like a
coach out
there".

Make him a *coach*.

Bring in a
player
to take his spot.

If I never see him
make another
pass, I will count
myself a satisfied
human being.

~ ~ ~ The Practice Squad was also announced, and a lot of the guys I was sorry to see go made it back on:

Steve Sanders

(WR),

Lance Leggett

(WR),

Travis Key

(S),

Melila Purcell

(DE). Also

signed were

Titus Brown

(LB),

Omar Cuff

(RB), and

Christian Gaddis

(OL).

As an aside -
Who doesn't love
the name Titus?

Especially glad to
see Sanders,

Leggett, and Key back. I suspect at least Sanders and Key will be back on the roster some time this season. Key could be back as

soon as next week, when Lawson is cut because Cribbs and Steptoe are healthy again.

The only person I was somewhat surprised to see on this list was Travis Thomas, who ran very well in the last game and probably

deserved some
development.
However, that's
just me slicing
peas. In the end,
it won't make a
difference.

~ ~ ~ It's amazing...
in one year, the
Defensive Line
went from the
weakest
Defensive Unit to
the strongest.
There's not one

player there that I
haven't seen
good things from
this Preseason.

~ ~ ~ Phil Savage

announced that,
should Jamal
Lewis go down,
Jerome Harrison
would be the
starting RB, with
Jason Wright
maintaining his 3^r

d

Down back
status. Last year,
Wright was the
primary backup,
so this is an
interesting
change.

Evidently,
Harrison has
finally got his
blocking to the
point where the
powers that be
wouldn't quake in
their boots if he

had to play
Jerome for a
large load of the
snaps. And the
team has finally
realized that, as
nice a back as
Wright is, he isn't

the threat that
Harrison can be.

Plus, I'd have to
imagine that
Vickers might get

increased
touches should
this possibility
come to fruition.

~ ~ ~ Nick

Sorensen might
be playing his
way onto the
field, and not just
on Special
Teams. On a
team of
mediocre

tacklers, he's
one of the few
that stands out.
He'll be solid in
run support.

~ ~ ~ Despite my cautions about counting too heavily on him, Shaun Rogers looks like he's going to be a Monster.

~ ~ ~ Predictions:

AFC East - New England

**AFC North -
Pittsburgh (how I
hate to write that
word right there)**

AFC West - San

Diego

**AFC South -
Jacksonville**

**Wildcard - Indy,
Buffalo**

**NFC East -
Dallas**

NFC North - Minnesota

NFC West - Seattle

**NFC South -
New Orleans**

**Wildcard -
Green Bay,
Giants**

AFC Champion
- Jacksonville

NFC Champion
- Minnesota

You will notice
that my
Conference
Champions are
teams with good
Offensive and
Defensive lines,
solid Defensive

play overall, and good running games. Call me foolish, but I think that those aspects are the key to good football.

Superbowl - Minnesota.

Yeah, I know the
issues with the
Vikings QB

situation. But
they have so
much talent
everywhere
else... I think
they just need
Jackson to Trent
Dilfer it and

they'll be just
fine. A team can
go far with a
superior
Defensive Line
(which MIN has).
Just ask the
2007 Giants.

~ ~ ~ Speaking of
dead
groundhogs
(yes, I did,
earlier)... they've
been getting into
my garden (live
ones, not dead

ones). I put a fence around it, but the bastards tunneled under, and there's really no one that I can slap an injunction on due

to it. I don't have a gun, but I've borrowed my neighbor's .22 a couple times and shot a few, which is like shooting a bear with water

pistol. Meaning
it don't work.

Besides, the
angle that would
be best for me to

shoot at them is
towards some
people's
backyards which
border my
property, and
some of them
have kids, and I

can't take the
chance of a
ricocheted bullet.

And we're not
really supposed
to be shooting
guns in this
township

anyway.

Projectile
weaponless, I
have little way to
defend my

garden, which is
a good 75 yards
from the house.

And one of the
little bastages
got in there on
Friday and ate
one of my

pumpkins, which
is akin to killing
one of my friends
(maybe a lesser
friend or just a
good
acquaintance).

So, the next day,
when I saw one
of the fat whores
digging under
the fence, I
grabbed a brick
from my garage
and sprinted out.

He was in there all right, and just froze amidst the tomato plants when I stood in front of his hole, blocking his escape route.

He must've been
hoping I didn't
see him.

Alas for him, he
was wrong.

Taking careful
aim, I did my
best Brett Favre
imitation and
hurled the brick
right at the
sumbitch's head.
And nailed him.

He flipped over,
his evil paws
quivering and
kicking,
obviously having
suffered a
serious injury to
his nervous

system.

My girlfriend had
tailed me out to
see what was
going on, and

was upset by the situation. "
Oh, put him out of his misery
!" she told me. I had no problem with that. My ultimate

goal was -
always had been
- that
groundhog's
death. So I went
and got my
shovel and a
garden rake.

The garden rake
was to haul his
spasmodic (and
heavy) mass to
the edge of the
fence (I ain't
walking up to no
cornered

groundhog - hurt
or not - wearing
shorts and
sandals). The
shovel was to
sever his spinal
cord.

Now, don't you
feel sorry for that
groundhog.
Don't you do it!
Some animals
just **NEED** killin'.
And that hog of
the ground was

tops on my list.

By that time, my
girlfriend, who for
some reason
didn't want to

see the end, had gone back to the house and advised my daughters not to go outside. Of course, they wanted to know

why, so they ran
to the window to
see what was
going on -
namely daddy
repeatedly and
viciously
jamming a

shovel into
something in the
garden.

I wasn't going
Jeffrey Dahmer -

those
groundhogs are
solid creatures. I
didn't even break
his fat hide. I
just stabbed the
shovel into his
neck area until I

heard the
crunch, and the
beast stopped
moving. No
blood, no guts.
Just big dead
groundhog.

I donned gloves
to remove the
carcass, and
tossed the
corpse back into
the hole from
whence he
came, a dire

warning to his
groundhog
brothers and
sisters that they
were next if they
dared approach
my garden ever
again.

Naturally, they
were back in
there the next
morning.

I gots ta get me

a crossbow.

Next Up

~ ~ ~ The Dallas Cowboys

The NFL's
biggest show is
coming to

Cleveland. No team in the NFL is as glitzy and self-absorbed as the Cowboys of Dallas. Terrell Owens and his bipolar behavior,

Pacman Jones
and his
"scrip"
; clubs, Tony
Romo and
Jessica Simpson
and Jerry Jones
and the

cheerleaders
and the
melodrama and
the hordes of
adoring media.
God, I hate
Cowboys.

I've never liked
them. True,
when I was
growing up, I
rooted for them
in the
Superbowls
versus the black

and yella, but I never got into them other than that. And during their heyday of the early 90's, I loathed them. Stinkin' random

Cowboys fans
popping up all
over the place.

*You ain't never
been nowhere
even near*

Dallas, dumbass
, I'd tell them.

But no team in
the NFL spawns
so many
bandwagon fans
as
"America's
Team"

The Cleveland Browns get them for the 4 o'clock game, which means it will be broadcast to a majority of homes

nationally, kind
of the Browns'
unofficial 6th
prime time
game. There is
no denying that
Cowboys are
loaded, the

trendy pick by many to reach the Superbowl from the NFC. They've got solid O & D Lines, a two-headed RB system, a solid

QB, a good pass
rush, and one of
the best WR's
and TE's in the
game.

They're kind of
exactly what the
Browns want to
become.

Cleveland thinks
it can be good.

Dallas knows it.

Can the Browns
win this game?
Certainly. But
they'll have to
play a LOT
better than they
have played so
far, and they'll

have to play a
LOT better than
they did at ANY
point last
season. If
Cleveland and
Dallas played 10
times in a row,

the Cowboys
would probably
win 7 or 8. But
since they only
play once...

Optimism will be
on re-set come
Sunday morning
at Cleveland
Browns
Stadium. The
smell of charred
meat and chili

and sauerkraut
will fill the air.

Beer and vodka
will flow like the
Amazon.

Browns fans will
be chanting,
shouting. For

them, the
Browns are
undefeated, and
the future is
nothing but
bright.

Let's hope they
leave as happy
as when they
went in.

Despite my

fears, I can't wait
for the game to
begin.

Somewhere
deep inside, I
still have high
expectations.

Somewhere

deep inside,
there's still a
part of me that is
waiting for the
Cleveland
Browns to treat
the Dallas
Cowboys like I

treated that
groundhog.