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HEAD COACHES' "TO DO" LISTS REMAIN LENGTHY ON BYE WEEKS

For many, an NFL Sunday equates to finding an easy chair and hitting speed dial for your favorite pizza parlor.

Not so for NFL head coaches during a bye week.

Although they may not lead their teams to victory on a Sunday without a game, they're still finding ways to add more wins to their record. Six teams have a bye on their schedule this week: Cleveland, Green Bay, Indianapolis, Jacksonville, Minnesota and New England.

Several NFL head coaches were recently asked what they and their staffs seek to accomplish during a bye week:

HEAD COACH	BYE WEEK AGENDA ITEMS
Romeo Crennel, Cleveland Browns	<p>"There are a couple of things we would like to accomplish. First, we like to self-scout ourselves to see what our opponents are looking at. We look for any tendencies or trends that we need to change or adjust. Secondly, I think the bye week gives us an opportunity to work our players who have not played much in games. Usually, we give reps to young players so we can help them develop and bring them along. Those are the two primary concerns going into the bye week."</p> <p><u>What might you do during the bye week that many don't know?</u> "Well, the fact is that it's not a week off for us. It's still a working week. We work every day during the week, but we get to go home a little earlier...a little."</p>
Eric Mangini, New York Jets	<p>"The bye serves two purposes. As the half-way point of the season (the Jets' bye is in Week 9), we will take time to evaluate our strengths and weaknesses in many different aspects -- game-planning, personnel, practices, classroom sessions and games. We will also begin to prepare for our next opponent."</p> <p><u>What might you do during the bye week that many don't know?</u> "Because our bye week is the week of Halloween, I am going to be able to take my sons trick-or-treating. I don't know when I will have that opportunity again, so I am very excited to be able to spend that time with my wife and sons."</p>
Mike Nolan, San Francisco 49ers	<p>"There are a lot of things we try to accomplish during the bye week. Obviously for some of the players, it's to heal up and rest up, but for the majority of the guys it's a chance to improve their technique. It's also time for us to improve our scheme, both offensively and defensively.</p> <p>"We'll also try to keep the development going of some of our younger players during that week. We want to make sure that we do not lose a step."</p> <p><u>What might you do during the bye week that many don't know?</u> "I put the whistle down, but I'll be working. I have nowhere to go. If I'm not working at the facility, I'll get my laptop and it all goes home with me. I have the video at home. Maybe I can sit in the backyard, because it's nice and quiet, and watch some film."</p>