



## Fullback Lawrence Vickers making his case, one crushing block at a time: Browns Insider

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"In my head, I'm the best," says Browns fullback Lawrence Vickers. "Being good is just not good enough for me. I want to be great at everything I do. Therefore, I still have plenty of room to grow."

BEREA, Ohio -- **Lawrence Vickers** thinks he's the best fullback in the NFL, and he'll get no argument from **Peyton Hillis**, who's on pace for 1,290 rushing yards this season.

"Vickers in my opinion is one of the best fullbacks in the country," said Hillis.

"There's no doubt about that. He knows that, and he knows I think that about him. And he's a modest guy. He wants to go out there and he's unselfish, and that's what you want out of your fullbacks."

Vickers made one of his vintage crushing blocks Sunday against the Jets, lighting up linebacker **Bart Scott** to make possible Hillis' 2-yard TD run in the first quarter.

"It was amazing," said Hillis. "As soon as we went off to the sideline, I let him know what a great block he had. If it weren't for him, that play wouldn't have happened. He reads it like a runner. He has running back eyes and the aggressiveness and physicality of a fullback. He has the best of both worlds."

Hillis attributes much of his success -- including his eight rushing touchdowns, third-most in the NFL -- to Vickers.

"I think we're a good tandem," said Hillis. "I don't think I can get started without him. He's really what gets me going and he fires me up in the huddle. He gets the crowd hyped up, he gets our teammates hyped up and he's just that kind of guy."

Vickers said he's always going to strive to excel at his position.

"In my head, I'm the best," he said. "Being good is just not good enough for me. I want to be great at everything I do. Therefore, I still have plenty of room to grow."

Vickers, a fifth-year Brown, was bypassed for the Pro Bowl last season, and isn't worried about it this year.

"Playing the position, you don't get that much notoriety, but I'm going to make you notice me," he said. "If the recognition comes, it comes. I'll let my work speak for itself."

Hillis' production isn't hurting either. The two 250-pounders have been putting a hurt on defenders all season.

"It's double the trouble," said Vickers.

**Looking for some good returns:** In case **Josh Cribbs** can't play, newly-signed returner **Clifton Smith** worked on special teams Wednesday. He was waived by the Bucs in September and then spent two games with Miami before being let go.

Smith made the Pro Bowl and All-Pro squads as a rookie in 2008 and averaged 29.1 yards on kickoffs returns last year.

"I've still got a lot of it left," he said of his Pro Bowl form, adding he knows he has big shoes to fill.

"I know the special teams history around here," he said. "They've got the best returner in the NFL -- maybe in NFL history -- in Josh Cribbs. I just want to come in here and pick up where Josh left off."

He said he has no idea why he was cut from Tampa or Miami, but is grateful for the opportunity.

"I'm the type of guy that's going to catch the ball and run right at you, make you miss and just do what I do," he said. "My game is all quickness."

Newly-signed cornerback **Eric King**, a sixth-year pro, said he can contribute right away on special teams and might get some work in the nickel.

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