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Title: Tough Loss - But Don't Panic

Wow. What a loss. The Green Bay Packers defeated the Minnesota Vikings 41-17 this Sunday - and that score fails to capture the beating that took place. Although this loss is worrying, I remain optimistic. Hear me out.

It is advantageous for teams to get jolted before the playoffs. Coasting into the playoffs ~~do~~ fails to prepare teams for adversity. And adversity is bound to come in the playoffs. The pressure will be higher. The expectations will be greater. Each & every play comes with an extra shock of emotion. This loss is preparing the Vikings for the pressure of playoff football.

The loss to the Packers showed the Vikings a glaring weakness they have - creating explosive plays on grass. The Vikings are built for turf. Dalvin Cook is one of the fastest running backs in the NFL - and he is built for turf. Justin Jefferson's quickness is accentuated on turf. The Vikings lack of size at linebacker makes them better suited for turf.

Despite being built for turf, this loss will allow the Vikings to make adjustments. Two foes that stand in the Vikings' way (the Niners & Eagles) both play on grass. This loss will allow the Vikings to start making

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adjustments now. This includes double tight end sets to bring in extra blockers, and utilizing E.J. Ham more from the fullback position.

While the Vikings lost the battle today, they certainly have not lost the war. This could be the loss that helps them adjust their strategy, and march into Arizona representing the NFL in the Super Bowl.