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On "Joe Buck Live", Brett Favre says return to Vikings not farfetched

By: Rich Cimini

Speaking publicly for the first time since retiring in February, Brett Favre confirmed Monday night that he's strongly considering an "unretirement" with the Vikings. The future Hall of Fame quarterback painted the Vikings as a more desirable situation than his previous team, the Jets.

"It makes perfect sense as far as coming back because it's an offense I ran for 16 years. I can teach the offense," said Favre, who appeared in Manhattan before a studio audience on the debut "Joe Buck Live" show on HBO.

"It was tough going to New York last year because I was two weeks late and it was a totally new offense," he said, alluding to his Aug. 6 trade from the Packers. "I thought, 'This won't be too bad.' Brian Schottenheimer and (Eric) Mangini and those guys were great with me. We condensed it down to where I could at least call the plays, but it was like learning a foreign language."

Confirming multiple reports, Favre, 40, said he did have arthroscopic surgery 2-1/2 weeks ago on a torn biceps tendon in his throwing arm. He said the doctor, James Andrews, told him it would take four to five weeks before he could determine if it was successful. Interestingly, Favre said he met Sunday with the Vikings' trainer, who provided a regimen of rehab exercises.

Favre also revealed that Vikings coach Brad Childress had invited him to attend, but not participate in, recent offseason workouts with the team. Favre said he declined because he feared a "media frenzy." He denied a report that said Childress had given him a deadline to make a decision.

"If (the arm) is not up to par when the time comes, I can't play," he said. "I went through it last year. I gutted it out, but it affected me and it affected our team. I won't go through that again."

The sight of Favre, wearing Vikings purple in Lambeau Field, will nauseate many Green Bay fans. To which Favre replied: "I don't know what to tell them. Vince Lombardi went to the Washington Redskins when he left, and his name is on the (Super Bowl) trophy - and we give that trophy out every year. I don't hear too many people say, 'That damn traitor, he went to Washington.' Time heals a lot of things."