

Mike Vrabel Bloodied in Patriots Training Ground Clash

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FOXBOROUGH, MASSACHUSETTS, New England Patriots head coach Mike Vrabel was left with a cut to the cheek after a physical confrontation during a joint training session with the Washington Commanders on Wednesday.

The incident took place at Gillette Stadium as both NFL teams met for a preseason practice. Two scuffles broke out during the session, one of which escalated when rookie running

back TreyVeon Henderson stepped up to block a blitz, resulting in a pile-up of players. Vrabel intervened to break it up and emerged with a visible injury to his face.

Despite the brief disruption, the situation was quickly brought under control by the coaching staff and players. No disciplinary action was taken, and training resumed as scheduled.

Quarterback Drake Maye backed his head coach's approach, saying in comments after the session: "That's what we're trying to build, and it starts with the head coach's intensity, bringing it every day, taking no crap when we're out there on the field... The mentality, I like it. That's what you want."

Commanders cornerback Marshon Lattimore commented on the nature of the sport, stating: "It's football. It's a physical sport. I mean, if that's too physical for you, then you shouldn't play football."

Joint practices are common during the NFL pre-season, designed to test players in high-pressure scenarios. While minor clashes can happen, they are typically viewed as part of the competitive nature of the sport rather than a cause for concern.

The Commanders are scheduled to rest on Thursday before facing the Patriots in their opening pre-season fixture on Friday, 8 August, at 7:30 p.m. Eastern Time.