

INT. STUDIO STAGE / SITCOM HARDWARE STORE - DAY

JUDE enters escorting RON to set.

JUDE

Alex!

ALEX

(turning)

Mr. -- Jude. Sorry. Yes.

JUDE

I'd like to present a man who needs no introduction...

Jude steps slightly to the side and uses a "presenting" hand gesture.

ALEX

Which means you must be Ron Bee. (OFF JUDE'S LOOK) I mean you are Ron Bee. I recognized you immediately. From the... news. Sports. News. The sports news. (JUDE & RON'S FACES RELAX) Hey! (makes a kicking motion) Winner, winner... (OFF THEIR LOOKS) chicken... dinner. (THEN - RAISES ARMS) It's good!!

Jude & Ron re-animate.

JUDE

Ron is very excited to be here. (catches himself) Oh -- look at me -- speaking for a true sports legend. Please, Ron, go ahead.

RON

I'm very excited to be here!

ALEX

So I've heard. (OFF JUDE) But -- much better to hear from the legend himself!

Ron's next speech is his best attempt at reciting all the "humble" lines his agent told him to pepper into media interviews. They do not come out smoothly.

RON

Aw, come on. Listen, guys -- you know football isn't just me. I'm not playing with myself. I play with other guys. On my team. Football. I play. It's the right time. I kick in the right place.
(MORE)

RON (CONT'D)

I mean I kick the balls in the right place. For my team. I'm just happy to help.

ALEX

Boy it sounds like you do a lot for the guys on your team.

JUDE

Yes. And don't forget all your hometown fans!

RON

(confused)

You mean in Long Island?

Alex sees Jude's look and dives in.

ALEX

Haahaahaa -- you mean Cleveland! The team you play for.

RON

Oh, yeah -- Cleveland!

INT. STUDIO STAGE / SITCOM HARDWARE STORE - LATER

Ron stands before the counter as CHERIE reacts to what he has just said (we are to assume it's the question about feminine hygiene products).

CHERIE

You want what?!

Cherie turns and looks off stage at Alex incredulous.

RON

I'd like some female napkins.

ALEX

(trying to quietly coach Ron from the sidelines)

"Feminine."

RON

I'd like some feminine napkins. And some tampons. As many as you got.

CHERIE

(shifting her gaze between Alex and Ron)

You do realize this is a hardware store.

RON
Of course I do.
(turns and says into the
camera)
I just won the Superbowl for the great
state of Cleveland!

ALEX
(looking skyward)
City?

RON
(again to camera)
City of Cleveland!

JUDE
(can't contain his
excitement)
Wow! That was fantastic!

Various crew members look to Alex.

ALEX
(shrugging)
And I guess we're "cuuutt!"

RON
(looks out off set)
How was that?

JUDE
Fantastic! Man I've really got a flare
for this stuff.

Ron looks to Alex for his approval.

ALEX
Now... yup...

Ron looks sufficiently self-satisfied as Jude approaches
him on set. Meanwhile Cherie moves off the set to Alex.
MAKEBA stands next to him.

CHERIE
Okay, so I get it.

Alex flashes a look that says "I sure don't."

ALEX
You do?!

CHERIE

He needs some tampons. That's life. But why does he need every box we've got? Is he trying to stop a mudslide?

ALEX

Don't know what to tell you, Cherie. I'm still stuck on the fact that he's in a hardware store!?!

Alex exits in frustration. Cherie looks confused and turns to Makeba.

MAKEBA

Hey, I'm with you. I think they should sell them at every damn store.