



Josh.Rupprecht@chargers.nfl.com ⚡ Jennifer.Rojas@chargers.nfl.com ⚡ Jamaal.LaFrance@chargers.nfl.com

Brock.Anderson@chargers.nfl.com ⚡ Danny.Markino@chargers.nfl.com ⚡ Jordan.Colquitt@chargers.nfl.com ⚡ Leonie.Strehl@chargers.nfl.com

Chargers Week 8 Media Availability

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OFFENSIVE COORDINATOR KELLEN MOORE

On the offense in the second half against the Chiefs:

"We had the unfortunate tipped-pass turnover in the red zone. Those are big changing plays in games. Then, we just weren't able to get into rhythm. Three three-and-outs consecutively. Three in-a-row. We weren't able to find any rhythm. Obviously, it's something that's crept up on us two of the last three weeks, like you said. We just have to play better in the second half because we're having these moments of success and then we're not just playing a four-quarter game of consistent football."

On batted passes:

"It's hard. You're aware of it. I think that it's challenging because there are so many components to it. The defensive line sometimes does an excellent job with how they play those games, especially when you're in quick-game type of things. [QB] Justin [Herbert] is always looking at those things and how he can improve from a throwing standpoint. We've had a couple in there. We just have to continue to look at it."

On the second-to-last drive of the game:

"We got three great run looks. Those are always frustrating — a three-and-out and then, especially when you have the guys that we have and we go three-and-out with three rush attempts, you don't get a chance to throw the football in there. It felt like we had really good opportunities. Obviously, those ones are frustrating. Those are the ones that eat at you. It was a big opportunity. Defense had a stop there. We had a chance. We lost the points the drive the before, let's go capitalize on this thing. To come out three-and-out was, obviously, a tough one."

"We felt pretty good about the process. We had three really good opportunities to run the football there. Can you throw it? Certainly. You could certainly throw it, but we felt good about the process. We had a missed opportunity, especially the third down. I think we were really close to getting that first down. Then, once you get that earned first down, now you can kind of flip the script. You have an opportunity to have an earned first down, now we can be aggressive on first and second down, and let that drive start progressing."

On QB Justin Herbert overthrowing WR Keenan Allen on specific plays:

"I mean, I'm not overly concerned by that stuff. I think that those guys have a lot of time on task. They've spent a lot of time together. Sometimes you miss a few downfield. Obviously, we missed a few there, but those guys are continuing to work and progress the right way. I'm not overly concerned."

On if Herbert has been limited by his finger:

"No. I think, like anyone, if you have something in your body that you're dealing with — those things happen. I think he's certainly doing an awesome job of just battling each and every week as you go through that process. Each week, I think it's more and more comfortable and gets better from a physical standpoint. I think he's done a really good job going through this process."

On if he himself ever played with a broken finger:

"Not to that degree [*laughter*]. Everybody has a little bumps and bruises through their career. His — obviously, you guys can see it. It's larger than a normal, traditional finger injury. He's done an excellent job, I think. You've seen, certainly, last week we played a lot more under center probably than the previous week. You can obviously see that's a reflection of his comfort level being able to do that throughout the game. We can continue to build on that. It's been good."

On the pressure brought by opposing defenses:

"It's certainly a thing that you evaluate the process from a schematic standpoint. I'm going to spend most of my time on the schematic aspect of it. Can we help give ourselves better opportunities? From a play-calling standpoint, can we help our guys out? There are some things that we've considered this week that potentially could help us. That's part of the process throughout the season. It's a problem-solving job. Things come up throughout the season and it's about addressing those things. Then, something else will come up. That's just how seasons go. Certainly, we would like to clean this thing up a little bit based off the last two weeks."

On 'cleaning up' the pressure:

"There's a lot of tools that you can utilize. The timing of the plays. The amount of protection. The formations you utilize just to create access and space. There's a lot of different ways you can go about this. Certainly, we have had a few thoughts that we've considered. At the same time, I think we've played some really talented fronts. Between Vegas, Dallas and Kansas City, I'd argue those have some of the guys that everyone knows in this whole world that are D-Linemen. Those are tough matchups. Those are challenging matchups. We'll continue to try and improve."

On Herbert having more time to throw:

"It's a combination of a number of things. The play design, it could be longer developing than a quick, get the ball out of your hand pass. He's buying time trying to give ourselves some opportunities down the field. On the positive side, we are allowing ourselves a little bit more time to let things develop. There's some positives with that. It's something that we're always conscious of. We're going through it each week."

On if he was aware of Herbert's 'sort of glove-thing that got ripped off early on a handoff':

"Yeah. You're aware of it. I think Justin does an excellent job. He'll communicate if he needs something to be adjusted throughout the game, whether it be a game plan, scheme thing, whatever it may be. He does an excellent job of communicating those things. We were able to still play our game. I don't think it drastically changed us. It's something that he had to deal with between the series."

On the rushing attack:

"There's definitely some positives. I thought the couple of big plays in there — again, it's a process. You continue to try and find ways to improve and get better. By no means is it where we want it, but it's also the middle of the season. We want to keep developing this thing. I think we're heading in the right direction."

On potentially using WR Quentin Johnston on end-around plays:

"He's certainly a guy that we can utilize in that space, as well. I think [WR] Derius [Davis] has done an excellent job. He started with a smaller package [of plays]. It's gotten a little bigger each week. He certainly has earned those opportunities because he's made plays and converted things into first downs. Q is another guy that we'd like to utilize in that same realm. He's a guy that we'll continue to build things for as he develops in his career. He's done a nice job, as well."

DEFENSIVE COORDINATOR DERRICK ANSLEY

On the defense's performance in the second half of last week's game compared to the first half:

"The biggest thing was, I thought, that our rush and coverage worked better together in the second half. We kept [Chiefs QB] Patrick [Mahomes] in the pocket more. We had bodies on [Chiefs TE Travis] Kelce, got the population around him. I thought that the guys dug in, fought. They knew what was on the line and they gave us a chance in the second half."

On 'populating the middle of the field' to help defend against Kelce:

"[Travis] Kelce is really good at reading coverages and sitting down in zones. When you have a mobile quarterback like Patrick [Mahomes], he can buy time and that guy can kind of break away from people. We had the population around him, but the ones that we didn't, they had big plays in the game. We have to do a better job of mixing that thing in there and really honing in on tackling the catch — because he had some catches — but if you tackle the big ones, then it feels a little bit better."

On the Chiefs' ability to 'mitigate the pass rush':

"Give them credit, they did a really good job of blocking our four- and five-man rushes. We got home some. We pressured them some. We got [Mahomes] out of the pocket some. Then, he miraculously found some guys open. Credit to those guys. Our front is working really well together — the inside guys with [DL] Morgan [Fox] and the outside guys of [OLB] Khalil [Mack], [OLB] Tuli [Tuipulotu], [OLB] Joey [Bosa] and [OLB] Chris [Rumph II]. We have to continue to do that. Again, rush and coverage affects all of that. The tighter you are in the coverage, the better the rush comes alive. The more you rush, the better the coverage comes alive. We have to continue to hone in on that."

On comparing the Chiefs to the Bears:

"Two totally different styles. Obviously, it starts with the quarterback position. [Bears QB Tyson] Bagent is really coming into his own. What we see on tape is a guy who has a lot of energy. It starts with the ground game with [the Bears]. K.C., they threw it 45 times. So, two totally different styles, two totally different tastes. But, again, same result. They rushed for 180 yards against the Raiders. The Bears know who they want to be and we have to do a good job of meeting that task."

On the performance of the linebackers last week:

"Just like all of them, everybody had things that they can do better. It wasn't just the linebackers getting behind. Some of those times, we were in man-to-man, and we have to cover them. We have to do a better job on the back end, coaching-wise. We can't let the one guy go off like he did, and that starts with me. We'll do a better job next time."

On what a defense 'needs to do' to 'shut down what the opposing team does best':

"When you talk about best guys, we've shut those guys down, at times. But, there have been explosive plays. So, when you give up explosive plays, those numbers get ballooned. We have to do a good job of eliminating that. Then, I think that the numbers will come down."

On limiting 'explosive plays':

"The NFL is a coach-and-play league, so we have to coach better and we have to play better. If those two things marry up at the right time, our best ball is ahead of us."

On Bagent as a rookie quarterback:

"Well, he didn't look like a rookie quarterback last week. The ground game really helped him settle in. They did a really good job of designing throws. There was not a lot of risk in it, in terms of screens, RPOs, isolated deep balls. He did a really good job of managing the offense. I was really happy for him, in that regard, because they did a good job of mitigating his risk at the quarterback position."

On if Bagent being a rookie quarterback is a 'wild card':

"Not really because it is always about us. It's about what we do and how we do it. If we do our job and execute at a high level, then we'll be fine."

On if the defensive line 'will be more involved' this week:

"They were first in the league in rushing offense last year with [Bears QB] Justin [Fields], and that trend has kind of continued this year, even with Justin being out. Again, they had over 180 [rushing] yards against the Raiders and the Raiders have a really good front, so we have to do a good job of battling. We have to strike blocks. We have to set edges. We have to get the secondary's support and get multiple hats to the ball. It will be a fun challenge."

On if the Bears' rushing offense is a 'power scheme':

"They mix power, gap schemes and zone. They do a good job of mixing it up. They get the receivers involved, too, with the jet sweeps. They have a bunch of guys that can run. From our breakdown, they have four guys that have toted the ball from the jet-sweep position, so we have to do a good job of setting edges and running to the ball because they have guys that can run."