

POSTGAME NOTES

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LOS ANGELES CHARGERS at HOUSTON TEXANS



Sunday, Oct. 2, 2022 | 12:00 p.m. CT | Houston, Texas

CHARGERS WIN ON THE ROAD

The Los Angeles Chargers defeated the Houston Texans, 34-24, on the road in Week 4. **S Derwin James Jr.** and **DL Sebastian Joseph-Day** were the game captains for the Los Angeles Chargers. The Bolts won the toss and elected to defer.

TEAM	1	2	3	4	OT	F
L.A. Chargers	7	20	0	7	—	34
Houston	0	7	7	10	—	24

RB Austin Ekeler led the offensive attack with three touchdowns from scrimmage. **WR Mike Williams** hauled in seven receptions for a season-high 120 yards, collecting his eighth 100-yard receiving performance on the road since 2019, the most by any AFC player.

On the first series of the game, **OLB Khalil Mack** hit Texans QB Davis Mills as he threw, forcing the ball to sail and be intercepted by **S Nasir Adderley** for his second career pick. Three plays later, the Bolts scored on an 18-yard touchdown pass from **QB Justin Herbert** to **TE Gerald Everett** for the game's first points.

The Bolts offense totaled a season-high 34 points scored on the day, including 27 that came in the first half. It was the most points by a Chargers team in a first half since the Bolts scored 28 points in a 2018 Week 12 win over Arizona. Defensively, Houston's seven first-half points marked the lowest opening-half output by a Los Angeles opponent since the start of last season.

JAMES THE BEST THROUGH 40

Derwin James Jr., appeared in his 40th career game on Sunday, registering six stops (three solo). The fifth-year safety now has 287 career tackles, good for the most by a defensive back in their first 40 career games in the last 30 years.

TACKLES, DBs, FIRST 40 CAREER GAMES, NFL, SINCE 1991

Rank	Team	Player	Tackles
1.	LAC	S Derwin James Jr.	287
2.	Jax.	S Johnathan Cyprien	282
3.	NYG	S Landon Collins	281
4.	Atl.	S Keanu Neal	278

HERBERT HITS 300

QB Justin Herbert threw for 340 yards and two touchdowns on 27-of-39 passing (69.2 pct.) to register a 113.2 passer rating. The performance marked the 19th of his career of 300-plus yards, tying for the most by any player ever through the first three seasons of a career. Herbert has also topped 300 passing yards in seven consecutive road games, the second-longest streak in NFL history.

The game marked his 25th consecutive with a touchdown pass, good for the third-best in team history and the second-longest active streak in the NFL.

GAMES WITH 300-PLUS PASSING YARDS, FIRST THREE PROFESSIONAL SEASONS, NFL HISTORY

Rank	Team	Player	Games
1.	LAC	QB Justin Herbert	19
	Ind.	QB Andrew Luck	19
3.	K.C.	QB Patrick Mahomes	17
	StL	QB Kurt Warner	17
5.	Mia.	QB Dan Marino	16

MOST CONSECUTIVE ROAD GAMES WITH 300-PLUS PASSING YARDS, NFL HISTORY

Rank	Quarterback	Dates	Consec. Games
1.	Rich Gannon	Dec. 30, 2001-Dec. 8, 2002	8
2.	Justin Herbert	Nov. 7, 2021-Present	7
	Drew Brees	Nov. 13, 2011-Oct. 21, 2012	6
	Drew Brees	Sept. 17, 2006-Dec. 10, 2006	6
5.	Five Other Streaks		5

MOST CONSECUTIVE GAMES WITH A PASSING TOUCHDOWN, CHARGERS HISTORY

Rank	Quarterback	Dates	Consec. Games
1.	Philip Rivers	Dec. 9, 2012-Oct. 23, 2014	28
2.	Philip Rivers	Oct. 1, 2017-Dec. 13, 2018	27
3.	Justin Herbert	Dec. 13, 2020-Present	25
4.	Philip Rivers	Oct. 4, 2009-Nov. 22, 2010	23
5.	Dan Fouts	Oct. 14, 1979-Nov. 9, 1980	20

HERBERT AND WILLIAMS KEEP CONNECTING

QB Justin Herbert connected with WR Mike Williams for a 50-yard completion in the second quarter. It marked the 12th of at least 40 yards between the two, good for the most between two players in the NFL over the last three seasons. Williams ended the day with a season-high 120 yards on seven grabs (17.1 avg.).

Two of Williams' seven receptions came in the fourth quarter on third down, helping the Bolts offense move the chains and gain a fresh set of downs down the stretch.

40-PLUS YARD COMPLETIONS BETWEEN TWO PLAYERS, NFL, SINCE 2020

Rank	Passer	Receiver	Completions
1.	QB Justin Herbert	WR Mike Williams	12
2.	QB Josh Allen	WR Stefon Diggs	11
	QB Kirk Cousins	WR Justin Jefferson	11
4.	QB Aaron Rodgers	WR Davante Adams	9
	QB Aaron Rodgers	WR Marquez Valdes-Scantling	9
	QB Matthew Stafford	WR Cooper Kupp	9
	QB Russell Wilson	WR Tyler Lockett	9

The 50-yard gain to Williams gave Herbert 29 completions of at least 40 yards in his career, good for the most in the NFL since the start of the 2020 season. Williams led the NFL last season with nine catches of 40-plus yards. His 10 receptions of at least 40 yards over the last two seasons lead all NFL players.

COMPLETIONS OF 40-PLUS YARDS, NFL, SINCE 2020

Rank	Team/s	Player	Completions
1.	LAC	QB Justin Herbert	29
2.	G.B.	QB Aaron Rodgers	26
	Det./LAR	QB Matthew Stafford	26
4.	L.V.	QB Derek Carr	25
5.	T.B.	QB Tom Brady	24

RECEPTIONS OF 40-PLUS YARDS, NFL, SINCE 2021

Rank	Team	Player	Receptions
1.	LAC	WR Mike Williams	10
2.	LAR	WR Cooper Kupp	9
	S.F.	WR Deebo Samuel	9
4.	Cin.	WR Ja'Marr Chase	8

MACK GETS ANOTHER

OLB Khalil Mack added to his season stat sheet on Sunday, collecting his fifth sack of the year. His five sacks this year are the fourth-most in team history through a season's first four games and tie for a career high through the first four games of a season.

SACKS THROUGH FIRST FOUR GAMES OF A SEASON, CHARGERS HISTORY

Rank	Season	Player	Sacks
1.	2010	LB Shaun Phillips	6.0
2.	2017	DE Melvin Ingram III	5.5
	1986	DE Lee Williams	5.5
4.	2022	OLB Khalil Mack	5.0
5.	2006	LB Shawne Merriman	4.5
	1995	DT Shawn Lee	4.5
	1994	LB Junior Seau	4.5

EKELER FINDS THE END ZONE THREE TIMES

RB Austin Ekeler found the end zone on three occasions Sunday, marking his fourth outing with three-plus scores, which ties for the second-most by any player in the NFL and is the second-most by any Chargers player in their career.

GAMES WITH THREE-PLUS SCRIMMAGE TOUCHDOWNS, NFL, SINCE 2019

Rank	Team	Player	Games
1.	Ten.	RB Derrick Henry	5
2.	LAC	RB Austin Ekeler	4
	GB	RB Aaron Jones	4
4.	Min./Buf.	WR Stefon Diggs	3

GAMES WITH THREE-PLUS SCRIMMAGE TOUCHDOWNS, CHARGERS HISTORY

Rank	Seasons	Player	Games
1.	2001-09	RB LaDainian Tomlinson*	13
2.	2017-22	RB Austin Ekeler	4
	1979-87	TE Kellen Winslow*	4
4.	Two Tied	—	3

*Pro Football Hall of Fame

Ekeler hauled in a 14-yard touchdown pass late in the game, giving him 25 career receiving scores. At 27 years, 138 days old, he became the youngest running back in the common draft era (since 1967) to reach that mark.

YOUNGEST TO REACH 25 CAREER RECEIVING TDs, RUNNING BACKS, COMMON DRAFT ERA (SINCE 1967)

Rank	Team/s	Player	Age (Years-Days)
1.	LAC	Austin Ekeler	27-138
2.	Ind./StL	Marshall Faulk	28-265
3.	N.E.	James White	28-335
4.	Phi.	Brian Westbrook	29-13
5.	S.D./N.O.	Darren Sproles	29-193

After tying for an NFL-best 20 scrimmage touchdowns last year, Ekeler reached paydirt for the first time this season on a 10-yard rushing score in the second quarter. He added another score on a 20-yard run later on in the quarter. Ekeler is just the second player this season to record multiple rushing touchdowns in a single quarter. He recorded a 14-yard scoring grab in the fourth quarter for his third touchdown of the game.

Entering Sunday afternoon's games, Ekeler's 23 scrimmage touchdowns over the last two seasons are the most in the NFL in that span.

SCRIMMAGE TOUCHDOWNS LEADERS, NFL, SINCE 2021

Rank	Team	Player	Scrimmage TDs
1.	LAC	RB Austin Ekeler	23
2.	Ind.	RB Jonathan Taylor	21
3.	LAR	WR Cooper Kupp	20
4.	Ari.	RB James Conner	19
5.	Cin.	RB Joe Mixon	17
	N.E.	RB Damien Harris	17

SCOTT'S PRECISION PLACEMENT

P **JK Scott** matched a season-best with three punts downed inside of Houston's 20-yard line, taking his season total to eight through the first four games. Scott's eight punts inside of the opponent's 20-yard line are the third-most by any Chargers punter through the first four games of a single season

PUNTS INSIDE THE 20, FIRST FOUR GAMES OF A SEASON, CHARGERS HISTORY

Rank	Season	Player	Punts Inside the 20
1.	2014	P Mike Scifres	10
2.	2017	P Drew Kaser	9
3.	2022	P JK Scott	8
	2002	P Darren Bennett	8
5	—	Two Tied	7

SECOND-QUARTER SCORING

Los Angeles' offense took advantage of second-quarter opportunities to post 20 points in the quarter, which ties for the fifth-most by any team in a single game thus far this season.

Through four games, the unit's 48 second-quarter points lead the AFC and rank second in the NFL.

POINTS SCORED, SECOND QUARTER, NFL

Rank	Team	Points
1.	Philadelphia Eagles	85
2.	Los Angeles Chargers	48
3.	Baltimore Ravens	41
4.	Cleveland Browns	40

FREQUENTLY FORCING FUMBLES

In the fourth quarter, **DL Jerry Tillery** collected a strip-sack of QB Davis Mills, marking the Chargers' 14th strip-sack and 23rd forced fumble since the start of last season.

Since taking over as head coach in 2021, **Brandon Staley's** defense has been among the NFL's best at forcing fumbles and recording strip sacks.

Over the last two seasons, the Chargers have an NFL-high 14 strip sacks. The Bolts also lead the AFC and rank third in the NFL over that span with 23 forced fumbles.

STRIP SACKS, NFL, SINCE 2021

Rank	Team	Strip Sacks
1.	Los Angeles Chargers	14
2.	Arizona Cardinals	10
	Philadelphia Eagles	10

FORCED FUMBLES, NFL, SINCE 2021

Rank	Team	Forced Fumbles
1.	Arizona Cardinals	27
2.	San Francisco 49ers	24
3.	Los Angeles Chargers	23
4.	Cincinnati Bengals	22
5.	Kansas City Chiefs	21
	Tampa Bay Buccaneers	21