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## Chargers Week 13 Media Availability

Friday, December 2, 2022 ⚡ Hoag Performance Center ⚡ Costa Mesa, Calif.

### HEAD COACH BRANDON STALEY

**On LB Drue Tranquill and DL Breiden Fehoko being listed as questionable for Sunday with an illness:**

"They're sick. We kept them out for today; cold, flu. They'll be back."

**On if he 'expects' Tranquill and Fehoko to play on Sunday:**

"Yeah. It's just a 24-hour whatever. Had chills and stuff like that."

**On S Nasir Adderley's game status:**

"Nas [Adderley] is going to play in this game."

**On if Adderley 'will have a protector' on his hand:**

"No, he will have a full hand. There's just going to be something on his thumb."

**On the 'club that Adderley was wearing earlier this week':**

"That was just the initial protection. In the game, he'll have full use of it."

**On if he 'ever played Fantasy Football growing up':**

"I did not."

**On an injury update regarding WR Mike Williams:**

"Progressing. I don't know if you guys saw him out there, but he is doing better each day. Not going to make it in this game, but I still consider him day-to-day. He's working hard. I like where he is at."

**On if T Foster Sarell will start at right tackle on Sunday:**

"He will be, yes."

**On QB Justin Herbert 'reaching personal milestones' and 'what would the best accomplishment be' for Herbert:**

"I think that the ultimate accomplishment for Justin [Herbert] is that he wants to be a great teammate. That's how he views the game and that's how he views the position on the team; to be a great teammate. I know how important that is to him. I know that he wants to be a champion. I know that he wants to be a part of a team that accomplishes something special. Ultimately, being a champion — a division champion, a conference champion, a world champion — because that's something that, I think, is really special about Justin, how much the team means to him. He is surpassing all of these milestones because he is one of the most remarkable players in the league that history has ever seen. But he does so within the framework of being an awesome teammate. He is accomplishing all of these milestones because of how fierce he is towards his craft and how he performs on gameday. He's bringing his teammates along with him every single day. He's doing it because of his teammates. Everybody is playing at a high level with him and for him, and you're going to continue to see him make these kinds of milestones because he's that special."

**On 'what goes into' Herbert 'being an awesome teammate':**

"I think being the same every day. Coming in and really setting the example of what you want your teammates to be like. There's a phrase that I was taught as a young kid, 'Be everything that you want your players to be.' Or, 'Be everything that you want your students to be,' that's what my parents used to say to me. With Justin [Herbert], he is everything that he wants his teammates to be. He's unselfish. He's hard-working. He's dedicated. He is going to play through pain, going to play through tough losses, going to be able to show that he can bounce back. When he has incredible success, he is always even-keeled, even when he is at the highest of the highs after a big game. He just keeps that same poise. As a teammate, you appreciate that about your franchise quarterback, your star player, is that he's one of us. I think that he does a great job of fitting in with the group and making it about his teammates. I think that that is a very special quality of his."

## **QUARTERBACK JUSTIN HERBERT**

### **On a recent influx of sacks:**

"I think there are times where I could get back to the line of scrimmage, where I have gone down before the line of scrimmage, and that counts as a sack. I think the offensive line has done a great job of protecting me all of the time and getting me enough time to get the ball out. I feel like [Offensive Line] Coach [Brendan] Nugent and [Offensive Coordinator] Joe Lombardi have done a great job of getting a protection plan together. Sometimes that happens, and we just have to keep executing. Just have to get back to the line of scrimmage and get the ball away."

### **On 'his confidence in being decisive at the line of scrimmage':**

"I think it just comes with experience and being out there and going through it and making mistakes and learning from those. Having been in the offense for two years now and having a bunch of film on tape, being able to go back and check it, you feel more comfortable with the offense. You know what Joe [Lombardi] wants when he calls a certain play. I think as an offense, we just feel more comfortable with what we are doing out there."

### **On 'if he is taking ownership of the offense and making it his own':**

"I'd like to think we are able to do that. I think, as a group, we have come a long way, and we are getting a lot better. Like I mentioned earlier, we are feeling much more comfortable in the offense and understanding what Joe [Lombardi] wants from a certain play. Having gone through that for two years now, we feel like we have got a better shot at that. There is still a lot of room for improvement for us. There are still plenty of things that we can clean up, but I thought as a unit, we have done a lot of good things so far this year and looking to keep getting better from it."

### **On if he 'keeps track' of statistical milestones:**

"No. I haven't been paying any attention to that. I think the most important thing is how we are doing as a team and what we can get better at collectively. As an offense, I think we have done some good things this year, but there is still plenty of room for improvement for us."

### **On if he 'keeps track' of playoff standings and projections:**

"We just worry about what we can do and what we can control as a team here. If we take care of business, do everything we can on and off the field, we'll like the outcome. You don't have too much control of what is going on outside of this building."

### **On offensive production in the second half of games:**

"I think we just need to execute better. We need to keep converting on third down and I think as long as you are able to extend drives on third down, I think that kind of sets you up for a good possession. I think being able to keep pushing the ball down the field, establishing our run game, limiting turnovers and converting on third downs is something we need to do."

### **On 'if he has created friendships with other quarterbacks' drafted in the 2020 NFL Draft class:**

"Because of COVID[-19], a lot of it was separated, so we weren't able to work out together and things like that. For the most part, it was just checking-in when we were at the [Scouting] Combine and things like that."

### **On if he 'keeps an eye on' Bengals QB Joe Burrow and Dolphins QB Tua Tagovailoa:**

"I think it's really when we are watching a common opponent. We try to focus on the defense of who we are playing, watching as much film as we can on them. Any time you get to watch a good quarterback, it's fun. You learn a lot. It's good to see from those guys."

**On why he chose the Los Angeles Regional Food Bank as his 'My Cause, My Cleats':**

"I am super thankful for all of the work that they have put in together. They feed so many people and are providing so many meals, all of the staff and workers. I have so much respect for what they are able to do. Being able to help out with that was a big cause for me."

**On if he plays Fantasy Football:**

"I do not."

**On if he has 'thought about' playing Fantasy Football:**

"I am sure I did growing up, but it's not something that I have spent too much time thinking about now."