



QUOTES

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LOS ANGELES CHARGERS HEAD COACH ANTHONY LYNN

Opening statement:

"Sorry for running a little late. We're having exit physicals right now and players are having coaches meetings. I have a line outside my door right now [of players] waiting for me, but I needed to come over and see you guys [first]. I don't have much more to say today than I said last night, to be honest with you. Any time you have a season like that, you don't want to see it come to an end because we put ourselves in the position to do something special — and we fell short. We did not play our best football yesterday. We have to live with that for the rest of the offseason — but like we just talked about with the players, we look forward to coming back here on April 15th, building another team and trying to do it again."

On if the coaching staff will coach the AFC Pro Bowl team:

"Yes, we will be. Coaches will get a couple of days off after today. We'll regroup in Orlando and coach the Pro Bowl."

On the staff coaching the Pro Bowl:

"It's pretty hard to be excited about anything right now. We'd rather be getting ready for the next opponent, but I'm sure it'll be fun."

On if the game plan would be different for the Patriots:

"There's always hindsight, yeah. We would do a lot of things differently. We were looking at the game on the plane coming home last night. We had a game plan. We went in and we didn't execute as well as I would like. They did a heck of a job of executing. They attacked us pretty good, as you saw. They were the better team yesterday, no doubt."

On the first step of his offseason:

"To get away from the game — rest mentally. It's been a long season for players and coaches. Coaches, they won't get as much rest as the players. Then we get into free agency, get on to the draft — and then before you know it, we'll be right back in workouts and OTAs."

On the length of his break:

"About 10 days. It's really all you get these days."

On if he will watch the rest of the postseason:

"At some point [I will]. We get all of those games on video. Throughout the offseason, I'll watch the rest of the playoffs and Super Bowl — at some point."

On evaluating film from the Divisional game:

"You have to evaluate that film from last week. My goodness, if you put yourself in that position and you don't succeed, you better learn something. You better get something out of it. That's what we want to do. We'll figure out exactly what they did to us. Like I said, we watched the game last night on the plane — we had a five-hour flight — but we'll get more detail on that when everyone gets back from the Pro Bowl about some things that we're going to do differently with our football team. I don't think you can just go play a game like that and be the same."

On the status of the coaching staff:

"That's another evaluation process. When I get back, we'll go through that. Actually, I go through that at the end of the week, just the coaching staff. I love the job that they did. Of course, I would like to have everyone back — but when you have some success like that, people will come look at your staff and try to take some of your guys. Some guys, they deserve it. It's a promotion for some of these guys. We'll see what happens."

On the 2018 season:

"I think, once we get away from the game and we look back that we can really appreciate the season that we had. Right now, it's tough coming off the loss that we had yesterday. I was thinking last night coming home on the plane — [DT] Corey Liuget, [LB] Denzel Perryman, [LB] Kyzir [White], [LB Jatavis] JB [Brown] — we missed those guys yesterday. Those guys would have made a difference. It's always been a 'next man up' mentality. We've done a good job with that all year, so there are no excuses, but we did miss those guys."

On the character of the locker room:

"This team had a lot of grit, a lot of resolve. This team never quit. Even though we weren't playing our best ball yesterday, we didn't quit. They came back out in the second half and outscored the other team 21-6. We had dug ourselves in a hole in the first half, so it was a little too late, but they never quit. They're going to play four quarters. It's a high-character team. You don't hear about these guys getting in trouble outside of football — getting arrested and things like that. It's a good group."

On how the postseason loss can serve as a motivator:

"I don't know if it will galvanize us or not at this point. Like I've said, everyone is so disappointed, but we won't be complacent. I can tell you that. We had a good year. We went 12-4 and won our first playoff game in a long time, but after that butt kicking yesterday, no one will be complacent. Everyone will be looking for ways to get better. That's probably about the only positive that I can take from it."

On the effect of travel throughout the season:

"Yeah, we traveled a lot, but there are no excuses. That's part of it — if you win home field advantage, you don't have to travel. That's why that's so important. You look at the four teams that are playing next week, they all had home field advantage. You have to get that done when you have the opportunity."

On the locker room:

"Just the whole season, the way these guys handled themselves, the way they show up at work and go about their business. [I remember] the times that we were behind and you just knew we were going to come back. You can see that in their character and how they played. It's just a special group. It's too bad that it had to end yesterday."

On QB Philip Rivers' season:

"I thought Philip played really good football this year. He was very consistent. He was playing at an MVP level. That's a credit to him, being 37 years old and coming back in the best shape of his life. He was unbelievable. I saw this coming last year in OTAs, just the way he ran around, the way he looked and the way he was throwing. He's a good football player. He's a Hall of Famer, so that speaks for itself."

On if Rivers can continue to play at that level:

"I do [think he can play this way for another couple of years]. After what he showed this year, I really think he can play for a couple more years — maybe even more. Who knows? I don't know what these guys take these days, they play forever."

On S Adrian Phillips' injury:

"You're talking about a heroic performance. This young man, he tore something in his upper arm. It wasn't his bicep, but there was something that tore. He wrapped it up, he went back out and he gutted it out. He stayed in and finished the ball game. You could tell he was hurting and he was in pain, but he didn't want to let anyone down. He's a special guy."