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## LOS ANGELES CHARGERS vs. LOS ANGELES RAMS POSTGAME TRANSCRIPTS

Saturday, August 13, 2022 ⚡ SoFi Stadium ⚡ Inglewood, Calif.

### LOS ANGELES CHARGERS HEAD COACH BRANDON STALEY

#### **On how the running backs performed tonight:**

“I thought that they all got some good work. I felt like they caught the ball well. I felt like they were a factor in the passing game. I thought that [RB] Isaiah [Spiller] had a couple of good runs in traffic, where it was crowded. He moved the pile. It was good to play all of them and it was good to play all of them on special teams.”

#### **On ‘how difficult it is to get an accurate assessment’ of the running backs group:**

“We have two very good offensive lines that played today. We really think that the quality of the line really gave us the chance to move the ball in both phases. We’re going to get a very accurate evaluation of those backs. I thought our line competed today.”

#### **On the decision to have S Nasir Adderley and CB Asante Samuel Jr. to play tonight:**

“We felt like, based on what happened last year with Asante, that we wanted to get him back out on the field. He’s going into his second year, and we just felt like he would benefit from getting his feet out there in the fire and having to play guys man-to-man, tackle and just really get that experience because I think people forget that he missed pretty much six games last year. We wanted to make sure that he got out there and was able to compete. The same thing with Nas, get him into a rhythm. There were a lot of young guys out there, wanted to have a commander back there, and we felt like it would be good for him to get in rhythm — him, Asante, Vato [CB Michael Davis], kind of all play together and get us off to a good start.”

#### **On how T Trey Pipkins III and T Storm Norton performed at right tackle:**

“They both played. That thing is still in motion, but I thought that both guys competed. I felt like we moved the ball with both quarterbacks. I thought that both guys did a nice job tonight.”

#### **On WR Michael Bandy’s performance:**

“Michael Bandy is one of us. He’s having an outstanding camp. You can see the way his teammates feel about him when good things happen. Our team expects him to play that way because he’s earned that on the practice field. He’s having an outstanding camp. I’m proud of the way he played tonight.”

#### **On OLB Chris Rumph II’s performance:**

“I thought he flashed tonight. He’s one of the guys I highlighted. I thought he played very well tonight. I felt him, we all did. He was active in the run game and in the pass game, which is what we really have been on him about, in being a complete player. You can definitely feel his confidence and his game right now, rushing and in the run game. He’s aggressive. He brings a lot of energy to the field. He really loves playing. It was good to get him out there. I liked the way he played tonight.”

**On the performance of QB Chase Daniel and QB Easton Stick and if he ‘sees the team keeping three quarterbacks’:**

“I think both of our quarterbacks played well tonight, I thought they both moved the team, took care of the football, make good decisions. That’s the way they’ve been throughout camp. I think both of them have improved, and that’s what we’ve been looking for. The next game, Easton is going to start the first half and Chase will take the second half. Those guys are in competition, but it’s really healthy competition for our football team. We like our quarterback room a lot. I liked the way both of them played.”

**On G Zion Johnson’s performance:**

“It was good to get him out there. Similar to [T] Rashawn [Slater] last year, just get out there, get in the fire with your teammates, and be able to go operate for a quarter. That was our goal for him tonight. I know that he was glad that he was out there. I think he’ll learn a lot from this.”

**On CB Michael Davis’ performance:**

“I thought he covered well. I felt like he was connected. He was good in run support off the crack-replace, which we’ve really encouraged him to improve. He moved around a little bit for us tonight. It was good to get him out there. Like I said, I think those guys in the secondary playing together, getting us off to a good start, I thought that was important tonight.”

**On preparing for joint practices with the Dallas Cowboys next week:**

“These practices are going to be about our first group and our second group. Those guys are going to get the bulk of the work. We’re going to take advantage of this rest and then be able to come out on that practice field ready to go this week. The young guys and the guys who played tonight will learn a lot from this film, but we’re going to take the next two days, get rested up, and then be ready to have three quality practices before we play those guys.”

**On DB Deane Leonard’s performance:**

“I thought that he was connected the entire night. That’s how he has competed all camp. That guy can cover. We fouled too much in the deep part of the field tonight, and that was kind of the story for us on defense because we played, I thought, really well on defense outside of that. A couple of those calls, I’m not in total alignment. I thought that Dean competed. He’s going to learn a lot about what it takes to play the ball in-phase in the deep part of the field because he wasn’t beat, he was in-phase both times. He has to make sure that he has the confidence to do what he’s coached to do in practice, and do what he does in practice. He and all of those guys who had a couple tough downs tonight, they’ll learn a lot from it.”

**On DL Jerry Tillery’s performance:**

“Jerry, wanted to get him out there with [DL] Morgan [Fox], Tito [DL Otito Ogbonnia], [DL] Christian [Covington]. Wanted to get off to a good start in the game. That was a big motive for us on defense, to get some of those guys who have played a lot of football for us, but who are still competing for big roles on our team, we wanted to see those guys kind of compete together with one another. It was good to get them out there to get some action and get them ready for this week against Dallas.”

**On S JT Woods’ performance tonight, particularly his interception in the end zone that was called back:**

“He was moving to get there, he was moving to get there. The one that he intercepted was another big time break, which is what he really brings to us — the range in the deep part of the field. He almost had another interception coming down on the slot on their sideline. He’s a work-in-progress, but there’s a lot in his body. He’s a great guy. We’re just going to stay on him about his physicality, his tackling, making sure he’s taking good angles. He did some good things out there tonight and I think he’ll grow a lot from it.”

**On if playing a ‘scrambling quarterback’ like Rams QB Bryce Perkins tonight is ‘good preparation for the early part of the season’:**

“Yes, good prep for every part of the season. It’s a great prep for every part of the season because that’s life in the NFL in 2022. The best people you face are going to be like that. Bryce, I was with Bryce, he’s a heck of a competitor. We had him a couple of times, and our guys are going to learn that if you make those plays, that really affects how this game went. There were some big moments there where I think this game could have gone much differently, had we finished a couple of plays. But, you also have to give credit to Bryce because he’s an outstanding player.”

**On if missed tackles tonight 'are a characteristic of a first preseason game':**

"It is. Unfortunately, it is. That's why there's still a lot of value in playing preseason games."

**On WR Joe Reed's performance:**

"Joe had some really big catches tonight. He had some possession catches, he had the deep catch, and then he was on the kickoff returner. We're really going to try and take a long look at him on special teams and see if he can carve a role for himself on offense. He's improved a lot as a player. He works extremely hard. Coming off the injury last year, I think he's had just a great mindset in terms of coming back and really being the best version of himself. He's had a quality camp so far. I'm certainly proud of the way he played tonight."

**On 'if live tackling is something that he wants to take on in practice':**

"It's that modern day question that every coach has to go through, every organization has to go through, because it's a big part of the game, getting guys on the ground. But, the way it is now, it's just a topic that is always going to be up for up for debate. But the games give you that chance to get out there live and experience it. Certainly, our guys felt that tonight, what it is like the truly finish live. There is a difference. That's why training camp, there's a month of it, month-plus of it, three games. You take a lot of pride in teaching the best you can, but until they do it live to the ground, you have to learn your lessons. We learned some tonight."

**On if there is 'any change' in the contract status of S Derwin James Jr.:**

"No change yet."

**On RB Joshua Kelley's performance:**

"I thought all the backs tonight competed hard. I thought they were on their tracks. I thought they were trying to run with physicality. I thought they were a factor in the passing game. Josh has done what he's done throughout camp, which is just be really steady and strong. I'll have to look at the tape for of all the little details, but I thought he was solid tonight."

**On if he was 'planning on going for two at some point in the game':**

"We would have gone for two at the end. Yes, we would have."

## **LOS ANGELES CHARGERS QUARTERBACK CHASE DANIEL**

### **On his performance:**

“I thought it was great to get back under center. You haven’t really been hit in a year because the last time I played was last preseason. A little jittery out there, but I thought we put up a good showing. It was good to get the first drive touchdown. We sort of stalled on the two drives, mainly some miststhrows by me. We were able to get the two-minute drive out the gate. I thought everyone played really well. It’s the first time playing against someone other than yourself, so that’s always good. You’re getting to see another color and hit it, but for the most part, it looked sharp. Could fix some things, though, for sure.”

### **On WR Joshua Palmer:**

“A lot more confident young man. J.P., everyone loves J.P. He’s been such a great get for us. I think that his work over the offseason has really shown up — he really put his head down and grinded. He really got in the playbook, really smart. He’s not having any mental errors out there. He’s just playing fast. He knows the offense. It’s a unique offense, really for everyone, so I thought that was really good for him tonight. I wish I would have got him on square-out early in the game and another one that I missed. We got two more games. That’s why it’s preseason. It’s a work in progress.”

### **On WR Joe Reed’s touchdown:**

“It was a great play call. We were saving that call for the left hash and I told [Offensive Coordinator] Joe [Lombardi], ‘If you call it on the right hash, I’m going to be really mad,’ because we really wanted to get the two on one on the corner. Protection, first of all, was like — I think I hitched four times, which is great. So, I could see it all and then Joe just used his speed and ran right by him. The corner sat down on [WR Michael] Bandy, which is what we wanted. It’s very rare that those plays work exactly how you see it. It was open. I’m just glad I got it there.”

### **On Reed’s improvement over training camp:**

“I think — like I said, especially with the receivers, this is a very difficult offense to first learn as a receiver. We put you in a lot of different places. There are a lot of different personnel groups and so I think everyone in the first year was sort of learning on the fly. Everyone in the second year, they can really show their athletic ability. They can show their speed. What I like with Joe in practice is he’s one of those guys now that can go up and get balls. He can run by you, but he can go up and get balls with two hands. He is very physical. He’s had a great camp so far and it showed tonight.”

### **On WR Michael Bandy:**

“He’s like a quarterback’s best friend right there. He hangs out with us a lot. He’s just a grinder. He’s so smart. He’s so quick on his routes. You guys saw that little shallow escape that he ran. He took him in, he’s wide open. All I had to do was to get it there. It was really nothing that I did. He made some big plays. That’s been the theme of camp, though. When he’s gotten a chance, he’s made some huge, huge plays on third down, especially. To get us that touchdown at the end of the half was special for him, I know that.”

### **On the running backs:**

“It’s always hard to evaluate running backs, especially without playing a game because some people get hit in practice and they don’t go down, they’re not fully tackling. Our guys got some chances today and I thought all three of them played really well. This evaluation process is going to be ongoing. What I like from a quarterback perspective is, I look at those guys in the eyes when I go in the huddle and they don’t blink. All three of those guys are the same. So, they know it’s a healthy battle like [Head] Coach [Brandon Staley] said, and we’ve got two more preseason games, a lot more practice. We’ve got these practices against Dallas, a really good team. That will show up quite a bit.”

## **LOS ANGELES CHARGERS WIDE RECEIVER JOE REED**

### **On his touchdown in the first quarter:**

“That felt really good. Just standing beside [Wide Receivers] Coach [Chris] Beatty and waiting for my name to be called to go in. It was one of those plays when you hear it in the huddle, you can envision scoring if you execute it right. I lined up, saw what the defense was doing, and just had to go from there.”

### **On how it felt to get the touchdown given his injury last year:**

“That’s part of the journey. This is a hard business, a hard League, and every day you have to show up and work. So, going from a coaching change my rookie year to being on practice squad IR — just having the opportunity to go out there and compete and to play, any time I’m between those lines, I can’t take it for granted. Having that moment and having a full game today meant a lot to me.”

### **On what he worked on in the offseason:**

“Just being fluid. Really using my speed and my power to my advantage. How fast can I run and stop, taking that to route running and really just trying to slow down the game. Whether that’s watching film, whether that’s talking to [WR] Keenan [Allen] or [WR] Mike [Williams] and reading defensive shells. That’s really it.”

### **On Special Teams Coordinator Ryan Ficken:**

“I love him. I’m just trusting the coach and trusting the guys that I’m around, taking full advantage of every rep and opportunity that I get and going forward. Like I said, just being out there and being able to return kicks again, that truly means a lot.”

### **On advice he’s received from WRs Keenan Allen and Mike Williams:**

“Just breaking down film like, ‘Keenan, what do you see? How should I run this route? How can I not give the route away?’ And really just being very detailed as a receiver. It’s a matter of seconds to get open. So, anytime you can create more separation, it helps a lot in this League.”

### **On the importance of the joint practices with the Dallas Cowboys:**

“Very important. In my mind, it’s like we have three games next week. So, those two practices are very important — two extra opportunities to compete against another team. I love going up against our guys every day. Anytime you can step across those lines and plays somebody else and have that game mentality, I think it can bring out even more in my game.”

### **On the wide receivers:**

“The beauty of our room is we’re all super close and Coach tells us every day, ‘This is a competition. It’s no secret.’ But, we do a really good job of coming in every day, motivating each other, competing against each other, competing with each other. We’re very happy for each other and regardless of how it pans out, I’m very fortunate to be in a room — because it could be the other way where we’re not as supportive as we are.”

## **LOS ANGELES RAMS HEAD COACH SEAN McVAY**

### **Opening statement:**

“What a fun game to be a part of tonight. Two good teams being able to go at it. A lot of guys that have made major contributions that got a chance to really be able to shine tonight in front of the fans. I thought it was an outstanding atmosphere. I was really pleased with [QB] Bryce Perkins, his ability to be able to make plays off schedule, be able to get in and out of the huddle. Obviously, [WR] Lance McCutcheon shined in a really big way. Then, I thought the defense was tough throughout. I was also really pleased with our coaching staff, their overall operation. Special teams did a really good job. I thought [Offensive Coordinator] Liam Coen and the offensive staff did a really nice job being able to manage the game. Then, both [Pass Game Coordinator/Defensive Backs] Chris Shula and [Defensive Line/Run Game Coordinator] Eric Henderson calling plays tonight, I think it’s a real credit to [Defensive Coordinator] Raheem [Morris] and his leadership. Those guys’ ability to seamlessly step in and continue to have opportunities for guys to grow and that’s what makes me feel so good about what a special coaching staff and team we’ve got.”

### **On the injury status of defensive tackle Bobby Brown III:**

“I think he’s going to be okay. Other than talking to [VP, Sports Medicine and Performance] Reggie [Scott] initially, we’ll wait and see exactly. He was somewhat optimistic, but I want to wait before I get the final results.”

### **On if Perkins’ ability to create plays off schedule influenced WR TuTu Atwell’s ‘limited usage’ tonight:**

“TuTu was only dressed as a result if we wanted to be able to put him back in some punt situations where he’s just fielding punts. He’s done a great job throughout camp. He’s going to have a role with this team and we didn’t want to put him at harm’s risk. He’s going to be a part of what we’re doing this year. That was because he’s done well, not because of anything other than that.”

### **On Perkins’ ability to break tackles:**

“It was exciting. How the heck did he get out of a couple of those? He’s a playmaker. Being able to allow guys to play within their skillset when things do break down, that’s an elite trait that he has – an ability to be able to break tackles. He ends up hitting [WR Austin] Trammell over the middle with a defensive lineman draped on his feet. So, I thought Liam did a good job of being able to put him in spots that accentuated his skillset, even early on where we moved them a little bit on some of the bootlegs where he was able to create, or find guys in the flat. We just missed the one where we hit [WR J.J.] Koski out of bounds, where he almost got that second foot down. I was just really pleased with Bryce’s overall ability to be able to handle all the different situations that came up. It was a great touchdown that he had, a couple of good touchdown passes. I thought the two-point conversion was a big-time play, as well, where McCutcheon ends up winning on a little option route, takes it to the back pylon – Bryce gets it up and down. There was a lot of good things, but I was really pleased with Bryce. That’s kind of what we had seen a little bit of last year and I thought he did a great job of being able to build on it with his preseason debut tonight.”

### **On McCutcheon’s performance and earning McVay’s attention:**

“Really, he deserved it. It’s a credit Liam and [Wide Receivers] Coach [Eric] Yarber and [Sr. Offensive Assistant] Coach [Greg] Olson. They did a great job being able to him in those spots and then he delivered. I’ll tell you this, I can remember early on in the offseason program, there are certain young guys that just have that right look in their eye. Where you can see they’re mature beyond their years. I remember Greg Olsen being around him just for a day. He said, ‘You watch – this guy’s going to have a really good preseason. I bet you he makes a lot of plays.’ That was prophetic. I said that to [Olsen] during the game. I said, ‘I remember after you were just around this guy for a couple of days and you saw this coming.’ He’s just got one of those demeanors that you’re saying, ‘This guy, he’s going to figure it out.’ And he’s got a nice way about himself, has a great humility, but very business-like, fun to be around. It was awesome to see him make those plays tonight.”

**On OG Logan Bruss' performance:**

"I thought he did a good job. Sometimes, there's so much going on up front that until you go back and watch the film, but there were a couple of plays where he was at the point of attack, or even did a good job on some backside combinations where the ball ended up winding back for some good, positive gains. I also thought [OT Alaric] Jackson did a really nice job. There was a fourth down and one early on in the game in particular where he got great removal and knock-off, where we were able to convert and it ended up leading to a scoring job. But I thought Logan did a really nice job."

**On the team's growth since breaking camp:**

"I think guys have done a good job. Really, like we've talked about, even though we've left Irvine, we're still in that camp mindset and mentality. Fortunately, there's some similar stuff that we did defensively and offensively, as did the Chargers, so you didn't really have to do a whole lot of preparation. Guys were just ready to come out and continue to have it as an extension of training camp. That's what we'll continue on this week. We'll get a chance to get an intrasquad scrimmage on Tuesday. I've just been really pleased with the way this team is naturally starting to come together and we'll want to see that continue to build leading up to the 8th [of September]."

**On ILB Jacob Hummel's effort on defense and special teams**

"I thought he did a good job. He's been one of those guys, really conscientious. [Inside Linebackers] Coach [Chris] Beake does a great job with those inside linebackers. I thought [LB] Jake [Gervase] made some plays early on in the game and then in a lot of our single-backer defenses, you saw Jake carry the torch and play the rest of the way. I thought the communication was clean and I was really pleased with what I saw from him."

**On the offensive line's performance:**

"I thought they did really well. To be able to run the football, sustain drives, and there was a lot of hidden yardage in those pass interferences. Overall, to turn out efficiency yards and stuff like that. I was really pleased with those guys. This was good for them to be able to come out and compete."

**On 'developing young talent' on defense:**

"I think you are just looking for good and clear communication from the first level to the third level, especially when most of those guys are at the insider linebacker location. Overall, formation recognition and understanding. We even still did some things where, based on what the offense presents, you've got to be able to make an adjustment and make sure that we are clear on where the rotations are coming, even if there is any sort of movement that we are applying to the front on third down pass rush situations. Overall, I thought it was really clean. I think it starts with Chris [Garret] and Justin [Hollins], they did a really good job because part of allowing those guys to communicate at a high level. Getting the call in and being decisive in a timely manner within the 40-second play clock and knowing that thing shuts off at 15 [seconds]. It is especially difficult defensively because the offense dictates when the ball is snapped within that play clock. Overall, it was really good. That is one of the things that makes Bobby [Wagner] so special and I think that when you are around him, you seamlessly say, 'well why don't I mimic and emulate the way one of the best to it does.' I think those guys picked up and they carried the torch in a good way tonight. "

**On Decobie Durant, Jarion McVea, and Russ Yeast II respective performances in the secondary:**

"I thought they did a good job. We had those young corners out fairly early, and they were fairly active. I thought Decobie was going to have a chance to jump that one on the far sideline in that backed-up area, but [it was competitive]. I thought they did a good job on some of the teams reps that they had, as well. Those are three young guys we are very excited about, and they're going to be very important pieces for us for, hopefully, years to come."

## **LOS ANGELES RAMS QUARTERBACK BRYCE PERKINS**

### **On 'continuing his strong preseason start from last year':**

"It was good getting out there and competing. It's always different going from training camp to the games. A lot of adrenaline to run and the added element of the last-minute touchdown. The guys did a great job, the line did great and I think the receivers did a great job, going out there and competing, and the running backs had some nice runs. It was fun seeing all those guys talking about getting their opportunities and really getting out there and showing off, so it was fun."

### **On the 60-yard touchdown pass to WR Lance McCutcheon:**

"He is a great kid, great dude and a great competitor, too. Even in college, you saw clips of him going over the top and really competing for the ball. We talked about it and he was adamant about it, 'if its close just give me a jump ball and I'll make a play.' Made great plays in camp, so I felt comfortable giving him those opportunities, and I knew he was going to a great job at competing for it like he did and he's a great player for sure."

### **On McCutcheon:**

"He's one of the most talented receivers on the field, so giving him chances to get out there give him the ball and even after the catch seeing what he can do. Just the added element of going deep over a corner, gets them to play back a little bit and those underneath routes open up a little bit. All camp he has done a great job competing and you can see the want and the hunger that he has. Wanting to be better and wanting to be good, so you love to see it out of guys like that."

### **On his feelings about the McCutcheon touchdown:**

"It was third down and I thought I would give him a shot; maybe he's going to get it and maybe get a pass interference again. Really just wanted to put it up there and have him compete for it and he did a great job. Even on the other ones, we didn't connect, but we got a PI on a later one in the endzone. As a Quarterback, having guys that can go up there and compete for the ball like that makes you feel comfortable that you don't always have to be perfect and you can put it up there for a 50/50 and those 50/50's can turn to 80/20's with guys like that. As a quarterback, it's fun seeing guys like that play."

### **On his scramble and what it 'tells the league':**

"I'm not sure. I just try to keep my legs trucking even through contact. You never know, as far as defense and offense the play is never over. That first guy missed, and the play is still working, those guys still running their routes, and the offensive line is still blocking, makes it hard on defenses. You think you got him, and he slips out of there and then slips out of another one and another one and goes. That stuff like that comes from just wanting it and my childhood playing running back. Whenever I'm out there I'm just trying to compete, I'm really just trying to compete for the guys. I know all those guys are fighting, so I am just trying to do my part and fight as well."

### **On taking ownership and running the offense in the preseason:**

"I think practice is so detrimental to me because those added elements in a game are not in practice. You still get good looks, like 'I messed up on this, so when we are in a game, we can look out for this.' Just getting those reps, log reps, log reps, after a cumulation of reps you have a really good idea of what you did wrong and what you can do and that helps you play for the preseason. Some of the things that happened in practice came out and I think we did a good job executing."

### **On the advantages of playing in the preseason:**

"Just staying in it from start to finish, I think it is easy at times to have good drives and bad drives, good starts and bad finishes. Just staying out there the whole game with the guys and having a good four quarters of ball and coming out there with a win. It's the preseason, so a lot of guys are in and out, but when guys came in they competed and it felt great."

### **On playing the entirety of the game:**

"They told me to be prepared to play three quarters or the full game, so after each drive, I just come back and heard what they have to say if I am going back out or not. Just staying in the moment and connecting with those guys and making sure we are all on the same page when we go out there."



**On Offensive Coordinator Liam Coen calling plays:**

"I think he did a great job. I got to open up my ears a little bit more, because I was having a hard time hearing him on some of them. I think he did a great job. Liam is a great dude, great coach. Smart. I really enjoyed my first year with him and I am glad he's back."

## **LOS ANGELES RAMS WIDE RECEIVER LANCE McCUTCHEON**

### **On tonight's game:**

"It was awesome. First NFL game, it felt pretty good to play the way I did. My mom was here. That's number one for me to have my mom and my aunt here. Being able to, first, just have them here and be able to do what I did, that means a lot to me."

### **On his 60-yard touchdown:**

"I just saw the ball in the air and I first was just trying to come down with it. It ended up being a contested catch and was able to just kind of move the ball away from him and get my arm out of there. That was kind of what happened."

### **On earning trust with QB Bryce Perkins:**

"Bryce played a great game. He's been having a great camp and we've kind of built our connection up in chemistry together as camp has gone on. Just having a guy like that back there who is able to just put the ball in the general area. First, he has confidence in me and I've got to give him the confidence back just by making the catch."

### **On how far his mom and aunt traveled for the game:**

"Came from Montana. I don't know how far or the hours or miles it was, but Montana."

### **On being an undrafted free agent:**

"I'm trying to make the team. Coming from Montana State, an undrafted free agent guy, just come out here and work in silence. Just come out here, working, take advantage when I'm given the opportunity and just keep going. Keep building up those opportunities and take advantage on game days."

### **On if he knew WR Cooper Kupp gave him a shout-out during camp and if he studied him:**

"I studied him a lot in my last year of college and the phenomenal year he had last year. But, coming into OTAs, he's another Big Sky guy. Since day one, he came over to me and introduced himself, shook my hand, and was just kind of like, 'If you ever need anything, just let me know.' That means a lot. He's going through the same thing I'm going through right now. We just kind of have that Big Sky connection from day one. Him and [WR] Allen [Robinson] and [TE] Ben [Skowronek] and [WR] J.J. [Koski], all of the receivers. All of the receivers have been super cool since I first got here and helping me a lot. That means a lot to me."

### **On why he picked the Rams as an undrafted free agent:**

"They were the first one to call me, so I just had to take advantage."

### **On if being able to make contested catches is part of his game:**

"I don't if I would call it a forte, but yeah. Just trying to make the play, take advantage of the opportunity, the ball coming my way, and just help out my team."

### **On how Robinson has helped him in improving in contested catches:**

"We're playing the same position right now and I sit behind him in the meeting room and he always has something to coach me on. Him and Cooper. They're geniuses when it comes to this game. I'm always trying to pick their brains, see what they're doing. If I have a play at practice, I'm trying to keep that down in my head and try to ask them about it. How can I get better with this technique or this release or just anything?"

### **On how he 'settled himself' in his first NFL game:**

"Just go out there and take a couple of deep breaths. Look around, soak it all in, and we still have to play. I'm out there to play football. Yeah, I was a little star-struck, a little overwhelmed there in the warm-up. Play one, I was good. I was good to go."

### **On if he kept the football he scored a touchdown with:**

"No, I actually didn't."

**On if he has seen his mom yet:**

“I was trying to find her, wherever she was sitting. I gave her some calls, too, just finding wherever she was sitting. Then, after we ran out, and I did a little prayer in the end zone, I was trying to just look up and point at them. I was eyeing them a couple of times throughout the game, just making sure she was still there, that she wasn’t up getting concessions or something.”

**On if he has checked his phone for messages from home:**

“Yeah, I just vaguely checked it. It’s kind of going crazy right now. I just put it on do not disturb and I’ll take care of it later.”