

Chargers Week 4 Media Availability

Thursday, September 28, 2023 ⚡ Hoag Performance Center ⚡ Costa Mesa, Calif.

OFFENSIVE COORDINATOR KELLEN MOORE

On replacing WR Mike Williams

"Obviously, these things happen in seasons where you lose guys. For [the other receivers], it's a great opportunity to get more chances. Certainly, there are guys capable of it. We're really excited about them handling those different situations, different roles."

On WR Quentin Johnston:

"I think like any young guy, it's just going through the process. Training camp, you introduced a lot of different language, concepts and all of that sort of stuff. I thought he did a good job of just continuing to build, continuing to grow each week. You're at point where he's got a few games underneath his belt. His rep count will certainly go higher and higher. I think he just needs that moment where he'll go catch a couple of balls in this game and go from there."

On WR Joshua Palmer:

"Josh has played a lot of ball. We feel very, very comfortable with him out there. No concerns whatsoever. He did it last year and, obviously, he'll get his chance to do it again this year."

On Johnston's development:

"I think Quentin has done a nice job. When you have Mike, [WR] Keenan [Allen] and Josh [Palmer], those guys have kind of been rolling. We've been putting Q [Johnston] into certain roles and situations. Obviously, his role will adjust. The volume will certainly increase. We're excited about it. He'll do a phenomenal job. I think, again, it's just getting out there, playing and he'll have some success again. He'll make a couple of catches and then we'll just go from there."

On if he's ever faced a team that blitzed as often as Minnesota in Week 3:

"Not off the top of my head, no. They blitzed a lot."

On how Minnesota's blitzing affected the rushing attack:

"It's just a simple math equation — there's more bodies than you can block in the run game. There was a lot more throws in the game. We still called, I think, 23 runs. He [QB Justin Herbert] threw it nine of those times. Those are built into it. We had those adjustments available to him. I thought Justin did a great job of utilizing those tools in his toolbox to continue to move us down the field. Guys did a nice job."

On the importance of communication to protect against the blitz:

"The communication is huge. It's something that we emphasized throughout last week. Just everyone being on the same page, whether it's in the run game, in the pass game. Just everyone being on the same page, organized, knowing what our answers are, how we're going to handle it. For the most part, I felt like we did a really good job of that."

On the offensive line:

"They've done a nice job. The more those guys play, the better. It's five guys being in sync. They've done a nice job."

On the fourth-and-one:

"We had our chance. I was excited about the opportunity to kind of try and finish the game on our terms. I can certainly get a cleaner play-call in there, help Justin [Herbert] out in that situation. It's something that we just have to learn from and grow."

On the rushing attack:

"I'm not overly concerned about the run game. Again, it's a simple math equation. Minnesota had more guys [coming], we're not going to run the ball. We're not going to bang our head and try to run it 30 times against that defense. It's not going to help us. We threw it a lot. Again, every week in the NFL is a different season. We'll see what the equation is. Certainly, we'd like to run the ball — maybe more and more efficiently. Each game will dictate itself."

On RB Joshua Kelley:

"Josh is a guy that we feel comfortable with that if [RB] Austin [Ekeler] went down, that we'd have him ready to roll and the other guys, as well, in [RB] Isaiah [Spiller] and Dot [RB Elijah Dotson]. Those guys would hop in there. Certainly, we don't have the rushing yards we had the first week the last two [weeks], but there are circumstances associated with that. We feel good about those guys and we'll continue to roll with all of those guys."

On the Raiders defense:

"I think they do a really good job. They're really sound, schematically. I think they do an excellent job. [Raiders Defensive Coordinator] Patrick [Graham] was in New York when I was in Dallas. We faced them a number of times. They're always going to be a really sound football team. They're going to be really well-prepared. Obviously, they have some premier players in this league on that side of the ball. It'll be a big challenge."

DEFENSIVE COORDINATOR DERRICK ANSLEY

On CB J.C. Jackson being inactive in Week 3 and 'what needs to be seen' for his progress:

"Last week was last week. That was a coaches decision to sit him down last week. Just come out every day and practice — practice and do your part, and everything else will work itself out moving forward."

On if Jackson's inactive status was due to a 'technique issue':

"Not a technique issue. Just coming out here every day and being consistent."

On two defensive stops at the end of Week 3 and the 'confidence that it brings' to the defensive unit:

"It gives us a lot of confidence because you have a lot of guys that have played a lot of football making some of those stops, and you have some newcomers — like [LB] Nick Niemann and [S] JT Woods — being a part of some of those stops. It gives us a lot of confidence in some of the younger players that can go out there and perform at a higher level. It was really good to see those guys get a chance to play, and then go out there and make those plays."

On the Raiders' offense:

"They have really good personnel. It starts with the ground game, with [Raiders RB] Josh [Jacobs]. I know Josh very well, coached him at Alabama. He's a unique talent, very competitive. He's hard to tackle in space. One man can't really get it done a lot of the time. He's going to be a challenge. He has our full respect and our attention. Then, you have [Raiders WR] Davante [Adams] outside. He's a matchup issue, one of the best players in the league at his position — 100 catches every year. Then, [Raiders QB] Jimmy [Garoppolo] at quarterback. [Raiders Head Coach] Josh [McDaniels] does a really good job of mixing the run with the pass and getting his best players the ball in space so that they can make explosive plays. We have to do a really good job of respecting that and going out there and trying to calm it down."

On S JT Woods:

"I have a lot of confidence in JT [Woods]. JT is a hard worker. He's very smart, conscientious about the things that he needs to do to improve. We have total confidence in him going out there and getting it done. It's going to be fun to see him play this week."

On if the third-down penalties are a 'concern' and 'using that as a teaching point':

"Rightfully so. We have a lot of those penalties, and some of those penalties have led to points. We have to coach better. We have to coach them cleaner. We have to hold them to a higher standard in practice of not tugging, playing with the proper leverage. We just have to do a really good job of putting them in the right positions to make those plays."

On the level of importance of having a defensive front 'that gets a push':

"Very important, and even more so this week. The ball is coming out pretty quick with Jimmy [Garoppolo]. He knows that system very well, being with Josh [McDaniels] in New England, so he has a pre-snap diagnosis of where he wants to go with the ball, and that ball is coming out pretty quick. We have to do a good job, in the back end, of being connected, so that the rush can do a good job of pushing that pocket and we can affect the quarterback."