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POSTGAME TRANSCRIPTS
Los Angeles Chargers vs. Los Angeles Rams
Thursday, August 27, 2026 ⚡ SoFi Stadium ⚡ Inglewood, Calif.

LOS ANGELES CHARGERS HEAD COACH JIM HARBAUGH

On the team's performance:
"Yeah, I was pleased with many, many things about it. Guys competed, which is important. It was important to everybody — everybody that played and everybody that wasn't playing. It was important football being played. I thought there were many, many good things — a lot of good."

On whether the game differentiated anything in terms of upcoming roster decisions:
"Yeah, it's possible. Some things come to mind, but I'm sure there will be a lot of discussion tomorrow, Friday, Saturday, maybe right into Sunday. Yeah, I can think of some things and can't wait to watch the tape because there was a lot of good."

On QB Justin Herbert's touchdown pass to WR Quentin Johnston:
"It was good. It was like, 'Wow, double wows.' The route, the throw, the protection."

On the performance of QB DJ Uiagalelei:
"I thought he did some good things. Excited to look at the tape. Good."

On the offense's response following QB Justin Herbert's fumble:
"Double, double wow. He's [QB Justin Herbert] really good. You say the word response. I like the response of the entire team, from Week 2 to Week 3 in the preseason. Many of the things that we were working on, I saw some real strides. Offensive line would be a big one — pre-snap mechanics, post-snap assignments, much improved. Just the entire preseason with the offensive line, I really like the way it's coming together."

On RB Gregory Desrosiers' performance:
"I really appreciate [RB] Greg [Desrosiers], he was great. We really like him. It's such a good feeling when you see guys playing the game of football the right way, when they're playing it with their whole heart. Putting their soul into it. I appreciate Greg for the way he played. There's other guys too that acquitted themselves really well. I mean, the pressure's on. That's a lot of pressure, people playing for their football lives. To see them play well, rise up to that moment — I have an appreciation for it, it makes you feel good."

On how tough it might be to cut the roster down this weekend:
"I can't really think of anybody that I'm going to tell their football lives are over. I just don't believe that, I can't think of one guy I would say that to. I'm going to put myself in their shoes and hopefully give them some great advice on what to

do next, how to take the next step. It's going to be said with encouragement and love because I truly believe it. I'm going to tell anyone their football careers are over because I don't believe that."

On P JK Scott potentially trying a field goal attempt:
"He [K Cameron Dicker] was working through a little something. [P] JK [Scott] was going to do the field goal and [K] Cam [Dicker] was going to hold."

On if there's any concern for K Cameron Dicker:
"No. Most accurate kicker in NFL history, so nothing I'm worried about. He [K Cameron Dicker] just had something that came up tonight."

LOS ANGELES RAMS HEAD COACH SEAN McVAY

Opening Statement:
"A lot of our coaches, they get experiences that I have kind of shared, that I had a chance to get when I was in some different roles. I thought really just the way that our guys improved, but really proud of them. And now here we go, we're looking forward to being able to start our preparation on the 49ers. We know what a great challenge it's going to be. We've got some tough decisions over the next couple of days to make and the cool thing is that the guys that have been playing have made it tough for us, and that's a positive thing for us for the depth of our roster. I am sure you guys are wondering, be good to be able to bring [WR] Tutu Atwell back. Obviously, I wish [RB] Jarquez Hunter nothing but the best moving forward. Felt like it was a chance to be able to add depth to the receiver room, kind of know there's a good feel for those top three backs that we saw, and I thought that both [RB Jordan Waters] and [RB Dean Connors] did a really nice job of solidifying that they are real factors that you have to be able to take into consideration what does that look like. I thought the quarterbacks, I thought [QB] Ty Simpson played really well tonight. Going into it, you know, I wouldn't look too far into what that was, it was just continuing to get him experience. We got three quarterbacks on our roster. Obviously, we got the reigning MVP of the league, and then we got two guys that we feel really good about. And if you say, what does that mean, that's what it means, that we feel really good about those two guys, I'm not pigeonholing myself into any sort of decision other than that I feel really good about [QB] Stetson Bennett IV, I feel really good about Ty Simpson, and I hope [QB] Matthew Caldwell is okay. It was good to be able to get him in there and see him do some really good things. Hopefully his knee is going to be alright."

On QB Simpson's 11-yard touchdown pass:
"I think some of the fun things to see are the off schedule, you know, there was a pressure look, they lost contain on the pressure, he escaped it, kept his eyes down the field and [WR] Brennan Presley did a great job of being able to work off schedule with him. I think in the games, you have really seen a lot of really good things from him in each of these last three games. He didn't have as many opportunities last week. Tonight, and obviously in Week One, been really pleased with Ty, he did a really good job, I thought he had good command, he's got a great game day demeanor, it was good to see him do his thing tonight."

On the WR Tutu Atwell Trade:
"No, it had nothing to do with that. It was exclusively, guy that we are familiar with that we could really get at what we felt like was good for us and good for Jarquez. I think that he will do a good job for the Dolphins and it's never easy when you have guys that are such great people, but we are familiar with Tutu. He adds great depth; it gives us that opportunity to be able to have that speed element and he can do some different things. It had nothing to do with anything other than adding depth to the receiver room."

On QB Ty Simpson's Performance:
"I thought he was in good command. I thought he made good decisions. I thought that he went where the ball was supposed to go. And then the cool thing is some of the second reaction plays, you know when it doesn't necessarily work out in rhythm and you're able to escape and buy time. I thought even in the bootleg game he did a great job of attacking the edge, just being able to keep the ball in play, managing the run game. You know, they were bringing everything that they got, they are a really good defense, they are going to be a really good football team, but I thought Ty did a great job tonight."

On if he likes where the team is after the preseason:
"I do. You know, there's always a never ending, constant evolution and improvement, constant growth, that's really what we want to be about. That's why we always talk about just staking days, but what I thought the preseason represented was a great opportunity to be able to celebrate a lot of guys that don't even get a ton of practice reps. I thought they really did a great job of showing well for themselves, whether that's for us or for other teams. I love the vibe that I felt from our coaching staff in terms of working with our players and even the guys that weren't playing, the way that they were able to celebrate their teammates each of the last few weeks and forever. It's going to be tough, you

know I look at it as we got 70 guys that are going to be on our football team. You know it's 53 but then you got your 16 practice squad and then you got the one international, so you got 70 guys. We got 20 tough decisions to make and then really even some of the 53 decisions are going to be really difficult, but that's a positive based on what this locker room is about. I was pleased knowing that there is a lot of growth ahead, and it's crazy to think that two weeks from tonight, we will be playing in Australia, so here we go."

On The Australia Season Opener/Unique 2026 season schedule:
"Yeah, I've been on the Niners. You know it's one of those deals. The answer is yes, it is unique. I mean in the '22 season when we opened on that Thursday night, but it's a little bit different rhythm and routine where even some of the mandated days off that typically, you know, end up being on like Friday, Saturday, Sunday, or Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday for us, you know, moving forward. So it's a little bit different, but hey, we'll have a unique schedule in general, just based on it. Seems like we play on every day of the week this year, so that won't be an excuse. We'll be ready to go, and I'm excited to get going with this team."

On DT Aaron Donald's Future:
"I think all of those things are up in the air, you know, and I wish I had a little bit better you know, ability to give you some clarity, but it's really one of those deals that, you know, what we're what we're doing. We're focusing on this football team. Aaron knows that. If he wants to be able to do that, that's something that we absolutely want to entertain and be able to figure out. And that's really kind of all there is to it right now."

On the Rams receiver roster logistics after adding WR Tutu Attwell:
"Oh yeah, part of it. There's some semantics that you guys will see when our 53 [man-roster] comes out. That you know we have a couple things that we can do that creatively give us an opportunity to be able to onboard tutu without affecting any of the guys that would have been originally slotted for you know what we projected as our 53."

On interaction with WR Tutu Attwell after trade:
"Oh yeah, absolutely. I think he was excited. You know, I think he enjoyed his time at Miami, and you know, I said you don't have a choice. You're coming here. So it didn't really matter whether he wanted to or not. But I love Tutu. There's a lot of love for Tutu Atwell in this locker room, and a lot of familiarity. And so I know Miami's home for him, but this is his second home, so we're excited to be able to welcome him back."

LOS ANGELES RAMS QUARTERBACK TY SIMPSON

On how comfortable he felt on the field:
"Yeah with more reps, more time, just understanding everything. You know, [QB] Matthew [Stafford] and [QB] Stetson [Bennett IV] helping me out every chance I can get. You know I feel really good with where I'm at, but you know, still got a lot I need to work on."

On Chargers defense and speed of game:
"It definitely is faster for sure. I knew their starters were going to play at least the first series, but I was excited because that was my first time going against real guys in a real game. It just felt good to be out there."

On the 11-yard touchdown pass:
"Yeah, you know me and Rags [Associate Coordinator/Quarterbacks, Dave Ragone] went through some stuff yesterday, two days ago. Just some blitzes and third downs and stuff. So I kind of had an idea that in red zone, you know, they were going to go banned. There was some miscommunication aligned with a funky front and I tried not to take a negative play, B.P. [WR Brennan Presley] did a good job of playing football, getting open, and I just tried to get the good play of the ball."

On the adversity faced:
"Yeah, I think adversity started in my college career. You know, not playing many games, then getting to start in my fourth year, but always trying to be better and be the best guy I could be and when the opportunity comes to you need to make the most of it. There was a time in college where I did get an opportunity and I didn't capitalize; I told myself I was never going to do that again. So I knew coming into this organization that it was [QB Matthew Stafford's] team and I was going to be behind him. I told myself regardless of the circumstance, I'm always going to be mentally ready and always going to be prepared like I'm going to play because it's only going to help you. You know, there are no pity parties for you sitting around saying I wish I could be on another team or another organization, that does you no good. You have to be where your feet are. [Head Coach] Sean [McVay] says it all the time, 'be present.' Well, I'm present as a backup quarterback for the Los Angeles Rams to two really good quarterbacks and human beings. I say this all the time, Matthew and Stetson probably think I'm the annoying little kid, little brother because I ask them so many questions, but it really helps me a lot. So, the adversity comes, but it's like pipes and water, it either makes diamonds or busts. So just have to keep on going."

On communicating with coach on backup role:
"Yeah, I don't really ask him that. I kind of just do what I'm told and go in when I go in. If I'm being honest, it doesn't really matter because this is [QB] Matthew's [Stafford] team and I'm behind him 100% and I know [QB] Stetson is. There is nobody who is his biggest fan besides us two, and he has our support 100% and that's all that really matters."

On WR C.J. Daniels:
"I knew [WR] C.J. [Daniels] coming into the draft process just because of seeing what he did at Miami. I'm good friends with Carson Beck, so I knew that he had good chemistry with him, and then his teammate James Brockermeyer, who's a former teammate of mine, and then meeting him when we drafted him, I could tell his maturity. You can tell his love for the game, and how he loved to work. On OTAs, he would want to meet on weekends and go over walkthroughs and understand the rules of a quarterback and just be a sponge and soak everything up. So coming in here together, me, him, [TE] Max Klare, [OL] Keagan [Trost], all those guys on offense, just trying to stay together as a rookie class and try to build the chemistry and understand that, like, hey, we want to make an impact as best as we could, and he's been a blanket for me. He knows what to do at every play. He's a great football player, and just, you know he's a savvy, mature person, and I really enjoy being a teammate of his."

On grasping playbook:
"I still don't know it. You know, I want to. I want to know the ins and outs of everything, the whys. I do feel like I have a better understanding each day I go into work. Just understanding, like you know, hey, these are the rules. You know,

hey, this is we want this to look like this, and then you just know the technique. You know, hey, on this play, it's going to be hard for you to look at this route, right? But like, try to make it match it up so we can manipulate the defense, and you know that's why it's so great to be in a room with two great guys and Rags [Dave Ragone]. You know, help a young guy like myself, but also can do it at a high level with [QB] Stetson [Bennett IV] and [QB] Matthew [Stafford]."

On RB Dean Connors and RB Christian McCaffrey:
"Yeah, he's like a little [RB Christian] McCaffrey, is what he is, but it helps us a lot. Like you saw him do it all preseason. He can do it all from you know, from running downhill to running out wide, to running routes. He talks about Christian all the time. I know he works out with him, but it helps us because we can do so many things. You look at all our backs, right? They're all the same type of scat back to where you can put them wide to run a route, or they can run downhill. They got great vision, so you know, shout out to all those guys, Dean's done a great job. So having him is really resourceful, and I'm looking forward to seeing what he does."