

Chargers Week 12 Media Availability

Thursday, November 23, 2023 ⚡ Hoag Performance Center ⚡ Costa Mesa, Calif.

OFFENSIVE COORDINATOR KELLEN MOORE

On QB Justin Herbert's reaction to the delay of game penalty last week:

"Those two personalities [Herbert and C/G Will Clapp], they're going to handle it awesome. Obviously, there's emotions, especially at the game. They handle those things the right way. Things like that happen. I don't think we overreacted. Those guys are fine."

On the red zone offense:

"We hope it's an outlier, obviously. It told the tale of this game, ultimately going one-for-four and missing out on some opportunities. You can drive it all you want, but once you get down in the red zone, you have to be able to turn threes into sevens, protect the football and all of that sort of stuff. As frustrating as it is, hopefully it's a rarity and we can continue to stay in the trend that we have for most of the year."

On mistakes against the Packers:

"Sometimes unfortunate things happen. We had some opportunities that we didn't take advantage of."

On the Ravens' pass rush:

"They do a phenomenal job of really being connected. I think, their whole pass rush scheme, you can tell they're all connected. It's not all guys on their own projects. It's all married together. Guys are creating picks and rubs for the other guys. It's really well-orchestrated. You have to have an awareness to it. They're obviously one of the best in the league, if not the best. You have to be aware of it. They have a lot of success. We have to be smart in some situations. We'll see how it plays out."

On the two-minute offense:

"A frustrating element of ours just because we've had some opportunities over the course of this year to take advantage of an opportunity in the two-minute-type of setting. Protection is a huge aspect of it. It's pretty dominant that you're going to throw the football. You're not going to run it. Games are going to show up, twists and all of those different things. You have to be ready to handle those. From a schematic standpoint, I'm always looking at it, 'How can I help those guys?' Whether it be a protection adjustment, the distance of a route based on the game clock. Sometimes, you have to take calculated risks in those situations because you need to get some yards. We have to continue to find ways to improve there because, obviously, it's gotten us a couple of times."

On WR Quentin Johnston:

"I think the best thing is just continuous work, just get back into this thing working. Giving ourselves more opportunities. Those are the things that we can control. Guys have things that come up that, obviously, no one wants to experience. We all go through those things. It's about how you respond. He's hopped out here and done a phenomenal job in practice. We just have to keep building on this thing and take advantage of the next opportunity."

DEFENSIVE COORDINATOR DERRICK ANSLEY

On the defense's performance over the last few games:

"What stands out to me is that they guys are competing, guys are preparing the right way. What is going wrong is too many big plays and not executing in critical moments."

On how the unit can improve:

"We have to coach better and the players have to go make plays. We have to put them in spots to go get those things done. When those things present themselves, we have to go knock those down and make those routine plays in pro football."

On 'breaking down' Packers WR Romeo Doubs' touchdown:

"They went tempo a little bit to the line [of scrimmage] — not fast tempo, definitely had enough time to get the call in and get the call communicated. We were playing man-free, didn't get the linebacker on the running back and [CB] Michael [Davis] was caught in no man's land. By the time they snapped it, it just happened where we got a natural rub, and it was a wide-open touchdown. We have to get lined up quicker and we have to go out there and make that kind of play."

On 'ensuring' that the unit gets 'lined up in time':

"That's a real fundamental defense that we were in. It was man-to-man underneath with a low-hole player and a post safety in the middle of the field, which is a Day 1 install. There wasn't any mechanical gymnastics to that call. We have to continue to rep it at practice and put them in those situations, but we have lined up in that call a thousand times. It was just one of those things that happened and it didn't bounce our way."

On LB Kenneth Murray Jr.'s responsibility on that particular play:

"We would've liked for Kenneth [Murray Jr.] to get on the [running] back and Mike [Davis] to be on the slot, so that we can match up the personnel. Obviously, we don't want Kenneth covering 87 [Doubs] and Mike covering the running back. Again, Kenneth and Mike have had that combination a thousand times, just didn't happen for us on Sunday."

On the 'communication' to the unit in regard to pass defense:

"We're showing them what the issues are. The big deal is explosive plays. There's no secret there. If we cut the explosive plays down, our whole season is looking a lot different. We take that challenge. We know the issues. We have to continue to have competition in the secondary. Guys have to rise to the challenge because most of the things that we get beat on, guys are right there to make the plays. We just have to make him."

On 'why that change has not occurred yet':

"It's part of the NFL. They have good players, too. We play 65 plays well, then there are four or five or six plays that pop out of the ground, we have to take the air out of those plays. If we do that, then we'll like what we see, as a result. To answer your question, we're not asking guys to do too much, we're just asking guys to do their job. We have to continue to coach better and put them in the right spots. Be thorough in what we ask them to do and hold them accountable to that."

On third-down penalties and devising ways to 'improve the result':

"I don't think that you change your approach because you can only play man or zone on third-and-long. You have to continue to mix those up, which we do. We have fouled in man and we have fouled in zone, so we just have to continue to coach fundamentals. It starts with coaching, it starts with education. We do that every week. We watch the officiating copy of the penalties, with the voiceovers, around the league to show them what they're calling, why they're calling it — this should be called, that shouldn't be called — so, our guys are very aware. It's just that we have to make better decisions in those crucial moments and play clean football. Trust me, nobody is trying to foul. That's one thing that we know. But, it keeps happening, so we have to keep educating our people to do it better."

On Ravens QB Lamar Jackson:

"He's the best scrambling quarterback in the world. He's Houdini back there. He has really good skill players around him. Their run game is a force, so that complements the pass game. They've added some tempo this year, which plays to his strengths, so he can either distribute the ball or get out of there if there are some cracks in your rush. He's a dynamic player. He is a guy that I defended when I was at Kentucky and he was at Louisville, and he's been the same player — very elusive, fast, stronger than you think. We have to do a good job of filling up those rush lanes and keeping a roof over the coverage."

On OLB Khalil Mack:

"He's the same guy every day, his approach. He's rarely heard, but always seen. He does a really good job. in his own space, of taking the young guys under his wing — [OLB] Tuli [Tuipulotu], [OLB] Chris [Rumph II], and now [OLB] Andrew Farmer [II] is getting an opportunity. He has that leadership quality that way. I think his approach every day has been solid. He's not a rah, rah guy, but when he says some stuff, people listen, and we appreciate that about him."

On the responsibilities of the cornerbacks on Packers WR Jayden Reed's end-around rushing touchdown:

"First, it starts with player location recognition. We knew, going into the game, that [Jayden] Reed was the sweep guy, the reverse guy, the gadget guy. We have to do a better job of recognizing that formation. When he's in a tight split, he's an end-around player. We have to get better support off of the back side with the end and hit he sifter so that we cannot have him as a lead blocker. The backside corner has to take a better pursuit angle. He has to go over the block. He never can backdoor block. We have to use the sideline as the 12th guy. Then, Mike [Davis] has to feel that that guy is running him off and not running a route so that we can get the overlap from him. We had a couple of free hitters there. The linebackers need to fall back better. There was about six, seven people on that play that can do a better job."

On if CB Asante Samuel Jr. 'could have taken a better angle' in an attempt to make the tackle:

"Absolutely. We call those battlefield decisions. You have to be able to make those plays. That's why you're a pro football player. He had made that play, and he understands why. We correct it and we move on."

On if the defensive players 'are feeling pressure to get it turned around':

"The NFL is about pressure. It's not about the defense getting it turned around, every game is a pressure game. Even practice is pressure, when we go against our people. As a pro player, what got you here is having a sense of urgency to do it right and do your job. That is not going to change. I can't speak for [Head Coach] Brandon [Staley] and what he feels, but from what I see, our guys have the urgency to get it right. We just have to continue to stay the course and trust our way of doing things."