



LOS ANGELES RAMS

Rams Pass Game Coordinator Shane Waldron – Media Availability – October 3, 2018

(On what he really emphasizes with QB Jared Goff in getting things done on first down)

"Well, I think that balance that we've been able to maintain on first downs has been efficient for us with the run and the pass and the screen game, the actions. So, all the little different things that we do to try to keep the defense on their toes on those normal down and distances. The offensive line has done just a great job of executing their assignments and keeping clean pockets for him. Obviously, when you get the skill players playing at a high level and you've got (RB Todd) Gurley II back there, gives that good balance that keeps us efficient on those first and second downs."

(On if there is anything he'd like to see Goff improve on)

"I think we're always striving to be great on those situational parts of the game, whether it's third down or red zone efficiency – some of those things. I think it's an imperfect game and there's always something you can do a little bit better. So, we're going to keep striving to improve in those areas and then maintain, if not excel, in the areas that we've had some success with through the first quarter of the season."

(On the Rams top three receiver's targets have been really close together and if that's something he pays attention to)

"Well, I think the guys we have, they can all do a little bit of everything. I don't think anyone is pigeonholed into one particular role. So, I think that allows, like we've talked about each week, Jared to go through his progressions and truly read out the coverages and take it to his open man, so to speak. There's so much confidence in those three guys to do each role, whether it's playing outside, inside, moving around, motion – they can all do it and do it at a high level, so it allows us to distribute the ball evenly, how it's played out so far."

(On what he has seen from the Seahawks defense schematically this year)

"As a whole, they've always been consistent. They're going to run to the ball. They're going to play their main coverages at a high level. They're going to try to get those tip picks off the tips and overthrows. They're going to try to strip the ball. They're going to do all those fundamental things that you hear (Head) Coach (Pete) Carroll really emphasize all the time. This unit's no different. It's unfortunate you get a great player like (S) Earl Thomas get injured. You never want to see that. Hope for a speedy recovery for him. But, they're going to keep plugging guys into this system, which they've shown with (Seahawks S Bradley) McDougald and their guys plugging them in and playing and playing at a high level in their system."

(On how important Gurley II is and what he draws from a defense and how much it opens up the passing game)

"Yeah, I think it's really important. Obviously, he's done a great job being an efficient runner this year. Those first down runs that he had this past game where he's gaining six, seven, eight, nine yards per carry, is huge for us. Then, even the dirty runs, so to speak, where he's even gaining one or two, but he's making the right read and he's making the best out of a play that might've been defended well. He just comes with that same approach every rep. So, you've got to be able to key on him because he's such an effective player if he gets out in space or gets loose. So, he's done a great job of just preparing every week the same way, improving off of what he had started on last year."

(On if that opens up opportunities in the passing game)

"Yeah, I think it does because now you get - you'd like to get that split in the second level, between the second, third level because those linebackers and down safeties have to honor Gurley in the run game. Like to think that that puts those guys in the secondary in more space and gets our guys to be able to execute at a high level on some of those downfield throws."