



LOS ANGELES RAMS

Rams Run Game Coordinator Aaron Kromer – Media Availability – December 26, 2018

(On what he saw the offensive line do differently than they have in previous weeks)

"I thought they did a really good job of keeping us on track and being efficient on first-down where they were very efficient in their run blocking and early-down pass protections that allowed us to not get in the third-and-long situations that we were getting into in the games prior."

(On what he saw from RB C.J. Anderson over the course of the week)

"Yeah, the first thing you notice with (RB) C.J. (Anderson) was when he walked in, you could tell he went to Cal Berkeley – that's the first thing you noticed when you met him and it was the first time I met him. So, he walks in and he understands football in general. To him, all he was doing was correlating the words that meant the football that he already knows. So, he did an excellent job of studying the words and making them fit his football knowledge and it showed up on Sunday."

(On if it's different between RB Todd Gurley II and Anderson with designing a run game in regard to blocking)

"I think C.J. fit into our style right away. You could tell that from his film a year ago, that he would fit in what we were trying to get done offensively. Like I said, just learning it quickly and understanding what was happening because of his knowledge of football, it allowed him to have that success. But, I think their styles are similar as far as, they're not messing around in the backfield – they're a one-cut player and they see the gap and hit the gap. I thought he did a good job with that."

(On how much the quarterback decision making affects the evaluation of the offensive line and if QB Jared Goff was doing anything different last week than he had been doing in his previous three games)

"Like we say, with all football, it takes 11 guys. I know people get tired of hearing that it takes 11 guys, but it takes 11 guys. No matter what play you call, whether it's the run play and we're getting into the correct run or whether it's a pass play and we're throwing it on time and rhythm or whether a lineman is quickly getting beat and he doesn't have time to get it off. So, there's a lot of factors and that's why earlier, a month ago, I came in here and said I don't worry about sacks – I worry about the quarterback getting hit because if he's getting hit, that's affecting his play. There's going to be sacks. I mean sacks happen for a lot of reasons – they're covered, it takes too long, the drop is too deep or too short, a guy gets beat or we slide the wrong way in a blitz (pick up). There's so many ways that a sack can occur, but what we're trying to do is limit the times that he gets hit because that can affect the quarterback – it does all quarterbacks. It's 11 guys together and when everything's gelling and things are going on-time, sometimes you can get away with it – you can block longer than you think you have to block and sometimes you can't."

(On how C Brian Allen and T Joseph Noteboom looked getting playing time last week)

"Again, they got a short period of time, but every time they go in there, they've been solid as can be. They look very strong, physical and they know what they're doing. So, I'm very proud of those two."

(On if it's encouraging to get Allen and Noteboom playing time at certain aspects of the season)

"Yeah, I know earlier in the season, a question came up about (C John) Sullivan and (T Andrew) Whitworth not practicing as much early in the week and getting their practice at the end of the week and that's when

those two guys – (T Joseph) Noteboom and (C) Brian Allen – have been getting the reps that they need with the ones. When they get those reps, then they feel good about playing in the games and that's continued throughout the year. It's no different from (OL) Austin Blythe last year getting the opportunity to play center and guard in practice a lot and giving him that boost and ready to play this year."

(On how Whitworth and Sullivan are doing going into Week 17)

"I don't know how they feel, but they look good. They look like they're still moving well. I think we did a good job – the strength staff, the training staff, has done a good job of having a plan for them throughout the year, so they could peak at this time and I believe they're going to do that. They have played solid throughout."