



LOS ANGELES RAMS

Rams Safety John Johnson III – Media Availability – January 18, 2019

(On if it feels like it's a normal Friday of participation like they've had all year)

"Oh absolutely. We don't want to change anything that we do because of the magnitude of the game – keep the same preparation. Ramp things up just a little bit. I'm speaking on the defense, so, getting ready to go, good preparation, good week so far, so I think we'll be ready for Sunday."

(On in what ways have they ramped things up)

"Just a little bit more studying, a little bit more technique, things that we lacked upon the first time we played these guys. Just tighten things up."

(On their Week 9 game against the Saints being OLB Dante Fowler Jr.'s first game with the Rams and CB Aqib Talib being out and how much of a difference he thinks it make having Fowler up to speed and Talib being back)

"It's a huge difference. (OLB) Dante's (Fowler Jr.) first game like you said, he didn't really know us. I think that was the biggest thing. He's a good player, he can fit into any system, so I think it was just him not being familiar with the guys around him. As you can see, it's evident that he's comfortable now and he's been playing his butt off. As far as (CB Aqib) Talib, I mean, he's our vet, that's a presence out there. He makes everyone comfortable. He gives us tips on – just in the Dallas game, he called something out and I couldn't believe it. I had to believe it. It went just exactly how he said it in the game. He knows everything, he's played in this league for a long time so it's great to have him with us."

(On if he was anticipating a play or a call that Dallas was going to make)

"Before they broke the huddle, he called out exactly what they were going to do and it happened exactly the way it did."

(On him wearing shorts in January)

"Man, it's a blessing to be here in Southern California. It's funny because during rookie minicamp when I came up here, I said something about the weather, like that was the biggest thing that stood out to me. It's a privilege, it's a blessing. Not a lot of teams can do it. I'm happy."

(On what play Talib predicted)

"It was a (Cowboys QB) Dak Prescott, he actually converted it. It was a fourth down play."

(On if it was when Dallas was fourth-and-one at the 42-yard line in the fourth quarter that Prescott converted for two yards)

"Right, he converted, right. But, we completely just went rouge of what the coverage was. It worked for us, but he kind of got around and got the first down."

(On what he's learned from plays Saints QB Drew Brees twice)

"Oh man. You just can't get frustrated with his completions. He's going to complete the ball, that's something you can't stop. He's going to complete the ball. He's somewhere, I think, around 70 percent of wherever it may be. But we just can't give up that explosive play, that's what brings team's back. So just not get frustrated with the small completions and I think we'll be all right."

(On how he avoids the frustration)

"It's tough. It's tough. You never want to see a guy catch the ball. But knowing the caliber player that you're playing against, he's going to make those completions. I mean it's tough not to get frustrated, we just got to think about the end goal, winning the game and that'll help the frustration out."

(On the 72-yard touchdown by Saints WR Michael Thomas during their Week 9 matchup, Defensive Coordinator Wade Phillips taking ownership for not giving CB Marcus Peters help on that play and what he's seen on tape for the safeties to provide help over the top when covering Thomas)

"Yeah I mean, it's not completely on (Defensive Coordinator) Coach Wade (Phillips). But he always says before the game the mistakes are his, just go out there and play. So of course, he's going to take the blame for it. But it's just a scheme thing. It's a gameplan thing. We can better prepare from that situation, we're going to learn from it and we'll be prepared this time for a situation like that."