



LOS ANGELES RAMS

Rams QB Jared Goff – Media Availability – Dec. 11, 2019

(On his friendship with TE Tyler Higbee)

“Me and (TE) Tyler (Higbee) are great friends. We met when he was drafted, we were roommates in training camp, so we really hit it off then and have remained friends since. He’s one of my best friends.”

(On what him and Higbee do outside of football)

“We do a lot of stuff together. We like to play Fortnite in our free time. I think in the offseason we’ll go play golf, we do a bunch of stuff together.”

(On if he thinks off-field relationships helps on the field)

“Yeah, I think more than anything it’s trust – just trusting that he’s going to do his job. I think if I wasn’t one of his close friends, I would still trust him. You can definitely build that off the field and with other scenarios and situations. I trust him as much as anybody, and that’s why I feel comfortable throwing him the ball and big credit to him why he’s had so much success.”

(On what it was like for him to see a vintage RB Todd Gurley II play on his stiff-arm touchdown against Seattle given all the outside noise he had to deal with)

“It was great. We’ve been, I think, close to a bunch of those this year where he’s able to turn the corner just and for whatever reason, we haven’t been able to finish it off. He’s a great back and does his job every play – whether it’s running the ball, whether it’s protection, whether it’s catching the ball out of the backfield, he does his job. I think he feels good, and we’re excited about what he’s been doing, and excited about what he can continue to do.”

(On how well he knows Cowboys QB Dak Prescott)

“I know (Cowboys QB) Dak (Prescott) decently. We went to the Manning Passing Academy together and were there for a while and hung out a little bit. He’s a friend of mine and we’ve trained at the same place in Orange County, crossed paths a handful of times. I’m always rooting for him. He’s a great dude and a great player.”

(On how he feels Prescott is performing during a contract season and if he can imagine playing in the final year of his contract and not having an extension)

“Every situation is different, I’m not going to speak to his. He’s been playing well. He’s been doing a great job. I think there, obviously, and there has been a lot of outside noise, and I think he’s handled it as well as he can. I thought he’s played really well and has done a lot of really great things this year.”

(On if he would be surprised if Prescott’s contract surpassed his contract number)

“No, not at all. He’s a great player and he deserves everything coming his way.”

(On what stood out from the last regular season game against the Cowboys in the 2017 season)

“I love playing there. It’s a good atmosphere, it’s a lot of fun, it’s indoors – you feel fast out there. It’s a fun place to play. It is loud. You have to prepare for that, they’ve got good fans. It’s a lot of fun. You’re in (Cowboys Owner/President/General Manager) Jerry’s (Jones) world, it’s a good place to be.”

(On what's made the last two games against the Cowboys competitive)

"They're a great team. They're a really good team. They're well coached and they do a great job. I think two years ago, it was a really close game and last year we were able to, I think, pull away there at the end. They're very competitive and we've got to be on our stuff every play and get ready for a battle."

(On how his approach changes or elevates when there is a sense of urgency the last few weeks)

"I think just continuing to learn and grow, not only as a leader, heightened but a player. I think the best way I would describe it is just being a little bit more intentional about things. Not only for myself, as I usually am on the field and personally, but intentional about the whole process and about everyone. Really, intentional is the best word about what I'm trying to get done every day and every play with, not only myself, but the entire offense."

(On if he feels like he keeps calm under pressure and in must-win games)

"I've always had a good knack for that. I think since I was young, I never let my emotions get the best of me. There are times, but it's pretty limited for myself and just kind of remain cool, calm and collected, and try to let that feed into the teammates."

(On if Pass Game Coordinator Shane Waldron has ever nicknamed him 'Steady Eddy')

"I don't know if he's called me that to my face, but I appreciate it."

(On the tight end usage over the last few weeks)

"We've been in a lot more heavier sets with those guys and have been able to get them out on some different stuff a little bit more. I think (TE) Tyler (Higbee) has always been a guy that we've known has the ability based on the way that our offense was running. Previously, it was just running through receivers through and running backs and just by circumstance. I think just these last couple of weeks, he's been on the field a lot more. He had a lot more opportunities and you've seen what he can do with those opportunities. He's taken advantage of his opportunities. He's always been a guy thought that we've always known has that ability and just for whatever circumstance and the type of caliber of players that we have at receiver and at running back, it's avoided him at times. I think he's done a great job taking advantage of every ball thrown his way so far."

(On how his Super Bowl and playoff experiences have come in to play down the stretch this season where every game seems like a is a must win)

"It's definitely been a good thing for us to have for players that were here last year through those tough games late in the season. Not only in the playoffs, but the games that we had to win in the regular season. These games are very similar to that. So, we do know the urgency is there and the value of each game at this point. I think the narratives are written as these games are must win, they're all must win. The games that we've lost this year in Week 3 or 4 were must win and now we look back and wish we would have. You do treat every game the same with the same approach, but we do know we are coming down the stretch here and need to make some things happen."

(On if he feels like he is personally back in a rhythm after the past two games)

"We've been able to find that rhythm – I think yeah, for sure. I think it's been through a bunch of different things. I think a lot of our keeper game has been working – where I get out on the edge and I'm able to make some plays there. We've protected really well, we've ran the ball really well and usually when those two things are going that way, it makes my job a whole lot easier. We've been doing a hell of a job at that and I feel good, I feel good. I feel like we're in a good place offensively. I want to keep working, I want to keep getting better and I want to keep building off of that, because now it doesn't mean much. Only thing that matters is this week and we need to keep it going."

(On his slide attempt when running in Sunday's game against Seattle)

"I'll tell you what happened. I had forgot that they changed the rule to where if you go forward – it used to be if you dive forward, it's an extra few yards because you're not technically sliding. So, I was actually talking about it with (QB) Blake (Bortles) last week and I was like, 'Man, I'm going to start going forward.' So, sure enough I dive forward and then we watch the film after and they spotted it back where I had slid."

We were like, 'Oh yeah, they changed the rule'. I believe It was either this year or last year to diving forward and sliding are now equivalent.' Now, I'll just keep sliding on my back there."

(On if his dad gave him grief about his slide)

"No, He was fine about it. It looked like I tripped, so it wasn't too bad (laughs)."