



Los Angeles Rams Transcripts - Head Coach Sean McVay, Defensive Back Jalen Ramsey - Friday, November 18, 2022

Head Coach Sean McVay

(Opening Remarks)

“Okay guys, injury wise (OC) Brian Allen will be out for the game. (DT) Greg Gaines’ status will be good. (LB) Travin Howard will be out. (DT) A’Shawn (Robinson) will be listed as questionable, but we do expect him to be able to turn over and hopefully keep trending in the right direction to be good to go. (QB) Matthew (Stafford) will get with the doctors after today's practice and try to be able to go through where you fully end up clearing. (We) don't expect any setbacks in that regard. Then (QB) John Wolford will be listed as questionable.”

(On what he saw from Matthew Stafford this week in practice)

“Just he looked like himself. He's had great command, great communication with his teammates. He's looked really good and he's been the Matthew that we all know and love.”

(On if Brian Allen’s injury is his right thumb)

“No, it's actually his left thumb, but he had the surgery. He's had some swelling with his knee, so it's really a combination of both. But we were going to have to

get that thing fixed regardless of some of the long-term effects didn't end up inhibiting his ability for years to come and for the rest of the season. So he ended up getting that fixed. That also allows his knee to be able to quiet down a little bit. So surgery on his thumb went well. That's the main reason that he's out. But there are a couple layers to things that he's working through and hopefully we'll get him back next week.”

(On who’s going to start on the offensive line this week)

“We’re working through that stuff right now.”

(On clarification if Matthew Stafford meeting with the doctors is the final step to complete the concussion protocol)

“Yes.”

(On if there’s anything on offense that makes the offensive line changes more difficult)

“Yeah, I've been so impressed with the ability for a lot of these guys to come in on short notice, where they didn't have any experience or prior understanding of what we were doing, the terminology, the vernacular. When you're talking about a (OT) Ty Nsekhe, you're talking about an (OG) Oday Aboushi, you're talking about a (OC) Matt Skura, these guys have come in and done a good job. So a lot of the things that we've done in years past offensively is foundationally derived from a lot of stuff months over time, the vernacular, the language. So there is a lot of different things that we can activate just based on the ability to be able to be mindful of onboarding them and putting them in positions to be successful. So it is a challenge, but these guys have done as good a job given the circumstances as you could ask. I thank (Offensive Line Coach) Kevin Carberry and (Offensive Assistant) Nick Jones, their agility based on just all the moving parts. You're talking about (OT) (Alaric) AJ Jackson from last week having his situation, Chandler Brewer, Brian Allen and David

Edwards actually had a setback. So he will not be available for this game. We'll continue to have his 21-day clock go. So there's a lot of different things that...you almost can't make it up. But these guys have handled it as well as you could really ask and that to me is encouraging, inspiring. A lot of good stuff just based on watching the way that they've operated and not flinched, not blinked, and just kind of be able to handle a lot of the different things that typically I've never been a part of and I think a lot of guys that have a lot more experience haven't been. But it's about these players and they've handled it as well as you could ask."

(On what happened with David Edwards)

"He just wasn't feeling great. It's one of those deals where we weren't ready to have that where you end up putting him back out there."

(On why he appears to be less stressed this week)

"Really? Well, I'm glad I got you fooled. I don't know when I haven't been somewhat stressed in a good way because the excitement and everything that this entails, whether it be any of the previous seasons. But I think what you do is you want to make sure that you're consistent and steady with a lot of the different things that are going on. The one thing that is important is, how do you pour into these guys? How do you try to put them in the right spots? How do you handle the different moving parts as well as you possibly can? That is important. So I'm glad that it seems that way and that's the goal. Let's have a good week of preparation and let's go play to the best of our ability and see what the heck happens on Sunday."

(On if his outlook is from the mentality that he isn't able to control everything and having to move forward)

"Yeah, you try to do that. I definitely try to be intentional about spending my energy on things that you can control and trying to be able to have the

discernment and what are those things. Then how do you really shift your effort, your focus, and your concentration to those things that you can control?

Because that is the truth. Now being able to do that can be challenging and understanding the differences. But that is something that's really important for us as coaches and really players as well. So all we can do is be right here, right now. I'm glad it comes off that way cause that is important to be consistent and to be in alignment with what we're asking of our guys. (I) want to make sure I'm doing that as well."

(On what Cooper Kupp's injury means for other receivers like WR Lance McCutcheon and WR TuTu Atwell)

"Yeah, I think you're going to be able to get a chance to see a lot of guys get some opportunities that they maybe wouldn't have otherwise. So those two guys in particular have had good weeks of practice. I feel like (Wide Receivers Coach) Coach (Eric) Yarber and (Senior Offensive Assistant) Coach (Eric) Olson have done a great job of making sure that they have an understanding of the types of things that we want to be able to activate play wise. (I'm) looking forward to seeing those guys do their thing. A lot of it, it's cliché but it is the truth, so much of how you envision and how you want to get things going too is a product of the flow of the game and if you're able to get some continuity offensively, sustain some drives, and be able to get a number of plays off that then allows other guys to be able to get opportunities. But if you're not able to sustain drives, then those opportunities are few and far between."

(On the chances of QB Bryce Perkins playing this week)

"There's a possibility of that. I think when you're looking at it, we'll see how (QB) John (Wolford) feels afterwards. What you do is, we're anticipating Matthew's going to be ready to go. Then very similar to how we've kind of always done it, whether we end up having two or three quarterbacks up is something that we would end up working through. But if John's not great, then you feel good about

Bryce. You feel good about Bryce either way. So those guys have kind of prepared. Bryce is ready to go into this game and feels good about the plan.”

(On the reason why Matthew Stafford would not play this week)

“I would probably have to say he starts having symptoms of some of the previous things that he had gotten communicated. Would you say that's accurate (VP of Communications) Artis (Twyman)? Yeah, so (I'm) not a doctor.”

Defensive Back Jalen Ramsey

(On the team being 3-6 and what his emotions and frustrations are)

“It sucks.”

(On if he can expand on his feelings through the season thus far)

“Nope.”

(On him saying ‘winning is fun’ and how the team finds fun while going through a rough stretch)

“It's not. It's not fun.”

(On his level of enjoyment playing the game right now while the team struggles)

“You enjoy what you do. This is our profession right now, so you don't take it for granted. You enjoy it and you thank God for the opportunities, but it's not fun losing. It's not fun.”

(On if he is optimistic for the weeks ahead and if he feels there is room for improvement as guys get healthier)

“Yeah, I do. I hope everybody else does as well, but I do.”

(On if he challenges other players in the locker room more when the team is struggling)

“It's pretty much the same with me. I'm the same as I was in week one this week, yeah.”

(On the difference in preparing for Saints QB Jameis Winston and Saints QB Andy Dalton)

“Their game is a little different, but their offense is the same in essence. So yes and no, to answer your question. You still prepare for their offense, their whole offense not just one quarterback changing it up. But yeah, Jameis and Andy, their styles are a little bit different so you can play things a little bit differently, but you still kind of just want to prepare the best as you can anyway, regardless.”

(On Saints WR Chris Olave)

“I think he's had a good rookie season so far. I think he's solid.”

(On if it is surprising that the team has gone from winning a Super Bowl last year to 3-6 so far this season)

“Yeah, it does for sure, but it is what it is, right?”

(On if the team is at a point where they just go into games for pride and professionalism and see what happens)

“I feel like that's what people should do regardless. To answer the point, are we at that point to where that's all we're playing for? No, that's not what all we're playing for. We're not out of it yet. At least me, I'm a glass-half-full type person. I don't think negatively about each situation that goes on. There's a positive that can come out of everything, right? There's still a lot of football to be played. The reality is we're not where we want to be. That's reality. But last I checked, we

still have a bunch of Sundays to play and if we win out, I'm sure we'll go to the playoffs. That's how I think in my mind. I don't think that's unrealistic. I think glass-half-full instead of glass-half-empty. So no, that's not all I'm playing for right now, my last name, my pride, my family, faith, all that good stuff, but I'm still playing the win games and win a lot of them. And who knows what can happen? We can stack all these wins up in row and be exactly where we want to be at the end of the year. That's just personally how I think. I do understand and know that not everybody thinks that way, unfortunately, but I just do what I can do and challenge guys the best way that I can."

(On if he thinks there are people in the building who don't have the same mentality as him)

"Who don't think the same as me? Potentially. I don't know."

(On what has to change for the team to succeed this season)

"We've got to take it day by day, game by game. We've got to take maybe a little bit more risks, got to have some luck on your side as well. That's a fact. Just play harder, figure it out. There's a bunch of things I can name that's like, 'Yo, we need to do this, this, this, this and this,' but it truly is any given Sunday. Football is a game of moments and scenarios and situations and sometimes you do need the ball to just roll your way sometimes and sometimes you do need a little luck. But like I said, I'm a glass half full type person. I just miraculously think that that's going to happen for us starting on Sunday, so that's what I hope will happen."

(On if there are a couple of moments or turnovers that can change the season for the team)

"Yeah, in my opinion I think so. I just look back on a couple other games we lost and if the ball may have rolled our way on a couple key plays, couple moments, scenarios, then those games would've had a different outcome in my opinion."

Like I said, I come up here when I talk to y'all, it's opinion based. This is what I feel, this is what I think. It's not by any means the gospel, so y'all can disagree, other people can disagree, but I don't care. This is how I feel. This is my opinion on it. That's just my mindset and how positive I like to think and how optimistic I think and how easily I think things can just flip and turn in our favor.”

(On if he could defend (Lakers Forward) LeBron James in the red zone)

“Without a doubt. Without a doubt. There's nobody I cannot guard. Let's keep it honest.”

(On if he could defend LeBron James even though he is 6'9 and if he would say that to him)

“I don't give a damn.”

(On if they can tell LeBron that)

“Yes, you can. I told him to his face so I ain't tripping if you tell him. If I'm still playing football when he's retired from basketball and he wants to come be a red zone threat for the Rams, then I'm going to welcome him and we'll figure it out at practice one day, but until then I'm going to stand my ground and he can stand his ground.”

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