

Los Angeles Rams Media Conference

Sunday, November 7, 2021
Los Angeles, California, USA

Sean McVay

Postgame Press Conference



Tennessee 28, L.A. Rams 16

SEAN McVAY: First of all, congratulations to the Titans. Coach Vrabel and those guys did a good job. I didn't do nearly a good enough job for our football team tonight. We were uncharacteristic with the penalties, the turnovers.

I really think the defense started out off, they were giving us a chance. It was a big-time interception by Jalen. Then ultimately really just the momentum and the flow of the game. I didn't do nearly a good enough job of helping our players establish that particularly on offense.

You go back, you look at yourself critically. We get these things corrected. That's all I know how to do. That's what we'll do. I trust the character of this locker room to be able to respond the right way. Not nearly good enough and it starts with me.

Q. Update on Matthew Stafford's ankle?

SEAN McVAY: I'm not sure. He came back, played. Did a good job leading the touchdown drive. He got it rolled up pretty good on a bad play call, bad situation I put him in there. Other than that, I'm not really sure.

Q. What did you see on his two interceptions?

SEAN McVAY: Not really giving him much of a chance. I got to help our players out a little bit more. They did a good job of being able to make some plays. That's what it boils down to.

Q. What is going on with the offensive line?

SEAN McVAY: There was a couple times where they did a good job being able to win some ISOs. There were a couple where some late movements ended up coming free.

I think it goes back to the feel, the flow for a game, being able to allow our players to get into a rhythm and establish that.

Really I don't think I did nearly a good enough job of helping us do that. Also I think some of the penalties. We're playing behind the sticks. They did a good job. They had some players that were able to win some one on ones and we were uncharacteristic.

Overall you look at yourself and say what can I do to make sure we establish a little bit better rhythm and routine. That's where I'm very bothered at myself for that.

Q. You have 11 penalties for 110 yards. At what point did you see it get out of hand?

SEAN McVAY: I think you go back and you say, All right, we're not going to allow one game to define us. I don't think that's reflective of the type of football team we are. We had a rough night. It really seemed like that was kind of the narrative for the night.

A lot of those things that occurred are uncharacteristic. I choose to believe that tonight was not a reflection of who we are. We can look at it, correct it, keep it moving last.

Q. The last drive, you had balls deep into the red zone. Was that a way to remind you you can still do it?

SEAN McVAY: Oh, yeah. I mean, they're playing softer coverages, things like that, too. You do have to be mindful of that.

But I did like the way our guys competed till the end, found enough way to make plays. I thought Matthew showed his guts and resilience. You certainly want to ride with guys like that.

Q. You said you weren't concerned about Matthew's ability to play well tonight without practicing this week. Did that play out?

SEAN McVAY: Yeah, I don't want to use that as a crutch. I really think it boils down to ultimately did you really put yourself -- did I really put our team in positions to make plays and have a rhythm and routine like I keep talking about.



I didn't. Did Matthew make some uncharacteristic plays? Yeah, he did. But I'm not going to say that's a result of what occurred.

Q. At times football comes down to obviously winning physical matchups. It looked like you got physically beaten up, particularly in the first half. Arizona game, kind of the same thing. Why do you think that is? Is that an issue?

SEAN McVAY: Yeah, I don't think so. I think tonight they did a great job in some isolated instances. If it was one matchup that you felt like continued to show itself, then you'd say maybe that's a concern right there.

Again, when you're playing behind the sticks, you become one-dimensional like we were. I think that's tough versus any defensive front, especially a really good team like they are.

We'll go back, we'll look at it, we'll clean it up. I trust that we'll play better moving forward.

Q. (Question regarding Von Miller.)

SEAN McVAY: We'll see. We'll take it a day at a time with Von right now.

Q. Are you especially careful with him?

SEAN McVAY: Yeah, we are. We're going to be smart with Von. He's doing everything in his power to be ready to go. Hopefully he's ready to go next week.

I can't give you that answer right now.

Q. Is there a way you can diagnose some of the problems you are repeatedly having on third down, third-and-long situations?

SEAN McVAY: Third-and-long? You're talking about defensively or offensively?

Q. (Indiscernible.)

SEAN McVAY: We didn't convert tonight. If you look at it over the season, I bet we're as good as anybody in the league.

We just weren't very good as a whole offensively at all tonight. I don't think that's reflective of the type of unit, the operation we want to have. Looking forward to the opportunity to respond.

Q. When they overturned the touchdown, I'm assuming you kicked the field goal because you were thinking of time still.

SEAN McVAY: Yeah.

Q. Were you close to going for it at all?

SEAN McVAY: Yeah, I mean, I think when you look at how early that was in the second half, you felt like that was the smart decision. I thought our defense was playing really well and kind of was able to maybe say let's capitalize on this momentum.

That was a play that didn't go in our favor.

Q. What did you learn about your team tonight?

SEAN McVAY: Well, I learned that we've got to play cleaner football. I've learned that I didn't do a good enough job for this team. I'm looking forward to seeing what we learn from our response. That's where I think we can learn the most.

The last time we had a setback with this group, loved the way they responded on a short week coming off that Arizona loss against Seattle. Now we'll get an opportunity to respond this week.

Okay, thank you.

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