

Los Angeles Rams Media Conference

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Los Angeles, California, USA

Head Coach Sean McVay

Postgame Press Conference



Los Angeles - 37, Jacksonville - 7

SEAN MCVAY: Okay, guys. Great team win. That was exactly what we had talked about. A lot of respect for those guys. They're a really tough football team.

But for us to come out ready to go in all three phases, I thought there was major contributors in all three phases. But winning the turnover battle, the things we talked about, it really came to life.

It was awesome to see Brandon Powell, a big kick return. I thought that was big from special teams. We didn't turn the football over offensively. We got takeaways, got after the quarterback. There's a lot of things that were really very positive about today. Be we got to be able to build on this.

Really tough to see Brian Allen get injured. I don't have information on his knee. I'll have updates for you tomorrow.

Coleman Shelton stepped up and did a great job. I thought he had great poise throughout. David Edwards was able to return. And Sony, really, carrying the load. Did an outstanding job just like I thought he would.

Q. On that point to Sony Michel: You talked Friday about even if it's not explosive necessarily every other play, the steadiness that he provides. And in turn, what did that do to set up your play action today?

SEAN MCVAY: Exactly what we talked about. We were able to stay on schedule, keep people off balance. I thought it was good to mix up a lot of different personnel groupings, utilize all hands on deck. It was good to get Joe Noteboom in there. Sony was great and great to see it come to life, Jordan.

Q. (Question concerning Odell Beckham Jr.)

SEAN MCVAY: Yeah, I think he's doing good, Lindsey. He had the hip pointer. You know, he was a little bit

banged up but still wanted to contribute for his teammates.

I thought that 27-yard catch, that was something that sparked us. And Sony punched it in from five out. And he had the touchdown on the fade. He took his time and was nice and patient on that one.

He's a joy to be around and he's continuing to get better. But hopefully he'll be able to practice so he can continue to get the timing and rhythm. But been pleased with Odell.

Q. Was this a case where Darrell just couldn't play today?

SEAN MCVAY: He could have. You know, we had him up, you know, if some circumstances presented themselves. Hopefully he'll take steps in the right direction.

We didn't feel like we really needed him with how the game unfolded. I thought it was a positive reflection to be available for his teammates if that did come up.

Q. What was the difference with Stafford?

SEAN MCVAY: What did you see?

Q. From your perspective.

SEAN MCVAY: Yeah, I mean, I saw a guy who managed the game. I thought he did a great job. I thought on third downs, he's doing a great job to move in the pocket, finding guys.

We had a couple drops that were really key and critical potentially, but we were able to overcome them.

What I loved about both Van and Ben, being able to drop some of those third downs, both those guys came back and made big plays. Ben on the 35-yarder down the middle was a big time catch that we had to have it versus awe pressure they were giving us. And Van, to come back on the touchdown, he did a great job.

But Matthew he played like he's capable. We were able to avoid a couple of those things that do come up. A great



leader today and always a great leader. And he played great. Not surprised.

Q. How important is it for him to play error-free like that if you guys are going to make a playoff run?

SEAN MCVAY: Well, I think any time -- really, if you're just going to go ahead and say let's find a way to compete to the best of our ability, next week against a great football team. And so, he's our guy. You know, we go as he goes.

But the best thing I would say is he doesn't do anything other than play within himself. That quarterback position is so vital to the success.

But he's such a special talent, a great way about himself, just keep being himself and enjoying playing. And that's what I saw from him today.

And to be able to come back after that shot he took, deliver a great throw to Van over the middle and get us in scoring position, I think just continues to personify the toughness in everything that's right about Matthew Stafford.

Q. What was it?

SEAN MCVAY: I think it was his sternum. He's a tough guy. He won't tell me anything. I'm good, I'm good. What's wrong with you? I'm good. So he'll probably say that to you guys, too.

Q. The decisive win like this heading into the next week, what does that mean?

SEAN MCVAY: I think it's really important, Sam, finding our best ball in December. Obviously, November was a challenging month. We look at it, we own it.

I think our guys stayed steady in trusting the process. And, really, we got mentally tough guys. This is going to make us strong in the long run. I do believe that. And, now, let's enjoy this and come back and ready to work for a big time game next week.

Q. People said this was the game you were supposed to win. So after getting this win, where do you evaluate yourself getting ready for Arizona and down to the home stretches?

SEAN MCVAY: I thought it was a great step in the right direction. There's been some adversity in these three games. Sitting on the bye, coming off a loss, we talked about playing as a team.

Play the schedule we're given is all we can do. Every

single game is so difficult. You look at the caliber team the Buffalo Bills are, and this is a team taking them to the wire and finding a way to win 9-6.

And so, you don't take any wins for granted in this league. It sure feels good to be back on the winning side of things and now we got to be able to build on it. But I was really pleased with our team. And, now, we got to just start stacking blocks.

Q. What did you see about Von Miller and the strides he's making thus far?

SEAN MCVAY: I thought he played really well. I thought our defense as a whole, Nick, I thought we earned those opportunities to rush the passer. It seemed like the pocket was collapsing all day. So Von did a nice job today.

Q. Jones, it just seems like he is everywhere. When he has games like this, schematically, did you guys empower him a little bit more situationally?

SEAN MCVAY: I think we got in some situations that express his ability a little more, Jordan. We were in more favorable down and distances for us defensively where they're forced to kind of throw. You know, we get a lead.

And there's so much stuff that we love out of Ernest out of South Carolina. You get his range, and be able to sense things and diagnose them.

And I think our defensive staff has done a great job of just continuing to help him improve. Chris Shula has done great, Raheem's done great. And really pleased for our whole coaching staff. They did a great job today.

Q. You guys did a good job containing the Jaguars' running game and forcing them to fumble. How much did you concentrate on that coming into this game?

SEAN MCVAY: Big focus. Big focus. Robinson is a tough back who can churn out tough yards and controlling the football in some of those games. This was a big concentration for us. Our guys did a great job upfront.