



**Rams QB Jared Goff – Media Availability – September 2, 2020**

**(On how things are progressing for him)**

“Great. It’s been really good. I think this week is always the week where you’re transitioning from training camp to actually game-planning. As players, we can’t wait to kind of get into that game-planning mode fast enough. I know the coaches are the same way, but there are still some things to be done as far as decisions to be made with cuts and that type of stuff that coaches are thinking about. So, it’s kind of that transition period, but feel good.”

**(On what his playing experience has been like against the Cowboys through his NFL career)**

“Yeah, we’ve had some battles with them. They’ve always been extremely competitive and extremely talented on both sides of the ball and have been able to score more points and play good defense, and we expect the same this coming week.”

**(On if anything special stands out from those games against Dallas)**

“You know, I’ll always remember the one at the (Los Angeles Memorial) Coliseum just being my first playoff win and (Head Coach) Sean’s (McVay) first as well with the team. It’s kind of that new era playoff win. I think that’s always special, but they’ve gotten the best of us just last year whenever week that was, (Week) 16 or (Week) 15 there. So, we may have some revenge to do this year, but they’re a great team and we look forward to it. Don’t take that out of context, I see you guys writing that down (laughs).”

**(On what goes through his mind when teammates are cut)**

“Yeah, it’s never fun. It’s part of the job for sure, but it’s never fun. Every year, you try to create those friendships, build those bonds and often they’re cut short, but it’s tough. You try to stay positive with everybody and hopefully coach makes all the great decisions.”

**(On what’s been better and more challenging for him as far as conducting training camp at the practice facility rather than away in Irvine)**

“I think just like a lot of teams did, you miss out on the going to camp feeling. You know, whether that’s positive or negative, who knows, but it is something that you kind of look forward to every year as a team and as a football player going away with your teammates essentially. I know we’re going down to Irvine, but going to a different location, being in a different area, having different, maybe restaurants to go to, or different people to see. You do miss that, but at the same time it was good to be kind of already in our rhythm. I think that’s the positive out of it. You do have a rhythm at this building, at the facility. All the coronavirus measures we’re taking, everything we have to know about, you do have that rhythm going. So, there are pros and cons.”

**(On Coach McVay’s comments about him peaking now and things beginning to slow down and if would agree with that sentiment)**

“No doubt. I think seeing our defense for the first time, really this training camp, there’s an adjustment period of trying to figure out what exactly they’re doing and trying to find out what works best, how to see different things, and they do a great job at mixing stuff up for us. But I think at this point, we’re starting to get a good feel for it, as well as, like I mentioned, we’ve began some game-planning to move towards the Dallas Cowboys.”

**(On if he has given himself an opportunity to feel disappointed to play the first time at SoFi Stadium without fans)**

“No, not at all. I think you can’t really think of it that way. We have to be excited to go out there and play, regardless. I mean, you look at the other two major sports, they had part of their season canceled. We’ve been lucky to just play games right now. You have to see the positive in everything. If I’m a betting man, I would bet, eventually we will play there in front of fans. When that will be, who knows, but we’re excited to go out regardless and play in what I think is the best stadium in the world, at this point, and have some fun.”

**(On QB Bryce Perkins)**

“Bryce’s done a great job. He’s been fun to be around. He brings a lot of energy daily and he’s a great kid. He’s done a really good job and I think I was extremely impressed early on with his recall of the offense. We do so much stuff offensively and so much stuff in year four now of this offense, that has been switched around and changed so many times. It’s hard to keep track of it, but he did a great job and has picked things up really quickly and he’s been a joy to have in the room.”

**(On if he believes the beginning of the season might be different than normal and if it will be less polished)**

“That’s the challenge, I think. You certainly hope not. I think though, that is the challenge for everyone without having a preseason. I think if you look at most preseason games early on, especially with young guys in there that are in their first action in the NFL. You do see a lot of sloppiness, you do see a lot of fumbles, balls on the ground, turnovers. You certainly hope that’s not the case, but yeah, absolutely. That is a challenge early on, is to be sharp and to show that we’ve been doing the right things in training camp and come out on the right foot.”

**(On if he thinks they have an advantage for already having a system in place that most of the core players know already)**

“Yeah, no doubt. I think there are a handful of teams that are in that same situation where you have the same play-caller returning, you have the majority of your starters returning and we’re no different. We feel good about where we are, and we’re able to, kind of, pick up where we left off last year. I know it’s different for some teams, but for us, we’ve had a pretty seamless transition into training camp.”

**(On how he formed camaraderie and team chemistry during this unique training camp)**

“No different than I would otherwise. I don’t think anything changes there. We are around each other a lot. The only difference is you’re not staying in the same place. Our team isn’t not staying in a hotel together, we’re not staying somewhere off-site. So, you do miss out on some of that, whether it be dinner or breakfast sometimes. Some of those meals you get to sit and chat with the guys. It’s just been connecting on your own time. Trying to connect with guys that myself otherwise wouldn’t connect with. Whether it’s the rookie defensive lineman, some of those guys, rookie linebackers, just trying to go out of your way and connect with them.”

**(On how the stadium DJ playlist will play a part to hype up the team during pregame)**

“Yeah, we’re going to be relying them a lot this year for as long as we don’t have fans. Of course, we miss the fans and they are the energy that we really do feed off of throughout the game – pregame, throughout the whole game. Especially defensively, when they’re loud. So yeah, we will rely on that DJ a little bit more this year and hope he’s got a good playlist going.”

**(On how his family will watch the games this season)**

“We’ve had some discussions. I think they’re going to decide here in the next week and I know there’s a lot of discussions still going on from the NFL as far as family members and who’s going to be allowed at games, and that’s not decided yet by any means. But, I know there’s discussions on that. So, hopefully we will be able to have family there and they can come to the games.”

**(On his impressions on the tight ends)**

“(TE) Tyler (Higbee) looks great. Tyler is still ascending as he was last year towards the end of the year and has continued to get better every day and has really become that kind of bell-cow for us at the tight end position. (TE) Gerald’s (Everett) done a great job as well. He provides us that mismatch that we love

to use him with...done a really, really good job moving him around at different spots. It's a unique position he plays where he can catch the ball so well, but he can also block so well and how we're able to get him involved in different ways has been really cool to see and he's done a great job there. (TE) Johnny (Mundt), the same way as Gerald, you know, he's really picked it up quickly as well moving him around, catching the ball out of the backfield at times. Continuing to do what he was doing last year, but at a higher level. I haven't had much work with (TE) Brycen (Hopkins) and (TE) Kendall (Blanton), but seeing them with the 2's and their work, they've done great. They've all done great. I think Kendall caught a nice ball today and Brycen's really picking it up fast as well."

**(On WR Josh Reynolds)**

"(WR) Josh (Reynolds) has done a great job. He continues to get better and he gives us the ability to stretch the defense as well as somebody that has a catch radius that we may not have had in years past. So, he gives me the ability to throw it to some different locations. You don't have to be so perfect with it. He can bail me out in some situations, I guess is the best way to say it. It's nice to have a guy like that and he's continued to get better and has done a good job."

**(On how difficult it will be to prepare for the Dallas defense and Cowboys Defensive Coordinator Mike Nolan's scheme)**

"I think it is challenging with no preseason and not knowing exactly what they're going to do. But, isn't that the same for everyone this year? We're in the same boat. Their defense is in a similar boat with our offense with some of the stuff we've put in. And as well as vice-versa their offense with our defense. There is that challenge, but we have somewhat of an idea of what to expect and we'll work on that next week and be ready."