



Oakland Raiders Transcript

Special Teams Coordinator Brad Seely

Q: Is Cordarrelle Patterson what you've anticipated he'd be now that he's here?

Coach Seely: "Oh, we're excited about him. We're really happy that he's on our roster. Obviously in Minnesota he was an outstanding returner. We feel like he can bring that to our table. He can also be a coverage guy for us on a punt team. You know and it always come down to how much offense is he going to play. I want to try to keep our guys as fresh as possible and balance that with trying to get as many reps out of them as we can on the kicking game."

Q: Is there anything about him that's maybe surprised you at all?

Coach Seely: "I don't know if it's surprise, but it's just reinforced what a good person he is. What a great work ethic he has. He wants to be great which, shoot, is 95 percent of the battle. Excited about having him here on our roster. Just happy to get to coach him every day."

Q: Did you do a lot of work on him coming out of college?

Coach Seely: "Yes. Yeah, definitely. He was one of those guys that...you just don't find guys that are that big, that fast, that talented. He was all of that coming out. He was one of those guys that every special teams coach wanted to have him on their roster."

Q: There's always turnover on special teams, but is there more this year than you're used to?

Coach Seely: "You know, I think it's different for different years. It's always an allocation of your resources and who you have to pay and who you can't pay. So sometimes it gets to be more, sometimes it's less. We do have a lot of turnover, which in one way we wished those guys were here because they were great fixtures for us on specials teams and really did a nice job for us. You know, we'll miss them, but we also have some excitement here with some young guys. I think there's more of an attitude in our meetings that, hey, there's more jobs open and there's more guys fighting for those jobs. So we really get competitive practices. That's half the battle to being a good football team."

Q: What have you noticed about Sebastian Janikowski during your time with him in terms of being receptive?

Coach Seely: "That's exactly right. That's the one thing is he's very receptive to coaching. He's very coachable. I think it's his work ethic. Guys don't stay in the league as long as he has without having a good work ethic. But until you get to actually coach him day to day, you see what this guy is all about. And there's a reason he's still playing at this level, because he takes care of his body. He really works hard in practice. He wants to be good at his craft. I can't say enough about him in that I've coached a lot of great kickers in my career and this guy, you just put him in that list of guys because he's a great one."

Q: What is the significance for someone like Shalom Luani to earn a spot on special teams to secure a roster spot?

Coach Seely: "Well you know, those kind of guys that really is their way onto the roster is what you doing in the kicking game. Get noticed there. Then hopefully you rise up and you play for us in the kicking game for one or two years. Then, man, you become a defensive start or somehow you just find a role for yourself, and that's what he's trying to do right now. Again, he's one of those young guys that's really hungry, very coachable. Really happy that he's on our roster."

Q: Can you tell right away if a guy has a knack for special teams? Can they develop that?

Coach Seely: "Oh, I think they can. I think there's always a factor of guys being realistic on what they are. What they're going to be on your roster. What their role is going to be. Some guys don't understand that early in their career. I'm sure there's a lot of guys on our roster that think they're going to be lining up next to Khalil [Mack] and telling him what's going on. That's probably not realistic. We'd like to have high goals, obviously, but guys have to



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figure out that, hey, this is my chance to get to be on this roster and get the chance to pay and to compete and to contribute on a good team.”

Q: So first impressions are not always right?

Coach Seely: “Not always. No. No. You know we get excited about guys out here and we’re in our pajamas. Let’s wait until we get the pads on and we start hitting each other. Then we’ll find out who is a football player.”

Q: What is the drill where guys are running around in circles and then they sprint out? What does that drill show you?

Coach Seely: “Well, what we try to do there is in our coverage on our punt team, we try to tell guys based on who gets out first, who should go to the ball. Then the next guy out, he plays leverage position. And the third guy out plays a wider leverage position. So, we’re trying to just do that in a controlled situation where there’s no contact but guys get the understanding of landmarks down the field.”

Q: Is that a drill you’ve been doing for a while?

Coach Seely: “It is. Yeah, I’ve done it for a few years.”

Q: How long have you been using a tennis ball machine in a drill for your punter?

Coach Seely: “You know we started it when I was over with the 49ers. We started over there. Just felt like it’s a good drill. It’s like anything else, you get a smaller ball, it’s a little bit harder. You get a bigger ball, it gets to be a little bit easier. Catching that tennis ball at a high rate of speed, once you get to catch footballs, it seems pretty simple.”

Q: Has it been affective?

Coach Seely: “I think so. Our holder Marquette [King] has done really good job. He hasn’t been a guy who drops punts. Whether or not, you know I don’t know if there’s any way you can basically put a value on it, but we feel like it’s valuable so that’s why we do it?”

Q: What’s the next step for King?

Coach Seely: “You know a guy like that that has the talent he has, it really comes down to consistency. Being consistent every day. Being consistent every game. Being consistent for all four quarters. Making the plays that are going to affect us positively in the game. I think he’s done a nice job of that since I’ve been here of getting better at that every year. That’s what our goal always is. Punters are basically valued on what your bad balls look like. Can we live with those? I think he’s eliminated a lot of those punts or those kicks where those don’t show up as often. That’s a mark of a good player.”

Q: Do you have a stance with his celebrations this year?

Coach Seely: “Oh yeah, we have a stance. We’re not really thrilled with that, and he understands that. I believe we had a stat the other day, there was five or six of those celebration penalties in the league and two of them were on our punter. We have to make sure that doesn’t happen.”

Q: Is there a line to straddle to make sure he’s enjoying himself and still being his best?

Coach Seely: “No, we like guys to be themselves. I think everybody has a mindset of how they play the game. Some guys are really focused and tight, nervous. Then there’s other guys that are loose and relaxed, and I think he performs better that way. There’s always perimeters. This guys has to make sure he understands that we’re going to play in those perimeters.”

Q: What do you see out of Janikowski at this stage of his career?



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Coach Seely: "You know, I don't see any drop off. We've only done the kickoffs a couple of times in the OTAs, where we actually had him kick the ball off. Man, he still has a powerful leg. I don't see that being a weakness for him at all."

Q: Are you confident beyond 50 to send him out there?

Coach Seely: "Oh yeah. He feels good about it. We feel good about it. I think a lot of that is your attitude, and he has the leg to get it there. It's just putting it through the pipes."

K Sebastian Janikowski

Q: How's your bowling game?

Janikowski: "I'm just here so I won't get fined (*laughing*)."

Q: At this point in your game, what do you feel like you still have to learn?

Janikowski: "Well, there's always something to learn. You can get better on kickoffs, better on field goals. You can get stronger in the weight room. There's always something you can learn. I'm still finding out what it is."

Q: Are you getting better with age?

Janikowski: "I feel good. I mean the nine weeks that I've been here just working out and lifting, I think it's helped."

Q: Do you prepare your body differently than you did when you were 24 years old?

Janikowski: "At 24 I could do a lot of things. You have to hit the weight room. You have to work out better. Study more with [Special Teams Coordinator] Brad [Seely], we always watch film. I never watched film in my life. That's just something that helps."

Q: When did you start watching film?

Janikowski: "I think when Brad got here. That was the first time."

Q: How has that been?

Janikowski: "It was great. He gives us good pointers. He actually has an idea of kicking. He knows it's kind of like a golf swing."

Q: What kind of things are you looking for on film?

Janikowski: "Well, if my planted foot is too ahead of the ball. Behind the ball a little bit, too close to the ball. You know if you're too close, you're always going push it or hurt yourself."

Q: Is it tough to replace some of the guys you lost on special teams?

Janikowski: "It's always going to be tough to replace, but it's the NFL. There's going to be new guys, young guys coming up and they're going to help us out."

Q: Do you have a limit on how long you want to play or are you just going to keep going?

Janikowski: "Until they kick me out. Until they kick me out, whatever."

Q: Do you see yourself playing with this team when they go to Las Vegas?

Janikowski: "I hope so. I mean that's my goal. That's not my decision."

Q: What are your first impressions of Marshawn Lynch?

Janikowski: "BeastMode man. Just crazy good. I can't wait to see him play."

Q: How good is this team?



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Janikowski: "Well we definitely can make the playoffs, but the goal is to win the whole thing. Playoffs isn't going to be good enough for us. I'm shooting for the ultimate goal, the championship."

WR Cordarrelle Patterson

Q: How has the acclimation process been here in Oakland thus far?

Patterson: "It's going pretty good. You know, these OTA's were something I needed. I wouldn't miss it for the world. Just being with a new team, it feels different. But as the days go by I'm learning everybody, learning their names and stuff and it feels good to be out here with those guys."

Q: Are you cherishing a new start?

Patterson: "Oh, of course man. It's always good to have a new start. Come in as a new face, get to know these guys and just coming in and trying to give my all, just get my chance to be on the field."

Q: Do you feel like you're able to do more offensively than what's been on your plate in the past?

Patterson: "I mean, it's whatever they want me to do. I'm a guy that if you tell me to do something, I'm going to go and learn it, no matter if it's the quarterback position, I want to learn something. Whatever the coaches feel like I need to play, I'm going to go in and learn it, try to do my best at it so I can be out on the football field."

Q: How much fun have you been having as a receiver during the offseason?

Patterson: "*(laughter)* It's always fun doing something you love, just waking up each morning and thanking God and coming here, it's a blessing to be a part of the organization, coming out here and just trying to contribute to the team and having fun each and every day. Not looking back, just keep striving forward."

Q: Are there different parts of your game that we haven't seen yet now that you're playing with a quarterback like Derek Carr?

Patterson: "Like I said, I don't look back. God gave you eyes in front of your head to see where you're going, not where you've been. So, that's one thing I stick with each and every day. What happens in the past, happens in the past. You can't control that. You just control what you can control and like I said, I'm happy to be here and I'm ready to help this team (with) anything I can and to the best of my ability."

Q: What does having a quarterback like Carr add to a receiver's game?

Patterson: "I mean, you see what he can do and I've been watching him for a long time. He's one of the greats and there's a lot of great quarterbacks out there and to get the chance to play with Derek Carr, it's an honor to be here. He's a great quarterback, so I'm just happy to be here."

Q: The big plays you made today in practice, is that you developing chemistry or familiarity with the playbook?

Patterson: "I feel like each day I get better. It's trying to find something that wasn't going good the day before to try to get better each and every day. No matter if you get two balls thrown at you a day or none, there's always something you can get better at."

Q: Do you feel liberated to be here after Minnesota after bringing you in there with high expectations and it not necessarily working out as well as you may have hoped?

Patterson: "Like I said, I don't look what happened behind me. But, I feel like I had some good years. But that's nothing I praise over, it's a new year. It's 2017. I want to get better at my job. There's always something you can get better in and just keep striving forward, don't look back."

Q: Did you sense that Head Coach Jack Del Rio, offensive coordinator Todd Downing and the rest of the coaches really wanted you here through the recruiting process?



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Patterson: "I mean, you could say that. I sat down to talk to both of those guys, they had great things to say. It just blew my mind up. I wanted to be here. I saw the great things they had going in the organization, I felt like I could come in and help the team at the best I could do. I just wanted to be a part of something great."

Q: Is there a ceiling for this offense?

Patterson: "There's always a ceiling, it's what we make of it. We got great guys all around the offense; in the backfield, running back, quarterback, the whole offensive line is great. It's what we do with it. Skies the limit, we can't get the big head. Just have to keep going out each and every day and keep working."

Q: Can you walk us through that last touchdown today?

Patterson: "*(laughter)* EJ (Manuel), he did a heck of a job putting the ball only where I could get it. I just have to praise EJ. I got the touchdown, everybody got excited, so I got excited."

Q: What was the route on that?

Patterson: "It was just a go-route, just a straight route."