



OAKLAND RAIDERS vs. SEATTLE SEAHAWKS

Thursday, August 31, 2017
Oakland-Alameda County Coliseum
Postgame Quotes



HEAD COACH JACK DEL RIO

Opening Statement: “OK, dress rehearsals are over. Next up, regular season. I thought we had a real productive camp and preseason. Played a lot of guys. Got a lot of tape to evaluate. I think we have a real solid group of men in there that gave a lot. Obviously, there are decisions coming up. We’ll make those decisions in the next couple of days and get our roster set and be ready to go. Obviously, there’s going to be a question asked about guys and how many and who and why and all of that. We did what we thought was best for us. We got the looks we needed to get to finish up our preparation for the year. Really looking forward to finish this weekend and getting started on Tennessee. Questions?”

Q: Realistically, could this game be the deciding factor on if some of these guys make the roster or not?

Coach Del Rio: “Yeah, I think there will be a couple of spots that will become apparent, a as you get some of the looks that we got. Also, decisions with developmental squad, the practice squad, which is an importance piece as you go throughout the year. You typically want to be able to, hopefully not too many, but you want to be able to dip down and pull guys up as you have some injuries or issues. It’s important that you’re strong throughout your 53 and that you have guys that can really develop.”

Q: What about the backup quarterback position? Did either Connor Cook or EJ Manuel solidify that tonight?

Coach Del Rio: “I think EJ has been ahead. I think he was ahead most of the summer and I thought he played better tonight. We like both these young men. They worked hard for us. It’s been a really good room. It’s a very positive room. I think there’s chemistry in the room. They get along well. They challenge each other and work well. But right now I’d say, yeah, EJ is ahead.”

Q: What have you seen from Shalom Luani this preseason?

Coach Del Rio: “He’s very instinctive. He’s really has a nose for the football. He has developed special teams-wise with some of the things we’re asking him to do. He’s developed in learning our system and things. Yeah, I think he’s been a real positive addition for us in the backend.”

Q: Has LaTroy Lewis’ progression been something that came along in the preseason or did you see signs of it earlier?

Coach Del Rio: “I think he’s taken full advantage of the reps he’s had. He’s been a guy that’s been able to come in there and make some plays for us. Certainly, had some nice moments throughout the preseason. That’ll be good tape to evaluate.”

Q: Can you take us through the thought process of who stays and who gets cut?

Coach Del Rio: “Well, the coaches have a grade and a feel. Then the scouts have a grade and a feel. [General Manager] Reggie [McKenzie] and I talk and work through it. That’s really how we do it. It’s very inclusive and a lot of information. A lot of tape to look at. I think what we want to do is end up picking the right 53 for us and understand what’s out there with the league and opportunities that become available. I think you’re always open minded. But you do your best to get yourself a 53 that is going to be ready to go through the regular season the way we need to.”

Q: How are you going to go about cuts while being efficient and fair?

Coach Del Rio: “You say fair, but it’s always hard. You always try to be fair, but the reality is it’s a hard day. It’s really the hardest thing that we do is to have to tell young men that are really dedicated and giving us everything that they have and really have a great desire to be here and then tell them that that dream is over. They get an opportunity here, they get an opportunity in the rest of the league and they also get an opportunity on practice squad. Not only here, but the rest of the league. There are a lot of opportunities, and I hope as many of these young men can find squads as possible.”



OAKLAND RAIDERS vs. SEATTLE SEAHAWKS

Thursday, August 31, 2017
Oakland-Alameda County Coliseum
Postgame Quotes



Q: What has Johnny Holton brought to special teams?

Coach Del Rio: "Johnny, what he brings is speed. He can really run. He showed us that last year. He was active last year and got a lot of experience last year. He's had a solid camp for us. Johnny has done a good job."

RAIDERS QB EJ MANUEL

Q: How does that feel about the way that you came in here and asserted yourself as the backup?

Manuel: "It feels good. You know I think the biggest thing for me was continuing to grind. The second and third preseason games I personally wasn't ecstatic with how it went but that's football sometimes and especially in these scenarios when you don't get a full game or don't get a full half or whatever you can't really look at it as an excuse you just got to keep moving forward and I was really happy to get some chances tonight."

Q: It didn't start that great tonight but that 95-yard touchdown drive it really kicked in, didn't it?

Manuel: "Yeah definitely. That got the juices flowing for all of us and the o-line did a great job because some of those young guys they haven't played the whole game like that all preseason. I was really proud of those guys for being able to continue to get that drive going and obviously the receivers getting open and you know did a good job of running the ball too."

Q: What was your progression on that route for the touchdown?

Manuel: "I just wanted to hold the safety because Seattle does a good job with those mid-point safeties like Earl but obviously he wasn't in but they still do a good job playing both sidelines so you know just wanted to hold him and give Keon a chance."

RAIDERS WR KEON HATCHER

Q: Is it just a matter of sitting by the phone hoping it rings?

Keon Hatcher: "I'm going to go about my day. I'm not going to try to think about it too much. I'm just going to let God do what he does and let things fall into place."

Q: Talk about what you gained over your 4 games of preseason experience.

Hatcher: "Just listening to the older vets, [Michael Crabtree], [Amari] Cooper, Seth [Roberts], [Cordarrelle Patterson]. They took the young guys under their wings and taught us the ropes to the NFL. They've been doing a pretty good job."

Q: What was your mindset like tonight, it's a big game for young guys trying to make the team. What was your mindset?

Hatcher: "Just relax, go out there and do what you do. That's all that was on my mind. Control what you can control. Go make it happen."

Q: Tell us about that touchdown catch tonight?

Hatcher: "Man that was a dream come true. My first one. Its preseason, but I'm still counting it. It's a dream come true. I just have to give all love, glory up to God."

Q: Did you think EJ [Manuel] was attempting to come to you on that play?

Hatcher: "I knew he was coming my way."



OAKLAND RAIDERS vs. SEATTLE SEAHAWKS

Thursday, August 31, 2017
Oakland-Alameda County Coliseum
Postgame Quotes



RAIDERS LB LATROY LEWIS

Opening Statement: "I am extremely excited about the body of work I have put on film now and I hope that helps."

Q: The coaches and players already know, but did you prove to yourself that you can play with the rest of the team?

Lewis: "Honestly, I have proven to myself mentally before I actually go out and perform. For me, it was not to prove everyone else wrong, but to prove to Reggie [McKenzie] that he was right for taking a chance on me. That was my motivation, in every play, every practice, to prove him right."

Q: How do you look at the next couple of days?

Lewis: "I am going to try and not to stress. Spend time talking with my mom and my family and it always feels like a fire is lit under you until it is all said and done."

Q: Was that a nice way to punctuate your preseason?

Lewis: "Absolutely. I started the preseason off strong. I had another game. To me, to finish strong was really my goal, and I think I did a good job accomplishing that."

Q: How was your mindset coming in to today?

Lewis: "I think for me, the biggest thing came in yesterday's defensive meeting. Coach Norton told us to just have fun and that we all have been having fun since we were six, seven, eight years old. I've been playing ever since I was seven so for me it was a chance to play extended minutes tonight and have fun."

RAIDERS S SHALOM LUANI

Q: Take us through that play, the interception. What did you see?

Shalom Luani: "It was just me doing the assignment, being in the right spot to make the play."

Q: What were you looking to get out of this game coming into it? What was your mindset?

Luani: "You always have to go in feeling 110%. Bottom line, you have to make plays for the team."

Q: You feel like you still had something to prove?

Luani: "Every day. Every game I go in there to prove myself that I belong. That's all you have to do, play ball."

Q: You feel more comfortable out there?

Luani: "Every game it gets better. You get used to it. I'm getting better every day."

Q: Did you know where you would be playing today?

Luani: "They gave me a heads up before and said that I'd be playing for a bit. They were going to keep me on special teams. They let me know ahead of time."



OAKLAND RAIDERS vs. SEATTLE SEAHAWKS

Thursday, August 31, 2017
Oakland-Alameda County Coliseum
Postgame Quotes



SEAHAWKS HEAD COACH PETE CARROLL

Opening Statement: “Well, we finished a strong preseason. A lot of good things happened throughout. Great information gained. We learned a lot about things that we can do with our players and stuff like that that will help us score more during the year and we had a good time. It was fun, and it is always fun to win. We had a nice finish to the game. I thought it was really great that the offense went down the field and scored. The defense went back out and stopped and got the ball back, and we finished off the four games the way we like to. We really wanted to see if we could show up for one more game whoever was playing and play good football. It was a challenge. I don’t think it was great football. I think it was more we have got to finish the game. We have got to win and get out of here, so good stuff. For sure.”

Q: What has [QB] Austin Davis shown you about the way he plays?

Carroll: “He is right in the middle of the competition. He has done very well. He has had good outings. This was really a great showing for him. Good opportunity. We always talk about the opportunity. He had a terrific opportunity. He was able to come through. I think he was five for five on the drive. He made a big touchdown pass and handled the clock and everything beautifully. He was very poised also. A really good showing for him.”

Q: What did you think of the way that [QB] Trevone Boykin played?

Carroll: “He had two balls that he chucked. What I should say, he threw the ball behind the guy down goal line and chucked it and he just kind of threw it up for grabs which is something you don’t see us do very often. We look down upon that. He missed the opportunity at the end of the half clockwise too. That was a really clear situation. We knew exactly what was happening there. We said we could see if he could handle this or not. That is getting the ball out with time left on the clock so that we could still kick a field goal, and he didn’t do that well. But he has had a terrific offseason, preseason for us I think all in all. He obviously struggled his first two games and the last two. He shows us that he can do a lot of stuff for us, so he can move the football. He can make plays.”

Q: How do you feel your team is situated looking ahead to the regular season?

Carroll: “Yeah, I like where we are. We have made a lot of progress. We are pretty strong going in. Pretty healthy. We have been real clear on what we are trying to get done. Guys are really responding in practices, and in all of the work that we have done. The guys have been right on it. No backwards steps at all. I like our team. They’re smart. They know what we are trying to get done. Leadership is very much in tune with how this is supposed to go and they have been strong in their effect on the young guys. And so there is a lot of real positive things. We are ready to take on the season. We are ready. It will be an extraordinary opener when we go to Green Bay and all of that. We will see how that goes, but we are ready for this.”

Q: Looks like [LCB] DeAndre Elliot got banged up.

Carroll: “He did. He dislocated his ankle. He broke his ankle. He had a bad game today, unfortunately.”

Q: Was everybody held out? Everybody who didn’t play?

Carroll: “Yeah, we had planned out how to get that done. The guys that were up here couldn’t play, in the circle. They couldn’t play, so we just had a number of guys who just weren’t available for us tonight. I thought that those guys had enough play time. I think the new rules allowed us to do this. We had a full game to play with these guys. A bunch of guys had great opportunities to show where they fit and what they can do in the league. And hopefully guys that can’t make our team will have made a statement for themselves where they will be able to hang on and play somewhere else if not here.”

Q: How hard is your decision considering you and John compared to last years?



OAKLAND RAIDERS vs. SEATTLE SEAHAWKS

Thursday, August 31, 2017
Oakland-Alameda County Coliseum
Postgame Quotes



Carroll: "I don't think it is ever the same because the people are different. Each one of these guys we have enormous investment in them. There has been connections made. For the most part, they are really serious and we care for these guys, so it's a big deal for us. I am not looking for any sympathy on that part. This is a big deal for us and we will look very carefully. It is an enormous deal for these young guys too. They want to keep playing. They are not ready to stop and so I hope we will take care of as many as we can. And I hope the other guys get to go other places and can hook up with somebody else."

Q: What type of growth did you see from the rookies this preseason?

Carroll: "I thought that they made really good solid progress. I don't think anybody fell off the boat and couldn't come along with us. I thought everybody was there. Everybody was growing. The older players on this team really took these guys under their wing, and showed them what it is supposed to look like. How they should think. How they should operate. How they should function day to day. The mentality. They just continued the message that the coaches stand for. That was a very positive effect. Also, there is a lot of guys that can help us early in the season with the young guys and try to figure out their best possible course. That is very encouraging. We saw nothing but positives."

Q: I have to ask, what is [WR] Jermaine Kearse's future look like? His tenure?

Carroll: "Yeah, because somebody said something in the news, there is a lot of mention. We are not talking about it. We have a lot of work to do."

SEAHAWKS QB AUSTIN DAVIS

Q: Describe the touchdown that you scored.

Davis: "So we ran four verts, and they played single high, and the nickels hung outside. Kenny [Lawler] did a good job of leaning on it and breaking across. Really it wasn't a great throw, I threw it a little behind him. I threw it early enough where the defender couldn't make a play on it, and Kenny made a great catch. Really, a better catch than it was a throw."

Q: What was the feeling when your teammates ran out to celebrate with you on that touchdown?

Davis: "Man, this team just loves to play ball. It doesn't matter if it's the preseason or what. That's the one thing I really enjoy about being on this team. There's just so much joy in playing the game. We have a bunch of little kids out there. I mean, its no surprise that they did that, you know. We're playing to win, you know?"

SEATTLE QB TREVONE BOYKIN

Q: How did you feel about your performance tonight?

Boykin: "I made a few mistakes but I think I left it all out on the table. We made some good plays, we made some great plays, plays all over the field and um just the turnovers were probably the main thing but other than that I think I did really well."

Q: What happened on those couple of interceptions?

Boykin: "I know for one guy, I mean, he's got to execute, that's all it's about. I mean when you go out there you play ball, make sure everybody's on the same page and go out there and execute so it's just something we need to continue to get better at."

Q: You know, it's great when the defense gives you the ball on the second play of the game but does that also make it harder to get into a rhythm or a flow when you start in the red zone?



OAKLAND RAIDERS vs. SEATTLE SEAHAWKS

Thursday, August 31, 2017
Oakland-Alameda County Coliseum
Postgame Quotes



Boykin: “No, it’s fun. I think it’s one of those things, that’s what you live for, you play ball for. It was fun um, we didn’t get the touchdown that we wanted but as long as you put points on the board, I think we did a pretty good job.”

SEAHAWKS WR JERMAINE KEARSE

Q: Describe your time with the Seahawks, and your feelings on possible trade rumors.

Kearse: “I’ve built a lot of great relationships here. I’ve been here with a lot of them for the past five or six years. Just really taking it one day at a time. I don’t know what’s happening, I haven’t talked to them. So I’m kind of just taking it one day at a time and focusing on that.”

Q: Do you feel you’ve earned some trust with your quarterbacks?

Kearse: “Yeah. I mean I just try to come out here and put my best foot forward and compete. I know what I put out there, and what I’ve done. I feel like it has. So, I mean we’ll see. Like I said, just take it one day at a time and figure it out from there.”

SEATTLE DE MICHAEL BENNETT

Q: You’re from Houston, Texas; you see everything that’s happened down in that part of Texas. How are you feeling and how is you’re family doing who are in Texas?

Bennett: “Some people have been affected but mostly everybody is safe but a lot of people are not safe because they are flooded, they lost everything they ever had, but the most important thing is that they have their lives. To see what’s going on right now, it’s just devastating you know, you cry about it, you think about it, you pray for everybody to get safe but the thing that’s inspiring is to see how everybody is working together in the community, it’s one of those things, it’s good to see the community come together through tragic times.”

Q: You talk about the community, what about the NFL community, you see J.J. Watt raised about 10 million dollars, the Cowboys raised several million dollars, what about the way the NFL community has responded?

Bennett: “The NFL has done a great job of supporting the city of Houston. You look at J.J. Watt and it’s inspiring to see a young man have such an influence on the United States and raise money for a good cause, and then you see a lot of owners and teams stepping up and on top of the owners and teams, there’s a lot of players stepping up. Collectively, the NFL has done a good job of taking care of people in these cities and it’s inspiring to be apart of something like that where you build community through the organization and the players. It’s really cool to be able to unite players with something so great.”