



## ***Oakland Raiders Transcript***

### **Defensive Coordinator Paul Guenther**

**Opening Statement:** "Big game for us this week. We're back at home. We're excited about that. Hopefully the fans will come out in full force and make life miserable for [Ryan] Tannehill under the pocket."

**Q: Coach Gruden said that Derrick Henry is a guy that never tires. How do you prepare for a guy like that?**

**Coach Guenther:** "You know [Head Coach Jon] Gruden and I, we sit up at night and we argue about...you only have so many padded practices with the rules anymore the way it is. So today was our last padded practice out there today. You've got to make sure again you're tackling and doing those things in practice and working on techniques and those types of things because he is a good back. He's a big, hard running guy and obviously he's having a good year."

**Q: From what you've studied, what's the difference between Ryan Tannehill in Miami versus Ryan Tannehill since he's taken over for the Titans?**

**Coach Guenther:** "He's pretty much the same guy. He's a mobile guy. He gets the ball out of his hands. He's really accurate. He's done a really good job for them coming in for them the last seven ball games, really resurrected their offense. He's done a really good job."

**Q: Would you say Tannehill is an underrated mobile quarterback?**

**Coach Guenther:** "Yeah, he does a good job. He's run for some touchdowns. He gets out of the pockets on some boots and he's good when he's a platform thrower, so he does all of it for them."

**Q: You guys are a better team across the board at home defensively. Is there something special about playing at the coliseum for these guys?**

**Coach Guenther:** "There's definitely something special for the players playing there. It's a unique environment. Even myself being new to it, it's a great environment to play in. But I think we've got to be able to play anywhere, playing down the street, in the coliseum, wherever, but we definitely enjoy playing at home. Our fans have been tremendous."

**Q: You mentioned Tannehill has resurrected their offense. Do you think the Titans have changed things to adapt to him at all?**

**Coach Guenther:** "I just think he's done a good job of being efficient. Like I said, being able to run, having some of the play actions and boots off of it. He's done a good job. He hasn't made a ton of mistakes and they've been scoring a lot of points."

**Q: Is there any trick to bringing down Henry?**

**Coach Guenther:** "I just think you've got to be in good position. You've got to have eleven guys to the ball. You've got to play the blocks. First and foremost, you've got to be in the right spots, play the block, and then when he gets through there you've got to have eleven guys to the ball. He does a good job of trying to get extra yards, so we've got to put hats on him wherever he is, on his body as he's trying to get those extra yards. We've got to make sure we get eleven to him."



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**Q: Is Marquel Lee going to play a role this week having been activated?**

**Coach Guenther:** "Yep. This is a good week for him. It's a lot of base downs for him, you know base defense. He's been practicing here the last few weeks. He's looked good and hopefully he can be effective for us on Sunday."

### **Offensive Coordinator Greg Olson**

**Q: What have you seen from DeShone Kizer to make him the backup quarterback?**

**Coach Olson:** "When we brought him in that's one thing I said about our scouting department, they do a great job of scouring the cut line really for us, and we brought in a number of different players at wide receiver positions certainly have stayed on top of that. And quarterback was one early on in the season when we brought him in that was a guy we wanted to look at and he's done some good things out here on the practice field, as has Mike Glennon, so we looked at him and made a decision that we may move him up to the No. 2 spot this week, but I'll let [Head Coach] Jon [Gruden] answer those questions in regards to the entire depth chart and the decisions that were made there, but we do like what we've seen out of DeShone."

**Q: Without commenting on the move, what kind of a challenge was it for anybody to come into this offense without a training camp?**

**Coach Olson:** "Really we did it last year with A.J. McCarron if you remember that. We had the two quarterbacks that had been here and they played throughout the preseason and then we brought A.J. in. It's a challenge but DeShone is an intelligent player. He's a football junkie and he's spent a lot of time by himself down in the quarterback room learning the offense."

**Q: What's the key to getting back to a more balanced game?**

**Coach Olson:** "We're striving for balance and we've been pretty balanced throughout the season. Sometimes the way the game plays out doesn't allow you to do that, but we would like to strive for balance based on the personnel that we have right now. Again, we still feel very strongly about our offensive line in the run game and we'll get that going back on track, but really, we focused here this week mainly on the details and the fundamentals of what we're doing. Turnovers were an issue, we've had penalties be an issue, so a lot of it for us is really focusing back on the details of what we're doing."

**Q: With his shoulder injury, is there any consideration to maybe managing how many carries Josh Jacobs has over the last few weeks?**

**Coach Olson:** "Well, we manage him throughout the week and we're aware of that. I think we would never put a player in harm, but we've managed him and he's been honest with us in terms of the injury, and our training staff has done a great job really throughout the week making sure he's ready to go on Sundays."

**Q: Anything you can tell us about Trent Brown? His injury changed from last week to this week.**

**Coach Olson:** "He's had a number of different injuries throughout this season. Naggging injuries more than anything else as you've seen. He's missed practice but he's been ready to go on Sunday, but again I'll credit our trainers for making sure that he's been ready to go on most Sundays that we've had. But, he's dealing with something again that we had him out today but we expect him healthy on Sunday."



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**Q: Is there anything specifically that you want to see from the wide receiving core over the last quarter of the season?**

**Coach Olson:** "We're playing to win the game right now. We feel like we are in a great situation right now, starting with Tennessee this week in the last quarter of the season. So, certainly we're playing to win the football games. There's an opportunity. People always like to talk about, 'Do you need to evaluate somebody before...'. We're not even thinking about the offseason right now. We are going to play the 11 players that we think are going to give us the best chance to score points on Sunday, and that's where we are at right now and certainly some of those questions may come up later. But right now, we are playing our 11 guys that we think can help us win the game."

**Q: What kind of advantage has the Coliseum been?**

**Coach Olson:** "It has been a huge advantage for us and, really, with two games to go we can imagine what the crowd is going to be like these next two weeks. Our players are excited about that knowing what's ahead here the next two weeks because of that home field advantage. They've been fantastic throughout the season, but knowing that maybe the final two football games to ever be played in Oakland, I would think would bring out an energetic crowd to say the least. They're looking forward to it, we're looking forward to it as a coaching staff and certainly looking forward to the advantage that it gives us."

**Q: Is Marcell Ateman a guy that can get a longer look this weekend at wide receiver?**

**Coach Olson:** "Yeah all those guys. Again, we're going to try to play the 11 that we think will score points and whether we have four receivers or five receivers up or six receivers, they'll fall into that rotation. They all have different roles and we'll try to get them the ball accordingly to what their role is, but we like Marcell Ateman. Obviously, he started for us last year and done some good things for us this season as well, but we're looking for more consistency and more production from that group."