



Oakland Raiders Transcript

CB Rashaan Melvin

Q: You seemed to have bounced around a little bit before finding a home with the Colts. Was there a moment where it all came together for you or was it just the right situation at the right time?

Melvin: "It was the right situation at the right time. I put in a lot of work to get where I'm at. During my time, Indy was great. The fans there were great. The coaching staff was great. I mean they gave me the opportunity to be the guy I wanted to be, I knew I could be, which is the number one defensive back. It was just perfect timing, the perfect opportunity. I made the most out of it."

Q: Could you tell me why Oakland was the right fit?

Melvin: "I thought Oakland was the right fit because after talking with [Head Coach Jon] Gruden, after talking with the defensive coordinator and the defensive backs coach I felt like it was a place I could call home. I can relate to these guys. They have big plans for me, big plans for the organization. I was born to be a part of something special; that's happening in Oakland. It was a good thing. We were able to get everything done, a deal done. I'm just excited to be here and I'm excited to see what the future holds for us as a team and me as a player."

Q: Do you envision being able to show what you can do?

Melvin: "Absolutely, man. I think I showed a lot. Unfortunately, I had gotten injured with a hand. The goal is to be the best player I can be, first-team All-Pro. Show my leadership, help these young guys out this year. They have tons of potential to be successful in their own careers. For me coming in here and being the leader and showing that, hey, this is what it takes to be successful in this football league, that's what I'm willing to do. That's what I'm willing to bring to the table. On the football field, but outside as well."

Q: Where are you at in terms of your recovery?

Melvin: "I am completely ready to go. I'm looking forward to getting to OTAs, getting to training camp and getting ready for this season. So yes, I'm ready to go."

Q: Can you expand on the story about you telling Chuck Pagano that you wanted to matchup with Antonio Brown?

Melvin: "It was all about going in there, going into the coach's office and letting them know, 'Hey, I'm ready for this opportunity. I've been practicing. I've been preparing the whole season. Hey, let me do what I have to do to not just prove to myself that I'm right, but to show everybody else around the NFL that, hey this guy is for real.' For him to give me the opportunity, I'm grateful for it because I lived up to all the expectations they had for me, even more. So I'm just looking forward to continue to improve my game, continue to be the best player I can be. Like I said, I'm here to dominate the league in (inaudible). It might be time for some new faces at the cornerback position. That's my take on that. I'm excited for it."

Q: Was there something that clicked for you in these past two years?

Melvin: "It's been an experience. I've been cut four times. I've been in four different locker rooms, and I was able to gain my teammates' trust, my coaches' trust and the organization's trust as well. My confidence just grows over time. There's not a lot of players that can say they've been cut four times and end up in a situation where I'm at today. Like I said, it's perfect timing. My work ethic, my style of play and the way I approach the game and the way I approach my job, my business, it speaks for itself."

Q: What's your impression of Gareon Conley and how you guys can work together?

Melvin: "I think he's a great young guy. Full of potential. I know there was a couple of reasons he wasn't able to play last year. But this year I know he's ready to step up and be that corner opposite. Makes some plays as well as the safety Karl Joseph. He's been playing, making some plays. For me to come in and help these guys out and show those guys exactly what it takes to be a great secondary, I think that's what we need. That's what I'm here for. That's why I signed up for this."