

RAIDERS VS. TITANS POSTGAME QUOTES SEPTEMBER 25, 2016

RAIDERS HEAD COACH JACK DEL RIO

(opening statement)

A pretty exciting ball game out there and we're happy to come out of here with a win. We talked about it last night and again today about finding a way somehow to come out of here with a win No. 2. So I am proud of the effort. There are a lot of things we want to clean up but hey, we are going to enjoy it. You have to enjoy the wins in this league and we are definitely going to. We've got what amounts to a short week only because of the amount of travel in between. We've got to fly back and we've got a long trip to Baltimore again so we have got to be on top of the way we travel. We know that with the schedule we have this year, we will be all over it trying to get our guys recovered trying to get ready for next week.

(on strives the defense made)

I saw glimpses of what it should look like. I think we all did. We saw glimpses. Nowhere near what it needs to be yet but certainly reasons to be optimistic, which I am. I am very optimistic about the men we have and the work we are putting in. We have got a lot of things to clean up. We are sitting here 2-1 and looking forward to the rest of the season and the challenges ahead. We will take it one at a time and this week we got enough done to get the win.

(on the concern of the offense getting shutout the second half)

There are concerns everywhere. You are always concerned about things that don't go the way you would love for them to unfold. I thought overall we were pretty darn solid. We didn't end up generating as many points as we would like to have but we did enough to earn a tough victory on the road. But this is a stingy defense. Coach (Dick) LeBeau has done a great job to start the year. I think they had one touchdown allowed in their first two games so he's done a great job with his unit. I thought we did enough today to get a win.

(on playing at 10 am PST)

We have got a very challenging schedule. If you look at it all, very challenging. I talked about that with our guys after this game. I said, we have got to travel well, we have got to get home and get our rest and we have got to hydrate and do all the things you have to do to be good and be able to go on the road and win. To win two games to start the year on the road, that's big. We have our next challenge up with the Ravens next week. It is huge for us to play well no matter where we are.

(on the penalties called on the Titans on their final drive)

I thought they were appropriate. A good hard fought battle. Those are things they have actually done several times already this year. The pick play that they run over there, they have already been called on it. It is actually on the teaching tape this week or last week. So it is something that everyone is ready for, alert for. So, it got called again.

(on S Karl Joseph not coming out right away after halftime and how he played)

He just needed a little more time before he was ready to go. My eyes told me that he did some good things. I'm sure there will be things that weren't perfect but I thought he gave us throughout the whole week and the way we played and the way the defense played, I thought he gave us a little bit of a spark having him in. In fact Cory James did some good things. There's some things I saw right away, I was like, we got to do that better now, you're kidding me. So there are a couple of things, those guys in their first start, I thought they held up pretty well and there will be a lot to learn from. He just needed a little more time.

(on CB Sean Smith's interception)

Yeah, exactly. He did a nice job; went in there aggressively and took that ball. It was a heck of a play.

(on T Menelik Watson's injury)

I think he got a calf or lower leg. We'll know a little more when we get a good look at it. I think Vadal (Alexander) went in and played well, so we've been...it was our fourth offensive tackle to play this year on the right side or fifth if you count the left moving over to right, so we've played them all over there and we've done a good job. We've done a good job. We gave up one sack on the day and so, really in my mind, one on the year, although, (Raiders PR) Will (Kiss) can't get that other one changed. Anyway, I think they're doing a good solid job up front.

(on clock at the end of the first half)

I wouldn't say I was satisfied with it. I would say it was handled properly. If at the end of the day the idea is to have common sense and do the right thing. I would've loved for them to not apply common sense and give us the field goal, but the reality is the clock didn't start on time. So, they recognized it and adjusted it. Now was that three seconds? I don't know. I can't speak to that, but at the end of the day, I would love to see our league to allow the officials to have the latitude to make common sense judgements. I think that's what it was. So, I support what it was even though it kept us from having a field goal attempt.

(on players raising their fists for the national anthem protest)

No thoughts on that, other than that I would've hoped if that were the case it would've been brought up ahead of time so we could be all involved in one thing or another. As I said earlier when this whole thing started, I respect everybody's opinion to express themselves, that's what we have as Americans, we have that right, OK. I just would like to see us as a team to do things together and united. So whatever he felt or they felt, I don't know what exactly you're talking about, but if that occurred, I support their freedom. I also deeply respect our flag and the people who've sacrificed for our country, to make it what it is. I think it's an awesome place. We get to enjoy things like football on Sunday, so that's how I feel.

RAIDERS QB DEREK CARR

(on if it was nice to see the defense making strides today)

Yes, because we were sloppy today on offense, not to our standards. Did we win? Yes. Did we execute? Yes. Can we move the ball out of backed up situations when we had penalties? Yes. Did we do those things right? Yeah, but I hold us to a higher standard than that. I expect more but we did enough today to win. It's a good feeling to feel good about but it's good that this happened and we got the win because now we can go back and say, 'look guys, we gotta grind harder or whatever it is.' We've got to do better and it's always good to do that with a win because you feel good about it. We know everyone in that locker room on our side of the ball knows we need to play better. That was just not good enough. With that said, we did enough today to win. Execute. Defense, my goodness. We can get off their backs now. They won their game, the game for us. That right there was a prime example of what I've seen every day in practice. That's why I kept saying what I was saying. It's hard to complete balls against them. I mean, Marcus (Mariota) is throwing accurate balls that are getting tipped up and picked. That's tough, man. That's just going to happen in this game, obviously. It happened to me today. You know, I saw the ball get tipped up and the ball was about in the air for about 90 seconds and they got one. So it's going to happen. They're so good, man. They make plays like that all the time in practice.

(on winning two road games at 10am Pacific time and how the team has adjusted to the time difference)

It's cool. It's good. Focused on this year, obviously. I'm happy that we've done it twice now. It's always a good thing to come out this way, anything out past this way. It's always good to get a win early in the morning. It's good for me because 10 a.m. I'm wide awake. My day is already started for a long time. I love, absolutely love, playing on the east coast and we got the first game. I'm always up early, ready to go. When we play later, it's like man, it can't get here fast enough. I'm happy for our team but at the same time, we're focused on this year. We've done it twice really well and it's been cool.

(on watching the final sequence of the game)

Man, I was just praying. You know me. I was praying, man, that we'd get a stop. They worked their tails off. They really did. The main reason I wanted to see it was there was so much pressure on. There were all these things said. I just want them to see the fruit of the hard work that they've put in be produced. I was so happy for them. They worked really hard too about not holding and just getting around guys. You see D.A. (David Amerson), you saw Reggie (Nelson) do it late in the game, you know, jumping around the guy, not grabbing. They do such a good job of that so it's like little things like that I see them do at practice that you see paying off in the game. I'm so happy for them, like really. I know when you're struggling on one side of the ball in a certain way, you just want to see that hard work pay off and it did today. They deserve all the credit.

(on the change in offense from the first half to the second half)

I thought our focus was great. I thought everyone was energetic. The heat wasn't getting to anybody or anything like that but in the locker room, we were ready to go, ready to put some more points out there. We hurt ourselves with penalties. I mean, illegal formations stuff like that can't happen. I don't know if I remember why or what they called it on but it's like stuff like that. We can't do that. We're way better than that. We're past that. It's stuff like that whether its ball placement or a drop there, we know we're better than that. We're sitting there and we're frustrated because we expect so much more. We expect execution all the time. That's what we have to kinda realize in the NFL- it's not going to be perfect or pretty. I thought we moved the ball well. We just didn't get enough points in the second half, obviously.

RAIDERS WR AMARI COOPER

(on dropping a couple of passes during today's game)

I've got to look it all the way through. I actually just have to tuck the ball; that's it. They weren't drops. It's just, I caught it, I ran, one hit my knee, one guy hit me so I just have to tuck the ball. Easy to fix.

(on the play of the Raiders defense)

The defense played well today. They held it down when we needed them to hold it down.

(on the playing conditions)

It was kind of hot, it was kind of hot. Reminded me of playing at Alabama.

(on the Raiders defense finishing the game)

We trusted them to make plays; they made them and we're excited about that. You never know which group, special teams, offense or defense, is going to need help. We didn't really execute the four-minute drive as how we should have and they came through for us.

(on what the Titans defense did to slow down the Raiders offense)

I mean, they played well out there today. But we feel like if we execute no one can stop us. But all credit goes to them.

RAIDERS RB DEANDRE WASHINGTON

(on the physical nature of today's game)

It was a tough one, man. I think the first three games have been tough. It's exciting coming down to the wire but I'm glad we were able to find a way to pull it out.

(on his 30-yard run)

We had some good looks, man. Good blocking up front; great blocking as a matter of fact. I was just able to get a crease and get skinny and get a big run.

(on heading back to Oakland with a victory)

It's always a good feeling going back with a win, man. It's always a good feeling to get back to work when you get that win under your belt on a Sunday. It makes things a lot easier coming in on Monday.

(on whether the game played out how he expected it to)

Actually, those guys had a nice comeback win last week so we knew no matter what the score was it was going to come down to the end. Whether we were up or they were up, they weren't going to stop fighting and neither were we. So we were expecting that and big ups to our defense; they came through and got us the win.

RAIDERS CB SEAN SMITH

(on the playing conditions)

I live in Florida so I'm kind of used to it. It was a little warm. No big deal.

(on his interception)

It was an in-breaking route. I was pressing, was able to undercut it and make a play on the ball. You know, just doing my job.

(on the Raiders defense playing better today after struggling in the first two games of the season)

It wasn't so much about the first couple of games. It was just going out there and trying to make plays. We're trying to win a ballgame here. To make a play in that point in time was big for us, so it was dope.

(on if he thinks the Raiders secondary has begun to play better as a unit)

Yes. I'm not going to sit here and say that we're where we need to be but today we definitely were on the same page out there. We were communicating a whole lot better and not making the small mistakes that we were in previous weeks.

(on the play of Raiders S Karl Joseph)

Hey, Karl (Joseph) was coming up hitting. I was surprised, being so small, that he was throwing his body in there at those big backs they've got. I think he came in, he played fast, he was loud, made all his calls. I was happy for him.

(on the Raiders defense finishing the game by stopping the Titans in the red zone)

Yes, but at the same time, that was already the expectation for us. Every time we step on the field we are trying to put forth a good showing. You know, we were in all different types of situations during this game so that was good for us to put that on film. It was fun; that's all I can say.

RAIDERS LB CORY JAMES

(on the playing conditions)

It was alright. You know what I'm saying? It was alright, it was a little hot but we got the win so that's all that matters.

(on competing against Titans RBs DeMarco Murray and Derrick Henry)

They're good, it was tough, but we got the win so that's all that matters.

(on where the Raiders defense improved today over the first two games of the season)

Probably just communication and stuff, and not giving up big plays to the open man. Just knocking everybody down.

(on what he was feeling during the Titans' final drive of the game)

We had to stay with it and we got the win.

RAIDERS S KARL JOSEPH

(on making his first career start today)

It felt good, man. Game started slowing down as the series went on but it felt like we did a great job. We were locked in all week and it showed.

(on his play helping the Raiders defense)

I think it was about doing my job. I wasn't trying to do too much or do anything extra but just do my job. If everybody does their job it shows how dominant we can be on defense.

(on his blitz that resulted in Titans QB Marcus Mariota's fumble)

For me, I should have come back underneath. Coming off that blitz I probably went a little too deep and allowed him to move up in the hole. Good thing we got a fumble on it, but coaching point for me, I just got to be able to come back underneath that back and make a sack.

(on whether or not he felt nervous in his first career start)

Not really, but you know it was definitely a little nervous feeling out there those first couple of drives. As the drives went on it started slowing down and started getting a little more comfortable out there.

(on providing a spark for the Raiders defense)

Most definitely. I think they drafted me because of my personality as well. I'm a leader, a natural leader, so I just want to go out there, do my job and get the guys to spark it up, stay focused the whole time we're on the field.

TITANS HEAD COACH MIKE MULARKEY

(on the two late penalties in the game)

I'd really like to look at it. From what I saw, I'd have to look at it on tape again to give my fair judgment on it and fair comment on it. I need to be careful, it's costly obviously.

(on if he considers Taylor Lewan's penalty unacceptable)

There's a fine line there. The runner's still running and they're still tackling, and all he was doing, he was still blocking. It's a fine line. It's how they call it, it happens all the time. I know that their hitters come in and take shots all the time while the runner is still up, and it's a fine line.

(on if he approves of Taylor Lewan being down there)

I want them all down there. I want them all helping the ball, their teammate that's carrying the ball. They've got to make a good decision on when they do that. That was not a good decision. We weren't going any further, but I don't think it was too late on the hit.

(on if he thought Tajae Sharpe was still in play)

Yes, I did. And so did Taylor [Lewan]. And so did their tacklers, everybody except the officials.

(on how much moving back from the three-yard line after the penalty hurt them)

That's a different play call, different philosophy, you just lost a lot of time and yards at that position.

(on if the play by Andre Johnson is one that needs further review)

Yeah, I need to look at that. I mean, there's contact on almost every play in the NFL, every play of the game. You can't get open, you can't get that open. We had guys falling down offensively all day, they'd go down too.

(on the no call on Harry Douglas in the end zone)

Again, that's all judgmental. That's what they see and that's what they called. It's not what I see or anybody else, it's what they see.

(on what he wishes would have happened earlier in the game so it wasn't down to a one play situation at the end of the game)

We need, obviously, open the drive, open the game with a field goal. We need to finish plays, finish drives. Really after that drive it kind of stalled and really never got into any kind of rhythm offensively. I thought our defense was pretty sound all day. We gave up a couple of runs, a couple third downs early that helped them to sustain drives. I liked the way they responded when they came out in the third quarter. That was a game, that was a different game in the second half I thought for our team. It was a different mentality, the guys made some plays, we hit some runs, on the same plays we were calling earlier, we weren't hitting them. We made some mistakes early in the game that hurt us, that hurt us big.

(on how the offense requires precision from Marcus Mariota)

I know there was a lot of precision on some of those other throws that we could do a better job of making plays from.

(on if there are any similarities in the interceptions Marcus Mariota has thrown)

They're bang bang plays. They're plays that we're on the losing end of most of them. Whether it was a pick or an

incompletion, especially on a third down, we had a number of plays where the ball was right there and we didn't make the plays. I'll say this, the last drive we made some of those plays, we did. We just weren't making them consistently throughout the game and that was killing us on third down. We had guys where we wanted them and we weren't coming up with the ball. Give them credit, they made some really good plays.

(on what happened with the time at the end of the first half)

The clock didn't start when the ball was snapped. That was it, period. There's way that play took five seconds. We know, from upstairs we watched the clock, we knew when the play was already in play, we knew the clock didn't start.

(on DeMarco Murray leading the offense)

He was running, that's the way he is, he's a big, physical runner. I felt like at the time, give him the ball right now, he's in a groove. A lot of these guys, the more they get it, the better they are, and he was making a lot of yards after contact, I know that.

(on how play time was decided for Kendall Wright and Delanie Walker)

Pretty sure on Kendall (Wright), I've said it pretty clearly that Kendall's got to practice three or four days before he plays a game. Delanie (Walker), no decision was made yesterday, playing it smart with Delanie this game.

(on if Marcus Mariota was trying to get too much out of scramble when he fumbled)

I think he saw the line. Again, he knows he's got to be better with the ball. That's a constant subject with him. He's such a competitor, and they made a good play, it was like slow motion, you knew it was about to happen when the defender came up behind him.

(on if it's been a similar effort from the team for three straight weeks)

There are going to be close games. Our defense is playing well, we need to obviously score more points. I think I said before the game at some point this week we're not finishing these drives like I've seen us able to do with a touchdown. Again, something here or there has put us in a position to make it harder to overcome and in this business that's hard to do. The penalties we had, we couldn't overcome them.

(on whether the loss is more frustrating because of the penalties and turnovers)

We had a chance to win a game, all the way to the last play we had a chance to win the game and not play the best of football consistently. We made some plays. Again, there's a lot we can learn from these games, there's a lot of good things happening with our team. But this is a fine line in this business, if we make some mistakes, it'll make it hard to win.

(on his message to the players after the game)

I just thought we needed to start a little faster.

(on how it feels to lose the second game at home)

That's something that at some point is going to change. We wanted it to change today; it's going to change. It will change. I wanted it today, and some point it's going to have to change, and they know that. It's important.

(on if the offensive game was clogged in the middle)

It's frustrating because the deep balls, we're not hitting them, we're getting sacked on them, we're getting scrambles on them, we're not getting the play that we need to make when they're called. There are times when they are sitting on some things, on our outs, but they're not sitting on them long enough to cover them.

(on the heat)

We've been practicing in it, I'm not sure of their situation, but we've been practicing in this heat for awhile. Really, I don't know if anybody took an IV after the game like they have even in practices.

TITANS QB MARCUS MARIOTA

(on feeling good about team chances on the final drive)

We kind of built a rhythm, we were moving the ball and I thought we had a chance. Sometimes it just doesn't mature.

(on the gray area of the penalty called against Taylor Lewan)

No, we love his effort and that's what makes this team better. His effort and his trying to lay it all on the line for us and you know it is unfortunate. It's a call the referees thought they needed to make and we just have to do our best and roll with the punches and do our best to kind of handle that.

(on if losing a game in this fashion hurts more and how he gets over that)

I just continue to have a 24-hour policy, win or lose. You know, (we have) to find ways to get better and move on from it.

(on what he saw on the game's last two plays)

On the coverage, I thought I was going to get a chance to Andre (Johnson). I thought he made a great play. You know the one to Harry (Douglas), I tried to fit it in a window and unfortunately, it was a little too high and that's part of it, it's just the game.

(on officials' calls on final two plays)

That's up to them. We got to play, you know, with how they are going to referee the game and we don't have control over that. We just have to focus on what we do and what we can control and just move on, roll with it.

(on why the offense has seemed to develop rhythm early)

I am not sure. I thought after the first drive I thought we were rolling pretty good. I think for us, there are certain penalties here and there that put us behind the sticks a little bit that hampers our ability to build that rhythm. Obviously, the turnovers could have done it.

(on if turnovers are a result of his trying to do too much)

I would say so. I mean that's just me being a competitor and that's why I got to continue to learn. I am trying to do too much, fight for a first down rather than just moving on and taking care of the football.

(on frustration of ball security still being an issue)

Yeah, and you know that's things that I have worked on, it's part of the game, but I got to find ways to be better. I can't put our defense in situations like that. You know, I will get better.

(on what happened on his fumble)

One of those deals where his shoulder pads hit right on the ball. In that situation, I thought I could get the first down, but then sometimes you just have to take your medicine, get down and move on. Let our defense get a stop and punt the ball.

(on if interception was another case of his trying to do too much)

Yeah, that's me learning and growing. I can do a better job of just taking it one play at a time, not trying to win the game on one throw. But again, it's a process for me and I am doing my best to learn.

(on thoughts of his team's defense against the league's top offense)

I thought they played great. They gave us an opportunity to win the game. We have to play better on the offensive side of the ball so we can kind of match what they are doing on defense.

(on how he thought tight end Jace Amaro filled in for the injured Delanie Walker)

You know, Jace (Amaro) came in and played well. He made plays. He was finding lanes and getting open. For us, it is kind of tough to fill that void. Delanie (Walker) is a great player but I thought Jace came out and played well and did his best.

(on if sticking with run coming out with a 14-point deficit in second half was a significant sign with DeMarco Murray)

It's huge. For us, if we can run the ball and establish the run like that, it will open things up for us in the passing game.

(on if he had trouble finding wideouts)

No, not necessarily. I thought we did a good job today just playing off, (they were) sitting on some of our routes. So for us, it's part of the game. Sometimes you are going to have a game plan, things that you aren't really prepared for, you have to roll with the punches and find ways to execute.

(on if Oakland's defense loosen up on final drive)

A little here and there, I think for us we are comfortable in those situations and guys continue to make plays.

(on if games of last two weeks demonstrated how close the league is)

Yeah, I guess you could put it that way and that's what's so great about this league. Week in and week out, you're competing against the best and unfortunately sometimes you are not going to come out on top, but it's a good tool for us to learn from and continue to grow.

(on what DeMarco Murray brings to the table)

He's a great player. He continues to show that week in and week out. He gives us a lot of options, not only in the run game but also in the pass game. We have to find ways to continue to get him the ball.

(on if he accepts Taylor Lewan's apology to the team)

Absolutely, I told him, 'don't change.' That's the type of mentality we want around here. We want that effort, we want that effort through the whistle. I told him don't change, just continue to be yourself.

(on how much he felt he missed the deep throw to Andre Johnson)

You know, I felt good about the ball was going to be there. It was a little too far, but we have to take our shots, we got to hit some of those. Guys like Andre (Johnson) and those guys are going to continue to get open and I have to find ways to get them the ball.

TITANS LB WESLEY WOODYARD

(on the Titans falling short in a close game)

If you want to be a good team, we've got to learn to pull through and win those close games. One thing I will say, is I'm proud of my teammates. We stuck in and fought hard all the way until the final seconds clicked off of the clock. We gave ourselves a chance to win, but we have to do better.

TITANS S KEVIN BYARD

(on the loss)

I feel like we played fairly good on the defensive side of the ball. Gave up a few passes, but other than that, I feel like we played good. We played hard on all three phases: special teams, offense and defense. It's just tough to lose a game in that fashion. It's just tough.

(on focusing on the rest of the Titans season and the games ahead)

It's a long season. You just have to go back in on Monday and watch the film, and find out things we can learn from

this loss. You hate to lose. You hate to lose in front of your crowd. You hate to lose in that fashion, but it is what it is. You have to take all the bad from it and learn from it and take the good from it and take off with it. I don't like losing. I don't want to get used to it. We don't want to get used to it. Don't like losing at all. Point blank, period.

TITANS TE JACE AMARO

(on being activated by the Titans and seeing action today)

Delanie (Walker) was down, so it was kind of new, going in to the game. I got a lot of reps in practice and I felt ready to go and felt like I could do a good job today. I was anticipating being able to play pretty soon, anyway. Obviously, the first couple of weeks you have to acclimated with the system, learning plays, the quarterback and stuff. I felt good out there. I felt that maybe there were just some little things that we need to work on, for me. It wasn't like I was going out there blind. I felt pretty good about the game plan. They had me doing a lot of stuff, and I felt very comfortable out there.

(on his 26-yard catch in the third quarter)

I saw him (QB Marcus Mariota) rolling out to his right, and I went up a little deep and saw my safety kind of drop off of me. I thought he might have thrown it a little deeper, but it was a completion, and we ended up scoring on the drive anyway. So it was a good pass and catch.

TITANS LB DERRICK MORGAN

(on the Titans getting over the loss to the Raiders)

You have to regroup, 24 hours, and then come tomorrow, look at it, and move on. We've got a division game coming up on Sunday, so we're trying to finish up this first quarter 2-2. We're breaking this thing down by quarters. So we're still on course. We've just got to regroup, recover, and come out to play on Sunday. I think the difference between other years here in the past, is that I think everyone on the sidelines thought we were going to win that game. Where in the past, we would have just kind of folded. I think the belief is there. The confidence is there. We know what we are capable of doing. I think that's a big difference from years past. The belief that we can win and we know we can win. We just have to keep plugging away. Correcting mistakes, like always on Monday, so we can come out and get a "W" on Sunday.

TITANS T JACK CONKLIN

(on the Titans recovering from a close loss to the Raiders)

It's rough coming down like that with a chance to score, and come up empty. All the guys fought to the end. We came back down there and the defense held them. What's rough is you never want to lose a game after fighting so hard like that, and getting down there and having a chance. If you take anything away from it, we fought hard and nobody quit. We had our chance there. We want to run the ball and be successful with that. So if we can take a positive away from this loss, that would definitely be one.