



Oakland Raiders Transcript

Head Coach Jack Del Rio

Opening Statement: “Well, Fast Friday. We’re excited to be at home. Looking forward to taking on a division rival and gearing up for a good football game. Questions?”

Q: With Latavius Murray out, this seems like a situation you were preparing for during the offseason when you added depth to the running back position.

Coach Del Rio: “Yeah, well you’re always prepared in case. You got capable guys, guys who have been playing anyways. We’ll be ready to go.”

Q: How are the two rookies at pass blocking?

Coach Del Rio: “Pretty good.”

Q: How has Perry Riley Jr. done so far at practice? Is he picking up things quickly?

Coach Del Rio: “Yeah. He’s done a nice job. Veteran guy, so it’s just processing some of the new terminology, really, is the biggest thing for him. You can tell he has terrific instincts. Has great temperament, and we like the way he’s preparing. Looking forward to getting him in.”

Q: How much of a factor has Marquette King been for you guys this year and how comforting is it know you guys have him?

Coach Del Rio: “Yeah I think with Marquette, I think he’s done a great job developing himself. We take pride in developing our players. Really a kind of raw untapped guy when we got him, when we got here. I think [special teams coordinator] coach [Brad] Seely and [assistant special teams coach] Tracy [Smith], I think they’ve done a tremendous job with him on the fundamentals of playing the position, all that it takes to play that position. Not just kicking the ball, kicking the ball directionally, the holes, the whole package. He’s grown as player in that way. He’s definitely an asset for us and we need that. We need strong play. It’s hard to be good on special teams if you’re not getting good kicking [with a] good punter and you don’t have a good core of guys who will bust it for you. I feel like we have that. It gives us the nucleus of a good group.”

Q: Do you think the way King carries himself just helps him stay relaxed?

Coach Del Rio: “I suppose. We want our guys to be themselves and express themselves, as long as it’s respectful. We want to make sure we’re respectful to the game. Respectful to the people we’re playing against and all of that. He has not crossed that stripe. He’s not in a bad area there, so we’ll enjoy ourselves. Have fun, express yourself. That’s OK, especially because you get to do that when you’re doing well.”

Q: Is it nice to have a versatile player at strong safety in Karl Joseph?

Coach Del Rio: “Yeah we like Karl, obviously. We took him early in the draft. He’s working at it, doing a nice job with the different ways we’re trying to utilize him. Obviously, it’ll be big this week going up against a really good football team with a really good quarterback and really good tight end.”

Q: With guys like Malcolm Smith and Austin Howard, do you have an idea if they’ll be ready or not?

Coach Del Rio: “Yeah, we’ll see. I have a pretty good feel for it, but there’s some guys where maybe an extra day might help make that decision for us.”