



## Oakland Raiders Transcript

### Head Coach Jon Gruden

**Opening statement:** "I'll be happy to answer any questions that I can. I don't have much for you."

**Q: How's it looking for Jordy Nelson to play on Sunday?**

**Coach Gruden:** "He has a chance. I think he has a pretty good chance to play. I don't know how much, but we'll see how it goes. Keon Hatcher will be ready to play."

**Q: What was the week like preparing for Lamar Jackson? Was there ever a question that Joe Flacco might be playing instead?**

**Coach Gruden:** "Oh it's always a question with Flacco because he's an Iron Man. He hasn't missed many starts in his career, so we had to get ready for both quarterbacks. Certainly, preparation for Jackson is a lot different than Flacco. We had Rico Gafford, one of our scout team guys, try to simulate him. Hard to do with that kind of speed and passing ability. But we got our work done. We'll see how it worked out."

**Q: Is Justin Ellis going to play?**

**Coach Gruden:** "I don't think he's going to play this week. We'll shoot for next week. We'll try to get him a couple more practices. He is getting better."

**Q: I don't know if you saw Saints game last night, but Drew Brees threw four touchdowns to guys who were undrafted free agents. You were talking earlier in the week about the standards you have for Derek Carr and the passing offense. Is that kind of what you're talking about?**

**Coach Gruden:** "Yeah. Not only for Derek, but for the receivers. You don't have to be a first-round draft choice to be a good player. It's one thing I've always believed in. If you get the right kind of guys that fit that type of system, that work their butt off every day, you'd be surprised at what guys can do when they get an opportunity. But to your point, yes, that was what I was talking about. It was awesome to see."

**Q: We saw a little bit of that from Carr last week with passes to Marcell Ateman.**

**Coach Gruden:** "Yeah, and [Brandon] LaFell showed up after all preseason was over. I'm proud of what Derek has been able to do with a lot of moving parts. Not only at wide receiver, but on the offensive line and in the back field, too."