



Oakland Raiders Transcript

Eagles Head Coach Doug Pederson Conference Call

Q: What differences have you noticed in the Raiders' defense over the past four weeks?

Coach Pederson: "Yeah, I think one of the things that [assistant head coach – defense] coach [John] Pagano, of course I'm very familiar with from having been in Kansas City and he was at San Diego. Of course, Frank Reich was here, who worked with him in San Diego for a few years. I think you're seeing a little more pressure out of this group. I don't want to say it's complete overhaul, but structurally it's probably I would say it's the pressure. A little more single-high, cover one, playing a little bit more man. Really that's about it. Other than that, it's been kind of what they've done for most of the season."

Q: Are they doing other things to free up the edge rushers like Khalil Mack and Bruce Irvin?

Coach Pederson: "They're obviously bringing some of the inside backers a little bit more which increases some one-on-one with their tackles. It frees up the guards. It eats up the guards, I should say, on the inside pressure, the inside backers. Then you go one-on-one with your top pass rusher in Khalil Mack, who's a tremendous player. Obviously, I have a lot of respect for him. Schematically you're also seeing what we call a jammed front, which is you cover up your guards and your center and you still got a one-on-one on the outside. So all five linemen are covered up. It just creates some one-on-one issues for your tackles that you have to be aware of."

Q: What have you seen from Marshawn Lynch in the past few weeks?

Coach Pederson: "Yeah obviously this guy, listen, he's a tremendous running back. He's a big, big back. Physical guy, runs extremely hard downhill. When I say physical, he doesn't shy away from contact. He's going to definitely punish tacklers. That's his demeanor. That's always been his demeanor. Just utilizing him a little bit more, getting him involved. It takes a little more pressure off the quarterback when you can run the ball like that. You're just seeing too some of his leadership on the football field, whether you're watching a TV copy game or even a coaches copy. You just understand who he is and what he is and you constantly see him talking to his teammates, his quarterback and leading the guys. Again, another player, a lot of respect."

Q: How has John DeFilippo been to work with?

Coach Pederson: "John has done a great job for me and for the quarterbacks. Obviously, he was there brining in Derek Carr. (*phone cut out*) He's done an outstanding job just teaching and the drill work, the fundamentals with Carson [Wentz] and Nick [Foles] and Nate [Sudfeld]. What he does in the classroom that carries to the field and then obviously to practice. His attention to detail. He understands the offense and really drills it down to where they can understand it. That's one of the positives. That's one of the strengths that our quarterbacks have been able to do. He keeps it simple for them and allows them to free up and play and make as many plays as possible."

Q: How has the team responded to Carson Wentz being lost for the year and how have they rallied around Nike Foles?

Coach Pederson: "It's tough. Obviously, it's the quarterback, but we've been through this already this season. We've lost Jason Peters, a Pro Bowl left tackle, Darren Sproles, Chris Maragos, Jordan Hicks, just a slew of guys – our kicker early in the season. So we've been through this already this year. The team has really rallied and supported the next guy and we've had that 'next man up' mentality. Even with the quarterback position with Nick, he's a veteran player. I was a part of drafting him in Philly when I was here before under Coach [Andy] Reid, so I have a long history with him and the guys really have a lot of faith and confidence and for him to go out and perform last week under the circumstances and getting behind in that football game against the Giants but yet still pulling out the victory, I think is a credit to Nick but also to the guys rallying and making plays for him."