



Oakland Raiders Transcript

Quarterback Derek Carr

Q: You and Head Coach Jon [Gruden] are going to be neighbors in Las Vegas?

Carr: "We are next door neighbors. We will be, yes, but that's for the future. That'll be fun. Hopefully a lot of knocks on the door. Maybe we can carpool. *(laughter)* That would be good for us."

Q: Is that a 'good fences make good neighbors' type of situation?

Carr: "Oh yeah, we might knock down the fence and just make it one. We'll see."

Q: Would you say that J.J. Nelson kind of fills in a void with Antonio Brown not practicing yet, as far as their skill sets go even though they are two different players?

Carr: "Oh, of course. J.J. ...they are two different guys like you said, two different players, but one thing you can't coach, man, is that speed. I think we've all seen J.J., man, that guy. I'll never forget the first go ball I threw him. I thought I overthrew him, and I left it short about three yards and was like, 'My gosh. This guy.' Everyone says he is fast but every day that's a legit 4.2 and watching him run, not only go routes, but I was really, not shocked, but surprised in how well his route running was short and intermediate. Usually those fast guys with longer strides, those short routes are kind of harder for them, those quick bursts and turns which is a lot of Coach Gruden's offense. You got to be a good short area route runner and he's been able to do it great. I think Coach Gruden talked about it and hit on it, how much he's been impressed with him, and his ability to not only be that fast guy on the team but just play receiver. And just the bonus of his speed."

Q: When Antonio Brown does comeback, how quickly will be able to pick up where you were or is this important time that you guys are missing?

Carr: "You think like every rep that you miss is important time. That's how I've always looked at it. We wished the healing process of whatever is going on will be fast. We want it to be fast, but at the same time you can't rush things for training camp when you know you have a season and hopefully a playoff run to think about, right? So, the trainers know way more than any of the players know. We just know that when he does show up, we can't wait and we'll welcome him with open arms. Hopefully he's healthy and just ready to hit running, but like you said we had so much time in the offseason. We spent a lot of time at my house throwing. We spent hours upon hours throwing, so there is chemistry, there is development. I'm used to throwing him the ball. It won't be brand new when he shows up. It'll just be more on him and the details of the routes, getting out and doing it, correcting it on film and going and fixing it the next day. Those kinds of things, but besides that the timing aspect, the meat and potatoes, so to speak, of what we need it's there. But just those details when he gets back we will iron out."

Q: You did not miss a beat with him when he was at the walkthrough before practice and when he did half the practice that day it seemed like he was good to go?

Carr: "It was awesome. Routes on air was good timing. I'm always hard on my ball placement. We wish we hit the go route on 'LJ' [Lamarcus Joyner], but then we hit another go route. We hit a deep corner route, so like we said, some of the timing, it's there but we just want to be 100 percent and strive for that."

Q: Do you follow him on Instagram? Did you see the picture of his feet?

Carr: "I do follow him, and me and [Media Relations Coordinator] Evert [Geerlings] actually just talked about it. I didn't even see the post. I've never lied to you guys. I did not see it. *(laughter)*"



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Q: It's not good...

Carr: "It's not good? Don't tell me that. I might throw up. I don't know."

Q: When you see Tyrell Williams make that toe tap in the end zone, are those plays you make a mental note of?

Carr: "You are right on it, man. That's what goes on in my head. Cornerback, one-on-one, let's find out. This is the time to find out and he's consistently done that. I think everyone that's been at practice is seeing Tyrell not just as a number two receiver. He can easily take the featured role and be a 100-catch, 1,000-yard guy. And the fact that we got him is a blessing man, especially with the feet thing that is going on. Having Tyrell is nice to be able to throw to that guy. I think you guys remember Andre Holmes, how much I loved Andre. How many times I threw the ball just one-on-one, deep, 50-yards, just chucking it up like, 'Hey, make the play' because he did it a 100 times in practice and so I think what will see is the more times he's making that play in games, one-on-one, down the field, you are going to see me just let it rip. Hopefully not as Favre-ish, maybe not three guys on him, but more calculated I guess. *(laughter)* He's a guy that you definitely flick a switch when you see a certain look and you saw it happen in practice, 'Oh yeah, here you go buddy. Here's your chance.' And I tell my receivers every day, I'm always going to give you a chance until you prove me wrong and then once you prove me wrong it just won't happen again because that football is just way too valuable to give to the other team."

Q: Have you noticed that Williams is pulling away from guys and he just kind of glides?

Carr: "That's one thing we worked on. When you first start throwing him routes, him and Darren Waller are similar, they have such long strides and it doesn't look like they are really trying that hard. It's just effortless for them and the first couple balls you throw them are behind them and you're like that doesn't even make sense. Then you turn the film on, and you see the kind of ground he's covering. That's where you can tell like, 'Man, that guy can move.' Like you said, it doesn't look like he's running that fast but no one else is catching him. It reminds me of Davante Adams to be honest with you. My man Davante, everyone said, 'Oh, he's not that fast' and all these things. I've never seen the guy get caught. He just leaves people, and same thing with Tyrell. It's similar, that guy can go."

Q: What have you seen from Keelan Doss?

Carr: "I love Keelan. I think we've seen him make some spectacular catches over the last few days and he's been a guy that obviously I'm throwing timing routes to down in the red zone, where windows are like this, and he's making plays. I think the thing for Keelan, and it's with any rookie it's not a knock on Keelan, it's the simple plays. He drops a simple ball on the sideline. All he is just trying to do is, he's trying to get the ball and just trying to make the next play. His mindset is right. I think as the game slows down for him just making those simple plays because we know he can play. We know he's a good receiver in this league. He's making these diving, twisting, jumping catches in between guys and it's just been awesome. I think for him it will just be consistency. The best ones are the ones that can consistently do the little things right every day, and so he'll have a spectacular play or two, or three and then he'll have one play where you're like 'C'mon man. You got to do it like this.' Again, that's not alarming. He's a rookie. I sit there and look at him and say, 'Wow, he's going to be a good one.'

Q: What do you hope to get out of the joint practices with the Rams?

Carr: "Again, it's good to go against a different scheme. I really enjoy it and especially when it's two really professional teams that aren't trying to prove their manhood or prove their toughness to each other. Obviously, football is a physical game, but when there is just fights and brawls, I think that's pointless, but when you can get good, physical, hard, fast work against a different scheme that kind of stuff is invaluable, honestly. I think it's more



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valuable than a preseason game if I am just going to be honest. Doing these joint things, you get different situations. A third-down situation, you get some of [defensive coordinator] Coach [Wade] Phillips' stuff. You get first-and-10 versus this personnel and you get this look and that look, different blitz patterns and things like that. You are getting more reps and it's way more valuable than a preseason game to me."

Q: In your first year on the team, did you overlap with the late Dick Romanski in the equipment room?

Carr: "No. Just when I got here it was Bob [Romanski], Adam [Johnson] and 'Mo' [Danny Molina]."

Q: Can you talk a little bit about his [Bob Romanski] artistry and also just your interactions with him?

Carr: "Oh yeah. Bob's a wizard. I'm like, 'Hey Bob.' I'm not the artist kind of type, so I just tell him 'Hey, I got this kind of idea,' and then I said, 'these are the colors I want, just have fun.' And every time I open the box, I'm like, 'Bro. That is unbelievable.' He's got a real gift when it comes to that, so I let him do all my stuff. Even like little pad adjustments, I'm like, 'Hey, I really want an extra thing right here.' Obviously in my back area for those of you that remember and he can just whip something up and sew it in and it looks like it actually belongs there. It's not a patchwork kind of job. So, he's a special guy and I love that we have him."

Q: How are the defensive backs looking?

Carr: "You know who has impressed me is those two young corners that we drafted, Isaiah [Johnson] and Trayvon [Mullen], they are really impressive. Usually when you get young corners, I'm like, 'Okay. It's routes on air and I'm just going to pick on them all day kind of a thing.' And those guys have been competitive. They ask me questions. One of my favorite pictures is actually there is a picture of me and Trayvon sitting over here, and he takes five minutes and he's like, 'Hey man. Talk to me about this route. What you are thinking? What you are seeing?' And that doesn't happen very often, so those guys have been very impressive. [Daryl] Worley has always, I think, been a good player. Playing against him in Carolina and [Gareon] Conley is everything that we all think that he is. We just hope that he can stay healthy and show it on the field because we all think he is a pretty darn good corner. He's made a lot of plays. We, just like anybody, we just want to see him the whole time because Conley, he can be a lock down guy for us and that would be huge for I know [defensive coordinator] Coach Guenther and their scheme."