

Oakland Raiders Transcript

Head Coach Jon Gruden

Opening statement: "Change of practice, obviously, but I'll be happy to answer questions I can."

Q: How did you accommodate everything you needed to get done with the practice change?

Gruden: "You do the best you can. Sometimes you just have to adapt to the circumstances. We tightened practice up. We tried to get the reps we need and that's what we did."

Q: Was it just preventative or did any players have reactions from yesterday?

Gruden: "Preventative, just listening to the trainers. Being smart about what he says and being respectful of the reality of what's going on."

Q: The game on Sunday, do you anticipate the air quality to impact it's scheduling?

Gruden: "I don't know. I hope that the fires go away. I'm more concerned about a lot of people that are being impacted by this. We'll react to whatever the circumstances are, whatever happens. I just hope this ends fast"

Q: How do you feel about Eddie Vanderdoes' status?

Gruden: "I'm optimistically hoping Arizona. I can't make any promises. Right now, he's not ready to go. it's great to have him out here. We'll have to make a decision in the coming days, but he won't play against the Chargers. Hopefully we can find a way to get him active. We'd like to take a look at him. We need him."

Q: Am I correct that you must activate Vanderdoes onto your 53-man roster this weekend?

Gruden: "Yeah. We'll have to make a decision on that this weekend. We'll make that here shortly."

Q: What have you seen from Marcell Ateman?

Gruden: "I like the guys that we've had active. I think our receivers are playing pretty well. We'd like to get some more opportunities to throw the ball. Ateman is doing well. Behind the scenes, he's worked hard. He's become versatile, which is what you have to do to become active as a fourth or fifth receiver. You have to be able to play multiple positions, back up two or three spots and play on special teams. I think it's just a matter of time before he gets an opportunity."

Q: Have you seen teams pay more attention to Jared Cook?

Gruden: "We had him open a few times in the previous game. He didn't get the ball there for obvious reasons. We had some struggles at times in pass protection. As you know, getting a tight end the ball down field takes a little time. He's running great routes. He's had a heck of a year for us. Proud of that guy. He's done well for us."