



Oakland Raiders Transcript

Head Coach Jon Gruden

Q: Does [Gareon] Conley still have steps to take to be cleared from concussion protocol?

Coach Gruden: “Yes, he does. We will wait and see how that goes. [Daryl] Worley is questionable with a shoulder, we will see how that goes. Maurice Hurst is also questionable. His ankle is not getting much better.”

Q: Is Kelechi [Osemele] ready to go?

Coach Gruden: “I think so. He has had a really good week of practice. We will see if he had any setbacks, but he sure looks ready to go.”

Q: Having Osemele back in the lineup, what does that do for Kolton Millers’ play?

Coach Gruden: “It would be nice for him. He has had a lot of different partners there this year, and Osemele is certainly a guy he is comfortable and experienced working with, so that will help.”

Q: For Kolton to have the opportunity to work against some of the best pass rushers in the league, what will that do for him in the long term?

Coach Gruden: “I think it will be great. I think it will be a great eye-opener for him. He’ll have a lot of experiences to draw from. He knows he’s got to get stronger and he’s got to become more complete, but not many rookies go wire-to-wire at left tackle or right tackle in pro football, at least the teams I have studied.”

Q: With the possibility of this being the last game in the Oakland-Alameda County Coliseum, is that something that has built over the week or is it something you’ve tried to put out of your mind?

Coach Gruden: “I try not to speculate on things. There has been a lot of things that happened this year. You can’t control a lot of it. You just have to hope that that is not the case and hope that it works out. If it is the last game, it will certainly be a sad day.”

Q: Have you ever seen another fan section like the Black Hole?

Coach Gruden: “No, I haven’t. They remind me of my friends I hung out with at Dayton [University]. We were on the edge. Just the loyalty...I’m here 20 years later and I still see those guys and still recognize a lot of them. I appreciate them and hopefully we can keep that spirit alive wherever we play.”

Q: Can you see yourself after the game going towards the stands to be with the fans?

Coach Gruden: “Why not? Yeah. Whether it’s the last game there or not, I got a lot of respect and thankfulness for our fans. It’s Christmas Eve and the end of the season, we have a lot to be thankful for. We haven’t won many games, but the people that know this football team know what is going on inside here and know that there has been some really cool foundation that has been laid. I think the fans appreciate the effort and they know we appreciate them.”

Q: Who were today’s spectators at practice?

Coach Gruden: “Well, it’s a team here from Oakland that Mike Trgovac, our defensive line coach, helped out. They won a championship and we just wanted to give those guys a little credit for their accomplishment and let them rub elbows with our players.”