



OAKLAND RAIDERS vs. NEW YORK GIANTS

Sunday, December 3, 2017
Oakland-Alameda County Coliseum
Postgame Quotes



RAIDERS HEAD COACH JACK DEL RIO

Opening statement: “Alright, happy to get a hard-fought victory here at home. Earn ourselves after today’s events a share of first place. Obviously, everything that all the goals that we set when the season started are right there in front of us. We’ll continue to take it one at a time, but I’m very proud of our guys continuing to stick together, continue to work. As a football team, we feel like we’re improving as we get ready to go down the stretch here. Really happy to get, like I said, a hard-fought victory here at home. Questions?”

Q: Can you talk about how you were able to get other guys like Johnny Holton and Cordarrelle Patterson involved?

Coach Del Rio: “Cordarrelle really played a heck of a game. He was impactful on special teams. He was impactful as a receiver, as a blocker, as a ball carrier. He played really well for us today. Johnny Holton came up. That toe tap there on that touchdown drive when we went to a 10-point lead there. Just following that Marshawn [Lynch], that great play on third down where he kind of went Beastmode there. Went through a couple of defenders. It was really good stuff.”

Q: What was your message at halftime?

Coach Del Rio: “We talked about protect and produce. That’s what we wanted to do. Protect the ball, protect the quarterback and produce points. We got it going. Had a couple of key drives there in the second half to put the game away.”

Q: Can you talk about holding your opponents to minimal yards for two weeks in a row?

Coach Del Rio: “That we played very well. Two weeks in a row that we played very well. Held our opponent under 300 yards and really kept us in the game early when we were not firing on all cylinders offensively. We hit our stride in the second half. Made some tremendous drives to put the game away.”

Q: Did Marshawn Lynch have an injury after his touchdown?

Coach Del Rio: “I think he was OK.”

Q: How did the first touchdown impact the rest of the game?

Coach Del Rio: “It was obviously an explosive play. I think the long run of the year for him with us. It was a great job executing the play and him hitting it and taking it to the house. It was awesome for us to get that start.”

Q: What has been different about Lynch since his suspension?

Coach Del Rio: “I kind of spoke to that I think after...When he came back from the suspension, I’ve seen a little more pep in the step. A little more...I can’t speak for him, I just know what I see. It’s been good. I welcome it, and we’re taking full advantage of it.”

Q: Jalen Richard put the ball on the ground four times. Was it just one of those days?

Coach Del Rio: “I hope it’s one of those that comes and goes and we don’t see again. He’s been really reliable for us. An excellent player for us. We count on him to do a lot of different things. Securing the ball is really important, and I thought he was loose with it today.”

Q: You guys haven’t been great in takeaways this season, but you had two in the first half this game.

Coach Del Rio: “Yeah, it’s huge. Huge, especially the one at the end of the half there where Khalil [Mack] takes the ball of their quarterback in the redzone. They’re knocking on the door right there. They’re certain to get points or have a high likelihood of getting some kind of points. To snuff it out right like that, take the ball off him, that was huge.”



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Q: Did you get a good look at that play right there? Who else in the NFL can make that play?

Coach Del Rio: “I know one that can. He’s pretty special. There were two plays that just stood out to me. Well three. I think that one there with Khalil. I think the Beastmode on that third down conversion. I thought that Cordarrelle there at the end when we had to have a play and we get an explosive. Those plays just stand out like grown-man ball. Just guys that are really playing outstanding, making outstanding play for our cause, for us to win.”

Q: What did you say to Eli Manning after the game?

Coach Del Rio: “I just basically said, ‘Hey man, hang in there. You know I love you and your family and have a lot of respect for you. I know it’s been a tough deal for you.’ That was it.”

Q: Are you excited about your chance to get to the playoffs or are you focusing on one at a time?

Coach Del Rio: “Just one at a time. Just like we’ve been doing. We’ve been purposeful in our work. We understand the scenario of where we are and what we need to get done. And what we need to get done is one week at a time. Keep improving as a football team. Need to stay together no matter what the noise is outside. Sometimes the noise gets loud. Sometimes it gets loud in another direction. For us not to focus on anything but the work, the preparation, the recovery and then going out and competing our tails off.”

Q: What happened with Donald Penn?

Coach Del Rio: “Yeah, he was able to return. I think all the guys that got nicked up and got evaluated for whatever reason with our trainers and doctors were able to return. We finished the game with everybody upright.”

Q: What has stood out as the biggest improvement this team has made over the last few weeks?

Coach Del Rio: “I think the efficiency of our run game. I think the effectiveness of our defense to force turnovers and get off on third downs. We’ve been playing, in particular, in the first three quarters the last couple of weeks. Really has allowed us to be on good footing.”

Q: Do you think the punt that Marquette King was tackled on was because of a blown block?

Coach Del Rio: “It was. We see. Our little tablets tell us quite a bit. We already know.”

RAIDERS QB DEREK CARR

Q: You guys struggled a bit early on. What was the difference between the first three quarters and the last quarter of the game?

Carr: “You just have to find a rhythm. We have a lot of guys playing some new spots. For us, it was just finding the rhythm, staying the course – because we knew our plan was good, the guys knew what they were doing, and things like that. We were just making sure that we stayed the course because at some point it’s going to flip. We had a good feel for what they were doing, had a good plan coming in, and just wanted to make sure we were good on that.”

Q: Can you discuss the cleats you wore today for My Cleats, My Cause?

Carr: “My cleats had Valley Children’s Hospital emblem on them. They also had my son Dallas’ name on the toe, and what is the skyline of Fresno, California on the inside part of my shoe. It was really important for me to raise awareness for them because what my wife and I went through with our oldest son, Dallas – him having three surgeries when he was first born there. He had intestinal mal-rotation, which means his intestines were tangled up, cutting off the blood supply to his body. It was a blessing that my wife’s water broke because they said if he wasn’t born like that – if he was born on time, eight days later – he would not have made it. To have a place, it’s Fresno to me. Madera is right there. To be right there, 10 minutes from the house, that way I could still go to work – football, go to school, and those kind of things while my son was in the hospital. On all my breaks, driving up there, I’ll never



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forget holding back the tears when I would show up because I would let them up in the car ride up there. When a doctor tells you, he might not make it, it's not very fun. We thank God for that place and we wanted to raise awareness for everyone that has to go through something. Because not everybody gets their child at the end. And I realize that. I realize how fortunate we are, how blessed we are. We were just poor college students, trying to make it – let alone go through that. We understand the feelings that people have, what they have to go through, and that's something that I'll never forget. We're just trying to do everything we can for that hospital, because really, that's a special place."

Q: You mentioned the skyline on your shoes. What does that symbolize?

Carr: "Just downtown Fresno. Just downtown Fresno – that was the community of people that prayed for us, for our son. You know we had prayers coming from everywhere, but we were in Fresno. I was going to college. I was just a college student, my wife and I – she never left that place. I had to beg her to get some sleep. When he was on his way out, I said now it's about time for you to go get some sleep. He's OK. She never left. She's the real hero. She sat there the whole time. I remember getting pulled off the practice field because they said their rushing Dallas into surgery again. I say all that to say, there's a lot more people than just me that go through worse. If we can raise awareness, create awareness, relieve some of the burdens of those families, then I'm all about it. He's four and no issues. He has a sweet scar on his stomach that he tells everyone is a shark bite and that daddy beat the shark up."

Q: How do you explain the team's turnaround performance in the last few weeks?

Carr: "The NFL. You know, crazy. You have to stay the course. There's a lot of adversity that happens over the season. You wish you could just go out, win them all, and do it in a good way. But that hasn't been our road this year. It's been a little bit more difficult because of ourselves. We're in a situation that all of our goals are still right in front of us. It's just right in front of us, it's there. Everything we want to do is right there. We realize that. We have a good group of guys that's growing. Coach Del Rio said it best, our team is growing and we're learning which group of guys – it's different than last year. Every year is a new year. We're learning now – how to prepare, how to recover, how to compete. We're learning how to win games. As long as we can get hot, right around now, this is the time to do it."

Q: Talk about your perspective of Marshawn Lynch's first touchdown.

Carr: "Check run. We had the look that we wanted. So we were able to get that into the right way that we wanted to run it. We ran it power scheme – backside linebacker came to play. It was a little bit over it. The safety fit on the same side and Marshawn was able to pop free."

Q: How has Marshawn Lynch's running game helped over the last few weeks?

Carr: "It's awesome. We talk about it all the time, run game is my best friend. Whenever we can just get that going and have the run game rolling like that – any quarterback loves that. If you can hand the ball under four minutes, three times in a row and just get a first down. That's a lot less pressure on the quarterback and the receivers. I don't know a quarterback that wouldn't want that. Being able to have him and DeAndré [Washington], Jalen [Richard], 'Maze' [Jamize Olawale] comes in, obviously for some situational things. Being able to have those guys, but really Marshawn is just taking over. I think today he had 100 yards, which is awesome. Anytime you can do that, the ball is in your hands. Anytime you can run the ball efficiently, you're moving the chain – so that just helps us in the pass game element of it."

Q: Can you discuss the 3rd down pass to Marshawn?

Carr: "I saw the certain coverage that they were playing. I just tried to hold my eyes on my read. I may have done something with TE Jared [Cook] on that one, just to try to see if it would work, they did a good job with passing off coverage. But they left – whenever I could see the coverage, I know where my guys are at. I just shortcut the read and got it to him because I knew at least it would be a 1-on-1, 2 yards from the 1st down. Usually with Marshawn, that's a good thing. Him and space, 1-on-1, he's usually going to make a good play."



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Q: You had a couple of throws that should have been picked off, but they weren't – what's going through your head during those plays?

Carr: "Thank you, Lord. Thank you. The first one, I had to throw before he broke. That was a tough one because 21 has his eyes on me and TE Jared [Cook] is still at his route. So I let the ball go and we would just run on a different page. That's how that one was. The second one, I threw it and I guess I threw it a little too far. Thank goodness he dropped it."

Q: Was the goal to make WR Cordarelle Patterson the weapon on passing today?

Carr: "To be honest, we were going into it saying hey everyone has to feel their role. It wasn't just one guy that we were going to give it to. But when he got it in his hands, he did some fantastic things. It looks like hey we were going to give it to him, but it was just hey play your spot and if the play, the coverage is designed to come to you, it'll come to you. I thought those wide-outs, obviously, it's not an easy thing to lose your two starters. For those guys to go out there and be efficient, like you said he [Patterson] almost had 100 yards. WR Johnny [Holton] had a touchdown. WR Seth [Roberts] did his things. Our tight ends really stepped up. For them to do those things, we knew it was going to take everybody."

Q: Discuss the tight end performance today.

Carr: "Whenever we can put both tight ends out there, obviously we needed it with our situation today. We needed them. When the teams play certain coverages because certain people are on the field. Usually, the guy that's not out there the most is going to have the 1-on-1's. Clive [Walford] did a great job. He's really done a great job ever since that Indianapolis game last year when I broke my ankle. I felt like that was our best game – we were rolling, chemistry and things like that. Adding Jared [Cook] just added talent to the room. He hasn't had as many opportunities. He knew – and I've seen it in practice, whenever he did that he was going to be able to win the 1-on-1's today. He was explosive for us. We had a big play down the middle, a couple of 3rd downs were close, those kind of things. If we can have of our guys step up like they did, it's going to be good for us."

Q: Are you able to enjoy these difficult wins in the last few weeks?

Carr: "Trust me, I don't care how we win. I just want to win. I've said that since my rookie year when we were 0-10, I was begging for wins. We're sitting here. Obviously, you want to go out and throw for 400 every game and win by 40, rush for 200 yards and all those things. At the end of the day, this game is so hard. It's not easy. It's funny to sit and think where we were and where we're at now. We have good players and all those things, but you see just how hard it is to win these games. It takes almost every NFL game, within one score if not two. It's always going to be close. It's going to come down to the wire. So anytime you can win, doesn't matter how you do it, you just want to win."

Q: How did WR Johnny Holton respond to the fumble?

Carr: "You have to know people's personality. Johnny is not a guy that I need to go talk to, he's going to be the same touchdown or fumble, he's going to be the same guy. He's not someone that I have to go to, as soon as we came back and got in the huddle – and he's got the same look on his face. I like to read people, make sure they're good – same look on his face, same intensity. Ready to play. He's not a guy – and I didn't think he was, he's not a guy that if something went bad and I need to go hey man, you're alright it's going to be okay kind of a thing. He's just a dog – he just wants to play football, good or bad."

Q: Can you discuss what happened on that last big play to WR Cordarrelle Patterson?

Carr: "It was an adjustment we made on the sideline based on how they were playing those kinds of plays. Coach Downing and I were able to talk through it with Coach Tice, Coach Moore on how we wanted to do it. It was actually drawn up on the sideline because we saw how they were doing it and we all just communicated really well. We saw something and liked it at the same time. So it's a good thing. When the call came in and that's what we were starting with, I was like oh yes. Hopefully it scores. We got close."



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RAIDERS WR JOHNNY HOLTON

Q: On your touchdown, did you think the ball came out before you crossed the goal line?

Johnny Holton: "I knew it was a touchdown. I took some steps I feel. I tried to make the defender miss, the ball ended up coming out but I recovered it to make sure it was a touchdown for sure."

Q: You brought it up when we were joking, did you feel like you had to make a play considering what happened earlier?

Holton: "I felt like I had to make a play for my team. I didn't come out as good as I wanted to come out but we won the game."

Q: How does it feel to have your third receiving touchdown?

Holton: "It feels good, especially scoring in the Black Hole. And we won the game."

Q: On that play with Cordarrelle [Patterson], you had a pretty big block. Can you take us through that?

Holton: "I told him I have his back. I wasn't really playing that well on offense so I wanted to him to make a play to get it going. I got the block for him and he broke a couple tackles and got caught."

Q: This was a big week for you guys as a receiving corps, how would you feel you guys did overall?

Holton: "Overall, I felt like those guys did pretty good. ME judging my game, we won the game but I feel like I didn't do too much like I wanted to do. I came out trying to make everything happen, not let the game come to me. I have to do a better job when I get the opportunity, make every play count."

Q: Was there pressure on you guys as a receiving corps without Michael Crabtree or Amari Cooper, was there a weight on your shoulder?

Holton: "Those are some big shoes to fill. Those guys are pretty good receivers. We wanted to win the game, those guys weren't here so we had to step up."

Q: How do you feel about the AFC West now, 3 teams at 6-6?

Holton: "We know. We won today. We have to go 1-0 every week. Next week we need to prepare to go 1-0. We just have to stack these wins to make the playoffs."

RAIDERS RB DEANDRE WASHINGTON

Q: Can you talk about Marshawn's performance?

Washington: "He's getting stronger as the season goes on with more carries, he is just getting stronger. It's hard to tackle that man for four quarters, you know what I am saying? He is going to wear you down regardless if he is getting two yards or the 50-yarder like he busted today. He is going to wear guys down and at this point in the season we are really going to need him."

Q: A three-way tie for first place in the AFC West what does this mean?

Washington: "We know that it's a one-game season from here on out. We win and we in so we are just taking it week by week. We can't control what the Chiefs are doing or what the Chargers are doing. We can control what we are doing and that's going in and trying to go 1-0 every week."

Q: What do you know about being a running back now that you wouldn't have known if you weren't Marshawn Lynch's teammate?



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Washington: “Just stay true to who you are as your running style. I think that’s the biggest thing, just stay true to who you are no matter how the game is looking. You are getting those two-yarders, eventually it will open up so I think that’s the biggest thing I learned from him. He runs like who he is and those plays come when they come.”

RAIDERS LB NAVORRO BOWMAN

Q: How is the team feeling today with the win?

NaVorro Bowman: “We’re feeling good. We want to continue stacking these wins. I understand that we have a shot. This game was a serious game for me because I understand how guys respond to teams that aren’t going well in the NFL. For the defense to start the game like that and make the plays that we needed, playing good football in December is really what you need.”

Q: You guys seem to have gotten strong as the game went on.

Bowman: “It’s all about the communication, us all being accountable. It’s doing a great job making sure everyone is on the same page. Coach [Jack Del Rio] said it earlier this week, ‘respect all teams’. You knew their record wasn’t well but we still went out there with the mentality that they’re capable of winning a game in the NFL. We showed that we respect them to play well.”

Q: Was that a nice follow up on the interceptions, this is your second week.

Bowman: “Anytime I see the ball, I have to go get it. I gave the ball to Bruce [Irvin] because if he didn’t do what he did, I wouldn’t have gotten it. That’s just what it has to become, a team effort, everybody understanding we need all of those guys at all times.”

Q: You’ve gone up against Marshawn [Lynch] a ton in the past, what have you seen from him the last few weeks, does he look like the guy you saw back in the Seattle Days?

Bowman: “I looked at the stats, I said ‘Oh he’s still got it’. To see him running the way that he’s running for so many years, I know exactly what that defense is facing. That’s a hard tackle.”

Q: You’ve faced the Giants a lot in the past, is it weird going up against them and not seeing Eli [Manning] on the other side?

Bowman: “Yeah, it’s weird but I was really expecting them to slide him back in there when it got close. I know he was itching. But I’m sure he’ll bounce back or hang it up. Respect to him.”

Q: How’d you think Geno Smith played?

Bowman: “I think he didn’t do bad. He made the throws that he could. A couple guys dropped some balls for him. I think he’s able to improve and build off this week.”

Q: Late in the 2nd quarter they pinned you guys to the nine yard line. Khalil [Mack] makes that play. Can you speak to what that meant?

Bowman: “It shows the type of player he is, the motor he has. Him having that big play capability, we needed it at that time.”

Q: Two big plays when they were in scoring position, how big was it to get those turnovers?

Bowman: “When you look at the stats throughout the NFL, turnovers are always the key. No matter what happened in the game, if you look at those turnovers, that’s who won the game.”



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RAIDERS DL DENICO AUTRY

Q: Talk a little bit about that last drive, you had a couple big plays.

Denico Autry: "We were just trying to finish strong, win the game."

Q: You guys are tied for 1st place, that's a very different scenario from just a couple weeks ago. How do you feel about that?

Autry: "It feels great, but there's still a lot of work to be done."

Q: What you'd make of the first couple drives? You guys seemed to have them in check, then they slowly started getting in a rhythm.

Autry: "I don't know man. The game was won in the preparation this week. Everything that was in this week, we just went out and executed it."

Q: Was it tougher than you guys expected?

Autry: "Yeah, they came out and fought. It was a fight, it was tough."

Q: What was it like going up against Geno [Smith] not Eli [Manning]?

Autry: "I've never been up against Eli. Geno is pretty good. He stays in the pocket a lot, rolls out and made his run. He made us work for it."

Q: That play Khalil [Mack] made before the half, the strip sack, what'd you think of the play? Do those become commonplace with him?

Autry: "He beats those tackles off the edge, gets to those quarterbacks before they know it. It's becoming common."

Q: Back-to-back wins, you guys are tied for the lead in the AFC West. You guys feel like you're finally starting to get into a rhythm?

Autry: "We'll be alright. We have to take it one game at a time. We know what we have to do."

RAIDERS RB JALEN RICHARD

Q: What went through your mind after the fumbles and what will you think going forward?

Richard: "Just making sure I look the ball all the way in. I get comfortable sometimes, I am really confident in my hands. I can catch the ball, I can catch punts. It's one of the hardest things other than quarterback I think. Anybody can tell you that catching punts is hard. Sometimes you just get a little too comfortable with your hands. Just lock in a little bit more and be good. I'll be back next week doing the same thing."

Q: What kind of advice did you get during the game from Marshawn?

Richard: "Just [expletive] it. That's what he told me. Verbatim, he told me [expletive] it. He told me don't even stress on it."

Q: What do you know about being a running back now that you wouldn't have known if you weren't Marshawn Lynch's teammate?

Richard: "He has been getting me with the internal clock. So like when we run our stretch plays and outside zones he put me on to the internal clock where it is really about three and a half seconds. If everybody is not shifted over then you know its front side. Three and a half seconds if everybody is shifted over that is when you want to cut it



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up and get vertical. That's something new I never kind of thought about in my head. It could have maybe been natural but to now actually have the thought in my head is different."

Q: What do you think of the three-way tie atop the division?

Richard: "It's cool, man. We control our own destiny. It's the game of football. People are going to lose and people are going to win. We won today and Kansas City lost. We just look forward going into KC and taking care of this next game and winning out in December."

RAIDERS WR CORDARRELLE PATTERSON

Q: Can you talk about your big play towards the end of the game?

Patterson: "We sat on the sideline before we got the ball and [offensive coordinator] Todd [Downing] drew up the play. It was just a screen route, we ran it all game but we just did it out of a different formation. He said, just get the ball and we are going to score a touchdown. Unfortunately, I got caught and I don't like getting caught so I was mad after that but we got the win. At the end of the day that's all that matters."

Q: What did the offense do to be better in the second-half?

Patterson: "There were no changes. We just executed. We had a great game plan coming into the first and second half. The first half we just didn't execute like we wanted to. We sat down at halftime and said listen just go out there and play football. That's something we have been doing our whole life."

Q: Did you talk to Johnny Holton on the sideline after he fumbled the ball?

Patterson: "No, I just told him keep your head up. Stuff happens in football. Ups and downs happen all the time. Like I said we have been doing this our whole life. Sometimes it's good, sometimes it's bad. At the end of the day he came back and got a touchdown and won the game for us."

Q: How do you think you guys did as a receiving corps without your two top guns today?

Patterson: "We did good, man. We in this league for a reason, we not just here to [expletive] around. We come out each and every week and we got to perform. Unfortunately, our one and two receivers were down but like I say every receiver on this roster can go out and make plays."

RAIDERS LB BRUCE IRVIN

Q: Three-way tie, AFC West, first place. A lot of football left to go. What does it mean just to be in this position?

Irvin: "One week at a time. Worry about what we control. Go out there and win, stack these wins up. We'll see how the cards fall at the end of the season. Our biggest goal is going 1-0 each week. Not looking forward to the future, not looking back to the past. Just our current situation, our current opponent for the week. That's been our approach the last two weeks and it's paid off so hopefully we can continue to keep it like this."

Q: What was the conversation as a defense, late in the second quarter, you guys take the field after the special teams play at your own 9-yard line? Ultimately Khalil Mack comes in with the huge play. What was the manner there?

Irvin: "Once again, just worrying about controlling the stuff we can control. We don't control what the offense does, the offense doesn't control what defense does. That was a big play for us in the red zone. Khalil came up big for us like he always does. We got the ball back for the offense."

Q: How close is Marshawn Lynch to the guy you played with in his prime in Seattle?



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Irvin: "That's it right there. He's a do-it-all guy. Run the ball, catch it out the backfield, block. He's finally getting his legs back underneath him and it's showing. You can tell."

Q: Is it strange to be playing the Giants and not have Eli Manning playing?

Irvin: "I can't control that. I wouldn't have cared if they put [Jason] Pierre-Paul back there. Whoever goes back there, we have to go get him. Eli [Manning] is a great competitor, he's a great QB, future Hall-of-Famer. It is what it is. If he'd have been out there, we'd have approached it the same way. We approached the week as if Eli was starting. Geno [Smith] came out there and I thought he did a good job of contending."

Q: Were you waiting for Eli to go out there at any point?

Irvin: "No, we weren't worried about that. We were worried about the quarterback on the field. We weren't worried about Eli or whatever they had going on over there. It's about us."

Q: How much ability does NaVorro Bowman bring to this defense?

Irvin: "Ask me about [NaVorro Bowman] one more time... It's obvious. The guy flies around, takes control of the huddle. You see it, you see the difference from when he wasn't here and how our defense performed to now. He's a great competitor, a great leader. I'm just happy to have him."

Q: Talk about the big play on your college teammate Geno Smith.

Irvin: "I went two years and I couldn't hit him in practice. It felt good. Most importantly we got the win. That's the most important thing. Everybody came out healthy. We just have to get ready for next week."

Q: When Khalil Mack came around the edge, how big did your eyes get for a strip-sack?

Irvin: "Big, bro. That's the best play in football to me. It was a big moment. We pride ourselves on turnovers. We haven't gotten that many this year, but they're starting to come. That's two in two weeks, three in two weeks. They say they come in bunches. We have to keep practicing, keep focusing on that and they'll continue to come."

Q: The defense comes out with three straight three-and-outs. How does that set the tone?

Irvin: "It's big. Talk about going out there and starting fast. That's what you want. We always try to take it personal. We try to take the fight to them. I think we did a really good job of doing that today."

Q: Did you try to get into Geno Smith's head today?

Irvin: "No, I just try to play ball, bro. Geno is a good friend of mine and he's a competitor. I wish him nothing but success, just not today."



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Oakland-Alameda County Coliseum
Postgame Quotes



GIANTS HEAD COACH BEN MCADOO

Opening Statement: “I thought the guys competed hard today. They played their tails off. Have to execute better. We came up short, but I’m proud of the way they fought today.”

Q: Do you think you’ll be head coach for much longer?

Coach McAdoo: “I’m going to coach this team as long my key card works. I’ve got a great group of players and coaches. Got a great staff to work with. I’m going to show up to work tomorrow and get this thing cleaned up and move on to the next one.”

Q: Has the ownership talked to you about your position with the team?

Coach McAdoo: “I’m going to coach this team until I’m told I’m not coaching this team. I’m going to show up tomorrow morning ready to go to work.”

Q: Have they told you you’re OK?

Coach McAdoo: “I’m not asking and I haven’t heard a thing. So I’m going to keep my head down and keep doing my job until I hear otherwise.”

Q: How do you think Geno Smith did?

Coach McAdoo: “I thought Geno competed at a high level. There were a couple fumbles, we’ll have to take a look at the tape. The one where he was throwing, trying to pull it back, and it got away from him. The one where the ball got ripped out of his hands there. That nice two-minute drive at the end of the ball game, he did something creative and threw a nice ball for the touchdown. I thought he competed.”

Q: Are you concerned with how the fans will be at Sunday’s home game?

Coach McAdoo: “No, I’m not concerned. Listen I understand where the fans are coming from. If I was on the outside looking in, I’d feel the same way they feel. You know Eli [Manning] and I have a tremendous relationship. I think the world of him and it was hard for me emotionally. The beginning of the week, once you make a decision, you have to stick with it and I appreciate the way Eli handled things this week.”

Q: Do you think Geno Smith will have another start?

Coach McAdoo: “We’re going to go back and take a look at the tapes and we’ll make a decision early in the week.”

Q: What happened with Eli Apple?

Coach McAdoo: “Eli Apple had a good day at practice on Wednesday and Thursday. He showed up Friday and was sore and he wasn’t able to go through the walk-through that day. He wasn’t able to go today. If he had to fight through it, I’m not sure that would have been a good move for us so we aired on the side of caution.”

Q: Did Geno Smith not warrant enough for another start?

Coach McAdoo: “We said we’re going to take it one week at a time and these games are emotional. So to stand up here and make a decision right here after the football game is not a good way to go about it. We’ll take a look at the tape first and put our heads together and see where we want to go with it. Geno didn’t do anything today that would have lost him the opportunity, no.”

Q: Were you aware before the game of the report that said you were going to lose your job?

Coach McAdoo: “A little birdie told me that something was out there, but again that’s not something I’m worried about.”

Q: How did that change your game day? That’s got to be a distracting thing a couple hours before the game.



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Coach McAdoo: “Maybe for weak minded individuals it may be a distraction, but I had a job to do.”

Q: Why was QB Davis Webb inactive?

Coach McAdoo: “It was a decision. We put the best 46 up we thought could win the football game this week. We’ll take a look at it again next week.”

Q: Are you going to give Webb more opportunity this week in terms of reps?

Coach McAdoo: “Again, it’s emotional right here after the ballgame. We have to go put our heads together, look at the film and we’ll have a plan early in the week.”

Q: What kind of game plan did you have for QB Geno Smith? How different was it than you would do for Eli Manning in a normal week?

Coach McAdoo: “Preparation-wise, we put a plan together. We tried to do things that best suit Geno. If he’s the guy moving forward this week, we will tweak some more things and have some additions in there for him and subtract some things. You don’t want to do too much too early right away when it’s his first week but obviously, his skillset allows you to do some different things.”

Q: What kind of impact did Manning have on the sideline?

Coach McAdoo: “Yeah Eli was into the ballgame. He did a great job as the number two being a sounding board for Geno and [offensive coordinator] Mike Sullivan over there. He was doing everything that he could do as the number two to help us win the ballgame.”

Q: When will you make a decision on who will start against Dallas?

Coach McAdoo: “Early in the week. We need to go back. We need to watch the film. Take a look at it. Put our heads together. At some point in time tomorrow, we’ll make that call.”

Q: But announcing it public like you did this past week?

Coach McAdoo: “We need to put our heads together and make a decision.”

Q: With the reports of your job status out there, are you going to go to ownership or do you feel like that’s something you’ll need to do to move forward here?

Coach McAdoo: “No. I’m going to do my job. I have a job to do. I’m going to put my head down, do my job, put a good plan together and then put these guys into a position to be successful. That’s my job.”

Q: You said you will put your heads together to decide who starts at QB. Is that you and the coaching staff?

Coach McAdoo: “Yeah, me and the coaching staff and I’m going to bounce it obviously off of GM Jerry Reese.”

GIANTS QB GENO SMITH

Q: Geno, you obviously got off to a slow start, but how do you feel the flow went throughout the game and how comfortable were you leading the offense?

Smith: “Early on, we were getting behind the chains and they had a great pass rush, so we knew all along that we had to get the ball out pretty fast. Early on, we tried to hit them with a couple screens just to kind of slow down the pass rush, but I think as the game went along, we started getting into a groove. I think our line did a tremendous job. I mean, they’ve got two of the best pass rushers in the game but they kind of kept them at a bay for a little bit and we were able to kind of put some drives together late, but we just ran out of time.”



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Q: What did Ben McAdoo say to you about how your play was today?

Smith: "Usually we talk about that after we watch the tape. He shook my hand and told me he liked the way I competed and that was pretty much it."

Q: What was so frustrating to you with how the game ended?

Smith: "I just hate to lose. I don't want to lose at all, at anything, so I was upset that we lost. I felt like we had some opportunities and we could have taken advantage of them, but you can't really cry over spilled milk, you just have to pick yourself up and get ready for next week."

Q: There was a report this morning that your coach would be fired possibly tomorrow. Did you hear that or see that or did that distract you at all?

Smith: "No, I didn't see that and I love Coach 'Mac' [McAdoo]. I think we all do. I enjoy playing for him, I want to continue to play for him as long as I can. But I did see one of my ex-coaches say he didn't want me to be his quarterback, and that really upset me, you know? A guy that we saved his job in 2013 and we fought our ass for him both years, and for him to come out and say that just shows you how much of a coward he is."

Q: What coach are you talking about?

Smith: "Rex Ryan."

Q: Preparing for Oakland's defense, what were some specifics that they told you to look out for?

Smith: "Man, 52 [Khalil Mack] and 51 [Bruce Irvin]. Two of the best in the game, two of the best pass rushers. They really got after it today. Khalil made two good plays on me. I wish I could have those back, but unfortunately those are things you've got to learn from."

Q: Were you surprised at how fast Khalil Mack was in on the sack-fumble?

Smith: "Yeah, a little bit. You know I was actually caught getting ready to throw a pass to the end zone. I felt like we had a pretty good look there and unfortunately, he got there and got the ball out."

Q: When were you aware of what Rex Ryan said?

Smith: "I was just sitting in my room watching, because we have the time difference, so I am just watching a little bit of football and you know see that happen and it is like wow, the guy, first of all you, drafted me. Second of all, you started me. Third of all, I went out there and I gave you everything I had, and then you go out and say that. It's unfortunate."

Q: Do you ever want to see Rex Ryan and speak your mind to him in person?

Smith: "No, I don't care to speak to him again."

Q: Can you talk about the rapport that you had with Evan Engram today?

Smith: "You know, Evan does a great job, man. He's a rookie, but he is a really good player. He made a tremendous catch, one-handed catch. That was beautiful, and he just continues to make plays. He's a hard worker. He understands the game. He's got a great feel for it, and anytime we can get the ball in his hands, we're trying to, so I think he did a great job."

Q: Did Eli Manning talk to you throughout the game? Did he help you at all?

Smith: "Yeah, Eli does a tremendous job with that throughout the week and throughout the game. We were talking. We always converse back and forth. He did a great job with that today."

Q: Is there anything on your mind about how that crowd might react if you get off to a slow start at home next week against the Dallas Cowboys?



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Smith: "I don't think it could be any worse than what I have been through. I remember I got booed at a spring game for throwing an incompletion, so I don't think it could be any worse. I learned how to tune it out. I have been through it all, and I am still standing here, so I'll be ready for next week."

GIANTS QB ELI MANNING

Q: How tough was this for you today?

Manning: "Hey, I wanted to be out there, I wanted to be playing. This is kind of the situation we're in. 2-9 and they want to take a look at other guys, I understand. I'm not mad at anybody. I think when you're in this situation, whatever happens, there's a reason and you have to accept it."

Q: Is there a way [benching you] could have been done that would have made you feel better, or made it easier?

Manning: "No. I don't blame anybody for the way it handled. I think Coach McAdoo tried to do something right by me, by saying they were going to let me play. But just knowing that I was going to come out of the game, I just couldn't play that way. You know, I appreciated it. He was trying to do me a favor, but it's just not the way I could go into a game, knowing I'm going to be pulled out. I appreciated them giving me that option, but I think he understood when I said I can't do that way."

Q: Do you prefer it was more open-ended, rather than them saying Geno [Smith] was going to start the second half definitively?

Manning: "I don't know. Hey, I don't deal with the what-if game, so this is what it is."

Q: What are your thoughts on Coach [Ben] McAdoo possibly getting fired as early as tomorrow?

Manning: "I don't want that. I don't want anybody to get fired. When a coach gets fired, it's usually because the team and the players, and myself, haven't performed to our duties. So I don't want to see that. So I hope there's no truth to it."

Q: So many people this week have talked about how well you've handled this situation. Have you reflected on how you would approach today?

Manning: "Well, I knew once it got to today, I would be a good teammate. I'd be ready to support all the guys, be ready to play if I was called upon. You know, support Geno [Smith], support the offensive guys, and do what I have to do if I saw something that needed telling. But I think that the amount of people that reached out to me this week, the importance of being a good teammate, hit it home. Just the fact that all the old teammates have reached out to me, have called me; I appreciate their support, and the things they say. And it's helped me get through these past couple days, these tough days. But it kind of reminded me that I need to be a good teammate to everybody here, and do my part."

Q: Have you had the opportunity to contemplate your future at all?

Manning: "No. There's no point, I can't control what's going to happen. We have four games left to finish out this season, and whatever capacity they need me to do, and go from there."

Q: DO you plan on playing next season? Or is that something you have to think about?

Manning: "Yeah. I plan on playing next season."

Q: Did you know what to do today? This is new for you.

Manning: "I figured I could figure that out. Just try to be a good teammate, be helpful, and encourage the guys. And if [my teammates] needed me, I'd be there for them."



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GIANTS S LANDON COLLINS

Q: Has the change in quarterback affected the defense?

Collins: “No, it’s just football and we go on with it. It doesn’t affect us on the defensive side. Whoever they put on the offensive side, we have their back and we’re going to just keep on moving.”

Q: Long trip home. You lose three hours

Collins: “Yeah, that’s the worst part about it.”

Q: Are you just hanging in after a game like this?

Collins: “We come out here. We try to get our win. Do our best as a whole and work together and try to bring home a win in doing so. We try our best.”

Q: It was 10-7 for a long time.

Collins: “Right, and that was a good thing. Just couldn’t hold it all the way to the end.”

Q: How do you handle the reports that there is going to be changes to the coaching staff?

Collins: “If it happens, it happens. I’ll have to see if it happens. Right now, it’s kind of in the back of my head. I’m not really worried about it because as of right now [Ben] McAdoo is my head coach. For right now that’s how I want it.”

Q: Was it in your head when you took the field?

Collins: “No. I forgot who brought it up to me today and told me about the reports. I just thought it was just jibber jabber, but I’m guessing it’s actually true.”

Q: Did Coach McAdoo address it with the team?

Collins: “About what’s going on? No. He didn’t address it. He didn’t bring it up. It shouldn’t even be in our head when we’re about to play to play a game, worrying about who’s going to be our coach.”

Q: Do you feel like this might be something real?

Collins: “Yeah, when it’s being report and you are all asking me questions about it, it’s got to be something real. You got to take into consideration, but until it happens, he’s still my coach.”

Q: Do you want him to be your coach?

Collins: “Yeah, I want him to be my coach. He does a great job. I know we’re having a bad season, but as in keeping us together, as in keeping us as a team and keeping us whole, he’s doing a fantastic job.”

Q: What happened on the 51-yard rush?

Collins: “Gapped out. Gapped out and couldn’t get that personnel in fast enough to make the right call. They got us. They got us on that gap scheme.”

GIANTS LS ZAK DeOSSIE

Q: What did you say to Eli Manning?

DeOssie: “I just told him, I’d follow him through heaven or hell. I’ve been there. Coaching decisions are above our paygrade. It is what it is. At the end of the day we’re players and coaches get paid to coach. It’s the business we’re in. we don’t have the luxury to dwell on it.”



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Q: How tough is it to put it aside?

DeOssie: "It's what we do. We're employees and it's part of the business."

Q: Did you feel like you had to be a better friend to Eli Manning this week?

DeOssie: "I'm the same friend that I've been to Eli. I always will be."

Q: There's talk about some former players coming to the game next week wearing Manning jerseys. What do you think of that?

DeOssie: "I think they have every right to do whatever it is that they want. It'll be good to see them. At the end of the day, these coaching decisions are not for us to dwell on. It is what it is."

Q: There's a report that Ben McAdoo could be fired in the next 24 hours.

DeOssie: "OK. We'll listen, going to wake up, go to work and show up. That's all I know. I'm not aware of that report."

Q: So that's not something that was discussed in here at any point?

DeOssie: "No."

GIANTS WR EVAN ENGRAM

Q: Describe your perspective on the game today.

Engram: "It was really tough. The defense gave us some energy. We drove, had a couple drives. We had that one drive we scored, and then that other drive we scored. We had a lot of opportunities to score points, but outside of all that happened this week, we fought and battled. We had the opportunities to win, and just didn't cash in."

Q: Was it different in the huddle and on the field, not having Eli [Manning] in there with you?

Engram: "Definitely, I mean of course. Total different quarterback, total different person. But I mean everybody was locked in, we were still focused, and we were still trying to get things going. So it wasn't any difference in that. But of course there's going to be a difference."

Q: How would you describe Geno Smith today, on the field and in the locker room?

Engram: "He gave everything he had today. He made good decisions; he made smart throws, extended some plays. We just have to execute a little bit better, the X's and O's, make a couple more plays. But I think Geno came out and did his best. We had many opportunities to win the game, but we just didn't cash in."

Q: Were you aware of your coach's job security issues?

Engram: "Nah. I mean I try to stay off my phone as much as possible. I'm pretty sure a lot of guys do. We were just focused on winning today."

Q: Tell me about the catch.

Engram: "Just went up, and tried to make a play. It was crunch time, we were trying to drive and get a quick score. Geno [Smith] threw a great ball, I just made the play for the team."

Q: What's different when you play with Geno Smith?

Engram: "It's definitely a different feel; a different signal caller, a different leader. But Geno has a little bit more scramble in him, and extended a couple more plays. So we had to lock in on scramble drills. But the mission was the same, we were trying to be effective as an offense, score points, and win."



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Q: As a young player, how do you block out the noise about the coach's job?

Engram: "It's tough. I mean it's tough. But it's easy to stay focused. I mean as a competitor you want to go win. As a competitor, distractions keep you from that. So we just try to keep a tunnel vision today on our assignments, on my assignments. As a team we're just focused, trying to go win a ball game."