



## ***Oakland Raiders Transcript***

### **Raiders Head Coach Jack Del Rio**

**Q: The last play to Cordarrelle Patterson, that screen play, what did you see as far as that play developing and the adjustments?**

**Coach Del Rio:** "I kind of like to leave that stuff on the drawing board, not really come in and describe it. It was a nice adjustment to a play we had run earlier in the game. A particular player made it not go as big as we thought it could go, so we adjusted and tweaked it a little bit. It was a good adjustment by the staff on the sideline."

**Q: How often do you guys make those sorts of adjustments?**

**Coach Del Rio:** "Throughout the whole game. It's part of what we do. Really, in all three phases. I'm on the headphones with 'O' and 'D' and I hear those things and we talk about those things and adjustments being made; things we think we can do to make the play go big or keep it from going big if we're talking about defense."

**Q: Why do you think your pass rush has been more successful getting to the quarterback the last few weeks?**

**Coach Del Rio:** "It's definitely been what we're looking for. The guys are cutting it loose and playing a little more aggressively. Coverage has been tighter and I think they go hand in hand."

**Q: Obi Melifonwu and Isaac Whitney started the game as gunners, then later in the game Cordarrelle Patterson was returned to that role. What elicited that change?**

**Coach Del Rio:** "CP stepping up, saying, 'I can do this, I can help.' [Special teams coordinator] Brad [Seely] saying, 'Sure.' We knew he was going to play a lot offensively, so we didn't want to ask too much of him, but he thought he could do it and made some really nice plays for us."

**Q: I believe the first one in there he got the shoestring tackle. That seemed to stop a larger return. What did C.P. show you in that?**

**Coach Del Rio:** "He loves ball. He wants to help his teammates any way he can. We had two young guys in there that can run, but they're green. He thought he could make an impact and he did."

**Q: What have you seen from Dexter McDonald? How has he grown?**

**Coach Del Rio:** "A couple of big plays in the game, for sure. I feel like 'Dex,' Sean [Smith], TJ [Carrie], the coverage has been tighter. We were just talking a moment ago about the rush and the coverage and when there is a little tighter coverage, you start holding it a little bit and then the sacks come. I think they go hand in hand. I think you see the uptick in sacks, I think you see players having tighter coverage and doing a better job. 'Dex' is in that group."

**Q: Last time you played Kansas City, you had just thrown NaVorro Bowman in there. What kind of lift has he given the defense since he's gotten here?**

**Coach Del Rio:** "He's a good football player. He's got experience. He's had a calming influence. He loves to play. You feel him on gameday. He's very much in control. I think he's been a calming influence for some of our younger players."

**Q: How would you describe the environment of the division this year? Kansas City, Los Angeles, everyone is having ups and downs.**

**Coach Del Rio:** "It's a good division, a strong division. It's one that we've had, I would say, maybe a down year in terms of us hitting a little bit of a dry spell for a stretch, the Chargers hit a dry spell for a stretch to start the year, the Chiefs are in one now. We're all good football teams and we're all alive right now. We all have an opportunity."

**Q: Have you gotten a read on how Amari Cooper is doing?**

**Coach Del Rio:** "Just remaining hopeful. We'll see as the week goes."



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**Q: How did you feel Nicholas Morrow played?**

**Coach Del Rio:** "Nick did well. He's playing well for us. He's a guy with a lot of speed. He's really good with coverage on tight ends and backs. The one catch that he allowed, he was all over the guy and he made an acrobatic catch on him. I think Nick has played really well."

**Q: Clive Walford hasn't had a ton of opportunities but made some catches yesterday.**

**Coach Del Rio:** "I thought Clive came up big. He's the first guy I wrote down on here to talk about. He's been patient all year. Obviously, it's tough. We brought in Jared [Cook] and Jared has a big role. A lot of those things are things that Clive can do as well. Yesterday, called on him in a bigger role and he responded and had a nice game."

**Q: With Michael Crabtree back on a player's day off, will he get back in the mix today or tomorrow?**

**Coach Del Rio:** "Tomorrow."