



Oakland Raiders Transcript

Raiders Head Coach Jack Del Rio

Opening Statement: "Alright, we've got Buffalo week. Good football team, they're 4-2. They're 3-0 at home and they're playing really good defense and running the ball well. Got a dynamic playmaker at quarterback. They're doing a lot good things. [Head Coach] Sean [McDermott] is off to a great start. We're getting ourselves prepare to go up, travel well and take care of business. Questions?"

Q: Are they anything like they were last year?

Coach Del Rio: "There are a lot of similar players. I think they turned over maybe 25-plus. You still see 'Shady' [LeSean McCoy]. You still see Kyle Williams. There are a few guys that grab your attention that are still there. They've done solid job."

Q: Has their offensive and defensive system changed?

Coach Del Rio: "Yeah, I don't spend a lot of time talking about strategic stuff and things like that. I think they're doing a nice job with the takeaways right now. That's one of things that's really fueling what they're bringing is the way they're taking the football away from people."

Q: What does not having Marshawn Lynch affect the way the offense runs?

Coach Del Rio: "We'll plug in as we need to. Next guy up is always our approach. Whether a guy is injured or whatever causes a guy to miss a game. We'll carry on just like that."

Q: What is the game plan for him? Will he get himself down to Florida to meet you there?

Coach Del Rio: "We've got people that will handle that part. Right now, we're just focusing on Buffalo."

Q: What stands out the most about EJ Manuel during his time here?

Coach Del Rio: "He's been great to have. He's a great young man. He's, I think, enjoying his time here. Gave us some good, quality snaps when he was called on. I know he's staying ready if we need to call on him again. Great young man. I've known him for quite a while. I first met him when he was working with my son at an Elite 11 camp, so I've known him for a while. He's doing a great job. We're glad to have him."

Q: Has Khalil Mack built on the season he had last year in your mind?

Coach Del Rio: "I think Khalil Mack, obviously I was asked this week with him going back to Buffalo. He's a special guy. He's supremely talented. Works so hard every day. Humility stands out to me because there aren't a lot of guys that are as talented as he is that walk around that have that sense of humility. I appreciate that about him. I think he's a great teammate and a great young man."

Q: Is there a sense of relief for Amari Cooper?

Coach Del Rio: "I think he stayed ready to go. I've been watching him for a long time, too. He's a really good player. To me, he got back to being himself. I thought we did a good job of getting him incorporated, which I'd like to see continue."

Q: Did moving him around help him get free more?

Coach Del Rio: "Yeah, again, you're getting into strategy stuff. I'm not going to spend a lot of time on that stuff. We spend more time breaking down the opponent, worrying about them and getting dialed into those things. I certainly understand the desire to talk about it. We're just happy we had a great night. He was player of the week. We acknowledge that anytime you have team success, you get some of those individual awards. We're proud of him. Just looking to build going forward."



Oakland Raiders Transcript

Q: How do you think Vadal Alexander played?

Coach Del Rio: “We’re 3-0 with him starting. That’s all I know. He’s done a great job. He was called on twice last year to go in. Vadal is ready to roll. He’s a proud guy. He went in and gave us some quality snaps the other night.”

Q: What are some of the challenges of LeSean McCoy and Tyrod Taylor?

Coach Del Rio: “That’s exactly what it is, a challenge. They’re gifted athletes. They’ve got speed and elusiveness that not a lot of people have. One of them is the quarterback and has the ball in his hands every snap, and the other guy is running back and they get it to him a lot of different ways. Screens, draws, power game, tosses, they do every way you can they’re getting him the ball. He’s one of the more talented backs in the league. Gone against him in the past. He’s a very special player. I have a lot of respect for him.”

Q: What do you make of having zero interceptions this season?

Coach Del Rio: “Probably more time needed on the jugs. Probably the biggest thing.”

Q: Has that been an adjustment this week?

Coach Del Rio: “Yeah, we have the jugs cranked up. I think we burned out a motor, we’re going at it so much. We’ll just keep going. Get a new motor in. Keep shooting them balls and try to catch the next one.”

Q: DeAndré Washington and Jalen Richard have similar skill sets. How do you differentiate between the two?

Coach Del Rio: “Thankfully, [Equipment Manager] Bob [Romanski] puts a number on their [jersey]. Thirty three is DeAndré. *(laughing)* No, they’re great young men. They both came in here, when DeAndré got here, he was the draft pick. Jalen got here, he was just hungry for an opportunity. They both proved that they’re valuable assets, that they’re good players, they’re dependable. They’re somewhat interchangeable in that their stature is similar and size and speed and all of that is similar. But to me, I’m just proud to have them. Those two young men have done a nice job preparing and being ready for this moment when they’re going to get more opportunities.”

Raiders QB Derek Carr

Q: How different are the Bills this week than the Bills you saw last year?

Carr: “Well, they’re definitely different schematically. They have some of the same players, some different secondary players, but some of the same players up front that we’ve played against. Some familiar faces there. But, I’m trying to summarize it as a whole, it’s a little bit different because they’re not running the same things. They’re playing a little bit different style of defense – a style that I have played in my career before – but still not the same, it’s still different than the past.”

Q: Did you look back at the Carolina game last year at all?

Carr: “You know, literally with every game I prepare the same way. So, if there’s past things and I think it’s valuable, I’ll look. If I don’t, I won’t. It’s definitely one of those things where I just prepare my same way every single time.”

Q: After beating the Chiefs, when was the first time you looked at something from Buffalo?

Carr: “That night. Yeah.”

Q: On that Thursday night?

Carr: “Thursday night after the game. I went home, I took a shower, I came downstairs, I ate some eggs, some spinach, some broccoli and then I watched tape on the Bills.”

Q: What does using Amari Cooper out of the slot do for you guys?

Carr: “People just can’t set their watch to where he’s going to be. If you can move him around, there’s been times this year where he’s been in the backfield. There’s times he’s out wide, he’s inside, he’s on the two-receiver side,



Oakland Raiders Transcript

he's on the one-receiver side, he's in the three-receiver side but he's inside, he's the second guy, he's the first guy. We definitely try and have something planned where he's all over the place. It makes it easy on me because I don't focus on, 'OK he's in this spot, I have to get him this ball.' I just still go through my reads the way it takes me and those kind of things. So far, it's just helped us when we move him inside. He can do certain things and then when we move him back outside, you see the structure looks different. People – how do they want to play him, whether they're funneling him or... What do they want to do? Just playing that game with him really helps our offense."

Q: What does that say about Cooper's game to be able to play lining up all over the field?

Carr: "Super smart. It means he knows the whole playbook. I think actually, we just saw LeBron [James], he was talking about how he played point guard this past game and you take a guy that's super smart that can go from playing the three and then go to play the one, and he can go play the five. He knows all the sets, he knows all the plays. Amari's the same kind mentally. He's the same kind of guy where he can go play X, F, he can play the Y he can play the Z. He can play H. I don't know if he can play quarterback. *(laughter)* I'm sure he'd find a way to be successful."

Q: With 19 targets, there was nothing out of the ordinary to try and get him the ball?

Carr: "No, no. *(laughter)* Not at all. There was definitely an emphasis on what we saw them playing defensively and how we could get him the ball. That was definitely something schematically. But during the game, I didn't know he had 19 targets until after the game to be honest. I honestly, as I always am, was just playing the game how I saw it, how I saw them playing and it was things that we had talked about. So, it wasn't just out of the blue. Then I looked and I was like, 'Man, 19. That has to be a record for him.' That was a lot. *(laughter)*"

Q: Did you call your own number on the quarterback draw?

Carr: "Yeah, that was all me. Don't blame the coaches. *(laughter)* They know they didn't want me getting hit, so it was not the coaches. That was all me, so I'll take the blame."

Q: Then something crazy happened after that with Marshawn Lynch running on the field...

Carr: "It happened fast, right? You were like, 'Man!' I get up and I got hit, I didn't hear the whistle, so I didn't know because it was so loud and everything, especially when you get hit, you don't hear a lot of things. You get hit and you're like, you get up and all of the sudden there's chaos and you're like, 'Oh, OK, they're all getting into it.' Then all of the sudden he's into it and now he's kicked out. I was like, 'Whoa, time out. I just got tackled and now people are getting kicked out.' So it all happened so fast, man. I honestly didn't have time to think about it at that moment and I didn't get time to think about it until after the game. Like, 'Dang, bro, he really got kicked out for whatever the situation was.' And that hurts man, because we love Marshawn. We love playing with him, we love him in the building, we love him on game day and so for him to have to miss this game, it's hard but as [Head] Coach [Jack] Del Rio probably said, it's next man up. We have a good stable of backs that can do it."

Q: What are the difficulties as a player in being away from family for the week upcoming and what are the benefits of making the 10-day road trip?

Carr: "One thing for me is even last year, my family's going to be there. They're way more important than football to me. I'll definitely fly them out so that they're there so I can see my wife and my babies. But the advantage is, one, you don't have to wake up earlier because of traffic or drive, you just walk downstairs. And two, you get to eat every meal with your teammates. It's almost like another, I think I said it last year, it's almost like another camp where we're all together. We're all doing things together. Guys, if they don't have their families, they're going out to eat together and having dinner. They're going out together and hanging out in the room together. Those kinds of things. And I think that is, besides not having to fly, that's just a major benefit of guys just being together outside of the hour windows that we have here."



Oakland Raiders Transcript

Q: EJ Manuel has said he's been rejuvenated here. Obviously, you weren't with him in Buffalo but what have you seen from him in terms of that, being in a new building and things like that?

Carr: "EJ has become a really good friend of mine. I'd only talked to him before games before he came here. Then we had coach [Todd] Downing who he had there so we kind of knew each other that way. But when he showed up here, I could tell there was something on his heart. I could tell that there was something there. In my head, it was my goal to show him how much we care about him, how much we love him, how much we wanted him and needed him to be here. To let him know that he's important, to let him know that he's one of the most talented quarterbacks in the NFL. To be that big, that fast, have that kind of arm and be that smart, to remind him of who he is. That was the joy that I had when he got here, is I'm going to make sure that he knows every day what I think about him. He told me that he thinks a lot of what I have to say, so I said 'OK, I'm going to tell you what I think of you and this is what I think of you: I think you're one of the most talented people I've ever been around. I think that you have a very bright future. I'm glad that you're here, I'm glad that you're here with us. Just keep working. I'm glad we added another great player.'"

Q: Along those lines, how has it been to have him in the room preparing this week?

Carr: "It's awesome because you take a guy that was a starting quarterback in the NFL, you add another starter in the room, that's one more mind of experience. One more mind. Same thing with Connor [Cook], I haven't played in a playoff game and Connor has. Even if it's one percent they can add, which, they help more than that, it's a benefit. Having EJ, who's a starter and seen a lot of football and played against tough defenses, in our room is something that I don't take for granted."

Q: Jack Del Rio called Jalen Richard and DeAndré Washington interchangeable. Your thoughts on them taking the snaps this week?

Carr: "They're going to have to play a big role, which is fine for them, they've done it before in games for us. They can both do the same things. It's not like, oh man, only Jalen can do this or only DeAndré can do this. Even Jamize [Olawale], only Jamize can do this. All three of those guys can come in and play ball. As we've talked about with coach Downing, everyone has a role, yes, but at the same time, you have to know everything. You're responsible for every bit of information at your position so that if it happens, if someone is not able to play, you can jump in and be the next man up. Those guys are guys I trust. That's definitely a big word for me, especially at that position. Those three guys are guys I trust and I know they'll come in and do their job."

Q: The win last week, do you think to see the rhythm you got into, was it good to see Todd Downing to get into a rhythm from a play-call standpoint?

Carr: "Oh yeah. Whenever I can complete passes for him, he gets in a rhythm. Whenever I can help him in that aspect, it'll always help him look better. The cool thing about him was throughout the losses, through the two wins in the beginning, he wasn't any different. That means so much to me because I try to be like that all the time. No one's perfect but we try our best to be that way for our coaches, our organization and our teammates. There was no difference in him. When we did well, he celebrated with us, when we did bad, he coached it. He didn't come and demean people or anything like that. He was him. That says a lot about his character and it's so encouraging going forward knowing that we went through some adversity, but when that good day came we were still the same. We were like, 'Hey, that was awesome but now we have to move on.' To see that it didn't change was really cool."

Q: Jared Cook had a big day as well. What did that do for your offense?

Carr: "That fourth down was huge. Obviously, we needed it, for him to be able to get big and make that play against a coverage where he's not really supposed to get in there. That right there using his size and then the go-ball which we thought was the last one, to be able to have a guy that we can put out wide and run receiver routes and have a one-on-one and say I'm going to give him a chance, then him to make that play. To have that while you have 'Coop,' Seth [Roberts], 'Crab' [Michael Crabtree] on the inside, to move them and do different things, it changes things. It's so crucial to have. I'm glad he was able to make the plays that he did."



Oakland Raiders Transcript

Q: What's your World Series prediction?

Carr: "Dodgers. C'mon man, my first games growing up living in Bakersfield were Dodger games. Definitely the Dodgers. Definitely rooted for them since I was little. I was rooting for Aaron [Judge] to make it but that's alright. But Go Dogs this week against that silly shirt you're wearing, too." *(laughter)*



Oakland Raiders Transcript

Bills Head Coach Sean McDermott Conference Call

Q: What was your mission statement to the team when you first came in as head coach?

Coach McDermott: "Holy smokes, man, it feels like three years ago. Really just wanted to create a culture of a certain standard of doing things a certain way that I felt in the places I've been have led to success."

Q: Are you meeting that standard each week?

Coach McDermott: "Not as close as I'd like, to be honest. Sometimes it's not as much getting there early on as it is the effort toward working in that direction. That's been outstanding in terms of the overall effort at this point."

Q: How is the offense different without Marshawn Lynch and using Jalen Richard and DeAndre Washington?

Coach McDermott: "I think that both are really good backs, certainly Marshawn is, but also the other two. They're both capable, good runners. They're good in the return game. I think they're very dangerous."

Q: Is last year's game tape against the Raiders useful?

Coach McDermott: "I think it is a little bit. We've looked at that game just to look at different personnel matchups and what not. To some extent, yes."

Q: What have been your impressions of Derek Carr?

Coach McDermott: "He's one of the best quarterbacks in the league. I don't think there's any question about that. Their offense goes through him just like a lot of good offenses around the league. He's obviously a young player that's had success. He can see his impact on the offense and the team. One of the best quarterbacks. I'm sure he's going to have a long career in the NFL."

Q: How important has Tre'Davious White been to your defense?

Coach McDermott: "Tre'Davious has done a good job so far. We need him to continue to grow. Such an early point in his career at this point. He has made strides from one week to the next and you have to continue to grow. He has that winning mentality and everyone sees the skill set. You just have to continue to grow. Playing corner in this league is a challenge every week. Especially with the schedule we're facing, every week you're facing someone's best receiver. Certainly, with the Raiders, they have multiple weapon with [Michael] Crabtree and [Amari] Cooper and [Jared] Cook. We saw that the other night against Kansas City."

Q: How have Andre Holmes, Lorenzo Alexander and Taiwan Jones contributed to the team?

Coach McDermott: "They've been outstanding both off the field and on the field. They've all contributed in different ways and in different amounts at this point. Those guys have really done a nice job and we're happy to have them on board."