



Oakland Raiders Transcript

Head Coach Jon Gruden

Opening Statement: "We're going to list Josh Jacobs as out, we'll list Richie Incognito as out and Marquel Lee is out."

Q: Will Denzelle Good go in for Incognito?

Coach Gruden: "Yes."

Q: Is Andre James the swing guard?

Coach Gruden: "We're going to try to keep [Andre] James as the backup center and we'll see what happens here. We might activate a lineman to become the swing guard."

Q: Someone currently on the practice squad?

Coach Gruden: "Yes."

Q: With Josh Jacobs out, could Rod Smith play a role on offense this week?

Coach Gruden: "He might. Yup, he's a big back. He might get a couple reps. We need Rod for special teams with our injuries to Marquel Lee. So, he'll be playing on teams and hopefully get a couple shots in there at running back."

Q: Attrition is a pretty normal thing in the NFL, but in your experience has this been extreme?

Coach Gruden: "Yeah, it has been. We've lost three linebackers pretty much for the whole year and two safeties. Our receiving corps has taken a lot of hits, and tight end and running back and offensive line, so yeah it has been. Special teams, our punt returner. It's been pretty tough, but it's been a great opportunity for other guys to get a chance and in the long run, I think it will help our team."

Q: Tyrell Williams said that earlier in the season you challenged him to push through his injury. How do you feel like he has responded to that in the second half of the season?

Coach Gruden: "I'm really proud of him. What you don't see sometimes is what these guys go through to just get to the game. I'm not just talking about our players, players in this league period, but when you can play good in this league when you're not 100 percent, that's a great pro football player. Those are the guys that really make a difference and Tyrell has done a good job. Rodney Hudson, [Richie] Incognito, Gabe Jackson. If you saw what these guys have done to be out on the field every week, Josh Jacobs, it's really exciting for the future of this team."

Q: Do you feel like Jacobs can be a key receiver for you when he's healthy?

Coach Gruden: "Yeah, I think he has 20 catches right now. When he got hurt, I think it was the first play of the game against Green Bay, I mean obviously his practice routine changed and his role, although he was still carrying the ball quite a bit, his role changed a tad. He's going to grow into a great receiver, he's got excellent hands. He's got natural receiving ability and he's smart, and that's an element of his game I cannot wait to unlock. But, it probably won't be until next year."