



OAKLAND RAIDERS vs. BUFFALO BILLS

Sunday, December 4, 2016
Oakland-Alameda County Coliseum
Postgame Quotes



Raiders Head Coach Jack Del Rio

Opening Statement: “Is there such thing as a ‘Fast Sunday?’ What do you call it a ‘Quick Sunday?’ Obviously, with the extremely short week, the first thing we want to do is enjoy the win. Great to get win No. 10. Want to keep stacking up wins as best we can. They were a good football team that we played. They gave us all we could handle early. Even early in the third quarter. Then I felt like all three phases kind of clicked and started coming together. We pulled away and took control of the game. Really good team effort. I think everybody contributed. We’ve been really good about staying the course and staying in the fight and finding a way. Today was another example of that. Really proud of our guys and we encouraged them to enjoy this one quick and then come in ready to work tomorrow, getting prepared for the trip to Kansas City.”

Q: What defensive adjustments did you make?

Coach Del Rio: “There were a couple of things schematically, but I think most importantly we just settled in and started making plays. Started doing our job. Once we started doing that, I think you saw what we’re capable of as a football team when all three phases come together.”

Q: Did you have to talk to the team when it was 24-9?

Coach Del Rio: “No. We’re always engaged with our guys. It wasn’t anything dramatic that occurred at one point or another. It was us staying the course.”

Q: Can you talk about the confidence of the team when their back is against the wall?

Coach Del Rio: “We’re going to give each other 60 minutes worth or more if it need be. We’re committed to that for each other. Every player in that room, every coach in that room. That’s what we’re going to give. We’re going to give great effort. Go out there and play a full game and know that we believe as long as we can stay together and give that kind of effort, we can have happy endings and have a big smile. Of course that’s what we’re all about, finding a way to win, somehow, some way and then have a big smile when we go home.

Q: What was more impressive, scoring 29 points or not allowing any during the comeback?

Coach Del Rio: “I like both. I like getting the 29 and I like giving the 0. Fortunately they add up, they work together. We’re able to pull ahead while we’re not letting them score and while we are scoring ourselves. Really good for us.”

Q: How much did it effect the game when LeSean McCoy was gone for a series?

Coach Del Rio: “He was probably just catching his breathe. He was running like crazy. I mean that guy is a heck of a running back. He’s one of the best in the business. I told him that afterwards. I said, ‘Man, you are one heck of a running back. I have a lot of respect for you.’ He’s a good player. He made life difficult for us, but we settled in and got the stops we needed and got a nice victory.”

Q: Is the key to defending McCoy having a second defender on him?

Coach Del Rio: “Have more than one guy there? Yeah, that’s a good idea. It’s tough to tackle him by [yourself]. Reminds me a little bit of a guy I played against name Barry Sanders. Just because he makes



OAKLAND RAIDERS vs. BUFFALO BILLS

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Oakland-Alameda County Coliseum
Postgame Quotes



so many people miss. He has that ability to kind of hover a little bit and then accelerate. Not a lot of guys can do that.”

Q: Is Derek Carr just a better quarterback in the third and fourth quarter?

Coach Del Rio: “I think he’s pretty good in the first, second, third, fourth. I think he’s a pretty good player. We feel like we have a good team and we just continue doing the things that we need to do to make the plays and win the game.”

Q: Did Carr hurt his left hand in the game?

Coach Del Rio: “I think he was OK. Maybe after one of those runs we just wanted to make sure everything was OK, but I think he’s fine.

Q: Do you just laugh of Marquette King’s penalty?

Coach Del Rio: “Obviously, it’s definitely a teachable moment. He’s not mean spirit in what he’s doing. He’s having fun. He enjoys himself. He had the Pee Wee Herman out there today. I saw that. I got a giggle. He’s enjoying himself. Now, right there, he just didn’t realize you can’t do that. He was like, ‘Really? I couldn’t do that? Oh man. I’m sorry. I’m sorry, Mr. Ref.’ It really was innocent and obviously, we’ll make sure we don’t leave any stone unturned when it comes to teaching to make sure we understand what we need to do there. That should never happen again.”

Q: Are you always anticipating a strip sack from Khalil Mack at the end of games now?

Coach Del Rio: “Khalil Mack is really making his mark on these ball games. That interception that he caused. He just keeps showing huge and that’s what great players do. He’s a great player.”

Q: Is the next game against Kansas City just another game or is it something that you need to prove to yourself?

Coach Del Rio: “It’s Chiefs week, man. What do you mean another game? (laughing) I took a Denver team and went in there and beat them twice. They were 9-0 and we went in there and beat them twice. For us, they won the first one here. We look forward to going in there and competing. It’s a good football team, and we are too. We look forward to it.”

Q: Was the matchup on Amari Cooper’s touchdown one you look for?

Coach Del Rio: “The one over in the right side, I think they were all out on that one. We felt like we saw that look and we’d have an opportunity to hurt them. That was one that we connected on.”

Q: Did you address the Oakland fire with the team?

Coach Del Rio: “I’m sure we all saw what happened. I did not address it with the team specifically. Obviously, our prayers go out to the families and friends that are involved. It’s a tragedy. Obviously, we’re very proud of this area and the people in this area and several people in this area had their lives taken away and that’s really, really sad; really unfortunate. Our prayers go out to all those people.”



OAKLAND RAIDERS vs. BUFFALO BILLS

Sunday, December 4, 2016
Oakland-Alameda County Coliseum
Postgame Quotes



Raiders QB Derek Carr

Q: How much did you feed off the defense today?

Carr: "We feed off each other, that's for sure. You can always tell when someone makes a play, the stadium gets going, the momentum starts swinging. It's a great thing. I say it all the time, but I'm glad they took him [Khalil Mack] first. I'm glad he's on my team. I'm glad we can help lead this team together, it's really fun."

Q: Did it feel like two different games today?

Carr: "Obviously, yeah. If you look at it that way, yeah. In our heads, on offense we were shooting ourselves in the foot. We feel like we can move the ball, make a lot of plays, and I think that's just the confidence and belief we have in each other. We expect to go out there and score points, obviously just like everyone in the NFL. When things were going bad, we just stay the course. Because if we make the plays we're supposed to make, we can score a lot of points."

Q: Did the pace throughout the third quarter help you guys out?

Carr: "Yeah, definitely I think that helped us. That always takes me back to my college days, if we were up on the ball, but then 5 seconds of it being spotted every time. Just pressure coming in that way. It's just another tool in our toolbox that we have, that we can use. It's so cool that we can use that as a weapon, whether we need it or don't need it. There have been games where we haven't used it once, but sometimes if we need to go to it, it's nice to have."

Q: What's the feeling for the team when the momentum is building?

Carr: "We have a good group. We have a lot of talk that goes on. A lot of communication goes on in the huddle, which is awesome. I love to communicate; I love to talk about what's going on the situation. When the momentum is starting to build, I try to get everyone to take a deep breath. Everyone's excited because Khalil made another splash play or something like that, but we all take a deep breathe and let's make sure we're signed and sound. Let's make sure we don't forget the little details with our mind being on the big play that just happened."

Q: How does it feel to have 10 wins?

Carr: "It feels good, obviously. To get the 10th win, never done that. I've never won more than 7, so it definitely feels a lot better. We know that in our division, we have to keep winning with Kansas City, Denver, and San Diego. Everybody is so good. We're not focused on what game it is or how many wins we have, we're focused on Kansas City, who's next. We obviously know the tough test that is, but we have to compete and get a win there."

Q: Going into the half, you have 30 seconds left, and went down to get the FG. Was there a time in your career where you would have sat on the ball with 30 seconds left in the half?

Carr: "You know, I don't know. I think that was a big deal for us. It's nice to have the polish cannon [Jankowski] on our side. We know that if we get it past the 50, we always have a shot. He always tells me that. Coop [Cooper] did a good job making a good play. Crab [Crabtree] made a nice one. I felt bad because I had to get him hit, but we kind of needed the yards. He made a good play. Latavius [Murray] had those two runs after the little check down. Those are big plays to get down there. I don't know the past, but I just know that Coach Del Rio has faith in us. Usually, you look at the clock and you see a lot of



OAKLAND RAIDERS vs. BUFFALO BILLS

Sunday, December 4, 2016
Oakland-Alameda County Coliseum
Postgame Quotes



people take a knee in that situation. I'm just thankful that backed up to where we were, he just said go, let's go get some points. It just builds confidence and belief in the team and the players."

Q: What adjustments did you make during the 2nd half?

Carr: "We had to stop getting dumb penalties. It goes back to basics for us when things aren't clicking. Hey Man, Derek make sure you're accurate. Tay, hit the runs. O-line, make sure we're assigned and sound. Receivers, make sure you run the routes at the right depth and things like that. That's where we go, back to basics. We can make plays, we're doing everything fine but maybe it's another focus. Let's shift our thoughts on what we really need to do. I don't know what it is for each guy, but everyone has their little thing. Hey, let's re-focus and make sure we go out there and do what we're capable of doing."

Q: Do you think you're a different quarterback compared to the 1st and 2nd half?

Carr: "Oh no, I'm the same guy all the time. I don't want to be put into two separate things. I just try to do the same thing and do it all the time. We can watch the film and see we were really close to having 21 points in the first half. We're not having that conversation, so I wouldn't look too much into it."

Q: Do you see the championship coming through Oakland?

Carr: "Yeah, no - you already know. I see your smile. It's an exciting time, I can't lie about it. It's an exciting time in Oakland, for our fans, it's really exciting. Look how many people are in here now. I remember my rookie year, it was like eh. It's definitely a fun time. We've come a long way as everyone here knows and has been with us. We've come a long way, we're enjoying it. We're very thankful, but at the same time we don't think it goes through us. We still have yet to do anything. We're just playing regular season football right now. Hopefully we just keep stacking up wins and put ourselves in a good position."

Q: Is it tough to keep the guys going when you're going 24-9?

Carr: "It's easy because we have such a good group. I could see if we didn't have a good group, it would be like pulling teeth. Everyone on our side of the ball believes we can go score points because we've done it against some of the best teams this league has ever seen. We always have that belief and faith in one another. If we just do our job, it's only a matter of time before someone makes that play or we hit that big play or big run. I think that a lot of the credit goes to the character of the guys in our room. That starts with Reggie [McKenzie], Coach Del Rio bringing in guys who have that same mindset."

Q: Do you keep your fingers taped together all the time?

Carr: "If I feel like it."

Q: Does it hurt if they're not taped together?

Carr: "No pain, no pain. It's great. I'm off the injury report so I really don't know what you're talking about. It's more of a fashion statement."

Q: Did your finger affect anything you did today?

Carr: "It really didn't. If I missed a throw it was just because of me to be honest. They took me off the injury report for a reason. It was not affecting me at all. Just leaving it taped for precautionary, just to be safe."



OAKLAND RAIDERS vs. BUFFALO BILLS

Sunday, December 4, 2016
Oakland-Alameda County Coliseum
Postgame Quotes



Q: Who was your favorite comeback quarterback to watch as a kid?

Carr: “You guys know I love Brett Favre. I loved watching Brett Favre play. It’s really just the excitement he played with and I just try too...When I leave this game someday, no one will ever say he didn’t play with passion. That’s something that I always got when I watch Brett Favre play. He played passionately. He loved his teammates. That’s something that hopefully they’ll say about me when I’m done.”

Q: How important is your faith and family?

Carr: “Absolutely, it’s the most important thing to me. It kept me grounded. It kept me focused when we weren’t very good at football. Honestly. I’ve seen a lot of people, obviously, in my three years here. They go through a lot of ups and a lot of downs and they have no foundation. I’m just thankful that I have a foundation that I can always rely on. I’m never ashamed of that. I’m very thankful for it. That’s why I’m here today, it really is. That’s the only reason. Yeah, and my brother obviously helped me with the mental side of the game. The No. 1 thing that he always told me is you have to protect yourself for obvious reasons. Sometimes he didn’t really have a choice. That’s the No. 1 thing. He always taught me how to pick up blitzes and understand that stuff.”

Q: What’s your mindset and the team’s mindset when they drop balls?

Carr: “It’s just one of those things like, ‘Dang.’ It’s just like when I miss a throw. It’s like, ‘Man, that was a huge opportunity.’ The cool thing about our team is no one is ever pointing fingers. No one is ever like, ‘You should’ve made that play,’ or anything like that. You guys know. I think there was a time this year where maybe Seth dropped on and he ended up catching the game winner right after that. There’s no doubt in my decision making, meaning there’s no doubt that I’m going to come back to them. There’s no doubt in my mind. No hesitation that I’m going to keep trying to feed him the ball. I think that like I said before, we have a great group of guys that have been brought in here that they understand the game. They understand everyone messes up, and they understand that we still rely on each other and we have each other’s back.”

Q: Can you talk about your brother’s team winning the championship?

Carr: “Yeah, Bakersfield Christian. Go Eagles. Bakersfield Christian Eagles. They won their Valley Championship. I remember winning mine back in the [inaudible]. I’m really proud of them. I’m really proud of them and I’m thankful that they keep me in the loop. They keep me in the loop and they have me in the program as the hype man. I’m thankful to be on that coaching staff as well. Hopefully, they send me a ring thought. That’s the main thing. They’re going on, man. Hopefully they win state, too.”

Q: If you had a MVP vote, who are you voting for? You or Khalil Mack?

Carr: “You know I’m voting for Khalil. I never vote for myself for anything. I’m voting for Khalil, there’s no doubt about it.”

Q: Do you feel like this team is in the zone?

Carr: “I remember playing basketball. When you’d shoot a shot and you’d feel like, ‘Man, I can’t miss. The basket is three feet wide right now.’ All of that came down to all the hours you put in the gym. All the hours I sat there with my dad rebounding, throwing me passes, jump shot after jump shot. That’s the same thing with our team. We’ve put so much time in. There’s so many guys on this team that when team meeting says 8:00, there’s guys meeting on their own together at 7:00. There’s guys meeting on their own at 6:00. That is why you can go out there and be confident even when it’s not going well. To



OAKLAND RAIDERS vs. BUFFALO BILLS

Sunday, December 4, 2016
Oakland-Alameda County Coliseum
Postgame Quotes



be honest, I don't think there's anything that's just magical that you're just in the zone and it's working. I really do believe that hard works pays off. That's what got me here and that's what I'm going to continue to believe."

Q: Did tonight feel like what the Warriors do with a 29-0 run?

Carr: "I'd say it feels like what the Lakers do. That's a jab at Steph [Curry] for wearing a Panthers jersey at our stadium (*laughing*). I'm just kidding. He's a great dude. They go on those runs, man, that's kind of what it felt like when you're scoring points and the defense is making stops. Lucky for me, I only have to do it on one end. They have to do it on both. It felt good, man. It did have that feel to it, like a basketball game. I'm just thankful we won."

RAIDERS WR MICHAEL CRABTREE

Q: After the penalty that you got, it seemed like you were on a mission.

Michael Crabtree: "After the penalty? He got in my face. The refs are doing a good job. I'm just playing ball."

Q: It looked like you were on a mission from that point forward.

Crabtree: "Yeah, by any means. We say that all the time. I think that's going to be our quote from now on, by any means. I don't care if it's ugly, pretty. By any means we're going to make it happen, end up with the 'W'."

Q: How big is this game coming up for you guys going to Kansas City?

Crabtree: "It's really big. It's really big for the conference. We need this one. Everybody is on the same page. We're going to go out here and play ball."

Q: Do you guys feel, no matter how far behind you get, you have the ability to come back late in games?

Crabtree: "I don't think that's the thought process. I think it's 'whatever we need to do to win'. We don't really dwell too much on the score like 'we're down 15, we need this'. We don't panic, we don't sweat. We go out there and play ball."

Q: Where did you see the momentum in the game change?

Crabtree: "Where did I feel it, where did you see it?"

Q: Was it when the defense went three-and-out?

Crabtree: "Everybody, the team, played a big part in this win. Everybody did their job. We hounded it right and came out with the 'W'."

Q: How impressive was it to see Derek [Carr] play like every snap under out of the shotgun? It's unusual look for him to do and he was able to move the ball."

Crabtree: "Like I said, by any means. We need to get him to center, the snap, however we have to do it."



OAKLAND RAIDERS vs. BUFFALO BILLS

Sunday, December 4, 2016
Oakland-Alameda County Coliseum
Postgame Quotes



Q: We've heard the chants of 'MVP' when Derek's on the field. Now we're starting to hear them when Khalil [Mack] is on the field. If you had a vote, would you pick one or the other?

Crabtree: "I'd double-vote."

Raiders G Kelechi Osemele

Q: You are the guy in this locker room that has been through this in terms of getting to a Super Bowl. When you look at what this team has and what is laid out for you, what do you think?

Osemele: "I'm very confident. I see a lot of confidence in this team. We see a quarterback playing better and better each week and being consistent. Derek [Carr] is such a young guy so it is incredible to see. As an offensive line, it is fun to see and do our job of protecting him. We need to take it week by week and keep on stepping up."

Q: Can you talk about how big of a playmaker Khalil Mack is?

Osemele: "Our defense is doing a phenomenal job of closing out games and putting pressure on the quarterback. Giving us opportunities and being clutch in those situations. Khalil is such a tough, clutch player and he's getting better and better with these experiences. We got to keep on improving."

Q: What was the mood like losing 24-9?

Osemele: "There was more of a sense of urgency. We just tried to get points on this drive and get down the field. We had to make sure we do our role in protecting the quarterback. Guys are getting open too, so there was still a lot of confidence from the guys. It is a really good sign for us as a young team."

Q: What did it feel like to score 29 straight points?

Osemele: "It kind of felt like everything was smooth and working out. Like I said, confidence keeps building in this team."

RAIDERS RB LATAVIUS MURRAY

Q: I was joking with TJ Carrie that it was like you guys were served double espressos at the end of the game to just turn it on and light it up like that.

Murray: "We definitely didn't play the way we were capable of in the first half. We found a way at the end. We turned it on, started making plays. It was a completely different half for us on offense."

Q: What is it about this offense that allows you guys to, when your back is against the wall, flip the switch and turn it on?

Murray: "I don't know. I say it time and time again, I think the fact that we've been in that situation just helps. Any time you get repetition at certain situations it just helps. You're comfortable in those situations. You know what you have to do, and you are able to go out there and get it done, each man, each individual guy doing his job."



OAKLAND RAIDERS vs. BUFFALO BILLS

Sunday, December 4, 2016
Oakland-Alameda County Coliseum
Postgame Quotes



Q: Touchdowns, you're up to 11 after today. I think I saw you're the first running back since Marcus Allen in 1990 with double-digit touchdowns for this team. What does it mean for you, it's helping the team but what's it mean to you?

Murray: "I think it's a testament to what the O-line has done up front. It's a combination of the backs as a whole. Yeah I'm going in there and putting in a bunch of touchdowns, especially on the goal line but that first one I told Jalen [Richard] thank you because he's the one that set that up for me. It's been a team effort, a group effort starting with the O-line and the running backs as whole. I've just been fortunate to have the opportunity to finish off those runs."

Q: Usually it's a play, a score, some game changing type of moment. Can you put a finger on what it was today?

Murray: "Once they went up two scores on us, it's like we have to go out there and do what we have to do. I really think that was the turning point there, we're down two scores. We had to do something on offense. We started making plays on defense, started getting stops so we can get the ball back and start putting the ball in the end zone again."

Q: What can you say about the job that the defense did once you got that first score to keep turning them away and get you the ball back?

Murray: "The offense wasn't [t clicking at all but the defense did a great job once we got going to keep us in the game so we could go ahead and finish off the game in a big way."

Q: Big win for you guys but where do you guys go from here with a short week ahead going to Kansas City?

Murray: "Like you said, we have to get back to work. No time for celebrating much, Thursday night game, division rival. This is what we want. I'm excited and every guy on this team is excited for this opportunity. It's time to get back to work."

Q: 10 wins, you can smile.

Murray: "I'm smiling. I'm happy, trust me. But this is another big one for us. We still have some work to do. They stand in the way of that. They really do. I'll smile when we get our goal at the end of the season."

Q: It had been a few weeks since you guys had any runs of 10 yards or more. You guys were able to break a few runs today. What made you guys able to break out a few?

Murray: "Game plan. The O-line, it starts with them up front. Us just trusting them to get us to the second level, then making guys miss and finishing the runs."

Q: Is there any better closer in the game than Khalil Mack?

Murray: "No, not at all. It's the second week straight. The guy does what he does. We see it week in and week out. He's the best."

Raiders WR Amari Cooper

Q: What did you see about the matchups that you liked on the touchdown catch?



OAKLAND RAIDERS vs. BUFFALO BILLS

Sunday, December 4, 2016
Oakland-Alameda County Coliseum
Postgame Quotes



Cooper: "I knew the defender was right where I wanted him to be. Just like how we practiced the route and we got the play."

Q: What are the challenges of facing a tough Kansas City team on the road, and on a short week?

Cooper: "I mean, to me it isn't a new challenge. It is the same deal for Kansas City playing us on a short week, so we are on an even playing field."

Q: Kansas City beat Atlanta Falcons earlier today. What gives this team belief that you are ready for the challenge on Thursday night?

Cooper: "I personally look at it like another week. Take care of your body, study the film, practice hard and know them and what they like to do."

Q: Can you describe Derek Carr's performance and success this season?

Cooper: "I come early, and I see him being here too. I see Derek [Carr] sitting there with a notebook of plays and looking over everything that we are going to call during the game. Make sure he knows what each receiver has, so that is why I'm not surprised by his success."

Q: Is it almost like when you are in college and cramming for an exam?

Cooper: "I wouldn't call it cramming because he is diligent throughout the week as well. I think it is a moment of going over it one last time."

Raiders CB David Amerson

Q: How did you guys kick it into gear in the third quarter there?

Amerson: "We knew our offense was going to get going and that they could put up points in bunches. As a defense, we knew we had to get on our horse. We couldn't keep letting them go down like we did in the first half in the second half. We knew we couldn't keep letting that happen. Once we flipped that switch, we didn't look back."

Q: Those plays Khalil Mack is able to make, getting his hand on the ball to force an interception and a second week in a row with a strip sack, what is going on with this guy right now?

Amerson: "Before we went on the field, I looked at him and said, 'Go do what you do and be special.' It's almost expected that he's going to make plays. It's just a matter of when. It's nothing surprising."

Q: What were they doing that was so effective early in the running game? LeSean McCoy was putting up some yards.

Amerson: "I play on the edge, so I don't really know what's going on, how he busted up the middle like that. I know he's a great player. Every time I play against him, he's a guy that makes people miss and hard to tackle. I expected that but I can't really say."

Raiders LB Bruce Irvin



OAKLAND RAIDERS vs. BUFFALO BILLS

Sunday, December 4, 2016
Oakland-Alameda County Coliseum
Postgame Quotes



Q: How is it a defense that played like you did in the first half have the issues that you did in the first half then flip it, force three straight three-and-outs and do the things you did as a defense in the second half?

Bruce Irvin: “Just stay with it. We know they were a good offense. They have very capable dudes in [LeSean McCoy] and Tyrod [Taylor]. We just continued to pound, continued to go at it and got into a rhythm.”

Q: When you look at the six games you guys have come back and won in the fourth quarter is it just a simple fact of sticking with what you know?

Irvin: “It’s just sticking with it. It’s the National Football League. No game is going to be [easy]. Our defense hats off to us, we we’re giving up a lot of big plays at the beginning. We tightened it down and came together at the end. We really helped the offense seal this win.”

Q: Is [Khalil Mack] an MVP candidate?

Irvin: “I would say, would you?”

Q: When you and Kelechi [Osemele] have both been through this where things are mapped out for you for the last four games, you’ve succeeded and won the games. You see all the ingredients in place here?

Irvin: “We just take it one game at a time. Playoffs is a whole different story. We still have Kansas City, the Broncos and a good team in the Chargers. We just have to take it one game at a time. The rest of it will take care of itself.”

Q: What’s the biggest difference between now and the start of the year when you guys defensively had some challenges?

Irvin: “That’s just believing. No matter what the situation is, no matter what plays they get. We continue to believe in each other. We continue to fight. That’s the main thing, the biggest difference between the beginning and now.”

Q: Does it surprise you anymore what Khalil Mack is doing, especially at the end of games?

Irvin: “It speaks for itself. The guy is a walking Hall-of-Famer. HE’s the best in the business. I’m blessed to suit up with him week-in and week-out.”

Q: How do you think you turned that around, 29 unanswered points?

Irvin: “Just continue to fight. Continue to believe. 29 unanswered is hard to do in this league. Buffalo has an explosive offense. Hat’s off to us and to [Derek Carr] for continuing to believe in us, continuing to battle and put points on the board.”

Raiders DE Khalil Mack

Q: What was the key to shutting them down in the second half?

Mack: “We knew we had to get those defensive stops and stay disciplined in our game plan. We did that and we shut them down well in the half.”



OAKLAND RAIDERS vs. BUFFALO BILLS

Sunday, December 4, 2016
Oakland-Alameda County Coliseum
Postgame Quotes



Q: What gives this team the belief to continue to find ways to win?

Mack: "Belief. We work hard. We work hard in practice and we continue to play hard in the games."

Q: On the strip sack, were you surprised to find the ball in your lap and can you describe the play?

Mack: "I had to reach for the ball and it was crazy. Just go."

Q: This game seemed to turn on a dime for you guys. Did it feel like that for you on the sideline?

Mack: "Man, the offense really did a great job, and the whole team did. The offense was special and rolling. 29 unanswered points is special. We knew we had to step up as a defense."

Q: How are you feeling for the Kansas City Chiefs on a short week?

Mack: "Very excited. It is a big game. A real big game."

Q: Were you able to hear some MVP chants for you?

Mack: "Was Steph Curry here? *[laughing]* Man, I just got to keep balling out there and make plays."

Q: Do you feel like you may have more power in the fourth quarter?

Mack: "Yeah, this is just a testament to the work I put into this. I feel powerful every quarter. The game moves on. We knew we wanted to contain Tyrod [Taylor] and LeSean [McCoy] but we also knew we couldn't allow him [Taylor] to have the time to find the open man down the field."

Q: How do you and Bruce Irvin feed off of each other?

Mack: "We feed off each other's energy. He pulls me up. He always tells me "We need you man, come on." So he is like my brother always pulling me up."

Raiders T Donald Penn

Q: What happened out there? What changed for you guys to score 29 unanswered?

Penn: "We just kept fighting out there. We've been doing that all year. For 60 minutes. Tampa Bay, we played more than 60 minutes. We keep fighting, and you have been seeing that all year. We don't stop fighting. No matter how far back our backs are against the wall, we keep fighting. That is the goal for the season. We keep growing each game and getting better. We need to make it easier on ourselves if we can, but hey, we growing."

Q: Was the anxiety a little high when you were trailing 24-9 earlier?

Penn: "We weren't too bottled up on offense because we knew we stopped ourselves. The Bills didn't stop us, we stopped ourselves. We had a couple penalties, a couple step-backs. We knew going into the second half that if we got the little things fixed and everybody does what they are supposed to do, we are going to get stuff rolling. And we did."

Q: What can you about the job of the defense?

Penn: "The defense doesn't get enough credit. Defense has been playing hard. Look at Khalil [Mack], Bruce [Irvin], all these guys. They are playing their butts off. You can talk about rankings, but it doesn't



OAKLAND RAIDERS vs. BUFFALO BILLS

Sunday, December 4, 2016
Oakland-Alameda County Coliseum
Postgame Quotes



matter because we are winning. They are playing their butts off. I would take our defense over anybody any day because I know what they bring to practice. I work with them every week so I know what they are bringing.”

Q: What do you think as a lineman about these plays that Mack continues to make?

Penn: “He does it to me at practice. I don’t see anything differently. He has done it to me plenty of times at practice. I know what he is doing. We are going against him and Bruce everyday. I’ve seen it happen plenty of times before. You just see it happen now, but he has done it to me at times in practice. I mean, I’ve had to hold him up sometimes so he can’t do that to me.” *[laughing]*

Q: What does this win say about this team?

Penn: “We have a long way away from where we want to be. We can take each win as we go and we going to keep working hard to get where we want to be at. We going to keep taking these wins and get better, and hopefully, make things a little bit easier on us.”

Q: How does double-digit wins sound to you?

Penn: “Man, I mean nobody thought about that happening. We got great fans. These fans were rocking. Great fan support and we are happy now. We got a short week and got to keep this going.”

Q: How would you describe this short week against Kansas City?

Penn: “Big game. A real big game. We are excited for it.”



OAKLAND RAIDERS vs. BUFFALO BILLS

Sunday, December 4, 2016
Oakland-Alameda County Coliseum
Postgame Quotes



BILLS HEAD COACH REX RYAN

Opening Statement: “It was clear that we weren’t consistent enough to win this game. We knew it was going to be a tough game. It’s a good football team and we could afford very few mistakes. We knew that going into it. We had too many errors and obviously, we turned it over twice. We never managed to turn over on defense and that was a big difference in the game. I thought that we got on our heels and we never got off of them and that’s defensively. That was obviously a big disappointment for me, but moving forward we got four games. We know what has to happen in those four games for us to get where we want to go and we are going to learn from this tape. We got to study it and get better in a hurry.”

Q: How do you explain the lead you had and then 29 unanswered points? Can you relate that to anything you’ve ever experienced?

Coach Ryan: “Well, it hasn’t happened a whole lot in my career but it has happened before. Sometimes you feel that momentum shift and it just snowballed on us. Sometimes I think we lose confidence. You can’t ever have that happen to you. To their credit now this team has done this a bunch. This is a heck of an offense. When you look at it, they have a lot of weapons and their quarterback is playing extremely well. Combine that with an offensive line and good running backs I mean we knew it was going to be tough. There’s no question about it. By no means am I trying to short that team. That team is a good football team. It’s been their MO almost the whole season and unfortunately we couldn’t make a play and make a stop when we needed it.”

Q: Don’t you need more from the offense when the defense is reeling like that?

Coach Ryan: “Well I mean, that was it. It just snowballed on us. I mean as a football team it snowballed on us. We had done some great things prior to that point both on defense and especially on offense. We needed a complete game. Anytime you play against a really good football team like that, you got to play a complete game. It has to be 60 minutes and unfortunately that’s not what happened.”

Q: Why did you play so conservatively around the two-minute warning at the end of the first half?



OAKLAND RAIDERS vs. BUFFALO BILLS

Sunday, December 4, 2016
Oakland-Alameda County Coliseum
Postgame Quotes



Coach Ryan: “No, it wasn’t the case. I just wasn’t going to use my timeouts. We were going to go at it but I wasn’t going to use my timeouts because I know what’s on the other side so I don’t think we played conservative. That wasn’t the case. I just wasn’t going to use a timeout unless we needed it.”

Q: You were shutting them down. People are tweeting that you were playing not lose?

Coach Ryan: “That’s the exact opposite. What happens when you look at it, we were in control of that situation. We felt pretty good about it. We convert that third down now we’re using our timeouts. We know they can’t score and we have three timeouts so to me I thought it was prudent for us to play the way we did. It wasn’t that we tried to take the air out of the ball or anything else. I just wasn’t going to use timeouts.”

Q: QB Tyrod Taylor had 100 yards passing in the first quarter. What happened after that?

Coach Ryan: “You know, I’m not real sure. We’ll know a lot more about it when we watch the tape. I really can’t tell you.”

Q: Did they change anything in terms of addressing your guys running game? You were running rampant on them and then all of a sudden they seemed to flip a switch and have your number in the run game.

Coach Ryan: “Yeah that could be true. I’m not sure. We’ll have to see it. You know I don’t avoid questions like that normally but if I really don’t know I can’t tell you so until we see the tape.”

Q: There’s mounting evidence that Tyrod Taylor is not able to figure out a way to pull out games far more than he has been able to. What’s your level of frustration concerning all of that?

Coach Ryan: “Look, let’s just let this play out. We feel pretty comfortable with Tyrod. There’s a lot of factors that go into everything. Obviously their quarterback is, I don’t know how many fourth quarter things he’s brought back this year but it’s a whole bunch of them and another one today, but with that being said there’s other factors that go into it.”

Q: What are some of those factors that are preventing him for doing it?

Coach Ryan: “I’m not going to go into a list of them. You guys can figure it out.”

Q: Why has this team struggled so much against strong competition?

Coach Ryan: “I don’t know.”

Q: Did you get complacent with the guys? Did you fall asleep on them?

Coach Ryan: “No, I don’t think so. That’s not what happened. They made plays. We’re not the only ones that team’s made plays against. It was tough and they can do a lot of things to keep you on your heels. They can run the football and if you don’t have enough guys in that box, they can run the ball in and they’ve proved that against a lot of teams. It’s kind of pick your poison. We tried everything. We were rushing three, we were rushing four, rushing five. Simulated pressures, we were giving all of that and we ran a whole lot of true zeros, but I give them credit, they made the plays.”

Q: What are your thoughts on DE Khalil Mack?

Coach Ryan: “Shoot. I’m glad he’s not playing for New England, I guess, but he’s a great player. He didn’t disappoint today.”



OAKLAND RAIDERS vs. BUFFALO BILLS

Sunday, December 4, 2016
Oakland-Alameda County Coliseum
Postgame Quotes



Q: Thoughts on RB LeSean McCoy's effort today?

Coach Ryan: "He's a fantastic player. There's no question, you hate to ruin that kind of day from Shady. We know what he is, from every single time out the guy's the best player on the field. We just have to find ways to win as a team and it's always going to take that kind of day from Shady, that kind of effort and he gives it each time."

Q: How much did not having TE Charles Clay change things offensively?

Coach Ryan: "I have no idea. We practice and it would have been nice to have him."

Q: What do you think about playoff chances?

Coach Ryan: "I have no idea. The last time I said we were out we got in. It's pretty obvious we have to win the rest of them to even have a chance, so we'll see what happens. Thank goodness we have the next three at home. We have to win every one of them and we understand that."

Q: Can you talk about the loss of confidence that you saw?

Coach Ryan: "I don't know. It just seemed like we were on our heels. That's what it seemed like to me and sometimes that's where you have to step up and make a play and be aggressive. We want that ball to come to us and sometimes you get that feeling that it's just not happening for us. We have to make it happen."

Q: Is there a concern about being able to stop the run?

Coach Ryan: "Well, how did their run defense do against our offense? Talk about getting gashed. Let's face it, it's a lot tougher than it looks. You can stop the run if you know their running, I know we can do that. If you've got [Derek] Carr back there, with those type of receivers that they have, it's tough. You set yourself up, pick your poison a little bit, and any time you get a multi-dimensional attack like they are, it's tough."

Q: Are there any injuries?

Coach Ryan: "I think John Miller was in the concussion protocol, but he was cleared, but that's the only injury that I know of right now."

Q: Did RB Jalen Richard's style of running allow him to have more success than RB Latavius Murray?

Coach Ryan: "He made a couple guys miss, I know that. All of those backs are capable backs, there's no question. I know he had a couple real nice runs where he made some guys miss."

BILLS QB TYROD TAYLOR

Q: What kept you from getting momentum back late in the game?

Taylor: "I would say a lack of execution on both sides of the ball. We had the early momentum, and I think we've got to do a better job of holding onto that momentum – especially in road games. Road games bring us all challenges, but whenever you can build momentum, if we keep building off of that, I think the better we are moving forward."



OAKLAND RAIDERS vs. BUFFALO BILLS

Sunday, December 4, 2016
Oakland-Alameda County Coliseum
Postgame Quotes



Q: What happened offensively in the second half?

Taylor: “We knew this was a great team that we were going up against. That’s why we wanted to stay ahead. I added a change, and I think we did a good job of that early on. Unfortunate three and outs definitely stalled us, but we were never able to capture the momentum and make plays in the second half the way we were in the first half.”

Q: What is to blame for the stalling out?

Taylor: “A lack of execution.”

Q: Did they change their game plan for the second half?

Taylor: “No, they mixed in their different looks, but nothing that surprised us. Like I said, we just didn’t go out there and make the plays we were supposed to.”

Q: How tough was this game with such a small margin for error?

Taylor: “We knew this game was going to be a must win for us, and moving forward is going to be [must win games], we just made it even tougher on ourselves, but we have the type of guys in our locker room who can bounce back. As far as moving forward, we just have to go out there and win.”

Q: Is there anything you can point to for the offense sputtering?

Taylor: “Nope.”

Q: Did you like the rhythm you were working with in the first half?

Taylor: “We definitely made plays. [LeSean McCoy] made plays, Mike [Gillislee] made plays, and Jerome [Felton] did a great job of blocking as well as [our guys] upfront. Like I said, we just didn’t do a good job of holding onto that momentum. It stings, but you’ve got to learn from it moving forward.”

Q: Were you and Sammy Watkins not on the same page?

Taylor: “I’ve just got to continue to keep learning and watching his game and get on the same page mentally. This time of year, his reps are limited and we haven’t had a bunch of time on the field, but we’ve got to continue to keep building chemistry through watching film and at practice.”

Q: How much of a turning point was the interception by Nate Allen?

Taylor: “Interceptions are unfortunate.”

Q: What was your impression of Khalil Mack?

Taylor: “Great player.”

BILLS RB LESEAN MCCOY

Q: How frustrating is it to not come out with the win today?

McCoy: “It sucks, man, it really does. There are some plays I missed today that I wish I had back. It was a weird game because I felt like we did everything we could do early in the game. In the second half they came out firing. We were in zebra personnel, which is a passing [formation] and they had their big guys in trying to stop us from running the ball. We had some success and then we just collapsed. We couldn’t



OAKLAND RAIDERS vs. BUFFALO BILLS

Sunday, December 4, 2016
Oakland-Alameda County Coliseum
Postgame Quotes



move the ball, we couldn't do anything right. We stalled on a few drives and had the turnover. It was a super snowball effect. As a team, we can't win like that – especially on offense.”

Q: Was it tough with how quickly the momentum in this game shifted?

McCoy: “We felt like we had the control of the game. In the first half when it was close, I felt like we had control. Defense was making stops, offense was driving. We got three [points], we should have gotten seven [points]. In the second half, we finished out, for the most part. Like you said, it was a snowball effect. We couldn't move the ball. It got bad.”

Q: How do you stop the bleeding?

McCoy: “The thing we do best is run the ball. If we get a nice lead, with this team that's what you want. You can control the game by eating the clock up. That's another thing, we were scoring fast – which we normally don't do – not taking big chunks of the clock. We were scoring fast and putting the defense back out there. It just didn't go well today. We had a great game plan for this game. We kind of pushed them around upfront, the guys upfront blocked well. We couldn't close it out. We practice that every week – closing out games, taking advantage of the situations. Today, we were up two scores, and could have put them away.”

Q: How big was the interception on the tipped ball by Khalil Mack?

McCoy: “That's it. He's a great player – a good, young player. We checked him before the game, we made sure that he wouldn't destroy the game. I think that got away from us a little bit, and he made a big turnover that changed the game. As long as we're down six points, we still have everything in the offense – deep, short, anything we want to do. It's still a manageable game, all we need is one score. That flipped after that turnover – which we never do. We never really get turnovers, we always do well with protecting the ball.”

Q: Do you feel this game got stolen away from you?

McCoy: “Yeah. Once they were scoring and picking big yards up... we run the ball well, we try to control the game, and usually do. It just happened so fast.”

Q: You slammed the ball after the last play – what caused that frustration?

McCoy: “We work so hard... I wanted to win this game. Don't get me wrong, they're a good team. They showed what type of team they are – they got stops when they needed stops, they scored when they needed to score. I know what type of team we are. We were right there, and we had it. I didn't think it was a close game. We didn't score, we couldn't even go down there and put three points up. I just felt like this is a game that we had in our hands that we let slip away. People will look at the scoreboard on their phone and they'll think, 'Wow. The Bills are the Bills. They lost.' The game was closer than that. The game was in our hands, we just lost it. You take one of the better teams in the NFL, and measure yourself against them, and we were right there. We had that game. It is what it is. We lost the game, we have to come back next week and get a win.”

Q: What was Rex Ryan's reaction to the game?

McCoy: “We've just got to win these next games. That's it. There's nothing else to talk about. We talked about this game right here that we let slip away. We've got to win these next couple of games to have a chance.”



OAKLAND RAIDERS vs. BUFFALO BILLS

Sunday, December 4, 2016
Oakland-Alameda County Coliseum
Postgame Quotes



Q: Were you impressed with Derek Carr?

McCoy: "He's impressive. He needed to make plays, and he answered. He converted on third downs. I thought he was very accurate. He showed a lot of talent, spotting the balls where defenders couldn't get them. He's a good player. I like guys who compete. I'm not big on all the names and all that, I like guys who come in there and compete. When the team needs them, they show up. The clutch gene, if they have it – he was clutch today. I've got a lot of praise for him."

Bills RB Mike Gillislee

Q: Mike, can you talk about your first touchdown?

Gillislee: "I can't even really think about the play. I know I just got in the end zone. Just gotta go back to work tomorrow, get ready for the next team, Pittsburgh."

Q: You had a good 29-yard run on that drive, do you remember that one?

Gillislee: "Yeah. The offensive line did a great job, and they opened up lanes for me and I just seen them. And I just got what I could get."

Q: There were a lot of plays for [Jerome] Felton [FB], it appeared, as a blocking back. What does he add to the offense?

Gillislee: "Felton is one of the best NFL backs in the game. He's been around. I'm pretty sure that the team appreciates him. He did a hell of a job out there."

Q: When you guys run the ball like this, it usually means victory for you guys.

Gillislee: "We did all we could do, just didn't win the game."

Q: Four games left. What does that mean for you guys going forward?

Gillislee: "We just have to work a little harder. Go in to tomorrow and learn from our mistakes. Keep moving forward."

Bills WR Sammy Watkins

Q: It seemed like today that there was a lot of miscommunication between you and Tyrod Taylor like the one in the second quarter on a third down where it looked like you were pointing at yourself. Was that the case? Were there a couple of times where you were not on the same page?

Watkins: "I think that was one of the plays that I just couldn't hear. The crowd was doing a great job, and Justin [Hunter] was trying to make the play, and I just couldn't get it from him. Those are things that we can't let happen."

Q: How much of that relates to you being injured and not having a lot of reps between you and Tyrod Taylor in practice?



OAKLAND RAIDERS vs. BUFFALO BILLS

Sunday, December 4, 2016
Oakland-Alameda County Coliseum
Postgame Quotes



Watkins: "I honestly think it was just the heat of the moment. I just couldn't hear. I've got to do a better job with getting the play. We were just in the heat of the moment. That is something that we have got to clean up."

Q: What happened to the offense in the second half?

Watkins: "First off, I think the defense played well. They started doing different things, but for the most part the offense, we hurt ourselves. We got the groove of the game, and flow of the game, and we never got it back. That was the one frustrating part."

Q: Were you surprised at how quickly the momentum turned at the end of the third quarter?

Watkins: "That's part of the game, especially them being at home. We didn't handle their momentum. I think they had a lot as well on offense. We just didn't capitalize well in the third and fourth quarter. I think that those are things that we got to get better as a whole team. We played well in the first half, but we never finished."

Q: It's tough to match points with the Raiders, isn't it?

Watkins: "Yeah, we knew that. They have a great offense. They got the same type of players as we have. Like I said, we didn't handle their surge the right way. We should've capitalized in the first half, and scored two more touchdowns. It would have been a different game, but we've got to clean up and watch film, and see what we lacked at and what we could've done better."

Q: What did notice about Tyrod Taylor's rhythm in the second half compared to the first half?

Watkins: "I think it's the flow of the game. The eleven guys on the field, we just didn't get that flow back on like we did in the first half. First half, I thought everybody was in tune. We was moving the ball a lot. Second half, for some reason, we came out flat, drove the ball down the field one time, and after that I don't know if it got into our heads that the game is over. I just don't know."

Q: What was the feeling on the side line when the game started to snowball?

Watkins: "Like I've said, I think that is when we had problems. When a team makes their surge, or whatever it is we have got to keep our composure. I don't think we handle that well in any game. We got to start keeping our composure. Hey, next play, and move on from it. We always get riled up, and yelling. We have got to stay composed."

Q: What do you mean riled up?

Watkins: "I am talking about within yourself whether you are mad that you didn't get the ball, or you drop the ball, or the play didn't come to you, or even myself. I got to do better with that. Staying in tune with the game. Don't let one play dictate the outcome of the whole game."

Q: What is contributing to the fact that you guys aren't beating top teams?

Watkins: "Every game is going to be tough. In this league, there are no sorry teams, so we just have to keep preparing. We have to find different ways to win the game. I think that is what the Raiders did. They found different ways to win the game, so we got to do the same next week."

Bills S Corey Graham



OAKLAND RAIDERS vs. BUFFALO BILLS

Sunday, December 4, 2016
Oakland-Alameda County Coliseum
Postgame Quotes



Q: Talk about what happened there.

Graham: "I've never really been in a situation like that, it was like everything went wrong and we just couldn't make a play. Those guys were on a roll and it was like everything they did turned into gold, no matter what they called, what they did, they found a way to make plays. You've got to tip your hat to them. That's why they're 10-2 now and number one in their division in the AFC, because those guys find a way to make plays and they just made the plays and we didn't."

Q: Mentally, is it better when you look around and feeling when you guys had the bigger lead that there was any level of let down within the defense? Did you sense anything that bothered you?

Graham: "No. No, the guys were pretty up tempo, we felt good. Obviously, we had the lead and we knew that we needed to finish. We knew they were a good team. There's a reason they have all those wins. They just got to rolling on that one drive and when they went down there, we just didn't make plays and they scored a touchdown. It's like a snowball effect after that, like one after another and things start to go in the other direction once they got their confidence on that drive and scored that touchdown. It was big for them."

Q: Rex said you guys were doing a lot of different things strategically, three man run, blitz..

Graham: "We tried it all from coverage from blitzing to everything you could really ask, we tried it all and it just seemed like it would be a little short here, just miss it here, little things there. They just got to rolling and things went in their favor. It sucks when you're in situations where sometimes even in great calls where you're like man, you couldn't ask for a better call and somehow they got a catch out of it. It's like 'what's going on?' It's one of those days where we had the perfect call in certain situations and it just didn't work out for us."

Q: How much is Carr grown since the last time you guys saw him?

Graham: "He's a ball player. He's a ball player. He's looking at coverages, getting coverages, making the right reads, checking out of things and he had some excellent throws in tight coverage, you have to tip your hat to him. He's a very good ball player. He's going to be around for a while and a lot of people will be hearing his name."

Q: I just was walking behind him and I noticed he did have the right pinky finger taped, that obviously didn't bother him today.

Graham: "We knew it wasn't going to bother him, he finished his last game with it so he came back when it first happened. When it first happened, that's probably when it was feeling the worst and he came with them to come back and made plays so I'm pretty sure that wasn't going to be an issue for him and obviously by the way it turned out, it wasn't."

Bills LB Lorenzo Alexander

Q: Is there a sense of shock when a team scores 29 unanswered points?

Alexander: "I mean, not really. You still feel like you're in the game, obviously. Because we were up 24-9 at one point, and they hit us kind of quick. But I mean we still felt like we were still in it. But obviously when they went up by 14, you start...damn this is crazy. You know, because we couldn't do



OAKLAND RAIDERS vs. BUFFALO BILLS

Sunday, December 4, 2016
Oakland-Alameda County Coliseum
Postgame Quotes



anything after that; so, just kudos to them. They went out and made the plays they needed to make to come back and win the game.”

Q: Did the team become lethargic or anything?

Alexander: “Lethargic? No. I mean defensively, even when our offense came out and scored pretty quickly, Kyle Williams [Bills DT] said hey we still have to go out and ball out. I think we still went out and maybe had a couple three-and-out’s. But then they made some adjustments and started making plays, and we weren’t making them.”

Q: Rex [Ryan] said you guys seemed to lose confidence during that run.

Alexander: “I mean if he felt that way, maybe. I mean I know I’m not just sitting there watching each other, [I’m] trying to go out and make plays. But obviously we weren’t making them. So obviously stuff started to go bad, and it kind of becomes a trickle-down effect. And it got worse for us as the game continued to go on.”

Q: Do you think you guys are starting to lose some of your fans, after a few games like this one?

Alexander: “Maybe. I mean we not really worried about that. We’re moving on to Pittsburgh. We have to go out there and play football, and not worry about whether we lose fans or not. We have to get back to playing sound football, and go out there and execute. I mean rightfully so, man. Obviously if we’re playing bad football, the fans are going to be upset. They have a lot invested in it, but we do too. We can’t worry about whether or not they are going to be cheering for us next week. If we worry about that we definitely getting our butts kicked.”

Bills G Ryan Groy

Q: What do you think happened there?

Groy: “I’m not sure. We were playing well, running the ball well, had some good passes early, and moving the ball, moving the chains. We kind of just got into a little bit of a drought and couldn’t do a little bit of either. We have got to pick it up. We have to make some adjustments that we will see on the tape, but we have to keep going.”

Q: Just like last week, the first play of the second half turned into a huge run play. Can you just talk about that 54-yard run by LeSean McCoy?

Groy: “We knew that we had a good run at that point. We had it earlier in the game, just missed a block that could have spun it. We knew we had a good play there, and ended up getting that block, and sprung it for 54.”

Q: Did they change how they were defending you after that as the third quarter and fourth quarter went along?

Groy: “I don’t think so. They stayed in a lot of base regardless of personnel. They forced us to throw it, and we ended up still running the ball early in the second half. We just needed to keep going later.”

Q: As it went along and you had to play catch up is when Khalil Mack started to take over. What are your comments on him?



OAKLAND RAIDERS vs. BUFFALO BILLS

Sunday, December 4, 2016
Oakland-Alameda County Coliseum
Postgame Quotes



Groy: "He's a great player. We tried turning some protections to him. You have to stay on him, a great player."

Q: Where does this leave you guys? You're still not dead.

Groy: "Absolutely, we are still fighting. We are definitely not done. Four games left and we'll keep fighting."