



## ***Oakland Raiders Transcript***

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

**Opening Statement:** "Good divisional win yesterday. We turn our attention onward to the Giants. Questions?"

**Q: Have you had a chance to talk to Michael Crabtree yet?**

**Coach Del Rio:** "No. I'll see him tomorrow."

**Q: Considering the history he had with Aqib Talib, did you talk to him before the game yesterday?**

**Coach Del Rio:** "We were all about finding a way to beat the Broncos. That's all."

**Q: Looking back, do you think you should have?**

**Coach Del Rio:** "I'm happy that we executed our game plan and won the game."

**Q: What was the cause for the drop off in Obi Melifonwu's snap count?**

**Coach Del Rio:** "Just doing the best we can to put together a winning game plan. I thought the staff did a nice job putting together a plan. I thought the players did a good job executing. We went out there and got a hard-fought win at home."

**Q: Do you have an update on Amari Cooper?**

**Coach Del Rio:** "No. He is in the concussion protocol. I believe he tweaked his ankle a little bit on that same play. He's with the trainers and doctors. Once we get cleared to go with him, then we will."

**Q: What did you think of the play of your other receivers with Crabtree and Cooper out?**

**Coach Del Rio:** "They came up with some big plays in the game. Johnny [Holton] got deep again, did a nice job throughout the day. Also on special teams, did a nice job for us. Cordarrelle [Patterson] came up with some big moments in the game. All in all, it was a solid, solid job of filling in and executing with your two main guys out."

**Q: Where have you seen the biggest growth in Holton's game this year?**

**Coach Del Rio:** "I think for him, his confidence has grown. He has amazing speed. He's just grown as a player. I think he's more confident in what he's doing, how he's doing it. Route running, the consistency of catching the ball, those are all things that have improved."

**Q: Do you still think you need 10 wins to make the playoffs?**

**Coach Del Rio:** "I think I just laid that out there to be honest with where we were and how imperative it was that we find the urgency to give ourselves a chance. I think that part has been accomplished. That message has been delivered. For now, it's just about doing all we can in preparing this week. It's really about the process of preparing. All of our energy has to go there. You can't win two in a row if you don't win one. So for us, rather than think about the whole of it, all that needs to happen in a season or last month, what we want to think about is preparing the best we can and going out and being ready to compete this week against the Giants."

**Q: Do you think the change at defensive coordinator helped the urgency? Maybe gave everyone a little bit of a shock?**

**Coach Del Rio:** "Perhaps. I mean I'm not really going to sit and try to evaluate that part of it. I did what I did because I felt like we needed to have a change. We needed to have a spark. We're not going to look back and say, 'See there,' and things like that. I think for us, we're just going to go forward. Keep concentrating on just teaching. Making sure the players understand the principles we're looking for. The effort and energy we want to have. The focus we want to have and then go out and go compete."



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**Q: Do you think John Pagano had an impact on the defense in the game?**

**Coach Del Rio:** "I think we had a good, solid week of preparation and I think we had a good, solid outing. It's shared. It's never about one person. It's a shared product that you saw, players and coaches coming together and getting a win we had to have."

**Q: What did you see out of Denico Autry yesterday? What has been his biggest area of improvement?**

**Coach Del Rio:** "Denico is always rugged. I think he's had a heck of a year, really. He does a lot of different jobs. He plays up and down the defensive line, from inside D-tackle all the way out to our Leo position. He's rugged. Very dependable."

**Q: What was your take on Gabe Jackson's role in the altercation? Are you concerned about a possible suspension there?**

**Coach Del Rio:** "All I can go off of is the game tape and nothing showed up on game tape. So, I don't sit and surf the web or whatever, I'm not looking for any of that kind of stuff. If there's an issue, the league will bring it to my attention. Gabe is a pretty mild-mannered guy. He's a pretty powerful guy so if he was going in a path over that way and you got in front of him, he could run you down accidentally but he wouldn't be trying to do that. I don't have anything to add on that. I think Gabe is pretty pure. I don't think he would intentionally do anything like that."

**Q: Are you concerned about Crabtree's possible suspension?**

**Coach Del Rio:** "That's for the league to decide. I would hope not. Based on what I saw, I wouldn't think there would be that type of reaction."

**Q: How do you feel Jon Feliciano played, stepping in for Gabe?**

**Coach Del Rio:** "Jon has been pretty solid when he's been called on. Feliciano is solid in his role, stepping in there and being ready. Overall, we did a good job. It's a good defensive group. They're very aggressive and we kept them off the quarterback for the most part. We ran it a lot. Didn't run it as well as we'd like to, but we ran it a lot and possessed the ball. Jon was a big part of that."

**Q: What have you thought of Sean Smith the last few weeks?**

**Coach Del Rio:** "We're going to continue to push to be better out there. I thought that was a good, solid showing. I told Sean after the game it was well done. I thought he did a nice job yesterday."

**Q: Any additional thoughts on the hit that got Amari hurt?**

**Coach Del Rio:** "There's nothing really to add to what was said. In looking at it, in being honest, I think Amari did duck his head as the guy was approaching. That makes it a little harder on the defender. That was probably the one piece that I didn't have access to prior to that comment. The reality is, it's harder to be a defensive guy when the offensive guy is ducking his head. That makes it a little more complicated."