



Oakland Raiders Transcript

Head Coach Jack Del Rio

Opening Statement: “Back at camp, break tomorrow. We’ll break tomorrow get back to work down in the Bay [Area] and travel to Green Bay and then we’ll be out starting tomorrow afternoon. It’s been a good productive time up here. It’s a good place to hold camp. The people here treat us great. Our organization does a nice job putting this event on, this camp event. I’m happy with the way things went up here. Questions?”

Q: Can you talk about today’s practice overall and what was going on at the end with the extra running?

Coach Del Rio: “Oh a little conditioning? Sometimes you get a little extra conditioning after practice. That’s part of camp [and] getting the team in shape. Once you start getting into games, you have to get yourself into game shape and want to approach them with a game-like mentality. We still have a lot of work to do. We’ll get back to Alameda starting tomorrow afternoon and get back and make sure we’re doing all the things we need to be doing leading up to the start of the year.”

Q: What did Cory James show you in the game? It looks like he had a pretty solid night.

Coach Del Rio: “He did. He showed us what we’ve been seeing. He’s an active guy. He’s picking up our scheme very well. He’s a guy that’s going to be productive. He flies around. He gets around the football. We’ve been happy with him this entire spring and he had a good showing in his first outing.”

Q: Korey Toomer also had a good game. Are you happy with what you’re seeing with your linebacker depth?

Coach Del Rio: “Well, we hope so. That’s what we’re working hard to develop. Both Korey Toomer and Cory James are younger players that have an opportunity to compete and find their way here. Compete for a spot on this team. Obviously, playing well in the preseason game helps your cause. Doing a good job on special teams, being accountable there helps your cause. One game in, I would say both of those guys played pretty well in their first outing and I want to see what they look like in Week 2.”

Q: What did you think of the running game? Are you looking to have more support this year for Latavius Murray with George Atkinson III and DeAndré Washington?

Coach Del Rio: “I think we’ve seen a lot of signs of our running game approaching what we’re thinking about, what we want it to be. We’ve got big, strong guys. We’ve got good design. It’s about getting the timing down and giving our backs some room and them doing their thing. It was great to see a couple of guys look really good in the backup role. I thought Latavius had a nice run or two while he was in there and then DeAndré and George obviously had some good runs in the game. Closer to what we’re looking for, but we’ve been seeing signs during camp of improving running game. That’s definitely something that we are set on making sure that we can get that going.”

Q: Do you think Latavius can be more explosive this year if you’re able to manage his time more?

Coach Del Rio: “I want to have more rushes. I don’t want him to have less. If anything, maybe a little more, but I want him to be more productive. We want other guys to be involved and be able to run it as well. We’re working on becoming a team that’s capable of running the ball well. We never really, truly established that last year. It had to be good numbers for us to be able to run it well. We want to be able to run it well, period, whether the numbers are good or not.”

Q: What can Latavius do to be more effective? How can he get better?

Coach Del Rio: “All players have things they can get better at. I don’t want to sit here and dissect any one player. For running back, make a few guys miss in the open field, don’t go down with the first hit, make sure you’re seeing the holes, and make sure you’re seeing the power of the play. Those are basic things that we talk about, basic principles we talk about with all of our backs.”



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Q: How do you think that DJ Hayden has fared this camp?

Coach Del Rio: "Even though DJ got six snaps, he's still the story? He's had a really good camp. He's done a nice job in the nickel role. I know the first-rounders constantly get it. That's just part of the deal, I guess. He's had a good camp."

Q: I wanted to talk about Khalil Mack's success. What did you need to see in terms of him after the offseason and what are your overall thoughts on young, successful players?

Coach Del Rio: "My thoughts on talented players are that the guys that work hard, that have talent, have success and the reason that they have success is because they're talented and they work hard. With Khalil, I think the beautiful thing is that he's got natural humility. He loves this game and he's driven to play great at his position. He wants to develop the skill level. He's working tirelessly to do that. That's good for us. We've got some guys like Khalil. Some of our younger, better players have that humility and that drive to be good and they're working. Guys that do that and have that kind of skill level or talent level have a chance to develop and become really good players and possibly great players. That's what you work on."

Q: I had a chance to talk to Mark Davis about him. He mentioned Charles Woodson's effect on Khalil last season. What did you see in terms of that dynamic?

Coach Del Rio: "I mentioned last year that I thought Charles left his imprint here on this organization. He left a legacy here about hard work and commitment and what it looks like. No question that a young player like Khalil being around Charles was very beneficial for him."

Q: Are there any updates on Mario Edwards Jr. or Gabe Holmes that you want to share?

Coach Del Rio: "Not really that I want to share, but I will reluctantly tell you. Mario is going to be out a few weeks. That's unfortunate, but he will return and it's not going to require surgery. He's going to be out so that's that. Gabe had a pretty significant high ankle sprain so I think there was a break of one of the small bones in there as well. I would anticipate that he'll end up going on I.R. [Reserve/Injured List]. I'll give you those. The rest of the guys are working hard to return and should return. Mario is going to be out awhile and Gabe is likely headed towards I.R."

Q: What have you seen from Denico Autry?

Coach Del Rio: "He hasn't practiced a lot. He's been recently cleared. He's been playing with a cast on his hand to protect it. He looked a little rusty the other night. He's got some work to do and he knows that. He's a high-energy guy. He was with us last year so we kind of know what we can count on from him."

Q: What did you like about what he was able to do for you guys last year?

Coach Del Rio: "He's a rugged, athletic guy that can kind of go in between, outside or inside. He plays typically sub for us as a tackle, in sub packages, and as an end in base. We like him. He's a good, rugged player."