



## ***Oakland Raiders Transcript***

### **Offensive Coordinator Bill Musgrave**

**Opening Statement:** "Good morning. Another Thursday and we're preparing for Tennessee's defense."

**Q: What do you like about what the offense has been able to do? Obviously, the ground game has significantly improved.**

**Coach Musgrave:** "Well, we're still working at. The O-line was working at knowing each other better because we have new guys in new spots and we've had some injuries. We're going to continue to work at it and hope to see some more improvement."

**Q: You're at the top of a few offensive categories, but where do you see room for improvement?**

**Coach Musgrave:** "Well across the board really, Vic. I don't think we started as fast as we wanted to these first couple of games. We want to get out there and play from the lead. We just want to be more consistent. Our goal is to score every time we touch the football. That's our goal so we can enjoy the victory at the end of the day on Sunday. We're going to keep working to that end."

**Q: Head Coach Jack Del Rio said on that fourth-and-2 he wished Latavius Murray or Jamize Olawale got the ball. What went into that play call and why weren't one of the bigger backs out there?**

**Coach Musgrave:** "We have confidence in all our backs. That play is over. That play had a chance to be successful but it didn't work out. We called it because we thought it would work and we thought we would get it. All of our backs are doing a terrific job, Jamize and Latavius included. We're going to be in that position again and we hope to convert next time."

**Q: Where do you think Latavius Murray has made the biggest job from last year to now?**

**Coach Musgrave:** "Well he's definitely catching the ball a lot better. He caught it well last year, but he's really worked on his hands in the offseason. I mean every single day, he really worked hard at it. I think just the familiarity of knowing our concepts and getting more turns at running the running plays, running the pass routes. He's really started fast this year and we've really enjoyed what he's brought."

**Q: Do you feel he's running more violently?**

**Coach Musgrave:** "I don't know about more. He had some outstanding, violent, physical runs last year, too. I think the ones stand out because one was in the end zone over the MIKE backer in New Orleans and then he really did a super job against Atlanta. Like all of us, we're looking to get better and I know he is too, to build on it after two initial, promising weeks."

**Q: With what Amari Cooper dealt with at the end of last season, how much did it help him get better?**

**Coach Musgrave:** "Well I think he mentioned the other day that there's fewer unknowns for a second-year player. He knows what to expect. He knows how long this season can be, so he's more prepared to take care of himself to make sure he stays healthy and can stay at that elite level."

**Q: What do you think of his hang time?**

**Coach Musgrave:** "Oh, man. It was amazing. That was amazing. Just the catches that he makes, and then watching our game against Tennessee last year and the catches he made when we went down there. Was it in November? Yeah. Every single week he does something that you'd never expect."

**Q: Was last week a breakthrough week for Clive Walford?**

**Coach Musgrave:** "I thought, yeah, both tight ends did well in the pass game. We needed them. At times the defense is going to take away certain things. To get a little you have to give a little, and the tight ends were there for us to catch balls. Clive's still working through his offseason injury, too, here in Week [3]. He's practicing more. Not in the training room as much, and so we're hoping that trend continues."



## **Oakland Raiders Transcript**

**Q: What are the differences you've seen in Derek Carr from the time you got here until now?**

**Coach Musgrave:** "Mechanically, I wouldn't say he's any different. The kid can throw the football from all different positions. Feet are set, feet are not set, full motion, abbreviated motion. He just has innate ability. He was put on this Earth to play quarterback. I think mechanically, [quarterbacks] coach [Todd] Downing is continually working on foot work with all the quarterbacks and that's where throwing starts, with your foundation. But Derek is talented enough to be accurate when he has his foundation and also when he doesn't."

**Q: Does he look more calm when things break down? It seems like the ball is coming out stronger than in the past.**

**Coach Musgrave:** "No, I think that... You may have a point. I just think it's a tough position to play. The more you get to play it, the better you can improve. I think he's very good at learning from his experiences. He's gotten to play a lot of football in two years and now here's his third year."

### **Defensive Coordinator Ken Norton, Jr.**

**Q: What has taken so long for this defense to gel?**

**Coach Norton, Jr.:** "It's hard to tell. I mean, there's a lot of things that we're looking at. At the same time, we've had some adverse situations. We all had high expectations at the same time. We're a work in progress. Continue to improve, continue working hard, paying attention to the details and I'm accountable for it. We have to work harder, work better and we expect to come out of this."

**Q: How do you make sure the guys' eyes are where they're supposed to be?**

**Coach Norton, Jr.:** "Well, we have to practice better. I think it's important for us to really pay close attention to the details, make sure that in practice, because in practice is the only place that makes us better, gets us ready for the games and our meetings have to be tighter, our practice has to be tighter. Again, we have to certainly take care of the details and we feel like we've tightened up things at the vest here. We'll be a lot better."

**Q: How shocked are you that even with the new additions on defense it has taken them this long to gel?**

**Coach Norton, Jr.:** "Well, you know, I've been around a lot of good defenses, a lot of good coaches, a lot of good players and this fits right up there with the good ones. Again, no one said it was going to be easy, you're going to have adverse times and those adverse times really reveal us, reveal who you are and I think that the team has come together, come close. You can tell the guys really care. No one wants to play as bad as we've played, no one plans for that. We've dug ourselves a hole and we have to fight our way out of it. That's what good defenses do. That's what good people do, they fight out of it and that's what we plan to do."

**Q: Do you expect to call the plays on Sunday?**

**Coach Norton, Jr.:** "Oh yes, it's a collective effort. The whole staff, we sit in here and go over the game plan, over the plays. We have a good idea of what play should be called at certain times. It's a collective effort, but I do call them on gameday."

**Q: Do you understand why Jack Del Rio took over calling the plays in the final defensive series on Sunday?**

**Coach Norton, Jr.:** "He's the head coach, he can do what he wants to do. That's up to him."

**Q: How involved is Coach Del Rio with the play calls during the game?**

**Coach Norton, Jr.:** "Oh, Jack loves ball. He's a ball coach. He's very involved in the offense, in the defense. He's a very detailed person. He has his hands in it. He's very involved."



## ***Oakland Raiders Transcript***

**Q: Do you have to pick and choose when and how you play Karl Joseph this Sunday?**

**Coach Norton, Jr.:** "Well, you know, we have high expectations for Karl [Joseph]. He's a guy that, again, practice is that place where you get better. You really have to be competitive in practice. And, as he practices this week, we'll see exactly. We don't know exactly how much he's going to play, but you're going to see him play."

**Q: What do you think has been holding Joseph back?**

**Coach Norton, Jr.:** "I'm not sure. You really can't tell. It's just a matter of being sure about what you're doing, really understanding the details and just kind of putting it all together. Pro football is a big deal."

**Q: What do you like about Cory James?**

**Coach Norton, Jr.:** "Well, you saw Cory [James] during the training camp and preseason. He really stepped up and he showed a lot. He's a big, strong guy, very instinctive, plays really hard and he makes plays. So, he's a guy that you certainly want to take a good, strong look at."

**Q: What do guys on the opposing side of the ball being wide open speak to with regards to the defense?**

**Coach Norton, Jr.:** "It's just a combination of many things. Again, I'm accountable for all of that and you really have to be detailed, you really have to go into a situation and understand what's going on. You have to know what you're doing and I have to coach them better. Obviously, you have to really tighten up the ship and really make things a lot more clear than what they've been."

**Q: Did the issues you had against the Titans' boots and tempo in the preseason game guide the way for the Falcons' and Saints' offense?**

**Coach Norton, Jr.:** "Right now, we're working on everything, the run, the pass, the ability to play the tempo. All the things that are important for our preparation. We're really doing a great job of preparation and I can really hand it to the guys, they've done a great job of really using this practice time to really prepare themselves. No one expects, no one likes to lose, no one likes to play bad and these are very proud, young men and we're all going to come together and turn this thing around."

**Q: What challenges does Marcus Mariota present?**

**Coach Norton, Jr.:** "He's mobile, he's smart, gets rid of the ball really quick. He's growing up. You can see he's learning how to use all of his weapons around him, really opening up the offense for him. He's a guy that you really have to keep in the pocket."