



Oakland Raiders Transcript

Head Coach Jon Gruden

Opening Statement: “We’ll just list Trent Brown again as questionable. We’ll keep Daryl Worley as questionable, very questionable indeed. Hunter Renfrow is out and that’s the best I can do right now, but I’ll answer any questions that I can.”

Q: What was Brown able to do today?

Coach Gruden: “He took some reps on the team period, a couple here and there, and we’ll see how he feels here today and tomorrow.”

Q: How does Josh Jacobs look?

Coach Gruden: “Pretty good. He got work all three days. I think that’s a good sign. I don’t know how much he’ll play, I don’t know 100 percent if he’ll play, but it does look pretty good.”

Q: Is it starting to get really emotional now?

Coach Gruden: “Yeah. No, I mean I wish I had time to stand up here and thank all the fans. I wish I had more time to really sit down and make that the big story here and thank the fans for their support over the years and what this franchise has accomplished and what it means and what Oakland means to the Raiders. So, I’d like to thank everyone that welcomed us back when we came back and I know that they are going to stay with us when we go, but appreciate all the fans and their loyalty and their support. We’ll try to give you one hell of a show.”

Q: There seems to be a lot of guys that have a pretty good idea of how unique this place is, even the guys that have just played here for one year. Has that been much of a theme this week?

Coach Gruden: “No, not really. I wish it was. We have had so many players come and go, we’re trying to teach a tight end the snap count. We’re trying to teach rookies to not only be available, but to start. Rico Gafford for instance, we’re trying to get some young guys ready to play, so our focus has been on trying to get ready for Jacksonville. Unfortunately, we haven’t really had an opportunity to sit down and talk about the meaning and all those things, but I know our players sense it. We have discussed it a little bit, but I know the guys will try to give their best effort.”

Q: Has it been important to have the younger guys understand the history of this franchise?

Coach Gruden: “Yeah, that’s what we’re doing here. We’re trying to build our team, we’ve said that a lot of times. It’s one of the reasons why we had the number of draft picks that we had. That’s why we acquired a number of picks that we have acquired. We’re trying to bring in young guys and train them what it is to be a Raider, and we brought back [George] Atkinson and [Fred] Biletnikoff, if you see those guys coming around a lot. So, yes, we are trying to bring back the Raider glory days. It’s been tough the last few weeks, but there has been a lot of great things happened this year we’re excited about.”

Q: How unique is it for this organization to have that mystique that you talked about what it means to be a Raider, as opposed to any other team out there?

Coach Gruden: “I think it’s strong. I really believe in the shield. I believe in the Silver and the Black, and got a lot of passion for what the men have done before us and what these guys are going to do after I’m gone. We’re doing everything we can. We really thank [Owner] Mark Davis for setting us up with a great future and obviously we’re very sensitive about where we come from. You can’t help but be emotional about it.”

Q: Knowing that there are important things to play for, is it even worth talking to the guys about getting caught in the emotion?

Coach Gruden: “We got to play good football and at the end of the game, we’ll show our respects no doubt. But we got to get ready to play a good football team that’s had a top-5 defense coming in here that is going to play



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hard and nobody gives you anything in this league. So, we got to play better football and we got to concentrate on getting a win.”

Q: For them (CBS) to bring Rich Gannon here for this last game, that’s got to be kind of cool on a personal level?

Coach Gruden: “Yeah, it is. I saw [Charles] Woodson out there and Gannon. I looked over there and said, ‘No wonder we were pretty good.’ We had pretty good players, but we’re getting there. We’re making progress and it’s hard to see the last couple weeks, but we’re excited here behind these doors.”

Q: If Worley is unable to go, does that throw a wrench in your safety plan for this week?

Coach Gruden: “Yeah, I mean obviously that won’t happen. We’ll keep those plans, like a lot of our other plans, under wraps for a while.”

Q: What have you seen from Tyrell Williams over the last month or so? Is he still fighting through the foot injury?

Coach Gruden: “Yeah, it’s been a real challenge. We’ve had a lot of foot problems around here this year. He’s been dealing with it really since the second week of the season and he missed a few games, he came back and hasn’t really healed. He’s managed it. We try to manage him on the practice field, but give him credit, he’s playing through pain and we thank him for that.”

Q: Is anything happening with Dylan Mabin?

Coach Gruden: “Yes, had a core injury. We put him on IR. He’s a good, young prospect so we did put him on injured reserve. We’ll see him in mini-camp. Good player, good young prospect.”