

Kansas City Chiefs vs. Oakland Raiders

Sunday, December 10, 2017

Game 13

Postgame Player Quotes

Raiders Head Coach Jack Del Rio



Opening Statement: “Disappointing afternoon for us. I thought we had a good week of prep. The lack of execution today in such a meaningful game was disappointing to say the least. We hung together and gave ourselves a chance in the second half by sticking together and coming out and fighting. Came close to getting back in it, but came up a little short. Obviously, we had injuries today. 89 Amari Cooper reinjured his ankle. Clive Walford had a concussion and was unable to return. Mario Edwards Jr. had an ankle and did not return. Four punts and an interception in the first half offensively was not the start that we envisioned. I thought the defense was hanging in, the third and long was a killer. We gave up a third and long that led to their only touchdown in the first half and that was a killer. Minus two in the turnover battle. That is not going to win for you. That is not a recipe for good football. Disappointing. We really wanted this one. It was not about want to, it was not about preparation or effort or energy, it is about execution. We did not execute well enough today. They did and we have to give them credit. We will turn our attention to Dallas and our last home game. We will just look to play good football and win the next game and do the best we can with that.”

You got the ball back with more than two minutes left. You did a lot of short passes. What were you trying to do? “Trying to go down and score. The one at the very end, we got a ball in receiver’s hands at the five yard line. They all count. I thought we had some opportunities maybe that were missed throughout the game. You can’t turn the ball over, for one, and obviously we have to be more productive than we were today.”

How would you evaluate Derek Carr’s performance today? “Well he is the trigger man of our offense so offense didn’t get done what we needed to get done today.”

Why couldn’t you establish offensive rhythm early on? “That is a good question. That is one we have to take a look at. Bottom line: we did not. The first five drives of the first half were four punts and a pick. That is not the kind of productivity we needed today obviously.”

In the first KC game you had a lot of pre-snap movement. Today that was different. Is there anything about the first half that could have been done better? “There was quite a bit that could have been done better in the first half.”

Do you know to what extent Cooper reinjured his ankle? “No, he reinjured it. It is kind of a bite when it is already a little bit sore going in. Where that puts him now we will evaluate as we go through the week.”

What was your expectation of Cooper going into today? “What he brings. Speed, experience, route running, all the things he brings. Obviously, he got rolled up on. He got rolled up on, if you are injured before and you get rolled up on, it is likely it is going to be pretty sore. That is what occurred.”

Marshawn (Lynch) had the long run early, but he did not get the ball. Was there a thought to get him more involved? “I think we have kind of thought about getting individual people involved. When you possess the ball, I don’t know how many snaps we took in the first half, that could not have been a lot. So, when you are not converting first downs, on third down, you are not continuing to get opportunities for everybody. Being efficient, I mean the first drive, stuffed at the line, incomplete, stuffed at the line, sack, punt. You aren’t really going to talk about anybody involved when you are doing it like that. You got to be able to move the ball and make first downs and possess the ball in order to get everybody the touches you would like.”

Missed tackles, Karl Joseph had a couple early and there was one late which was a third and five when Dexter McDonald was in front of the mark... “That was a big one from a time standpoint when we are looking at getting the ball back and conserve time, that was a big one there. It wasn’t what we would like it to be ultimately. I don’t know if that was the biggest negative, certainly it was one.”

What were they doing that you could not rush the ball? “Well we had a couple of good rushes. Again it is number of opportunities. Somebody was nice enough to put [individual stats] here. Ran the ball at a 6.4 clip so we were able to rush it, just not enough. We only rushed it 11 times.”

Would you have wanted to see some more reps? “I wanted to see more productivity, more points, less points for them. I wanted to have a big smile up here right now, but I don’t.”

This was an opportunity for your team. “Missed opportunity, yes.”

Where do you go from here? “Go to the next game. Reprobation. Continue to control the things we can control. Effort, energy, put together plays and get ready for the Cowboys. That is what you do. That is what we do in this business. Tough one today. We obviously came in with high hopes. Everything that we wanted to accomplish in our season was in front of us and it was a big day and a big moment and we did not play well.”

Did you approach this game like ‘Hey this is an elimination game?’ “We have been knowing that for a while now. We talked plenty about that. It is where we put ourselves. Our situation where you got to win the next one and got to string together a bunch of wins and hope it is enough.”

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Raiders QB Derek Carr



You have put games on yourself before. Does this come down to you playing better? “Sure, yep. We have to play better and you can put it all on me.”

What was it you were not able to do today? “Win.”

Can you talk about the lack of execution in a big, meaningful game? “It sucked. It was not good enough and you can put it all on me. Don’t you blame one coach, one player. It is all my fault.”

Coach said you all felt good about the preparation. What went wrong? “Yeah, we didn’t execute it. It is a word we say a lot and it gets annoying sometimes, but we didn’t. Preparation was good, but it was not good enough. Not even close.”

What about your performance personally? “I am just frustrated with myself. There are going to be plays that you want back, but that is every game. For a whole, I saw the coverage fine. I was going to certain places with the ball that I thought were right and all of those things. At the end of the day, it was not good enough.”

Are you healthy? “Yes, thank you.”

What did you see on that first interception? “We had a big play, opportunity to Jared (Cook) and I tried to step to my left and make a play and then I do not know. Somebody hit me.”

Was the game plan to go shorter? “No, we had some opportunities that we just did not connect on. Just can’t happen. There is no easy way to go through this one. This one sucked.”

Is this as bad as the team has played since you can remember? “No, my rookie year we were terrible. So definitely not as bad as we have played, but it was not good enough and we can definitely do some things better and we will. That is the thing. Don’t get twisted that I am upset and frustrated for throwing it in. I work my tail off and I’ll fight anybody at any time for this team and for my teammates. I am ready to work. I am ready to get better, but the first half was not good at all.”

A lot goes back on a quarterback. But do you see yourself in a slump? “No. I played efficient the last couple of weeks doing certain things. Today saw the coverage well. Can I play better, yes that is every game. I get patted on the back when I throw for

300 yards, but I could tell you 15 plays that I screwed up. I can play better all of the time. That is the life of this business, especially when you lose.”

Is there a point where you guys didn't have it? “It was a big game. Well there was definitely a moment where we said what is going on here. I think there is two parts to your question. You said was there a moment where we thought we didn't have it. No, you know because we came back and we scored twice, but it just again was terrible in the first half.”

When you did start scoring, did you see something different? “No, they were playing the same coverages. They didn't do anything different, but we were able to get after them and attack them and we were able to connect and make some plays.”

This was a big game with few surprises. What happened that you came out that flat? “I wish I had the answer because it would have been something that we could have nipped after the first couple of drives, but I will look at myself as I always do and see what I can do better and then see if I can help my teammates along the way.”

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Postgame Player Quotes

Raiders Players



LB BRUCE IRVIN

What was the key to the game today? “They executed better than us. They started faster. We tried to rally at the end, but when you fall behind to a team like that, it’s hard to come from behind 26 points.”

On his three sack day: “It’s cool, but we didn’t win. Our objective is to win the game, and that was unfortunate. We have to keep pushing. It is what it is. They just outplayed us today. We just got to get back in the office and prepare for Dallas next week.”

On losing another division game: “I don’t watch the standings. I’m not Mel Kiper and those guys. That’s what they do. I’m here to play football and control what I can control. We lost this week, so we have to focus and get ready for next week and try to go 1-0 next week.”

Was that the most disappointing thing that this was a big game and the team lacked execution? “Any game that we lose is disappointing. We needed this. They needed this and they came out on top. Yes, it’s a little more disappointing because it was a division game. A lot was at stake. They executed more than us and came out with a “W”.

On today’s slow start: “You just got to learn from it. We have a young team. I don’t think guys understand that when you get opportunities like this you have to take advantage of them. The NFL is about winning in December. If you don’t do that, you won’t be playing in January. We’ll learn from it and we just got to keep moving.”

LB NaVORRO BOWMAN

How did you feel you guys played today? “I thought we played okay. I just feel like we got to make the plays that come to us. We got to execute as a defense. There are some guys that when balls come to you, you just got to make those plays. That’s what it came down to.”

Did the offense going three and out on six of the first eight drives have an impact? “I don’t think so. Early on, we just had to settle down. I think in the first half we may have been trying to do too much as a defense. I think we were still playing well. And in the second half, I think we settled down and got some stops and got a pick. This was a game they played well. They prepared well and they executed well.”

What do you see from Bruce [Irvin]? “Bruce is a talented pass rusher. We need him to do those things. He takes that and runs with it and makes those plays that we need.”

Do you think the magnitude of this game get to some of the guys on the sideline? “I’m not sure. Everyone approaches a game differently. I try not to focus on anything but inside those lines. It’s a learning experience for everyone. I wasn’t perfect when I first started. As a young guy you have to be able to separate the chaos out there from what’s important and what your job is. I think if we do that, we’ll be fine. We have some talented people on this team.”

What does it say about the defense keeping Travis Kelce and Tyreek Hill out of the end zone today? “They have playmakers. It’s just the little things. You have to do the little things better. If you just do those things, you’ll be in those games. It wouldn’t be such a hard fight back.”

Did you think the defense was flat coming out? “No, I think we were fine coming out. I always like for the defense to go on the field first and set the tone. I think the energy was fine.”

TE JARED COOK

Can you put your finger on the slow start today? “No, I can’t.”

What was the game plan going in? “Not good enough. No first half points. Barely any second half points. We [the offense] didn’t pull our weight today. The defense did a great job holding a team like that to a lot of three and outs, [making them] settle for field goals and keeping them out of the end zone. The offense just didn’t pull our weight today.”

It’s evident that the slow start really hurt you guys because eventually you guys got going in the middle of the fourth quarter. But, by then... “It’s too late. That doesn’t work in this league.”

Take us through the touchdown at the end of the game. “It was kind of a double move. The safety bit up. The outside linebacker bit up as well, and there was nobody on the back side so I just hit the open field. Derek [Carr] hit me and I just found my way to the end zone.”

Is it safe to say this doesn’t take away the bad taste on the plane ride back? “No, not all. We made our bed. Now, we’ve got to lay in it.”

C RODNEY HUDSON

Can you put your finger on why it was such a rough day at the office today? “No. I’ve got to watch the tape. No clue”

What did it seem like the Chiefs front was doing against you guys? “I don’t know. All I know is what’s going on in front of me at the time. I’m going to have to watch the tape and see.”

You guys got off to a slow start, obviously. Were you guys out of sync early? How did it feel out there? “I don’t know. Like you said, we got off to a slow start for whatever reason. But, we’ll watch the tape and see what happened.”

It looks like you caught lightning in a bottle in the fourth quarter. But, by then, it was too little too late? “Yep.”

After this game, is there still something to play for? “Every time you get the opportunity to play in this league, you want to play hard. I know we’ve got a bunch of guys that feel that way.”

DL JARVIS JENKINS

Comments on the Chiefs defensive performance: “It was the same thing. We were just doing what we were supposed to do. We had to come out with a mentality and that’s what we did. We started fast and ended faster. We got a much needed win.”

Comments about recording a sack today: “The main thing was we kept a lot of I-rushes and the main thing was we’ve got to push the pocket because we knew he’s going to hold the ball. Just went off of my technique and he was there and I actually got a sack. It was a good thing.”

Was what you were seeing today, schematically, any different than what you expected? “We knew the d-line had to set the tone. At the end of the day, that’s what we preach; the d-line makes the whole team go. We started fast. We’ve got big 95 making plays like he always makes and we feed off of that.”

LB DERRICK JOHNSON

How does it feel to get the building frustration of losing off of your shoulders? “Football is hard, regardless. When you win, it helps. It helps the highs and lows of football. We needed a win, desperately. Backs against the wall, we knew we had to come out of this game. We were not leaving without a win. Today was a great performance. The ultimate team win.”

Comments on his open field hit on Marshawn Lynch: “Whenever you get a chance to hit Beast Mode, you don’t get many chances. That was a chance. Carr served it up and I had to take my chance on him. He still got up. He’s still a beast.”

Was the energy of the defense different today? “Well yes, against an offense that runs the ball really well, Carr is one of the elite quarterbacks, I think we played great team

defense. Everybody out there played great team defense. Nobody was waiting for somebody else to make the play. You make the play. It worked out today.”

You control your own destiny. How big of a win was this for your guys? “It was huge. We knew what the stakes were when we stepped on the field. I guess we play better when our backs are against the wall. We know we are not done. We have to keep winning.”

How good does it feel to have this victory? “It feels great. This game is hard. You play this game to win. Today we got the win. We will celebrate it real quick but we have a Saturday game this coming week against the Chargers so it will heat up pretty fast.”

How much credit do you give to the defensive line? “I give a lot of credit. Everything starts with the defensive line, offensive line and defensive line. We say that every week. When those big boys get going, everything works out.”

TE TRAVIS KELCE

Comments on the win: “It feels good. We have a short week and a Saturday game so it’s going to be short lived.”

Do you think you got into the end zone on the touchdown that was called down at the one yard line? “No, I knew I didn’t get in. I’ll try to do better next time.”

Do you feel like you have a nose for the end zone? “Yeah man, that’s just the competitiveness of playing football. You get excited the closer you get to the end zone and just try to get in there, man.”

What’s it like to see Kareem Hunt have a good day? “It’s everybody, man. Everybody looks like we were hitting on all cylinders as a team. It felt good. We got the mojo going there for the most part of the game. We just have to finish with a little more alertness and ability to finish the game.”

How do you feel about the performance of the defense? “They were on track of putting up a goose egg. Like I said, on all three phases we’ve got to have a little more alertness and awareness there at the end of the game so we can keep the fans off of the edge of their seats.”

Did it bother you to not finish drives with touchdowns? “Without a doubt. There were two drives where we ended up with field goals where I could of got in the end zone and helped out the team. That is the kind of accountability I put on myself to do better and I will.”

How did it feel to get back in the win column today? “It felt pretty good. I was saying it was good to see everybody hitting on all cylinders and everybody just got the mojo back.”

Did this game feel different going in? “It’s the division man, anytime you have a divisional game, whether it is the Raiders, Broncos or even the Chargers next week you know you are going to have to come to play. That’s the accountability you have to have for a divisional game, knowing when you win the division you get a ticket into the dance.”

RB CHARCANDRICK WEST

How did you find your way into the end zone on your touchdown run? “Hats off to the offensive line and Coach Reid calling a great play. Did you see the hole I got a chance to run through? It was there.”

What is it like to get this victory? “It’s a blessing. They are hard to come by in the National Football League. Coach Reid and his coaches did a great job of preparing us going into this week. Our backs are against the wall and it’s time for us to pull together as a family and do what we were doing.”

How important was it to get off to a fast start on offense and defense? “It was amazing. It’s crazy, we came out of the locker room saying we have to play for each other. Not offense playing for offense or defense playing for defense but let’s play for everyone across the ball. We came out there and put a full game together as a team, not as offense or defense.”

Did it feel different from the last seven weeks? “We won, of course it felt different. To come out and play a complete game together, it feels different to come out of the locker room and to see everybody smiling and not mad at one another.”

What kind of support was it to see the defense shut out the Raiders for three quarters? “We played together as a team and it showed. It payed off. This week of practice may have been our best week of practice since I have been here, all four years. Everybody was just having fun and the energy level was crazy. It was a blessing to be a part of. Instead of getting tense, I feel like everybody played, not carefree, but played together.”

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*Postgame Player Quotes
Chiefs Head Coach Andy Reid*



Opening Statement: “Really there are no injuries right now to give you. Good team win. I thought all three phases played well and really for four quarters it was a grind. They put the pressure on the Raiders, who I think are a good football team and made them earn every yard that they got offensively. Our offensive line stepped up and did a heck of a job today. From the offensive side, number 27 (Kareem Hunt) got his 1,000 yards which is always a plus.”

This is such a dramatic turnaround defensively from last week and last time you played the Raiders. How do you explain that? “I thought the guys rallied to the ball well. I thought they challenged. I thought Bob Sutton had a nice game plan that he put together and they all played together. They did a good job.”

Do you feel like that first defensive series set the tone? “Anytime you can hit the quarterback the way he was hit early, that affects him. Then we rallied to the ball as far as the run game. The first series set the tempo, yes, but we found out last week there was more than that, you have to follow up on it. It was really all three phases. We’ve been up and down, offense one week, defense the next week, special teams here and there. They all played together.”

Some of the defensive guys talked about not waiting for someone else to make a play and a sense of urgency. What kind of energy did you see from those guys to set the tone early? “First of all it was great to play at Arrowhead and the fans were unbelievable. I said before the game that we need them. They bring something extra than what you have on the road. We do pretty good with the fans on the road, I’m not saying that, but at home it’s a special deal. Our players feed off of that and they did. They took that extra step. Each one made a pact with themselves and the man next to him and they played well. I thought they really did some nice things.”

You made the decision to suspend Marcus Peters for the game and a lot of people on the outside thought without him that your defensive backfield was really going to struggle with this group. How well did they come together and did you issue a challenge to them? “The guys, they know. We’ve always had the next man up thing and that’s how we’ve rolled from the get go. It’s no different than that. Marcus will be back and he’ll be back in playing, doing his thing. That’s where we’re at. There was nothing different. There wasn’t an extra challenge or any of that. The guys know that if somebody is down the next man steps in and goes.”

What was your confidence level heading in without him out there? “I thought we were going to do okay. I thought we were going to win the game, how’s that? Is that what you want? You could play and I’m probably going to think we’re going to win the game.”

Can you talk about Steven Terrell at the end being able to make the interception especially after that hard hit that he took? “He did a great job. Deflected ball, ball pops up and he follows it all the way in and makes the interception. 39 (Terrance Mitchell) had one earlier that was a tough one, tip ball up and he makes a play. I was proud of the guys for that.”

Do you think there was more energy or at least enthusiasm today than there has been in past weeks after plays and before plays? “One thing I thought, everybody rallied together and supported each other. Not that they haven’t before, but if something didn’t go quite right they were all in there. They made a point to do that. It’s hard (on teams) to lose in the National Football League. Sometimes you get into that washing machine where you’re going round and round and you’re hoping for something good to happen and when it doesn’t you get a little bit down. There was none of that. They just pounded all the way through. If there was a completed ball, they pounded through. If we got one yard on a run, they pounded it through the next time. Both sides of the ball were supporting each other. I thought that was good.”

Was that a coaching point during the week or did your leaders take that upon themselves? “I would tell you the leaders did a great job with that.”

We haven’t talked much about the offense, but a couple of missed opportunities in the first half, but you continued to move the ball down there. “We had a couple of chances down in the red zone. We’ve got an All-Pro tight end who doesn’t drop very many balls and he had a drop. Nobody hung their head, he didn’t hang his head. He got back in and had another big catch. We left some points on the field. Nobody flinched with it they just kept going.”

Kareem Hunt really got going today. How much did the offensive line factor into that? “I thought both lines played good. The offensive line did a nice job with the run game. I was proud of them with how they handled that.”

As it relates to improvement in the game, was that more to do with attitude or was there some scheme to it? “I thought Andy Heck did a nice job with the run game. I thought he did a real nice job. You have to come with an attitude and I thought the guys did that. I thought they did really well.”

Have you ever had a kicker like Harrison Butker that comes in and does incredibly well so fast? “I think David Akers did that. I would tell you this kid is doing phenomenal, the things that he’s done. Look at (Cairo) Santos who was here before, he did a good job too. You have to give him credit. I’ve had some good kickers. I’ve been

lucky. That was a good question. I've just been fortunate to have some pretty good kickers."

During the pregame warmups we saw Eric Berry addressing the guys. Was that something that you knew was going to happen and was it something that he took upon himself? "It's always great to have him around and he's been around rehabbing. He comes to practices and meetings and the whole deal. He's not being a stranger which is a positive. Sometimes guys get hurt and they want to disappear, they don't feel part of the team. He's part of the team. A big part of the team. He's welcomed back, yes. From my standpoint he's always welcomed back and I'm glad he was here."

I know that Albert Wilson had been banged up a few weeks ago and was working his way back. Thoughts on his performance today and on a couple of his effort plays? "That last one was a big one. That last one was huge, getting that first down right there was a big, big first down. He juggled it. He maintained his concentration on it and brought it in. That was a big play. Great job by Alex (Smith) too, finding him. He wasn't primary on that and Alex found him and shot him."

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Chiefs QB Alex Smith



Didn't capitalize on everything – were you frustrated at all? “No, not frustrated, certainly we would have loved to not have kicked so many field goals. I think that was the one thing. I felt like we were moving the ball really well. Lot of stuff out there. A lot of guys contributing, making plays, so I think all of that was really positive. Had a bunch of drives though that for whatever reason, missed opportunities and negative plays in the red zone. We had chances I think to make plays and didn't, so that was maybe the one thing. But certainly when we scored that second touchdown I think that kind of took that away a little bit.”

The defense was doing what they were doing – how much does that feed your offense? “Oh man, the field position that we were getting I think from our defense, certainly with how they were playing and attitude all day, yeah it was big. Big team football. I think it kind of kept us going, kept our energy going. Sometimes when you're only kicking field goals and the other team is answering it can get frustrating. Certainly with the way they were playing there in the first half, yeah gave us a bunch of energy.”

How do you explain how you guys did in the running game today, any difference? “No, I think had we had the opportunity a little bit last week, I think you would have seen something similar. The way the plays worked out we had such few opportunities. I liked it. We mixed it up. Certainly when we got into the meat of the game, I think you saw a little more with that. Be able to take our shots there with Kareem (Hunt) and I thought he ran hard, the offensive line blocked great.”

Happy to see Kareem Hunt get over 1,000 yards as a rookie? “Yeah, it's a heck of an accomplishment, no question. I think that the kind of teammate that he is, to be thrust into the role he was thrust into that late right at the end of preseason. The way he's carried himself, how much he cares, how much he invests. You know how much it means to him. I think there's not a guy on this team that's not happy for him, no question.”

You guys seemed to have a lot of fun today, how do you keep that going forward? “A little bit of that I think it's been the journey of the season. To play the way we know we can play early on and to get challenged and to have a rough patch, but to kind of find our way out of it I think guys have that confidence now, kind of how we work and how we operate. Certainly on offense too. I think everybody contributing, I think you saw that today. Everybody contributing and making big plays for us. Then I think all three phases feeding off each other. I think all three phases playing together, playing good team football.”

What gives you hope that you can repeat this next week? “I think that you take the confidence with you that we’ve got going. But it’s a short week, brand new challenge. New defense, new guys. I mean that’s the deal, that’s the name of the game. We’ve got to figure out how to keep it going. They’re trying to stop it.”

You’re very week-to-week – so with everything that has happened, everything washed away? Confidence right back where you were at 5-0? “I think offensively, I think we’re feeling really good where we’re at right now. You carry that with you. The reality of where the division is at doesn’t change though. Depending on what happens tonight, we’ll see. Obviously the ramifications will be big no question, either way the stakes will be high. So that doesn’t change.”

Second game with Matt (Nagy) calling plays, do you notice anything different in the flow of the game? “No. I think those guys do such a great job, the whole offensive staff collaborating always, those guys are always talking. Brainstorming. I think they all have a hand in it. If there was anything, one thing I can point to, I think sometimes without the relay, Matt (Nagy) has always been the guy to call it in. So without the relay, sometimes it can get in quicker, but that’s a small thing, you’re talking a couple seconds.”

What can you personally do as team leaders to welcome Marcus (Peters) back? “I mean I think everybody on this team knows what Marcus (Peters) is about and I mean that in the best way. The guy is such a heck of a competitor. I think sometimes that’s also been his worst enemy in his past. It’s not for a lack of caring. It’s not that he’s not in it. For me that’s the more alarming thing ever in a teammate. I think everybody will welcome him back. We need everybody. I imagine Marcus is pumped up from what he watched today. I think everybody is going to love to see him tomorrow when he gets back to the building.”

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Chiefs Players



RB KAREEM HUNT

What was Coach's message to you after the game? "We have a quick turnaround. Enjoy it today and be ready to go tomorrow."

When was the last time you could feel this way after a game with big numbers and a win? "Honestly, I will feel this way if we win no matter what my numbers look like. It is just huge to go out there and get a big time win and keep it going. Now we just have to keep doing what we are doing."

What does 1,000 yards rushing mean to you? "It is a huge accomplishment. Nobody can ever take that away from you. I just want to thank those guys up front. They did a great job all season helping me grind out those tough yards."

DL CHRIS JONES

The Raider couldn't get anything going, did you feel like that was the way the game was going? "I wouldn't say that. I feel like the defensive line, we had to come in and set the tone on the defense. The defensive line got started on the fourth play of the game when we got a sack. Jarvis Jenkins on the outside, this guy rushing getting a sack. Justin Houston. It was about effecting the quarterback today. We know he likes to get the ball out fast and we affected him."

How did the secondary step up today? "Terrance Mitchell. You can't say enough about that guy, how well he played today. We knew they were going to go after him and he stepped up to the plate and made a name for himself."

Did you feel a personal challenge to step up the energy on defense? "I felt personal. We had to get back to playing our ball. The defense, we came out playing like the first of the season. That's all that boils down to, playing our type of football. We came in and we broadcasted that today."

LB REGGIE RAGLAND

What was clicking for you guys on defense? "We played together. And we fought as a team. We didn't worry about the past weeks and we said, 'You know what? We are still in it.' We just need to come out and play ball. And that is what we did today."

Seeing the secondary making plays, what was that like with Marcus Peters out?

“It was good. Marcus is still a leader on our team and we still listen to him. But (Terrance Mitchell) did a great job coming in and playing for him. He just needs to keep coming and he played good.”

What was it like hitting Marshawn Lynch? “Marshawn is a great player, but I am physical, too. Mindset coming into the game, I can’t worry about what he did to other guys on the field. I have to come in and play tough and strong. And that is what I did. Marshawn is one of my favorite backs in the league and it was a blessing to get to play against him. I was kind of upset when he retired, but I am glad he came back out and played.”

CB TERRANCE MITCHELL

Can you talk about the defensive energy? “Like Andy Reid said, Chiefs versus Raiders, if you can’t get up for that, you shouldn’t be playing football.”

Talk about your interception: “Chris Jones put great pressure on the quarterback and the ball was just floating in the air and I was just hungry and I wanted to go get it.”

How big was this win? “It was real big. One game at a time and one play and we have to keep moving forward.”

How nice was it to have Eric Berry on the sideline as a leader? “Eric Berry, he helped me this week. He has helped me since I have been here with just the overall knowledge that he has given me and having him out there was like another coach.”