



Oakland Raiders Transcript

Head Coach Jack Del Rio

Opening Statement: "OK, looking at the tape, not a whole lot changed from what I talked about last night. They were better than we were last night. That's one day that...You don't do do-overs. You don't get days back. There's certainly a lot that we can teach off of. We'll grow and go forward. Questions?"

Q: Yesterday was an emotional day in the league, did that affect how they played?

Coach Del Rio: "No. I don't think so."

Q: You didn't sense any kind of extra emotion?

Coach Del Rio: "No."

Q: Does it disappoint you that the team didn't keep fighting early on?

Coach Del Rio: "We kept fighting. We were really looking for that spark. Probably pressing early in the game. Offensively, got out of rhythm. We threw, in the first four drives, two picks and two three-and-outs. We weren't in rhythm, obviously. They executed. It really wasn't anything overwhelming. They played some solid, basic coverage and we didn't execute and they did. It's just one of those days. It's an opportunity to learn. Recognize what went one. There were several moments, I thought, in the game where we had a chance to claw our way back into it. Each time we had something come up that kind of negated that possibility. The ability to work and fight throughout and keep coming, I thought there were a lot of signs of that. I didn't think that was an issue. We just weren't very cleaned last night."

Q: When was the last time you saw the offensive line give up pressure like that? Was that just them getting beat one-on-one or was a lot of that the coverage down field?

Coach Del Rio: "A combination, yeah. I think sacks are always a combination of rushing and coverage. They've certainly got good rush. We knew that coming in. the pocket got collapsed a little more than we're accustomed too. There were some opportunities to get the ball out and we didn't take advantage of them. So yeah, I would say lack of rhythm was the biggest thing."

Q: Derek Carr seemed surprised a couple of times when the snap came. Was there an issue there with him and Rodney Hudson?

Coach Del Rio: "Yeah, there were a couple. There were a couple of those issues, yeah."

Q: Did you find out from them what the issue was?

Coach Del Rio: "Yeah. Yes. It'll be corrected. We don't have many of those kind of issues. Really for the most part, we didn't have a lack of communication issues. But those were a couple of examples of that happening."

Q: Do you think Carr got himself in trouble trying to create that spark on his own?

Coach Del Rio: "Probably. Yeah, probably. Probably pressed a little bit early. Like I said didn't get in that rhythm."

Q: When you mention chances you had to get back in it, the Amari Cooper drops come to mind.

Coach Del Rio: "Yeah, that was a big one. Right there at the start of the second quarter on a key third down. You know, there were several, there were several throughout, but I'm not going to sit up here and paint it that way. We're taking our lumps today. We know it's a miserable Monday when you don't get it done on Sunday. We're dealing with that. We'll take it like men and move on. Clearly, it wasn't anything close to what we know we're capable of. We'll go back to the drawing board, we'll make our corrections and we'll move on."

Q: Cooper had issues with drops his rookie year and got much better his second. What have you seen with that these first few games? Is it focus?



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Coach Del Rio: "I can't speak for him. Obviously, he's a dynamic player for us. Not a good thing when he's not catching the ball and making those plays. We have to find a way to help that be rectified."

Q: You had them backed up on third-and-19 and you gave up the 74-yard play...

Coach Del Rio: "That was a killer. That was one of those momentum (shifters). Heck, our fans in the bowl at that point were taking over. It was awesome. I thought, 'this is it right here. This is a chance to get back in the game.' And that was one of those moments I was referring to. Then, they just rip our heart out with that screen. Good execution on their part, very poor on our part. You know, not leveraging and then getting that thing tackled for maybe six, seven, eight yards, but it shouldn't go for 70."

Q: Would you have liked to get Marshawn Lynch the ball more?

Coach Del Rio: "Well, when you have as many three-and-outs and you only take 50 snaps of offense, you can talk about all the things that you left on the drawing board that you would have liked to have gotten to. Certainly, there was a lot of offense that we had designed to get to, including touches for him, but 0-for-11 on third down says all you need to know. When you're talking about, does your running back get a chance to run it as much as you'd like, when you're 0-for-11 on third down you're not going to get a lot of opportunities anywhere with your offense."

Q: What was the plan ride back like and how were the players' reactions?

Coach Del Rio: "It was quiet. I think we all understand what occurred and we understand that there's a challenge coming up this week. Each week, it's about going onto next. I mean, we're going to sit here and talk about it, we'll talk about it a little bit tomorrow as we go through the 'tell the truth Tuesday,' but then after we do our corrections, we're moving on. We've got our next challenge up in traveling to Denver. There's no time to sit around and dwell on it. We'll own up to it, we'll make our corrections and then go forward."

Q: Do you think there is a lot of value in the way you structure your weeks for your players?

Coach Del Rio: "It takes some of the emotion out of it when you wait until Tuesday. There's some raw emotion on the day after the game, so I think that helps you maybe teach a little better. Things need to be taught. That's one of the biggest benefits to the structure, and then we'll get a jump on Denver."

Q: What was the reason for Sean Smith not playing many snaps later in the game?

Coach Del Rio: "Well, the package that we had in mind wasn't real affective with him covering Vernon [Davis]. Vernon got loose on him twice. On the second one, honestly, we should have had some safety help for him. But, he let the guy run across the field on the first third down, that was a momentum swing there. That's just the way the game flowed."

Q: Was there any part of you that was surprised on how quickly things ramped up between Friday and Sunday regarding the protests?

Coach Del Rio: "No."

Q: How did you think Gareon Conley played in extended snaps?

Coach Del Rio: "I think he was okay. I'm sure there were a couple things that he'd like to do a little bit better, but overall, he's got a pretty good feel. He's going to be a good player for us."

Q: David Amerson has had a few plays this season where he does a great job of putting himself in good position but hasn't been able to convert. How do you approach that?

Del Rio: "You drill in the finish part. Look for a late win, even if you're not in position we're looking for a late win from our DBs on the back end on those balls. He was in perfect position on that, high point and pluck it, or at least rise up and knock it down. Obviously I know he'd like to have that one back. That was a little bit of a dagger, had a little bit of a dagger feel to it. Though we still did have our chance to get back in it, that was a tough one there."



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Q: Was there any other updates on Michael Crabtree?

Del Rio: "No, I haven't seen him. We'll take a close look at him and make sure there's nothing significant going on. I know the doctors cleared for him to travel with us coming back which was good. He took a good shot. It was a clean hit, a good shot. Crab's a tough guy so I'm sure he'll bounce back."

Q: Overall what have you made of Amari's drops over the course of this season? Any concern there?

Del Rio: "I don't know that I have much to add to what I said. I'd like to find a way to help him get through that. He's a dynamic playmaking option for us and when we get him free, and get the ball to him delivered like that, he's god to be able to catch it and go get busy."

Q: Derek was pretty hard on himself after the game. Do you think he puts too much pressure on himself sometimes?

Del Rio: "We don't want anybody to feel like they have to be the whole team. Derek taking ownership is what you like your leaders to do. I started the press conference talking about 'let me start it with me' so I think if we all look at it that way and we all look where we can be better, that's good for all of us. To me, that's what we need to do. It starts with me, obviously there are a lot of things that each guy can look at and say 'this is what I can do better.' That's what I want. I want us to reflect inward and see how we can do things ourselves better and then pull together as a team. Stick together, pull together and go forward. That's what you do. Not the only team to have a rough day yesterday. Half the league is happy, and half the league is fighting through this Monday after a rough day. That's part of this league: bouncing back and on to the next. It's hugely important and that's where our focus will be."

Q: Your son Luke had a nice game on Saturday.

Del Rio: "It wasn't all bad this weekend, just not good for the Raiders. I was happy for him. He's done a great job of staying prepared and being a great teammate down there. I'm really proud of the character that he's shown. Then he gets in there in a big moment and has poise and leads the team, so I was really proud of him."

Q: Were you able to talk to him yesterday?

Del Rio: "Yes, we talked."

Q: Did you get a call today when he was named the starter?

Del Rio: "That's good stuff. I'm just happy for him for the way he's conducted himself, the way he's taken on the challenges, the character he's shown, remaining a great teammate and being real positive. Staying prepared and then he got called on and he delivered for the team so I'm really happy for him."