



Oakland Raiders Transcript

Head Coach Jon Gruden

Opening statement: "I'll be happy to answer any questions I can. I don't have any updates for you yet."

Q: How confident are you that Kelechi Osemele will be able to go on Sunday?

Coach Gruden: "Still very questionable. We'll have to wait and see. That's the best I can say right now."

Q: Do you expect him to make the trip?

Coach Gruden: "Yeah, I expect him to travel."

Q: What do you make of the toughness Osemele and Donald Penn displayed on Sunday, going back into the game despite what he had last Sunday?

Coach Gruden: "Yeah, we had a lot of guys do that across the board. It was a real good gut check. I'm real proud of our players. The [two] guys you mentioned obviously did a great job, but there was a lot of that."

Q: The previous staff here really like Jon Feliciano. Is it the same with you?

Coach Gruden: "Yeah, most coaches see players the same way, I think. He's a tough guy, versatile, good player. Just needs an opportunity."

Q: Do you think Derek Carr can make more plays with his feet? Have you talked with him about running more?

Coach Gruden: "It's something I think that we'll continue to coach and try to get better at. He did make one off-schedule play on the touchdown pass to [Amari] Cooper last week, which was great. Then again we hope the pocket is clean enough where he can stand in there and go through his progresses. We're going to need some second reaction plays from him to win. He knows that. We all know that."

Q: When you used crowd noise this week was it for your defense or your offense?

Coach Gruden: "We had crowd noise all week on both sides of the ball. We expect this game to be that way no matter where it's played. We'll be prepared for the noise. We just have to be more prepared for the Chargers."

Q: Have you been to a game there before?

Coach Gruden: "No I have not. I have not. I'm anxious to go there. But I've played against the Chargers before in San Diego. It's a great rivalry. It always brings out the best in the fans, too."

Q: What was the appeal of bringing Ian Silberman back when you have Denver Kirkland on your practice squad?

Coach Gruden: "Silberman played right tackle for us in the preseason. He has some center background as well. He has multiple position versatility. Really Denver is more of a guard. We needed some versatility, obviously, with this acquisition."

Q: How big of a challenge will it be for your linebackers on Sunday against the Chargers running backs?

Coach Gruden: "It'll be a big challenge. They have a great back there. [Melvin] Gordon doesn't get enough credit. He has some Beastmode runs on tape. I mean he's running through people, over people. Great receiver also out of the back field. They try to mismatch your linebackers in coverage. The young kid, I think he leads the league in yards per carry. All three levels will be challenged for sure."

Q: How unique is Marshawn Lynch's running style?

Coach Gruden: "Well I mean it's been well documented. I'm not going to be the first guy to give you a quote on that. It's a credit to him that he can play like that week in, week out, year in, year out with that style of play. He's not looking to go out of bounds. He's looking to make yardage after contact in every



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situation. I respect it about him. I think the league respects it about him. That's why he's a well know ball carrier."

Q: It's what makes him great, but it's tough when you try to keep him available for all 16 games.

Coach Gruden: "No, he's been durable in his career. We'll just keep feeding him Skittles. Keep sending him out there as long as he can."

Q: What has Feliciano's work load looked like?

Coach Gruden: "Pretty good. He played last week just fine, so if we have to play him, we'll play him. We're anxious to play the next guy up. Gives these guys a great opportunity."