



Oakland Raiders Transcript

Defensive Coordinator Paul Guenther

Opening Statement: “Just finishing up the last day here at training camp and looking forward to playing another game, Green Bay, in Canada. Still trying to evaluate the roster and see where we’re at with the numbers.”

Q: How much of running blitzes in Arizona was to just try things out that you are going to use in the season?

Coach Guenther: “Yeah, those are some plays that we’ll run during the season. If you notice some of the guys that were blitzing, it was [Lamaricus] Joyner, [Johnathan] Abram, Brandon Marshall, [Vontaze] Burfict, they’re all new toys for me. So those are the guys that I wanted to see blitz a little bit and not just sit back in coverage all day. Some of the stuff that I sent was just basic little things there, but I want to see those guys have to communicate and do all the things instead of just playing one or two coverages, which we really did most of the game. We played probably three or four coverages the whole game.”

Q: How much fun did you have with those new toys?

Coach Guenther: “It was fun. It was fun. There’s a lot more speed on the field. We can cover. We got guys that can blitz, guys that can play the run. I told the players, you kind of know what it’s supposed to look like when it’s right and we had some glimpses of that the other night. Hopefully we can continue to get better and understand the details of everything we’re doing.”

Q: What did you see from Clelin Ferrell in terms of the jump he made from the first game to the second game?

Coach Guenther: “I think he did a lot better in that second game. Really. He almost chased a guy down on that boot. That guy can run. He did a good job. A couple of times his hands got a little bit too high. Got hands to their face. That’s easy stuff to clean up. He looked a lot better in this ball game.”

Q: Are you happy with how Arden Key has played this preseason?

Coach Guenther: “I think he’s done a good job, but in the run and he’s been active in the rush. He looks a lot stronger to me. Again, he’s another guy that can keep getting better because he can play first, second and third down now. That’s good to see.”

Q: Was Anthony Rush as good in the second game as he was in the first?

Coach Guenther: “Yeah, he did some good things. He penetrated. He’s a big guy. He’s still trying to figure out the techniques and how we teach it. When some of the calls are coming in and things are happening fast, so I think he’s going to continue to get better in this game. Again, we’re going to get him in there against some of the starting players and see. That’s really with this game, we’re going to get some of the younger players. If they have their starting line in there, I want to see these guys go against their 1’s.”

Q: What have you see from Johnathan Abram?

Coach Guenther: “I just think he’s wise beyond his years. He doesn’t act like a rookie. When he’s out there, he sounds like a seven or eight-year vet. I think the players take notice of that. Just how he prepares, how he studies, how he communicates with the guys on and off the field. The thing is not too



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big for him. The players see that. He doesn't act like your typical rookie. That's what I would say jumps out to me."

Q: Have you gotten what you expect out of Josh Mauro?

Coach Guenther: "Yeah, he's done a good job. He's a little bit hampered with a hamstring. He didn't play in the last ball game, but he's a tough guy. He can play both inside and outside. We had good film of him. Obviously, [defensive line coach Brentson] Buckner has history with him. I think he's a good fit kind of guy we want to have around here."

Q: What does it tell you when a rookie breaks his hand in the middle of the game and wants to go back in like Maxx Crosby did?

Coach Guenther: "He's a crazy son of (expletive) (*laughing*). He's a great kid. He has tons of energy and I really admire him trying to get back in the game. He really wanted to get back in there. He's just going to have to play with a cast to get used to it in practice. But I admire it. He's a tough guy, loves ball. I can't say enough about the kind of guys we brought in here, in free agency and draft. It just changed the whole complex of the team. It's just a whole different vibe with this team right now."

Offensive Coordinator Greg Olson

Q: What have you seen out of DeAndré Washington? Does he look better this year?

Coach Olson: "Yeah, we're seeing the same things you guys are seeing. We think he looks quicker and faster and stronger. So, we've been happy with how he's developed so far."

Q: Good problem to have with all the running backs producing well and knowing what you have in Jalen Richard already?

Coach Olson: "Yeah, and obviously, Doug Martin is in the mix there. Josh Jacobs has had a real strong camp. He looked real strong in his first action the other night. We got some depth at that position. They all have a unique set of skills. Jalen has been obviously, very productive out of the backfield as a receiving running back. We kind of feel like all four of them can be dual threat type running backs."

Q: How different is the offense when Antonio Brown is out there?

Coach Olson: "Significantly. He's one of the top players in the game. Any time you're able to have that kind of talent on the field, he's going to draw the attention of defensive coordinators and players. Just changes really dramatically when you have those type of players."

Q: What have you seen out of Mike Glennon and Nathan Peterman?

Coach Olson: "We've been happy. We've been real clean the first two games in terms of our mechanics of getting in and out of the huddle. Getting to the line of scrimmage. No pre-snap penalties, which has been good. But just the way they've managed the game. The things that [Head Coach] Jon [Gruden] has asked them to do. You've probably noticed a little bit different game plans between the two of them, between Glennon and Peterman. They both handle it very well, their responsibilities. And they produced. They prepare and they produce. We've been happy with their development."

Q: How different is it with Derek Carr this year in terms of what he knows?



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Coach Olson: “Yeah, I just think he’s playing with a lot of confidence right now and practicing with a lot of confidence. I think, again, just a better overall feel for the expectations that Jon has of him on each and every play. Again the intent of the play, what’s the intent of the play. Where does Jon want you to go with the football, and I think he has a real good feel for that right now.”

LB Vontaze Burfict

Q: When you look back at the tape, what did you see from the first-team defense?

Burfict: “We played pretty good. I don’t think they scored on us, I don’t think they crossed the 50-yard (line). We played sound defense. Obviously, they had a running quarterback – I think we did a great job of containing him even when we were in man (coverage). Overall, good, good defense.”

Q: Is it fair to say that you blitzed more than a team normally would in the preseason?

Burfict: “I think that’s just the way we run defense. Some plays we blitz, some plays we don’t, some plays we sit back and obviously just control the down and distance. It’s been like that since I’ve been with [defensive coordinator Paul Guenther] ‘Pauly G’. So, nothing new to me.”

Q: Do you think it is a good idea to practice things in preseason games that you are going to use in the regular season?

Burfict: “Yeah, I mean blitzes are obviously a key part of football, because usually you call it on down and distances that are key in the game. Obviously, it’s fast paced, sometimes the ends are dropping, the tackles are dropping, so you have to communicate. I think it’s great that we have it on film and get to coach it when we get to film study.”

Q: What have you seen Lamarcus Joyner add to the defense here?

Burfict: “Fast, instinctive, leader. Everything, he’s what you want at a nickel back. He puts his hands on receivers, doesn’t let them get free access and obviously I have to communicate pre-snap and it does wonders for me. It takes a lot of stuff off of my plate to have him next to me.”

Q: Since the beginning of camp it has been obvious that you were taking over a major leadership role in this defense. What is your assessment of how things have come along as a defense this training camp ?

Burfict: “It’s great. Of course I want to be that leader, but we have so many leaders on our defense. Like I said, it’s not too much stuff on my plate that I can handle because I have Lamarcus, I have Tahir [Whitehead], Karl [Joseph], [Johnathan] Abram behind me. It’s exciting, obviously less stress on my plate. I can just go out there and do my job and execute and make sure I’m running to the football.”

Q: Does Abram have more juice than maybe a typical rookie?

Burfict: “Yeah. He has an extreme confidence. I love it though because he shows it. He shows it in film room and film study. Like today, we had a play and he opened his mouth up and obviously said something in front of the defense that kind of gave me the chills. I don’t want to say it because it’s kind of just in-house, but he’s going to be a great player for us.”

Q: How much better is your own offense when Antonio Brown is on the field?



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Burfict: "It's crazy. It moves at a faster pace, obviously. You got to know where he lines up at. I'm excited that he's on my team rather than playing him twice a year, so it's exciting."

Q: How has your relationship with Brown come together in camp?

Burfict: "Great. I mean, football is football. It was division games, obviously. We are on the same team now. We chattered about it a little bit yesterday, but I'm excited he's on my team and just ready to get some W's."