



**ARIZONA CARDINALS VS. OAKLAND RAIDERS  
AUGUST 12, 2016**

**Raiders Head Coach Jack Del Rio**

**Opening statement:**

“Always nice to win. Couple of things stood out to me: I thought our kickoff coverage was good, flying down the field especially early in the game. I thought DeAndre Washington showed up on a couple nice runs. I thought George Atkinson III had a couple big touchdown runs and was part of that early kickoff coverage that looked really good. Good to see Sebastian Janikowski nail a field goal for us. I thought Connor (Cook) played good for us at quarterback, especially for his first live action as an NFL quarterback. There’s a lot of things we’ve got to do better. Penalties overall, offensively we had two on the first drive that put us in a hole. We didn’t tackle very well, especially in the run game. I thought we battled well against the pass. We have to tackle much better, I was a little disappointed to not see the tackling a little crisper even though it was our first game. It’ll get better; it has to. Good first day out, looking forward to getting better in practice”

**On Mario Edwards Jr. injury:**

“No. Nothing to update. We don’t talk about injuries. I’ve got a policy about discussing injuries this early in the year, we will update in a couple of weeks, for now it will stay in-house.”

**On George Atkinson III progress:**

“He is very good and very hungry to be a part of the team. He has improved. There is no question about his speed and his eagerness to help on (special) teams. I think where we need to see growth with him will be in pass protection. We will give him more opportunities to grow in areas like that. George is a great young man and working his tail off. It’s important for him to get a feel for the speed, but we don’t want to expose him too much. We’ll get him a little action.”

**Raiders QB Derek Carr**

**On if it felt good to get his feet wet and make some throws:**

“Yes. It felt good to just throw against someone else. It felt good to play real football, not with a red jersey on. It’s always good to get out there, and obviously, we need to be cleaner. This is year three for me and there is no excuse for those kinds of things. I take that stuff personal. We have to make sure we are cleaner on the pre-snap stuff. That stuff can’t happen. We are too good of a football team and we have worked too hard to let things like that kill a drive.”

**On what he thought of Connor Cook getting extended reps:**

“I was talking to him the whole time and just telling him everything I thought I would want someone to tell me before my first game. Ever since last night just leading up to it, right before he went in, I just gave him a little ‘Hey man take a deep breath, see the safeties, see the flat, just start going through things slowly in your head and that is what slows the game down for you.’ I thought he went out there and did a great job today.”



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**On if he enjoys taking shots down the sideline like they did tonight:**

“Oh yeah, especially in the preseason you can get away with a few more than normal, but it is good to take those shots and get real live reps. Practice is one thing, but when they really count, when the lights are on and those kinds of things, it is good to take those shots and see what can happen. It is good to figure some things out during the preseason and try those things but I thought everything looked good so far.”

**On Andre Holmes having a nice catch and a fumble and if he is still trying to work out the ups and downs:**

“It is the same with everybody. There is probably a play out there where I was like ‘Man.’ Like the last go ball I threw to Coop (Amari Cooper), I was trying to be too cute with it; just give him a chance to make a play. Same with me, that is the same thing with everybody. That is the beautiful thing about the preseason is that you can go out there and say ‘Dang you don’t want to do that,’ but I’m glad it’s now and not Week 1 in New Orleans. That goes with everyone in this room. They will turn the tape on and go ‘Man, I wish I didn’t do that.’ Or whatever. That is the cool thing is that we can get better from what we did today.”

**Raiders Players**

**Raiders RB George Atkinson III**

**On if it felt good to have two touchdowns in the game:**

“No doubt. The O-line did a great job today. The coaching staff put me and the O-line in great position to make big plays. That last one we were just thinking about finishing the drive and finishing the game strong.”

**On what he saw on his first touchdown run:**

“I saw the defense kind of flow to the right a little bit so I went that way and I saw Joe (Hansley) made a great block. Cut the crap out that guy on the outside and kind of sprung me to go to the outside and use my speed.”

**On his second touchdown and showing his ability to be shifty:**

“Yeah it’s something I’ve been working on in my game this whole offseason. I was just happy I was able to display it on the field today.”

**On his special teams coverage in the game and if it was a special night for him:**

“Yeah, all prayers go to God. Hard work, it pays off, and I still have a lot of work to do. This one is in the bag. We’re done with this game. We’re going to get corrections made and go on to Green Bay.”



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**On how he is better this year than last year:**

“My patience. Coach Bernie (Parmalee) really emphasized in the offseason reading the defense and knowing the blocks before they happen and trusting in the line. They are going to make those blocks. That’s all I did tonight and it was a great night.”

**On if this game gives him confidence moving forward:**

“Yeah, you want to have confidence, but you also need to know that you need to work on things that didn’t go right, to continue to get better and continue to display I’m still trying to make the team.”

**On if he had heard from his dad yet:**

“I haven’t opened my phone yet. The first thing I’m going to do is call my dad before we get on the flight for sure. I’m sure he’s going to get on me for some runs I should’ve made a little better, some decisions. There’s always room to get better.”

**On if his dad gives him pep talks to keep going:**

“He’s definitely been in my ear, especially this year being my third year. Last two years practice squad; I didn’t make the squad. So, this year, he’s like, you have to buckle down now. As soon as you get the opportunity you need to let the coaches know you can make the squad.”

**Raiders QB Connor Cook**

**On what playing time he was expecting coming in:**

“They said David (Carr) was going to start. He was going to get a couple series. (Matt) McGloin was going to play the rest of the first half. He was going to start, take one drive in the second half and then the rest was mine. I knew what I was getting myself into. It was just a great overall effort by the ones, twos and threes offensively and defensively.”

**On if he had butterflies before his first pro game:**

“Oh for sure. Ever since I was at Michigan State, every time I started a game, I was always nervous. The same goes for today, even though I wasn’t starting. Even though I didn’t play the whole game, there are always butterflies, especially when you’re playing against the top guys in the world. There are always butterflies.”

**On if he was able to get into a rhythm:**

“Yeah. I thought it was good. Coach Musgrave was calling a lot of quick gain stuff, so I could get the ball out of my hands really quickly. Guys were open. It wasn’t like there was super, super tight coverage. Guys were making plays after the catch too. DeAndre (Washington) had the one run after the catch. The screens that I was chucking out there, those guys were getting some positive yardage. Coach Musgrave was calling some great plays.”



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**On what his first pro completion felt like:**

“It was obviously a relief. Being able to get out there and your first pass is a completion. It just felt good.”

**On how much progress he has made:**

“Going back to OTA’s and mini camp, I was still learning. Everything was brand new. Then we had a month-long break. I really studied my plays, got in the playbook a lot. Then we reported for training camp. Everything slowed down a little bit. I started out a little slow, but I was getting better and more comfortable. It’s totally different being a quarterback. Obviously, you have to know the verbiage. You have to know the checks. You have to know what the O-line is doing. You have to know that this route converts to this in this coverage. There are so many things that go into it, so there’s always a learning curve. It’s a gradual improvement for me and I just hope that it continues to go like that.”

**Cardinals Head Coach Bruce Arians**

**Opening statement:**

“The good things about the ball game, I like the way we started. I thought our good players played well. We got them out quickly. They were successful and showed up ready to play. I thought that individually there were some really good things with the young players, although collectively, it was not very good. The turnovers, obviously, offensively killed us, giving them short fields, and not responding defensively to hold them to a field goal, and giving up easy touchdowns. Two long runs, totally out of gaps and missing tackles. I’m not really concerned with those. Injury-wise we came out really clean. A couple of little bumps and bruises but no missed time, come Sunday morning practice. It was a good beginning, good start.”

**On what he saw out of Brandon Williams tonight:**

“I thought Brandon competed extremely well. He knew they were after him. Amari Cooper is a heck of a player and he handled his own. He shoved him out of bounds and got him out of bounds. There was a throw and catch on him on the fade in the endzone. He’ll learn to play those balls better.”

**On D.J. Humphries performance:**

“I thought D.J. played extremely well. From what I watched, he was really into it. I know we ran the ball pretty well on his side a couple of times. That long run Andre (Ellington) made, he made a couple of nice blocks.”

**On if it helps to have Evan Mathis to help D.J. Humphries in sliding:**

“No, they are man-to-man, there is no sliding going on. Unless the center comes his way in that protection, he’s over there one-on-one. We don’t do a lot of chipping and helping.”

**On how the run game performed:**



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“I thought David (Johnson) was about to get off and have a big game. Andre (Ellington) looked really good. Chris (Johnson) was solid. So those three guys, I like where they are at right now. I thought Troy Niklas played one hell of a ball game. He’s putting together a great eight days of practice and showed up on game day. He’s pressing for a lot of playing time.”

**On what Matt Barkley showed tonight:**

“Good, bad and ugly. He had some really nice throws. He forgot to send a motion on three plays in the formations for his receivers, so we didn’t have a play. But other than that, he can make every throw. It’s just all of those little things that he has got to clean up.”

**On if Drew Stanton had accuracy problems tonight:**

“Drew took a shot down the middle that shouldn’t have happened. He should have taken the ball outside. He saw the corners bail, but little Smoke (Chris Huber) still ran by him. We tried to force one in to Jaron (Brown), it was just high and hot.”

**On if Matt Barkley’s issues are from inexperience in the offense or should he be further along:**

“He should be. It’s just the formations. You should learn those in high school. You read the wristband, it ain’t that hard.”

**On how he would evaluate Evan Boehm:**

“I’d have to watch the film. I mean, I can’t see a center from the sideline”

**On if it was good to see guys like Evan get experience:**

“Good for all of those young guys. That second line got a bunch of reps. We had like 79 snaps offensively, so they got a ton of work and that’s really good.”

**On the performance from special teams:**

“Average at best. I didn’t think our kickers kicked very well. The snappers did a nice job. Obviously J.J. (Nelson) fumbling a punt without protecting the ball in traffic, that was a big turnover.”

**On if they cleared John Brown this week or held him out:**

“He was not cleared yet.”

**On if he feels good about other guys on the punt team:**

“They will just get better and better. I don’t want to turn back to Patrick (Peterson). That is easy to do.”

**On if he would ever turn to Andre Ellington to return punts:**

“Andre Ellington? He has never caught them. He has never caught punts.”

**On Andre Ellington looking healthy and quick:**

“Yes he did. It’s nice to see him back on two feet and how explosive he is.”



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**On if this is a better role for him:**

“I don’t know. If I’m him, I want to be the starter and let the coach judge how much I get. I know this, every time he touches it, it has the potential to go to the house.”

**On David Johnson’s long run from the line of scrimmage today:**

“That’s David. If they are not aggressive, he’s going to make them miss or run them over. That’s either five or 20. I didn’t agree with the holding call on Troy (Niklas) on that touchdown run. I thought he blocked that guy. That guy jumped inside. Like I said, the backfield is (knocks on wood) healthy until the first game.”

**On how Harold Goodwin did today with the play calling:**

“He was solid. He didn’t much help out his quarterbacks.”

**On if it was easy to evaluate other things beside the final score:**

“You always want to win. You play the game to win. I thought our starters won. We’d like to see the young guys play better, especially in the second half. But there were some really nice plays made in the second half by young players.”

**On the performance of young players:**

“I thought Marqui Christian played really well. He missed a couple of tackles there at the end, he got a little tired. Cariel Brooks made a couple of nice plays. Harlan Miller made a couple of nice plays. Brandon (Williams) played well. Troy Niklas. I thought that second offensive line, they ran the ball pretty well. We’ve been looking for those guys. Hopefully John Wetzel is not hurt too bad.”

**On A.Q. Shipley having a couple of high snaps:**

“The one to Drew (Stanton)? It very seldom ever happens.”

**On John Wetzel’s injury:**

“He has a hip flexor. The guy ran up his back, so he has a sore back, too. But he’s got a hip flexor.”

**Cardinals QB Carson Palmer**

**On the play of the first team offense:**

“I thought the first team did a good job. I thought we were pretty sharp. Obviously, you want to finish on a touchdown there on third down, once we got inside the red zone. But other than that, the pass protection was really good. The run game was good. We had some big, explosive plays. One on the run, one in the pass. It leaves you kind of feeling with a little bit of a tease. You want to get a couple more series in, obviously. But being the first game, it is what it was, but I felt like we did a good job.”



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**On why the first team offense didn't score in the red zone:**

“Just not executing on one of them. There was a hold on the screen. We looked at it on film afterwards, that they got away with it. It slowed us down a little bit. But, we just need to be a little bit sharper and continue to rep in that area. We spend a lot of practice time, especially in the red zone. So, we'll continue to work.”

**On his reaction to the play of David Johnson:**

“It's just not fair. Him, one-on-one, with that much field to work with against the corner. That's the situation where he thrives, obviously. Just a big time play for us to kind of wad up the middle of the field and let him bounce it outside, and get him on the guy we want to get him on.”

**On Arizona's depth at the running back position:**

“Yeah, they looked really good. Chris (Johnson) is Chris. I mean, Chris comes out and has been doing the same thing for a long time. You know what you get with him. But to see Dre (Andre Ellington) really pull away and explode and see that explosiveness that he's been struggling with for so long with the foot injury that he's had and the knee injury he had last year. Just to see him kind of bounce one and see that speed again was good.”

**On what he saw from D.J. Humphries:**

“He looked really good. Khalil (Mack) is probably the second best pass rusher in the league already and to go out against him in your first time at home when you're jacked up, I think it took him a little bit to settle down. He said he was really amped up and I thought he really did a good job.”

**On whether Coach Arians talked to the team after the game:**

“We haven't had a chance to really. We'll have a chance on Sunday to come in and look at it and go over it and get coached up.”

**On what he thought about his timing today:**

“I thought it was good. We had some good plays. The big play to Mike (Floyd) was big. The big run by Dave was good. J.J. (Nelson) came in and made a nice play. We'll just continue to grind from here. We've still got a long way to go.”

**Cardinals Players**

**Cardinals RB David Johnson**

**On how the first-team offense performed:**

“Not satisfied; you always want to win. I wish I could have got back in. I should have had another missed tackle. I had one, but I should have had another to help our team out.”



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**On making a big run during the first drive:**

“First off, I saw the leverage from the defensive end. I was looking to see if he was inside or outside technique, and he was inside. Then, I was watching to see what the corner was going to do. He sat back even though some corners come up and meet me at the line, but he sat back. That was when I knew I had the leverage on him. I gave him one move and he hesitated. That made it more positive for me to use this advantage on him and bump it to the outside.”

**On the offensive blocking:**

“It was great blocking at the end of the day. Larry (Fitzgerald) had a great block, Jermaine (Gresham) had a great block and our linemen had great blocks. It just makes my life a lot easier.”

**On getting first-team snaps this preseason:**

“It was good. It was good to see the young guys develop as the game progressed. I kind of wanted to get back in there, but I need to be a little patient. It was a little weird. I felt like I needed to get back in the game. But, it is just our first preseason game and we will progressively get more reps as the preseason goes on.”

**Cardinals DT Calais Campbell**

**On how he felt in the first preseason game:**

“I felt pretty good. I didn’t play much, but it was nice to get my feet wet. We played fast and hard, but when it is your first time playing against competition, it is a little different. It is a little more exciting and fun. There were a lot of good things that I saw today. A lot of the young guys stepped up and made some big-time plays. But, as a collective group it wasn’t really good enough. I am looking forward to seeing tape to see which young guys stood out and stepped up to make a difference.”

**On how well the team did:**

“Well, for the starters, we were out pretty quick. On defense, it wasn’t a three-and-out, but they made a first down completion quick. We then shut them down and made them punt. The offense took it down and got a field goal. They were in position to score. Carson (Palmer) looked good and David Johnson is going to be my first pick in fantasy football this year because he looked amazing. It was fun to see the guys play well.”

**Cardinals Players**

**Cardinals RB Andre Ellington**

**On what the key is to staying healthy:**

“I don’t play the game based off luck or anything. That is why I work hard every day, so when I get my opportunities to make the best of them, I do it.”

**On getting the opportunity to touch the ball more:**





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“It felt great. I am just happy to be out there for a fourth season, having the opportunity to make plays. This is just the beginning. This is just preseason. It doesn’t count or anything like that, so I am looking forward to the first game.”

**On his thoughts when he sees David Johnson one-on-one in open space:**

“He should score, and if he doesn’t, I am going to get on him about it. You have to. We hold high expectations for each other. Chris (Johnson), David (Johnson) and I, it’s a friendly battle. We just try to push each other because we are all talented and when we can bring the talent out in each and everyone one of us, it’s scary.”

**On the feeling of hitting someone other than his teammates:**

“Well, in my case, I got hit. I don’t hit, I run away from guys. It felt good. I enjoyed it. It is preseason, but it was good to go out there and play against somebody else other than your own teammates. We enjoyed it, but now it is time to go back to work on Sunday.”

**Cardinals CB Brandon Williams**

**On how he handled the offense attacking his side early:**

“There were some ups and downs. It was what I expected since I just started playing the position, so I knew they were going to try to attack me. I think there were some ups and downs. I had some good plays and I had some bad plays.”

**On if he felt he got better today:**

“Oh yeah. I definitely got better. Every time I step on the field, and they give me the opportunity to go out and compete, I get better because I learn something new every day. I definitely got better today.”

**On what he learned from today’s game:**

“The speed of the game, it is way faster than practice. Playing within myself, just little things like that; nothing too major.”

**On whether he expected to be picked on in his first game:**

“Of course. They wanted to test me to see what I got, to see what all this buzz is about me.”

**On if he heard any talk on the field about the buzz he has created:**

“You get that vibe. I am in my press and I am looking over and he is making eye contact with me and I am making eye contact with him. Let’s get it then. It is all good though. It is just part of the process.”

**On what type of buzz he is creating:**

“The stuff you guys are saying about me; whatever you guys are creating about me. I am just trying to play football.”



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**On whether he is able to block out the hype:**

“Oh yeah, I am good about ignoring stuff that I don’t want to hear about. My main focus is to get better and embrace the process. That is what I am focusing on”

**Cardinals Players**

**Cardinals T D.J. Humphries**

**On what he took away from the first game:**

“To not be so hyped at the start of the game. I have the natural tendency to, that’s who I am, the game excites me. But I have to understand, (being) an NFL offensive lineman, I have to be calm, so when you get out there in the game, you can actually play sound in your technique and not just get out there and go crazy because it’s the first play and you’re going against one of the best pass rushers in the league, so I had to just learn from that experience to, wherever it is, just to come out and play calm, play evenly like you always do.”

**On the first-team offense driving down successfully:**

“That was a good feeling, definitely a good feeling to be a part of that.”

**On David Johnson’s performance:**

“David, he’s a freak. I trained with the guy coming out of college and I was like, ‘man I hope we’re on the same team.’ And we ended up getting drafted by the same team, which is awesome, but David is a freak. You look at him like, ‘this guy, he’s a big buff guy. He’s stiff, he can’t make any moves.’ Then he breaks a corner down on the outside and breaks for one. You love playing with a guy like David and all our backs. You got a hell of a running back core. We got Chris Johnson, David Johnson, and Andre Ellington all on the same team. Those are starting running backs on everybody else’s offense and we got those three on the team, so that’s a blessing.”

**Cardinals S Tony Jefferson**

**On the first team defensive play:**

“We were flying around. We held our ground, we did a good job.”

**On what they were saying to Brandon Williams:**

“Next play. As a corner, you have to have a short memory. Obviously, they’re not going to throw it to Pat’s (Patrick Peterson) side, so you know you’re going in the fire, so I think that’s good for him.”

**On Brandon Williams play:**

“He good, Brandon’s always been solid. He knows next play and he made a couple plays too, so that’s how he’s going to learn.”