



Philadelphia Eagles vs. Oakland Raiders Post-Game Quotes

Eagles Head Coach Doug Pederson

Q. What do you think, was it the conditions or a little bit of the opponent? It seemed like you were having a little trouble moving the ball up and down the field. (Marcus Hayes)

DOUG PEDERSON: We found a way to win. That's the bottom line. We found a way to win. I'd love to win 40-3 or 34-28, but sometimes you're going to be in these games. We got to be hard on ourselves as coaches and players looking at this film, moving forward, and get things fixed offensively. I thought the defense played really, really well. They kept us in the football game, special teams. [It was a] team effort, though. [We] found a way. [We are] sitting here today 13-2. Everybody's got to come through here now. That's the exciting part.

Q. Are you concerned at all with QB Nick Foles? He didn't have four touchdowns like we saw a week ago. (Marcus Hayes)

DOUG PEDERSON: It's different. Different circumstances, different defense. We'll just evaluate the film tomorrow and make the corrections. But, he's played a ton of football. He'll be hard on himself. He'll be critical. He'll fix it and be ready to go.

Q. How much do you need this time? You don't have to play your starters next week and you have a bye. You had some injuries tonight and have had some guys playing through some stuff for a while. (Marcus Hayes)

DOUG PEDERSON: I'll evaluate that tomorrow when we get in and see where we're at injury-wise. I might have more information for you tomorrow, but it will probably be more like Wednesday before I finally make a decision on who we play.

Q. Do you need the time? (Marcus Hayes)

DOUG PEDERSON: It's good. The time is good, yeah. [We have a] couple of weeks to get healthy a little bit, but we still have an opportunity next weekend to play another game.

Q. Off the cuff, do you see a value in maybe Foles playing next week some? (Les Bowen)

DOUG PEDERSON: Again, I'll evaluate that tomorrow. Right now with only two guys, I would assume he'd probably have to play some.

Q. Was the plan to go short as much as to dump it off as much as you did, or did it just sort of evolve that way? (Reporter)

DOUG PEDERSON: It just sort of evolved that way. Just trying to get things going. When you're 1-14 on third downs, you're not doing very well on first and second downs. So just trying to get something going, get a spark, and get the ball out of his hand quickly.

Q. The sloppiness on the offensive side, what do you think that was? (Zach Berman)

DOUG PEDERSON: I don't know. I felt like the guys were ready to go. They were energetic. They were fresh. It's been a while since we played from a Sunday to Monday. I don't know. It's tough. I mean, give the Raiders a lot of credit for coming in here under tough circumstances for them and battling until the end.

Q. Seemed to be behind the chains quite a bit offensively. (Les Bowen)

DOUG PEDERSON: I stood behind them all night (smiling). I mean, first and second down, we had holding calls, we had some missed assignments in the run game. It just put us in some longer-yardage situations. We just couldn't find a rhythm. It's tough when you're doing that.

Q. I think five second half turnovers for the defense, what was clicking for them in the second half? (Zach Berman)

DOUG PEDERSON: That's tremendous. Pressure on the quarterback. Bottom line, pressure on the quarterback and guys being in the right spots. They really took it hard upon themselves from a week ago and wanted to play well. They did. It was great to see.

Q. WR Alshon Jeffery has been a big part of this offense this year. I think he was targeted twice tonight. Did they just do a good job of taking him away? (Paul Domowitch)

DOUG PEDERSON: [Raiders CB] Sean Smith matched him all night. He's long and big and physical, just like Alshon is. Obviously the plan was to try to get him involved from time to time and continue to target him. Then as the game unfolded, it just got to the point where we were just trying to get a completion, and trying to move the ball just a little bit more.

Q. Was it a case of the receivers not getting open or Foles holding the ball too long? (Reporter)

DOUG PEDERSON: It's going to be hard. It felt like a little of both. I'll evaluate, watch the tape tomorrow, and find out exactly what was going on after we evaluate.

Q. What was the problem with some of the snaps? (Reporter)

DOUG PEDERSON: Some of those are just the quarterback, just concentration. A couple snaps were low, so [C Jason] Kelce is also a part of that. Can't have it. Can't do that moving forward. [That's] two professionals there, two veteran players, and we got to get that cleaned up.

Q. After CB Ronald Darby's interception, how many yards did you think you needed to put K Jake Elliott in? (Zach Berman)

DOUG PEDERSON: We had talked prior to the game that the 35-yard line was the mark. But, in that situation, we would have attempted it inside the 40.

Q. In Darby's case, he took some criticism this week. What did you think when he got the interception there? (Zach Berman)

DOUG PEDERSON: It's great. It's what these guys do, and what he does. They use it as a little motivation, probably a little fuel. It lights a fire. They play well. He played well tonight. He had the big pick at the end that set up the field goal.

Q. Third-down efficiency was low. Is that correctable? (Reporter)

DOUG PEDERSON: 1-14 is not pretty high. Again, we got to do better on first and second down. We've got to be in more manageable third downs. We were in too many third-and-longs. Then we've got to convert. We've done that all season long. We got to get back to that.

Q. On the offense making second half adjustments: *(Paul Domowitch)*

DOUG PEDERSON: Just did a nice job. We missed a couple assignments. Again, we had a couple of nice runs where we got called back on some holds. It just wasn't as clean as you would like in the running game. We kind of pride ourselves on that, and try to establish that, especially in this game. We just didn't get it done. Again, we'll evaluate it, fix it, and move on.

Q. Foles had some throws outside the numbers. Raiders QB Derek Carr had some trouble as well. Do you think the weather played into that? *(John McMullen)*

DOUG PEDERSON: It was gusty at times. Heading away from our tunnel, you were kind of into the wind just a little bit, made it probably a little more difficult. But, it's never an excuse, the weather. We've just got to learn to handle it.

Q. In the time you had with them, what was the message after the game? *(Zach Berman)*

DOUG PEDERSON: I just told them, 'Congratulations, man. Every team now in the post-season, if we get a chance to continue on, is coming right through here.' That's what we wanted. That's what our goal was this week. We wanted to finish the game that way. And we did. We're excited about that. Now we've got to get ready to play.

Q. You mentioned that maybe it was a good thing to be in a dogfight. Are you kind of tired of being in the dogfight? *(John McMullen)*

DOUG PEDERSON: Yeah, but you know what, moving forward, they're all going to be dogfights. Every team we face from here on out, obviously they're playoff-caliber teams. It's going to be a dogfight each week. You can't make the assignment errors and mistakes [that we did tonight] and expect to win a post-season game moving forward. We've got some work to do still in these next couple of weeks.

Eagles QB Nick Foles

On the Eagles' struggles to convert on third down:

"We just didn't execute on third down. [Oakland] is a good team. I saw them a lot last year when I was in Kansas City, and then studying film. I thought they came out and played really aggressive on defense and we didn't execute on third down. That's something that we'll look at on film [and] we'll improve and go from there."

On his overall performance:

"I didn't play good enough. I have to play cleaner and, obviously, play better. Third down is a big thing with a quarterback; pin-point accuracy, making good decisions. I'll look at the film, I'll improve. These wins are tough; wins in the NFL are tough. This was a crazy, sloppy game. I thought our defense played wonderful - giving us an opportunity - I believe it was five turnovers. That's huge, that was big."

On only targeting WR Alshon Jeffery twice:

"There were times when they were trying to double him and rolling the coverage. The rest of them I have to look at, too, with different ways to get him the ball because he can make so many plays."

On the low production from wide receivers in the game:

“I’ll have to go to the film to answer that question and to see and analyze that. I know there were times when they had a safety over the top and that makes it difficult, so we have to work more inside. But it’s something I’ll look at on film. These are the games where they’re difficult. You have to grind through them, but you learn a lot. That’s the great thing; we watch film of everything and we’ll improve on it and that’s the exciting thing. I know the group we have and I know the coaches. I can’t wait to look at the film to see how we can improve in these areas, because there are so many areas we can improve.”

On where the Eagles need to improve despite clinching the one-seed:

“Capturing the number one seed – I mean, we’re 13-2 – and we still have a lot of room to improve. There are sometimes games in the NFL that go like this – I’ve been a part of these games before and have been fortunate to win some of them. You feel a lot better when you win it, but you’re also very humbled in the sense that our defense did an amazing job giving us opportunities at the end. We were able to drive the ball down and [K Jake] Elliott made a great kick. But it’s something we have to clean up, because we can’t go out there and do that and expect to win games.”

On the Eagles’ game-winning scoring drive:

“There’s not much you have to say. We all knew what we had to do right there. The defense had given us opportunities to make plays and we didn’t do a good job of it. But right then and there, you could tell everyone was determined and we were able to execute on some pass plays to get the ball within field goal range, and then Jake was able to kick it through the uprights. It was huge because when you look at the course of the game, it wasn’t clean at all; but to finish like that and to get the completions to get in field goal range to win it, that’s an exciting thing.”

On whether he wants to play next week against Dallas:

“There’s good and bad, you can look at it either way. That’s where I trust the coaches. I’m going to continue to improve, continue to work and I trust whatever they say. I’m always ready to go and play. So we’ll see what the coaches decide.”

On whether he can get enough practice reps if he does not play:

“We’ll see. Right now, I’m just worried about this game [and] analyzing it. We’ll see what the coaches decide and go from there.”

On what the target yard line was for K Jake Elliott:

“Usually, you want to get within the 35 [yard line]. In those conditions you want to get as close as possible because the ball just doesn’t fly in the cold weather like it usually does as you saw with a lot of the different kicks. You really want to get as close as possible to take a lot of pressure off. But we have one of the best kickers in the NFL, so he was able to make it work.”

On whether the weather conditions played a role in the sloppiness of the game:

“No, I’m not going to use that excuse at all. Playing in Philly is not easy, it’s cold weather. But at the same time, we have to execute better, it’s as simple as that. It has nothing to do with the weather, it has to do with our execution and fine-detailing things. Oakland played a great game; their defense came out and they did a really good job. I’m excited to look at the film and see how we can improve. Games like this where it’s not clean, those are the ones where you really analyze the film even harder because things didn’t work out. I could be like, ‘alright, what would I have done next time if I could see this coverage.’ And then you can improve. If everything went perfect all the time, it’d be hard to improve. This is one I’ll be able to look at and get a lot of improvement out of it.”

On the importance of home field advantage:

“That’s huge. I want to first off wish everybody a Merry Christmas and thank our fans for being there today. This is a really tough place to come and play. To have home field advantage, to have everyone come through [Lincoln Financial Field] with our fans and how loud they get and how much energy they bring, we’re very fortunate to be able to do that. We’re going to need all our fans and their full power throughout these next weeks. I was excited to see them all here on Christmas because I know everyone wants to be with their families. I know a lot of them probably brought their families to the game, but as players it was great to see the energy today in the stadium.”

On whether the third-quarter red zone pass was intended for WR Nelson Agholor or WR Alshon Jeffery:

“It was for Alshon. When he was coming in, I was trying to put it on his back shoulder. There was a backer underneath so you try to keep it away. That’s something we’ll continue to work on, I’ll be a little more accurate. Down in the red zone I wasn’t as accurate as I wanted to. I was high on a couple to [TE] Zach Ertz and obviously that one to Alshon. Those are all things I can fix. It’s not like you look at it like, ‘Well, there’s no way I can do anything about it.’ That’s stuff I can fix and that’s stuff we’ll work on. That’s on me, I have to be more accurate. If I’m a foot shorter on Zach’s throws, we have two touchdowns. If I’m a little bit more on Alshon, he makes it in there. Those are the things in the red zone where you have to be that accurate, and I can do that and I will get there.”

On the interception from the high pass to Ertz:

“That one I tried to get it over [Raiders LB Bruce] Irvin and [it was] a little high – that’s on me. Those are the ones that you want to get the ball down a little bit more over the top. It’s on me. That’s all I have to say. I have to get the ball a little bit lower on his chest, because that’s a tough catch when you’re going over the head so that’s on me.”

On QB Carson Wentz being on the field for the coin toss:

“It means a lot to have him go out. He’s a captain of the team. He wears that ‘C’ on his chest with a lot of pride. To go out there in front of everybody – obviously the players, we all love him – he brings an energy within to the fan base. For him to be out there it brought a lot of excitement. I was able to see that, see him in the locker room and everything. It’s like I said before, he’s going to be around and I love it because he means so much to this team and he’s done such an amazing job.”

On whether it was surprising for the offense to play worse this week:

“Honestly, it’s the NFL. It’s a tough league. We didn’t play clean tonight. Oakland played a good game on defense, and I have to be more accurate. We have to stay within the chains – it’s tough when you get to second and long, third and long – it’s a little bit more difficult. But that’s stuff we can all clean up. That’s why it’s so important to be consistent in this league. But our defense did a great job of keeping us in this game, giving us an opportunity and they came up big all throughout the game; especially at the end with two minutes to go to be able to kick that field goal at the end. It was a great, hard-fought, sloppy team win.”

On playing in the cold weather conditions:

“Playing in the cold weather in Philly, it’s been several years. We live in it, I live here and obviously we practice in it. It’s not an excuse. It’s a huge advantage to have home field advantage in this weather. We know it’s going to be cold, we know it’s going to be rocking. We live in this every single day, so we just have to look at the film and clean it up.”

On finding a way to win tonight:

“You always want to win playing the perfect game. You always want to win throwing seven touchdowns, that’s how you want to win. This game was totally different than the last time I played Oakland. But in the NFL, and a team sport, you want to find a way to win. Good teams find ways to win and we did tonight. It’s a humbling league - we’re going to continue to work - but I’m going to enjoy this win. I know there’s a lot of stuff to work on, but we have the people around to improve in the areas we didn’t do so well tonight. I mean, shoot, we’re 13-2 and we have a lot of guys that work really hard. We still have a lot of work to do so that’s an exciting thing because we still haven’t reached our potential yet.”

Eagles T Lane Johnson

On his evaluation of the Eagles’ performance:

“I’m really proud of how the defense played; they won us the game. It wasn’t pretty. We have a lot of work to do, but other than that, I’m fine with a win.”

On the starters’ playing time next week against Dallas:

“I really don’t know. There’s definitely a possibility, but that’s uncertain.”

On how the weather conditions affected the offense’s ability to execute:

“It was what it was. We just really weren’t able to get in a rhythm and we’ve been able to do that all year. I really don’t know what it was. The defense won the game for us; there were multiple turnovers. We’ll go back and look at the film, but it was sloppy.”

On the Raiders blitz schemes and pressures:

“[It was] pretty much what we expected. They have two pretty good edge rushers in [DE Khalil] Mack and [LB Bruce] Irvin. Other than that though, they’re always one block away as far as the run game.”

Eagles C Jason Kelce

On why tonight was so difficult offensively:

“It’s difficult to say. [We’ll] probably have to watch the film a little bit. From the running – I can’t really speak that much on the passing game – I have to do a better job with some of the snaps, I think I had some low snaps. It’s not fair to [QB] Nick [Foles]. I think sometimes you’re trying to block the guy in front of you and you lose track, then he’s got two steps instead of just catching the ball and going down field, he’s bobbling it, but he’s got to find it. It takes time for him. The run game – we started off pretty good I thought, especially the second drive, and then they were doing some different things to try and throw us off a little bit. It just felt like we didn’t really get in a great rhythm after that.”

On what the mood was like after this game:

“It was the only time in my life I’ve ever clinched the NFC – you’d think you’d be pretty happy, but obviously the performance of the offense put together is frustrating to say the least. Last week, the defense kind of had their turn, this time it was ours. The good news is that the other side is picking up for when they need to, but I think everybody knows obviously that these last two games... you know we are going to play a lot better teams in the playoffs and we have to play a lot better football. Offensively we just have to get back there and try and get it corrected and move on.”

On if their vulnerability is showing after their performances over the last few weeks and after losing QB Carson Wentz:

“Yeah, I mean obviously we played bad the last two weeks, but we played bad against Kansas City earlier in the season – I don’t try and look too much into that. I mean the offense functioned pretty well against New York I thought. Obviously, it was a really bad performance today, but we have good coaches that I’m sure are going to be able to make sure that we’re recognizing where everybody went wrong, what we need to improve, all of that stuff. Obviously, we’ve lost really good players. I still think that we have a really good football team.”

On running well early in the game and why the offense got away from the run:

“I think sometimes the situation dictates that, obviously. We had a good second drive, then we kept trying to run in the first half a little bit and then we – I think it was maybe one or two drives later in that two minute situation. And then in the second half I felt like they got us a couple of times, they did some different things that kind of threw our run game off. Whenever it’s stalling, it’s easy to get away from it as a play-caller I think. We just have to do a better job executing; that’s what it comes down to.”

Eagles WR Torrey Smith

On whether it is important for the starting offense to see game action next week after struggling at times tonight:

“No, because we’re going to have three weeks of practice before the first [playoff] game. There are ways to make it count that way. I think Coach [Pederson] has a good plan. He already knew we were going to have a bye week, but I’m sure he will adjust things. We’ll definitely get our work in for sure.”

On why QB Nick Foles did not throw more often to his outside receivers:

“Sometimes it’s just the flow of the game. I know personally for myself, there are times when I might not see the ball at all in a game, and then there are times when the ball comes my way a lot. That’s just how it goes sometimes. I know for sure he’s definitely thinking outside at times, especially in certain situations where we have opportunities. It’s just all about execution. We weren’t good enough today, but our defense did their part and we were able to move the ball when it mattered the most.”

On whether the offensive starters will play next week:

“I have no clue. You always go into it expecting to play because it’s always terrible to think the other way – unless it’s a preseason game or if you’re not sure. When you’re trying to guess when you’re getting out [on the field], it’s a terrible way to go about it. I’ll approach it like I’m going to play the whole game and if that plan changes, I’ll adjust.”

On why the offense struggled in terms of third down conversions:

“I think we put ourselves in tough situations. There aren’t many teams that are going to convert 3rd-and-forever. Our key to success has been staying in 3rd-and-manageable by making positive plays on first down and eliminating penalties. When you do those things, you’re going to do well, but today we didn’t do a good job at what we normally do. That’s why today’s game was the way it was and why we weren’t as sharp as we usually are.”

Eagles TE Zach Ertz

On scoring 13 points on offense:

“We just didn’t get into a rhythm it seemed like. We had a good second drive of the game when we scored our only touchdown of the game. Other than that it seemed like it was one bad play for every three plays. We couldn’t get into a rhythm. Our defense bailed us out. There’s no other way to put it. They played amazing. They played physical. They had the turnovers we needed when we needed them. The most amazing part is that the second half the Raiders had the ball at the 45 yard line in every possession because we couldn’t move the ball, so they had our backs today. You have to find a way to win and this time we did that.”

On whether it concerns him the level of football being played at this point of the season:

“Yes, I guess in the sense that we need to be playing the best football at the end of the year. Any team in the NFL this time of the year wants to be peaking. I don’t think we’re in panic mode by any means. I think we have a lot of good players on this team, and we have guys with a lot of pride that are going to figure this thing out. We have three weeks until we play a playoff game, so there’s time to improve and time to get better. That is all we are focused on.”

On the improvements needed to be made before playoffs:

“We have to play a complete game. I wouldn’t say we have to do anything crazy. Last week the offense played great and the defense didn’t play great. This week the offense played horribly and the defense played great. We just have to put it all together. It’s not panic mode by any means.”

On whether he wants to play next week:

“I want to do whatever [Eagles Head Coach] Doug [Pederson] wants me to do. I can see it going either way. He can say the offense didn’t play very well today, let’s go. For the starters let’s play half, let’s play the game. I can also see him shutting some of us down. Whatever he wants to do, I’m all aboard. If we get ones against the ones in practice and don’t play in the game, that’s great too. So whatever Doug wants to do, he’s had a great year this year so we trust him with everything he wants to do. If that means we play next week and approach it and try to set the record for wins in Eagles history, we’ll do that.”

On his confidence in Eagles QB Nick Foles:

“We’re confident in Nick. We just have to play better as an offense altogether. It doesn’t fall solely on Nick. He’s the quarterback so he’s going to get the highest of highs and lowest of lows from the outside people, but we’re just focused on playing our best football right now. I didn’t have a perfect game by any means. It was a good game, not a great game. We can improve in a lot of areas. The leaders of the team have to play better on offense and that is what we are going to focus on.”

On clinching home-field advantage:

“It’s great. It’s another box checked on the list. You have the NFC East first, bye second, and home-field advantage is third. Our regular season goals have been accomplished. It would be amazing to finish off next week with another win against an NFC East opponent with the Cowboys. I think our focus now, not to short-change the Cowboys, but we have to focus on this playoff game. We have to win a game. I haven’t won a post-season game since I’ve been here. I’m just focused on improving and focused on getting better and that’s all I’m focused on.”

Eagles DE Brandon Graham

On some of the reasons the Eagles have earned the No. 1 seed:

"We've been getting turnovers at critical times and then we aren't on the sidelines complaining or bad mouthing each other. Like the first thing I wanted to do when I went to [CB] Jalen [Mills] was [say] 'hey man, let's make up for it.' He made up for it on that one sprint. We held them to three points. I trust my guys out there and they trust me. All we have to do is do our job – a lot better."

On how concerned he is with the Eagles run defense:

"I'm not really concerned. I think we were doing good today. That's a good team. They made some good plays. Those boys, I mean they did it really good as far as attacking us on the edge a little bit and creating extra gaps. I think that's a really good team. We made the stops when we needed to, but we have some things to clean up. We've got a couple of weeks to make sure that we clean it up before this thing really kicks off."

On what it means to earn the No. 1 seed in the NFC going into the playoffs:

"It feels great because our goal was to have everybody come through here and to play two games. All we have to do is go out there and execute. I'm jacked up because we put ourselves in a great position. All we have to do is do us and be the guys that we know we can be, and that we talked about as a unit that we know we can be. We have to keep doing it. Keep proving it. Keep that chip on your shoulder."

Eagles DE Chris Long

On the play of the defense tonight:

"Sometimes you have to win games like that. At the end of the day, a couple of weeks back, we went to L.A. and didn't play our best game. We let up about 35 points on defense, and the offense bailed us out. At the end of the day, we're a team. We stick up for each other and stand up for each other. We knew we had to step up a little bit, and we did that."

On settling in after the Raiders took the lead in the third quarter:

"We let up one long run and it was one of the worst drives we've had in a while on the ground, and it was just basic stuff. We settled in and got back to playing our game, and we knew we had to make them earn it."

On securing the No. 1 seed in the NFC:

"It's reassuring, but we have to beat good teams no matter what. That's what the playoffs are. Every game is going to be like [tonight]. We have to execute better, but we're going to play good teams every week. Oakland is a good football team. I know things haven't gone their way this year, but they have a really good running back, some weapons, and a Pro Bowl quarterback. Getting a win on Christmas and locking up home field is still pretty good."

On overcoming injuries and winning their 13th game of the season:

"We have a tough and resilient team. I think that starts at the top with [Eagles Head Coach] Doug [Pederson], because he sets the tone for being resilient and even-keeled. At the end of the day, we have

a tough group of guys. Thirteen wins is great, but we have to make it worth something. That means playing our best next week and carrying that into the playoffs.”

Eagles LB Nigel Bradham

On the effect of turnovers in the game and if the defense felt it could take the ball away at anytime:

“It was a defensive game. You have these types of games all throughout the year. Some games are going to be offensive games, some games are going to be special teams, some games are defense, and some games are all three combined. This was one of the ones where it was a defensive game. We had two great defenses battling today on the field. I felt like that showed and it was just a defensive game.”

On the defense not being satisfied with their effort the past few weeks and if tonight’s five-turnover performance in the second half is the type of model they want to be as a defense:

“Of course. You cannot ever have enough of those type of numbers. As far as what we do, we just have to get back to what we do. You want to dominate every game, but let’s be realistic, it is the NFL and you are going to go up against some top offenses and you going to have some weeks where your defense is not going to have the same numbers as they normally are. That might happen two or three times a year out of 16 games, but that does not mean you have a bad defense. I just think we had a couple games where we played some high-powered offenses and we did not do our best, but we ended up bouncing back.”

Eagles CB Ronald Darby

On how he was able to get position on his interception to pick it off:

“[WR Amari Cooper]’s one of the hardest dudes in the league to get your hands on off the line, so as the game was going on, I was just trying to steady his releases. It’s different on film then when you’re lined up in front of him. Him and [WR Michael] Crabtree have that kind of release when they try to get up on you to break your leverage and just boom, break. But on film, I noticed when they ran on slants and press, they start off slow and try to pick up and then, boom, hit that one step to get you to overcommit and get back under you. So when he started out slow, I just stayed square the whole time and when he made that step, boom, I just flipped and then looked for the ball and I caught it.”

On whether he was playing more press this week:

“I was trying to get up there more when I could depending on the call of the play. I was trying to get up there and get my hands on the play bump-and-run.”

On whether the defense felt like the game would be up to them to make a play:

“Yeah, I felt like it was going back and forth. Some weeks that’s how it is. Last week, our offense was carrying us and we were playing like trash, playing horrible. And this week our offense was making little mistakes and we had to come out there and make some plays. At the end of the day, that’s what football is all about. It’s a team effort. One side of the ball isn’t always going to be perfect.”

Eagles CB Jalen Mills

On the Eagles forcing five turnovers in the second half:

“We were just locked in. I know I had a mishap early, but at the same time, we’re an aggressive defense. We have to stay aggressive, and sometimes that’s just what it is. By staying aggressive, you see what happened in the second half. We started getting turnovers.”

On the defense having to step up:

“That’s the NFL. You come in to a game and expect that all the time. There’s not a certain team where you think you’re just going to blow them out. It’s the NFL so it’s any given Sunday. That’s the mindset regardless.”

On securing the No. 1 seed in the NFC:

“It’s really, really big, especially with the fans we have here. Those road trips can also take a toll on you. Being here in our own backyard with the fans behind our back, it’s going to be really big for us.”

On CB Ronald Darby’s fourth quarter interception:

“It was clutch. He is a guy who practices that every day, and of course as a secondary we are happy for him. At the same time, we’re not surprised because he does that every day.”

Eagles CB Patrick Robinson

On whether tonight was a good thing for the team in the long run:

“I think we just play great team ball. If the offense is not playing as well as they have, the defense has to step up and get some turnovers to give them extra chances to score the ball. In my opinion, it was a great team win.”

On forcing turnovers:

“As a defense, it’s our goal to get turnovers for the offense. That’s what happened [tonight].”

On the weather:

“It was cold and windy, but we got the job done.”

Eagles S Malcolm Jenkins

On what it took to win the game:

“It was just one of those games where our defense needed to get some stops for our offense to put some points on the board and put us in a position to win. It was the exact opposite last week, so it is what it is. Whatever it takes to get the W. We obviously know what it means to get turnovers, especially turnovers in the red zone or in their territory. Those stops were huge to be able to keep those points on the board.”

On whether anything was said after the first drive of the second half:

“Nothing needed to be said. Even that drive, we were kind of upset that we came out and let some runs get inside of us. Everything we did was just uncharacteristic – guys getting cut out of gaps, a couple missed assignments, and then they marched down and kicked the field goal. But other than that, they hadn’t really done anything before that except for one big play. We felt good about playing and executing and if we could stop the run on second down, we felt like we could run on third down. And that’s what we started to do.”

On whether the defense needed something after the last few weeks, in addition to a team win tonight:

“No, we didn’t need anything. At the end of the day, we wanted to just win the game that we’re in and clinch home field advantage. We had the opportunity tonight.”

Eagles K Jake Elliott

On how early in the game he realized that it would probably come down to him kicking a field goal:

“Honestly, at halftime I had a really, really good feeling it was going to come down to one. And luckily it did.”

On what yard line he was most comfortable kicking from:

“I think I was probably on the easier side to kick at today with the wind the way it was, whether it was gusting or not. You never knew how much it was going to be helping or what. I would say I felt good from like 55 to 57 [yards] if we needed to take a shot at that.”

On whether the ball feels differently coming off his foot in these cold weather games:

“It’s just a little bit harder and it’s just not going to travel quite as far. At the end of the day, if you hit a really solid ball it’s going to do what it normally does. It’s just going to come up a couple yards shorter than usual.”

On whether he does anything differently to warm up for cold weather games:

“Not really. I might take an extra kick or two at the end just to figure out my range because I know it’s going to be different, but that’s all.”

Raiders Head Coach Jack Del Rio

Opening statement:

“Merry Christmas to everybody. It was a defensive battle tonight. It was a hard fought game. We certainly had our chances. We ran well and had a big play to [Raiders WR Amari Cooper] Coop. but really struggled throwing it. We only took one sack but we were hurried a lot. Defensively, I thought we played extremely well. Typically 1 out of 14 on third down and close to 200 yards and a couple turnovers will get it done. But you know I told the guys in there tonight, I said one thing about this game, and football, it is a team game. There is no ‘our side played well, or this phase played well’, it did and it does, but it is a team game and we win or lose as a team. It is the ultimate team game, so we take it as a team. We gave it up five different times and obviously that’s not a good thing. Fortunately, our defense played well enough so we still had a shot. And we missed a field goal there at the end and that was a big miss. Overall, there were little good efforts. [Raiders RB] Marshawn [Lynch] ran it season-high 25 times, and some really good runs. We ended up having 134 yards rushing which was good against a defense coming into this game that was averaging giving up 70. We had two themes tonight coming in; we wanted to make sure we were a physical football team and that we started fast. This team had a way of jumping on people with their 99 points in the first quarter. I thought we answered those two challenges. I’m just disappointed not to get the win. One injury of note: [Raiders G/T] Vadal Alexander was taken out with a concussion. Other than that, our guys finished strong.”

On how they survive these close games going forward:

"I mean, as competitors that's what you look to do. Go and compete and compete your butt off. Enjoy the moment. We talked about it tonight; we enjoyed being on the national stage on Christmas night. I thought we embraced it and you know you don't win them all. You certainly want to and there is great desire, but it doesn't always go your way. In this case we have to congratulate them. That is their 13th win and they've won a lot of games this year, so you have to give them some credit. Obviously there are things that you have to do better, but I'm not going to get into that. I'm going to talk about guys like [Raiders C] Rodney Hudson and [Raiders CB] Dexter McDonald, who kept coming for us and playing through some pain, which was very commendable."

On the pressure and if Raiders QB Derek Carr could get the ball down the field:

"I'm not going to sit here and get into that. Obviously both quarterbacks had a hard time throwing tonight. I don't even think the passing game lit it up tonight. But I'm not going to sit here and get into him [Raiders QB Derek Carr] trying to do that."

On Raiders CB Sean Smith defending Eagles WR Alshon Jeffery:

"And we had [Raiders CB] TJ [Carrie] on [Eagles WR Nelson] Agholor. And those guys are both good players. I thought our guys did a nice job with the assignments."

On wanting to see more of a shot down field at the end of the game:

"Yeah I think there is clearly a desire to throw it down the field. I know you probably saw guys running down the field. They were playing a soft zone, way back, and from my vantage point from the side line the last couple of drives were pretty hurried."

On defending the Eagles run game:

"I think that we tightened it up and shut it down the rest of the night. They got more yards in the first drive than they had in the remainder of the night combined. The guys understand where they belong and are getting it done. They are playing at a high level, and getting off on third down."

On the defense playing better and if that's a foundation to build on next season:

"Damn right it is. They are doing things the way that need to be done and gaining confidence every week and I think they know that."

On drawing penalties on Eagles T Lane Johnson:

"You can count on [Raiders DE] KahLil [Mack]. You put it down and he's going to play well. Some days are more impactful on the stat sheet, but he is playing well. He's a fiery football player and his attitude and effort every day is unbelievable. He's very consistent that way; he brings it every day and plays with great energy. That's why he's a great player like he is."

On making a good play and then turning the ball over:

"There's a fine line between being really good and being where we are right now. So, it's a fine line. You work hard, you go out and compete. That's where you get your opportunity to earn it. Those things we are referring to are the things that keep you from becoming what it could be. Like I said many times 'would've could've should've' is not going to get it done. You get your opportunity, you earn it, and you live with your results."

On if the offense is holding the team back:

"I know that is going to be a continuing conversation for us. I'm just going to talk about tonight; we win and lose as a football team."

Raiders QB Derek Carr

On this loss being another tough game:

“It’s not good. It’s not a good feeling. It’s not acceptable. We have to be better. We have to get better. And if we don’t, we’re going to keep feeling like this. That’s not what we want for our fans. It’s not what we want for our team, our organization. Everyone deserves better and we have to give it to them.”

On how the last two games mirrored each other:

“Yeah, it’s come down to the end and we have not made plays. We have not done what we needed to do to win the games. That’s pretty much how our year has been. We haven’t done enough. And it’s all in the little details of everyone’s assignment. Like I said, we win and lose as a team, but you can always put it on me.”

On the last interception he threw:

“They were playing just man coverage, so I went with our one-on-one to our X. It was a slant, and yes we didn’t make the play.”

On the defense playing so strong today and how the offense needs to improve:

“There’s no doubt about it. I don’t sit in the defensive meetings. They don’t sit in ours. It’s kind of been, we’ve taken turns this year as a team. And so everyone should feel sick right now. We lost. And especially on our side of things we didn’t do well enough in the second half to win the game. They played well. The defense played well. They kept getting us the ball back and doing things like that. So I love those guys and they did a good job and just looking at us in our room, we have to be better moving forward. We have one game this year to go out and do it and we have to come out fighting.”

On whether the coaches saw something on film that made them want to run that slant route and throw to WR Amari Cooper that resulted in a 63-yard touchdown:

“Yeah absolutely. That was a play that we knew that we wanted to run. We knew that’s one of those shots down the field where you hope you get the right coverage and we did. When you get the right coverage, you just try to put a good ball on him and we were able to do that and Coop[er] ran a great route and made a great play after the catch.”

On whether he or the team felt differently going into the game knowing they were eliminated from the playoffs:

“You know, I didn’t see anybody in there before the game that was different. I thought we had a really good week of practice, to be honest with you too. When those kind of things are happening, it’s in the details. It’s in the little things... Each man in the mirror has to look at themselves and say, ‘If we want to make this team better, what do I have to fix?’ And I know that I will. I’ve done that since I got here and I will always do that. I will always continue to look at myself first and try and fix what I can fix and then try and help those that need some help along the way.”

On his overall assessment of the team’s play tonight:

“Not good enough. We lost.”

On whether using two and three tight end sets was in the gameplan for tonight:

“Yeah that was the plan all week. We knew that was something that we wanted to do. That was the kind of game that it had to be. We knew that coming in. [Head] Coach [Jack Del Rio] laid out a plan for us and said ‘hey this is what we want to do,’ and that’s how we went about it.”

On how it changes the game from a personnel perspective when TE Vadal Alexander went out with an injury:

“Yeah he was a big part. We always have a plan in case someone gets hurt or needs a shoelace, whatever it is, you have a plan. So [TE] Pharaoh [Brown] got a lot of action. I’m turning around handing the ball off, so I don’t know how well he did in those kinds of things, but for how well we were able to run the ball at times, obviously I think he did a really good job.”

On whether it was hard to take shots down the field due to the weather or the defense:

“So obviously once we hit the first one, they weren’t going to let us have another one, especially when you hit a big play like that and tie the ball game up, it kind of just sends a shock into them. They were able to try their best to take those kind of things away. We had a few other opportunities where I was getting ready to throw it and I had to throw it a little early because I got hit on a couple, which is fine. That’s part of it. We had a couple opportunities, but for the most part, they did a good job staying on top after that.”

On the lost fumbles this season coming at critical times:

“Yes absolutely. It obviously hurts us. Anytime you give the ball to the other team, it hurts. And today when we turned it over our defense again did a great job of getting it back for us. They did a good job of holding at the end and then hoping [the Eagles] would miss a field goal. But we have to help them out. They did a good job, but again, it’s a team game, so no one should be feeling good. We lost. We’ve won a lot of games as a team, but we lost tonight as a team.”

On the team taking steps backward this year and how they can take more steps forward next year:

“You have to work hard when it gets tough. I can get cliché on you, but I won’t. When things get tough, a lot of people point fingers. I’ve tried my best every single time to stand up here and be a man and just take it. That’s who I am. That’s how I was raised and I’ll always be that way. When it gets hard, I fight. Nothing is going to change. Hopefully the results change, but I’m going to keep fighting. I’ve been 0-10. I’ve been in sucky situations. I’ve been in hard times, more so in life than football, to be honest with you. We’re going to come out of this and people will just look back on it like, ‘Wow what happened?’ kind of a thing. But there’s no doubt in my mind that I’m going to work my tail off like I always do, correct the things that I need to correct and move forward.”

On how they can turn this into something constructive going forward:

“We can look at the good times that we had, obviously a year ago. We can look at the hard times that we had this year. And you sit back and you lay out the plan and you say, ‘what was different?’ At the end of the day, that’s an after action report kind of thing. Right now we’re so focused on finishing the season well. We’re not trying to lose the games. We’re not trying to do wrong. No one in there is trying to do the wrong things. But after we play the Chargers you have to sit back and look at it and say ‘what is different?’ What did we do different? What were the changes on the team that somehow, someway we did wrong. Those are things that the coaches will get into. Right now we have to get ready for the Chargers. We’re going to go down there and I expect our crowd to show up like they always do for us when we head south, and we have to get a win to finish the season.”

On how he felt about the gameplan going into tonight:

“Like I said, we had a good week of practice against their looks. When you go out there, you need to compete. You have to go play against them and beat them and we didn’t beat them enough. They beat us more than we did, but I thought that our guys, we executed the plan the best that we could and it wasn’t enough. But I definitely felt comfortable going into the plan knowing hey, we’re going to try and get big boy ball and run the ball at them and I thought we did a good job. And then when we had times to hit the shots, obviously we hit the ball to Coop and I hit a couple more, but we didn’t.”

Raiders RB Jalen Richard

On Oakland’s running game today:

“We had some success early on in the game so that’s why we stuck with the run and we came in wanting to run the ball. They came in wanting to force The Beast Marshawn [Lynch] on Philly. So that was one of the plans coming in and it was going well but, we put the ball on the ground a couple of times and they were able to get the turnovers and we weren’t able to get the win. But we definitely showed some life in the running game today.”

On how he felt T David Sharpe did filling in for T Donald Penn:

“I think he did well because as you know, it’s next man up. I think he has a promising future, obviously he’s young, he’s learning, and he has some good guys in front of him to learn from. All of them are in his ear and I think he took this first game very well. The sky’s the limit for him, he’s a big guy.”

On what he thought contributed to the inconsistency of the offense tonight:

“Just some good football, if you look at this game it was just going back and forth. Our defense was doing the same thing to their offense. You get into a little rhythm and then boom they’ll stop us and vice versa our way. We just had a real good football game today and it ended up not in the way that we would have liked, but we fought very well. This team definitely doesn’t lay down for anybody, that’s a good sign and although you want to win but to know that you can look around the locker room at your teammates in their eyes and know that nobody is quitting, that’s a good feeling to have.”

On if it’s encouraging to see the fight within this team given its situation:

“It is because you want to make sure that your brothers are with you for the right reasons, you want to make sure that they know that, ‘Hey I’m going to give it my all and I want you to give it your all’ and to know that when I’m fighting and I’m looking around and all of my boys are with me and we’re all fighting and no one is giving up and no one is laying down, that’s a good feeling when you step out on that field with those 11 guys, or when you step onto the field with the whole team, or when you step up to someone else’s house and try to get a win. It’s a good feeling to have with this band of brothers and we’re going to figure this thing out.”

On whether it is important to end the season on a high note going into the off-season:

“Most definitely, you definitely want to go into the off-season with a good taste in your mouth. Our focus is every week just getting ready for the next opponent, like we’ll be getting ready for the LA Chargers this week and go at them with everything we’ve got like we’ve been doing, we’ve just been falling short. It’s just the name of the game sometimes with football where the ball doesn’t roll your way. Like I said before, I see the fight within my teammates, I’m out there fighting and nobody is giving up so that just lets you know that we enjoy football and we don’t take our jobs for granted.”

On if playing the role of spoiler next week provides a boost of motivation:

“Yeah that’s a little cherry on top of a Sunday but at the end of the day it’s another game, it’s another division opponent and regardless of our situation as far as going into the playoffs, you want to get in there and you want to come out with a win. We’re playing for pride. I don’t know any grown man that’s just going to lay down and take a butt whooping just to get the season over with. So I expect everybody to come out here having fun, because you know this is our last game before it starts getting boring in the off-season. We wish we weren’t but that’s the cards that we dealt ourselves this year and we have to take that medicine to the throat. Just be ready for the next game and get this game behind us, and after that game, focus on the next season.”

Raiders CB TJ Carrie

On how he feels the defense has played these last couple of games:

“Just really being in tune like I said, communication is so critical in this league and as you can see, we’ve been able to do that very effectively at a high level. And then making plays, this game is about making plays. Going out there doing your job down in and down out and I think that’s something we’ve all took a challenge on and really prided ourselves on doing.”

On how he felt the defense did holding the Eagles offense to just 10 points on the road:

“Yeah the really big thing to take away from all of this is: Why don’t we play like this all the time? Why don’t we play like this in the beginning of the season, or in the middle of the season? We don’t want to have spurts showing this type of capability that this defense can play and that we should be playing week in and week out.”

On how having LB Bruce Irvin and DE Khalil Mack playing well up front benefit the secondary:

“Oh definitely, I mean our whole front has been playing very well. I feel like we have a lot of guys that rotate and they all do a big part [DE] Mario [Edwards], [DL] Denico [Autry], [LB] Bruce [Irvin] and [DE]Khalil [Mack] and all of the guys that are on that front that all do a small part and all of them are effective. And that helps us on the back-end being able to take advantage of the ball and now we’re starting to get more picks and turnovers and things like that. So it’s the whole defense.”

On what he’s seen from DL Denico Autry this season:

“Denico has been doing this since we’ve been here, we came in together and for years he’s been working on his craft and really dominating in his performance as far as OTA’s and training camps and I think he’s really now getting his chance to shine and show everyone who he’s able to be. I think seeing him is an exciting process to see how far we’ve come.”

On how ending the season on the high note will feel going into the off-season:

“This next game we’re not going to take it no lighter than we took this game. We’re going to expect the best of a defensive performance and we’re going to go out there and execute.”