



## ***Oakland Raiders Transcript***

### **Head Coach Jack Del Rio**

**Opening Statement:** “Normal Wednesday for us, really trying to simulate as much as possible a normal game week and preparations. We’re busy in that, right in the middle of it. We had a good walk-through and now we’ll head over to practice in a little bit here and get our practice in. Questions?”

#### **Q: What kind of problems does Mike Evans bring?**

**Coach Del Rio:** “Yeah, he’s a really good football player. They target him a lot. It’s one of many challenges this week as you’re studying this football team. They’re running the ball really well. Mike is playing big for them. Obviously, Jameis is a really good football player. We have a good group. I think maybe we expect to see Doug [Martin], him coming back potentially. The other back is playing really well anyway, all the backs. We have our challenges on that side. They have probably the best defensive tackle in the league. [He’s] certainly in that conversation with [Gerald] McCoy. We’ll have to know where he is at all times. He’s a good football player. They have some good players and do a nice job. We have to get ourselves ready.”

#### **Q: What do you see out of Donald Penn to be able to sustain a high level of performance at his age?**

**Coach Del Rio:** “Well, I think for us we’re happy to have him back. Obviously, he was a free agent this year that we signed back, which was big for us. He’s playing like we want him to play; playing well. The O-line is playing well. He’s doing a nice job for us. I think when you look at him, anybody like that, any veteran that has played a number of years, they typically take care of their bodies, typically are tough guys that know how to compete and find a way to preserve over the years no matter what it is. Different things come up. We saw great examples last year with Charles Woodson doing that type of thing. Not putting Donald in that category, I’m just saying the guys that play a long time tend to do the same things. They’re doing the right things – technique sound, battling tough and working really hard.”

#### **Q: Does being so high in the turnover margin allow you to look past the issues on defense?**

**Coach Del Rio:** “Well, winning in critical factors is imperative. It’s really about winning games, so there’s nothing more important than the turnover battle, third downs, red zones, things like that are more important than gross yardage. Certainly want to be good in all phases, work to rectify any problems that we’re having. Certainly protect the ball is a priority for us and taking it away from our opponent. We’ve been pretty solid to start the year with that.”

#### **Q: What have you seen from Marquette King?**

**Coach Del Rio:** “I think Marquette has done a really good job of developing in all areas. As a holder, as a guy that directional punts. I think in all areas he’s grown as a player. I think [special teams coordinator] coach [Brad] Seely and [assistant special teams coach] Tracy Smith have done a great job of working with him and developing him. He’s part of a real strong group for us. With ‘Seabass’ [Sebastian Janikowski] and [Jon] Condo and Marquette, I feel like we have three really good guys at that position playing that special teams role for us. Great to see Marquette, birthday boy as well today, so you guys can ask him about that, turning 28 and getting special teams player of the week. Pretty big week for him.”

#### **Q: What have you seen out of Sebastian Janikowski?**

**Coach Del Rio:** “Obviously, he has a strong leg. He’s quick to the ball. He’s another example of a guy who’s really worked hard to take care of himself. He’s been here for us each of the last two offseasons when we’ve asked him to be here. He’s worked hard at conditioning and all of that. He’s a pro. That’s why he’s been able to play. Along with the talent he was blessed with, that’s why he’s been able to play as long as he has.”

#### **Q: How long do you think he can keep playing?**

**Coach Del Rio:** “Let’s try to get one year at a time out of him; one game at a time. That’s up to him to decide, but he’s playing at a high level still for us.”



## **Oakland Raiders Transcript**

**Q: Do you anticipate Mario Edwards Jr. getting out to practice this week?**

**Coach Del Rio:** "The whole situation with Mario is when he's cleared, he'll go. Until then, he's going to do stuff, whether it's on the side or with the trainers and the doctors like all players that are in that designation where doctors have control. Once they have the green light, we'll get him to work. Until then, he'll work on the side."

**Q: How would you describe being in a different location?**

**Coach Del Rio:** "I just actually realized, I looked out this morning and realized there was actually water close by. It only took me three days to realize that. We're just going about our business really. Happens to be a beautiful city, but the work's the same. Put the last game behind you, get ready for the next. Understand what they like, what they're good at, who their strong players are. Who are some guys that are not as strong? We want to make sure we attack them, things like that. It's very normal in terms of the preparation and the way we're going about our business."

**Q: Malcolm Smith said this bonding is better than training camp because they're not competing for jobs.**

**Coach Del Rio:** "Not as cut throat. I didn't really sense a lot of that anyways, but yeah, I think that's certainly true. We're all in this for one reason, to be down here to prepare for this ball game and really nothing else. No other agendas other than finding a way to beat the Bucs somehow."

**Q: Where do you want to see Reggie Nelson make strides as the season goes along?**

**Coach Del Rio:** "Just continue to be himself. We're really happy about adding Reggie. He's going to get his turnovers. He led the league last year. He's going to be around the ball and continue to do his thing. Tackling well, being a leader back there for us and just continue to play good football."

**Q: What's the biggest thing with training down here at the IMG Academy?**

**Coach Del Rio:** "I think the biggest thing is we don't have to fly back and forth. For us, mainly as far as being here and acclimated, I don't know that you ever acclimate in as short a time as we're here. We understand what we're up against. We traveled to Tennessee before and played in similar conditions in terms of heat and humidity."

**Q: Are you going to go to Jacksonville to watch Luke play?**

**Coach Del Rio:** "Yeah, I'm going to slide over there Saturday afternoon to take the game in. Beyond that it's just all business here. Taking care of preparation, but we get a few hours to ourselves on Saturday anyway. So, I'll slide over there and take in the ball game and then get back."

**Q: What made you choose this area for the week?**

**Coach Del Rio:** "I have to say that I turned it over to our operations staff. Everything has been running smoothly, so I'll leave it in their hands."

### **QB Derek Carr**

**Q: Did you send Marquette King the balloons?**

**Carr:** "(*laughter*) I just saw that, no I did not. I was not a part of that. (*laughter*) But that's awesome, happy birthday, Marquette."

**Q: How much of an asset is it to have a guy who can pin the ball inside the 20-yard line all the time?**

**Carr:** "It's huge because then as a quarterback, you don't have to think about, 'Oh man, we have to get five or six more yards on this completion on a 3rd-and-28,' you know? You don't have to think about those things because he can put it inside the 20 from anywhere on the field. It really takes the guess work and 'having to fit one in there' situation, when you probably shouldn't, out of it. And, that's the whole thing that [Head] Coach [Jack] Del Rio's



## Oakland Raiders Transcript

been teaching me. We talk about a lot of situations like this, it's a team game, from the quarterback position you can use all aspects of the team and that's just one of them."

### **Q: How much of an asset is it to have a guy like Donald Penn protecting you?**

**Carr:** "Donald's [Penn] the best, man. He's like a big brother. He wants to protect me more than anything. He gets mad even if his guy, his finger touches my jersey and the balls out. So, when you got guys that it means that much to them to do their job and it means that much to them that it makes them sick, not only to have a sack but for those guys to even touch you, you know you have the right person protecting you."

### **Q: Do you think Penn has extra motivation playing a team that cut him?**

**Carr:** "I'm sure there is. Donald is a very emotional player. He's a very emotional person. That's something I love about him. You always know how he is, you always know where he stands and that's a great thing, there's no guess work. For him to come back, I'm sure he's excited, obviously, it's human nature. But, just like him, just like anybody else, just like when K.O. [Kelechi Osemele] went back to Baltimore, B.T. [Brynden Trawick] went back, Coach Del Rio last week. It's exciting, it's an exciting thing. But, once the game starts, he's not thinking about it. He's just trying to play to the best of his ability and that's what we're all paid to do, is go out there and perform at our best, hopefully at our best and I think that's how it will be for him."

### **Q: Is the turnover margin something you're proud of?**

**Carr:** "Yeah, yeah. You know me, when it comes to stats, I'm not big. I don't care too much, but, those kind of team stats I am. So, yeah I think you're exactly right, whenever you can be in the plus territory and then some in the turnover margin, that always [equates] to winning. That's how when you look back in the league at stats and all of that, the most winning teams have a plus margin 99 percent of the time. That is a thing that we take a lot of hard work in. That's a mental focus, a lot of mental discipline, obviously on my part not to force so many or trying to do too much and those things. Obviously, they're going to happen sometimes, but you just hope and know that the defense is going to get some as well, and we have a good unit that's really good with those tipped balls. They're really good when the balls on the ground, so whenever they can recover more and more, it gives us a little leeway."

### **Q: Do opposite teams scream reverse when you bring Johnny Holton in the game?**

**Carr:** "(*laughter*) It's happened a couple times and then they get mad when he doesn't. But, it's funny man. He's one of those weapons, he's like Tavon [Austin]. You think of a guy like that, Tavon, I think of a guy back in the day, Dante Hall. When Dante Hall came in the game, somethings up. But, Johnny, the thing about Johnny that's so funny is he just happens to [be in on] the plays that have gone on a reverse. But, he's actually a really good route runner, he's actually a really good receiver. So, hopefully we'll keep them thinking that."

### **Q: What's the next step in Holton's progression?**

**Carr:** "I honestly think it's just him continuing to watch the guys that are older than him and continuing to learn how they go about their week. As a rookie, you as any rookie, it's a long season and the hard thing for a guy like Johnny is he is someone that gives everything that he has and this is going to be the longest that he's had to give everything that he has. From camp until the end of the year and he's just got to keep watching those guys, watch how they work, watch how they take care of their body's. I think that's the progression that if he continues to do that, he's going to be a really good player in this league."

### **Q: How do you like your extended stay here in Florida?**

**Carr:** "I love it, man. The weather's nice and there's no state tax here. That's always a good thing for the people that live here. (*laughter*) It's been awesome. The people here have been great."



## **Oakland Raiders Transcript**

### **Q: Has it been an adjustment for your team?**

**Carr:** "It hasn't been an adjustment. I think that we have the kind of group where it doesn't really matter where we're at, we're just always together, we're always one family. So, it's kind of like a vacation in that aspect. Obviously this is a business trip for us, but it's a vacation in the sense that it doesn't matter where we're at, we're a family, you know what I mean? So, we could be here, New York, doesn't matter, we're all together and that's awesome. Our focus entirely is on winning this football game. You can see it, I can see it from Monday and Tuesday night watching these guys and stopping by their rooms, guys are watching film instead of being outside and those kinds of things. That's the kind of stuff you want to see, but it's obviously been really cool to be here and experience it."

### **Q: Being 4-0 on the road now, how much has it helped knowing what to expect on the road?**

**Carr:** "I think Coach Del Rio hit it on the head with us. He said we know how to travel. We learned that last year and now we know how to do it. Now, it's all about us keeping that process and we have to show up on Sundays. We have to show up, especially against a really good Tampa Bay football team. They're young, talented, fly around. Obviously, we see what they do on offense. I couldn't tell you what specifically they do, but on defense you see the talent everywhere and first-round picks. I think their first four picks were on the defensive side of the ball this year and you can see them out there. They have a lot of talent. We just have to stay focused. We can talk about the stats and the win-loss and all of that at the end of the year, but as of now, we've earned all that but it doesn't matter right now. We just have to keep going."

### **Q: How much does it benefit you that if the defense tries to take away a specific guy on offense that there's someone else you can rely on as well?**

**Carr:** "Our staff does a great job of giving me multiple options versus the coverages and even things that they might do. We have set things for that, you have to prepare for things that maybe they haven't show, but they could show. You have to always be ready for everything and I think that our staff does an amazing job of giving me a lot of options for those instances. For, OK if they're going to take away 'Coop' [Amari Cooper] this game, we have to get the other guys going. If they're going to take 'Crab' [Michael Crabtree] away, we have to get the other guys going. What's great about that room is they're all good with it. We just want to win. That's what it comes down to, how can we push the ball down the field, how can we move the ball whether it's running it that one drive – I think we threw two pass on a long-play drive – but when you run the ball, I don't care. Run it 80 times, I don't care, I just want to win. So, I think our staff does an amazing job of filling that kind of stuff out if they're trying to take one or the other away."

### **Q: What have you seen from their cornerbacks thus far?**

**Carr:** "Very athletic. [Brent] Grimes is one of the most, pound-for-pound one of the best athletes in this league. It's not even close. That guy can jump out of the gym, he can stop on a dime, makes it real tough. I played against him when he was in Miami, real good player. Very, very good player. The other guy, the rookie [Vernon Hargreaves], he's a real good player as well. You can see it, you can see why he's a first-round pick. You can see why he went to Florida, why he's a high school All-American, all of those things. You can see all of those things about him and you know why."

## **WR Michael Crabtree**

### **Q: What's the reason behind doing well on the road?**

**Crabtree:** "I think we're doing well on the road and at home. We're just not coming out with the win at home. I feel like we're just competing, man. We're down here for a whole week. We just got done with Jacksonville and we're on to Tampa, so I feel like we're just competing."



## ***Oakland Raiders Transcript***

**Q: How has this week been being away from home?**

**Crabtree:** "Just a change of scenery. I feel like we're just enjoying it. It's beautiful. Sarasota, this is nice. Taking it all in and at the same time, we're working every day. You can't beat this weather. You can't beat this scenery, the Ritz, you can't beat none of this. I'm just taking it all in, enjoying it and playing ball."

**Q: What's it like at the IMG Academy?**

**Crabtree:** "IMG, man, I've never seen nothing like that. It's pretty nice. I just don't when all those guys go to school. It seems like it's sports year round. *(laughing)* That's a nice facility and that's good."

**Q: How does it compare to the performance center back home?**

**Crabtree:** "It's different, man. At the Raiders, our facility is coming along, but IMG is IMG."

**Q: Do you have to explain yourself to referees now that your touchdown celebration isn't a throat slash?**

**Crabtree:** "Just talk to the ref before the game or something. I'm not making a big deal out of it. That was just a misunderstanding. It's cool. They ain't perfect. I feel like they thought I was going to do it and was already ready, but I never did the throat slash. I'm sure they'll go look at that and next week if I get in the zone and if I celebrate, I won't get that flag."

**Q: Is there anything different about third-down situations?**

**Crabtree:** "No, I mean I think we have too much talent. You never know who's going to get the ball. You have 'Coop,' Seth Roberts, Andre Holmes, Johnny [Holton] coming up. You never know. Just be ready. I feel like this group of receivers, we always ready. We do a good job of being ready, whether it's first, second, third or fourth down. That's what I'm emphasizing with them guys. Like, 'We have to be ready no matter what.' Overtime, first quarter, second quarter, third quarter, fourth quarter, we just have to be ready. I feel like those other guys, they ready."

**Q: What have you seen out of Vernon Hargreaves?**

**Crabtree:** "We just got into the film on him. I feel like they're going to come and compete just like anybody else. I'm sure they want to make big plays and they want to make interceptions and we want touchdowns, we want to make big plays. Competition, man, I can't wait to play those guys."

**Q: Is it nice that all the receivers support whoever is getting the bulk of receptions?**

**Crabtree:** "We're together, man. We're trying to win by any means. We know what's at stake and I feel like we're doing everything it takes to win."



## Oakland Raiders Transcript

### Buccaneers Head Coach Dirk Koetter

**Q: What do you see when you watch Amari Cooper and Michael Crabtree on film?**

**Coach Koetter:** "Very impressive, very impressive. Those guys are playing at a very high level right now. Sort of reminds me of a few years back when I was in Atlanta, Julio Jones and Rodney White. I mean they're just playing at a very high level."

**Q: How do you prepare for facing two top receivers? Is there anything you can really do?**

**Coach Koetter:** "Well, it's not easy that's for sure. That's why they're moving the ball on everybody like crazy is because it's difficult to do. The quarterback is doing a really good job of getting the ball out of his hands. That's the main way you stop receivers is pressure the passer, but they're not letting you get to the quarterback. They're doing a good job in that area. This is going to be a big test for our corners. The Raiders have big receivers. We have smaller corners, but I like [Brent] Grimes and [Vernon] Hargreaves for us. They're playing well. I think it's going to be a competitive matchup. Definitely, we have our hands full."

**Q: What has impressed you about Derek Carr and how he's playing?**

**Coach Koetter:** "He's impressed us by how quick he gets rid of the ball. How accurate he is, especially outside the numbers. Just watching him in his interviews and everything, how he handles himself. It just seems like a guy that's comfortable knowing that he's the leader on offense and that he has everybody behind him. He's playing like a NFL veteran."

**Q: Is the ability to be so good in the turnover margin impressive?**

**Coach Koetter:** "Absolutely, absolutely. I think they're second in the league, something like that, in turnover margin. They're not turning it over at all on offense. Their defense, you'll be watching the game tape and there they are getting a takeaway, getting an interception at a big time. I was in Jacksonville when Reggie Nelson was drafted number one years ago. He's always been ball hawk. Both of those corners are very aggressive to the ball. They can put pressure on the opposing teams with the four man rush. A lot of teams can't do that, but they have multiple pass rushers so they're able to get pressure. The turnover thing is definitely big."

**Q: What was your first impression of Reggie Nelson back then?**

**Coach Koetter:** "Ball hawk. Just really impressed with his range. Because we had him in Jacksonville, when he went to Cincinnati, I thought they did a great job with how they used him in Cincinnati. He was good blitzter. He became a much better tackler. I just think Reggie just has such good range and such good ball skills. I've always been a fan. I won't be a fan on Sunday though." *(laughing)*

**Q: What's been the difference for Mike Evans getting touchdowns this year? Is it him and Jameis Winston getting more comfortable with each other?**

**Coach Koetter:** "I think that's a big part of it. You have to remember before we were here, myself and Jameis and this coaching staff, Mike had 12 his rookie season. So it's not like it's new to Mike. It's not that we didn't have things designed for him last year, we just had a hard time getting him targeted. Another thing is when he was split out of a single X, he would get doubled a lot. Especially in the red zone, teams double your X a lot. We've had to try to find other ways to get him involved. I think the thing that you mentioned, he and Jameis becoming much more comfortable with each other, I think also has been a part of it."

**Q: Do you see Evans doing some of the same things for you that Michael Crabtree does for the Raiders?**

**Coach Koetter:** "I'm not familiar enough with that, but off the top of my head I would say no. Different types, but I don't know enough about... Michael Crabtree has been a good player in this league for a long time, but I don't know. I don't know about how I could compare those two guys."



## ***Oakland Raiders Transcript***

### **Q: Was there a focus in the offseason because of the number of drops Evans had?**

**Coach Koetter:** "No. Yes, it was a focus. Drops I think are mostly mental. Most often times they have to do with concentration more than they have to do with anything physical. Mike has just done a great job. Our offensive coordinator/receiving coach Todd Monken has spent a lot of time with him, but you have to give just credit to Mike himself. Mike is his own worst critic. He has worked very hard on his practice habits, on keeping his emotions under control during the game. Really, really been pleased with how Mike has worked on his own individual game. Mike has had back-to-back 1,000-yard seasons in his first two years. He's worked hard to continue to improve and that's impressive for any player."

### **Buccaneers WR Mike Evans**

### **Q: What stands out to you when you look at the film about the Raiders?**

**Evans:** "We haven't watched too much film just yet. But, we know they're just a very good team overall, defensively. They have a big corner in [Sean] Smith. I've played against [David] Amerson, familiar with him. Khalil Mack, one of the best in the league. So, I mean, we have to watch more film but we know it's going to be a tough battle for us."

### **Q: How is Amerson a tough matchup and what does he do well?**

**Evans:** "He's real savvy, real quick. He understands what route concepts there are, so he can jump on a lot of routes."

### **Q: What do you see from Smith and the kind of size he offers as a cornerback?**

**Evans:** "He's really good at the line of scrimmage, obviously, he's better when he presses. He can run, so I'm just going to have to battle at the line and hopefully the refs let us play and it will be a physical matchup."

### **Q: How has your rapport with Jameis Winston improved and how has he progressed?**

**Evans:** "It's been good. He's one of the hardest workers I've ever, he is the hardest worker I've ever been around in my young career. He pushes me to the limit where I just want to be great for him because he puts so much work in and our work together has been showing. Hopefully it will continue to show."

### **Q: Have you taken notice of Michael Crabtree's game and how he plays with him also being from Texas?**

**Evans:** "Oh, I was a big fan of Michael Crabtree especially when he was at Texas Tech. I think he was like the first ever to win the Biletnikoff [Award] twice. He was a great college player and he's a really good NFL player. He's finding the end zone and he's a sure-handed guy, runs really good routes and he plays with a lot of swag. Like you said, he's from Texas. So, yeah, I'm a big fan of Michael Crabtree and I wish him nothing but the best."

### **Q: Have you ever met Crabtree before?**

**Evans:** "I haven't met him yet, no."

### **Q: Was decreasing dropped balls this season a focus of yours?**

**Evans:** "No, it wasn't a focus of mine. I'm a sure-handed guy. I'm confident in my hands and it was just a little bit of the focus was off last year. But, other than that I get a lot of repetitions of catches and things like that. But, it wasn't a main focus, my focus was getting in shape and being on the same page as Jameis."

### **Q: How much attention do you give to watching the type of game's the other receivers around the league play?**

**Evans:** "Well, when we watch film, I see what other guys did against the upcoming team we're facing, but whenever I got time to watch games, I'll watch the receiver position mainly. Whoever's on prime time or whoever's on TV at the time, I'm watching the receivers in that game."



## *Oakland Raiders Transcript*

**Q: Have you taken any notes from Amari Cooper's game?**

**Evans:** "I haven't seen too much this year, but last year he had a really good rookie season and I saw him a lot in college. He's explosive, he's one of the best young receivers in this game and I saw that at Texas A&M versus 'Bama days."