



OAKLAND RAIDERS AT MIAMI DOLPHINS HARD ROCK STADIUM Nov. 5, 2017 | 8:25 P.M.

POSTGAME QUOTES

Oakland Raiders Head Coach Jack Del Rio (transcribed by Ken Mendonca)

(Opening Statement) – “(It was) nice to start the second half (of the season) with a win. I thought there were some moments of some good complementary football, the kind we’re going to need to play this second half of the season. An example being the way we started the second half, where the defense goes three-and-out, and the offense takes the ball in good field position and goes down and punches it in. Those are the kinds of things we’re looking for. We wanted to get our rush attempts up, up around 30. I think we got that done. That’s going to be a factor for us as we go through the second half of the season. In order to do that, you know as I’ve said all year, you’ve got to make plays on third downs to sustain drives, and we did that. So overall, a real solid win on the road. (We’re) ready to get home. (Our) guys are ready to get back. It was great being in Sarasota for the week. It was a nice change up, but I know the guys miss their families (and are) looking forward to getting home.”

(Miami Dolphins QB Jay Cutler seemed to dink and dunk a lot, what was your strategy against him? Was it to try to keep them in front of you?) – “We definitely didn’t want them to go over the top of us. He was patient. We didn’t hit him as much as I would like to have seen. Part of that is he had some throws available and he was taking them. The bottom line was to keep the point total down, and I think we did that for the most part tonight.”

(You had a couple of turnovers at midfield, but the Dolphins weren’t able to cash in on either of those.) – “Yeah, that was a big key right there, I think going out and getting stops there. That’s the idea of getting it done as a team, finding a way to play complimentary football, and doing enough to come out of here with a win.”

(This was Marshawn’s (Lynch) biggest game. It seemed like coming out in the second half you made a concerted effort to get him on track?) – “Yeah, we wanted to run the ball. We wanted to be able to run the ball. Still not quite what we’d like to have, but it was good to see some moments where it came together the way we’re wanting to see it done.”

(And TE Jared Cook?) – “He was outstanding. We hit him early and often. To get started early in the game and went with him, a couple of really big third down conversions, and he was a big factor for us tonight.”

(There was a second quarter swing with the onside kick that really could have hurt you guys, and the forced fumble that followed. Can you discuss both plays? Obviously one negative, but





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the response from your defense?) – “Yeah, I think the key there is not the fact that they happened, but how we responded to those things happening, and that was critical. It was an excellent job going out and putting the fire out.”

(You ratcheted up the intensity in practice this week, and the focus was out there during the game. Can we expect more of that during practice as we’re going forward?) – “Yeah, I think we do a pretty good job of working at it. I think it’s a matter of getting here and executing on game day.”

(The pressure on Cutler, did you do a better job second half of getting pressure on him?) – “I mean yeah, it was there. It was a little spotty really. I just feel like we’ve got some guys that can get there more consistently, and we’ll look to get that done. We’re a heck of a lot better when we’re knocking that quarterback down.”

(You talked about getting your mojo back during the week, do you sense this is the foundation of getting that back?) – “Yeah, winning helps. You gotta win. The guys have been great. We believe we have a good team. We understand the first half (of the season) didn’t go the way we wanted, and we started the second half with a big road win. So, we’ll travel back and get a little break this week. We’ll dig in a little bit to some self-scouting, a little bit on the Patriots, and then we’ll have a little break and get back at it the following week.”

(What was going through your mind on the (Marshall) Newhouse play, when he turns up with the ball?) – “I mean you can see he’s an athlete. He was going to go at least another four, five yards. That’s one of those, “Get down, get down.” He saw the end zone. I don’t even really think he was thinking first down. He was thinking, “I’m going score.” That’s what those big guys do. We try to get them to think about just locking up the ball and protecting it, but they can’t help it. They’re going for the end zone.”

(You guys had a sense of urgency this week, how do you maintain that?) – “We understand that’s a must. We understand where we are. I know there are a lot of things that happen throughout the weekend, and a lot of them were good things for us, starting with us winning the game. When you look up, you’re going to be right in the thick of it, before you know it. But what we need to do right now is just keep playing good football, find a way to just stack some wins together.”





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((WR Johnny) Holton's got two catches on the year, are you saving those plays up for the right time, I guess?) – “Ah Johnny can go get it man, he's got deep speed and he showed some on both the catches.”

(Coach, can you expound on Jared Cook and what he brings to your offense?) – “Well, he's a matchup problem. We've had our issues defending other guys like that around the league, the last couple of years. This year we set out to get one of our own, I feel like we have acquired one of our own. Tonight was an example of it. He can be a real factor, he can be a matchup problem for people, and I thought he did a great job tonight.”

(Stacking these wins...) – “Stacking. We've got one. We want to go 1-0 each week. That's what we're after. Obviously we get a chance to get a little break and then we've got a big, a tough assignment on the road, I mean, at home, down in Mexico.”

