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## OAKLAND RAIDERS AT MIAMI DOLPHINS HARD ROCK STADIUM

Nov. 5, 2017 | 8:25 P.M.

### POSTGAME QUOTES

#### Oakland Raiders QB Derek Carr (transcribed by Max Lerner)

**(Your thoughts on the game)** – “We won. That’s what we needed. We worked really hard. We had a good week of practice. I think that our energy, our intensity carried over to the game. Our Wednesday, Thursday practice were some of the most competitive we’ve had in a while. We have to bring it in practice, we have to bring it in our meetings and when we do that, the outcomes take care of themselves.”

**(How much did third down conversions seem pretty big tonight?)** – “Yes. One thing is that coach wanted to get our run game going to help the pass attack, the play action and all that kind of stuff, which it did. When you do that, it puts a big emphasis on third down, and that’s how this game works. If you want to do something, it’s going to be tough on one end. Same thing with playing defense: if you want to take something away, it’s going to be tough on one end. It works both ways on the mental side. If you want to run the ball and those things, it’s going to make it a little tougher on third down, but I thought our guys did a great job. We had a few missed opportunities. One, I had to throw a little early to ‘Coop’ (Amari Cooper) (that) I wish I had back. Throw it a little early keep it more outside. But that kind of stuff, that’s ok, that’s going to happen. My goal is to complete them all, I’m mad at myself when I don’t, but if those are the mistakes, we’re going to be ok.”

**(Can you talk about TE Jared Cook? It seemed like he was phenomenal today.)** – “Absolutely. He’s phenomenal all the time. You talk about a guy ... There is no secret to why he has been in the league for so long. We have young players, and I tell them ‘There is no secret why this guy is still playing and playing at a high level.’ It’s the way he works during the week. On a Friday – usually Fridays are slowed down tempo – if Jared is on one of those routes where he needs to get it again, he’s almost full speed. Just the way he prepares, the way he practices, I love talking to him, I love picking his brain. We have our own little set of signals and things that we do together. We have a good little chemistry going. It’s a good thing for ‘Coop’ (Amari Cooper), ‘Crab’ (Michael Crabtree) and our wide receivers and our run game when we can get Jared involved, because then they try to take him away and leaves one-on-ones.”

**(You guys were able to get RB Marshawn Lynch going a little bit. What it mean to have him back after not having him last game? How important was that?)** – “A lot more jokes. A lot more of him talking trash to me, which is good. It keeps me on my toes. To have him back, he’s our brother and we love him. We love playing with him. We love practicing with him. He’s just a good teammate; he really is. He’s fun to be around. He does a good job with those young backs and teaching them and talking to them. So, having him back and getting him going ... I think he had a couple of touchdowns, right?”





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Being able to get those two touchdowns, I know that was big for our team. The more that we can run the ball, the more stress it's going to, honestly, just being honest, take off of me, and I'm all for that."

**(Was there something in the tape that made you think that tight end was going to be a good option for you?)** – "There are definitely times ... It just depends how they decide to come out and play it. You see things and ... Each route – while game planning – is designed for specific looks that they've shown and things that we have seen in their past or things that they could do. We had a good pressure package plan, because we knew some of the things that we've done and some of the things that could show up because of things that they've shown. It's a big chess game. I say all of that to say, yes, there were things that we saw to get Jared (Cook) the ball. There were also things that we saw to get 'Coop' (Amari Cooper) and 'Crab' (Michael Crabtree) and Seth (Roberts) the ball. We were able to obviously get it to Jared a little bit more. But one thing about our guys, (they are) very selfless. We just want to win. That's what we have to do right now."

**(Desperation is a strong word, but given the situation that this team was in going into this game, knowing it was an all or nothing contest in a way, do you think the team responds well to those types of situations? Do you think that's something that's maybe going to get that level up to where it wasn't in the first half of the season?)** – "I hope so. It really comes down to Wednesday and Thursdays, the way we practice, and obviously, the other days too, but I'm just saying those are our full-speed days. We have to bring. We have to be intense. We have to get after each other a little bit. It has to be a little bit uncomfortable. Guys were a little chippy this week, myself included. We were a little edgy, but it wasn't in a bad way. If it was, coach (Jack Del Rio) would tell us, and he sure enough came up and told me a few times, 'We can do this a little bit better.' We're not pressing if you know what I'm saying? There is a fine line. We know what we need to do, but at the same time, we need to be a little edgy. We need to be a little chippy at practice. We need to get after each other and compete and like each other at the same time, because that's the way we're going to do it."

**(How do you keep that edginess, how do you keep that sense of something a little bit more going into a bye week?)** – "Absolutely. We obviously work on our bye week. We will have a couple of work days. I don't know exactly what the schedule is, but we will have some work days. On a bye week, you don't go as crazy, because you want guys to recover. This is the time ... Especially it's good to have a bye week right now. It's a perfect time for guys to recover. The guys that are in though, we need to go. And then when we hit New England practice week, we have to get after it again. That's one thing, we have some young guys yes, but we have a lot of guys that have played a lot of football. We've seen what we did this week in practice work, so we need to keep that up. We have to keep the same intensity, the same locked-in mindset, if we want to keep winning."





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**(WR Johnny Holton has got two catches this season. Are you saving those plays up?)** – “You know, when he gets in the game people are pointing him out, (saying) ‘The fast guy is in!’ And you can see them pointing and coaches are yelling and all those things. So, we have some different things for that. We have two starting receivers that are pretty darn good. It’s hard to get on the field in the NFL, and when you do, you have to make plays and Johnny has. He does a good job of letting me know when he’s in the huddle. (laughter) He’s really good at that. He’s really one of my favorite people to be around, because he’s one of the most funny guys I’ve ever been around. To be honest, he literally came in the huddle – and he does it every time – he said ‘I’m here.’ Got it. Okay, let me call the play. (laughter) He has a good sense of humor about himself. I think we got a good relationship. Again, like I said, it’s hard for him to get on the field. Then we have ‘C.P.’ (Cordarrelle Patterson). We have Jared (Cook). We have Clive (Walford). We have Lee (Smith). We have a lot of weapons. So, when we can get him on there, and he can make plays, that’s what he has to do.”

**(Was the dance something you taught him, the touchdown dance?)** – “Absolutely. I dance a lot. I did not see it. I was running down, tapping ‘K.O.’ (Kelechi Osemele) and all these things. I did see him hit this one though. He just stood there and looked at his family. Honestly, I think he had 110 people at the game. I think when a guy who doesn’t play a lot is able to score a touchdown in your hometown, all those things, Sunday night primetime football, the story should be all about him, because that’s just a really cool thing. We get caught up in the game a lot, but we’re people too. And for him to come home in front of his family, his friends, his buddies and be able to score a touchdown on primetime, that’s a pretty cool story.”

**(You had a couple of turnovers there at midfield and then your defense came and was able to shutdown.)** – “Thank goodness, right? They were able to hit the ball out of my hand one time. We had a good play. I was about to drive the ball into ‘Coop’ (Amari Cooper), and the last one is like a punt. If they catch it, who cares. I don’t care about my stats. I hope you guys know that by know. I just want to win. So, if they catch it, who cares, but if we catch it, pretty much we can run it out.”

**(For your Fresno friends – first your head coach, going to a bowl game. I know you watched the game last night.)** – “I did. I definitely did. What was crazy was I was about to fall asleep, and I was going through the channels, I said ‘Fresno State, we’re on TV! Sick, man! We’re back!’ But I see why no one voted for me for the Heisman, because they’re on at midnight, so no one was watching my games. It was good to Fresno back. Shout out to my dogs. We’re all over the place. It’s good to see dogs in all three major sports doing things.”





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(Similar situation to last Sunday at the end of the first half kind of near midfield. How pleased were you with how that was executed?) – “Yes absolutely. It’s funny. Hopefully this doesn’t become a thing for us – end of the first half deal. It was good to get us in a field position to go kick the field goal. I think there was, if I’m not mistaken, 6 seconds right before that last play. So, that’s tough to do to get down and get a timeout. That’s hard to do, but thank goodness we have guys that are faster than me running the routes. To be able to get points in that situation, then have our defense come out, make a stop and then we go score again, that’s huge.”

