

Las Vegas Raiders Media Conference

Sunday, September 29, 2024

Las Vegas, Nevada, USA

Coach Kevin Stefanski

Press Conference



Raiders 20, Browns 16

KEVIN STEFANSKI: Ethan Pocic has an ankle injury. Jordan Hicks has a left elbow injury. Obviously very disappointed in that result. Not for lack of effort, but man, we got to capitalize on some opportunities there. And we did not. We'll learn from it. We got to focus on ourselves. Focus on us at this point. And find ways to play winning football. We didn't do that today and that's disappointing. But we'll be right back at work this week.

With that, I'll take any questions.

Q. (Regarding the last play.)

KEVIN STEFANSKI: I would have to look at it to give you a good answer.

Q. Can you talk about on top of everything else, losing Ethan; got Nick in there. Obviously didn't go the way you hoped it would go?

KEVIN STEFANSKI: Yeah, again have to watch it, Mary Kay. Nick has played for us before. He's battled. Never want to see a guy like Ethan go out, but he battled.

Q. What did you see on the holding penalty?

KEVIN STEFANSKI: I didn't see it. I didn't. You would know better than me.

Q. (Indiscernible.)

KEVIN STEFANSKI: That was obviously a miscommunication there. I would have to talk to those guys.

Q. Harris has been here before; not a rookie. What's going on with him?

KEVIN STEFANSKI: In regards to what part?

Q. (Indiscernible.)

KEVIN STEFANSKI: Yeah, like I said, I didn't see the holding, the penalty. I got to talk to those guys and see what the miscommunication was.

Q. (Regarding Amari/interception and trying to come back and TD is wiped out.)

KEVIN STEFANSKI: Yeah, disappointed. Obviously moving the ball there, it's tough and we have to just do our part, all of us to play clean football. We don't want to give that thing away and turnovers are giveaways.

Q. What did you see on the run defense? The Raiders came into this game charging.

KEVIN STEFANSKI: Yeah, obviously any time a team has rushing success it always come back to just playing sound defense from a run-fit perspective, so we'll have to look at it.

Q. What is your thought process at the two minute warning there?

KEVIN STEFANSKI: Yeah, I mean, you want to score and defense is playing well, so that's something -- I know you would like to score one second left, but we wanted to score. Obviously had a miscommunication on the snap. Batted ball on second down. Gain on the third down.

Then obviously just I got to give them a better play. We got to make a play there.

Q. Did you see what happened on the (indiscernible) point with Dustin?

KEVIN STEFANSKI: I saw, but yeah, I'm not sure.

Q. Obviously that changes everything about the end of the game, so how difficult is that being down four?

KEVIN STEFANSKI: You know, honestly, we want to make it obviously, but we got to go do our part on the offensive side there.



Q. And Deshaun, in terms of his overall play, efficiency, decision making, versus the offensive line, sort of a patchwork offensive line and dealing with injuries, can you comment on that as a whole?

KEVIN STEFANSKI: Yeah, I thought Deshaun battled. Obviously some really good moments there. It's disappointing when you make a play and it come back due to penalty. I didn't see it so I can't comment on that. I thought he battled.

Q. Late in the first half why the punt over the field goal?

KEVIN STEFANSKI: Yeah, we just felt confident in our -- in that moment, just keeping them pinned deep. You know, obviously Dustin is a guy that we certainly have confidence in, but we want to always be smart there, too.

Q. Where did you see the protection? I know it was a big focus. Looked like Deshaun was getting it out of his hands quick, but still got hit a good amount of times?

KEVIN STEFANSKI: Yeah, it's always a combination of things, but we'll always look at that and see if there are ways we can be better.

Q. Do you feel like help is on the way this week and things might look up getting David back, I think you're activating Nick?

KEVIN STEFANSKI: To that point Mary Kay we just have to focus on getting better. As you know, these games always come down to a few plays. We have to do the things that cause you to win games, and protecting the football, getting it on defense, obviously tackling, the basics, we got to get back to the basics in order to come away with a win.

Q. (Regarding Rodney fumble recovery.) What did you see from him?

KEVIN STEFANSKI: Obviously Rodney made a big play to scoop that ball up. Our defense made a big play in that moment. We needed a play, and those guys came through.

Q. Two games in a row where you got three offensive possessions to win the game in the fourth quarter. Seemed like everybody contributed to mistakes. How frustrating is that?

KEVIN STEFANSKI: Yeah, it's everybody. It's always all

of always. I thought they did -- it was a field position game there for a little while and didn't have great field position.

Q. Was MJ struggling defensively?

KEVIN STEFANSKI: He's in the concussion protocol right now.

Q. Before that he was in and out of the lineup.

KEVIN STEFANSKI: Yeah, I would have to check with him.

Q. Povic did come back once.

KEVIN STEFANSKI: He tried but couldn't push off.

Q. Do you feel like Dewand is still struggling physically?

KEVIN STEFANSKI: Yeah, I think he's playing through things like all the guys are right now. But he's giving us some good effort. We'll look at the tape obviously where there are plays he can be better.

Q. You mentioned the tackling when you said get back to basics. Jim talked about it Thursday and said you missed too many last week. Do you feel like you missed too many again today?

KEVIN STEFANSKI: I got to look at it. Obviously with our run defense, a lot of that oftentimes is fitting your gaps and finishing a play with a tackle. We'll look at it.

Q. First offensive drive you guys end up scoring. What did you see the shift against you guys that you struggled with?

KEVIN STEFANSKI: Yeah, again, give them credit. Give Coach Pierce, their coaches credit. We have to be better. There are things we can fix. We got get them fixed.

We have to be committed to getting those things fixed during the week.

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