



Las Vegas Raiders Transcript

Head Coach Pete Carroll

On "reassuring" the fans after hitting 2-9 on the season...

Head Coach Pete Carroll: "Well, something good is just about to happen, and if you can hold onto that mentality, then you keep believing that you can turn and make things happen. That's kind of what has guided me for all these years. I've never been here, but it doesn't change. That's the approach, that's the outlook. Yeah, it's disappointing that they turned out a great crowd, and they were loud and helping, and all of that, that they walked away here so satisfied. We're pretty disappointed about this one, but if you don't score, you can't win, and we couldn't score. It was an incredible game of defense on both sides, their team, our team. The numbers are, whatever, they're next to nothing. We had opportunities to make big plays, and we didn't hit them. Quarterback was under duress the entire time, so our ability to match up with their pass rush didn't work out well. We're really disappointed that we weren't able to find the place that could have given us the field change and the switch so that you have a chance to knock one in and get out of there. Unfortunately, this is a crew that calls the most penalties in the NFL, and they hit right on their head, their number that they always call. We knew that; we had a strategy about it. We were trying to stay out of their targets, their sight lines, and we didn't get it done. We endured a number of penalties, but there were a couple really big ones that really made a difference in the game and changed the field position drastically. I know you all want to know, where does it go with the quarterback versus the pass rush, but we had to protect the quarterback a whole lot better than we did. We tried the guys we thought had the best shot to do it. Willie [Will Putnam] turned his ankle, and so Cap [Alex Cappa] got in there for a little bit, and then he went back. I think Will came back in the game at the end. He may have been able to return, but we had a bunch of scheme, we had a bunch of strategy for slowing the thing down, but we couldn't hold up, and it was really unfortunate."

On the likelihood of starting rookies Caleb Rogers and Charles Grant after the offensive line struggled today...

Coach Carroll: "That's one way to look at it. You could just try something else, but we watch practice every day, and we watch the film. We do our work to make our evaluations, and those guys are going to have their day. They're going to have their time, maybe sooner than later, but based on what we've seen and what we know, we give it the best shot we can."

On Geno Smith's struggle to connect with Tre Tucker on his passes...

Coach Carroll: "Yeah, uncharacteristic misses there. There was like three of them where Tre [Tucker] got behind him, and we had some real shots and opportunities and did have a chance to get the ball out and clean. We need to hook those up. There's no doubt Tre ran as hard as he could, and he got open. He was behind him. He's got to put the ball on him. Those were the big plays that could have saved us on a day when we were struggling on other downs, and that was really unfortunate, because we really did have the right opportunities there for us."

On putting Alex Cappa at center instead of Jordan Meredith...

Coach Carroll: "Because we thought our best shot was to keep Jordan [Meredith] playing at guard, was the first thought. Cap [Alex Cappa] has been kind of snapping all along, more seriously lately, to give him that opportunity. He looked pretty good at the spot, and we thought, based on our practice time and evaluation that it was better to have Jordan there and have Cap jump in center. We had thought that, if that would have happened earlier in the game, that's the way we were planning to go."



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On Ashton Jeanty's injury...

Coach Carroll: "They said that he tweaked his ankle, and I don't know how bad that is. They're checking him out right now. I don't know that. But it was an ankle day, about three different guys had ankle issues. He was one."

Q: On who plays and who doesn't as the team sits at 2-9...

Coach Carroll: "Yeah, we'll talk about all that and see where we are."

Q: On if the defense is "pulling its weight" and if the offense "needs to step up"...

Coach Carroll: "There's no doubt they had a two-yard drive, and they had a 20 yard drive, or something like that. I thought we played great on defense tonight, There's the one big breakout screen, we just screwed it up in terms of the way we contained the thing and that play goes. But with the other ones, I think, was a four-yard drive, two, or whatever it was, the catch of the scramble bomb; great play by Shedeur [Sanders]. And that's a lot to ask to stop them in that situation. Our guys played great tonight. I thought all night long. I mean, they ran for 50 yards or something like that. They had two plays that were worth the rest of their offense. And so I was really proud of the way those guys battled in the situation that we put them in. If I had had to do it again, I would've kicked the field goal to make it 14-6 or something like that. We're within one score. We went for it on fourth and three, and that's totally on me."

Q: On "whose to blame" for the struggles on offense...

Coach Carroll: "You mentioned execution by players. John McKay was once asked, 'What do you think your team's execution? He said, 'The execution is that I think it's a good idea.'" But I never did really understand how he was willing to say that, but I just did it. So anyway, we have to execute better. We have to match up better. We have to do a lot of things better to get the kind of play we need. And so, we're looking at us in practice, and we're able to do it there. We've got to carry it to the games, and the teams are out there playing, too."

Q: On his assessment of Shedeur Sanders' first career start...

Coach Carroll: "They won the game; good enough to win the game and the play of the game, really, was that the scramble play, and that was an extraordinary ball that he threw on that one. And that was really the one that, I think was that was kind of the dagger in the ball game, as it turned out, that was what changed things."

Q: On the state of the season following lots of offseason optimism...

Coach Carroll: "I've never not thought it would take work to get it right. And it's a challenge every season. You look at how the seasons go, and it's a day-to-day, week-to-week world we live in. And, yeah, of course I thought -- I've been in this situation, so I thought, 'Well, maybe I could have something to do with avoiding this.' And so, we're going to keep doing what we know how to do, and that's to keep grinding. I mean, this team, just in the locker room right there, they ain't giving up on each other, and I'm not giving up on them, and they're not giving up on me, I hope. And we're going to keep battling and work our asses off just the way we know how to do. And that's really what you do, and try to make the right decisions and the right choices with the personnel and all of that as best we can. And in our world, they've got to show it, and then they compete to show it. And that's always been the way, and we won't change that."



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On Michael Mayer's status...

Coach Carroll: "Yeah, he had ankle sprain. And like I said, there's three or four guys that got tweaked one way or another. I don't know the severity of any of those at this point."



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Quarterback Geno Smith

On how difficult it is to execute an offense with lack of protection...

Geno Smith: "It's really on me. I got to make better plays, find a way."

On where the team goes from here...

Smith: "We just want to continue to get better each and every week, and find ways to get better as a team, get better as an offense. We have to score more points than we score."

On how surprised he is the team's record sits at 2-9...

Smith: "We just we haven't won the games that we needed to win, and we haven't played good enough to win more. As a quarterback, I put it on me."

On what's learned from battling through tough times before in his career...

Smith: "I think what I've learned is that I'm super resilient and will always be."

On what needs to happen to connect on big plays...

Smith: "Yeah, we got to hit the big plays down the field. Got to hit the guys in stride, and make those plays."

On what felt different in a day he was sacked a career high 10 times...

Smith: "I wasn't counting the plays and the sacks, so that's new information to me. I was just trying to go out there and execute, and try to get the job done."

On if there was miscommunication on two play calls in the first half...

Smith: "I'm not really sure which plays you're talking about, but we got to do better, and we got to execute better as an offense."

On how to motivate the team as the quarterback...

Smith: "Be the example. Continue to get up, continue to hold my head high, be as strong as I am, and continue to push forward."



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Defensive End Maxx Crosby

On "getting past the hump" after dropping to 2-9...

Maxx Crosby: "At this point, you know you're not playing for the playoffs, which is unfortunate, but you've just got to keep showing up every day, positive attitude and keep working. We work all year to have 17 opportunities, that's all you can do. You can cry and moan, and it is what it is. At this point you play for the love of the game, and we're in the NFL, nothing's guaranteed. Tomorrow's not guaranteed for anybody, so you should keep showing and keep working."

On his message to those who might not want to show up...

Crosby: "It's the same thing that I just said, you've got 17 opportunities if you don't want to be here and go home."

On his thoughts about Shedeur Sanders...

Crosby: "It was fun. It's a blast, I love the kid. Happy he's getting the opportunity, and I always wish him the best."

On what his mindset playing at a deficit in the fourth quarter...

Crosby: "Take it one play at a time, that's it. Tunnel vision, stay locked in on what's most important, and that's winning the play, and that's what I try to do every single time."

On his frustrations with the defense playing well but the offense struggling...

Crosby: "We can be better, I think we can be better. A screen, that's a play that can't happen. Overall, I think we're doing some good things, but I feel like we could definitely be better though overall. If you think you got it, if you think you're doing enough then you're part of the problem. You've got to be continuously trying to find ways and stay curious on how you can improve and dominate your individual role, but also, bring others with you. We've got to keep improving, but we go to war together and I love my guys for sure."

On Charles Snowden's progression...

Crosby: "I love Snow [Charles Snowden]. Snow has been a great teammate since he's gotten here. He's a great addition to this locker room and in our D-line room. Specifically, he's always got good energy. He works his ass off, he loves football, he loves his daughter, and he's just a great, great dude to be around. He's a guy that's gone through a lot of adversity in his career and has been doubted a lot, and he keeps proving everybody wrong, so he keeps earning it every single week. He's a great player for us, and you're going to continue seeing him get better and better."

On the mentality knowing the team is out of the playoff picture...

Crosby: "It's already kind of been that, to be real. Mindset never switches, you don't start playing different because you're in the playoffs or not in the playoffs. Obviously, at the end of the day, it's about winning, and that's what I want to do more than anything on the planet. Unfortunately, right now, it's not that, but it's a team sport, and for me as a leader, I've got to keep finding ways to improve, as an individual and also as a leader. I take it as another challenge, take it one day at a time, and keep improving daily."



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On if he feels like the team is united despite obstacles...

Crosby: "Yeah, overall, everyone's going to be searching for answers and solutions, I feel like, when things are not going exactly well, and that's a good thing. Unfortunately, it's just not good enough. I mean, we're just not good enough right now. It's been pretty clear. That's the reality of it, and we've got to get better."



Las Vegas Raiders Transcript

Tight End Brock Bowers

On what's the most difficult part of trying to get anything going on offense...

Brock Bowers: "Yeah, their defensive front is really good. It's a good defense overall. We put ourselves in some bad situations through penalties, negative plays, so we just got to stay on track."

On not being able to convert on third downs...

Bowers: "Like you said, just we got ourselves in a lot of third and longs. Can't do that."

On how to adjust when there's not a lot of time to throw and the offensive line needs help...

Bowers: "Yeah, we game plan chip a lot with the tight ends. Running backs getting chips on those guys and giving us some protection sometimes. Just trying to help out as much as you can."

On how frustrating things become when you know what you're doing in practice but it's not translating to the field...

Bowers: "It's definitely super frustrating. Everyone's trying as hard as they can, obviously, no one here is BS-ing and stuff. Everyone wants to win so bad, and it's just not coming together on game day."

On what the mood of the team is right now...

Bowers: "Man, obviously, everyone's pissed off after the loss. Nothing you can do about it now. You just got to keep your head down and keep working for next week."

On how together the team is after the losses keep piling up...

Bowers: "That's a big part of staying together. You got to keep fighting and stay together, keep everyone on the same page, and just keep grinding till it works out."

On how it feels to lose at home and hear the fans upset...

Bowers: "It's definitely rough hearing the fans, obviously. It's just rough. We need to do better for them and just need their support."



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Browns Head Coach Kevin Stefanski

Head Coach Kevin Stefanski: "Our injury front, Adin Huntington has a quad injury, Brenden Bates has an ankle injury. We'll get more information on those tomorrow. Obviously, that defensive performance was incredible. The 10 sacks, three by Myles [Garrett], breaks his own Browns record; pretty special, just how all those guys were rushing, just the D-line in general, just harassing. You don't get those sacks without great coverage in the back. I thought there were a few cover sacks. So, really proud of those guys. I thought offensively, was some good, some bad, obviously, wasn't perfect, but some big plays, particularly down the field. IB [Isaiah Bond], Sam [Webb] had a big play, and we need to run the ball better and more efficient that's true, but I thought the guys were fighting 'til the end. I appreciate that. Obviously, Shedeur [Sanders], his first start, to go out there and be able to make some plays. Like he is with all young players, these guys are learning every rep you learn from, and he'll learn from this game as well. And then special teams, Corey [Bojorquez] was outstanding in this game. He flipped the field a couple times, I thought, kept the ball away from their returners. Then I thought hitting that big field goal there by Tre [Avery] was outstanding, and then Gage's [Larvadain] is big return. We felt like there may be a big return opportunity in this game, and there was and so proud of these guys. We talked about all week about being resilient together, and I thought they did that. They showed that they played that way. It's important to get that road win out here, so we've got to build on it."

On Shedeur Sanders earning the opportunity to start moving forward...

Coach Stefanski: "Yeah, I'm not going to get into that. Obviously, I'm proud of him and proud of this offense, and there are a ton of things to learn from, but I'm just going to wear that today."

On conversations with Shedeur Sanders on sidelines during the game...

Coach Stefanski: "Yeah, I think, all our quarterbacks do a great job in-game having those conversations that you're having throughout the week as well. These guys are doing a nice job telling us what they're seeing. I think that's so important, because they have a better angle than we do on the sidelines. So, he did a nice job I saw it clearly. With young players, are there going to be things that he can do better? Absolutely. But that's what it is when you're playing with young players, there's improvements to be made. "

On Shedeur Sanders avoiding the pressure...

Coach Stefanski: "Yeah, that was obviously an outstanding play. They had us and whether it was cover zero, but they were in a max look that we couldn't block, and they had a free runner right there, to be able to escape and find IB [Isiah Bond] down the field, I mean, that's a high-level play."

On improvement from Shedeur Sanders' NFL debut last week....

Coach Stefanski: "I think it's very natural when you have a game plan suited to your comfort level and in certain plays and those types of things, that's the natural progression. There are always improvements to be made by our players. Some you can see, some you can't see, some of the things that you see during the week. Just always want these guys to get one day better."



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On first half struggles to move ball...

Coach Stefanski: "Yeah, we talked about playing clean, and we really gave them two balls there with the interception. Really, Jerry's [Jeudy] a better player than that to know those guys are always coming from behind. So, we have to be better there. We have to play clean in that giveaway column there, that's going to hold you back. Especially Jerry made a huge play for us. We have to come away with points there, seven, if not three. But that would be a main focus for all of our guys. When you're playing, especially on the road you're playing good teams. We're playing a good team next week. You have to play clean. You've got to try to win that tournament."

On Shedeur Sanders throwing the longest pass plays of the year for the team...

Coach Stefanski: "This team did a nice job of loading those boxes, and we had to run efficiently, even versus those, but there were opportunities on the back end. Getting that play off of some scramble drill was huge. The one to IB [Isaiah Bond] and that's a great play for us in that moment when we're out manned to be able to escape and make that throw. The play to Sam [Webb] I thought, obviously, great individual effort by Sam, but the blocking on the perimeter was so key. That was something that we talked about all week, how important on that play and a bunch of those perimeter plays, the blocking was going to be important. I can think of Ced [Cedric Tillman], Harold [Fannin Jr.] and Dave [David Njoku] were out there blocking on the perimeter, did a really nice job."

On the confidence the coaching staff had in Shedeur Sanders being able to throw it deep...

Coach Stefanski: "We just felt confident in our guys. I think I told you guys last week, we trust our guys. We trust our guys to go make plays and that there are plays to be had. There's always room for improvement, and that's what we focus on in our building; our guys have the right attitude to find ways to improve. But obviously, when you can make plays down the field, it opens up everything."

On the execution of the offense despite the penalties...

Coach Stefanski: "No, we had a couple. Third quarter it seemed to be an epidemic there on our side, with offense, defense and special teams getting penalties. But I thought by and large, operation was good. I have to credit – it's nice having a veteran center when you have rookie quarterbacks playing in there that you can really lean on. Ethan Pocic, he did a great job as well with Shedeur [Sanders]."

On Shedeur Sanders' chemistry with the offense...

Coach Stefanski: "I think potentially – he's had a lot of reps with Gage [Larvadain] throughout the spring and summer. Obviously, when you're working Harold [Fannin Jr.], not as much, but Harold and IB [Isaiah Bond] on those two plays in particular, those are very trustworthy players. Those are guys that you feel confident as a quarterback that they're going to be where they're supposed to be. I thought Harold was outstanding. His run after catch showed up in this game."

On the process of choosing a starter...

Coach Stefanski: "Yeah, I'm always going to take my time and do what's best for the football team."

On Deshaun Watson's veteran presence on the sideline for Shedeur Sanders' debut...

Coach Stefanski: "Yeah, I mean, Deshaun [Watson] has been with us every step of the way this season. He's done a great job in the meeting room, being that veteran that can impart some of the experiences that he's had throughout his career, I think, is really invaluable. So, it's good to have him out there."



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On if giving Dylan Sampson the ball was a point of emphasis...

Coach Stefanski: "It was, yeah, definitely. We feel really strongly about Dylan Sampson, and we feel really strongly about Q [Quinshon Judkins] and Jerome [Ford], but we feel we're at our best when we're spreading the football around."

On not saying who the starting quarterback is going forward despite Shedeur Sanders getting a win in his first start...

Coach Stefanski: "Because my focus is on today. Does give me the opportunity to talk about another quarterback, Bernie Kosar. I know Bernie was watching today. I was texting with him before the game. I got to see him this week. Just amazing to be with him and I marvel at Bernie's grit. That's how he played the game, that's how he played that position. But I think Bernie was definitely watching his Brownies today."

On Myles Garrett's ability to keep breaking records...

Coach Stefanski: "Yes."

On what Shedeur Sanders does well...

Coach Stefanski: "I think you saw a lot of what Shedeur [Sanders] does well on the field today. I thought to make that play off schedule when we were out man the protection, get the ball down the field. So, there's a lot that he's doing well, and there's a lot that he's working on which is what I appreciate about young guys that want to get better."



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Browns Quarterback Shadeur Sanders

On if he felt any pressure coming to the professional level...

Shedeur Sanders: "I'm not going to lie, I felt very relaxed, very relaxed, and half of that comes from preparing, studying and knowing I got God on my side. So, throughout all of that, I had no worries. I didn't feel nervous or anything before the game because He took all of my worries and everything away."

On how he summarizes his performance...

Sanders: "I enjoyed it. I enjoyed it a lot. Coming up here before you all six, seven months ago, I couldn't tell you I would be here. God is the only way I'm able to even get through everything. Being able to see my family -- that was important and happy they were here to be able to witness it. Without God, nothing is possible, honestly, and I mean it truly and dearly. Everybody starts at different places, and like I said, just because I didn't get the summer reps, just because I wasn't in the best situation for me to be prepared to go out there and execute from a summer standpoint. That's how life is. Everybody's not in the best situation, but it's no excuse. You got to go out there and perform. There's no choice and no question. Nobody cares if this was one week of prep. Who cares? A lot of people want to see me fail, and it isn't going to happen."

On what he learned about himself over the last six months...

Sanders: "I learned a lot. Mentally, I feel like I'm able to understand more. The thing was, I was always great at understanding perspectives and stuff because you got to really take a deep dive of how we grew up. When we grew up, my dad had us in a 30,000 square foot home, and after that, he took us to go play ball in the inner city. After that, he transferred and he moved us across town because he wanted us to get that dog in us, to have that mentality to have that 'It' factor in us. So, then we went to charter schools, and I don't know if you're familiar with charter schools. It's not the best, but you got a lot of different people from different situations that you got to be able to adapt to. So, that's where all those core different things of being able to relate, being able to understand. But now, since I went through everything the past six months, it led me to a whole different understanding, and it led me in my own experience with God, with having faith when nobody else can help you in your situation but God. So, that's why I'm truly thankful, and I'm truly happy, and it's the first time I've never had stress. I did the work. I did everything I can in my power I was able to do, so the rest was up to Him."

On how his comfortability with the offense and offensive line grew throughout the week...

Sanders: "Yeah, for sure. I feel like they respect the way I go about my business, and being a backup and everything, sometimes you have to compromise your personality and change the way how you do things to never step on anybody's toes. So, the fact that I got an opportunity, and I was able to show the organization, show everybody who I really am, then that was truly exciting. So, I was off-balance for a little bit the past couple months of my life, but it was different. But I'm thankful to be back."



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On where he felt the most comfort during this past week of preparation...

Sanders: "I would say getting thrown into the Ravens game. I'll say that's what it is. As soon as we got out there on that last drive, I said, 'Oh yeah, this is how they play?' Then I was able to get right. It's different when you watch it from the sideline. Like, everybody can analyze, everybody can say everything from the sideline. You can watch TV, everything. You can talk on TV, whatever you want to do, but until you get out there and you do it, then it's different. Going out there, only practicing with the hungry dogs and everything, that's different. There's a lot of vet quarterbacks that had their time and everything that were backups and were able to get thrown into the game and be alright, but I don't think they were like that in their rookie year. That's the difference, and I'm thankful for that experience because that helped me get to where I am today. That helped me go into the game very comfortable knowing that they got a great defense, with the Ravens, knowing the different looks at how they could be confusing to the naked eye. But that's why during the game, I was smiling so much. I was like, 'Oh yeah, if this is what it is, I know I am going to be able to accept that challenge and move forward one day and be able to have success.' So, that's the mentality I went with going and prepping for this week. We know they got a dog on the D-line, about Maxx Crosby. We know about that, but I fear no man. The only thing I fear is God."

On how it was going up against Maxx Crosby...

Sanders: "We definitely had a game plan for him. He's a great player overall. He let his presence be known. Going and just reflecting, I'm in the moment right now, so we don't truly understand how everything was, because when you are in the moment, you can't see the full view of everything. So, I'm thankful for going against him, going against all those great defensive legends over there. It was truly amazing. When you get out there, you just got to not care and just be like, 'It is what it is.' That's the mentality you have to have."

On the 52-yard pass to Isaiah Bond...

Sanders: "I visualize everything during the week. The game was already played. That's why I have confidence. That's why I'm able to talk how I talk, walk how I walk, do what I'm able to do, because the game was already mentally played, already before we were out there. Then when you get out there, you confirm what you watch, everything. Then you got the guys in the right spots when you need them in the right spots for different situations, and then you're able to capitalize off them. So like I said, it comes down to I'm thankful for the coaches, putting everybody in the spots, and thankful for the O-linemen being able to take me under their wing and be able to grow and build with them. I'm thankful for the team having my back throughout this whole period."

On how special it was to have all the rookies step up...

Sanders: "All the rookies are extremely special. We go with a term, but I can't say the term out here, though. We have a term that was called 'Young,' but we definitely want to come in and create change, and we have those conversations. We talk about what we got to do and be proactive, not reactive. We got to bring the energy sometimes. Not saying the vets don't, but it's just on the offensive side of the ball, we struggle sometimes, so we need somebody to be that match. We need somebody to be that light. So, I'm thankful that we got all the different types of duos over there, all the different key players on the offensive side of the ball and there's some hungry dogs that are still out there that haven't been a part of the travel squad yet."



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On if he felt like he had a chip on his shoulder playing against the Raiders...

Sanders: "I was a fifth-round pick. I got skipped by everybody at least five times. So, it just comes with the game. It is what it is. I'm just thankful for where I am now. Everybody has their differences at the end of the day, but I still got an opportunity to play, so why can I be mad? Money is different, but thankfully, I have a good family. So, it is what it is. We're not playing for that. We're playing for the love of the game. So, I'm just thankful to be out here, have an opportunity, be able to go out there and play, go out there and start. You don't know how surreal that feeling is, knowing that you have the responsibility of the Browns organization on your shoulders, having all the fans, everybody in here arguing with each other online and everything. Everybody has their differences about me. It is what it is, but I'm just thankful I'm here before you all today, and hopefully we cleared a little stuff up. But, a real long way to go. It's allowing me to grow, and I know it's only one way and the only way is up."



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Browns Defensive End Myles Garrett

On the dominant performance by the defense...

Myles Garrett: "It's the opportunities you live for. Getting the lead early, being able to stop the run almost completely, with a guy that's going to be very special here soon, and just making them predictable, being able to just pin your ears back and hunt. We live for moments like that. I'm so proud of how they rushed and was putting together a historic day for us."

On how much joy he gets from breaking records...

Garrett: "It feels good. It feels really good. It felt better to see all my guys. I feel like each of them got a sack. I feel like Mase [Mason Graham] kind of got screwed over on one that I think he had but it went to someone else, or something happened, but I felt like all the guys were winning their rushes and doing their thing. So, that's the thing I'm most excited about. That's putting a smile on my face. Being able to have a franchise record, I kind of expect that of myself and will continue to set the bar higher and higher. And I feel like I had an angel watching over me today."

On what he's seen from Mason Graham's growth...

Garrett: "I mean, he just continues to develop his rushes, his rush plan. I think guys are underestimating the rush talent that we have across the line. These guys are continuing to give guys problems. He's going to start turning those pressures and those hits into sacks. We know he will, and I'm looking forward to seeing how he does the rest of the season."

On having 18.0 sacks and what 22.5 sacks would mean to him...

Garrett: "It would mean I pass 'Big Unc.' Chasing Mike [Michael Strahan], chasing greatness, and if God wills it, then I'll go get it. Hopefully sooner rather than later. I'll won't try to delay this thing, but I want it to come in a win. I want to have a chance to play some games in January and February. So, we got to win out. We got to hope some things go our way, but it would be great. But we have more pressing things to do."

On the incredible season that he's having...

Garrett: "Yeah, massive. The last four games, I don't even think about it. I'm just thinking about the next one now, how we can put it all together and do it again. And hopefully, I'll sit down and take a moment to hear my family. They can help me rationalize it and see it for what it is, but I can't tell you much I'm really just proud of this team and how we responded."

On his reaction to the 52-yard pass from Shedeur Sanders...

Garrett: "I mean, he put it up, and I'm just like, 'Oh God, who was I even going to?' I wasn't even looking down there to see IB [Isaiah Bond]. And I'm just looking, and I'm like, 'Oh God, please.' And he drops it in the bucket, and he reaches it out. I'm like, 'Please, just don't fumble it into the endzone.' So, he reaches out, but he just keeps possession. And I'm just like, 'Wow.' There's not many guys in the league that can make that throw. So, that was a hell of a throw. I hope he can continue to grow and develop from making plays like that and take it from there."



Las Vegas Raiders Transcript

On being able to have a strip sack today...

Garrett: "I feel like I just haven't had opportunities. Most of the time, guys see me coming, and they're trying to hug that thing. This time, they had so many different threats from across the line, and they were throwing so many different looks and guys at me, and they're like, 'Ah, we don't have to worry about him coming off the edge,' and I was able to make a couple plays and get the ball out."

On what the addition of Maliek Collins has brought to the defensive line...

Garrett: "He's rushing his behind off. I think we're really playing off each other, and we have great chemistry. I'm looking forward to seeing how far he can take his season as well, because him and Mase [Mason Graham] are running games at a high level, winning at a high level, and then whatever we can communicate and run games between each other as a unit, it's really come special very quickly, and I'm just happy to see him doing his thing. He's one of the most unique rushers I've had the privilege to be with the combination of finesse and power."

On what he respects about Maxx Crosby's game...

Garrett: "I love Maxx [Crosby], man. I love watching his game. He's a dog, the way he attacks every play, when he hustles, relentless. Everybody says guys have a relentless motor. Not a lot of guys I would give that moniker too, but he's definitely one of them. He can rush at a high level. He gets TFLs like nobody else. He just doesn't stop, and the combination of strength and length and get off, he uses it to a very elite level. He's one of the very best at the line at edge rushing and playing the run."

On if it felt like everyone on the defensive line was trying to get a sack...

Garrett: "Yeah. When it's going like that, it's like, 'Why not?' I had one at the half, and I was like, 'Shoot, we're going to get some more opportunities. Let's keep going. Let's see how far we can take it.' I think we had like five in the first half, and we ended up with 10. It was like, if we knock out this run, keep on taking away what they want to do on first and second down, it's going to eventually just turn into a passing game, and we're going to pin our ears back and really show what we can do in this rush game. So, we got to do what we do, earn the right still, but guys really displayed how good they are with their craft."

On if winning out the rest of the season feels possible...

Garrett: "I never doubted it was possible. Never a moment. I think the last thing you can give up in your life and in sports is hope. So, I hope for this season, hopefully this next game, I keep my head held high and focus on what's in front of me and what's next is the 49ers, I believe, so just keep on working hard, study them and hope everything works in our favor, but we got to take care of business."

On what his historic five-game stretch means to him...

Garrett: "Means my guys are helping me elevate me to another level. I couldn't do it without them. They're winning rushes, they're getting pressure from the middle, keeping them from stepping up, they're winning on the edge and keep it contained, and they're making my job a lot easier. So, there's no way I'd be able to get to this point and excel at this level without everything that they're doing. Like I said, I'm very proud of them."