

NFL International Series

Jaguars vs Bills

Sunday, 8 October 2023

Tottenham Hotspur Stadium

Jacksonville Jaguars

Doug Peterson

Postgame Press Conference



Jaguars 25, Bills 20

Q. How does it feel in London?

DOUG PEDERSON: It feels great. Our goal obviously is 1-0 each week. It started last week against the Falcons, and we found a way to win that one. Then against a really good hot Bills team today, and found a way again. Great team effort, but definitely feels good. Still a lot of football ahead of us, but we accomplished our immediate goal, and that was to win two games over here.

Q. Finding a way (indiscernible)?

DOUG PEDERSON: Pretty much. It was a real physical football game. That's a great team over there, real well-coached team. We knew going in it was going to be physical, high powered offense, all those types of things, great defense. We were just going to have to sustain. My hats really off to our offensive line, our run game, especially in the second half, Press Taylor for sticking with the run, and our skill guys making plays when they needed to.

Listen, defense defense just stepped up big I think all day. The forced punts, obviously the Darious Williams interception, the fumble at the end of the game, special teams. Everybody had a hand in it. Very pleased, very proud of our guys.

Q. Could you talk a little bit about despite the fumbles that Trevor did have today, could you talk about his toughness and getting some really tough sideline throws to Ridley, as well?

DOUG PEDERSON: Yeah, Trevor played extremely tough today and physical. He's done that all season. He's done that before. Obviously a great leader that way. He does what it takes to win that down.

He had to use his legs today. He played physical, as well, a couple weeks in a row.

Q. At the end of the game I saw you pumping the fist

to the crowd. I assume it was somebody you knew?

DOUG PEDERSON: My wife and my friends that were sitting up there. The only five people I had here.

Q. You don't normally pump your fist after a game. Did this game, this opponent --

DOUG PEDERSON: You don't follow me very much then.

Q. Did it feel like there was extra juice added to this win?

DOUG PEDERSON: Listen, these games are emotional, man. They're hard fought. Both teams are straining. The players are straining. Guys are putting their bodies on the line, coaches and the whole thing. Obviously we're not out there playing, but we're part of it, and we feel it, and we feel the emotion.

It's okay to let your emotion and everything show every now and then, and I know I try to keep things in too much, but maybe I should show that emotion a little bit more, but I was very proud of our guys, the way they hung in there for 60 minutes in this football game.

I'll fist pump after every one of those.

Q. Can you talk about the 32-yard completion on 3rd down and 6? Cam wasn't there, the pressure was coming. Did that seem as big a play as any in the game?

DOUG PEDERSON: You know, again, it's the offense, it's Trevor, it's Cal, it's everybody being on the same page. It's our offensive staff preparing our guys for situations like that, Mike McCoy having Trevor ready in situations like that to make that call, to see the blitz, to audible the route. Great throw, great catch. We needed it to really -- maybe not ice the game but at least help us win this football game.

Q. It seemed from about six minutes left in the second quarter that the Bills were surging, grabbing momentum. What happened today? What was the mindset that kept them in it? They have answers for everything the Bills did.



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DOUG PEDERSON: I think it's just a credit to the players. Defense has the offense's back, offense has the defense's back, special teams both. I just think that that's where the difference was with the players.

Offensive struggles in the second quarter, we missed opportunities to kick some field goals, we took points off the board, which we can't do, but defense went out there and held them to seven points in the first half and really did an outstanding job.

Again, credit the players. They really understood this type of game. We as a team I think are figuring out that we're very capable of winning these types of games, and this is a step in that direction.

Q. (Indiscernible) this organization to come over here, have this historic trip and come out of this with two victories and in a lot of ways change your early season?

DOUG PEDERSON: I think it's big. It's big for our organization. We came over here 1-2 and we're going back 3-2.

But again, listen, it's two ballgames, it's one ballgame, whatever it might be. We're five in. Plenty of football ahead of us, a lot of work ahead of us, we've got this travel, kind of a short week. It's great to come over here because we have a lot of fans here, our organization, our owner Mr. Khan. Obviously we all enjoy coming here. We spent 10 days here. Two great places, the Grove and Hanbury Manor were outstanding for us, and just proud of our entire organization and our team for how we handled it.

Q. Can you update the injuries?

DOUG PEDERSON: Zay, I don't know Zay specifically yet. I think it's still the same injury he had from a couple weeks ago, so we'll see where he's at.

Walker Little, I believe just a knee at this point, but I don't have any further updates until probably we get back to the States and do some more investigation there.

Cam was an elbow. I think he's going to be fine as we go.

Calvin obviously got hit the one time in the head. He went through the whole protocol on the sideline, checked out clear and went back in the game. Trevor was just cramping late in the game. It got warm down there on that turf and everything. Other than that, I think we came out okay.

Q. You spoke about the fans last week. Did it feel a lot more like a natural road game this week?

DOUG PEDERSON: 100 percent. 100 percent. Bills Mafia was full effect today. They had a great fan base. It did feel like a road game for us.

Our guys handled the crowd noise extremely well. We had to mix up some of our cadences, go between normal vocal cadences and silent cadences throughout the game, and again, guys handled that well.

Q. What did you take from (indiscernible) what was your take on that late in the game?

DOUG PEDERSON: Yeah, you know, it's hard for me to express any opinion right now until I really look at the film, look at the TV copy and then I can make a better assessment of that. Obviously it's a flag, it's a foul during the game, and we've got to be more aware of that, obviously, and coach that a little bit better.

But until I really evaluate those, it's hard to make a comment at this time.

Q. Obviously talking about the offense, I know (indiscernible) three games in a row. How impressed are you with your defense today?

DOUG PEDERSON: Listen, our defense, two weeks in a row. My hats off -- Mike Caldwell and the staff, just the way they've prepared our players, the way the players have embraced the game plans, the way they practice during the week, and then go out and play the physical style that they're capable of playing. It's just really -- things are beginning to kind of gel for them as a unit, and creating takeaways, obviously. Again, this is two weeks in a row. They did it last week in Atlanta, kind of keeping the offense in the game, and then again today keeping the offense sort of in the game. Just a great performance by our defense.

Q. The Bills at least at the beginning seemed pretty flat. Do you feel like you had a little bit of an advantage having been here for a week prior?

DOUG PEDERSON: It's hard to speak for them, obviously, but I know our guys were in really good position health-wise. They felt energetic, and they felt good to be here.

Ask me that question in seven days after we go back. It's a challenge. That's the next challenge for us, right, with the time change going back and all that.

I did feel like our guys were ready to go. The 10 days over here were good for us.

Q. (Indiscernible) better for the players and for you as a coach?

DOUG PEDERSON: I think it's relatively safe to say that we'll probably each year play two games over here. I don't know that. I don't have a crystal ball. I hope the rest of the league plays two games over here at some point.

But again, it was good for us, and it was good to get out of Jacksonville at that time. We needed to, I think, bond a little bit as a football team, and we've done that, and now we get to go back with two wins, and we've got a big AFC South match-up next week.

Q. Why did you choose to play the game next week because you could have a bye week, but you probably chose to --

DOUG PEDERSON: Yeah, we're still so early in the season after five games to take the bye this early. It's a long season, a lot of football left, and so I feel like if you can push your bye towards the middle of the year, it might benefit you.

But I'll do my part to help our team recover this week coming up, but yeah, it's still making sure that they're prepared mentally for the Colts next weekend.

Q. You've been here for 10 days; how has that helped you bond more as a team?

DOUG PEDERSON: I think we're in the hotel together, we're seeing each other down the hallways, we're walking to practice together. The players are together. They're going to dinners at night. They're hanging out during the week. Coaches are doing the same thing.

It just keeps guys closer. You kind of get to know people a little bit more.

So that's positive. That's positive when you can do that. I encourage the players to be around each other as much as possible, go grab dinner, or if they wanted to go swimming they go swimming or whatever it might be at the hotel.

It keeps them close, and that's what we're going to need as the season progresses.

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