

Jacksonville Jaguars Media Conference

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Jacksonville, Florida, USA

Mike Macdonald

Visitors Postgame Press Conference



Seahawks - 20, Jaguars - 12

MIKE MACDONALD: It was a great win. Jacksonville's a really good team. They've been playing really well. You go back to process all the time, and I think we nailed our process this week, and I think the challenge is going to keep rolling.

Focus on our style of ball, staying composed, staying together, picking each other up, play by play, all that type of stuff. I know it sounds cliché, but I don't really care.

I thought the defense played a tremendous game. Some funky things happened there on fourth downs. You've got to give their quarterback a lot of credit. He's a really good player and made some plays there in critical moments, and we kept rebounding and kept fighting.

Offensively we came through when we needed to. The four minute, I thought that was a heck of a play call, a couple of great play calls we had, and Sam just operating. Obviously Sam had a great game as well.

Excited. Excited for this flight home. Then go play Monday Night Football.

Q. Seven sacks today. What kind of pressure, what do you think the pass rush was looking like?

MIKE MACDONALD: I'm going to give you the same answer, but how we played the run on early downs. (Video glitch). Works together, you buy an extra second, rush can come alive. We didn't do that last week, we did it this week. That's how we've got to play moving forward. I thought the guys played great.

Q. How does the confidence that obviously Klint Kubiak has, your team, your players, everyone have in Sam Darnold showing up right now across the board?

MIKE MACDONALD: We have 100 percent confidence in Sam. He makes great decisions. He's done that since he

showed up, and he's playing great football.

Q. What about Lawrence getting back in this game and doing what he did? I know he played well all season, but to have him back --

MIKE MACDONALD: We had some guys down. Missing Derick Hall, he's a great player. Hopefully he's back as soon as possible, but D-Law played a tremendous game. He had two sacks. To be able to play the run the way we play the run, he's one of the guys leading the charge there.

Just the mentality too. The guy is just an absolute beast.

Q. What went into starting Shaquill, and how do you feel like that worked out?

MIKE MACDONALD: I thought Shaq played a great game. He's been practicing really well. So smart, man. Just so smart, competes, had a great week at practice. That's why we decided to go with him.

Nehemiah's been playing great. He's been doing a good job. Did a great job on special teams. He's got a hamstring right now. So we'll see.

Q. Turnover free against this team?

MIKE MACDONALD: That was critical. We knew they would do that going into the game. They're an opportunistic team. The numbers speak for themselves.

I thought our ball security was tremendous. We were fortunate on some of those. The tip -- there was a couple tips where the ball was in jeopardy, so we'll look at those. Otherwise, I thought our ball security was really good.

Q. You guys seemed to nail the first half of the game and the second half with the field goal and then coming out after the touchdown.

MIKE MACDONALD: We lost, and they decided to take the ball, so that's how we want to play the end of the half. The guys did a great job.



Q. Jaxon has gone over 100 yards in four of six games. I don't think he's had a game with fewer than 79. What can you say about his ability to not just have a big game here and there but to do it every week?

MIKE MACDONALD: If you play complementary ball on one side of the ball, if you're able to run, throw it, action, the whole thing, it's very hard to take one player out of the game when the ball can go anywhere.

He's taking advantage of his opportunities. We're doing a great job of getting him open, and Sam's got a lot of confidence in him too. So a lot of positives.

Q. What about his ability to win, just to take the top off the defense? He sort of came into the NFL, maybe people kind of wrongfully pegged him as a slot underneath guy, but showing that he can --

MIKE MACDONALD: That's a good evaluation, that they wrongfully pegged him as a slot guy. That's the answer. He's just a great receiver.

Q. Jarran Reed left late in the game.

MIKE MACDONALD: He's got -- like I think somebody got whipped into his knee. We'll see. I'm going to give you a timeline right now, Bob, and then I'm going to take it away on Wednesday and really disappoint you.

Q. What did you think of the run game today?

MIKE MACDONALD: I'm not sure of the stats. I think we can do a better job. I think there might be some more plays out there. We stuck with it, which is important.

Can't give you a great answer right now, but I felt like our guys are playing really hard. I think we had like one bust in a critical situation, which we've got to see why that happened. Outside of that, keep plugging away at it. Keep plugging away at it. Keep finding solutions, evolve as the game goes. Do what we do.

Q. I know we ask about Byron all the time, but in another game he had two sacks, and ESPN had him with seven pressures, the most the Seahawks have had in five years?

MIKE MACDONALD: Byron had seven pressures or we did?

Q. No, he did.

MIKE MACDONALD: Byron had seven on his own? That's pretty good. I'm going to claim that I was right on

Byron that I've been telling you for two years.

Q. Cooper got his first touchdown as a Seahawk. How big of a complement is he to that Seahawk corps?

MIKE MACDONALD: Really happy for Coop. This guy is a force multiplier. I'm having foggy brain right now, but whether it's him or Sam bringing him into the equation, it was really important to bring him here. He's one of the biggest reasons why our team is where they're at right now. For him to have the productivity he's had behind it too is icing on the cake.

He's playing great football for us. Just the run after the catch on that one play was just tremendous.

Q. Then the stop on the two-point conversion, I think that was after the penalty, and they moved it closer. What did you think of that?

MIKE MACDONALD: They were doing a High V eligible play, and we had some confusion about who was eligible, who was in the game. At least I thought that's what they were doing. I could be wrong. We had a miscommunication. We had an extra guy on the field, tried to take a timeout. It was too late.

At that point, you're in goal line situation on the 1. You've got to match them big, and that's what we did. We didn't even align right in that play frankly. I think Ernest made a tremendous play to stop them. Just a relentless mindset the guys had. That was an awesome play. That's what they call picking up the coach in that situation.

Q. Nick Emmanwori had nine tackles today. He's played so little so far.

MIKE MACDONALD: Who did you say?

Q. Nick Emmanwori. In the time since he's been back, how have you seen him develop?

MIKE MACDONALD: He's fighting through his ankle. It's been a long week for Nick. I think this is a great opportunity for him to take the next step in his career and learn this is what it takes to be successful in the NFL. I thought he did a great job.

I think you can feel him out there on the perimeter. There's details now that we can go to work on, where we can take the game to the next level where he can grow. That's what's exciting. You're also making adjustments with him on the sideline. It's not too big for him. He's taking it in. He understands. He's executing at a high level.

Yeah, I'm excited to see where Nick takes his game. It's great to have him out there.

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