



MIAMI DOLPHINS AT PHILADELPHIA EAGLES LINCOLN FINANCIAL FIELD

Aug. 24, 2017 | 7 P.M.

POSTGAME QUOTES

Philadelphia Eagles Head Coach Doug Pederson (transcribed by Philadelphia Eagles)

Q. What did you see from the first team and is it what you wanted to see?

DOUG PEDERSON: I did. I was pleased obviously with the way that they played. Again, got great work for two days against the Dolphins. Monday and Tuesday, and got a couple scores, [Eagles WR] Torrey [Smith] and [Eagles WR] Alshon [Jeffery] both. So happy to get them in there and get them out.

Q. Did the joint sessions kind of scale back what you wanted from Carson Wentz to feel like playing this month?

DOUG PEDERSON: Yeah, they got a lot of great work for two days. You think about it, we really don't play full football games on 48 hours rest, and Monday and Tuesday was pretty intense for both teams. I felt like we got some good work, so that was part of the reason why I was able to pull them out sooner.

Q. Assuming this is it for Carson and the starters for the preseason, do you feel good enough what you've seen with the new receivers both getting touchdowns today?

DOUG PEDERSON: Yeah, I do. I feel real comfortable with where they're at. Their focus now is in a couple of weeks, and they can get some really good work, one-on-one work in these next few practices, and kind of get ready for the regular season. Happy to get both those guys tonight in the end zone and kind of catapult the offense into the regular season.

Q. The offensive line, obviously you've got Carson, as well, what you wanted to see. What were the problems? He got a lot of pressure?

DOUG PEDERSON: Yeah, there were a couple of unscouted blitzes, again, preseason games, things that they didn't show obviously -- we didn't do any blitz periods in our sessions the other day, and a couple unscouted looks. But it's no excuse. We've got to be ready for everything and anything and just a lot of quick pressure on Carson. A couple times he was able to make some tremendous plays and get the ball out of his hand, but at the same time, we've got to do better obviously in that situation and learn from it and move on.

Q. Would you have left him in the play longer had it not been for the pressure?

DOUG PEDERSON: I don't think so. I think I would have made the decision at that point at the same time.

Q. How tough will it be to choose the running back position with the way the backs are playing? It looks like the final two guys might be vying for that last spot?

DOUG PEDERSON: You know, I think that -- first of all, I was excited to get Wendell [RB Wendell Smallwood] out there, obviously, get some touches and get him back working with the first unit. LeGarrette [RB LeGarrette Blount] had a fine game with the touches that he got, and really, you saw kind of the style of runner that he is, as well. They're two different guys. The thing is that's the beauty of the run game: you can mix and match your run game with the personnel that you have. Then you throw in Darren Sproles. It's great to have those three guys. I think it really gives us, I think, a little bit -- from a game-planning standpoint, obviously, an advantage to get





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those three guys on the field.

Q. How tough will it be to choose between running backs Corey Clement and Donnel Pumphrey?

DOUG PEDERSON: They're making it tough. I challenged the young guys tonight after the game that this next week is going to be important. I want them to make it hard on us as a coaching staff and a personnel department, and all we can ask is to make it tough on us. But at the end of the day, we've got to select the 53 that is going to travel to Washington.

Q. It has been three games now without QB Nick Foles. What's going on with his elbow and what's the plan for him this week?

DOUG PEDERSON: Again, with him, he got a little sore during the week [during practice] with the Dolphins. He had a lot of throws because he missed so much time early in camp, and then coming back, he got more throws [and] more intense throws against the Dolphins [in practice]. It just got a little sore on him, so I just didn't want to push him. Again, the more rest that you can get on that elbow, the better. I'm confident with Nick having coached him in the past and [with him] being a veteran quarterback and understanding our system. The rest will definitely help him.

Q. Would you like to see him next week against the Jets or no?

DOUG PEDERSON: I don't know. I haven't made up my mind yet and where I'm at with that. [That's] kind of where I'm at right now with that one.

Q. Similar to the running back position, are the young receivers making the roster decisions difficult, as well?

DOUG PEDERSON: They are, and again, I can remember myself being in that situation even as a third- or fourth-string quarterback, just fighting and clawing for everything. The exciting thing is these guys are making plays when they're in the game. This next week is going to be important for all those guys that are vying for those positions, and again, it goes back to making it hard on us for those final roster spots. It's good to see all those guys. It's good to see Bryce [WR Bryce Treggs] back out there again and playing, and Greg Ward and Mack [Hollins] and all those guys. Marcus [Johnson] had a nice touchdown reception tonight, so it's good competition at that spot.

Q. Darby, what could he have done better on those plays?

DOUG PEDERSON: I've got to go back and obviously look at the film and we can decide and make that decision. It was a great catch that went over the top of him, it was a great catch. Felt like he was in good position, and [you] just got to track the ball and make that play. Again, the receiver made a tremendous play. These are things in these games that we'll just go back and look at the film tomorrow and make that correction and show him how to be better in that situation so that it doesn't happen again.

Q. On the 93-yard drive, the balance that you had, is that how you want the offense to look this year?





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DOUG PEDERSON: Yeah, you would love to have that type of balance, any time, run and pass and kind of keep the defense off balance a little bit and get the quarterback on the move in the pocket, it was great to go down and score and obviously finish off that drive. But yeah, that's definitely sort of a blueprint to what you'd like to see during the regular season.

Q. Is there anything out of the first-team offense you want to see them have more success with going forward from what you saw tonight?

DOUG PEDERSON: Not really. I think the last two weeks really our hurry up tempo offense was very good. We were able to put pressure on the defense, and our guys really, they practice fast that way and they're used to that and they're comfortable with that and it gets your quarterback in a rhythm and gets your offense in a rhythm. That was very beneficial, something we'll obviously continue during the regular season. We've got to just clean up some things in the protection. Goes back to Howard's [94 WIP sideline reporter Howard Eskin] question there in the protection. We'll do that, and obviously now the focus for them is to get ready for Washington in two weeks.

Q. McGloin today, what do you see from him after today's game?

DOUG PEDERSON: He's done a great job coming in there and really starting camp as our third but really playing as our No. 2 here the last few games. He did a nice job tonight even after the turnover to bounce back and go down really against our starting defense and score was exciting for him and for the offense. He's done a nice job. He's done a really nice job, and again, it's one of those positions where you want to see that position play well, and he's done a nice job.

Q. How much is game planning for Washington, how much is evaluating the final roster --

DOUG PEDERSON: Yeah, it's a fine line because we want to make sure our starters are getting a little bit of some Washington and starting to think [about] the Redskins a little bit. But at the same time, as coaches and the rest of the team, we're still evaluating, and we've got one more preseason game left next week up in New York, and we want to make sure that those guys are also ready to play.

Q. As far as Derek Barnett, how important was it to get him in there with the ones?

DOUG PEDERSON: I think it's important, yeah, it's important. We wanted to see him against some good starting offensive tackles, obviously, and it'll be nice tomorrow going back and watching the tape to just really kind of dive in to see how well he did or some of the mistakes he made that we can help him get better, as well. It's always good to get those young guys, especially a guy that's going to be in the mix with that D-line throughout the season, getting some good work against some good tackles.

