



Denver Broncos Post Game Quotes

vs. Buffalo – Saturday, August 20, 2011

DENVER BRONCOS HEAD COACH JOHN FOX

On Injury Report

“We have [LB] Mario Haggan’s shoulder, [S] Dave Bruton’s head, and [S] Rahim Moore’s head. They did not return.”

On S Rahim Moore’s hit

“Well I haven’t had a chance to see it on film or anything, it was a pretty hefty collision, and it was a 15-yard penalty in the officials’ eyes, so player safety is a big part of that, we teach it that way, he’s a rookie, so I am not going to fault him. I think it was helmet to helmet, I’ll have to go back and view it, but either way, they viewed it as a penalty.”

On QB Brady Quinn playing ahead of Tebow

“Last week we put [QB] Tim [Tebow] in first behind [QB Kyle] Orton, and this week, I’ve said all along it was going to be a competition. It was just fitting in the second game to do the reverse of what we did last week.”

On QB Brady Quinn’s play

“I will go back and view the tape. I don’t want to get into evaluating the players at this point, but we’ve definitely improved from last week to this week.”

On QB Kyle Orton being a starter

“Not now, we’ll look at it and talk about it as a staff. When we make that decision, you guys will find out. I think he’s having an excellent preseason, tonight he was definitely one of those guys that improved from week one to week two, and that’s what we’re looking for.”

On naming a backup

“We’ll look at it moving forward, we haven’t named a No.1, 2 or 3 yet. At this point if we name anybody, we will let you know. I think, from a competitive standpoint, what the league allows you to do, is not name a 2 or 3, my past suggests that we won’t.”

On installing the offense and defense that he wants

“I would not say that we’re behind, but we’re probably a little bit behind on offense, just from familiarity. The guys are really taking to the defensive and I think [defensive coordinator], Dennis Allen, and his staff have done a great job and our players have done a great job, and I think that we’ve made progress from last week to this week.”

On the speed of the offense

“I think that they’ll all just get better and when we start playing and looking into what the offense is doing with the players. Hopefully, they’ll just continue to improve.”

On RB Willis McGahee

“I think he’s a good back, he’s proven that over time. We’ve got some familiarity with him last year, [running back’s coach] Stuedesville having him in Buffalo. I like his football character, his demeanor. I think he brings a lot to the table, not just on the field, but in the locker room. So far, so good.”

DENVER BRONCOS PLAYERS

QB KYLE ORTON

On the team’s performance

“I thought we did pretty well as an offense— two touchdowns. I think we had three drives, and I feel like if we didn’t have a penalty on the third-and-long conversion that we had— our right tackle was backed up a little bit off the line. There’s nothing really that he did, just a young guy’s mistake. Other than that, I think we did pretty good.”

On scoring near the goal line

“We did a lot of good things out there. We ran the ball well, had a nice screen pass down to the one yard-line and [RB] Willis [McGahee] had a nice touchdown catch for us. All and all, I thought it was a good day.”



Denver Broncos Post Game Quotes

vs. Buffalo – Saturday, August 20, 2011

On the comfort level of the first team offense

“Oh yeah, we’re definitely comfortable. We’ve got a way go, obviously. Like I said, you can’t have the penalty in a crucial situation like that; that would have been a big conversion for us. We just want to not get too happy about this. It was a good day out there, but if we can just keep improving on a steady incline, I think we’ll be a good offense come game one.”

On putting the ball in the endzone

“That’s the goal, obviously. You can run for as many yards as you want and throw for as many yards as you want, but if it doesn’t convert to seven points, then what’s the point? I think we’re going to be an offense that can be explosive, be dynamic, be versatile and score a lot of points.”

On RB Knowshon Moreno

“I talked to Knowshon after the game, and I thought it was his best game that I’ve been with him in the passing game—just running solid routes for me, catching the ball in stride and getting the first down. He had a big third-and-nine conversion, so I think he’s coming into his own. Knowshon is a guy in his third year here, but this is his first camp that he’s gone through, and I just know—as young player when I played—camp is very important for young players, whether you’ve been on the field or not. He’s been able to stay healthy through this camp get a lot of reps, get a lot of looks, and he’s going to benefit from it.”

On RB Willis McGahee

“He’s a patient runner. He’s a big back. Certainly his hands are very good, and he’s been doing it a long time. He’s a good player.”

On showing versatility by executing screen passes

“If you can do all three things— if you can throw it, if you can run it and if you can be good in the screen-game, it’s going to be really tough for defenses to say they’re going to sit there and dial up a ton of blitzes and try to take away a specific part of your game, because you just can do too many things. Like I said, we’ve got a ways to go, but we had a good night.”

On WR Brandon Lloyd

“Brandon is one of our best players; there’s no doubt about it. He deserved to be in the Pro Bowl last year, and he’s certainly on track this year. We’ll run the ball as much as we can, but once we get one-on-one with Brandon, that’s where the ball’s going to go.”

On his chemistry with WR Brandon Lloyd

“I’ve worked the longest with him. He’s a special player; he really is. He’s a great wide receiver, a great route runner—he’s one of the best route runners in the league, and certainly everybody sees how he can go up and get the football and jump for the ball. He’s a top-flight player.”

On his confidence in Brandon Lloyd

“One-on-one, he’s open. He’s always good at breaking up the bad pass. If I get a little bit too aggressive, and the guy’s got a chance to make a play on the ball, he’s always done a good job of turning into a defender. It’s like I tell all of my receivers, if they do that for me and don’t hang me out to dry, I’m going to give them every chance in the world.

“We do a lot of stuff at the line now, where I don’t have to signal to him. I just have to go over and take a look at him, and he’s got an idea of what I want to do, so it’s fun to play with a player like that. ”

QB BRADY QUINN

On being named No. 2 QB

“I was excited. I obviously knew I’d get a chance to go in a little earlier. I knew I probably wouldn’t be as stiff going into the game. It felt good.”

On if it helped his game getting to work with No. 1 players



Denver Broncos Post Game Quotes

vs. Buffalo – Saturday, August 20, 2011

“I think it did. My time with the wide receivers might have been a little bit off, at times, because I hadn’t worked with them as much, but it was good to get in live game action with them.”

On taking advantage of the chance to play as No. 2 guy

“Every chance is an opportunity to go out and there and play and show, not only your team but every other team in the league, what you’re able to do.”

On if he thought he had earned the No. 2 QB spot or was just getting his turn as the No. 2

“I don’t pay attention to all that stuff. I just take the reps -- whatever chance they give me – I’ll take it, and do the best I can with it.”

On his opinion of his drives

“The touchdown drive was good. I’m upset we had to settle for a field goal the other time, and the tip pick was a heartbreaker for me, man. I mean, it was a perfect call for the coverage and we had it, but the guy just tipped it and the other guy made a great play. I still think it was incomplete, but unfortunately we can’t review it.”

RB WILLIS McGAHEE

On the coaching staff going for it a second time after getting stopped on previous play

“That was our way of making a statement as far as the offensive line and the running backs. We told them we had to make a statement when we got down there, because we don’t want to be one of those teams to be down there on the one yard line and need to pass the ball.”

On the second touchdown

“(QB) Kyle (Orton) did a great job calling the play. He stuck with it, and he didn’t get out of it. The thing is, it also showed he had faith, not only in his running backs but also in his (offensive) line. That was the play that was called, but the quarterback always has the option to change things. But he read it and Kyle stuck with it.”

On being the touchdown guy

“I ain’t complaining. It can go either way, man. (RB) Knowshon’s been’s working hard, and he’s going to get his touches. If he’s there or if I’m there, one of us is going to get in there, regardless.”

On the benefit of having two running backs that can be relied upon

“It’s a big advantage. It’s a change of pace – not only for the defense but also for the offense. Knowshon’s one of those scatbacks that can go in there and get outside and hit the corner real quick. And I’m a downhill guy. I like to be in the trenches and bang. That’s what I say: I like to bang!”

LB VON MILLER

On the defense’s overall performance

“I think we took a step forward today. We still had some mental errors, still some technical issues we’ve got to work out, but I think, as a whole, as a team, we took a step forward today. We’ve just got to keep taking steps forward and taking it one play at a time.”

On the secondary’s effort and how it helped the pass rush

“Our secondary was doing a heck of a job, holding everybody up and disguising their looks. What else can we do when you’ve got great coverages like that. You’ve just got to get back there.”

On getting his first career sack

“It was great. I knew on the play that (defensive coordinator Dennis Allen) had called, we were going to have great coverage on that play, and we did. Rahim (Moore), Champ (Bailey) and (Andre) Goodman and all those guys, they held them up and we were able to get back there.”

“It felt great. It was crunch time, you know. We needed a play, and we had great coverage on that play, and I was able to get back there.”



Denver Broncos Post Game Quotes

vs. Buffalo – Saturday, August 20, 2011

On if tonight gave a glimpse at a potentially dominant defense

"We had a good night tonight. We've just got to keep having good practices, keep stacking practices and keep executing plays, and I think we'll be alright."

On how it's been to be in the NFL

"It's a dream. This is our job; this is what we get paid to do every day. We come every day with a smile on our face. All we can do is stack days and stack practices."

BUFFALO BILLS HEAD COACH CHAN GAILEY

On injuries

"Before we get started with questions I know that injuries are of concern to everyone. The good news right now is there were no serious injuries out of the night. So guys will miss for a while but they're going to eventually be fine. [Regarding RB Johnny White] Everything cleared at the hospital, so he's going on the plane back with us now. I'm sure it had something to do with the neck or they wouldn't have taken all those precautions. But I walked in there and they said he's cleared everything, he's going to go home on the plane with us. Because he's not staying here overnight to me means that it's not that serious. And [WR] Donald [Jones] will be with us and it looks like they took off [LB Arthur] Moats at the end but it looks like it's more of a bruise than anything so it looks like he's going to be fine. It was a leg, so I don't know if he got kicked, hit, rolled up on, I don't know what it was, but looks like he's going to be OK."

On WR Felton Huggins and WR Naaman Roosevelt

"Felton was able to come back. He played the last play. Naaman got rolled up on on that one slant he caught. I don't know how bad it is to be honest with you. He got rolled up on at the end of that play."

General

"I thought our pass defense, and pass defense starts with pass rush, we didn't have a good enough four man pass rush tonight to help our pass defense. We've got to get better there. I thought we played the run a lot better this week, throughout the whole ball game, but with the ones that had 60-something yards rushing against them. I feel like we're on track run defense wise, we've just got a lot of work to do in the pass coverage and pass rush without blitzing them every snap."

On five-man rushes

"We wanted to see who could do what, playing base defense. That was one of the things going into the ball game. Let guys play base defense and see where we are. So we didn't throw a lot of blitz at them. We're able to see more where your deficiencies are if you just play base and let them play, so we can see where we are. I think the same thing happened with our offensive line out there. A lot of times we set things up where we turn a certain way, we chip, we didn't do any of that. We evaluate base offense. How do people play? We found that we're lacking in some areas."

On progress sputtering after the first drive

"When you end up behind the sticks, a lot of teams end up in a bind, but we really end up in a bind. We're not to the point yet where we can overcome a lot of those situations and we've got to get better at not taking negative plays. I thought [RB] C.J. [Spiller] did a couple nice things out there, hit some runs, hit some creases. He ran up in there, he held onto the ball, I don't know about protection, I'll have to go back and look at that but we wanted to look at him tonight to see where he's made progress and I thought he did make progress. That was a positive. I thought [QB] Tyler [Thigpen] played a lot better tonight than he did in the first ball game, he made some plays. It was good to get [QB] Brad [Smith] a two-minute drive at the end of the game. That's why I used those timeouts, to try to let him go out there because if you get a couple injuries in a ball game he may be the guy that works the two-minute drill at the end. So I think there were some good things but there were more bad things than good things that we've got to work on."

On DT Marcell Dareus

"He's everything everybody thought he would be. He's big, strong, physical, quick, and he's a very good football player. He's mature beyond his years and he understands the game. He understands where he belongs on stunts and line movements so that part of it is good about him."



Denver Broncos Post Game Quotes

vs. Buffalo – Saturday, August 20, 2011

On moving parts on injuries changing up the receiving core

“Last year we had to adjust and our guys will adjust. I think we could have everybody back by Sept. 11. I think that’s a possibility, I don’t for sure, but I think it’s a possibility to get most of them back by then. But you lose timing, you lose time on the practice field, you lose the opportunity to improve and we need that.”

On the interception by CB Terrence McGee

“That was good. I thought that was a great interception, too. [CB] Terrence [McGee] just picked it right up off the ground there, and anytime you can get a turnover in the red zone it’s huge. Our guys kept fighting; I mean they were fighting at the end there. That part of it was a positive. But we gave up too many yards in the air, we all saw that. I know that. We’ve got to keep working on that aspect. But I know one thing, if we can stop the run we’ve got a better chance than we had last year.”

BUFFALO BILLS PLAYERS

QB RYAN FITZPATRICK

On the performance of the offense

“They brought a lot of different pressures and things, but there were some times when we did run the ball well tonight. We just didn’t get anything going with our passing game, and that’s frustrating because I feel like we’ve had a pretty good camp and we didn’t show it out there today with the way we had been playing and the way I think we’re capable of playing. It’s preseason and it shows us that we’re not there yet and we have a lot of work ahead of ourselves. I think it starts with me; I’ve got to come in and play better and will play better.”

On what specifically does need to improve

“I think everybody getting on the same page. There were multiple times today when everybody was not on the same page, and it was not one or two things. Then just hitting routes with passes, and that’s something that I can put on myself. There’s nobody else in the room, nobody else on the offense there, that can do that but me.”

On benefits of the preseason

“[It helps] getting to actually run these versus other defenses and people that are covering us in different ways. It’s good; that’s why we have the preseason. You would just like to see results faster. We’ve just got to go to work and continue to improve.”

On whether he saw WR Donald Jones following his injury

“I saw Donald — I didn’t see him after the game, I saw him at halftime and he was doing okay. I guess that’s all I’ll say about that, but he was doing okay.”

On the team’s reaction to WR Donald Jones’ injury

“I think, nobody wants to see anybody get hurt, but one thing that maybe was a positive tonight was the reaction from our guys. I think we are a tight unit, and you saw it right there, and you saw it by the way that [RB] Fred [Jackson] ran the ball the next few plays. For somebody to take a shot at our guy and come after our guy, it didn’t sit well with us, and I really like the reaction that we had. We weren’t going to go out there and start swinging and getting penalties, but it just went to show that we’re a team that doesn’t like to go out and get pushed around by anybody. We thought that was inappropriate the way it went down, and we reacted to it.”

On RB C.J. Spiller’s performance

“We wanted to get C.J. some touches and get him back in the flow of the game. He did some really good things tonight. In general, running the ball early, I thought we did a really good job. We’ll have some good film to look at.”

On adjusting to injuries

“By the end there we kind of ran out of receivers those last few minutes. That’s just part of it; you hope that none of those guys are going to be hurt more than a few days. We’ll see; it depends how it goes. You’ve got to be able to go out there with who you have. The biggest thing for me is we’ve got to go to practice now with a greater focus knowing that we have



Denver Broncos Post Game Quotes

vs. Buffalo – Saturday, August 20, 2011

a lot of work in front of us. We have that much farther that we have to go now because of what we did today. We didn't put our best product out there, and we have a lot of work to do, and I think that was obvious tonight."

QB TYLER THIGPEN

On WR Felton Huggins' touchdown catch

"It was a great job by him. We worked on that during practice. Pretty much every day we work on the fade. I tell him to squeeze against the DB and we'll throw him the ball. We'll throw it over the top; we'll throw it behind him. We're on the same page there. We actually had a draw played called. I got a block and gave a fake. I realized nobody was blocking him so that's why I decided to throw the back-shoulder fade."

On WR Johnny White's injury

"I'm not going to speak on any injury, that's up to [Head] Coach [Chan] Gailey. We wish him nothing but the best. He's definitely a great guy and a hard worker. We hate that it happened to one of our players, also with Donald [Jones]. We just wish him the best."

On neutralizing the Denver rush

"We had a couple of guys on the same page, getting guys free. There were a couple of times where guys did get free and Coach Gailey talks to us about buying time and letting the back slip out and get the ball to him. You kind of have to know when you have 'hats on hats' and when you don't. If you have a guy coming off the edge and you know you can't hold it long enough to get it to the back, you have to get it off to the front side."

On being on the same page with his receivers

"You know, we did. Those first couple of drives were rough, but [WR] Naaman [Roosevelt] made a great catch on the hitch and then three plays later, I throw one inside to Felton. I have to get it down on his outside shoulder. That's all on me. I definitely feel like the 'twos' are on the same page. You know we're working hard, working together and trying to get it done."

WR FELTON HUGGINS

On his 13-Yard TD reception

"You know, it was a great play. Prior to the snap, [QB] Tyler [Thigpen] gave me a heads up and said, 'Felton, they're playing press man, make a play. It was a good throw, I looked back, caught it, and the rest was there.'"

On Injuries and how the receivers are handling it

"It seems like we're dropping like flies. We had the same problems last year, I went out last year, but you know, we're a tight-knit group of guys. We just try to step up and push each other. We just have to pick up the slack for everybody. One person goes down, another person has to step in and do what they're supposed to do."

LB NICK BARNETT

On giving up so many passing yards (Note: Denver QB's were 21-of-31 for 275 yards, 103.6 rating)

"You know, we've got to clean some things up. One time, I went out there and was running a little too wild, but that's what the preseason is for, to get out there and get those mistakes out of the way. We just need to clean those things up; I think they're some easy things to correct. You know, some blown coverages that we can fix. We're going to go back to the lockerroom, watch some film and correct it. We won't have that mistake twice."

On not bringing too much pressure or blitzing the quarterback

"We should be able to run our base defense and stop them. Then again, we did not game plan them at all. I probably watched one quarter on them, and that was today. It's the preseason, you're supposed to be able to go out there and play your base defense and make the plays. We came up a little bit short, but there were some good things that we can take from this game and build upon. I wouldn't throw away your season tickets today; it's going to be a great season, don't worry."

On Buffalo's rushing defense

"I think we did some good things. I think we had maybe one busted play, but we were on them solid. They were trying to run their sneaky plays, and we were on it. They tried to throw a reverse at us, and we were on it. I thought we played pretty solid run defense. We've got to clean up some coverages, especially on third down. But overall, I thought we stuck to our game plan."



Denver Broncos Post Game Quotes

vs. Buffalo – Saturday, August 20, 2011

DE MARCELL DAREUS

On his performance in tonight's game

"We get a chance to play them in December and I'll have a better chance to get out there and have more chances to really showcase my talent. On one hand, they only let me play less than 20 plays this game and didn't have the time to open up and do the little things. We played the run well. We played the run pretty good, I think. For the most part, I don't think I did what I wanted to do in the little short time they gave me."

On his first quarter sack

"I knew they were going to try to come down with a double team so I played one side and stood the double team. Me and [NT] Kyle [Williams] were pushing and pushing the pocket so we were good up the middle so he [Broncos QB Kyle Orton] couldn't roll one way or the other. I just had to seize the moment."

On overall performance of the defense

"I think we're going to take this film and I think there are a lot of things we can work on. There is a lot of good stuff and a lot of bad stuff that we're going to go out there and fill in and try to do the best we can to try to correct those mistakes."

On the things that need to be corrected

"Everybody getting healthy so we can go out there and get more pressure on the quarterback to help the DBs out. Goal line, I think we'll go out and do the best we can at that. I think we did okay in the red zone, but they got a touchdown and we can't have those. There are a couple things we need to work on so we can really capitalize later on in the season."

WR MARCUS EASLEY

On playing this preseason after missing all of 2010 with a knee injury

"It's been so long so just trying to get in a groove and getting comfortable to the speed of the game and just being out on the field is definitely an adjustment. I struggled a little bit early, but just tried to bounce back in the second half."

On injuries impacting the receiving corps

"Especially for the guys who are healthy, we have a bigger responsibility upon us to make up for the losses we took today. We wish those guys the best, because I know when I was down, those guys were right behind me, so we're still sticking behind them. But at the same time we all have to regroup and get ready for next week."
