



DE | 94

DAWUANE SMOOT

AGE: 29 (March 2, 1995) | HT: 6-3 | WT: 275

COLLEGE: Illinois

NFL EXP: 8 Years

HOMETOWN: Groveport, OH

ACQUIRED: Free Agent (2024)

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FIRST-AND-10

DAWUANE SMOOT was signed a one-year contract with the Bills on May 3, 2024. Smoot originally entered the league in 2017 as a third round (68th overall) pick of the Jaguars where he spent the first seven years of his career.

SHOUTOUTS

- Collected the first sack of his Bills career and forced a fumble of Houston's QB C.J. Stroud (10/6/24).
- He has posted 133 total tackles, 64 quarterback hits, 23.5 sacks, five passes defended and five forced fumbles. His 23.5 sacks are the ninth-most sacks recorded by a Jaguar in team history.
- In 2023, Smoot played in 12 games and collected 10 total tackles, one sack, a forced fumble and four QB hits.
- During the 2022 season he saw action in 15 games and registered 21 total tackles (14 solo), six tackles for loss, 12 QB hits and five sacks to go along with two passes defended.
- In 2021, he appeared in 16 games making 10 starts. Recorded 36 total tackles (22 solo), 6.0 sacks and 16 QB hits.
- Sacked QB Ryan Tannehill vs TEN (10/10/21) for an 11-yard loss and finished the game with 1.5 sacks, marking the third multi-sack game of his career.
- Saw action in all 16 games of the 2020 season, starting seven. Notched a then career-best 25 tackles (21 solo) and led the team with 5.5 sacks. Also posted five tackles for loss and two forced fumbles.
- Started at defensive end vs BAL (12/20/20) and tallied three solo tackles, 1.0 sack and one forced fumble.
- Earned his first career start at defensive end against HOU (10/11/20) and collected two tackles, including 1.0 sack. One of his three pressures helped force CB Sidney Jones IV's second-quarter INT.
- Appeared in all 16 games, amassing 17 tackles (12 solo), 6.0 sacks and one fumble recovery in 2019. He posted three tackles (two solo) including his first two career sacks against TEN (9/19/19).

IF YOU HAVEN'T HERD

ELSIE ACADEMY

Dawuane and his wife, Aumari, have created something that will give back to the Jacksonville community for years to come with a private daycare and preschool.

"This is our little mascot, Elsie, so our logo is a little dove," Aumari said. "We have one of these in each classroom."

Elsie is a special word for the Smoot family, so much that when they opened their new school, they named it 'The Elsie Academy'.

"It's my grandmother's name," Aumari said. "When I found out she was diagnosed with breast cancer I decided to go ahead and name the school after her. Then, once I did research on the name, the name has a very strong meaning and it means 'pledge to God'. We're believers and I just felt like it was meant to be."

"As we keep growing in Jacksonville, we want to make sure that people understand and know that we are here for the community and that we want to push School Readiness and our VPK vouchers and knowing that this is not just an academy where you have to have a bunch of money," Dawuane said. "We're opening it up for under served communities, for inner city kids as well, too."

Smoot often works with area nonprofits Big Brothers Big Sisters of Northeast Florida, Better Dads Society and the Jacksonville Arts and Music School, and participates in food distributions with local food banks and the annual "Shop with a Jaguar," providing children from areas of Jacksonville with a holiday shopping spree.

(news4jax.com, **Alessandra Pontbriand, Feb. 14, 2024**)

PERSONAL

Pronounced (DUH-waan). Dawuane "D.J." Smoot. Has a YouTube channel, 'Smoot TV', that chronicles his NFL journey on and off the field. He and his wife Aumari have two children Ahlani who was born in their living room and Ahmir who was born in their bedroom. Smoot was the Jaguars 2023 Walter Payton Man of the Year nominee.