

Houston Texans Media Conference

Sunday, January 3, 2021

Houston, Texas, USA

Coach Romeo Crennel

Press Conference



Titans 41, Texans 38

Q. Romeo, when they ended the game on that 52-yard pass, what was the coverage supposed to be, and should Johnson or Moore have been able to get over and help Crossen?

ROMEO CRENNEL: I'll tell you, they took a chance on that play. They took an aggressive shot down the field, and it just turned out that they were able to make it. They had their speed receiver against our corner, and he kind of got a step on us and made a good catch. And that put them in position to win the game.

Q. Should Crossen have had some help?

ROMEO CRENNEL: No, he is the fastest guy we've got in the backfield, so that's why he was matched up on their speed guy, and we just got beat.

Q. You didn't win the game, but your offense, you had some good production. Your thoughts on Deshaun, how he played and how he played all year?

ROMEO CRENNEL: Well, Deshaun has had a really good season. I think he set franchise records in several categories, even though the team wasn't winning. So I think that that says a lot about him. I think as he goes forward, he'll get better. The guys that he is working with, they'll get better, and then I expect to see a better quarterback all the way around.

Q. I know Derrick Henry has had several good games against you guys. What did you think about his performance today for the Titans?

ROMEO CRENNEL: Well, he had a great performance. When you think about it, I think he -- I mean, what, 250 yards or something like that he had? And so anytime you can run like that, that's pretty good in this league.

Q. What is it that Henry is able to bounce outside so much, a guy as big as he is?

ROMEO CRENNEL: Because when he runs inside, guys collapse on him inside, and so everybody feels like they have to collapse down to try to stop him, and so when he sees that, he's good enough, has good enough feet, good enough speed and balance to get outside, and then once he gets outside in space, he's hard to slow down.

Q. Earlier in the game you punted from I believe it was in Titans territory. Did you consider going for it there? It seemed like there was a little bit of delay in the decision there. Did you consider going for it, and why did you want to punt there?

ROMEO CRENNEL: Well, we thought about it, but we had used some time off the clock, and then what I did not want to do was get a delay penalty, so I called the punt and we punted it. And it was early in the game, too.

Q. With Brandin Cooks -- he said the other day that he would love to stay here. Just your thoughts on Brandin and the way he played today and the way he played all year?

ROMEO CRENNEL: Well, I think he's had a good season, not only this game but he's had a really good season, runs good routes. He catches the ball. I don't know exactly what his contract situation is, but if he can stay here, I think that he would like that because he's got a quarterback that he has a good rapport with, and I think that that rapport can continue.

But we all know that this time, this point in time of the season when it's over, the business of football starts, and so when the business starts, it changes a little bit, so we know that the team is going to change, and so there are going to be different people in place, and the team will be a new team, and what you hope is that you can keep the nucleus together so that you can build a successful team next year.

Q. Tannehill has now brought them from behind to beat you guys twice this season. What is it about him and AJ Brown? They both burned you guys in clutch moments.

ROMEO CRENNEL: Well, Tannehill, he is a very good quarterback. A lot of times I think people look at



quarterbacks, and if you don't have a Deshaun Watson or the Kansas City quarterback, you think that your quarterback is just so-so. Well, Tannehill, he runs his offense very efficiently. He takes what the defense gives him. And when the defense gives him the deep ball, he takes the deep ball and he helps his team win. He's got his team in the playoff, so you know, I don't disparage his ability and what he can do on the football field.

Q. Did you see anything change in David Johnson's running just from after he was injured, after he was on the COVID list and everything? Did you see anything change in him?

ROMEO CRENNEL: Well, David always runs hard, and I think that the biggest change was that we started to create some scenes for him. You know, we created more scenes than we were creating earlier, and we talked to the offensive linemen, Coach Devlin and myself, about double teams and about getting movement and that these runners can take advantage of that. But I think the last two weeks those guys have made a concentrated effort to get movement on their blocks, to create some space for the runner, and when we do that, he finds those holes, and once -- here again, here's another runner, you get him to the second level and you can see his ability show up because he's a big guy. He's got a long stride, covers ground, and so these last two games I think we've seen that.

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