

Houston Texans Media Conference

Sunday, September 12, 2021

Houston, Texas, USA

Brandin Cooks

Draft Press Conference



Texans 37, Jaguars 21

BRANDIN COOKS: I think it's huge. Obviously first of all, when you can use everybody, and then the defense coming together and you get a win. But when it's your first head coaching win, first game of the regular season, that's also huge. Proud of him and how he's been leading us and the energy that he brings. We've just got to continue to just work and get better.

Q. How much did the run game open up things downfield?

BRANDIN COOKS: I mean, anytime you can run the ball in this game it opens everything else up. The physicality that we get from our offensive line and those backs was great to see today. That's where it starts at.

Q. Brandin, what do you think about the way the team came out and got a decisive win with all the negative noise around the franchise for such a long time?

BRANDIN COOKS: Yeah, I think it's great. That's what we've been saying in this building; kind of ignore the noise and focus on what we have to do and do our job, and we've got to let everything else kind of take care of itself.

Q. Is that easier said than done?

BRANDIN COOKS: Not in this situation because I think the only people that believe in us is those in this locker room and in these walls, so we're just going to stick together and that's what we're going to continue to do.

Q. On that second big catch you had right before the end of the first half, was it a broken play or did you improvise there?

BRANDIN COOKS: That was Tyrod making plays, extending the plays and doing what he's great at.

Q. What did you think about Tyrod and the way he led the offense?

BRANDIN COOKS: I think it was awesome. Just the way that he came out leading, first drive didn't go how we wanted, but we recalculated and went out there and started moving the ball. He's a great leader and he makes plays and he's a playmaker at the end of the day.

Q. (Indiscernible.) How does it feel to reveal that and kind of show --

BRANDIN COOKS: It feels great. It feels great, yeah, absolutely.

Q. What was Coach's message in the locker room?

BRANDIN COOKS: His biggest message was it was about us, all the work that we put in this training camp and this off-season, that's what we have to focus on, just going out there and not beating ourselves. You can get high with the first game but just focus on the little things that we've been doing all off-season and training camp and then I think we'll be all right.

Q. Can you elaborate on the chemistry that you and Tyrod have built throughout training camp that came to fruition here?

BRANDIN COOKS: I think, yeah, the chemistry not just for him and I but everyone. As you seen, everyone kind of touched the ball from a passing game standpoint. He does a great job with throwing with guys after practice, and I think it showed today from everyone's standpoint.

Q. It was a long time Culley waited to get a head coaching job; what was it like getting him his first win?

BRANDIN COOKS: It was huge. You know, obviously like you say, it's been a while, but he's here now, and we're just so thankful for what he means to this team, the energy that he brings and the way that we all work hard together. It was great to see him get his first win and the first one being the first game of the season as well.

Q. You talked about chemistry just a minute ago. What does it say about Danny Amendola to be able to



come in, not even being with the team a week?

BRANDIN COOKS: Yeah, when you play in this game that long, and like you said, being in this offense before, you talk about a guy that's a playmaker, he's been a playmaker all his career, no matter where he lined up, he stepped in the room, he's going to make an impact right away. A lot of respect for Danny and I think he showed that today, as well.

Q. How big was it getting that last touchdown before halftime?

BRANDIN COOKS: I think it's huge. That's situational football. Any time you can get some points right before half, you get that swing and defense comes out and gets a stop, I think that's huge.

Q. What was it like watching your defense get three picks?

BRANDIN COOKS: It was awesome. Especially Lovie talked about it, he preaches it all throughout the week, they practice it, and for it to come to life in a real game was awesome, absolutely.

Q. What do these running backs add to the passing game and how do you interact with them?

BRANDIN COOKS: You know, from a running game standpoint, they run their tails off, they're physical, but also just in the passing game the way that they block and pick some of those extra fitters is huge. When you don't have that it's going to be hard to pass the ball, but the unselfishness from those guys, you see it down in and down out where if they're getting the ball or blocking for us to get the ball.

Q. Same question you were asked about Pharaoh Brown --

BRANDIN COOKS: Yeah, that guy is a dog. He's physical. He's going to block with the best of them, but he also going to run a route and make plays in the passing game as well. He's dynamic, and you just love to see him finally get his chance throughout the years. He's making the most of it.

Q. That was a great catch --

BRANDIN COOKS: That was huge. He's got to hold on to the ball a little tighter afterward I'm going to tell him.

Q. Just talk about Tim Kelly's play calling. I know it's early but have you seen a difference from him this year

versus last season?

BRANDIN COOKS: I mean, the confidence right off the bat, you just see he's a lot more smooth with the play calling having a year under his belt. The guy is smart, and he uses all his guys, and that's what you love about him. You never know what you're going to get.

DraftScripts by ASAP Sports