

Houston Texans Media Conference

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Houston, Texas, USA

Quarterback Russell Wilson

Visitors Postgame Press Conference



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RUSSELL WILSON: How's everybody doing?

Q. Going through the injury you had earlier this year, knowing what Rashaad has been through, what does it mean for him to have a game like he did, spearheading the offense?

RUSSELL WILSON: Yeah, I thought that was great by Rashaad Penny. I thought he had an amazing game. He keep battling. He's had a great couple weeks. He's put in the work at practice and it shows.

Any time you go through injuries the way he's gone through and the battles and obstacles he's faced, it's the ability to overcome those is what's amazing. And, really, to come back stronger.

That was great to see and we all felt great for him. What was also great watching was our offensive line, you know, dominate the line of scrimmage. They were dominating the line of scrimmage in the run and pass game. We just stayed the course.

Q. What does it feel like with a two game winning streak, you guys are building momentum and you can finish this out and win the last four?

RUSSELL WILSON: Well, what's important is the next moment and the next game. Just staying focused on the next opportunity, the next play. The next play is the most important one, the next game is the most important one. That's all what really matters.

Q. How special was it to see Justin Britt? And two: When asked about you, he said he loves the guy, you're like a big brother to him and he cherishes your friendship.

RUSSELL WILSON: First of all, Justin Britt has been an all

time classic player for us. He was a guy that gave everything, every game, every moment.

And I thought to see him today was really cool. It gave me chills a little bit just because I know how much he dedicated to the Seahawks, I know how much he dedicated to me and just our football team.

But he's a tremendous football player. And he looks great out there. I mean, he's making plays all day.

I was asking about his family and everything else. And I miss his family. So he's a great friend. He's a good soul. You know, he does a lot for the community that he's in and wherever that is.

And he's always been about others and always been about his teammates and giving everything he has. I love that about Justin Britt. And I love him as a teammate, I love him as a football player but I also love him as a friend.

Q. Russell, you went up against a defense that has recorded 11 interceptions throughout the last three or four games. What was it about the secondary that allowed you to play such a clean game?

RUSSELL WILSON: Yeah, I thought their secondary was really, really talented. They made a lot of great plays. They've had 14 interceptions this year. That's a big deal and just knowing that.

But we didn't play scared. We took advantage of our opportunities. You know, we took some shots down the field. Tyler had some sweet catches on the sidelines.

You know, just tight quarters, tight areas. Third down we were great. We executed the plays we needed to execute. I moved around a bit when I needed to. That was huge.

I thought that our receivers and tight ends did a great job. Obviously, Tyler had a special, special night. And then DK had some sweet plays where he stiff-armed some guys and made some great plays. Everybody touched the football in a huge way.

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Q. Tyler has been doing that for so long now. Does it ever surprise you the type of plays he can make?

RUSSELL WILSON: No. Nothing Tyler Lockett does surprises me. Our Man of the Year. I mean, he does everything right. He approaches the game with everything that he has.

And just his ability to maneuver his body and, you know, for me to -- that first -- one of the first third downs of the game, you know, the one down the sideline to him, I just took a shot to him and put it over the top of the defender, Mitch's hands. And Tyler was able to put his hands up and catch it, boom boom, one-two.

Those are the kind of plays that makes him special. And, obviously, the touchdowns that he does, too. His craftiness is amazing.

Q. What did you see on the 54-yard touchdown pass to him? Because that was a play where you could have eaten all the time on the clock. You've done that so well. But you must have seen something.

RUSSELL WILSON: Yeah, there was a huge opportunity for us. Their defense has been playing great all year. We got the ball back. Our defense did a tremendous job getting the ball back with 1:05 on the clock.

And then kind of dropped back and maneuvered, got away from two guys, slid to the right and Tyler was, you know, chugging along downfield and just gave him a shot down the field to make a huge play. And just the first play of the drive, that was awesome to see Tyler make that play.

Q. That wasn't his original path. Was that you scrambling?

RUSSELL WILSON: It may have been an original. (Laughing). I don't know, we'll see.

Q. Who would you describe he's most like?

RUSSELL WILSON: Tyler Lockett? Man, that's a good question. Lance is a good one. You know, I think that -- I don't think there's anybody like Tyler Lockett.

You know, I think Tyler Lockett is his own man. I think there's a guy that's creating opportunities for people all over the world.

And I think his ability to -- he's a smaller player, but he catches -- he plays big. He's able to catch everything, able to be in the slot and play outside.

You know, I think that Tyler Lockett will be one of those guys that will be forever remembered. In my opinion, I think he's had a Hall of Fame-type career and just how he's approached it.

And I don't think people have talked enough about him and what he's able to do. It's been a tremendous honor to be able to play with such great players over my career.

But Tyler is one of those guys, that connection is really remarkable. We work at it every day. He spends extra time watching film with me. We do extra work, we talk about it, we get up early in the mornings and that's really been showing off.

And he's worked at his craft. And not to mention, what's even better about the man, he's our Man of the Year. A guy who's worked his butt off in the community doing so many things back home, obviously, in Seattle, as well.

He's just a good soul and I always say, You think he's a great football player, wait till you read his books and everything else he's going to do in his life.

Q. Russ, we talk about your improvisation like a good jazz master like Miles Davis. Who do you think you are now?

RUSSELL WILSON: Well, my dad would love that reference to Miles Davis and being able to make things happen.

You know, for me, I always try to read out the play for what's supposed to happen, and the next thing you know, make some magic and see what happens.

And I think in my career, being able to feel where people are, where they're not anymore, being able to understand how the game is kind of -- it's a beautiful but yet chaotic puzzle piece.

And, you know, I think that you have to be able to have amazing minds and amazing ability of guys around you to do that, too.

And that's what we have, really talented guys that can get open and make plays. And, you know, the line, it takes them battling and just giving me another little split second and another little chance. That's what they do a great job of and did that tonight.

Q. What's it like to interact with fans? How good does it feel to have that type of support?

RUSSELL WILSON: Yeah, Seahawks fans are the best in

the world. Just the energy, just to have our fans come all the way from Seattle, all over the country, all over the world just to be here with us. It was really special.

You know, I got to see some fans pregame and then, obviously, after the game to run around the stadium and just give everybody a little bit of love. Just because the energy was great today.

Q. What have these last two weeks been for you guys getting these last two wins?

RUSSELL WILSON: I think the last two weeks have been us executing. We picked up the tempo a little bit, being able to make some plays. We've been really good on third downs in key situations.

Obviously, playing the 49ers last week was a tough NFC West battle. A physical game, really physical game to be able to, you know, overcome that physicality of that game, to win that game and then come to this game and knowing it's going to be another tough nose-type football game.

They've been playing well and have been playing making a lot of plays on the defensive side for them. And to be able to make that a nonproblem for us and, really, being able to execute and score touchdowns was really key.

I mean, we had another one to DK. That would have been cool, too. I think there's some things out there we could have done a little bit better. But I think we're staying the course and believing in each other.

And there's a lot more football left. And we just got to keep playing one game at a time, one play at a time.

Q. (No microphone.)

RUSSELL WILSON: Yeah, I thought Jake did a great job just holding down that right side and just battling, battling.

One thing about Jake, and we've been talking about this, me and him, he's going to have give me everything and vice versa. He's going to keep battle. He did a tremendous job.

He had a great -- we knew he was going to be able to a great player for us because we saw him in preseason and training camp he did a great job.

One thing about Jake, he's super confident. And that's what you love about him. He's really confident.

Q. (Question concerning Davis Mills.)

RUSSELL WILSON: Yeah, I think that it's a long journey. Every day is a long journey. If you come in every day with the right approach, right mentality, you love the game, you love the process more than the end result, I think that's the best thing you can do, give yourself the best chance possible to be successful.

Q. When Tyler came in, he talked about his deep faith. And I know you have a deep faith, too. How much has that helped you through what you've gone through this season?

RUSSELL WILSON: Yeah, I think faith, to me, is everything. It's the first thing. Every day I wake up, I'm thankful that God has given me an opportunity to impact people and hopefully inspire somebody else and give somebody else a chance not just in football, but just in life. Having a little bit of hope.

I think for me, I think that Jesus has just given me another opportunity to play the game and any time I get to glorify, it's another opportunity to glorify him and give him phrase. And that's what this game is to me.

And then also, too, being able to do it with my teammates. And we have a tight knit group and guys who are working their butts off every day.

Q. There was some pretty impressive offensive numbers, including total yards today, rushing yards, and zero sacks. What do the numbers mean?

RUSSELL WILSON: I think that means we're playing efficient football. We were able to run the ball, have a great balance in sense. And we were able to run the ball around the field.

And, you know, I thought the line did a great job just battling. And when things weren't there, I threw some away. But we stayed -- we knew that they were really good with the football, meaning their defense.

We knew they could attack the football. And so, we didn't want to give them any really chances at it. We took some chances down the field for sure and we hit them when we needed to. And that was key for us.

Q. What did you see there on the two-point conversion? How much tougher is it to play that scramble ball and you got that chaos in the tight area?

RUSSELL WILSON: Well, I think that in those situations, the two-point conversion and in any situation down there, really, you know, if it's not there right away, keep the play alive and try to move a little bit.

And, you know, the O-line did a great job of giving me some time. And, you know, one of the guys came around the edge and I kind of moved away from him a little bit, and guys were crisscrossing, everything else, kind of no-looked it and tried to throw a bullet in there to Tyler. He made a great play. That was an awesome play by Tyler to be able to come down with it.

Q. Penny had the nice game last week, too, which included the big blitz pickup there. What did that mean to you there when he sold out?

RUSSELL WILSON: Yeah, I think I mentioned earlier, I think what he's been doing in practice has been showing up in the game.

You know, and I think that his consistency of that has been really awesome to see. He's building that confidence up every day.

And, you know, just being able to make that block last week against a really good 49ers team to be able to cut off that edge so I could slide to the left, hit the deep cross, that was huge.

And for him to have an early, nice big run there for a touchdown, that was awesome. And I think everybody is just coming together. We're really catching our groove and we just got to stay the course.