

# Houston Texans Media Conference

Sunday, December 26, 2021

Houston, Texas, USA

## Coach Brandon Staley

### Visitors Postgame Press Conference



Chargers 29, Texans 41

BRANDON STALEY: All right, guys.

**Q. Talk about getting these games on your terms. Seemed like you just aren't able to do that.**

BRANDON STALEY: Yeah, from the beginning of the game we just weren't able to get into a rhythm as a team. Love the way we moved the ball in the first half. I felt like we moved the ball the entire game.

Has to kick some field goals there, but I felt like defensively we just couldn't get into a comfort zone or rhythm in the run game or passing game on third down. We didn't play well in two minute and a half, four minute at the end of the game. We just didn't have enough today.

**Q. Defensively seemed like a lot of issues popped up.**

BRANDON STALEY: Uh-huh.

**Q. Do you put it on personnel? What do you attribute the defensive performance to?**

BRANDON STALEY: I didn't coach well enough today. I didn't put our guys in good positions to be consistent in this game and that's why we lost.

**Q. (Regarding Kenneth Murray.) How do you think he played?**

BRANDON STALEY: Kenneth Murray was not the issue in the run game at all. I thought he gave us a good opportunity to be successful. I commend him for being able to jump in and play like he played.

I think we'll have to watch more to assess just how well he played. He gave us a chance out there.

**Q. Did you feel like you had the physicality that you were looking for?**

BRANDON STALEY: We didn't play well in any area today on defense. There wasn't an area that we played well on today.

**Q. (No microphone.)**

BRANDON STALEY: Yeah, he was just there in an emergency only, in case we got cleaned out, which we almost did. But he was only going to go out there if we didn't have anyone else to put out there.

**Q. How difficult was it losing (indiscernible) before the game?**

BRANDON STALEY: I think all the circumstances of what's happened in the last few weeks is we're just figuring out as we go, and we are just going to try and continue to coach our guys and play well enough when guys go out like that, and our guys competed today and we will give them a good game plan moving forward.

**Q. Any update on Drue?**

BRANDON STALEY: Drue just had a lower leg. Do not know the extent right now, but he was not able to return to the game.

**Q. The interception that Justin threw late in the first half, what did you see there?**

BRANDON STALEY: Just a little bit late. A little bit late, left it a little bit inside. We liked the look. Just a little late, a little bit inside.

**Q. Michael Davis, was that COVID?**

BRANDON STALEY: It was, yes. He was not feeling well in warmups and he tested positive and did not play today.

**Q. What did you think of Davis Mills?**

BRANDON STALEY: I thought he made some throws today, they had a good amount of explosions in the passing game, the two minute in the half was a really tough circumstance for us because we had them at second and

16 and we had a defensive holding, and then you give up a double move and then you give up a nine for a touchdown.

So that sequence was not good for us, and I think he made enough winning plays for them to win the game.

**Q. (No microphone.)**

BRANDON STALEY: No, I thought he's been a quality player the entire season. I think he's given them a real chance, and that's why they're starting him, because they feel like he's their best quarterback and they feel like he has a chance to be the starter for that team moving forward.

**Q. Moving the guys around in the secondary, is that injury related stuff?**

BRANDON STALEY: No.

**Q. Just trying to find an accommodation?**

BRANDON STALEY: Yeah, just trying to search for the accommodations to give us the best chance. We're working hard to figure it out. It's been a fight, and going to continue to be a fight, and just searching for the best combinations to give us the best chance to be successful.

**Q. (No microphone.)**

BRANDON STALEY: I thought he made some good plays and I think there are some plays he's going to learn from. The double move in two minute is a tough one.

And then the PI on third down, you know tough one. But he made a lot of good plays in there, too. I know it's good to have him back, that's for sure. Hopefully he'll be able to stay there for us because he's a quality player.

**Q. (No microphone.)**

BRANDON STALEY: This was a challenging week, and I love the way that our guys prepared this week. We didn't play well enough today, but that doesn't change the way I feel about them. This is the tough side of the NFL. Didn't go down today, and that's what I told them. This is the tough side of the NFL. It's been a fight this entire season for us, and it's going to continue to be that way.

We still have a lot in front of us we can play for certainly, and we need to let this one sting, get home and rest, and be ready to go take on Denver because they're really good, and hopefully get some guys back next week and just keep to moving.