

Houston Texans Media Conference

Sunday, September 11, 2022

Houston, Texas, USA

Davis Mills

Postgame Press Conference



Texans 20, Colts 20

Q. You guys were up 20-3. What happened after the sack and the fumble offensively?

DAVIS MILLS: Yeah, I mean, you just felt the momentum change after that play. Felt like we've just got to maintain what we had moving in the first half and going into the third quarter on offense.

We're close. That's situational football. That's what matters. Kicked two field goals tonight. When we go down there we've got to convert those into touchdowns and just got to continue to execute, be better on 3rd down, be better running the football. I got to be more efficient, as well.

I think we're close. We've got a lot to work on. We're happy with where we're at, but we know we've got to keep pushing forward and change the result into a win.

Q. Davis, when you look at the 3rd down play, 3rd and 1 and they try to run the ball, trying to get the pass going, is it a little frustrating that they're not trusting you to get that one yard?

DAVIS MILLS: Not necessarily. We're confident in our guys we have up front, in our running backs to be able to make a 3rd down conversion in the run game, be able to mix it up that way.

I don't think there's anything to look at too much deeper than that.

Q. Brandin said multiple times that you guys had opportunities to try and steal the game away, but is it a little frustrating to see the punting come out when you were just a yard short?

DAVIS MILLS: I think so. I think we want to execute better on offense. I mean, I respect Coach's decision to do what he did, but, I mean, when it comes down to it, I think it was on us.

We could have been better on 1st and 2nd down and on 3rd down to convert. It's on us, too.

Q. It looked like maybe you guys lost a little bit of gas during the fourth quarter. What would you say was kind of the achilles heel there?

DAVIS MILLS: I think it's just continuing to execute and do our jobs. Situational football is a big thing for us, 3rd down, red zone, those gotta-have-it moments, two-minute drives. We've just got to continue executing and doing our jobs in those situations so we can keep driving the football.

Q. The first quarter you offensively started slowing. Fourth quarter you guys struggled down the stretch and in overtime. What were the biggest reasons for those issues?

DAVIS MILLS: Like I said, I think simple execution. Got to be on the same page with my receivers sometimes. I thought I could have been held onto the ball a little bit longer. The offensive line for the most part of the game did a really good job protecting their guys. I had time all night.

Stuff like that, just simple execution that we can continue to work on and stress. I think overall we're close. That was a football team that practically shut us out two times last year, and I thought we played well the whole night. Defense and special teams played well. Offense, we did some really good things.

But the result shows. We've got a lot to work on, and we're ready for it.

Q. Speaking of those miscommunications, several times throughout the game those sideline routes, were some of those a little high, and then also after the fumble seemed like you got a little jumpy or happy feet in the pocket more than you typically have. Can you walk us through that and the pressure and what happened there in the fourth quarter?

DAVIS MILLS: I mean, I don't think anything changed after the fumble. I've still got to continue to do my job. Like you had mentioned, kind of off on some of those sideline

routes. Some of them I was trying to get the ball out early so I'm not taking hits, taking sacks from my offensive line and trying to anticipate, stuff like that that we'll continue to stress the timing, and I'll get better with the ball placement.

Q. Considering the fact certainly that you did give up a big lead and had to go into overtime, obviously everybody is disappointed in that, but at the same time, it looked like almost certainly you were going to lose and then the Colts missed that field goal. So you've got to take some positive out of this thing, as well, that you did at least preserve the tie.

DAVIS MILLS: Yeah, definitely. It's a long season ahead of us. A tie is always better than a loss when it comes down to it. It could change some things at the end of the season in the division, so that'll be big. I think our guys after this, we got a bad feeling from this and we're ready to go out and change the result next time.

Q. How did you feel because you know you could have won this game? How disappointed are you?

DAVIS MILLS: I mean, definitely disappointed. We knew we could win. We put ourselves in a good spot. Taking responsibility on the offense, I think we could have played better later in the game and capitalized on some of our opportunities because the opportunities were there, but I'm ready to go watch the film and learn from it and move on to next week.

Q. OJ Howard, I know it's a brief time working together, but building that chemistry; where do you see this offense going forward?

DAVIS MILLS: Yeah, he came in really last week and got to work, put his head down, and I think he's in a really good spot right now. Made some big time plays tonight or this afternoon, and I think we have a ton of guys across the field that we can utilize in every situation, and having him as an addition is going to help a lot of that.

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