

# Houston Texans Media Conference

Thursday, November 3, 2022

Houston, Texas, USA

## Davis Mills

### Postgame Press Conference



Philadelphia Eagles-29, Houston Texans-17

**Q. Basically at the midway point of the season right now. How would you evaluate the offense, where it's at, and most recently on this game?**

DAVIS MILLS: I think obviously the record is what it is, but I think we're at a good spot. Came and played arguably the best team in the league right now, and our guys battled. Especially the offensive line played really well up front. Run game was flowing all night long. Passing game, guys were making plays.

Obviously the two turnovers. I've got to protect the ball better. Tried to force some plays when I guess they weren't there and just be smart with it. Puts our defense in a bad spot.

But I think we're in a good spot. We're getting better each week. Just have to find a way to get over the hump and finish some games.

**Q. Can you talk about how great it was to see Dameon Pierce rush for a career high today? And along with that, how much does his ability actually open up the playbook for you guys?**

DAVIS MILLS: Yeah, I've been saying it all year. The run game helps a lot with just the total offense, helping the pass game and opening up other runs.

But Dameon, I mean, I don't even know if he thought it coming into this year how well he would do, but seeing how hard he works, it's not very surprising. He is putting good game after good game and continues to do it, fight hard for extra yards. Obviously, a lot of it goes, and he will tell you too, to how well the offensive line is playing.

And Troy at fullback opened up some holes. So I think it's a full effort, but you can't deny his talent and his will to go out there and put up a bunch of yards every week.

**Q. Can you talk about without Brandin and without**

**Nico how some of your wide receivers really stepped up for you tonight, and also your thoughts on Teagan in his first game and what he was able to do in the opening drive?**

DAVIS MILLS: I think all the guys really stepped up and came to play today. Had a really good game plan without those two. Obviously having them out takes a little bit away of what we are capable of, but really confident in the guys that were able to step up. Really the whole room was ready to go out there and play any position. So I felt like we did well. They were getting open.

Teagan, his first career catch, I guess, was a touchdown. That's pretty cool for him. He is a true wide tight end. Helps a lot in the run game and does a lot surprisingly in the passing game because he is going to go and separate with his speed, and it catches people off guard how fast he is. So it's going to be exciting to see how he develops and keeps getting better each week.

**Q. Can I ask how in particular not having Brandin out there may have changed things?**

DAVIS MILLS: I don't know if it changes too much. I know a lot of defenses probably when they see 13 out there, circle him and try to find ways to double him. So maybe that might have worked a little bit to our advantage.

But, I mean, not having him out there, he is a threat on every play. He is going to make a play, but I think the guys who were able to fill his role kind of -- the main guy right now, Phillip Dorsett, was able to step into that position and make some plays. And some of those plays we had scripted for Brandin this past week. When we realized wasn't going to be in, Phillip was able to take over those roles and go out there and make some plays.

**Q. (Off microphone).**

DAVIS MILLS: I wouldn't say anything in particular. We are all confident in his ability, and it's good that he knows he is going to go out there and make plays. I mean, I think it puts us in a good spot for the rest of the season that we have a lot of guys in that room who are going to contribute



into big roles.

**Q. At what point did you know that Cooks wasn't going to be part of the game plan?**

DAVIS MILLS: Later in the week. Probably similar to pretty much you guys. It was a day-by-day thing.

I think it's going to be good because we'll have him back starting tomorrow, so it should be good for the rest of the season.

**Q. For him to be back, how do you expect that will help the offense, or how will you approach that when is he on the team again?**

DAVIS MILLS: It be will be great. He is one of the leaders on this football team. Obviously his talent and playmaking ability speaks for itself. It's going to be exciting to have him back for the rest of the year.

**Q. You guys scored all 14 points in the first half. What do you think you guys need to do in order to stay consistent on the offensive side of the ball and continue putting points up on the board?**

DAVIS MILLS: Just go out there, keep straining to sustain drives, limit penalties and limit turnovers. If we do that, I think we can play with anyone.

**Q. We get into the season, and how would you best evaluate your performance so far this year?**

DAVIS MILLS: I mean, it's hard to think too much. Obviously I've got to see the film from this past game, but my goals are just to continue getting better each week, protect the football.

Could have been better at that tonight with the turnovers, but continue leading the guys on offense and just go out there and do my job and try to find ways to get the ball out on the edge to playmakers.

FastScripts by ASAP Sports