

Houston Texans Media Conference

Sunday, December 18, 2022

Houston, Texas, USA

Patrick Mahomes

Visitors Postgame Press Conference



Kansas City - 30, Houston - 24

Q. Patrick, what's the general feeling out there after a game like that?

PATRICK MAHOMES: Obviously we know we have a lot to work on, to clean up at least with the turnovers and the penalties. But you have to celebrate. We still won the AFC West, and you have to enjoy that.

I told the guys to do that. Enjoy it for the plane ride home tonight. We've got a short week this next week, so enjoy it and we'll get right back to it.

Q. There was a weird flow to the game. Did you feel that?

PATRICK MAHOMES: Early it was for sure. After the first few drives, we got it going offensively a little bit. When you turn the ball over, it keeps changing games, and they play hard. They had some playmakers and they play hard, and they're well coached. If you give teams life like that, they're going to make it a battle.

You see it in the NFL. No matter what your record is, the margin of winning or losing is so small, and Coach Reid preaches that, and I'm just glad we found a way to win it in the end.

Q. What was your emotion when Frank knocks the ball out and Willie recovers it for you guys?

PATRICK MAHOMES: Yeah, that was a big play. That's why we have guys like Frank on the team. He's a guy who makes big plays in big moments. That's what he's done in his entire career, especially when he's here with the Chiefs.

We punted and gave them a chance, and they make that big play, and Jet kind of iced the game. You get those big playmakers on your team, those leaders to make plays in big moments, and he did.

Q. Can you take us through that touchdown in

overtime from your perspective?

PATRICK MAHOMES: Yeah, obviously you always want to end the game with a touchdown. Obviously we're field goal range, so we're going to protect it and play it a little bit safer. They brought everybody up in the line of scrimmage to stop the run. The offensive line washed them down, and then Jet hit the right spot and showed off his speed that he's still got. He's getting a little old, but he got a little bit of speed left and got it in the end zone.

It was just execution by everybody. Everybody did their job. When we do that, we're hard to stop. We've just got to do that for an entire game.

Q. I remember in Arizona you said there's always something to prove. To start the season, obviously everybody knows what happened in the AFC West. Just what does it mean that you've proven at least this so far in the season. Obviously you guys are still the divisional champs.

PATRICK MAHOMES: Yeah, when you start -- I say it all the time, when you start every single season, the first thing we get told when we first walk in is let's win the AFC West. That's our first goal to come in and win the AFC West. We believe it's always a tough division. Obviously the players they got in the off-season, it was even tougher.

We accomplished our first goal. So our next goal is to try to establish home field advantage. It's not in our hands. We can do our best to be ready in case we get that opportunity and then win the Super Bowl.

We just kind of continue to get better and better. Obviously we have a lot to learn from this game. But we have to continue to get better as a team so when we get to the playoffs, we're ready to go to try to make a run.

Q. You mentioned turnovers. Isaiah has a fumble early in the game. What was your message to him?

PATRICK MAHOMES: Yeah, I don't even have to say anything. I think guys know, especially with how Coach Reid calls the game. When something like that happens,



we're going right back to you.

You saw that with Isaiah. He started running the ball and started running extremely hard, even harder than he usually runs. Then with Juju, he fumbles and gets more catches as the game went on.

So Coach Reid does a good job of keeping those guys involved and not letting them hang their heads. And they know that we all believe in them on this team, and that's what it takes to be a great team.

Q. Can you talk about some of the hits that you took. The one especially where the ball dropped and you got kind of slung down to the ground. Is that one of the harder hits of the game that you took? What are your thoughts on that?

PATRICK MAHOMES: I haven't seen it on tape or anything like that. I don't really know what it looked like. What surprised me the most is I feel like I'm a pretty heavy dude and he threw me pretty easily there.

He's a strong guy. I think it was 96. I'll try to stay away from him next time we play him.

Q. You talked about coming back and making your first start in your home state of Texas. Can you assess your play? What was it like making your first start here?

PATRICK MAHOMES: I'm glad we won. Last time I played here, we lost. So I was glad we won that game. We battled. Obviously we feel like we didn't play our best, but we found a way to win at the end of the day. Now we just need Texas Tech to win here in the next couple of weeks.

Q. I guess I know the answer, but did anything change this week after a rare off week or a rare off quarter last week?

PATRICK MAHOMES: I think I just went back to the fundamentals. When I watched the tape from the week before, I felt like I left easy throws out there. Today I just tried to take those when they were there. Keep third downs manageable. Take those easy completions. When the shots present themselves, try to take the shots.

There wasn't a lot of opportunities with the coverages they were playing, so we did a good job of just kind of moving it down the field little by little until we could get in the end zone.

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