

Kinder's Texas Bowl: Houston vs LSU

Sunday, December 28, 2025

Houston, Texas, USA

NRG Stadium

Houston Cougars

Khalil Laufau

Postgame Press Conference

Houston - 38, LSU - 35

Q. Walk us through at the end. The game's final, all the festivities, seeing all the fans, celebrating, you guys celebrating. What was that process for you once you guys knew you came out with the victory?

KHALIL LAUFAU: It was a surreal moment for sure, just to have the fans, families, friends, all of it. Just a surreal moment. I couldn't really explain to you right now. It's definitely a blessing, for sure.

Q. Having fun there on the field with the barbecue and all that, what was that moment like for you?

KHALIL LAUFAU: The barbecue was good, though, for sure. Just needed a little barbecue sauce would have been better. It was good. It was fun. It was a great night for us. Thank God for that. It was nice. It was fun.

Q. Looked like after you guys went down 14-0 you guys were playing with some extra juice. Latrell had the sack. (Indiscernible) that punch-out. What kind of got in to you guys with all those kind of vicious hits you had tonight?

KHALIL LAUFAU: It was just really feeding off each other and each other's energy. And Coach Armstrong really harps on that, just feeding off of each other and lifting each other up in times of need like that. So we just took it to heart and started feeding off of each other's energy.

Q. What did you all think about the turnout from the U of H fans that came out and supported you in this game?

KHALIL LAUFAU: It was love, definitely. You definitely felt the love. You can hear it. But thank you Houston, for coming out and showing out for us. And we hope to look



forward to it for next year.

Q. Final drive of that game, Carlos Allen comes up with a big sack. What was it like seeing that moment for him in his last game? What's it been like playing next to him through the year?

KHALIL LAUFAU: That's my dog right there. That's my brother. I'm going to miss him. But to see him leave that field with something like that, that's definitely a blessing on him. He's going to do a lot of great things in the future for him and his family, specifically his daughter. So it's nothing but love for him.

Q. During the football season, it's treacherous and it's a grind. You build chemistry. You have fights sometimes. What does it mean to get this win and cap off such a great season, historically, for the school?

KHALIL LAUFAU: It was rough, for sure. Definitely had our ups and downs as a team, personally, individually, stuff like that. But I feel like Coach Fritz does a good job of bringing us together and really just lifting up each other. For that, it just brought us a great year.

Q. What message would you have for incoming freshmen, transfers on the culture here and the foundation that's built right now?

KHALIL LAUFAU: It's loving over here. You definitely feel that within the locker room. We're always going to welcome y'all, freshmen or whomever may come or walk through those doors. We're always going to welcome you with open arms. They've done the same thing with me when I transferred in this year, they opened up their arms and showed me nothing but love.

Q. What do you think you're going to remember about this team, in particular, like what made this team so special?

KHALIL LAUFAU: Dogs for sure. We had some dogs, that's what I'm going to remember this team as, a bunch of dogs.



Q. Was there a moment like earlier in the season when you were, like, oh, dang?

KHALIL LAUFAU: It was really during fall camp. We were scrimmaging, scrimmaging, and it was hot, really hot. We just came together and we just started showing up.

Q. What was that moment like when you're celebrating with your teammates and you've got the tenth win? And what's going through your mind in that moment, and what does it mean?

KHALIL LAUFAU: There's a lot going through my mind right there. I would say specifically excitement. And it feels great. It feels like a blessing from God. But to get this tenth win means everything. We worked so hard for it.

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