

Indianapolis Colts Media Conference

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Indianapolis, Indiana, USA

Sam Ehlinger

Postgame Press Conference



Texans - 32, Colts - 31

Q. Walk us through the two interceptions.

SAM EHLINGER: The first one, the pick-6, unfortunately, they went two tempo so Shell (phonetic) had to take the underneath checkdown. 52 made a great play. I should have just thrown it away.

And then the second one, I can't hold onto the ball that long. Thought I was going to have Parris coming back around the middle. When (indiscernible) came around it, it hit my hand. But gotta get the ball out quicker.

Q. Is that something you're still learning to recognize things, get the ball out quicker?

SAM EHLINGER: Absolutely. Absolutely. It's a long process. And it takes a long time for young quarterbacks to develop. And I think part of that is coverage recognition and getting the ball out because D line's really good and you don't have time. So it's certainly part of the process.

Q. How much of it is, I know you worked hard on it, looked at it on film, but how much is it different when it's game day?

SAM EHLINGER: All of it. All of it. I mean, look around the league, it takes a long time for a young quarterback to develop. And some have longer leashes and I understand that. But it's unfortunate.

Q. How difficult has this year been like for you?

SAM EHLINGER: As I've looked back at the season and processed everything that's taken place, I'm very thankful for it. It's been an absolute roller coaster. But it's a roller coaster that I love riding. I love the guys on the team. I love all these coaches.

The expectations were high. They weren't met but we learned a lot about ourselves and as players. Obviously

didn't want it to go this way. But we've learned a lot and we'll be better for it.

Q. I remember during camp you told us kind of a two-year process with Tom. Would you work with him in the offseason again? And what does year two look like in that process?

SAM EHLINGER: Yeah, obviously gotta sit down and do exit interviews to figure out what we need to work on. But I'll go out to San Diego to work with Tom. And it will be the physical stuff.

But then talking with coaches and Chris, now it's the processing, the speeding up, getting the ball out. And that's coverage recognition, that's understanding concepts and, like we said, reps.

Working with him, focusing on physical development, and then also watching a lot of film to be able to diagnose coverages and schemes before it's too late.

Q. Game reps, did you find yourself reverting back to the old at all, or a battle with that in game reps this season?

SAM EHLINGER: I think that it's kind of a balance. It never reverted back to all where it was all the way before. But it wasn't as perfect as it has been when there's no chaos around me. So I think that it's kind of a balance between the two.

Q. From your experience, either high school, college, the pros, how long does it take you to really put a season out of your mind, to fully dive into the preparation for the offseason for next year?

SAM EHLINGER: I think a few weeks, get away from it a little bit. Take a step back and kind of go through it and diagnose and review. You can learn a lot in that process by just kind of stepping away, looking back. So I'll take a few weeks off, look back, and then just right on to next year.

Q. I know you hate the loss, but how nice was it to see

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Damar Hamlin's teammates do well today?

SAM EHLINGER: Obviously any positive news for Damar, whether it be the people associated with him and also the progress that he's been making. It's unbelievable. So for his two buddies to have a great day today, then obviously the progress that he's making is very positive.

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