ARIZONA CARDINALS NOTE CARDS

Sacks for Arizona in the last two weeks. The Cardinals (9.0) and Cowboys (10.0) are two of four teams with 9.0+ sacks through the first two weeks of the season (Commanders - 10.0 and Steelers - 9.0). Arizona's 9.0 sacks have come from seven different players. Only two teams have more players with at least a partial sack in 2023 (Miami and Washington - 8 players).

Regular season meetings between the Cardinals and Cowboys since Dallas' inception in 1960. Prior to division realignment in 2002, the two franchises spent over 30 seasons as division rivals in the NFC East (1970-2001).

Sacks allowed by the Cardinals offensive line last week against the Giants. The O-line also opened holes for Arizona to rush for 151 yards and two TDs on 29 carries (4.7 avg.). Sunday was the first time since Week 7 of the 2020 season that the team did not allow a sack and rushed for 150+ yards in a game.

Gross yards per punt by Cardinals opponents in 2023, the lowest rate across the NFL. It is significantly lower than the NFL average of 47.3.

WITH A WIN...

- Arizona would extend its winning streak against the Cowboys to three straight and improve to 7-1 in its last eight games vs. Dallas.
- The Cards would improve to 4-1 in their last five home games against the Cowboys.
- The Cardinals would claim their first win under head coach Jonathan Gannon.
 The Cardinals would improve to 14-7 against the NFC East since 2014, including a 7-3 mark in the last 10 games.

MILESTONES WITHIN REACH...

RB JAMES CONNER

- With 1 rushing TD, Conner would have 24 rushing TDs as a member of the Cardinals. That would give him the 2nd-most rushing TDs in a player's first 31 games with the team and also place him in a tie for 10th place on the franchise all-time list for career rushing TDs.
- With a TD (of any kind), Conner would have 28 TDs in 31 games with the Cardinals. In franchise history, only RB David Johnson (33) would have more TDs in his first 31 games with the team.
- With 100+ rushing yards, Conner would have 100 rushing yards in back-to-back games for the first time since Weeks 2-3 of the 2020 season with Pittsburgh. He would also be the first Cardinal with 100+ rushing yards in back-to-back games since Kenyan Drake (Weeks 15-16) in 2019.

WR MARQUISE BROWN

With a TD reception, Brown would have a receiving TD in back-to-back games for the 2nd time with AZ (Weeks 4-5 of 2022) and 8th time in his career.

WR RONDALE MOORE

- With a reception, Moore would have 100 receptions in 25 career games. He would join Anguan Boldin (16 games), Christian Kirk (22 games) and Larry Fitzgerald (23 games) as just one of four Cardinals since at least 1970 to reach 100 career receptions in 25 career games or fewer.
- With 4 receiving yards, Moore would have 900 receiving yards in his career.

TE ZACH ERTZ

- With a reception, Ertz would have at least one catch in 119 consecutive games. Only three NFL players have longer active streaks. Ertz has been held without a catch in just three of his 146 career regular season games.
- With 6 catches, Ertz would reach 700 career receptions. He would be just the 8th TE in NFL history to achieve the feat, and the 3rd quickest to accomplish it (147 games) trailing only Travis Kelce (126) and Jason Witten (145).
- With 77 receiving yards, Ertz (1,057) would move into 5th place on the Cardinals all-time list for receiving yards by a TE.

LB DENNIS GARDECK

- With a sack, Gardeck would tie LB Ronald McKinnon for the franchise career record for sacks by an undrafted free agent (12.0).
- With a sack, Gardeck will join Chandler Jones (2016, '17), Markus Golden ('16), Bertrand Berry ('08) and Curtis Greer (1985) as one of five players in franchise history with at least 1.0 sack in each of the first three games of a season.

S JALEN THOMPSON

With an INT, Thompson would have an INT in back-to-back games for the first time in his career. He would be the first Cardinal to do so since Byron Murphy Jr. in Weeks 3-4 of 2021 and first safety since Tre Boston in Weeks 5-6 of 2018.

K MATT PRATER

With 8 points, Prater would reach 1,700 points in his career. He would also pass Pro Football Hall of Famer Jan Stenerud (1,699) for 19th place on the NFL's all-time list for career points.

DALLAS COWBOYS WEEK 3 VS ARIZONA CARDINALS

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2023

CONNER CARRIES THE LOAD

RB James Conner led the charge for the Cardinals run game last Sunday amassing 106 yards and a TD on 23 carries (4.6 avg.). It marked his second 100-yard game with the Cardinals and the 11th of his career. Combined with his 62 rushing yards in the season opener, Conner has 168 rushing yards on the season. Only five NFL players have more in 2023.

NFL Rushing Yard Leaders (2023)

| Player | Team | Yards | TDs | | | |
|---------------------|------|-------|-----|--|--|--|
| Christian McCaffrey | SF | 353 | 3 | | | |
| Bijan Robinson | Atl | 180 | 0 | | | |
| D'Andre Swift | Phi | 178 | 0 | | | |
| Nick Chubb | Cle | 170 | 0 | | | |
| James Cook | Buf | 169 | 0 | | | |
| James Conner | AZ | 168 | 1 | | | |
| | | | | | | |

Conner had three carries of 15+ yards against the Giants (17, 21, 22). <u>He is one of three NFL players to have three rushes of 15+ yards in 2023 joining Christian McCaffrey and Austin Ekeler.</u>

Conner exceeded 50 scrimmage yards last Sunday, extending his streak with 50+ scrimmage yards to 22 games. <u>Only NFL two players have longer active streaks (Austin Ekeler - 40 games and Nick Chubb - 24 games).</u>

FEED ERTZ

TE **Zach Ertz** had 6 receptions for 54 yards last week against the Giants. He joined Vikings TE T.J. Hockenson as the only TEs with 6+ catches in each of the first two games of the season.

Since entering the NFL in 2013, Ertz has had 68 games with 5+ receptions. His 68 games are the 8th-most in NFL history and the 3rd-most among active TEs trailing only Travis Kelce (97 games) and Jimmy Graham (72 games).





Ertz enters this week's matchup against the Cowboys with more receptions (77) and receiving yards (735) vs. Dallas than any other active player. His 77 catches are the most in NFL history by a TE when facing the Cowboys, and are also his 2nd-most receptions against any opponent trailing only his 87 career catches vs. Washington. Two of Ertz's highest single-game reception totals have come when facing Dallas (14 catches vs. Dal on 11/11/18 and 13 catches vs. Dal on 1/1/17).

CARDS DEFENSE THROUGH TWO

Both the Cardinals and Cowboys defenses rank in the top five in the NFL in sacks, passes defensed and fumble recoveries through the first two weeks of the season.

| 2023 Cardinals and Cowboys Defensive Stats | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------------|----------|----------|-----------|----------|--|--|
| <u>Statistic</u> | AZ Total | NFL Rank | Dal Total | NFL Rank | | |
| Fumble Recoveries | 2 | t-5 | 2 | t-5 | | |
| Passes Defensed | 14 | 2 | 15 | 1 | | |
| Sacks | 9 | t-3 | 10 | t-1 | | |

The Cardinals defense has 9.0+ sacks through Week 2 for the second time since sacks became an official statistic in 1982 (9.0 in 1994). It also marks the fourth time in the last 30 seasons that Arizona has 14+ passes defensed in the first two games of a season (15 in 2011, 14 in 2004 and 1999).