



ARIZONA CARDINALS NOTE CARDS

4 NFC Defensive Player of the Week awards for LB Chandler Jones during his time with Arizona. That is tied with Adrian Wilson for the most NFC Defensive Player of the Week awards in franchise history. Jones earned the honor last week after posting 6 tackles, 5.0 sacks, 2 FF, 6 QB hits and 4 tackles for loss.

121.0 Passer rating for QB Kyler Murray last week after he kicked off the 2021 campaign with career-highs for total TDs (5) and passing TDs (4). It was his fifth career game with a passer rating of 120+.

9 Tackles for LB Isaiah Simmons last week. Simmons finished the game with nine tackles, an INT and two passes defended. His INT was the second of his career and his two passes defended equaled the total from his entire rookie season (16 games) in 2020.

114 All-purpose yards for rookie WR Rondale Moore in his NFL debut last week. Moore totaled four receptions for 68 yards on just 20 offensive snaps while adding 24 yards on two punt returns and 22 yards on one kickoff return.



MINNESOTA
VIKINGS

WEEK 2



ARIZONA
CARDINALS

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2021

WITH A WIN...

- Arizona would start a season 2-0 for the second consecutive season and for the seventh time in the last 30 years (2020, 2015, 2014, 2012, 2008, 1991).
- The Cardinals would improve to 11-5 in regular season home openers at State Farm Stadium.

MILESTONES WITHIN REACH...

LB CHANDLER JONES

- With a sack, Jones would pass Freddie Joe Nunn (66.5 in 131 games) as the franchise all-time sacks leader. Jones would set the record in just 71 games with the team.
- With a sack, Jones would have 56.0 sacks in his last 55 games.
- With a sack, Jones would become just the seventh player in NFL history to record at least 6.0 sacks through the first two games of a season. He would become the first player to do so since Green Bay's Clay Matthews (6.0) in 2012.
- With 2.0 sacks, Jones would join Cincinnati's Antwan Odom (7.0 in 2009) as the only players in NFL history with at least 7.0 sacks through the first two games of a season.

QB KYLER MURRAY

- With a rushing TD, Murray would have 17 rushing TDs in his career (34 games). That would be the highest total in franchise history by a QB, passing the previous record of 16, held by Jim Hart (who played in 199 games with the Cards).
- With both a passing and rushing TD, Murray would have 12 career games with both a passing and rushing TD. That would pass Jim Hart (11 in 199 games) for the most such performances in franchise history.
- With two passing TDs, Murray (6) would join Carson Palmer (7 in 2015) as the only Cardinals QBs in the last 56 years with at least six TD passes through the first two games of a season.

WR DEANDRE HOPKINS

- With a reception, Hopkins would extend his streak to 128 straight games with a catch. He would have at least one reception in every game played in his NFL career.
- With 100+ receiving yards, Hopkins would have 38 career 100-yard games. It would give him eight 100-yard performances in 18 games with the Cardinals and five 100-yard outings in nine games at State Farm Stadium since coming to Arizona.
- With a TD reception, Hopkins would have at least three TD catches through the first two games of a season for the first time in his career.

WR CHRISTIAN KIRK

- With a TD reception, Kirk would have 15 career TD catches and three through two games in 2021. It would also give Kirk eight TD catches in his last 15 games, after totaling seven in his first 29 career games.

WR CHRISTIAN KIRK - OR - WR DEANDRE HOPKINS

- With two TD receptions, Hopkins/Kirk would become the first player in franchise history to record multiple TD catches in each of the first two games of a season.
- With two TD receptions: Hopkins would have multiple TD catches in back-to-back games for the first time in his career. Kirk would have multiple TD catches in back-to-back games for the second time in the last two seasons.

DL J.J. WATT

- A sack of Vikings QB Kirk Cousins would make him the 41st different QB Watt has sacked in his career.
- With 2.0 sacks, Watt would have 27 career games with at least 2.0 sacks. That would be six more than any other active player.

DEFENSE AMONG NFL'S BEST IN WEEK 1

LB Chandler Jones stole the show with his record-breaking performance, but the Cardinals defense as a whole turned in one of the NFL's best outings in Week 1.

Opening the 2021 campaign against one of the NFL's top offenses from last season - Arizona shut down the Titans high-powered unit in the 38-13 win. Tennessee finished the 2020 season with the NFL's #2 ranked offense (396.4 ypg), #2 ranked rushing attack (168.1 ypg) and #4 ranked scoring offense (30.7 ppg).

Arizona held Tennessee to just 13 points, 86 rushing yards and 248 total yards.

The Cardinals defensive performance was among the NFL's best in Week 1. A look at where some of the team's defensive stats ranked following kickoff weekend:

Cardinals Defensive Rankings in Week 1

| Statistic | Total | NFL Rnk |
|-----------------------|-------|-------------------|
| Yards/Play Allowed | 3.88 | 1 st |
| Fumble Recoveries | 2 | t-1 st |
| Passes Defended | 8 | t-1 st |
| Sacks | 6.0 | t-1 st |
| Yards Allowed | 248 | 2 nd |
| Tackles For Loss | 8 | 2 nd |
| Takeaways | 3 | t-2 nd |
| Passing Yards Allowed | 162 | 4 th |
| Forced Fumbles | 2 | t-4 th |



OFFENSE STARTS FAST IN 2021

Similar to the defense, the Cardinals offense got off to a fast start last week at Tennessee. Arizona piled up 38 points, five TDs and 416 total yards in the win over the Titans. The Cardinals five TDs tied for the most in the NFL in Week 1. Only San Francisco (41) scored more points than Arizona in the NFL's opening weekend.

Dating back to last season, last week's victory also marked Arizona's eighth game with 400+ yards and 30+ points. That total is tied for the most in the NFL during that span.

Games w/400+ Yds & 30 Pts (2020-)

| Rnk | Team | Gms |
|----------------|-------------|-----|
| 1 ^t | Arizona | 8 |
| 1 ^t | Tennessee | 8 |
| 3 ^t | Green Bay | 7 |
| 3 ^t | Tampa Bay | 7 |
| 5 ^t | Buffalo | 6 |
| 5 ^t | Kansas City | 6 |
| 5 ^t | Seattle | 6 |



A BIG WELCOME BACK TO THE RED SEA

The Cardinals had sold out all 144 games played at State Farm Stadium before the pandemic hit and kept fans from attending games at NFL stadiums across the country. Of Arizona's eight home games last year, just three were played with the general public in attendance. Those three contests saw a combined total of 9,600 fans on hand.

The 2021 season - the team's 16th season at State Farm Stadium - is a different story. The Cardinals welcome back the Red Sea for their season-opener against the Minnesota Vikings on Sunday.

Arizona has had significant success in home openers since beginning play at State Farm Stadium in 2006. A win this week against the Vikings would give the Cardinals an 11-5 record in home openers at the venue.

