



POSTGAME NOTES & QUOTES

NEW ORLEANS SAINTS

DENVER BRONCOS VS. NEW ORLEANS SAINTS SATURDAY, AUG. 23, 2025 • CAESARS SUPERDOME SAINTS POSTGAME NOTES

- New Orleans finishes 0-2-1 in the preseason after their 28-19 loss to the Denver Broncos in the Caesars Superdome. The Saints return to action for their regular season opener on Sunday, September 7 when they host the Arizona Cardinals. Kickoff is set for 12:00 p.m. CST. The game will be aired regionally on CBS (WWL 4 in the New Orleans area) with extensive pregame and postgame coverage on the Gulf Coast Sports and Entertainment Network.
- Saints game captains included WRs **Chris Olave** and **Rashid Shaheed**, S **Justin Reid** and DT **Davon Godchaux**.
- Today's attendance was 70,078
- QB **Spencer Rattler** notched his second start of the preseason. He went five-for-eight for 43 yards and led the Saints on two first quarter field goal drives, playing until midway through the second quarter.
- QB **Tyler Shough** came in relief of Rattler midway through the second quarter and led the Saints to ten points. He went 12-for-20 (60.0 pct.) for 102 yards and added two carries for 20 yards (10.0 avg.) with one rushing touchdown at the beginning of the fourth quarter.
- On Shough's touchdown drive, the Saints converted three third downs. They had only converted one all game up until that drive.
- QB **Jake Haener** finished off the game, coming in with a little more than nine minutes left in the fourth quarter. He went five-for-nine for 37 yards in the contest and added one carry for 10 yards.
- Rookie RB **Devin Neal** was the leading rusher for New Orleans, carrying five times for 20 yards. RB **Kendre Miller** also carried three times for 15 yards in the contest.
- Seeing his most extensive action to date, WR **Chris Olave** had three receptions for 29 yards. WR **Kevin Austin Jr.** led the Saints in receiving yards with 34 on three catches.
- DB **Rejzohn Wright** and S **Jonas Sanker** led the defensive effort for the Saints, recording nine and eight tackles each, respectively. S **Jordan Howden** also contributed to the tackling effort with five stops (two solo).
- CB **Quincy Riley** continues to impress as a rookie as he tallied four tackles (two solo), one interception/pass breakup.
- DT **Khristian Boyd**, DE **Jonah Williams** and DE **Jasheen Davis** added to the Saints sack total, recording one each. Boyd finished the preseason with a team-high two takedowns.

- On kickoffs, RB **Velus Jones Jr.** keeps showing his skill, returning one in the first quarter for 39 yards. CB **Jayden Price** also impressed running it from the end zone, recording two carries for 55 yards (27.5 avg).
- K **Blake Grupe** ends his preseason campaign perfect on field goals, going five-for-five. He tacked on three to his total from 56-, 49- and 48-yards out vs. Denver. K **Charlie Smyth** also successfully knocked in a 52-yard kick, his longest field goal of the preseason. The Saints were a perfect nine-of-nine overall in three games.
- DE **Jeremiah Martin** led the team with two special teams tackles.



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(Opening Statement) “Couple of injuries that came up in the game. Landon Young, we will see how that goes with the ankle. Shane Lemieux with an ankle. We had a few ankles come up here. Khristian Boyd with a hand. Everyone else, there’s a bunch of bumps and bruises that, obviously, we will have to navigate over the next couple of days. Loved the effort. Loved the energy that our guys played with. I like that they felt the dome for the first quarter. That first quarter felt a little like a regular season game with ones versus ones. Tons of really good work in there. Didn’t get the goal of the game of getting the victory, and came up short. When the moment presented itself, we pounced on a couple of opportunities, and we weren’t able to. Tons of good film for us to go through. Then, the challenging aspect of this thing is just the roster transactions that we have to do for this next week. We will have to make some really tough decisions and try and keep as many of these guys as we can.”

(On making roster cuts over the next few days and the process) “We will review this game and have those discussions initially on Sunday. Monday, we will continue that discussion. Obviously, we know the deadline is ultimately on Tuesday. The bulk of that will be done on Tuesday. We will see if there’s anything that needs to be addressed on Monday, as well.”

(On if they will be having discussions with players on Sunday) “No, not with the players on Sunday. Sunday is an off day for the players. I think that day all of the coaches and personnel department to get together, watch this film, evaluate it and have the necessary discussions that we need to have. There will be really healthy discussions. We have a lot of competition on this team. There will be a lot of challenging things that ultimately we will have to make a decision on.”

(On when he will announce the starting quarterback for the season) “Yeah, we will go through this process. We will study the film on Sunday. We will have those discussions. At some point next week, we will make that decision and communicate with the players, first and foremost. Then, we will get it to everyone else as well.”

(On if anything stood out from quarterback performance today) “I thought there was a lot of good by the quarterbacks. There were a couple of missed opportunities. I thought they were going through the right process. Both guys had some opportunities in there. Tyler (Shough) had an awesome run down in the red zone. I thought he used his feet pretty well in this game. There was some good stuff. I felt good that we were able to get Jake (Haener) in there because last week just the way the game played out, we weren’t able to get him those reps. I thought it was really awesome to get him a couple of series in there. I thought all three of these guys, they want to play the whole game, and they want to play as long as they can. That’s the challenging aspect of preseason, you have to navigate that.”

(On QB Spencer Rattler playing with the first string and QB Tyler Shough playing with the twos) “We had discussed that. A lot of the ones were independent of the quarterback situation. We just felt like Spencer got into enough reps, and we saw some work there. We wanted to make sure that we were going to give enough reps and play into situations that Tyler was able to get into. Playing earlier in the game, his first game that he played the last drive of the second quarter against the Chargers. We felt like we got some good work for him today.”

(On there being no consideration of bringing in a veteran QB) “Yeah. We feel great about this group. We’ve invested and poured a lot into these guys. These guys are young guys who are going to keep growing each and every day, and we are excited to see where this thing goes for all of them.”

(On seeing enough from the QBs to make a decision while not showing everything in preseason games) “There are certain aspects of our offense, defense and special teams that you naturally are not going to do in preseason. We feel like you do want to give these guys a chance to be successful and put them

in good situations. There's enough film over the last few years of our offense, defense and special teams. People have an idea. Certainly, those things we feel comfortable with, we show them and put them on film. We will save the other things for later."

(On if the injuries will affect the 53-man roster) "There will be a few discussions just because it comes down to tomorrow's discussion, once we figure out the length of some of these injuries. There are some that may lead into the regular season that will be some challenging discussions for us, just how to handle those. We feel like there are a few we will have to navigate, but the rest should be pretty clear."

(On making the 53-man roster) "This is the most challenging week in the NFL. We have invested so much time in all 90 of these guys. They put everything into this. This is everyone's hopes and dreams and aspirations, and we want that to happen for all of these guys. Naturally, you have to go from 90 to 53. We will bring 16 or 17 back on practice squad, and we want to keep as many guys as we can in this organization because we are going to need those guys. As the season goes on, you're going to need a lot of those guys to contribute. There are challenging discussions to be had, but this is a group we root for and we are all in on."

(On following the waivers) "It's always important to do your due diligence. Mickey (Loomis), Michael (Parenton), Jeff (Ireland) and all those guys, they are going to put a ton of work into the next few weeks to just make sure where the league is at and what opportunities present themselves. We are always trying to acquire more talented players that can help us be successful, so we will continue to go down that road."

(On QB Tyler Shough's play) "I thought he did a really awesome job. I thought that was a great response, that drive by him. He had a number of completions in a row and the one incompleting to Ced (Wilson Jr.) He made a great adjustment at the line of scrimmage. We were really close there. Then, the run was just phenomenal. It was a great recognition on him—high football IQ, decision-making. We were able to get Jake (Haener) in for a couple of drives there. Those are never easy moments because we would love to give these guys a million reps. Ultimately, we felt like giving Jake a couple in there, presented an opportunity for us."

(On RB Devin Neal) "It was great for Devin (Neal) to get in there. He had some big-time plays. You can just tell, he's a really smart player. He's a really heady player. He did some great things for us."

(On RB Alvin Kamara only playing one rep) "That was just – we wanted to get Kendre (Miller) with that group, which I felt like was going to be a great opportunity for him. Alvin was alive, and he's ready to go as far as taking some reps if we needed it. We really thought it was a great opportunity for Kendre to roll with the ones as well."

(On Miller) "Kendre has just had a really steady entire offseason. I thought he's done a phenomenal job. Training camp, he's been really consistent week-in and week-out. In these games, I've thought he's run really hard. He's a physical player. We like what we have seen."

(On Miller's work ethic) "He has tremendous work ethic. He is really focused on this opportunity. You can just feel it. His preparation that has gone into this thing, he has put a ton of time and effort into it. He handles a lot of volume, and I think that's really, really valuable. When you're behind Alvin (Kamara), we are going to ask you to do a few different things, and you're going to have to be ready to hop in here and there. Whatever's happened in the past, I don't really care about because what we've seen has been awesome."

(On the starting defense) "Love the energy. Love the effort. Love the physicality. We had an unfortunate one with Demario (Davis) with the penalty there. It was all about the right intent. He's trying to push the guy out of bounds. We will see if it went a little too far. That was kind of the information that we got. That will be a great lesson for us just to see, but I love the energy. They made some really good plays. (Courtland) Sutton made some really good, contested plays that moved them downfield. I felt like our guys were in a position to compete each and every play."

(On CB Quincy Riley) "He's a ball guy. He just continues to be around the football. When you're around it, good things happen. Certainly, he's contributed to a number of big-time moments. That was a big-time stop for our defense, which gave us an excellent opportunity to go drive it. From an offensive perspective, we weren't able to capitalize on the sudden change, which was unfortunate, but that was a big play for him."

(On the process of determining the starting QB) “Well, certainly I think it’s important that we collaborate and talk through this thing. That’s an important aspect of this thing. Everyone’s got their different perspectives and different exposures. That will be really important. Ultimately, I know I have to make a decision, and it’s a challenging one because these guys have put everything into this. They’ve been very, very close. We love this room. We want this room to be together. We know good things will happen to all of these guys as their journey goes on. We will watch it tomorrow, we will navigate it, and we will make a decision early.”

(On how the discussions have gone so far) “There are healthy discussions, absolutely. I’m not going to get into the voting ballots. This isn’t Big Brother or something. We don’t care about ballots every week. It’s been great discussions. We have the right guys in the room.”

(On if Rattler took a step forward this week) “Spencer did some really good work today. I thought he made some excellent decision-making I think the one he’s going to sit on – we just missed an opportunity to throw it right behind and ended up on the right hip of (Rashid) Shaheed. He went through some progressions really well and found some guys. That is a really good defense. They are going to give you some looks. Vance (Joseph) does an excellent job. I thought it was some really good work for him.”

(On going for it on fourth down) “Yeah, it’s fourth-and-inches. We are going to lean on going for it in those situations. We have to convert. We ran one particular play, and we will see how it looked on film. We will address that and put ourselves in a position to go for it again.”

(On injuries to the offensive line) “Sometimes this is the way injuries occur. You can’t control all these aspects, and it has hit the offensive line a little bit. We will continue to evaluate and address it.”

(On if the pass to Shaheed was tipped) “It may have been, yeah. You guys may have had a better (view). I haven’t seen the TV portion of it. If it was tipped, there’s your answer.”



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(Opening comments) “Overall I think we got out of the game pretty healthy. There will be a lot of good film for us to look at, a lot of corrections I’m sure. (It’s) good to get another win and could we get into a lot of the decision making that puts together the initial roster? So I’m not going to answer questions about our roster. Not going to do it. I’ll answer the best I can about the game. I thought there was some real positive things and some other things that weren’t as positive. So, any questions?”

(On why the starters continued after 8-10 plays) “Yeah. I said eight to ten and it’s not etched in concrete. Alright, you forgot that last part of it so it wasn’t etched in concrete. You want to score and get out there, but I thought we did some good things.”

(On Sam Ehlinger and the way he played) “Oh, it was great. Our plan going in was going to be Sam after Bo, and we saw, you know that (Jarrett) Stidham had a great week last week. I thought that Sam did a fantastic job. And some of the, some of his gifts are with his feet, his athleticism, um... there’s a little moxie and leadership to him that obviously you saw when he played in college. Shoot, I watched him beat Georgia here in a big bowl game. So, he did a good job.”

(On the run game of Audric Esteime) “Pretty solid. I thought we ran the ball better in the second half for (yards per) carry than the first (half). I said I thought we ran the ball better. I thought Audric did a good job in general.”

(On Matt Peart playing left guard) “Yeah. A lot of times you’re finding out they prefer like the left side, right side- as opposed to either side one position. And um, so we’ll see on the tape.”

(On being comfortable with Dre Greenlaw not playing in the preseason) “Yeah. He had a great week of work last week. We feel like he’ll be ready, ready to go and we did that with a few players.”

(On the veterans and how they bring the right mindset) “Well I think this, I think it’s important- I’ve said this before and this is just me. But I can’t stand watching the sideline interview while the game is going on. Um, I just think that there are a lot of important plays going on. I saw a broadcast the other day had three of them from the same team. Each player was asked six or more questions, nineteen questions while the game was going on. And I just think that it’s important that the team is focused on what’s going on on the field. They’re learning. And I’m sure there will be a day that it’s mandated, but until that comes I liked our focus when Courtland (Sutton) was playing and when he wasn’t playing. Yeah, I think you can’t tiptoe in this thing. You have to get up in the morning, a little bit earlier time slot for us right? Eleven o’clock start time, our time. And, drink your Celsius or whatever it is to get you going, and get ready to go. And I thought we did that.”

(On being undefeated in the preseason) "Well, it's preseason and we want to win in everything we do."

(On J.K. Dobbins not getting any preseason carries) "He was one of those players that we discussed. We discussed a few."

(On Jaleel McLaughlin not making the trip to New Orleans) "He didn't. And there was a point where she (his wife) still hadn't had the baby. I'm hoping I have a voicemail that said their baby was born. And I just told him yesterday, there was a point where I said, I don't want you on the trip, I want you there and I don't want you to look at the clock once, or she'll be pissed off. So, he stayed and I'm glad he did. I spoke to him right before the game. She was in labor, but it's been a long labor. So, hopefully we get some news, but I'm glad he stayed home."

(On it being his second time here for a game since being the Saints head coach) "Not like the last time, right? It is different. But yet, come back and there's a lot of people you know, and I mean countless games and all that stuff. So, it was good. It was good seeing people and good winning. I think it is different when you're in a regular season game. Nonetheless, you want to win and do well."



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QB TYLER SHOUGH

(On what goes through his mind when he spun out of pressure and made a side-armed throw towards the sideline) “You’re going through your whole process (from) pre-snap, during the play, then, at that point, you are trying to find your check-down where you are sending the play. There, you are trying to...get a first down. Really, it is just playing football at that point. You are just trying to get it out of your hand and make something happen.”

(On his touchdown run) “That was, kind of, a plan that we had throughout the week, as far as whenever they brought in a certain package, we get to certain runs. So, we got to that run and I was just reading that in, and I knew that I could beat the edge and beat him edge and get to the end zone. It was a really well-executed drive from the whole offense, so it was really good to get down there.”

(On two read-option keepers today) “Yeah, that first one I probably could have gave, it was probably 50-50. It was, kind of, a similar thought process. I thought that I could beat him. We will watch it back. I knew coming into it (today) that we wanted to utilize it a little more, as far as what I could do and show, (and) just have that element of it, especially if we were going to get certain looks.”

(On when the instincts of running the ball became an element of his overall game) “Throughout camp, you are going through different installs where you don’t really have some of that stuff and we are kind of just going through the flow. I feel like it’s always been there ever since I was at Oregon, it’s just in different systems, really. I ran a bunch at (Texas) Tech as well. At Louisville, not as much because it was a different system. I think that is just something that you have to have that element of extending those plays and running it.”

(On if he has shown enough to win the quarterback job) “I think, for me, what I put on tape, continually through the call out periods, throughout the games, just, kind of, had a steady growth on the operation. I felt like it has been enough. I am fully capable to go out there and lead the charge. Obviously, I don’t make those decisions. The whole team (and) the whole offense has continually gotten better. For me, I feel really comfortable going in from week to week, and I am just excited to go in and get to work on Arizona and see what we are going to do.”

(On what is his process for the next few days) “You put in the work to this point and it is a continual process. You can look back at every single moment where you maybe had a mistake, but those mistakes were necessary to get to this point. I am going to continue to make mistakes. That is part of it. I think the biggest thing is just, you know, I feel like I have nothing to lose. That is the mindset that I have to remind myself with, is that I wasn’t supposed to get drafted at a certain point, I wasn’t supposed to be here. A lot of people are going to continue to doubt me. I am just happy to go out there and just compete with all of the guys. I think that we have that same mindset that we are being doubted; and, we love it. (I) just have to have that attitude, and whatever the case be, just go and attack it.”

(On his fumble today) “I was just playing there. We had the exact look that we wanted. Everything was going good. I was going to rip it to (Mason) Tipton on the back shoulder when they went to invert. I had him beat on that slot defender. At the end, he made a good move and knocked the ball out. That is just part of it. It sucks. I think that the o-line played really well, especially the whole game. We just have to finish on some of those penalties in the red zone. (Overall) it was good.”

(On if there is anything to read into where the quarterback competition stands) “I think that they have done a really good job of giving us equal chances as far as reps, times to take control of the room, times to share different roles. I think that they have done a really good job as far as splitting that up and having certain days. Today, one guy is going to these reps with the ones, and then we will rotate. I think they have done a good job. It’s hard because you don’t really get into a certain flow, but, I think, that is part of it. For me, it is human nature to want to do that. Like I said before, the biggest think that I’ve

learned is just operating-wise and controlling the reps, I think that I've done a really good job at finishing the past couple of weeks of doing that and just have fun with it."

(On his overall performance throughout camp and preseason) "I think it's been that steady growth. I think it's been a steady increase in performance. I think that what I add to the table as far as down the field elements, running the ball, controlling the offense, managing it, giving our guys a chance to play, I think that I have done a really good job of that. I also think that Spencer is really capable and Jake is really capable. It's a really tough decision. We've got a lot of talent on offense. I know for us and for myself, I am going to continue to keep getting better, because regardless of what the scenario is, I feel like I am ready to go and go out there and get ready to play. We will see what happens. I am just really thankful to be able to work with this offense and this team because we've got such a good group."

CB REZJOHN WRIGHT

(On his performance today) "I feel like I had a decent game. I feel like there were some plays that I missed, but I am just blessed to play the sport at a high level going into my third year and being an undrafted guy, I am just super grateful for even the opportunity that I have."

(On the next few days when the team roster is cut) "This is probably (one of) the worst time periods in the NFL because you start to realize the big business side of the NFL, and it is not just football and fun. You just try to keep faith. I am a big, firm believer in Jesus Christ. I try to keep my faith and whatever happens is for me and I will do that."

(On what he did in camp that was good) "I think just being available and being healthy. Last year in this same exact game, I got hurt. I was having a fantastic preseason last year. Being available when guys go down, getting my hands on guys at practice, getting my hands on the ball, tackling and showing up in the run game (is important and I have done that). Like I said, hopefully God puts that in front of me."

(On what the next few days are like) "It is usual routine to have an off day right after the game. Knowing there are cuts, you kind of don't want to be in the building. It's a ghost town. You don't want to see people getting cut. It's good to have an off day and have them make those decisions while everybody is not there."

QB SPENCER RATTLER

(On looking back and if he's done enough to win the starting QB job) "That's not my decision to make, and I just put my best foot forward. I feel like as a group, we have done a lot of good things and are progressing in the right direction. Obviously, still a lot to work on as a group, but I like the direction we're headed and the guys are all trusting in each other, and I think that's the biggest thing, and it's not my decision to make, but I just try to put my best foot forward."

(In what ways he's grown and has improved on, compared to last year) "I think just being more prepared and being able to play a little bit last year. Getting to go against good defenses this preseason and getting a joint practice under my belt and just getting to build more with these guys and obviously with a new system, I feel like it would be exciting to go in there and play ball and play free and try to put a good game plan together, but again, we are just focused on the day by day and still got a week or two to go, but I'm looking forward to whatever happens."

(On if he'd be ready for the starting QB opportunity if it were to come) "No doubt, no doubt."

(On his own assessment of his play today) "Yeah, we are moving the ball pretty well. We weren't great on third down, didn't convert some of those, we put points on the board with our defense (making stops), that's good, that's a positive, that's a good defense we played today. Obviously, a lot of talented players, and I thought we ran the ball pretty well, had a couple of good throws, just got to stay at third and manageable, but I thought it was solid. It could have been better, obviously, but it was solid."

(On the ankle placement to Rasheed Shaheed on a second down pass) "Ugh, yeah, I want that one back. It was cover zero. They brought the pressure, we got him the right check(down) and drifted left trying to throw back across with the play fake and just got to hit that one. I probably threw it a little early, but I just got to lean in because that's a big play if we connected. And I told Rasheed that I owe him one, so I'm going to get him one."

(On how much of Kellen Moore's offense we've seen in preseason games) "Yeah, I'm not going to get too much in-depth, but there were some little flavors here and there. He's got a lot he can dial up, and we love him as a play-caller, and I thought he's done a great job throughout the preseason on getting

us some good looks and getting us some opportunities to make big plays as a group. It's our job to go out there and execute them at a high level. I thought he's called some great plays this preseason and obviously throughout camp, but yeah, there's a lot more."

(On there being more of Moore's offense and if that holds back the QB competition) "I wouldn't say it holds you back at all, I mean, all teams are doing the same type of stuff. They don't want to show too much (in preseason), but like I said, it doesn't limit you; you just got to go through your plays, execute them, and try to score points. We are going against good defenses and obviously giving us good looks. They're not making it easy on us, but it's our job to trust our preparation, trust our coaching, and go out there and get it done."

(On finally getting to play with Chris Olave and Rasheed) "Yeah it was good, they created some separation, we had a few completions to those guys today and after that the attempted QB sneak, we had a pretty good play dialed up for Olave, and I was dang near positive it was going to be a big play, but we didn't convert, so we didn't get to call that. It was good to have those guys out there. They are healthy, they got through the preseason healthy, camp, they look great, we rely on those guys, they are great."

(On if the separation between Rasheed and Olave is noticeable) "Those are just guys that have played obviously longer than the other guys, obviously very talented, but we have got guys on each, ones, twos, threes, that could all separate and are all talented in their own ways. I think Kellen does a great job of scheming to get those guys open."

(On what he thinks about the QB competition going so deep into the preseason) "I really have no thoughts on that. I just show up, do my best, put my best foot forward, and let the rest take care of itself."

(On if he thinks he has put his best foot forward) "There's always room for improvement. That is a good question. I feel confident in what I've done, but again, there's obviously more out there, more out there to get, and I look forward to doing that."

(On how a 6-5 receiver Like Devaughn Vele will help on third downs, red zone, etc) "No doubt, I just got to be around him a little bit this week, and obviously, physically, he looks very capable of doing a lot of things with this offense. Even Sean Payton came up to me and said, "You guys got a hell of a receiver." he speaks really highly of him, and I think that speaks volumes. Seems like a great dude and excited to build with him and get him going."

(On him and Tyler's Shough relationship) "Yeah, we know what situation we're in. We're both pros; we handle it like pros. And I wouldn't say it's like a toxic QB room at all. We build together- me, Tyler, and (Jake) Haener. We all do a good job collectively as a group with our coaches of trying to play well when we go out there and lead our team to points, and we push each other, which I think is good. We have a good relationship."

(On his disappointment if he is not named the starter) "That's a good question. Again, I kind of control what I have to, and I guess that's kind of my answer. I don't got much on that one."

(On his relationship with Tyler and if it's what he thought it would be) "Yeah, we briefly knew each other coming up, just kind of mutually. It's good to be around him. I think we work well together. I feel like (we are) two talented guys, and I've enjoyed our time here, and the work's been great."

(On if he thinks he got the first down on the QB sneak) "I thought so. I thought going forward, I thought I got it. I thought I kind of got facemasked a little bit, but every call doesn't go your way."

(On his thoughts on the call and the aggressiveness to go for it) "Yeah, you love that. fourth and inches, fourth and one, you want to go for it. Need some points, need some momentum, and feel like that was our spot to go for it."

(On Moore not bringing in a veteran and his confidence in the QB room) "I think that's great. I think we have capable guys in this room and we have playmakers around us where we can make plays and win games, so I got confidence in him, he's got confidence in us, you can't beat that. Got to love that confidence from your coach."

CB QUINCY RILEY

(On his interception) “Coach (Brandon Staley) put us in a great call, I know I had help with me, so I know I could be aggressive. (The) receiver came off the ball blocking, so I know I could get my eyes back to the QB. Had a great rush by the D-Line, RB dropped the ball, tipped off, coach always says you got to have those. Just execute.”

(On him always being around interceptions) “For sure, instincts play a part in it, but my coach always says the ball finds good players. Just do your job and that’s all I can do everyday and hope that the ball finds me.”

(On if this defense is made for what he does well) “100%. The first day I had coaches always just telling me- always have some type of inside help. I always have my eyes on the QB. That’s how I play, eyes on the QB and QB being the man, I always have my eyes back. I know I can play the ball and play the man at the same time. So I think this defense works perfectly for me.”

(On his evaluation of how preseason has gone for him) “It’s been a very good learning experience for me coming from college and now to the NFL, it’s just been taking whatever I can from the vets, coaches, just anybody, each day, each game. Just getting better each game on whatever I got to do, and improving, and being the best I can each game. I think it’s been a great learning experience and I’m enjoying it.”

(On the ups and downs of camp) “For sure, that’s just anything with life that’s special, camp is a real grind, and it’s all day. You got some days you are kind of sluggish and got to bounce back, and those are the days you really get better on because now you are forcing yourself to really lock in on whatever you have to lock in on. I think those days help me be competitive and be a good player.”

(On Tyler Shough’s growth) “Growth-wise, I really just see him locking in. He’s been a leader at Louisville, but now, because we were the older guys in the room, and now, just seeing him come in as a rookie and trying to demand the room as a QB, seeing him step up and having that type of impact on the team, that’s the most I’ve seen from him so far.”



POSTGAME NOTES & QUOTES

NEW ORLEANS SAINTS

DENVER BRONCOS VS. NEW ORLEANS SAINTS SATURDAY, AUG. 23, 2025 • CAESARS SUPERDOME DENVER BRONCOS PLAYERS

WR TROY FRANKLIN

(On reminding people about the Denver offense) “It was pretty important, the opportunities to get back out there and get things back in line and keep things rolling.”

(On where their confidence level is at) “Where it was, still pretty high, we all know we put in a lot of work this camp. All these joint practices, preseason games, and stuff like that. Just have to go out there the next game and do it again.”

RB AUDRIC ESTIME

(On competition) “Competition is good, competition brings the best out of you. And I feel I like I just went out there and played another game.”

(On if there is anything better, he is doing now then previously) “I’d say I am thinking less, just being in the playbook more, being the second year in this playbook. I feel like I am playing more fast and decisive.”

(On his feeling about the depth/roster decisions) “It’s the NFL, it’s the best of the best. I am just blessed to be a part of this roster, hopefully I will be a part of this roster going forward. You just got to learn from the guys there in the room with you, and I am just blessed to be a part of that great room”

(On his chance to make the team given his play today) “To make the team isn’t up to me, it’s up to the coaching staff, and it’s honestly up to God. I feel like I did what I needed to do, to put myself in position to be on it. But (at the) end of the day, Sean knows what’s best for this team. And I’m putting my trust in God, and I feel like I did what I needed to do. I am proud of my progression; I definitely got better from last year to this year. I definitely have progressed a lot, and it’s all you can do, progress in this league”

QB BO NIX

(Opening Statement) “Obviously we have been showing a lot more than just what one drive can offer. It’s good to find the end zone and good to wrap up the preseason and win.”

(The aftermath of he and Courtland Sutton talking after the second series) “It’s great. He is a really great veteran. A lot a team like this can have. To see him go out there and play that hard in a preseason game is really unique, I am happy for him. (We) Have (had) a pretty strong start to the year. We normally rely on guys, but just making sure they have that back and forth to make some adjustments”

(What’s his confidence level is for approaching the regular season) “They all count, if you’re going to strap it up they all count, you want to win them all. We’re excited to start the season and get to week one and see what happens.”

(Opinion on Sam Ehlinger) “Sam’s great. He’s a great teammate first and foremost. He shows up to work like he’s the starter and I’m excited to see him succeed against this preseason. We’ve grown close to become really good friends. I like how he gets out there and competes and he thinks every day is the most important day. The work that he puts in is good to see him have some success in the preseason, because he deserves it.”

(What Courtland Sutton brings) “Well he means a lot, he’s a veteran for this team and he has a lot of experience, he’s a great receiver in his own way. He just goes out there and competes and that’s all

you really want to ask for with receivers; a guy that goes out there and competes and he does that at a high level. He's been doing it for a long time and he's going to continue to do it this year and be up."

(NFL QBs being able to throw when they're not set) "You don't always get good pockets as you know it's being able to practice during practice and the off season. You know things are going to come up and you're going to have to see moves off your platform and a lot of those good plays happen from a dirty pocket rather you have to move one player and get a free rush or you have to get out of the pocket and go on and move, it doesn't really matter you just have to make the throw. ("Roll left") It's a natural naked and Courtland did a great job of getting open and man-to-man so I saw him open and he had good enough space for me to throw it over there to him. ("Ready to get it started") Very ready, very excited."

(What does he try to get out of preseason games to be the best) "The fundamentals of the plays, on this play this is what we were trying to get out of it, this is where the ball needs to be, going in this coverage, this pressure, whatever it needs to be, you just want to find answers to your plays because a lot of those plays are going to show back up and you'll be able to run it again against a different look, well similar because you already got it in a preseason game. Its natural reactions and also see what guys get out there and naturally do just see how they naturally move and get open and its good to see that as well because you're not always going to have structured plays or you're going to have this timing and you know this guy is going to be there, sometimes things go rogue and you (are) going to have to make it work and these preseason games allows you to see that process."

QB SAM EHLINGER

(On his performance) "I feel good, obviously got the win which is most important. Obviously, a lot of things could've gone better. But to get the win and wrap the preseason with a victory, headed into next week in the regular season feels good."

(On staying in Denver or being a two somewhere else) "That's a tough question, unfortunately that's not in my hands and all I can control is my performance and how I how I am on a daily basis, so however it works out it works out. I love being here and I love this quarterback room, and I love this team. I am excited for the direction this organization is headed."

(On how he has enjoyed the preseason in Denver) "Yeah, I really enjoyed it, I was in Indianapolis for the last four years, loved my time there. But coming here with the quarterback room, starting with Davis and being able to spend time with Bo (Nix) and Jarrett (Stidham), and just this team in general. I think it's really well formulated, obviously organizationally from top down it is one of the best organizations in the league, so it's been great to be here and really enjoyed it."

(On Davis Webb) "I think Davis is one of the best quarterback coaches in the league, and I think he is on a fast track to doing whatever he wants. And you know our conversations in free agency and making that decision was he believed in me. It was a rough couple of first years, and he really believed in me, watched the tape and said I know what you are capable of, I want you to come and develop and continue to get better, learn a new system. So, it's really the belief part and I think he's really good with the Xs and Os. But he's been in our position, so he understands what it is like to play quarterback in the league. So, he understands the psychological part of it, the confidence piece. He understands it top down and that's what makes him a great coach