



POSTGAME NOTES & QUOTES

NEW ORLEANS SAINTS

TENNESSEE TITANS VS. NEW ORLEANS SAINTS SUNDAY, AUG. 25, 2024 • CAESARS SUPERDOME SAINTS POSTGAME NOTES

- New Orleans finishes the preseason 1-2 after the 30-27 loss to the Tennessee Titans. The Saints return to action on Sunday, Sept. 8 when they host the Carolina Panthers at the Caesars Superdome for the 2024 season opener for both teams. Kickoff is set for 12:00 p.m. CST. The game will be regionally televised on FOX (WVUE FOX 8 in the New Orleans area).
- The New Orleans Saints preseason series record with the titans is now dead even with the loss, sitting at 15-15-1.
- The Saints won the turnover battle today, as they had zero turnovers while forcing the Titans to fumble once, which led to a field goal.
- The New Orleans offensive line only surrendered one sack as the Saints defense recorded two quarterback takedowns.
- Second-year QB **Jake Haener** received the start, but rookie QB **Spencer Rattler** and Haener both saw action throughout the contest. Haener completed eight of 17 passes for 87 yards. Rattler finished seven-of-13 for 105 yards and one touchdown pass with a 106.2 passer rating. With Rattler under center, he led the Black and Gold to 24 of their 27 points. WR **Equanimeous St. Brown** and Rattler connected for a 21-yard touchdown late in the second quarter.
- RB **Jacob Kibodi** led the Saints rushing attack with 12 carries for 59 yards and two touchdowns while also adding one grab.
- RB **Jordan Mims** was efficient with 33 rushing yards on five carries while adding two grabs for 14 yards. He also had a 23-yard kickoff return.
- RB **James Robinson** carried three times for 14 yards, caught one pass for two yards and returned three kickoffs for 63 yards.
- Second-year WR **A.T. Perry** led the receiving effort with two grabs for 67 yards, including a 43-yard grab from Rattler late in the fourth quarter.
- St. Brown finished with three catches for 40 yards, including the 21-yard scoring grab from Rattler.
- WR **Stanley Morgan Jr.** finished with three catches for 34 yards.
- DB **Joejuan Williams** led the defensive unit with five solo stops, with two assisted tackles, totaling seven total stops. He also added one assisted special teams tackle.
- LB **Anfernee Orji** recorded a game-high nine stops (four solo) to lead the team with 20 in the preseason.
- Defensive linemen **Kendal Vickers** and **Isaiah Foskey** split a sack. Vickers and Foskey had five stops apiece.

- S **Ugo Amadi** recorded five stops (three solo), one assisted coverage tackle and returned a punt 16 yards.
- LB **Mike Rose** accumulated four stops (three solo), including a tackle for loss.
- Rookie CB **Rico Payton** led the Saints with three pass breakups, and he also added his first ever sack in the NFL, as part of a two-tackle day. He added one stop on special teams.
- WR **Samson Nacua** had one of the most electrifying special teams plays of the NFL preseason, when on the last play of the first half, he returned a missed 58-yard field goal attempt 106 yards to the Tennessee three-yard line, narrowly missing scoring a touchdown.
- LB **Andrew Dowell** and rookie WR **Bub Means** finished with two special teams tackles apiece. Means recorded two receptions for 17 yards.
- Saints K **Blake Grupe** finished a perfect two-of-two on field goal attempts, with one of those being a game-long 54 yarder. He also made all three extra point attempts.



POSTGAME NOTES & QUOTES

NEW ORLEANS SAINTS

TENNESSEE TITANS VS. NEW ORLEANS SAINTS SUNDAY, AUG. 25, 2024 • CAESARS SUPERDOME SAINTS HEAD COACH DENNIS ALLEN

(Opening Statement) “There were a number of things, I thought in particular offensively, that I thought we did. I thought we ran the ball well. Our red zone efficiency was really good when we were down in the red area. We were able to score touchdowns. We were better on third down, and yet, I still think we need to be better than we were in the game. Defensively, I do not think we were very good. We had one takeaway in the game, which was a positive. I thought we were better in the run game in the first half, and then in the second half, I do not think we did a very good job stopping the run. We kind of switched positions a little bit. We did not do a very good job defending the passing game and were not able to get much of a rush in the first half. Then, in the second half, I thought we did a little bit better of a job of getting a little bit of a rush and defending in the passing game, (but) didn’t do a good enough job in the run game. I think we had a good training camp. I think we got a lot accomplished. I think we have some tough decisions to make over the next 48 hours or whatever the case may be. We will be turning our attention to doing that.”

(On the backup quarterback situation) “I would say over the last week to ten days, I feel like (Jake) Haener took a real big step forward in practice. I do not think we saw as much of that in the game. What are the reasons why? Whether it be routes or protections or misreads, whatever the case may be, I think we go back and we look at the tape and evaluate where that was. I thought Spencer (Rattler) did some nice things today. I thought he looked calm, poised, made some good throws, was able to extend some plays with his feet and get some first downs, tucking and running. I felt good about and feel good about the quarterback role.”

(On the game plan for the quarterback rotation) “The plan going in was Jake in the first quarter, Spencer in the second quarter and really trying to two-fold get them with the second offensive line group where they were kind of playing with the same people and playing against a higher level of competition on the other side to try to make this thing a little bit more of a fair evaluation. The second half was designed to be Jake in the third quarter, Spencer in the fourth quarter. Then, when you started looking through play count, Spencer was at 27, 28 plays or something like that. Jake was at 15-18 plays. I kind of wanted to even out the play count a little bit.”

(On snap counts in the season across all three quarterbacks) “That will be something we will have to navigate, if that’s the case. I think to your point, being able to work with these young quarterbacks and develop these young quarterbacks, that’s our job. That’s what we have to be able to do. We have to figure out how we are going to be able to get that done.”

(On the emotions of making cuts) “Here’s the reality. The reality is you go from 90 guys on your roster, and you have to get all the way down to 53. That’s always tough. These guys worked extremely hard going all the way back to the beginning of the offseason program through the OTAs, minicamp, training camp, preseason games. These guys put their heart and soul into this - young guys, vet guys. It is always a tough deal. On the flip side, as you said, to see some of this hard work pay off is also just as gratifying as it is difficult on the other end.”

(On decisions about those on the bubble) "I am not going to get into any type of potential personnel decisions. Those are things that we will have to look at over the next 48 hours and make those decisions."

(On the decision to have Blake Grupe handle placekicking duties today) "Charlie (Smyth) had a little bit of some groin tightness come up on Friday. I didn't want to really risk it too much in putting him out there and have him kick a bunch of kicks. I thought Blake (Grupe) responded to getting an opportunity and kicking the ball through the uprights. I thought he had a good day today."

(On Khalen Saunders) "Khalen Saunders is dealing with a calf injury."

(On Isaiah Foskey's production) "My overall view is I think he's taken a step forward, and yet, I think there are still some things that he's got to improve on. I think, there are some things that he could potentially help us with in the passing game some. I certainly see a vision for this guy helping us on special teams. I think you still have a young player that still needs to develop, but I think he's taken a step forward from where he was at this point last year."

(On players who were drafted versus those who were undrafted and the investment) "I think you come into it probably with a little bit of a leg up being that you were a draft choice. At the end of the day, we have to evaluate what we see. You have to be able to go out there and earn it. I guess probably if there was, using a baseball analogy, the tie goes to the runner. If you spent assets to go and draft a player and there hasn't been anything to truly create a separation, you probably get a little bit of the benefit being a draft choice. Really, the reality is, we've seen a lot of practices, a lot of game action, and we're going to base our evaluation on that."

(On Trevor Penning) "It is hard for me to comment too much. I do think, there were a few plays in there that I thought were an improvement. Without looking at it (film), the offensive line, defensive line, those are tougher evaluations just coming right off the field. Overall, I know this, I thought he played better than last week's game. I thought he improved this week in practice. I saw some good things tonight, too. I think there's some improvement."

(On if challenging Penning had anything to do with his improvement) "(That is) Probably a better question for him. All I can tell you is I thought he played better in the game. I thought he had a good week of practice, and I thought he did some good things tonight."

(On Samson Nacua's big field goal return) "Score - that's what was going through my mind. Really it was, no blindside blocks, block above the waist, all of those things. You can't let an offensive lineman get you out of bounds, right? That is a play that rarely shows up in our game, but when you really think about it that is why we work that situation. The coverage unit's generally offensive lineman. Sometimes you might have a d-lineman, tight ends, those type of players. There are more skill players on the return team at that time, and it is a space game. That is not the game those guys are used to playing in. I thought their guy did a nice job of making the play and getting enough of him to get him out of bounds."

(On the return) "It was a lot. He needed just a little bit more juice at the end to get that block."

(On if that play makes an big impact on roster evaluations) "You're not going to look at that play and that play alone and say 'OK, we are going to base all our decisions on that play alone'. Yet, that's part of however many plays we've seen, that's just part of the evaluation. I think the positive thing about that was there was a lot of smart football that took place on that play. There was a competitive nature of the guys who were on that unit and trying to score. I think it certainly was an exciting play, that's for sure."

(On offensive holding penalties negating two touchdowns) "I think that's pretty obvious, right? You have two touchdowns, and now you don't have two touchdowns. That's frustrating. That's part of why we play preseason games. We're trying to iron some of those things out. It was unfortunate that happened in the game."

(On Jacob Kibodi's performance) "I thought (he) did a nice job. I thought he ran the ball well today. I thought he ran it physical. I thought he made the right reads. I thought he did some good stuff."

(On Kibodi's overall improvement throughout camp) "I think so. I think (Jacob) has run the ball pretty tough the last week of training camp, ran it hard in-game and was effective in the game. I think he's done some good things."

(On Spencer Rattler's in-game improvements) "(Rattler) has made some good conversions. He has made some nice throws. He's made some good reads. He converted some things with his feet. He was poised under pressure. Those are the things I thought he did in the game today that impressed me."

(On the work plan next week) "There's a little bit of both of that going on. Obviously, these next couple of days is all going to be about roster management. That's where our focus will be over the next couple of days. I think being able to get a little bit of recovery. This was a tough, physical camp, and it was intended to be that way. Part of this week will be about how do we refine some of the things we are doing, how do we get an initial jumpstart and get prepared for Carolina, and how do we get these guys back ready physically for the opening game?"

(On using Taliese Fuaga) "(Taliese) would have played (if all starters played)."

(On Klint Kubiak being on the sideline instead of the booth) "Ultimately, that will be my decision, but yes, there will be some conversations that will be had. What did I like? What did I not like? What did he like? What did he not like? What's best for our players? There are a lot of things that are going to go into that decision. We will communicate on that over the next week or so and figure out what we are going to do for the opening game. We might go one way in the opening game, and somewhere down the line, we might decide we need to do something different. Whatever we decide to do for Week One is just kind of a starting point."



POSTGAME NOTES & QUOTES

NEW ORLEANS SAINTS

TENNESSEE TITANS VS. NEW ORLEANS SAINTS SUNDAY, AUG. 25, 2024 • CAESARS SUPERDOME SAINTS PLAYER QUOTES

QB Spencer Rattler

(On shifting in and out of the game) “Just trying to keep your rhythm throughout the game, going quarter by quarter. I feel like as a group we did really well, I think we scored on (nearly) every drive, a couple touchdowns and some field goals, so as a group we converted on third down much better, and finished in the red zone, had more explosive plays, ran the ball well, threw the ball down the field, and I thought it was a good, efficient game.”

(On the touchdown to Equanimeous St. Brown) “They zoned it out. The ball was not supposed to go there, but he ran a great route, I trusted him, I put it where I needed to, and he made a play. That is how we’re taught, play the play, but when you go above X’s and O’s, you’ve got to improvise sometimes.”

(On having done enough to be the #2 QB) “I just put my best foot forward. I wanted to come out here and play well, play clean, protect the ball and lead our team to scores, controlling what I can. That’s not up to me to decide, but just putting my best foot forward.”

(On growth through preseason games and training camp) “I think tremendously. Obviously still a rookie, still learning. I definitely want a few plays back, a couple underthrown balls, but I feel like I’ve taken steps where I need to, and obviously I’m not anywhere near where I want to be, so continuing to strive for perfection every day.”

(On coming off the bench vs starting) “You kind of just got to do what you have to do. It’s really not a big deal to me, just whenever you step on the field put your best foot forward and go make plays. I love to be on the field as much as I can, but when we’re out there we’ve got to execute.”

(On preparation and staying sharp) “Just keeping your legs warm and having someone to throw with on the sideline. It’s what I’ve done since youth football. My dad was always like, ‘you need to throw on the sideline,’ so if you see me do that, just know I’m getting loose.”

(On Jacob Kibodi’s day) “He had a great day. That’s a guy that’s been working his tail off all camp. I’m really close with Kibodi. I’m happy for him, happy he got two touchdowns today. He ran the ball really well, (pass) protected well, and was running through some people, so I’m happy for him.”

(On having Klint Kubiak on the sideline vs up in the booth) “I liked him on the sideline. I thought he called a great game. I thought he did a great job.”

(On having a productive run game) “If you look at it, on first and second down, if we can be in second and manageable, third and short from those runs, then it’s a lot easier to convert on third down. I feel

like we didn't have too many third-and-longs today, and if we did, I feel like we converted at a pretty high rate. When we're in those third-and-manageables, because we're running the ball so well, it opens up quick game, play action, boots, QB runs, all that stuff. So if we can run the ball, it makes it a lot easier to get first downs."

(On comfort in the offense and with the playbook) "(I felt) Very comfortable out there. I thought our operation was really clean. Up front, guys did a great job today, in the o-line. Running backs, (and) receivers made plays. Everybody did well as a group today. Our operation was great, our execution was great, and our communication was elite I thought."

(On confidence in regular season game situation) "I would never say I'm not confident. I'm always confident, but again, I'm going to sit in my role, do what I need to do, and keep learning and getting better."

(On how to attack development this season) "I just develop as much as I can, learn from the guys in the room. It starts with Derek (Carr), he's our guy, a great player, so staying in his ear and working with him and Jake (Haener) and our coaches, and just continuing to improve every day."

(On transition from college to NFL) "I think this is an awesome situation, to be behind somebody like Derek. He's a great guy, and again a great vet who's proven himself in this league. I was in a similar situation at Oklahoma when Jalen Hurts was the starter, so I'm very comfortable learning as much as I can and trying to help get guys better."

(On playing in the Caesars Superdome) "It was awesome. Great environment, fans are awesome, energy was high. You can feel it, it was great."

(On the fans and becoming a local phenomenon) "The fan base is awesome here, obviously. It kind of reminds me of South Carolina, just a loving fanbase. Not the biggest market, but they die for their players, which is an awesome feeling. I try my best to stay out of the way, social media and all the buzz and all that stuff. I just work here. I'm new, I'm a rookie. I'm just trying to get better, improve, and help the team."

LB Anfernee Orji

(On feelings toward the end of preseason/training camp) "I feel like it was a great camp for me, and for the team as well. Just being able to grow as a player, I feel like I've been able to show my versatility being able to play Mike, Will and Sam in all of these games and practices, so I feel like I've done everything I could. Just going out there and trying to make plays. It's just fun to go out there and play ball again."

(On mental shift jumping between Mike, Will and Sam) "The biggest mental shift is just knowing which one I'm playing. There could be one play where I'm Mike, and then the next play I'm at Sam, and the next play I'm at Will. Just being able to know which one I'm in is the hardest part, but the moment I know, then my mind clicks. Then I know what to look for, know my keys, and I just go out there and play."

(On biggest areas of growth) "Mentally. I feel like it started throughout last season. Last season I was just hurt. I didn't make the 53, which was my own doing. Personally, I just didn't feel like I played well enough. Then throughout the regular season, I didn't get activated. On the practice squad, I just got to learn, got to improve, so I was always ready to be up if my name was ever called, and I just looked to improve. So right when the season ends, just boom, hit the ground running, it's work. Just keeping my

trust in God. I've been in the book way more, my playbook, my Bible, just trying to get down to it, get down to the mental game."

(On approach the next few days/making the roster) "I can't go back in time and change anything I've done. I feel like I've had a good camp. I feel like I've done everything I needed to do. So just prayer, that's what I'm going to do, just pray. Give it to God and hope for the best."

(On handling the next few days) "You have the mindset that you're up. So you just have to be ready as a football player for any opportunity. I feel like you've got to be positive during this time as a football player in this league."

(On being able to play in all three spots) "I feel like it's helped me learn the defense way more. I feel like I know the defense way better than last year. Playing Will, I know what's going on on this side of the field, and Sam, I know exactly what's going on on that side of the field, and Mike, I'm more in tune with the fronts and with coverages and all that. So being able to play all three has really made me a smarter football player and a better football player."

RB Jacob Kibodi

(On today's performance) "It was good. I have to score touchdowns, and that was a dream come true, being from Louisiana. It's a blessing, that's what you dream of."

(On last couple weeks) "It was all about getting better. Just working on the details, my outside zone, trying to just continue to grow as a player. I think I did that throughout camp. I just kept on growing as a player."

(On importance of having good game film) "That's everything. That's what we watch as Saints, but also other teams around the league, that's what they watch as well. You always want to go out there and have a good performance."

(On Spencer Rattler's performance/presence in the huddle) "He's spectacular. He's full of talent. Y'all saw out there, the throw he made to Equanimeous (St. Brown) was crazy. He's full of talent. He has a swagger about him that uplifts everyone around him. That's the biggest thing."

(On running scheme//performance) "That's the goal, to be a balanced back, so showing finesse and power with speed. Also for running backs to be a part of the passing game (is important). It allows you to be a complete back and show all your skills."

QB Jake Haener

(On his performance today) "At the end of the day, I got to be super confident in what I can do and who I am. I believe in myself and (am) confident in what I can do and I believe that I can play. We'll go back and I'll watch the tape, watch the decisions I made, but overall, I feel like I made really good decisions. Extended some plays, make you feel like you built (up) throughout the entire preseason and probably some answers."

(On the resume he has built in the preseason) "Yeah, preseason and offseason I felt super confident. We'll see what (the) evaluation looks like and come back on Tuesday."

WR Samson Nacua

(On his 106-yard field goal return to at the end of the first half) “Coach (Darren Rizzi) said sell the fake and then come back to the wall. I did exactly what he said, and the team set it up perfectly. When it was in the air, I was like, let me get under this and try to go make a play. I was definitely trying to bring it all the way and make something happen. I did not know it was 106 yards, but running sideways felt like an extra 60 yards. By the time I got to the 50-yard line, my legs were gone.”

(On if he had practiced returning a field goal before) “We have practiced it probably, like, two or three times. We've been focused on really base stuff and wasn't really planning for that. But luckily, we got like, two times in, so I was prepared a little bit for it.”

(On if he was disappointed that he did not score) “I'm 100 percent disappointed. Coach said it's the end of the half, no matter what, get it in [the end zone], don't get tackled with the ball. And what did I do? I got freaking tackled with the ball and I let the guys down. I should have pitched it to my teammate behind me and let him walk it in for me. But hopefully next time, if I receive another opportunity, I'll make it happen. I've seen my family group chat going off. I haven't got to check it yet, but they're probably going to tell me I am the slower brother, and I am going to be sick because I know I am faster than Puka [Nacua].”



POSTGAME NOTES & QUOTES

NEW ORLEANS SAINTS

TENNESSEE TITANS VS. NEW ORLEANS SAINTS SUNDAY, AUG. 25, 2024 • CAESARS SUPERDOME TITANS HEAD COACH BRIAN CALLAHAN

(Opening statement on injuries) “Just two injury-wise (today). Chance Campbell had a left knee. He is going to need an MRI, so we will see and get some more information on that. All I can say is that we will see. I don’t know the severity of it. (I am) hopeful, but we will see. Elijah Molden was evaluated for a concussion. Those were the two injuries that we had, so we came out pretty clean. That was positive.”

(Statement on the preseason and today’s game) “Just unbelievable effort and work by our team this preseason. I understand that preseason records have no bearing on regular season success and is not predictive in any way, shape, or form, but for the guys that suit up and play and give everything they have to get on the roster, it means something. That was really cool; and, just to see how hard our team has played in the preseason gave us chances to win all of the preseason games. That is what I think is the most important part of all of this. The effort that they have shown has given us an opportunity to win. So, that has been really cool. I’ve got to point out Thomas Odukoya and Nick Petit-Frere on that cover down field goal (return). Everyone got excited about last week’s field goal; and, this is the consequence of long field goals (attempts) sometimes, you put yourself in a little bit of harm’s way. That effort, that relentless effort to go and chase that play down really saved a touchdown and, ultimately, probably won us the game. (It) was really awesome by them. It was good to see the ones start the game. (We had) seven first downs, zero third downs. I understand their (Saints) starters weren’t playing, but our operation was good. We executed the right way. I know we scored on three possessions in the first half. I put our defense in a tough spot to open the second half. They handled the sudden change well (and) held them to a field goal in plus territory. We didn’t punt until the third quarter. I apologize to (Ryan) Stonehouse. We attempted to get him some punts, but we didn’t have too many of them early on, which is great. Too many penalties in the second half. Then, we need to get touchdowns, not field goals when we are close. We had possessions at the 21, 8, and 13 that we needed to get seven (points) instead of three (points). Those are four points to us. Overall, a pretty good day for us offensively and defensively. It was good to finish out the preseason the way we did.”

(On being pleased with the offense) “Encouraged. I hesitate to make any sort of prediction on preseason operations, but for us, just to see guys go out and play well, execute well, and then go and score points, that is the job. That is what playing offense in the NFL is. It’s a positive first step. It’s really encouraging to see those guys play well in those spots. I am happy with that.”

(On if the starting offensive line playing most of the first half was by design) “That was by design. We wanted to play our skill guys for two series’ for sure. We had two long drives and (then) pulled most of them out. The intent was for the offensive line to play a considerable amount more. We have a young (offensive) line. They need reps together. We did not receive any reps against Seattle because there

are a lot of reps for those guys during the week. It was good to see them play a good extended amount of time. It will be good film to watch. They just got to play together. We wanted to make sure that they could do that.”

(On if the competition on the right side of the offensive line is completed) “Yeah, I think the guys that finished that first half at this point are probably our starting five for Week One. There’s things to be talked about still, but at this point, yeah (those are our starters).”

(On what he told the team before or after the game about this being the last time for everyone to be together before roster cuts) “I said it last night in our team meeting and I said it to the guys in our locker room today...you develop relationships with these guys. They work really hard. You see their development. A lot of guys have improved dramatically. They’ve done really good things. So, you just thank them for their effort and you thank them for what they put into it. (I am) appreciative (of that). They have done everything that we have asked, every guy on this roster. I am really, really pleased with that. I think that is the makings of a good team. I told them in the locker room after the game is that part of the reason that we have been able to win the preseason games is the performance of the guys that have had to play at the end of games. To see those guys, there is a pride factor in that for them to be able to go out and close out some preseason games, which was really good to see. I thanked them for their effort. I am appreciative of everything that they’ve given us. The worst part of the job probably comes Tuesday and Wednesday when you have to cut the roster down, but that is life in the NFL. We’ve got to get to 53 (players), and that is just how it goes.”

(On Caleb Farley’s performance) “He did a nice job. For all the things that he’s been through, the ups and downs of his career, his personal life, (it was) just really cool to see him have a chance to go play. He hasn’t been able to play much, so that was cool to see him play. There is a little bit of joy in there for him to not have to think about anything and just go play and I think that he played pretty well from just what I saw with my eyes from the sideline. It was good for him. I was happy for him.”



POSTGAME NOTES & QUOTES

NEW ORLEANS SAINTS

TENNESSEE TITANS VS. NEW ORLEANS SAINTS SUNDAY, AUG. 25, 2024 • CAESARS SUPERDOME TITANS PLAYER QUOTES

QB Will Levis

(On today's game) "It went how we wanted it to. We played great from top to bottom. It was great watching guys go out there and make plays. We got the win. It doesn't necessarily mean anything in preseason, but it feels good."

(On his play) "It was good. I felt comfortable back there. Everything was happening in rhythm. The guys did a good job of separating and I felt like we were on the same page."

(On moving toward the regular season and losing some of the guys) "It's the business of the game. As the days have wound down, this is our final moment as a full group. They are going to have to make those tough decisions on Tuesday. We obviously can't keep everyone. We have a bunch of dogs in here from top to bottom. I know if they don't work out with us then they are going to find another opportunity."

QB Malik Willis

(On leading the team to victory) "I think it was awesome. Everyone all around...offense, defense and special teams did all that they could to pull this one out. You can see how close these games get. I think it was awesome to finish the way that we did."

(On how he feels after his third camp) "I'm just trying to take it day by day. I work hard and try to handle any mishaps. Learn from it and try to grow each day."

(On how he feels prior to the cut) "It's out of my hands. I'm just controlling what I can control. I just try to do my best to put some good stuff on tape."

(On if today was a confidence boost) "I just take it one day at a time and try to execute. Three different quarterbacks played so you can't look at it like a true game. You just take the reps that you get and try to do your best on them."

DT T'Vondre Sweat

(On his performance) "I just take it day by day. I give every day 100 percent. I try my best to showcase my skills. I play the best that I can be for my teammates."

(On moving forward) "I'm very excited to start preparing for the first game. I can't wait for the away game in Chicago. It's going to be another opportunity to play football."

(On finishing the game today) "It was great. We all take it day by day. We prepare for those moments. We just finish, finish, finish. We went out there and finished."

(On his first camp) "It went great. It went great because I had the veterans ahead of me to show me how camp is supposed to be. I just give credit to those guys for helping me prepare for my first camp."

TE Thomas Odukoya

(On the touchdown-saving play at the end of the half) "We attempted a long field goal there. Prior to the play, I saw that there was a returner back there. After we kicked it, I knew that we had to go cover it. I was on the left side. I tried to set an edge to contain my side of the field. He went to our right and I started running. I felt the cutback. I felt like I didn't have a chance. I was close. I knew I had to keep running. They slowed down and I made the play at the three-yard line. It was awesome to stop them and not give up a touchdown at the end of the first half. It brought the momentum on our side. It was important for the game."

(On getting swarmed by his teammates) "They were excited. Coach (Brian Callahan) said before the game that there is one word that we need to think about and that is finish. That play kind of exemplified that. Leaving it all out on the field for our last preseason game. Guys like me are fighting for a roster spot. I wanted to leave it all out there. My teammates obviously in that moment knew how big that play was. We thought we were going to get three points with the field goal attempt and then all of a sudden, they were about to get seven points. It was a huge momentum swing."