



NEW ORLEANS SAINTS VS GREEN BAY PACKERS
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2020 • MERCEDES-BENZ SUPERDOME
SAINTS POSTGAME NOTES

- With the loss, the Saints fall to 1-2 on the season and fall in back-to-back games for the first time since Weeks 1 and 2 of the 2017 season, snapping a streak of 48 games without consecutive losses. New Orleans returns to action on Sunday, October 4th when they take on the Detroit Lions at Ford Field in Detroit, MI. Kickoff is set for 12:00PM CT.
- The loss is New Orleans' first home loss on Sunday Night Football during the Brees-Payton era (since 2006), and first loss in their last five Sunday Night Football appearances. The Saints' fall to 20-15 all-time on Sunday Night Football.
- With the loss, the Saints' record against Green Bay falls to 9-17 all-time and to 6-6 in games played in the Mercedes-Benz Superdome.
- For HC **Sean Payton**, the loss drops his record against Green Bay to 4-2 all-time and 2-1 at home.
- Defensively, the Saints held Packers RB Aaron Jones to 69 yards on 16 carries, extending their streak to 45 consecutive games without surrendering 100 yards rushing to an individual player. The 45-game streak is now tied with the 1972-75 Los Angeles Rams for third-longest in NFL history.
- Offensively, New Orleans amassed 397 total yards, including a season-high 122 rushing yards and 275 passing yards. New Orleans finished with 30 points and have scored at least 30 points in two of their first three games of the season. The Saints' 6.8 yards per play is their highest mark this season.
- QB **Drew Brees** passed for 288 yards and three touchdowns on 29-of-36 passing, finishing with a passer rating of 127.8. Brees has now passed for at least three touchdowns in 94 games, surpassing Peyton Manning (93) and joining Tampa Bay QB Tom Brady (94) for most such games in NFL history. (Brady threw for three touchdowns earlier today against the Denver Broncos).
- Brees finished with a passer rating of above 125.0 for the 51st time in his career, surpassing Manning (50) for most such games in NFL history. Brees also moves into a tie for 22nd in NFL record books with LB Clay Matthews for career appearances with 278.
- RB **Alvin Kamara** scored two touchdowns, recording his 16th career multi-touchdown game, surpassing Marques Colston and Deuce McCallister and setting a new club record. Kamara also had the best receiving game of his career, finishing with 13 receptions for a career-high 139 yards and two touchdown receptions. Kamara set a new career-long reception on a 52-yard third quarter catch-and run touchdown. Kamara also carried the ball six times for 58 yards, including a first quarter 49-yard rush, matching the second longest run of his career.
- LB **Demario Davis** finished the game with seven tackles and one sack of Packers QB Aaron Rodgers, his second quarterback takedown of the season. Davis came into the game with 855 career stops and recorded his 900th career tackle on a third quarter stop of Packers TE Robert Tonyan.
- K **Wil Lutz** went 3-for-3 on field goal attempts, the 16th game of his career with at least three field goals, converting on attempts of 45, 35, and 34 yards. Lutz now has 125 career field goals, surpassing Doug Brien (123) for third in club record books.
- S **Malcolm Jenkins** led the Saints with nine tackles, his most stops in a game since recording 12 in Week 15 of the 2018 season as a member of the Philadelphia Eagles. Jenkins added one quarterback hit and one tackle for loss on the night.
- RB **Latavius Murray** recorded 12 rushes for a season-high 58 rushing yards and has now recorded double-digit rushing attempts in two of the Saints' first three games of the season. Murray added one reception for seven yards.

- WR **Tre'Quan Smith** finished the game with four receptions for 42 yards, and now has 10 receptions in the Saints' first three games. It took Smith seven games in 2018 and eight games in 2019 to record 10 receptions.
- WR **Emmanuel Sanders** scored his second touchdown of the season on a 10-yard reception from Brees on the final offensive play of the first half. Sanders finished with 56 receiving yards on a season-high four receptions.
- TE **Adam Trautman** recorded his first career game with multiple receptions, finishing with two catches for 17 yards. TE **Jared Cook** finished with two receptions for 21 yards and has recorded multiple receptions in each game this season.
- CB **Janoris Jenkins** recorded six tackles, including one tackle for loss on the night. His first tackle of the game was the 500th of his career and came in the first quarter on Packers WR Allen Lazard.
- Appearing in his 147th consecutive game, DE **Cameron Jordan** moves into a tie for first in club record books with T/G Jim Dombrowski for consecutive games played. Jordan's 147th career appearance moves him past Marques Colston for sole possession of 15th on the club's all-time games played list. Jordan finished the night with four tackles.
- S **C.J. Gardner-Johnson** and CB **Marshon Lattimore** added seven and six tackles, respectively. Gardner-Johnson has recorded 18 tackles in the Saints' first three games of season; it took 10 games for Gardner-Johnson to reach that mark in 2019.
- The Saints extend their streak to 291 regular season games without being shut out, the longest such running streak in the NFL and fourth longest all-time. The streak dates back to September 6, 2002 when New Orleans defeated the Tampa Bay Buccaneers 26-20 at Raymond James Stadium.



POSTGAME NOTES AND QUOTES

GREG BENSEL ✦ SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT OF COMMUNICATIONS

GREEN BAY PACKERS VS. NEW ORLEANS SAINTS SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2020 • MERCEDES-BENZ SUPERDOME HEAD COACH SEAN PAYTON

(On the game tonight) “We’re not doing enough of the little things well enough to win on a consistent basis. We are going to watch the tape. There are some encouraging things; and, yet, as a team, there are too many details that we have to improve on. That starts with us as coaches, myself, starting with me. The turnover battle we thought would be important. It ended up just being one versus zero; and, yet, that is pretty significant. There were parts of the way that the game was unfolding that was encouraging early on. And, I thought that, as it went on, we didn’t play as well in the second half.”

On how to get others involved besides Alvin Kamara: “We ended up getting a lot of deep zone coverage. There were a ton of plays in, for example, Emmanuel (Sanders). Sometimes a lot of it is predicated on the looks that you are getting. You would like to go in and say, ‘Hey, he is going to have X amount of touches,’ whether it’s Latavius (Murray), whether it’s the tight end, whether it’s another receiver. That is kind of how it unfolded. The third down numbers, I thought, got a little bit better in the second half, and, yet, they still weren’t good enough. There were some critical opportunities that we let slip by offensively. And, in the end, we couldn’t keep up with the numbers that they were putting up.”

On if not having Michael Thomas change what the team wants to do and change how teams play the Saints: “We got a lot of coverage tonight. That usually comes with Mike. They (Green Bay) were without Davante (Adams). Both teams were without two really good defensive tackles and two really good receivers (were not playing). That’s just the NFL.”

On why the team couldn’t keep pace with the Packers: “I just finished talking about it. We didn’t convert some third downs. We couldn’t get off of the field on some of the third downs. That’s my take before looking at the tape. We didn’t do enough of the little things well.”

On if Cesar Ruiz was going to be rotated in before Andrus Peat went out with injury: “Yeah.”

On if he looks at the pass interference penalties as fixable: “It has to be corrected. We jump offsides and allow him (Aaron Rodgers) another play on third down (and give up a touchdown). All week long we talk about discipline and cadence. It’s a great opportunity for us to get off of the field and force them to kick a field goal. When you get a free play like that, you throw it up and the play gets extended and it becomes difficult on the cornerback. Right now, we are leading the league in those calls.”

On the 72-yard reception by Allen Lazard: It’s the safety’s play. We are in quarter’s coverage, it’s third down, I think that it’s third and ten. It wasn’t very good.”

On how close to gametime was the decision made that Marcus Davenport and David Onyemata couldn’t go: As we approached today, I think that we felt Marcus is going to be ready next week and hopeful that David will be as well. We’ll keep you guys posted. We did what was best for this game”

On if the team is struggling to find an identity early on this season: “Yeah, to some degree. You are frustrated as a coach because that starts with us. We’ve got to do a better job. We’ve got to get ready to play a better game against Detroit. That’s our industry. We are 1-2 right now. It’s been awhile since we felt that; and, yet, three years ago we were 0-2. It’s a little bit of a gut check. Yet, we are not playing well enough. Let’s not fool ourselves, we are making too many mistakes and we are not playing disciplined enough on both sides of the ball. That is really just the truth.”

On Taysom Hill’s uncharacteristic fumble: “It was a tough break, tough play. It’s a give read and we have a chance for a big play. I’ll leave it at that. He works his butt off. It’s more of a technique thing. We have to look at how much. We had just stopped them on the fourth down play, so we got the ball in real good field position and had a chance to make something of it. Unfortunately, we didn’t.”



POSTGAME NOTES AND QUOTES
GREG BENSEL ✦ SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT OF COMMUNICATIONS

GREEN BAY PACKERS VS. NEW ORLEANS SAINTS
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2020 • MERCEDES-BENZ SUPERDOME
SAINTS PLAYERS

RB ALVIN KAMARA

Alvin, it was a big day for you today individually, obviously, but not enough. What do you need to do in your opinion to just kind of get back on track right now?

"I think we just got find more we are find more on offense. We have to find more on defense. We have to find more on special teams. We all have to do more then what is being asked us right now. (We) Have to correct mistakes, little things killing us, penalties. Some of the same stuff that went on last week. I mean, just penalties. We have to play smarter. We got to play a play better."

Just how tough is this, playing this way offensively right now?

"It's tough. I do not like losing. I would come out every week trying to get a win. Like I said, We have got to find more. We have to do more. Individually. From me to Drew (Brees) to everybody. We just have to do more."

WR EMMANUEL SANDERS

Coach Payton said that I feels like the team's not paying attention enough to detail or making too many mistakes and details on both sides of the ball. How do the players look at it right now, some of the leaders on the team?

"That's the truth. Obviously, the number one thing that I see is, penalties, you have to stop shooting ourselves in the foot, first of all, and we got to just play a smarter brand of football. I hope that that will help. I feel like the past two games for sure. Penalties have killed us. I mean, literally gave the other opponent points. So we got to stop doing that."

Is it just kind of frustrating right now that you haven't been able to get anything going downfield? Seems like everything has been kind of contained in shorter so far?

"Yeah. That's the way teams are playing right now, it's easy to plan. It's a lot of coverage two, just forcing us to check the ball down and forcing us to run the ball. So I feel like those opportunities to come. I'm I haven't had the pain. But you know, obviously, we're, we're 1-2 but I know what type of team we got. Yeah, I know, we could possibly go on a run here. I'm looking forward to practice actually on Wednesday, and I'm looking forward to next Sunday to Sunday after that and the Sunday after that. Because I feel like we got opportunity to really still do something special even though the record doesn't say that right now."

Alvin Kamara had almost 200 offensive yards today. Just how big is he? Especially right now when you don't have Michael Thomas and Jared Cook went down and things aren't clicking as much as you would like them to.

"I told him today I say I haven't seen too many running backs as better than him. And not only dynamic players, I think the only player that I can really compare him to in terms of explosion and just big play capabilities is Antonio Brown when I was playing with him, just jaw dropping plays over and over and over. I'm happy he's on my team, for sure."

The last time we talked to you, you mentioned some stuff about just knowing the personnel packages and that do you feel comfortable yet? In the offense, or is it still a process for you?

"This game I settled in, I learned my splits, I kind of grew in offense. I figured out what I was studying wrong, or what I was studying, right and what Sean Payton wants and what he didn't want. I feel like I found my groove this game. So I'm looking forward to continuously studying and getting in the groove with Drew and seeing how far we can take this because we got a lot of baller."

You said, you feel like this team can still do something special. Why do you feel that way?

“Look at the players. We got Drew Brees at quarterback, Alvin Kamara at running back. We have Michael Thomas coming back. We got Sean Payton calling plays and on the defensive side, we got players as well. So why would I not think that? There's no excuse. But you know, the first three games, we had Tom Brady and Aaron Rodgers. So we came in on the short end of the stick right now because we are 1-2 but at the same time, as the season progresses, I feel like we're going to get better and better and get more acclimated with the offense and defense and grow as a team. I feel like the sky's is still the limit.”

Emmanuel, you've been on some teams that have been to the Super Bowl, one Super Bowl. What was that that mood? Like in the locker room after today? Are you kind of encouraged by the way you guys are handling this right now?

“The mood is we got a lot of ball left to play. And there's no reason to hit the panic button. But we got to correct the mistakes. We're going to go we need to play a smarter brand of football. We got to get rid of the penalties. We've got to get better on offense, defense and special teams. We just have to grow and get better.”

QB DREW BREES

The offense, I think you scored on four straight possessions when the defense came up with the big stop. You feel for Taysom (Hill), the fumble seemed to kind of change the rhythm for the rest of the game there.

“Yeah, I mean, of course, you know, that was a huge stop by the defense. You know, we got the ball at midfield. You know, I think we all felt really good that we were going to go down and get points, you know, hopefully a touchdown and kind of seize control of that game. So, you know, it's unfortunate that it happened at that time. But man, Taysom is such a conscientious guy. And he's such a great football player, and he does so much for us. It's, you know, at times that's part of the game. You know, and you got to rally, you got to bounce back.”

Why have you all struggled to get the ball down the field. Are defenses just defending you all a certain way, and you're taking what they're giving you, basically?

“We called a couple shot plays today. And unfortunately, we just got, again, bad looks. I think I got sacked on one. And that actually, ironically, the second one was the one where I threw it to Alvin Kamara and he went 52 yards for a touchdown. So, I don't care how far I have to throw the ball down the field. My job is to make good decisions. I'm not going to force it if it's not there, check it down, put in the hands of our playmakers and let them do what they do.”

Kind of in that same vein, has the coverages you've seen been different since Mike (Thomas) has been out? Have teams been covering you differently than then maybe you have seen previously?

“For the most part today, they just played us real soft, they played us real soft. So we ran the ball well. You know, we checked it down underneath well. I thought we were really efficient and ran the ball well too. I'd say, if we're being sticklers about ourselves, the difference was, I think in the red zone, we had four red zone possessions and had two touchdowns, two field goals. So, in a game like this against a really good opponent and a really good offense on the other side of the ball, you just have to take advantage of those opportunities and try to get touchdowns as opposed to field goals.”

Do you recall a game where you could just put the ball in a player's hands like Alvin (Kamara) and good things were happening repeatedly like that?

“Yeah. I mean, listen, he's a special football player. You know, he rattled off that big run early on, and then obviously, the check down, you know, turned into a 52 yard touchdown. It's nice when you've got

a weapon like that, that you just get the ball in his hands in space. And he's tough to tackle and it's kind of a human highlight reel.”

And then with Emmanuel Sanders, I know you talked about trying to get in rhythm, new player. Did that start something really good at the end of the second quarter? And do you think you guys finally found some of that chemistry tonight?

“I still think we can do a better job of getting the ball in his hands. And that goes for some other guys too, you know. Obviously, you've got these guys that can do a lot of things, you know, and throughout the course of the week, you know, you're always kind of waiting to see how a defense is going to play you, so you have a lot of volume in the plan. And then it's really not until you get to the game that you know what is going to work and really what you are going to hang your hat on. But, there is no doubt that you have a guy like Emmanuel Sanders, you want to get the ball in his hands. Tre'Quan Smith, Jared Cook, Alvin Kamara and so many others, there's only so many balls to go around. But at the same time, I think just, you know, our ability to be super efficient, my ability as a quarterback, you know, to make sure that the open guys are getting the balls, you know, and on time and in rhythm. And, you know, that's really what executing the offense is all about.”

Just as a veteran leader on the team, how do you guys balance, being confident that you guys can find whatever you're missing so far, with also kind of having a sense of urgency of getting things back on track?

“Yeah. I mean, it's, unfortunately, you know, we've had two games in a row now, where, you know, these haven't been our best performances. I think, both sides of the ball, there's plenty of things that we know we need to work on, you know. The penalties is still a black eye. It was last week, it was again this week. You know, obviously taking care of the football, you know, I think we pride ourselves on being a team that really takes good care of the football and takes it away. And then just taking advantage of opportunities. You know, those redzone opportunities, those opportunities to sustain drives, or keep drives going. And that's complementary football. You know, I think special teams has been solid. But man, all those things work together. And that's what helps you get victories.”

Are you surprised that you all have been kind of starting a little slow here, the fact that you all have so many players back from a year ago, your coaching staff is intact? I thought this might be an advantage for you all, this weird offseason. Because you all have so much continuity. Yet, it seems like both sides of the ball a little out of sorts a little bit.

“Well, I think, listen, if you're a veteran player in this league, you know that you're not guaranteed anything from year to year. You got to come out, you got to earn it, each and every time out. And I think, obviously, based on the last two losses in consecutive weeks. I think, you know, we have to take a hard look at, you know, what we're doing, how we're doing it. And we need to be doing it better, you know, bottom line. And, you know, be as efficient as we possibly can, create a great sense of urgency. Listen, I love our team. I love the way we work. I love the way we prepare. But there's obviously some things that need to be corrected so that we can get back on a winning track.”

S MALCOLM JENKINS

You've been a part of some great teams in your career. I know you said earlier, you thought this team has the chance to be one of the best ones you've played on. How do you assess where you're at now, 1-2 and some of the problems you all might be having right now?

“Yeah, I think my assessment for what I thought before still stands, I still think this is, from a talent standpoint, one of the more talented teams I've been on from a roster standpoint, but like I've said before, talent really doesn't get you much in this league on paper, especially when you're as undisciplined as we've been playing lately on defense. I think we've got the guys to execute and do what we need to do, but a lot of it has been just a lack of discipline, whether it's penalties, your

assignments here or there. It's really just been hurting us, but we've got a whole season. It's still very early and there's things that we can correct, but we've got to do it and got to get it fixed if we want to be the team that we set out to be."

What was it about those bootlegs they were running? They just kind of seemed hard for you guys to adjust to.

"Yeah, it just comes down to discipline, eye discipline, understanding what the offenses are going to do. And all it takes is one guy not to be doing his job in those plays, control the game, getting people ahead of the sticks. So, something that we'll continue to see until we get it fixed."

Just considering how many veteran guys you have, is there sort of a sense that you guys can get this fixed? And is there a sort of confidence that comes along with that?

"For me, personally, I feel like that was what I was brought here to do and so up to this point, I think I've been failing in that regard, but it's definitely something I think between myself and other leaders on the team and on defense can definitely get it fixed. I think the coaching staff does a great job of preparing us. As players, we've got to take it upon ourselves and make sure that we're ready to go, that we're getting better every week and that we're playing discipline ball. And we just haven't been up until now."

DT SHELDON RANKINS

Just wondering if you could just kind of give me a general overview of where this defense is at right now, just after these last two games in particular.

"Right now we're not executing at the level, we're constantly executing at. It's real simple. When we cut the tape after the games, we see ourselves doing things that are detrimental to his team, detrimental to his defense, putting ourselves in adverse positions. We're just not being consistent enough right now. We'll play one down good, and then give up something cheap. You know, on all levels. You know, it starts with, you know, myself, Cam (Jordan), guys up front. We got to play better, and, and so on, and so forth. So right now, we're just not executing consistently enough, to be the type of team we want to be. Like we have in the past we come out with energy, made plays. But right now, we're not doing that. We're putting ourselves in bad positions and forcing ourselves into games where we've given up a lot of points and given up a lot of plays. And that's not what we do."

Do you guys feel like you're creating pressure at the rate you want to create at? And if not, like, what do you think some of the reasons for that have been for that?

"Not at all. I don't think, I don't, I don't think any of us like what, as far as from, you know, putting pressure on the quarterback, you know, especially not tonight. You know, when we got this tape off, there's going to be a lot of things we don't like. Listen, we just got to keep working. I think, the good thing about this group, we take it all in stride. We understand that, you know, there are going to be times where you aren't playing well, and you aren't doing things right. But you know, the great thing about this game, you get another week. You know, we get a chance to come back next week, improve on those things, improve on, you know, getting to the quarterback, pressuring guys. And we'll look forward to putting on a better outing next Sunday."

I think we all expected the continuity to really help you guys as a veteran team, that almost everyone was back from last year, why do you think that hasn't helped you guys early in the season so far?

"At the end of the day, that is all on paper. At the end of the day, having a lot of guys who have played together, in a sense, helps. Like I said, it looks great on paper, but you have got to execute. It's real simple. When we get in these meetings over these next couple of days and watch this tape,

it's going to be real simple. We've just got to execute. We've just got to go out there and do what we're coached to do and do it at a high level like we always have. This is something that we don't like to see from ourselves, because we're used to hitting quarterbacks and then putting pressure on people and having fun and doing those things and getting the ball back for our offense and allowing them to do what they do. So listen, our offense came out and played well tonight, but at the end of the day, we've got to hold up our end of the bargain. For the most part, we've done in the past, but over these last couple games, it's not what we like to see. Like I said, the good thing about his team, the leaders, the guys who've played a lot of football, we'll get this corrected and we'll come back out for a better showing."

When Marcus Davenport is out there, does that change the way teams block against you or Cam (Jordan) and when you take him out do you guys see more attention? Does it make things a little bit harder on everybody else?

"I think we have plenty of capable players. Obviously, Marcus is an immense talent. When he is out there, he's definitely a game changer, but guys like Trey (Hendrickson) played well. David (Onyemata), when he's in there plays well. Malcom Brown. We've got guys that can go in. We're just not winning right now. Like I said, it comes back to we've got to execute, we've got to execute the rush plans. We've got to execute our rush moves and we're not doing that at a high enough clip right now to help this defense, but like I said we'll get back to work this week and come back out right."

Do you even feel close to that right now, executing right?

"Not close to where we want to be. Like I said, we're not even scratching the surface of how good we can be. The things we were able to do throughout training camp and how we felt like we were playing and rushing and doing those things as a unit, we're not seeing them consistently enough right now. So, not even scratching the surface on how good we think we can be as far as rushing the passer, pressuring the passer. But, those are the things that we have a chance to fix. So, we'll do that and when it's time to get back out there (inaudible)."



POSTGAME NOTES AND QUOTES

GREEN BAY PACKERS VS. NEW ORLEANS SAINTS SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2020 • MERCEDES-BENZ SUPERDOME GREEN BAY PACKERS QUOTES

HEAD COACH MATT LaFLEUR

(On sticking with the ground game): "That's why it all ties together. It is important that you stay with the run game whether it is going to your liking or not. It does open up stuff for you down the field and that played a big role tonight with the keepers and play passes that we ran."

(On Za'Darius Smith's play): "He is consistently one of our best defensive players. He is one of the best defensive players in the league. He is a guy that you have to account for on every play. He can certainly cause problems for you. We went for it on fourth down and didn't get it. He came up with the play of the game that swung it in our favor."

(On the defense bouncing back after the Kamara touchdown): "I think there was a lot of good on both sides of the ball and I think there are some things that we need to clean up if we want to be the team that we feel like we are capable of being. Alvin Kamara is a great player. He does this consistently. He makes big plays and makes people miss. That was going to be one of the keys to the game being able to neutralize him. He had too many good plays on us. There was a lot of good, but we just have to be more consistent as a defense. There are times where we are firing at a high level. There are times when teams get big plays and consistently march down the field. Although we are happy with the win, there is a lot to improve upon."

(On Allen Lazard's play): "Allen's been a such a consistent performer for us in the pass and run game. He is a guy that continues to make plays. I am so happy for him. The initial 53 he wasn't on it. He has earned everything that he has gotten. He has the respect of all of his teammates. He has all of the coaches respect. He has become a really high level player for our offense."

(On what is good flow): "I think it's trying to get it to him in a timely manner. He gives us so much flexibility on offense in handling some of these long calls. That is such a credit to him and the rest of our players because your assignment changes in a matter of just a few instances. Now, you have to refocus. And try to put it all together based upon what the defense is presenting you. Our players' ability and football intelligence really opens up our offense to create these explosive plays down the field."

(On setting a performance standard for the offense) "Certainly you'd like to put up those numbers every week. It's the NFL and not always that easy. I think a big reason why we are generating points is that we take a good job of taking care of the football. Our quarterback is as good as anybody ever. He makes great decision and throws with great timing and accuracy. Our offensive line has done a great job for us in the run and pass game. A big emphasis going into this season was our third down conversions. We've been so much better on third down. That's a credit to our guys. We put it in our quarterback's hands and he give us great looks. That's a credit to all of our guys."

(On putting this win into perspective) "I think that we did spend a lot of time this offseason. There were a lot of Zoom meetings. It's a credit to everybody and their ability to take all of the information in and execute the play calls. I can't say enough about our offensive staff coming up with great game plans. There is a lot of communication going on throughout the game and that's a credit to everybody. We are taking everybody's input. There is a lot of great communication going on. It is just a bunch of guys working together trying to do the best job possible."

(On Aaron Rodgers' progression) "I think it is a culmination of banked reps. He can take in a lot of information, which is a benefit to us because we can put more on his plate. He never flinches. He handles it. He's the catalyst for our offense. He gets us going in the right direction."

(On the rotation of the backs) "I think that is something we can go and take a look it. I need to make sure the right guys are in at the right time. I have a lot of trust in all of those guys. We put our guys in the best position for success, but sometimes it doesn't work out. That's a credit to the New Orleans Saints. We knew coming into this game that it was not going to be easy to run the football. They have one of the best defenses in the league. Dennis Allen does a great job. He has a sound scheme. You're going to play a lot of 8-man front. They are gap sound. It's hard to run the ball."

QB AARON RODGERS

(On thriving under pressure): “Anytime you are playing a Drew Brees team, then you know that you have to score. The two times that we’ve played down here I have felt like they put up 50 both times I know one time they put up 51. We knew the type of game (to expect). Right now on offense we feel really good about it. Matt (LaFleur) had a really nice flow with the calls. He did a nice job on third down for the most part. We were opportunistic with some big plays when we needed it. We got some guys involved. We had a number of guys catch passes and a number of guys we needed to play well played well.”

(On the defensive coverages) “They were definitely worried about (Marquez Valdes-Scantling’s) speed over the top. He was definitely getting some help on his side, which freed up some of the other guys. This was a night where we worked it down the field. We had a lot of keepers as well. Tonight the keeper game was working. It was a very efficient play for us.”

(On drawing Demario Davis offsides) “I was definitely watching the play clock there. There were a couple of times earlier where they were really cued into the play clock. At that time, I felt ok about the call, but I wanted to talk to Matt (LaFleur) about it. I was thinking about calling timeout, but they jumped. We protected up pretty good. I threw one up to Allen (Lazard) and he did a nice job of fighting for it. Obviously we had the PI there that set us up nice on the one-yard line.”

(On the advantage of the lack of fans at a place like the Mercedes-Benz Superdome) “I miss the fans. I really do. I miss the environment. It doesn’t matter if it is a road game. The cheers and the jeers and the boos. Everything that goes with the road games. I obviously miss our crowd at Lambeau. They’re so much fun. There’s nothing like coming down Lombardi and taking a right into the parking lot. The throngs of people that are excited about the games. Hopefully, we can get the fans back at some point. There were a couple hundred out there tonight.”

(On the momentum swings in the fourth quarter) “It was huge. It was a tie game and we had a big play by Z. We made a couple of plays in that drive especially on a third down where we were discombobulated. We got it on over to Jace (Sternberger) to make that field goal a little bit shorter. We all love Mason (Crosby). He has been a rock for us for so many years. He made some big kicks tonight. The one to take the lead was from 49. It was good to see Jace make a big catch to get us going. We had some really good calls down at the goal line. They were all knifing down in there. It was a beautiful call to fake the inside handoff to the boot to ice it. That was a big call by Matt (LaFleur) and the execution was spot on.

(On putting pressure on other teams to put points up on the scoreboard) “We have had some good teams over the years. I remember the 2014 offense where we were scoring 20+ points in every first half. I wasn’t playing a bunch of fourth quarters that year because we were lighting up the scoreboard. In 2011, we had a really good offense and put up some amazing numbers. This offense is so different. We were missing Davante (Adams). I think a lot of teams look at us and see that we don’t have many stars to be worried about. Aaron Jones is a talented guy and you have to try to take him away. You never know whose day it’s going to be. Week one was Davante. Week two was a number of other guys. Aaron Jones had a big one. Today it was kind of all over the place. It wasn’t an explosion of offense, but the efficiency was really, really good. We went four for five in the red zone. Big Dog’s play on the sideline was huge. The first touchdown to Allen was a great play call. There was so much stress on the defense with guys flying and sliding and coming back on the other side. I feel so much more comfortable in the offense this year. I think Matt has settled into the rhythm of the play calling and has made my job a lot easier. I’ve gotten sacked twice in three games. Tonight was probably my fault by not adjusting to protection. The offensive line has blocked extremely well.”

(On getting the tight ends involved) “It’s just the flow of the game. Bobby had a number of plays where we got him sliding across the formation. Jace had the same opportunities for a couple of his plays. I wasn’t trying to intentionally throw him the ball. To be honest, there was not a lot of confidence there after some of those drops. You love to see it. It was great for everybody to get him that first catch. We are a family. We are a tight knit group. We don’t want to see one of our guys struggle with confidence. It was fun to see. I’m highlighting it because that’s what we do. We support each other. We love each other and we are hard on each other when we need to be hard on them. We’ll pick you up and pat you on the ass when you do a good job. Jace had a couple of important plays for us and we are really happy for him.”

(On Aaron Jones presence opening it up) “There is a number of things that he brings to the offense that allows us to do some of the other stuff that we are doing. He’s never a decoy. He had 69 yards tonight running the ball and a couple of catches, but he played a big factor in the game because he draws so much attention. I think the flow of the calls has been the importance of our success. I can’t stress that enough. I really like the way that we started the game. I like the timing on certain calls. You need to dig deep at certain times and trust the players. I really appreciate the flow that we had tonight and the trust in us to make the plays. Tonight we did.”