



**NEW ORLEANS SAINTS VS JACKSONVILLE JAGUARS**  
**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2023 • CAESARS SUPERDOME**  
**SAINTS POSTGAME NOTES**

- The New Orleans Saints fell the Jacksonville Jaguars 31-24 Thursday.
- With the loss, the Saints fall to 3-4 on the year. New Orleans returns to action to face the Indianapolis Colts on Sunday, October 29 in Indianapolis. Kickoff from Lucas Oil Stadium is set for noon central with the game regionally televised on FOX (WVUE FOX 8 locally).
- The Saints finished with 407 yards total net yards while surrendering 330 yards to Jacksonville.
- New Orleans compiled a season-high 18 points and 268 yards in the second half.
- The Saints held Jacksonville to just two conversions on 11 attempts.
- The Saints converted four fourth downs on six attempts.
- QB **Derek Carr** finished with 301 yards, one touchdown and one interception on 33-of-55 (60.0 pct.) passing. It was Carr's 36<sup>th</sup> career game of at least 300-yards passing
- Carr tied Ryan Fitzpatrick for 36<sup>th</sup> all-time in touchdown passes, now at 223. He also surpassed Matt Hasselbeck to move into 29<sup>th</sup> in all-time career passing yards (36,822).
- QB **Taysom Hill** scored a fourth quarter touchdown on fourth-and-one 0:39 into the fourth quarter, his first score of the season. Hill finished with four receptions for 50 yards and five carries for 18 yards and a touchdown.
- The touchdown was Hill's 24<sup>th</sup> career rushing score, and he is now in eighth place on the New Orleans all-time rushing touchdown list.
- The Saints held the ball for 12:50 in the third quarter. They had their longest touchdown drive of the season in the third/fourth quarter as well, going 75 yards in 16 plays and taking up 7:26 of the game clock.
- RB **Alvin Kamara** currently leads all National Football League running backs in receptions with 35, adding 12 catches Thursday for 91 yards. This is the second time this season Kamara has had 10+ catches, the first time in his career he's had multiple double-digit catch games in a single season.
- Kamara rushed for a game-high 62 yards on 17 carries.
- Thursday was Kamara's 45<sup>th</sup> game with at least 100 yards from scrimmage since 2017, the second most in the NFL over that period.
- Kamara also scored the game-tying two-point conversion, giving him five two-point conversions in his career and becoming the Saints all-time leader in that department.
- RB **Jamaal Williams** returned to the lineup tonight after being activated from Injured Reserve. Williams finished with five carries for 14 yards.
- WR **Chris Olave** led the team in receiving with seven catches for 57 yards.
- WR **Michael Thomas** scored a 17-yard touchdown (his first of the season) in the fourth quarter to tie the game. Thomas finished with three catches for 42 yards and the touchdown.
- CB **Paulson Adebo** forced a fumble by Jaguars WR Christian Kirk in the first quarter which was recovered by DE **Carl Granderson**. Adebo finished the game with a team-leading seven tackles, while Granderson added six total tackles.
- The Saints forced a second turnover on a special teams play, as CB **Lonnie Johnson** recovered a Jamal Agnew fumble.
- S **Tyrann Mathieu** had three total tackles, achieving 600 takedowns for his career.
- K **Blake Grupe** made three-of-four field goals, including a long of 42 yards.
- P **Lou Hedley** booted a career-long 63-yard punt in the fourth quarter.
- LS **Zach Wood** played in his 105<sup>th</sup> career game, moving him into a tie for 46<sup>th</sup> on the all-time Saints' games played list with RB Pierre Thomas and DL Willie Whitehead.

# POSTGAME NOTES

## TEAM STATS

Stats	JAX	N.O.
1st Downs	18	25
3rd Downs	2/11	3/18
Net Yards	330	407
Total Plays	56	87
Rush Net	113	112
Pass Net	217	295
Penalties	5-42	3-34
Turnovers	2	1
Punts	5	4
TDs	4	2
FGs	1-1	3-4
TOP	23:50	36:10

## PLAYER STATS

### PASSING

T. Lawrence: 20/29, 204 yds., 1 TD, 100.4 rtg.

### RUSHING

T. Etienne Jr.: 14 att., 53 yds., 2 TD

### RECEIVING

C. Kirk: 6 rec., 90 yds., 1 TD

E. Ingram: 5 rec., 45 yds.

J. Agnew: 4 rec., 36 yds.

T. Etienne Jr.: 3 rec., 24 yds.

### DEFENSE

F. Oluokun: 14 TT (9 solo), 2 PD, 1 INT, 1 TD

D. Lloyd: 11 TT (5 solo), 1 PD

R. Jenkins: 9 TT (3 solo)

T. Herndon: 7 TT (5 solo), 2 PD, 1 QBH

A. Blackson: 6 TT (5 solo), 2 TFL

D. Williams: 5 TT (4 solo), 2 PD



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## JACKSONVILLE JAGUARS AT NEW ORLEANS SAINTS

THURSDAY, OCT. 19 | 8:15 P.M. EST | CAESARS SUPERDOME



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## GAME RECAP

- The Jacksonville Jaguars defeated the New Orleans Saints, 31-24. Tonight's win marks the first road win against the Saints in franchise history. The Jaguars are 5-2 this season with a 3-0 road record and carry a four-game winning streak, marking the team's best start through Week 7 since 2007.
- In the first half, Jacksonville held New Orleans to six points. This is the sixth time this season the Jaguars defense has not allowed more than seven points in the first half.
- With tonight's victory, Head Coach Doug Pederson is now 8-0 in Thursday night games and 15-7 in prime time games.

## PLAYER NOTES

- QB Trevor Lawrence completed 20 of 29 passes for 204 yards and a touchdown with a 100.4 rating. Lawrence's 20 completions puts him over 900 completions in his career.
- RB Travis Etienne Jr. recorded 14 rushing attempts for 53 yards and two touchdowns. His two touchdowns makes him the first player in team history to rush for multiple touchdowns in three consecutive games. Etienne also ties James Stewart (1999) for the most rushing touchdowns scored in a single game against the Saints in franchise history with two.
- LB Foyesade Oluokun posted his sixth interception of his career and his first-career pick-six. This is the first pick-six recorded on a Thursday in Jaguars history and the second pick-six on Thursday Night Football this season. Oluokun also posted 14 total tackles (nine solo), marking his fifth time recording double-digit tackles this season. His 14 total tackles are the most total tackles in a single game against the Saints in team history.
- With 1:33 left in the first half, P Logan Cooke successfully converted his sixth-career fake punt on a 13-yard pass to WR Tim Jones for a first down. This is the first time the Jaguars have attempted a fake punt since Week 16 of the 2021 season.
- WR Christian Kirk has recorded six receptions for 90 yards and a touchdown in tonight's matchup. His 39 receptions this season are the fifth-most among wide receivers through Week 7 in franchise history.
- K Brandon McManus' 43-yard field goal and four extra points in tonight's game puts him over 1,000 career-points across 151 games since 2014.
- CB Darius Williams posted five total tackles (four solo) and two passes defended. His 11 passes defended ranks first in the NFL.

## JAGUARS INACTIVES

7 Zay Jones	WR
22 JaMycal Hasty	RB
32 Tyson Campbell	CB
56 Yasir Abdullah	OLB
72 Walker Little	OL
12 Nathan Rourke	QB

## SAINTS INACTIVES

48 J.T. Gray	S
83 Juwan Johnson	TE
67 Landon Young	OT
74 James Hurst	G
71 Ryan Ramczyk	OT
17 A.T. Perry	WR
91 Kyle Phillips	DE



## POSTGAME NOTES AND QUOTES

### JACKSONVILLE JAGUARS VS. NEW ORLEANS SAINTS THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2023 • CAESARS SUPERDOME SAINTS HEAD COACH DENNIS ALLEN

(Opening Statement) “Obviously disappointed with the loss. I do think there were some things I saw in the game that were good to see. I thought our offense kind of responded there in the second half. I think right now, our team is too inconsistent right now and that's what's causing us problems so we'll have to work to get that corrected. We got 10 days to get it done.”

(On Jacksonville's last touchdown) “We ran a quarters coverage and the guy ran a good route on Tyrann (Mathieu) and sometimes that can happen in that coverage, you kind of get drained on the other side of the field. That's what I saw. I didn't see the finish and where everybody else was. I saw the route. I was watching that because I kind of thought that might be something that they would do and look, he (Christian Kirk) ran a great route and won.”

(On third downs) “I thought third down was a big down in the game. You're not going to win a lot of games if you're not able to convert on third down. We were able to convert with fourth downs. But that area has to be better. Obviously, we didn't finish in the red zone as well as we would have but if you're 50% of the red zone, in the National Football League, you're going to end up being one of the better red zone teams. There was some improvement there. I still think there's some things that we can be better at. I think there were some opportunities there that we just missed on. I think we're a lot closer, but we're still not there yet. And we're going to keep grinding until we get there.”

(On the extra days off) “There's a good little reset here. I told the team in there to get a little reset. So, we'll reset and evaluate a lot of different things over the next four or five days as we're starting to get into our next opponent. We'll figure out how we play a little better and be more consistent. I think that's if I had one word to say in terms of where we're at as a team is just, we're a little inconsistent. That's the challenge. We have to become a more consistent football team.”

(On the offensive line) “I thought the offensive line overall held up pretty good. I thought for Andrus Peat not to have played left tackle (in five years), I mean, I heard this morning it was 2018, so I thought he thought he did a good job. I thought Cam Erving stepped in and did a nice job at right tackle. Obviously Max Garcia playing left guard for us. I thought our offensive line, overall, I thought they did a pretty good job.”

(On the pass play in the red zone) “I think there's times where that can be a good play and we didn't execute it and certainly if we had we'd be feeling differently, but we didn't get it done.”

(On kickstarting the offense with uptempo) “No, that was kind of the one thing that we kind of talked about probably midway through the third quarter. We just said hey, look, let's get into some uptempo and see if we can kind of jumpstart this thing a little bit. We did and, and I thought our guys executed. If that was probably the most positive I could take out of what we did offensively it was sitting down a little something that. They can't live in that all game every game. You have to be able to do some other things, but it's nice to know that if you'd have to get to that you can get to it.”

(On Lou Hedley's lack of consistency) "I think he has to be more consistent. I can say that about a lot of our guys, that we have to be more consistent. I think there are a lot of guys that need to be (more) consistent."

(On Hedley's final punt of the game) "We need a better kick there."

(On Derek Carr and receivers not seeing eye to eye on some plays) "I think that's frustrating. That is probably one of the things that I'm most frustrated about is just that part of that inconsistency. We have got to...somehow, somehow, we have to get those guys on the same page. There's a lot that goes into that."

(On the offense's inconsistency) "Well, I certainly think that we need to be better. And again, (I) think the last couple of weeks, we've been able to do a lot of good things and yet there's going to be a handful of plays in the game that potentially could be the difference makers in the game. That's where we have to be better.

(On if they switched anything up on the defense) "Not a lot. There are a couple things we changed up. I thought they did a good job early on with gadget plays and things of that nature that ended up getting some yards. Overall, I thought we did a good job of stopping their run game. We have to do a better job of not letting the quarterback scramble. We have to do a better job of that. That was probably the thing defensively, that was the black eye on the whole thing. When you look at their rushing yards and what they were able to do rushing, a majority of that was the quarterback running the ball so that has to be better. I thought early on we didn't quite...I don't think we were as consistent defensively; I don't think we executed quite as good as we needed to. I think they beat us on a couple of plays that I would have liked to have seen us do better. We probably got to maybe a little bit more coverage as the game wore on. It kind of got into mode where they really trying to throw the ball it seemed like a little bit."

(On Carr's consistency) "I wouldn't say, much like I've said about a lot of our guys on our team, I think there's some things that he did really well. I think there's was a little bit of inconsistency. I think that overall is...that's part of the group. I think each and every one of us individually needs to be more consistent and I think if we're able to do that, then collectively as a group we'll be more consistent.

(On what Carr could do to improve consistency) "We're not going to to try to point fingers at anybody. We all got to be better. I think that's something that we're going to continue to work on."

(On if there were sideline communication issues) "No."





## POSTGAME NOTES AND QUOTES

### JACKSONVILLE JAGUARS VS. NEW ORLEANS SAINTS THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2023 • CAESARS SUPERDOME JAGUARS HEAD COACH DOUG PEDERSON

(On the overall game): “No. 1 the biggest stat that matters to me is the scoreboard, right? The fact that we won the game. Now with that being said, I mentioned to the team that we had some guys who were banged up going into this game. Each man had to step in that gap. Everybody had to lift each other up. I credit our offensive line. Other than the scrambles where (Trevor Lawrence) got tackled, I think he stayed pretty clean in the pocket for the whole day. His performance, gutting it out like he did, Brandon Scherff gutting it out like he did, so many guys on a short week battling injury. To sacrifice that for the football team says a lot about the character of these guys. I am so proud of them for doing that. Trevor’s obviously one of those guys. Kind of everything else goes away – the fact that they gutted it out and made the plays down the stretch that we needed to, bust a route in the end zone on fourth down. Jamal (Agnew)’s punt return, did a great job of anticipating that. The fake punt. Christian (Kirk) and his touchdown in the end. There were a lot of individual efforts that were good to see. Just a lot of credit to those guys in the locker room.”

(On Montaric “Buster” Brown): “I thought he did some good things. He’s a young player, a second-year player for us. We were missing Tyson Campbell, so it’s next man up, and Buster’s the next man. He’s worked hard to put himself in this position. He works hard in practice. It’s not always going to be perfect or pretty or all of that, but you know what? He made plays when he needed to, and that’s the most important thing. Really proud of the way he played today.”

(On if he thought Trevor Lawrence would play today): “I wouldn’t say 100 percent. It’s not my decision to make. It’s Trevor’s, how he feels. He was feeling good last night, and he was feeling good today during his workout. I trust my players. I’m going to do what’s right, but at the same time, if a player, in this case Trevor, feels like he can go, I’m going to trust that.”

(On Trevor Lawrence setting career-highs in rushing yards with a sprained knee): “It just again shows the type of person he is and the unselfishness he has. I saw it last year when he got injured. He got injured in the Detroit game, and he battled injury throughout the rest of the year and gutted that out. This is different. This is a short week. On Monday, I would have told you he was not playing in this football game, but that’s not who Trevor is. Again, I’m proud of his effort – the ability to escape the pocket and run. Fortunately, they were straight-ahead runs. He didn’t have to cut too much. A lot of gutsy performances out there, and his is probably the No. 1.”

(On the team’s resiliency): “Listen, this is a good football team that we played tonight. They’re a well-coached, disciplined group. They’re aggressive on defense, and they’ve got every weapon on offense. We talked about it this week. It’s a 60-minute football game, and that’s what you’ve got to do. Guys own their jobs and do their role, and that’s all I ask them to do. They did that. Don’t do any more or any less. I challenged them to be great. They don’t have to be perfect. Just be great. Have great passion, have great energy. They did that tonight.”

(On having a long week to prepare for Pittsburgh): “We have to take advantage of the next three days. Players have got to get healthy and live in the training room and all of that, but at the same time, I want them to kind of take this mini-break, this mini-bye and coaches do the same thing, kind of get away, clear their heads. We have one more road game coming up, and then give them even more of a break. We just have to be smart with the next couple of days, anticipating getting some guys back next week that have been missing. We’ll do the right thing and look forward to that.”

(On the offensive lull at the end of the game): “Good defense. We didn’t execute very well, but they played better defense—stunting a little more up front, taking away some of the inside zones. They just did a nice job on defense. We got to look at this film and make those adjustments, make those corrections as we move forward.”

(On the offense opening the game and playing aggressively at the start): “I just think the guys are gelling together. They’re coming together as an offense. You know, we were able to run the ball successfully in a couple of those drives there. Trevor (Lawrence) was pretty accurate with his throws. Guys were making plays on some third downs. It just comes down to execution, you know? The last couple of weeks we were able to do that. Obviously, the end result was points.”

(On defensive play): “The defense has been playing outstanding all season long. They played great again tonight. It’s rare you’re on the negative side of the turnover margin and still win the football game. To hold them to field goals early, that was big. The guys came ready to play. Mike (Caldwell) had a great plan for them. They executed that plan pretty well. My hats off to the defense.”

(On the 4<sup>th</sup>-and-inches play): "We just got beat. We just got beat. Credit them."

(On if there was a thought to challenge): "It was confirmed. It was confirmed upstairs. There was no thought to challenge."



## POSTGAME NOTES AND QUOTES

### JACKSONVILLE JAGUARS VS. NEW ORLEANS SAINTS THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2023 • CAESARS SUPERDOME SAINTS QB DEREK CARR

(On the frustrating slow start) “The slow start. I have been showing my emotions a little too much on my sleeve. I have got to kind of chill out and that’s me holding myself accountable because that’s not going to help anything. Just trying to be a calming influence in those moments especially during moments of heightened frustration- I can be that presence to calm everybody down.”

(On his exchange with Chris Olave) “I wasn’t talking to Chris, like the past two weeks I was just talking in general. There were some things that happened today that led to some pretty big negative plays that should never happened and I think that’s where my frustration came from”

(On how to correct the unacceptable plays) “I’m going to do everything in my power to fix it, and I know our guys will do everything in that power. It’s not malicious or coming from a bad place. It sucks right now. We are finding everything that sucks right now. We are going to point it out and call it out and work on that to get better as leaders-that’s our job whether it’s really good or really bad. I tell guys all the time we’re not playing the scoreboard we’re playing against our standard. We have to make sure not only throughout the week we have to meet that standard, but on gameday we have to meet that standard. I’m okay if a guy gets beat or if they make a play, they’re going to make plays, but there are some things in football that are completely controllable that I think we can do better”

(On if there were adjustments outside of just the hurry up that helped the offense get going that you can use moving forward) “I hope so, in that moment with the score what it was we had to play like that. I have always been most comfortable playing that way. When those situations happen, I felt fully confident in the plays that Pete (Carmichael), RC (Ronald Curry), Taysom (Hill), Jameis (Winston) and I talked about in the room. When we talk about this is what I’m going to, this is where we get to, this is our plan this week, it was good for us-especially the last quarter and a half, I thought we had life and we were putting pressure (on Jaguars defense). We were the aggressor in that moment.”

(On what concepts they can take going forward from the hurry up offense success) “That will be something the coaches look at for sure. There’s a lot of moving parts, what are we putting on everybody’s plate and what decisions to we make as a whole team not just for us (offense).”

(On teammates picking up Foster Moreau after the game) “It doesn’t come down to one play. And our job as brothers, family, teammates is to go rally around him. I’ve been in that moment where I miss a throw or throw a bad pick (interception), and you feel like everyone hates you. But our job as teammates no matter the situation-good or bad-put our arm around him and keep him pushing. Seeing our teammates react that way (picking him up) shows me that have a good group because I’ve seen moments like that where everybody just starts pointing fingers at that one play, or if a kicker misses one at the end everyone points at them. There’s 160 other plays that could’ve been changed throughout the game. I have never been a believer that you point a finger just because it happens in that moment. There’s so many things we could’ve done to not even be in that situation.

(On running fade routes in critical moments late in games) “They got us a good touchdown to Mike (Thomas) and then obviously they had a backup in against one of our best players. Looking at things, is there something else we can do there? Different position/route in that moment? We had hit one before so I felt confident in it again going back to it, but it didn’t work”

(On if his emotions affected his performance) “No. When I wear my emotions on my sleeve I snap the ball and it’s clear. That part is just more as a leader and letting guys see my demeanor. Kind of “hey guys we’re good. We’ll be there at the end” kind of thing.

(On his performance tonight and so far this season) “We have got to be better. I have got to be better, coaches, everyone. I thought as a team we did a great job fighting back in the second half, but we will all look at the tape and say we can play better. Anyone can stop the tape on a bad performance or

good performance and say, "he should've done this or he should've done that". There has been games where I've thrown for 400 yards and really didn't play good and there's been times where I throw for 180 and thought I played really good. There's so many things that go into it besides showing up on a Monday, stopping the clicker and saying it was this guy or that guy"

(On the offensive line performance despite the shuffling) "Very proud of them. That's a really good front (Jaguars), a lot of moving parts with new guys playing new spots. With everything some guys are dealing with, it's a big ask to have new guys come in and handle those blitzes and that scheme. I'm sure there's a few plays they may want back, but really proud of them."

(On Khaleen Saunders at fullback) "If he ever stuck to that, he'd be a really good fullback. We've seen his high school highlights-he's pretty impressive"





## POSTGAME NOTES AND QUOTES

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#### **S TYRANN MATHIEU**

(On Coming back but falling short) “Obviously, it’s frustrating when you have a slow start to the game. I felt like going to the fourth quarter we were getting some momentum. We just have to find a way to close out the game. We have to finish stronger. There were a lot of opportunities that we left out there. Hats off to those guys for starting fast.”

(On settling down after the fast start by Jacksonville) “I think we were just playing our style of defense. We studied those guys as best as we could on the short week. They threw the house at us. They had a couple of screens and a couple of reverses early on. They got 17 points out of it. We felt like we weathered that storm. I think once we settled down we were able to play our style of defense.”

(On the Christian Kirk touchdown) “It was a really great play call by those guys. They drained our front side defenders and by the time he caught it, he was full speed ahead. We have got to try to find a way to make a tackle. We missed two or three tackles. If we get him on the ground and hold them to a field goal, then maybe our offense can go down there and punch it in.”

(On if he felt Trevor Lawrence would be this mobile with the injury) “Anytime a player has an injury and shows up to the game, then we assume that player’s 100 percent. He’s an athletic player. He can extend plays and move the pocket. That’s a big part of his game.”

(On the importance of the next ten days) “Hopefully, we can reset and refocus. We need to look in the mirror. Each one of us individually can be better. We’ll have the weekend off to spend time with the family. We need to come back to work with the intent to win. That’s really the only thing that matters in this league.”

#### **RB ALVIN KAMARA**

(On the offensive line) “The line was fine. I didn’t have a problem with the line. We get paid a lot of money to have the next man up mentality. It is what it is. You have to go.”

(On going uptempo) “Any week when you go up tempo it catches the defense off guard. They don’t have a second to breathe. They can’t really do too much defensively. You are moving fast. You just have to get lined up and play. I think that’s an advantage to the offense. We like getting into that two-minute or uptempo kind of offense. We have a lot of advantages. I think we left some opportunities out there though. I think there are some matchups that we still have to take advantage of. We have to play matchup ball. It is tough because sometimes I think we are not playing matchup ball. We are just playing.”

(On offering words of encouragement to Foster Moreau) “Foster is a pro. Obviously, I did. There are going to be more plays. There are going to be bigger plays out there. I told him that he is blessed for what he has been through. That is nothing. I’m not worried about Foster not making that play. I don’t think we should have been in that position right there saying man he should have caught it. Of course he should have caught it. He knows he should have caught it. Anybody in that position should have caught it. We are pros. If there is anyone out there who is uplifting their teammates and doing everything that they can to try to get a win, then it’s him. I’m not worried about that. It is what it is. We are on to the next. It’s a loss. It is what it is. We are on to the next.”

(On teammates taking accountability) “We’ve been playing this game for a long time. Me, I’m not a ra ra guy. I don’t do a lot of talking. If you don’t go, then there is nothing that I can say. I can’t transfer my energy to you. All I can do is to go out there and say what I need to say. I pick my spots wisely because when I say something I want it to mean something. I don’t want to be the guy saying let’s go, let’s go, let’s go. It falls on deaf ears sometimes. What do you do. You have to find a way every day. My message today is that I feel better than ever. We lost, but I’m blessed to be able to play this game. I’m blessed to be healthy. I have a family. I have a daughter. I’m blessed. Obviously, you want to win. I’m blessed that my teammates were protected today. Nobody got seriously hurt. We just have to find a way to win. There is so much more to this game.”

## **TE FOSTER MOREAU**

(On your teammates having your back) "It's tough in front of every man, woman and child that I've ever known. It's a dark place to be. It's the National Football League. It doesn't come down to one play, but it comes down to one play. Our team fought hard. It's unacceptable."

(On the difficulty of the play at the end of the game): "They pay us to do a job. It's routine. It was the right throw. It was the right read. I ran a little short on the route. I thought something different. That's a lack of focus. That's a lack of concentration. It's unacceptable."

(On how close they are to breaking through): "I'll keep it short. I don't know if anyone within 200 miles of this place wants to hear my voice right now. These guys are fighters. They are resilient. This is the right team. We need to take on opportunities. That's what it is."



## POSTGAME NOTES AND QUOTES

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#### QB TREVOR LAWRENCE

(On what he saw on the game-winning touchdown play) “Yeah, I mean I'm sure you guys asked Christian [Kirk] he kind of did all the work there. It's a play that we run you know we like it out of (an) empty (set) and it's good matchup typically for us with Christian and just read it top down. I gave Evan (Engram) a look, it was split safety and the safety attached Evan and then just had our one on one and Christian ran a great route underneath and honestly just trying to at least get something going and get a get a completion kind of how we played the whole game especially with not wanting to hold the ball back there with my knee (injury) and not take any hits and all that stuff so just wanted to find a completion and get us going and worst case like let's get some points, let's get a field goal. The game was tight at that point. And then Christian ran through it. I thought it was going to be, maybe a ten-yard gain. I knew he had 20 on the angle, but then he took off and took it to the house. So that was a great play by him to finish it and see that opportunity and go get it.”

(On how his knee held up) “It's good. I mean, golly, it is crazy how you have you have something like that going on and you do not plan on moving a lot and you end up running the ball more than I usually do. So, it's just funny how that works. But, it felt pretty good. I was happy with it and (it) didn't bother me too much. Definitely did not set it back. So, I am really happy with that and that was the goal, to play, find a way to win the game and not set it back and we have ten days now to recover and get ready for Pittsburgh. So it went perfect, honestly.”

“There were some questions just because it was a short week. On a short week it's tough to decide on how much you test it and push it because you only have some so much time you want to make it sore for the game. So that was kind of what we were debating is you know, how hard do we push it? Tuesday Wednesday, Monday I wouldn't do anything. It did not feel good at all on Monday. So really our medical team did an amazing job of just kind of getting me to where I could play, and I felt much better than I thought I would on Monday especially, so credit goes to them but yeah. Getting in and moving out there today obviously had some discomfort. Of course, you're going to but felt confident enough to go out there and play and felt like I could, you know, somewhat be myself and go play and I was able to so I'm thankful for those guys for taking care of me.

(On when he found out he was named starter): “I don't know. Like I said, that wasn't the plan. It wasn't the plan, but you know, instincts kind of take over and I'm glad that it was able to hold up and I was able to feel good enough to make those plays. I think those were needed at times. You have to give credit to that Saints defense. They are a good defense. They gave us some tough looks. The guys up front did a heck of a job blocking and giving me opportunities down the field. Then when I needed to scramble, I had clean lanes. And you know, I don't know if that was part of the Saints plan to bring those pressures with me maybe not being able to be as mobile, but the lanes opened up and presented itself and I took advantage.”

#### WR CHRISTIAN KIRK

(On his recollection of the game-winning touchdown) “Yeah, it was actually a play that we had ran in London but didn't have the opportunity to hit. It's a play that we know well and in situations like that, it's kind of good for us all but when I motioned over, they had Tyrann Mathieu down low. I didn't think he was going to match me, but you know, after he popped out after the snap, I knew I was running my option route off of him so, it was just really beating him and then Trevor (Lawrence) did a great job stepping up in the pocket and give me an opportunity to catch a run.”

(On the offense second-half struggles) “Yeah, we got to be better in the second half, kind of coming out and not going three-and-out. We hit that lull that we have been seeing the past couple of weeks. So, I know this is going to be a point of emphasis for us to not find ourselves in these situations. Especially when you had a lead like we did. When you get into a lull like that you give good teams an opportunity to come back so, that stuff will get us beat ultimately. But I'm just glad we were able to make a play when it mattered. But we definitely have some room for improvement.”