



POSTGAME NOTES & QUOTES

NEW ORLEANS SAINTS

NEW ORLEANS SAINTS AT CHICAGO BEARS SUNDAY, OCT. 19, 2025 • SOLDIER FIELD SAINTS POSTGAME NOTES

- The Saints fell to the Bears 26-14, dropping to 1-6 on the season. They will face the Tampa Bay Buccaneers at home next Sunday at the Caesars Superdome at 3:05 p.m. CT. The game will be regionally televised on FOX (WVUE FOX 8 locally).
- The Saints held the Bears to converting three-of-12 third down attempts (25.0 pct.) and kept them out of the end zone on four-of-six red zone attempts, while only allowing 172 net yards passing.
- QB **Spencer Rattler** added 233 yards on 20-of-32 passing with two touchdowns and three interceptions. He also added 12 rushing yards.
- WR **Chris Olave** led the pass offense with five catches for 98 yards (19.6 avg.) with a career-high two touchdowns. His biggest play of the day was a 57-yard bomb in the second quarter, the longest reception of his career.
- RB **Alvin Kamara** posted 11 carries for 28 yards. He passed fellow University of Tennessee standout Charlie Garner for 70th all-time in NFL rushing yards.
- Kamara played in his 122nd game on Sunday to move into a tie on the club's games played list with former RB and current Vice President of Player Engagement, Fred McAfee.
- TE **Juwan Johnson** recorded five receptions for 79 yards with his longest catch of the day being a 29-yard pass from Rattler. The 79 receiving yards are his highest total of the season.
- WR **Rashid Shaheed** added four grabs for 40 yards.
- LB **Demario Davis** led the Black in Gold defense with ten tackles (six solo).
- Davis played in his 121st game as a Saint, moving into sole possession of 33rd on the club's games played list, surpassing LB Vaughan Johnson. It was also his 217th career game on Sunday, moving into sole possession of 13th for appearances by a linebacker.
- DE **Chase Young** finished with three tackles, a half-sack and two passes defended. The two pass breakups tied his career-high.
- DL **Bryan Bresee** added four stops and a half-sack.
- Rookie CB **Quincy Riley** had his first career interception on Sunday. It was the first time two Saints rookies each have had picks in a season since 2019.

- Rookie LB **Danny Stutsman** had his most productive game of the season, finishing with six tackles (one solo).
- CB **Alontae Taylor** recorded seven stops, leading the secondary.
- CB Kool **Aid McKinstry** added five solo stops, including one tackle for loss and a pass breakup.
- DE **Cameron Jordan** played in his 233rd game on Sunday, moving into a tie for ninth all-time among defensive linemen in games played with Pro Football Hall of Fame DE Jason Taylor, adding three tackles.
- On coverage units, LB **Jaylan Ford** led the team with three special teams tackles (two solo).
- LS **Zach Wood** played in his 139th career game on Sunday, moving into a tie for 20th in Saints history with Saints Ring of Honor member DE Will Smith. Wood also added one solo special teams tackle.



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NEW ORLEANS SAINTS HEAD COACH KELLEN MOORE

Opening Statement: “The theme of that game, we had our chances. I thought our guys battled. I thought our guys put ourselves in a good really position in the middle of the game to come back, get ourselves back in it. A couple of scores, one at the end of the half, one to start the third going, but we couldn't keep it going. Credit to those guys. They played better than us. They coached better than us. We've got to time the formula that works.”

On what the Bears did ‘so effectively on defense in the first half’:

“We did a really poor job on first down, and they took advantage of it. They attacked us on second and third down, put us in challenging situations. We've got to play cleaner in first and second down football to put ourselves in second this third downs. We had too many second and longs, third and longs. They were able to play with the pressure game and the disguises they do.”

On how QB Spencer Rattler played:

“Obviously, at the end of the day, we missed some opportunities. Spence had some really good plays in there. There were some really good plays. There just wasn't enough, and there were too many turnovers. That's the formula these guys have created. They've done a phenomenal job doing now coming off four games in a row of winning games, creating turnovers. We had four turnovers. We've got to protect the football. Something we've done in the past. We just didn't get it done today.”

On if he considered playing QB Tyler Shough:

“I did not.”

On if he noticed any common trends with the pressure the Bears were able to get in the first half:

“Yeah, the edge blitzes got to us. From a protection standpoint, we got to be cleaner. Includes everyone. Include the backs, the O-line. Everybody tied together, everyone executing at a high level. I've got to do a better job of putting ourselves in better situations. We were in too many challenging situations to start the game.”

On ‘if there was miscommunication on the long interception’:

“It was a scramble drill. He got off schedule, scrambled. (WR Rashid) Shaheed took the deep potential. We got to see the safety, and the safety came over and made a great play on the ball.”

On ‘any commonality in how many rushing yards between tackles’ were given up:

“Yeah, I'll take a look. To be honest, I thought those guys ran the ball really well. Credit to those guys. They did an excellent job. Probably lot of it's creating creases, cutting out the back side, and giving yourself opportunities to get a vertical cut. Now you're on the safeties. So, I think a lot of it's going to be a lot of lessons to learn coming out of this game.”

On any injury updates on C Erik McCoy or RB Kendre Miller:

“Yeah. Both those guys, there's some concern there. There's concern for both those guys. We'll see how it goes. Obviously, the tests will confirm it tomorrow. Obviously, both guys came out and were not

able to come back. So we'll hope for the best, but might be a concern for us moving forward."

On if there is a tear with C Erik McCoy:

"Potentially. We've got to see what his bicep/elbow looks like. So, yeah, him and then (RB) Kendre (Miller) with the knee, we'll have to see."

On how WR Chris Olave played:

"I thought Chris played some really big-time football today. I thought he was a highlight. He made some big-time plays downfield, played in some contested catch situations. Really proud of the way he played."

On what is says about WR Chris Olave that he was able to 'bounce back' after last week:

"I simply think he played really good football today. Yeah, he maybe had a couple drops last week, but he responded well. I thought his focus, his attention to detail was really good today."

On how much of an effect do you think Defensive Coordinator Dennis Allen, knowing the personnel so well, had on this game and how the defense played:

"Yeah, I mean, there's always potential. I thought Dennis called a great game. He got us in some really challenging situations, attacked us with some pressure. They did a great job of playing with vision on the football and allowed their players to make plays and create turnovers. Credit those guys. They've found a formula that's worked well for a number of weeks, and they're playing really good football."

On the third and 20 play call and if he was surprised about the ruling there:

"Obviously, they felt like they saw an angle that the ball ended up going forward slightly. So it's unfortunate. It's 3rd and 20. We're in a challenging situation. We haven't been able to handle those from a deep-shot perspective. We felt like try and create a little bit of a deceptive play. It was close. Felt like our guys executed really well. Obviously, New York felt compelled, they saw the angle so the ball was a little further than where the ball was thrown, and so it became an illegal forward pass."

On the number of turnovers today:

"It was a domino effect. We created four turnovers. It's not the formula you want on offense. And these guys have done a phenomenal job of attacking the football. Their guys are playing opportunistic. We've got to protect at a higher level. I've got to put our guys in better situations to protect it, design things better from that standpoint so we can avoid some of those situations. Again, that's their formula, and they're playing really good football because of it."

On what adjustments he believes need to be made:

"I think we just got to execute at a higher level. I've got to find stuff that guys can execute. Faster, more decisive earlier in games. We've got to find a way because it's happened on a couple of occasions. It's been pass game and run game. I felt like our guys, once we got the ball moving towards the end of the second quarter, I felt like we were playing really good football. We scored right before half. That was a big-time drive. The second half, to start the game with a drive like that was excellent. Then we had a couple of turnovers as the game progressed. We had opportunities. We were right there. Defense held in there, gave us some opportunities to get some scores and put the game where we needed to be. We weren't able to capitalize."

On if losing C Erik McCoy to injury impacted his play calling:

"No, it did not. It didn't work out, obviously, I've got to look at it. I'll look at the film. Obviously, there's a couple things you can do there. There's a couple plays within the play. So I've got to do a better job of getting us to convert it there."



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NEW ORLEANS SAINTS QB SPENCER RATTLER

On the Bears' defensive game plan:

"They were junking up the front. We knew that would be a heavy part of their plan. Took us a little to settle in. I think we played behind the sticks a little too much early to where they could get in that package and kind of get after us a little bit. But just got to get settled in quicker. Put that on me as well. I've got to get the ball out quicker to start the game. I've got to protect the ball. I can't fumble the ball the second play of the game and give the ball away four times throughout the game. So definitely not what I expected to do, but you've got to bounce back from that."

On his four turnovers:

"I've just got to protect the ball, know the situation. I can't be too aggressive at certain points. Just got to be smarter. Just live to play another down. The first one, you can't fumble the ball. Got to have two hands on the ball in the pocket. In the first pick, just threw it behind. And then the next two, one was on fourth down, obviously, at the end when we were trying to be aggressive. And then the other one was just trying to get a play to (Saints WR Rashid) Shaheed down the field on a scramble and put too much on it. Put that on me. I own up to that. I've got to be better in that area. It's unacceptable."

On Saints WR Chris Olave:

"He had a great week of practice and stepped up for us big time there at the end of the first half and then had another big touchdown there start of the second half. We finished the first half great, started the second half great. Defense played their butts off, kept us in the game for us to turn the ball over four times. For the score to be that close, credit to the defense. They did an amazing job. I've got to protect the ball better. We've got to run the ball better. We've got to stay out of long distance situations and be better on first down. You don't want to give the ball away that much. It's just bad."

On Olave's improvement this season:

"The three big plays he had today were huge parts of the game. He stepped up and made some great contested catches. I know there was a lot of talkers about him last week. He just showed he's still Chris. He's a dawg. So, we rely on him a lot and have full confidence in him. He's a great receiver."

On bouncing back from today's performance:

"Just you have to bounce back. You don't plan on giving the ball away that much. It's not what you want to do. Not happy about it, but it's all controllable. So, get back to the chalkboard and clean it up."

On drawing a pass interference call:

"I tried to throw back shoulder there. Didn't go out wide as much as I wanted the throw to go. I wanted to put it more outside. But when you give your guys chances, with the defender's turn, there's a high probability for pass interference there."



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CHICAGO BEARS HEAD COACH BEN JOHNSON

Opening Statement: “In terms of injuries there, I think we had two guys that didn't make it out of that one. That was (DB) Tyrique (Stevenson), he had a shoulder (injury) and (TE) Cole (Kmet) had a back (injury). We'll see where they're at tomorrow. I think this game really started and finished there with our defense. They just did a phenomenal job throughout. When you look at those critical numbers, there was 44 yards rushing. I saw four sacks and four turnovers. Credit to (Defensive Coordinator) Dennis Allen and his crew one more time. They're doing a great job getting us the ball on offense with great field position, and it certainly gives us a ton of momentum in games like that. They just did an awesome job. Offensively the 200 yards rushing, I think both ball carriers ran physical, ran violent, but huge credit to our offensive line and the tight ends in that core blocking unit because you could feel that line of scrimmage move at times, and our backs were finding the holes. That was really the name of the game there. A lot that we can clean up and we can improve. That's always a good thing. We'll coach these guys hard, and we'll turn our page onto Baltimore soon after this. I'll open it up.”

On the running game:

“I think we've been pretty consistent with that message, that it was just going to take a little bit of time to get our O-line on the same page and feel good about their fits and their combinations, and I think that's starting to come together. You accumulate the reps over the course of camp and through these first five games, going into the sixth one here, and I think you really see it start to come to life a little bit. Credit to them. I feel really good -- they're really well-coached. (Offensive Line Coach) Dan Roushar, (Assistant Offensive Line Coach) Kyle DeVan, they do tremendous jobs and they've been very consistent with that crew. It's a prideful group. Obviously, they want to protect the quarterback in the passing game and they want to be able to run for 200 every week in the running game. Really proud of what that looked like today.”

On ‘what’s giving them trouble’ turning redzone trips into touchdowns:

“We'll have to take a look at it. I can't tell you off the top of my head.”

On takeaways:

“I think they come in bunches, and these guys – we've got a method in place of how we want to practice it. Dennis does a great job with instilling that confidence in those guys, putting them in the right spot. When the ball touches their hands, they're coming down with it. We really don't have many drops on that side of the ball. They're very conscious of it when it's a running play to try to punch that ball and get it out. It's just really working for us right now, and really our team needs it. It's really been the foundation of this last four-game stretch for us.”

On DB Nahshon Wright's interception:

“It was a great catch. What we've really been emphasizing – because we've been getting all these – is how do we turn these into, whether it's in scoring range or getting in the end zone ourselves on defense. All of our guys are taking a ton of pride in getting connected after an interception like that and looking to make key blocks so that we can extend that. I thought Nahshon hopped on up, and I thought he was going to go down once or twice, but he just kept on going. We might have to give him the ball a little bit on offense as well (*laughter*).”

On 'continuing to get better':

"I think that's the benefit of when you win, you can usually coach a little bit harder. We're always truth tellers on Monday in particular. When it's good, we'll tell them when it's good. When it's bad, we'll tell them what we've got to clean up. There's a number of things there today that we can get better at."

On pre-snap penalties:

"I would say I was hopeful that by Game 6 we would play cleaner football than that."

On the fourth-and-goal play:

"They blew a dead false start so moved us back and ended up kicking."

On if he 'knows what went wrong with that snap':

"No."

On the defensive drives before and after halftime:

"I put the before half on us offensively as much as giving up that big play on defense. We had that three-and-out. We had control of possessing that ball before halftime, and we didn't do a good enough job. I think that's two weeks in a row there we've had a three-and-out before halftime. Something that we practice, something that we really stress, and we're not getting the job done there. We put the defense in a bad spot. I thought we limited their explosives throughout that day except for the one before halftime that resulted in points for them. Then out of halftime I thought we had some chances and we just couldn't stop them. But beyond those two drives, I thought the defense played some of the best ball we've played all year."

On taking the ball after winning the coin toss:

"It was weather related. It's a windy day so I want to be able to control in the second half which way we're going."

On the offense 'through six games':

"Up and down. That's what we've looked like. We haven't hit our stride yet offensively. We're capable of a lot more. We have very talented individuals. I feel strongly in our coaching staff. But we're just not complementing our defense on a regular basis with the number of turnovers we've had over the last four games. We should be able to turn those into more points."

On 'what has to click' for the offense:

"I think it's a lot of things. That's something we'll look at on the tape and see what we've got to clean up. We still have the false starts. The good thing was the running game was working. The passing game wasn't nearly efficient enough, worse here today."

On DC Dennis Allen:

"He certainly led the charge there. We don't win the game if they don't play that well. They just did an outstanding job. Kind of felt it over the course of the week there with the two practices that we were able to get in that schematically he had some really good thoughts that were going to put some stress there on the offense, and I thought that the defense, they just knew where to be, they knew what they were looking for, and it was huge."

On QB Caleb Williams:

"Hard to say off-the-cuff. You just go off the numbers. Like I said, we weren't efficient enough in the passing game, so we'll see why that was."

On if his 'extended scrambles behind the line of scrimmage' is 'what he wants him doing':

"No, we design a play to work through the progression, and if he feels pressure, then that's when he looks to move on from there. I'll go back; I'll look at the -- I don't feel like we've had a ton of those up until today. I feel like we had maybe two or three more of those today than what I've normally felt. We'll see what were the reasons why and what can we do better. The broken-down plays in general through six games, I don't think it's given us the yardage that we would like."

On challenging the illegal forward pass:

"We've got a good replay booth upstairs, so they're getting footage, and it looked really, really close. We felt like it was close enough to be forward from the couple of angles that we got. Really good communication on the headset with that, and the fact that their offense wasn't going super fast, it gave us plenty of time to make sure we were exhausting all avenues."

On 'how satisfying it is 'to see RB D'Andre Swift 'rewarded for his head-down effort':

"I think that's all of our guys. You just keep going back to work. When things go your way, you go back to work, and when things are hard, you go back to work. That's really the answer for everything, and that's what we're going to continue to do as a team. But to your point, Swift has done a great job here these last two weeks. We're at the point of the season now where no one feels 100 percent anymore, and that's what it's going to be the rest of the way. None of those guys feel great. Their bodies don't feel good. Yet you still show up and you find a way to be there for your teammate next to you, and Swift certainly exemplifies that."

On DL Grady Jarrett status:

"We'll see. We got him back there in practice. That was Friday. We'll see what it looks like next week in terms of his availability for next Sunday."

On 'why Jarrett didn't play today':

"Because he wasn't ready."



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CHICAGO BEARS QB CALEB WILLIAMS

On 'determining to run or try to find someone open':

"I think it just comes down to understanding the situation. I think it also comes down to being able to get our players the explosive ball. If we complete the passes that I missed -- I missed about five or six on the run, which is extremely frustrating for me, especially just how my nature has been for the past couple years of my career. I think if I hit those, nothing said, but it's just being able to understand in those situations that even if I'm not hitting or anything like that, how a QB run in those situations where maybe the defense calls a good call or a perfect call or whatever the case may be, the QB takes off and gets positive yards, I think I've done a good job with that so far this year. I think today I did not. So just being able to learn from it and move on.

On 'any sense why you didn't do a good job of that today':

"Guys got open, and I think I missed. That's what it boils down to. Other than that, it's just being able to have it on my conscience that I can help this team, not only by scrambling and delivering a good ball to receivers, which I didn't do that well today, and it's also understanding that I can run and hurt a team with my legs."

On meshing success with 'room for improvement':

"Yeah, you think about it, I threw an interception today, and defense had four turnovers, four sacks. I threw an interception; I didn't play well today. Then the offensive line pushes us through. (RB) D'Andre Swift and the backs push us through for 200-plus yards on the ground. It's being able to find ways to win is what we've been able to do, and we're going to keep doing that. But it's also being able to find ways to come together as one, that when defense has a turnover, we go down and put seven on the board, not a field goal. That accounts for me. That accounts for all of us on offense. That accounts for just everything overall. It's just being able to execute the plays that are called. It's being able to, when you have those moments for explosive plays, we connect on them, I deliver a good ball, or offensive line does a good job of blocking up, and the backs hitting the hole and having explosive plays. Overall, there's a lot of growth that can be had. It's insane to think that we're 4-2, about how much growth we have left, myself included. Like I said before, we want to hit the ground running at the right time where we're all hitting on all cylinders. Defense is playing great, and I want to have their back just like they have ours, and we want to keep that rolling."

On pre-snap penalties and snap exchange issues:

"It's frustrating because the pre-snap stuff, the Q-C exchange, it is frustrating just because we put so much time and energy into it, but I wouldn't say I put that on anybody. I can take that blame just because it comes down to cadence, it comes down to everybody being on one page and having everybody calm and understanding we're going to go execute this play. We just need to snap the ball at the right time and be able to hit plays at the right time, execute the plays, and that comes down to communication. That comes down to knowing what we have to do. That comes down to the cadence at the end of the day. I can always help in those situations, and we'll be better with that coming forward."

On how to handle 'up and down' progress:

"Days like today are needed, just in the sense of it gives you a little bit more to be able to look back on

something and figure out what, so that's important. So you have these moments, and then you get later in the season and you may start to have one of these moments, and you get to go back to the feeling, go back to what was wrong and what you need to figure out early in the season, so now we're late in the season, it's like, 'okay, I remember what it was, I remember how can I fix it.' It's more of a solution-based thing instead of it being, 'all right, what's the issue.' Right now we're going to go back, I'm going to go look at the film and I'm going to figure this out, especially with some of these explosive plays, mainly talking about the own or run stuff. I haven't been efficient with those. I haven't been hitting those, and it's frustrating. We're going to figure this out. I'm going to figure it out. When we start hitting on those cylinders where we start having some of these explosive plays, especially when the play breaks and it turns into our second play, it's going to be real devastating to the other side. We're going to figure it out. I'm going to figure it out. Other than that, it just comes down to the basics. Feet, eyes, delivering a good ball to the guys, and then it comes down to before, communication and making sure everybody is on the same page and we're rolling off the ball."

On if he has experienced a game where he wasn't 'prolific and still won':

"I can't necessarily off the top of my head name the game, but yeah, there's been games where I may not have had my best game and maybe ran the ball. I think there was a game where we ran the ball for around 200 yards and I had 100 something yards passing and maybe one touchdown. You know, you're just as excited. The progress that we've had over on offense, especially coming off these past two weeks of being able to run the damn ball, as every offensive line wants to do and says. There are things that I can be better at. There are things that I'm going to be better at. There are things that weren't hitting today, and you just have those days sometimes. It's nice that we have a defense, we have a special teams, a punter, kicker, that can put us ahead, that can help us win games, a run game that can control the game. We get this figured out on my side, we'll be putting up a lot of points and be very dangerous."

On the 'feeling at 4-2 and looking ahead':

"Belief, still. It's confidence, it's belief, it's living in the known. The feeling of myself this year in the sense of when we have games and we're going through the game plan and we work to the end of the week, it's more of a feeling of 'we know we're going to win.' That's not always going to be the case, but the feeling of it is different than maybe, or we've got to go out here and play a perfect game or anything like that. It's living in the known, in the feeling of we're going to come out here and win the game. Obviously a lot of things have to go right and we've got to execute and we've got communication, all these different things, defense has played well, offense has played well, special teams, all three sides of the game, but living in the known is kind of where we're at. Even when we were 0-2, we were still living in the known that we're going to fight back and we're going to be 2-2 and then we'll go 3-2 and then we'll be 4-2. It's living in the known. We have to do things throughout the week, hard work, staying late, do all the right things, but living in the known is where we're living, and we've got to stay there. We've got to keep being consistent. We've got to hold each other accountable. We've got to do the right things to be able to stay consistent and be the team we want to be."

On how 'this year's 4-2 compares to last year's':

"I would say similar in a way, obviously, just because you're 4-2 and you've got things rolling, but I think at this moment, living in the known of 'if we do the right things throughout the week, if we practice the right ways, if we do enough studying and watch enough film, do all the right things, we've got the coaches, we've got the players, we've got the belief in each other, coaches, players, everybody, everybody inside that building, that we will come out with a win.' I think that's the difference."

"Da Bears."



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CHICAGO BEARS RB D'ANDRE SWIFT

On what has made 'the biggest different' for the running game:

"We are clicking up front, and the receivers are doing a great job on the perimeter. Hats off to them, the guys up front and the receivers, I can't say that enough. If they do their jobs up front and we get a little space as the backs, everybody in our room, we're going to make something happen after that. I feel like we've been doing a better job this week and the past week of clicking on all cylinders and doing our jobs."

On 'how it has clicked':

"Everybody is just doing their job. That's really what I can say I've noticed. The first three games it was kind of like, all of us were somewhere with mic points or things like that. We are just doing a better job of staying focused on the details."

On Head Coach Ben Johnson's message after the game:

"We have yet to play clean football for four quarters offensively. I can't wait to see what that looks like. Especially when our defense is playing how they have been. We have been shooting ourselves in the foot, making games closer than they need to be."

On how physical the defense has played:

"It's amazing. They have been like that since Week 1. They've been the energy for us. We have to do a better job of feeding off the momentum they are giving us. Play better complementary football. When they are getting takeaways, we've got to go get seven. That should be our mindset moving forward."

On the offensive line':

"They are doing a great job. I'll keep saying that. They are doing a great job up front. Ben is doing a great job of calling it throughout the game. The 10 other people on the field are doing their job, when they are doing their job, I have to do mine. That's how we'll continue to succeed."

On his touchdown:

"I pressed the line of scrimmage, saw space, cut it back. I've got to see exactly, I think someone tried to get my ankles. It was close, made it happen. Made a good play."

On the touchdown coming after a takeaway:

"That was one of the times we did a good job. On the other three – the defense had four takeaways, I know we didn't have four touchdowns. We've got to find a way to get touchdowns."

On the 'split' between him and RB Kyle Monangai:

"I'm not the coach. He had a hell of a game. When the O-line is doing what they are doing and the receivers are blocking, everyone in our room should have a phenomenal day."

On 'being ready physically when he is on the injury report':

"I'm sticking to my routine. Being my best when my best is needed."