



NEW ORLEANS SAINTS VS GREEN BAY PACKERS
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2021 • TIAA BANK FIELD (JACKSONVILLE, FL.)
SAINTS POSTGAME NOTES

- With the win, the Saints open the season 1-0 and win their third consecutive season opener for the third time in franchise history. The Saints return to action next Sunday, September 19 at the Carolina Panthers. Kickoff is set for 12:00 PM CT at Bank of America Stadium in Charlotte, NC.
- With the win, New Orleans improves its all-time record to 20-35 in season openers and claim their third consecutive season opening victory for the first time since the 2008-2010 seasons. New Orleans all-time record against Green Bay improves to 10-17.
- Jacksonville's TIAA Bank Field became the seventh site at which the Saints have hosted a home game, joining Tulane Stadium (23-32-1), the Caesars Superdome (185-167), Giants Stadium (0-1), San Antonio's Alamodome (1-2), Baton Rouge's Tiger Stadium (0-4), and London's Wembley Stadium (1-0), and the fifth site the Saints have won a home game.
- The victory is the Saints' first opening day victory away from the Caesars Superdome since defeating the Cleveland Browns 19-14 on September 10, 2006 in Cleveland Browns Stadium.
- The opening day win is the eighth of HC **Sean Payton**'s career, whose opening day record improves to 8-7. With the win, Payton's record against Green Bay improves to 5-2.
- The victory is the 153rd of Payton's career, moving him into a tie for 23rd all-time with former New York Giants coach Steve Owen.
- The victory is Payton's first over Packers HC Matt LaFleur, making LaFleur the 72nd opposing coach Payton has defeated in his career. Payton improves his record against LaFleur to 1-1 all-time, and now has a .500 or better record against 63 of the 83 opposing coaches he has faced.
- Offensively, New Orleans amassed 322 total yards, including 171 yards rushing and 151 yards passing. New Orleans recorded five passing touchdowns for the first time since December 8, 2019, when Drew Brees recorded five passing touchdowns in a 48-46 loss to the San Francisco 49ers.
- The Saints scored their first touchdown of the game completing a 15-play, 76-yard drive and second touchdown of the game completing a 15-play, 80-yard drive. Those drives marked the first time since September 17, 2000 that any NFL team recorded two consecutive touchdown drives of at least 15 plays, when Minnesota recorded touchdown drives of 17 plays and 18 plays against New England.
- Defensively, New Orleans held Green Bay to 229 total yards, including 43 rushing yards and 186 yards passing. New Orleans held Green Bay to just three points, marking the third time in the Saints' last ten games that they've held an opponent to three points (also doing so on November 29, 2020 at Denver and November 8, 2020 at Tampa Bay).
- The 35-point margin of victory is the Saints largest since defeating Tampa Bay by the same score, 38-3, on November 8, 2020.
- In his first start with the Saints, QB **Jameis Winston** became the third player since 1950 to throw for five touchdowns in his first start with a team, finishing 14-of-20 for 148 yards and the five touchdowns. Winston's 148 passing yards is the fewest yards with five passing touchdowns since 1948.
- With zero interceptions, Winston becomes the first quarterback in NFL history to throw five touchdown passes with no interceptions in his first career start with a new team in a season-opener. Overall, Winston becomes the 7th quarterback with five touchdown passes and no interceptions in a season opener, and first since Baltimore QB Lamar Jackson did so at Miami on September 8, 2019.

- Winston recorded five touchdown passes for the second time in his career. Winston finished 19-of-29 for 246 yards and five touchdowns as a member of the Tampa Bay Buccaneers on November 22, 2015 at Philadelphia.
- Winston became the 33rd player to start a game at quarterback for New Orleans, and the 11th to win in his first start. The victory is Winston's third career opening day victory and his first career win over Green Bay,
- RB **Alvin Kamara** rushed for 83 yards on 20 carries, and now stands at 3,423 career rushing yards, surpassing Chuck Muncie and Rueben Mayes for sixth in the Saints' record books. Kamara added three receptions for eight yards and a receiving touchdown, surpassing Pierre Thomas for the seventh-most receptions in club record books and the most receptions all-time for a Saints running back.
- TE **Juwan Johnson** recorded the first two touchdowns of his career, finishing with a career-high three receptions for a career-best 21 yards, and the two scores.
- WR **Deonte Harris** recorded the best receiving game of his career, finishing with two receptions for a career high 72 receiving yards including a 55-yard touchdown catch from Winston with 10:55 to play in the game, the longest completion of the game.
- In his second career game, RB **Tony Jones Jr.** recorded 11 rushes for 50 yards and added a three-yard reception. Jones' 4.5 yards per carry led Saints running backs.
- In his first game with New Orleans, WR **Chris Hogan** caught a 10-yard touchdown pass from Winston with 3:14 to play in the third quarter, his first touchdown since December 16, 2018, as a member of the New England Patriots. Hogan's touchdown reception was his lone catch of the game.
- DE **Marcus Davenport** recorded the 13th sack of his career, taking down Green Bay QB Aaron Rodgers with 12:53 to play in the second quarter. Davenport finished with three tackles, including two for loss, and added a quarterback hit in the game.
- In his first game with New Orleans, DE **Tanoh Kpassagnon** forced a fumble of Green Bay QB Jordan Love with 1:10 to play in the game, his first sack since Week 7 of last season, as a member of the Kansas City Chiefs. Kpassagnon finished with two tackles, the sack, forced fumble, and added two quarterback hits.
- LB **Zach Baun** led all New Orleans' defenders with five tackles, setting a new career-high in the first game of his second season in the NFL.
- In his first NFL game, CB **Paulson Adebo** recorded his first career interception, and added three tackles and one pass defense. Adebo becomes the first Saint to record an interception in his NFL debut since LB James Allen did so on September 8, 2002 at Tampa Bay.
- S **Marcus Williams** recorded his 14th career interception, picking off Rodgers with 4:51 to play in the third quarter, and breaking a tie with Mike McKenzie and Fred Thomas for sole possession of tenth place in club record books.
- Williams has now recorded a pick in each of the last three Saints' season openers.
- Beginning his 13th NFL season, S **Malcolm Jenkins** entered the game needing a single tackle to reach 1,250 career defensive and special team tackles. Jenkins' three tackles in the game moves his career total to 1,252 total tackles.
- DE **Cameron Jordan** played in his 161st consecutive regular season game and started his 146th career game, both current long streaks for an NFL defender. Jordan recorded two quarterback hits in the game.
- In his Saints debut, K **Aldrick Rosas** was perfect, converting his lone field goal attempt of 44 yards and converting 5-of-5 extra point attempts.
- In his NFL debut, P **Blake Gillikin** averaged 51.5 yards on two punts, including a long punt of 58 yards and one downed on the Green Bay 5-yard line.
- The Saints extend their streak to 305 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

GREEN BAY PACKERS VS. NEW ORLEANS SAINTS SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2021 • TIAA BANK FIELD (JACKSONVILLE, FL.) NEW ORLEANS SAINTS QUOTES

New Orleans Saints Head Coach Sean Payton

Opening Statement: “I felt like it was a good win for us. This early in the season I thought we played a really good, complementary game. Time of possession, rushing yards, all the numbers we talk about when you look at the call sheet at the end of the game and all three units were really good. I am sure when we watch the tape there will be a bunch of things that we have to get cleaned up because early in the season all of these teams, us included, are in a race to get better. But I was proud of how they played, I thought we were physical and played with a lot of energy.”

On if there was a plan to get more physical: “There’s never a football plan that doesn’t involve trying to be physical. You never go in saying we’re not, it’s the first game of the season so will look at our pad level on tape but I thought we won some of the key numbers, particularly the rushing numbers and there are a lot of things that go along with that, time of possession, time your defense is on the field versus the offense. We just handled a lot of those things well.”

On Jameis Winston’s decision-making in the first half: “Those were big plays that ultimately helped us with the first field goal. I thought he played very well. He was locked in, focused, we spread the ball around and we’re going to go through that tape and look at some of the throws and there might be a progression or two but I thought he played very well.”

On the team having to relocate due to Hurricane Ida: “Honestly, I mean this with all due respect that no one really cares. When you get relocated and all those other things those are just exit opportunities. We try to do our best organizationally and one of the game balls went out to all the people that are involved in the logistics. There’s so much that goes into equipment, hotel planning, and all of that, and the main goal is to create an environment where all of the other distractions are removed and you can focus on football. Those people did a really good job in the past two weeks.”

On seeing what he expected today: “As a coach, it is hard to understand or predict how that first week will go. You get ready for the start of the season and have an idea on areas that you feel like are going to play well but you are still wanting to see how we do as a unit. I was encouraged. I loved our energy.”

On if there were any surprises: “Doing this as long as I have, there’s nothing that surprises you. We knew we were playing one of the best teams in our league, last year a final four team. It’s hard to go into a game and say this is the outcome that we are expecting. You just want to go in and put yourself in a position to win and do the things necessary and really not do the things that keep you from winning so I was encouraged with that.”

On playing complementary football and energy: “I felt like we have seen that in the last two and half years really. That confidence has continued, and those guys feed off of their energy. On the sideline I felt like units were feeding off of each other and that’s when you have a chance to have a decent football team.”

On the defensive performance: “Look, we’re playing, if you went back and read the reports, one of the top third down teams and one of the top overall total offensive teams. There’s so many things that they have been able to do well. Those guys on the backend played exceptionally well. I thought we rushed them, contained the rush, we got some turnovers and we did it against one of the better quarterbacks that this league has seen in a long time.”

On the fourth-and-seven decision in the second quarter: “You have to pick your spots where you want to be aggressive and it’s a little bit easier on that end of the field even though, call it the 40, I felt pretty good about the calls we had. Sometimes in a game you want to use a call and you’ve already used it but I felt pretty good about what we had.”

On the decision to throw the screen to Juwan Johnson on it: “We saw a little adjustment they made with a formation and we kind of gave them the same formation. This was a year ago off of a Rams film. So it’s kind of out there but we got a similar look and we just kind of left a really good opportunity for us to throw a screen over to Juwan.”

On if he gets excited about a particular call: “The ones that work, I get excited about those.”

On choosing the location to relocate the home game to: “We felt like the hotter the better, and it’s no disrespect but let’s just say this game was in the winter time and the circumstances were flipped you’d get a team like Chicago, Cleveland finding cold weather against a team that plays in a dome so we appreciate that we had this. The surface was great, the people of Jacksonville were great.”

On the significance of Hurricane Ida’s impact: “Oh, absolutely. I was answering that question relative to our challenges. The challenges back home are far greater than our team getting on a plane and playing an away game or having to relocate. The challenges back home are far more significant.”



POSTGAME NOTES AND QUOTES

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New Orleans Saints QB Jameis Winston

On what this performance meant to the city of New Orleans: “We did that for them. We knew how much it would mean to get a victory. They’ve been through so much, and for us to celebrate this victory with them is amazing. Hats off to (the people of New Orleans) for their resilience. They inspired us to go out there and ball.”

On how important it was to take what the defense was giving him: “Drew (Brees) always preached that “it’s about the decision, not the result”. Sometimes the decision is throwing the ball away, sometimes the decision is tucking it and running, and sometimes the decision is to take a sack. The more times we make the right decisions, the game will take care of itself.”

On his fifth touchdown pass to Deonte Harris: “When Sean (Payton) called that play, I told him I was going to throw it (to Harris). I was on Deonte all day, “keep your speed, it is going to come”. Sean called an amazing game. The offensive line did an excellent job. With the way we dominated the line of scrimmage and the running game, I knew it (deep ball) was eventually going to come. It was open, and we hit it.”

On what the last 24 hours was like preparing for his first start as a member of the New Orleans Saints: “We were prepared. That was the message today. My trainer texted me this morning that “pressure is for the unprepared”. I think that one thing we consistently did as a unit with Sean and with Jay Romig, along with our entire organization, is that despite the adversity of being in Dallas and all that we’re dealing with at home, our mindset stayed the same. We prepared to play against Green Bay and prepared to play the best football that we could, and we did that.”

On if he has reflected on his journey to finally be an National Football League starter again: “Coach says all the time that we’re in a race to get better. We are going to celebrate this game today, but there are people dealing with way worse than me right now. There are still people in Louisiana without power. I’ll probably reflect on it after our season is over, but right now we have to keep getting better. There’s some things that I won’t like when I watch the film tonight, so we still have to get better.”

On the performance of tight end Juwan Johnson: “I was excited, man. I told him that was from countless hours of working together in the offseason and building a rapport. He showed up today. I told him before the game, “when you’re in the game, I’m going to be throwing you the ball”. I think he did a good job of going up and making some big catches for us. It was really a great team effort. We had some people stand out, but our defense was outstanding. When you hold Aaron Rodgers to 1-10 on third down, that’s just incredible. Our offensive line dominated the line of scrimmage. When you’re able to hold one of the top offenses from last year to 3 possessions in a half, that’s the type of stuff we preach about doing: dominating the line of scrimmage and playing complimentary football. That’s how you win football games.”

On Johnson’s first TD catch: “One thing in the red zone we focus on is giving our guys a chance. We preach that all the time. We have guys that can go up and attack the ball. He did a great job of not only catching the ball but coming down in bounds. That is kudos to him, but it doesn’t start without the great protection and great play calling. Sean trusted in us to convert a fourth down on that drive. That’s who he is. That is one of the most exciting parts for me, is finally having a chance to play for Sean Payton.”

On the fourth down play call in the first half: “Well, I had a feeling what play he (Coach Payton) was going to go with. I told him I really didn’t want to come off the field, but that’s just who coach is. Before the game I told him it was a privilege to finally hear his voice on the (helmet) mic. We have to keep getting better and we’re going to keep growing. It was a great complementary win today.”

On how Coach Payton and the team has handled being in Dallas: “We know Sean is a great leader. We have a great team. This organization is unbelievable. Jay Romig’s planning and ability to handle logistics. I want to give a shoutout to our equipment staff for being able to manage all of the moving. This was like a home game for us. We had everything set up perfectly. I also want to give a shoutout to Mrs. Benson. The way she invests in us and provides an opportunity for us to grow. For none of us to ever have any worries says a lot about this organization. Like Demario (Davis) says, it starts with the leadership of Sean and him always being able to adapt to situations. It also starts with us (players) believing in Sean and believing in the people this organization has put in place to do their job. I can’t forget about Derek (Stamnos) too. We have great people working every single day while we’re playing to make our lives easier.”

On if he had any particular play he was excited about coming into today’s game: “One play that I was really looking at and visualizing was on the first drive where we did a double move with Deonte (Harris). I visualized and dreamed about throwing a touchdown on that play. I was able to scramble and get a first down. They were playing soft coverage, but with the way that play worked in practice, we thought we wouldn’t call

that play. It was only in that situation on fourth down where we might have called it because it was such a great call. Sean Payton did what Sean Payton does.”

On the confidence he had in the play called by Payton on fourth and seven in the first half: “I trust Sean wholeheartedly. Anytime he’s speaking to me and talking about details, I tell him “Coach, I trust you. We are always going to rock with you”. With the specific look on that play with them playing a soft zone coverage, screens are very good against that. We had Za’Darius Smith on Juwan (Johnson), so we knew there was going to be a good rush. We set him up and Juwan slipped right in. The offensive line did a great job of building a wall for him to get behind and he did a great job to pick up that extra yardage.”



POSTGAME NOTES AND QUOTES

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New Orleans Saints RB Alvin Kamara

On abilities of Sean Payton to get the team locked in:

"It's nice to see guys just be together and be focused. That's the main thing I look at when we go on these road trips. We have a lot more time to run around and do stuff. We're in a new city, and you almost want to go explore and do stuff, but everyone was locked in like we were at home. Whatever Sean (Payton)'s saying, I agree.

On this win as a statement of Saints abilities without Drew Brees:

"I feel like it's always doubt with us. Every year, the Saints can't do something because of something, Drew (Brees) is gone. I'm the wrong person to ask because I don't care. We still have work to do, we come in every camp doing what we've got to do, putting in work. We come in every season and our goals are the highest goals. We're not looking at it like this person is gone so we might not be."

On offensive line and Cesar Ruiz changing positions mid-quarter:

"They're (offensive line) interchangeable. (Cesar Ruiz) knows what he's doing out there. I got a similar question earlier this week about Cesar (Ruiz). From year one to year two (Cesar Ruiz) knows what he is doing now. (Ruiz) has an approach to the game where he's kind of waiting for a challenge. I guess, first game, now is a challenge. (Cesar Ruiz) did well, and it's encouraging to see that."

New Orleans Saints S Marcus Williams

On Paulson Adebo's rookie performance:

"(Paulson Adebo)'s playing ball. I don't see a let off from last year (opting out of the college football season) from him coming in. I think (Paulson Adebo) came in with a lot of confidence and he plays with that swagger that he knows he can do. (Paulson Adebo) comes in, he's playing, he's balling, he doesn't care who he's lining up against. You can see it on the field. (Paulson Adebo)'s doing his job as a rookie coming in."

On confidence of Saints defense after performance against Aaron Rodgers:

"We have 24 hours to take in this win. We don't take any win for granted, we're happy about this game. It's a great team, but we came out here and we dominated like we were supposed to, like we know we should. Coming into the next game, we just have to go back to the drawing board and start all over. It doesn't matter who we're playing. We play every game like it's a playoff game. You never know what seed we could be in following those games."

New Orleans Saints CB Paulson Adebo

On first interception against Aaron Rodgers:

"It feels great. Obviously, coming into every game, in my mind I'm thinking I'm going to have a pick, but to actually have it, and especially the quarterback that it was, an all-time great, definitely cool."

On his perspective of the Saints defensive performance as a new member:

“I think there’s just a lot of effort, everybody’s running to the ball, guys are flying around. It’s the first game so you don’t want to jump the gun, there’s obviously stuff we have to work on, especially myself and some mistake I made early on. As a team, I feel like we’re heading in the right direction.”

New Orleans Saints TE Juwan Johnson

On the confidence from Jameis Winston and Sean Payton in Johnson:

“During the whole training camp, they had a lot of trust in me from the very beginning. Knowing they can move me to tight end, knowing that we only picked up one guy off of free agency. That left room for me to step up big, having them have confidence in me. I just think them having that confidence in me from the very beginning was something that I took and ran with. I took my training to a whole other level. I had to put my pedal to the metal, as many people would say, and I guess people are starting to see it now.”

On the transition from last season to this season:

“Just from the year that I had last year, just being able to play, I was excited. Knowing last year when I got cut, and I was on practice squad, but I just hated that feeling sitting and watching the team play and feeling like I can’t contribute. I’ve always been the guy who just wants to be out there contribute. I don’t care about stats, I don’t care about catches, I just like to win. I love to win. When I couldn’t do that, I had no control over it, and it cut me deep. So this off season, I grinded really, really hard.”

New Orleans Saints LB Demario Davis

On perfecting the process as a defensive unit:

“When you’re able to have top safeties, top corners, top defensive lineman, top linebackers, not guys who are just really good players and good starters, but top five, top ten at their position on the same unit, the standard goes up. When you retain those type of guys over a four-, five-year span, you just build continuity, and we’re very fortunate. To whom much is given, much is required. That’s rare. When you have it, you have to appreciate it, and you have to own it and make the most of it.”

On how it feels to give a win to Saints fans following Hurricane Ida:

“That’s very important for us. Just wanted to stop and say, even though we’re not back at home, our heart is with our family and friends back in New Orleans and the Gulf Coast region. Our prayers are there, our support is there. Certainly, going into this game, we knew it meant a lot not just to us, but it meant a lot to the city. We even talked about, as captains, that we knew that even though some people don’t have power they’re going to find a way to watch the Saints, and that’s just what this team means to the city. And the city means the same to us, we’re one. Certainly, being able to have a statement game like we had today, which kind of revives hope in adverse times, and we’re always going to push through. We’re always going to be resilient and we’re going to get to the other side, and this is representation of that.

On watching first career start for Jameis Winston at QB:

I don’t think there’s a player in the building I’m more proud of. We have a really close relationship, so we don’t just talk about football, we talk about life, and there’s nobody I’m more excited to watch, just because of the belief I have in him. The sky is the limit. Just to see his evolution as a player and as a man, I think the world is really going to be shocked by what they see. I’m very proud of him, and he played lights out.



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Green Bay Packers Matt LaFleur

On his reaction to the 38-3 loss to the New Orleans Saints: “They came ready to play and absolutely embarrassed us today. You can’t do that against a well-coached and quality football team. Our guys will have to take a hard look in the mirror. It starts with myself. Obviously, (we) did not get these guys ready to play ball and that is what happens when you go out there and play like that against a good football team. So, give the Saints all the credit. They came ready to play, had a great plan and executed.”

On Aaron Rodgers’ first interception with pressure in his face:” No, he threw to the right guy. Davante (Adams) was open. He threw to the right guy. He got pressure what I thought was on the right side. They got him off the spot and he had to make an off-balance throw and sometimes that happens.”

On if this performance was a shock considering how well things have looked in practice: “I’d say so. Yeah absolutely. It’s very humbling to say the least.”

On what you tell the guys back in the locker room after this loss: “We will find out what we are all about. We talk about in the face of adversity stand together and not flinching. That’s exactly what we have to do, and we have to get back to work. This isn’t going to magically repair itself. The only way that I believe you bounce back from any defeat or setback, whether it’s in football or life, is you put in the work and that’s what we have to do.”

On what was lacking in the execution of today’s gameplan: “You got to start with looking at your plan for what you had for them. I would say that’s where we start and then how well did we execute the plays and were there opportunities to be made within those plays. Obviously, we didn’t execute. But I think we’re all going to start and look at the plan first.”

On the struggles of the offensive line and what they will do moving forward: “It felt like until that moment, the protection was pretty decent. I’ll have to go back and look at it. A lot of times my eyes aren’t focused on the rush, but it wasn’t good enough. We didn’t run the ball good enough or even attempt to run the ball enough and that’s my fault.

On his take of the roughing the passer call on Jameis Winston on 4th down: “You trying to get me in trouble?”

On if he felt that due to the hurricane disaster that happened down in New Orleans led the Saints to come out with more intensity: “They obviously came out with a lot more intensity than we did. They were the hungrier team and that’s disappointing. Especially when you have a team, we feel like we have. But ultimately, I did a bad job of getting these guys ready to play. “

On the difference of how well Aaron Rodgers’ looked in camp and his underwhelming performance today against the Saints: “You know Pete, until I go back and look at it, I don’t have many answers for you in regard to whether we had guys open. I think they had a nice plan. You could tell that they were going to play a lot of 2-man coverages to take away Davante Adams and some of the other weapons. When you have teams that are going to do that to you, you better be able to run the football. We didn’t attempt to run the football much and that’s my fault ultimately as the play-caller.



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QUARTERBACK AARON RODGERS

(On today's game): "It's just one game. We played bad. I played bad. Offensively, we didn't execute very well. It's one game. We have 16 to go. We'll evaluate the film like we always do. We will be critical, and we'll move on."

(On the Saints defense): "When a team is going to play that much two show, then you have to be able to run the ball. We didn't run it that effectively. I think we came in thinking that they were going to pressure us a bunch like they did last time. We had some different skill guys this time, so they did not pressure us a lot. It was a lot of two show and they kind of held up with their front four or their front six."

(On the second interception) "On the second one, we were kind of backed up I had Davante (Adams) on a high split running a cut corner. I felt like that was going to hold the safety. We had kind of set up that play for a while. It was that combination where they were play a triangle combination on the two receivers to the strong side. I didn't get my eyes back to the safety. On my initial look, I thought I was holding the back side. Davante was inside, so I thought he was going to hang back a little more. The first one was kind of the play of the game that swung things big time. It was 17-3. If we score there, then it is 17-10. I probably should have thrown it to (Aaron) Jones and moved on to third down. Pre-snap, I was thinking about giving Davante a different route. I stepped up in the pocket and took a shot as I was throwing it. I wish I would have thrown that one away or thrown it to Jonesy right way. Obviously, that changed the game."

(On the offensive line's play) "I thought the line played good. I thought they held up good. I thought Josh (Myers) did a nice job with variance of cadence that we did. I thought he played well. We'll see what the film says. I thought him and Royce did a nice job. Protection overall was pretty good. I had given them a sack there on a keeper in the first half. Other than that, I thought the protection was pretty good."

(On the challenges of playing in Jacksonville) "I felt like our energy was a little bit low. It felt a little San Diegoish from a couple of years ago. We just kind of needed something to get going. It was kind of the same thing. Long drives on their side and us not executing. We had 10 playsish there. We were down 17-0 and we are in two minute mode on our third drive of the first half. Very disjointed possession-wise. We have been in games like that before We had one like that against Minnesota where it was limited possessions in the first half, but I think we scored on all those possessions, so that one felt better obviously than this one did."

(On if the heat was a factor): "We say there are no coincidences in life, so I don't think I can sluf it off as a coincidence. We traveled down here. It was hot, but we traveled down here in 2016 and it wasn't as hot as it was that day, so the heat shouldn't have been an issue for us. We just did not execute very well."

(On if they thought they were going to move the ball) "We probably felt like we were going to go up and down the field on whoever they had out there. That obviously wasn't the case today. I give Dennis Allen a lot of credit. I have always thought he was a great defensive mind. They had a good plan. It was to play a lot of two show and slow us down with the front. They did a good job of that."

(On their offense) "Coming off a couple of NFC Championship games we feel good about the unit we have on offense. This is a good kick in the you know where. Hopefully, it will get us going in the right direction, by going home and playing a division opponent next week."

(On if he anticipated this) "I don't know that you do. There's not much that you can say. They beat us. They played way better than us. We played bad. I played bad. It was uncharacteristic of how we practiced in training camp. This is hopefully an outlier moving forward. We will find out next week."