



NEW ORLEANS SAINTS VS LOS ANGELES CHARGERS
MONDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2020 • MERCEDES-BENZ SUPERDOME
SAINTS POSTGAME NOTES

- With the win, the Saints improve to 3-2 on the season and have now won their last four games against the Chargers. The Saints' record against the Chargers improves to 6-7 all-time and to 3-4 in home games. New Orleans returns to action on Sunday, October 25 when they host Carolina in the Mercedes-Benz Superdome. Kickoff's set for 12:00pm CT on FOX.
- New Orleans has now won 14 consecutive games in the month of October, dating back to a 25-20 victory over the Seattle Seahawks on October 30, 2016.
- The victory is the Saints' 50th win on prime time in franchise history (23 on Monday night, 20 on Sunday night, and seven on Thursday night) and improves their all-time Monday Night Football record to 23-22.
- The overtime victory is the Saints' third consecutive victory in regular season games that have gone to overtime, dating back to a 34-31 win over the Washington Redskins on November 19, 2017.
- With the win, HC **Sean Payton** improves his record against Los Angeles to 3-0 all-time and defeats Chargers HC Anthony Lynn in their first career meeting. Lynn is now the 67th opposing coach Payton has defeated in his career and 57th opposing coach Payton holds a winning record against.
- The victory is the 142nd regular season/postseason combined victory of Payton's career, which moves him into sole possession of 25th place in NFL record books, breaking a tie with John Fox.
- Offensively, the Saints amassed 408 total yards including 95 rushing yards and a season-high 313 passing yards. New Orleans completed a season-high 33 passes, to eight different receivers.
- Defensively, the Saints held Los Angeles to 350 total yards and did not allow 100 rushing yards to a single player for the 47th consecutive game, the longest current streak in the NFL. The Saints sacked Los Angeles QB Justin Herbert three times and have recorded at least three sacks in four of the team's first five games of the season.
- QB **Drew Brees** finished the game 33-of-47 passing for 325 yards and one touchdown. Brees also rushed for his 24th career touchdown and first since December 8, 2019.
- Brees' appearance against his former team was his 280th career game played, surpassing Bruce Smith for sole possession of 21st in NFL record books.
- Appearing in his 50th career game, RB **Alvin Kamara** rushed for 45 yards on 11 carries and added eight receptions for 74 yards, recording over 100 all-purpose yards for the fourth consecutive game. Kamara has recorded double-digit carries in four of the Saints' five games this season and at least 15 combined touches in every game this year. Kamara also brought a kickoff out of the end zone for 31 yards to set up New Orleans' game-winning field goal drive in overtime.
- Kamara was held without a touchdown for the first time since Week 15 of 2019 and has his streak of consecutive games with at least one touchdown snapped at six games, tied for the franchise record.
- K **Wil Lutz** scored the Saints' first and last points of the game, connecting on a 36-yard field goal with 5:11 to play in overtime, which would be the game-deciding score. Lutz finished 3-for-3 on field goal attempts, also connecting on 48 and 53-yard attempts. Lutz has converted all nine of his field goal tries this season, and is 18-for-18 on extra point attempts, after converting three tonight.
- WR **Emmanuel Sanders** recorded his best game as a member of the New Orleans Saints, finishing with 122 yards on a career-high 12 receptions. Sanders now has 215

yards in the Saints' last two games, his highest two-week total since recording 217 yards receiving in Weeks 6 and 7 of the 2018 season, as a member of Denver.

- DE **Cameron Jordan** split a second quarter sack with DE **Trey Hendrickson**, making Chargers Herbert the 34th signal-caller Jordan has taken down in. Jordan finished the game with a season-high ten tackles and added a quarterback hit.
- LB **Demario Davis** also recorded ten tackles, his highest total this season and 21st career game with double digit stops. Davis added three quarterback hits on the night.
- DE **Trey Hendrickson** finished the game with 1.5 sacks, and now has 4.5 sacks this season, a new career-high. Hendrickson's previous career-high was four takedowns, set in 2019. Hendrickson also added three quarterback hits on the night.
- CB **Marshon Lattimore** finished with six tackles, including the game winning stop in overtime, holding Los Angeles WR Michael Williams to a five-yard gain on a Los Angeles 4th and 6.
- LB **Alex Anzalone** recorded the 100th tackle of his career on a second quarter stop of Los Angeles RB Joshua Kelley. Anzalone finished the game with six total tackles.
- TE **Jared Cook** scored his second touchdown of the season on a fourth quarter 41-yard reception from Brees. Cook finished the game with two receptions for 52 yards, with his second reception coming on the Saints' game-winning overtime drive.
- Rookie WR **Marquez Callaway** made an impact in the return game, averaging 11.5 yards on six punt returns and 28.5 yards on two kickoff returns. Callaway also recorded his best game receiving game this season, finishing with four receptions for 34 yards.
- QB **Taysom Hill** scored his first touchdown of the season on a nine-yard run with 52 seconds to play in regulation, capping off a Saints' 8-play, 73-yard game-tying drive.
- DT **Sheldon Rankins** recorded his first sack of the 2020 season and the 16th of his career. Rankins' last sack came against Tampa Bay in Week five of the 2019 season. Rankins finished the game with five tackles, adding two quarterback hits.
- WR **Bennie Fowler** recorded his first two receptions as a Saint, finishing with 11 yards on the two catches. WR **Tre'Quan Smith** also recorded two receptions for eight yards and has caught at least one pass in each of his last ten appearances.
- P **Thomas Morstead** averaged a season-best 46.8 yards per punt, punting six times with three downed inside the 20-yard line.
- DT **David Onyemata** recorded the 150th tackle of his career on an overtime tackle of Los Angeles RB Justin Jackson. Onyemata came into the game with 147 career tackles, and finished with three stops, one tackle for loss, and added a quarterback hit.
- The Saints extend their streak to 293 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

LOS ANGELES CHARGERS VS. NEW ORLEANS SAINTS MONDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2020 • MERCEDES-BENZ SUPERDOME NEW ORLEANS SAINTS QUOTES

HEAD COACH SEAN PAYTON

(On if the team lacked energy) “I didn’t feel like it was energy. We were awful on third down. We really couldn’t get into a rhythm. It’s something that we’ve got to be better at, really in all three phases. Overall, penalties were not too bad, but in the kicking game we had three of them that were critical. I’m proud of the way that we fought back in the second half; we played better football, not exclusively, but at times made enough plays to win the game.”

(On his thoughts on Chargers QB Justin Herbert) “He’s a good, young talent. You can see that you do not really feel like you are playing against a young player. He is someone that gets the ball out of his hands. I think that he has a promising future. He is impressive to watch.”

(On how large the roughing the punter penalty was) “That’s a possession penalty, and, yet we’ll take a peek at it on film. There’s always that tough decision, I think, that if you rush the punter for the official to make the call (either) roughing or running into, but all of them (penalties) were significant. Fortunately, we overcame them.”

(On his impression of Emmanuel Sanders) “I thought that he played well. We started getting the ball into his hands a little bit later into the half and then into the second half. I thought that, overall, he played well. I thought (Marquez) Callaway played well, playing a lot of snaps tonight. We probably didn’t get Tre’Quan (Smith) as many touches tonight as we would’ve liked, but, overall, we found enough offense in the second half, really in the fourth quarter, to get the win.”

(On if the team can carry over any positives into next week) “Every week, you look at it. It’s a win. There are a number of things that we have got to clean up. We’ll get back to work here next week. We will be in tomorrow. We will be in the next day. We will be able to address some of the things that we feel like we haven’t done well and get ready then to start playing after the bye.”

(On if the team made adjustments in the second half or if it was better execution) “They (Los Angeles) did a good job of giving us a few different looks on the early downs. We got a little bit more pressure from their defense. I think that we made a few plays down the field (in the second half). The third down throw to (Jared) Cook was a huge play; I don’t know what the distance was. I know that it was third and long. It was a great find by Drew (Brees). Defensively, we got the stop there, especially on the fourth down play there at the end. I thought we hit their quarterback enough. He is pretty athletic. He got out of the pocket a few times and made some plays. There were a lot of different elements to the game, but it was good to get the win.”

(On if Michael Thomas will only be suspended for one game) “I will keep you posted. That is something that we will discuss and we will let you know when the time is right.”

(On if the absence of Michael Thomas altered the game plan) “We will talk about the players that played tonight.”

(On if Taysom Hill’s versatility make his rushing touchdown possible) “It was a good play. It’s, kind of, a run/pass option. They covered it fairly well, and, yet, when they do that, you have that one extra player relative to the quarterback that can carry it. That was a good way to finish that drive.”

(On the long reception by Alvin Kamara late in the game) “It was a pretty big play. It was, kind of, a little choice-route-pump. It was a good play over his head. He, kind of, hit the target a little bit on the defender. The kick return in overtime was (also) a big play. It brought us out across the 30 (yard line) and gave us a little momentum.”

(On his thoughts on the pass coverage busts) "It's play that we've got to clean up and it's, kind of, a post spear. We've got to get on top of one. It's something that we will be able to clean up. It is something that we have to. Like I said, there are a few things offensively and defensively that, I don't want to say plagued us, but we haven't been as good at in the first quarter of the season. We've got to improve in those areas."

(On if a win can mask some of the issues that show up on film) "No, we try not to let it either way, a win or a loss. The film is important for us to make the corrections and teach from. That is really the essence of what we do at the beginning of the week is make the corrections. We talk about that race to improve and to get better. We are in that race."



POSTGAME NOTES AND QUOTES

LOS ANGELES CHARGERS VS. NEW ORLEANS SAINTS MONDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2020 • MERCEDES-BENZ SUPERDOME NEW ORLEANS SAINTS QUOTES

RUNNING BACK ALVIN KAMARA

Just curious what you saw on Taysom Hill's touchdown that tied it up late. And, for him how big was that touchdown do you think?

"I mean, we worked it all weekend. Taysom (Hill) obviously is a heck of a runner. It was a pass play but, I don't know if he heard me but before the play, I'm like, don't be scared to run it. I think he was motioning to somebody or saying something to somebody else. But, I did my little fake and I looked back and I saw he was running and I was like, touchdown, already knew it, so. Like I said he's a heck of a runner, heck of a player. That was big for us."

Can you tell us about the big pass reception you made there late in the game, down the sideline and where does that catch rank among your best catches you've made?

"Drew (Brees) put it, he gave me the best chance to be able to catch the ball. And I just tried to focus on it and try to get it. I knew it was gonna be, gonna be kind of like a crunch time play. I just tried to keep focus on the ball. Tried to lay hands and I came up with it, thankfully. But that was a big catch."

Was there an adjustment after that interception from Drew (Brees)? I guess it kind of seemed like the turning point where you guys started to execute a little bit better. Was anything different you did or was it just kind of locking in and doing things you needed to do?

"You just lock in. We couldn't really get into too much of a rhythm throughout the game. So it was one of those games where we just had to battle the whole time and just fight and claw and scratch. That is one of them times where who dat nation, that's when we need our fans in that stadium. I mean, that's, that's huge. But the fans we did have, they did their part, we just, we just need some more. But we just fought and we just got a grimey win, we had to do that."

Do you need to start faster? I know it's hard to answer that right after the game but it seems like you're building out from a 14 point deficit or whatever is not ideal?

"Oh, that's not hard to answer. We definitely got to start faster. We got to get our offense and what we want to do. We got to get going faster, get in the rhythm faster, just be efficient, within what we want, within the plays we want to call so that's on all of us. We all got to get better. That's on me. That's on Drew (Brees). Everybody, we just got to execute."

With Deonte (Harris) out, Marquez Callaway was at kick return, punt return and he was used more on offense. How would you assess his play today?

"That is my (little) brother. Me and Marquez (Callaway) went to Tennessee together. So I know he has got it in him. I just talked to him and just tell him, you know, make a play, just go do something, go do something. So you know, his name was called, and he did what he had to do, it's next man up, he's playing well. He's getting comfortable more and more as the games go on. And I'm happy to see it, because I went to college with him. So that's fun to see that."

We have watched some of your offseason workouts and you're balancing on things and catching stuff. Do those kinds of workouts help you with making those plays, like the one you made on the sideline?

“Most definitely. I mean, I can think of three drills that my trainer Sharief made me do in the offseason that, is that ball right there. You know what I’m saying. So, as much as I was tired of seeing Sharief and doing all these drills and stuff like that as the offseason dwindled down, that’s what we do it for. So definitely like I said, that’s what we do it for.”

You mentioned clawing and scratching and kind of that feeling, in this game. Have you felt that a lot more this season? Do you feel like you guys have kind of hit your stride or do you feel like that there's still things that you got to figure out coming out of this bye?

“There’s definitely things we still have to figure out. It is hard to win in this league. Every week is a challenge. There’s no game we’re going into like oh yeah, this is easy a win. You know we go into a game, like, we’re trying to get the desired outcome, which is a win, but you know, we know we have got to come with our A game every game. So you know, some games are faster starts than others. And some games we, you know we are getting what we want more than other games, but you know, it is what it is. It is a different flavor to every game and tonight was just, it was, it was a dirty, dirty, dirty game. So we just had to, like I said, claw and scratch and come out on top.”



POSTGAME NOTES AND QUOTES

LOS ANGELES CHARGERS VS. NEW ORLEANS SAINTS MONDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2020 • MERCEDES-BENZ SUPERDOME NEW ORLEANS SAINTS QUOTES

DEFENSIVE END CAMERON JORDAN

That touchdown pass to Jared Cook, I think was the first time you threw to him all game, what does that say about him just staying focused and locked in and being ready when the moment was called?

“Yeah, absolutely. No it just, it just kind of played out that way. You know, he was part of the progression quite a few times, but just wasn’t able to get a ball prior to that. And listen, big moment in the game, obviously needed. That touchdown ended up tying the game, it brought us back from 17 points down to tie it up. And obviously, we felt like, we were going to go win the game at that point, but 3rd and 15 or 16 I think too. And, it played some nice coverage. And he’s really kind of on a clear out route, but just kind of had my eyes on him in my periphery and felt like they were flat-footed and he could get by him. And it was great for him to get by him and get that big play.”

This is only the second win of your career in a game, you were trailing by 17 points. The other one was against the Dolphins in 2009. Were you aware of that?

“Yeah, but 2011, 49ers playoffs, should have won that one, we were down 17, came back. Playoff game against Minnesota, down 17, Minneapolis miracle, should have won that one. So, I know there’s this exact number of 17. But I’m sure if we clumped in like the thirteens, fourteens, fifteens, you know, there’d be quite a bit more. But no, I mean, listen, bottom line is we were not playing Saints football in the first half, you know. We were, we missed a lot of opportunities. We were bad on third and short situations that would have sustained drives. You know, we made some mistakes in the kicking game that, you know, pro long drives for them. And just, you know, obviously had a turnover that gave them seven points. At the end of the day, we’re down 20-3. And we made a bunch of mistakes a bunch of self-inflicted wounds. And I think, second half came out and man, really dialed in, execution, both in the passing game and the run game. (The) Defense came up with some big stops. And obviously, we just scratched and clawed our way back.”

With this potentially being the last time that you may play your former team, how does it feel for you to go undefeated against that team?

“Listen, man, I’ve got great memories from my Charger days, you know, 2001 to 2005, played with some pretty amazing teammates and coaches and obviously that fan base. It’s a shame they’re not in San Diego anymore. I’ll say that one more time. But no, obviously, all those games have been significant, ‘08, ‘12, ‘16 and then 2020. I’ve really had some great games against them. Every single one of them has come down to the final drive in the game. So, that’s significant.”

After coming back from 14-0 last week and 20-3 this week, I suppose you could go glass half full or glass half empty? What is your take on this team as you head into the bye at 3-2? Is this an underachieving team? Or do you feel good about where you guys are after those two wins?

“I’d say there is always room for improvement. We obviously want to start faster, we definitely want to start faster. And understand again, what wins and loses football games. And I’d say the first half, there were too many mistakes that get you beat. Too many mistakes that get you beat. We shouldn’t, shouldn’t have had to mount the comeback we had to mount in order to win this game. But at the end of the day, these are growing experiences, these are learning experiences. We do have some guys

that are continuing to grow and develop into certain roles. I'm really encouraged, by the way that (Marquez) Callaway played tonight, special teams and on offense, he did a phenomenal job. I know there's some guys on defense and special teams doing the same thing as well. So at the end of day, man, we're still growing and to have wins like this, you know, where you really have to fight to win, just like we did last week to overcome that 14 point deficit. Tonight, to overcome that 17 point deficit. These are, this is how you grow as a team. This is how you become battle tested. And I think it pays dividends as you move along here."

That Taysom (Hill) touchdown to tie it up even later, like 50 seconds or something left in regulation. How big was that for him, especially since the game didn't necessarily start the best for him personally?

"No, he had a great game all the way around. It was a big play. Obviously, it shows the confidence that we have in him, that Sean (Payton) has in him, put him in a critical third down. And he kind of had a run pass option and made a great decision, got in the endzone and tied the game."

We've been talking for like the whole season about Emmanuel Sanders and how he's going to fit in this offense and everything. How is your connection right now? It seems like he's kind of been your go to guy lately.

"Yeah, listen, he's, he's a weapon, he can do a lot of things. He's a savvy football player, he's played a lot of football. He understands the game, you know, he understands so many things about how to run, how to run certain routes, how to get separation when the ball is coming. Obviously, we've been able to spend a lot of time together. I think we didn't really get an offseason together, we didn't get preseason games. So, you get into the season. And obviously, Mike (Thomas) goes down. And then it's, you're just kind of trying to find your rhythm and your timing with not just him, but with everybody. And I think, obviously, here we are week five, but I think you've seen over the last two weeks, just how that's progressed. And what a huge part of this offense he can be."

How disappointing was the situation with Mike Thomas and as a leader of the team, do you feel the need to maybe address it with him one on one?

"I've spoken with Mike (Thomas). Mike (Thomas) and I talk a lot, both in person and in the locker room, through text message. We're always communicating. And so, at the end of the day, Mike is a big part of this team. And he is going to be a big part of this team moving forward. We had an incident, and Sean (Payton) addressed it. And many of the leaders have spoken with Mike (Thomas) as well. And we're going to be all good."

What do you think was the toughest thing to be able to find rhythm early on in the game? It seemed like before that two minute drive before the half, it seemed like things were just kind of sputtering off of that, do you kind of relish winning in that type of way, just personally having to grind it out?

"Yeah, listen, these are growth experiences. I mean, it's certainly nice if you could just go out and score a bunch of points in the first half and then just cruise to victory. But as we know, in this league, man, you've got to fight it out to the very end. And this is the way most games you know, finish, with the final possession. Now, most games, you don't get in a 20-3 hole based on just mistakes and not playing really great football in all three phases for the first half of the game. But again, these are the, these are the tests though, that I do feel like, they really bring a team together. And give you confidence and give you momentum and really kind of shape you. And certainly give you confidence moving forward in the future. Because we're going to have plenty of games that are coming down to the end. And we know if we can put ourselves in a position to win that we know how to do that."

It seems like we asked you about Alvin (Kamara) every week. But what did you kind of see on that catch, he made on the sideline on that next to last drive?

“That was a great catch. I just felt one on one, and put it up and give him an opportunity. And obviously he jumped up and made a great play.”



POSTGAME NOTES AND QUOTES

LOS ANGELES CHARGERS VS. NEW ORLEANS SAINTS MONDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2020 • MERCEDES-BENZ SUPERDOME NEW ORLEANS SAINTS QUOTES

DEFENSIVE END CAMERON JORDAN

(On Justin Herbert) “Young kid out there taking a lot of hits today.”

(On Alvin Kamara’s great catch) “That’s a grown man play. We know hes ‘a special player. He makes special plays. Those are wonderful. It’s like when you have to beat a double team to get a sack. I know that it’s like that feeling. When you go snatch one over the top on a crucial down and make a big play for your team, that’s huge.”

(On Trey Hendrickson’s play) “If I am taking doubles, he’s getting singles. He finally got a little bit of chip life. He came over to the sideline and said, ‘They chipped me.’ I said, ‘Welcome to this life. They’re starting to respect you.’ We’ve got to win our singles. We’ve got to create this uncomfortableness for quarterbacks.”

(On if the team attacked more or if everyone was winning their matchups) “There was not a chip every play. There was not a nudge every play. They decided to leave their man on an island for a second. Crazy what happens when you catch those one-on-ones. You have got to win your one-on-ones. That is all that it comes down to.”



POSTGAME NOTES AND QUOTES

LOS ANGELES CHARGERS VS. NEW ORLEANS SAINTS MONDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2020 • MERCEDES-BENZ SUPERDOME NEW ORLEANS SAINTS QUOTES

WIDE RECEIVER EMMANUEL SANDERS

We could see you, after making some of those catches tonight, trying to get maybe the sidelines some stuff or showing some energy. Was it difficult tonight because of the lack of no crowd here to get into this game?

"I love playing football and I just hope when I am out there on the field people can see that. Yeah, obviously my job is to bring energy. Every time I make a catch and we are moving the ball, obviously it puts pressure on the defense. This game is about momentum and it sways left and right, left and right. I'm always trying to shift that momentum to our side and get guys going and get guys to understand that we can win this game and we don't have to make it close. That's what I'm about. But at the same time, sometimes I'll be losing my mind out there a little bit because I just love to play the game. And I'd be excited to make plays because I work so hard during the week and it feels good when the hard work pays off."

Speaking of momentum, when Taysom (Hill) came in and ran it in, that was apparently a pass play. What did you see there? And how big is that for him and all you to tie it up?

"When I saw him run in I was excited, trust me. At the end of the day, it is all about winning games. Taysom brings a different element for us, right? He can run the ball, he can pass the ball and defensive coordinators (have) got to scheme for him. To see him, get, I think that is his first touchdown of the year. It is amazing. And hopefully we can build off that."

First of all, what was your immediate reaction when that field goal hit the upright?

"I was obviously happy, but I knew it was time to go. It was go time and I was hoping we could win a coin toss, because I just knew that we were going to go down and get some kind of points. We were able to do that and we're able to win a game and going into the bye week with a dub, you can't beat that. I'm going to be feeling good during the bye week."

You said when you came here, a number of times, you wanted to be in a pass happy offense. Is today exactly what you're talking about?

That's exactly what I was talking about. I think that's the most catches I ever had in a game. That feels good, something to build off, and we got the win in it. So that's all that matters."

It seemed like you really dominated during that second half, I think maybe 100 yards or close to it. What opened up for you coming out of half time?

"I think Sean (Payton), he just wanted to target me and get the ball in my hands and it feel good. That's everything you want as a receiver, right? That's why I came here. For Sean Payton to look at me and I know the play call is for me and me and Drew (Brees) working in sync. It happened tonight and it's something to build off of and what's even better we've got arguably the best receiver in the world coming off from his performance of last year coming back to us. For me him to work together and try to take this offense to an even better level, I just feel like the sky's the limit."

I'm just curious, you kind of mentioned Sean Payton. I mean, at halftime, did he not like the first half that he called it all? Or did he did he feel like he needed to switch things up at all?

"That is just Sean. He honestly believes in four quarters of football. So he came in, he just said, 'Let's go win. Let's come back.' That's what we were able to do. And he believed in it and stuck with his plan and everything started opening up in the third and fourth quarter for him."



POSTGAME NOTES AND QUOTES

LOS ANGELES CHARGERS VS. NEW ORLEANS SAINTS MONDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2020 • MERCEDES-BENZ SUPERDOME NEW ORLEANS SAINTS QUOTES

TIGHT END JARED COOK

What did you see on the crazy touchdown you had on that 30-yard catch?

"The underneath covers is kind of running with me. But the safety was tilted to us to the receiver side. And then the back side corner was just kind of sloughing and lagging off. So my job is just kind of get over to that other side of the field and open it up for whoever's running the seam behind me and I just kind of got over top of them and I think drew got a little flushed in the pocket and rolled out to his left. He was able to hit me in stride. It was a beautiful throw, right over the top of the backside corner and before the safety got there."

Was there something you guys did is an adjustment it seems like that after that interception, things kind of really started opening up and rolling for you guys a little bit more on offense.

"We just tried to continue to push the tempo. It didn't change too much. It's just making sure we stay in it and don't let them take us out of it."

When you're going through a game, a touchdown was your first target. What do you have to do to just like stay focused and make sure you're not getting away when the ball's not coming your way?

"I just try to have fun. You don't get a lot of opportunities like this, you know? So I just try to enjoy myself and just do what I can and listen to the music, sing along to the songs and encourage the defense and encourage my team and stay in."

When you got hurt, did you think at the time, you are going to be able to come back this quickly from injury? And are you playing through a lot of pain right now?

"When you get hurt you always you always think about how fast you can come back. And it's like one of those things you kind of take for granted sometimes, right? So you try to get back out there as fast as you can. It still bothers me a little bit but I'm not really worried about it too much. I just like to go out there play have fun (and) give the fans what they need. It would have been nice to do this in front of our fans and I hope that we can do that in a couple of weeks when it's a little bit more of a packed crowd in the house."

There are several times throughout this game where it looked like Emmanuel Sanders was just kind of like vocally after catches just trying to create energy for the offense. How much do you feel like you guys feed off of that and have to do that with no fans in the stands continually?

"I think it's huge. For me personally, I think it gives me momentum because if I see another one of my teammates and they're getting hype and up getting hype after a catch. It made me want to go out today and eat too. It made me want to get my groove on just like they are so for Emmanuel Sanders to be able to out there and just continue to look to the sideline keep hyping us up. He was getting on their nerves too. So I think it's used for us and I think that continues to build momentum for us."



POSTGAME NOTES AND QUOTES

LOS ANGELES CHARGERS VS. NEW ORLEANS SAINTS MONDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2020 • MERCEDES-BENZ SUPERDOME LOS ANGELES CHARGERS QUOTES

HEAD COACH ANTHONY LYNN

(On Justin Herbert's performance): "Justin made some good plays. I thought he executed and made some good plays. We did not win the game, so I am not too excited about complimenting anybody right now. I thought the kid did some good things though."

(On his message to his team): "I never would have thought this team would have lost four in a row, but I was on a Charger team that did and that team came back fighting. I expect this team to come back and do the same."

(On Keen Allen's status): "Keenan went out with lower back spasms. That's the last I heard. I know that he couldn't go. He came back in and tried, but he just couldn't go."

(On not having Allen on the field): "It affected the whole football team. He is one of our playmakers. He's a good football player. KJ (Hill Jr.) came in and had a chance to make a couple of plays. I thought he made a couple of catches, but it's different. KJ's playing outside. He's normally playing inside. We moved some guys around. It took a minute, but I thought the offense found their rhythm late in the second half. We put some points on the board on the big play that Justin threw to Mike (Williams) that gave us the lead. We did miss Keenan though."

(On Michael Badgley missing the kick): "That young man's been kicking outstanding all year. He missed an extra point today and he missed a field goal. I'll be the first to say that he has to do better. We could have done some other things better as well."

(On Casey Hayward injury) "He played three quarters and then was hurt. I'm going to find out more when I get back to the locker room."

(On losing close games) "The guys are putting themselves into position to win these games. We are just not finishing the games. It's not one thing here or there. I could give you a ton of excuses, but I'm not about excuses. At the end of the day, we need to get it done and that's on me."

(On running the ball on first down a lot) "Sometimes it just works out like that based on the front and the coverage that we are given. Justin may have to check to a run or stay in a pass. It's the way that it played out tonight."

(On how they defended Alvin Kamara) "I think for the most part we did a good job of containing him until late in that game."

(On teaching the team to close games) "This bye week couldn't have come at a better time. I think this team is going to get a little healthier. I look forward to what is going to happen next. I believe in the locker room I believe those men will bounce back. We have a lot of football left ahead of us. I believe we will get this ship corrected and moving in the right direction."

(On any reason why Michael Badgley is off this year) "It's not at all because in practice he has been kicking outstanding. He's healthy. His leg strength is better than it has ever been. He has been kicking good. He just missed tonight."

(On what went through his mind on the missed kick) "It was frustrating."

(On the stagnant offense in the third quarter) "We came out and try to establish the run game more. We were having trouble protecting. My quarterback was running for his life a little bit. We tried to establish the running game to help him out. They stood up. We made some mistakes too, but they stood up and they stopped us. It happens. Sometimes you go back and forth. Our defense stopped them a few times. I thought we eventually picked it up late in the clock and got the score."

(On getting the running game going again) "I think a little continuity is going to help. I know the average was good, but the efficiency wasn't where I wanted it to be."

(On what adjustment the Saints made at the end of the first half) "They executed. We gave up a third and 14 with a ball over our head. We got beat in coverage. That is all that there is to it. We got beat in coverage. Their guy executed and our guy didn't. This inexcusable, but that's what happened."

(On Herbert's poise) "We can use him to help the offensive line. We have to get more mobile plays. Sometimes it's hard when he is stationary. He has shown he can extend plays. He can pull the ball. That was just him creating tonight and extending that play."

(On exploiting Marshon Lattimore) "He's a really good corner. I know he has been banged up a little bit and they try to put him on our best starter. Mike (Williams) came down with the ball and he didn't. We know Mike can do that."

(On if there is one area that frustrates him) "The guys did a lot of good things. They put them in a position to win the game. We didn't get done. That's what is frustrating. It could be the kick. It could be the 3rd and 14 touchdown. It could be the missed extra point. All of these things played a factor in the game. Overall, we just have to do better. We have 11 games left to turn this around. We know we can play with anybody because we have been doing it. We just have to finish the games."

(On the resiliency of the receivers) "We know that they weren't at full speed, but they did the best that they could. We spot played them and they did contribute."

(On if something happened to Sam Tevi) "Sam got poked in the eye, so Storm (Norton) had to go in there for a little bit. I think Sam will be just fine."

(On keeping morale up) "This is our job. Our job is to play football and win games. It's what we do for a living. I'm not worried about the morale. We have the right guys on the team. We have the right guys in the locker room. I have no problem with our character. I have no problem with our leadership. We have to go back to work and fine tune the details. Once we win one of these games, I firmly believe they are going to come in bunches. I can't wait. We can't wait to get back to work."

(On if Rayshawn Jenkins came out during the Jared Cook touchdown) "Rayshawn has been on the field every single play. If he wasn't, then it was because something must have happened. We were in a certain coverage. The guy must have beat us in a man coverage."



POSTGAME NOTES AND QUOTES

LOS ANGELES CHARGERS VS. NEW ORLEANS SAINTS MONDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2020 • MERCEDES-BENZ SUPERDOME LOS ANGELES CHARGERS QUOTES

QUARTERBACK JUSTIN HERBERT

(On the loss): "It's definitely a tough loss. It hurts a lot to be so close these last four games. I know that we are going to go back. Things are going to change. We just have to keep attacking and know that the wins are going to come."

(On battling back): "The third quarter was big. We needed to put more points up and we did not. We got off to a quick start, but we just haven't played consistently all four quarters. We unfortunately didn't do that. It's a learning process. We are going to learn from it. Losing is horrible. I know that we are going to turn it around. This team is sticking together. I know we have the talent to turn it around."

(On if the bye week comes at the right time): "We'd love to be playing next week to get back out on the field. The bye week does come at a good time. We can get some of those guys up front some rest. We'll be watching some film and getting ready for our next opponent."

(On the play to Mike Williams at the end of regulation): "It was a designed play. Anytime you see Mike Williams on the sideline with one on one coverage, I know that I am going to go to him. He is one of the best in the game. I have complete faith in him. I know he is going to make a play on any ball that I throw up in the air."

(On getting over the hump): "It is going to take more than what we are doing now. It is going to take 30 minutes more of stretching, weightlifting, and watching film. It's little bits that add up in the long run. I know we are really close. If we work hard and do the right things, good things will happen. I love the way this team battles and I know that we are going to stick together. Losing is tough. It always is, but we are going to learn from it. I know we are going to stick together through this."

(On getting compliments from Sean Payton and Drew Brees) "it is a huge compliment. Those are two people I look up to a lot. It means a lot to hear that from them, but I'd love to get the win. Unfortunately, it didn't happen today. I know we're going to stick through this and keep getting better."