



**ATLANTA FALCONS VS. NEW ORLEANS SAINTS**  
**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2021 • CAESARS SUPERDOME**  
**POSTGAME NOTES**

- New Orleans' record falls to 5-3 with the loss on Sunday and have sole possession of second place in the NFC South.
- The Saints win regular season record against the Falcons falls to 51-53, their first loss to Atlanta since November 10, 2019.
- Head Coach Sean Payton's regular season record against Atlanta falls to 20-9. Payton's 20 victories against the Falcons remain the most by an NFL head coach against the Falcons.
- Payton's record in the month of November is now 38-19.
- The Saints extended their streak to 312 regular season games without having been shut out, dating back to a 26-20 win at the Tampa Bay Buccaneers on September 6, 2002 at Raymond James Stadium. This is the longest running streak for not being shutout in the National Football League.
- T **Terron Armstead** played in his 100<sup>th</sup> career game (regular season/postseason combined) as New Orleans gained 376 total net yards, the team's second-highest total of the season
- LB **Demario Davis** finished with six tackles (four solo) in Sunday's contest. Davis now has 399 tackles as a Saint in his fourth season with the Black and Gold, needing one more stop to reach 400 for his Saints career.
- After returning three punts for 50 yards (16.7 avg.) on Sunday, wide receiver/return specialist **Deonte Harris** has 654 career punt return yards, surpassing Rich Mauti to move into seventh in club record books. Harris led the team with a career-high six receptions with 52 yards, also bringing back two kickoffs for 51 yards (27.5 avg.).
- Quarterback **Trevor Siemian** went 25-of-41 passing for 249 yards with two scores and zero interceptions. Siemian became the 34<sup>th</sup> player to start a game at quarterback in Saints franchise history.
- Quarterback **Taysom Hill** went two-of-two passing for 33 yards and rushed one time for 4 yards. Hill now has 890 career rushing yards, third for a Saints signal-caller behind Archie Manning (2,058) and Aaron Brooks (1,410). Hill needs 110 rushing yards to become the third Saints signal-caller with 1,000 rushing yards as a Saint.
- Running back **Mark Ingram II** finished with nine rushes for 43 yards and caught five passes for 21 yards. Ingram now has 6,077 career rushing yards as a Saint. With 20 more rushing yards next Sunday at Tennessee, he would surpass Deuce McAllister for first place on the club's all-time rushing yardage list. Ingram is also tied with McAllister for third in club record books with 55 total touchdowns. Additionally, Ingram now only needs 96 total yards from scrimmage to surpass McAllister next Sunday to move into third all-time in franchise history. Ingram also played in his 108<sup>th</sup> career game as a Saint, moving into a tie for 38<sup>th</sup> place in club records with running back Dalton Hilliard and kicker John Carney.
- Safety **Malcolm Jenkins** had five tackles (one solo). Jenkins now has 1,254 career tackles, eclipsing the 1,250 mark for his career.
- DE **Cameron Jordan** finished with four tackles (one solo) and one sack. Jordan now has 97.5 career sacks and moves into a tie with Simon Fletcher, Jacob Green, Dexter Manley and Mario Williams for 39<sup>th</sup> in league history. Jordan needs one sack to move past Joey Porter (98) at 38<sup>th</sup> all-time.
- DE **Marcus Davenport** posted six tackles (three solo), one sack in the fourth quarter and one forced fumble.
- WR **Kevin White** had two special teams tackles (one solo) and also had a forced fumble on kickoff coverage.

- RB **Alvin Kamara** had 13 rushes for 50 yards and a score in Sunday's contest. Kamara now has 457 rushing yards against Atlanta, surpassing Tampa Bay as the team Kamara has the most rushing yards against. Kamara also caught four passes for 54 yards, totaling 104 yards from scrimmage.
- Wide receiver **Marquez Callaway** caught his fourth career touchdown pass Sunday, finishing with three catches for 25 yards.
- Wide receiver **Kenny Stills** had two catches for 30 yards with one touchdown, his first of the 2021 season. Stills now has 4,907 career receiving yards, needing 93 more yards to reach 5,000 for his career.



## POSTGAME NOTES AND QUOTES

### ATLANTA FALCONS VS. NEW ORLEANS SAINTS SUNDAY NOVEMBER 7, 2021 • CAESARS SUPERDOME NEW ORLEANS SAINTS HEAD COACH SEAN PAYTON

(Opening statement): "It is a tough way to lose a game. Tip your hat to Atlanta. I thought they played better than us today. You can focus more on the result of that game. As a coach, our jobs are to focus on what caused the result. We did not do enough things well today. That always bothers you as the coach because you're wanting to see your performance be more consistent, better, but there were too many penalties, too many long yardage situations. We put ourselves behind the eight-ball a number of times on offense in the first half. We finally put together a few drives at the end of the game. We did not do the things that winning teams do consistently in our league. We have to get that corrected. We have to do a better job coaching. That starts with me and being more consistent in some areas. Our third down numbers, now two-three weeks in a row, have been just average at best. We kind of go from there. It is what it is."

(On the speed of the game in the second half): "We sped up the tempo in the fourth quarter. There was a point in which we were down more than two scores. Quickly, we got into a two-minute mode. Fortunately, we were able to score. We kind of stayed with that the next drive. Once the time was in our favor, we kind of went back to a more traditional approach on the final drive when we scored. That happened on the third to last drive, fourth to last drive of the game."

(On the reason for the tempo adjustment): "You're looking at the scoreboard and saying you can't just meander along here and run handoffs and huddle up. We need to get moving a little bit."

(On if the Saints would have let the Falcons score on the last drive): "Yeah. Typically, you take a knee there. They took a knee on the next play. We got it punched out. I do not know who did it. It is hard to see. When it's that close, you've seen us in that position before -- run the clock down, kick the field goal with no time left. [Mike Davis] was smart enough where he was going to not score."

(On Trevor Siemian's performance): "Overall, he played well. We missed some pickups. He had a few throws in there that were not primary receivers and played with poise, brought us back. I thought, overall, I felt like it was good. Of course, we will look at it and grade it. I thought we dropped a few balls, more than our fair share. Like I said, we were third-and-long, I don't know how many times with the penalties in the first half, frustrating."

(On if the Saints could have done anything different in coverage on the last big play): "Yes, you want to stay on top of your coverage in that situation. We were playing in a three-deep zone."

(On using Taysom Hill today and his contributions): "We had a package (for him). I thought he gave us some energy when he came in. We had a run; we had a handful of plays. It was just kind of how the game went. Look, if you're not converting third downs, then your number count is not going to be 70-something offensive plays or 80. You are going to have a shorter amount of plays. He is part of the plan."

(On the sequence with Hill): "I think it was the second half. There was a sequence of plays. We were getting a lot of single-safety, man-to-man looks. We got to one of his runs earlier. Then, we got to some play-action passes. A lot of it was by design."

(On if there was a thought of changing the quarterback) "It wasn't changing the quarterback. That's a fair question. It was more of trying to get to a play that we had that he was taking the snaps of."

(On C.J. Gardner-Johnson's injury): "He's a good football player. It's always difficult when you lose a starter like that. We had to make some adjustments. Hopefully, he can get back on the field quicker than later. It's tough. No update. We will keep you guys posted."

(On if the Saints had to get out of their game plan): "No, well the time you would say you were out of your game plan a little bit is when we were in that hurry-up offense. The minute we got into no huddle, you kind of got out of your game plan there. You're having to react according to the score on the game and the time left on the clock. The next series, we were still in hurry up and scored. That final series, we were back in our game plan. The time was in our favor."

(On Alvin Kamara's run on the failed two-point conversion): "It's hard to tell. We have to see the film. It was a running play. It happened so quickly. We'll watch, make corrections on it and see what happened."

(On if it is fair to say that the Saints did not do enough to affect Matt Ryan today) "Yeah, I think that is fair to say. I don't know what his numbers were, but they were pretty good. Yeah, I think it is fair to say that"

(On the dropped passes): "It wasn't just receivers, I saw other guys dropping balls."



## POSTGAME NOTES AND QUOTES

### ATLANTA FALCONS VS. NEW ORLEANS SAINTS SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2021 • CAESARS SUPERDOME ATLANTA FALCONS HEAD COACH ARTHUR SMITH

On if winning close games like this today's one is becoming the team's identity: "We hope so. That is what we said when Mr. (Arthur) Blank hired me and Terry (Fontenot). We wanted a tough-minded football team. It's hard to build that. You get in games like this, yeah, sure, you would love to be in four-minute and win easy in the fourth quarter. It's a really good football team (that we beat). They are 5-2, and this is a really tough place to play. It's a divisional rival. I mean, just write all of the narratives that you can. Our guys don't flinch. I was joking with Mr. Blank that I'll get a text later from my mother telling me to stop doing that. We're just trying to win. So, we'll do it any way we can. And, when you put the ball in Matt Ryan's hand with the game on the line, my money is on Matt. That's how I feel."

On where the game became close in the fourth quarter: "It's the National Football League. It's not for soft souls. If you get comfortable, shame on you."

On Cordarrelle Patterson's 64-yard reception to set up the winning field goal: "He is a really good football player. Obviously, we had a lot of faith in CP, and Matt (Ryan), and the o-line... The drive before, we tried to stay aggressive. Credit to the Saints, they made plays. We weren't going to get into a three yard and a cloud of dust (game), so we tried a couple of different things. We got the penalty on the first down on the drive before. Then, we went into little zone reads to see if we'd get them some yards going, and they played it pretty well. It shows the faith we have in Feleipe (Franks), because those are big time situations right there, but I trusted Feleipe with the football. He was smart. I know it wasn't what we wanted; and, they jammed us up on the next one. You play fast. It feels ugly. Then, we get sacked. Dustin Colquitt kicks it (and) they (the Saints) come down and make a play. That's the NFL. Our guys just kept swinging. Trevor (Siemian) makes one out to the left. They scored and go ahead. I looked up and there was plenty of time. We had our two timeouts. I said, "We are good." We stopped them. Those two point conversions, they went for it on both of those. That is when you get into the game, the unintended consequences. They missed one and were forced to go for it again, and we stopped them both. Those were two huge plays in this game."

(More on the Patterson reception) "When you get an explosive play to start a drive like that, it certainly makes it easier to play call it. When you go in there and it's incomplete or something negative happens, that building gets ramped up. It was an enormous play."

(On if he saw something that would make that play work at that time): "Yeah, just kind of how they had been playing on third down and two minute. It's a chess match. This is a really good defense and defensive staff. They made their adjustments and we made ours. We put it out there and we got the matchup that we wanted. CP made it work."

(On what he told Matt Ryan before the last drive of the game) "We have a neutral mindset. We go in there, we talk about it, and say, "Hey, look, if we get this matchup over here, let's take it." That's what it boils down to. If they didn't give us that, we go on to something else. That is pretty simple. He is as cool as they can be. I don't know what this is (on how many comebacks he has in his career), but his comebacks are getting up there. It helps when you have a veteran, Hall of Fame-type quarterback."

On if there is something you can see in Ryan that says he can be that type of player) "Just look at his whole career, body of work, my experience with him, and already what has been done this season."

On his first experience as a head coach in this rivalry: "It's an intense rivalry. These guys (Saints) have been the standard in this division the last four years. I know that Tampa won the Super Bowl last year. It's a really tough division. Since Sean Payton has been here, they have had a lot of sustained success. So, it's a good win for us."



## POSTGAME NOTES AND QUOTES

### ATLANTA FALCONS VS. NEW ORLEANS SAINTS SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2021, 2021 • CAESARS SUPERDOME NEW ORLEANS SAINTS QUOTES

#### QB Trevor Siemian

**On if it was hard to get in a rhythm after self-inflicted wounds:** “Yeah, it just felt like we were one play away numerous of times. Unfortunately, we didn’t get it done, especially early. Seemed like every time we got something going, something came up the other way. So, we have to get that fixed.”

**On if the drops are frustrating:** “Not really. You are worrying about the next play, and I told the guys I’m going to keep coming at them. Unfortunately, in the first half we just have to be better.”

**On what changed offensively and allowed the Saints to get rolling later on:** “The urgency picked up quickly. For whatever reason we got it going but too little, too late. Can’t spot a team that many scores and expect to win.”

**On how he felt for his first start in a long time:** “I felt okay. There’s certainly some plays I want back; it wasn’t perfect. Just anxious to get into the game. You have first drive, second drive, and you feel like you are in a football game again. Just wish we could have done a little more in the first half, but it felt good.”

**On if it is a battle to remain levelheaded and not get frustrated:** “Yeah I think so. It’s frustrating for all of us. You’re worried about the next play, and we’ve got to get it fixed. The urgency certainly rises, but you do what it takes to get it right. Worrying doesn’t really help the cause so just focus on the next play and getting it right. We’ve got good players, so guys are going to make plays and we just have to give them opportunities.”

**On what happened on the strip sack in the second quarter:** “I told Terron (Armstead) I thought I was probably too deep. I have to look at it, but I thought I could have stepped up.”

**On what his perspective is on this team:** “We’ve got a really good team. We must take it one week at a time, but I don’t think there is anything we can’t do. Everyone in the locker room realizes that but the things that we didn’t do well today we have to get fixed. Next week is coming and I’m anxious to get back out and play. I wish it was tomorrow or the next day, but we’ve got to get it fixed and I think we will get it right.”

**On if the battle of inconsistency is something they have to focus on:** “Sure, but that’s the name of the game. If you’re consistent and did everything right all the time you’d be 17-0. That’s how this league works. You have to expect everyone’s best every game. We have to be ready to go next week.”

**On if success in the 4<sup>th</sup> give him a better feeling about the day:** “No, we lost.”

**On what the whiplash is like being up late in the 4<sup>th</sup> and to lose in the final seconds:** “I knew there was a lot of time left and the game wasn’t over when we scored at the end. Looked like (Cordarrelle) Patterson made a really good play on the sideline and it was a good throw. There was a lot of time left, so you’re still holding your breathe a little bit.”

**On if he could feel momentum shift in the Saints favor as they got it going late in the game:** “There was some drives we stayed on the field and we got a couple big plays. We got the momentum back and that was big. For us, you just have to find a way to capture that earlier in the game. You don’t have to be in 2-minute to do that either. I think we will get it right next week.”





## POSTGAME NOTES AND QUOTES

### ATLANTA FALCONS VS. NEW ORLEANS SAINTS SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2021 • CAESARS SUPERDOME NEW ORLEANS SAINTS PLAYER QUOTES

#### SS MALCOLM JENKINS

**On CJ Gardner-Johnson's injury:** "He is obviously a huge part of what we do on our defense. He made a bunch of plays early in the game, a great matchup in the slot, pressures well. He does everything, so missing him is going to be a big deal. But I thought the guys, we put them everywhere and I thought they played well. Bradley Roby and (Paulson) Adebo out there, playing some (different) roles as well. It just calls for guys to be up, but I think we played well. Even though we lost, we feel good."

**On his read on the Saints team right now:** "All things considered, we've had an interesting first half of the season. I think we've competed well, I think we've shown ourselves that when we execute, we can play with anybody. The biggest thing for us that I would say we don't like is the inconsistency. We're a team that doesn't make excuses, we don't care about what's going on outside of who's on the field. For us, if we want to be the team that we want, we have to figure out how to continually be consistent, even, obviously, there are going to be some adverse situations. That is not uncommon. We have to come out more on the winning end of it than losing."

**On concern of letting the guard down after a big, emotional win over Tampa:** "I think it's easy to point to that. We had the Super Bowl MVP here last week coming off of a game in Seattle, that it's one of those games that we let our guard down. I really don't think that's the case. I think realistically as a team, our margin for error if we want to succeed is going to be smaller. We tried to put ourselves in that position, and we just didn't come out with it."

#### LT TERRON ARMSTEAD

**On issues of keeping the Falcons contained today:** "It was self-inflicted wounds and penalties. Some mishaps and mis-execution. I think we did a good job of converting some first downs, but the big third downs we just couldn't stay on the field and sustain drives, especially in the red zone. Penalties pushed us out, so mostly self-inflicted wounds."

**On importance of executing a clean game with a new quarterback:** "I mean, any game, every game, every week. This is the NFL. It's a small margin for error, and we keep committing those errors and putting ourselves in a bad starting spot. I think we responded well, cleaned up some areas, started to put some points on the board, but ultimately we just came up short."

**On Trevor Siemian as starting QB running tempo offense:** "Trevor Siemian is great, very composed, in control of everything. In the pocket he was great, good decisions, everything. I'm a huge fan."

**On the team having a small margin for error with some of the injuries:** "We don't want to make those mistakes, regardless of it we have (Jameis Winston) and the others, we don't want to make those mistakes. Especially the self-inflicted ones. You come into a game and things happen, but those guys make plays as well. The things we can control, we try to get that squared away during the week so when we come out on Sunday, we don't have those mistakes. I would say this team has a different margin of error from others, and that discipline, technique, fundamentals, everything – that carries along no matter the personnel."

## DE MARCUS DAVENPORT

**On the emotional swing of taking and losing the lead:** “I don’t know, I don’t really feel like we have emotional swings. For us, you know, it’s any chance that you get to get to get out there, that’s the mindset that we have. So anytime, it doesn’t matter what kind of play, we need to be able to reset and get back to doing our jobs. It was a good game, they had good plays, and we have to stop them. That’s our job.”

**On Matt Ryan’s performance today:** “He was really good. I think he is throwing a bit more, especially efficiently. I think he (Ryan) can move the ball quick, and they did enough to win. He (Ryan) did enough to win.

**On frustration of not getting to Matt Ryan to complete a sack:** “I think the biggest thing with that frustration was that we didn’t win. I would have been okay with nothing myself if we would have won, so we just have to do more.”

**On his instruction to let the Falcons score on the play before the ball came loose:** “It was less about that. It was more, if you have the chance to get the ball out, take it. That’s pretty much what we should have done. It kind of became one of those situations, like I said, where I felt I should have done more finishing that play.”





## POSTGAME NOTES AND QUOTES

### ATLANTA FALCONS VS. NEW ORLEANS SAINTS SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2021 • CAESARS SUPERDOME ATLANTA FALCONS PLAYERS

#### QB #2 MATT RYAN

(On the 64-yard reception at the end of the game): "It was a great play by CP. The call we had on had multiple options across the board. I saw that it was man-to-man coverage with an opportunity for him on the sideline. He ran a great route and made a really good catch. As he has done all year, he stepped up and made a big play for us."

(On how big this win is): "They are all big. Regardless of who you go against in this league, it's hard to win a game. It's a tough place. I've played here a lot. You don't know how difficult it is to play in this environment. It's a hard earned win."

(On the team's mindset once the Saints took the lead): "Let's go win the game. Let's find a way to get the job done. There was a minute and a few seconds and we had two timeouts. There was plenty of time to get a field goal and go win. We just need to figure out a way to get the job done."

(On the long drive before the half) "We were on the 8. To do that before the half and finished it with a touchdown, was huge for us. You know with this defense it's going to be tough sledding and there are going to be negative plays. You have to create explosives and you have to convert first downs. I thought that we did a pretty good job of that."

#### RB #84 CORDARRELLE PATTERSON

(On today's game): "It was awesome. They came back. They fought hard. You have to give credit to the whole Saints organization. They are a great team. We just found a way to get it done. It was a must win for us. We were executing all week."

(On the 64-yard reception near the end of the game): "It was a play we called earlier in the first drive. Coach (Smith) told me that we were going to call that play again. Matt (Ryan) trusted me. I was open. I just try to build his trust each and every week. He gave me an opportunity to go out there and make a play."

(On the matchup of the big reception): "It's just about getting open. I'm just trying to let the defender not get hands on me, so I can get open. We ran that play earlier and coach said that we were going to come back to it and that's what we did."

(On what Matt Ryan says in the huddle on the final drive): "Matt Ryan says let's go get it done. That is just Matty Ice. He is not nervous. He has been doing this his whole career. He has been bringing teams back. That's what he does. We just trust the leader."

#### WR #17 OLAMIDE ZACCHEAUS

(On the touchdowns he had today): "It was a huge possession to put points on the board at the end of the half and also at the end of the game. It got us in position to win the game. I was doing my part and doing what I was supposed to do. I try to contribute on how I can."

(On what was working on the 92-yard drive before the end of the first half): "Everybody was doing their job. It really is. Everyone was on the same page. It helps the defense when you have a big lead."

(On if you feel comfortable winning games at the end): "I don't think you can ever feel comfortable in this league. Once you get comfortable, then that's when you start losing. I don't think that we will every be comfortable."

#### OLB #93 JAMES VAUGHTERS

(On his sack fumble) "First of all I want to dedicate that play to both of my grandfathers. They were both military men. This week is (Salute to) service week. We wear the towels and the gloves to show that appreciation. My maternal grandfather passed (away) about three weeks ago. It was very emotional for me playing. It is always emotional for me playing in the (salute to) service game because they did that so I could have the opportunity to be a pro football player. I want to dedicate that to them. I wish they could have been here to see it. I know they are watching (this performance) from above. That is something I really appreciate. On the sack itself, it's a culmination of the efforts of

everyone on this team. The offense is making plays. Other guys on the defense are making plays. We withstood the surge from the other team. I was glad I was able to make the strip sack to help us get the win today.”

(On if the thought of them was on his mind today): “I was thinking about them right before that drive. My (first) home game active as an NFL player was just two years ago. That was during (salute to) service week too. I think about them. My (maternal) grandfather was from rural Alabama and my paternal grandfather was from rural Ohio. I get an opportunity to be an NFL player. They were from more or less places where they do not get that opportunity. I always think about them when I have this opportunity. That’s really what it is all about. It’s about me being a representation of my family.”

(On appreciating his journey as an NFL player): “Absolutely, it could weigh me down, but I use it as an opportunity to fuel me. I try to win each individual play. If I don’t win that one, then I’m trying to win the next one. I’m just glad that I can be around guys who can share that moment. We all play as a representation of that journey.”