



## **GAME NOTES**

**New England Patriots vs. New Orleans Saints – August 11, 2016**

### **INDIVIDUAL NOTES**

#### **JIMMY GAROPPOLO MAKES THE START**

Jimmy Garoppolo made his second preseason start and played the entire first half, finishing 11-of-18 for 168 yards. His first preseason start was on Aug. 14, 2014 vs. the New York Giants when he played the entire game and finished 22-of-42 for 284 yards with one touchdown and one interception.

#### **11 VETERAN PLAYERS MAKE THEIR DEBUT IN A PATRIOTS UNIFORM**

Of the 16 veteran players that are new to the Patriots in 2016, 11 of them made their debut in a Patriots uniform: DB E.J. Biggers, TE Clay Harbor, LB Ramon Humber, DL Terrance Knighton, DL Markus Kuhn, DL Chris Long, LB Shea McClellin, TE Bear Pascoe, WR Nate Washington, TE Martellus Bennett and DB Vinnie Sunseri.

#### **ALL NINE OF THE PATRIOTS 2016 DRAFT PICKS SAW ACTION; TWO STARTED**

All nine of the Patriots 2016 draft picks played in the game with second-round pick CB Cyrus Jones and third-round pick OL Joe Thuney in the starting lineups. Jones started at right cornerback for Logan Ryan, while Thuney started at left guard for Josh Kline.

#### **STARTING BLOCKS**

With Jones and Thuney in the starting lineup, New England has now had at least one rookie in the starting lineup in the preseason opener for eight straight seasons.

### **PATRIOTS ROOKIES IN THE STARTING LINEUP**

2016 – second-round pick CB Cyrus Jones and third-round pick OL Joe Thuney.

2015 – first-round pick DL Malcom Brown, fourth-round picks OL Tre' Jackson and OL Shaq Mason, seventh-round pick DB Darryl Roberts and rookie free agent OL David Andrews.

2014 – Rookie free agents TE Asa Watson and CB Malcolm Butler

2013 – second-round WR Aaron Dobson

2012 - first-round picks DE Chandler Jones and LB Dont'a Hightower .

2011 - first-round pick T Nate Solder and fifth-round pick TE Lee Smith

2010 - first-round pick CB Devin McCourty and second-round pick LB Brandon Spikes started against on defense, while second-round pick TE Rob Gronkowski and fourth-round pick TE Aaron Hernandez started on offense.

2009 – sixth-round pick DL Myron Pryor

### **PATRIOTS DEFENSE FORCED FOUR TURNOVERS; CONVERTS TURNOVERS TO 22 POINTS**

- 1.) DL Jabaal Sheard forced a fumble on the first drive that was recovered by rookie Cyrus Jones to end the Saints first drive.
- 2.) LB Jamie Collins picked off a pass from Saints QB Garrett Grayson and returned it 43 yards for a touchdown in the first quarter. Collins has recorded three regular season interceptions and two postseason interceptions in his career. He has one career touchdown, returning a fumble 14 yards for a touchdown at the New York Jets on Dec. 27, 2015.
- 3.) Rookie free agent CB Cre' von LeBlanc picked off a QB Luke McCown pass in the end zone to end a Saints drive in the third quarter. The Patriots took over and scored on the drive when RB Tyler Gaffney ran it into the end zone on a 44-yard run.
- 4.) In the fourth quarter DL Trey Flowers forced a fumble on an 18-yard sack and returned the fumble 17 yards for a touchdown.

### **G SHAQ MASON START AT RIGHT GUARD**

Shaq Mason started at right guard. As a rookie in 2015, he started 10 games at left guard.

### **FB JAMES DEVELIN MAKES SUCCESSFUL RETURN**

FB James Develin made a successful return to action after missing all of last season with a leg injury suffered in a preseason game at Carolina (8/28).

### **JAMES WHITE REGISTERS A 56-YARD RECEPTION TO SET UP A TD**

James White caught a short pass from Jimmy Garoppolo in the second quarter and turned the play into a 56-yard gain to the 1-yard line to set up a touchdown. White has one 50-yard reception in the regular season. He connected with Tom Brady for a 68-yard gain at Miami in the 2015 regular season finale on Jan. 3, 2016.

### **ROOKIE QB JACOBY BRISSETT PLAYED THE ENTIRE SECOND HALF**

Second-round draft pick QB Jacoby Brissett entered the game in the second half and played the rest of the way, finishing 7-of-13 for 63 yards.

### **GAFFNEY SCORES ON A 44-YARD TOUCHDOWN RUN**

RB Tyler Gaffney scored on a 44-yard touchdown run in the third quarter. Gaffney finished the game with 9 rushing attempts for 64 yards and a touchdown. He also caught 2 passes for 7 yards.