

DALLAS DOME



SIR SAINT WILL LEAD US TO VICTORY
OVER THE EVIL TEAMS OF THE NFC SOUTH

OFFICIAL 2009 SEASON NEWSLETTER – PLAYOFF EDITION

IN BREEES WE TRUST



*I*t's the team that won the highest-scoring game in Playoff history that will be arriving in the home-land to take on the league's highest scoring offense of the year when Head Coach Sean Payton and the 2009 SUPER-SAINTS play host to the NFC Champ "Red Birds" from last year. The SAINTS have always been the "underdogs", but this year's motley crew, a bunch of undrafted guys, late-rounder's, players cast off from other teams, like Brees, who landed in town after an injury convinced the Chargers that his best days were behind him makes you realize that when this team (and this franchise) resurrected from the flood waters of Katrina during the night of Sept. 25, 2006, that it was done with players rebuilding their own careers.

*A*nd let's finally call Drew Brees exactly what he is: one of the NFL's all-time great passers. In 2009, he became the second player in league history (after Peyton Manning) to throw for 4,000 yards in 4 consecutive seasons. He also set the NFL record for completion percentage (70.6%), while finishing with a league-best 109.6 QB rating. But nothing is more impressive than the way Brees has transformed the team formally known as the "Aints". This was a franchise with one playoff win in its first 39 seasons, a team that had turned the brown paper bag into a fan fashion statement. Now the top-seeded SAINTS are the NFL's most explosive and entertaining team after some changes?

*R*unning back Mike Bell was out of football. So was cornerback Mike “The Predator” McKenzie, who watched the games from the stands with a mouthful of food before getting the call a several weeks ago. Darren Sharper arrived unwanted (apparently) and has resurrected his career. Running back Pierre Thomas wasn't drafted. Star wide receiver Marques Colston wasn't drafted until the seventh round back in 2006, and now his college football program, Hofstra, just folded.

*F*rom Brees to safety Darren Sharper, who got little play in free agency this year, to wide receiver Marques Colston, the SAINTS are a collection of the unwanted. Tight End Jeremy Shockey and Linebacker Jonathan Vilma were both banished from New York. Linebacker Scott Fujita is with his third team. The wide receivers and running backs are groups who define the idea that the sum of the parts can sometimes be worth way more than individual values.



“I was over looked until the 7th Round....that’ll teach’ m cuz I’ve got skills.”

*D*efensive coordinator Gregg Williams, a man who defines the term “brash,” is with his third team in three years. He was passed over by the Washington Redskins for head coach following Joe Gibbs’ departure and was fired after only one season leading the Jacksonville Jaguars’ defense.

It’s what’s been coming for a long time. The expansion team whose first roster was created from players unwanted by other teams has finally found success with a similar group. The past of the team is well-documented. Archie Manning getting sacked. The paper bag “Aints” season. No Playoff games until 1987. No Playoff wins until 2000. The SAINTS trudged along, some good years and mostly bad ones, until Sean Payton was hired, who began to turn things around. The team's rise from the weight of the past mirrored a similar rise of the city after the storm.



“That’s bcuz those days are over around here!”

*E*ven though we’re favored in this next match-up (and have been most of the season) this is still a team of underdogs. “It’s a bunch of guys that feel like they have something to prove,” McKenzie once said. “We have a lot of late draft picks and free agents that are now starting. It is a team full of guys who are probably viewed as underachievers.” How will a team that was once chasing perfection before dropping back-to-back losses at home respond in its first Playoff game since the 2006 NFC Championship loss to Chicago during the “debacle in the snow”? Whatever the answer is, it will come from the captain of the offense. Many people think Brees saved New Orleans when he signed in 2006. Brees insists it's the other way around, and he sees every game as his chance to return the favor.

And think about this: The SAINTS have only beaten the Cards 12 times in 25 meetings since 1967. That would mean a victory this weekend would be #13. The SAINTS rung up 13 Wins for the first time in franchise history this season....Kurt Warner's jersey number is "13"....and the SAINTS' last victory was on December 13th! What does all that mean you ask? Probably nothing, but you can never be too sure....

Did you know: That the events of this season are occurring during the same year that former SAINTS kicker and All-Time Leading Saints scorer Morton Andersen was inducted into the Saints Hall of Fame? And he was a SAINT for "13" seasons!!!!

2009 NFL PLAYOFF matchups:



Other Matchup Overview: Both Dallas and Favre are haunted by years of questions. The Cowboys erased some with their first playoff victory since 1996, back when the last remnants of their Jimmy Johnson-driven dynasty were still around. Coincidentally, that was also the year Favre won his only Super Bowl. Since then, the Cowboys and Favre have combined to be the most talked about franchise and player in the NFL. Yet, neither has done anything of substance when it comes to winning.

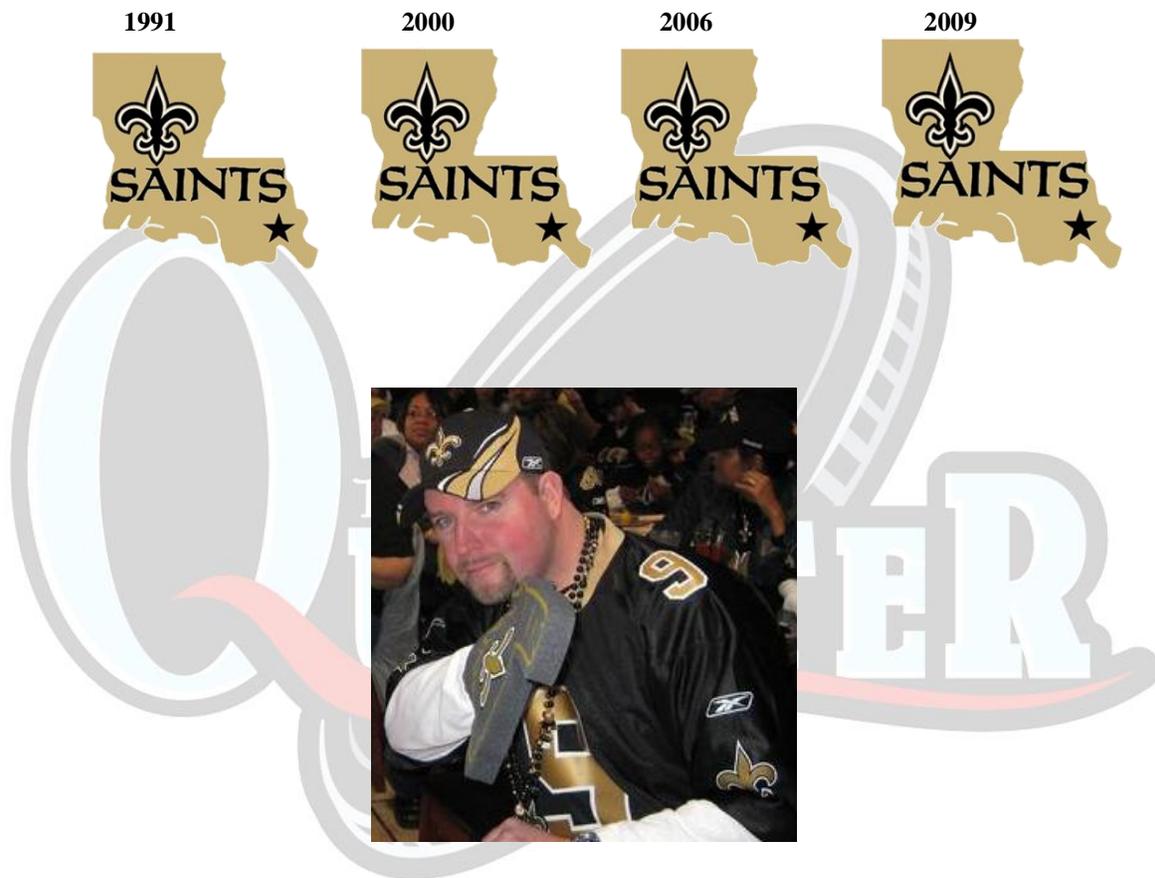
The last time Favre wasn't to blame for his team losing in the playoffs was the Super Bowl against Denver after the 1997 season. Since then, he has thrown at least two interceptions in five of his team's six playoff losses. The lone exception was in the 2003 playoffs, when he lobbed a game-killing pick late at Philadelphia.

The lowlights in that run of postseasons were his six-interception game against St. Louis, four more against Minnesota and two pitiful picks in his last playoff game in Green Bay against the New York Giants in the NFC Championship Game two seasons ago. The bottom line is this: Favre is reverting to what most players become when times get tough ... themselves. When the game is on the line, Favre wants the ball. Problem is, he hasn't really come through in a long time. Then again, until last Saturday night, neither had the Cowboys.

And don't forget about this: In his last season as a Packer, Favre came to Dallas and we were all reminded about the looming stat over Brett's head. 0-9 against the Cowboys at Texas Stadium and after that game the stat went to 0-10. Not to mention he's 0-3 in the Playoffs lifetime against them as well! Well, now he's a Viking...and the 'Boys are on his turf. Maybe he'll finally get his revenge....but if he doesn't we'll have ours....

2009 NFC SOUTH

#1 SEED DIVISION CHAMPIONS



Join me Saturday 3pm, Jan. 16th to watch Drew Brees & the “Aerial Assault” annihilate the “Red Birds” in our first playoff game as the #1 Seed!!

The Quarter will be ***giving away a bucket of beer*** in the trivia contest and I'll have more SAINTS stuff to raffle off including this week's big prize which is an authentic DREW BREES jersey, so come on up to the place where everyone knows your name and your team will always WIN their game!!

The “Dallas Dome Who-Dats” Group Photo will be taken right after the game this week so wear your NFL Sunday Best!!



Game Day Specials include....

\$12 Coors Light buckets

\$13 Miller Lite, Bud Light, Budweiser, MGD64 buckets

\$3 wells

Half-price pizza and don't forget...The Bloody Mary BAR

NEW MENU ITEMS - Char-grilled Oysters (just like Drago's),
Oysters on the Half-shell, Oysters Rockefeller, fried crabclaws,
sloppy roast beef po-boy, soft shell crab po-boy and crab cakes



**COME WATCH THE BEST SAINTS
TEAM EVER AT OUR HOUSE!**

Injury Notes: The Saints had only four players on their first injury report of the week. Two of them—McCray (back) and running back Pierre Thomas (ribs) participated fully. Receiver Lance Moore (right ankle) and reserve cornerback Malcolm Jenkins (hamstring) were listed as limited, though both appeared to be moving well during the portion of practice that was open to reporters.

