

Saints Drew Brees breaks Unitas record in come-from-behind victory

Written by Yolande Y. Lezine, Sports Editor
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New Orleans Saints quarterback Drew Brees broke a half-century old NFL record set by former Baltimore Colts QB Johnny Unitas, by throwing a touchdown pass in his 48th consecutive game, in a 31-24 victory over the San Diego Chargers at Mercedes Benz-Superdome in New Orleans, Louisiana.

This was the Saints(1-4) first victory of the season. Brees 40-yard pass to wide receiver Devery Henderson eclipsed the mark of 47 consecutive games with a touchdown pass set by Johnny Unitas from 1956-60.

Brees also had three scoring strikes to receiver Marques Colston, giving him a franchise-record 52 touchdown catches with the Saints. All of this was done not only in front of a sold-out Superdome, but it was done with the Brees family looking from above in a suite, and suspended Saints head coach Sean Payton , along with Unitas son Joe were on hand to witness such a wonderful accomplishment for such a great quarterback.

At Brees request, the NFL allowed head coach Sean Payton, assistant head coach Joe Vitt and general manager Mickey Loomis- all serving suspensions in connection with the league's bounty investigation to attend the game. Brees completed 29 of 45 passes for 370 yards passing on the night.

Philip Rivers passed for 354 yards and two touchdowns to former Saints receiver Robert Meachem but had two costly turnovers in the final period. The first was Roman Harper's interception and 41-yard return on a pass tipped by safety Malcolm Jenkins. That set up the

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Saints final score on Garrett Hartley's 25-yard field goal.