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Brees 5 TDs and long passing yards , get closer for record by Dean

Article published on December 21st 2011 | Sports

•The New Orleans Saints are steamrolling towards a different playoffappearance and eyeing a 2nd Super Bowl trophy in threeyears.The Minnesota Vikings are plummeting head-long in to the NFLabyss again, with their look within the NFC title game againstthe Saints less than two many years ago a distant memory.Sometimes it's too straightforward when analyzing NFL teams to lookexclusively at the quarterbacks. But within this case, that is theobvious purpose for the existing disparity among teams that sluggedit out having a trip for the Super Bowl on the line in January2010.Drew Brees threw for 412 yards and five touchdowns to lead thesurging Saints to their sixth win in a row, 42-20 over thefree-falling Vikings on Sunday.Brees completed 32 of 40 passes to assist the Saints (11-3)conquer a slow and sloppy start off to stay two games ahead of Atlantain the NFC South.

"I'm as comfy now in this offense as I've ever been,"said Brees, who credited the team's stability within the front office,the coaching staff as well as the roster with his good results this season.His latest masterpiece has him breathing down Dan Marino's neckin the record books, just 304 yards away from the Hall of Famer'ssingle-season passing record set in 1984."I'm mindful that we're close," Brees said. "I just know if wekeep performing what we're performing all of that stuff will take care ofitself."All the Vikings could do though acquiring dissected by Brees formost in the afternoon was hope that a single day rookie Christian Ponderwill establish himself as a playmaker even inside the very same solar systemas Brees.The Vikings drafted Ponder 12th total and gave him thestarting career in Week 7. Following some promising indicators early in histenure, Ponder has taken some actions back within the last 3 weeks.He was 14 of 31 for 120 yards and two touchdowns to Toby Gerhart,but almost all of that production came while in the final six minutes.The lackluster functionality had coach Leslie Frazier beingpeppered with issues about Ponder's long-term viability at theposition."I don't want to measure purely on the last two weeks," saidFrazier, whose Vikings (2-12) will probably have one particular of the prime picksin the draft in April. "I wish to see what occurs these subsequent twoweeks.

"If Ponder was watching closely, he saw quarterbacking at itshighest level on the other side of your area.The Saints struggled to have going early, turning the ball overtwice deep in their own territory, failing to recover a surpriseonside kick and committing a holding penalty to negate a 40-yardtouchdown pass to Robert Meachem, all in the 1st half.But an incredible quarterback can cover up a whole lot of imperfections, andthat's what Brees did from the end of the day. He threw two touchdownpasses to Lance Moore and one every single to Darren Sproles, John Gilmoreand Jimmy Graham in just over 3 quarters of function to blow out anovermatched opponent."For me, it's determination," Ponder said. "I always want to bethe finest guy on the area. Definitely Drew is really a heck of aquarterback, and one of the best quarterbacks while in the league. I wantto be better than him a single day, honestly.

"It's clear that Ponder, plus the Vikings, possess a great distance to getto reach that level.The Saints outgained the Vikings 573-207, had 36 1st downs toMinnesota's 4 and held a 17-minute advantage in time ofpossession. The Saints' much-maligned secondary held the Vikings to102 net yards passing and sacked Ponder four occasions.Adrian Peterson rushed for 60 yards in his return from athree-game absence, however the Vikings dropped their sixth straightgame. Their depleted secondary lost cornerback Asher Allen to aconcussion within the initial half and they had no opportunity the moment Brees andthe Saints got rolling.The Saints stumbled out with the gates, with Graham fumbling afirst-down catch, Sproles dropping what would have already been anotherfirst

down and Meachem's 40-yard touchdown catch wiped out becauseof a holding call on fullback Jed Collins.Minnesota Wild Jerseys Gear

Soon after Brees hit Moore for any 5-yard touchdown pass, the Saintsturned the ball above once again when Brees wasn't prepared for any shotgunsnap from Brian De La Puente that squirted proper past him. EversonGriffen scooped the ball up and gave the Vikings fantastic fieldposition at the 21.Thanks to stout play in the Saints' defense, the Vikings hadto settle for two field ambitions. Then Brees put his foot on the gasoline,and it was all over.He threw a 13-yard touchdown pass to Sproles toward the finish ofthe very first half, then began the 3rd quarter using a 2-yard TD toGilmore and hooked up with Moore on a 47-yard score to produce it35-13."Experienced teams, veteran teams, winning teams will obtain away to push as a result of the challenges and adversities every single game willbring on you," Brees stated. "You just really need to recognize it's notalways going to be best."Brees and also the Saints are just which makes it look that way.Notes: Brees went over 40,000 yards passing for his career and became the first to top 350 yards passing in a game seven occasions ina season. ... Moore had five catches for 91 yards, Marques Colstonhad eight catches for 91 yards, and Graham had seven catches for 70yards. ... Saints CB Patrick Robinson intercepted Ponder's pass onthe last perform of the game. ... Vikings CB Benny Sapp was benchedfor the primary two plays on the game for disciplinary causes.

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http://www.articleside.com/sports-articles/brees-5-tds-and-long-passing-yards-get-closer-for-record.htm - Article Side

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Article Keywords:
New Orleans Saints Gear , Minnesota Vikings Gear

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