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MONDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2010

SUPER BOWL EDITION • 75¢

31 SAINTS

17 COLTS

SUPER BOWL XLIV

AMEN!



AFTER 43 YEARS, OUR PRAYERS ARE ANSWERED

Brees' MVP effort wins Saints first Super Bowl



Drew Brees holds aloft the Lombardi Trophy at Sun Life Stadium in Fort Lauderdale. Brees threw for 288 yards and two touchdowns in a dominating performance against the Colts. MICHAEL DEMME/GETTY IMAGES

WEATHER
Sun 6-14

A SUPER DAY
HIGH 63° LOW 49°

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173rd
YEAR
NO. 19

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SAINTS 31  COLTS 17

BELIEVE DAT!

Saints claim first Super Bowl title

Quarterback Drew Brees, the Super Bowl MVP, holds up the Vince Lombardi Trophy after the Saints' victory Sunday.

Advocate staff photo by BILL FEIG

► **INSIDE:** 43-year dream comes true for team, Page 6A ■ Fans in New Orleans and Baton Rouge celebrate victory, Page 6A ■ Complete game coverage in Sports, Section C



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89th Year, No. 223, 48 Pages

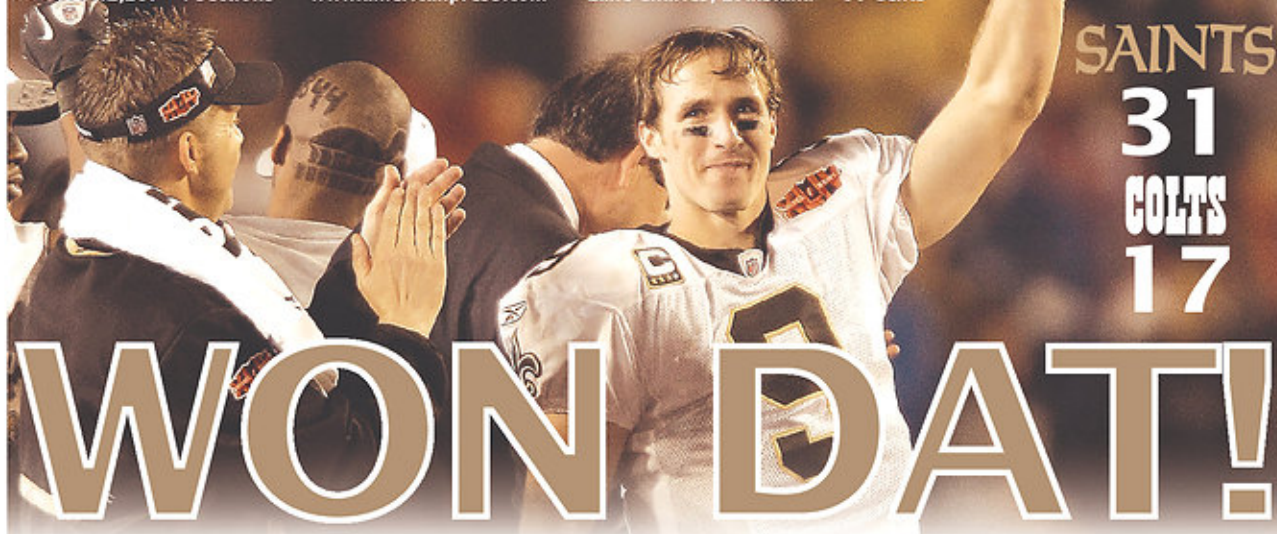
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**SAINTS
31
COLTS
17**

WON DAT!

First Saints NFL title ■ Comprehensive game coverage on Pages C1-C8

THE INFORMER

Texting law considered secondary offense

Yesterday, I was behind someone who was texting while driving. This went on for a while. (He was going 45 in a 55 mph zone, and it was some distance before I could pass safely.) It seemed so dangerous. I've witnessed this before. In the future, how should I report such drivers?

Text messaging while driving is illegal in Louisiana, and you can call police to report the driver.

But keep in mind that under the law — R.S. 32:900.5 — officers can't stop drivers solely to cite them for texting and driving.

"No person shall operate any motor vehicle upon any public road or highway of this state while using a wireless telecommunications device to write, send, or read a text-based communication..." reads the statute.

"Any violation of this Section shall constitute a moving violation. A law enforcement officer shall enforce the provisions of this Section only as a secondary action when the officer detains a driver for an alleged violation of another provision of this Chapter."

Other state laws on cell phones limit school bus drivers' use of them to making emergency calls; prohibit novice drivers from using hand-held cell phones; and bar under-18 drivers from using any wireless communication device save those with a push-to-talk function.

The latter two provisions, like the no-texting law, are considered secondary violations.

See **INFORMER**, Page A6

LONG TIME COMING



KAREN WINK / AMERICAN PRESS

Saints be with us

Lake Charles fans of the New Orleans Saints hit the streets to celebrate late Sunday after the team ended 43 years of frustration by winning Super

Bowl XLIV. It was the team's first appearance in the NFL championship game. For more local fan photos, see Pages A2 and B2.

Gas blast at Conn. plant kills at least 5, injures 12

MIDDLETOWN, Conn. (AP) — An explosion that sounded like a sonic boom blew out walls of an unfinished power plant and set off a fire during a test of natural gas lines Sunday, killing at least five workers and injur-

ing a dozen or more.

The explosion at the Kleen Energy Systems plant in Middletown, about 20 miles south of Hartford, could be heard and felt for miles.

See **BLAST**, Page A6



A Sunday explosion during a test of natural gas lines rocked The Kleen Energy plant in Middletown, Conn.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

'Historic' snowfall strands thousands

Mid-Atlantic storm shuts down federal government

WASHINGTON (AP) — Planes were grounded, trains stood still and Greyhound buses weren't rolling in the Mid-Atlantic region on Sunday, leaving stranded travelers wondering when they'll be able to escape the icy, gray mess created by a major snowstorm.

Hundreds of thousands of homes were without power with temperatures below freezing all day, and utilities warned it could be days before electricity is restored to everyone. Plows had scraped down to bare pavement on some main thoroughfares while not touching streets in other areas buried by 2 feet or more.

For many in the nation's capital, meanwhile, Monday will be another day to dig out. Federal agencies that employ 230,000 will be closed, and many school districts across the region were giving students a snow day. For stranded out-of-towners, however, the thought of extending the weekend by a day wasn't much to smile about.

Joel Jones of Durham, N.C., said he was on a bus from Baltimore on Friday. When he arrived in Washington, the rest of the trip was canceled. He walked to Union Station to get a train, where he has remained, sleeping on chairs.

See **SNOWFALL**, Page A6

Iran leader orders nuclear advance

US, Western allies infuriated by move to enrich more uranium

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) — Iran's president on Sunday ordered his atomic agency to significantly enrich the country's stockpile of uranium, angering Western nations who want to see the Islamic republic to halt its nuclear program. Mahmoud Ahmadinejad maintained, however, that Iran was also still willing to

follow a U.N. plan to export its uranium abroad for further enrichment. Refining uranium produces nuclear



AHMADINEJAD

See **IRAN**, Page A6

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OUTSIDE



62° Mostly cloudy, a shower in the afternoon
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THE TOWN TALK

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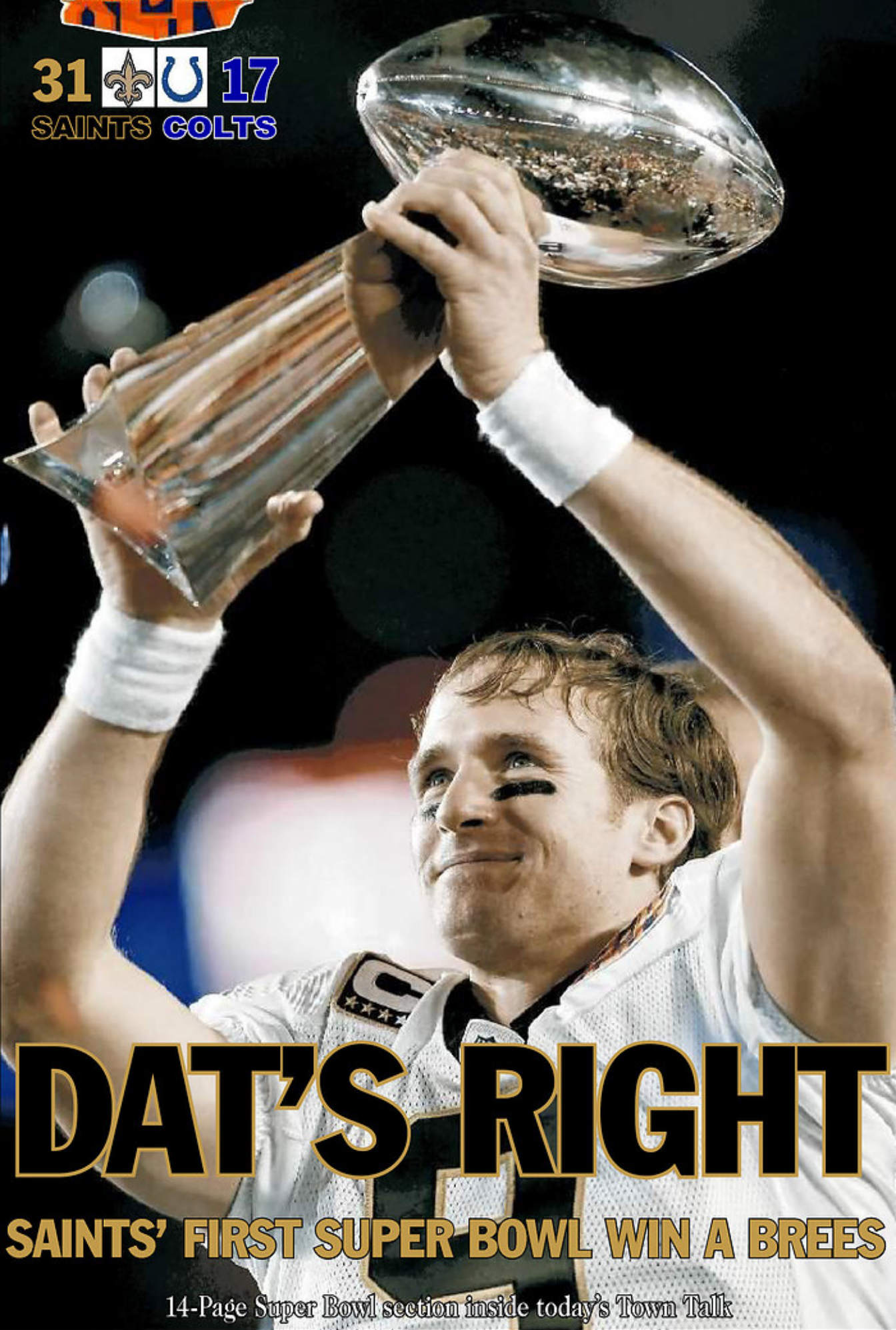
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31  **17**
SAINTS **COLTS**



DAT'S RIGHT

SAINTS' FIRST SUPER BOWL WIN A BREESES

14-Page Super Bowl section inside today's Town Talk

INSIDE

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SKIRT! Don't let Valentine's hoopla get you down when you're unattached E-1



REALTY MOGUL OFFERS HIS PREDICTIONS

BUSINESS • D-1



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31 SUPER BOWL 17

HEAVEN SENT



Eric Gay/Associated Press
New Orleans Saints quarterback Drew Brees holds his son Baylen after the Saints' victory in the NFL Super Bowl XLIV football game against the Indianapolis Colts in Miami on Sunday.

THE GAME

Some stories do have happy endings. The New Orleans Saints have won their first Super Bowl ever by overcoming a 10-point deficit to beat the Indianapolis Colts. C-1

IN SPORTS

Commercials: Matt Soergel's picks for the good and not so good. C-4

Drew Brees: Quarterback wins MVP, throwing for 288 yards and two touchdowns. C-5

Gene Frenette: Peyton Manning and the Colts upstaged on football's ultimate stage. C-1



Readying for FCAT writing test this week

Teachers have high hopes for better scores and more creative writing.

By MARY KELLY PALKA
The Times-Union

At the beginning of the school year, the fourth-grade boy at Holiday Hill Elementary wouldn't write.

"I'm not a good writer," he would tell his reading and writing teacher, Gail McKnight.

McKnight was aghast. She asked the student, who was new to the Jacksonville school, how he could possibly know that; he was only 9 years old.

But then she took him under her wing as she set out to teach her class the art of writing, along with a love of reading.

"Just yesterday he wrote a '4' paper for me," McKnight said Thursday. "I'm just dying of happiness for this kid."

A '4' paper means it would earn a score of 4 out of 6 on the writing portion of the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test. Until this year, a 3.5

FCAT continues on A-7

INSIDE

FCAT: See Northeast Florida schools' minimal acceptance scores. A-7

State upset at lack of teacher union support

Only five local presidents have signed on for Race to the Top funding.

By BRANDON LARRABEE
The Times-Union

TALLAHASSEE — Florida's application for a \$1.1 billion share of federal education reform funding could be hampered by a lack of support from teachers' unions as federal officials begin reviewing submissions from states across the country.

But the concerns aren't confined solely to unions. Some elected officials and grass-roots groups are concerned that the program would give state and federal officials too much control over schools.

Both groups — and their concerns — raise questions about how the changes might reshape Florida's education system. And the opposition itself could have its own impact on how effective the reforms will be.

The application for the "Race to the Top" fund-

REFORM continues on A-7

First lady launches campaign against obesity

THE GOALS

Change how we and our kids — a third of whom are overweight — eat, exercise, feel.

By NANCY BENAC
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — By now, it is abundantly clear that Michelle Obama loves french fries.

The first lady talks about this "guilty pleasure" all the time,

trying to ward off any notion that she is a nutrition nanny even as she cajoles Americans to eat better.

Now, her conversation with the public about the nation's health and fitness is about to get a lot more pointed.

After laying the groundwork

for nearly a year, she launches a campaign on Tuesday against childhood obesity that she hopes will change the way millions of Americans eat, exercise, look and feel.

To succeed, she will take on forces that have left one-third of children overweight:

- busy parents who hit the fast-food drive-thru rather than cook a balanced dinner.
- schools where cafeteria meals compete with vending machines.
- food companies that spend

OBESITY continues on A-7



Cliff Owen/The Associated Press
Michelle Obama speaks on childhood obesity in Alexandria, Va., Jan. 20.

WEATHER • A-2

High 61 Low 34
Mostly sunny and warmer.



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WIN LIST SHRINKS

SPORTS Bobby Bowden loses 12 victories C-3



METRO Broker in Ponzi scheme to make a plea B-1

NATION Palin: I just might run A-3

BUSINESS

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BRADENTON HERALD

Monday, February 8, 2010

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NEW ORLEANS SAINTS 31, INDIANAPOLIS COLTS 17



PARTY TIME!

New Orleans celebrates first Super Bowl title



ASSOCIATED PRESS

New Orleans Saints quarterback Drew Brees holds his son, Baylen, after Super Bowl XLIV against the Indianapolis Colts in Miami. The Saints won 31-17 and Brees was named MVP.

Local fans hoot and holler for their Super Bowl teams

By CARL MARIO NUDI

cnudi@bradenton.com

MANATEE — As Drew Brees, quarterback for the New Orleans Saints, threw a touchdown pass to running back Pierre Thomas in the third quarter of Super Bowl XLIV against the Indianapolis Colts, Elsie Nolan cheered, "They just did it. All right, there they go."

Nolan, a Saints fan, was enjoying the game on one of the giant screens at Beef O'Brady's, 6703 Manatee Ave. W., with her friend, Peg McGariety.

Nolan said she was rooting for the Saints because New Orleans went through Hurricane Katrina

in 2005 and "they deserve some happy times."

McGariety agreed, saying, "It would be nice to give them something to celebrate again."

The two women enjoyed dinner at the popular sports pub as they watched the game, with about 30 other customers.

But not all were Saints fans.

Ramon Negrete, who was with family and friends at Beef O'Brady's taking in the game, said he was hoping the Colts would win, but at halftime he admitted the Saints were playing a good game.

"The Saints are trying," said Ne-

FANS TO 9A

More coverage



1C | In matchup of marquee QBs, Brees outdoes Manning
3C | The Who rocks the house at halftime
3C | Betty White, Bud Light get big laughs in commercials

Online extras

Read more stories from Super Bowl XLIV at bradenton.com/sports.

'Like a dream come true,' city's suffering turns to joy

By KEVIN MCGILL and STACEY PLAISANCE

Associated Press Writers

NEW ORLEANS — Saints fans hugged, kissed and spilled onto the streets Sunday as a citywide party erupted after their once woebegone NFL franchise defeated the Indianapolis Colts in the Super Bowl.

French Quarter crowds, beefed up by tourists in town for Carnival season and by those wanting to experience the euphoria of a Saints victory, poured onto Bourbon Street to celebrate in a scene that looked more like Fat Tuesday than a Sunday night. The Saints won 31-17 in the franchise's first

appearance in the big game.

As a brass band played "When the Saints Go Marching In" inside Irvin Mayfield's Jazz Playhouse, revelers jumped up and down, stood on chairs and tables and waved black and gold umbrellas when the Saints won.

"This is so awesome," said Darlene Milliet, as she hugged her sister, Cindy Lasiter, both of them crying in the French Quarter. "I can't believe it!"

"It's like a dream come true. It's just a dream come true," said Lasiter.

Vince Scanlin, a Tampa Bay Buc-

CITY TO 9A

'Historic' snow strands countless in Mid-Atlantic

Weather report

No snow in Bradenton, but cooler temperatures will continue this week. Get the latest forecast at bradenton.com/weather.

By NAFEEZA SYED and BEN NUCKOLS
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — Planes were grounded, trains stood still and Greyhound buses weren't rolling in the Mid-Atlantic region Sunday, leaving strand-

ed travelers wondering when they'll be able to escape the icy, gray mess created by a major snowstorm.

Hundreds of thousands of homes were without power with temperatures below freezing all day, and utilities warned it could be days be-

fore electricity is restored to everyone. Plows had scraped down to bare pavement on some main thoroughfares while not touching streets in other areas buried by 2 feet or more.

SHOW TO 9A

ASSOCIATED PRESS

A snow version of the U.S. Capitol appears on the National Mall juxtaposed with the original Sunday in Washington.



SAINTS
31

SUPER BOWL
XLIV

COLTS
17

Super letdown



Colts quarterback Peyton Manning walks off the field in Miami after losing to New Orleans 31-17 Sunday.

Associated Press

Colts unable to overcome late interception

JUSTIN A. COHN
The Journal Gazette

MIAMI — All that talk of a Colts dynasty will have to wait. A Super Bowl that began with so much promise for the Colts ended with a 31-17 loss to the New Orleans Saints on Sunday.

"It's disappointing because we set out on this mission to become Super Bowl champions, and we fell one game short," Colts cornerback Kelvin Hayden said. "We just fell in the pile with the rest of the teams. We didn't finish the task. This isn't to take anything away from this season. We had a great season as a team. We fought through adversity week in and week out. We had a great year."

For the city of New Orleans, which rallied around the Saints (16-3) after Hurricane Katrina, it was pandemonium. The Saints had never been to a Super Bowl and were deemed underdogs against NFL MVP Peyton Manning and the Colts.

"Eighty-five percent of the city was underwater after Katrina," said quarterback Drew Brees, a former Purdue standout who was selected Super Bowl MVP after completing 32 of 39 passes for 288 yards and two touchdowns.

"Residents were evacuated all over the city. Who knew that the organization would even come back? Not only did the organization come back, but we had so many players look at each other and say, 'We're going to rebuild together. We're going to lean on each other.' This is the culmination of all that faith."

The Colts (16-3), who hadn't lost a game with their first-team players on the field, thrived on fourth-quarter comebacks this season. They had a record seven in the regular season.

But former Indiana University standout Tracy Porter intercepted a Manning pass and returned it 74 yards for a touchdown to complete the scoring late in the fourth quarter and end the Colts' chance to rally.

The Colts, who won a Super Bowl after the 2006 season and won a record 115 games this past decade, had hoped that a victory in front of 74,059 fans would cement their status as a dynasty.

Instead, they squandered an early 10-0 lead and must regroup. "On behalf of the Colts and our team, we're very disappointed and we're sorry to our fans," said Manning, who grew up in New Orleans and whose father, Archie, played for the Saints.

"I'm sorry to our fans that we weren't able to get it done."

jcohn@jg.net

Fans wear hearts on sleeves, faces

KELLY SODERLUND
The Journal Gazette

Colts fans at Buckets Sports Pub & Grub had sad faces and their coats on as the clock counted down Sunday night, but that didn't stop Nathan Jones and Aaron Desmonds from rubbing it in.

Every time the New Orleans Saints scored a touchdown, the two Kendallville residents grabbed

their black and gold balloons, stood up and cheered, seeking out other Saints fans in the bar and yelling "Who Dat," the catchphrase of the Super Bowl champions this season. Jones, 25, who works in information technology, and Desmonds, 24, the CEO of an antiques store, didn't care they were in a sea of blue and white as they watched the game.

The two Purdue University

graduates held allegiance to Saints quarterback Drew Brees, who graduated from their alma mater. "We like to stir the pot," said Andrew Desmonds, 25, of Fort Wayne, who's a corporate manager for the Fort Wayne Komets and Aaron's brother.

Indianapolis Colts fans went home disappointed Sunday night as

Fans, Page 8A

SEE ALSO

■ Advertising executives' take on Super Bowl ads
■ Read what non-football fans did during the game
Page 8A

■ More Super Bowl Coverage
Pages 1B, 8-10B

INSIDE

WEATHER

Cloudy

High in the upper 20s.

FORECAST,
PAGE 2A

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SPORTS

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Elmhurst juniors seek 2nd straight 3A title
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LIVING

Reunion ready

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BUSINESS

Turn key

Sluggish economy makes turnkey locations popular for companies
PAGE 1C

Power plant explosion kills 5 in Connecticut

PAT EATON-ROBB AND
JOHN CHRISTOFFERSEN
Associated Press

MIDDLETOWN, Conn. — An explosion that sounded like a sonic boom blew out walls of an unfinished power plant and set off a fire during a test of natural gas lines Sunday, killing at least five workers, injuring a dozen or more and leaving crews picking through debris for more possible victims.

At least 12 people were injured in the explosion at the Kleen Energy Systems plant in Middletown, about

20 miles south of Hartford. Crews with dogs were still searching the rubble as darkness fell over the plant, on a wooded hill along the Connecticut River.

It wasn't clear how many people, if any, were still buried. Deputy Fire Marshal Al Santostefano told The Associated Press that 50 to 60 people were in the area at the time of the explosion, but authorities said multiple contractors were working on the project, making it difficult to pinpoint how many people were miss-

Plant, Page 8A

Los Angeles Times

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MONDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2010

latimes.com

COLUMN ONE

H1N1 leaves a family behind

Virginia Romo was pregnant when she got the flu. Her husband and children are still stunned at how swiftly it took her from them.

SHARI ROAN

On a rainy January day, Karen Romo, 15, feeds her five younger brothers and sisters an early dinner and tidies the kitchen while waiting for her father to return from work. One of the children vacuums the living room, maneuvering around a large box of diapers. Another sibling holds the baby.

When the father, Miguel, arrives home, he's carrying a couple of bags of groceries, enough for a day or two. He rubs his youngest son's head affectionately, and pulls the infant into his arms.

He seems bewildered by the turn his life has taken. "I miss my wife very much," says Miguel, a quiet man who speaks halting English. Looking around the cramped living room, he adds: "She was half my life."

Just inside the door of the two-bedroom, second-floor Santa Ana apartment sits a tabletop shrine crowded with devotional candles. The candles depict Our Lady of Guadalupe and the Sacred Heart of Jesus; dried roses droop in a vase. It pays forerunners but faithful tribute to Virginia Romo, the wife and mother who died in July at age 38.

The cause of death was pneumonia, believed to have been a complication of the H1N1 virus she caught last spring at the dawn of the outbreak. One of about 11,000 swine flu deaths nationwide, Romo is in many ways typifies the pandemic. She was young, poor, pregnant and Latina.

"She was always so healthy," says Miguel, 40, who is now raising six children — ages 15 years to 7 months — on his own. "I don't know

[See Fla, A10]



JED JACOBSON/ONYX IMAGES

'HALLELUJAH!' The Saints' Tracy Porter returns an interception for a touchdown in New Orleans' 31-17 triumph over the Indianapolis Colts in Super Bowl XLIV in Miami. It was the Saints' first Super Bowl.

'Who dat' rejoicing? Saints fans

Hard-luck New Orleans gets its biggest wish: A Super Bowl victory.

RICHARD FAUSSET
REPORTING FROM
NEW ORLEANS

The sound rose up and spread across the rooftops of the old city, a deep, guttural, Biblical sound — the sound of souls wailing by the thousands.

This time there would be no tragedy. These were the howls of victory, emanating from Bourbon Street.

New Orleans — for so long wearily burdened as a symbol of hard luck and misery — was erupting in pure joy. The Saints had won the Super Bowl, and the people had spilled into the streets to cheer away the bad times.

"I never thought it could happen — I got tingles!" said Thelma Chiqueta, 33, working her way through a seemingly endless throng of chanting souls. Chiqueta, of nearby Donaldsonville, La., said she had suffered along with the poor-performing Saints her entire life, and re-

ferred to her fandom almost as if it were an exotic chromosomal abnormality.

"Oh Lord," she screamed over the din. "It's been in the family forever."

The South's great party city and infamous den of iniquity has seen just about everything over the years — except for this celebration, which, in one of the enduring quirks of the city, has long been its great collective wish.

Bourbon Street, normally shunned by locals, was packed wall to wall with them Sunday night. A tuba honked out the spine of time-worn Mardi Gras anthems. And the people burst, over and over again, into the grammatically too, say-geesey aural tattoo that

More coverage of Super Bowl XLIV

An in-depth report on the NFL championship game. **SPORTS, C1**

What controversy? Focus on the Family ad proves tame. **NATION, A11**

Leno-Letterman! The story behind the CBS promo. **CALENDAR, D3**

the outside world, too, has learned in recent weeks: "Who dat say dey gonna beat dem Saints?"

Anticipation over the Super Bowl had built to bursting here. It seemed that everyone — from the saltiest line cook to the stuffiest Up-

town lawyer — was decked out in black and gold, and people spoke of the Saints' victory in strangely providential tones. One popular T-shirt called them "Destiny's Team."

The run-up to the Super Bowl gave an odd boosterish flavor to the weekend mayoral election, which ended with the winner, Lt. Gov. Mitch Landrieu, accepting victory to his supporters' chants of "Who dat?" For days before the game, airwaves and websites were full of heartfelt laments for parents, aunts and uncles who had stuck with the team for so long but hadn't lived to see this day.

"We'll be watching the game tonight with Mom, and [See New Orleans, A11]

Lawyer haunted by execution in Iran

RAMIN MOSTAHOUM
REPORTING FROM TEHRAN

BORZOU DARAGAH
REPORTING FROM BEHREH

The defendant met with his lawyer once for 15 minutes before he was sentenced to death and hanged.

When the lawyer complained to authorities, they ignored her. When she tried to enter the courtroom where he was being tried, they threatened her with arrest. And when she spoke out publicly at what she described as a gross miscarriage of justice, they shut off her cellphone.

"Unfortunately, despite repeated warnings, you have kept contacts with counter-revolutionary media and for two months from today your cellphone will be cut off,"

read a text message she received.

Now lawyer Nasrin Sotoudeh boils with rage and frustration. The case of 20-year-old Arash Rahmani-pour, who was executed before dawn Jan. 28, haunts her.

"We, as defense lawyers of human rights, are under so much pressure and restrictions, and the noose around us is tightening and we are insulted and threatened so much and verbally abused," Sotoudeh, 46, said during an emotional interview in her Tehran office. "What makes me feel helpless, desperate and bitter is that our attempt to help our clients is doomed and in vain."

Iranian authorities executed Rahmani-pour and Mohammad-Reza Ali-

[See Iran, A4]



MICHAEL ROBINSON/CHARTER LOS ANGELES TIMES

MUDDLING THROUGH

Nanette Gregorian, 13, wades through muddy water Sunday in her yard in La Cañada Flintridge, where residents face a massive cleanup job. **AA1**

Health insurance squeezes families

Rising rates for less coverage are facts of life for many. David Lazarus writes. **BUSINESS, A14**

Jackson doctor's image undone

Dr. Conrad Murray, who may be charged today, had struggled to succeed. **LATEXTRA, AA1**

'John' delivers at the box office

"Dear John" beats "Avatar" to score a record for a Super Bowl weekend opening. **CALENDAR, D1**

Ways to lessen the pressure

A guide to simple lifestyle choices that can help to lower blood pressure. **HEALTH, E1**

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STATE TARGETS HEALTH PLANS

Regulators seek to rein in unlicensed firms offering access to discounted care.

DUKE HELFAND

At a time when nearly 7 million Californians are uninsured, state regulators are trying to rein in discount health and dental plans that officials say frequently overstate benefits, offer little if any savings and promise access to doctors who aren't part of the system.

Some of the discounters fraudulently market themselves as insurance, while preying on the poor, the elderly and others who urgently need care, officials say.

"They're basically cheating poor people," said Dr. Dev OnanaDev, immediate past president of the California Medical Assn.

Plan executives bristle at such criticism. They say a few bad apples have tarnished an industry that offers reliable — and relatively inexpensive — services. Consumers, however, have lodged complaints against more than 150 unlicensed discount health and dental plans over the last four years, prompting the California Department of Managed Health Care to seek new licensing regulations.

The list of entities includes the Care Entrée discount program, which regulators say falsely promised members unrestricted access to medical providers, and another discount plan offered by the Consumer Resource Assn. It allegedly sold worthless discount cards to a South Gate couple.

To be sure, some discount plans have had success. [See Discount, A9]

Obama calls for health summit

PETER NICHOLAS
REPORTING FROM
WASHINGTON

In a high-stakes bid to revive his healthcare overhaul, President Obama announced during a pre-Super Bowl television interview that he would convene a bipartisan summit in which Republicans and Democrats would try to forge a compromise while a national TV audience watched.

Republican leaders indicated they would attend the Feb. 25 gathering, but said they want to start over — tossing out the measures that passed the Senate and House last year.

Speaking to Katie Couric of CBS, Obama said: "What I want to do is ask them to put their ideas on the table and then after the recess... to come back and have a large meeting — Republicans and [See Healthcare, A8]

BUSINESS BEGINS ON PAGE A14

Starting today, look for the Monday Business section inside Section A. Business remains a standalone section the rest of the week.

latimes.com/business



The Miami Herald

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MONDAY, FEB. 8, 2010
FINAL EDITION

SAINTS 31



COLTS 17

AIN'T DAT SOMETHING!



AL DIAZ/MIAMI HERALD STAFF

THE ULTIMATE FATHER-SON MOMENT: New Orleans Saints quarterback Drew Brees celebrates with his 1-year-old son, Baylen, and his wife, Brittany, after besting the Indianapolis Colts in the Super Bowl at Sun Life Stadium on Sunday night.

MORE COVERAGE IN SPORTS

- > Saints' Drew Brees throws for two scores, earns MVP, 15B.
- > Edwin Pope: No doubt about it, the Saints are champs, 45B.
- > Dave Barry: Super Bowl was great — so was the game, 105B.



MIAMIHERALD.COM/SPORTS

- > View more photos from Super Sunday at Sun Life Stadium.
- > Post comments on the underdog Saints' march to glory.
- > Super Bowl wizards? Rate The Who's halftime show.



IN MY OPINION
Greg Cote
gcote@MiamiHerald.com

Weight of years of losing is lifted

The fans who call themselves Who Dat Nation were celebrating the triumph of New Orleans here Sunday night — of a city, not just a team. Of a people, not just players.

It was the biggest football game imaginable, yet somehow bigger than just that.

Fireworks flew and confetti filled the air and everything was lifting. The weight of all of those years of losing by a franchise that once seemed cursed. The weight of so much of the ache from the disaster that put fresh perspective on what losing really is.

• TURN TO COTE, 2A

PUBLICITY

Postcard perfect S. Fla. weather lost on TV audience

BY DOUGLAS HANKS
dhanks@MiamiHerald.com

This time, the Super Bowl weather conspired in South Florida's favor. As the Mid-Atlantic dug out from a historic blizzard, a television audience expected to top 100 million people saw a far different climate as a mild, cloudless evening greeted football's biggest game.

It was an about face from Super Bowl's last trip to South Florida, when a rare and relentless February downpour drenched the stands in 2007.

"I couldn't have fixed that better myself," Tony Goldman, a South Beach hotelier and former

• TURN TO SOUTH FLORIDA, 2A

HAITI

Makeshift schools are popping up in tent cities

Children living in Haiti's encampments are gathering in the streets for their lessons.

BY KATHLEEN MCGRORY
kmcgrory@MiamiHerald.com

PORT-AU-PRINCE — With schools in Haiti's capital city closed since last month's catastrophic earthquake — and unlikely to open for several months — informal classes have begun springing up in the streets.

"The children are traumatized," said René Michel Longchamp, who gives lessons to the kids living in tents inside Haiti's national soccer stadium. "As a teacher, I'm obligated to work with them. I want things to feel as normal as possible."

The older children play games and read Bible verses; the youngest children review colors, shapes and numbers.

And even in the wealthy suburbs, parents are hiring out-of-work teachers to privately tutor their children for upcoming state exams.

"Our entire education system is suffering," said Micheline Augustin-Pierre, co-director of the collapsed Ecole Guatemala. "It will take a long time to rebuild it."

• TURN TO HAITI, 12A



BILL LACKEY/SPRINGFIELD NEWS-SUN/AP

SUPER SNOWY

Bryan DeWine touches up the Saints and Colts helmets he and his son, Matt, sculpted on Sunday in Springfield, Ohio. But Saturday's epic snow storm was not so much fun for the thousands of travelers who were stranded in the Mid-Atlantic region as planes, trains and buses were halted due to ice.

MID-ATLANTIC STORM BY THE NUMBERS

100,000

Approximate number of homes still without power on Sunday. It could be days before it's all restored, and more snow is forecast for the region Tuesday evening.

32"

Amount of snow recorded at Dulles International Airport in Virginia. This shatters the previous record of 28 inches in January 1922.

\$100M

Government cost to close federal agencies on Monday. The decision affects some 230,000 government employees who work inside the Washington Beltway. **Complete story, 4A.**

THE AMERICAS, 6A

WOMAN POISED TO LEAD COSTA RICA

PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE LAURA CHINCHILLA SERVED AS VP UNDER OSCAR ARIAS

LOCAL & STATE, 1B

LIONFISH INVADE THE KEYS

THE GORGEOUS BUT DREADED INTRUDERS ARE A MENACE TO HUMANS AND MARINE LIFE

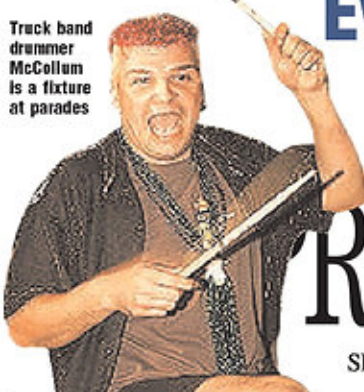
SPORTS, 1D

ON THE VERGE OF STARDOM

CHECK OUT OUR LIST OF THE TOP TEN NON-AMERICANS TO WATCH IN THE OLYMPICS



Truck band drummer McCollum is a fixture at parades



Everybody loves Mohawk man

Chico is Mardi Gras icon/1D

INVADERS ATTACK ELDERLY PAIR

Man killed, woman injured/1C

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MONDAY

February 8, 2010

\$1 MOBILE/BALDWIN EDITION

CARNIVAL HEATS UP THIS WEEK

PARTYTIME!

■ Neptune, Isis thrilled Sunday's small crowd/1C

■ Observer's a busy masked man at balls/1C

■ Schedule of upcoming parades/3C



A float rider hurls beads during Sunday's Carnival parade by the Neptune's Daughters, who won our reviewer's applause for generosity with goodies

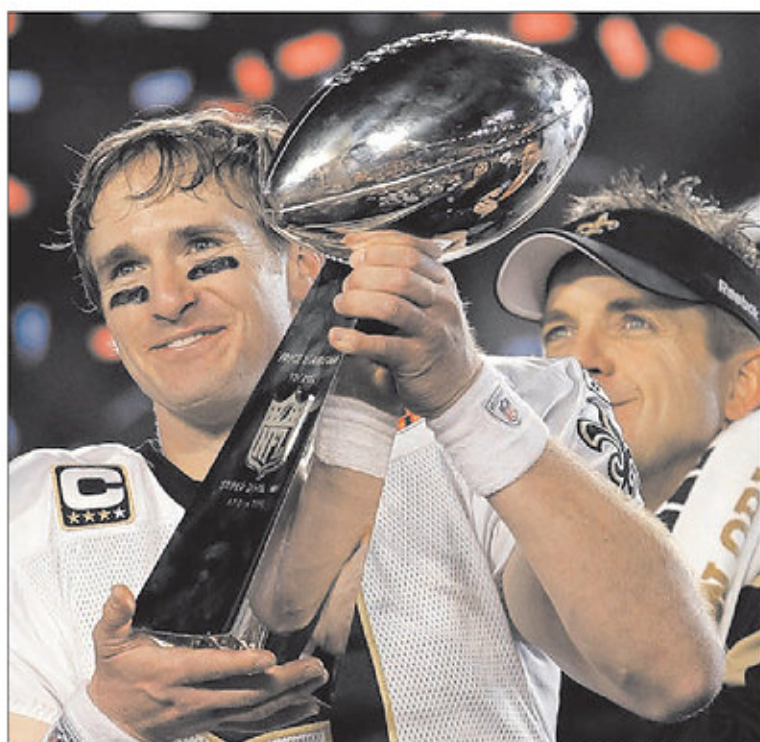
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WHO DAT WON THE SUPER BOWL? THE SAINTS ...

DAT'S WHO!



- Steve Joynt's annual review of the Super Bowl ads/4A
- Mike Herndon's game story: Saints are champions behind Drew Brees' brilliance and Tracy Porter's pick/1B
- Loyal Saints fans celebrate in French Quarter/2B
- Grading the performance of the Saints/2B
- Saints' Brees etches his name in city legend/4B
- Porter credits film study with helping him make his big interception/4B
- Coach Sean Payton delivers in the biggest game of them all/5B
- Onside kick by the Saints stunned Indianapolis/5B
- Peyton Manning tossed it away with one throw/5B



New Orleans Saints quarterback Drew Brees celebrates with the Vince Lombardi Trophy after the Saints' 31-17 win over the Colts in the Super Bowl in Miami on Sunday. Saints coach Sean Payton stands behind Brees.



Sideline view
Mike Herndon
Sports Reporter

MIAMI — It took the New Orleans Saints 20 years to put together a winning season. It took them 34 years to win a playoff game. And it took Sean Payton and Drew Brees four years to bring them a championship.

Payton arrived in New Orleans in 2006 and found a city still pulling itself up from the rubble of Hurricane Katrina, a stadium that had become a symbol for bureaucratic ineptitude and a team that had been rumored to be leaving town.

He brought in Brees, who was inspired by a visit to the worst storm-damaged areas of the city to not only become the team's quarterback, but also to become an ambassador for the city's comeback.

On a cloudless Sunday, the Saints and New Orleans put everything behind them — the catastrophe of Katrina and 43 years of disappointing football — with one glorious night in south Florida, a 31-17 win over Indianapolis in Super Bowl XLIV.

"We played for so much more than ourselves," said Brees, who was named the game's MVP. "We played for our city. We played for the entire Gulf Coast region. We played for Who Dat Nation, who has been behind us every step of the way."

See Saints finally do it Page 4A

Mobile fans go wild as Saints pull it off

By MARK R. KENT
Staff Reporter

Anyone who doesn't believe a crowd of about 50 can make a 110-decibel roar should have been at the French Market Café as Tracy Porter intercepted Peyton Manning's pass and took it 74 yards to the end zone Sunday night.

There may have been bigger Super Bowl parties all over Mobile for the New Orleans Saints' matchup against the Indianapolis Colts. But the Louisiana-style eatery in the Loop, across from Little Flower Catholic Church, was as deep in the blue of the flame of Saints passion as one could find in Mobile.

As the clock ticked off its last seconds, the champagne corks began to fly off the ceiling as a room full of faithful in black and gold cheered and embraced.



Saints fans, from left, Mandy Bleicher, Zade Parker, Gregory Howard, Irene Neno and Sheree Bailey react Sunday after the Saints come up short on fourth and goal, as they watch the game at the French Market Café in midtown Mobile.

CHIP ENGLISH/Correspondent

See Fans in Mobile Page 4A

Today 60°

Tonight 47°

Seasonal

Mild

Rain 40%

Complete Weather 4C



Vol. 196 No. 275 Mobile, Ala. 30 pages 4 sections

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XFL
SUPER BOWL

All Saints Day

New Orleans stuns Colts

PAGES 4, 5
& SPORTS

BAD BET

NY slots pick runs
Nev. shabby shack



EXCLUSIVE

The company that Gov. Paterson picked to run the city's first video-slot parlor, The Navegant Group, is known for operating gambling dumps in the tiny backwater of Elko, Nev. (left) — where it can't even keep the carpets clean or fix a bullet hole in a window at one of its casinos.

PAGES 6-7