

STARS & STRIPES

A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF FIRST AMERICAN BANK AND TRUST

JUNE 2023



ON DECK *with Jim Henderson*

The first play in New Orleans Saints history remains one of the franchise's most cherished memories more than 55 years later. John Gilliam settles under the Rams' kickoff to begin the 1967 season and without a choice in the matter but to return it, he does so in an electrifying fashion, barely touched on a 94 yard gallop into the end zone and Saints mythology.

80,000 fans at Tulane Stadium are delirious witnesses to history.

Were it the opener to the 2023 season, Gilliam could have stood at the 6 yard line, timidly thrust his hand in the air, called for and executed a fair catch. Saints ball at their 25 on a new interpretation of a touchback. Just like the college rule that was adopted in 2018, the fair catch of a kickoff inside the 25 yard line gives the returning team the ball at the 25 just as if it were never returned at all.

The NFL has decided to replace the most exciting play in its game – a kickoff return for a touchdown or at least the opportunity – for its least exciting play...a fair catch.

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The idea behind the rule tweak the league contends is not to take the kickoff out of the game but to make it safer. Since it's unlikely a player will get hurt covering a fair catch or successfully executing one, that appears to be easily accomplished.

The goal is to reduce the injuries, in particular concussions, by reducing the incidence of high-speed collisions. Of course the violence of the game is greatly responsible for its popularity, and the violence is fed by high-speed collisions. NFL films has never to my knowledge produced a highlight reel of the week's most exciting fair catches.

In 2018, the NFL tweaked the on-sides kick rule to make the process safer too. The change has taken much of the "crash" away from the on-sides kick which one old Saints special teams coach used to call "crash" ball. It has also made the play more difficult to execute, and therefore less seldom attempted.

Five years later the amended on-sides kick remains while the game's popularity grows. Going back to the old way has not been seriously contemplated since its absence. It's likely this season's trial will remain its rule too in the years ahead as the kickoff return for a touchdown fades into a memory that could "go all the way" into history.

God Bless,

Jim Henderson





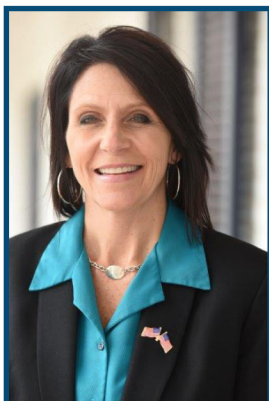
The **Team Spirit Award** is presented to an employee who provides excellent customer service and promotes teamwork.

FEBRUARY



SHENEVA ROUSSEL

MARCH



ANGIA RODRIGUE

APRIL



TERRI GRAVOIS

If you would like to nominate an employee who has provided you with excellent customer service, please do so by emailing krichardson@fabt.com or by mail to:

Team Spirit Nomination
First American Bank
PO BOX 550
Vacherie, LA 70090

In observance of the upcoming holidays, all offices will be closed on:

Juneteenth
Monday, June 19th

Independence Day
Tuesday, July 4th

Labor Day
Monday, September 4th

Congratulations to the winners of the Quarterly Stars & Stripes Drawing!

Rose Morvant of Thibodaux | **Carlie Richard** of Pierre Part
Joanne Morvant of Thibodaux



Norma Labat, Cindy Santangelo, Tessa Faucheux, Vickie Hotard, Heidi Crochet, Kacey Hewitt, Angela Jennings, Greg Borne, Levar Joseph, Mandy Folse, Joseph Falgoust, Paula Lee

Congratulations to our 2022 Team Spirit Employee of the Year....Levar Joseph!

On March 30, 2023, we celebrated with the **Team Spirit** award recipients of 2022. Each month an employee who provides excellent customer service and promotes teamwork is recognized. Nominations are accepted from you, our customers, and employees.

Thank you for reading this publication of Stars & Stripes!

To register for a chance to win \$50 deposited in your account, please complete the information below and return to any First American Bank office or mail to:



First American Bank
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Please return by July 31, 2023 to be eligible for this drawing.
Winners will be announced in the next quarterly publication of Stars and Stripes.