

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

Christmas Day
Tuesday, December 25th

New Year's Day
Tuesday, January 1st

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
Monday, January 21st

President's Day
Monday, February 18th

Mardi Gras Day
Tuesday, March 5th

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

Kathy Oubre of Vacherie

Tara Dufrene of Luling

Sue Blakeman of Thibodaux

Thank you for reading this publication of Stars & Stripes!

To register for a Visa Gift Card from First American Bank, please complete the information below and return to any First American Bank office or mail to:

First American Bank
Attn: Stars and Stripes
P.O. Box 550
Vacherie, LA 70090



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Please return by January 31, 2019 to be eligible for this drawing.
Winners will be announced in the next quarterly publication of Stars and Stripes.



December 2018

On Deck *with Jim Henderson*

Saints coach Sean Payton often says upon acquiring a player as a free agent, "we have a vision for the player." in other words he sees a role for the acquisition which suits his skill set and addresses a team need. For one such acquisition, probably even the imaginative and innovative Payton couldn't have foreseen how many roles he could fill and needs he could meet.

Taysom Hill -- named after Taysom Rotary Park in his hometown of Pocatello, Idaho ...was quickly snatched off waivers by the Saints back in 2017 when he was released as an undrafted free agent by the packers. Payton --who has a well-deserved reputation for developing young, unheralded quarterbacks ala Tony Romo -- saw a physically gifted project who might one day contend to be Drew Brees' successor.

But with Brees looking like an ageless Peter Pan under center, Payton concocted a way not for Hill to replace Brees in the lineup but to join him in it. And much more.

This season Hill has played quarterback, running back, wide receiver, tight end, and special teams. Imagine the consternation of opposing defensive coordinators when Hill joins the offensive huddle. Is he coming in as a quarterback to run the zone-read option...to throw the ball...to have the ball thrown to him by Brees...to block...or to act as a decoy for the rest of Payton's multi-faceted offense?

A former New Orleans prep quarterback who went on to the Pittsburgh Steelers named Kordell Stewart was nicknamed "slash" for his versatility as a quarterback/running back. Taysom Hill is a slash/slash/slash/slash/slash/slash nightmare for opposing defenses as if the saints didn't have enough weapons before Payton created this monster in the fertile offensive laboratory of his mind.

continued on page 2



Former NFL quarterback Rich Gannon once observed "there are no old running quarterbacks in the NFL." and to be sure there are numerous examples like former heisman trophy winner Robert Griffin the third whose promising career was derailed by concussions and knee injuries due to the exposure to malevolent NFL defenses while outside the pocket.

But in the 6 foot, 2 inch, 221 pound Hill who runs a 4.4 40, the Saints have a rare talent who can both absorb and deliver punishment while also being able out-run it if necessary.

There's an old saying about trying to make a roster in the NFL. "the more things you can do, the better your chances." At the moment no player in the NFL is doing as much for his team as Taysom Hill. And right now we can only speculate about how much better he makes the Saints' post-season chances.

God Bless,

Jim Henderson

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DON'T LET SCAMMERS TAKE AWAY YOUR

Holiday Cheer

You've got meals to plan and gifts to buy. The last thing you need is to lose money to a scam. Here are three ways to avoid giving your hard-earned money to a scammer this holiday season.

Know how NOT to pay.

Is someone asking you to pay with an iTunes or Amazon gift card? Or telling you to wire money through services like Western Union or MoneyGram? Don't do it. Scammers ask you to pay in ways that let them get the money fast — and make it nearly impossible for you to get it back. If you're doing any holiday shopping online, know that credit cards have a lot of fraud protection built in.

Spot imposters.

Imposters pretend to be someone you trust to convince you to send money or personal information. They might say you qualified for a free government grant, but you have to pay a fee to get it. Or they might send phishing emails that seem to be from your bank asking you to "verify" your credit card or checking account number. Don't buy it. Learn more about spotting imposter scams.

Make sure your money goes to real charities.

As a reformed Ebenezer Scrooge shows us year after year, the holidays are an important time to share with people in need. Unfortunately, sometimes charity scammers try to take advantage of your good will. And even when you're dealing with legitimate charities, it's still important to make sure a charity will spend your donation the way you want it to. Always check out a charity before you give.

Want a bonus tip? Sign up for free scam alerts from the FTC at ftc.gov/scams, and read 10 Things You Can Do to Avoid Fraud.

If you spot a scam, report it at ftc.gov/complaint. Your reports help the FTC and other law enforcement investigate scams and bring the people behind them to justice.

