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## New Orleans Saints Beat

Times-Picayune Saints coverage

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### New Orleans Saints Beat »

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## Fujita a dad; misses work

By Jimmy S Smith  
December 13, 2007, 3:40PM

The Saints were missing one of their most reliable players at practice Thursday.

But he had a good excuse. Linebacker Scott Fujita was with his wife, Jacklyn, who gave birth to twin girls Thursday morning, the couple's first children.

Fujita said Wednesday night after the Saints' late-finishing practice that he was rushing to get to the hospital, where his wife had spent the day where doctors were trying to slow the labor process.

Jaclyn Fujita was due Dec. 31, Fujita said, but doctors thought it was late enough in the term that there would be no complications by an earlier delivery.

Other than Fujita's absence, the Saints' injury list from Wednesday remained unchanged: tailback Reggie Bush (knee), defensive tackle Brian Young (chest cold) and tight end Eric Johnson (groin) all missed the entirety of the workout.

As to their availability for Sunday's game against Arizona, Coach Sean Payton said the player's status was "day to day."

Payton said he shortened Thursday's workout a bit since the work week has been shorter, but expects a normal practice schedule today.

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Posted by [jessmallard](#)  
December 14, 2007, 11:56AM

Hi Jimmy,

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I just wanted to let you know about a ribbon cutting that will be taking place at Royal Castle child care center. Quarterback Drew Brees' "Operation Kids: Rebuilding Dreams in New Orleans" campaign contributed more than \$72,000 to the rebuild of the Royal Castle Child Development Center. Brees is scheduled to attend the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony. I have more details if you are interested.

The need for this type of initiative is great because (as you probably know more than I) Hurricane Rita and Katrina, and especially flooding in Greater New Orleans, wiped out over 82% of the licensed child care facilities in the City of New Orleans (The New Orleans Index, Aug 2007). The information for the event is as follows:

Monday, December 17, 4 p.m.  
Royal Castle Child Development Center  
3800 Eagle Street  
New Orleans, LA 70118

The current child care shortage is slowing economic recovery in the New Orleans region. Employers are anxious to restart their businesses, from hotels to hair salons, are finding it difficult to recruit needed employees because of the dearth of child care options. This initiative addresses those problems. The Greater New Orleans Rebuild Child Care Collaborative (GNORCCC) is rebuilding and upgrading child care centers in southeast Louisiana. Saints

If you or any other people you know may like to attend this event, please come--open invite. There are organizations out there that mean what they say and follow through with what they intend to do. And it is important people know that, especially when it comes to New Orleans.

Thanks so much,  
Jessica Mallard  
Marketing Communications Specialist  
Cobalt Communications Group

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