



Head Coach: John Fox (9th year)

Off. Coord: Jeff Davidson; Def. Coord: Ron Meeks

2009 Record: SUR 8-8, PSR 9-7, O-U 6-10

Field: Bank of America (73,250) Grass



What's going on in Charlotte, anyway?

Indeed, the Panthers enter 2010 as something of a tricky read. They aren't the first team to go about a veteran housecleaning act. Nor are they the first to enter a campaign with questions at QB. Usually, however, such changes in are accompanied by switches in the front office and on the sidelines. Instead, the Panthers enter this fall with their braintrust (GM Marty Hurney and HC John Fox) still intact from recent seasons...*sort of*. Entering summer, Carolina had not offered Fox a contract extension after this season, when his current deal expires. Nor are any of his assistants under contract beyond this fall, either.

Sounds like a win-or-else ultimatum to us.

It's certainly not ideal for a coach to be under the gun with a rebuilt and arguably less-talented roster from last year's team that had to scramble down the stretch to win 4 of its last 5 just to finish 8-8. Eight starters from a year ago are no longer on the roster, including a host of veterans and team leaders, including QB Jake Delhomme, who once upon a time led the Panthers to the Super Bowl. Also allowed to walk were longtime stalwarts DE Julius Peppers (who landed in Chicago) and WR Muhsin Muhammad. Moreover, Carolina was limited in the draft after trading its first-round pick to the 49ers last year for the chance to pick DE Everette Brown. Given Hurney's recent reluctance to enter the free-agent market (*the Panthers haven't signed a true unrestricted free agent since 2008*), it was not an optimal set of circumstances in which to reload.

It was a tale of two seasons in 2009, with Fox looking no better than 50-50 to last beyond the year for most of a campaign, in which the Panthers floundered early. Delhomme, picking up where he left off in a mistake-filled playoff loss to the Cardinals the previous January, looked past his sell-by date and was eventually replaced by former FA Matt Moore. Meanwhile, the defense was enduring a spate of injuries and having problems adjusting to the new "Tampa Two" schemes introduced by first-year d.c. Ron Meeks, a Tony Dungy disciple imported from Indianapolis. Things began to improve down the stretch, however, with Moore (*now 6-2 SU in his career as a starter, and a perfect 8-0 vs. the pointspread to boot!*) looking more than serviceable in relief of Delhomme, while Meeks' stop unit finally began to get healthy and adapt to his new schemes, forcing 30 TOs over the final 10 games. By late December, the Panthers were one of the NFL's hottest teams, covering their last 5 games and sandwiching wins over NFC finalists Minnesota and New Orleans around a 41-9 blowout of the Giants at the Meadowlands, effectively scuttling New York's playoff hopes. Although by that point the pressure was also off Carolina, long since eliminated from the postseason.

Moore's performance (including 62% completions, 8 TDP and only 2 picks) was good enough to earn him first crack at the full-time job this fall; with Delhomme now in Cleveland, Fox's other options are rookies Jimmy Clausen (Notre Dame, after falling to the Panthers in the 2nd round) and Tony Pike (Cincinnati). *Make no mistake, however, the Panthers remain a run-first offense behind their smashing RB duo of DeAngelo Williams & Jonathan Stewart, the first tandem in NFL history to each surpass 1100 YR in the same year.* Expect more of the same behind a vet OL entering its third year with most of its components in place. But the youth movement will have to deliver at the WR spots where, in Muhammad's wake, a complement has to emerge alongside the consistently superb Steve Smith. *Since Dwayne Jarrett doesn't appear to be it, a pair of rookie WRs (LSU's Brandon LaFell & App State's Armanti Edwards) will get a chance.*

Meanwhile, d.c. Meeks is going to have to figure out how to replace most of his DL after DTs Maake Keomeatu (now with the Redskins) and Damione Lewis (Patriots) were allowed to walk, along with Peppers. And due to some injuries (*DE Tyler Braxton and LB Thomas Davis, though neither considered season-threatening*) and contract squabbles (*CB Richard Marshall*), the Panthers were down to just three returning starters in their May minicamp. Fox and Meeks need an immediate return on their investment in the aforementioned DE Everette Brown, especially as the platoon looks for someone to fill Peppers' featured pass rush role. Getting back the playmaking Davis from LY's ACL injury to team with star MLB Jon Beason will also be crucial.

Bottom line...The offseason purge of numerous veterans has the Panthers looking different than any time in the Fox/Hurney era. *Making matters more perplexing in Charlotte is the status of Fox, who doesn't have the luxury of turning to some veteran quick-fix artists to steady the ship if it begins to list.* And Fox's potential status as a lame duck could become a distraction if the Panthers fade out of playoff contention.

PRESEASON NOTES: A former force in exhibitions earlier in his career, Fox didn't cover a game LY (0-4), is 3-9 vs. the number the L3Ys, including 1-5 after a SU loss.

2009 CAROLINA PANTHERS

REGULAR-SEASON STAT LEADERS

PASSING	PA	PC	YDS	ST	TD	INT	RAT
J. Delhomme	321	178	2015	55.5	8	18	59.4
M. Moore	138	85	1053	61.6	8	2	98.5
TOTAL	465	264	3070	56.8	16	20	70.5

RUSHING	No.	Yds	Avg	Long	TD
J. Stewart	221	1133	5.1	67	10
D. Williams	216	1117	5.2	77	7
T. Sutton	12	68	5.7	20	0
TOTAL	525	2498	4.8	77	18

RECEIVING	No.	Yds	Avg	Long	TD
S. Smith	65	982	15.1	66	7
M. Muhammad	53	581	11.0	27	1
D. Rosario	26	313	12.0	26	2
D. Williams	29	252	8.7	30	0
G. Barnidge	12	242	20.2	55	0
J. King	25	200	8.0	32	3
D. Jarrett	17	196	11.5	30	1
J. Stewart	18	139	7.7	19	1
TOTAL	264	3070	11.6	66	16

FIELD GOALS	1-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+
J. Kasay	0/0	7/7	9/10	5/6	1/4
TOTAL	0/0	7/7	9/10	5/6	1/4

DEFENSE	Total	Tackles	Assists	Sacks	FR
J. Beason	141	111	30	3.0	1
R. Marshall	88	75	13	0.0	0
C. Gamble	58	50	8	0.0	0
T. Davis	61	48	13	1.5	0
C. Harris	60	48	12	0.0	2
J. Anderson	65	46	19	1.0	1
C. Munnerlyn	44	39	5	0.0	1
T. Brayton	45	36	9	5.0	2
J. Peppers	42	36	6	10.5	5
C. Godfrey	45	35	10	0.0	4
N. Diggs	39	33	6	0.0	1
D. Lewis	41	29	12	0.5	0
H. Thomas	33	24	9	0.0	0
D. Connor	30	22	8	0.0	0
S. Martin	23	18	5	0.0	1
C. Johnson	25	17	8	4.0	2
Q. Teal	20	17	3	0.0	0
L. Johnson	20	16	4	0.0	0
E. Brown	22	15	7	2.5	2
N. Hayden	17	15	2	1.0	0
D. Wesley	12	11	1	1.0	0
G. Barnidge	12	9	3	0.0	0
TOTAL	1048	841	207	31	22
OPPONENTS	1121	875	246	33	16

INTERCEPTIONS	No	Yards	Avg	Long	TD
C. Gamble	4	55	13.8	41	0
R. Marshall	4	47	11.8	28	0
J. Beason	3	46	15.3	18	0
S. Martin	3	35	11.7	23	0
C. Harris	3	3	1.0	3	0
TOTAL	22	235	10.7	41	1
OPPONENTS	20	339	17.0	67	3

2010		2009		2008		2007		2006	
		(SUR: 8-8 PSR: 9-7 O-U: 6-10)		(SUR: 12-5 PSR: 8-7-2 O-U: 8-8-1)		(SUR: 7-9 PSR: 8-8 O-U: 6-10)		(SUR: 8-8 PSR: 5-9-2 O-U: 7-9)	
S.12 NY Giants		S.13 PHILADELPHIA	L +2* 10-38 o43*	S.07 San Diego	W +9* 26-24 o41*	S.09 St. Louis	W +1* 27-13 u42*	S.10 ATLANTA	L -5 6-20 u39
S.19 TAMPA BAY		S.20 Atlanta	L +6 20-28 o43	S.14 CHICAGO	N -3 20-17 n37	S.16 HOUSTON	L -6* 21-34 o38*	S.17 Minnesota-OT	L P 13-16 u37
S.26 CINCINNATI		S.28* Dallas	L +8* 7-21 u47	S.21 Minnesota	L +3 10-20 u37*	S.23 Atlanta	W -4 27-20 o37*	S.24 Tampa Bay	L -3 26-24 o34
O.03 New Orleans		O.04 Open Week		S.28 ATLANTA	W -7 24-9 u39*	S.30 TAMPA BAY	L -3 7-20 u39	O.01 NEW ORLEANS	L -7 21-18 u41
O.10 CHICAGO		O.11 WASHINGTON	L -4 20-17 u37*	O.05 KANSAS CITY	W -9* 34-0 u38*	O.07 New Orleans	W +3 16-13 u43*	O.08 CLEVELAND	N -8 20-12 u38
O.17 Bye		O.18 Tampa Bay	W -3* 28-21 o40	O.12 Tampa Bay	L +1* 3-27 u37	O.14 Arizona	W +5 25-10 u40	O.15 Baltimore	W +3 23-21 o33*
O.24 SAN FRANCISCO		O.25 BUFFALO	L -7 9-20 u37	O.19 NEW ORLEANS	W -3 30-7 u44*	O.21 Bye		O.22 Cincinnati	N -3 14-17 u44*
O.31 St. Louis		N.01 Arizona	W +10 34-21 o41*	O.26 ARIZONA	N -4 27-23 o43*	O.28 INDIANAPOLIS	L +6* 7-31 u44	O.29* DALLAS	L -4* 14-35 o41
N.07 NEW ORLEANS		N.08 New Orleans	W +13 20-30 u51*	N.02 Bye		N.04 Tennessee	L +5 7-20 u36	N.05 Bye	
N.14 Tampa Bay		N.15 ATLANTA	W +1* 28-19 o44	N.09 Oakland	W -9* 17-6 u37*	N.11 ATLANTA	L -3* 13-20 u35*	N.13* TAMPA BAY	W -9* 24-10 u37
N.21 BALTIMORE		N.19* MIAMI	L -3 17-24 u42*	N.16 DETROIT	L -14 31-22 o40	N.18 Green Bay	L +9* 17-31 o37*	N.19 ST. LOUIS	W -6* 15-10 u44
N.28 Cleveland		N.29 NY Jets	L +3 6-17 u41*	N.23 Atlanta	L +1 28-45 o42	N.25 NEW ORLEANS	L +3 6-31 u42*	N.26 Washington	L -4 13-17 u36
D.05 Seattle		D.06 TAMPA BAY	W -4 16-6 u40	N.30 Green Bay	W +3 35-31 o41*	D.02 S. FRANCISCO	W -3 31-14 o35*	D.04* Philadelphia	L -3 24-27 o37*
D.12 ATLANTA		D.13 New England	W +13 10-20 u43*	D.08* TAMPA BAY	W -3 38-23 o39	D.09 Jacksonville	L +10* 6-37 o38*	D.10 NY GIANTS	L +3 13-27 o39
D.19 ARIZONA		D.20* MINNESOTA	W +9 26-7 u42*	D.14 DENVER	W -7* 30-10 u47	D.16 SEATTLE	W +7* 13-10 u37*	D.17 PITTSBURGH	L +3 3-37 o38*
D.23* Pittsburgh		D.27 NY Giants	W +8 41-9 o42*	D.21* NY Giants-OT	L +3* 28-34 o32*	D.22* DALLAS	W +10 13-20 u42*	D.24 Atlanta	W +6 10-3 u40*
J.02 Atlanta		J.03 NEW ORLEANS	W -9 23-10 u42	D.28 New Orleans	L -2* 33-31 o51*	D.30 Tampa Bay	W -3 31-23 o35*	D.31 New Orleans	W -3 31-21 o38
				J.10* ARIZONA-P	L -10 13-33 u48*				

CAROLINA

NFC SOUTH

CAROLINA 2009 REGULAR SEASON TEAM STATS

	PANTHERS	OPPONENTS
TOTAL FIRST DOWNS	289	290
FIRST DOWNS (Rushing-passing-by penalty)	123-152-14	109-155-26
THIRD DOWN CONVERSIONS	82/220	70/197
FOURTH DOWN CONVERSIONS	9/20	9/17
TOTAL OFFENSIVE YARDS	5297	5053
OFFENSE (Plays-Average Yards)	1023-5.2	976-5.2
TOTAL RUSHING YARDS	2498	1997
RUSHING (Plays-Average Yards)	525-4.8	450-4.4
TOTAL PASSING YARDS	2799	3056
PASSING (Comp-Att-Int-Avg)	264-465-20-6.6	305-495-22-6.6
SACKS	31	33
FIELD GOALS	22/27	19/27
TOUCHDOWNS	35	36
(Rushing-Passing>Returns-Defensive)	18-16-0-1	15-14-2-5
TIME OF POSSESSION	30:12	29:47

PROJECTED OFFENSE

QB	3 Matt Moore	2 Jimmy Clausen (2nd Rd)
	16 Tony Pike (6th Rd)	14 Hunter Cantwell
RB	34 DeAngelo Williams	28 Jonathan Stewart
	33 Mike Goodson	22 Tyrell Sutton
FB	42 Tony Fiammetta	38 Rashawn Jackson
WR	89 Steve Smith	10 Armanti Edwards (3rd Rd)
	81 Kenneth Moore	12 David Gettis (6th Rd)
WR	80 Dwayne Jarrett	11 Brandon LaFell (3rd Rd)
TE	47 Jeff King	88 Dante Rosario
	82 Gary Barnidge	85 Andrew George
LT	69 Jordan Gross	65 Garry Williams
LG	70 Travelle Wharton	71 C.J. Davis
C	67 Ryan Kalil	63 Steve Justice
RG	73 Mackenzy Bernadeau	72 Duke Robinson
RT	79 Jeff Otah	74 Geoff Schwartz

PROJECTED DEFENSE

DE	96 Tyler Brayton	95 Charles Johnson
		76 Greg Hardy (6th Rd)
NT	98 Nick Hayden	60 Corvey Irvin
UT	94 Louis Leonard	93 Tank Tyler
		61 Derek Landri
DE	91 Everette Brown	97 Hilee Taylor
OLB	50 James Anderson	55 Dan Connor
		92 Eric Norwood (4th Rd)
MLB	52 Jon Beason	48 Brett Warren
OLB	58 Thomas Davis (inj.)	53 Jamar Williams
CB	20 Chris Gamble	41 Captain Munnerlyn
S	30 Charles Godfrey	21 Aaron Francisco
S	23 Sherrod Martin	29 Jordan Pugh (6th Rd)
CB	31 Richard Marshall	27 C.J. Wilson

PROJECTED SPECIALISTS

K	4 John Kasay	5 Todd Carter
P	7 Jason Baker	8 Blake Haudan

Carolina 2010 Draft Picks

Rd	Player	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	School
2 (48)	Jimmy Clausen	QB	6'3"	222	Notre Dame
3 (78)	Brandon LaFell	WR	6'2"	211	LSU
3 (89)	Armanti Edwards	QB	5'11"	187	Appalachian State
4 (124)	Eric Norwood	LB	6'1"	245	South Carolina
6 (175)	Greg Hardy	DE	6'4"	281	Mississippi
6 (198)	David Gettis	WR	6'3"	217	Baylor
6 (202)	Jordan Pugh	DB	5'11"	200	Texas A&M
6 (204)	Tony Pike	QB	6'6"	223	Cincinnati
7 (223)	RJ Stanford	DB	5'11"	180	Utah
7 (249)	Robert McClain	DB	5'9"	195	Connecticut

CAROLINA PANTHERS POINTSPREAD BREAKDOWN (INCLUDING PLAYOFFS)

	SUR	Spread	Home	Home	Road	Road	SB	Fav	Fav>3	Dog	After
	SUR	Spread	SUR	Spr	SUR	Spr	Spr	Spr	Spr	Spr	SUL
2009	8-8	9-7	5-3	4-4	3-5	5-3	---	3-3	3-2	6-4	4-4
2008	12-5	8-7-2	8-1	5-2-2	4-4	3-5	---	6-3-2	4-2-1	2-4	3-1
2007	7-9	8-8	2-6	3-5	5-3	5-3	---	3-3	1-2	5-5	5-4
2006	8-8	5-9-2	4-4	2-5-1	4-4	3-4-1	---	3-6-1	2-4-1	2-2-1	2-6
2005	13-6	12-7	5-3	4-4	8-3	8-3	---	8-6	5-4	3-1	4-1
L5 Years	48-36	42-38-4	24-17	18-20-3	24-19	24-18-1	---	23-21-3	15-14-2	18-16-1	18-16

CAROLINA PANTHERS 2009

REGULAR SEASON STAT RANKINGS

OFFENSE	TOTAL	RANK
TOTAL OFFENSE (Yds. Per Game)	331.1	19
FIRST DOWNS (Per Game)	18.1	20
POINTS PER GAME	19.7	21
RUSHING (Yds. Per Game)	156.1	3
RUSHING TDS	18	10
PASSING OFFENSE (Yds. Per Game)	174.9	27
PASSING COMPLETION %	56.8	26
PASSING TDS	16	T-24
FIELD GOALS	22	T-19
TIME OF POSSESSION	30:13	13
DEFENSE	TOTAL	RANK
TOTAL DEFENSE (Yds. Per Game)	315.8	8
SCORING DEFENSE	19.2	9
RUSHING DEFENSE (Yds. Per Game)	124.8	22
PASSING DEFENSE (Yds. Per Game)	191.0	4
PASS COMPLETION%	61.6	20
INTERCEPTIONS	22	T-5
SACKS	31	T-23
TOTAL TEAM PENALTIES	88	T-21
TURNOVER MARGIN	+6	T-8

CAROLINA—2009 Game-by-Game Statistics

OPPONENT	OFFENSE					DEFENSE				
	PF	PA	RA-YR	PC-PA-I-YP	SK F-FL	RA-YR	PC-PA-I-YP	SK	F-FR	
Philadelphia	10	38	30/86	14/34/5/83	5 2-2	32/185	17/29/1/82	2	2-1	
Atlanta	20	28	25/144	25/41/1/296	1 2-1	37/151	21/27/1/220	0	1-1	
Dallas	7	21	16/73	22/33/2/198	3 2-1	32/212	22/33/0/237	2	0-0	
Washington	20	17	32/86	16/25/1/162	3 4-1	24/74	17/23/0/124	5	3-1	
Tampa Bay	28	21	48/267	9/17/2/55	1 1-1	25/124	11/17/1/121	4	5-1	
Buffalo	9	20	25/116	27/44/3/309	2 1-1	30/53	11/22/0/114	2	0-0	
Arizona	34	21	44/270	7/15/0/85	1 0-0	17/94	27/46/5/226	2	2-1	
New Orleans	20	30	39/182	17/30/0/189	2 5-3	23/84	24/35/1/330	1	2-1	
Atlanta	28	19	34/185	15/24/0/195	0 1-0	29/176	22/41/2/224	0	0-0	
Miami	17	24	27/182	19/42/1/201	4 0-0	31/154	17/29/0/172	0	2-0	
NY Jets	6	17	25/75	15/35/4/101	3 0-0	39/139	13/18/1/144	3	2-2	
Tampa Bay	16	6	33/157	14/20/1/152	1 1-1	26/154	23/44/5/315	2	0-0	
New England	10	20	24/126	15/30/0/179	2 0-0	40/185	19/32/1/192	0	2-2	
Minnesota	26	7	40/124	21/33/0/273	2 3-0	14/41	17/27/1/196	4	1-1	
NY Giants	41	9	46/247	15/20/0/169	1 1-0	19/60	29/43/2/257	4	4-2	
New Orleans	23	10	37/178	14/23/0/149	2 0-0	32/111	15/29/1/102	0	2-2	

CAROLINA TEAM STATISTICS 2006-2009 (INCLUDING ALL PLAYOFF GAMES)

YEAR	OFFENSE													DEFENSE																					
	SUR	PSR	PF	PA	FD	RA	RY	YPC	F-FL	T-R-P	PC	PI	SK	YP	YPP	YPT	FD	RA	RY	YPC	F-FR	T-R-P	PC	PI	SK	YP	YPP	YPT	DIF	APR	OPR	TO			
2009	8-8	9-7	20	19	18	33	156	4.8	23-11	35-18-16	17	29	20	33	175	6.0	16.8	18	28	125	4.4	28-15	36-15-14	19	31	22	31	191	6.2	16.4	-.4	6.7	3.0	30	+6
2008	12-5	8-7	25	21	18	31	148	4.8	13-8	49-31-16	15	26	17	22	197	7.5	13.7	19	28	121	4.3	25-13	40-15-21	21	35	13	38	212	6.1	15.6	1.9	2.5	5.8	29	+1
2007	7-9	8-8	17	22	16	28	114	4.0	25-12	28-7-19	18	32	17	33	170	5.4	17.0	19	30	111	3.7	30-16	38-13-22	21	34	14	23	214	6.4	15.0	-2.0	9.0	4.9	29	+1
2006	8-8	5-9	17	19	17	26	104	3.9	21-10	28-7-19	20	34	17	32	204	6.1	18.2	17	28	109	3.9	21-7	33-10-22	18	31	14	41	188	6.0	15.5	-2.7	3.0	5.7	30	-6