



Head Coach: Josh McDaniels (2nd year)
Off. Coord: Mike McCoy; Def. Coord: Don Martindale
2009 Record: SUR 8-8, PSR 9-7, O-U 6-9-1
Field: INVESCO Field at Mile High (70,125) P.A.T.



We thought it was rather illuminating on draft night how the media reacted to the Broncos' wheeling and dealing tactics and their two picks in the first round, Georgia Tech WR Demaryius Thomas and highly-publicized QB Tim Tebow from Florida. One of those commenting was *ESPN* analyst Jon Gruden, gushing over the Tebow selection in particular. "What a winner!" said the excited Gruden. "They'll love Tebow in Denver. And with Thomas? Wow, what a combination (coach) Josh McDaniels got in the first round!"

Fellow *ESPN* analyst Tom Jackson, who knows a thing or two about the Broncos after starring at LB for some outstanding Denver teams between 1973-86, had a slightly different take on the proceedings. "Tebow and Thomas, compared to Jay Cutler and Brandon Marshall?," asked the skeptical Jackson. "We'll see."

And therein is the conundrum Broncos fans find themselves as McDaniels' second season in charge approaches. *Is their young coach a prodigy and evolving personnel genius, or just an on-the-job trainee?*

Whatever, the jury remains out on year two of owner Pat Bowlen's big experiment with the supposed boy genius coach who gained notice as Bill Belichick's o.c. at New England. It is not lost on observers how most of Belichick's disciples have struggled in their head coaching and front office careers. *To this point, McDaniels fits in with the rest of that group, which includes Charlie Weis, Romeo Crennel, Eric Mangini, and Chiefs GM Scott Pioli.* All marked their arrivals in their new environs similarly, alienating established leaders while projecting a self-assurance that borders on arrogance. Most agree that Belichick, with three Super Bowls under his belt, can get away with such power trips. *But can McDaniels?*

And it's hard not to assume McDaniels is trying to play Belichick-style mind games, especially Josh's sloppy handling of interactions with Cutler after unsuccessfully trying to trade him at the start of last year's free agency. Subsequently, mobile TE Tony Scheffler ran afoul of McDaniels, landing on the wrong side of young Josh's naughty-nice list before being benched, then eventually dealt to Detroit. Marshall's behavioral issues made his trade to Miami easier to understand, but in just over a year, McDaniels has overseen a nearly complete overhaul of the roster inherited from Mike Shanahan. Moreover, respected d.c. Mike Nolan, who made lemonade from lemons for a time last year, departed abruptly for Miami in the offseason.

For a while it looked as if Bowlen had indeed found another Belichick a year ago when McDaniels began his career with a startling 6-0 mark, briefly becoming the talk of the league. QB Kyle Orton, acquired from Chicago in the Cutler deal, was proving a nice fit for young Josh's ball-control passing game. Meanwhile, Nolan's stop unit was a revelation, its new 3-4 appearing a perfect fit for an undersized yet speed-based platoon that was able to unleash hybrid Elvis Dumervil as a pass rush demon. After Denver's "bye" week, however, the season quickly unraveled, with Orton's limitations eventually exposed and further compounded by an ankle injury, while the smallish "D" began to wear down from the wear and tear. The playoff berth that seemed assured for much of the year disappeared with 8 losses in the Broncos' last 10 games, including a humiliating home loss to the Chiefs in the finale that ended remaining postseason hopes.

This fall, Orton still figures to pilot the attack, although Brady Quinn has been added from Cleveland to provide competition as well as a more viable backup than LY's Chris Simms. And then there's Tebow, expected to be featured in various special packages. *Continuing the change theme from Shanahan's years, McDaniels is emphasizing a bigger, bulkier OL that he hopes will help in short-yardage situations.* But RB Knowshon Moreno, lacking expected breakaway ability, was a mild disappointment as a rookie, and most of Orton's receiving targets (including rookie Thomas and Eddie Royal, who disappeared LY after a stellar rookie debut in '08) have acknowledged flaws. *Can McDaniels' schemes really overcome all else?*

Meanwhile, new d.c. Don Martindale has been promoted from LB coach and will retain Nolan's 3-4 looks. The Broncos' FA activity focused upon adding some veteran beef to a DL that couldn't stop the run as last season progressed. *But ex-Raven DT Justin Bannan, ex-Patriot DE Jarvis Green, and ex-Charger NT Jamal Williams are all over 30, which, combined with an over-30 secondary, gives Martindale something resembling George Allen's old Redskins stop units.* On the plus side, one of the younger components, 2009 1st-round pick Robert Ayers, is expected to blossom in his new OLB role, and Dumervil (NFL-best 17 sacks LY) and CB Champ Bailey are still elite-class defenders.

Bottom line...The verdict is still out on McDaniels, whose vision of stocking the roster with intelligent, high-character sorts who can execute his game plan sounds noble enough. But there have been enough peripheral distractions and mixed signals from the early stages of the new regime to make Denver fans wonder in which direction the franchise is headed. We'll see this fall. *At least we know young Josh isn't afraid to take a chance.*

PRESEASON NOTES:..McDaniels was only 1-3 SU (2-2 vs. the spread) in his first exhibition season, generating only 16 ppg.

2009 DENVER BRONCOS REGULAR-SEASON STAT LEADERS

PASSING	PA	PC	YDS	PCT TD	INT	RAT
K. Orton	541	336	3802	62.1	21	12 86.8
C. Simms	17	5	23	29.4	0	1 15.1
TOTAL	558	341	3825	61.1	21	13 84.4

RUSHING	No.	Yds	Avg	Long	TD
K. Moreno	247	947	3.8	36	7
C. Buckhalter	120	642	5.4	45	1
L. Jordan	25	86	3.4	13	0
K. Orton	24	71	3.0	13	0
P. Hillis	13	54	4.2	13	1
TOTAL	440	1836	4.2	45	9

RECEIVING	No.	Yds	Avg	Long	TD
B. Marshall	101	1120	11.1	75	10
J. Gaffney	54	732	13.6	49	2
T. Scheffler	31	416	13.4	52	2
E. Royal	37	345	9.3	20	0
B. Stokley	19	327	17.2	87	4
D. Graham	28	289	10.3	24	1
C. Buckhalter	31	240	7.7	30	0
K. Moreno	28	213	7.6	27	2
TOTAL	341	3825	11.2	87	21

FIELD GOALS	1-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+
M. Prater	0/0	14/14	6/8	8/10	2/3
TOTAL	0/0	14/14	6/8	8/10	2/3

DEFENSE	Total	Tackles	Assists	Sacks	FR
D. Williams	122	100	22	3.5	3
B. Dawkins	116	95	21	0.0	1
A. Davis	90	67	23	3.5	0
C. Bailey	74	63	11	0.0	1
M. Haggan	63	51	12	1.0	3
R. Hill	59	44	15	2.0	1
E. Dumervil	49	42	7	17.0	4
A. Goodman	44	40	4	1.0	0
W. Woodyard	44	32	12	0.0	1
K. Peterson	40	26	14	1.0	1
V. Holliday	33	24	9	5.0	2
R. Fields	37	22	15	0.0	0
D. McBeth	26	22	4	0.0	0
R. McBean	25	18	7	0.0	0
D. Reid	24	18	6	4.0	2
R. Ayers	19	14	5	0.0	0
D. Bruton	14	12	2	0.0	1
S. Larsen	10	10	0	0.0	0
M. Thomas	15	9	6	0.0	0
A. Smith	14	9	5	0.0	0
TOTAL	1037	830	207	39	20
OPPONENTS	1070	880	190	34	13

INTERCEPTIONS	No	Yards	Avg	Long	TD
A. Goodman	5	65	13.0	30	0
C. Bailey	3	18	6.0	11	0
D. McBeth	2	28	14.0	25	0
R. Hill	2	18	9.0	18	0
B. Dawkins	2	0	0.0	0	0
TOTAL	17	171	10.1	37	0
OPPONENTS	13	237	18.2	60	3

2010		2009		2008		2007		2006	
		(SUR: 8-8 PSR: 9-7 O-U: 6-9-1)		(SUR: 8-8 PSR: 5-11 O-U: 8-7-1)		(SUR: 7-9 PSR: 5-11 O-U: 11-5)		(SUR: 9-7 PSR: 5-11 O-U: 8-8)	
S.12 Jacksonville		S.13 Cincinnati	W +5 12-7 u41'	S.08* Oakland	W -3 41-14 o41	S.09 Buffalo	L -3 15-14 u37	S.10 St. Louis	L -3' 10-18 u46
S.19 SEATTLE		S.20 CLEVELAND	W -3 27-6 u38'	S.14 SAN DIEGO	W P 39-38 o46	S.16 OAKLAND-OT	L -9' 23-20 u37	S.17 KAN. CITY-OT	L -10' 9-6 u36
S.26 INDIANAPOLIS		S.27 Oakland	W -2 23-3 u38	S.21 NEW ORLEANS	L -5' 34-32 o51	S.23 JACKSONVILLE	L -3' 14-23 o35'	S.24* New England	W +6' 17-7 u38'
O.03 Tennessee		O.04 DALLAS	W +2' 17-10 u42'	S.28 Kansas City	L -9' 19-33 u47	S.30 Indianapolis	L -9' 20-38 o46	O.02 Bye	
O.10 Baltimore		O.11 N. ENGLAND-OT	W +3' 20-17 u41'	O.05 TAMPA BAY	L -3' 16-13 u47'	O.07 SAN DIEGO	L -1' 34-41 o43	O.09* BALTIMORE	W -4' 13-3 u33
O.17 NY JETS		O.19* San Diego	W +3' 34-23 o44	O.12 JACKSONVILLE	L -3' 17-24 u48'	O.14 Bye		O.15* OAKLAND	L -14 13-3 u36
O.24 OAKLAND		O.25 Open Week		O.20* New England	L +3 7-41 n48	O.21* PITTSBURGH	W +3' 31-28 o38	O.22 Cleveland	W -4' 17-7 u31'
O.31 San Francisco		N.01 Baltimore	L +3' 7-30 u41'	O.26 Bye		O.29* GREEN BAY-OT	L -3 13-19 u42'	O.29 INDIANAPOLIS	L +3 31-34 o40
N.07 Bye		N.09* PITTSBURGH	L +3 10-28 u39'	N.02 MIAMI	L -3' 17-26 u50	N.04 Detroit	L +3 7-44 o46'	N.05 Pittsburgh	W +3 31-20 o36'
N.14 KANSAS CITY		N.15 Washington	L -3' 17-27 o37	N.06* Cleveland	W +3 34-30 o46'	N.11 Kansas City	W +3 27-11 o37'	N.12 Oakland	L -9 17-13 u33'
N.22* San Diego		N.22 SAN DIEGO	L +6 3-32 u41'	N.16 Atlanta	W +6' 24-20 u51'	N.19* TENNESSEE	W -2 34-20 o38	N.19* SAN DIEGO	L -2' 27-35 o43'
N.28 ST. LOUIS		N.26* NY GIANTS	W +5' 26-6 u42	N.23 OAKLAND	L -8' 10-31 u43	N.25 Chicago-OT	L +1' 34-37 o41'	N.23* Kansas City	L +1' 10-19 u38
D.05 Kansas City		D.06 Kansas City	W -5' 44-13 o38'	N.30 NY Jets	W +8 34-17 o47'	D.02 Oakland	L -3' 20-34 o42	D.03* SEATTLE	L -4 20-23 u40
D.12 Arizona		D.13 Indianapolis	L +7 16-28 n44	D.07 KANSAS CITY	L -9 24-17 u48'	D.09 KANSAS CITY	W -7 41-7 o37	D.10 San Diego	L +7' 20-48 o41'
D.19 Oakland		D.20 OAKLAND	L -14 19-20 o37	D.14 Carolina	L +7' 10-30 u47	D.13* Houston	L -1' 13-31 u47	D.17 Arizona	W -3 37-20 o42
D.26 HOUSTON		D.27 Philadelphia	W +7 27-30 o42	D.21 BUFFALO	L -6 23-30 o45	D.24* San Diego	L +9 3-23 u47	D.24 CINCINNATI	L -3 24-23 o44'
J.02 SAN DIEGO		J.03 KANSAS CITY	L -10 24-44 o38	D.28* San Diego	L +7' 21-52 o50	D.30 MINNESOTA-OT	W +3 22-19 u41'	D.31 SAN. FRAN.-OT	L -10 23-26 o39

DENVER

AFC WEST

DENVER 2009 REGULAR SEASON TEAM STATS

	BRONCOS	OPPONENTS
TOTAL FIRST DOWNS	306	290
FIRST DOWNS (Rushing-passing-by penalty)	95-186-25	99-167-24
THIRD DOWN CONVERSIONS	78/215	81/218
FOURTH DOWN CONVERSIONS	7/18	8/16
TOTAL OFFENSIVE YARDS	5463	5040
OFFENSE (Plays-Average Yards)	1032-5.3	1007-5.0
TOTAL RUSHING YARDS	1836	2059
RUSHING (Plays-Average Yards)	440-4.2	458-4.5
TOTAL PASSING YARDS	3627	2981
PASSING (Comp-Att-Int-Avg)	341-558-13-6.9	298-510-17-6.3
SACKS	39	34
FIELD GOALS	30/35	29/31
TOUCHDOWNS	34	34
(Rushing-Passing>Returns-Defensive)	9-21-2-2	11-18-2-3
TIME OF POSSESSION	30:11	30:06

PROJECTED OFFENSE

QB	8 Kyle Orton	9 Brady Quinn
	15 Tim Tebow (1st Rd)	3 Tom Brandstater
RB	28 Correll Buckhalter	27 Knowshon Moreno
	26 J.J. Arrington	35 Lance Ball
WR	19 Eddie Royal	84 Brandon Lloyd
WR	10 Jabar Gaffney	14 Brandon Stokley
WR	88 Dem. Thomas (1st Rd)	87 Eric Decker (3rd Rd)
		11 Kenny McKinley
TE	89 Daniel Graham	81 Richard Quinn
LT	78 Ryan Clady	77 Tyler Polumbus
LG	71 Russ Hochstein	N/A Maurice Williams
C	70 Seth Olsen	50 J.D. Walton (3rd Rd)
RG	73 Chris Kuper	69 Eric Olsen (6th Rd)
RT	74 Ryan Harris	68 Zane Beadles (2nd Rd)

PROJECTED DEFENSE

DE	99 Justin Bannan	98 Ryan McBean
NT	76 Jamal Williams	91 Ronald Fields
DE	93 Jarvis Green	79 Marcus Thomas
OLB	56 Robert Ayers	95 Darrell Reid
ILB	57 Mario Haggan	59 Wesley Woodyard
ILB	55 D.J. Williams	46 Spencer Larsen
OLB	92 Elvis Dumervil	94 Jarvis Moss
CB	24 Champ Bailey	22 Alphonso Smith
		32 Perrish Cox (5th Rd)
S	23 Renaldo Hill	30 David Bruton
S	20 Brian Dawkins	31 Darcel McBath
CB	21 Andre Goodman	43 Syd'Q. Thompson (7th Rd)

PROJECTED SPECIALISTS

K	5 Matt Prater	
P	4 Britton Colquitt	2 A.J. Trapasso

Denver 2010 Draft Picks

Rd	Player	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	School
1 (22)	Demaryius Thomas	WR	6'3"	224	Georgia Tech
1 (25)	Tim Tebow	QB	6'3"	236	Florida
2 (45)	Zane Beadles	OT	6'4"	310	Utah
3 (80)	J.D. Walton	C	6'3"	300	Baylor
3 (87)	Eric Decker	WR	6'3"	217	Minnesota
5 (137)	Perrish Cox	CB	5'11"	195	Oklahoma State
6 (183)	Eric Olsen	C	6'4"	306	Notre Dame
7 (225)	Syd'quan Thompson	CB	5'9"	186	California
7 (232)	Jammie Kirlew	DE	6'1"	260	Indiana

DENVER BRONCOS POINTSPREAD BREAKDOWN (INCLUDING PLAYOFFS)

	SUR	Spread	Home	Home	Road	Road	SB	Fav	Fav>3	Dog	After
			SUR	Spr	SUR	Spr	Spr	Spr	Spr	Spr	SUL
2009	8-8	9-7	4-4	4-4	4-4	5-3	---	3-3	1-3	6-4	2-5
2008	8-8	5-11	4-4	1-7	4-4	4-4	---	1-8	0-8	3-3	2-5
2007	7-9	5-11	5-3	4-4	2-6	1-7	---	2-7	1-3	3-4	4-5
2006	9-7	5-11	4-4	1-7	5-3	4-4	---	3-9	2-6	2-2	2-4
2005	14-4	12-5-1	9-1	6-3-1	5-3	6-2	---	9-5-1	4-3	3-0	1-1-1
L5 Years	46-36	36-45-1	26-16	16-25-1	20-20	20-20	---	18-32-1	8-23	17-13	11-20-1

DENVER BRONCOS 2009 REGULAR SEASON STAT RANKINGS

OFFENSE	TOTAL	RANK
TOTAL OFFENSE (Yds. Per Game)	341.4	15
FIRST DOWNS (Per Game)	19.1	15
POINTS PER GAME	20.4	20
RUSHING (Yds. Per Game)	114.8	18
RUSHING TDS	9	T-22
PASSING OFFENSE (Yds. Per Game)	226.7	13
PASSING COMPLETION %	61.1	T-14
PASSING TDS	21	T-16
FIELD GOALS	30	T-3
TIME OF POSSESSION	30:12	14
DEFENSE	TOTAL	RANK
TOTAL DEFENSE (Yds. Per Game)	315.0	7
SCORING DEFENSE	20.2	T-12
RUSHING DEFENSE (Yds. Per Game)	128.7	26
PASSING DEFENSE (Yds. Per Game)	186.3	3
PASS COMPLETION%	58.4	T-9
INTERCEPTIONS	17	T-13
SACKS	39	10
TOTAL TEAM PENALTIES	93	T-18
TURNOVER MARGIN	+7	7

DENVER—2009 Game-by-Game Statistics

OPPONENT	OFFENSE						DEFENSE					
	PF	PA	RA-YR	PC-PA-I-YP	SK	F-F-L	RA-YR	PC-PA-I-YP	SK	F-FR		
Cincinnati	12	7	20/75	17/28/0/227	3	1-0	27/86	21/33/2/221	3	1-0		
Cleveland	27	6	37/186	19/37/0/263	0	1-1	21/54	18/31/1/146	4	2-2		
Oakland	23	3	45/215	13/23/0/157	0	1-1	23/95	12/21/2/42	3	3-1		
Dallas	17	10	25/116	20/29/0/221	3	2-1	25/74	25/42/1/241	5	2-1		
New England	20	17	25/103	35/48/1/321	2	2-1	27/96	19/33/0/209	1	2-1		
San Diego	34	23	33/101	20/29/0/227	1	1-0	21/73	20/33/0/238	5	4-1		
Baltimore	7	30	19/66	23/37/0/134	2	1-1	35/125	20/25/0/167	2	1-0		
Pittsburgh	10	28	14/27	23/38/3/215	2	0-0	29/173	21/29/1/202	3	1-1		
Washington	17	27	22/120	14/31/1/185	3	1-1	40/174	18/27/0/214	3	0-0		
San Diego	3	32	17/115	17/33/1/156	3	2-2	43/203	17/22/0/145	0	1-0		
NY Giants	26	6	40/138	18/28/1/235	1	0-0	16/57	24/40/1/210	3	3-2		
Kansas City	44	13	45/245	15/25/1/168	3	2-2	26/94	16/43/2/128	2	2-1		
Indianapolis	16	28	30/95	29/41/1/262	3	0-0	28/92	20/42/3/220	0	0-0		
Oakland	19	20	28/80	19/34/0/257	3	1-0	34/241	14/29/1/102	1	2-1		
Philadelphia	27	30	18/70	27/41/1/171	3	0-0	28/105	20/35/1/289	4	5-2		
Kansas City	24	44	22/84	32/56/3/428	2	0-0	35/317	13/25/2/207	0	1-0		

DENVER 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	PA	PI	SK	YP	YPP	YPT	FD	RA	RY	YPC	F-FR	T-R-P	PC	PA	PI	SK	YP	YPP	YPT	DIF	APR	OPR	TM	TO
2009	8-8	9-7	20	20	19	28	115	4.2	15-10	34-9-21	21	35	13	34	227	6.5	16.8	18	29	129	4.5	30-13	34-11-18	19	32	17	39	186	5.8	15.6	-1.2	4.9	5.1	30	+7
2008	8-8	5-11	23	28	22	24	116	4.8	18-12	42-15-25	24	39	18	12	279	7.2	17.1	20	29	146	5.0	15-7	50-26-20	21	31	6	25	229	7.4	13.4	-3.7	5.6	6.4	29	-17
2007	7-9	5-11	20	26	19	27	122	4.6	30-14	34-10-21	20	32	15	32	224	7.0	17.3	19	31	143	4.6	34-16	46-14-25	17	29	14	33	193	6.8	13.1	-4.2	5.6	5.8	29	+1
2006	9-7	5-11	20	19	18	31	135	4.4	29-12	34-12-20	16	28	18	31	175	6.2	15.5	18	28	114	4.1	28-13	29-13-13	20	34	17	37	213	6.3	17.1	1.6	2.6	5.6	30	0