

MINNESOTA

NFC NORTH



Head Coach: Brad Childress (5th year)
Off. Coord: Darrell Bevell; Def. Coord: Leslie Frazier
2009 Record: SUR 13-5, PSR 11-6-1, O-U 9-9
Field: Hubert H. Humphrey Metrodome (64,121) FieldTurf



While most seem to assume that Brett Favre will be back in the saddle at QB for the Vikings this fall, forecasts in the Twin Cities remain provisional until the *Wrangler Jeans guy* makes his plans official. And he might not until sometime late in the summer...and even then he might be likely to change his mind. Remember, it wasn't until last August 18 that Favre finally decided to sign up for what seemed was one last hurrah with Minnesota. But even that came after announcing he was going to stay retired after his late-season flameout with the Jets in 2008 indicated he might finally be past his sell-by date. *Moreover, Favre's ankle woes (and resultant May surgery) have cast further doubt over his intentions.* Such twists and turns, however, have been commonplace in the recent Favre soap opera that has been mirroring the act Roger Clemens (*you remember him, don't you?*) seemed to have perfected in the last few years of his pitching career when bouncing between the Astros and Yankees.

Of course, even Favre (*who became a grandpa last April and turns 41 in October*) might have had a hard time envisioning the rebirth he experienced a year ago, when he led the Vikings to the cusp of the Super Bowl while throwing 33 TDP and only 7 picks. And most observers believe there's a method to Favre's dilly-dallying these days; by this stage of his career, Favre views training camp as an unnecessary exercise, and he realizes that recurring shoulder issues might limit the number of throws he has in his arm each year. Indeed, his fastball lost lots of zip late in his only season with the Jets in '08, and for a time it seemed as if Favre's arm might be going dead again last December. *No reason to waste those throws at training camp and some meaningless preseason games in the heat of early and mid-August, eh?* And now he's got the ankle to worry about. It's worth noting that HC Brad Childress (*outwardly, at least*) is allowing Favre to set his own timetable with his decision to enlist or not enlist for another tour of duty, although their relationship didn't always appear so cordial a year ago, especially when Favre refused to be removed from the game and Childress was highly critical of a sloppy 26-7 Sunday night loss at Carolina last December 20.

Childress, however, was prepared to go to war without Favre in 2009, and still has those battle plans available just in case. *Remember, before the thought of adding Favre, Childress had acquired serviceable Sage Rosenfels from Houston as an alternative to erratic Tarvaris Jackson, who had blown hot and cold in his stint as Childress' starter and was particularly wretched in a Wild Card Round playoff loss vs. the Eagles in 2008.* Rosenfels and Jackson are still around and ready, if needed, beyond early preseason games vs. the Rams and 49ers when they will assuredly be featured, and Childress' faith in those two was reflected in his decision to bypass QBs Jimmy Clausen and Colt McCoy when both were available in April's draft (although UAB's Joe Webb, a 6th-round pick, is now likely to be given a look at QB after being drafted as a WR).

Aside from Favre, most of the pieces are in place from LY's Minnesota team whose self-inflicted wounds cost it the NFC title game in overtime at New Orleans. The core of Viking playmakers continue to rival the league's best; *all-everything RB Adrian Peterson (1383 YR and 18 TDs LY) is still the featured component, but WR Sidney Rice had a breakout '09 when nabbing 83 receptions to emerge as one of the NFL's most-feared downfield threats.* And don't forget cat-quick Percy Harvin, who reprised his versatile role at Florida when catching 60 passes and gaining 9 ypc on well-spaced runs that helped him to NFL Offensive Rookie of the Year. Although versatile RB Chester Taylor (who could effectively spell Peterson) left for the Bears, 2nd-round draftee Toby Gerhart from Stanford should be able to fill that backup role with a bit more thud, while PK Ryan Longwell (26 of 28 FGs LY) remains as consistent as the cold Minneapolis winter.

Meanwhile, d.c. Leslie Frazier's platoon should continue to disrupt, if not dominate, out of its base Tampa Two schemes that are aided by an occasional blitz package designed to keep foes from ganging up on DE Jared Allen, who terrorized Dallas QB Tony Romo in the Vikes' playoff romp and has recorded 29 sacks the past two years. Minnesota was also again near the top (No. 2) in rush "D," thanks to DTs Kevin and Pat Williams, who effectively plug the middle. If there are concerns, they're at CB, where the status of Cedric Griffin's knee prompted the signing of vet FA Lito Sheppard, and where on the other side 33-year-old Antoine Winfield (off a broken foot) might be slipping.

Bottom line...Although it's worth remembering that the Vikes were a playoff team with Tarvaris Jackson and Gus Frerotte piloting the offense in '08, Minnesota was a legit Super Bowl threat with Favre; *no wonder Childress is giving Brett all the room he needs to make his decision for this fall.* Which means the "Favre watch" will again be the top story this summer in the Twin Cities and the upper midwest.

PRESEASON NOTES: Since 2006 Childress has been best on the road (6-2 vs. the line), as a dog (6-2), and after a SU loss (4-1 vs. the number).

2009 MINNESOTA VIKINGS

REGULAR-SEASON STAT LEADERS

PASSING	PA	PC	YDS	PCT	TD	INT	RAT
B. Favre	363	531	4202	68.4	33	7	107.2
T. Jackson	14	21	201	66.7	1	0	113.4
TOTAL	377	553	4403	68.2	34	7	107.3

RUSHING	No.	Yds	Avg	Long	TD
A. Peterson	314	1383	4.4	64	18
C. Taylor	94	338	3.6	25	1
P. Harvin	15	135	9.0	35	0
A. Young	12	53	4.4	10	0
TOTAL	467	1918	4.1	64	19

RECEIVING	No.	Yds	Avg	Long	TD
S. Rice	83	1312	15.8	63	8
P. Harvin	60	790	13.2	51	6
B. Berrian	55	618	11.2	40	4
V. Shiancoe	56	566	10.1	27	11
A. Peterson	43	436	10.1	63	0
C. Taylor	44	389	8.8	33	1
G. Lewis	8	96	12.0	32	1
J. Kleinsasser	10	70	7.0	21	0
N. Tahi	10	67	6.7	32	1
TOTAL	377	4403	11.7	63	34

FIELD GOALS	1-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+
R. Longwell	1/1	10/10	5/6	8/9	2/2
TOTAL	1/1	10/10	5/6	8/9	2/2

DEFENSE	Total	Tackles	Assists	Sacks	FR
C. Greenway	99	80	19	0.0	1
C. Griffin	78	65	13	0.0	3
E. Henderson	83	63	20	2.0	0
M. Williams	74	61	13	0.0	0
A. Winfield	55	53	2	1.0	1
T. Johnson	57	48	9	0.0	0
J. Allen	51	43	8	14.5	5
R. Edwards	51	43	8	8.5	1
B. Sapp	44	40	4	0.0	2
B. Leber	46	38	8	2.5	1
P. Williams	44	34	10	2.0	2
J. Brinkley	31	30	1	0.0	1
K. Paymah	27	24	3	0.0	1
J. Sanford	29	23	6	0.0	1
A. Allen	27	23	4	1.0	1
K. Williams	30	22	8	6.0	1
H. Farwell	19	18	1	0.0	0
K. Onatolu	20	17	3	0.0	0
J. Kennedy	18	15	3	3.0	0
H. Abdullah	18	15	3	1.0	0
E. Frampton	18	13	5	0.0	1
TOTAL	989	831	158	48	23
OPPONENTS	1154	893	261	34	12

INTERCEPTIONS	No	Yards	Avg	Long	TD
C. Griffin	4	-2	-0.5	0	0
C. Greenway	3	49	16.3	36	0
TOTAL	11	43	3.9	36	0
OPPONENTS	7	120	17.1	82	1

2010		2009		2008		2007		2006	
		(SUR: 13-5 PSR: 11-6-1 O-U: 9-9)		(SUR: 10-7 PSR: 6-11 O-U: 9-8)		(SUR: 8-8 PSR: 7-7-2 O-U: 8-8)		(SUR: 6-10 PSR: 7-9 O-U: 8-7-1)	
S.09* New Orleans		S.13 Cleveland	W -4 34-20 o40	S.08* Green Bay	L +2* 19-24 o38	S.09 ATLANTA	W -3 24-3 u35	S.11* Washington	W +4* 19-16 u36
S.19 MIAMI		S.20 Detroit	W -10 27-13 u45	S.14 INDIANAPOLIS	L +1* 15-18 u43*	S.16 Detroit-OT	N +3 17-20 u43	S.17 CAROLINA-OT	W P 16-13 u37
S.26 DETROIT		S.27 S. FRANCISCO	L -6* 27-24 o39	S.21 CAROLINA	W -3 20-10 u37*	S.23 KANSAS CITY	N +3 10-13 u33*	S.24 CHICAGO	W +3* 16-19 n35
O.03 Bye		O.05* GREEN BAY	W -3* 30-23 o45*	S.28 Tennessee	L +3 17-30 o36	S.30 GREEN BAY	L +1* 16-23 o38	O.01 Buffalo	L +1* 12-17 u34*
O.11* NY Jets		O.11 St. Louis	W -10* 38-10 o41	O.06* New Orleans	W +3 30-27 o46*	O.07 Bye		O.08 DETROIT	W -6* 26-17 o40
O.17 DALLAS		O.18 BALTIMORE	L -3 33-31 o45	O.12 DETROIT	L -13 12-10 u44*	O.14 Chicago	W +5 34-31 o37	O.15 Bye	
O.24* Green Bay		O.25 Pittsburgh	L +6 17-27 u46*	O.19 Chicago	L +3 41-48 o38	O.21 Dallas	L +9 14-24 u46	O.22 Seattle	W +6* 31-13 o41
O.31 New England		N.01 Green Bay	W +3 38-26 o47	O.26 Bye		O.28 PHILADELPHIA	L +1 16-23 o37*	O.30* NEW ENGLAND	L +1* 7-31 u39
N.07 ARIZONA		N.08 Open Week		N.02 HOUSTON	W -5 28-21 o47	N.04 SAN DIEGO	W +7 35-17 o41*	N.05 San Francisco	L -4 3-9 u42*
N.14 Chicago		N.15 DETROIT	N -17 27-10 u47	N.09 GREEN BAY	L -2* 28-27 o44*	N.11 Green Bay	L +5* 0-34 u40*	N.12 GREEN BAY	L -5* 17-23 o39
N.21 GREEN BAY		N.22 SEATTLE	W -10* 35-9 u47	N.16 Tampa Bay	L +4 13-19 u38*	N.18 OAKLAND	W +4* 29-22 o35*	N.19 Miami	L +3* 20-24 o33*
N.28 Washington		N.29 CHICAGO	W -10* 36-10 u47	N.23 Jacksonville	W +2 30-12 o41	N.25 NY Giants	W +7 41-17 o40	N.26 ARIZONA	L -6* 31-26 o38*
D.05 BUFFALO		D.06* Arizona	L -3* 17-30 u48*	N.30* CHICAGO	W -3* 34-14 o42	D.02 DETROIT	W -4* 42-10 o45	D.03 CHICAGO	L +9 13-23 o34
D.12 NY GIANTS		D.13 CINCINNATI	W -6* 30-10 u43	D.07 Detroit	L -10 20-16 u45	D.09 San Francisco	W -8* 27-7 u38*	D.10 Detroit	W +1* 30-20 u40
D.20* CHICAGO		D.20* Carolina	L -9 7-26 u42*	D.14 Arizona	W +3* 35-14 o46*	D.17* CHICAGO	L -10* 20-13 u43	D.17 NY JETS	L -3* 13-26 u41
D.26 Philadelphia		D.28* Chicago-OT	L -7* 30-36 o41*	D.21 ATLANTA	L -3* 17-24 u43*	D.23* WASHINGTON	L -6* 21-32 o40*	D.21* Green Bay	W +3* 7-9 u37
J.02 Detroit		J.03 NY GIANTS	W -8* 44-7 o48	D.28 NY GIANTS	L -7 20-19 u41*	D.30 Denver-OT	L -3 19-22 u41*	D.31 ST LOUIS	L +2 21-41 o43*
		J.17 DALLAS-P	W -3 34-3 u45*	J.04 PHILA.-P	L +3 14-26 u41				
		J.24* N. Orleans-OT-P	W +3* 28-31 o54						

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MINNESOTA 2009 REGULAR SEASON TEAM STATS

	VIKINGS	OPPONENTS
TOTAL FIRST DOWNS	343	271
FIRST DOWNS (Rushing-passing-by penalty)	99-220-24	63-183-25
THIRD DOWN CONVERSIONS	100/223	69/200
FOURTH DOWN CONVERSIONS	8/12	5/12
TOTAL OFFENSIVE YARDS	6074	4888
OFFENSE (Plays-Average Yards)	1054-5.8	940-5.2
TOTAL RUSHING YARDS	1918	1394
RUSHING (Plays-Average Yards)	467-4.1	357-3.9
TOTAL PASSING YARDS	4156	3494
PASSING (Comp-Att-Int-Avg)	377-553-7-8.0	341-535-11-7.1
SACKS	48	34
FIELD GOALS	26/28	22/26
TOUCHDOWNS	56	36
(Rushing-Passing>Returns-Defensive)	19-34-2-1	5-26-1-4
TIME OF POSSESSION	32:51	27:30

PROJECTED OFFENSE

QB	4 Brett Favre	7 Tarvaris Jackson
	2 Sage Rosenfels	14 Joe Webb (6th Rd)
RB	28 Adrian Peterson	32 Toby Gerhart (2nd Rd)
	34 Albert Young	42 Ian Johnson
FB	38 Naufahu Tahī	44 Ryan D'Imperio (7th Rd)
WR	87 Bernard Berrian	11 Jaymar Johnson
		15 Taye Biddle
WR	18 Sidney Rice	12 Percy Harvin
	17 Greg Lewis	85 Ray Small
TE	81 Visanthe Shiancoe	40 Jim Kleinsasser
	84 Mickey Shuler (7th Rd)	83 Jeff Dugan
LT	74 Bryant McKinnie	75 Chris Clark
LG	76 Steve Hutchinson	63 Thomas Austin
C	65 John Sullivan	68 Jon Cooper
RG	64 Anthony Herrera	72 Chris DeGeare (5th Rd)
RT	71 Phil Loadholt	62 Ryan Cook

PROJECTED DEFENSE

DE	91 Ray Edwards	99 Mike Montgomery
		97 Everson Griffen (4th Rd)
NT	94 Pat Williams	90 Fred Evans
UT	93 Kevin Williams	73 Jimmy Kennedy
DE	69 Jared Allen	96 Brian Robison
OLB	52 Chad Greenway	59 Heath Farwel
MLB	56 E.J. Henderson	54 Jasper Brinkley
		58 Nathan Triplett (5th Rd)
OLB	51 Ben Leber	50 Erin Henderson
CB	26 Antoine Winfield	31 Chris Cook (2nd Rd)
		22 Benny Sapp
S	25 Tyrell Johnson	33 Jamarca Sanford
S	20 Madieu Williams	39 Husain Abdullah
CB	23 Cedric Griffin	29 Lito Sheppard
		21 Asher Allen

PROJECTED SPECIALISTS

K	8 Ryan Longwell	9 Rhys Lloyd
P	5 Chris Kluwe	

Minnesota 2010 Draft Picks

Rd	Player	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	School
2 (34)	Chris Cook	CB	6'2"	212	Virginia
2 (51)	Toby Gerhart	RB	6'0"	231	Stanford
4 (100)	Everson Griffen	DE	6'3"	273	Southern Cal
5 (161)	Chris Degeare	OT	6'4"	325	Wake Forest
5 (167)	Nathan Triplett	LB	6'3"	250	Minnesota
6 (199)	Joe Webb	QB	6'3"	223	UAB
7 (214)	Mickey Shuler	TE	6'4"	251	Penn State
7 (237)	Ryan D'Imperio	LB	6'2"	230	Rutgers

MINNESOTA VIKINGS POINTSPREAD BREAKDOWN (INCLUDING PLAYOFFS)

	SUR	Spread	Home SUR	Home Sprd	Road SUR	Road Sprd	SB Sprd	Fav Sprd	Fav>3 Sprd	Dog Sprd	SUR
2009	13-5	11-6-1	9-0	6-2-1	4-5	5-4	---	9-5-1	8-4-1	2-1	3-1
2008	10-7	6-11	6-3	3-6	4-4	3-5	---	3-5	2-4	3-6	4-2
2007	8-8	7-7-2	5-3	4-4	3-5	3-3-2	---	4-3	3-2	3-4-2	3-3-1
2006	6-10	7-9	3-5	3-5	3-5	4-4	---	1-4	1-4	5-5	3-6
2005	9-7	9-7	6-2	6-2	3-5	3-5	---	6-1	4-1	2-6	4-3
L5 Years	46-37	40-40-3	29-13	22-19-1	17-24	18-21-2	---	23-18-1	18-15-1	15-22-2	17-15-1

MINNESOTA VIKINGS 2009

REGULAR SEASON STAT RANKINGS

OFFENSE	TOTAL	RANK
TOTAL OFFENSE (Yds. Per Game)	379.6	5
FIRST DOWNS (Per Game)	21.4	3
POINTS PER GAME	29.4	2
RUSHING (Yds. Per Game)	119.9	13
RUSHING TDS	19	T-6
PASSING OFFENSE (Yds. Per Game)	259.8	8
PASSING COMPLETION %	68.2	2
PASSING TDS	34	T-1
FIELD GOALS	26	T-10
TIME OF POSSESSION	32:51	4
DEFENSE	TOTAL	RANK
TOTAL DEFENSE (Yds. Per Game)	305.5	6
SCORING DEFENSE	19.5	10
RUSHING DEFENSE (Yds. Per Game)	87.1	2
PASSING DEFENSE (Yds. Per Game)	218.4	19
PASS COMPLETION %	63.7	25
INTERCEPTIONS	11	T-26
SACKS	48	1
TOTAL TEAM PENALTIES	101	9
TURNOVER MARGIN	+6	T-8

MINNESOTA—2009 Game-by-Game Statistics, including playoffs

OPPONENT	PF	PA	RA-YR	PC-PA-I-YR	SK	F-FL	RA-YR	PC-PA-I-YR	SK	F-FR
Cleveland	34	20	37/225	14/22/0/85	4	0-0	20/89	21/35/1/179	5	3-1
Detroit	27	13	25/112	24/28/0/153	3	2-1	34/129	18/30/2/136	2	2-1
San Francisco	27	24	27/94	24/46/1/283	2	0-0	26/58	15/25/1/188	1	1-0
Green Bay	30	23	30/63	24/32/0/271	0	1-1	17/82	26/37/1/342	8	2-1
St. Louis	38	10	24/89	21/27/1/288	2	0-0	30/122	27/38/1/278	2	4-3
Baltimore	33	31	31/167	21/29/0/259	3	0-0	18/81	28/43/0/367	3	2-0
Pittsburgh	17	27	23/89	34/51/1/297	4	1-1	20/106	14/26/0/153	3	2-1
Green Bay	38	26	32/111	17/28/0/244	0	2-2	19/90	27/42/0/261	6	3-0
Detroit	27	10	31/152	20/31/0/340	1	2-2	22/93	29/51/0/204	3	2-1
Seattle	35	9	37/160	28/33/0/271	2	0-0	13/4	19/29/1/208	2	4-1
Chicago	36	10	34/159	32/48/0/378	1	2-1	11/43	18/23/2/126	4	2-1
Arizona	17	30	20/62	30/45/2/253	3	0-0	25/113	22/32/0/285	0	1-1
Cincinnati	30	10	37/142	17/30/1/180	2	1-0	24/119	16/28/0/91	1	2-1
Carolina	7	26	14/41	17/27/1/196	4	1-1	40/124	21/33/0/273	2	3-0
Chicago	30	36	33/123	26/40/0/300	3	2-2	28/105	20/35/1/258	2	0-0
NY Giants	44	7	32/129	29/37/0/358	0	4-0	12/35	20/28/1/146	3	2-1
Dallas	34	3	33/109	15/24/0/214	3	0-0	25/92	22/35/1/156	6	4-2
New Orleans	28	31	36/165	28/46/2/310	0	6-3	23/68	17/31/0/189	1	3-1

MINNESOTA 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	13-5	11-6	30	19	22	30	122	4.1	24-14	64-22-39	23	35	9	37	260	7.5	12.9	17	23	86	3.8	42-16	40-6-29	21	33	12	54	213	6.4	15.6	2.7	.1	5.7	33	+5
2008	10-7	6-11	23	21	18	32	146	4.5	33-15	43-17-22	17	29	18	45	183	6.4	14.2	16	23	76	3.3	35-14	38-10-16	20	33	13	48	220	6.6	14.0	-2	4.5	4.6	31	-6
2007	8-8	7-7	23	19	18	31	165	5.3	26-16	43-22-12	16	27	14	37	171	6.3	14.7	19	24	74	3.1	35-14	32-7-22	26	41	17	35	265	6.5	17.4	2.7	8.4	6.7	29	+1
2006	6-10	7-9	18	20	17	28	114	4.1	31-12	32-12-13	21	34	20	41	195	5.8	17.5	17	22	61	2.8	25-15	31-9-14	22	37	21	29	239	6.4	14.7	-2.9	7.1	6.9	32	+4