

TAMPA BAY

NFC SOUTH



Head Coach: Raheem Morris (2nd year)
Off. Coord: Greg Olson; Def. Coord: Raheem Morris
2009 Record: SUR 3-13, PSR 6-10, O-U 6-10
Field: Raymond James Stadium (65,655) Grass



Blame it on...Manchester United?

No, we're not supporters of Chelsea, Arsenal, or one of those English Premier League teams that have a never-ending vendetta against Man United. Rather, we suspect there is something of a correlation between the recently declining fortunes of the Bucs and the purchase of Man U, which the Glazer family added to its sports portfolio in the spring of 2005. Some Tampa Bay fans insist their team hasn't been the same since.

Which might be understandable if the sporting focus of the Glazers came down to a tug-of-war between the Bucs and Man United, arguably the world's most popular (and profitable) sporting enterprise. *But among other things, their Man U purchase was highly leveraged, creating a significant debt that had to be serviced, diverting Glazer funds.* Thus, Tamps Bay, not long ago one of the highest-spending franchises in the league, has seen its payroll ranked at or near the bottom in recent years, a development that, coincidentally, roughly approximates with the time the Glazers bought controlling interest in Man U. *Last year, for example, the Bucs were reportedly \$30 million under the salary cap.* Once an active participant in free agency, Tampa Bay has mostly sat on the sidelines in recent years, and again made minimal such incursions this offseason.

Which brings us to Bucs' second-year HC Raheem Morris, and whether he can compete, and occasionally flourish, working within such financial constraints, which impeded predecessor Jon Gruden. It's too soon to classify the 33-year-old Morris as a blown hire, but evidence from a mostly-disastrous 3-13 debut suggests the Glazers have hardly uncovered the second coming of Mike Tomlin that they envisioned.

Last year, Tampa Bay experienced the sort of upheaval usually reserved for relegated teams in Man United's EPL. Before Morris' first preseason was complete, he canned o.c. Jeff Jagodzinski, later completing his fire-the-coordinator parlay by axing d.c. Jim Bates. Along the way the Bucs switched QBs more often than Joe Maddon changes pitchers for the hometown Rays, contributing to an aura of instability that for a while seemed to have Tampa Bay on course to replicate the Lions' 0-16 mark from the previous year.

But, there were a few rays of sunshine down the stretch, especially after Morris booted Bates following a late-November blowout loss to New Orleans. Morris, *who had never held as much as an NFL coordinator position*, took over the defense, subtly switching away from Bates' two-gap scheme to the one-gap "Tampa Two" that Morris had learned under Monte Kiffin. The result was a much-improved performance down the stretch, allowing only 17 ppg the last six games. Meanwhile, rookie QB Josh Freeman began to flash the form that had made him the Bucs' first-round draft choice, as Tampa Bay finished winning 2 of its last 3, including a 20-17 shocker (*at the Superdome, no less*) over the eventual Super Bowl champion Saints.

Still, offseason upgrades were needed, especially along a porous DL that contributed to the bottom-ranked NFL rush "D" (almost 160 ypg) in '09. Avoiding a quick FA fix as usual, the Bucs instead invested their top two draft picks in a pair of DTs, Oklahoma's Gerald McCoy and UCLA's Brian Price, both likely to start, where their ability to generate pressure from the inside can also help a pass rush that recorded only 28 sacks LY. It is also hoped the 3rd-round pick, Vanderbilt CB Myron Lewis, will get his feet wet as a nickel back before assuming Ronde Barber's role opposite dynamic Aqib Talib, who has emerged as a shutdown CB.

Meanwhile, o.c. Greg Olson inherits a better situation than the one he assumed following Jagodzinski's dismissal, simply because he's had an entire offseason to tailor the offense to the strengths of Freeman, who hinted at bigger things as a rookie. *With the attack featuring lots of play-action West Coast principles, a premium is placed on making yardage after the catch (a la Green Bay), turning the slants, digs, and crossing routes into big plays.* Correspondingly, a WR position that had no depth LY and wasted a lot of contract money on Michael Clayton suddenly appears overflowing with options following rookie Sammie Stroughter's emergence, plus draft picks Arrelious Benn (Illinois) and Mike Williams (Syracuse), both big targets who can move. Olson, however, is likely to de-emphasize some of the zone-blocking techniques that didn't trigger the ground game as expected last year, and the RB situation is still far from ideal with Cadillac Williams (823 YR LY) short of his pre-injury form and Derrick Ward yet to emerge as a factor after arriving from the Giants.

Bottom line...The situation seems to have stabilized somewhat in Tampa Bay, but assuming the Bucs are ready to make a move at the NFC South leaders appears a bit far-fetched. Remember, for all of Freeman's upside, he's still only started nine games in his NFL career. And the Bucs exceeded 24 points just once LY, so they don't figure to prevail in many shootouts. *At least the ride figures to be a bit smoother after a turbulent '09.*

PRESEASON NOTES: The young Bucs were 0-2 as a home favorite and 1-1 as a road dog in young Raheem Morris' first preseason.

2009 TAMPA BAY BUCCANEERS REGULAR-SEASON STAT LEADERS

PASSING	PA	PC	YDS	PCT	TD	INT	RAT
J. Freeman	159	291	1857	54.6	10	18	59.9
J. Johnson	63	125	685	50.4	4	8	50.9
B. Lattwich	58	107	594	54.2	4	3	71.2
TOTAL	280	525	3136	53.3	18	29	59.8

RUSHING	No.	Yds	Avg	Long	TD
C. Williams	210	821	3.9	35	4
D. Ward	114	409	3.6	28	1
J. Freeman	30	161	5.4	20	0
J. Johnson	22	148	6.7	29	0
E. Graham	14	66	4.7	17	0
TOTAL	403	1625	4.0	35	5

RECEIVING	No.	Yds	Avg	Long	TD
K. Winslow	77	884	11.5	42	5
A. Bryant	39	600	15.4	42	4
M. Stovall	24	366	15.3	38	1
S. Stroughter	31	334	10.8	35	1
M. Clayton	16	230	14.4	47	1
C. Williams	29	219	7.6	22	3
D. Ward	20	150	7.5	38	2
J. Stevens	15	130	8.7	17	1
E. Graham	14	109	7.8	16	0
TOTAL	280	3136	11.2	47	18

FIELD GOALS	1-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+
C. Barth	0/0	2/2	4/6	5/7	3/4
M. Nugent	0/0	1/1	1/2	0/3	0/0
S. Andrus	0/0	0/0	0/0	0/1	0/0
TOTAL	0/0	3/3	5/8	5/11	3/4

DEFENSE	Total	Tackles	Assists	Sacks	FR
B. Ruud	142	107	35	0.0	1
G. Hayes	98	80	18	3.0	1
Q. Black	84	69	15	1.5	0
R. Barber	77	69	8	2.0	2
S. Piscitelli	80	66	14	0.0	1
T. Jackson	71	60	11	0.0	2
A. Talib	64	56	8	0.0	0
T. Crowder	43	37	6	3.5	0
S. White	43	30	13	6.5	0
J. Wilkerson	46	29	17	6.0	2
R. Miller	33	27	6	2.0	0
C. Hovan	33	26	7	0.5	0
E. Mack	29	26	3	0.0	0
R. Sims	33	25	8	1.0	0
A. Hayward	23	19	4	0.0	0
T. Cox	21	19	2	0.0	0
W. Allen	20	16	4	0.0	0
M. McCoy	14	12	2	0.0	0
N. Koutouvides	11	11	0	0.0	0
TOTAL	1106	909	197	28	10
OPPONENTS	1002	805	197	33	14

INTERCEPTIONS	No	Yards	Avg	Long	TD
A. Talib	5	99	19.8	32	0
T. Jackson	5	86	17.2	35	2
TOTAL	19	275	14.5	36	2
OPPONENTS	29	492	17.0	76	2

2010		2009		2008		2007		2006	
		(SUR: 3-13 PSR: 6-10 O-U: 6-10)		(SUR: 9-7 PSR: 8-8 O-U: 8-8)		(SUR: 5-8 PSR: 8-8-1 O-U: 9-8)		(SUR: 4-12 PSR: 6-9-1 O-U: 7-9)	
S.12 CLEVELAND		S.13 DALLAS	L +5 21-34 o39'	S.07 New Orleans	L +3 20-24 o42'	S.09 Seattle	L +6 6-20 u41	S.10 BALTIMORE	L -3 0-27 u34
S.19 Carolina		S.20 Buffalo	L +4' 20-33 o42	S.14 ATLANTA	W -7 24-9 u37'	S.16 NEW ORLEANS	W +4' 31-14 o41'	S.17 Atlanta	L +5 3-14 u35
S.26 PITTSBURGH		S.27 NY GIANTS	L +6' 0-24 u45'	S.21 Chicago-OT	W -3 27-24 o35	S.23 ST. LOUIS	W -3' 24-3 u38'	S.24 CAROLINA	W +3 24-26 o34
O.03 Bye		O.04 Washington	W +8' 13-16 u37	S.28 GREEN BAY	W -1' 30-21 o43	S.30 Carolina	W +3 20-7 u39	O.01 Bye	
O.10 Cincinnati		O.11 Philadelphia	L +15' 14-33 o42	O.05 Denver	W +3' 13-16 u47	O.07 Indianapolis	L +9' 14-33 o45	O.08 New Orleans	W +6' 21-24 o34'
O.17 NEW ORLEANS		O.18 CAROLINA	L +3' 21-28 o40	O.12 CAROLINA	W -1' 27-3 u37	O.14 TENNESSEE	N -3 13-10 u37'	O.15 CINCINNATI	W +4' 14-13 u44
O.24 ST. LOUIS		O.25* New England	L +15 7-35 u45	O.19* SEATTLE	L -10' 20-10 u38	O.21 Detroit	L +2' 16-23 u44'	O.22 PHILADELPHIA	W +5' 23-21 o42'
O.31 Arizona				O.26 Dallas	L +2 9-13 u40'	O.28 JACKSONVILLE	L -3' 23-24 o32'	O.29 NY Giants	L +9 3-17 u38
N.07 Atlanta			(at London)	N.02 Kansas City-OT	L -9 30-27 o36'	N.04 ARIZONA	W -3' 17-10 u38'	N.05 NEW ORLEANS	L P 14-31 u38
N.14 CAROLINA		N.01 Open Week		N.09 Bye		N.11 Bye		N.13* Carolina	L +9' 10-24 u37
N.21 San Francisco		N.08 GREEN BAY	W +9' 38-28 o43	N.16 MINNESOTA	W -4 19-13 u38'	N.18 Atlanta	W -3 31-7 o35'	N.19 WASHINGTON	N -3 20-17 o33'
N.28 Baltimore		N.15 Miami	W +10 23-25 o43'	N.23 Detroit	W -8 38-20 o42	N.25 WASHINGTON	W -3' 19-13 u38	N.23 Dallas	L +11 10-38 o39
D.05 ATLANTA		N.22 NEW ORLEANS	L +11 7-38 u51	N.30 NEW ORLEANS	L +4 23-20 u46	D.02 New Orleans	W +3' 27-23 o41'	D.03 Pittsburgh	L +7 3-20 u40'
D.12 Washington		D.06 Carolina	L +4 6-16 u46	D.08* Carolina	L +3 23-38 o39	D.09 Houston	L -3 14-28 o40	D.10 ATLANTA	L +3' 6-17 u37'
D.19 DETROIT		D.13 NY JETS	L +3' 3-26 u36'	D.14 Atlanta-OT	W +3' 10-13 u44'	D.16 ATLANTA	W -12' 37-3 o38	D.17 Chicago-OT	W +13' 31-34 o34'
D.26 SEATTLE		D.20 Seattle	W +6' 24-7 u39	D.21 SAN DIEGO	L -4 24-41 o42'	D.23 San Francisco	L -6 19-21 o36'	D.24 Cleveland	W +3 22-7 u36'
J.02 New Orleans		D.27 New Orleans-OT	W +14 20-17 u49	D.28 OAKLAND	L -12 24-31 o39'	D.30 CAROLINA	L +3 23-31 o35'	D.31 SEATTLE	L -3 7-23 u37
		J.03 ATLANTA	L +2' 10-20 u41'			J.06 NY GIANTS-P	L -3 14-24 u39'		

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TAMPA BAY 2009 REGULAR SEASON TEAM STATS

	BUCCANEERS	OPPONENTS
TOTAL FIRST DOWNS	246	324
FIRST DOWNS (Rushing-passing-by penalty)	80-148-18	129-171-24
THIRD DOWN CONVERSIONS	71/218	86/214
FOURTH DOWN CONVERSIONS	9/22	9/15
TOTAL OFFENSIVE YARDS	4600	5849
OFFENSE (Plays-Average Yards)	961-4.8	1039-5.6
TOTAL RUSHING YARDS	1627	2531
RUSHING (Plays-Average Yards)	404-4.0	529-4.8
TOTAL PASSING YARDS	2973	3318
PASSING (Comp-Att-Int-Avg)	279-524-29-6.0	301-482-19-7.2
SACKS	28	33
FIELD GOALS	16/26	26/32
TOUCHDOWNS	28	46
(Rushing-Passing>Returns-Defensive)	5-18-2-3	16-28-0-2
TIME OF POSSESSION	28:43	31:42

PROJECTED OFFENSE

QB	5	Josh Freeman	11	Josh Johnson
	12	Rudy Carpenter	4	Jevan Snead
RB	24	Cadillac Williams	28	Derrick Ward
			22	Clifton Smith
FB	34	Earnest Graham	45	Chris Pressley
WR	17	Arrelious Benn (2nd Rd)	16	Mark Bradley
	80	Michael Clayton	83	Terrence Nunn
WR	19	Mike Williams (4th Rd)	18	Sammie Stroughter
	15	Reggie Brown	85	Maurice Stovall
TE	82	Kellen Winslow	86	Jerramy Stevens
	88	John Gilmore	84	Jeron Mastrud
LT	70	Donald Penn	69	Demar Dotson
LG	76	Jeremy Zuttah	62	Marc Dile
C	52	Jeff Faine	61	Jonathan Compas
RG	75	Davin Joseph	66	Sergio Render
RT	65	Jeremy Trueblood	77	James Lee

PROJECTED DEFENSE

DE	96	Tim Crowder	94	Kyle Moore
DT	93	Gerald McCoy (1st Rd)	98	Ryan Sims
DT	92	Brian Price (2nd Rd)	95	Dre Moore
DE	91	Stylez White	71	Michael Bennett
OLB	58	Quincy Black	59	Angelo Crowell
MLB	51	Barrett Ruud	53	Niko Koutouvides
OLB	54	Geno Hayes	50	Jon Alston
CB	25	Aqib Talib	33	Elbert Mack
S	21	Sabby Piscitelli	26	Sean Jones
S	36	Tanard Jackson	41	Corey Lynch
CB	20	Ronde Barbar	23	Myron Lewis (3rd Rd)

PROJECTED SPECIALISTS

K	10	Connor Barth	8	Hunter Lawrence
P	1	Brent Bowden (6th Rd)		

Tampa Bay 2010 Draft Picks

Rd	Player	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	School
1 (3)	Gerald McCoy	DT	6'4"	295	Oklahoma
2 (35)	Brian Price	DT	6'1"	303	UCLA
2 (39)	Arrelious Benn	WR	6'1"	219	Illinois
3 (67)	Myron Lewis	CB	6'2"	203	Vanderbilt
4 (101)	Mike Williams	WR	6'1"	221	Syracuse
6 (172)	Brent Bowden	P	6'2"	202	Virginia Tech
7 (210)	Cody Grimm	LB	6'1"	203	Virginia Tech
7 (217)	Dekoda Watson	LB	6'1"	240	Florida State
7 (253)	Erik Lorig	DE	6'3"	281	Stanford

TAMPA BAY BUCCANEERS POINTSPREAD BREAKDOWN (INCLUDING PLAYOFFS)

	SUR	Spread	Home	Home	Road	Road	SB	Fav	Fav>3	Dog	After
			SUR	Sprd	SUR	Sprd	Spr	Spr	Spr	Spr	SUL
2009	3-13	6-10	1-6	1-6	2-6	5-3	---	---	---	6-10	4-8
2008	9-7	8-8	6-2	4-4	3-5	4-4	---	5-5	3-5	3-3	3-3
2007	9-8	8-8-1	6-3	5-3-1	3-5	3-5	---	5-4-1	4-2	3-4	3-3-1
2006	4-12	6-9-1	3-5	3-4-1	1-7	3-5	---	0-2-1	---	6-6	5-5-1
2005	11-6	8-8-1	6-3	4-4-1	5-3	4-4	---	4-6-1	3-3	4-2	3-1-1
L5 Years	36-46	36-43-3	22-19	17-21-3	14-26	19-21	---	14-17-3	10-10	22-25	18-20-3

TAMPA BAY BUCCANEERS 2009 REGULAR SEASON STAT RANKINGS

OFFENSE	TOTAL	RANK
TOTAL OFFENSE (Yds. Per Game)	287.5	28
FIRST DOWNS (Per Game)	15.4	28
POINTS PER GAME	15.2	30
RUSHING (Yds. Per Game)	101.7	23
RUSHING TDS	5	31
PASSING OFFENSE (Yds. Per Game)	185.8	24
PASSING COMPLETION %	53.2	30
PASSING TDS	18	T-21
FIELD GOALS	16	T-31
TIME OF POSSESSION	28:44	24
DEFENSE	TOTAL	RANK
TOTAL DEFENSE (Yds. Per Game)	365.6	27
SCORING DEFENSE	25.0	27
RUSHING DEFENSE (Yds. Per Game)	158.2	32
PASSING DEFENSE (Yds. Per Game)	207.4	10
PASS COMPLETION%	62.4	21
INTERCEPTIONS	19	T-9
SACKS	28	T-26
TOTAL TEAM PENALTIES	93	T-18
TURNOVER MARGIN	-5	22

TAMPA BAY—2009 Game-by-Game Statistics, including playoffs

OPPONENT	OFFENSE					DEFENSE				
	PF	PA	RA-YR	PC-PA-I-YP	SK F-FL	RA-YR	PC-PA-I-YP	SK	F-FR	
Dallas	21	34	31/174	25/42/0/276	0 2-0	24/118	16/27/0/344	1	2-0	
Buffalo	20	33	19/57	26/50/2/296	2 1-0	35/218	21/31/1/220	2	1-1	
NY Giants	0	24	10/28	11/26/1/58	0 0-0	49/226	16/27/0/171	0	0-0	
Washington	13	16	30/129	13/22/1/100	3 1-1	35/125	12/22/3/152	3	2-1	
Philadelphia	14	33	22/85	26/50/3/218	3 2-0	21/76	17/24/0/249	3	1-0	
Carolina	21	28	25/124	11/17/1/121	4 5-1	48/267	9/17/2/55	1	1-1	
New England	7	35	26/89	11/30/3/151	3 1-0	28/107	23/32/2/307	1	0-0	
Green Bay	38	28	25/81	14/31/1/198	1 2-0	32/170	17/35/3/234	6	0-0	
Miami	23	25	31/122	16/28/1/180	3 4-1	36/199	17/32/1/175	0	3-1	
New Orleans	7	38	23/119	17/33/3/100	3 1-1	36/183	19/29/0/187	0	0-0	
Atlanta	17	20	26/73	20/30/0/245	1 2-1	26/75	25/44/0/222	6	1-1	
Carolina	6	16	26/154	23/44/5/315	2 0-0	33/157	14/20/1/152	1	1-1	
NY Jets	3	26	20/43	14/33/3/81	3 1-0	42/175	13/24/0/135	1	2-1	
Seattle	24	7	34/134	16/26/1/205	0 0-0	25/128	27/46/4/252	1	2-1	
New Orleans	20	17	34/176	21/31/2/263	3 1-0	23/124	32/37/0/249	1	1-1	
Atlanta	10	20	22/38	16/32/2/168	1 1-0	37/183	23/35/2/214	1	2-1	

TAMPA BAY 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	3-13	6-10	15	25	15	25	102	4.0	24-5	28-5-18	18	33	29	32	186	5.7	18.9	20	33	158	4.8	19-10	46-16-29	19	30	19	28	207	6.9	14.6	-4.2	12.5	3.8	28	-5
2008	9-7	8-8	23	20	19	28	115	4.1	21-13	38-13-18	22	35	13	33	226	6.4	15.1	16	28	119	4.3	16-8	34-8-23	17	30	22	29	187	6.3	15.2	.1	3.5	6.8	31	+4
2007	9-8	8-8	20	17	18	28	114	4.1	20-13	38-16-19	20	31	10	37	209	6.7	15.8	16	28	107	3.8	30-18	35-12-20	19	30	17	33	171	5.6	16.1	.3	5.1	6.4	30	+12
2006	4-12	6-9	13	22	15	25	95	3.8	26-13	23-6-14	19	33	18	33	175	5.2	20.5	19	31	120	3.9	25-9	41-11-26	19	31	11	26	209	6.8	14.9	-5.5	8.7	4.3	28	-11