



2009 Season Preview Series Vol. 1.5



The Crusaders are looking to take a step forward in 2009!

The Crusaders had the difficult task of taking over an expansion team that was managed poorly by the former GM. However, GM Chris Lopez has done a very good job of adding talent and should have this team competitive in no time.

At QB they have solid but not spectacular options in Jake Delhomme and Kyle Orton, but they lack a true super star.

Their situation at RB is about the same as the team lacks a true #1. last year's top pick in the draft Darren McFadden is the team's best hope. Julius Jones will be called upon to man the team's other starting spot and he will need to improve in 2009.

The strength of the Crusaders lies in their WR corps. Anquan Boldin is a legitimate star and will be counted on heavily to produce. Laveranues Coles is the other starting WR and should see his numbers improve as his NFL status has improved over the offseason.

Jerrico Cotchery was a solid #3 in 2008 and will be counted to do the same in 2009.

Bo Schaife, Chris Baker and Donald Lee are the TE on the Crusader's roster. While they are not considered elite, they are all capable starters.

The Packers are the lone DEF/ST unit and realistically could be one of the biggest point scorers for the team in 2009.

John Kasay and Mike Nugent are the team's kickers. They should provide plenty of points this year. Their coach is Marvin Lewis. Not too many positive things I can say about him.

Overall, the team is headed in the right direction. Pez knows that there is no quick fix and has committed to building through the draft. If he continues this path, the team will be competitive in no time.

2009 OUTLOOK

2008 Record

5-12 (5th place)

Key Additions:

TE Donald Lee, K John Kasay

Key Losses:

None

Highest 2009 draft pick:

#14 overall

Needs:

Starting RB, QB

2009 Prediction:

4-13 (7th place)