



2009 Season Preview Series Vol. 1.6



2009 OUTLOOK

2008 Record

4-13 (6th place)

Key Additions:

None

Key Losses:

QB Matt Cassel, WR
Domenik Hixon

Highest 2009 draft pick:

#3 overall

Needs:

Starting RB

2009 Prediction:

4-13 (7th place)

Can the Jackrabbits return to the glory of years past?

The 2007 TBL champs took a step backwards in 2008 as they proved to be a different team without former QB Tom Brady at the helm as the former TBL MVP (2007) is clearly the heart and soul of this team.

The Jackrabbits will be counting on Brady to recover from his injury and replicate his MVP performance of 2007 which resulted in a championship for the team. There is no need even talking about the backups. This team will live and die with Brady!

RB used to be a position of strength, but the team dealt both SJax and MJD. They will be hard pressed to find a back of their caliber in the 2009 draft, but they will try. Lawrence Maroney is the team's lone starting option at this time.

The one area the team does have some depth is that at WR with Devin Hester, Chris Chambers and DeShaun Jackson all being quality options as starters.

Veteran Chris Cooley is one of the top rated TEs in TBL and will be expected to provide steady points in 2009.

The Jackrabbits DEF/ST was once the heart and soul of the team back when they had the vaulted Bears DEF/ST. While their current unit is not chopped liver. The Oakland Raiders just do not strike fear into the heart of teams like the Bears did.

Rian Lindell and Sebastian Janikowski give the team two very good options at kicker. HC Mike Holmgren will need to be replaced prior to the start of the season.

This team is in some serious trouble. Brady is a mega stud and will win a few games himself, but overall the team will be hard pressed to win more than 5 games unless they strike gold in the draft in 2009. The good thing is that the team has multiple picks in the entry draft, including the #3 overall pick who experts believe will be one of the top RBs on the board.