



FOX NFL SUNDAY NOTES - 9/20/09

Bradshaw: If Delhomme Doesn't Improve, Expect Cowher in Carolina

Johnson: In Dallas, the Pressure is ALL on Wade Phillips

Strahan: Giants Won't Be Intimidated By Stadium and Lights in Dallas Tonight

Long: Bears Fell in Love with 'New Toy' Cutler and Lost Their Running Identity

Glazer Reports McNabb Trying to Speed Up Healing for Week 3 Return

Co-Host Terry Bradshaw on Delhomme's problems and Fox's fate if he doesn't turn it around: "Let's go back to last year. Every time the Carolina Panthers lost a game, the following week Jake brought them back. He plays extremely well under pressure. What Carolina should do is run the football and get back to basics. If Delhomme plays another lousy game with those kinds of turnovers, look for John Fox's career with the Panthers to be over. Bill Cowher desperately wants to get back in the NFL. Cowher will go down to Carolina."

Analyst Jimmy Johnson added on the situation in Carolina: "John Fox better hope that Delhomme is back. He's got no other option. They signed Jay Feely - he's a journeyman backup that can't play so he has to live and die with Delhomme."

Analyst Jimmy Johnson and Co-host Terry Bradshaw disagree on Jets Head Coach Rex Ryan's approach to firing up his team through the media by saying he's not going to kiss the championship rings of Patriots Head Coach Bill Belichick.

Johnson: "I love the swagger. I love him putting pressure on his coaches and players. You know, some coaches downplay it and say, 'we're not real good' that way when they win they look pretty good. If you have a little success, it gives your players confidence after you win."

Bradshaw: "I'm totally against it. You can get the results you want from your team without going public. You can do it in the locker room. For example, Chuck Noll never said a bad word about anybody [publicly]. But in the locker room one time before we played the Raiders he said, 'we're going to go out there and kick their you know what.' It had the same effect but he didn't take it public."

Analyst Howie Long on Jay Cutler's disappointing start for the Bears last week: "Cutler is a really talented quarterback. The problem was the Bears fell in love with their new toy and got away from their identity. Matt Forte is their identity."

Co-host Terry Bradshaw on the difficulty that Cutler may have had adjusting to the Bears offense: "The problem is when you come from a team that throws 35-40 times a game to a team that runs the ball, you have more pressure on every pass. And let's not forget - where are his [wide receiver] weapons? The Bears have no weapons."

Analyst Jimmy Johnson offers a solution for Chicago: “Bring back Rex Grossman. He throws the same amount of interceptions.”

Jimmy Johnson picks Patriots quarterback Tom Brady, despite Brady’s offseason knee surgery, over Saints quarterback Drew Brees who threw for 6 touchdowns last week: “I’d take Tom Brady. Forget about the numbers. Numbers are for baseball. There’s only one thing that matters in the NFL – championships.”

NFL Insider Jay Glazer reports that former New England Patriots backup QB Kevin O’Connell, who the Jets picked up to help prepare for the Patriots today, will be named team captain for today’s game. Glazer on O’Connell’s contributions to the Jets: “They certainly used him a lot this week. [Jets Head Coach] Rex Ryan had O’Connell sit down with every Jets coach and give them everything he knows about the Patriots. He was so useful; Ryan named him team captain for today’s game despite the fact that he’s the team’s No. 3 quarterback. I was told, ‘it’s just another way for Rex to shoot a shot across the field to the Patriots sideline.’ O’Connell was most helpful in blitz pickup and in playing Tom Brady this week.”

After only 1 week, analyst Jimmy Johnson doesn’t think the NFC Champion Arizona Cardinals will do well this season: “I know it’s just one game but stick a fork in them, they’re done. They lost a couple of outstanding coordinators. They’ve got disgruntled injured receivers and a quarterback that’s just a couple years younger than me and he’s hurt. With their schedule, it’ll be tough for them to win 3 games by mid-season.”

Analyst Howie Long on the Cowboys’ offensive performance: “Last week was big for the Cowboys offense. The pressure was on Jerry Jones, Jason Garrett, Tony Romo and Roy Williams and Romo hit three different receivers for touchdowns longer than 42 yards. It’s amazing how much better that offense flowed in week one, like it or not. I know T.O. had 38 touchdowns over the last three years, people asked ‘Where would the big plays come from?’ but a lot of questions were answered on the Cowboys offense last week.”

Analyst Jimmy Johnson on Wade Phillips and the Cowboys defense: “The pressure is not on Tony Romo, Jerry Jones or the offense with Jason Garrett. It’s all about the head coach/defensive coordinator Wade Phillips. He’s got to sure up that run defense. Tampa had 174 yards rushing against them last week. If the Cowboys don’t keep the running game of the Giants in check they’ll have a tough time tonight.”

Analyst Michael Strahan on Giants vs. Cowboys: “The Giants are going to run the football. That’s what they do; take pressure off of Eli Manning and those young receivers. I know a lot has been made about the largest stadium with over a 100,000 fans but the players realize they’re not playing against the fans; they’re playing against the team on the field. So I don’t think the Giants will be intimidated by that at all.”

Co-Host Terry Bradshaw on Dallas: “Dallas will not lose this game; Jerry Jones will get his victory. The Cowboys will sure-up their defense. Jay Ratliff at nose tackle is about as good as it gets.”

FOX NFL Insider Jay Glazer on McNabb injury in Philadelphia: “I think what the Eagles would like to do is sit McNabb next week against the Chiefs. They have the bye week so then he’d have three or four weeks where he gets the rest. But I’m being told that Donovan is really trying to accelerate the healing process and that he’s going to try and push to play next week.”

FOX NFL Insider Jay Glazer on Vick's role in Week 3: "Even if Kevin Kolb plays poorly today, the Eagles have Michael Vick coming back next week but I'm told that Michael Vick will not start next week, the Eagles still want him to just come in and run the wildcat."

Analyst Michael Strahan on Eagles defense: "I think the Eagles defense is what leads that team. The Eagles defense understands that Kolb is not their primary quarterback and they have to pick it up. Unfortunately it's a week against the New Orleans Saints but I really do feel like the Eagles defense is up to the task. They understand that more pressure is on them than what's on their young quarterback."

Analyst Howie Long on Jeff Garcia: "Getting Jeff Garcia is a big pick up. Jeff Garcia's got a big chip on his shoulder and somewhat justifiably so. He's won some big games in San Francisco, Tampa Bay and he was 5-1 in 2006 with the Eagles. It's almost like people view him as that little tire in the back of your car for when you get a flat and there's a warning on the tire that says, 'you can only use this for 10 miles to get to the next gas station before you replace it.' I never understood it, there are those who have said he's not a pretty quarterback and he does have limitations but I think he's a great pickup for them."