NFL Predictions: Arizona Cardinals NFC West Preview

Contributed by Matt Foust
Tuesday, 26 August 2008
Last Updated Tuesday, 26 August 2008

Ken Whisenhunt created some optimism in Cardinal country after going 8-8 in his first season as head coach of the club. This year the team will be looking to knock the Seahawks off their perch atop the NFC West. It should be an epic battle between the birds in 2008. NFL betting odds at SBGglobal.com list the Cardinals at +300 odds to win the division.

The 2007 Cardinal offense was a threat to score every time they had the ball. The unit averaged 25.3 points per game and they were especially deadly through the air (254.1 yards passing per game). This pre-season former first round pick Matt Leinert, and former league MVP, Kurt Warner, are fighting it out for the starting quarterback job. The club would like Leinert to win it outright but Warner outplayed Leinert last season and has looked good in training camp thus far.

Whoever wins the quarterback job will have no shortage of weapons at their disposal. Wide outs Larry Fitzgerald and Anquan Bolden are probably the best receiving duo in the league. The team will, however, be looking for more out of Edgerrin James and the running game this season. Deficiencies in the offensive line led to the team averaging just 3.2 yards per carry on the year.

Arizona's defense left a lot to be desired in 2007, despite having some talented personnel. The defense ranked 27th in points per game allowed at 24.9 and 28th in passing yards allowed, giving up 232.3 per contest. They were stout against the run, holding the opposition to 97.9 yards per game.

The team lost linebacker Calvin Pace and safety Terrence Holt in free agency, but they did pick up linebacker Clark Haggans from the Steelers. They also took highly touted cornerback Dominique Rogers-Cromartie with their first pick in the draft. The defensive coaching staff also decided to move cornerback Antrel Rolle to the free safety position, giving them one of the best safety tandems in the league (SS Adrian Wilson).

NFL Betting odds at SBGglobal.com have the Cardinals at +2700 odds to win the Super Bowl, +1500 odds to win the NFC Championship, and -110 odds to win over eight games.

Get on board for an entire season of NFL Picks and College Football Predictions; we are prepped and ready to storm through the 2008 NFL schedule as well as the full slate of NCAA Football action.

Also, make sure you check out our live NFL Betting Odds feed which provides real time point spreads from the top internet sports books in the world, all in one easy to use location. Get line moves in real time and find out which NFL teams have the best betting odds.