



Week 17

Carolina Panthers (11-4) at Atlanta Falcons (9-6)



Sunday, December 31, 2017 | 4:25 PM ET | Mercedes-Benz Stadium | Referee: Bill Vinovich

REGULAR-SEASON SERIES HISTORY

LEADER: Falcons lead all-time series, 27-18

STREAKS: Falcons have won 3 of past 4

LAST GAME: 11/5/17: Falcons 17 at Panthers 20

LAST GAME AT SITE: 10/2/16: Falcons 48, Panthers 33

CAROLINA PANTHERS

LAST WEEK	W 22-19 vs. Tampa Bay
COACH VS. OPP.	Ron Rivera: 6-7
PTS. FOR/AGAINST	23.5/20.3
OFFENSE	328.7
PASSING	Cam Newton: 277-458-3122-21-13-84.3
RUSHING	Cam Newton (QB): 128-695-5.4-6
RECEIVING	Christian McCaffrey (R) (RB): 75-611-8.1-5
DEFENSE	313.5
SACKS	Julius Peppers: 11
INTs	Luke Kuechly: 3
TAKE/GIVE	+2 (21/19)
PUNTING (NET)	Michael Palardy: 45.9 (42.2)
KICKING	Graham Gano: 117 (33/36 PAT; 28/29 FG)

ATLANTA FALCONS

LAST WEEK	L 23-13 at New Orleans
COACH VS. OPP.	Dan Quinn: 3-2
PTS. FOR/AGAINST	22.1/20.3
OFFENSE	364.4
PASSING	Matt Ryan: 314-484-3778-19-12-91.4
RUSHING	Devonta Freeman: 185-842-4.6-7
RECEIVING	Julio Jones: 83-1364 (3L)-16.4-3
DEFENSE	323.1
SACKS	Adrian Clayborn: 9.5
INTs	Deion Jones: 3
TAKE/GIVE	-5 (13/18)
PUNTING (NET)	Matt Bosher: 44.7 (40.5)
KICKING	Matt Bryant: 121 (34/34 PAT; 29/34 FG)

PANTHERS NOTES

- **PANTHERS** clinched playoff berth for 4th time in past 5 years & can clinch NFC South with win & NO loss.
- **QB CAM NEWTON** had GW 2-yard rush TD with 35 seconds remaining in Week 16. Leads NFL QBs in rush yards (695) & ties for 1st in rush TDs (6). Has 4 rush TDs in past 6 at Atl.
- **RB JONATHAN STEWART** aims for 4th in row on road with rush TD. Rookie **RB CHRISTIAN MC CAFFREY** had 94 scrimmage yards (66 rush, 28 rec.) & rush TD in last game vs. Atl. Ties for lead among NFL rookies in receptions (75) & ranks 4th in scrimmage yards (1,032) & TDs (7). His 75 catches & 1,032 scrimmage yards are franchise rookie records.
- **WR DEVIN FUNCHESS** has 168 rec. yards (84 per game) & TD catch in past 2 on road. Led team with 86 rec. yards in last game vs. Atl. **TE GREG OLSEN** had TD catch in his last game at Atl. Since 2013, ranks 2nd among NFL TEs with 4,182 rec. yards.
- **LB LUKE KUECHLY** aims for 3rd in row vs. Atl. with 10+ tackles. Has 55 tackles (9.2 per game), 2 INTs & 3 FRs in past 6 on road. **DE JULIUS PEPPERS** has 5 sacks & FF in his past 6 on road. Had sack in his last game at Atl. (10/30/16 with GB). **DE MARIO ADDISON** had sack in last meeting. Aims for 6th in row on road & 3rd in row vs. Atl. with sack. Peppers (11) & Addison (10.5) are only pair of NFC teammates with 10+ sacks each. **DT KAWANN SHORT** has 3.5 sacks & FF in past 3. **S KURT COLEMAN** aims for 3rd in row with 10+ tackles. Had 10 tackles in last meeting.

FALCONS NOTES

- **FALCONS** can clinch playoff berth with win or Sea. loss.
- **QB MATT RYAN** passed for 313 yards & 2 TDs for 95.6 rating in last game vs. Car. Has 1,399 pass yards (349.8 per game) & 9 TDs vs. 2 INTs for 121.6 rating in his past 4 vs. Car. Has 300+ pass yards & 100+ rating in 7 of past 8 at home vs. division.
- **RB DEVONTA FREEMAN** has 332 scrimmage yards (110.7 per game) & 3 rush TDs in past 3 at home vs. division. Aims for 4th in row at home vs. division with rush TD. Aims for 3rd in row at home vs. Car. with rush TD. **RB TEVIN COLEMAN** has 4 rush TDs in his past 5 at home. Aims for 3rd in row vs. Car. with TD. Had TD catch in Week 16.
- **WR JULIO JONES** ranks 3rd in NFL with 1,364 rec. yards. Has 31 receptions for 656 yards (164 per game) & 2 TDs in his past 4 vs. Car. Aims for 3rd in row at home vs. Car. with 100+ rec. yards & TD. Has 813 rec. yards (162.2 per game) & 5 rec. TDs in his past 5 at home vs. NFC South. **WR MOHAMED SANU** had TD catch in last game vs. Car. Has 3 rec. TDs in past 5 at home vs. division.
- **LB DEION JONES** is only NFL player with 125+ tackles (128) & 3+ INTs (3). Has 32 tackles & 2 INTs in past 3. Aims for 3rd in row vs. Car. with 11+ tackles. **S KEANU NEAL** leads NFC safeties with 109 tackles. Had 8 tackles, 2 FFs & FR in last game vs. Car. **LB VIC BEASLEY, JR.** has 3 sacks & FF in 5 career games vs. Car. **CB ROBERT ALFORD** had 2 INTs, incl. 30-yard INT-TD & 3 PD in last home game vs. Car.

ON THE AIRWAVES

TV: FOX (4:25 PM ET): Joe Buck, Troy Aikman, Erin Andrews (Field reporter)

SIRIUS: 113 (Car), 82 (Atl) | **XM:** 389 (Car), 82 (Atl)