

# KURT WARNER'S TOP 10 GAMES WITH THE CARDINALS

By Darren Urban, azcardinals.com



## 1. Jan. 10 2010 Wild Card playoff game vs. Green Bay

33 attempts, 29 completions, 379 yards, 5 TD, 0 INT

Warner had to be great in a 51-45 overtime win, and he delivered his finest performance in a Cardinals' uniform. His spectacular day was underscored by the fact he had more touchdown passes than incompletions, a fitting final game at University of Phoenix Stadium – which included a goodbye wave to the crowd when it was over.



## 2. Jan. 18 2009 NFC Championship game vs. Philadelphia

28 Attempts, 21 completions, 279 yards, 4 TD, 0 INT

The Cardinals achieve the improbable – a trip to the Super Bowl – as Warner has a nearly flawless performance. Three TD passes go to Larry Fitzgerald, but it's the final drive in which Warner coolly shows his best, including a screen pass to Tim Hightower for the game-winning score in a 32-25 win.



## 3. Sept. 14 2008 Week 2 vs. Miami

24 attempts, 19 completions, 361 yards, 3 TD, 0 INT

The Cards opened the season with a grind-it-out win in San Francisco, and Warner clearly wanted to throw more. He got his wish the next week against the Dolphins. He, Fitzgerald and Anquan Boldin were the stars as Warner achieved the third perfect passing rating (158.3) of his career , tying Peyton Manning for the most all-time in a 31-10 victory.



## 4. Sept. 20 2009 Week 2 at Jacksonville

26 attempts, 24 completions, 243 yards, 2 TD, 0 INT

The Cards were coming off a difficult season-opening loss to the 49ers and traveled cross country for what looked like a must-win. The Cards did – 31-17 – as Warner hit on 92.3 percent of his passes to set an NFL record for completion percentage.



**5. Feb. 1 2009 Super Bowl XLIII vs. Pittsburgh**

43 attempts, 31 completions, 377 yards, 3 TD, 1 INT

It's the highest loss on the list, but despite the gut-wrenching ending, Warner – save for his one interception right before halftime, a painful step back – nearly brought the Cards a title. His postseason connection with Fitzgerald reached a zenith with what looked like the game-winning points, a 64-yard touchdown pass late in the fourth quarter that briefly gave the Cards the lead in a 27-23 loss.



**6. Dec. 6 2009 Week 12 vs. Minnesota**

32 attempts, 22 completions, 285 yards, 3 TD, 0 INT

Coming off a concussion that made Warner consider the end of his career, the veteran returned to the field after missing the previous six quarters and shredded arguably the best team in the NFL at the time. Working around the Vikings' dangerous pass rush, Warner was superb in a 30-17 win in front of a national TV audience on "Sunday Night Football."



**7. Oct. 8 2009 Week 8 at Chicago**

32 attempts, 22 completions, 261 yards, 5 TD, 0 INT

Warner went to play the Bears after one of his worst games as a Card (five interceptions, six turnovers) in a home loss to Carolina. The Cards were also without Boldin that day in the Windy City. All Warner did was pick apart the Bears in a 41-21 win, using the Cards' newfound running game to balanced perfection as he turned in his first five-touchdown-pass game in Arizona.



**8. Nov. 20 2005 Week 10 at St. Louis**

39 attempts, 27 completions, 285 yards, 3 TD, 0 INT

Warner's first season as a Card didn't turn out the way he had wanted, and injuries robbed him of a four-game stretch early in the season. But Warner's first trip back to St. Louis since he left the Rams couldn't have gone any better, as Warner used 100-yard days from both Boldin and Fitzgerald to celebrate a perfect homecoming in a 38-28 win.



**9. Sept. 23 2007 Week 3 at Baltimore**

20 attempts, 15 completions, 258 yards, 2 TD, 0 INT

Matt Leinart was the starter, but then coach Ken Whisenhunt sprung something new on the Ravens – the no-huddle offense with Warner at the controls. Playing about half the game, Warner couldn't be stopped, nearly leading the Cards to an upset before Arizona lost, 26-23. It set Warner up for partial playing time the next two games, before Leinart got hurt, and showed what Warner could mean to the offense.



**10. Nov. 22 2009 Week 10 at St. Louis**

19 attempts, 15 completions, 203 yards, 2 TD, 0 INT

So many emotions were wrapped up into what turned out to be Warner's final game in St. Louis. Once again, he was unstoppable, piling up his stats before the end of the first half en route to potentially a huge day. But he suffered a concussion on a hit after a throw, knocking him out of the rest of the 21-13 win and the following week in Tennessee. It also made Warner think very carefully about his future in the game.