

# DENVER NUGGETS GAME NOTES



## 2008-09 SEASON ENDING GAME NOTES



### NUGGETS RECORDS

REG. SEASON	<u>Record</u>	<u>Home</u>	<u>Road</u>	<u>OT</u>		<u>Streaks</u>
<b>Overall:</b>	54-28	33-8	21-20	2-0	<b>Overall:</b>	Lost 1
<b>Western:</b>	35-17	22-4	13-13	2-0	<b>Home:</b>	Won 10
<b>Eastern:</b>	19-11	11-4	8-7	0-0	<b>Road:</b>	Lost 2

POSTSEASON	<u>Record</u>	<u>Home</u>	<u>Road</u>	<u>OT</u>		<u>Streaks</u>
<b>Overall:</b>	10-6	7-2	3-4	---	<b>Overall:</b>	Lost 2
<b>Conf. Finals:</b>	2-4	1-2	1-2	---	<b>Home:</b>	Lost 1
<b>Conf. Semifinals:</b>	4-1	3-0	1-1	---	<b>Road:</b>	Lost 1
<b>First Round:</b>	4-1	3-0	1-1	---		

### TEAM RANKINGS – BY THE NUMBERS

	PPG	OPP PPG	FG%	3FG%	FT%	RPG	APG	SPG	BPG	TO
<b>REG. SEASON</b>	104.3	100.3	.470	.371	.760	41.6	22.2	8.66	6.00	15.3
<b>NBA RANK</b>	6th	T-18th	5th	13th	20th	15th	6th	3rd	2nd	25th
<b>POSTSEASON</b>	107.9	99.3	.475	.383	.759	40.3	22.6	9.19	5.19	12.1
<b>NBA RANK</b>	2nd	11th	1st	2nd	9th	8th	3rd	2nd	5th	5th

### 2008-09 TRANSACTIONS

DATE	TRANSACTION
4/25	Recalled G/F <b>Sonny Weems</b> from the Colorado 14ers of the Development League.
4/10	Assigned G/F <b>Sonny Weems</b> to the Colorado 14ers of the Development League.
3/31	Recalled G/F <b>Sonny Weems</b> from the Colorado 14ers of the Development League.
3/6	Assigned G/F <b>Sonny Weems</b> to the Colorado 14ers of the Development League.
3/3	Signed G <b>Jason Hart</b> .
1/7	Acquired C <b>Johan Petro</b> and a 2009 second-round draft pick from Oklahoma City in exchange for G <b>Chucky Atkins</b> , a conditional 2009 first-round draft pick and cash considerations.
1/6	Recalled G/F/ <b>Sonny Weems</b> from the Colorado 14ers of the NBA Development League.
1/5	Acquired a future conditional second-round draft pick from the L.A. Clippers in exchange for C <b>Cheikh Samb</b> and cash considerations.
12/10	Assigned C <b>Cheikh Samb</b> and G/F <b>Sonny Weems</b> to the Colorado 14ers of the NBA Development League.
11/10	Waived F <b>Antonio McDyess</b> .
11/3	Acquired G <b>Chauncey Billups</b> , F <b>Antonio McDyess</b> and C <b>Cheikh Samb</b> in exchange for G <b>Allen Iverson</b> .
11/3	Waived F <b>Juwan Howard</b> .
10/29	Exercised the fourth-year option on the contract of F <b>Renaldo Balkman</b> .
10/23	Waived G <b>Mateen Cleaves</b> , F <b>Nick Fazekas</b> , F <b>James Mays</b> , G <b>Smush Parker</b> and F <b>Ruben Patterson</b> .
10/3	Signed F <b>Juwan Howard</b> .
9/30	Signed G <b>Mateen Cleaves</b> , F <b>Nick Fazekas</b> , F <b>James Mays</b> , G <b>Smush Parker</b> and F <b>Ruben Patterson</b> .
9/15	Signed G/F <b>Sonny Weems</b> .
8/22	Re-signed G <b>J.R. Smith</b> .
7/30	Signed G/F <b>Dahntay Jones</b> .
7/28	Acquired F <b>Renaldo Balkman</b> and cash considerations from the New York Knicks in exchange for G <b>Taurean Green</b> , F <b>Bobby Jones</b> and a 2010 second round draft pick.
7/24	Signed F/C <b>Chris Andersen</b> .
7/15	Traded C <b>Marcus Camby</b> to the Los Angeles Clippers in exchange for the right to swap second round picks in the 2010 NBA Draft.
7/9	Re-signed G <b>Anthony Carter</b> .
6/28	Acquired the draft rights to G/F <b>Sonny Weems</b> from the Chicago Bulls, in exchange for a 2009 second round pick (sent to Portland).

# POSTSEASON TEAM NOTES

## IT TAKES TWO

By being tied for the second-best record in the Western Conference during the regular season, the Nuggets earned the second seed in the 2009 Playoffs by owning the tiebreakers over both San Antonio and Portland. This marked the fifth time in team history that the Nuggets had been a two seed (third time since the NBA reformatted its playoff structure to 16 teams in 1983-84), as well as their first time doing so since the 1988 Playoffs.

In five postseasons in which Denver had been a two seed, the Nuggets have now gone on to reach the Western Conference three times (see right). As a matter of fact, the only three Western Conference Finals appearances in Nuggets team history came as a two seed. Since joining the NBA in 1976, the Nuggets have gone on to win nine playoff series all-time, with six of those courtesy of second-seeded Nuggets teams.

NUGGETS 2ND SEED HISTORY			
YEAR	1ST ROUND	SEMIFINALS	CONF. FINALS
2009	Won 4-1 (Hornets)	Won 4-1 (Mavs)	Lost 2-4 (Lakers)
1988	Won 3-2 (Sonics)	Lost 2-4 (Mavs)	---
1985	Won 3-2 (Spurs)	Won 4-1 (Jazz)	Lost 1-4 (Lakers)
1978	Bye	Won 4-3 (Bucks)	Lost 2-4 (Sonics)
1976	Bye	Lost 2-4 (Blazers)	---

## HIS TIME TO SHINE

What a postseason for Chauncey Billups, averaging 20.6 ppg (tied for 13<sup>th</sup> in the NBA) and 6.8 apg (tied for 5<sup>th</sup>), while shooting .468 3FG and .906 FT (9<sup>th</sup>) in his first 16 playoff games as a Nugget. In addition to posting the second-most total assists in this year's playoffs (109), Billups also posted the fifth-best assist-to-turnover ratio in the league as well (3.52-to-1). He had two point/assist double-doubles this postseason, becoming the first Nugget to record multiple point/assist double-doubles during a postseason since Fat Lever had three in the 1985 Playoffs.

Billups scored 30+ points three times this postseason, including an impressive 36 points on 8-9 3FG shooting to lift the Nuggets to the 113-84 rout of the Hornets in Game 1 on 4/19. His 36 points on 4/19 were the most points ever by a player making his Nuggets postseason debut. In addition to setting a record for points in a debut, Billups also broke the Nuggets franchise record for the most three-pointers made in a playoff game as well. The Denver native connected on eight treys in the Game 1 win to break the previous record of six held by both Voshon Lenard and Michael Adams. His 19 3FG makes during the first round set a Nuggets record for threes in a series of any length, while his 44 3FG makes in 16 games shattered the team record for threes made in a postseason (previous was 20).

Billups now owns a career postseason scoring average of 17.7 ppg – over two points per game higher than his regular season career average (15.1).

## SOLIDIFYING HIMSELF WITH THE LEAGUE'S ELITE

In recent years, Carmelo Anthony has been thought of as one of the best regular season players in the NBA. With this year's playoff performance, you can now add him to the list of the best postseason players currently in the NBA as well. In 16 games, Anthony averaged 27.2 ppg (5<sup>th</sup> in the NBA), 5.8 rpg, 4.1 apg and 1.75 spg (7<sup>th</sup>) to help raise Denver to a 10-6 overall record and their first Western Conference Finals appearance since 1985. Anthony scored 30+ points seven times this postseason, including five-straight games from 5/9-5/21 – which set a new team record for consecutive 30-point games during the playoffs. With seven 30-point efforts, he became the first Nuggets player to post 30+ seven or more times in a playoff season since English did so seven times in 14 games during the 1985 NBA Playoffs. He averaged 30.0 ppg in the series with Dallas, becoming the only Nugget other than Alex English to average 30.0+ ppg for an entire series.

He posted a career-best 41 points and 11 rebounds in Game 4 of the Western Conference Semifinals at Dallas on 5/11 (eighth career playoff double-double), which was only the seventh 40+ scoring game in team playoff history. Anthony became only the fourth different Nugget to post 40+ points during the postseason (Alex English, Calvin Natt and David Thompson the others). In addition to being the third most points ever scored by a Nuggets player during the NBA playoffs (second most ever on the road), his 41 points were the most by a Nugget since English notched 42 vs. Houston on 5/8/86.

Anthony was especially good in the clutch during the Western Conference Semifinals. Of the 150 points that Anthony scored in the five games of the series, 50 of them came during the fourth quarter – that's an average of 10.0 points in the fourth period alone (33.3% of all his points in the series). He also hit his first ever postseason game-winning shot in Game 3 at Dallas on 5/9 – a three-point jumper with 1.0 seconds remaining to lift Denver to the 106-105 win. Melo now owns 11 game-winners in his young career (two of which came during the 2008-09 regular season as well).

LAST NINE GAMES	
AVG / PCT	
PPG	29.7
FG Pct.	.440 (85-193)
3FG Pct.	.357 (15-42)
FT Pct.	.820 (82-100)
RPG	5.9
APG	3.3
SPG	1.78

## NUGGETS' SHOOTING ON-TARGET THIS POSTSEASON

In recent years, the Nuggets had been considered one of the NBA's worst shooting teams from long range (ranking lower than 19<sup>th</sup> in 3FG percentage from 2002-08). However, the Nuggets showed solid improvements from long distance during the 2008-09 regular season and have shot their way deep into the postseason during the 2009 NBA Playoffs.

During the regular season, the Nuggets shot .371 as a team from beyond the arc, which ranked 13<sup>th</sup> in the NBA. Incredibly, their .371 shooting percentage represented the third-best in team history, trailing only that of the 1996-97 (.372) and 1989-90 (.377) seasons. Denver shot .383 from deep (2<sup>nd</sup> in the NBA) this postseason and connected on 129 3FG makes in 16 games, shattering the previous team record for makes in a playoff season (was 48 in 12 games in 1994). Prior to this year, only once had the Nuggets registered a better 3FG shooting percentage in the playoffs than their current .383 percentage (.410 in three games in 1989).

Entering this year, the team record for treys in a postseason game was nine at Phoenix on 4/30/89 – incredibly, the Nuggets connected on 9+ makes in seven of their 16 games during these playoffs, including two games with 10 and a team record of 11 on two occasions as well (Game 1 vs. New Orleans on 4/19 and Game 5 vs. Dallas on 5/13).

The rising three-point shooting percentage this year can certainly be attributed to the improvements made by a number of individuals. During the regular season, Carmelo Anthony (.371), Kenyon Martin (.368) and Dahntay Jones (.647) each posted new career-highs from three-point range, while the two top guns, J.R. Smith (.397) and Chauncey Billups (.408), were both hovering around .400 throughout much of the season.

## FORCING THE ISSUE

The Nuggets won 10 of their 16 games this postseason because of defense; in particularly forcing turnovers. Denver forced an average of 15.6 turnovers per game (2<sup>nd</sup> in the NBA). On two occasions this postseason, the Nuggets flustered their opponents into 20+ turnovers, including 27 by the Hornets in the 58-point blowout win at New Orleans in Game 4 on 4/27.

It is not as if Denver faced three of the most careless teams in the NBA either. During the regular season, New Orleans ranked fourth in the NBA in turnovers per contest (12.6), Dallas right behind them in fifth place (12.7) and the Lakers 11<sup>th</sup> in the league (13.5). As a matter of fact, the two floor generals for the Mavs and Hornets (Jason Kidd and Chris Paul) were among the league's very best at controlling the ball during the regular season as well. Kidd and Paul closed out the year ranking second and third in the NBA in assist-to-turnover ratio (Kidd: 3.79-to-1, Paul: 3.73-to-1). It didn't come easy for Kidd in the Conference Semifinals, committing 17 turnovers to go with just 31 assists (a ratio of 1.82-to-1); and it certainly didn't come easy for Paul during the first round as he committed 24 turnovers and posted a ratio of just 2.17-to-1.

All these turnovers definitely led to easy baskets for the Nuggets during the 2009 Playoffs. In 16 games, the Nuggets led the NBA in points off turnovers with an average of 18.8 per game (L.A. Lakers are the next closest at 16.9). Denver poured in a robust 41 points off turnovers in the 121-63 rout of New Orleans on 4/27.

## CONFERENCE FINALS, IT WAS FUN WHILE IT LASTED!

For the first time in 24 years, the Denver Nuggets returned to the Western Conference Finals. In addition to being the team's first appearance in the conference finale since 1985, this postseason marked only their third ever appearance in the West Finals since joining the NBA in 1976 (also in 1978 and '85). Entering this postseason, Denver was one of only five teams in the NBA currently experiencing a conference finals draught of 24+ seasons (Atlanta, Golden State, L.A. Clippers and Washington being the other four).

But just because the Nuggets as a franchise hadn't been to the conference finals in quite some time, that doesn't mean the guys in the trenches for this year's team were in unfamiliar territory. George Karl made his fourth conference finals appearance as a head coach (twice with Seattle and once with Milwaukee), becoming only the fifth head coach in NBA history to have led three different franchises to the conference finals – Larry Brown (four teams), Bill Fitch, Alex Hannum and Pat Riley being the only others. Both Chauncey Billups and Kenyon Martin had previously been to the conference finals as well – with Billups having made it an annual occurrence for each of the last seven years (six-straight with Detroit from 2003-08). He is actually one of just five players since 1970 to make seven-straight appearances in the conference finals (see right) and joins Wilt Chamberlain as the only two players in NBA history to play for seven-consecutive conference titles while with multiple teams. Chamberlain played in 10-straight from 1964-73 while with San Francisco (1), Philadelphia (4) and the L.A. Lakers (5).

7+ STRAIGHT CONFERENCE FINALS SINCE 1970		
PLAYER (TEAM)	CONF. FINALS	YEARS
Chauncey Billups (DET / DEN)	7	2003-Present
Kareem Abdul-Jabbar (LAL)	8	1982-89
Michael Cooper (LAL)	8	1982-89
Magic Johnson (LAL)	8	1982-89
Kurt Rambis (LAL)	7	1982-88

## NUGGETS MAKE THE FIRST ROUND LOOK "BIG EASY"

After winning just four games in their previous five postseasons combined, the Nuggets claimed four wins in just five first round games against the seventh seeded Hornets to punch a ticket to their first Western Conference Semifinals appearance since 1994. Denver dominated the series in just about every facet of the game and put together arguably the most masterful performance of any team in the first round so far this postseason.

For starters, the Nuggets averaged 108.4 ppg (2<sup>nd</sup> best in the NBA) and allowed a team playoff record-low 84.2 ppg (2<sup>nd</sup> best in the NBA). That +24.2 point differential is far and away the widest margin in the league during the first round – next closest was Cleveland's +15.5 average margin over Detroit. Incredibly, the last time a team posted a scoring margin of +24.2 points during an NBA playoff series was the L.A. Lakers in the 1987 first round against Denver (+27.3). Boosting the scoring margin for Denver was, of course, the 58-point victory that the Nuggets laid on the Hornets at New Orleans Arena in Game 4 on 4/27 (121-63).

Posting a +24.2 point scoring margin is a clear indication of things going right for Denver in the first round. For the series, the Nuggets shot .499 FG and .485 3FG to lead the entire NBA. The .499 FG shooting marks the third best percentage ever by a Nuggets team for an entire series and their best since the 1985 first round. Similarly, the .485 3FG percentage set a new team playoff record for an entire series. On the other end of the spectrum, the Nuggets held New Orleans to just .396 FG (1<sup>st</sup> in the NBA) and .326 3FG (4<sup>th</sup>) during the five-game series. The Hornets became the first ever Nuggets opponent to shoot below .400 FG for an entire series, while they also posted the lowest 3FG percentage in a series against the Nuggets since Utah in the 1994 Western Conference Semifinals (.255).

Additionally, the Nuggets ranked in the NBA's Top-5 in rebounds (41.8 / 4<sup>th</sup>), rebounds allowed (37.0 / tied for 4<sup>th</sup>), assists (25.0 / 2<sup>nd</sup>), assists allowed (15.8 / 3<sup>rd</sup>), steals (9.40 / 2<sup>nd</sup>) and turnovers forced (18.4 / 1<sup>st</sup>) during the first round matchup with New Orleans.

## NUGGETS GETTING NOTICED

An important part of every postseason is the announcements of the regular season awards. On 5/13, Nuggets stars Carmelo Anthony and Chauncey Billups were named to the 2008-09 All-NBA Third Team, becoming the first ever tandem in Nuggets history to be All-NBA honorees the same season. For Anthony, this marks the third time in his career that he has been selected to the All-NBA Third Team (also in 2005-06 and '06-07). This is the third All-NBA selection for Billups as well, however it is only his second time being named to the Third Team (2005-06 Second Team and 2006-07 Third Team).

In addition to his All-NBA honor, Billups was also chosen as the winner of the 2008-09 NBA Sportsmanship Award. Billups is the first ever Nugget to win the award since its inception in 1995. Nuggets Vice President of Basketball Operations Mark Warkentien was also honored this season as he was chosen by his peers to be the recipient of the 2008-09 NBA Executive of the Year award, becoming the first Nuggets front office official since Vince Boryla in 1984-85 to do so.

While Billups, Anthony and Warkentien may be the only Nuggets to have been honored with some sort of distinction in 2008-09, that doesn't mean that the rest of the team was forgotten by this year's voters. Listed below is where a handful of Nuggets finished in the voting for this season's major awards:

- **Head Coach George Karl** – Finished fifth in voting for the 2009 NBA Coach of the Year award (received 11 first place votes).
- **Chris Andersen** – Finished eighth in voting for both the NBA Defensive Player of the Year and the NBA Sixth Man of the Year awards.
- **J.R. Smith** – Finished second in voting for the 2009 NBA Sixth Man of the Year award (received three first place votes).
- **Mark Warkentien** – Winner of the 2008-09 NBA Executive of the Year award.
- **Nene** – Finished fifth in voting for the 2008-09 NBA Most Improved Player (received seven first place votes).
- **Carmelo Anthony** – Selected to the 2008-09 All-NBA Third Team.
- **Chauncey Billups** – Selected to the 2008-09 All-NBA Third Team, winner of the 2008-09 NBA Sportsmanship Award and finished sixth in voting for the 2008-09 NBA MVP award.

## NORTHWEST CHUMPS? – NOT SO FAST

Despite being chosen by many to be the third-best team in the Northwest Division during the preseason, the Nuggets powered their way to the 2008-09 Northwest Division Title and made their sixth-straight postseason appearance. This marks Denver's sixth division championship since joining the NBA in 1976, including the second in the last four seasons. To put it in perspective, the last time Denver registered two division titles within a four-year period, Ronald Reagan was the President of the United States (Midwest champs under Doug Moe in 1984-85 and 1987-88). The Nuggets are now tied with the Utah Jazz for the most Northwest Division crowns since its inception in 2004-05.

Hanging division banners is nothing new to Nuggets Head Coach George Karl. This becomes his seventh career division title – claimed four with Seattle, one with Milwaukee and now has two with Denver. He remains one of only five coaches in NBA history to have led at least three different teams to a division championship.

## MAKING IT SIX IN A ROW

For the sixth-consecutive year, the Nuggets played bonus basketball as a part of the NBA Playoffs. Besides Denver, only three other teams in the entire NBA made their sixth-straight postseason appearance since 2003-04 – those being Dallas, Detroit and San Antonio. The last time the Nuggets experienced six-straight playoff berths was from 1981-1990, when Doug Moe coached the Nuggets to a franchise record nine-straight postseason appearances.

The 2008-09 season also marked the Nuggets sixth-straight winning season, which continues the longest streak of non-losing seasons in team history. Prior to this six-year streak, Denver had recorded three-straight non-losing seasons on two separate occasions (1976-79 and 1987-90), but had never managed more than three-straight since joining the NBA in 1976 until now.

# POSTSEASON FASTBREAKS

## TEAM

- The Nuggets allowed 119 points in the Game 6 loss vs. L.A. Lakers on 5/29, which marked the 10<sup>th</sup> straight game in which Denver gave up 100+ points (5-5 in those games) – after holding the opposition to less than 100 in each of their first six games this postseason (5-1).
- Denver managed just 92 points in Game 6 vs. L.A. Lakers on 5/29, which was the lowest point total for the Nuggets this postseason. The Nuggets failed to score 100 points only four times in the 2009 Playoffs (all losses), while they have now lost nine-straight postseason games in which they scored less than 100 points, not to mention just 7-36 (.163) all-time in the playoffs when scoring fewer than 100.
- A sellout crowd of 20,053 packed the Pepsi Center for Game 6 vs. L.A. Lakers on 5/29, which set a new franchise record for attendance and marks only the second ever NBA game in Denver with 20,000+ fans – second-straight as 20,037 were in attendance in Game 4 on 5/25. The Nuggets have now registered four of the five biggest crowds in franchise history in the last four home games.
- The Nuggets outrebounded the Lakers 58-40 in Game 4 on 5/25. The +18 rebounding margin represents the widest positive rebounding margin for the Nuggets in a postseason game since 5/8/94 at Seattle (+22). This is only the seventh time in team playoff history that Denver has tallied 58+ rebounds.
- With the 19-point win in Game 4 vs. L.A. Lakers on 5/25, the Nuggets claimed all seven of their home wins this postseason by 10+ points. The last time a team recorded all of their postseason home wins by 10+ points (minimum of seven wins) was the Detroit Pistons in the 2005 NBA Playoffs (9).
- Denver attempted 49 free throws in Game 4 vs. L.A. Lakers on 5/25, setting a new team record for FT attempts in a postseason game – previous record was 48 at Utah on 5/17/94.
- Denver tied a team playoff record with a mere six turnovers in Game 4 vs. L.A. Lakers on 5/25. Impressively, five of those six turnovers for the Nuggets came during the second quarter alone, while dishing out 16 assists with just one turnover during the other three periods combined.
- The Nuggets were outshot (.443 to .455), outrebounded (42 to 43) and out-assisted (20 to 21) by the Lakers in their Game 2 win on 5/21. This marks the first time since 4/24/05 at San Antonio in which Denver has won a playoff game despite being out performed in all three of those categories. As a matter of fact, this is only the fourth time in Nuggets postseason history that Denver won under these circumstances (also on both 5/2/86 and 5/4/86 vs. Houston).
- Denver shot .585 (48-82) from the field vs. Dallas on 5/13, which represents the third highest shooting percentage ever by a Nuggets team in the postseason and the highest since 5/2/94 (.603 vs. Seattle). The Nuggets went 7-0 this postseason when shooting .500+ as a team, while they are now 26-7 all-time when doing so during the Playoffs. With the Game 5 win vs. Dallas, they also improved to 32-3 this year when shooting .500+ from the floor (25-3 during the regular season). The seven games of .500+ shooting are the most times that Denver has shot .500+ during a postseason since the 1985 Playoffs (eight).
- Denver scored 124 points in their Game 5 win vs. Dallas on 5/13, which is the most points that the Nuggets scored this postseason and the most they have scored in a playoff game since having 126 on 5/10/88 – also happened to be vs. Dallas in the Western Conference Semifinals.
- The Nuggets made 11 three-point field goals in game 5 vs. Dallas on 5/13, tying a team playoff record. Additionally, Dallas went 12-34 (.353) from long distance in Game 5, tying a Nuggets opponent record for 3FG makes and setting a new Nuggets opponent record for 3FG attempts.
- The Game 4 loss at Dallas on 5/11 snapped Denver's five-game playoff winning streak, which had been the longest winning streak in Nuggets' NBA postseason history.
- The Nuggets collected 15 steals in Game 1 vs. Dallas on 5/3, tying the team record for steals in a playoff game.
- With the 21-point win in Game 5 on 4/29, Denver closed out the series outscoring New Orleans by an average of 24.2 points per game. They outscored the Hornets by 121 points in the five games, more than doubling their previous best margin of victory for a series (+10.6 against San Antonio in 1985). The last time a team posted a scoring margin of +24.2 points or better during a playoff series was the L.A. Lakers in the 1987 first round vs. Denver (+27.3). This also represents the first time in Nuggets NBA playoff history that they recorded four wins of 15+ points in the same postseason series.
- Denver held New Orleans to just .315 (17-54) FG shooting in Game 4 on 4/29, which is the lowest FG percentage ever allowed by a Nuggets opponent during the postseason. For the series, the Nuggets held the Hornets to under .400 shooting as a team in three of the five games, while the .396 shooting percentage posted by New Orleans in the series set a new Nuggets opponent postseason low (first ever opponent held below .400 shooting for a series).
- The Nuggets held New Orleans to a number of opponent postseason lows in Game 4 on 4/27, including: total points (63), points in a half (24), points in a quarter (11), FG makes (17), FG attempts (54), FG percentage (.315) and assists (10). In addition to setting a Nuggets opponent low for points in a half, New Orleans' 24 second half points tied the third-lowest second half point total in NBA playoff history.
- Denver's 121-63 win at New Orleans in Game 4 on 4/27 tied the NBA record for the widest margin of victory in a playoff game – the Minneapolis Lakers defeated St. Louis by 58 on 3/19/56 (133-75). Additionally, it set a new NBA record for the widest margin of victory on the road in a playoff game as well – previous record was 56 by Los Angeles at Golden State on 4/21/73 (126-70).
- Denver shot .566 (43-76) from the field in Game 4 at New Orleans on 4/27, which represents the Nuggets highest FG percentage in a playoff game since shooting .603 (41-68) vs. Seattle in the first round on 5/2/94. The Nuggets shot .500+ as a team in four of their five first round games with the Hornets, after

failing to do so in the 24 postseason games prior (dating back to the 1995 first round). For the series, the Nuggets shot .499 (191-383) from the floor – the highest FG percentage for the Nuggets for an entire series since the 1985 first round (.500) and their third highest series FG percentage ever. They were 25-3 during the regular season when shooting .500+ from the floor.

- The Nuggets allowed just 63 points in Game 4 at New Orleans on 4/27, representing the lowest opponent point total in Nuggets NBA playoff history. The 63 points were lower than the lowest point total that Denver has ever allowed during the regular season as well (67 by New Orleans on 11/29/04). They were also the fifth fewest points ever scored in an NBA playoff game. For the series, the Hornets averaged just 84.2 ppg, which is the lowest PPG average by a Nuggets opponent in a postseason series in team history.

## INDIVIDUAL

- J.R. Smith scored 24 points in Game 6 vs. L.A. Lakers on 5/29, marking his fourth 20+ scoring game this postseason (sixth of his career). Smith had a good postseason for Denver, scoring 10+ points in 13 of his 16 appearances, while he has now scored 10+ points in 17 of his last 20 postseason games and is averaging 15.6 ppg over these 20 games (all as a reserve).
- Carmelo Anthony totaled 31 points in Game 5 at L.A. Lakers on 5/27, marking his seventh 30-point performance this postseason (ninth of his career). He becomes the first Nuggets player to score 30+ points seven times during a single postseason since Alex English did so seven times in 14 games during the 1985 NBA Playoffs.
- With Kenyon Martin (15), Chris Andersen (14) and Nene (13) all pulling down 13+ rebounds in Game 4 vs. L.A. Lakers on 5/25, the Nuggets become the first team to have three players grab 13+ boards in a postseason game since the Utah Jazz on 5/17/94 vs. Denver (2OT). It also marks only the fourth time in Nuggets playoff history that Denver has had three players with 10+ boards in the same game.
- Chauncey Billups totaled 27 points (13-16 FT) in Game 2 at L.A. Lakers on 5/21. This marks the fourth time that he made 10+ free throws during this year's playoffs, while he becomes the first Nuggets player ever to make 10+ free throws in four separate games during a single postseason.
- Chauncey Billups posted the 11<sup>th</sup> playoff double-double of his career (second as a Nugget) with 28 points and 12 assists in Game 5 vs. Dallas on 5/13. He is the first Nuggets player since Fat Lever in 1985 to record 10+ assists multiple times during a postseason and only the third player all-time to do so (Bobby Wilkerson also did so in the 1978 Playoffs). Additionally, he is the first Nuggets player to have multiple points/assists double-doubles during a postseason since Fat Lever had three during the 1985 postseason.
- Carmelo Anthony scored a postseason career-best 41 points in Game 4 at Dallas on 5/11, becoming only the fourth different Nugget to post 40+ points in the postseason (joining Alex English, Calvin Natt and David Thompson). His 41 points are the most by a Nuggets player since English notched 42 vs. Houston on 5/8/86, while it represents the second most points ever scored by a Nugget on the road in the playoffs (behind only English's 42 at Phoenix on 4/24/83).
- In Game 4 at Dallas on 5/11, Carmelo Anthony (41 points and 11 rebounds) and Dirk Nowitzki (44 points and 13 rebounds) became the third pair of players in NBA playoff history to each score 40+ points and grab 10+ rebounds in the same game – the others being Jerry West and Elgin Baylor as Lakers teammates (vs. Detroit in 1962) and Michael Jordan and Charles Barkley (Chicago vs. Phoenix in 1993).
- Carmelo Anthony hit his first career postseason game-winning shot in Game 3 at Dallas on 5/9 – a three-pointer with 1.0 seconds remaining. This represents the 11<sup>th</sup> game-winner that Anthony has made during his career, including the third this season (also made game-winners at Oklahoma City on both 1/2 and 4/9 during the regular season). This is only the third game-winner of his career that was a three-pointer, while it was the ninth to have come on the road.
- Both Chauncey Billups (11-12) and Carmelo Anthony (11-14) made 10+ free throws in Game 3 at Dallas on 5/9. They are the first Nuggets duo to each make 10 or more free throws in the same postseason game since Bryant Stith (14-14) and Robert Pack (11-12) did so in Game 5 of the 1994 Western Conference Semifinals at Utah on 5/17/94. Additionally, both Dirk Nowitzki (13-15) and Brandon Bass (12-14) made 10+ free throws for Dallas as well – never before in Nuggets playoff history had four different players connected on 10 or more free throws during the same game.
- Nene posted a new postseason career-high 25 points (8-12 FG, 9-13 FT) in Game 2 vs. Dallas on 5/5, marking the second-straight game in which he has scored 20+ points and set a new playoff career-best for points (had 24 points in Game 1). Entering the Semifinals series with Dallas, Nene had never before posted 20 points in a playoff game.
- Chris Andersen set a new playoff career-high with six blocks in Game 1 vs. Dallas on 5/3. His six blocks mark the most blocked shots by a Nuggets player during the playoffs since Dikembe Mutombo registered seven in Game 5 of the 1994 Western Conference Semifinals at Utah on 5/17/94.
- Chauncey Billups shot 3-6 from three-point range in Game 5 vs. New Orleans on 4/29 and finished the series with 19 total three-pointers, setting a Nuggets record for 3FG makes in a playoff series of any length (previous 11 by Voshon Lenard in five games vs. Minnesota in 2004). Included in the 19 was an 8-9 3FG performance during Game 1 on 4/19, which set a new franchise record for 3FG makes in a game (one make shy of tying the NBA playoff record).
- Chauncey Billups led the Nuggets with 36 points (8-9 3FG) during Game 1 vs. New Orleans on 4/19. His 36 point-performance represents the most points scored by a Nuggets player in a postseason game since Alex English had 36 at Phoenix on 4/30/89, while it also marks the highest point total ever for a player making his Nuggets playoff debut (previous 34 by Walter Davis at Phoenix on 4/28/89. This is also the most points that he scored in a Nuggets uniform this season.

## REGULAR SEASON TEAM NOTES

### AS GOOD AS IT GETS

The Nuggets' 2008-09 regular season was one for the ages as they managed an overall record of 54-28 on the year. Prior to this season, only once had the Nuggets ever posted 54 wins as a member of the NBA (see right). They closed out the year tied for the second-most wins in the Western Conference and the seventh-most in the entire NBA.

With the 114-104 win vs. Utah on 4/2, the 2008-09 Nuggets claimed their 50<sup>th</sup> victory and became the fastest Nuggets team to earn 50 wins in NBA history (76 games). It marked the second-straight year that Denver had reached the 50-win plateau, which had never been accomplished by the Nuggets prior to these last two seasons.

BEST RECORDS IN NUGGETS HISTORY		
SEASON	FINAL RECORD	PLAYOFFS
<b>2008-09</b>	<b>54-28</b>	<b>Western Finals</b>
1987-88	54-28	Western Semis
1984-85	52-30	Western Finals
2007-08	50-32	First Round
1976-77	50-32	Western Semis

**MAKING OPPONENTS SAY: “SON OF A BENCH”**

For as much of an impact that Chauncey Billups, Carmelo Anthony and the other usual starters had on the Nuggets this season, Denver’s bench played just as big of a role in the team record tying 54-28 season.

Behind 15.2 ppg from J.R. Smith, the Nuggets bench ranked third in the NBA with an average of 33.9 ppg on the season. Smith notched 20+ points 11 times off the bench, including four games with 30+ and a career-high 45 vs. Sacramento on 4/13 – the most points ever scored by a Nugget off the bench in team history. In addition to Smith, Linas Kleiza also adds a great deal of pop to Denver’s bench. As the only player to appear in all 82 games for Denver this season, Kleiza (9.9 ppg) scored 20 or more points as a reserve on seven occasions, while he pitched in double-digits 36 times off the bench, including each of the last five games to close out the season.

It’s not just points that make the Nuggets bench so impressive. Denver actually led the entire NBA in both blocks (2.87) and assists (8.0) per game off the bench in 2008-09 as well. Chris Andersen closed out the regular season ranking second in the league in blocks per game (2.46), despite averaging just 20.6 minutes per contest off the bench. With an average of 4.7 apg in a mere 22.9 mpg on the year, Anthony Carter led the league among all players averaging fewer than 27.0 minutes during the regular season.

**DEFENSE THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN WINS AND LOSSES**

The age old saying is that defense wins championships, while the Nuggets will be looking prove this theory during the 2009 NBA Playoffs. On the year, Denver was 29-5 when keeping their opponents below 100, not to mention 16-0 when holding the opposition to 90 or less points. Additionally, the Nuggets were 15-2 this season when the competition shot under .400 from the field. Impressively, Denver held its opponents to .440 FG shooting on the year – the second lowest FG percentage in the team’s 33-year NBA history (only .438 in 1993-94 was a lower opponent percentage).

On the other end of the spectrum, the Nuggets struggled to earn wins this season when not containing the opposition. While only 12 Nuggets opponents shot better than .500 from the field this season, eight of those 12 games resulted in a loss. Additionally, 23 of Denver’s 28 losses took place at the hands of opponents scoring 100+ points.

The Nuggets defense was unquestionably the lynch-pin between winning and losing during the regular season, illustrated below. Denver ranked fourth in the NBA in opponents FG percentage (.440), second in blocked shots (6.00), third in steals (8.66) and fifth in turnovers forced (15.4). As a matter of fact, the Nuggets actually led the Western Conference in opponent FG percentage and ranked third in turnovers forced.

WINS	
CATEGORY	AVG/PCT.
Opp. PPG	97.9
Opp. FG Pct.	.423
Opp. Turnovers	16.4
RPG	43.0
Opp. RPG	40.3
Rebound Margin	+146 (2322-2176)

LOSSES	
CATEGORY	AVG/PCT.
Opp. PPG	106.8
Opp. FG Pct.	.474
Opp. Turnovers	13.6
RPG	38.9
Opp. RPG	43.1
Rebound Margin	-116 (1090-1206)

**NUGGETS + ASSISTS = WINS**

As is the case with most teams in the NBA, when the assists numbers begin to rise for the Nuggets, so too do the numbers in the W column. The Nuggets closed out the regular season ranking sixth in the NBA in assists per outing (22.2), marking the fifth-straight season in which they have ranked in the Top-10 in assists – they were third last season (24.7). This season Denver went 8-2 when tallying 30+ dimes, not to mention 35-6 when simply dishing out 22 or more assists as a team (including 30-2 in their final 32 games doing so). Against Indiana on 1/5, the Nuggets set a season-high for assists with 38 in the 135-115 home win.

The catalysts behind Denver’s assisting success are of course Chauncey Billups and Anthony Carter. Billups ranked 15<sup>th</sup> in the NBA in assists (6.4), while Carter’s 4.7 apg were the most in the NBA among players seeing fewer than 27.0 minutes per ballgame. On the year, Denver went 16-2 when a player handed out 10+ assists, including 10-1 when Billups did so.

For as much of an impact as assists had on the Nuggets wins this season, they’ve also seemed to have a definite impact on their losses as well. On the year, the Nuggets were just 8-14 when recording 18 or fewer assists as a team.

**C-BILLS SEES RESULTS**

When the Nuggets acquired Chauncey Billups from the Detroit Pistons on 11/3, it’s safe to say no one expected the deal to have as large of an impact as it did for Denver. After arriving back with his hometown team, Billups guided the Nuggets to a 52-25 record while posting averages of 17.9 ppg and 6.4 apg. As a comparison, only once in his career had he averaged more points for a season (18.5 in 2005-06).

In 79 total games in 2008-09, Billups averaged 17.7 ppg, 6.4 apg (15<sup>th</sup> in the NBA), 3.0 rpg and 1.18 spg while leading his teams to a 54-25 record (2-0 with Detroit). He led the Nuggets in scoring 24 times and assists 52 times during his 77 games with Denver. He posted 10 double-doubles as a Nugget, including consecutive outings with 28 points and 10 assists vs. Houston (11/30) and 24 points and a season-best 14 dimes vs. Toronto (12/2).

When it comes to being a multi-faceted player, Billups is in elite company in the NBA. Only five qualifying players in the league averaged more points AND more assists than Billups this year – all of whom were 2009 NBA All-Stars alongside Billups (see above).

PLAYER	ASSISTS	POINTS
Chris Paul, New Orleans	11.0	22.8
Dwyane Wade, Miami	7.5	30.2
LeBron James, Cleveland	7.2	28.4
Tony Parker, San Antonio	6.9	22.0
Devin Harris, New Jersey	6.9	21.3
<b>Chauncey Billups, Denver</b>	<b>6.4</b>	<b>17.7</b>

**TAKING WHAT THE GAME GIVES HIM**

In 66 games this season, Carmelo Anthony may not have averaged his typical scoring figures – his 22.8 ppg may have been tied for seventh in the NBA, but it marked his lowest scoring average since averaging a career-low 20.8 ppg in 2004-05. However, Anthony did not force the issue whatsoever and seemed to embrace the other aspects of his game to help the Nuggets earn a 45-21 overall record under his watch – with six of the 21 losses coming at the hands of the 65-17 Lakers (vs. LAL on 11/1 and at LAL on 11/21), 66-16 Cavs (at CLE on 11/13 and vs. CLE on 12/19) and 62-20 Celtics (vs. BOS on 2/23).

Despite his points being down for the year, Melo actually put up his more typical numbers down the stretch of the season. Over the last 14 games, he averaged 26.2 ppg on .465 FG shooting. Four of his 13 30-point performances this season came during his last 14 games – including 43 in the Nuggets 103-101 road win at Dallas on 3/27 (the most points he has ever scored in a road game).

But the game was about more than just scoring for Anthony this season, evidenced by his 6.8 rpg and 3.4 apg (second-best RPG and APG of his career) to go along with 12 double-doubles on the year. Despite missing 16 games this season, among all small forwards Anthony was tied for the fifth-most double-doubles in the league (second-most in the Western Conference), while he registered the fourth-highest RPG average as well (first in the West).

Although he had only 13 30-point efforts this year (including two 40-point outbursts), Carmelo remained one of the most consistently unstoppable offensive players in the NBA. The last time Melo did not score double digits in a game in which he remained completely healthy was on 3/13/05 vs. Phoenix (9) – a streak of 306-consecutive games and counting.

## J.R. BUCKETS

In 81 appearances this season, Nuggets guard J.R. Smith put together the best all-around season of his young career, averaging career-highs of 15.2 ppg, 3.7 rpg and 2.8 apg, while playing a career-high 27.7 mpg as well. He notched 20+ points on 18 occasions (30+ four times, 40+ twice), including a career-high 45 points (11-18 3FG) vs. Sacramento on 4/13.

For yet another season, Smith was one of the Nuggets premier perimeter scorers despite doing most of his damage off the bench. On the year, Smith ranked fourth in the NBA for the highest scoring average among players who started fewer than 20 games (see right). He connected on 180 three-pointers this season, with 143 of those makes coming as a reserve – the fifth most 3FG makes off the bench in the NBA this season. His 180 three-pointers on the year rank as the second-best single season mark in team history – surpassing Michael Adams' 167 3FG makes in 1990-91.

Smith lived up to his nickname (J.R. Swish) against the Kings on 4/13, exploding for a career-high 45 points while setting a new Nuggets team record for 3FG makes in a game with 11 – surpassing the previous record of nine held by Mahmoud Abdul-Rauf and Michael Adams. His 11 3FG makes tied the third-best output ever in an NBA regular season game and were just one shy of tying the NBA record of 12 – he is one of four players in NBA history to have made 11+ threes in a game. Smith became the first player in the NBA to make 11+ three-pointers in a game since Donyell Marshall on 3/13/05 (12), while he and Marshall are the only players in NBA history to have made 10+ threes despite coming off the bench.

UNDER 20 STARTS *	GM	S	PPG
Jason Terry, Dallas	74	11	19.6
Corey Maggette, Golden St.	51	19	18.6
Nate Robinson, New York	74	11	17.2
<b>J.R. Smith, Denver</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>15.2</b>
Leandro Barbosa, Phoenix	70	11	14.2

\* *Minimum of 50 games played.*

## BIRD OF PREY

Arguably the biggest surprise on the Nuggets roster this season was the impact of Chris Andersen in the post. While he was originally signed to rebound and block shots, the rate at which he did those tasks this season made the departure of Marcus Camby somewhat easier to cope with. In 71 appearances, Birdman averaged 2.46 bpg (second in the NBA – actually ahead of Camby) to go along with 6.2 rpg in just 20.6 minutes per contest. As far as his blocks are concerned, that's an impressive 5.76 blocks per 48 minutes, which led the NBA. On top of that, Andersen also led the entire Nuggets team in rebounds per 48 minutes as well (14.6).

Andersen was flying extra high towards the conclusion of the regular season, registering eight of his 11 10-rebound performances in the final 25 games – three of which consisted of a season-high 12 boards. In addition to averaging 7.9 rpg, Birdman had also blocked an average of 3.08 shots during the last 25 outings as well. Included in the 25 games were three of his five double-doubles on the year – including a career-high 18 points, 11 rebounds and six blocks vs. Washington on 3/20 and 11 points, 12 boards and seven blocks against the Lakers on 2/27. While it may not have been a double-double against Utah on 4/2, Birdman was extra intimidating as he posted seven points, 10 rebounds and a career-high eight blocks in the win.

## KARL KEEPS THE WINS COMING

With all that Nuggets Head Coach George Karl has accomplished throughout his years in the NBA – currently with 933 wins – there is no doubt that he can be considered one of the best coaches in league history. However, with the numbers that he has been putting up while roaming the Nuggets sideline, there is no question Karl should be viewed as royalty among Denver's all-time coaching ranks. In only about four and a half seasons, Karl already ranks second in Nuggets NBA history and third in franchise history (both NBA and ABA) with 225 wins – see below. His .611 winning percentage with Denver is unmatched by any Nuggets coach since the team joined the NBA in 1976.

In addition to coaching his 1,500<sup>th</sup> career NBA game on 11/11 at Charlotte, Karl reached yet another milestone during the 2008-09 season as he earned his 900<sup>th</sup> career win at Toronto on 12/31. He is only the 10<sup>th</sup> coach in league history to have won 900 career games, while he is the fifth fastest to reach the 900-win plateau – Phil Jackson, Pat Riley, Red Auerbach and Jerry Sloan are the only others to do so in fewer games than Karl.

Karl currently stands as the eighth longest tenured coach in the NBA as his reign in Denver dates back to 1/27/05. Of the seven coaches ahead of Karl on the tenure list, only San Antonio's Gregg Popovich has had more wins (254) with his respective team since Jan. 2005 than Karl has experienced with the Nuggets.

NUGGETS ALL-TIME WINS LIST			
HEAD COACH	SEASONS	RECORD	PCT.
Doug Moe	9+	432-357	.548
Larry Brown (ABA & NBA)	4+	251-134	.649
<b>George Karl</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>225-143</b>	<b>.611</b>
Dan Issel	4+	180-208	.464
Alex Hannum (ABA)	3	118-134	.468

## NENE NOT BACKING DOWN

While the 2008-09 averages for Nene were by no means eye popping in 77 games – 14.6 ppg, 7.8 rpg, 1.23 spg and 1.31 bpg – they did, however, represent new personal career-highs in each category other than steals. He scored 10+ points in 67 of his 77 games (20+ 12 times), while recording a single season career-best 20 double-doubles in the process – most recently with 17 points and 10 boards at L.A. Lakers on 4/9.

For the season, he shot .604 from the field, which finished second in the NBA behind only Phoenix's Shaquille O'Neal by mere percentage points (.609). Nene absolutely shattered the Nuggets single season franchise record for FG percentage (.580) by Kiki Vandeweghe in 1983-84). Impressively, he posted a shooting percentage of .700 or better in 26 of his 77 appearances this season; whereas he shot below .500 just 18 times, with Denver losing 10 of those 18 games. The crown jewel of his FG shooting came vs. Utah on 1/25, in which he tied a 31-year-old team record for makes without a miss by going 12-12 from the field (Bobby Jones also shot 12-12 FG on 3/15/78 vs. Golden State).

It is pretty incredible to think about the level at which Nene played at this season, after what he had been through in recent years. He missed 66 games last season because of injury, including 37 contests (1/11-3/24) after a bout with testicular cancer. While he did have a solid season in 64 appearances during the 2006-07 season, he missed 81 games in 2005-06 after tearing the ACL in his right knee minutes into the season opener at San Antonio on 11/1/05.

## WANTED: 30-SOMETHING IN DENVER

Since Nuggets head coach George Karl arrived in Denver, he has preached the power of 30 on a regular basis. Basically, Karl believes that when a team can tally 30+ in a few key categories (namely assists, paint buckets and free throws makes) they become very tough to beat. Looking back at recent Nuggets statistical history, Karl might just be onto something here.

Since the start of 2004-05, the Nuggets have been an impressive 50-11 (.820) when dishing out 30 or more assists as a team, including 8-2 when doing so this year. Denver has been just as good when tallying 60+ points in the paint, which is roughly the equivalent to 30+ paint buckets. While the Nuggets only scored 60+ seven times this year (all wins), they are an impressive 30-7 (.811) since 2004-05 when scoring at least 30 baskets in the paint. And while the Nuggets haven't been as reliable when making 30+ free throws since the 04-05 season (47-16 / .746), they were an impressive 15-2 when doing so this season.

The question now: how unbeatable does Denver become when recording 30+ in all three categories in the same game? The answer...pretty damn unbeatable. Since the beginning of the 2004-05 season, only once have the Nuggets recorded 30+ assists, 30+ paint buckets and 30+ free throw makes – that being their 168-116 drubbing of Seattle at the Pepsi Center on 3/16/08 (44 assists, 64 points in the paint and 30 made free throws).

## DOWN, BUT NEVER OUT

For the second-straight season the Nuggets proved to be one of the most resilient teams in the NBA, erasing double-digit deficits on 14 occasions during the regular season (see below). Last season Denver ranked second in the league with 15 double-digit comebacks, while they also earned 10 come-from-behind victories despite trailing after three periods.

Included in their 13 big comeback wins this season was a historic 18-point halftime deficit to knock off the Clippers in overtime on 10/31 in Los Angeles. The 113-103 comeback win at the Staples Center on 10/31 tied the second largest post-halftime comeback in team history, while it also marked just the third double-digit overtime win in team history and tied the widest OT margin of victory in the process.

Additionally, the Nuggets have not let early deficits play with their psyche thus far, having gone 12-15 this season despite trailing at halftime.

DOUBLE-DIGIT COME-FROM-BEHIND WINS IN 2008-09				
OPPONENT	DATE	BIGGEST DEFICIT	SCORE (TIME)	FINAL SCORE
@ L.A. Clippers	10/31	Down 18	39-57 (10:10 3rd) *	Won 113-103 (OT)
vs. Memphis	11/9	Down 10	28-38 (10:17 2nd)	Won 100-90
@ Charlotte	11/11	Down 10	22-32 (7:36 2nd)	Won 88-80
vs. Minnesota	12/10	Down 16	36-52 (3:49 2nd)	Won 116-105
vs. Philadelphia	12/26	Down 17	57-74 (4:13 3rd) *	Won 105-101
@ Oklahoma City	1/2	Down 14	60-74 (9:52 3rd) *	Won 122-120
vs. Phoenix	1/15	Down 14	39-53 (5:02 2nd) *	Won 119-113 (OT)
vs. Sacramento	1/20	Down 10	24-34 (9:55 2nd)	Won 118-99
@ Oklahoma City	2/4	Down 17	48-65 (1:49 2nd) *	Won 114-113
@ Philadelphia	2/18	Down 16	15-31 (10:04 2nd)	Won 101-89
@ Memphis	3/18	Down 17	62-79 (5:08 3rd) *	Won 111-109
vs. Golden State	3/28	Down 14	7-21 (4:52 1st)	Won 129-116
vs. Utah	4/2	Down 11	11-22 (2:19 1st)	Won 114-104
vs. Sacramento	4/13	Down 11	29-40 (9:41 2nd)	Won 118-98

\* Indicates that the Nuggets trailed during the fourth quarter of the win.

## THE BUMPS IN THE ROAD ARE FEW AND FAR BETWEEN

One game removed from the NBA All-Star break, the Nuggets were 17-11 on the road and appeared to be on the fast-track to the team record for road wins in a single season. From that point on Denver went just 4-9 on the road and finished the year at 21-20 away from the Pepsi Center – one win shy of tying the team record for road wins in a season (22 set in 2006-07).

The Nuggets have proven to be pretty darn good on the road under George Karl, having gone a respectable 91-93 on the road with Karl at the helm. A clear indication of Denver's success on the road under Karl is the fact that the two best road records in team history have taken place with him on the sidelines – those being 22-19 in 2006-07 and 21-20 this season. As a matter of fact, the Nuggets had never experienced 20 road wins in a season until Karl arrived in 2005.

And despite their struggles over the final two months of the season, Denver remained one of only four teams in the entire Western Conference to register a winning record on the road this season.

## HOME SWEET HOME

Throughout the 70s and 80s Denver was one of the most feared locales in the NBA as the Nuggets tallied an impressive home record of 423-151 (.737) from 1976-77 to 1989-90 at McNichols Sports Arena – the fifth-best winning percentage in the entire NBA during that time period. With a record of 33-8 at the Pepsi Center in 2007-08 and 33-8 this season, the Nuggets definitely recaptured some of that same homecourt advantage of yesteryear.

On three separate occasions this season, the Nuggets put together five-game home winning streaks – including a season-high 10-game win streak to close out the regular season from 3/11 to 4/13. Amazingly, Denver has not lost consecutive regular season games at the Pepsi Center since 2006-07 (2/5 and 2/7/07). By going the entire 2007-08 and 2008-09 seasons without dropping consecutive home games, this marks only the second time in team history that Denver has done so for two full seasons – the others being 1976-77 and 1977-78.

During the 2007-08 season, the Nuggets went 33-8 at the Pepsi Center and managed their best home record since 1988-89 (35-6). With 33 home wins in 2008-09, the Nuggets managed back-to-back 30-win seasons in Denver for only the fourth time since joining the NBA in 1976, while it is their first time doing so since 1987-88 (35) and 1988-89 (35).

The Nuggets averaged 107.8 ppg at the Pepsi Center this season, as opposed to 100.9 ppg in their 41 games on the road. On the year Denver won at home by an average of 12.1 ppg, which includes seven wins of 18 or more points and a season-high 39-point victory over the Toronto Raptors on 12/2 (132-93).

## REGULAR SEASON FASTBREAKS

### TEAM

- The Nuggets finished the year with an overall record of 54-28, which is tied for the best record in Nuggets NBA history (also 54-28 in 1987-88). This is just the fifth time that Denver has registered 50+ wins since joining the NBA in 1976, while it is their second-straight year doing so – had never posted back-to-back 50-win seasons prior to these last two years.
- Denver claimed the 2008-09 Northwest Division title, representing the sixth ever division crown for the Nuggets and their first since 2005-06. Additionally, this marks George Karl's seventh division title as an NBA head coach.
- The Nuggets closed out the 2008-09 season with an overall record of 31-6 against sub-500 teams. Impressively, Denver went the entire season without losing a single home game to a sub-500 opponent as well.
- Denver finished the season with a record of 45-3 when leading at the start of the fourth period, which ranked as the second-best record in the NBA under those circumstances (Cleveland led the league at 55-3).
- The Nuggets ended the year ranking fourth in the NBA in FG percentage allowed (.440). This is the second lowest opponent FG percentage in Nuggets team history (only .438 in 1993-94 was a lower opponent shooting percentage).
- Denver has scored 110+ points seven of the last nine games overall, as well as each of the last eight home games. Denver posted a record of 29-3 during the regular season when scoring 110 or more points (20-0 when doing so at home). Additionally, the Nuggets scored 120+ points nine times during the regular season, winning all nine of those games.

### INDIVIDUAL

- Carmelo Anthony scored 30+ points 13 times during the regular season, with the Nuggets going 11-2 in those games.
- Carmelo Anthony moved into 4<sup>th</sup> on the Nuggets all-time scoring list past Ralph Simpson on 2/22 (now has 10,756 career points).
- Carmelo Anthony exploded for 33 in the third quarter of the Nuggets' 116-105 win vs. Minnesota on 12/10. He became only the fourth player in NBA history to score at least 31 points in a single quarter – joining Gervin, Denver's David Thompson (32 on 4/9/78) and Philadelphia's Wilt Chamberlain (31 on 3/2/62). Unfortunately, Anthony's feat came in front of what was the smallest Pepsi Center crowd to attend a Nuggets game during the 2008-09 regular season (14,007).
- Carmelo Anthony scored his 10,000<sup>th</sup> career point at Oklahoma City on 2/4, becoming the third youngest player in NBA history to reach the 10,000-point plateau (behind only LeBron James and Kobe Bryant).
- Chauncey Billups was selected as a reserve to his fourth-straight NBA All-Star Game in 2009 – notched five points and three assists in 19 minutes in Phoenix on 2/15.
- Chauncey Billups was named Western Conference Player of the Week for games played from 11/10-11/16, averaging 21.5 ppg and 5.8 apg while leading Denver to a 3-1 record.
- Denver went 22-9 during the 2008-09 season when Chauncey Billups scored 20+ points. Interestingly though, Billups failed to score 20 or more points in each of his last 10 games of the regular season, marking his longest stretch of the year without a 20-point performance.
- Chauncey Billups dished out 10+ assists 11 times in 2008-09, with Denver going 10-1 in those games.
- Chauncey Billups finished the season shooting .913 from the free throw line, which ranked fourth in the NBA. This marks the highest FT percentage posted by a Nugget since Earl Boykins shot .921 from the charity stripe in 2004-05 (Boykins ranked second that year).
- Nene set a new team record by shooting .604 from the field in 2008-09, finishing second in the NBA behind only Phoenix's Shaquille O'Neal by mere percentage points (.609). He is the first Nuggets player to shoot over .600 for an entire season, and he also becomes the first Nuggets player since Dikembe Mutombo in 1993-94 to finish among the Top-2 in the NBA in FG percentage (Mutombo finished second that year with a shooting percentage of .569).
- Nene pulled down a career-best 20 double-doubles in 2008-09, including six of the 20-point/10-rebound variety.
- J.R. Smith scored 20+ points 18 times this season, including 30+ four times and 40+ twice. He had a season-high 45 points (11-18 3FG) vs. Sacramento on 4/13, which broke his own record for the most points ever scored by a Nuggets reserve.
- J.R. Smith shot 11-18 (.611) 3FG vs. Sacramento on 4/13, setting a new Nuggets team record for 3FG makes in a game. His 11 3FG makes tied the third-most ever in an NBA regular season game and were just one shy of tying the NBA record of 12. Smith became the first player in the NBA to make 11+ three-pointers in a game since Donyell Marshall on 3/13/05 (12), while he and Marshall are the only players in NBA history to have made 10+ treys despite coming off the bench.
- J.R. Smith made a career-high 180 three-pointers during the 2008-09 season, which ranked as the fifth-most in the NBA and the second-most in a single season in team history. He connected on at least seven three-pointers in three of the final four home games of the season.
- Linas Kleiza notched 10+ points in 39 games during the regular season, including each of the last five games to close out the year (seven of the last nine).
- Chris Andersen averaged a career-high 2.46 bpg on the season, ranking second in the NBA and first in blocks per 48 minutes (5.76). He becomes the first Nuggets player not named Marcus Camby to rank in the league's Top-2 in blocks since Raef LaFrentz in 2001-02 (second with an average of 2.73 bpg).
- Chris Andersen swatted a career-high eight shots to go along with 10 rebounds vs. Utah on 4/2. On the season, he blocked five or more shots 10 times (Denver 10-0 in those games), while he pulled down 10+ rebounds in 11 games as well.
- With the win at Toronto on 12/31, George Karl became only the 10<sup>th</sup> coach in league history to win 900 career games. He is the fifth fastest coach to reach the 900-win plateau – Phil Jackson, Pat Riley, Red Auerbach and Jerry Sloan are the only others to do so in fewer games.

## COMMUNITY CORNER

### CARTER STILL DISHING OUT THE BIG BUCKS

For the second-straight season Nuggets guard Anthony Carter will be opening up his wallet and donating funds to the "I Have A Dream" Foundation® (IHAD) when certain team and personal records are broken. Carter will donate \$5,000 when setting personal records pertaining to assists and steals, as well as \$1,500 each time he achieves 10+ assists this season. So far this year his donations have totaled \$9,000 – thanks to six games with 10+ assists (11/5, 1/20, 1/25, 3/11, 3/20 and 3/28). As a part of last season's donation program, Carter raised \$17,000 for IHAD. The donated funds will be split among the Colorado IHAD Foundation in Denver, IHAD of Boulder County and the national IHAD Foundation.

## POSTSEASON MISCELLANEOUS STATS

GAME LEADERS (INCLUDING TIES)			
	PTS	REBS	ASTS
Andersen	0	6	0
Anthony	11	3	1
Balkman	0	0	0
Billups	4	1	12
Carter	0	0	0
Hart	0	0	0
Hunter	0	0	0
Jones	0	0	0
Kleiza	0	0	0
Martin	0	5	0
Nene	2	8	3
Petro	0	0	0
Smith	1	0	1
Weems	0	0	0

DOUBLE FIGURE GAMES								
	10+PTS	20+PTS	30+PTS	40+PTS	10+REBS	10+ASTS	10P/10R	10P/10A
Andersen	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Anthony	16	14	7	1	1	0	1	0
Balkman	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Billups	15	7	3	0	0	2	0	2
Carter	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hart	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hunter	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Jones	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kleiza	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Martin	11	0	0	0	2	0	2	0
Nene	9	2	0	0	2	0	2	0
Petro	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Smith	13	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
Weems	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

DOUBLE-DOUBLES									
PLAYER	10+P/10+R	10+P/10+A	20+P/10+R	20+P/10+A	30+P/10+R	30+P/10+A	40+P/10+R	10+P/20+R	10+P/10+R/10+
Anthony	1 (0-1)		1 (0-1)		1 (0-1)		1 (0-1)		
Billups		2 (2-0)		1 (1-0)					
Martin	2 (1-1)								
Nene	2 (2-0)								

*Record in parenthesis.*

QUARTER-BY-QUARTER SCORING						
	NUGGETS	AVG.	HIGH	OPPONENTS	AVG.	HIGH
First Quarter	423	26.4	36 @ NO, Game 4, 4/27	378	23.6	27 (2) by DAL, Game 5, 5/13
Second Quarter	438	27.4	35 (2) vs. DAL, Game 5, 5/13	418	26.1	33 by DAL, Game 2, 5/5
First Half	861	53.8	69 vs. DAL, Game 5, 5/13	796	49.8	56 @ LAL, Game 5, 5/27
Third Quarter	433	27.1	32 vs. NO, Game 1, 4/19	391	24.4	35 @ DAL, Game 3, 5/9
Fourth Quarter	433	27.1	43 vs. LAL, Game 4, 5/25	402	25.1	36 by LAL, Game 6, 5/29
Second Half	866	54.1	68 vs. LAL, Game 4, 5/25	793	49.6	66 (2) by LAL, Game 6, 5/29
Overtime	0	0.0	---	0	0.0	---
Total	1727	107.9	124 vs. DAL, Game 5, 5/13	1589	99.3	119 (2) by LAL, Game 6, 5/29

MISCELLANEOUS STATS						
	NUGGETS	AVG.	HIGH	OPPONENTS	AVG.	HIGH
Points in the Paint:	678	42.4	58 vs. DAL, Game 1, 5/3	586	36.6	54 @ LAL, Game 5, 5/27
2 <sup>nd</sup> Chance Points:	224	14.0	23 vs. LAL, Game 2, 5/25	208	13.0	22 @ LAL, Game 1, 5/19
Fast Break Points:	231	14.4	29 vs. DAL, Game 1, 5/3	167	10.4	22 @ NO, Game 3, 4/25
Bench Points:	492	30.8	47 @ NO, Game 4, 4/27	457	28.6	52 by DAL, Game 2, 5/5
Ind. High Off Bench	24		Smith (2) vs. LAL, Game 6, 5/29	21		Terry, DAL, Game 2, 5/5
Pts. Off Turnovers:	296	18.5	41 @ NO, Game 4, 4/27	210	13.1	26 by DAL, Game 5, 5/13

STARTING LINEUPS (1)					
GUARD (1)	GUARD (2)	FORWARD (3)	FORWARD (4)	CENTER (5)	W-L
Billups	Jones	Anthony	Martin	Nene	10-6

W-L AS STARTERS		
PLAYER	W-L	PCT.
Anthony	10-6	.625
Billups	10-6	.625
Jones	10-6	.625
Martin	10-6	.625
Nene	10-6	.625

## WHERE THEY RANK

Here's where the Nuggets ranked in the NBA during the 2009 Playoffs:

PLAYER	CATEGORY	RANK	AVG/PCT
Chris Andersen	Blocks	5 <sup>th</sup>	2.13
Carmelo Anthony	Scoring	5 <sup>th</sup>	27.2
	Steals	7 <sup>th</sup>	1.75
Chauncey Billups	Scoring	T-13 <sup>th</sup>	20.6
	Assists	T-5 <sup>th</sup>	6.8
	FT Percentage	9 <sup>th</sup>	.906
Nene	FG Percentage	6 <sup>th</sup>	.548
	Rebounds	T-18 <sup>th</sup>	7.5

Here's where the Nuggets ranked in the NBA during the 2008-09 regular season:

PLAYER	CATEGORY	RANK	AVG/PCT
Chris Andersen	Blocks	2 <sup>nd</sup>	2.46
Carmelo Anthony	Scoring	T-7 <sup>th</sup>	22.8
Chauncey Billups	Assists	15 <sup>th</sup>	6.4
	Scoring	T-34 <sup>th</sup>	17.7
	Steals	29 <sup>th</sup>	1.18
	FT Percentage	4 <sup>th</sup>	.913
	3FG Percentage	T-29 <sup>th</sup>	.408
Anthony Carter	Assists/Turnover Ratio	12 <sup>th</sup>	2.86-to-1
	Assists	T-30 <sup>th</sup>	4.7
	Steals	T-25 <sup>th</sup>	1.23
Kenyon Martin	Assist/Turnover Ratio	T-33 <sup>rd</sup>	2.35-to-1
	FG Percentage	T-31 <sup>st</sup>	.491
Nene	Steal/Turnover Ratio	9 <sup>th</sup>	0.93-to-1
	FG Percentage	2 <sup>nd</sup>	.604
	Rebounds	T-22 <sup>nd</sup>	7.8
	Steals	T-25 <sup>th</sup>	1.23
	Blocks	17 <sup>th</sup>	1.31

## MILESTONES ACHIEVED IN 2008-09

**Carmelo Anthony** collected his 500<sup>th</sup> career steal vs. Sacramento on 4/13 ... **J.R. Smith** connected on his 168<sup>th</sup> 3FG make of the season at L.A. Lakers on 4/9, passing Michael Adams for the second-most single season 3FG makes in team history (167 in 1990-91) ... **Chris Andersen** blocked his 500<sup>th</sup> career shot vs. Utah on 4/2 ... **J.R. Smith** scored his 4,000<sup>th</sup> career point vs. New York on 3/31 ... **J.R. Smith** moved into second on the Nuggets all-time 3FG makes list past Dale Ellis (448) vs. Golden State on 3/28 ... **Linas Kleiza** collected his 1,000<sup>th</sup> career rebound at Dallas on 3/27 ... **J.R. Smith** moved into third on the Nuggets all-time 3FG makes list past Nick Van Exel (425) vs. New Jersey on 3/16 ... **Nene** scored his 4,000<sup>th</sup> career point at Detroit on 3/3 ... **Carmelo Anthony** moved into fourth on the Nuggets all-time scoring list past Ralph Simpson (10,130) at Milwaukee on 2/22 ... **Anthony Carter** dished out his 2,000<sup>th</sup> career assist at Philadelphia on 2/18 ... **Anthony Carter** collected his 500<sup>th</sup> career steal at Orlando on 2/11 ... **Carmelo Anthony** scored his 10,000<sup>th</sup> career point at Oklahoma City on 2/4 ... **Linas Kleiza** moved into eighth on the Nuggets all-time 3FG makes list past George McCloud (244) vs. Charlotte on 1/30 ... **Chauncey Billups** scored his 12,000<sup>th</sup> career point at Memphis on 1/27 ... **Linas Kleiza** moved into ninth on the Nuggets all-time 3FG makes list past James Posey (238) vs. Utah on 1/25 ... **George Karl** earned his 200<sup>th</sup> win as the Nuggets head coach vs. Utah on 1/25 ... **J.R. Smith** moved into fourth on the Nuggets all-time 3FG makes list past Mahmoud Abdul-Rauf (371) vs. Indiana on 1/5 ... **George Karl** earned his 900<sup>th</sup> career win at Toronto on 12/31 ... **Linas Kleiza** scored his 2,000<sup>th</sup> career point at Atlanta on 12/29 ... **J.R. Smith** moved into fifth on the Nuggets all-time 3FG makes list past Voshon Lenard (356) vs. Philadelphia on 12/26 ... **Anthony Carter** pulled down his 1,000<sup>th</sup> career rebound vs. Golden State on 12/13 ... **Nene** collected his 2,000<sup>th</sup> career rebound vs. San Antonio on 12/4 ... **Kenyon Martin** played his 500<sup>th</sup> career game vs. San Antonio on 12/4 ... **George Karl** moved into third on the Nuggets all-time wins list past Dan Issel (180) at L.A. Clippers on 11/26 ... **J.R. Smith** scored his 3,000<sup>th</sup> career point vs. Memphis on 11/9 ... **Nene** dished out his 500<sup>th</sup> career assist vs. Dallas on 11/7 ... **Kenyon Martin** scored his 7,000<sup>th</sup> career point at L.A. Clippers on 10/31 ... **Allen Iverson** scored his 23,000<sup>th</sup> career point at Utah on 10/29.

# REGULAR SEASON MISCELLANEOUS STATS

GAME LEADERS (INCLUDING TIES)			
	PTS	REBS	ASTS
Andersen	0	23	0
Anthony	32	20	4
Atkins	0	0	2
Balkman	1	6	0
Billups	23	0	52
Carter	1	0	21
Hart	0	0	0
Howard	0	0	0
Hunter	0	0	0
Iverson	2	0	2
Jones	0	0	0
Kleiza	5	2	0
Martin	5	10	2
McDyess	0	0	0
Nene	6	30	0
Petro	0	1	0
Samb	0	0	0
Smith	15	3	9
Weems	0	0	0

2008-09 DOUBLE FIGURE GAMES								
	10+PTS	20+PTS	30+PTS	40+PTS	10+REBS	10+ASTS	10P/10R	10P/10A
Andersen	15	0	0	0	11	0	5	0
Anthony	65	44	13	2	11	1	11	1
Atkins	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Balkman	9	1	0	0	5	0	2	0
Billups	69 (71)	31	3	0	0	11	0	10
Carter	12	1	0	0	0	6	0	0
Hart	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Howard	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hunter	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Iverson	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Jones	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kleiza	39	8	0	0	0	0	0	0
Martin	43	5	0	0	7	0	5	0
McDyess	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Nene	67	12	0	0	21	0	20	0
Petro	0 (2)	0	0	0	1 (2)	0	0	0
Samb	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Smith	61	18	4	2	2	0	2	0
Weems	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

*(Number in parentheses represents season total, including another team)*

2008-09 DOUBLE-DOUBLES									
PLAYER	10+P/10+R	10+P/10+A	20+P/10+R	20+P/10+A	30+P/10+R	30+P/10+A	40+P/10+	10+P/20+R	10+P/10+R/10+
Andersen	5 (5-0)								
Anthony	11 (10-1)	1 (1-0)	7 (7-0)	1 (1-0)	3 (3-0)	1 (1-0)	2 (2-0)		
Balkman	2 (2-0)								
Billups		10 (9-1)		4 (4-0)					
Martin	5 (4-1)								
Nene	20 (15-5)		6 (4-2)						
Smith	2 (1-1)								

*Team record in parenthesis.*

2008-09 STARTING LINEUPS (16)					
GUARD (1)	GUARD (2)	FORWARD (3)	FORWARD (4)	CENTER (5)	W-L
Billups	Jones	Anthony	Martin	Nene	28-12
Billups	Jones	Anthony	Petro	Nene	1-1
Billups	Jones	Anthony	Balkman	Nene	5-1
Billups	Jones	Anthony	Martin	Petro	4-1
Billups	Smith	Anthony	Martin	Nene	1-1
Billups	Smith	Anthony	Balkman	Nene	2-0
Billups	Smith	Anthony	Petro	Nene	1-2
Billups	Jones	Kleiza	Martin	Nene	1-2
Carter	Jones	Anthony	Balkman	Nene	1-0
Billups	Smith	Jones	Martin	Nene	6-4
Billups	Smith	Balkman	Martin	Nene	1-0
Billups	Jones	Anthony	Martin	Andersen	0-1
Billups	Jones	Anthony	Kleiza	Nene	2-0
Carter	Jones	Anthony	Martin	Nene	0-1
Carter	Iverson	Anthony	Martin	Nene	0-1
Carter	Iverson	Kleiza	Martin	Nene	1-1

W-L AS STARTERS		
PLAYER	W-L	PCT.
Andersen	0-1	.000
Anthony	45-21	.682
Balkman	9-1	.900
Billups	52-25	.675
Carter	2-3	.400
Iverson	1-2	.333
Jones	48-23	.676
Kleiza	4-3	.571
Martin	42-24	.636
Nene	50-26	.658
Petro	6-4	.600
Smith	11-7	.611

## REGULAR SEASON MISCELLANEOUS STATS (CONT.)

2008-09 MISCELLANEOUS STATS						
	NUGGETS	AVG.	HIGH	OPPONENTS	AVG.	HIGH
<b>Points in the Paint:</b>	3594	43.8	72 vs. Washington, 3/20	3188	38.9	58 @ Houston, 1/19
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Chance Points:</b>	1126	13.7	28 @ Indiana, 3/1	1175	14.3	35 @ Sacramento, 12/6
<b>Fast Break Points:</b>	1362	16.6	40 vs. Indiana, 1/5	966	11.8	24 @ Oklahoma City, 2/4
<b>Bench Points:</b>	2778	33.9	63 vs. Sacramento, 4/13	2477	30.2	72 @ Portland, 4/15
<b>Ind. High Off Bench</b>	45		Smith vs. Sacramento, 4/13	32		Diogu, Sacramento, 4/13
<b>Pts. Off Turnovers:</b>	1476	18.0	31 vs. New York, 3/31	1377	16.8	29 @ Portland, 4/15

2008-09 QUARTER-BY-QUARTER SCORING						
	NUGGETS	AVG.	HIGH	OPPONENTS	AVG.	HIGH
<b>First Quarter</b>	2199	26.8	40 vs. Indiana, 1/5	2099	25.6	37 by Cleveland, 12/19
<b>Second Quarter</b>	2191	26.7	39 @ New York, 12/28	2060	25.1	42 by Indiana, 1/5
<b>First Half</b>	4390	53.5	74 vs. Indiana, 1/5	4159	50.7	70 (2) @ Oklahoma City, 2/4
<b>Third Quarter</b>	2111	25.7	40 vs. Minnesota, 12/10	2042	24.9	36 @ Utah, 3/6
<b>Fourth Quarter</b>	2019	24.6	38 (2) vs. New Jersey, 3/16	2055	25.1	42 by Golden State, 3/28
<b>Second Half</b>	4130	50.4	72 (2) vs. New Jersey, 3/16	4097	50.0	62 @ Chicago, 2/20
<b>Overtime</b>	35	17.5	19 @ L.A. Clippers, 10/31	19	9.5	10 by Phoenix, 1/15
<b>Total</b>	8555	104.3	135 vs. Indiana, 1/5	8275	100.9	120 (2) @ Milwaukee, 2/22

2008-09 GAMES MISSED			
PLAYER	INJURY / ILLNESS / SUSPENSION / INACTIVE	GAMES MISSED	W/L
<b>Chris Andersen</b>	Left Wrist Sprain & Left Hip Contusion	1 (2/11)	1-0
	Left Rib Cage 7 <sup>th</sup> Rib Fracture	9 (11/11 – 11/26)	7-2
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>8-2</b>
<b>Carmelo Anthony</b>	Right Hand Non-Displaced 3 <sup>rd</sup> Metacarpal Fracture	10 (1/7 – 1/28)	6-4
	Right Elbow Contusion	3 (12/22 – 12/26)	2-1
	Team Suspension	3 (10/29 – 10/31; 3/3)	1-2
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>9-7</b>
<b>Chucky Atkins</b>	Right Knee Arthroscopic Surgery	10 (10/29 – 11/16)	6-4
<b>Chauncey Billups</b>	Right Ankle Sprain	1 (2/4)	1-0
	Inactive – Pending Trade	1 (11/5)	0-1
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1-1</b>
<b>Anthony Carter</b>	Left Hip Strain	4 (3/5 – 3/9)	1-3
<b>Steven Hunter</b>	Arthroscopic Surgery / Right Knee Inflammation	82 (10/29 – present)	54-28
<b>Dahntay Jones</b>	Right Shoulder 1 <sup>st</sup> Degree Separation	1 (1/20)	1-0
<b>Kenyon Martin</b>	Left Rib Cartilage Strain	4 (4/4 – 4/9)	3-1
	Low Back Strain	5 (3/5 – 3/8; 3/11 – 3/14)	3-2
	Back Spasms	1 (2/22)	0-1
	Tonsillitis / Strep Throat	2 (2/3 – 2/4)	2-0
	Left Wrist Sprain	4 (11/9 – 11/11; 12/6 – 12/10)	4-0
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>12-4</b>
<b>Antonio McDyess</b>	Inactive – Pending Trade / Non-Injury	3 (11/5 – 11/9)	2-1
<b>Nene</b>	NBA Suspension	2 (3/25 – 3/27)	2-0
	Right Knee Bone Bruise	2 (2/23 – 2/25)	1-1
	Cervical Strain	1 (12/29)	0-1
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3-2</b>
<b>Johan Petro</b>	Inactive – Pending Trade	1 (1/7)	1-0
<b>Cheikh Samb</b>	Inactive – Pending Trade / D-League	15 (11/5; 12/10-1/3)	9-6
<b>Sonny Weems</b>	Inactive – Non-Injury / D-League	38 (11/26 – 1/5; 3/6 – 4/2; 4/13 – 4/15)	26-12
	Left Groin Strain	14 (10/29 – 11/23)	9-5
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>35-17</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>INJURY / ILLNESS ONLY</b>	<b>154</b>	<b>101-53</b>

## REGULAR SEASON MISCELLANEOUS STATS (CONT.)

REGULAR SEASON NUGGETS TEAM SEASON HIGHS & LOWS		
	High	Low
PTS	135 vs. IND, 1/5	70 @ NJ, 2/7
PTS, 1 <sup>ST</sup> Half	74 vs. IND, 1/5	34 @ POR, 4/15
PTS, 2 <sup>ND</sup> Half	72 (2) vs. NJ, 3/16	31 @ NJ, 2/7
PTS, QTR	40 (2) vs. IND (1 <sup>st</sup> ), 1/5	12 (3) @ POR (2 <sup>nd</sup> ), 4/15
FGM	50 (2) vs. IND, 1/5	25 vs. BOS, 2/23
FGA	99 vs. NJ, 3/16	65 @ SA, 11/19
FG PCT.	.598 (49-82) vs. TOR, 12/2	.337/28-83 (2) vs. POR, 4/15
3FGM	15 vs. PHI, 12/26	2 (2) vs. DET, 1/9
3FGA	31 vs. PHI, 12/26	8 vs. LAC, 3/14
3FG PCT.	.667 (6-9) @ OKC, 2/4	.133 (2-15) @ GS, 11/5
FTM	40 vs. MIL, 11/18	10 (2) vs. NY, 3/31
FTA	48 vs. MIL, 11/18	13 @ BOS, 11/14
FT PCT.	.960 (24-25) vs. PHI, 12/26	.500 (10-20) vs. NY, 3/31
TOT REBS	60 @ LAC, 10/31 (OT)	27 @ ATL, 12/29
OFF REBS	25 vs. NJ, 3/16	3 (2) @ ORL, 2/11
DEF REBS	45 @ LAC, 10/31 (OT)	18 @ ATL, 12/29
ASTS	38 vs. IND, 1/5	9 @ POR, 4/15
STLS	15 (4) @ PHX, 3/23	2 vs. BOS, 2/23
TO	27 @ MEM, 1/27	6 vs. NJ, 3/16
BLKS	15 @ MEM, 1/27	0 @ HOU, 12/16 *
FOULS	32 (4) @ LAL, 4/9	11 @ MIN, 11/29
MARGIN OF W	39 (132-93) vs. TOR, 12/2	---

\* Indicates NBA single-game season highs and lows.

REGULAR SEASON OPPONENTS TEAM SEASON HIGHS & LOWS		
	High	Low
PTS	120 (2) @ MIL, 2/22	73 @ ORL, 2/11
PTS, 1 <sup>ST</sup> Half	70 (2) @ OKC, 2/4	29 @ ORL, 2/11
PTS, 2 <sup>ND</sup> Half	62 @ CHI, 2/20	34 @ CHA, 11/11
PTS, QTR	42 (2) by GS (4 <sup>th</sup> ), 3/28	12 @ ORL (2 <sup>nd</sup> ), 2/11
FGM	47 @ CLE, 11/13	21 @ ORL, 2/11
FGA	100 by GS, 3/28	68 @ NO, 3/25
FG PCT.	.584 (45-77) @ OKC, 1/2	.293 (29-99) @ SAC, 12/6
3FGM	14 (3) by GS, 3/28	2 (4) by LAL, 2/27
3FGA	35 (2) @ NY, 12/28	8 @ UTA, 10/29
3FG PCT.	.615 (8-13) @ OKC, 1/2	.095 (2-21) by LAL, 2/27
FTM	37 @ LAL, 4/9	9 (4) by SAC, 4/13
FTA	46 @ LAL, 4/9	10 @ MIN, 11/29
FT PCT.	.958 (23-24) by MIN, 12/10	.571 (20-35) by HOU, 3/9
TOT REBS	54 @ NJ, 2/7	30 (3) by LAC, 3/17
OFF REBS	26 @ SAC, 12/6	2 @ SAC, 3/8 *
DEF REBS	39 by HOU, 3/9	17 @ MIL, 2/22
ASTS	32 by IND, 1/5	12 (3) @ ORL, 2/11
STLS	14 by LAC, 3/14	1 @ ATL, 12/29
TO	26 @ MEM, 1/27	6 @ DAL, 3/27
BLKS	11 @ GS, 11/5	1 (4) by POR, 3/5
FOULS	36 (2) by UTA, 4/2	14 @ OKC, 2/4
MARGIN OF W	44 (114-70) @ NJ, 2/7	---

Largest deficit overcome to win:	18 @ L.A. Clippers, 10/31 (OT)	Largest lead blown in loss:	19 @ Utah, 3/6
Largest 4 <sup>th</sup> Qtr deficit overcome to win:	13 @ Memphis, 3/18	Largest 4 <sup>th</sup> Qtr lead blown in loss:	10 vs. Detroit, 1/9
Largest Halftime deficit overcome to win:	18 @ L.A. Clippers, 10/31 (OT)	Largest Halftime lead blown in loss:	10 (3) last @ Utah, 3/6

REGULAR SEASON NUGGETS INDIVIDUAL SEASON HIGHS	
CATEGORY	SEASON-HIGH, PLAYER, DATE
POINTS	45, twice, last J.R. Smith vs. SAC, 4/13
POINTS – HALF	36, Carmelo Anthony vs. MIN, 12/10
POINTS – QUARTER	33, Carmelo Anthony vs. MIN (3 <sup>rd</sup> ), 12/10
FIELD GOALS MADE	18, Carmelo Anthony @ DAL, 3/27
FIELD GOALS ATT.	30, Carmelo Anthony @ GS, 11/5
3-PT FIELD GOALS MADE	11, J.R. Smith vs. SAC, 4/13*
3-PT FIELD GOALS ATT.	18, J.R. Smith vs. SAC, 4/13*
FREE THROWS MADE	17, Chauncey Billups vs. ATL, 2/25
FREE THROWS ATT.	19, Chauncey Billups vs. ATL, 2/25
TOTAL REBOUNDS	15, Nene (2) last @ PHX, 12/20
OFFENSIVE REBOUNDS	8, twice, last Chris Andersen vs. NJ, 3/16
DEFENSIVE REBOUNDS	11, 3 times, last Carmelo Anthony vs. LAL, 2/27
ASSISTS	14, Chauncey Billups vs. TOR, 12/2
BLOCKED SHOTS	8, Chris Andersen vs. UTA, 4/2
STEALS	7, Kenyon Martin vs. PHX, 1/15
MINUTES	47:12, Allen Iverson @ LAC, 10/31 (OT) 45:26, Carmelo Anthony vs. ATL, 2/25

\* Indicates NBA single-game season highs.

REGULAR SEASON OPPONENTS INDIVIDUAL SEASON HIGHS	
CATEGORY	SEASON-HIGH, PLAYER, DATE
POINTS	44, Dirk Nowitzki, DAL, 1/13
POINTS – HALF	26, twice, last Danny Granger, IND (1 <sup>st</sup> ), 1/5
POINTS – QUARTER	20, O.J. Mayo, MEM (1 <sup>st</sup> ), 11/9
FIELD GOALS MADE	15, Dirk Nowitzki, DAL, 1/13
FIELD GOALS ATT.	31, Kobe Bryant, LAL, 2/27
3-PT FIELD GOALS MADE	7, Charlie Villanueva @ MIL, 2/22
3-PT FIELD GOALS ATT.	12, twice, last Steve Blake @ POR, 12/23
FREE THROWS MADE	14, Devin Harris @ NJ, 2/7
FREE THROWS ATT.	17, Devin Harris @ NJ, 2/7
TOTAL REBOUNDS	20, Dwight Howard, ORL, 1/17
OFFENSIVE REBOUNDS	11, Pau Gasol @ LAL, 4/9
DEFENSIVE REBOUNDS	16, Troy Murphy @ IND, 3/1
ASSISTS	14, Steve Nash, PHX, 1/15
BLOCKED SHOTS	5, 5 times, last Darrell Arthur @ MEM, 3/18
STEALS	7, Rajon Rondo @ BOS, 11/14
MINUTES	48:03, Al Thornton @ LAC, 10/31 (OT) 46:18, Andre Iguodala, PHI, 12/26

## REGULAR SEASON MISCELLANEOUS STATS (CONT.)

### 2008-09 NUGGETS BY THE NUMBERS

	OVERALL	HOME	ROAD
Score 110+ points	29-3	20-0	9-3
Score 100+ points	44-8	29-1	15-7
Score 90-99 points	8-14	4-4	4-10
Score 80-89 points	2-3	0-2	2-1
Score 79 points or less	0-3	0-1	0-2
Give up 100+ points	26-23	16-6	10-17
Give up 90-99 points	15-5	14-2	1-3
Give up 80-89 points	12-0	2-0	10-0
Give up 79 points or less	2-0	1-0	1-0
Shoot .500+ from field	25-3	16-1	9-2
Shoot below .500 from field	29-25	17-7	12-18
Shoot .400 or below from field	2-7	2-3	0-4
Hold opponent to .400 or below	15-2	6-1	9-1
Outshoot opponent	44-5	25-2	19-3
Are outshot by opponent	9-22	7-6	2-16
Outrebound opponent	30-7	18-1	12-6
Are outrebounded	22-19	13-6	9-13
Are tied in rebounds	2-2	2-1	0-1
Lead at halftime	42-10	27-3	15-7
Trail at halftime	12-15	6-5	6-10
Are tied at halftime	0-3	0-0	0-3
Lead after 3 <sup>rd</sup> quarter	45-3	29-1	16-2
Trail after 3 <sup>rd</sup> quarter	8-22	3-6	5-16
Are tied after 3 <sup>rd</sup> quarter	1-3	1-1	0-2
Score 18+ fast break points	30-5	22-2	8-3
Score <18 fast break points	24-23	11-6	13-17

	OVERALL	HOME	ROAD
Have a player score 30+ points	15-5	9-2	6-3
Have an opposing player score 30+	16-8	11-3	5-5
When all 5 starters score 10+	5-2	4-0	1-2
When multiple bench players score 10+	29-9	20-3	9-6
In the first half of back-to-back games	16-5	6-1	10-4
In the second half of a back-to-back	9-12	4-4	5-8
Have one day between games	32-12	19-3	13-9
Have two+ days between games	13-3	10-1	3-2
In games decided by 10 points or more	32-14	22-4	10-10
In games decided by 6 points or less	12-10	7-3	5-7
In games decided by 3 points or less	8-5	3-2	5-3
On Monday	5-5	4-2	1-3
On Tuesday	9-3	6-0	3-3
On Wednesday	13-4	5-0	8-4
On Thursday	3-4	3-2	0-2
On Friday	10-5	5-2	5-3
On Saturday	7-4	5-2	2-2
On Sunday	7-3	5-0	2-3
Northwest Division	12-4	8-0	4-4
Southwest Division	12-6	6-3	6-3
Pacific Division	11-7	8-1	3-6
Central Division	3-7	3-2	0-5
Southeast Division	8-2	4-1	4-1
Atlantic Division	8-2	4-1	4-1
On National TV	7-8	5-3	2-5
In alternate jerseys	8-6	2-0	6-6

### 2008-09 BACK-TO-BACK SETS

DATE	OPPONENT	W/L	SCORE	DATE	OPPONENT	W/L	SCORE
1 10/31	@ L.A. Clippers	W	113-103 (OT)	11/1	L.A. LAKERS	L	97-104
2 11/13	@ Cleveland	L	99-110	11/14	@ Boston	W	94-85
3 11/18	MILWAUKEE	W	114-105	11/19	@ San Antonio	W	91-81
4 11/26	@ L.A. Clippers	W	106-105	11/27	NEW ORLEANS	L	101-105
5 11/29	@ Minnesota	W	106-97	11/30	HOUSTON	W	104-94
6 12/15	@ Dallas	W	98-88	12/16	@ Houston	L	96-108
7 12/19	CLEVELAND	L	88-105	12/20	@ Phoenix	L	101-108
8 12/22	PORTLAND	W	97-89	12/23	@ Portland	L	92-101
9 12/28	@ New York	W	117-110	12/29	@ Atlanta	L	91-109
10 1/2	@ Oklahoma City	W	122-120	1/3	NEW ORLEANS	W	105-100
11 1/19	@ Houston	L	113-115	1/20	SACRAMENTO	W	118-99
12 1/27	@ Memphis	W	100-85	1/28	@ New Orleans	L	81-94
13 2/3	SAN ANTONIO	W	104-96	2/4	@ Oklahoma City	W	114-113
14 2/6	@ Washington	W	124-103	2/7	@ New Jersey	L	70-114
15 2/10	@ Miami	W	99-82	2/11	@ Orlando	W	82-73
16 2/22	@ Milwaukee	L	117-120	2/23	BOSTON	L	76-114
17 3/5	PORTLAND	W	106-90	3/6	@ Utah	L	91-97
18 3/8	@ Sacramento	L	106-114	3/9	HOUSTON	L	95-97
19 3/27	@ Dallas	W	103-101	3/28	GOLDEN STATE	W	129-116
20 4/4	L.A. CLIPPERS	W	120-104	4/5	@ Minnesota	W	110-87
21 4/8	OKLAHOMA CITY	W	122-112	4/9	@ L.A. Lakers	L	102-116
<b>FIRST GAME RECORD:</b>		<b>16-5</b>		<b>SECOND GAME RECORD:</b>		<b>9-12</b>	

# HEAD COACH'S BIO

**Head Coach:** George Karl

**Playoff Record with Denver:** 13-22 (4<sup>th</sup> postseason)

**Overall Playoff Record:** 72-89 (17<sup>th</sup> postseason)

**Record with Denver:** 225-143 (4<sup>th</sup> season)

**Overall Record:** 933-642 (20<sup>th</sup> season)

NBA coaching legend George Karl was introduced as the 19th head coach in Nuggets history on Jan. 27, 2005 and has since overseen one of the most successful era's in team history. In just over four seasons, Karl's 225 wins are already the second-most by a coach in Denver's NBA history, while his .611 winning percentage is unmatched. His run of four-straight postseason appearances is the second-longest in Nuggets history to Doug Moe's nine-consecutive (1982-90). Denver joins Dallas, Detroit and San Antonio as the only NBA teams to make five-straight playoff appearances.

The 10<sup>th</sup>-winningest coach in NBA annals, Karl has amassed 933 wins in his 21 seasons in the NBA, including a streak of 17-straight non-losing seasons – third only to Pat Riley (19, 1981-82 to 2001-02) and Phil Jackson (18, 1989-90-present) in NBA history. In fact, of the nine men ahead of him on the all-time wins list, only four: Phil Jackson, Red Auerbach, Pat Riley and Jerry Sloan have a better winning percentage. He has also notched 62 career playoff victories, good for 13<sup>th</sup> all-time. Additionally, Karl is one of only 10 coaches in NBA history to have won 900 career games, while he is also just the 11<sup>th</sup> coach in league history to have coached 1,500 career games.

This past season, Karl guided the Nuggets to their first 50-win campaign since 1987-88, matching their third-highest win total in the team's NBA history. In 2006-07, Karl led the Nuggets to a 45-37 mark, including a franchise-record 22 road wins. The Nuggets finished with the sixth-best record in the Western Conference – their highest finish since 1988-89 (sixth). In 2005-06, Karl guided an injury-riddled Nuggets team to 44 wins and a Northwest Division title – the club's first division crown since 1987-88. He became the fifth coach in NBA history to lead at least three different teams to division titles (also Milwaukee and Seattle).

During his first season in Denver, Karl engineered one of the greatest turnarounds in NBA history. When assuming head coaching duties in January, the Nuggets were 17-25 and stood in 11<sup>th</sup> place in the Western Conference – a full six games out of the playoffs. Karl led the Nuggets to a 32-8 (.800) record and a seventh seed in the postseason. His winning percentage is the best in NBA history for a midseason coaching replacement that coached at least 20 games. The Nuggets went 25-4 after the All-Star break, notching the fifth-best post-All-Star break record ever in the NBA. Karl was named Western Conference Coach of the Month for February and March and finished fifth in voting for NBA Coach of the Year during the 2004-05 season. He garnered 10 first place votes despite being on the bench for just over three months. He has earned nine Coach of the Month honors tying Phil Jackson for fourth-most in NBA history.

Prior to joining the Nuggets, Karl served as head coach for the Milwaukee Bucks (1998-03), the Seattle SuperSonics (1991-98), the Golden State Warriors (1986-88) and the Cleveland Cavaliers (1984-86).

One of the keys to Karl's success has been putting players in positions to succeed. During his coaching career, Karl's players have made 24 All-Star appearances, earned 13 All-NBA recognitions, made 11 All-Defensive teams and have won two Defensive Player of the Year awards.

As a player, Karl averaged 6.5 ppg and 3.0 apg over 264 games and five seasons between the ABA and NBA. He attended the University of North Carolina, where as a junior, he helped lead the Tar Heels to the 1972 NCAA Final Four. Although drafted by the New York Knicks in the fourth round of the 1973 NBA Draft, he signed with the San Antonio Spurs of the ABA.

## KARL'S ALL-TIME NBA REGULAR SEASON COACHING RECORD

YEAR	TEAM	W	L	PCT.	YEAR	TEAM	W	L	PCT.
1984-85	Cleveland	36	46	.439	1998-99	Milwaukee	28	22	.560
1985-86	Cleveland	25	42	.373	1999-00	Milwaukee	42	40	.512
1986-87	Golden State	42	40	.512	2000-01	Milwaukee*	52	30	.634
1987-88	Golden State	16	48	.250	2001-02	Milwaukee	41	41	.500
1991-92	Seattle	27	15	.643	2002-03	Milwaukee	42	40	.512
1992-93	Seattle	55	27	.671	2004-05	Denver	32	8	.800
1993-94	Seattle*	63	19	.768	2005-06	Denver*	44	38	.537
1994-95	Seattle	57	25	.695	2006-07	Denver	45	37	.549
1995-96	Seattle*	64	18	.780	2007-08	Denver	50	32	.610
1996-97	Seattle*	57	25	.695	2008-09	Denver*	54	28	.658
1997-98	Seattle*	61	21	.744					
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>21 SEASONS</b>	<b>933</b>	<b>642</b>	<b>.593</b>	<b>DENVER</b>	<b>5 SEASONS</b>	<b>225</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>.611</b>

\*Division champion.

## PLAYER NOTES

### 11 CHRIS ANDERSEN – F/C – Ht: 6-10 Wt: 230 – Born: 7/7/78 – Blinn J.C. (TX) – NBA Exp: 6

	2008-09	2009 PLAYOFFS	2008-09 SEASON-HIGHS
<b>Points</b>	452 – 6.4 PPG	97 – 6.5 PPG	18 vs. Washington, 3/20/09
<b>Rebounds</b>	442 – 6.2 RPG	95 – 6.3 RPG	12 (3) last at Indiana, 3/1/09
<b>Blocks</b>	175 – 2.46 BPG	32 – 2.13 BPG	8 vs. Utah, 4/2/09

**REGULAR SEASON:** 10+PTS: 15 10+REBS: 11 10/10: 5

**POSTSEASON:** 10+PTS: 3 10+REBS: 1

**2009 Postseason:** Ranked fifth in the NBA in blocked shots (2.13) during the postseason ... *CONFERENCE FINALS NOTABLES:* Pulled down a playoff career-high 14 rebounds during Game 4 vs. L.A. Lakers on 5/25 ... Registered a postseason career-high 15 points (6-9 FG), seven rebounds and three blocks in Game 3 vs. L.A. Lakers on 5/23 ... *SECOND ROUND NOTABLES:* Tallied nine rebounds, eight points and a postseason career-high-tying two assists (3<sup>rd</sup> time) during Game 2 vs. Dallas on 5/5 ... Had 11 points, six rebounds and a playoff career-high six blocks in a playoff career-high 28 minutes during Game 1 vs. Dallas on 5/3 ... Did not dress for Game 4 at Dallas on 5/11 due to the stomach flu (first game missed this postseason) ... *FIRST ROUND NOTABLES:* Finished with nine points, seven rebounds and two blocks during Game 5 vs. New Orleans on 4/29 ... Pitched in 11 points (3-3 FG, 5-6 FT), eight rebounds and two blocks during Game 4 at New Orleans on 4/27 ... Registered nine points (5-9 FT), six rebounds and four blocks during Game 1 vs. New Orleans on 4/19.

**2008-09 Regular Season:** Played in 71 games (one start), averaging 6.4 ppg, a career-high 6.2 rpg and a career-high 2.46 bpg in 20.6 mpg ... Finished eighth in voting for both the NBA Defensive Player of the Year and the NBA Sixth Man of the Year awards ... Games played matched a career-best ... Ranked second in the NBA in blocked shots and first in blocks per 48 minutes (5.76) ... Scored in double figures 15 times and grabbed double-digit rebounds 11 times ... Posted five double-doubles ... Led the Nuggets in rebounding 23 times ... Totaled eight points, nine rebounds and seven blocks vs. Oklahoma City on 4/8 ... Swatted a career-high eight shots to go along with 10 rebounds vs. Utah on 4/2 ... Registered a career-high 18 points (7-8 FG), 11 rebounds and six blocks vs. Washington on 3/20 ... Collected a season-high-tying 12 rebounds (3<sup>rd</sup> time) at Indiana on 3/1 ... Recorded 11 points, 12 rebounds and seven blocks vs. L.A. Lakers on 2/27 ... Missed one game due to a left wrist sprain and left hip contusion (2/11) ... Totaled 15 points (7-8 FG), 10 rebounds and a season-high three steals vs. Dallas on 1/13 ... DNP-CD twice ... Missed nine games (11/11-11/26) due to a seventh rib fracture in his left rib cage (inactive eight times, DNP-CD once).

### 15 CARMELO ANTHONY – F – Ht: 6-8 Wt: 230 – Born: 5/29/84 – Syracuse – NBA Exp: 5

	2008-09	2009 PLAYOFFS	2008-09 SEASON-HIGHS
<b>Points</b>	1504 – 22.8 PPG	435 – 27.2 PPG	45 vs. Minnesota, 12/10/08
<b>Rebounds</b>	450 – 6.8 RPG	93 – 5.8 RPG	14 at Philadelphia, 2/18/09
<b>Assists</b>	222 – 3.4 APG	65 – 4.1 APG	11 at Oklahoma City, 2/4/09

**REGULAR SEASON:** 10+PTS: 65 20+PTS: 44 30+PTS: 13 40+PTS: 2 10+REBS: 11 10+ASTS: 1 10/10: 12

**POSTSEASON:** 10+PTS: 16 20+PTS: 14 30+PTS: 7 40+PTS: 1 10+REBS: 1 10/10: 1

**2009 Postseason:** Ranked fifth in the NBA in scoring (27.2) and seventh in steals (1.75) during the postseason ... *CONFERENCE FINALS NOTABLES:* Notched 31 points (12-13 FT), four rebounds, four assists and two steals during Game 5 at L.A. Lakers on 5/27 ... Posted 34 points (10-14 FT), nine rebounds and four assists in Game 2 at L.A. Lakers on 5/21 ... Scored 30+ points in a team playoff record five-straight games from 5/9-5/21 (breaking Alex English's record of four-straight from 5/5-5/14/85) ... Recorded 39 points (14-20 FG, 4-5 3FG), six rebounds and four assists in 40 minutes during Game 1 at L.A. Lakers on 5/19 ... *SECOND ROUND NOTABLES:* Averaged 30.0 ppg during the five games vs. Dallas, becoming only the second Nuggets player to average 30.0+ ppg for an entire playoff series of any length (Alex English in 1985 the other) ... Totaled 30 points (13-22 FG, 4-7 3FG) and five rebounds during Game 5 vs. Dallas on 5/13, while his four 3FG makes set a new postseason career-high ... Registered his eighth career playoff double-double (first this year) with a postseason career-high 41 points (15-29 FG, 9-11 FT), 11 rebounds and a playoff career-best five steals in 43 minutes during Game 4 at Dallas on 5/11 ... His 41 points in Game 4 on 5/11 are the most by a Nuggets player in the postseason since Alex English scored 42 vs. Houston on 5/8/86 ... Posted 31 points (11-14 FT) and eight rebounds in Game 3 at Dallas on 5/9 ... Connected on his first career postseason game-winning shot in Game 3 at Dallas on 5/9 – a three-pointer with 1.0 seconds remaining to put Denver ahead 106-105 ... Tied a playoff career-high with two blocks (2<sup>nd</sup> time) in Game 1 vs. Dallas on 5/3 ... *FIRST ROUND NOTABLES:* Scored 34 points (13-25 FG, 7-7 FT) to go along with six rebounds and four steals in a postseason career-high-tying 46 minutes during Game 5 vs. New Orleans on 4/29 ... Dished out a postseason career-high nine assists in Game 2 vs. New Orleans on 4/22.

**2008-09 Regular Season:** Appeared in 66 games, averaging 22.8 ppg, 6.8 rpg and 3.4 apg in 34.5 mpg ... Selected to the 2008-09 All-NBA Third Team ... Tied for seventh in the NBA in scoring ... Scored in double figures 65 times, scoring 20 or more 44 times, 30 or more 13 times and 40+ twice ... Pulled down 10+ rebounds 11 times and had one double-digit assist game ... Posted 12 double-doubles ... Led the Nuggets in scoring 32 times, rebounds 20 times and assists four times ... Shot a career-best .371 (63-170) from three-point range ... Had 43 points, 11 rebounds and hit the go-ahead basket with 12 seconds left at Dallas on 3/27 ... Missed one game (3/3) while serving a team suspension ... Moved into fourth on the Nuggets all-time scoring list past Ralph Simpson at Milwaukee on 2/22 (now has 10,768 career points) ... Pulled down a season-high 14 rebounds at Philadelphia on 2/18 ... Registered 32 points and a career-high 11 assists at Oklahoma City on 2/4 ... Made his 10<sup>th</sup> career game-winning shot in the final 10 seconds at Oklahoma City on 2/4, connecting on a driving lay-up with 5.3 seconds remaining in the Nuggets 114-113 win ... Scored his 10,000<sup>th</sup> career point at Oklahoma City on 2/4, becoming the third youngest player in NBA history to reach the 10,000-point plateau (behind only LeBron James and Kobe Bryant) ... Missed 10-straight games (1/7-1/28) due to a non-displaced third metacarpal fracture in his right hand suffered on 1/5 ... Made the game-winning shot at Oklahoma City on 1/2, connecting on a three-pointer with 0.1 seconds remaining in the Nuggets 122-120 win ... Missed three-straight games (12/22-12/26) due to a right elbow contusion ... Notched a season-high 45 points, 11 rebounds and four steals vs. Minnesota on 12/10 ... Exploded for 33 points in the third quarter alone vs. Minnesota on 12/10 to break the Nuggets franchise record (David Thompson had 32 on 4/9/78) and tie the NBA record for points scored in a single quarter (George Gervin also had 33 on 4/9/78) ... Became only the fourth player in NBA history to score 31 or more points in a quarter (joining Gervin, Thompson and Wilt Chamberlain) ... Missed two games (10/29 and 10/31) while serving a two-game team suspension ... The Nuggets went 9-7 with Anthony out of the lineup (22-25 all-time).

**32 RENALDO BALKMAN – F – Ht: 6-8 Wt: 210 – Born: 7/14/84 – South Carolina – NBA Exp: 2**

	2008-09	2009 PLAYOFFS	2008-09 SEASON-HIGHS
<b>Points</b>	264 – <b>5.0</b> PPG	4 – <b>0.5</b> PPG	<b>22</b> vs. L.A. Clippers, 3/14/09
<b>Rebounds</b>	203 – <b>3.8</b> RPG	4 – <b>0.5</b> RPG	<b>14</b> (2) last vs. Oklahoma City, 3/11/09
<b>Steals</b>	34 – <b>0.89</b> SPG	4 – <b>0.50</b> SPG	<b>3</b> (6) last vs. Oklahoma City, 4/8/09

**REGULAR SEASON:** 10+PTS: 9 20+PTS: 1 10+REBS: 5 10/10: 2

**POSTSEASON:**

**2009 Postseason:** CONFERENCE FINALS NOTABLES: DNP-CD in Games 1, 3 and 5 against L.A. Lakers (seven times this postseason) ... Tallied one rebound and one steal in two minutes during Game 4 vs. L.A. Lakers on 5/25 ... Placed on the Inactive List for Game 2 at L.A. Lakers on 5/21 due to a right ankle sprain (first time this postseason) ... SECOND ROUND NOTABLES: DNP-CD in Games 1 and 3 against Dallas ... FIRST ROUND NOTABLES: Registered four points, three rebounds, two steals and an assist in 11 minutes during Game 4 at New Orleans on 4/27 – all of which mark new postseason career-highs ... DNP-CD in Games 2 and 3 against New Orleans in the first round.

**2008-09 Regular Season:** Appeared in 52 games, starting 10 times (Nuggets were 9-1 in those games) ... Averaged a career-best 5.0 ppg, and 3.8 rpg in 14.7 mpg ... Shot a career-high .558 from the field ... Led the Nuggets in scoring once and in rebounding six times ... Scored in double figures nine times, including one game of 20+ ... Had five double-digit rebounding games and two double-doubles ... Double-doubles came in back-to-back games – career-high 22 points and 11 rebounds vs. Clippers on 3/14 and 14 points and season-high-tying 14 rebounds (eight offensive) vs. Oklahoma City on 3/11 ... Also had 14 rebounds at Utah on 3/6 ... DNP-CD 29 times ... Blocked a career-high four shots vs. Milwaukee on 11/18.

**7 CHAUNCEY BILLUPS – G – Ht: 6-3 Wt: 202 – Born: 9/25/76 – Colorado – NBA Exp: 11**

	2008-09	2009 PLAYOFFS	2008-09 SEASON-HIGHS
<b>Points</b>	1400 – <b>17.7</b> PPG	330 – <b>20.6</b> PPG	<b>34</b> at Detroit, 3/3/09
<b>Rebounds</b>	239 – <b>3.0</b> RPG	61 – <b>3.8</b> RPG	<b>8</b> vs. Utah, 4/2/09
<b>Assists</b>	506 – <b>6.4</b> APG	109 – <b>6.8</b> APG	<b>14</b> vs. Toronto, 12/2/08
<b>Steals</b>	93 – <b>1.18</b> SPG	20 – <b>1.25</b> SPG	<b>4</b> (2) last at Indiana, 3/1/09

**REGULAR SEASON:** 10+PTS: 71 (69 w/ DEN) 20+PTS: 31 30+PTS: 3 10+ASTS: 11 10/10: 10

**POSTSEASON:** 10+PTS: 15 20+PTS: 7 30+PTS: 3 10+ASTS: 2 10/10: 2

**2009 Postseason:** Tied for 13<sup>th</sup> in the NBA in scoring (20.6), fifth in assists (6.8) and ranked ninth in FT percentage (.906) during the postseason ... Set a new franchise record for 3FG makes in a playoff season (all rounds combined) with 44 makes in 16 games ... CONFERENCE FINALS NOTABLES: Scored 24 points (9-9 FT) in Game 4 on 5/25 ... Pitched in 18 points, seven assists, six rebounds and two steals in 40 minutes during Game 3 vs. L.A. Lakers on 5/23 ... Tallied 27 points (13-16 FT) and four assists in 44 minutes during Game 2 at L.A. Lakers on 5/21 ... SECOND ROUND NOTABLES: Registered the 11<sup>th</sup> playoff double-double of his career (second as a Nugget) with 28 points (10-16 FG, 3-6 3FG), 12 assists and seven rebounds during Game 5 vs. Dallas on 5/13 ... Finished with 24 points (10-10 FT) and seven assists in Game 4 at Dallas on 5/11 ... Notched 32 points (9-16 FG, 11-12 FT) in Game 3 at Dallas on 5/9 ... FIRST ROUND NOTABLES: His 19 3FG makes during the first round series vs. New Orleans set a new Nuggets individual record for 3FG makes in a playoff series of any length ... Registered the 10<sup>th</sup> playoff double-double of his career (first as a Nugget) with 13 points, 11 assists and five rebounds in 39 minutes during Game 5 vs. New Orleans on 4/29 ... Tallied 31 points (4-6 3FG, 11-11 FT) during Game 2 vs. New Orleans on 4/22 ... Poured in 36 points (10-15 FG, 8-9 3FG, 8-8 FT) to go along with eight assists and two steals during Game 1 vs. New Orleans on 4/19 ... Shot 8-9 3FG in Game 1 on 4/19, setting a playoff career-high and a Nuggets individual postseason record for 3FG makes in a game ... His 36-point performance in Game 1 represents the most points scored by a Nugget in the postseason since Alex English had 36 at Phoenix on 4/30/89, while it also marks the highest point total ever for a player making his Nuggets playoff debut.

**2008-09 Regular Season:** Appeared in 79 games on the year – 77 with Denver and two with Detroit (all starts) ... Averaged 17.7 ppg (second-highest of career), 6.4 apg, 3.0 rpg and 1.18 spg in 35.3 mpg ... Selected to the 2008-09 All-NBA Third Team ... Winner of the 2008-09 NBA Sportsmanship Award ... Finished sixth in voting for the 2008-09 NBA MVP award ... Scored in double figures 71 times, including 31 games of 20+ and three of 30+ ... Had 11 double-digit assist games and 10 double-doubles ... Led the Nuggets in scoring 23 times and in assists 52 times ... Among NBA leaders, fourth in FT% (.913), ranked 11<sup>th</sup> in total three-pointers (162), free-throws made (418) and assist-to-turnover ratio (2.86-to-1), 15<sup>th</sup> in assists, 29<sup>th</sup> in steals and tied for 34<sup>th</sup> in scoring ... Shot better than .400 (.408) from three-point range for the second-straight season, tying for 29<sup>th</sup> in the NBA ... Topped .900 from the free-throw line for the second-straight year and third time in his career ... Pulled down a season-high eight rebounds vs. Utah on 4/2 ... Selected as the 2008-09 Northwest Division winner of the Sportsmanship Award on 4/2 and is now one of six finalists for the 2008-09 NBA Sportsmanship Award ... Notched a season-high 34 points at Detroit on 3/3 ... Appeared in his fourth-straight All-Star Game, registering five points and three assists in 19 minutes in Phoenix on 2/15 ... DND at Oklahoma City on 2/4 due to a sprained right ankle ... Scored his 12,000<sup>th</sup> career point at Memphis on 1/27 ... Dished out a season-high 14 assists to go along with 24 points vs. Toronto on 12/2 ... Named Western Conference Player of the Week for games played from 11/10-11/16, averaging 21.5 ppg and 5.8 apg while leading Denver to a 3-1 record ... Placed on the Inactive List at Golden State on 11/5 (trade pending) ... Acquired via trade from the Detroit Pistons on 11/3.

**25 ANTHONY CARTER – G – Ht: 6-2 Wt: 195 – 6/16/75 – Hawaii – NBA Exp: 9**

	2008-09	2009 PLAYOFFS	2008-09 SEASON-HIGHS
<b>Points</b>	412 – 5.3 PPG	44 – 2.8 PPG	20 vs. L.A. Lakers, 11/1/08
<b>Rebounds</b>	205 – 2.6 RPG	32 – 2.0 RPG	9 at Minnesota, 11/29/08
<b>Assists</b>	364 – 4.7 APG	34 – 2.1 APG	13 vs. Golden State, 3/28/09

**REGULAR SEASON: 10+PTS: 12 20+PTS: 1 10+ASTS: 6****POSTSEASON: 10+PTS: 1**

**2009 Postseason: CONFERENCE FINALS NOTABLES:** Finished with seven points and three rebounds in 11 minutes during Game 5 at L.A. Lakers on 5/27 ... Pitched in two points, two rebounds and two assists in six minutes during Game 4 vs. L.A. Lakers on 5/25 ... Tallied three assists, two rebounds and two steals in 15 minutes during Game 1 at L.A. Lakers on 5/19 ... **SECOND ROUND NOTABLES:** Had eight points (4-6 FG), five rebounds and three assists in 17 minutes during Game 5 vs. Dallas on 5/13 ... Notched four points, four rebounds and four assists in Game 2 vs. Dallas on 5/5 ... Registered 12 points (6-8 FG), four assists, three rebounds and two steals in 22 minutes during Game 1 vs. Dallas on 5/3 ... **FIRST ROUND NOTABLES:** Totaled five assists and two steals in just 11 minutes during Game 5 vs. New Orleans on 4/29 ... Posted two points, three assists, two rebounds and two steals during Game 2 vs. New Orleans on 4/22 ... Grabbed three rebounds in Game 1 vs. New Orleans on 4/19.

**2008-09 Regular Season:** Saw action in 78 games, starting five times ... Averaged 5.3 ppg, 4.7 apg, 2.6 rpg and 1.23 spg in 22.9 mpg ... Scored in double figures 12 times, including one game of 20 points ... Had six double-digit assist efforts – all but one of which came in a reserve role ... Led the Nuggets in assists in 21 games and in scoring once ... One of the most efficient players in the NBA, he ranked ninth in both assists per 48 minutes (9.8) and steals per 48 minutes (2.58) ... Tied for 25th in steals per game and tied for 30<sup>th</sup> in assists per game ... Had the highest assist average for any player in the NBA averaging fewer than 27.0 mpg ... Registered a season-high 13 assists vs. Golden State on 3/28 ... Missed four games due to a left hip strain ... Corralled a career-high nine rebounds at Minnesota on 11/29 ... Tallied 11 assists and a season-high five steals at Golden State on 11/5 ... Scored a season-high 20 points (8-9 FG) vs. L.A. Lakers on 11/1.

**6 JASON HART – G – Ht: 6-3 Wt: 180 – 4/29/78 – Syracuse – NBA Exp: 7**

	2008-09	2009 PLAYOFFS	2008-09 SEASON-HIGHS
<b>Points</b>	78 – 2.0 PPG	2 – 0.2 PPG	9 at Milwaukee, 12/20/08
<b>Rebounds</b>	46 – 1.2 RPG	3 – 0.3 RPG	7 vs. Dallas, 12/28/08
<b>Assists</b>	48 – 1.2 APG	5 – 0.6 APG	7 at Milwaukee, 12/20/08

**2009 Postseason: CONFERENCE FINALS NOTABLES:** Dished out one assist in three minutes during Game 6 vs. L.A. Lakers on 5/29 ... DNP-CD in Games 1-3 and 5 against L.A. Lakers (seven times this postseason) ... **SECOND ROUND NOTABLES:** DNP-CD in Games 3 and 4 against Dallas ... Dished out one assist in two minutes during Game 2 vs. Dallas on 5/5 ... **FIRST ROUND NOTABLES:** Totaled two points and two assists, while tying playoff career-highs of two rebounds and two steals in seven minutes during Game 4 at New Orleans on 4/27 ... Had one rebound and one assist in three minutes during Game 1 vs. New Orleans on 4/19.

**2008-09 Regular Season:** Saw action in 39 games on the year – 11 with Denver and 28 with the L.A. Clippers ... Started twice (both with Clippers) ... Averaged 2.0 ppg and 1.2 apg in 8.9 mpg (1.2 ppg with Denver) ... DNP-CD 34 times ... Signed with the Nuggets for the remainder of the season on 3/3 ... Waived by the Clippers on 2/27 ... Pulled down a season-high seven rebounds vs. Dallas on 12/28 ... Registered a season-high nine points and a season-high seven assists in a season-high 30 minutes at Milwaukee on 12/20 ... Missed five games due to a sore right elbow (1/4-1/6, 1/14-1/19) and one game due to a stomach virus (11/26).

**45 STEVEN HUNTER – F/C – Ht: 7-0 Wt: 240 – Born: 10/31/81 – DePaul – NBA Exp: 7**

	2008-09	2009 PLAYOFFS	2008-09 SEASON-HIGHS
<b>Points</b>	---	---	---
<b>Rebounds</b>	---	---	---
<b>Blocks</b>	---	---	---

**2009 Postseason:** DNP-CD in Game 2 at L.A. Lakers (first time this postseason) ... Placed on the Inactive List for 15 of the 16 games so far in these playoffs.

**Notables:** Has missed the entire season due to a right knee injury ... Underwent successful arthroscopic surgery on his right knee on 11/14.

**Personal Notes:** Full name is Steven D. Hunter ... Attended Proviso East High School (Illinois) and DePaul University ... An avid Chicago Cubs fan and still follows his former DePaul Blue Demons club ... Has been active in charity causes, including Thanksgiving turkey drives and Christmas toy giveaways ... Parents are Will, a retired Army sergeant, and Renee Golden, who works for Chicago's Board of Education.

**30 DAHNTAY JONES - G/F - Ht: 6-6 Wt: 210 - Born: 12/27/80 - Duke - NBA Exp: 5**

	2008-09	2009 PLAYOFFS	2008-09 SEASON-HIGHS
<b>Points</b>	429 - 5.4 PPG	112 - 7.0 PPG	18 at Washington, 2/6/09
<b>Rebounds</b>	168 - 2.1 RPG	38 - 2.4 RPG	6 at Washington, 2/6/09
<b>Assists</b>	78 - 1.0 APG	10 - 0.6 APG	5 vs. Toronto, 12/2/08

**REGULAR SEASON: 10+PTS: 11****POSTSEASON: 10+PTS: 5**

**2009 Postseason: CONFERENCE FINALS NOTABLES:** Totaled nine points and four rebounds in 15 minutes during Game 5 at L.A. Lakers on 5/27 ... Notched 12 points (6-6 FT) and three rebounds during Game 4 vs. L.A. Lakers on 5/25 ... Posted 10 points (4-6 FG) in Game 3 vs. L.A. Lakers on 5/23 ... Collected a playoff career-high two steals in Game 2 at L.A. Lakers on 5/21 ... Dished out a postseason career-high two assists to go along a playoff career-high-tying one block (5<sup>th</sup> time) during Game 1 at L.A. Lakers on 5/19 ... **SECOND ROUND NOTABLES:** Scored 10 points and tied a postseason career-high of five rebounds (3<sup>rd</sup> time) in 17 minutes during Game 4 at Dallas on 5/11 ... Pitched in nine points in Game 1 vs. Dallas on 5/3 ... **FIRST ROUND NOTABLES:** Finished with 12 points to go along with five rebounds during Game 4 at New Orleans on 4/27 ... Notched 11 points (5-5 FG) and tied a playoff career-high for FG makes (2<sup>nd</sup> time) during Game 2 vs. New Orleans on 4/22.

**2008-09 Regular Season:** Played in a career-high 79 games, starting 71 times ... Nuggets were 48-23 in his starts (.676) ... Had started a total of 36 games in his first four seasons ... Averaged 5.4 ppg and 2.1 rpg in 18.1 mpg ... Shot an efficient .647 (11-17) from three-point range ... The Nuggets were 21-5 in games in which he played 20 or more minutes ... DNP-CD twice ... Registered season-highs of 18 points (8-10 FG) and six rebounds at Washington on 2/6 ... DND vs. Sacramento on 1/20 due to a right shoulder first degree separation ... Totaled 16 points (8-11 FT) and a season-high five steals vs. Dallas on 1/13 ... Dished out a career-high-tying five assists (3<sup>rd</sup> time) vs. Toronto on 12/2.

**43 LINAS KLEIZA - F - Ht: 6-8 Wt: 245 - Born: 1/3/85 - Missouri - NBA Exp: 3**

	2008-09	2009 PLAYOFFS	2008-09 SEASON-HIGHS
<b>Points</b>	813 - 9.9 PPG	97 - 6.9 PPG	27 vs. Sacramento, 1/20/09
<b>Rebounds</b>	327 - 4.0 RPG	45 - 3.2 RPG	9 (4) last at L.A. Lakers, 4/9/09
<b>Assists</b>	64 - 0.8 APG	7 - 0.5 APG	3 (2) last vs. Phoenix, 1/15/09 (OT)

**REGULAR SEASON: 10+PTS: 39 20+PTS: 8****POSTSEASON: 10+PTS: 6**

**2009 Postseason: CONFERENCE FINALS NOTABLES:** Finished with 10 points and five rebounds in 19 minutes during Game 5 at L.A. Lakers on 5/27 ... Posted 10 points during Game 4 vs. L.A. Lakers on 5/25 ... Totaled four points and six rebounds in Game 3 vs. L.A. Lakers on 5/23 ... Notched 16 points (5-8 FG, 4-7 3FG) and eight rebounds in 22 minutes during Game 2 at L.A. Lakers on 5/21, while his four 3FG makes and seven 3FG attempts both set playoff career-highs ... **SECOND ROUND NOTABLES:** DNP-CD in Game 5 vs. Dallas on 5/13 (second time this postseason) ... Posted seven points and three rebounds in 20 minutes during Game 4 at Dallas on 5/11 ... **FIRST ROUND NOTABLES:** DNP-CD in Game 5 vs. New Orleans on 4/29 ... Notched 14 points (3-6 3FG) and three rebounds in Game 4 at New Orleans on 4/27 ... Had 13 points and three rebounds in Game 3 at New Orleans on 4/25 ... Posted 13 points (4-6 FG), five rebounds and a playoff career-high two assists in Game 1 vs. New Orleans on 4/19.

**2008-09 Regular Season:** Played in 82 games, averaging 9.9 ppg and 4.0 rpg in 22.2 mpg ... Started seven times ... Only Nugget to appear every game and has missed just six games the last three seasons ... Scored in double figures 39 times, including eight games of 20+ ... Led the Nuggets in scoring five times and in rebounds twice ... Grabbed his 1,000<sup>th</sup> career rebound at Dallas on 3/27 ... Moved into eighth on the Nuggets all-time 3FG makes list past George McCloud vs. Charlotte on 1/30 (now has 266 3FG makes as a Nugget) ... Had 18 points and a season-high-tying nine rebounds (3<sup>rd</sup> time) vs. Utah on 1/25 ... Registered a season-high 27 points (11-17 FG) vs. Sacramento on 1/20 ... Tallied 26 points and five rebounds in a season-high 37 minutes vs. Orlando on 1/17 ... Scored his 2,000<sup>th</sup> career point at Atlanta on 12/29 ... Notched 25 points (13-15 FT) vs. Milwaukee on 11/18 ... His 13 FT makes and 15 FT attempts tied career-highs (2<sup>nd</sup> time each) vs. Milwaukee on 11/18.

## 4 KENYON MARTIN – F – Ht: 6-9 Wt: 230 – Born: 12/30/77 – Cincinnati – NBA Exp: 8

	2008-09	2009 PLAYOFFS	2008-09 SEASON-HIGHS
<b>Points</b>	769 – 11.7 PPG	174 – 10.9 PPG	26 vs. Chicago, 11/23/08
<b>Rebounds</b>	395 – 6.0 RPG	94 – 5.9 RPG	13 at LA Clippers, 10/31/08 (OT)
<b>Steals</b>	96 – 1.45 SPG	18 – 1.13 SPG	7 vs. Phoenix, 1/15/09
<b>Blocks</b>	74 – 1.12 BPG	14 – 0.88 BPG	5 vs. New Orleans, 11/27/08

**REGULAR SEASON:**    10+PTS: 43    20+PTS: 5    10+REBS: 7    10/10: 5

**POSTSEASON:**        10+PTS: 11    10+REBS: 2    10/10: 2

**2009 Postseason:** *CONFERENCE FINALS NOTABLES:* Had 13 points and five rebounds in 29 minutes during Game 6 vs. L.A. Lakers on 5/29 ... Posted 12 points and five rebounds in 36 minutes during Game 5 at L.A. Lakers on 5/27 ... Registered his 18<sup>th</sup> career postseason double-double (second this year, second as a Nugget) with 13 points, 15 rebounds and two blocks during Game 4 vs. L.A. Lakers on 5/25 ... Finished with 16 points (7-10 FG) and three steals in Game 2 at L.A. Lakers on 5/21 ... Scored 15 points to go along with eight rebounds, two steals and two blocks in 39 minutes during Game 1 at L.A. Lakers on 5/19 ... *SECOND ROUND NOTABLES:* Posted 15 points, four assists and four steals in 39 minutes during Game 5 vs. Dallas on 5/13 ... Totaled 12 points (5-6 FG) in Game 3 at Dallas on 5/9 ... Had 12 points (4-5 FT), seven rebounds and four assists during Game 2 vs. Dallas on 5/5 ... *FIRST ROUND NOTABLES:* Tallied 15 points (7-9 FG), seven rebounds and three blocks during Game 5 vs. New Orleans on 4/29 ... Recorded 12 points and 10 rebounds in 38 minutes during Game 3 at New Orleans on 4/25 ... Finished with 13 points, five rebounds, and a playoff career-high six assists in Game 2 vs. New Orleans on 4/22.

**2008-09 Regular Season:** Played in 66 games, starting each one ... Averaged 11.7 ppg, 6.0 rpg, 1.45 spg and 1.12 bpg in 32.0 mpg ... Scored in double figures 43 times, including five games of 20+ ... Grabbed 10+ rebounds seven times and registered five double-doubles ... Led the Nuggets in scoring five times and in rebounding 10 times ... Made a career-high 14 three-pointers (14-38/.368) after making just 7 (7-46/.152) in his first eight seasons combined ... Missed four games (4/3-4/9) due to a left rib cartilage strain ... Missed five games (3/5-3/8 and 3/11-3/14) due to a low back strain ... Missed one game (2/22) due to back spasms ... Missed two games (2/3-2/4) due to tonsillitis/strep throat ... Recorded 24 points and a career-high seven steals in a season-high 41 minutes vs. Phoenix on 1/15 ... Scored 25 points vs. Indiana on 1/5 ... Dished out a season-high six assists at Dallas on 12/15 ... Missed four games (11/9-11/11, 12/6-12/10) due to a left wrist sprain ... Played his 500<sup>th</sup> career game vs. San Antonio on 12/4 ... Blocked a season-high five shots vs. New Orleans on 11/27 ... Scored a season-high 26 points (10-10 FG) vs. Chicago on 11/23 ... Was a perfect 10-10 FG vs. Chicago on 11/23 ... Scored his 7,000<sup>th</sup> career point at L.A. Clippers on 10/31.

## 31 NENÊ – F – Ht: 6-11 Wt: 250 – Born: 9/13/82 – Brazil – NBA Exp: 6

	2008-09	2009 PLAYOFFS	2008-09 SEASON-HIGHS
<b>Points</b>	1123 – 14.6 PPG	184 – 11.5 PPG	28 vs. Utah, 1/25/09
<b>Rebounds</b>	598 – 7.8 RPG	120 – 7.5 RPG	15 (2) last at Phoenix, 12/20/08
<b>Blocks</b>	101 – 1.31 BPG	10 – 0.63 BPG	5 vs. San Antonio, 2/6/09

**REGULAR SEASON:**    10+PTS: 67    20+PTS: 12    10+REBS: 21    10/10: 20

**POSTSEASON:**        10+PTS: 9    20+PTS: 2    10+REBS: 2    10/10: 2

**2009 Postseason:** Ranked sixth in the NBA in FG percentage (.548) and tied for 18<sup>th</sup> in rebounding (7.5) during the postseason ... *CONFERENCE FINALS NOTABLES:* Recorded his third career postseason double-double (second this year) with 14 points, 13 rebounds and a playoff career-high-tying six assists (2<sup>nd</sup> time) in 35 minutes during Game 4 vs. L.A. Lakers on 5/25 ... Finished with 13 points and six rebounds in Game 3 vs. L.A. Lakers on 5/23 ... Pitched in six points, nine rebounds and six assists in Game 2 at L.A. Lakers on 5/21 ... Totaled 14 points (6-9 FG) and five rebounds before fouling out in 32 minutes during Game 1 at L.A. Lakers on 5/19 ... *SECOND ROUND NOTABLES:* Had 17 points (8-10 FG) and seven rebounds in 41 minutes during Game 5 vs. Dallas on 5/13 ... Blocked a postseason career-high three shots in a playoff career-high 42 minutes during Game 4 at Dallas on 5/11 ... Posted a playoff career-high 25 points (8-12 FG, 9-13 FT) and eight rebounds in 34 minutes during Game 2 vs. Dallas on 5/5 ... His 9-13 FT shooting in Game 2 on 5/5 set new postseason career-highs for both FT makes and attempts ... Totaled 24 points (9-13 FG) and five assists in Game 1 vs. Dallas on 5/3 ... *FIRST ROUND NOTABLES:* Had 10 points and seven rebounds in 36 minutes during Game 4 vs. New Orleans on 4/29 ... Collected a postseason career-high three steals during Game 3 at New Orleans on 4/25 ... Registered 12 points and a playoff career-high 14 rebounds during Game 1 vs. New Orleans on 4/19.

**2008-09 Regular Season:** Made a triumphant return from a bout with testicular cancer to post a career year ... Appeared in 77 games (76 starts) and averaged career highs of 14.6 ppg, 7.8 rpg and 1.31 bpg, in addition to 1.23 spg in 32.6 mpg ... Finished fifth in voting for the 2008-09 NBA Most Improved Player award ... Ranked second in the NBA in FG percentage (.604/428-709), the best single-season mark in franchise history ... Also shot a career-best .723 from the free-throw line ... Tied for 22<sup>nd</sup> in rebounding, tied for 25<sup>th</sup> in steals and 17<sup>th</sup> in blocks ... Scored in double figures 67 times, including 12 games of 20+ points ... Grabbed double-digit rebounds 21 times and posted 20 double-doubles (28<sup>th</sup>-most in NBA) ... Led the Nuggets in scoring six times and in rebounding 30 times ... Missed two games (3/25-3/27) while serving an NBA suspension ... Registered 17 points, 10 rebounds and a season-high-tying five steals (3<sup>rd</sup> time) vs. L.A. Clippers 3/14 ... Dished out a season-high five assists vs. Portland on 3/5 ... Scored his 4,000<sup>th</sup> career point at Detroit on 3/3 ... Missed two games (2/23-2/25) due to a right knee bone bruise ... Blocked a career-high five shots vs. San Antonio on 2/3 ... By making his first eight field goals vs. Charlotte on 1/30, he connected on 21-straight FG makes at the Pepsi Center (last FG vs. Sacramento on 1/20, 12-12 FG vs. Utah on 1/25 and his first eight FGs on 1/30) ... Posted a career-high-tying 28 points (2<sup>nd</sup> time) on 12-12 FG shooting vs. Utah on 1/25, tying the Nuggets team record for the most makes without a miss (Bobby Jones also went 12-12 FG vs. Golden State on 3/15/78) ... Posted 27 points (10-11 FG), 14 rebounds and four assists at Oklahoma City on 1/2 ... Connected on his first career three-point field goal at Toronto on 12/31 ... Missed one game (12/29) due to a cervical strain ... Registered four-straight double-doubles from 12/20-12/26 to mark a new career best for consecutive double-doubles ... Pulled down a season-high-tying 15 rebounds (2<sup>nd</sup> time) to go along with 20 points at Phoenix on 12/20.

**27 JOHAN PETRO – C – Ht: 7-0 Wt: 247 – Born: 1/27/86 – France – NBA Exp: 3**

	2008-09	2009 PLAYOFFS	2008-09 SEASON-HIGHS
<b>Points</b>	162 – 3.3 PPG	9 – 0.9 PPG	15 at Orlando, 12/5/08
<b>Rebounds</b>	158 – 3.2 RPG	6 – 0.7 RPG	12 at Philadelphia, 11/15/08
<b>Blocks</b>	15 – 0.31 BPG	1 – 0.10 BPG	3 at Houston, 11/1/08

**REGULAR SEASON:** 10+PTS: 2 (0 w/ DEN) 10+REBS: 2 (1 w/ DEN)

**POSTSEASON:**

**2009 Postseason: CONFERENCE FINALS NOTABLES:** Scored two points in three minutes during Game 6 vs. L.A. Lakers on 5/29 ... DNP-CD in Games 1-3 and 5 against L.A. Lakers (six times this postseason) ... **SECOND ROUND NOTABLES:** DNP-CD in Game 4 at Dallas on 5/11 ... Scored one point in two minutes during Game 1 vs. Dallas on 5/3 ... **FIRST ROUND NOTABLES:** Posted four points and three rebounds in eight minutes during Game 4 at New Orleans on 4/27, all of which set new playoff career-highs.

**2008-09 Regular Season:** Played in 49 games for the Nuggets and Thunder, starting 22 times ... Averaged 3.3 ppg and 3.2 rpg in 11.4 mpg on the year ... Played in 27 games for Denver (10 starts), averaging 2.2 ppg and 2.3 rpg in 8.0 mpg ... DNP-CD 30 times on the year (18 with Denver) ... Scored in double figures twice and had two double-digit rebound games ... Led the Nuggets in rebounding once ... Recorded nine points, 10 rebounds and two blocks vs. Boston on 2/23 ... Acquired from Oklahoma City via trade on 1/7 ... Averaged 4.6 ppg and 4.3 rpg in 22 appearances with Oklahoma City in 2008-09 ... Scored a season-high 15 points (7-9 FG) at Orlando on 12/5 ... Collected a season-high 12 rebounds and a career-high-tying four steals (2<sup>nd</sup> time) at Philadelphia on 11/15.

**1 J.R. SMITH – G – Ht: 6-6 Wt: 220 – Born: 9/9/85 – St. Benedict's Prep (NJ) – NBA Exp: 4**

	2008-09	2009 PLAYOFFS	2008-09 SEASON-HIGHS
<b>Points</b>	1233 – 15.2 PPG	239 – 14.9 PPG	45 vs. Sacramento, 4/13/09
<b>Rebounds</b>	297 – 3.7 RPG	53 – 3.3 RPG	10 (2) last vs. San Antonio, 12/4/08
<b>Assists</b>	227 – 2.8 APG	45 – 2.8 APG	7 (3) last vs. Utah, 4/2/09

**REGULAR SEASON:** 10+PTS: 61 20+PTS: 18 30+PTS: 4 40+PTS: 2 10+REBS: 2 10/10: 2

**POSTSEASON:**

10+PTS: 13 20+PTS: 4

**2009 Postseason: CONFERENCE FINALS NOTABLES:** Scored 24 points (10-17 FG, 4-9 3FG) in a playoff career-high-tying 32 minutes (2<sup>nd</sup> time) during Game 6 vs. L.A. Lakers on 5/29 ... Totaled 24 points (4-9 3FG), four assists, two steals and two rebounds during Game 4 vs. L.A. Lakers on 5/25 ... Posted 10 points and a playoff career-high-tying six assists (3<sup>rd</sup> time) in Game 3 vs. L.A. Lakers on 5/23 ... Tied a playoff career-high with one block (5<sup>th</sup> time) in Game 2 at L.A. Lakers on 5/21 ... **SECOND ROUND NOTABLES:** Finished with 18 points (4-10 3FG), five rebounds and six assists in 29 minutes during Game 5 vs. Dallas on 5/13 ... Scored 19 points (7-10 FG, 2-3 3FG) during Game 4 at Dallas on 5/11 ... Pulled down a postseason career-high six rebounds in Game 3 at Dallas on 5/9 ... Totaled 21 points (6-10 FG, 6-7 FT) in Game 2 vs. Dallas on 5/5 ... Recorded 15 points, six assists and a postseason career-high three steals in 32 minutes during Game 1 vs. Dallas on 5/3 ... **FIRST ROUND NOTABLES:** Had 20 points (7-12 FG, 5-8 3FG) during Game 5 vs. New Orleans on 4/29, while his five 3FG makes set a new playoff career-high ... Finished with 14 points and five rebounds during Game 3 at New Orleans on 4/25 ... Pitched in 19 points and four rebounds during Game 1 vs. New Orleans on 4/19.

**2008-09 Regular Season:** Played in a career-high 81 games (18 starts), averaging career-highs of 15.2 ppg, 3.7 rpg and 2.8 apg in 27.7 mpg ... Finished second in voting for the 2009 NBA Sixth Man of the Year award ... Reached double-digits in 61 contests on the year (a career-best 21-straight from 3/3 – 4/13), including 18 games of 20+, four of 30+ and two of 40+ ... Led the Nuggets in scoring 15 times, in assists nine times and in rebounding three times ... Ranked 26<sup>th</sup> in the NBA in points per 48 minutes (26.4) ... Had two double-digit rebound games and two double-doubles ... Made a career-high 180 three-pointers, the fifth-most in the NBA and the second-most in a single season in team history ... Made at least seven treys in three of his last four home games ... Erupted for his third career 40-point effort with a career-high 45 points (13-22 FG, 11-18 3FG) to go along with four rebounds in 30 minutes vs. Sacramento on 4/13 ... Broke his own franchise record for points by a reserve ... Shot 11-18 3FG vs. Sacramento on 4/13, setting new career-highs for both makes and attempts, while also setting a new Nuggets team record for 3FG makes ... His 11 3FG makes vs. Sacramento on 4/13 tied the third-most makes ever recorded in a game in NBA history (one of only four players to have made 11+ threes in a game) ... Posted 34 points (12-20 FG, 7-14 3FG) vs. L.A. Clippers on 4/4 ... Scored 28 points (8-14 FG, 8-13 3FG) to go along with a career-high-tying seven assists (6<sup>th</sup> time) vs. Utah on 4/2 ... Moved into second on the Nuggets all-time 3FG makes list past Dale Ellis vs. Golden State on 3/28 and now has 486 3FG makes as a Nugget ... Poured in 40 points (15-23 FG) vs. Washington on 3/20 ... Finished third in the 2009 Sprite Slam Dunk Contest at NBA All-Star Weekend in Phoenix on 2/14 ... Notched 19 points (7-9 FG), seven rebounds, six assists and a career-high-tying four steals (5<sup>th</sup> time) vs. Sacramento on 1/20 ... Posted his second double-double of the season (second as a Nugget, third of his career) with 15 points and a career-high-tying 10 rebounds (3<sup>rd</sup> time) vs. San Antonio on 12/4 ... Had 32 points (5-9 3FG) vs. New Orleans on 11/27 ... DNP-CD at L.A. Clippers on 11/26 (first this season) ... Scored his 3,000<sup>th</sup> career point vs. Memphis on 11/9 ... Notched his second career double-double with 17 points and 10 rebounds at L.A. Clippers on 10/31.

**13 SONNY WEEMS - G/F - Ht: 6-6 Wt: 203 - Born: 9/9/85 - Arkansas - NBA Exp: R**

	2008-09	2009 PLAYOFFS	PLAYOFF CAREER-HIGHS
<b>Points</b>	19 - <b>1.6</b> PPG	---	---
<b>Rebounds</b>	4 - <b>0.3</b> RPG	---	---
<b>Assists</b>	3 - <b>0.3</b> APG	---	---

**2009 Postseason:** Placed on the Inactive List for all 16 games so far this postseason ... Recalled from the Colorado 14ers of the NBA Development League on 4/25 ... Missed Games 1 and 2 of the first round while being assigned to the D-League.

**2008-09 Regular Season:** Played in 12 games as a rookie, averaging 1.6 ppg in 4.6 mpg ... Also played in 21 games with the Colorado 14ers of the D-League, averaging 20.5 ppg, 4.5 rpg and 3.0 apg in 28.2 mpg ... Re-assigned to the Colorado 14ers of the NBA Development League on 4/10 ... DNP-CD 27 times with Nuggets ... Tallied a season-high-tying four points to go along with season-highs of two rebounds and two assists in a season-high 10 minutes at Minnesota on 4/5 ... Missed the first 14 games of the season due to a left groin strain ... Registered 32 points, seven rebounds and six assists in 44 minutes at Reno on 4/11 ... Re-assigned to the Colorado 14ers of the NBA Development League on 4/10 ... Recalled from the 14ers on 3/31 ... Poured in 36 points (15-22 FG) to go along with nine rebounds at Erie on 3/27 ... Notched 30 points, six rebounds and six assists at Albuquerque on 3/8 ... Re-assigned to the 14ers on 3/6 ... Recalled from the 14ers on 1/6 ... Registered his first double-double of the season in the D-League with 24 points and 10 rebounds vs. Fort Wayne on 12/30 ... Assigned to the 14ers on 12/10 ... Averaged 9.2 ppg and 3.0 rpg in 22.2 mpg in five games (two starts) for the Nuggets entry in the NBA Summer League in Las Vegas in July 2008.