

Peete may be backup, but he's important

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world can be here today, gone tomorrow," Peete said. "And it's not always just about how talented you are. You've got to respect your name, respect your job and respect what this is - and that's being a pro."

He is a pro's pro. When he got yanked after the first half of last year's season opener in favor of Delhomme, Peete didn't start griping about all the dues he had paid. He didn't start talking about how he had been in Charlotte longer and knew the system better.



Peete

Instead, Peete became one of the most valuable assets Delhomme could have had as a first-time starter. If Peete noticed something from the sidelines that would help Delhomme, he relayed the message right away. He cheered for Delhomme. He cheered for the Panthers. He was a pro.

Like always.

During last week's minicamp, Peete didn't dazzle anyone. He was his normal, efficient, productive self. It has to be tough, though, knowing that some people will start using his age against him.

He was asked if he considers himself a serious threat to get playing time or if he merely is serving as a mentor.

"It's a little bit of both," he said. "I'm still trying to help Jake and Chris Weinke and now Rod Rutherford in any way I can. Just from being around the league so long and seeing the things that I've seen, there's still a lot of information I can lend to these guys. But at the same time, I'm still competing, and I'm still in that mode where if I have to play, I'm going to be ready to play. And that's where I'm getting myself to for the upcoming season."

As if we expected anything else.

Keep Peete around, Panthers.

He might not throw a single touchdown. But he will definitely contribute to this team.

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