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Week 17 of the 2010 Nfl [sports betting](#) regular season puts the Panthers on the road to Pittsburgh to face the Steelers. It is the bottom of the National Football Conference South vs the top of the AFC North. The Steelers are holding tight to their 10-4-0 record as the regular season rapidly comes to a close and the playoff nerves are about to kick in. The Panthers alternatively don't have an excessive amount of to lose with their 2-12-0 record arriving into this Thursday night's match.

[Sports book](#) lists the Steelers as the minus 14 point favorites to win at home this week, with the total over under at 37. In recent Steelers news, it is looking good that they're going to have tight end Heath Miller back on the field this Thursday. Miller, hurt Dec. 5 in Baltimore, was expected to return for Sunday's competition against the Jets, but developed post-concussion headaches and was hosted out. His replacement, Matt Spaeth, caught a touchdown pass throughout Pittsburgh's 22-17 loss. Miller was hurt on a helmet hit by the Ravens' Jameel McClain, who was fined \$40,000 by football. Defensive end Aaron Smith (torn triceps) is being fitted with a shoulder brace so he can resume practicing, although coach Mike Tomlin did not say Monday when that could be. The Steelers practice simply once this week. Smith has not performed since being wounded Oct. 24 in Miami.

As for the Panthers, they are arriving off one of just 2 wins this year, last weekend versus the Cardinals. Carolina is the worst squad in the nfl at 2-12 but they did get their second win of the year last week at home vs Arizona. There isn't much to like about Carolina but maybe their defense can keep this game respectable which is all it will take to cover the spread. The Panthers do have a defense that is close to the leading 10 in the nfl so they're effective at keeping the score down. The difficulty for Carolina is that they have a rotten offense. Jimmy Clausen is not an outstanding Nfl qb and even in last week's win most of the scoring came from kicker John Kasay. The Carolina Panthers do have Jonathan Stewart who can run the ball efficiently but racing vs the Pittsburgh steelers will not be simple. Panthers renowned the end of a seven-game losing streak with a hard-to-watch, but pretty gratifying 19-12 win over the punchless Cardinals. With only 218 total yards, the Cardinals struggled to move the ball the whole game. But Larry Fitzgerald managed to have his greatest day of the year as the receiver, he went over the century mark for merely the second time this year. The Carolina Panthers could be on a winning high at the time, but even so it's definitely not destined to be enough to battle against the toughest defense they have yet to face this season in [sports betting](#).

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