

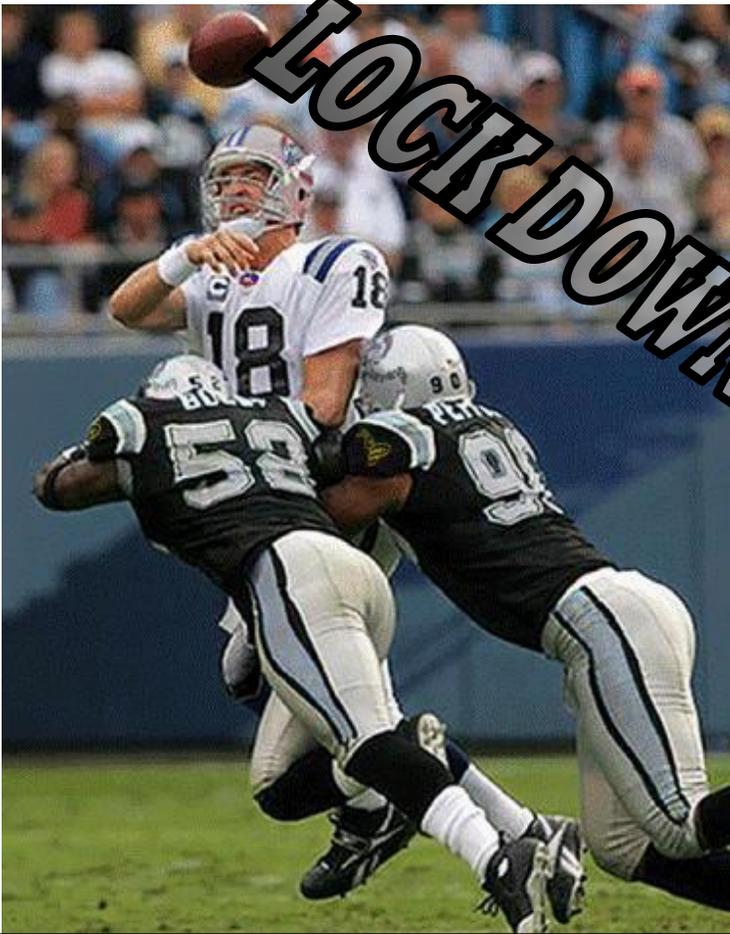
# 2010



# 2010

## WEEK TEN IN REVIEW

December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2010



# LOCK DOWN!

Julius Peppers and Michael Boley pressure Peyton Manning. Chino's 'D' locked down Charleswood 13-9 in the Battle of the PAC. (STORY INSIDE)

### LATEST EFL NEWS INSIDE

#### THE GAMES

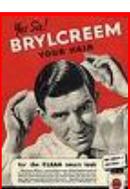
- CONVICTS COLLAR PETERSON, IMPRISON PATS
- DRAGONS HOLD OFF MARKHAM
- BRADFORD OUTDUELS BRES
- LIZARDS GETS BIG PLAY FROM ROOKIE TO ESCAPE FROM THE CORRAL WITH WIN
- BIG BEN RULES FOR SECOND STRAIGHT WEEK
- RECORD DAY FOR ROMO
- 'D' DAY IN L.A.
- MORTAL COMBAT AT THE COLISEUM

#### COMMENT

"WAL-MART," "THE AMAZING ABSORBING MAN," "MONDAY MORNING QB," "CHINO BALL," "YORK'S WAKE-UP CALL," – Spats McChad

#### PREDICTIONS

Jimmy the Geek tells you why no team will be undefeated after Week Eleven! Plus, a couple of "sure things," a handful of "maybes" and one wild guess.



*Who was slick in Week Ten?*

**"BRYLCREEM" THE EFL'S OLDEST SPONSOR**



**Tony Romo**  
QB  
Kutztown Golden Bears

29 of 35, 351 yards and EFL record 7 TD passes in rout of York.



**Julius Peppers**  
DE  
Chino Convicts

2 sacks, 3 run stuffs and 3 forced fumbles to lead Convicts past Pats.

OFFENSE

DEFENSE

# CONVICTS LOCKDOWN PATS

**MANNING "PEPPERED", PETERSON SHACKLED FOR 3 YARDS**



**CHINO**

**13**



**CHARLESWOOD**

**9**

CHINO – The Chino Convicts are on the loose. In a fight for supremacy in the Pacific-Atlantic Conference against the Charleswood Patriots, the Convicts came out on top by delivering their signature brand of hard-nosed, brutal defensive football. The Pats, who had parlayed a league-leading 29 forced turnovers into a 7-2 record heading into this contest, had troubles of their own holding on to the ball, coughing it up 4 times. In a contest where both teams battled hard for every score, those mistakes would ultimately cost them the game.

Chino would score first, settling for a chip shot field goal by **Jeff Reed** after **Steven Jackson** was kept out of the end zone on 3 consecutive runs from inside the Pats' 5-yard line. Charleswood charged back with a 67-yard drive to the Chino 5 yard line, but came away empty-handed after **Terrence Newman** picked off **Peyton Manning** in the end zone on 4<sup>th</sup> down. The Pats scored their first points off a turnover when **Sheldon Brown** made his league-leading 6<sup>th</sup> interception to set up a 27-yard **Stephen Gostkowski** field goal. **Joshua Cribbs** fumbled the ensuing kickoff, giving the Pats another red zone opportunity. Manning hooked up with **Sidney Rice** for an apparent TD pass but Rice was ruled out at the 1 yard line for a 19-yard pass play. The Chino defence stood like a brick wall, stopping **Adrian Peterson** twice and swatting down a pass to **Bernard Berrian** at the goal line. Sensing another 4<sup>th</sup> down disaster, the Pats took the 3 points to go ahead 6-3. The Pats continued applying the pressure. Backed up at their own 1, a 9-yard pass to Berrian and a 73-yard completion to Jason Witten put them once again inside the Convicts' red zone. But consecutive sacks by **James Harrison** and **Julius Peppers** forced them back to the edge of field goal range. Gostkowski missed the 49-yard FG attempt and the Pat's lead remained at 3 points.

In the second half, the stifled Chino offence tired to generate a lift by going for it on 4<sup>th</sup> & 1 at their 36. The Pats 'D' held and the offence tacked on another field goal for a 9-3 advantage. The Convicts nickel-and-dimed their way into field goal range, drawing back within 3 points on Reed's 36-yarder, to set up the game's turning point early in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter. With the Pats in possession, **Marques Colston** faked **Aqib Talib** out of his shoes and snared a medium sideline pass that he started to run up field. Out of position, Talib lunged desperately at Colston, somehow ripping the ball out as he fell to the turf. **Will Witherspoon** dove on it at the Pat's 49 yard line. A 15-yard gain on an end-around by **Andre Caldwell** set Charleswood back on their heels and 3 plays later, **Donovan McNabb** found **Hines Ward** in the end zone from 5 yards for the game's winning, and only, touchdown.

12-09-2010 The Big House Temp: 92 Wind: 0-5 None MVP: **Steven Jackson**

	1	2	3	4	Tot
2009 Charleswood (7-3)	0	6	3	0	9
2009 Chino (8-2)	3	0	0	10	13

1 5:06 Chino	FG Reed 19 (11-51-4:38)	0-3
2 8:36 Charleswood	FG Gostkowski 27 (7-16-1:44)	3-3
2 5:31 Charleswood	FG Gostkowski 19 (6-21-2:51)	6-3
3 5:26 Charleswood	FG Gostkowski 33 (8-20-2:37)	9-3
4 13:35 Chino	FG Reed 36 (14-45-6:38)	9-6
4 8:54 Chino	TD McNabb 5 pass to Ward (Reed,J) (6-49-2:32)	9-13

	CHP	CHI
First Downs	19	14
Rushes	13-0	34-142
Passes	50-31-398	26-15-115
Sacked	6-35	1-6
Fumble	5	1
Penalties	4-40	3-33
Turnovers	4	2
Time	28:44	31:16
Third Down	6-15	3-14
Fourth Down	0-2	2-3
Red Att/Td/Fg	9/0/3	2/1/1
Net Offense	363	251

< Charleswood >

Passing	Att	Cmp	Yds	Sk	25	In	Td	Rate
Manning	50	31	398	6	2	2	0	70.3

Rushing	Att	Yds	Ave	FD	10	Lg	TD
Peterson	8	3	0.4	0	0	3	0
Manning	5	-3	-0.6	0	0	1	0

Receiving	No	Dp	Att	Yds	Ave	FD	25	Lg	TD
Witten	9	1	15	133	14.8	5	1	73	0
Rice	8	0	13	98	12.3	6	0	19	0
Berrian	7	0	9	50	7.1	3	0	9	0
Colston	6	0	11	110	18.3	3	1	25	0
Peterson	1	0	1	7	7.0	0	0	7	0

< Chino >

Passing	Att	Cmp	Yds	Sk	25	In	Td	Rate
McNabb	26	15	115	1	0	1	1	65.4

Rushing	Att	Yds	Ave	FD	10	Lg	TD
Jackson	25	120	4.8	4	3	50	0
Caldwell	1	15	15.0	1	1	15	0
Cribbs	4	6	1.5	0	0	4	0
McNabb	3	3	1.0	0	0	3	0
Moreno	1	-2	-2.0	0	0	0	0

Receiving	No	Dp	Att	Yds	Ave	FD	25	Lg	TD
Moss	3	0	5	28	9.3	3	0	10	0
Ward	3	0	9	25	8.3	1	0	13	1
Olsen	2	0	2	12	6.0	0	0	7	0
Massaquoi	2	0	2	20	10.0	1	0	12	0
Jackson	2	0	3	11	5.5	0	0	6	0
Fasano	1	0	1	6	6.0	0	0	6	0
Caldwell	1	0	3	6	6.0	1	0	6	0
Moreno	1	0	1	7	7.0	0	0	7	0

## DRAGONS HANG ON FOR 10<sup>TH</sup> WIN

**GAME POINTS:** Florida appeared headed for an easy win after scoring touchdowns in each of the first two quarters while holding Markham to 4 first downs and 0 points in the first half. But the Stars made a game of it by turning to rookie **Jahvid Best** and former Dragon, **DeAngelo Williams** in the second half. The two backs combined for 43 yards on a Markham scoring drive to open the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter, with Williams scoring on a 3-yard pass from **Jason Campbell**. **Aaron Rodgers** fumbled on the Dragons next possession and Markham moved to the Dragons' 1-yard line where they were denied on 4<sup>th</sup> & goal at the 1 yard line. A 56-yard run by Best set up a FG by **Rian Lindell**, but Florida replied with a 12-yard TD scramble by Rodgers to make it 21-10 with less than 6 minutes left. A 32-yard run by Williams set up a 1-yard TD run by Best, but the 2-point convert failed, leaving Markham trailing by 5 points. An electrifying 54-yard pass to **Kenny Britt** brought Markham to the Florida 35 with 7 seconds left, but the desperate last pass fell incomplete.

**KEY PERFORMANCES:** **Aaron Rodgers** completed 19 of 27 for 225 yards, 1 TD, **Brandon Marshall** caught 8 passes for 102 yards, 1 TD; **Jason Campbell** went 12 of 15 for 142 yards, 1 TD, **Jahvid Best** ran for 119 yards, 1 TD on 16 carries.



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**MARKHAM**



21

**FLORIDA**

12-09-2010 Dragonmount Temp: 78 Wind: Calm None MVP: **Aaron Rodgers**

	1	2	3	4	Tot
2009 Markham (4-6)	0	0	7	9	16
2009 Florida (10-0)	7	7	0	7	21

1 6:51 Florida	TD Jackson 3 run (Longwell) (15-85-8:04)	0-7
2 6:22 Florida	TD Rodgers 28 pass to Marshall (Longwell) (10-77-6:15)	0-14
3 10:02 Markham	TD Campbell 3 pass to Williams (Lindell) (10-65-4:45)	7-14
4 12:58 Markham	FG Lindell 44 (7-60-4:04)	10-14
4 5:53 Florida	TD Rodgers 12 run (Longwell) (12-72-6:54)	10-21
4 3:27 Markham	TD Best 1 run (2 - failed) (5-60-2:26)	16-21

	MAR	FLD
First Downs	16	20
Rushes	34-234	33-127
Passes	15-12-142	27-19-225
Sacked	2-11	1-4
Fumble	1	2
Penalties	7-34	6-34
Turnovers	0	1
Time	28:52	31:08
Third Down	5-12	10-14
Fourth Down	1-2	1-1
Red Att/Td/Fg	3/2/0	4/2/0
Net Offense	365	348



**VIRDEN**

10



**IOWA CITY**

24

## BRADFORD OUTDUELS BREES

**GAME POINTS:** **Sam Bradford** rifled 3 TD passes in the 2<sup>nd</sup> half to lead the Cubs past the Violators on a chilly day at Joe Ferguson Stadium. Rookie safety, **Jairus Byrd** cracked open a 3-3 stalemate in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter with an interception and 58-yard return to the Viriden 3 yard line, where Bradford dumped off the ball to **Lawrence Vickers** on the next play to log the game's first TD. **Drew Brees** made up for that mistake with a 36-yard long hitch to **Devin Hester** for the equalizer. But Bradford got into a rhythm on the next drive, hitting flawlessly on short passes, with **Ronnie Brown** in run support, to move the ball 79 yards and score the go-ahead TD on a 15-yard TD pass to **Lee Evans**. **DeAngelo Hall** squelched Viriden's comeback attempt with 6 minutes left on a 54-yard interception return that set up Bradford's 8-yard fade pass for a TD to **Larry Fitzgerald**.

**KEY PERFORMANCES:** **Sam Bradford** completed 21 of 28 for 203 yards, 3 TDs and 1 INT, **Kellen Winslow** caught 6 passes for 108 yards, **Demeco Ryans** made 13 tackles; **Drew Brees** went 25 of 52 for 307 yards, 1 TD and 2 INTs.

12-08-2010 Joe Ferguson Stadium Temp: 44 Wind: 0-10 None MVP: **Sam Bradford**

	1	2	3	4	Tot
2009 Viriden (3-7)	0	3	7	0	10
2009 Iowa City (3-7)	0	3	7	14	24

2 11:04 Viriden	FG Tynes 46 (8-61-3:13)	3-0
2 0:00 Iowa City	FG Rackers 31 (9-66-1:50)	3-3
3 5:13 Iowa City	TD Bradford 3 pass to Vickers (Rackers) (1-3-0:05)	3-10
3 1:18 Viriden	TD Brees 36 pass to Hester (Tynes) (8-63-3:40)	10-10
4 11:11 Iowa City	TD Bradford 15 pass to Evans (Rackers) (10-79-5:00)	10-17
4 5:57 Iowa City	TD Bradford 8 pass to Fitzgerald (Rackers) (1-8-0:06)	10-24

	VV	ICC
First Downs	15	17
Rushes	13-28	37-171
Passes	52-25-307	28-21-203
Sacked	1-10	0-0
Fumble	0	0
Penalties	5-30	6-25
Turnovers	2	1
Time	27:45	32:15
Third Down	6-16	5-15
Fourth Down	0-2	0-1
Red Att/Td/Fg	1/0/0	3/3/0
Net Offense	325	374

## DINOS SURVIVE FIGHT WITH HORSES

**GAME POINTS:** Back-up QB, **John Skelton**, subbing for a woozy **Philip Rivers**, tossed what would turn out to be a game-winning 10-yard TD pass to **Calvin Johnson** to give Durham a 31-27 lead with 7:54 left in the game. The big play came on the series after Garland safety, **Earl Thomas** snagged his second interception of the game and returned it to the Durham 11 yard line to set up a 23-yard FG by **Robbie Gould** that gave Garland a 27-24 lead. It was a see-saw affair from the start. The home team came fast out of the gate with a 75-yard "pick six" by Thomas and 1-yard TD run by **Willis McGahee** in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter. But Rivers got Durham back in the game quickly with a 35-yard TD pass to Johnson then **Shaun Rogers** blocked a **Sam Koch** punt to set up a second TD pass to Johnson. The Mustangs erased a 10-point Durham lead in the 2<sup>nd</sup> half with a pair of big runs by **Matt Forte** and **Frank Gore**, but could not stop the Durham comeback.

**KEY PERFORMANCES:** **Philip Rivers** went 17 of 32 for 175 yards, 3 TDs and 12 INTs, **Calvin Johnson** caught 5 passes for 65 yards and 3 TDs; **Matt Ryan** went 24 of 41 for 250 yards and 1 INT, **Wes Welker** caught 9 passes for 108 yards.



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DURHAM



27

GARLAND

12-09-2010 The Corral Temp: 76 Wind: Calm None MVP: **Danny Amendola**

	1	2	3	4	Tot	
2009 Durham (7-3)	3	14	7	10	34	
2009 Garland (1-9)	0	14	10	3	27	
1 4:45 Durham						FG Crosby 22 (14-74-8:06) 3-0
2 14:37 Garland						TD Thomas 75 interception return (Gould) (0-0-0:00) 3-7
2 8:43 Garland						TD McGahee 1 run (Gould) (8-80-4:13) 3-14
2 6:16 Durham						TD Rivers 35 pass to Johnson (Crosby) (5-61-2:13) 10-14
2 1:52 Durham						TD Rivers 3 pass to Johnson (Crosby) (6-23-2:46) 17-14
3 11:15 Durham						TD Rivers-1 pass to Davis (Crosby) (8-37-3:30) 24-14
3 8:48 Garland						FG Gould 41 (5-27-2:08) 24-17
3 1:27 Garland						TD Forte 18 run (Gould) (5-75-2:56) 24-24
4 12:38 Garland						FG Gould 23 (4-0-0:57) 24-27
4 7:54 Durham						TD Skelton 10 pass to Johnson (Crosby) (9-57-4:32) 31-27
4 7:04 Durham						FG Crosby 31 (8-43-4:16) 34-27

	DTL	GDM
First Downs	19	18
Rushes	30-128	18-108
Passes	34-19-192	41-24-250
Sacked	0-0	1-9
Fumble	4	1
Penalties	4-35	6-40
Turnovers	2	1
Time	32:54	27:06
Third Down	7-14	3-13
Fourth Down	1-1	0-2
Red Att/Td/Fg	4/2/2	4/2/1
Net Offense	320	349



3

COWTOWN



26

RINGGOLD

## RINGGOLD WINS SECOND IN A ROW

**GAME POINTS:** The Crimson Hawks moved to 5-5 with their second consecutive win. **Ben Roethlisberger** had another good performance, passing virtually at will to wide receiver **Santonio Holmes**, who caught 2 TD passes. **Maurice Jones-Drew** posted his first 100-yard rushing day since Week Three to complete the offensive dominance by Ringgold. The Hawks scored on their first drive after converting a 4<sup>th</sup> down and 1 at the Cowtown 36 yard line. Big Ben connected for a TD with Holmes on a short slant from 9 yards away to make it 6-0. **Shaun Suisham** missed the extra point but the glitch would not come back to haunt them. The Hawks defence, led by Nick Barnett's 7 tackles, kept **Joe Flacco** and the Corn Kings off the scoreboard until the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter while the offence held on to the ball for over 36 minutes.

**KEY PERFORMANCES:** **Ben Roethlisberger** went 22 of 31 for 268 yards and 3 TDs, **Santonio Holmes** had 8 catches for 112 yards and 2 TDs, **Maurice Jones-Drew** rushed for 105 yards on 24 carries; **Joe Flacco** went 19 of 33 for 165 yards, **Zach Miller** caught 7 passes for 61 yards. **Marion Barber** ran for 36 yards on 11 carries.

12-10-2010 The Hawk's Nest Temp: 40 Wind: Calm MVP: **Ben Roethlisberger**

	1	2	3	4	Tot	
2009 Cowtown (2-8)	0	0	0	3	3	
2009 Ringgold (5-5)	6	10	10	0	26	
1 6:56 Ringgold						TD Roethlisberger 9 pass to Holmes (no good) (15-80-8:04) 0-6
2 7:51 Ringgold						FG Suisham 41 (8-38-3:00) 0-9
2 0:22 Ringgold						TD Roethlisberger 4 pass to Holmes (Suisham) (13-69-5:44) 0-16
3 7:08 Ringgold						FG Suisham 25 (7-57-3:36) 0-19
3 0:09 Ringgold						TD Roethlisberger 8 pass to Thomas (Suisham) (9-78-5:19) 0-26
4 8:59 Cowtown						FG Mare 28 (14-64-6:04) 3-26

	COW	RCH
First Downs	13	28
Rushes	14-42	38-183
Passes	33-19-165	31-22-268
Sacked	1-10	0-0
Fumble	0	0
Penalties	5-35	5-37
Turnovers	0	0
Time	23:26	36:34
Third Down	4-12	8-13
Fourth Down	0-0	1-1
Red Att/Td/Fg	1/0/1	4/3/1
Net Offense	197	451

## ROMO HAS RECORD DAY, PUNISHES YORK



52

KUTZTOWN



21

YORK

**GAME POINTS:** The Golden Bears exploded for 24 points in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter to fuel a full bore rout of the York Excaliburs. **Tony Romo** tied a league record with 7 TD passes, the first one coming on the game's first possession at the end of an expertly engineered 10-play drive on an 11-yard slant to **Greg Jennings** into the teeth of York pass coverage. Everything would continue to go right for Kutztown after that. **Tom Brady** tried to keep pace with a 49-yard pass to **Darren McFadden** followed by a 15-yard TD pass to **Laveranues Coles** to narrow the early deficit to 21-7, Bears. But Romo fired back with a 44-yard completion to Jennings and a 4-yard TD pass to **Felix Jones** then **Nate Kaeding** added a last second 51-yard FG to make the score 31-7 at the half. Kutztown did not let up in the 2<sup>nd</sup> half, outscoring York 21-14 in the final two periods to finish them off.

**KEY PERFORMANCES:** **Tony Romo** went 29 of 35 for 351 yards and 7 TDs, **Felix Jones** caught 2 TD passes and added 69 yards rushing on 12 carries, **Greg Jennings** had 8 rec., 126 yards and 1 TD; **Tom Brady** went 29 of 42 for 351 yards and 3 TDs, **Michael Jenkins** had 8 rec., 95 yards and 1 TD. **Laveranues Coles**. 7 rec.. 88 vds. 1 TD.

12-12-2010 Camelot Temp: 62 Wind: 0-10 MVP: **Tony Romo**

	1	2	3	4	Tot
2009 Kutztown (6-4)	7	24	7	14	52
2009 York (3-7)	0	7	14	0	21

1 9:17 Kutztown	TD Romo 11 pass to Jennings (Kaeding) (10-76-5:32)	7-0
2 14:49 Kutztown	TD Romo 8 pass to Jones (Kaeding) (10-97-3:43)	14-0
2 5:11 Kutztown	TD Romo 1 pass to Bennett (Kaeding) (11-70-5:23)	21-0
2 3:28 York	TD Brady 15 pass to Coles (Graham,S) (3-75-1:29)	21-7
2 1:48 Kutztown	TD Romo 4 pass to Jones (Kaeding) (5-66-1:28)	28-7
2 0:00 Kutztown	FG Kaeding 51 (7-34-0:45)	31-7
3 13:14 York	TD Brady 32 pass to Jenkins (Graham,S) (4-69-1:32)	31-14
3 8:49 Kutztown	TD Romo 2 pass to McClain (Kaeding) (8-49-3:38)	38-14
3 3:41 York	TD Brady 4 pass to Gage (Graham,S) (12-78-5:03)	38-21
4 13:25 Kutztown	TD Romo 5 pass to Bennett (Kaeding) (10-70-5:04)	45-21
4 3:35 Kutztown	TD Romo 22 pass to Crayton (Kaeding) (10-71-6:12)	52-21

	KUT	YOR
First Downs	33	21
Rushes	36-174	13-30
Passes	35-29-351	42-29-351
Sacked	0-0	0-0
Fumble	1	2
Penalties	5-25	6-45
Turnovers	0	1
Time	35:04	24:56
Third Down	8-11	5-11
Fourth Down	1-1	0-1
Red Att/Td/Fg	6/6/0	3/2/0
Net Offense	525	381



3

MOHAVE



24

LOS ANGELES

## DOMINANT KNIGHTS 'D' SIGNALS VICTORY

**GAME POINTS:** The LA 'D' delivered a hammer blow to **Matt Schaub** and the Mohave Hellfire, giving **Kurt Warner** and the Knights' offence chances to move and score against a difficult Mohave defence. LA got the defining break early in the game when **Al Harris** forced a fumble by **Hakeem Nicks** at the Mohave 25 yard line. Two passes to **Roddy White** got them close then **Jamaal Charles** finished the job with a 3-yard run for the opening TD. Mid-way in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter, **Charles Woodson** picked off Schaub at the Mohave 18 yard line, setting up another Knights TD on a 13-yard pass to **Todd Heap**. **Champ Bailey** picked Warner near the end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter to prevent further damage, but here would be no 2<sup>nd</sup> half flare up for the Hellfire to exploit that play. Charles added his 2<sup>nd</sup> TD of the game on a 10-yard run in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter to seal the win.

**KEY PERFORMANCES:** **Kurt Warner** went 17 of 24 for 154 yards 1 TD and 1 INT, **Jamaal Charles** rushed for 102 yards and 2 TDs on 14 carries, **Roddy White** caught 10 passes for 105 yards; **Matt Schaub** went 11 of 20 for 131 yards and 1 INT, **Donald Driver** caught 3 passes for 46 yards.

12-11-2010 Round Table Stadium Temp: 71 Wind: Calm None MVP: **Jammal Charles**

	1	2	3	4	Tot
2009 Mohave (6-4)	0	0	3	0	3
2009 Los Angeles (3-7)	7	7	3	7	24

1 5:13 Los Angeles	TD Charles 3 run (Brown,K) (5-25-1:37)	0-7
2 7:30 Los Angeles	TD Warner 13 pass to Heap (Brown,K) (3-18-1:33)	0-14
3 9:52 Mohave	FG Bironas 24 (11-65-4:54)	3-14
3 2:49 Los Angeles	FG Carpenter 29 (12-66-6:50)	3-17
4 12:07 Los Angeles	TD Charles 10 run (Brown,K) (5-40-2:39)	3-24

	MOH	LAK
First Downs	10	17
Rushes	31-78	28-146
Passes	20-11-131	24-17-154
Sacked	4-30	1-6
Fumble	1	0
Penalties	5-19	10-73
Turnovers	2	1
Time	28:41	31:19
Third Down	3-13	6-14
Fourth Down	2-5	0-1
Red Att/Td/Fg	2/0/1	4/3/1
Net Offense	179	294

## FAVRE FINDS A WAY

**GAME POINTS:** The heavily favoured Pickering Spartans found themselves in mortal combat at the Gwinnett Coliseum. The Spartans struck first with a 19-yard TD pass from **Brett Favre** to **Anquan Boldin** in the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter then parlayed a **Stefan Logan** kickoff return fumble into 3 more points to take an early 10-0 lead. Gwinnett recovered 7 of those with a balanced drive for their first score, a 3-yard fade to the corner of the end zone from **Eli Manning** to **Reggie Wayne**. But Favre hit **Vincent Jackson** for a 27-yard gainer then **Chris Johnson** broke free for a 32-yard TD run to put Pickering back up by 10 points, 17-7 heading into half time. The Glads took the opening drive of the 2<sup>nd</sup> half to the Pickering 2 yard line, but **Jason Taylor** made a big play by sacking Manning for a 7-yard loss, holding Gwinnett to a FG. Gwinnett got a break when **Percy Harvin** fumbled the kickoff return at the Spartans 22 yard line. 5 plays later, **Thomas Jones** tied the game with 9-yard sweep for a TD. The teams literally traded score-for-score after that with the Glads tying the game at 31 apiece on Manning's 7-yard TD pass to **Dallas Clark**. With 3 minutes left, Favre led the game-winning charge, completing a pair of passes to Jackson, the second one a medium slant with 1 minute remaining that he carried the distance for a 30-yard TD.

**KEY PERFORMANCES:** **Brett Favre** completed 22 of 30 for 326 yards and 3 TDs, **Chris Johnson** rushed for 118 yards and 2 TDs on 18 carries and added a TD on a reception, **Vincent Jackson** caught 7 passes for 133 yards, 1 TD; **Eli Manning** went 26 of 40, 280 yards, 3 TDs and 2 INTs, **Dallas Clark** caught 7 for 92 yards and 2 TDs.



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**PICKERING**



31

**GWINNETT**

12-09-2010 Gwinnett Coliseum Temp: 66 Wind: 0-10 None MVP: <b>Chris Johnson</b>								
	1	2	3	4	Tot			
2009 Pickering (9-1)	10	7	7	14	38			
2009 Gwinnett (3-7)	0	7	10	14	31			
1 5:44 Pickering	TD Favre 19 pass to Boldin (Kasay) (6-78-2:13)				7-0			
1 2:32 Pickering	FG Kasay 26 (6-27-2:13)				10-0			
2 10:52 Gwinnett	TD Manning 3 pass to Wayne (Brown,J) (13-60-6:27)				10-7			
2 7:48 Pickering	TD Johnson 32 run (Kasay) (5-85-2:56)				17-7			
3 9:13 Gwinnett	FG Brown 36 (11-51-5:32)				17-10			
3 6:44 Gwinnett	TD Jones 8 run (Brown,J) (5-22-1:40)				17-17			
3 1:48 Pickering	TD Johnson 1 run (Kasay) (8-65-4:43)				24-17			
4 14:09 Gwinnett	TD Manning 24 pass to Clark (Brown,J) (5-63-2:24)				24-24			
4 9:46 Pickering	TD Favre 4 pass to Johnson (Kasay) (8-80-4:17)				31-24			
4 3:26 Gwinnett	TD Manning 7 pass to Clark (Brown,J) (12-80-6:15)				31-31			
4 1:05 Pickering	TD Favre 30 pass to Jackson (Kasay) (5-60-2:06)				38-31			
						<b>PIC</b>	<b>GWG</b>	
First Downs						24	25	
Rushes						22-113	26-98	
Passes						30-22-326 4	0-26-280	
Sacked						1-7	1-7	
Fumble						2	3	
Penalties						7-55	6-57	
Turnovers						1	3	
Time						26:34	33:26	
Third Down						5-10	8-13	
Fourth Down						0-0	2-3	
Red Att/Td/Fg						4/3/1	6/3/1	
Net Offense						432	371	

## WEEK TEN LEADERS

### Passing

Manning, P (CHP)	50-31-398
Romo (KUT)	35-29-351
Brady (YOR)	42-29-351
Favre (PIC)	30-22-326
Brees (VV)	52-25-307

### Rushing

Jackson, S (CHI)	25-120
Best (MAR)	16-119
Johnson, C (PIC)	18-118
Williams, D (MAR)	15-109
Jones-Drew (RCH)	24-105

### Receiving

Witten (CHP)	9-133
Jackson, V (PIC)	7-133
Jennings, G (KUT)	8-126
Holmes (RCH)	8-112
Colston (CHP)	6-110

# LEADER BOARD

## STANDINGS

East	W	L	T	Pct	Pts	Ave	Opp	Ave	Diff	Home	Div	Conf
Charleswood	7	3	0	0.700	317	31.7	183	18.3	13.4	5 0 0	2 1 0	5 2 0
Kutztown	6	4	0	0.600	255	25.5	224	22.4	3.1	3 3 0	1 2 0	4 3 0
Mohave	6	4	0	0.600	217	21.7	249	24.9	-3.2	5 0 0	3 0 0	5 2 0
Virden	3	7	0	0.300	213	21.3	280	28	-6.7	1 3 0	0 3 0	1 6 0
West	W	L	T	Pct	Pts	Ave	Opp	Ave	Diff	Home	Div	Conf
Chino	8	2	0	0.800	267	26.7	132	13.2	13.5	5 0 0	3 0 0	7 0 0
Iowa City	3	7	0	0.300	196	19.6	275	27.5	-7.9	1 4 0	1 2 0	2 5 0
Los Angeles	3	7	0	0.300	226	22.6	238	23.8	-1.2	2 3 0	0 3 0	2 5 0
York	3	7	0	0.300	201	20.1	288	28.8	-8.7	2 3 0	2 1 0	2 5 0
North	W	L	T	Pct	Pts	Ave	Opp	Ave	Diff	Home	Div	Conf
Pickering	9	1	0	0.900	319	31.9	160	16	15.9	3 1 0	3 0 0	6 1 0
Durham	7	3	0	0.700	252	25.2	188	18.8	6.4	5 0 0	1 2 0	4 3 0
Markham	4	6	0	0.400	186	18.6	253	25.3	-6.7	3 2 0	1 2 0	2 5 0
Cowtown	2	8	0	0.200	133	13.3	281	28.1	-14.8	2 4 0	1 2 0	2 5 0
South	W	L	T	Pct	Pts	Ave	Opp	Ave	Diff	Home	Div	Conf
Florida	10	0	0	1.000	294	29.4	124	12.4	17	6 0 0	3 0 0	7 0 0
Ringgold	5	5	0	0.500	226	22.6	221	22.1	0.5	3 1 0	2 1 0	4 3 0
Gwinnett	3	7	0	0.300	226	22.6	315	31.5	-8.9	3 2 0	1 2 0	2 5 0
Garland	1	9	0	0.100	218	21.8	335	33.5	-11.7	1 4 0	0 3 0	1 6 0

## PASSING

			Att	Cmp	C%	Yards	In	I%	Lg	TD	TD%	Rate
1	Favre	PIC	284	189	66.5	2515	5	1.8	53	20	7	110.6
2	Romo	KUT	300	205	68.3	2491	6	2	60	16	5.3	103.1
3	Rodgers	FLD	241	159	66	1993	4	1.7	75	13	5.4	102.6
4	Manning, P	CHP	330	223	67.6	2637	12	3.6	73	18	5.5	94.7
5	Roethlisberger	RCH	294	194	66	2269	9	3.1	53	16	5.4	94.6
6	Schaub	MOH	326	213	65.3	2562	10	3.1	56	17	5.2	93.9
7	McNabb	CHI	298	179	60.1	2185	6	2	64	17	5.7	93.3
8	Kolb	GDM	106	68	64.2	753	3	2.8	39	6	5.7	92.2
9	Brees	VV	312	195	62.5	2455	9	2.9	51	15	4.8	91
10	Manning, E	GWG	308	186	60.4	2240	10	3.2	78	19	6.2	89.7
11	Rivers, P	DTL	301	174	57.8	2208	11	3.7	86	21	7	88.8
12	Brady	YOR	360	233	64.7	2443	11	3.1	55	18	5	88.2
13	Campbell, J	MAR	260	170	65.4	1896	8	3.1	64	10	3.8	87
14	Warner	LAK	280	172	61.4	1860	9	3.2	74	16	5.7	86.6
15	Bradford	ICC	210	124	59	1237	6	2.9	53	8	3.8	76.6

## RUSHING

			Att	Yds	Ave	Lg	TD				Att	Yds	Ave	Lg	TD
1	Johnson, C	PIC	215	1243	5.8	40	18	<b>8</b>	Charles	LAK	123	657	5.3	17	5
2	Jones, T	GWG	203	903	4.4	45	6	<b>9</b>	Rice, R	FLD	134	657	4.9	58	5
3	Peterson, A	CHP	208	849	4.1	48	12	<b>10</b>	Mendenhall	MOH	148	649	4.4	49	4
4	Williams, R	VV	195	836	4.3	68	6	<b>11</b>	Best	MAR	141	528	3.7	56	4
5	Jones-Drew	RCH	162	787	4.9	94	3	<b>12</b>	Thomas, P	YOR	118	524	4.4	36	3
6	Jackson, S	CHI	158	719	4.6	50	2	<b>13</b>	Brown, R	ICC	122	511	4.2	50	6
7	McCoy, L	KUT	159	663	4.2	75	4	<b>14</b>	Williams, D	MAR	75	467	6.2	54	3
8	Charles	LAK	123	657	5.3	17	5	<b>15</b>	Jones, F	KUT	91	453	5	74	4

Yards/Game			Rushing Gains			of			10+			Rushing 1st		Downs	
1	Johnson, C	PIC	124.3	1	Johnson, C	PIC	38	1	Johnson, C	PIC	77				
2	Jones, T	GWG	90.3	2	Jones, T	GWG	24	2	Jones, T	GWG	53				
3	Peterson, A	CHP	84.9	3	Charles	LAK	23	3	Peterson, A	CHP	48				
4	Williams, R	VV	83.6	4	Jackson, S	CHI	22	4	Williams, R	VV	41				
5	Jackson, S	CHI	79.9	5	Williams, R	VV	19	5	Jackson, S	CHI	37				

## RECEIVING

			No	Yds	Ave	Lg	TD				No	Yds	Ave	Lg	TD
1	Holmes	RCH	66	885	13.4	40	5	<b>8</b>	Witten	CHP	56	628	11.2	73	8
2	Welker	GDM	62	845	13.6	68	4	<b>9</b>	Colston	CHP	54	695	12.9	32	3
3	Wayne	GWG	61	931	15.3	78	11	<b>10</b>	Johnson, A	RCH	53	789	14.9	53	7
4	White, R	LAK	61	663	10.9	42	2	<b>11</b>	Smith, S	LAK	52	584	11.2	55	7
5	Rice, S	CHP	60	778	13	28	3	<b>12</b>	Fitzgerald	ICC	51	502	9.8	28	8
6	Jennings, G	KUT	59	929	15.7	60	2	<b>13</b>	Clark, D	GWG	49	502	10.2	25	4
7	Moss, R	CHI	57	794	13.9	51	8	<b>14</b>	Ward, H	CHI	47	595	12.7	64	7
8	Witten	CHP	56	628	11.2	73	8	<b>15</b>	Ochocinco	MAR	47	510	10.9	39	2

RAC Yards			Yards/Game			Receiving 1st		Downs			
1	Jennings, G	KUT	464	1	Welker	GDM	121	1	Holmes	RCH	55
2	Jones-Drew	RCH	346	2	Wayne	GWG	93.1	2	Wayne	GWG	42
3	Jackson, V	PIC	336	3	Jennings,G	KUT	92.9	3	Jennings, G	KUT	40
4	Moss, R	CHI	329	4	Holmes	RCH	88.5	4	Rice, S	CHP	40
5	Welker	GDM	325	5	Hester,D	VV	87.9	5	Moss, R	CHI	38



# AROUND THE



*With Spats McChad*

NEW YORK – The war between workers and consumers continues with New York City as the battleground. Wal-Mart is renewing its push to establish a store in the country’s largest urban market – a move that is vigorously opposed by Union leaders, small businesses, community activists, and the politicians who rely on their votes. At the root of the dispute is jobs – quality versus quantity. The old economy and its inefficiencies is in a death struggle with the economies of scale of the “big box” retailers such as Wal-Mart. Are higher prices and higher wages better for a community than lower prices and lower wages? I don’t see a difference, actually; unless, of course, higher wages mean higher prices and *fewer* jobs. Fewer jobs means more unemployed people. That causes a greater drain on social services and higher crime rates. A low-paying job may not buy the 3-bedroom house with the white picket fence, but it may pay for a clean apartment and provide valuable job experience, training and improved self-esteem for more people. In Spats McChad’s economy, more people working for less is better than fewer people working and charging more for it.

## ***THE PEASANTS REVOLT***

The EFL Nobility had to put down an angry mob of pitchfork-wielding peasants in Week Ten. The Florida Dragons, Pickering Spartans and Durham Thunder Lizards all survived uprisings by the "have-nots" of the league in games they were expected to win easily but struggled to control. It was fun to watch but it would have been more fun if just one of those teams had managed to pull off an upset. Because one group was armed with pitchforks (in Gwinnett’s case, *sharpened* pitchforks) and the other with crossbows, flails and MP-5s, the final outcomes were as inevitable as they were disappointing. There would be no blue-faced EFL ‘Braveheart’ to strike a heroic blow for the underdog this week. The balance of power was challenged, but in the end remained undisturbed heading into Week Eleven.

## ***THE AMAZING “ABSORBING MAN”***

It was another impressive effort from the Markham North Stars against a vastly superior opponent. In the end they fell to Florida as expected but kept the game close up to the final play, which was *not* expected. It will go down as a loss in the standings but it will register as a win in the team’s collective psyche. Markham is a team with unusual abilities – it often plays “up” or “down” depending on its competition. One week they are beating powerful Durham, the next week they are getting blown out by the woeful Corn Kings. It begins and ends with the preparation of Head Coach, **Darrin Jones**. If he were a superhero, he would be the amazing “**Absorbing Man**,” taking on (absorbing) the attributes of his foes. But “Absorbing Man” obviously has a weakness, or else there would be no mishaps like the 38-3 drubbing the Stars received at Chino in Week Eight. “Absorbing Man” must first drink a secret formula at least one hour prior to game time – one that includes malted barley and special hops – and he must be very careful to take the correct dose. Too little has no effect while an excessive amount may cause him to absorb too much of the *wrong* quality – or, as happened against Gwinnett in Week Four, the *right* quality; one that gave **Jason Campbell** *Eli Manning-like* numbers in his Markham debut. It’s a risk either way, but worth the gamble for performances like the one Markham put on against the Dragons.

## ***MONDAY MORNING QUARTERBACKING***

I have been accused of this from time-to-time and never so in admiration. The term, when levied against a journalist, carries a negative overtone – a condemning and all-purpose counter-criticism to criticism. I tend to view the allegation as the last resort of people who are both defensive and without a valid argument to support. Nevertheless, there are times when calling somebody a “Monday Morning Quarterback” to make the point that the person is a complainer and a jerk is valid and appropriate.

Markham coach, **Darrin Jones**, came under fire from ESPN analyst, **Russ Flont**, for eschewing the sure 3 points and going for it on 4<sup>th</sup> and goal at the Florida one-yard line with Markham trailing 14-7 mid-way through the third quarter. Had they kicked the field goal (closer than an extra point at that distance), Flont argued, they would have trailed by only 2 points instead of 5 as they drove up the field on their final possession. The North Stars ended up running out



Jahvid at his best! Markham rookie running back, Jahvid Best breaks through a hole in the Florida line as Calais Campbell tries to strip the ball. The North Stars put forth a great effort in a 21-16 loss – once again “playing up” to a good opponent.

of time at the Florida 35 yard line – forced to throw desperately into the end zone on the game’s final play to try and score a TD. Like a university professor declaring the answer to a confounding physics problem to a class of challenged students, Flont pointed out that the Stars could have tried a *field goal* for the win at that range if they had only been trailing by 2 points. He went on to pronounce; “*Three points is three points – you never know when they’ll come in handy!*”

Who is Flont, anyway?

According to Wikipedia he is nobody – the only media hack I know of, maybe the only public figure I have heard of – who does *not* have an entry in the world’s largest repository of questionable knowledge. One thing we know is that he did not play football for any professional organization and he had no national media profile prior to this season, when he suddenly appeared on EFL Carousel, ESPN’s Sunday night football review hosted by **Chris Berman**.

Flont’s bombastic style – over-excited and loud – fits perfectly with the usual ESPN formula for getting and holding the attention of football fans

thoroughly inebriated after a full day of drinking. When turned to for comment, Flont shouts his simplistic “analysis” in a brash, staccato rhythm, as if speaking to an audience of half-deaf idiots. He reminds me a bit of **Mel Kiper Jr.**, only worse. In a profession overstocked with second-guessers and sensationalists he is the most shameless in recent memory – if not *ever* – finding fault and controversy everywhere it is and is not.

I don’t usually wade into the mud to wrestle with my inferiors, but when I saw that the simpleton football correspondent of the *Markham Economist and Sun*, **Lanny McDonald**, had quoted Flont in his post-game article in an attempt to make some kind of football point of his own, I felt that a defence of Jones was in order.

Field goals were not going to beat Florida and Jones knew it. While doggedly determined to get the most out of his team every week, Jones is not blind to the reality of the severe challenge Florida poses for his players. Without the benefit of foreseeing that **Kenny Britt** would turn a short slant pattern into a 54-yard play in the waning seconds against the loosey-goosey Dragons defence, moving the ball to within makeable field goal range for **Rian Lindell**, it only made sense at that time that Markham would gamble all-or-nothing for a major when they had such a rare opportunity at the Florida one-yard line. It showed the kind of guts from their coach that the Markham players feed on every week when they face indomitable odds and somehow fight through the doubt. The Stars gave it their best shot and the better team prevailed. So where’s the controversy?

If Flont wants to criticize 4<sup>th</sup> down gambles, he should take aim at the two coaches of the teams featured in the league’s premiere match-up this week between Charleswood and Chino. Read on.....

### “CHINO BALL”

Nobody plays “Chino Ball” like Chino! The Pats had been doing their best imitation of the “Burglaring Bastards” through nine weeks of the EFL season – forcing a league-high 29 turnovers while committing only 18 of their own; converting the +11 ratio into a tie for the top record in the PAC. But in the Big House this week, the Masters of the art of Theft made patsies of the Pats, forcing 4 Charleswood turnovers to steal the game and take full possession of the top seed in the PAC playoff hunt.

It was not all about turnovers. Chino’s “Lockdown Crew” shackled **Adrian Peterson** the old-fashioned way; by beating the Pats’ offensive line to the punch and wrapping him up. Peterson had the worst game of his professional career, gaining a paltry 3 yards on 8 carries. With the running game a non-factor, it was relatively easy for the Convicts to thwart **Peyton Manning** when they needed to. One such time was early in the game when the Pats nearly converted on a 3<sup>rd</sup> down and 21 from the Chino 26 yard line. Manning connected with **Marques Colston** on a short slant and the receiver carried the ball to the 5 yard line where he was brought down one foot away from the line of gain. The Pats, trailing 3-0 at the time, could have tied the game with a field goal. Instead, they challenged the Chino defence by going for it – not by lunging forward with a sneak or dive into the line, but with a pass! This had to be offensive to the excessively proud Chino defence. Sensing, perhaps, that Manning had something bold and

cheeky in store for them, the Convicts did not sell out to stop the run. They played a standard 4-3 with tight man coverage and sent **James Harrison** on the blitz. Manning fired to **Sidney Rice** on a short timing pattern and found Convicts' corner, **Terrence Newman** instead. Newman picked the ball off inside the goal line and knelt down for the touchback. It was a sign of things to come.

The Convicts, in my opinion, won the game psychologically in the second quarter when faced with a Pats possession, first-and-goal, at the Chino 1 yard line. The defence stopped Peterson on consecutive carries for a net loss of 1 yard then slapped down Manning's third down pass to **Bernard Berrian**. This time, Charleswood took the field goal on fourth down. The Pats would go on to penetrate the Chino red zone an astounding nine times and come away with just three field goals for their trouble.

It took 3 full quarters for the Chino offence to catch up with their defence. With mounting anxiety over their inability to move the ball consistently, the Convicts tried their own fourth down folly mid-way through the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter. Trailing 6-3 they faced 4<sup>th</sup> down and one at their own 36 yard line. Punt time, right? Nope. **Donovan McNabb** was sent back to the huddle with a master stroke play from head coach, **Rob Nazar**. The only problem; it didn't work. **Hines Ward** could not get free in traffic as the Patriots defence swarmed toward **Steven Jackson**. McNabb's pass sailed harmlessly over the point where Ward's head should have been. The Pats converted the good field position into 3 points to take a 9-3 lead. Eventually, the Convicts got the big break they were looking for and their offence was able to take full advantage. In the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter, Colston fumbled for the second time in the game, turning the ball over at mid-field. Nazar mixed in a 15-yard end-around by **Andre Caldwell** between a pair of nice passes from McNabb to Ward to cover the 49 yards to the end zone for the game's only touchdown. The Battle of the PAC was not exactly an offensive fireworks display, but for fans of savage defensive trench warfare it was a gem of a game.

#### **ROMO'S RECORD IS YORK'S WAKE-UP CALL**

It was a pass-happy day at Camelot. The opposing quarterbacks, **Tony Romo** and **Tom Brady**, combined for 10 TD passes. Unfortunately for York, 7 of those came from the Kutztown QB, who tied a league record in a 52-21 shellacking by the visitors. Romo joins **Carson Palmer**, then of the Gwinnett Gladiators (and now of the Monterrey Jacks), who first performed the feat on December 9<sup>th</sup>, 2007 against the Meadowlands Swamp Dogs (now Ringgold). Because it came against the hapless 0-10 Swamp Dogs, ceremony celebrating the accomplishment was muted but respectful. Romo's accomplishment will be remembered more vividly because of his own celebration after delivering the final kick in the chops to the humiliated Excaliburs with a gratuitous 22-yard TD pass to **Patrick Crayton** late in the fourth quarter. Romo ran by the York sideline and tossed an alarm clock in the direction of Excaliburs coach, **Jay Hammond**. Although Kutztown officials have declined to speak publicly about it, sources inside both teams allege that Romo and the entire Golden Bears offence were victims of a ruse by an over-zealous York supporter inside the Marriott Hotel where the Bears were staying. The employee, an assistant manager and close friend of Hammond, allegedly had members of the cleaning staff shake bags of soap flakes outside Romo's hotel window to simulate snowfall and left a message on his room phone warning that severe snowfall had collapsed the roof of the stadium at Camelot and that the game was postponed until arrangements could be made to play it in nearby Pickering. For good measure, the alarm clocks in the rooms were reset two hours behind. Knowing that Camelot had no roof, Romo tried making calls from his hotel phone to verify the information. Suspicious at the unfamiliar-sounding voices on the other line and the sounds of barely-stifled laughter in the background, Romo used his cell-phone to reach **Pete Katsafanas**, who was irritated that Romo was not already at the stadium preparing for the game. It sounds too bizarre to be true, but so does tossing an alarm clock at an opposing coach.

#### **SO MANY GOOD GAMES, SO LITTLE SPACE**

Week Ten was a good week for competition in the EFL. I say this knowing full well that it looked much better when compared with the selection of visual sedatives available by satellite in Week Nine. Nevertheless, here are my observations:

**Philip "Muddy" Rivers** got damned up in Garland this week but the Lizards managed to escape with a win despite doing their best to keep Garland in the game. Did I say "win?" Sorry, I meant "non-loss." I watched most of this game live because Durham looked ripe for an upset and I wanted to witness it. Somehow they avoided losing without any player, aside from Jared Allen, looking particularly good. This game was more of a testament to how bad the Mustangs are than a sign that Durham is back on track for a Championship run. Back-up QB, **John Skelton**, subbing for a woozy Rivers, threw the winning TD pass against a defence that continued to play "run" even after Skelton had spent 5 seconds looking for an open receiver. When he finally spotted **Calvin Johnson** waving his arms and jumping up and down in the end zone, he tossed a rainbow that would have been picked off except for **Earl Thomas** tripping over **Eric Weddle** as both charged for the certain "pick six."

Gwinnett finally looked like the contender we thought they were by almost keeping pace with the Pickering Spartans in a 38-31 loss at the Coliseum. It was the stiffest challenge yet to the Pickering powerhouse since their Week Four loss to Florida. In the end, the Spartan's stars made the difference. **Chris Johnson** added another 3 TDs to his league-leading total of 20, but **Brett Favre** grabbed the limelight with a 30-yard TD pass to **Vincent Jackson** in the final minute to win the game. Favre literally jumped out of his shoes celebrating the score and may have injured his shoulder with repetitive violent fist pumps, prompting TV commentator, **Bill Badden** to remark, "*Brett just loves to play the game. Look at him jumping up and down like that! He's like a little kid out there!*" Yeah, Bill, you're right. But you forgot the "spoiled rotten" part.

# BUG THE BOOKIE!

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### JIMMY'S WEEK ELEVEN PICKS

#### **FLORIDA @ CHINO (line – CONVICTS by 2)**

For two consecutive years the Dragon's hopes for a perfect season have been dashed by the Convicts. This year, the still dominant Dragons have found the going a little tougher in their own Conference but have overcome all challengers to remain a perfect 10-0 heading into this game. It is almost as if it were meant to be – another perfect season broken up by the impudent Convicts. These two teams are in a virtual tie for the 2<sup>nd</sup> ranked defence behind Pickering – with Florida getting the edge in pass defence largely due to Darrelle Revis and a tendency to play the pass on almost every down. The Convicts are naturally tough to run against and are no slouches against the pass. Florida's well-balanced offence stands at #2 in the league while Chino's attack sits in the middle of the pack at #7. By these measures, Florida should be the favourite, but the home field advantage at The Big House is real and the Convicts have a big edge in the one statistical category that seems to matter most – turnovers; the thieving Convicts have forced 24 of them – 15 at home – while committing only 12 of their own. This +12 ratio is second in the league and 8 better than Florida's +4. Picking against the best franchise in the EFL's young history is not easy, but I expect Chino to win the turnover battle and the game. **Pick: CHINO**

#### **GWINNETT @ YORK (line – EXCALIBURS BY 3)**

The Excaliburs were walloped by the Golden Bears last week and, with the sting on their rear ends still fresh, are about to get thumped again. The York defence, not a brick wall at the best of times, is missing linebackers, Lawrence Timmons and Keith Rivers, both lost in action last week as the angry Bears added injury to insult. Defensive end, Greg Hardy was also knocked out in that game but is listed as 'probable' this week. If he cannot make it, the Swords will be down to their last two ends, with raw rookie Michael Johnson being one of them. The Gladiators had the kind of game against the Spartans in Week Nine that, before the season began, many had expected them to have every week – competitive and filled with fireworks. With Ringgold rising it may be too late for Gwinnett to salvage their playoff hopes but for this week, at least, they will feel like a playoff team.

**Pick: GWINNETT**

#### **KUTZTOWN @ PICKERING (line – SPARTANS by 9)**

The Spartans got a scare from the Gladiators last week, but when it mattered, Brett Favre was able to make the big play to win the game. There is no question about their offence – it is the undisputed top unit in the league and getting stronger every week. The defence has come out of nowhere to lead the league in pass defence and in turnover ratio, at +14. Credit Jason Taylor with adding a new dimension to the Pickering defence corps. The one player on the Bears who would have been a true wildcard and a potential game-changer, Darren Sharper, is still out of action. Tony Romo will have to keep pace with Favre and Chris Johnson without having a Chris Johnson of his own to fall back on. One week after tying a league record for TD passes, Romo could pull off the same for interceptions or times sacked. **Pick: PICKERING**

#### **CHARLESWOOD @ MARKHAM (line – PATRIOTS by 5)**

The Pats have the worst rushing attack in the league as measured by yards per carry. With Adrian Peterson as their feature back that is a shocking statistic. Chino held Peterson to 3 yards in 8 carries in Week Nine and

the entire Pats offence to exactly zero net yards on the ground! This lack of a running threat puts a lot of pressure on Peyton Manning who, while he may like many opportunities to throw TD passes, is only human; as shown by his red zone failure vs. Chino. Markham coach, Darrin Jones is getting the most out of mediocre talent. The Stars are hanging tough because they are generating turnovers and getting excellent play from their quarterback, Jason Campbell. Now they have a two-back platoon system working on the ground to add another weapon. Expect them to be tough again this week, but don't expect them to pull off an upset. The Pats will be aiming to get Peterson back on track in between Manning TD passes and, with Charles Tillman 'doubtful,' and Joselio Hanson out, Markham will have to let him run. **Pick: CHARLESWOOD**

### **LOS ANGELES @ GARLAND (line – KNIGHTS by 1)**

With their talent the Mustangs should be better than 1-9, but they do a few key things very badly that have placed them second in a two-horse race 9 times out of 10; they cannot stop the run, they get intercepted a lot, and they give up more points than anyone else. With their talent the Knights should be better than 3-7, but they do a few key things worse than anybody; they turn the ball over and they take dumb penalties. In addition to that, there is some kind of curse upon them that pundits are reluctant to discuss. The Knights dominated Mohave last week but that should not be taken as a sign that they have shaken off their 2009 hangover – they have dominated teams before only to be shot down the following week. Playing loose, the Mustangs could pull off an upset here, but with Charles Woodson watching Matt Ryan's eyes, don't bet on it. **Pick: LOS ANGELES**

### **COWTOWN @ VIRDEN (line – VIOLATORS by 8)**

A victim so helpless and ripe for the slaughter rarely darkens the door of the *TERRORDOME*, but to the sadistic delight of the Violators the Corn Kings are coming to town. They bring with them the most dreadful offence in the league – last, or near last, in almost all categories. To make the situation worse, they have been undermined by key injuries on both sides of the ball. They cannot stop the pass and in the attempt often deploy 5 and 6 defensive backs to the detriment of their run defence. On the bright side for Cowtown, the Virden defence may be the only one in the league incapable of stopping Joe Flacco, Marion Barber and Santana Moss....yes, folks, those are the main "weapons" in the Corn Cobs' arsenal. Come to think of it, even Virden is not that bad. Plus, they have Drew Brees and Ricky Williams to build up an early lead. **PICK: VIRDEN**

### **IOWA CITY @ RINGGOLD (line – CRIMSON HAWKS by 6)**

It may surprise you to know that the league's 15<sup>th</sup> ranked offence is rated #2 in red zone scoring percentage and #1 in red zone touchdown percentage. What exactly does this mean? It means that when Sam Bradford finally learns the intricacies of the game and stops making rookie mistakes, he will be money in the clutch. The future does indeed look bright for the Cubs and their young signal caller but right now they still look to me like a team ready to get their butts kicked by an awakening Ben Roethlisberger. It will not be as easy a ride for the Crimson Hawks as it was the past two weeks, but it will be a ride to victory nevertheless. **Pick: RINGGOLD**

### **DURHAM @ MOHAVE (line – THUNDER LIZARDS by 1)**

Durham is still in the hunt for a playoff spot because of their defence; specifically, their pass defence. They are the top rated group of pass defenders in the EFL but, because opponents run over them, their overall standing suffers and people don't realize how good they really are. Against Mohave, the Lizard's ability to stop the pass will be a critical boost to their chances of stealing a win against Bobby Elder's pass-oriented system. Matt Schaub was slapped down last week by a good pass defence in LA and the Mohave attack fizzled. To give Schaub some help this week, Mohave will have to dust off some creative running plays for Rashard Mendenhall and Jerome Harrison. Durham's Philip Rivers took a step backwards in Garland last week and he will find the Mohave secondary a much tougher nut to crack than Garland's. Michael Turner is back and the Dinos need to use him effectively if they are going to move the ball consistently. Neither team is entirely confident heading into this game, but both badly need the win. The team that wants it more will take it but I can only guess who that is. **Pick: DURHAM**