

2010



2010

WEEK SIX IN REVIEW

November 14th, 2010



CHAD WHO?



Chad Simpson returning a kickoff for a TD for Markham in stunning road upset of the Knights. (STORY INSIDE)

LATEST EFL NEWS INSIDE

THE GAMES

- CAMPBELL HAUNTS FORMER TEAM, LEADS SHOCKING UPSET
- PATRIOTS PICK APART MUSTANGS
- KAEDING KICKS RINGGOLD WHEN THEY'RE DOWN
- BRADY THRUSTS SWORD INTO CORN KINGS 'D'
- GWINNETT GLAD VIRDEN COMEBACK FALLS SHORT
- CHINO FALLS FOR FIRST TIME – DINOS GRAB MUCH NEEDED WIN
- FLORIDA EXTINGUISHES HELLFIRE AT DRAGONMOUNT
- SPARTANS TOY WITH CUBS

COMMENT

"TIME TO PANIC," "RIVERS REPRIEVE," VIRDEN VIOLATING," HAVES & HAVE-NOTS," – Spats McChad

EFL FOCUS ON
Markham



*Who was slick
in Week Six?*

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



Wes Welker
WR
Garland
Mustangs

15 catches, 246 yards, 1 TD in a
losing cause vs. Patriots



Barrett Ruud
ILB
Markham North
Stars

11 tackles, 1 stuff and a key 4th
quarter interception vs. Knights

NO-NAME NORTH STARS KNOCK OFF KNIGHTS!

'UNKNOWN' CHAD SIMPSON SCORES 2 TDS



MARKHAM

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LOS ANGELES

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LOS ANGELES – Who is **Chad Simpson**? The undrafted free agent from the Tex-Mex League, who was on pace for 6 carries in 2010 before injuries to the Markham running back corps forced him into the primary back-up role in Week Six, and who wound up starring for his team in perhaps the most stunning upset of the season – that's who. Simpson ran back a 1st quarter kickoff 96 yards for a TD to register the first big score of the game and on Markham's next possession, broke a 35-yard run off right tackle for another to give the North Stars a 14-10 lead over the home town Knights. **Rian Lindell** added a 46-yard FG and 5 minutes later **Jason Campbell** connected with play-maker **Devery Henderson** for a 64-yard pass to the Los Angeles 9 yard line to set up an eventual 1-yard sneak by Campbell into the end zone to cap off a 17-point 2nd quarter and put Markham in the lead, 24-13 at half time.

The Knights inched back into the game on two field goals by **Dan Carpenter** and after **Calvin Pace** sacked Campbell on an attempted 3rd down and 2 conversion, LA took control at their own 25 yard line trailing by 5 points. But then **Kurt Warner** made the first big mistake of the game by forcing a ball to his secondary receiver that middle linebacker **Barrett Ruud** intercepted to give Markham possession at the Knight's 34 yard line. Campbell made short work of the Los Angeles "Blue Shield" with a 20-yard cross to **Chad Ochocinco** followed by a 15-yard slant to Henderson for a TD to put Markham in a command position, leading 31-19. The Knights overcame a series of penalties to scramble back into the game on a 15-play drive, ending with a 7-yard TD pass from Warner to **Mark Bradley**. But the Knights failed to recover the onside kick and Markham took control with 2:42 remaining in the game. Campbell converted a key 3rd down following the 2-minute warning, connecting for 6 yards to **Vonta Leach**. But the Knights dealt themselves the final blow when **Andre Carter** was flagged for a personal foul to give Markham all the downs they needed to run out the clock.

11-12-2010 Round Table Stadium Temp: 81 Wind: 0-5 None MVP: **Chad Simpson**

	1	2	3	4	Tot
2009 Markham (3-3)	7	17	0	7	31
2009 Los Angeles (1-5)	10	3	3	10	26

1 7:36 Los Angeles	FG Carpenter 25 (10-40-5:02)	0-3
1 7:20 Markham	TD Simpson 96 kick return (Lindell) (0-0-5:18)	7-3
1 0:16 Los Angeles	TD Warner 4 pass to Bradley (Carpenter) (13-74-6:49)	7-10
2 11:56 Markham	TD Simpson 35 run (Lindell) (7-72-3:05)	14-10
2 6:44 Markham	FG Lindell 46 (6-22-3:30)	17-10
2 3:17 Los Angeles	FG Carpenter 33 (7-47-3:12)	17-13
2 0:49 Markham	TD Campbell 1 run (Lindell) (7-85-2:20)	24-13
3 6:13 Los Angeles	FG Carpenter 45 (5-42-2:22)	24-16
4 14:02 Los Angeles	FG Carpenter 21 (5-83-1:23)	24-19
4 7:06 Markham	TD Campbell 15 pass to Henderson (Lindell) (4-34-2:06)	31-19
4 2:42 Los Angeles	TD Warner 7 pass to Bradley (Carpenter) (15-75-4:19)	31-26

	MAR	LAK
First Downs	15	20
Rushes	27-78	31-148
Passes	26-18-243	33-22-312
Sacked	2-8	3-16
Fumble	0	1
Penalties	6-43	11-85
Turnovers	0	1
Time	27:44	32:16
Third Down	5-14	8-17
Fourth Down	0-1	2-2
Red Att/Td/Fg	3/2/0	5/2/3
Net Offense	313	444

< Markham >

Passing	Att	Cmp	Yds	Sk	25	In	Td	Rate
Campbell	26	18	243	2	1	0	1	111.5

Rushing	Att	Yds	Ave	FD	10	Lg	TD
Simpson	7	52	7.4	1	1	35	1
Jackson	13	34	2.6	0	0	7	0
Henderson	1	-3	-3.0	0	0	0	0
Campbell	6	-5	-0.8	1	0	1	1

Receiving	No	Dp	Att	Yds	Ave	FD	25	Lg	TD
Henderson	5	0	8	102	20.4	3	1	64	1
Britt	4	0	5	60	15.0	3	0	23	0
Leach	3	0	4	23	7.7	2	0	11	0
Ochocinco	3	0	5	31	10.3	2	0	20	0
Peelle	2	0	2	20	10.0	0	0	11	0
Thomas	1	0	1	7	7.0	0	0	7	0

< Los Angeles >

Passing	Att	Cmp	Yds	Sk	25	In	Td	Rate
Warner	33	22	312	3	2	1	2	104.6

Rushing	Att	Yds	Ave	FD	10	Lg	TD
Greene	9	78	8.7	3	2	38	0
Benson	19	59	3.1	2	1	12	0
Warner	3	11	3.7	2	0	5	0

Receiving	No	Dp	Att	Yds	Ave	FD	25	Lg	TD
White	7	1	9	87	12.4	3	0	17	0
Bradley	6	0	7	130	21.7	5	1	74	2
Benson	4	0	5	24	6.0	1	0	8	0
Heap	3	0	8	50	16.7	2	1	33	0
Smith	2	0	4	21	10.5	1	0	13	0

PICKY PATS PREVAIL

GAME POINTS: Lineman, **Quentin Groves** kicked off a 6-pick performance by the Patriots with an interception of **Matt Ryan** early in the 2nd quarter, setting up **Adrian Peterson's** second TD of the game and signalling the beginning of a Charleswood rout of the Garland Mustangs at Patriot Place. The Pats took a 24-0 lead into half time and did not let up after **Robbie Gould** nicked them for 3 points on a 21-yard FG to start the second half. Peterson scored his third TD of the game to make the score 37-3 early in the 4th quarter after **Jon Beason's** interception set the Pats up at Garland's 7 yard line. The Mustangs wasted a 15-catch performance by **Wes Welker**, adding two meaningless late TDs late against the Pats' back-ups to register double digit scoring.

KEY PERFORMANCES: **Matt Ryan** completed 31 of 52 passes for 377 yards, 2 TDs and 6 INTs, **Wes Welker** caught 15 passes for 246 yards and 1 TD, **Adrian Peterson** rushed for 107 yards and 3 TDs on 20 carries, **Peyton Manning** went 20 of 26 for 170 yards, 1 TD, **Sheldon Brown** made 2 interceptions and 11 tackles and 1 deflection.



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GARLAND



40

CHARLESWOOD

11-11-2010 Patriot Place Temp: 75 Wind MVP: **Adrian Peterson**

	1	2	3	4	Tot
2009 Garland (1-5)	0	0	3	14	17
2009 Charleswood (5-1)	7	17	3	13	40

1 8:15 Charleswood	TD Peterson 8 run (Gostkowski) (12-72-6:30)	0-7
2 10:40 Charleswood	TD Peterson 3 run (Gostkowski) (2-33-0:58)	0-14
2 2:14 Charleswood	TD Manning 9 pass to Witten (Gostkowski) (13-70-6:49)	0-21
2 0:00 Charleswood	FG Gostkowski 35 (6-27-0:52)	0-24
3 10:55 Garland	FG Gould 21 (6-43-2:19)	3-24
3 0:43 Charleswood	FG Gostkowski 36 (6-39-3:36)	3-27
4 11:30 Charleswood	FG Gostkowski 37 (6-12-3:20)	3-30
4 9:56 Charleswood	TD Peterson 1 run (Gostkowski) (2-7-0:08)	3-37
4 6:57 Charleswood	FG Gostkowski 23 (4-0-1:51)	3-40
4 4:18 Garland	TD Ryan 22 pass to Welker (Gould) (2-27-0:44)	10-40
4 0:39 Garland	TD Ryan 2 pass to Carlson (Gould) (6-64-1:05)	17-40

	GDM	CHP
First Downs	17	21
Rushes	10-29	34-129
Passes	52-31-377	28-20-179
Sacked	3-27	1-5
Fumble	2	1
Penalties	6-36	7-55
Turnovers	6	2
Time	25:09	34:51
Third Down	1-11	7-13
Fourth Down	2-4	0-0
Red Att/Td/Fg	4/1/1	8/4/4
Net Offense	379	303



RINGGOLD

17



KUTZTOWN

18

YOU HAVE TO BE "KAEDING!"

GAME POINTS: **Nate Kaeding** accounted for all of Kutztown's points, kicking 6 field goals to tip the game in favour of the Bears, 18-17 over the struggling Crimson Hawks. In 6 trips deep inside the Ringgold red zone, the Bears opted for field goals every time rather than challenge the Hawks 'D' on 4th down. The slow and steady strategy worked as the Ringgold offence, despite scoring the game's only two TDs, failed to preserve 3 separate leads, the last one coming on a 21-yard TD pass from **Big Ben** to **Mike Thomas** that gave them a 17-12 lead in the 3rd quarter. Two long drives of 17 and 15 plays each, in which the longest play from scrimmage was 11 yards, erased that advantage. **Ike Taylor** picked off Roethlisberger twice, the second to ice the game with 10 seconds left.

KEY PERFORMANCES: **Tony Romo** completed 23 of 33 passes for 254 yards, **Austin Collie** caught 8 passes for 80 yards, **LeSean McCoy** rushed for 64 yards on 21 carries; **Ben Roethlisberger** went 24 of 35 for 258 yards, 2 TDs and 2 INTs, **Andre Johnson**, 9 passes for 100 yards and 1 TD, **Maurice Jones-Drew**, 68 yards on 14 carries.

11-11-2010 Lincoln Financial Temp: 69 Wind: 10-20 None MVP: **Nate Kaeding**

	1	2	3	4	Tot
2009 Ringgold (2-4)	7	3	7	0	17
2009 Kutztown (3-3)	0	12	0	6	18

1 7:14 Ringgold	TD Roethlisberger 8 pass to Johnson (Suisham) (14-63-5:57)	7-0
2 14:48 Kutztown	FG Kaeding 23 (13-80-7:18)	7-3
2 13:13 Kutztown	FG Kaeding 25 (4-9-1:29)	7-6
2 5:38 Kutztown	FG Kaeding 28 (11-58-6:01)	7-9
2 1:12 Ringgold	FG Suisham 21 (11-76-4:26)	10-9
2 0:00 Kutztown	FG Kaeding 38 (6-56-1:04)	10-12
3 7:01 Ringgold	TD Roethlisberger 21 pass to Thomas (Suisham) (9-76-3:36)	17-12
4 11:45 Kutztown	FG Kaeding 20 (17-76-10:11)	17-15
4 1:37 Kutztown	FG Kaeding 17 (15-80-6:58)	17-18

	RCH	KUT
First Downs	20	19
Rushes	17-76	33-122
Passes	35-24-258	33-23-254
Sacked	1-5	1-8
Fumble	2	0
Penalties	3-20	3-14
Turnovers	3	0
Time	23:20	36:40
Third Down	4-9	6-14
Fourth Down	0-0	1-1
Red Att/Td/Fg	2/1/1	6/0/6
Net Offense	329	368

BRADY BUNCHES 4 TD PASSES IN WIN

GAME POINTS: A red hot **Tom Brady** torched the Corn King's secondary in the first half of the game, starting off with a 45-yard bomb to **Michael Jenkins** for a TD on the game's opening drive, and ending the 2nd quarter with a 13-yard slant to **Donald Lee** for his fourth TD and a 28-3 lead at half time. Brady put on a virtuoso performance, completing passes into double coverage and finding the open man with 5 or 6 defensive backs patrolling the secondary. Cowtown's **Joe Flacco**, who fought against inaccuracy in the first half, finally found some success against the Excalibur's defence in the 3rd quarter, breaking out for 2 TDs, but it was too little too late. **Marion Barber's** 4th quarter fumble at his own 45 put the brakes on a Cowtown comeback, and York went on to cap off the win with a 47-yard field goal into the wind by **Shayne Graham**.

KEY PERFORMANCES: **Tom Brady** went 24 of 32 for 302 yards, 4 TDs and 1 INT, **Michael Jenkins** caught 6 passes for 85 yards and 2 TDs, **Donald Lee** caught 5 balls for 39 yards and 2 TDs, **Pierre Thomas** rushed for 85 yards on 21 carries; **Joe Flacco** went 23 of 34 for 228 yards and 2 TDs, **Donnie Avery** caught 6 passes for 76 yards.



YORK



COWTOWN

31

17

11-11-2010 Tillman Field Temp: 60 Wind: 10-20 None MVP: **Tom Brady**

	1	2	3	4	Tot
2009 York (3-3)	7	21	0	3	31
2009 Cowtown (2-4)	3	0	14	0	17

1 13:12 York	TD Brady 45 pass to Jenkins (Graham,S) (4-80-1:48)	7-0
1 4:25 Cowtown	FG Mare 42 (9-20-2:49)	7-3
2 14:53 York	TD Brady 5 pass to Jenkins (Graham,S) (10-65-4:25)	14-3
2 6:16 York	TD Brady 3 pass to Lee (Graham,S) (11-85-5:42)	21-3
2 0:59 York	TD Brady 13 pass to Lee (Graham,S) (10-43-3:29)	28-3
3 9:30 Cowtown	TD Flacco 3 pass to Barber (Mare) (12-83-5:22)	28-10
3 7:05 Cowtown	TD Flacco 6 pass to Walter (Mare) (5-62-2:08)	28-17
4 9:09 York	FG Graham 47 (7-15-3:26)	31-17

	YOR	COW
First Downs	26	17
Rushes	33-116	16-63
Passes	32-24-302	34-23-228
Sacked	0-0	2-17
Fumble	0	3
Penalties	7-53	7-73
Turnovers	1	1
Time	32:21	27:39
Third Down	8-14	4-12
Fourth Down	1-1	2-2
Red Att/Td/Fg	4/3/0	2/2/0
Net Offense	418	274



VIRDEN



GWINNETT

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REGGIE IS THE "WAYNE" TO VICTORY

GAME POINTS: **Reggie Wayne** turned a short hitch route into a 78-yard play from scrimmage to set up a 2-yard TD run by **Thomas Jones** to open the scoring for Gwinnett. After a FG increased their lead to 10-0, the Glads let the Violators back into the game with a couple of turnovers, the second a fumble by Jones at the end of a 16-yard run that Virden eventually turned into a major on a 1-yard dive by Joseph Addai. Jones redeemed himself on Gwinnett's next possession, rushing for 25 yards and two 1st downs on a drive that ended with Eli Manning finding Wayne in the end zone from 12 yards out for a 17-7 half time lead. The Glads built up a 31-14 lead by early in the 4th quarter and held on despite a 68-yard TD run by Ricky Williams and a second TD pass from Drew Brees to Devin Hester. The Glads ran out the clock after fielding the ensuing kickoff.

KEY PERFORMANCES: **Drew Brees** went 19 of 26 for 215 yards and 2 TDs, Ricky Williams carried 17 times for 112 yards and 1 TD

11-12-2010 Gwinnett Coliseum Temp: 67 Wind: 0-5 None MVP: **Reggie Wayne**

	1	2	3	4	Tot
2009 Virden (1-5)	0	7	7	14	28
2009 Gwinnett (3-3)	10	7	7	7	31

1 9:17 Gwinnett	TD Jones 2 run (Brown,J) (6-91-2:29)	0-7
1 1:05 Gwinnett	FG Brown 31 (11-53-4:31)	0-10
2 5:48 Virden	TD Addai 1 run	7-10
2 0:12 Gwinnett	TD Manning 12 pass to Wayne (Brown,J) (14-60-5:22)	7-17
3 10:09 Gwinnett	TD Jones 4 run (Brown,J) (8-71-4:39)	7-24
3 6:28 Virden	TD Brees 35 pass to Hester (Tynes) (6-77-3:28)	14-24
4 14:46 Gwinnett	TD Jones 1 run (Brown,J) (12-76-6:28)	14-31
4 12:58 Virden	TD Williams 68 run (Tynes) (3-75-1:34)	21-31
4 1:06 Virden	TD Brees 17 pass to Hester (Tynes) (10-80-2:40)	28-31

	VV	GWG
First Downs	19	25
Rushes	23-127	35-182
Passes	26-19-215	30-20-294
Sacked	0-0	1-7
Fumble	1	2
Penalties	4-21	8-64
Turnovers	0	2
Time	26:01	33:59
Third Down	5-11	8-14
Fourth Down	0-0	1-1
Red Att/Td/Fg	2/2/0	6/4/1
Net Offense	342	469

DINOS DEAL CHINO FIRST LOSS

GAME POINTS: Philip Rivers regained some confidence with a 2-TD pass performance against the league's best defence to lead the Thunder Lizards to a critical win. **Danny Amendola's** 22-yard punt return at the end of the 1st quarter shortened the field for Durham's first TD drive, then a 4th down gamble by the Convicts at their 34 yard line shortened the field even more for their second TD, a 4-yard run by **Kevin Smith**. Leading 14-0 early, Durham held off a Chino comeback with solid play by their 'D' which included limiting the Convicts to a field goal after **Calvin Johnson** had fumbled away the ball on a 40-yard pass play. Johnson made up for that gaffe at a critical point late in the game, turning a short slant into a 25-yard gain to convert 3rd down and 20 and spurring his team to a 20-yard FG by **Mason Crosby** to top off the scoring in a 24-16 win.

KEY PERFORMANCES: Philip Rivers completed 20 of 35 for 258 yards and 2 TDs, **Mushin Muhammad** caught 6 passes for 62 yards and 1 TD; **Donovan McNabb** went 20 of 33 for 231 yards, **Steven Jackson** rushed for 81 yards and 1 TD on 19 carries.



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CHINO



24

DURHAM

11-12-2010 Jurassic Park Temp: 74 Wind: Calm None

MVP: Philip Rivers

	1	2	3	4	Tot
2009 Chino (5-1)	0	6	3	7	16
2009 Durham (3-3)	0	14	0	10	24

2 11:47 Durham	TD Rivers 3 pass to Davis (Crosby) (8-52-3:48)	0-7
2 8:12 Durham	TD Smith 4 run (Crosby) (5-33-1:40)	0-14
2 2:50 Chino	FG Reed 20 (10-73-5:15)	3-14
2 0:00 Chino	FG Reed 25 (5-56-0:44)	6-14
3 0:31 Chino	FG Reed 24 (7-44-3:33)	9-14
4 10:44 Durham	TD Rivers 9 pass to Muhammad (Crosby) (9-75-4:39)	9-21
4 6:36 Chino	TD Jackson 1 run (Reed,J) (13-71-4:04)	16-21
4 2:24 Durham	FG Crosby 20 (9-74-3:51)	16-24

	CHI	DTL
First Downs	16	22
Rushes	27-104	30-130
Passes	33-20-231	35-20-258
Sacked	0-0	0-0
Fumble	2	1
Penalties	7-45	7-58
Turnovers	0	1
Time	28:01	31:59
Third Down	4-14	6-12
Fourth Down	0-2	0-1
Red Att/Td/Fg	4/1/3	8/3/1
Net Offense	335	388



0

MOHAVE



34

FLORIDA

COMPLETE WIN MOVES FLORIDA TO 6-0

GAME POINTS: The Dragons dominated the game in every way, striking quickly, holding on to the ball when necessary, and shutting down Mohave's MVP, **Matt Schaub**. **DeSean Jackson** made another big play, turning a 4-yard slant into a 55-yard dash to pay dirt to give Florida an early 7-0 advantage. The Hellfire attack fizzled out against the Florida "Firewall," with **Darrelle Revis** returning an interception 57 yards, only to be knocked out of bounds at the 1 yard line. **Ray Rice** brought the ball in off tackle to finish it off and the Dragons led 17-0 at that point. They finished off the first half with a grinding 64-yard drive that featured a big run by **Jonathan Stewart**, an 8-yard tipped pass to guard, **Logan Mankins**, and ended with Stewart breaking the plane from inches away for a decisive 24-0 half time lead. Mohave's best shot at points was snuffed out in the Florida red zone when Schaub mis-fired to **Hakeem Nicks** on 4th and 10 in the 4th quarter.

KEY PERFORMANCES: **CJ Spiller**, **Ray Rice** and **Jonathan Stewart** combined for 187 yards and 3 TDs on 41 carries, **Aaron Rodgers** completed 10 of 16 for 169 yards and 1 TD; **Matt Schaub** went 10 of 20 for 123 yards and 1 INT, **Hakeem Nicks** caught 4 passes for 74 yards, **Rashard Mendenhall** rushed for 36 yards on 12 carries.

11-12-2010 Dragonmount Temp: 87 Wind: Calm None

MVP: CJ Spiller

	1	2	3	4	Tot
2009 Mohave (4-2)	0	0	0	0	0
2009 Florida (6-0)	7	17	10	0	34

1 9:11 Florida	TD Rodgers 55 pass to Jackson (Longwell) (1-55-0:13)	0-7
2 13:32 Florida	FG Longwell 27 (9-53-4:06)	0-10
2 13:01 Florida	TD Rice 1 run (Longwell) (1-1-0:00)	0-17
2 1:20 Florida	TD Stewart 1 run (Longwell) (9-64-4:57)	0-24
3 9:53 Florida	TD Spiller 3 run (Longwell) (8-71-4:53)	0-31
3 2:11 Florida	FG Longwell 18 (12-67-6:13)	0-34

	MOH	FLD
First Downs	9	20
Rushes	28-95	42-191
Passes	20-10-123	16-10-169
Sacked	2-11	1-4
Fumble	0	1
Penalties	9-62	4-23
Turnovers	1	0
Time	25:56	34:04
Third Down	5-14	4-11
Fourth Down	0-2	0-0
Red Att/Td/Fg	1/0/0	5/3/2
Net Offense	207	356

SPARTANS MARCH OVER CUBS

GAME POINTS: The league-leading Pickering offence continued to dominate opponents, this time teeing off on the Iowa City Cubs for 4 first half touchdowns. A 23-yard pass interference penalty against the Cubs' **Chris Gamble** on the first play from scrimmage set the tone for a first half collapse by the Iowa City defence. **Brett Favre** continued to fire the ball, completing 5 passes for 50 yards the rest of the way and hitting **Percy Harvin** for a TD from 19 yards out to open the scoring. After a two-punt pause for breath, the Spartans hammered the Cubs for 3 quick TDs in the 2nd quarter – all 3 of them on runs by running back **Chris Johnson** after Favre had put them in position through the passing game. Rookie QB, **Sam Bradford** did not have an answer for the equally impressive Pickering defence, throwing a pick to **Jason Taylor** and losing a fumble that led to the Spartans final points in the 4th quarter.

KEY PERFORMANCES: **Brett Favre** completed 22 of 31 for 241 yards and 1 TD, **Chris Johnson** rushed for 3 TDs and 72 yards on 12 carries, **Darren Sproles** gained 125 all-purpose yards on 11 carries and 8 receptions; **Sam Bradford** went 18 of 36 for 152 yards and 1 INT, **Demeco Ryans** made 13 tackles and 3 run stuffs in a losing effort.



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PICKERING



7

IOWA CITY

11-13-2010 Joe Ferguson Stadium Temp: 55 Wind: 0-5 None MVP: **Chris Johnson**

	1	2	3	4	Tot
2009 Pickering (5-1)	7	21	0	3	31
2009 Iowa City (1-5)	0	0	0	7	7

1 10:28 Pickering	TD Favre 19 pass to Harvin (Kasay) (10-81-4:26)	7-0
2 10:19 Pickering	TD Johnson 5 run (Kasay) (10-62-4:33)	14-0
2 4:57 Pickering	TD Johnson 1 run (Kasay) (11-65-4:09)	21-0
2 1:46 Pickering	TD Johnson 18 run (Kasay) (4-64-1:41)	28-0
4 7:56 Pickering	FG Kasay 23 (4-6-2:10)	31-0
4 1:33 Iowa City	TD Brown 8 run (Rackers) (8-62-1:21)	31-7

	PIC	ICC
First Downs	24	12
Rushes	32-120	24-69
Passes	31-22-241	36-18-152
Sacked	1-9	2-9
Fumble	1	1
Penalties	6-45	12-105
Turnovers	1	2
Time	34:25	25:35
Third Down	6-14	3-16
Fourth Down	0-0	2-4
Red Att/Td/Fg	6/4/1	1/1/0
Net Offense	352	212

WEEK SIX LEADERS

Passing

Ryan, M (GDM)	52-31-377
Warner (LAK)	33-22-312
Brady (YOR)	32-24-302
Manning, E (GWG)	30-20-294
Roethlisberger (RCH)	35-24-258

Rushing

Jones, T (GWG)	31-128
Williams, R (VV)	17-112
Peterson, A (CHP)	20-107
Spiller (FLD)	23-101
Thomas, P (YOR)	21-85

Receiving

Welker (GDM)	15-246
Wayne (GWG)	8-178
Bradley (LAK)	6-130
Henderson (MAR)	5-102
Johnson, A (RCH)	9-100

LEADER BOARD

STANDINGS

East	W	L	T	Pct	Pts	Ave	Opp	Ave	Diff	Home	Div	Conf
Charleswood	5	1	0	0.833	209	34.8	116	19.3	15.5	3 0 0	2 1 0	4 1 0
Mohave	4	2	0	0.667	133	22.2	158	26.3	-4.2	3 0 0	3 0 0	4 1 0
Kutztown	3	3	0	0.500	144	24	163	27.2	-3.2	2 2 0	1 2 0	2 3 0
Virден	1	5	0	0.167	132	22	194	32.3	-10.3	0 2 0	0 3 0	1 4 0
West	W	L	T	Pct	Pts	Ave	Opp	Ave	Diff	Home	Div	Conf
Chino	5	1	0	0.833	186	31	90	15	16	3 0 0	3 0 0	5 0 0
York	3	3	0	0.500	147	24.5	155	25.8	-1.3	2 1 0	2 1 0	2 3 0
Iowa City	1	5	0	0.167	125	20.8	180	30	-9.2	0 3 0	1 2 0	1 4 0
Los Angeles	1	5	0	0.167	119	19.8	175	29.2	-9.3	0 3 0	0 3 0	1 4 0
North	W	L	T	Pct	Pts	Ave	Opp	Ave	Diff	Home	Div	Conf
Pickering	5	1	0	0.833	201	33.5	102	17	16.5	1 1 0	3 0 0	4 1 0
Durham	3	3	0	0.500	122	20.3	107	17.8	2.5	3 0 0	1 2 0	2 3 0
Markham	3	3	0	0.500	115	19.2	154	25.7	-6.5	2 1 0	1 2 0	2 3 0
Cowtown	2	4	0	0.333	104	17.3	161	26.8	-9.5	2 2 0	1 2 0	2 3 0
South	W	L	T	Pct	Pts	Ave	Opp	Ave	Diff	Home	Div	Conf
Florida	6	0	0	1.000	192	32	78	13	19	4 0 0	3 0 0	5 0 0
Gwinnett	3	3	0	0.500	164	27.3	172	28.7	-1.3	3 0 0	1 2 0	2 3 0
Ringgold	2	4	0	0.333	132	22	150	25	-3	1 1 0	2 1 0	2 3 0
Garland	1	5	0	0.167	126	21	196	32.7	-11.7	1 2 0	0 3 0	1 4 0

PASSING

			Att	Cmp	C%	Yards	In	I%	Lg	TD	TD%	Rate
1	Manning, E	GWG	182	117	64.3	1539	3	1.6	78	14	7.7	109.7
2	Favre	PIC	163	106	65	1458	5	3.1	53	13	8	107.3
3	Schaub	MOH	200	134	67	1583	5	2.5	56	11	5.5	98.8
4	Brady	YOR	220	149	67.7	1524	6	2.7	45	14	6.4	97.2
5	Rodgers	FLD	138	88	63.8	1111	3	2.2	59	7	5.1	96.6
6	Romo	KUT	173	119	68.8	1425	4	2.3	60	6	3.5	95.7
7	Manning, P	CHP	191	133	69.6	1530	8	4.2	38	11	5.8	95.2
8	Kolb	GDM	106	68	64.2	753	3	2.8	39	6	5.7	92.2
9	McNabb	CHI	187	114	61	1434	4	2.1	64	9	4.8	92
10	Brees	VV	179	113	63.1	1375	5	2.8	41	9	5	91.8
11	Campbell,J	MAR	167	104	62.3	1126	5	3	64	7	4.2	83.6
12	Warner	LAK	175	103	58.9	1142	6	3.4	74	9	5.1	81.2
13	Rivers, P	DTL	189	106	56.1	1303	6	3.2	86	9	4.8	80.2
14	Roethlisberger	RCH	179	111	62	1186	8	4.5	48	7	3.9	75.8
15	Bradford	ICC	114	66	57.9	620	4	3.5	28	4	3.5	70.1

RUSHING

			Att	Yds	Ave	Lg	TD				Att	Yds	Ave	Lg	TD
1	Johnson, C	PIC	137	773	5.6	40	11	8	Mendenhall	MOH	91	399	4.4	49	3
2	Jones, T	GWG	142	705	5.0	45	5	9	Thomas, P	YOR	99	399	4.0	28	3
3	Williams, R	VV	124	634	5.1	68	4	10	Rice, R	FLD	82	391	4.8	30	3
4	Jones-Drew	RCH	99	563	5.7	94	3	11	Stewart	FLD	44	280	6.4	43	5
5	Peterson, A	CHP	122	517	4.2	30	9	12	Jackson, S	CHI	78	274	3.5	20	1
6	McCoy, L	KUT	99	406	4.1	23	4	13	Dixon, A	COW	56	264	4.7	18	1
7	Bush, R	ICC	58	403	6.9	80	4	14	Williams, D	MAR	40	255	6.4	54	2
8	Mendenhall	MOH	91	399	4.4	49	3	15	Best	MAR	71	255	3.6	15	1

Yards/Game				Rushing Gains of 10+				Rushing First				Downs	
1	Johnson, C	PIC	128.8	1	Johnson, C	PIC	22	1	Johnson, C	PIC		49	
2	Jones, T	GWG	117.5	2	Jones, T	GWG	20	2	Jones, T	GWG		41	
3	Williams, R	VV	105.7	3	Williams, R	VV	15	3	Peterson, A	CHP		35	
4	Jones-Drew	RCH	93.8	4	Peterson, A	CHP	14	4	Williams, R	VV		28	
5	Peterson, A	CHP	86.2	5	Bush, R	ICC	11	5	McCoy, L	KUT		23	

RECEIVING

			No	Yds	Ave	Lg	TD				No	Yds	Ave	Lg	TD
1	White, R	LAK	42	433	10.3	21	1	8	Crabtree	YOR	35	504	14.4	37	6
2	Moss, R	CHI	39	550	14.1	51	4	9	Jennings, G	KUT	33	509	15.4	60	0
3	Witten	CHP	38	380	10.0	38	7	10	Colston	CHP	32	396	12.4	32	0
4	Smith, S	LAK	37	403	10.9	55	5	11	Fitzgerald	ICC	31	328	10.6	28	6
5	Wayne	GWG	37	680	18.4	78	7	12	Walter	COW	31	274	8.8	16	3
6	Holmes	RCH	37	453	12.2	28	2	13	Clark, D	GWG	29	297	10.2	15	2
7	Rice, S	CHP	36	450	12.5	28	2	14	Daniels, O	MOH	29	304	10.5	19	4
8	Crabtree	YOR	35	504	14.4	37	6	15	Ward, H	CHI	29	380	13.1	64	5

Receiving		Gains	Of 25+		RAC Yards			RAC Yards/			Catch	
1	Wayne	GWG	8	1	1	Wayne	GWG	245	1	Rice, R	FLD	12.1
2	Jackson, V	PIC	7	2	2	Moss, R	CHI	244	2	Jackson, D	FLD	9.4
3	Crabtree	YOR	5	3	3	Jennings, G	KUT	242	3	Sproles	PIC	8.7
4	Moss, R	CHI	5	4	4	Jackson, V	PIC	178	4	Johnson, C	PIC	8.3
5	Hester, D	VV	4	5	5	Ward, H	CHI	176	5	Jones-Drew	RCH	8.3



AROUND THE



With Spats McChad

NEW YORK – It's nice to be back in Gotham. I like the tall dark buildings obscuring the dull grey sky, the grumble of idling taxi engines, the screech of rubber on the road when the light turns green, the clacking of a thousand shoes reverberating in the subway tunnels, the rudeness of the newspaper vendors, the entitlement of the bums, the smell of rotten fish in the lanes, the lack of birds. But mostly, I like the grandness of it all. It's like living in the belly of a giant beast.

IT'S TIME TO PANIC

Remember how I said 'pshaw' to **Jeff Dohrn** for pushing the panic button in Week Three? Well, now I'm pushing the panic button for him. After watching Markham go into round Round Table Stadium and beat Los Angeles with **Chad Simpson** at running back, I think panicking is the only sensible thing that the 1-5 Knights can do at this juncture. Certainly they have tried everything rational – even breaking a long standing tradition of plugging in a journeyman at quarterback by bringing in the vet, **Kurt Warner**. And speaking of Warner, he is 1-2 since joining the Knights. You cannot fairly say that their continued slide has been his fault – in those 3 games he posted LA's only win and he has thrown 8 TD passes to only 2 picks, completed 68% of his passes, and averaged 278 yards passing per game. But he did throw an interception to Markham middle linebacker, **Barrett Ruud** at a critical point in the game on Sunday that essentially snuffed out any reasonable chance of a Knights comeback. **Barrett Ruud!** No disrespect intended, but the run-stopping Ruud is not exactly a coverage specialist. He wasn't even covering any receiver on the play – he was just *there*, in the path of Kurt's pass.

On the other side of that big trade, **Jason Campbell** is 2-1 since joining Markham and he looked pretty efficient picking apart his old team. He even went after **Nnamdi Asomugha** deep, catching him off balance and forcing him to tug at receiver **Devery Henderson** just before the ball arrived to earn a 21-yard pass interference flag. Campbell's 243-yard, 1 TD, no pick performance on the road in the face of the league's best pass rush and secondary is arguably more impressive than the win itself. There were other contributors to the Markham upset that were opportunistic and somewhat fluky; such as the emergence of one-game wonder, **Chad Simpson**, who returned a kickoff 96 yards for a TD and who broke a 35-yard run for another behind a great block by tackle **Ryan Clabo** on run-stuff specialist **Andre Carter**. The Knights also drew almost as many flags as the United Nations, which thwarted their momentum and often boosted Markham's. But the steady, cool performance of Campbell in the clutch was impressive and has to have raised eyebrows in Tinseltown and cast some doubt on Dohrn's handling of his former scapegoat.

The fact is that the Knights collapse has been a true team effort. They are finding ways to implode every week – whether due to penalties, turnovers, missed field goals, special team breakdowns or blown coverages. **Jeff Dohrn's** stock is falling faster than BP shares in Louisiana after blowing what everyone thought was a safe "guarantee" that his team would beat the North Stars. Could it be the pressure of expectations after last season's inspiring charge to the Championship Game and a near upset over the Dragons? Could last year's wild ride have induced a severe Championship Game "hangover"? Are they like MacBeth – *cursed*? Let me hear *your* thoughts on why the Knights suck. Drop me a line and I will publish the best (funniest) ones in next week's column.

PHILIP RIVERS EARNS A STAY.....

...of execution. The QB most under-the-gun earned a reprieve from having his front lawn spray-painted with the word "LOSER" and other nasty tricks with a gritty performance against the "Lockdown Crew" in Durham's 24-16 victory over Chino. Durham Police were called in to investigate an alleged series of threats against **Philip Rivers** from what may have been one, or several, deranged fans. Police have been tight-lipped about the details of their investigation but have divulged that threats against the struggling star were received, and suggested that they may be the work of one individual, or a group of individuals working together. Notice the use of "threats" – plural; meaning more than one. The



Video still of Durham undercover cops eating pizza out front of Philip Rivers' home. Who is behind threats to the Lizards' beleaguered QB and why?

Police were concerned enough that they secretly sent undercover officers to watch Rivers' home in Whitby and set up surreptitious mobile surveillance on him before, during, and after the game. A police spokesman would not confirm or deny this, but you can see the video, taken by a couple of high school students, of the undercover officers eating pizza and reading the newspaper in their Chevy van a couple of houses down from the Rivers home on U-Tube at:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PfVzjbDUMBDURHAMCOPSyzFGQ>

The game got off to another laughably bad start for Durham. They engineered the season's longest drive from scrimmage resulting in a punt, marching 72 yards in 16 plays starting from their own 2, only to punt the ball from the Convict's 36 after a holding call nullified a 43-yard field goal by **Mason Crosby**. This brought out the boo birds at Jurassic Park early, but Rivers quieted them down with back-to-back touchdown drives to make it 14-0 after that, the second coming after **Jason Jones** stopped **Donovan McNabb** cold on a risky 4th down and inches play at Chino's 34 yard line. The Lizards managed to keep one step ahead of Chino the rest of the way, but such has been the star-crossed ways of the Thunder Lizards that nobody in the Lizard's corner could

relax and enjoy the game confident that Durham would press home its advantage.

On the other side, it was the Convicts' first loss of the season and it did not sit well with head coach, **Rob Nazar**. The back-breaking play of the game came with 5 minutes remaining and Durham ahead 21-16. Facing 3rd down and 20 at their own 23 yard line, Rivers fired a short slant to **Calvin Johnson** as the Chino DBs played the deep ball. Johnson gathered up a head of steam and put a move on **Terence Newman** to get in the clear long enough to cover 25 yards for the first down. Nazar threw his headset and clipboard then lifted a barrel of 'Gatorade' and spilled it on the bench. He harangued his secondary from the sideline and pulled Newman out of the game, directing him to the Gatorade-soaked bench to have a seat. When Newman refused to sit in the puddle, Nazar fired tape and other debris from the trainer's bag at Newman and had to finally be restrained by defensive coordinator, **Monte Kiffen**.

After the game, Nazar apologized for his outburst but still put the blame on his players and not on Kiffen, who had placed the secondary in a deep zone to guard against the long pass. "We have to make that play!" Nazar barked. "I don't care if it's Calvin Fu^*ing Johnson! We're the Chino F@\$ing Convicts and we find a way to win games. We did *not* lock them down in that situation and that is unacceptable. Let's just say that we are going to work on a few things.....the *hard* way, during practice this week." I guess that means the Convicts players will have their day passes revoked in the lead-up to their big Week Seven match-up against Pickering.

NO 'KAEDING,' HAWKS LOSE AGAIN!

With so many eyes focused on the meltdown of the LA Knights, Ringgold's continuing troubles are not drawing much scrutiny. One possible explanation is the general lack of expectations of a team that has never had a winning season in its history. Another is that journalists and fans don't really take Ringgold seriously going back to their inception as the comically bad Meadowlands Swamp Dogs in the EFL's first season. **Jack Buffolano**, the team's original owner, is now serving time for tax evasion after being nabbed at LaGuardia Airport trying to leave for the Caymen Islands. His sister, **Bocchina Buffolano**, who stills owns 10% of the team, was indicted last week for her role in a Ponzi scheme that reportedly bilked first generation Italian investors of over 100 million dollars. Try as he might, new owner and head coach **Tim Molinaro** seems to be fighting a steep uphill battle to bring credibility to his franchise both on and off the field.

His on field "cred" is plummeting with another loss in which his offence failed to perform to its perceived talent level. This time the Hawks could not keep pace with **Nate Kaeding's** leg. The Golden Bears' kicker made 6 easy field goals and that was enough to knock the Hawks out of the air. Although Molinaro is reportedly well-liked by his players and gets along with reporters, a small group of writers, including Ringgold elder statesman, **Jebidiah Cleburne**, are publicly musing over the value of a coaching change. It had to happen at some point. Most serious football analysts rate the Ringgold talent pool on the offensive side of the ball quite high and contend that playmakers like **DeMarus Ware** and **Clay Matthews** make their defence ever-menacing despite a couple of notable holes at both ends of the defensive line.

Molinaro is reportedly pulling out all the stops to get **Ben Roethlisberger's** head into the game and out of Bubbles' cleavage. The Ringgold mascot has been getting a little too close to the sidelines when the Hawks have the ball and this is supposed to be having a negative effect on Big Ben. In the Week Five loss to Pickering, Roethlisberger allegedly audibled "37-blue, 84-bubbles, 49-boobies, *hut!*" – a play that does not exist. The resulting confusion resulted in a missed blocking assignment and **Jason Taylor** broke through for a sack on the play. As a result, a hypnotist was brought in to promote positive

thinking and to suppress distracting thoughts such as the ones about just how deep Bubbles' cleavage really is.

IS VIRDEN "VIOLATING" SPIRIT OF COMPETITION?

So you're down 3 points after scoring a touchdown with 1:06 left in the game. What do you do? A) Onside Kick right, B) Onside Kick left, C) Onside Kick center, D) Let the Kicker Decide Direction. If you are Virden's coach, **Lance Barrate**, you scratch in the letter "E" and write "Kick Deep and hope McKelvin fumbles." And that is what the Violators did at Gwinnett on Sunday in a 31-28 loss to the Glads. Now, in fairness, I have to give some credit to the idea that **Leodis McKelvin** might have tried making the ESPN highlight reel by running the ball back hard and fumbling it away - he has done that before to lose a game in an alternate universe, according to my geek nephew, Byron. However, that possibility is still just a gnat's hair greater than a long shot, while the success rate of onside kick-off attempts is about 26%, with adjustments for whether the opponent is expecting it or not.

So why kick the ball back to Gwinnett to run out the clock? Well, you either think gnat's hairs are pretty thick, or you don't really want to win the game. And the only two rational reasons why anyone would *not* want to win the game would be if that person thought his team was bad, but not quite bad enough to earn the first overall pick in the rookie draft through honest failure; or else a BIG bet was involved. In any case, the trick to covering it up is in explaining such a move (or lack of a move) to reporters after the fact. And in that respect, Barrate gets an "F" for his "oops, I forgot" excuse.

In the post-game media scrum, Barrate was grilled on his decision to kick the ball away and his response was not comforting or coherent. After first asserting that he had not realized how much time was left because he had forgot to set his watch to daylight savings time, he switched gears and claimed that he had been distracted by '*Gladiella*' and had not realized the situation. When he saw the incredulous expressions on the faces of reporters, he reluctantly "volunteered" his secret strategy. "We knew they were expecting us to kick onside," Barrate offered somewhat tentatively, "so we thought our best option was to kick deep, because they weren't expecting it. That also would put us closer to their goal line, which is where we wanted to be. Yeah, that's it! They caught the ball, but we all know that's not a sure thing in this league. Heck it's easy to second guess a coach's decision. I wish I had your job sometimes; then I could always be right about things after they're done. No more questions, guys, I think the pizza's here."

THE HAVES AND THE HAVE-NOTS

The gap between the haves and the have-nots in the EFL is widening and it is becoming obvious in the quality of some of the games. Week Six brought us a bunch of insipid meetings (I would not go as far as to call them "contests") between confirmed "haves," such as Charleswood, Florida, and Pickering; aspiring "haves," such as Kutztown and York; and a line-up of both traditional and new "have-nots," such as Garland, Ringgold, Iowa City and Cowtown. Even Markham's stunning upset of the LA Knights may turn out, in hindsight, to have been merely a confirmation that Los Angeles has inexplicably and suddenly fallen into the ranks of the "have-nots" and that we had simply not figured that out at the Week Six mark.

Charleswood got **Adrian Peterson** back on track with a 107 yards rushing, 3 TDs, and a season long 30-yard run from scrimmage while pounding the hapless Mustangs 40-17. The sophomore slump is hitting **Matt Ryan** like a ton of bricks this year. Six (count' em) interceptions sets a new league record for airborne gaffs in a single game and catapults Ryan downward in the QB rankings below even Cowtown's unsteady **Joe Flacco**. Despite being down at one point 40-3, the Mustangs tore a shred of bragging rights from the game sheet with a 15-reception, 246-yard performance by **Wes Welker**. For Pats' corner, **Sheldon Brown**, it was a rare example of a 2-interception day he would like to forget. Brown also made 11 tackles chasing Welker down all over the field. When a corner leads the team in tackles, you know he had a bad day.

Pickering toyed with the Cubs at Joe Ferguson Stadium - calling off the dogs early in the second half after jumping out to a 28-0 lead without really trying. Iowa City is beginning to look like a beaten team before they take the field, which is a posture from them unseen before. Everyone thinks the kid, **Sam Bradford**, is going to be good some day but everyone also knows he won't be good enough to lead this team anywhere meaningful this season.

Tom Brady showed why he is the best pocket passer in the league in dissecting the Corn King's secondary and staking his team to a 28-3 lead at half time with 4 touchdowns passes. Cowtown was missing **Rashean Mathis**, but it is debateable how much he was missed because he was not getting the job to his usual standard before the injury. The remaining defensive backs did not play badly, but Brady made them look bad with precision throws and spilt second reads from the pocket that defeated almost every look the Kings put on the field. **Joe Flacco** took a step forward by avoiding interceptions, but his inaccuracy in the first half kept putting the fragile Cowtown defence on the field to face the Brady storm. York's defensive shortcomings were not obvious against the Flacco-led Kings. **Antwan Odom** was a regular guest in the Cowtown backfield and **Geno Hayes** was a wall against the run.

Florida unmasked Mohave at Dragonmount, 34-0. **Matt Schaub**, once the toast of the Fiery Depths, got badly burnt against the "Firewall." It was the second consecutive bad game for Schaub, who had been a viable MVP candidate after 4 weeks and 4 wins into the season. The Dragons looked much like they did last year, grabbing the early lead with the help of a big turnover and then running the ball for most of the second half. **Aaron Rodgers** attempted only 16 passes and **Brandon Marshall** was tight-lipped with the Media after getting only 4 balls thrown his way.

BUG THE BOOKIE!

JIMMY THE GEEK GIVES YOU HIS PICKS FOR WEEK SEVEN EFL ACTION

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JIMMY'S WEEK SEVEN PICKS

FLORIDA @ KUTZTOWN (line – DRAGONS by 9)

As if facing powerful Florida were not challenge enough on its own, the Golden Bears enter this game severely banged up on defence. Both starting corners are out, as is inside linebacker, E.J. Henderson, defensive end, Aaron Smith and big defensive tackle, Glenn Dorsey. Aaron Rodgers will have all options available to him and need fear just two men on the other side of the line – safety Darren Sharper and lunatic linebacker, Ray Lewis. Tony Romo on the other hand will have basically one option – pass the ball. The Dragons are able to control the run while defending the pass and the Kutztown running backs are not likely to surprise them for big yards as they have other teams. But even if they do, who cares? The Florida juggernaut will score as often as it needs to score to stay comfortably in front for 60 minutes. **Pick: FLORIDA**

GWINNETT @ CHARLESWOOD (line – PATS by 11)

The spread appears a little excessive at first glance, but the odds-makers *love* Charleswood at home, where they are 3-0 and really don't like Gwinnett on the road, where they are 0-3. Actually, the troubles run deeper than a winless road record for Gwinnett. The defence continues to underperform. They appeared on the verge of a late collapse last week but were given a reprieve by Virden's deep kickoff to end the game. They enter this game without two of their top defensive backs, Terrence McGee and Troy Polamalu. Robert Mathis, their top pass rusher, is questionable. Meanwhile, everything is going according to plan in Patriot country except for the loss of safety, Ed Reed. Eli Manning will have a small window to score points through the air but will have to catch fire if he is going to keep pace with his older brother, Peyton. **Pick: CHARLESWOOD**

VIRDEN @ GARLAND (line – MUSTANGS by 3)

The Violators are notoriously slow to get started, having scored a league-low 41 points in the first half of games so far this year. The Mustangs are not much better with 57 first half points. The question will be who can finish strongest. With Drew Brees behind center for Virden, they unquestionably have the edge under pressure. Unless Garland jumps out to an unexpectedly big early lead, something about as likely as a comet striking the Earth this Christmas, the Violators should pull out a victory with a late surge. Unless, of course, they elect to free kick the ball for the entire last period instead. **Pick: VIRDEN**

MOHAVE @ RINGGOLD (line – CRIMSON HAWKS by 3)

For once I am completely baffled by the Vegas line on this one. Obviously enough people still see hope for the Ringgold offence and others see no hope for a Mohave recovery after two consecutive bad outings. To put things in perspective, the Hellfire misfired against two tough opponents, Chino and Florida. The Ringgold offence faced a challenge in Pickering but wet its pants against a relatively soft Kutztown defence. The Mohave defence will be much harder to throw against so a lot is riding on Maurice Jones-Drew to draw the linemen into the box and help out Big Ben. Teams have had success running the ball against Mohave,

but that certainly does not mean that the basket-case Ringgold offence will have similar good fortune. My take on this is that the line got switched by a mischievous clerk in the Vegas wire room. **Pick: MOHAVE**

DURHAM @ IOWA CITY (line – THUNDER LIZARDS by 2)

The Iowa City defence is on the verge of complete recovery from injuries with Aaron Curry ‘Probable’ and DeAngelo Hall ‘Doubtful’ for this Sunday’s game. They are just the kind of defensive group that can rise up and take the game away from a superior opponent, as they showed against Los Angeles; and the Durham offence is just the kind of group that can help them do that. Fundamentally, there remain all sorts of problems for the Cubs on both sides of the ball, but I have this strange feeling that they are going to keep this one close. At the end of the day, Sam Bradford will struggle to finish the job and Durham will win, but it will be another ugly victory for the Big Tails. **Pick: DURHAM**

COWTOWN @ LOS ANGELES (line – KNIGHTS by 6)

Knight’s coach, Jeff Dohrn wisely kept his mouth shut this week, declining most Media requests and steadfastly refusing to speak at all about this upcoming game, let alone “guaranteeing” a win. The Knights are doing a bit of everything wrong, so it is difficult to put a definitive tag on their problems, apart from the obvious difficulty with turnovers. On the other side of this contest, it is no secret that the quarterback play in Cowtown is holding them back from greater respectability, if not a better won-loss record. Both teams are functioning at low ebb heading this contest, but Cowtown is the most severely banged up, missing five starters. All signs point to a comfortable victory for LA, despite recent troubles. Take the Knights and the points, but don’t take out a second mortgage. **PICK: LOS ANGELES**

YORK @ MARKHAM (line – NORTH STARS by 2)

This is the toughest game for me to call. Markham is the best “bad” team in the EFL while York is utterly transformed with Tom Brady at QB. Both teams have weaknesses on paper, but none of those weaknesses are emerging as impediments to victory on any given Sunday. The North Stars are having modest success defending the pass despite a weak pass rush and a mediocre and shallow talent pool in the secondary. They will deploy an array of special teamers at outside linebacker this week with Scott Fujita, Takeo Spikes, and Omar Gaither out due to injury. York lost middle linebacker, Brian Urlacher for the season after last week’s game and Jeremy Shockey is “doubtful,” but otherwise they are in good shape. I would fall back on my “better quarterback” theory if it weren’t for Jason Campbell freaking me out with a top grade performance against Los Angeles last week. Still, Tom Brady is Tom Brady. I’m not confident about it, but I’m sticking with the Swords. **Pick: YORK**

CHINO @ PICKERING (line – SPARTANS by 4)

This game just became a lot more important for both teams after Durham’s victory last week. The “Lockdown Crew” suffered its first loss when they failed to shut down the Durham offence late in the game and now they face the real prospect of back-to-back losses after starting 5-0. The Spartans see the Thunder Lizards finally rising from near extinction and would like to maintain that two-game advantage they currently enjoy as insurance against a late season Durham push. Both teams are fully healthy, so it will be a full head-on collision at Thermopylae Stadium. The Spartans appear to be gathering steam every week and are gaining national recognition because of their offence. But the Spartan’s defence is almost as impressive and will pose a big challenge for Donovan McNabb. The Chino QB is the key to a Convicts victory here as Steven Jackson is not the threat that Chris Johnson is to take control of a game. The Spartans can kill you on the ground and through the air. It will be a great game, with the Spartans offence making the difference. **Pick: PICKERING**

EFL FOCUS

A weekly tour of Media from around the EFL. This week we focus on.....

MARKHAM



MARKHAM

Economist and Sun

Lanny McDonald, beat writer for the Markham North Stars, is well known in the Greater Toronto Area as a former Toronto Maple Leafs player and hockey star. He covers football for the Markham Economist and Sun in order to bring local credibility to the sport. Unfortunately, his football knowledge is rudimentary....so have patience.

GUTSY WIN FOR UNDERMANNED MARKHAM TEAM

MARKHAM – Usually at this time of year , the leaves have fallen from the tree's and usually so has Markham's record in the EFL North division standings. At no point in Markham's brief EFL history has Markham been at 500 or better this late in the season (and yes we are only 6 games in !)

Historically attendance begins to dip with the onset of cold November dreary days in Markham despite the Fat Lady occupying 10% of the Dawg Pound by herself. However veteran leadership coupled with a QB with a chip on his shoulder and some heroic play by some lesser named North Stars have propelled Markham to a thrilling 31-26 win over LA , in LA no less.

This win demonstrated one of the gutsiest efforts this league has seen in recent pasts. Markham, completely besieged by injuries at the tailback position with injuries to DeAngelo Williams and Jahvid Best, were forced to call upon Pickering castoff Brandon Jackson and no name free agent Chad Simpson to seek uncharted yardage.

At linebacker Takeo Spikes and Scott Fujita left with upper bodies injury (insert old age here) forced Markham to insert weakside (and I mean weak) linebackers Pat Angerer and Jarvis Moss into critical situations of the game. In secondary Louis Delmas had his baby teeth pulled prior to the game and could not get a mother's note to play plus reserve nickelback Joselio Hanson was caught smoking a joint at halftime and Markham club officials suspended him immediately for 5 games.

Would a normal Markham team have crumbled under such circumstances ...absolutelywould the Fat Lady have made a public disgrace of herself to tarnish the Markham name after yet another Markham loss ...absolutely And given the 11th hour wheeling and dealing with Pickering and LA prior to trade deadline to give up Markham's few impact players (Jason Taylor and fan favourite Little Darren Sproles) for a 5 pounds of hamburger patties and draft picks - could this team had taken a break on the side of a hill like a rented muleabsolutely.

However, this time Markham prevailed , this time we forced the opponent to make mistakes and this time the vocal cords of the Fat Lady were saved for a meaningful purpose and that was to put the final touches of victory on the dinner table.

Markham's win in LA was about pure heart , beleaguered castoffs and star-struck rookies stepping up to the plate. The stat line of the game is immaterial to this beat reporter, we finally saw a team take on the spirit of this town and its number #1 fan.

Because of this , Markham for once will play meaningful November football.

