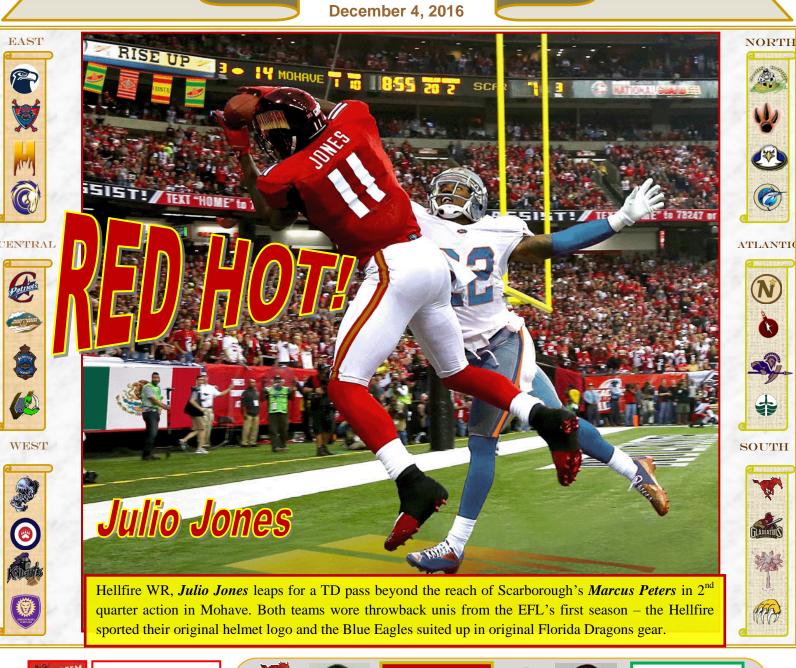




Est. 2007 1(1)

EIGHT





Who was slick. in Week Eight?

"BRYLCREEM" THE EFL'S FIRST SPONSOR



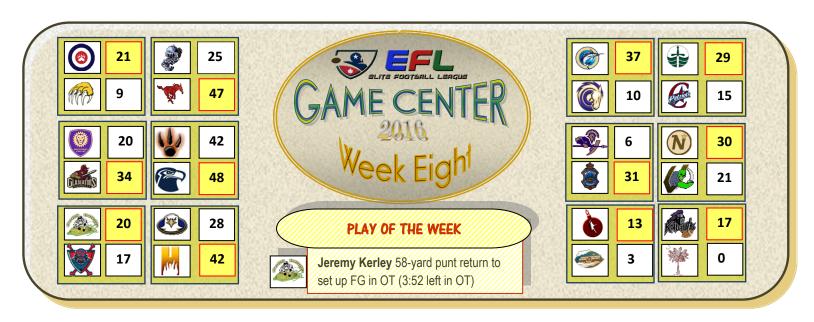
Matt Ryan QB Aurora Mustangs

34 of 46, 443 yards, 5 TDs. Led allout air assault on stunned Convicts.



Kurt Coleman York **Excaliburs**

5 T, 1 PD, 2 INTS (52 yards). 2 interceptions set up 2 TDs in win.









When you're in a rush! 12 Games, 12 Highlights!

By Chris Sherma

Many of the league's offences were on fire at the mid-way point of the season: In Brooklin, Janoris Jenkins forced a fumble in the 3rd quarter that led to a 4-yard TD pass to Randall Cobb and a two-score Brooklin lead as the Hawks held on to win a record 48-42 shootout over the Thunder Lizards. Signature of 5 long slant to Allen Robinson for a 60-yard TD pass, the second of 5 on the day, as the Hellfire scorched the Blue Eagles, 42-28 to even their record to 4-4, In Aurora, Matt Ryan held his hot hand, throwing 5 TD passes, including a 29-yard strike to **Anguan Boldin** in the 2nd quarter, to lead the Mustangs to a 47-25 trampling of Chino; **√(4)** In Gwinnett, Big Ben hurled a 27-yard TD pass to Jeremy Maclin in the 2nd quarter and Sam Bradford finished it off with a pair of TD passes as Gwinnett struck down Mission Viejo, 34-20 (5) At *TERRORDOME*, Tyrod Taylor terrorized the Virden secondary with 344 yards passing to lead the North Stars to a 30-21 win over Virden; St. Charles, Andy Dalton rifled a 24-yard TD pass to Doug Baldwin to spark a 31point 1st half for the Swordfish as they went on to outclass the Chargers, 37-10; At Patriot Place, the Excaliburs Kurt Coleman picked off Blake Bortles twice to set up two York TDs as the Swords cut down the Pats, 29-15; SIN Carthage, Jeremy Kerley returned a punt 58 yards with 3:52 remaining in OT to set up a 41-yard game-winning FG by **Nick Novak** as the Corn Kings outlasted the Cannibals, 20-17; 🖮 South Carolina, *Teddy Bridgewater* gave his team all the offence they needed with a crisp 3-yard TD pass to *Gary Barnidge* in the 2nd quarter and the 'Blue Shield' shutout Kirk Cousins and the Regs, 17-0; Toronto, heavy rain washed out the Wolverines' offence while Russell Wilson fired 3 TD passes, including a 23-yarder to Tavon Austin in the Cubs' 21-9 win over Torontog Twin Cities, the Spartans led 6-3 at half time but a fumble to start the 3rd led to 4 straight Triumph TDs, including a 29-yard TD pass to Antonio Brown, as TC topped Pickering 31-6; ✓ In Erieau, *Brian Hoyer* hit *Jerricho Cotchery* for a 17-yard TD pass as New Jersey kept the Caddies winless, 13-3.

CUBS



PASSING: Russell Wilson, 12 of 18, 179 yds, 3 TDs, 1 INT

RUSHING: Jeremy Hill, 16C, 141yds, (8.8), 0 TD RECEIVNG: Mike Wallace, 9 for 94yds, 34LG, 2 TDs DEFENCE: Fletcher Cox, 6 T, 1 SK, 1 STF, 1 HUR, 1 FF KICKING: Jason Myers. 3 of 3 XPA. 0 of 1 FGA. 3 Pts

WOLVERINES



9

PASSING: Ryan Tannehill 24 of 43, 204 yds, 1 TD, 0 INT RUSHING: DeMarcus Murray, 9C, 22yds, (2.4), 0 TD RECEIVNG: Roddy White, 5 for 65yds, 24LG, 1 TD DEFENCE: Jalen Ramsey, 10 T, 3 PD, 1 INT (21yds)

KICKING: Mike Nugent, 1 of 1 FGA, 3 Pts

12-03-2016 The Wol	verine's Den Temp: 48 Wind: Calm Heavy Rain MVP: Rus	sell Wilson		ICC	TOR
			First Downs	20	14
	1 2 3 4 Tot		Rushes	32-243	18-35
2015 Iowa City (5-3)	7 0 7 7 21		Passes	27-18-224	43-24-204
2016 Toronto (2-6)	0 3 0 6 9		Sacked	1-7	3-20
			Fumble	0	2
Scoring Summary			Penalties	8-60	3-15
1 8:53 Iowa City	TD Wilson 23 pass to Austin (Myers,J) (11-80-6:07)	7-0	Turnovers	1	0
2 0:28 Toronto	FG Nugent 47 (9-18-1:39)	7-3	Missed Tackles	4	7
3 7:50 Iowa City	TD Wilson 2 pass to Wallace (Myers,J) (7-91-4:33)	14-3	Blitzes	11	10
4 4:55 Toronto	TD Tannehill 14 pass to White (2 - failed) (11-79-3:34) 1	4-9	Time	32:27	27:33
4 1:24 Iowa City	TD Wilson 34 pass to Wallace (Myers,J) (1-34-0:10)	21-9	Third Down	1-9	3-15
			Fourth Down	1-2	1-4
			Red Att/Td/Fg	3/1/0	2/1/0
			Net Offense	460	219

CONVICTS



25

PASSING: Cam Newton 19 of 32, 274 yds, 1 TD, 0 INT RUSHING: Adrian Peterson, 20C, 101yds, (5.1), 1 TD RECEIVNG: Jarius Wright, 4 for 112yds, 78LG, 1 TD

DEFENCE: Ryan Shazier, 5 T, 1 PD, 1 HUR **KICKING**: Dan Bailev. 2 of 2 XPA. 1 of 1 FGA. 5 Pts

MUSTANGS



47

PASSING: Matt Ryan, 34 of 46, 443 yds, 5 TDs, 0 INT RUSHING: Rashad Jennings, 7C, 42yds, (6.0), 0 TD RECEIVNG: Julian Edelman, 13 for 205yds, 44LG, 1 TD DEFENCE: JJ Watt, 64T, 2 SK, 2 STF, 2 HUR

KICKING: Mason Crosby, 6 of 6 XPA, 1 of 1 FG, 9 Pts

12-02-2016 Candle	stick Park Temp: 59 Wind: 10-20 None MVP: Matt	Ryan		СНІ	AUR
	1 2 3 4 Tot		First Downs Rushes	22 27-127	28 16-62
2015 Chino (3-5)	7 7 11 0 25		Passes	32-19-274	46-34-443
2015 Aurora (6-2)	10 16 14 7 47		Sacked	6-39	0-0
1 6:31 Aurora	TD Ryan 10 pass to Gillmore (Crosby) (10-88-6:04)	0-7	Fumble	1	0
1 6:09 Aurora	FG Crosby 30 (4-4-0:12)	0-10	Penalties	6-45	6-66
1 1:05 Chino	TD Peterson 18 run (Bailey,D) (9-64-4:56)	7-10	Turnovers	1	0
2 13:06 Aurora	TD Ryan 29 pass to Boldin (Crosby) (7-87-3:01)	7-17	Missed Tackles	2	
2 10:26 Chino	TD Newton 78 pass to Wright (Bailey,D) (5-84-2:34)	14-17			. <u>.</u>
2 3:02 Aurora	Safety Young	14-19	Blitzes	40	17
2 1:10 Aurora	TD Ryan 7 pass to Celek (Crosby) (7-62-1:45)	14-26	Time	30:59	29:01
3 11:56 Aurora	TD Lasco 1 run (Crosby) (10-80-3:04)	14-33	Third Down	2-13	4-9
3 7:37 Aurora	TD Ryan 32 pass to Edelman (Crosby) (3-66-1:40)	14-40	Fourth Down	3-4	1-1
3 4:46 Chino	TD Newton 3 run (2 - Peterson) (8-80-2:51)	22-40	Red Att/Td/Fg	3/2/1	5/4/1
3 0:13 Chino	FG Bailey 25 (9-47-4:25)	25-40	Net Offense	362	505
4 3:58 Aurora	TD Ryan 13 pass to Gillmore (Crosby) (11-83-7:08)	25-47	iver offense	302	303

MONARCHS



20

PASSING: Eli Manning, 19 of 37, 161 yds, 0 TD, 2 INTS RUSHING: Chris Ivory, 8C, 69yds, (8.6), 1 TD RECEIVNG: Allen Hurns, 3 for 55yds, 29LG, 0 TD DEFENCE: Khalil Mack, 1 T, 1 SK, 2 STF, 1 HUR, 1 FF KICKING: Josh Lambo. 2 of 2 XPA. 2 of 2 FGA. 8 Pts

GLADIATORS



34

PASSING: Ben Roethlisberger, 10 of 13, 189 yds, 2TDs, 0 INT

RUSHING: Akeem Hunt, 4C, 30yds, (7.5), 0 TD RECEIVNG: Jeremy Maclin, 7 for 133yds, 32LG, 2 TDs DEFENCE: Sean Smith, 6 T, 2 PD, 1 INT (25yds) KICKING: Cairo Santos, 4 of 4 XPA, 2 of 2 FGA, 10 Pts

T-LIZARDS



PASSING: Drew Brees, 31 of 42, 331 yds, 5 TDs, 0 INT RUSHING: Darren McFadden, 12C, 50yds, (4.2), 0 TD RECEIVNG: Megatron, 7 for 114yds, 22LG, 2 TDs DEFENCE: Thomas Davis, 9 T, 1 STF, 2 FF KICKING: Phil Dawson. 6 of 6 XPA. 6 Pts

HAWKS



48

PASSING: Alex Smith, 22 of 31, 380 yds, 3 TDs, 0 INT RUSHING: Jonathan Stewart, 22C, 146yds, (6.6), 2 TDs RECEIVNG: Rob Gronkowksi, 8 for 147yds, 57LG, 2 TDs DEFENCE: Brandon Williams, 3 T, 1 SK, 2 HUR KICKING: Zach Hocker, 6 of 6 XPA, 2 of 2 FGA, 12 Pts

12-02-2016 Optimis	st Park Temp	: 49	Wir	nd: Calr	n None	MVP: Alex Smith			DT
		1 2	3	4	Tot			First Downs	25
2015 Durham (3-5)		7 14			42			Rushes	17-
2015 Brooklin (4-4)		7 13			48			Passes	42-
1 7:25 Durham	TD Brees 9 pas	s to D	ecke	r (Dawso	n P) (13-79-7	·29)	7-0	Sacked	2-2
1 0:09 Brooklin	TD Smith 16 p						7-7	Fumble	1
2 12:47 Durham	TD Sherman 5	1 yd fu	ımbl	e recovei	ry (Dawson,P)		14-7	Penalties	3-1
2 10:17 Brooklin	FG Hocker 20	(5-78-	2:26)				14-10	Turnovers	1
2 3:27 Brooklin	TD Stewart 14	run (I	locke	er) (9-72-	5:00)		14-17		
2 0:47 Durham	TD Brees 22 pa	ass to	John	son (Daw	/son,P) (8-65-	2:32)	21-17	Missed Tackles	10
2 0:00 Brooklin	FG Hocker 32	(4-75-	0:35)				21-20	Blitzes	18
3 8:32 Brooklin	TD Mathews 9	run (Hock	er) (13-8	0-6:28)		21-27	Time	24:
3 4:44 Brooklin	TD Smith 4 pa	ss to C	obb	(Hocker)	(6-44-3:25)		21-34	Third Down	6-1
3 1:16 Durham	TD Brees 18 pa	ass to	John	son (Daw	/son,P) (9-80-	3:28)	28-34		
4 9:10 Brooklin	TD Stewart 15	run (I	locke	er) (13-9:	1-6:59)		28-41	Fourth Down	4-4
4 6:18 Durham	TD Brees 12 pa	ass to	Hilto	n (Dawso	on,P) (10-70-2	:45)	35-41	Red Att/Td/Fg	3/3
4 4:33 Brooklin	TD Smith 57 p	ass to	Gron	kowski (Hocker) (4-80	-1:45)	35-48	Net Offense	369
4 0:00 Durham	TD Brees 26 pa	ass to	Hilto	n (Daws	on,P) (15-80-4	:33)	42-48		

	DTL	BRH
First Downs	25	30
Rushes	17-59	35-241
Passes	42-31-331	31-22-380
Sacked	2-21	0-0
Fumble	1	3
Penalties	3-18	5-59
Turnovers	1	1
Missed Tackles	10	2
Blitzes	18	19
Time	24:26	35:34
Third Down	6-12	9-11
Fourth Down	4-4	0-0
Red Att/Td/Fg	3/3/0	7/5/1
Net Offense	369	621

CORN KINGS



20

PASSING: Matt Hasselbeck, 26 of 42, 277 yds, 0 TD, 1 INT RUSHING: LeGarrette Blount, 15C, 92yds, (6.1), 2 TDs RECEIVNG: Mike Evans, 8 for 140yds, 18LG, 1 TD

DEFENCE: David Harris 10 T, 2 PD, 2 STF, 1 HUR, 1 FF KICKING: Nick Novak. 2 of 2 XPA.2 of 4 FGA. 8 Pts

CANNIBALS



17

PASSING: Marcus Mariota, 21 of 36, 220 yds, 0 TD, 1 INT **RUSHING**: Eddie Lacy, 21C, 101yds, (4.8), 0 TD

RECEIVNG: Torrey Smith, 2 for 68yds, 56LG, 0 TD DEFENCE: Jonathan Bullard, 6 T, 2 SK, 1 FF

KICKING: Chandler Cantanzaro, 2 of 2 XPA, 1 of 2 FGA, 5 Pts

12-03-2016 The Killing	g Field	Temp	: 1	W	/in	d:	None		MVP: <i>Le</i>	Garrette Bloun	t
		1	2	3	4	5		Tot			
2015 Cowtown (6-2)		7	0	3	7	3		20			
2015 Carthage (2-6)		0	7	3	7	0		17			
Scoring Summary											
1 11:26 Cowtown	TD Blo	ount 1	2 ru	ın (No	vak) (6-70-	3:28		7-0	
2 7:46 Carthage	TD Jo	nes 64	pu	nt	ret	urn	(Catan	zaro)		7-7	
3 8:28 Carthage	FG Ca	tanzar	o 4	5 (13-	60-	6:23)			7-10	
3 3:44 Cowtown	FG No	vak 44	(1	0-4	4-4	1:33	3)			10-10	
4 3:36 Cowtown	TD Blo	ount 8	run	(N	ov	ak)	(5-68-2	:29)		17-10	
4 0:40 Carthage	TD M	ariota	5 ru	ın (Ca	tan	zaro) (1	1-83	-2:51)	17-17	
5 3:02 Cowtown	FG No	vak 41	(4-	0-0	:46	5)				20-17	

	cow	CAR
First Downs	24	20
Rushes	27-176	33-166
Passes	42-26-277	36-21-220
Sacked	4-29	2-17
Fumble	2	2
Penalties	5-50	7-60
Turnovers	2	1
Missed Tackles	8	9
Blitzes	23	38
Time	34:26	37:32
Third Down	7-15	5-16
Fourth Down	0-0	1-1
Red Att/Td/Fg	6/2/1	7/1/1
Net Offense	424	369

BLUE EAGLES



PASSING: Aaron Rodgers, 21 of 38, 210 yds, 2 TDs, 1 INT

RUSHING: Charles Sims, 7C, 65 yds, (9.3), 0 TD RECEIVNG: Jamison Crowder, 5 for 47 yds, 23LG, 1 TD **DEFENCE**: Marcus Peters, 10 T, 1 PD, 2 INTS (32yds)

KICKING: Dan Carpenter, 4 of 4 XPA, 4 Pts



HELLFIRE

PASSING: Ryan Fitzpatrick, 21 of 38, 313 yds, 5 TDs, 2 INTs RUSHING: Ryan Fitzpatrick, 10 C, 93yds, (9.3), 1 TD RECEIVNG: Allen Robinson, 6 for 117yds, 60LG, 1 TD

DEFENCE: KJ Wright, 8 T, 1 SK, 1 PD

KICKING: Sebastian Janikowski, 6 of 6 XPA, 6 Pts

12-02-2016 The Fiery [epths Tem	p: 93	٧	Vind	: Calm	None	MVP: Ryan Fitzpa	itrick
	1	2	3	4	Tot			
2015 Scarborough (2-6) 7	7	7	7	28			
2015 Mohave (4-4)	7	21	7	7	42			
Scoring Summary								
1 12:24 Scarborough	TD Rodgers	6 pa	ss t	o Cr	owder	(Carper	nter) (2-9-0:51)	7-0
1 3:59 Mohave	TD Fitzpatr	ick 17	pa	ass t	o Wrigl	nt (Janil	kowski) (4-53-1:55)	7-7
2 13:45 Mohave	TD Fitzpatri	ck 60	pa	iss to	o Robin	son (Ja	nikowski) (3-65-1:1	7-14
2 8:53 Mohave	TD Fitzpatr	ick 10) pa	ass t	o Jones	(Janiko	owski) (9-64-3:49)	7-21
2 3:30 Scarborough	TD Rodgers	5 pas	ss t	o Ac	dams (C	arpent	er) (13-80-5:23)	14-21
2 0:24 Mohave	TD Fitzpatr	ick 19	pa	ass t	o Doug	las (Jan	ikowski) (7-64-2:08	14-28
3 5:41 Mohave	TD Fitzpatr	ick 10	ru)	ın (Ja	anikow	ski) (13	-91-7:37)	14-35
3 1:23 Scarborough	TD Howard	1 rur	(C	arpe	enter) (12-93-4	l:10)	21-35
4 13:31 Scarborough	TD Rodgers	7 rur	1 (0	Carp	enter) (7-31-2:	47)	28-35
4 7:34 Mohave	TD Fitzpatr	ick 51	L pa	ass t	o Doug	las (Jan	ikowski) (2-59-0:58	28-42

	SBE	МОН
First Downs	22	29
Rushes	26-122	32-171
Passes	38-21-210	38-21-318
Sacked	3-25	0-0
Fumble	1	1
Penalties	8-53	8-65
Turnovers	1	3
Missed Tackles	6	3
Blitzes	17	42
Time	28:37	31:23
Third Down	3-13	5-12
Fourth Down	1-4	2-3
Red Att/Td/Fg	4/4/0	5/4/0
Net Offense	307	489

SWORDFISH



37

PASSING: Andy Dalton, 23 of 26, 299 yds, 3 TDs, 0 INT RUSHING: Kenneth Dixon, 15C, 67yds, (4.5), 0 TD RECEIVNG: Odell Beckham Jr, 9 for 112yds, 32LG, 2 TDs

DEFENCE: Carlos Dunlap, 2 T, 1 SK, 1 STF, 2 HUR KICKING: Adam Vinatieri. 4 of 4 XPA. 3 of 3 FGA. 13 Pts

CHARGERS



10

PASSING: Josh McCown, 17 of 28, 162 yds, 1 TD, 1 INT RUSHING: Branden Oliver, 1C, 9yds, (9.0), 0 TD

RECEIVNG: Travis Benjamin, 5 for 76yds, 23LG, 1 TD

DEFENCE: Justin Durant, 12 T

KICKING: Steven Hauschka, 1 of 1 XPA, 1 of 1 FGA, 4 Pts

42 02 2046 St St - I	Challer Town 72 Wind Av. Av. B. U.	Market and the second		66	676
12-02-2016 St.Charl	es Stadium Temp: 72 Wind: MVP: Andy Dalton			SS	STC
			First Downs	28	10
	1 2 3 4 Tot		Rushes	39-179	10-30
2015 Sebastian (7-1)	14 17 3 3 37		Passes	26-23-299	28-17-162
2016 St. Charles (4-4	1) 7 0 3 0 10		Sacked	0-0	3-27
Scoring Summany			Fumble	1	1
Scoring Summary	TD D II. 04 D III. (Aff. 11 1) (0.00 5.40)	7.0	Penalties	4-30	2-15
1 9:47 Sebastian	TD Dalton 24 pass to Baldwin (Vinatieri) (8-80-5:13)	7-0	Turnovers	0	1
1 5:42 Sebastian	TD Dalton 7 pass to Beckham Jr. (Vinatieri) (4-29-1:35)	14-0	Missed Tackles	0	6
1 1:34 St. Charles	TD McCown 10 pass to Benjamin (Hauschka) (9-71-4:02)	14-7			27
2 11:53 Sebastian	TD Anderson 6 run (Vinatieri) (9-80-4:41)	21-7	Blitzes	0	
2 5:37 Sebastian	FG Vinatieri 29 (8-33-5:04)	24-7	Time	38:45	21:15
2 0:03 Sebastian	TD Dalton 5 pass to Beckham Jr. (Vinatieri) (9-77-3:14)	31-7	Third Down	4-10	1-9
			Fourth Down	2-3	1-3
3 6:12 Sebastian	FG Vinatieri 31 (10-68-6:47)	34-7	Red Att/Td/Fg	6/3/3	1/1/0
3 0:32 St. Charles	FG Hauschka 37 (12-58-5:29)	34-10			
4 7:45 Sebastian	FG Vinatieri 24 (13-51-7:39)	37-10	Net Offense	478	165

EXCALIBURS



PASSING: Tom Brady, 16 of 22, 246 yds, 1 TD, 1 INT RUSHING: Derrick Henry, 19C, 92 yds (4.8) 1 TD **RECEIVNG**: Nate Washington, 5 for 106yds, 57LG, 0 TD

DEFENCE: Kurt Coleman, 5 T, 1 PD, 2 INTs (52yds) KICKING: Blair Walsh. 2 of 3 XPA. 3 of 4 FGA. 11 Pts

PATRIOTS



15

PASSING: Blake Bortles, 15 of 30, 205 yds, 0 TD, 2 INTs

RUSHING: Lamar Miller, 22C, 74yds, (3.4), 1 TD RECEIVNG: Mohamed Sanu, 4 for 98yds, 63LG, 0 TD

DEFENCE: Lavonte David, 11 T KICKING: Ryan Succop, 1 of 1 XPA, 1 Pt

12-02-2016 Patrio	ot Place Temp: 75 Wind: MVP: <i>Tom Brady</i>			YOR	СНР
			First Downs	17	14
	1 2 3 4 Tot		Rushes	34-143	25-88
2015 York (3-5)	10 12 7 0 29		Passes	22-16-246	30-15-205
2015 Charleswoo	d (4-4) 7 0 0 8 15		Sacked	0-0	3-21
			Fumble	1	2
Scoring Summary			Penalties	5-25	4-30
1 11:09 York	FG Walsh 39 (7-59-3:47)	3-0	Turnovers	1	2
1 4:13 York	TD Brady 18 pass to Jones (Walsh,B) (4-40-2:21)	10-0	Missed Tackles	3	7
1 1:24 Charleswe	ood TD Miller 1 run (Succop) (8-80-2:49)	10-7	Blitzes	1	12
2 11:10 York	FG Walsh 35 (10-63-5:11)	13-7	Time	30:32	29:28
2 6:59 York	FG Walsh 49 (6-24-2:15)	16-7	Third Down	4-12	5-14
2 1:01 York	TD Henry 5 run (no good) (5-82-2:02)	22-7	Fourth Down	0-0	0-2
3 2:22 York	TD Bell 6 run (Walsh,B) (1-6-0:07)	29-7	Red Att/Td/Fg	4/3/0	2/1/0
4 10:25 Charlesw	vood TD Nkemdiche blk punt ret -9 (2 - Miller)	29-15	Net Offense	389	272

SPARTANS



PASSING: Philip Rivers, 16 of 25, 158 yds, 0 TD, 1 INT RUSHING: Denard Robinson, 10C, 42yds, (4.2), 0 TD

RECEIVNG: Sterling Shepard, 2 for 43yds, 26LG, 0 TD

DEFENCE: Telvin Smith, 5 T, 2 SK, 2 PD KICKING: Travis Coons 2 of 3 FGA. 6 Pts **TRIUMPH**



31

PASSING: Carson Palmer, 13 of 27, 159 yds, 2 TDs, 1 INT

RUSHING: Doug Martin, 16C, 66yds, (4.1), 1 TD RECEIVNG: Antonio Brown, 3 for 59yds, 29LG, 1 TD DEFENCE: Jerry Hughes, 9 T, 1 SK, 2 HUR

KICKING: Robert Aquayo, 4 of 4 XPA, 1 of 2 FGA, 7 Pts

12-02-2016 Wilhalla	Stadium Temp: 70 Wind:	MVP: Doug Martin			PIC	тст
				First Downs	16	15
	1 2 3 4	Tot		Rushes	38-123	20-64
2015 Pickering (2-6)	3 3 0 0	6		Passes	25-16-158	29-13-159
2015 Twin Cities (8-0	0 3 21 7	31		Sacked	3-39	4-28
				Fumble	1	4
Scoring Summary				Penalties	6-55	5-30
1 0:34 Pickering	FG Coons 23 (11-58-5:40)		3-0	Turnovers	2	2
2 5:24 Pickering	FG Coons 21 (4-3-0:18)		6-0	Missed Tackles	3	2
2 2:26 Twin Cities	FG Aguayo 40 (411-0:18)		6-3	Blitzes	25	8
3 14:30 Twin Cities	TD Palmer 3 pass to Eifert (Aguayo	o) (2-23-0:12)	6-10	Time	36:33	23:27
3 11:26 Twin Cities	TD Vereen 8 run (Aguayo) (3-15-1	:33)	6-17	Third Down	4-14	5-12
3 9:08 Twin Cities	TD Palmer 29 pass to Brown (Agu	ayo) (1-29-0:13)	6-24	Fourth Down	0-2	1-2
4 10:10 Twin Cities	TD Martin 10 run (Aguayo) (15-76	-6:16)	6-31	Red Att/Td/Fg	5/0/2	5/3/1
				Net Offense	242	195

NORTH STARS



30

PASSING: Tyrod Taylor, 27 of 38, 344yds, 1 TD, 0 INT RUSHING: David Johnson, 9C, 40yds, (4.4), 0 TD RECEIVNG: Brandon Marshall, 9 for 140yds, 24LG, 0 TD DEFENCE: D'Qwell Jackson, 9 T, 1 PD, 4 STF

KICKING: Josh Brown. 3 of 3 XPA. 3 of 3 FGA. 12 Pts

VIOLATORS

21

PASSING: Derek Carr, 20 of 34, 354 yds, 1 TD, 1 INT RUSHING: Ezekiel Elliott, 9C, 35yds, (3.9), 2 TDs

RECEIVNG: Martavis Bryant, 6 for 200yds, 75LG, 1 TD DEFENCE: Jared Odrick, 6 T, 3 STF, 3 HUR KICKING: Josh Scobee, 3 of 3 XPA, 3 Pts

12-02-2016 TERRORD	OME Temp: 73 Wind: Calm None MVP: Tyrod Taylor	
	1 2 3 4 Tot	
2015 Markham (7-1)	7 10 3 10 30	
2015 Virden (3-5)	0 0 14 7 21	
Scoring Summary		
1 6:52 Markham	TD Cyprien 46 interception return (Brown,J)	7-0
2 12:45 Markham	TD Hightower 10 run (Brown,J) (10-57-5:12)	14-0
2 0:26 Markham	FG Brown 39 (9-47-2:43)	17-0
3 12:10 Virden	TD Elliott 3 run (Scobee) (5-80-2:50)	17-7
3 2:02 Markham	FG Brown 24 (19-84-9:57)	20-7
3 0:42 Virden	TD Elliott 5 run (Scobee) (4-80-1:20)	20-14
4 14:44 Virden	TD Carr 11 pass to Bryant (Scobee) (3-21-0:39)	20-21
4 10:27 Markham	TD Taylor 23 pass to Johnson (Brown,J) (8-88-4:11)	27-21
4 1:44 Markham	FG Brown 28 (9-43-4:40)	30-21

	MAR	VV
First Downs	24	20
Rushes	27-85	18-46
Passes	38-27-344	34-20-354
Sacked	0-0	2-13
Fumble	2	0
Penalties	8-66	5-35
Turnovers	1	1
Missed Tackles	2	1
Blitzes	17	19
Time	34:31	25:29
Third Down	7-12	4-8
Fourth Down	0-0	0-3
Red Att/Td/Fg	4/1/3	3/3/0
Net Offense	429	387

WRECKING BALL



13

PASSING: Brian Hoyer, 14 of 22, 113 yds, 1 TD, 0 INT RUSHING: Isaiah Crowell, 26C, 117yds, (4.5), 0 TD RECEIVNG: Jerricho Cotchery, 4 for 43yds, 17LG, 1 TD

DEFENCE: Nolan Carroll, 3 T, 1 HUR, 1 INT (17yds) 1of4 T KICKING: Chris Boswell. 1 of 1 XPA. 2 of 2 FGA. 7 Pts

CADILLAC



3

PASSING: Tony Romo, 9 of 17, 92 yds, 0 TD, 1 INT RUSHING: Marshawn Lynch, 13C, 64yds, (4.9), 0 TD RECEIVNG: Kenny Briit, 4 for 41yds, 14LG, 0 TD DEFENCE: Daryl Smith, 9 T, 2 STF, 1 FF KICKING: Stephen Gostkowski, 1 of 1 FGA, 3 Pts

12-03-2016 Kelly-Bur	ke Field	Tem	p: 6	1 V	Vind	: 5-15	None	MVP: Isaiah Crowell	
		1	2	2	1		Tot		
2016 New Jersey (2-6	j)		10				13		
2016 Erieau (0-8)			0		3		3		
Scoring Summary									
2 2:10 New Jersey	FG Bosy	vell 2	4 (1	3-74	4-6:2	21)			3-0
2 0:28 New Jersey	TD Hoy	er 17	pass	to	Coto	chery (E	soswell)	(5-34-1:06)	10-0
3 6:23 New Jersey	FG Bosy	vell 3	5 (1	3-5:	1-6:5	50)			13-0
4 1:03 Erieau	FG Gos	tkow	ski 2	1 (12-6	6-5:26)			13-3

	NJ	ERI
First Downs	17	14
Rushes	36-159	20-95
Passes	22-14-113	28-16-160
Sacked	1-4	2-18
Fumble	1	0
Penalties	7-55	9-67
Turnovers	0	2
Missed Tackles	2	2
Blitzes	21	12
Time	31:26	28:34
Third Down	6-15	3-11
Fourth Down	1-1	1-1
Red Att/Td/Fg	3/1/2	2/0/1
Net Offense	268	237

KNIGHTS



17

PASSING: Teddy Bridgewater, 27 of 40, 263 yds, 2 TDs, 0 INT

RUSHING: Frank Gore, 27C, 99yds, (3.7), 0 TD RECEIVNG: Brandin Cooks, 14 for 146yds, 17LG, 0 TD DEFENCE: Kawann Short, 3 T, 1 SK, 1 PD, 1 HUR, 1 FF KICKING: Grea Zuerlein. 2 of 2 XPA. 1 of 2 FGA. 5 Pts



PASSING: Kirk Cousins, 19 of 33, 198 vds, 0 TD, 1 INT RUSHING: Alfred Morris, 5C, 37yds, (5.7), 0 TD

RECEIVNG: Andre Johnson, 6 for 63yds, 14LG, 0 TD

DEFENCE: Jihad Ward, 18 T, 2 STF KICKING: Justin Tucker, 0 of 2 FGA, 0 Pts

2-03-2016 Carolina Slammer Te	mp: 2 Wind:	None	MVP: Teddy Bridgewater
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1 2 3 4 Tot 0 7 3 7 2015 Los Angeles (6-2) 17 2015 South Carolina (4-4) 0 0 0 0

Scoring Summary

2 12:38 Los Angeles TD Bridgewater 3 pass to Barnidge (Zuerlein) (16-83-7:58) 7-0 3 2:25 Los Angeles FG Zuerlein 27 (10-60-6:27) 10-0 4 4:45 Los Angeles TD Bridgewater 17 pass to Matthews (Zuerlein) (9-88-5:33) 17-0

	LAK	SC
First Downs	28	16
Rushes	36-147	15-56
Passes	40-27-263	33-19-198
Sacked	0-0	3-35
Fumble	1	1
Penalties	5-37	9-61
Turnovers	1	2
Missed Tackles	3	8
Blitzes	21	11
Time	40:08	19:52
Third Down	10-17	4-10
Fourth Down	1-1	0-0
Red Att/Td/Fg	4/2/1	2/0/0
Net Offense	410	219







WEEK EIGHT

STANDINGS

					PACIFIC CONFERENCE								
East	w	L	Т	Pct	Pts	Ave	Орр	Ave	Diff	Home	Div	Conf	
Brooklin	4	4	0	0.5	261	32.6	235	29.4	3.3	2 3 0	1 2 0	3 3 0	
Mohave	4	4	0	0.5	214	26.8	208	26	0.8	2 1 0	2 1 0	3 3 0	
St. Charles	4	4	0	0.5	140	17.5	172	21.5	-4	2 2 0	3 0 0	4 2 0	
Carthage	2	6	0	0.25	179	22.4	239	29.9	-7.5	0 4 0	0 3 0	150	
Central	w	L	Т	Pct	Pts	Ave	Орр	Ave	Diff	Home	Div	Conf	
Twin Cities	8	0	0	1	275	34.4	132	16.5	17.9	3 0 0	2 0 0	600	
Charleswood	4	4	0	0.5	164	20.5	138	17.3	3.3	1 3 0	1 1 0	4 2 0	
Virden	3	5	0	0.375	161	20.1	197	24.6	-4.5	3 2 0	1 1 0	3 3 0	
Erieau	0	8	0	0	69	8.6	241	30.1	-21.5	0 4 0	0 2 0	060	
West	W	L	Т	Pct	Pts	Ave	Орр	Ave	Diff	Home	Div	Conf	
Los Angeles	6	2	0	0.75	169	21.1	60	7.5	13.6	3 1 0	2 1 0	4 2 0	
Iowa City	5	3	0	0.625	190	23.8	156	19.5	4.3	1 3 0	3 0 0	4 2 0	
Chino	3	5	0	0.375	169	21.1	223	27.9	-6.8	2 2 0	0 3 0	2 4 0	
Mission Viejo	3	5	0	0.375	128	16	189	23.6	-7.6	3 1 0	1 2 0	2 4 0	
					ATLAI	NTIC CC	NFERE	NCE					
North	W	L	Т	Pct	Pts	Ave	Орр	Ave	Diff	Home	Div	Conf	
Sebastian	7	1	0	0.875	245	30.6	143	17.9	12.8	3 1 0	2 1 0	5 1 0	
Cowtown	6	2	0	0.75	186	23.3	168	21	2.3	3 1 0	2 1 0	4 2 0	
Durham	3	5	0	0.375	191	23.9	176	22	1.9	3 2 0	1 2 0	2 4 0	
Scarborough	2	6	0	0.25	137	17.1	220	27.5	-10.4	120	1 2 0	2 4 0	
Atlantic	W	L	Т	Pct	Pts	Ave	Орр	Ave	Diff	Home	Div	Conf	
Markham	7	1	0	0.875	219	27.4	93	11.6	15.8	5 0 0	2 0 0	5 1 0	
York	3	5	0	0.375	151	18.9	151	18.9	0	1 3 0	1 1 0	2 4 0	
New Jersey	2	6	0	0.25	112	14	183	22.9	-8.9	1 3 0	0 2 0	060	
Pickering	2	6	0	0.25	121	15.1	216	27	-11.9	120	1 1 0	150	
South	W	L	Т	Pct	Pts	Ave	Орр	Ave	Diff	Home	Div	Conf	
Aurora	6	2	0	0.75	217	27.1	141	17.6	9.5	4 0 0	2 1 0	4 2 0	
Gwinnett	6	2	0	0.75	273	34.1	192	24	10.1	4 0 0	3 0 0	5 1 0	
South Carolina	4	4	0	0.5	156	19.5	182	22.8	-3.3	2 2 0	1 2 0	4 2 0	
Toronto	2	6	0	0.25	121	15.1	193	24.1	-9	1 3 0	0 3 0	2 4 0	

PASSING

Rk	Player	Team	Att	Cmp	С%	Yards	In	1%	Lg	TD	TD%	Rate
1	Palmer,C	TCT	242	148	61.2	2248	8	3.3	65	27	11.2	115.2
2	Smith,A	BRH	239	148	61.9	2080	4	1.7	73	21	8.8	112.3
3	Bridgewater	LAK	260	173	66.5	1846	0	0	64	16	6.2	107.6
4	Roethlisberger	GWG	202	134	66.3	1927	9	4.5	77	16	7.9	105
5	Wentz	STC	122	69	56.6	975	2	1.6	74	10	8.2	103
6	Taylor,T	MAR	193	124	64.2	1379	1	0.5	37	11	5.7	102.2
7	Wilson,R	ICC	214	130	60.7	1911	6	2.8	73	15	7	101.6
8	Dalton	SS	147	96	65.3	1317	4	2.7	55	8	5.4	100.6
9	Winston,J	SS	132	76	57.6	974	1	8.0	91	9	6.8	100.4
10	Hasselbeck	COW	116	79	68.1	957	3	2.6	60	6	5.2	99.7
11	Brees	DTL	247	144	58.3	1672	4	1.6	60	18	7.3	96.4
12	Cousins,K	SC	313	200	63.9	2050	7	2.2	59	16	5.1	90.3
13	Newton,C	CHI	267	160	59.9	1806	5	1.9	78	11	4.1	86.1
14	Brady,T	YOR	253	142	56.1	1869	5	2	80	11	4.3	85.9
15	Flacco	COW	144	92	63.9	927	4	2.8	47	6	4.2	84.5
16	Fitzpatrick	MOH	273	147	53.8	1707	8	2.9	60	18	6.6	82.8
17	Manning,E	MVM	257	157	61.1	1664	6	2.3	80	9	3.5	81.9
18	Rivers,P	PIC	209	119	56.9	1413	6	2.9	66	10	4.8	81.7
19	Ryan,M	AUR	267	161	60.3	1924	11	4.1	52	13	4.9	81.4
20	Carr,D	VV	261	153	58.6	1882	8	3.1	75	10	3.8	81
21	Mariota	CAR	156	85	54.5	1024	5	3.2	57	9	5.8	80.7
22	Bortles	CHP	294	168	57.1	1880	7	2.4	70	12	4.1	80
23	Tannehill	TOR	220	124	56.4	1472	4	1.8	66	5	2.3	76.9
24	Rodgers,A	SBE	258	129	50	1342	7	2.7	71	8	3.1	64.5
25	Lynch,P	ERI	152	78	51.3	771	6	3.9	54	4	2.6	58.3
26	Bradford,S	GWG	63	45	71.4	638	1	1.6	81	8	12.7	136.8
27	Smith,G	DTL	20	13	65	211	0	0	45	2	10	133.5
28	Weeden	MAR	60	47	78.3	534	0	0	57	5	8.3	131.5
29	McCown,L	MVM	10	7	70	100	0	0	19	0	0	102.1
30	Foles	NJ	104	64	61.5	839	4	3.8	77	6	5.8	90.2

Rk	Yards per Attempt	Team	Avg	Rk	Yards/Completion	Team	Avg Rk	Times Sacked	Team	No.
1	Roethlisberger	GWG	9.5	1	Palmer,C	TCT	15.2 1	Newton,C	CHI	25
2	Palmer,C	TCT	9.3	2	Wilson,R	ICC	14.7 2	Cousins,K	SC	24
3	Dalton	SS	9	3	Roethlisbe	GWG	14.4 3	Carr,D	VV	24
4	Wilson,R	ICC	8.9	4	Wentz	STC	14.1 4	Brady,T	YOR	21
5	Smith,A	BRH	8.7	5	Smith,A	BRH	14.1 5	Rodgers,A	SBE	20

Rk	Yards/Game	Team	No.	Rk	Pass Gains 25+	Team	No.	Rk	Bad Passes	Team	No.
1	Roethlisbe	GWG	321	1	Wilson,R	ICC	20	1	Carr,D	VV	29
2	Palmer,C	TCT	281	2	Palmer,C	TCT	18	2	Newton,C	CHI	29
3	Dalton	SS	263	3	Smith,A	BRH	15	3	Brees	DTL	23
4	Smith,A	BRH	260	4	Roethlisbe	GWG	15	4	Wilson,R	ICC	23
5	Cousins,K	SC	256	5	Ryan,M	AUR	14	5	Cousins,K	SC	23

RUSHING

RECEIVING

Rk	Player	Team	Att	Yds	Ave	Lg	TD	Rk	Player	Team	No	Yds	Ave	Lg	TD
1	Peterson,A	CHI	154	790	5.1	46	4	1	Brown,A	TCT	60	1081	18	55	16
2	Martin,D	TCT	132	740	5.6	27	7	2	Fitzgerald	COW	59	631	10.7	53	8
3	Elliott,E	VV	164	718	4.4	20	5	3	Green,A	CHI	53	673	12.7	58	7
4	Stewart,J	BRH	118	715	6.1	41	8	4	Cooper,A	VV	52	813	15.6	55	6
5	Gurley	cow	117	658	5.6	30	5	5	Jones,J	MOH	52	617	11.9	38	5
6	Jennings,R	AUR	124	656	5.3	56	4	6	Maclin	GWG	51	840	16.5	81	11
7	Gore	LAK	149	608	4.1	22	2	7	Cooks	LAK	49	665	13.6	64	1
8	Miller,L	CHP	132	602	4.6	28	3	8	Matthews,J	LAK	48	525	10.9	64	7
9	Hillman	MOH	98	561	5.7	62	3	9	Evans,M	COW	46	590	12.8	42	1
10	McFadden,D	DTL	102	559	5.5	27	1	10	Landry,J	GWG	46	709	15.4	77	6
11	Freeman,D	PIC	127	552	4.3	27	2	11	Woodhead	CHI	46	473	10.3	69	2
12	Johnson,C	NJ	129	530	4.1	58	2	12	Baldwin,D	SS	44	848	19.3	91	8
13	Blount	cow	88	516	5.9	46	3	13	Gronkowski	BRH	44	707	16.1	59	9
14	lvory	MVM	89	493	5.5	39	3	14	Decker	DTL	44	472	10.7	26	8
15	Sims,C	SBE	75	479	6.4	47	2	15	Gates	NJ	44	393	8.9	24	3
16	LangfordJ	CAR	78	475	6.1	24	3	16	Hurns	MVM	40	641	16	66	4
17	Forsett	SS	72	468	6.5	38	1	17	Boldin	AUR	39	566	14.5	49	2
18	Bernard	YOR	95	415	4.4	33	2	18	Witten	CHP	37	333	9	26	2
19	Forte	MVM	87	405	4.7	17	4	19	Ginn Jr.	SC	36	506	14.1	51	3
20	Murray,D	TOR	104	399	3.8	25	0	20	Hopkins,D	BRH	36	720	20	73	4
21	Lacy	CAR	83	386	4.7	38	2	21	Thomas,D	MAR	36	371	10.3	24	1
22	Anderson,C	SS	61	375	6.1	28	7	22	Johnson,C	DTL	36	580	16.1	60	5
23	Hill,J	ICC	80	373	4.7	55	1	23	White,R	TOR	34	421	12.4	24	2
24	Drake	AUR	53	372	7	29	2	24	Hilton	DTL	34	633	18.6	71	6
25	Johnson,D	MAR	53	350	6.6	43	0	25	Marshall,B	MAR	34	572	16.8	57	5

RETURNS

		_			_	_				_		_		_		
Rk	Player	Team	No	Yds	Ave	Lg	TD	Rk	Player	Team	No	Fc	Yds	Ave	Lg	TD
1	Cunningham	DTL	20	657	32.9	97	1	1	Greene	SC	10	0	165	16.5	77	1
2	Abdullah,A	SC	19	606	31.9	103	1	2	Brown,A	TCT	16	9	187	11.7	86	2
3	Harris,D	TOR	28	802	28.6	106	1	3	Amendola	SS	20	14	225	11.3	76	1
4	Patterson	МОН	33	914	27.7	46	0	4	Lockett	ICC	20	6	201	10.1	89	1
5	Ross,R	COW	21	576	27.4	95	1	5	Kerley	cow	17	14	152	8.9	58	0
6	Drake	AUR	12	325	27.1	37	0	6	Jones,C	CAR	15	4	131	8.7	64	1
7	Whalen	CHI	16	433	27.1	49	0	7	Hammond Jr	CHP	16	0	137	8.6	29	0
8	Ellington	GWG	23	576	25	41	0	8	Harris,D	TOR	19	2	148	7.8	61	1
9	Huff,J	MVM	20	483	24.2	41	0	9	Crowder	SBE	18	3	128	7.1	26	0
10	Jones,T	SBE	25	586	23.4	37	0	10	Ervin	MAR	27	6	185	6.9	14	0
11	Lockett	ICC	19	434	22.8	34	0	11	Mumphery	BRH	12	6	82	6.8	11	0
12	Mumphery	BRH	18	403	22.4	37	0	12	Marshall,J	ERI	16	2	86	5.4	13	0
13	Marshall,J	ERI	34	746	21.9	37	0	13	Weems,E	NJ	9	11	47	5.2	16	0
14	Smith,R	NJ	21	448	21.3	41	0	14	Bray	DTL	11	6	56	5.1	8	0
15	Bolden,O	YOR	14	294	21	40	0	15	Tate,G	PIC	15	9	75	5	15	0

DEFENCE

	INTERCEPTIONS						SACKS				TACKLES				
Rk	Player	Team	No	Yds	Ave	Lg	TD	Rk	Player	Team	No.	Rk	Player	Team	Bo.
1	Peters,M	SBE	4	38	9.5	32	0	1	Miller,V	YOR	12	1	Smith,D	ERI	74
2	Coleman,K	YOR	4	83	20.8	27	0	2	Mercilus	МОН	9	2	Smith,M	STC	67
3	Amerson	LAK	4	55	13.8	45	1	3	Dunlap,C	SS	9	3	Wright,K	MOH	63
4	Grimes,B	BRH	3	29	9.7	17	0	4	Ogbah	CAR	9	4	Harris Jr.	TCT	62
5	Breaux	SS	3	41	13.7	22	0	5	Ansah	TCT	8	5	Worrilow	MOH	61
6	Talib	CHP	3	85	28.3	46	0	6	Matthews,C	BRH	8	6	Posluszny	SS	60
7	Johnson,T	VV	3	66	22	37	1	7	Jones,C	SS	7	7	Barwin	ICC	59
8	Verrett	CAR	3	7	2.3	4	0	8	Kerrigan	cow	7	8	Ramsey	TOR	56
9	Green,T	МОН	3	18	6	18	0	9	Ware,D	CHI	7	9	Durant	STC	55
10	Hargreaves	LAK	3	70	23.3	52	0	10	Mack,K	MVM	7	10	Johnson,D	MVM	53
11	Thomas,E	AUR	3	36	12	33	0	11	Avril	AUR	7	11	Smith,S	GWG	53
12	Ramsey	TOR	3	61	20.3	21	0	12	Kendricks	PIC	6	12	David	CHP	53
13	Ward,J	МОН	2	47	23.5	27	1	13	Atkins,G	YOR	6	13	Carr,B	TOR	51
14	Slay	TCT	2	0	0	0	0	14	Donald	MOH	6	14	Simon,J	TOR	50
15	Lee,D	TCT	2	18	9	18	0	15	Hughes,J	TCT	6	15	Shields	SC	49
16	Barr	VV	2	41	20.5	30	0	16	Short	LAK	6	16	Harris,D	COW	49
17	Burfict	BRH	2	45	22.5	23	1	17	Smith,M	STC	6	17	Graham,B	SC	48
18	Carroll	NJ	2	34	17	17	0	18	Watt,J	AUR	6	18	Timmons	YOR	48
19	Jones,A	PIC	2	15	7.5	9	0	19	Casey,J	TCT	6	19	Ansah	TCT	48
20	Joseph,K	PIC	2	42	21	24	0	20	Orakpo	LAK	5	20	Davis,D	ERI	48

KICKING

Rk	Player	Team	FGA	FGM	FG%	40	50	Lg	Pts
1	Brown,J	MAR	17	15	88.2	5	2	54	67
2	Bailey,D	CHI	17	17	100	3	0	46	65
3	Crosby	AUR	17	14	82.4	3	1	53	65
4	Vinatieri	SS	11	10	90.9	1	0	45	59
5	Santos	GWG	12	7	58.3	1	0	41	57
6	Hocker	BRH	9	8	88.9	0	0	34	51
7	Janikowski	MOH	9	8	88.9	1	0	46	50
8	Succop	CHP	14	11	78.6	3	0	47	48
9	Novak	COW	18	10	55.6	4	0	44	45
10	Folk	VV	16	11	68.8	1	0	41	45
11	Walsh,B	YOR	14	10	71.4	5	2	53	43
12	Catanzaro	CAR	10	7	70	3	1	55	41
13	Carpenter	SBE	11	9	81.8	1	0	41	41
14	Aguayo	TCT	5	4	80	1	0	40	41
15	Dawson,P	DTL	10	5	50	0	0	38	39
16	Nugent	TOR	15	8	53.3	5	1	54	37
17	Boswell	NJ	8	7	87.5	1	1	52	34
18	Myers,J	ICC	9	6	66.7	1	0	43	34
19	Tucker,J	SC	10	5	50	1	1	53	34
20	Hauschka	STC	11	6	54.5	2	1	51	32





With Appin PlunderFlunder

Week 8 Analysis

Who's Hot?



Who's Cold?

Ryan Fitzpatrick (MOH)

21-38, 318yds, 5+1TDs 44 FP He can just as easily be cold, but when he's hot he's a Fantasy Cash Cow

Jonathan Stewart (BRH) 22-146, 2 TDs, 27FP

The workhorse is back on the production line after a Week 7 hiatus.

Matt Ryan (AUR)

34-46, 443yds, 5 TDs 38 FP Do season high numbers this week mean he is coming out of his slump?

Sammy Watkins (CHP)

3-30, 0 TDs, 3 FP Played 11 snaps before getting injured again. What a waste!

Jamaal Charles (STC)

3-8 2.7 Avg, 0 TDs 1 FP First round fantasy pick not getting played with the expansion Chargers

Eli Manning (MVM)

19-37, 161yds, 2 INT 3 FP Became a different QB when Hurns went down. Hasn't gelled in Monarchs system.

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

I picked up Carson Wentz and now they aren't playing him. Should I drop him or wait a bit? – Mark (Minneapolis)

Josh McCown is not the long term answer in St. Charles. They drafted Wentz for a reason and the kid has shown he can play. I suspect they pulled him back to work on technique and watch the vet execute the game plan. He'll be back – sooner than you think.



CJ Anderson, RB (SEB). A starter risk since he began sharing time with Justin Forsett. But at some point he will get the ball against Carthage and when he does – watch out!

If you wondered how much **Rob Gronkowski** (27FP) means to the Brooklin offence just look at the offensive stat line against Durham and compare it with the line vs Cowtown the week before.

Most of you probably forgot about **Julian Edelman** (26FP) but **Matt Ryan** (38FP) certainly did not. They teamed up to strafe the Convicts and boost the numbers of lucky fantasy owners.

My smart play for Week 8, **Kenny Britt** (4FP), caught 4 passes for 41 yards. *Note to self*: do not pick anyone who is being targeted by **Paxton Lynch** (1FP)!

Martavis Bryant (26FP) turned some heads with his undressing of Darelle Revis this week. **Derek** Carr (16FP) has to find a way to get him the ball in the end zone.

Megatron (23FP) cracked the top five fantasy WRs for just the second time this year. If you owned Lizards and Hawks this week chances are you cashed in.

Antonio Brown (12FP) failed to gain 100 yards for only the second time this year. I mention this because it will be the last time I can.



NEW YORK – Writing about the election in a sports column carries risks. Specifically, that politics – being generally forbidden territory in the sports pages unless the issue pertains specifically to a sports figure like *Colin Kaepernck* – is not a welcome topic for sports fans who seek escape from the daily grind in the sports section. I am taking flak from the escapists for introducing a subject they would rather ignore; either because they don't care, or because they get enough of it somewhere else.

Attempting to write even-handedly about the election is a no-win situation at the best of times. But following this – the most contentious and divisive of elections in my memory – I am taking nasty shots from both the Clinton and Trump camps; not to mention the odd Green or Libertarian supporter e-mailing me to complain that my focus on the Republicans and Democrats is proof of my "establishment" credentials in undermining of the viability of the third party option. If Trump and Clinton are both so bad, they ask, why would I not advocate for Jill Stein or Gary Johnson?

To that last question I answer: *give me a break*! First of all, in keeping with my vow not to reveal my voting choice, I am not advocating for anybody. (I may very well have voted for one of those two and you will never know for sure). But the reality is that there are just two parties in US politics worth discussing in this election – the Democrats and the Republicans. The Green Party and Libertarian Party each represent what I call, "a vehicle for conscience." That is, if one's conscience cannot allow one to cast a ballot for the corrupt Hillary or the megalomaniacal, wingnut Trump, there are "respectable" options available at either end of the spectrum – Stein on the left or Johnson on the right – to siphon your vote from the establishment candidate you might otherwise have supported.

Ironically, the vote for Stein may have played a key role in Trump winning the swing states of Michigan and Wisconsin – two of the States where Stein has launched her recount bid without a shred of evidence that anything irregular occurred apart from the Democrats not winning. If anyone doubted that Stein is a mere extension of the Democratic establishment, her recount bids in three States pivotal to the Democratic defeat, and not in other closely contested States, is a powerful indicator that she is now working for the Clinton campaign. So, third party purists; please don't lecture or accuse me of undermining the viability of third parties when the leader of the most prominent one throws in her lot with one of the biggies.

While I make no apologies for using my football column to raise the topic of one of the most important elections in US history, I plan to put politics to rest going forward. But not before I raise one final point in defence of US Democracy as it was envisioned by the Founding Fathers. It is a fundamental point, at risk of being lost in the hysteria around the Trump victory.

The contention that the popular vote in favour of Clinton nationwide should be respected over that of the Electoral College is truly frightening to anyone who understands anything about the wisdom of the Electoral College. Those people advocating for electors to vote against their State in order to support the "will of the people" would have California decide the US Election. This is precisely what the Electoral College is designed to thwart. In a Federation of 50 States sprawled out across 3.8 million square miles, broad popular support across *all areas* of the Republic is essential in keeping it together. Highly populous areas and giant demographic voting blocs are not more important by sole virtue of sheer numbers than the farmers of Iowa, the ranchers of Montana and the industrial workers of Ohio. Otherwise, Presidential candidates would only campaign in California, New York, Florida and Texas, or focus on select demographic groups to the detriment of others. Setting aside the issue of increased potential for voter fraud in large urban areas, Presidential legitimacy is surely more open to question when the weight of a single, highly populous State tips the balance for the entire country. Sorry, Gabby.......

GREAT EXPECTATIONS

Things went as many had expected when the Cubs handily defeated the Wolverines 21-9 at the Wolverine's Den. But the view was quite different in the media heart of Toronto itself. *The Toronto Sun*, one of the two major Toronto dailies, has been providing in-depth coverage of the Wolverines since the team announced its entry into the EFL. With a Toronto-based team to call its own, the *Sun* has significantly reduced its coverage of GTA-based teams, such as the Pickering Spartans and Durham Thunder Lizards, and whole-heartedly adopted Ryan Rich's young team.

It makes sense that the major daily would shift its focus to a team actually based in the City of Toronto, but less logical is the prevailing tone of that coverage. *The Sun*, particularly sports writer **Tim** "*The Tooth*" **Sharkey**, has been building up expectations for the Wolverines that the young expansion team cannot possibly meet. It started with the Week Four upset of the Cowtown Corn Kings and picked up steam with the near upset of the Aurora Mustangs in Week Six. The slogan: "anything can

happen at the Den" suddenly changed to: "It Will Happen at the Den!" The Wolverines are now being touted locally as a legitimate playoff contender, in baffling defiance of plain reality.

Under a heavy rain in Toronto the home team struggled to move the ball against a superior Cubs defence while *Russell Wilson* and the Cubs' offence mostly shrugged off the downpour and covered the wet ground with ease. Despite this, Toronto trailed by just 4 points at half time, 7-3, after a botched 4th down gamble by the Cubs in their own territory and a *Jalen Ramsey* pick of Wilson kept Iowa from building up a comfortable half time lead. All this served to reinforce the illusion that Toronto had a shot to knock off the Cubs, as they had almost done to the Mustangs two weeks earlier.

The start of the 2nd half should have dispelled any such illusion. *Jeremy Hill* broke a 55-yard run and *Mike Wallace* hauled in a 2-yard TD pass to cap a 91-yard drive that made it 14-3.



Scarborough owner, **Chris Dickinson** (left) and quarterback, *Aaron Rodgers* (right) captured by I-phone at the Kingman home of an old Dickinson High School buddy known simply as 'Ace' on the eve of Scarborough's Week Eight game in Mohave. Dickinson claims the photo is a fake, but witnesses attest to its veracity.

That should have been the start of a sharp unravelling of the game for the Wolverines, but an early switch to *Brock Osweiler* at quarterback slowed the Cubs' offence down. Then came the only Toronto drive of the day worth mentioning; *Ryan Tannehill* somehow stitched together 11 plays and brought his team within one-score striking distance with a 14-yard TD pass to *Roddy White*. The Den was rocking with excitement as the scoreboard blazoned 'IT WILL HAPPEN?'

For a moment, it appeared that the Cubs had gotten a little too cute (as they are wont to do against the "lesser" teams). With Osweiler showing far less composure than the steely Wilson, the Cubs gave the ball back to Toronto with plenty of time (3:04) to pull off a miracle second straight TD drive. But despite the fervent support of the crowd, the Toronto effort quickly fizzled when Roy *Miller III* dumped Tannehill onto the soggy field for a 1st down sack and three straight pass attempts could not make up the loss. With 1:24 left and the Cubs in possession of the ball in Toronto territory, Osweiler plucked a piece of candy from the baby EFL team with a play action pass to Wallace for a 34-yard TD. It was a last minute bitch-slap reminder of who was boss.

The Cubs had taken care of business, albeit with a touch more drama than necessary, but the view from the *Toronto Sun* was divergent, to say the least:

"CUBS UPSET WOLVERINES AT THE DEN – PLAYOFF HOPES FADING AS TORONTO FALLS TO FEISTY CUBS!" The ensuing article went on to criticize Tannehill for rushing his throws, the offensive line for failing to block, **DeMarco Murray** for not making people miss, and the entire defence – with the exception of **Jalen Ramsey** – for "gutless" play. The following excerpt written by 'The Tooth' sums up the dour mood of the Toronto media: "Sadly, sports fans in this city are becoming used to these kinds of letdowns. Again, the team lacked fire and resolve. It was another example of the Wolverines playing down to the level of their opponent and failing to execute against a weaker team. At the halfway point of the season, it might be time to face the hard prospect of a season without a post-season for Toronto."

And I thought the New York Media was harsh! Apparently Toronto is in another league. But the Toronto media is not the only entity putting undue pressure on a novice franchise. The surprising St. Charles Chargers, at 4-4, currently control the East Division of the Pacific Conference. But owner **John Clingan** is wringing his hands over what he calls his team's "lack of competitiveness." After his Chargers fell predictably to an emerging powerhouse from Sebastian by the lop-sided score of 37-10, Clingan addressed Charger fans through the media, lamenting his team's lack of performance:

"I must apologize to loyal Chargers fans for our lack of effort on the field today," he recited gravely from a prepared script. "What we witnessed today is not Charger Football. We can and must do better. A title is within our grasp and I vow to do everything in my power as owner to make it happen. Winning football will return to St. Charles."

Oh brother! Half a season into its inaugural season and the Chargers' owner is talking about a *return* to winning football. How about making a return to reality? The last expansion team to make the playoffs was the Pickering Spartans of 2008; and they only did so because the league rigged the game that year by placing all four expansion teams into a single division. It seemed like

a good idea at the time. But the sight of 7-9 expansion Pickering trying to hang with Chino in the quarter final playoff round while the 9-7 Kutztown Golden Bears golfed in Florida guaranteed that such an arrangement would never happen again.

Ironically, with the overall talent pool diluted, curious upsets happening all over the place, and divisional realignment fatefully placing rebuilding Carthage and perennially rebuilding Mohave in the same bracket as St. Charles, having great expectations for the first-year franchise might not be so unrealistic after all. Just don't pretend that that's the way it ought to be.

I DARE YOU

It is nothing new to those who have followed the Blue Eagles closely over the years, but the chummy relationship between Scarborough owner, **Chris Dickinson** and his quarterback, **Aaron Rodgers** appears to be entering the scandal phase after the pair were captured on video boozing it up the night before Scarborough's Week Eight loss to Mohave at the Fiery Depths. In a one-minute clip posted on **Deathspun**, the Blue Eagles owner and sometimes coach is seen goading Rodgers to drink beers through a funnel during a booze-filled house party at the Kingman, AZ home of somebody called 'Ace.'

"I dare you! One for every interception you've thrown this year," an intoxicated Dickinson barks at a bleary-eyed Rodgers, who is smiling and unfocused. Rogers responds, but his words are unintelligible.

"What's that, like a thousand interceptions?" says a voice off camera, reputedly belonging to 'Ace.' Laughter erupts.

"Fck yoo!" Rodgers giggles. "Izlike ... eight er somthin'!"

The clip continues with a raucous cross-talk debate over how many interceptions Rodgers has thrown this year then it suddenly breaks to a scene of Rodgers and Dickinson sitting beside each other on an old couch. Rodgers is barely sensate and a voice off camera proclaims loudly; "This is what happens when a man drinks 9 straight beers through a funnel!"

The next day Scarborough dropped its 6th game in a row as *Ryan Fitzpatrick* threw 5 touchdown passes for the Hellfire in a 42-28 victory. Rodgers' line – 21 of 38 for 210 yards, 2 TDs and 1 INT – looks impressive when one considers how he spent the night before. Imagine how much better he would have done if he and his pals had got the number of interceptions (6) right.

AROUND THE EFL

I have not seen anything like the week 8 Brooklin – Durham artillery duel in a very long time – since 2012 to be precise. Optimist Park in Brooklin was the scene of an offensive free-for-all as the Hawks outlasted the Thunder Lizards by the staggering score of 48-42. The defences on both sides were hardly noticeable as the teams combined for 990 yards of net offence, 621 of those by the Hawks. But what little defence there was turned out to be pivotal. Coming off a 9-yard TD run by *Ryan Matthews* to put the Hawks ahead 27-21 in a see-saw game, the Hawks broke serve on Durham's next series when corner *Janoris Jenkins* punched the ball free from Lizards' wide receiver *Eric Decker* and *Jairus Byrd* covered it up at the Durham 44 yard line. The turnover set up an eventual 4-yard TD pass from *Alex Smith* to *Randall Cobb* to give Brooklin its first two-score lead of the game, 34-21 with 4:44 left to play in the 3rd quarter. The teams traded TDs for the game's remaining five series, with the Lizards scoring last, but running out of time. The announcers speculated that the total yards and combined score of 90 points were both EFL records and they were half right. The 90 points tied the record for total points scored, matching a 49-41 victory for Death Valley over LA in week one of the 2012 season. That same game marked the setting of the single-game combined yardage mark of 1,244 and single team mark of 669 yards (Death Valley). The win snapped a three-game losing streak for the Hawks and brought them even with St. Charles in the East. The loss knocked Durham down to a spot nobody would have imagined they would be at after 8 weeks.

Atlantic Conference contenders have to be worried after the Mustangs flattened the Convicts 47-25 at Candlestick Park in Aurora. The win marks their 5th straight and 2nd consecutive decisive win over a quality opponent. One might want to debate my use of the "quality" tag in reference to Chino (and I might not be inclined to defend it too strongly), but the Convicts still have enough talent on both sides of the ball to force opponents to take them seriously. *Cam Newton* was okay this week against arguably the best defence in the league and cannot be blamed for the loss. *Matt Ryan* simply took over the game in his familiar style, throwing for 443 yards, 5 TDs and with no interceptions, including a classic 29-yard hitch to *Anquan Boldin* for a score. But it was his attention to under-used *Julian Edelman* that broke the game open offensively for Aurora. In his first action of the year, Edelman caught 13 passes for 205 yards and 1 TD; 73 of those yards came after the catch. If Edelman can stay healthy and keep playing close to this level, he will end up setting a new tone for the Mustangs' offence in the second half of the season.

At the Carolina Slammer, the 'Blue Shield' posted its first shutout of the season, clamping down on the Regulators 17-0. I have been following the Knights closely this year and I had felt it was only a matter of time before they blanked somebody. But I cannot say I expected it to be the Regulators under an ascendant *Kirk Cousins*. Maybe I should have seen it coming given the sometimes dithering tendencies of a **Hal Corson** run offence. But I could not have conceived of, let alone forecast, that *Justin Tucker* would miss two easy field goal attempts to keep the goose egg intact.

Inside the *TERRORDOME* in Virden, the North Stars needed a big play from *David Johnson* to get back on top of a game they had controlled early. The running back found daylight on a screen pass and took it 23 yards for the go-ahead TD in the 4th quarter. Markham had led 17-0 at half time but suddenly trailed 21-20 early in the 4th quarter after three big plays, passes of 50 and 75 yards to *Martavis Bryant* and a fumble recovery by *Kevin Dodd*, propelled Virden back into the picture. The play by Johnson reset the momentum for Markham and atoned for an earlier fumble that had led to the Violators' third TD. But the main culprit in the uncharacteristic Markham let-up was *Darrelle Revis*. The venerable corner always seemed to be visible in the corner of the screen near the spot of a big catch, but not close enough to stop them. "I'm getting old," he said to Media afterwards.



Professor McChad's Mid-Term Report Card

December 2016

In the Hallowed Halls of High Learning in the Living Football University called the EFL only the strictest standards apply. As a Senior Fellow of said EFL University it falls on me to maintain those standards by applying rigour to my grades. No team is spared the most exacting analysis and criticism based on my profound and every-increasing knowledge of this wonderful sport. For the sake of the sport, I spare no one. But if you meet or exceed the standard, you will be recognized and, in rare cases, praised. Here is my rating scale:

A: Excellent B

B: Good

C: Fair

D: Poor

F: Fail

A plus (+) indicates slightly above the grade; a minus (-) slightly less.

<u>Aurora</u> (A-): Riding a five-game winning streak barely salvages an A-grade half-season for the Mustangs. A shaky start, marked by carelessness and questionable play-calling, had them headed for a B-rating for the first time since Rich Liotta took over the team. But their recent offensive surge and corresponding solid defensive play sneaks them back into the top tier.

Brooklin (**B**): The Hawks under Tom Jones are a mixed bag of stunning offensive successes intertwined with disheartening defensive lapses. They lead the league in 4th-quarter points scored but somehow have been badly out-scored in that critical final period, 115-70. While Alex Smith is on pace to reset his personal record book, the defence is largely missing in action. It all leads to a 4-4 record, which is disappointing given the lesser quality of divisional competition in the East.

<u>Carthage</u> (B): A 2-6 record is not normally associated with a B-grade of any kind but this one is being bell-curved to account for the Mariota Factor. The Cannibals rely more than most on the play of their quarterback and that QB has missed __games. Hardly noticeable to outsiders, but pertinent, is the relatively impressive play of an under-manned, patchwork defence; while not setting any records, they aren't getting their doors blown off either, as many had predicted.

<u>Charleswood</u> (B-): It is easy to blame Blake Bortles for the defending champs' uninspiring 4-4 start, but it would be unfair to lay it all at his feet. His veteran targets in the passing game need to be "thrown open" more than they used to be and young stud Sammy Watkins has proven to be as fragile as an old man. The defence is currently keeping the ship on course for a second half run if the offence can rebound. Losing to New Jersey is a blemish that drags a solid 'B' into the negative zone.

<u>Chino</u> (**D**+): With 2 of their 3 wins coming against expansion teams and the other requiring overtime to finish off, even the happy endings haven't given fans much reason to cheer. On their bad days, the Convicts have been quite bad, failing to compete in any of their 5 losses. It is easy to blame Cam Newton for this failure to meet expectations because of his generally poor play. But the once reliable, but now shaky, defence is also contributing to the lost cause of likely irretrievable playoff hopes.

<u>Cowtown</u> (A-): Not saying that the Corn Kings will ace the final exam but their mid-term results bump them up from the "Special Ed" class they were in before the season began. Given the injuries to the defence, the hodgepodge offensive line and the general challenge of having Joe Flacco at quarterback; a 6-2 record is nothing short of incredible. Good luck has helped, but the receivers and running backs were clearly under-estimated in pre-season projections. The loss to Toronto is their only stain.

Durham (C-): At 3-5 and with no impressive wins to their credit, the Thunder Lizards are the Convicts of the Atlantic Conference in terms of under-achievement. They grade-out slightly higher because they might be 5-3 if their kicker had not missed some easy kicks. But the reality is that the spotty play of Drew Brees and wildly inconsistent performance of the defence put them in tight situations a team of that calibre should have avoided. Fighting to avoid the basement was not part of the plan.

Erieau (**D**): It is tough to downgrade a team with a good attitude that is really, really trying hard. But this is professional sports, not summer youth camp. The Cadillac probably hit their high-water mark offensively when they scored 21 points against the Convicts. They are on pace to lower the all-time bar for offensive ineptitude. Sadly, there is no silver lining in the play of the defence and no prospect of improvement as long as Justin Houston is out. Winning one may be too much to ask.

Gwinnett (A): With A- the going rate for 6-2, the Glads get a bonus half mark for doing it while missing LeSean McCoy for half of those games. This has put massive pressure on Big Ben and the big lug and his receivers have delivered. Not being talked about much is the inspired play of the defence and the 11 interceptions to its credit that is turning the field around at critical times. This impressive effort may not be sustainable, but for now it is straight A grade!

<u>Iowa City</u> (**B**+): The Cubs are so far demonstrating that they are a good team but probably not the prospective championship team many had envisioned. Getting ambushed by Mohave followed by a pair of decisive losses to top tier competition cannot be good for the Cubbies confidence heading into the post-season. And yes, with Russell Wilson at QB and a surplus of talent in the trenches the Cubs will make the post-season. It just looks like they won't go far after getting there.

<u>Los Angeles</u> (A-): It is still too early to say whether the Knights' defence is the best of all time, but it is on pace to give up just 120 points, which would make it the stingiest defence of all time. The Blue Shield is performing as advertised but it was the play of the offence that fueled the impressive four-game winning streak to open the season. Teddy Bridgewater has since cooled off a bit – which led to stumbles against Virden and Iowa City – but he continues to be the key to the team's fortunes.

Markham (A): The Tyrod Taylor Project (no, it's not a band) is working so far and the resulting 7-1 record has put the North Stars in the catbird seat in the Atlantic Division. The answer to the only question mark on the roster is 'yes,' leaving the remainder to execute the meticulously crafted game plans of Darrin Jones – in which no play is wasted and every call has a purpose – freely and with peace of mind. They have not looked seriously in danger of losing, even in their one loss.

Mission Viejo (C): The jury is still out on what kind of team this will be by season's end. But what they have been so far is mostly disappointing. They came out of the gate slow and since then have performed in fits and starts. Constantly losing the turnover battle explains some of the inconsistency on the defensive side. Eli Manning having no chemistry with Michael Crabtree partially explains the sporadic offensive output. But an overall lack of leadership and purpose is hurting the whole team more.

<u>Mohave</u> (B-): A nightmarish start for the offence had commentators snickering early about another lost season in Mohave. But once Ryan Fitzpatrick found his rhythm with his two prize wide receivers the game changed completely and the discussion has turned to Mohave's playoff chances. A ball-hawking secondary and surprise contributions from the likes of Whitney Mercilus and Paul Worrilow have kept the defence from being a total pushover. It's Jekyl & Hyde time in Mohave.

New Jersey (C-): It took a big game from an ageing veteran with hall-of-fame destiny to shake the Wrecking Balls out of the expansion blues and score their first win. Their follow-up victory over Erieau was not convincing, but it gave NJ its first winning streak. The resultant 2-6 record is respectable on paper and, taking a wave of injuries into account, worthy of a C-grade. Do not mistake this for me being impressed — only an acknowledgement that under the circumstances it could have been worse.

Pickering (C-): It may not be fair to disparage the talent on a team then penalize the coach with a poor mark when it performs poorly, but I am doing it anyway. Years of watching Spartans teams great, good and bad fight to the death in all situations has spoiled me, I guess. It also makes "turtling" incidents like the debacles versus Gwinnett and Aurora stand out more. In any case, a slightly over-achieving defence and Sterling Shepard are not reasons enough to boost this mark any higher.

Scarborough (**D**+): Where do I begin? Well, in the beginning the Blue Eagles impressed me by scraping out two wins against quality opponents despite lacklustre play in those games from their QB. And then everything fell apart. This was mainly because Rodgers continued his lacklustre play, uninterrupted by even a single wave of impressiveness, and the defence cracked under the strain. Usually I take Chris Dickinson to task, but this time I say most of the blame lies with Aaron Rodgers.

Sebastian (A): Lavishing praise on the Swordfish brings me into uncharted territory; like Scarborough, I don't know where to begin. I'll start by pointing out that in one half season, the 7-1 Swordfish have won as many games as they did over the past three full seasons combined. Years of picking near the top of the draft and trading for future prospects has finally paid off in a roster worthy of its record. The coaching has been solid as well, with game plans suited to players' strengths paying off in wins.

South Carolina (B): This grade is more for what the Regulators did in the first four games while Luke Kuechly was still in the line-up. The last four games look more like the Regulators of old, except for a demonstrated willingness to blitz and a pass-to-set-up-the-run approach on offence. This has made the Regs a much more exciting to watch, even if the results have been mixed. Kirk Cousins looks capable of beating the average teams. He needs to beat Aurora for his team to take the next step.

St. Charles (B): The Chargers are doing what very few expansion teams have ever done: play like they are *not* an expansion team and getting results to show for it. Yes, there have been moments when it was obvious, but an impressive effort against the Hawks in Week 5 turned into a watershed win for a team whose owner is serious about winning the East Division. I admire the brass balls it takes to challenge your team to reach for the stars, no matter how inept most of that team is. But for a first-year franchise, losing is like gravity: eventually it will all come crashing down to earth.

Toronto (B): Wolverines coach, Ryan Preston is the front-runner for the Darrin Jones Award, given to the coach who makes the most of a bad situation while keeping the spirit of competition alive every week. For a team many thought would not win a single game, their two wins and near knockout of Aurora has made their season a success, no matter how the rest turns out. Jalen Ramsey is in line for rookie of the year while Ryan Tannehill is now recognized as being not-so-bad after all.

Twin Cities (A+): Following a messy and somewhat lucky win over Charleswood to open the season, the Triumph have beaten all comers with disconcerting ease. There isn't much they aren't doing well right now as they lead the league in offensive and defensive efficiency and points scored. They have even mastered the art of recovering fumbles, losing just 2 of 14. At some point, teams will figure out that Carson Palmer only throws to Antonio Brown. But it might not make a difference.

<u>Virden</u> (C+): A 3-5 record after going 0-16 the year before is a step forward, but the quality of emerging talent on this roster screams for more. The defence, thought to be better than average, is taking too many penalties and folding in the red zone indicating a lack of discipline. Derek Carr is prone to panicking in the pocket and checking down to the wrong team. Ezekiel Elliott thinks he's better than he is and is now injured after running into a real defence. It's time for the coach to take charge.

York (C+): The consensus pick to challenge Markham in the Atlantic Division is falling short of expectations....again! Credit Von Miller, with assists to Geno Atkins and Kurt Coleman, for scoring some respectability for the defence – which is keeping the Swords in games – but the offence is completely unpredictable from week-to-week. Having no workhorse back à la Lynch and only journeymen at wide receiver isn't helping Tom Brady. But on the other hand one might expect some of Mr. Superstar to rub off on the offence, no matter how jerry-rigged it is. Nothing new to see here, folks, please move along!

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JIMMY'S WEEK NINE PICKS

IOWA CITY @ GWINNETT (line – GLADIATORS by 4)

INJURIES: Iowa City – Jamar Taylor (DOUBTFUL), Colin Kaepernick (OUT), Jason Pierre-Paul (OUT); **Gwinnett** – LeSean McCoy (DOUBTFUL), Morgan Burnett (OUT), Jesse James (OUT), Calvin Pryor (OUT), Ben Roethlisberger (OUT).

The Cubs are 4-0 on the road and the Glads are 4-0 at home, so something has to give. Among the strange goings-on this season is the success of the Gladiators with LeSean McCoy out of the line-up. The Glads are 3-1 in that stretch and that is a tribute to Ben Roethlisberger and his receivers as well as an opportunistic defence that has forced 6 turnovers in their three wins. But Big Ben is out and McCoy is doubtful, leaving Sam Bradford and Akeem Hunt to gut it out against one of the league's premier defences. The Cubs are missing the one-handed Jason Pierre-Paul but are otherwise healthy. While the Cubs have been inconsistent and the Glads have been inspired, the injury to Big Ben will be the tipping point in the wrong direction for the home team. **PICK: IOWA CITY**

MISSION VIEJO @ TORONTO (line – MONARCHS by 1)

INJURIES: Mission Vejo – Larry DONNELL (OUT), Brandon Flowers (OUT), Matt Forte (OUT), Allen Hurns (OUT), Timmy Jernigan (OUT), Demarcus Robinson (OUT); **Toronto** – Everson Griffen (DOUBTFUL), Chris Canty (OUT), Leonard Hankerson (OUT), LaAdrian Waddle (OUT).

The key players at each level of the Wolverines' defence have delivered like pro bowlers but the rest of the defence cannot keep up. With one of those key defenders, Everson Griffen, listed as 'out,' the sporadic Monarchs' air attack should be able to stay aloft despite leading receiver Allen Hurns being ruled out. Toronto QB, Ryan Tannehill will be motivated to show his former team that they gave up on him too early, but his lack of weapons will make any sustained success unlikely against the Monarchs' impressive front seven. The Wolverines have developed a reputation for gutsy play while the Monarchs have been accused of punching the clock. Expect another over-achieving 'A' for effort from Toronto, but an 'L' for the final grade. **PICK: MISSION VIEJO**

LOS ANGELES @ AURORA (line - MUSTANGS by 4)

INJURIES: Los Angeles – Bryan Stork (OUT); Aurora – James Hanna (OUT), Jelani Jenkins (OUT).

Two championship-calibre defences square off in what some are calling a possible preview of the Championship. Prior to Week One, nobody expected the Knights to be in the post-season discussion. But here they are, at the halfway point of the season, with serious people taking them seriously again. This game will be the big test for Teddy Bridgewater and a Knights' offence that has changed the way this team is perceived. It will not be an easy trial against the elite Aurora D. The Mustangs' offence has finally hit its stride, scoring 80 points against good defences in Iowa City and Chino the past two weeks after almost self-destructing in Toronto. How Matt Ryan performs against the 'Blue Shield' will either confirm the return of the offence, or cause a resurgence of panic among the entitled Aurora fan base. Expect a turnover to make the difference in this one. **PICK: LOS ANGELES**

DURHAM @ MOHAVE (line – THUNDER LIZARDS by 1)

INJURIES: Durham – Thomas Morstead (QUESTIONABLE), Terron Armstead (OUT), Eddie Goldman (OUT), Linval Joseph (OUT), Tyrann Mathieu (OUT), Darren McFadden (OUT); Mohave – Tevin Coleman (OUT), Jordan Hicks (OUT), Joseph Randle (OUT), Robert Woods (OUT).

The shock of the Hawks' offensive explosion last week against the reputedly elite Durham secondary is still reverberating around the league. The loss of Tyrann Mathieu early in the 2^{nd} quarter played a role in that debacle, but injuries had nothing to do with

Richard Sherman getting burned all day and failing to break up a single pass. Now they have to worry about a red hot Ryan Fitzpatrick picking on Sherman with Julio Jones as his target. The Mohave QB is making football fun again for Hellfire boosters. They have no idea what to expect from week-to-week, but with expectations perennially low from years of irrelevance, five-TD performances are a delightful bonus. But with Durham's playoff hopes fading fast and Mohave's top gun prone to jamming without warning, expect a bounce back game from the Lizards' corners. **PICK: DURHAM**

COWTOWN @ ST. CHARLES (line – CORN KINGS by 1)

INJURIES: Cowtown – Marcell Dareus (PROBABLE), Chris Long (QUESTIONABLE), Jahleel Addae (OUT), Joe Flacco (OUT), Todd Gurley (OUT), Benson Mayowa (OUT), Branden Myers (OUT), Julius Thomas (OUT); **St. Charles** – Jimmy Graham (OUT).

Even while Todd Gurley was healthy nobody expected the Corn Kings to be 6-2 at the half way point. With the second-year talent now joining the long list of Cowtown injured the reasonable view is that the long slide to mediocrity will begin this week against the over-achieving Chargers. However, stranger things have happened and this year strange is to be expected. Josh McCown got the nod at QB last week after Carson Wentz struggled against the Lizards. Will they return to the rookie here or give the veteran a shot to get the expansion team back to Cinderella status? The East Division is up for grabs and every game counts. Expect the Chargers to play McCown and maximize the opportunity to snatch a very winnable game. **PICK: ST. CHARLES**

SCARBOROUGH @ BROOKLIN (line – HAWKS by 12)

INJURIES: Scarborough – Paul Soliai (DOUTBFUL), DeSean Jackson (OUT), Derrick Morgan (OUT), Eugeme Sims (OUT), Justin Tuck (OT); Brooklin – Stephon Tuitt (DOUBTFUL), Vontaze Burfict (OUT), Alshon Jeffery (OUT).

The situation in Scarborough has gone from bad to worse with starting QB Aaron Rodgers unable to perform, even against the league's most questionable defences. It is time to stop thinking of Rodgers as elite and begin thinking of him as a kind of latter day Michael Vick, but without the million dollar legs. It is a shame, because the Blue Eagles still look good on paper and it is still shocking to see them double-digit underdogs. After an inexplicable lapse against Cowtown, the Hawks are back to looking deadly again after buzzing Durham for 621 yards and 48 points last week. Expect this to be another shelling. **PICK: BROOKLIN**

SEBASTIAN @ CARTHAGE (line - SWORDFISH by 9)

INJURIES: Sebastian – Daniel Herron (DOUBTFUL), Odell Beckham Jr., (OUT); **Carthage** – Tre' Jackson (PROBABLE), Emmanuel Sanders (DOUBTFUL), Datone Jones (OUT), A'Shawn Robinson (OUT), Za'Darius Smith (OUT).

Odell Beckham Jr can't stay healthy, but the amazing thing is that it doesn't seem to matter. Doug Baldwin is out of control and Danny Amendola is stepping up as a fine no. 2 for whoever is under center guiding the Swordfish offence. Justin Forsett and CJ Anderson form a top notch running tag team while the defence is good for the first time in Swordfish history. So why do I have this strange feeling that the ragtag Cannibals are going to rise up and shrink a few swollen Swordfish heads this week? Maybe it is because Carthage has not won at home yet and the weirdness of playing in Samoa can throw off visitors. **PICK: CARTHAGE**

YORK @ VIRDEN (line – EXCALIBURS by 1)

INJURIES: York – Tracy Porter (PROBABLE), Omar Bolden (OUT), Jason Peters (OUT), Delanie Walker (OUT); Virden – Vadal Alexander (QUESTIONABLE), Leonard Floyd (QUESTIONABLE), Trumaine Johnson (DOUBTFUL), Ezekiel Elliott (OUT), Nick Folk (OUT), Ben Grubbs (OUT), Ja'Waun James (OUT), Aldon Smith (OUT).

Neither of these teams appears to be 3-5 teams to my eyes, but the culture of losing and under-achieving that has set in for both can be difficult to shake off. The Excaliburs are probably slightly better and have more to play for, but losses to Pickering and Scarborough to start the season set them off on the wrong foot. Coming off an impressive win over the Pats the Swords have a chance to pick up momentum against a battered and demoralized Virden squad that derives no advantage from playing at home. While Ezekiel Elliott is out for the Violators, Mark Ingram is no slouch as his back-up; and if Trumaine Johnson cannot go, depth at corner will play well against a York team with no depth at WR. The biggest injuries may be the ones to York, especially Delanie Walker at tight end. York is rising, but the way this season is going the team on the ropes usually wins. **PICK: VIRDEN**

PICKERING @ ERIEAU (line – SPARTANS by 4)

INJURIES: Pickering – Sterling Shepard (QUESTIONABLE), DeForest Buckner (OUT), Devonta Freeman (OUT), Sen'Derrick Marks (OUT), Ty Montgomery (OUT), Denard Robinson (OUT); **Erieau** – Joey Bosa (OUT), Percy Harvin (OUT), Justin Houston (OUT), Daniel Kilgore (OUT).

The good news for the Cadillac is that they get to face another struggling team with a defence wanting in star power. The bad news is that they faced a similar team last week and managed to score just 3 points. With their best shot at victory behind them, the best

Erieau hopefuls can expect is that a string of very good luck will overlay a streak of very bad luck for an opponent, resulting in a completely unforeseen win. Take luck out of it and I cannot see even this game going remotely smoothly for the home team. The Spartans play to the whistle and hate to lose to anybody. They won't take anything for granted here. **PICK: PICKERING**

MARKHAM @ CHARLESWOOD (line - NORTH STARS by 3)

INJURIES: Markham – Tramon Williams (OUT); Charleswood – Sammy Watkins (DOUBTFUL), Dez Bryant (OUT), Frankie Hammond Jr. (OUT), Johnathan Hankins (OUT), Justin Hardy (OT), Chance Warmack (OUT).

The Markham defence is best in the league in overall yards surrendered, which should be a source of concern for a Pats teams missing Dez Bryant and Sammy Watkins and relying on Blake Bortles to "throw open" raw talents like Dorial Green-Beckham. If ever Lamar Miller needed to resume his Championship form of last year, this is the game for it. The Pats are suddenly fading out of the playoff picture while the Stars are running away with the Atlantic Division. While not strictly a "must-win" for Charleswood, they certainly face a "better-win-or-else-you're-really-screwed" scenario. In case you think Tyrod Taylor will fall apart soon, forget it; he is a great game manager on the ultimate game-management team. **PICK: MARKHAM**

NEW JERSEY @ TWIN CITIES (line – TRIUMPH by 16)

INJURIES: New Jersey – Marques Colston (OUT), Brian Hartline (OUT), Rob Housler (OUT), Chris Johnson (OUT), Robert McClain (OUT), Keanu Neal (OUT), Cameron Wake (OUT), Jeremy Zuttah (OUT); **Twin Cities** – Dwayne Allen (OUT).

The Triumph, this year's Aurora2014-equivalent, is making its name with deadly offence while the defence is quietly setting the bar for efficiency, yielding a mere 4.4 yards per play. This makes the Wrecking Balls' prospects of keeping pace with the Palmer-Brown end zone circus act even more remote than it was when I was merely considering Brian Hoyer's mechanics in the pocket. If ever a 16-point line deserved to be, this is it. But with the karma of the Triumph's Week Two beat down of expansion St. Charles still unpaid, is it possible that the Football Gods will conspire to ruin the day for the home team? If I believed in Football Gods, I would say, "yes;" but I don't believe in Football Gods. **PICK: TWIN CITIES**

CHINO @ SOUTH CAROLINA (line - REGULATORS by 4)

INJURIES: Chino – Spencer Long (OUT), Keshawn Martin (OUT), Sheldon Rankins (OUT); **South Carolina** – Keenan Allen (OUT), Desmond Bryant (OUT), Jeremy Butler (OUT), Luke Kuechly (OUT), Star Lotulelei (OUT), Sealver Siliga (OUT).

I was prepared to say that Kirk Cousins had officially exercised the ghost of Tony Romo if he had proven capable of leading the Regs to victory over the vaunted 'Blue Shield' last week. Getting shut out by the Knights pushed back that announcement, but that doesn't mean I have no faith in Cousins' ability to outduel the 2016 edition of Cam Newton. The Chino pivot is learning that getting all of the credit for your team's success comes with the downside of full blame when your potential playoff team is 3-5 and struggling to beat expansion teams. The Convicts cannot be counted on to win anything right now, but with Luke Kuechly and three starters on the defensive line out for South Carolina, they can be counted on to beat the spread. **PICK: CHINO**





FROM THE EFL ARCHIVES – Week 8 of the 2010 EFL season was like most weeks that year – all eyes were upon the Spartans and the Dragons to see if one or both would stumble, thus allowing one of their second-rate challengers to catch up and apply some pressure. But there was no sign of weakness at the top this week.

The Spartans were short-tracked for 10 points off of 2 *Tom Brady* interceptions and marched easily to a 30-10 victory over York. In the 'game of the week' the Dragons hosted one of teams touted to be potential competition in the

Championship game: the Patriots. The Pats were considered to be the best team in the PAC while the Dragons were, for the moment anyway, the best team in the CAC. The chances that this was a preview of the Final were very good indeed. With the Pats trailing 13-10 at half time, the greater part of the football world was treated to the sight of a surprise onside kick by the Pats to start the second half. It didn't work. The Dragons took over in Charleswood territory and ran 5 plays to get the ball into the end zone for a 20-10 lead. The Pats bounced back with a *Peyton Manning* TD pass, but they were still in chase mode. *Ray Rice* put the Dragons in control with a morale-busting 58-yard TD run near the end of the 3rd quarter to make it a two-score game again. Florida shut down the Pats in the 4th and finished with a 34-17 victory. It had been an anti-climax.

In other news designed to fool fans into believing there were other games that mattered, the networks were abuzz about Durham's 38-30 victory over the LA Knights and the "vaunted" Blue Shield. The loss dropped LA to 2-6 and a share of the basement in the West, yet mainstream media was still pretending they had a "vaunted" defence in LA. The Lizards, at 5-3, remained alive, but thinking no more than wildcard.