

2018



WEEK

3



EFL

ELITE FOOTBALL LEAGUE

In our 1st season and still going strong!

October 21, 2018

2018



WEEK

3

EAST



CENTRAL



WEST



NORTH



COASTAL



SOUTH



THUNDERSTUCK!

*D.J. Swearinger*

Durham safety, *D.J. Swearinger* jumps in front of Pickering running back, *Ty Montgomery* and secures the interception in the end zone in 4th quarter action in Pickering. The turnover put a dagger in the heart of the Spartans' comeback hopes and helped the Thunder Lizards go on to upset the heavily favoured Spartans, 24-13.



*Who was slick
in Week Three?*

**"Brylcreem" THE
EFL'S FIRST SPONSOR**



OFFENCE



Drew Brees

QB

Sebastian
Swordfish

31 of 49, 389 yds, 3 TD passes.
Clipped the Hawks' wings in big win.



DEFENCE



Rashaan Evans

ILB


















Buffalo
Derailers

10 tackles, 1 FR TD, 1 INT. Flying
around the field making the big plays.



1st & 10, OWN 47, 1st quarter: **Tom Brady** (YOR) pass in flat to **Giovanni Bernard** goes for 53-yard TD.

Erieau 3rd & 8 in 2nd Qt. **Rashaan Evans** (BUF) returns a **Matt Stafford** (ERI) fumble 56 yds for a TD.

	0	Rookie ILB, Rashaan Evans picked off Matt Stafford to set up Tion Green's 13-yard TD run then returned a Stafford fumble 56 yards for a TD to key a 17-point Buffalo outburst in the 2 nd quarter. The Derailers would not need to score anymore as their defence held Erieau to just 4 1 st downs, 80 total yards and zero points in a dominant defensive display.
	31	
	27	A roughing-the-kicker penalty on Virden kept alive a Charger drive that resulted in Carson Wentz hitting Jimmy Graham for an 8-yard TD pass, breaking a 6-6 tie in the 2 nd quarter and putting St. Charles in front to stay. After a scoreless 3 rd , the Chargers stuck quickly in the 4 th on a TD pass to Kendall Wright followed by a Demario Davis 74-yard fumble return. Virden added a late TD but to no avail.
	13	
	9	Mitch Trubisky capped a 75-yard opening drive with a 7-yard TD run then a muffed punt by Adam Jones and a Bobby Wagner pick of Jared Goff set up two more TD runs to give the Triumph a 21-3 1 st half lead. A 4 th down stop led to an 18-yard TD pass to Jared Cook in the 3 rd , but that would be as close as NJ would get as the Triumph added 20 points, including 6 from the defence, to run away with it.
	41	
	28	Eli Manning struck first on a 4-yard TD pass to Allen Hurns but Dak Prescott struck last on a 12-yard TD pass to Marquis Goodwin in a back-and-forth 1 st half that saw Chino take a 21-17 lead. Prescott added a TD in the 3 rd with a 20-yard TD pass to Marvin Jones, but Seattle would score after a 60-yard TD drive to close the gap. Seattle got the ball with 2:56 left but could not finish the comeback.
	23	
	24	Both teams exchanged TDs on their opening drives then the offences fell silent until the 3 rd when Cam Newton hooked up for TD passes of 50-yards to Josh Gordon and 39-yards to TY Hilton to give Durham a 21-6 lead. Pickering got one back on a Doug Martin TD run then drove to the Durham 9 in the 4 th , only to see Philip Rivers picked in the end zone by DJ Swearinger to end the threat.
	13	
	27	Giovanni Bernard took a flat pass 53-yards for a TD then Tom Brady checked down to Kelvin Benjamin for a 44-yard score for a 14-0 1 st Qrt lead. Jordan Howard's 58-yard run set up TJ Yeldon's 5-yard TD dive to get the Eagles on the board but that would be all they could muster. Joe Schobert's 4 th quarter INT set up Brady's 3 rd TD pass, a 17-yard dump-off to Paul Richardson, to clinch it for York.
	9	
	3	Isaiah Crowell caught a 20-yard pass then punched the ball in for a TD from 1-yard to star on Budapest's opening series. The score would remain 6-0 until the first series of the 2 nd half, when Tyrod Taylor capped a 66-yard drive with a QB sneak for a TD to make it 12-0. Kai Forbath added 2 FGs to top up the count. The Stars 'D' suffocated Cowntown's offence, forcing 8 punts and giving up just 1 FG.
	18	
	26	Drew Brees hit Doug Baldwin for a 7-yard TD as time expired in the 2 nd to tilt a back-and-forth 1 st half in favour of Sebastian. A failed 4 th & 1 at the Fish 39 set up a short field for a go-ahead Brooklin TD in the 3 rd , but Sebastian got it back on a D'Onta Foreman 6-yard TD run. The Fish broke it open in the 4 th on Baldwin's second TD catch and Foreman's second TD run of the day as the 'D' held.
	41	
	10	Jason McCourty's interception set up Matt Ryan's 3-yard TD run to give Aurora a 7-0 lead in the 1 st . 4 th down stops kept Toronto close until late in the 2 nd when Dez Bryant capped a long drive with an 8-yard TD catch. Toronto got in the end zone in the 3 rd on a 52-yard pass to Tyreek Hill to trail 14-10. But Kalen Ballage capped a 13-run drive with a 3-yard dive, and the Aurora 'D' hung on for the win.
	21	
	27	A see-saw 1 st half ended with Big Ben and Kirk Cousins both throwing TDs and the teams tied at 10. The Glads gained the upper hand in the 3 rd . A Vic Beasley strip-sack of Cousins set up the go-ahead FG then TDs on successive long possessions put Georgia ahead 27-10. A late flurry by the Crusaders – 2 TDs separated by 21 secs and an onside kick recovery made it a bit of a wild finish.
	22	
	6	Chris Thompson scored on a 53-yard bomb in the 1 st quarter and a 20-yard sweep in the 2 nd following a blocked punt to help the Bombers build a 20-6 half time lead. Marcus Mariota was picked off twice in the 3 rd quarter trying to extend the lead while the Pats' Blake Bortles was picked off once 4 times in the 2 nd half trying to rally his team. The Bombers added a late 66-yard fumble return TD.
	27	
	20	Josey Jewell's interception and 32-yard return set up a 9-yard TD run by Bilal Powell to open the scoring in the 2 nd quarter. Justin Tucker added a FG to make it 10-0 Cubs at the half. An Alec Ogletree pick set up a FG in the 3 rd and a 46-yard TD run by Powell in the 4 th completed the scoring for Iowa. Andy Dalton came in in relief and threw a 4 th quarter TD pass of 25 yards to DeVante Parker.
	6	

CADILLAC



0

PASSING: Matt Stafford, 12 of 20, 93 yds, 0 TD, 1 INT
RUSHING: Javorius Allen, 6C, 18yds, (3.0), 0 TD
RECEIVING: Hunter Henry, 3 for 25yds, 9LG, 0 TD
DEFENCE: Justin Houston, 7 T, 1 SK, 1 STF
KICKING: S. Gostkowski, 0 of 1 FG, 0 Pts

DERAILERS



31

PASSING: David Fales, 24 of 31, 241 yds, 0 TD, 1 INT
RUSHING: Tevin Coleman, 11C, 60yds, (5.5), 1 TD
RECEIVING: Julio Jones, 8 for 70yds, 16LG, 0 TD
DEFENCE: Rashaan Evans, 10T, 1 INT(3yds), 1FR(56yds-TD)
KICKING: Jake Elliott, 2 of 3 XPA, 3 of 4 FG, 11 Pts

10-20-2018 New Era Stadium Temp: 63 Wind: 5-15 None MVP: **Rashaan Evans**

	1	2	3	4	Tot
2017 Erieau (2-1)	0	0	0	0	0
2017 Buffalo (2-1)	0	17	3	11	31

Scoring Summary

2 10:07 Buffalo	TD Green 13 run (Elliott,J) (4-32-2:21)	0-7
2 4:33 Buffalo	TD Evans 56 yd fumble recovery (Elliott,J)	0-14
2 1:48 Buffalo	FG Elliott 30 (4-6-0:53)	0-17
3 2:32 Buffalo	FG Elliott 24 (13-69-6:49)	0-20
4 9:45 Buffalo	TD Coleman 10 run (no good) (8-83-3:21)	0-26
4 5:48 Buffalo	Safety Chubb	0-28
4 1:57 Buffalo	FG Elliott 29 (10-45-3:41)	0-31

	ERI	BUF
First Downs	4	20
Rushes	22-27	36-147
Passes	12-20-93	24-31-241
Sacked	6-40	3-20
Fumble	4	1
Penalties	9-76	7-59
Turnovers	3	1
Missed Tackles	6	0
Blitzers	19	33
Time	23:11	36:49
Third Down	3-13	11-21
Fourth Down	0-2	1-3
Red Att/Td/Fg	0/0/0	8/2/3
Net Offense	80	368

CHARGERS



27

PASSING: Carson Wentz, 18 of 26, 198 yds, 2 TDs, 0 INT
RUSHING: Dalvin Cook, 12C, 45yds, (3.8), 0 TD
RECEIVING: Michael Thomas, 10 for 132 yds, 23LG, 0 TD
DEFENCE: Shaquil Barrett, 9 T, 2 SK, 1 FF
KICKING: Steven Hauschka, 3 of 3 XPA, 2 of 2 FG, 9 Pts

VIOLATORS



13

PASSING: Derek Carr, 16 of 30, 206 yds, 1 TD, 0 INT
RUSHING: Ezekiel Elliott, 16C, 64yds, (4.0), 0 TD
RECEIVING: AJ Green, 7 for 78yds, 16LG, 0 TD
DEFENCE: Eli Harold 11 T, 1 STF
KICKING: Zane Gonzalez 1 of 1 XPA, 2 of 2 FGA, 7 Pts

10-20-2018 TERRORDOME Temp: -12 Wind: None MVP: **Carson Wentz**

	1	2	3	4	Tot
2017 St. Charles (3-0)	3	10	0	14	27
2017 Virden (1-2)	3	3	0	7	13

Scoring Summary

1 8:32 St. Charles	FG Hauschka 42 (6-49-3:43)	3-0
1 2:04 Virden	FG Gonzalez 49 (10-45-6:16)	3-3
2 12:45 St. Charles	FG Hauschka 25 (9-59-4:08)	6-3
2 8:49 Virden	FG Gonzalez 39 (7-45-3:47)	6-6
2 4:34 St. Charles	TD Wentz 8 pass to Graham (Hauschka) (13-75-4:04)	13-6
4 12:05 St. Charles	TD Wentz 12 pass to Wright (Hauschka) (8-62-4:23)	20-6
4 9:16 St. Charles	TD Davis 74 yd fumble recovery (Hauschka)	27-6
4 5:22 Virden	TD Carr 42 pass to Smith-Schuster (Gonzalez) (8-75-3:54)	27-13

	STC	VV
First Downs	18	18
Rushes	30-88	23-97
Passes	18-26-198	16-30-206
Sacked	0-0	4-21
Fumble	1	1
Penalties	5-48	10-70
Turnovers	0	1
Missed Tackles	4	2
Blitzers	16	7
Time	29:58	30:02
Third Down	4-14	5-12
Fourth Down	0-1	0-1
Red Att/Td/Fg	4/2/1	0/0/0
Net Offense	286	282

WRECKING BALL



9

PASSING: Jared Goff, 18 of 37, 166 yds, 1 TD, 1 INT
RUSHING: LeSean McCoy, 20C, 69yds, (3.5), 0 TD
RECEIVING: Eric Decker, 5 for 61yds, 73LG, 0 TD
DEFENCE: Matt Judon, 10 T, 1 STF
KICKING: Chris Boswell, 1 of 1 FG, 3 Pts

TRIUMPH



41

PASSING: Mitch Trubisky, 20 of 31, 268 yds, 1 TD, 0 INT
RUSHING: Melvin Gordon, 22C, 73yds, (3.3), 2 TDs
RECEIVING: Antonio Brown, 8 for 114yds, 27LG, 1 TD
DEFENCE: Danielle Hunter, 9 T, 1 PD, 3 HUR
KICKING: Dustin Hopkins, 5 of 6 XPA, 0 of 1 FGA, 5 Pts

10-20-2018 Wilhalla Stadium Temp: 70 Wind: MVP: **Mitch Trubisky**

	1	2	3	4	Tot
2017 New Jersey (1-2)	0	3	6	0	9
2017 Twin Cities (3-0)	7	14	7	13	41

Scoring Summary

1 9:28 Twin Cities	TD Trubisky 7 run (Hopkins,D) (14-75-5:32)	0-7
2 7:51 New Jersey	FG Boswell 38 (14-53-7:25)	3-7
2 4:14 Twin Cities	TD Trubisky 1 run (Hopkins,D) (4-10-1:29)	3-14
2 1:08 Twin Cities	TD Gordon 1 run (Hopkins,D) (5-41-2:03)	3-21
3 7:26 New Jersey	TD Goff 18 pass to Cook (2 - failed) (5-58-3:17)	9-21
3 0:58 Twin Cities	TD Trubisky 4 pass to Brown (Hopkins,D) (11-75-6:28)	9-28
4 9:55 Twin Cities	TD Gordon 3 run (Hopkins,D) (6-46-3:32)	9-35
4 2:08 Twin Cities	TD Alexander 52 yd fumble recovery (no good)	9-41

	NJ	TCT
First Downs	13	24
Rushes	27-92	36-122
Passes	19-38-189	20-32-268
Sacked	1-5	2-9
Fumble	3	0
Penalties	5-30	3-20
Turnovers	3	0
Missed Tackles	3	0
Blitzers	23	2
Time	27:40	32:20
Third Down	3-16	3-14
Fourth Down	2-5	4-5
Red Att/Td/Fg	3/1/1	6/5/0
Net Offense	276	381

CONVICTS



28

PASSING: Dak Prescott, 29 of 40, 359 yds, 3 TDs, 0 INT
RUSHING: Mark Ingram, 14C, 47yds, (3.4), 1 TD
RECEIVING: Christian McCaffery, 9 for 105yds, 24LG, 0 TD
DEFENCE: Brian Orakpo, 3 T, 2 SK
KICKING: Dan Bailey, 4 of 4 XPA, 0 of 1 FGA, 4 Pts

PILOTS



23

PASSING: Eli Manning, 19 of 32, 227 yds, 1 TD, 0 INT
RUSHING: Kareem Hunt, 22C, 63yds, (2.9), 0 TD
RECEIVING: Allen Hurns, 5 for 45yds, 16LG, 1 TD
DEFENCE: Barkevious Mingo, 11 T, 1 PD
KICKING: Josh Lambo, 2 of 2 XPA, 1 of 2 FGA, 5 Pts

10-20-2018 Kingdome Temp:70 Wind: MVP: **Dak Prescott**

	1	2	3	4	Tot
2017 Chino (1-2)	0	21	7	0	28
2017 Seattle (1-2)	7	10	0	6	23

Scoring Summary

1 4:09 Seattle	TD Manning 4 pass to Hurns (Lambo) (3-7-0:51)	0-7
2 13:22 Chino	TD Prescott 13 pass to Agholor (Bailey,D) (11-68-5:40)	7-7
2 8:27 Seattle	TD Williams 1 run (Lambo) (11-75-4:55)	7-14
2 2:25 Chino	TD Ingram 3 run (Bailey,D) (12-75-6:02)	14-14
2 0:49 Seattle	FG Lambo 36 (9-57-1:31)	14-17
2 0:04 Chino	TD Prescott 12 pass to Goodwin (Bailey,D) (4-68-0:38)	21-17
3 3:14 Chino	TD Prescott 20 pass to Jones Jr. (Bailey,D) (11-73-4:50)	28-17
4 5:08 Seattle	TD Manning 1 run (2 - failed) (15-60-8:22)	28-23

	CHI	SEA
First Downs	25	21
Rushes	20-62	37-100
Passes	29-40-359	19-32-227
Sacked	1-11	5-22
Fumble	1	2
Penalties	3-30	2-20
Turnovers	1	0
Missed Tackles	2	11
Blitzers	14	29
Time	28:53	31:07
Third Down	5-10	9-19
Fourth Down	2-3	3-5
Red Att/Td/Fg	5/4/0	5/3/1
Net Offense	410	305

T-LIZARDS



24

PASSING: Cam Newton, 17 of 28, 273 yds, 3 TDs, 0 INT
RUSHING: Rashaad Penny, 13C, 65yds, (5.0), 0 TD
RECEIVING: TY Hilton, 5 for 132yds, 53LG, 1 TD
DEFENCE: DJ Swearinger, 4 T, 4 PD, 1 INT (0yds)
KICKING: Phil Dawson, 3 of 3 XPA, 1 of 2 FGA, 6 Pts

SPARTANS



13

PASSING: Philip Rivers, 241of 45, 232 yds, 1 TD, 1 INT
RUSHING: Doug Martin, 12C, 41yds, (3.4), 1 TD
RECEIVING: Sterling Shepard, 6 for 73yds, 22LG, 0 TD
DEFENCE: Derek Wolfe, 4 T, 1 SK, 1 STF
KICKING: Greg Zuerlein, 1 of 2 XPA, 0 of 2 FGA, 1 Pt

10-20-2018 Thermopylae Stadium Temp: 65 Wind: 0-10 Rain MVP: **Cam Newton**

	1	2	3	4	Tot
2017 Durham (2-1)	7	0	14	3	24
2017 Pickering (1-2)	6	0	7	0	13

Scoring Summary

1 10:01 Pickering	TD Rivers 15 pass to Tate (no good) (14-76-4:44)	0-6
1 8:45 Durham	TD Newton 32 pass to Hooper (Dawson) (2-85-1:11)	7-6
3 11:56 Durham	TD Newton 50 pass to Gordon (Dawson) (1-50-0:16)	14-6
3 8:46 Durham	TD Newton 39 pass to Hilton (Dawson) (7-65-2:06)	21-6
3 5:51 Pickering	TD Martin 4 run (Zuerlein) (7-75-2:55)	21-13
4 7:17 Durham	FG Dawson 32 (18-79-9:13)	24-13

	DTL	PIC
First Downs	18	20
Rushes	32-127	21-58
Passes	17-28-273	21-45-232
Sacked	3-18	2-20
Fumble	2	0
Penalties	15-130	6-50
Turnovers	0	1
Missed Tackles	3	5
Blitzers	12	0
Time	31:35	28:25
Third Down	3-14	3-14
Fourth Down	2-2	2-2
Red Att/Td/Fg	1/0/1	3/2/0
Net Offense	382	270

EXCALIBURS



27

PASSING: Tom Brady, 16 of 27, 319 yds, 3 TDs, 0 INT
RUSHING: Nick Chubb, 9C, 50yds, (5.6), 0 TD
RECEIVING: Kelvin Benjamin, 3 for 122yds, 46LG, 1 TD
DEFENCE: Von Miller, 7 T, 1 PD, 2 STF, 2 HUR, 1 FF
KICKING: Graham Gano, 3 of 3 XPA, 2 of 2 FGA, 9 Pts

BLUE EAGLES



9

PASSING: Sean Mannion, 20 of 36, 79 yds, 0 TD, 1 INT
RUSHING: Jordan Howard, 18C, 126yds, (7.0), 0 TD
RECEIVING: Charles Sims, 5 for 12yds, 5LG, 0 TD
DEFENCE: Derrick Morgan, 10 T, 2 SK, 1 STF, 1 SAFETY
KICKING: Mason Crosby, 1 of 1 XPA, 1 Pt

10-20-2018 Bluffs Stadium Temp: 70 Wind: 15-25 None MVP: **Tom Brady**

	1	2	3	4	Tot
2017 York (2-1)	14	3	0	10	27
2017 Scarborough (0-3)	0	9	0	0	9

Scoring Summary

1 7:57 York	TD Brady 53 pass to Bernard (Gano) (3-82-1:43)	7-0
1 3:58 York	TD Brady 44 pass to Benjamin (Gano) (3-79-1:40)	14-0
2 10:55 Scarborough	TD Yeldon 5 run (Crosby) (4-77-2:37)	14-7
2 2:01 York	FG Gano 28 (9-53-3:01)	17-7
2 0:55 Scarborough	Safety Morgan	17-9
4 13:19 York	TD Brady 17 pass to Richardson (Gano) (6-27-3:12)	24-9
4 3:16 York	FG Gano 31 (14-54-6:29)	27-9

	YOR	SBE
First Downs	14	9
Rushes	33-93	21-130
Passes	16-27-319	20-36-79
Sacked	3-11	1-10
Fumble	0	2
Penalties	9-60	9-79
Turnovers	0	2
Missed Tackles	9	11
Blitzers	4	34
Time	32:12	27:48
Third Down	6-17	2-15
Fourth Down	0-1	0-2
Red Att/Td/Fg	4/1/2	1/1/0
Net Offense	401	199

CORN KINGS**3**

PASSING: Joe Flacco, 22 of 40, 143 yds, 0 TD, 1 INT
RUSHING: Todd Gurley II, 15C, 78yds, (5.2), 0 TD
RECEIVING: Todd Gurley II, 8 for 45ds, 20LG, 0 TD
DEFENCE: Roquan Smith, 11 T, 1 STF
KICKING: Matt Bryant, 1 of 1 FGA, 3 Pts

NORTH STARS**18**

PASSING: Tyrod Taylor, 18 of 29, 177 yds, 0 TD, 1 INT
RUSHING: Isaiah Crowell, 15C, 68yds, (4.5), 1 TD
RECEIVING: Martellus Bennett, 6 for 41yds, 9LG, 0 TD
DEFENCE: Brooks Reed, 4 T, 1 SK, 1 STF, 2 HUR
KICKING: Kai Forbath, 0 of 2 XPA, 2 of 2 FGA, 6 Pts

10-20-2018 Ferenc-Liszt Intl Temp: 81 Wind: 0-10 None MVP: **Tyrod Taylor**

	1	2	3	4	Tot
2017 Cowtown (2-1)	0	0	0	3	3
2017 Budapest (2-1)	6	0	9	3	18

Scoring Summary

1 9:21 Budapest	TD Crowell 1 run (no good) (8-62-4:04)	0-6
3 9:33 Budapest	TD Taylor 1 run (no good) (9-66-5:20)	0-12
3 2:36 Budapest	FG Forbath 42 (11-56-4:36)	0-15
4 12:46 Budapest	FG Forbath 44 (8-45-3:39)	0-18
4 7:02 Cowtown	FG Bryant 35 (11-48-5:35)	3-18

	COW	BUD
First Downs	11	20
Rushes	19-88	37-151
Passes	22-40-143	18-29-177
Sacked	3-20	1-7
Fumble	1	0
Penalties	7-60	4-35
Turnovers	1	1
Missed Tackles	5	5
Blitzers	16	9
Time	27:19	32:41
Third Down	6-17	6-14
Fourth Down	0-2	0-1
Red Att/Td/Fg	1/0/1	2/2/0
Net Offense	211	321

HAWKS**26**

PASSING: Alex Smith, 19 of 35, 222 yds, 1 TD, 0 INT
RUSHING: Kenjon Barner, 4C, 37yds, (9.3), 0 TD
RECEIVING: Rob Gronkowski, 7 for 92yds, 20LG, 0 TD
DEFENCE: Clay Matthews, 7 T, 1 STF
KICKING: Cody Parkey, 2 of 2 XPA, 4 of 4 FGA, 14 Pts

SWORDFISH**41**

PASSING: Drew Brees, 31 of 49, 384 yds, 3 TDs, 0 INT
RUSHING: CJ Anderson, 16C, 74yds, (4.6), 1 TD
RECEIVING: Doug Baldwin, 11 for 186yds, 35LG, 2 TDs
DEFENCE: Chandler Jones, 6 T, 2 SK, 2 STF
KICKING: Adam Vinatieri, 5 of 6 XPA, 5 Pts

10-21-2018 The Fish Tank Temp: -6 Wind: None MVP: **Drew Brees**

	1	2	3	4	Tot
2017 Brooklin (0-3)	10	6	10	0	26
2017 Sebastian (2-1)	7	13	7	14	41

1 13:14 Brooklin	TD Smith 11 pass to Hopkins (Parkey) (3-65-1:40)	7-0
1 6:49 Sebastian	TD Brees 34 pass to Kearse (Vinatieri) (7-75-3:04)	7-7
1 0:30 Brooklin	FG Parkey 37 (15-54-6:03)	10-7
2 10:07 Sebastian	TD Anderson 1 run (Vinatieri) (14-52-5:24)	10-14
2 5:11 Brooklin	FG Parkey 55 (9-38-4:42)	13-14
2 1:15 Brooklin	FG Parkey 24 (9-61-1:02)	16-14
2 0:00 Sebastian	TD Brees 7 pass to Baldwin (no good) (6-52-1:08)	16-20
3 11:17 Brooklin	TD Smith 2 run (Parkey) (8-38-3:06)	23-20
3 8:07 Sebastian	TD Foreman 6 run (Vinatieri) (6-61-3:04)	23-27
3 2:15 Brooklin	FG Parkey 22 (14-59-5:42)	26-27
4 8:09 Sebastian	TD Brees 8 pass to Baldwin (Vinatieri) (11-59-3:18)	26-34
4 1:54 Sebastian	TD Foreman 2 run (Vinatieri) (9-89-3:55)	26-41

	BRH	SS
First Downs	18	29
Rushes	26-118	22-97
Passes	19-35-222	31-49-384
Sacked	3-22	2-13
Fumble	0	0
Penalties	10-60	9-91
Turnovers	0	0
Missed Tackles	5	6
Blitzers	16	25
Time	30:43	29:17
Third Down	5-16	5-14
Fourth Down	2-2	4-6
Red Att/Td/Fg	5/2/3	6/5/0
Net Offense	318	468

WOLVERINES**10**

PASSING: Jay Cutler, 10 of 21, 131 yds, 1 TD, 1 INT
RUSHING: Saquon Barkley, 16C, 117yds, (7.3), 0 TD
RECEIVING: Tyreek Hill, 4 for 72yds, 52LG, 1 TD
DEFENCE: Jaylon Smith, 18 T, 1 PD, 1 STF
KICKING: Daniel Carlson, 1 of 1 XPA, 1 of 2 FGA, 4 Pts

MUSTANGS**21**

PASSING: Matt Ryan, 9 of 17, 2140 yds, 1 TD, 0 INT
RUSHING: Wayne Gallman, 19C, 87yds, (4.6), 0 TD
RECEIVING: Davante Adams, 4 for 93yds, 44LG, 0 TD
DEFENCE: Jason McCourty, 3 T, 1 INT (31yds)
KICKING: Wil Lutz, 3 of 3 XPA, 0 of 1 FGA, 3 Pts

10-20-2018 Magna Park Temp: -8 Wind: None MVP: **Matt Ryan**

	1	2	3	4	Tot
2017 Toronto (2-1)	0	3	7	0	10
2017 Aurora (2-1)	7	7	0	7	21

Scoring Summary

1 2:31 Aurora	TD Ryan 3 run (Lutz) (10-44-5:38)	0-7
2 11:59 Toronto	FG Carlson 38 (10-40-5:28)	3-7
2 0:14 Aurora	TD Ryan 8 pass to Bryant (Lutz) (14-76-6:50)	3-14
3 2:14 Toronto	TD Cutler 52 pass to Hill (Carlson) (7-83-4:11)	10-14
4 8:56 Aurora	TD Ballage 3 run (Lutz) (13-75-8:13)	10-21

	TOR	AUR
First Downs	11	19
Rushes	29-164	51-198
Passes	10-21-131	9-17-140
Sacked	2-24	1-5
Fumble	1	2
Penalties	5-40	4-25
Turnovers	1	0
Missed Tackles	5	9
Blitzers	2	4
Time	23:28	36:32
Third Down	3-13	10-17
Fourth Down	2-4	0-2
Red Att/Td/Fg	3/0/1	6/3/0
Net Offense	271	333

GLADIATORS



27

PASSING: Ben Roethlisberger, 14 of 24, 281 yds, 2TDs, 0 INT
RUSHING: Alex Collins, 16C, 133yds, (8.3), 1 TD
RECEIVING: Jarvis Landry, 5 for 127yds, 50LG, 1 TD
DEFENCE: Vic Beasley Jr, 5 T, 1 SK, 1 STF, 1 HUR, 1 FF
KICKING: Giorgio Tavecchio, 2 of 3 FGA, 3 of 3 XPA, 9 Pts

CRUSADERS



22

PASSING: Kirk Cousins, 18 of 36, 261 yds, 3 TDs, 1 INT
RUSHING: Chris Ivory, 8C, 32yds, (4.0), 0 TD
RECEIVING: Keenan Allen, 7 for 130yds, 51LG, 2 TDs
DEFENCE: Brandon Graham, 8 T, 2 SK, 1 PD, 1 HUR
KICKING: Blair Walsh, 1 of 2 XPA, 1 of 1 FGA, 4 Pts

10-20-2018 Paul Brown Stadium Temp: 74 Wind: Calm None MVP: Ben Roethlisberger

	1	2	3	4	Tot
2017 Georgia (3-0)	7	3	10	7	27
2017 Cincinnati (0-3)	0	10	0	12	22

Scoring Summary

1 10:53 Georgia	TD Roethlisberger 38 pass to Stills (Tavecchio) (4-72-1:5)	7-0
2 14:49 Georgia	FG Tavecchio 31 (8-84-3:03)	10-0
2 4:00 Cincinnati	TD Cousins 9 pass to Allen (Walsh,B) (9-66-5:23)	10-7
2 0:01 Cincinnati	FG Walsh 28 (9-88-1:41)	10-10
3 10:25 Georgia	FG Tavecchio 24 (4-12-1:29)	13-10
3 3:46 Georgia	TD Roethlisberger 11 pass to Landry (Tavecchio) (6-97-3:1)	20-10
4 14:06 Georgia	TD Collins 1 run (Tavecchio) (7-81-2:35)	27-10
4 2:10 Cincinnati	TD Cousins 22 pass to Treadwell (no good) (10-70-4:22)	27-16
4 1:49 Cincinnati	TD Cousins 51 pass to Allen (2 - failed) (1-51-0:17)	27-22

	GEO	CIN
First Downs	19	20
Rushes	34-211	25-100
Passes	14-24-281	18-36-261
Sacked	2-11	3-19
Fumble	1	2
Penalties	10-71	2-16
Turnovers	0	2
Missed Tackles	7	7
Blitzers	4	9
Time	31:20	28:40
Third Down	5-13	5-14
Fourth Down	0-0	1-1
Red Att/Td/Fg	5/2/2	2/1/1
Net Offense	481	342

PATRIOTS



6

PASSING: Blake Bortles, 21 of 39, 203 yds, 0 TD, 4 INTs
RUSHING: Blake Bortles, 4 C, 68yds, (17.0), 0 TD
RECEIVING: Mohamed Sanu, 7 for 69 yds, 13LG, 0 TD
DEFENCE: Demarcus Lawrence, 5 T, 2 SK, 1 STF, 1 HUR
KICKING: Ryan Succop, 0 of 1 XPA, 0 of 1 FGA, 0 Pts

BOMBERS



27

PASSING: Marcus Mariota, 15 of 28, 201 yds, 1 TD, 2 INTs
RUSHING: Leonard Fournette, 14C, 41yds, (2.9), 0 TD
RECEIVING: Chris Thompson, 6 for 88yds, 53LG, 1 TD
DEFENCE: Harrison Smith, 7 T, 3 PD, 1 INT (0yds)
KICKING: Chandler Cantanzaro, 3 of 3 XPA, 2 of 3 FGA, 9 Pts

10-21-2018 The Fortress Temp:77 Wind: MVP: Chris Thompson

	1	2	3	4	Tot
2017 Charleswood (0-3)	0	6	0	0	6
2017 Bruxelles (1-2)	10	10	0	7	27

Scoring Summary

1 11:12 Bruxelles	TD Mariota 53 pass to Thompson (Catanzaro) (7-75-3:48)	0-7
1 1:09 Bruxelles	FG Catanzaro 28 (9-31-5:19)	0-10
2 12:58 Bruxelles	TD Thompson 20 run (Catanzaro) (1-20-0:15)	0-17
2 6:43 Charleswood	TD Kamara 6 run (no good) (10-81-6:11)	6-17
2 3:56 Bruxelles	FG Catanzaro 33 (8-60-2:44)	6-20
4 4:34 Bruxelles	TD Burns 66 yd fumble recovery (Catanzaro)	6-27

	CHP	BRX
First Downs	18	13
Rushes	21-137	27-95
Passes	21-39-203	15-28-201
Sacked	6-52	4-34
Fumble	4	2
Penalties	6-50	8-56
Turnovers	5	2
Missed Tackles	3	2
Blitzers	2	39
Time	30:35	29:25
Third Down	1-11	2-14
Fourth Down	0-3	3-3
Red Att/Td/Fg	1/1/0	3/1/2
Net Offense	288	262

CUBS



20

PASSING: Russell Wilson, 12 of 22, 158 yds, 0 TD, 1 INT
RUSHING: Bilal Powell, 12C, 94yds, (7.8), 2 TDs
RECEIVING: Marqise Lee, 3 for 64yds, 28LG, 0 TD
DEFENCE: Josey Jewell, 13T, 1 PD, 2 STF, 1 INT (32yds)
KICKING: Justin Tucker, 2 of 2 FGA, 2 of 2 XPA, 8 Pts

KNIGHTS



6

PASSING: Josh McCown, 15 of 30, 155yds, 0 TD, 2 INTs
RUSHING: Le'Veon Bell, 26C, 111yds, (4.3), 0 TD
RECEIVING: Le'Veon Bell, 8 for 98yds, 20LG, 0 TD
DEFENCE: Robert Quinn, 7 T, 1 SK,
KICKING: Ka'imi Fairbairn, 0 of 1 FGA, 0 of 1 XPA, 0 Pts

10-20-2018 Round Table Stadium Temp: 82 Wind: Calm None MVP: Bilal Powell

	1	2	3	4	Tot
2017 Iowa City (2-1)	0	10	3	7	20
2017 Los Angeles (1-2)	0	0	0	6	6

Scoring Summary

2 13:51 Iowa City	TD Powell 9 run (Tucker,J) (2-9-0:16)	7-0
2 7:32 Iowa City	FG Tucker 39 (7-53-2:54)	10-0
3 5:47 Iowa City	FG Tucker 44 (8-27-4:55)	13-0
4 8:29 Los Angeles	TD Dalton 25 pass to Parker (no good) (9-80-4:01)	13-6
4 3:48 Iowa City	TD Powell 46 run (Tucker,J) (4-71-1:57)	20-6

	ICC	LAK
First Downs	14	21
Rushes	33-164	30-121
Passes	12-22-158	21-43-227
Sacked	2-16	2-14
Fumble	0	1
Penalties	3-30	3-35
Turnovers	1	2
Missed Tackles	7	3
Blitzers	2	20
Time	27:28	32:32
Third Down	3-13	5-16
Fourth Down	0-0	1-2
Red Att/Td/Fg	2/1/0	3/1/0
Net Offense	306	334

WEEK THREE

STANDINGS

PACIFIC CONFERENCE												
East	W	L	T	Pct	Pts	Ave	Opp	Ave	Diff	Home	Div	Conf
St. Charles	3	0	0	1	64	21.3	44	14.7	6.7	1 0 0	2 0 0	3 0 0
Buffalo	2	1	0	0.667	69	23	38	12.7	10.3	2 0 0	1 1 0	2 1 0
New Jersey	1	2	0	0.333	46	15.3	78	26	-10.7	0 1 0	1 1 0	1 2 0
Bruxelles	1	2	0	0.333	65	21.7	50	16.7	5	1 1 0	0 2 0	1 2 0
Central	W	L	T	Pct	Pts	Ave	Opp	Ave	Diff	Home	Div	Conf
Twin Cities	3	0	0	1	104	34.7	46	15.3	19.3	2 0 0	1 0 0	3 0 0
Erieau	2	1	0	0.667	42	14	67	22.3	-8.3	2 0 0	1 0 0	2 1 0
Viriden	1	2	0	0.333	70	23.3	60	20	3.3	0 1 0	0 1 0	1 2 0
Charleswood	0	3	0	0	44	14.7	86	28.7	-14	0 1 0	0 1 0	0 3 0
West	W	L	T	Pct	Pts	Ave	Opp	Ave	Diff	Home	Div	Conf
Iowa City	2	1	0	0.667	65	21.7	58	19.3	2.3	0 1 0	1 1 0	2 1 0
Los Angeles	1	2	0	0.333	46	15.3	60	20	-4.7	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 2 0
Chino	1	2	0	0.333	59	19.7	84	28	-8.3	0 1 0	1 1 0	1 2 0
Seattle	1	2	0	0.333	74	24.7	77	25.7	-1	0 2 0	1 1 0	1 2 0
ATLANTIC CONFERENCE												
North	W	L	T	Pct	Pts	Ave	Opp	Ave	Diff	Home	Div	Conf
Cowtown	2	1	0	0.667	44	14.7	39	13	1.7	2 0 0	2 0 0	2 1 0
Sebastian	2	1	0	0.667	81	27	57	19	8	2 0 0	1 1 0	2 1 0
Durham	2	1	0	0.667	63	21	46	15.3	5.7	1 0 0	1 1 0	2 1 0
Scarborough	0	3	0	0	23	7.7	76	25.3	-17.7	0 1 0	0 2 0	0 3 0
Coastal	W	L	T	Pct	Pts	Ave	Opp	Ave	Diff	Home	Div	Conf
Budapest	2	1	0	0.667	49	16.3	38	12.7	3.7	1 1 0	1 0 0	2 1 0
York	2	1	0	0.667	68	22.7	32	10.7	12	0 1 0	0 1 0	2 1 0
Pickering	1	2	0	0.333	57	19	72	24	-5	1 1 0	1 0 0	1 2 0
Brooklin	0	3	0	0	60	20	92	30.7	-10.7	0 1 0	0 1 0	0 3 0
South	W	L	T	Pct	Pts	Ave	Opp	Ave	Diff	Home	Div	Conf
Georgia	3	0	0	1	75	25	57	19	6	1 0 0	2 0 0	3 0 0
Aurora	2	1	0	0.667	59	19.7	47	15.7	4	2 0 0	1 1 0	2 1 0
Toronto	2	1	0	0.667	62	20.7	48	16	4.7	1 0 0	1 1 0	2 1 0
Cincinnati	0	3	0	0	52	17.3	89	29.7	-12.3	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 3 0

TOP PASSERS												
Rk	Player	Team	Att	Cmp	C%	Yards	In	I%	Lg	TD	TD%	Rate
1	Brady	YOR	82	51	62.2	688	1	1.2	53	7	8.5	112.2
2	Roethlisberger	GEO	101	56	55.4	769	0	0	50	9	8.9	109.7
3	Manning	SEA	103	61	59.2	750	1	1	53	7	6.8	100.4
4	Cutler	TOR	57	33	57.9	453	2	3.5	52	5	8.8	98.1
5	Wentz	STC	85	50	58.8	539	0	0	36	4	4.7	93.2
6	Carr,D	VV	92	51	55.4	760	1	1.1	54	4	4.3	92.7
7	Prescott	CHI	103	62	60.2	763	2	1.9	56	5	4.9	91.2
8	Trubisky	TCT	83	47	56.6	636	2	2.4	48	4	4.8	87.2
9	Newton,C	DTL	99	57	57.6	685	3	3	53	6	6.1	86.5
10	Fales	BUF	51	37	72.5	390	1	2	38	0	0	86.2
11	Taylor,T	BUD	94	55	58.5	578	1	1.1	56	4	4.3	86.2
12	Ryan,M	AUR	96	61	63.5	684	4	4.2	45	5	5.2	84.7
13	Stafford	ERI	66	38	57.6	379	1	1.5	57	3	4.5	82.8
14	Brees	SS	115	69	60	716	2	1.7	35	4	3.5	82.4
15	Flacco	COW	91	56	61.5	530	2	2.2	56	3	3.3	79.5
16	Smith,A	BRH	120	62	51.7	774	2	1.7	76	4	3.3	76.2
17	Goff	NJ	98	47	48	558	1	1	59	4	4.1	75.1
18	Rivers,P	PIC	100	53	53	661	4	4	67	5	5	73.8
19	Cousins	CIN	120	62	51.7	812	4	3.3	58	4	3.3	70.6
20	Wilson,R	ICC	80	46	57.5	556	4	5	37	3	3.8	70.6
21	Mariota	BRX	90	52	57.8	599	6	6.7	53	5	5.6	68.7
22	McCown	LAK	79	43	54.4	485	5	6.3	42	3	3.8	59.3
23	Bortles	CHP	116	61	52.6	574	7	6	42	3	2.6	50
24	Mannion	SBE	55	30	54.5	129	3	5.5	9	0	0	37.3
25	McCarron	NJ	1	1	100	23	0	0	23	0	0	118.8

KICKOFF RETURNERS								PUNT RETURNERS								
Rk	Player	Team	No	Yds	Ave	Lg	TD	Rk	Player	Team	No	Fc	Yds	Ave	Lg	TD
1	Cooper,P	ERI	16	501	31.3	90	1	1	Davis,T	ICC	9	3	118	13.1	20	0
2	Williams,K	GEO	9	264	29.3	42	0	2	Ervin	VV	10	4	109	10.9	44	0
3	Bray	CHI	7	202	28.9	33	0	3	Cooper,P	ERI	8	2	85	10.6	17	0
4	Hunt,A	BRX	5	141	28.2	39	0	4	Jones,A	NJ	16	1	169	10.6	25	0
5	Lockett	ICC	6	169	28.2	37	0	5	Jackson,A	STC	10	1	96	9.6	16	0
6	Lewis,D	STC	7	168	24	31	0	6	Fuller V	GEO	4	3	35	8.8	13	0
7	Roberts,A	LAK	8	187	23.4	29	0	7	Erickson	BUF	10	3	87	8.7	17	0
8	Grant,C	CHP	10	226	22.6	33	0	8	Alexander	TCT	8	3	68	8.5	12	0
9	Moore,C	SS	7	154	22	33	0	9	McCaffrey	CHI	7	4	57	8.1	23	0
10	Ballage	AUR	5	109	21.8	28	0	10	Crowder	SBE	7	4	53	7.6	11	0
11	Erickson	BUF	6	121	20.2	25	0	11	Amendola	YOR	12	6	89	7.4	15	0
12	Barner	BRH	7	139	19.9	25	0	12	Pettis	BRX	7	5	49	7	14	0
13	Smith-Schu	VV	8	157	19.6	32	0	13	Callaway	SS	5	4	34	6.8	9	0
14	Lewis,T	SBE	9	167	18.6	28	0	14	Sherels	BUD	15	2	93	6.2	13	0
15	Foster,D	NJ	5	92	18.4	20	0	15	Roberts,A	LAK	6	6	33	5.5	11	0
16	Booker	DTL	6	62	10.3	16	0	16	Campanaro	COW	7	4	36	5.1	12	0
17	Dayes	COW	1	39	39	39	0	17	Switzer	PIC	6	2	29	4.8	8	0
18	Callaway	SS	1	36	36	36	0	18	Richard	CHP	8	3	37	4.6	9	0
19	Langley	CIN	1	33	33	33	0	19	Taylor,T	DTL	8	3	30	3.8	13	0
20	Decker,E	NJ	1	29	29	29	0	20	Barner	BRH	4	4	13	3.3	8	0

RUSHING LEADERS								RECEIVING LEADERS							
Rk	Player	Team	Att	Yds	Ave	Lg	TD	Rk	Player	Team	No	Yds	Ave	Lg	TD
1	Bell,L	LAK	88	310	3.5	30	1	1	Adams,D	AUR	25	370	14.8	45	2
2	McCoy,L	NJ	68	292	4.3	28	0	2	McCaffrey	CHI	23	259	11.3	24	1
3	Elliott,E	VV	70	286	4.1	31	3	3	Gronkowski	BRH	23	267	11.6	22	1
4	Barkley	TOR	47	283	6	33	2	4	Brown,A	TCT	22	293	13.3	36	2
5	Hunt,K	SEA	67	274	4.1	21	0	5	Allen,K	CIN	21	360	17.1	51	3
6	Howard,J	SBE	50	252	5	58	1	6	Landry	GEO	19	309	16.3	50	5
7	Crowell	BUD	50	238	4.8	18	1	7	Baldwin,D	SS	18	285	15.8	35	2
8	Collins,A	GEO	43	237	5.5	55	1	8	Thomas,M	STC	18	224	12.4	24	0
9	Gordon,M	TCT	59	228	3.9	20	3	9	Bell,L	LAK	18	180	10	20	3
10	Powell,B	ICC	39	223	5.7	46	2	10	Gurley II	COW	17	156	9.2	56	1
11	Drake	AUR	45	215	4.8	17	0	11	Fitzgerald	COW	17	152	8.9	20	1
12	Michel	GEO	36	213	5.9	50	0	12	Jones,J	BUF	17	149	8.8	17	1
13	Gurley II	COW	49	212	4.3	22	1	13	Witten	SS	17	154	9.1	36	0
14	Lynch,M	ERI	58	203	3.5	15	0	14	Thompson,C	BRX	17	171	10.1	53	1
15	Gallman	AUR	32	199	6.2	24	0	15	Stills	GEO	17	250	14.7	38	4
16	Fournette	BRX	47	186	4	26	1	16	Green,A	VV	17	244	14.4	54	1
17	Ajayi	BUF	37	183	4.9	20	0	17	Tate,G	PIC	16	265	16.6	67	4
18	Breida	BRH	34	183	5.4	25	1	18	Crabtree	SEA	16	242	15.1	49	1
19	Miller,L	CHP	43	179	4.2	18	0	19	Funchess	CIN	16	210	13.1	39	0
20	Lewis,D	STC	31	175	5.6	22	0	20	Kearse,J	SS	16	171	10.7	34	2
21	Penny	DTL	38	170	4.5	13	0	21	Woods,R	BUF	15	174	11.6	38	0
22	Coleman,T	BUF	31	168	5.4	34	2	22	Hopkins,D	BRH	14	262	18.7	76	2
23	Ingram,M	CHI	42	163	3.9	17	2	23	Parker,D	LAK	14	209	14.9	42	1
24	Anderson,C	SS	42	160	3.8	19	2	24	Smith-Schu	VV	14	307	21.9	46	3
25	Chubb,N	YOR	40	156	3.9	22	0	25	Hill,T	TOR	14	255	18.2	52	3

INTERCEPTION LEADERS								SACK LEADERS				TACKLE LEADERS			
Rk	Player	Team	No	Yds	Ave	Lg	TD	Rk	Player	Team	No.	Rk	Player	Team	No.
1	Davis,J	BRX	2	8	4	8	0	1	Morgan,D	SBE	4	1	Kuechly	CIN	38
2	Fuller,K	BRX	2	2	1	2	0	2	Houston,L	BUD	4	2	Reid,E	ERI	29
3	Darby	COW	2	36	18	29	0	3	Longacre	NJ	3	3	Shazier	CHI	29
4	Trufant	CHP	2	0	0	0	0	4	Judon	NJ	3	4	Ogletree	ICC	29
5	Reid,E	ERI	2	6	3	6	0	5	Smith,P	BRX	3	5	Poole	ERI	29
6	Wagner,B	TCT	2	0	0	0	0	6	Jones,C	SS	3	6	Mingo	SEA	28
7	Howard,X	PIC	2	33	16.5	24	0	7	Lawrence	CHP	3	7	Mosley	CHP	28
8	White,T	LAK	2	40	20	40	0	8	Houston,J	ERI	3	8	Judon	NJ	26
9	McCourty,J	AUR	2	77	38.5	46	0	9	Dupree	BRX	3	9	Smith,J	TOR	26
10	Harrison,D	COW	1	22	22	22	1	10	Jones,C	BRX	2	10	Thomas,S	SBE	24
11	Watt,T	COW	1	0	0	0	0	11	Peppers	STC	2	11	Jewell	ICC	24
12	Newman,T	DTL	1	25	25	25	0	12	Ngakoue	STC	2	12	Ward,D	PIC	24
13	McCourty,D	DTL	1	10	10	10	0	13	Barrett	STC	2	13	Jones,D	SBE	23
14	Sherman,R	DTL	1	40	40	40	0	14	Davis,T	DTL	2	14	Evans,R	BUF	23
15	Burks	DTL	1	59	59	59	1	15	Dumervil	DTL	2	15	Smith,R	COW	22
16	Swearinger	DTL	1	0	0	0	0	16	Ansah	BUF	2	16	Dupree	BRX	22
17	Kirkpatric	SBE	1	0	0	0	0	17	Clowney	SS	2	17	Barrett	STC	22
18	Robinson,P	SS	1	9	9	9	0	18	Donald	BUF	2	18	Jackson,K	SEA	22
19	Heath,J	SS	1	26	26	26	1	19	Chubb,B	BUF	2	19	Bucannon	VV	22
20	Boston	SS	1	2	2	2	0	20	Heyward	CHP	2	20	Fitzpatric	BUD	22

SCORING LEADERS													
Rk	Player	Team	FG	XP	2Pt	Run	Rec	Int	KR	PR	Fmb	Sf	Tot
1	Trubisky	TCT	0	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	36
2	Landry	GEO	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	30
3	Parkey	BRH	6	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	24
4	Tate,G	PIC	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	24
5	Bell,L	LAK	0	0	0	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	24
6	Foreman	SS	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	24
7	Stills	GEO	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	24
8	Elliott,J	BUF	6	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	23
9	Hauschka	STC	5	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	22
10	Gano	YOR	4	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	20
11	Gonzalez	VV	4	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	19
12	Hilton	DTL	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	18
13	Ginn Jr.	NJ	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	18
14	Gostkowski	ERI	5	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	18
15	Graham,J	STC	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	18
16	Gordon,M	TCT	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	18
17	Lambo	SEA	4	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	18
18	Elliott,E	VV	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	18
19	Smith-Schu	VV	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	18
20	Allen,K	CIN	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	18
21	Hill,T	TOR	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	18
22	Catanzaro	BRX	3	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	17
23	Tucker,J	ICC	3	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	17
24	Walsh,B	CIN	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	16
25	Boswell	NJ	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	16
26	Vinatieri	SS	2	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	15
27	Zuerlein	PIC	3	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	15
28	Tavecchio	GEO	2	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	15
29	Bryant,M	COW	3	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	14
30	Hopkins,D	TCT	0	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	14
31	Hunt,K	SEA	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	14
32	Carlson	TOR	2	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	14
33	Forbath	BUD	3	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	13
34	Thompson,C	BRX	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	12
35	Nelson,J	ERI	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	12

KICKING LEADERS										PUNTING LEADERS									
Rk	Player	Team	FGA	FGM	FG%	40	50	Lg	Pts	Rk	Player	Team	No	Yards	Tb	20	Lg	Bk	Ave
1	Parkey	BRH	8	6	75	2	1	55	24	1	Colquitt,B	SEA	10	505	0	4	54	0	50.5
2	Elliott,J	BUF	8	6	75	1	1	55	23	2	Huber	CHP	13	642	0	4	57	1	49.4
3	Hauschka	STC	6	5	83.3	3	0	45	22	3	Kern	BRX	18	888	2	5	58	0	49.3
4	Gano	YOR	4	4	100	2	0	46	20	4	Lechler	STC	17	837	0	7	55	0	49.2
5	Gonzalez	VV	4	4	100	2	0	49	19	5	Morstead	DTL	11	538	0	4	67	0	48.9
6	Gostkowski	ERI	8	5	62.5	3	2	58	18	6	King,M	TOR	17	815	1	5	57	0	47.9
7	Lambo	SEA	9	4	44.4	0	0	39	18	7	O'Donnell	NJ	21	1006	2	8	63	0	47.9
8	Catanzaro	BRX	4	3	75	0	0	33	17	8	Colquitt,D	SBE	20	958	1	7	70	0	47.9
9	Tucker,J	ICC	6	3	50	1	0	44	17	9	Hekker	COW	21	998	0	10	60	0	47.5
10	Boswell	NJ	6	4	66.7	1	0	40	16	10	Kaser	BUD	18	853	3	5	55	0	47.4
11	Walsh,B	CIN	4	4	100	0	0	28	16	11	Lee,A	BUF	12	561	0	2	60	0	46.8
12	Vinatieri	SS	3	2	66.7	2	0	41	15	12	Jones,D	YOR	17	793	0	10	54	0	46.6
13	Zuerlein	PIC	5	3	60	0	0	32	15	13	Haack	CIN	13	603	0	8	53	0	46.4
14	Tavecchio	GEO	6	2	33.3	0	0	31	15	14	Jones,C	TCT	13	589	0	6	74	0	45.3
15	Bryant,M	COW	4	3	75	0	0	38	14	15	Dixon,R	GEO	15	676	0	9	59	0	45.1



AROUND THE



With Spats McChad

NEW YORK – In spite of three perfect seasons in the past four, the myth of ‘parity’ in the EFL continues to be propagated by the league and its loyal mainstream mouthpieces.

According to **Peter Prince**, the woefully unentertaining slate of Week Three games was a product of such parity and something that as fans and journalists we should be thankful for. He described the 12 clunkers collectively as; *“a coherent expression of imperfection that resonates with the very roots of the game. From coast to coast and across a great ocean, brutal skirmishes gouged the landscape where warriors fell, often swiftly, while locked in a primeval struggle for survival. It was not pretty or neat but it was compelling all the same. There is indeed a rugged beauty to parity that perfection can never match.”*

Not known for poetry, Prince’s attempt to dress up Week Three in rhetorical rags and call it art comes across as forced and unintelligible to the average fan. On top of that, it is unnecessary. Despite dull finishes virtually across the board, ratings rose this week following the first two weeks of shock-and-awe football, during which time it had dawned on fans that most teams are viable contenders in the race for post-season berths this year. Fans were more focused on the fate of their teams and their fantasy players in Week Three than on whether there was a late rally or last-second field goal attempt to flip to as other games wound down.

The league is in a better position to achieve its aspirational goal of ‘parity’ this year than ever before. As a result, we will have plenty of wild weeks like the first two; as well as the occasional week such as this one just passed, consisting predominately of sloppy, uneven, uninspired football. It is anybody’s game now – not necessarily a good game.

THE RETURN OF SPART-O MAN

One of the few games in Week Three that presented a reasonable facsimile of competition involved two old and bitter rivals vying for the niche Greek Canadian football market. The Durham Thunder Lizards, supported by the *Royal Greek Society* of Whitby, visited the hated Pickering Spartans, supported by the *Hellenic Cultural Centre* of Pickering.

Encounters between these teams rarely passed without some type of shocking incident of hooliganism between those groups marring the contest. In anticipation of further violence, game day was marked by a heavy police presence in and around Thermopylae Stadium. Jersey barriers delineated the narrow routes of access and egress designed to strictly manage and control the flow of pedestrians into the venue. Airport-grade security stations installed between two massive bronze statues of King Leonidas I of Sparta greeted fans at the single entrance to the stadium, slowing access to a crawl.

The long wait times and a light but steady drizzle of rain created tensions in the crowd that had been strangely and noticeably absent during the pre-game tailgating at Kamp Karneia. It appears that the passage of time over a 2017 season in which the Spartans and Thunder Lizards did not play each other, coupled with a tentative political unity over certain matters to do with Greece, notably opposition to Macedonia’s name change and increasing belligerence vis-à-vis Turkey, had created a palpable détente between the *Royal Greek Society* and the *Hellenic Cultural Centre*. Another factor was the lack of threat posed by the Thunder Lizards on the football field. Although the team refused to acknowledge it, there was near unanimity in the Durham press corps that 2018 would be a rebuilding year. While Durham regrouped, Pickering readied for a return to the championship. The teams were considered to be on different competitive planes.

The informal truce between the Canadian Greek factions went on public display when **Smota Platypusopoulos** of the *Royal Greek Society* and **Vasilis Vasilinistusakas** of the *Hellenic Cultural Centre* were observed entering Thermopylae Stadium together. Both were gently guided to the VIP entrance, thereby avoiding the requirement to remove footwear, surrender all devices and submit to full body scans like everyone else. This was an unprecedented honour for a head of the *Royal Greek Society* at the home of the Spartans. The irony of the faction heads bypassing security precautions that had been set up in the first place to minimize the threat posed by the members of those factions was not lost on the Police commander at the scene. He was caught by a local TV crew (there to cover the congestion that was spilling over into the streets) turning to a subordinate and asking, “aren’t we here to keep those two separated?” To which the subordinate responded, “yes, sir.”

The extremely long wait time to enter the park, excessive even by Thermopylae Stadium standards, threatened the generally cheerful mood of the fans of both teams. But relief upon having successfully run the security gauntlet and the comparatively short beer lines inside combined to restore the spirits of those fans once they were finally through, even though



Pickering coach, **Gus Konstantakos**, shows his frustration with events on the field in his team's 24-13 loss to Durham. Soon after this shot was taken, Gus began his transformation into *Spart-O Man*.

they were arriving late, with the first quarter already underway and the Spartans driving into Durham territory on their first possession. As these late-arriving fans trickled in, “excuse-me-ing” their way down stairs and across long rows of seats, they would have heard the sound of **Philip Rivers** barking signals and the ‘300 Spartans’ booster club, clustered bare-chested and already inebriated in the bronze seating area of Section 300, bellowing their “*A’oo! A’oo! A’oo!*” war cry.

The Spartans started well. They converted a 3rd & 20 for their first 1st down thanks to a facemask penalty on **Richard Sherman**. That break was enough to get them rolling. It took them 7 more plays and two more Durham penalties to reach the red zone. Finally, with the Durham defenders crowding the line looking, for some reason, for running back, **Doug Martin**, Rivers arced a pass to the corner of the end zone that **Golden Tate** snagged as he tapped his toes down for a 15-yard TD catch. The Spartan fans cheered. Durham fans smirked and shook their heads – they were already resigned to a loss but had been hoping for a close game. **Greg Zuerlein** missed the extra point, dampening the crowd’s enthusiasm slightly. But few thought the miss would matter in the end.

The revelrous mood in the stadium was about to take a turn in the opposite direction, however. The Durham drive stalled on the first play with a holding penalty on **Austin Hooper**. It was already the fourth penalty of the day for the visitors. The curse and groans of the Durham faithful were drowned out by the boisterous approval of the Spartan crowd. But things would quiet down on the next play. **Cam Newton** dropped back 10 steps then suddenly flipped a little screen to wide receiver **TY Hilton**. The Spartans, who were deploying five down-linemen with just two linebackers, found their front seven suddenly out of the play, having

wildly chased an apparently harried Newton with the great gusto of big men who smell a sack in the air. Hilton dodged, weaved and sprinted 53 yards before he was corralled by free safety **Marcus Maye**. On the next play, Hooper settled into a gap in the zone underneath the coverage. He made the first defender miss and was off to the races. Not a particularly fast runner, Hooper managed to build up a head of steam, barreling his way straight through the gaping hole in the Pickering secondary to the 5, where he bowled over two more defenders and fell into the end zone for a 32-yard score. Thermopylae Stadium fell quiet; except, that is, for the isolated cheers and a few attempts at *Raptorius Blaster’s* primal roar from Thunder Lizards fans scattered here and there throughout the stands. **Phil Dawson** made the extra point and suddenly the visitors were in the lead. The game was officially on.

Unfortunately, the game that was suddenly “on” was not a very well-played game. The light but steady rain affected the surface of the field forcing adjustments to be made, mostly unsuccessfully, to the conditions. The Lizards managed to attain the Pickering 35-yard line, but a holding penalty on **Jack Conklin** nullified a first down and pushed them back out of field goal range. It was the kind of “holding” penalty that might be called on nearly every pass play – a transient tug on the shoulder as the defender tried to work around the edge – and it occurred on the opposite side of the play’s direction, having no effect on the outcome. A clearly frustrated **George Kaldis** slammed his clipboard against his thigh and barked some obscenity in Greek. Strangely, this caused the referee, **Clay Martin**, to turn his head toward the sideline and scowl at the Durham coach.

On the Spartans’ side, poor field position and a seized-up offence limited them to a single 58-yard field goal attempt which, not surprisingly, **Greg Zuerlein** missed. The grumbling of thousands of spectators as the Spartan kicker lined up his attempt spoke clearly of the fans’ preference for going for it on 4th & 11 at the Durham 40, rather than having a kicker who had just missed an extra point attempt a long shot and, if he missed, hand the ball back to Durham near mid-field. The miss brought a smattering of boos, but it did not end up harming them, as **Phil Dawson** matched his counterpart with a 48-yard miss minutes later.

The first half ended with the score still 7-6 for the visitors. The rain had let up but the mood in Thermopylae Stadium was dampened by disappointment in the home team’s first half performance. It was not supposed to be this close. The few Durham fans in attendance, tolerated prior to the game, were catching looks of hostility and resentment from the home faithful as they mingled beneath the stands at half time. Spartans fans routinely stepped in front of them in line-ups and dared them to react. Outnumbered, Lizards fans attempted to keep a low profile. But, beer being beer, a few who had enjoyed the tailgating broke out in chants of ‘*Thunder*’ mimicking the AC/DC song of the same name, causing sporadic scuffles to break out.

The second half did not start any better than the first had ended. The Lizards converted a 3rd & 2 at their own 33, only to sent backwards 10 yards by another holding penalty on tackle, **Jack Conklin**. Like the first, the “hold” was barely noticeable and had no bearing on the dive up the middle by **Cam Newton**. Coach Kaldis uttered another Greek profanity as **Clay Martin** addressed the

crowd over the P.A. This prompted one of the linesmen, who was in earshot, to turn and quip: “Clay’s not himself today!”

The Spartans continued in their offensive funk. A check down to **Ty Montgomery** for 4 yards to the 18 on 3rd & 6 prompted a collective moan of frustration from the crowd and a punt from **Ryan Allen**. But frustration turned to alarm on the next Durham play from scrimmage. Newton dropped back and fired a slant to **Josh Gordon**, who was streaking through a gap in the middle of the secondary while being chased by corner, **Xavien Howard**. Gordon caught the ball on the fly and he was gone, cutting diagonally across the field to the sideline and straddling it all the way to the end zone for a 50-yard scoring play. But as Gordon crossed the goal line, his arms raised high in celebration, a flag fell at mid-field. The referee Martin and members of his crew convened in a close circle near the flag and a discussion ensued. Spartan fans waited in suspense – there was hope that this Durham score would be called back.

As the discussion continued beyond the customary time, replays of the Gordon touchdown replayed on the big screen. It was not clear to anybody, including booth commentators **Phil Mimms** and **Bill Mimes**, what the officials could be discussing. From every angle it appeared that Gordon had gotten off the line cleanly and had run untouched through the secondary and away from any pursuit. He was downfield so fast that no blocker had been able to get out in front to block for him. Cam had gotten the ball out of his hands so quickly there had been virtually no time to hold. Unless something had been said on the field, it looked like a clean play.

Finally, Martin addressed the crowd. In a very stilted and confused manner he announced, “*Flag, there is none. It was an error. We pick it up. The play is a goal.*”

“Well, that is strange,” **Bill Mimes** observed as the booing of the crowd echoed in the background. “Martin was the one who threw the flag, Phil. What do you think he saw and what might his crew have said to get him to change his mind?”

“I’m not sure what he saw, Bill,” Mimms replied. “Sometimes an official will try too hard to see everything and might think he sees something but isn’t sure and needs to confer with his crew. Looks like that was a good non-call there.”

The strange incident probably would have passed without much more thought, except that on Durham’s next possession (after a Pickering three-and-out) Newton found **TY Hilton** on what appeared to be the exact same play, resulting in a 39-yard catch-and-run for a touchdown. Hilton crossed the goal line and, as he spun the ball like a top in the end zone and his teammates swarmed him, a flag flew to the ground about five yards beyond the line of scrimmage. The crowd immediately suspended its vocal expressions of displeasure and waited as Martin and his crew huddled near the flag.

“It looks like they are going to call Karl Joseph for illegal contact,” **Phil Mimms** commented in the broadcast booth as the replay showed the Spartan safety tying up Gordon on an outside route. On the route that mattered, Hilton had made a clean cut diagonally toward the center and had caught the ball two steps away from the nearest defender. He had run untouched into the end zone.

But after an unreasonably long time, Referee Martin finally emerged to inform the crowd that: “*No flag. It was a false flag. I make a duck on that one! No card!*”

The odd expressions as well as the detection of a slight accent of unknown origin registered on both the TV crew and the crowd. Laughter, boos and traces of clapping greeted the announcement from the crowd while an incredulous **Bill Mimes** admitted to being baffled by the explanation:

“I don’t know what ducks and cards have to do with it, but it looks like the play will stand, Phil,” he said.

“Yes, the play will stand as a Durham touchdown, Bill,” **Phil Mimms** concurred. “The officials, as we know, have a hard job to do, and it looks like Referee Martin is trying to get it right. But I can’t say I know the purpose of that last huddle, or what a card is.”

As far as the thousands of Spartan partisans in the crowd were concerned, the strange behaviour of the referee was secondary to the unexpected home team deficit. The Lizards had struck quickly and hard on back-to-back possessions and had taken a 21-6 lead, a surprising turn of events. The crowd was agitated and so was the Pickering sideline. Defensive Coordinator, **General Pausanias** was at one point seen to be on his hands and knees as if imploring Coach **Gus Konstantakos** about something. But the Pickering coach stood tall and resolute, the vents of his skull helmet – encasing his brain that had been exposed when his head exploded in New Jersey last year – gleamed azure blue. He deigned to even address his faithful servant of as many years as the Spartans had been in existence, directing his attention instead in the direction of the referee, to whom he bellowed within range of the field microphones, “*tha fas ksiloi!*”

The referee turned his head toward the Pickering sideline then quickly turned away, blowing his whistle with extra emphasis to signal the start of the kickoff.

A sense of urgency engulfed the Pickering offence. **Philip Rivers** flipped a switch on the ensuing drive, connecting on passes of 21 and 33 yards to **Golden Tate** and 22 yards to **Sterling Shepard** to set up a 4-yard TD run by Triumph reject, **Doug Martin**. That brought the crowd to its feet and the Spartans to within 8 points, trailing 21-13. But that would turn out to be the final euphoric moment for the home team and its fans.

The Thunder Lizards proved to be remarkably determined to hold on to their advantage. After the teams traded punts, Coach Kaldis decided to forgo the passing game and attack the Pickering line with a heavy dose of the running game. The Lizards chipped away with short gainer after short gainer, stringing together 18 agonizingly slow plays to move into field goal range. **Phil Dawson** was true from 32 yards, putting the visitors in front by two scores, 24-13.

With 7 minutes remaining, the Spartans had more than enough time to come back. But the closing window of opportunity meant that a score – field goal or touchdown – was mandatory on the upcoming drive.

After a 1-yard loss by **Ty Montgomery** on a first play run prompted a torrent of boos from the crowd, a 12-yard completion to

Benjamin Watson and a 15-yard personal foul penalty on **Devin McCourty** surged the Spartans forward 27 yards to the Durham 49-yard line.

“Well, I’ll be honest, Bill,” **Phil Mimms** commented as the umpire marked off the additional penalty yardage. “I am not sure what Devin McCourty did to draw that flag. He tackles Watson a little high and his hand brushes by the facemask, but he definitely does not get a hold of the facemask. That’s a big penalty in this situation and it gives the Spartans 15 more yards.”

Two plays later, an incomplete pass on 2nd down was salvaged when Durham defensive tackle **Linval Joseph** was flagged for a personal foul. The referee, Martin, announced it as: “*Personal foul, number 98, defence, foul of the person. 15-yard penalty.*”

Again, the booth commentators were at a loss to explain what had happened.

“Joseph is double-teamed on that play by right guard, Ronald Leary and center Alex Mack,” **Bill Mimes** narrated as the replay ran on the screen. “Looks like he’s working hard to defeat that double-team, Phil.”

“Yes, he is, Bill, and you have to expect that he’s going to get his hands up in that situation,” **Phil Mimms** added. “As long as he keeps those hands away from the face of the opposing lineman, which I think he does, he can push and shove all he wants. I think that’s just a good trench battle there, Bill.”

The crowd was loving it. The Spartans were suddenly at the Durham 34-yard line and they had not done much to earn it. Coach Kaldis, high-strung on a good day, was in danger of having a stroke on the Durham sideline. That was the 15th penalty against his team and only a handful of those had been clearly warranted. He bawled at the referee: “*Anti gamisou!*” at which the referee turned and flipped him the bird. This was a shock to the Durham coach, as he had become accustomed to swearing in Greek at EFL referees for 11 years and had never elicited a reaction from a single one.

The roar of the 300 Spartans chanting “*SPART-ANS A’OO! SPART-ANS A’OO!*” rose to the forefront as Shepard snared a sideline pass and stepped out of bounds for a first down at the Durham 9-yard line. It looked like the Spartans were going in for the kill. But on the next play, with the Lizard defenders crowding the line in a nickel set, Rivers dropped back and, with great confidence and authority, rifled a ball toward running back **Ty Montgomery**, who was running a medium curl. Unfortunately for Rivers, Durham safety **DJ Swearingen**, who had been playing two steps behind the middle linebacker, noticed Montgomery sneaking out of the back field. As Rivers released the ball Swearingen jumped in front of Montgomery and picked the ball off in the end zone, ending the threat. Swearingen placed the ball on the turf and kneeled, kissing his other hand and raising it to the sky.

The few hundred Durham fans scattered throughout Thermopylae Stadium hooted in glee while the Spartan collective responded with a crestfallen, “*AHH-OHHH!*” But at that precise moment when the sound of Durham fans rejoicing reached a crescendo and Spartans fans were heard spitting out the phlegm of defeat in hoots and curses, a flag landed in the end zone, thrown by the referee.

“Hold on! There’s a flag on the play!” **Bill Mimes** exclaimed. “That was a pretty late flag, Phil. Do you think they might be calling DJ Swearingen for unsportsmanlike conduct?”

“The officials are gathering to talk about it, Bill,” **Phil Mimms** replied. “I don’t know how that would be unsportsmanlike conduct, though. Especially after Doug Martin didn’t get called for running up the field, holding the football out with one hand and sticking his finger out at the Durham sideline with the other after *his* touchdown!”

The officials huddled around the goal line. The discussions were again prolonged and this time accompanied by sharp gesturing from the side and field judges. Finally, the referee threw his hands up in the air and moved to the center of the field to address the crowd: “*There is no flag. There is no offside on the defense in the end zone. The play is a tackle for the defender.*”

Murmuring of discontent quickly turned to widespread booing in the stands at Thermopylae Stadium. It was bad enough that the game had been marred by bad weather and bad play. But the bizarre refereeing, even if it had favoured the home side, had only contributed to the sense of injustice that now permeated the atmosphere. As far as the 40,000-odd Spartan diehards were concerned, the Thunder lizards had somehow cheated their way to victory. And **Gus Konstantakos** was not about to dissuade them from that view.

The Pickering coach was dangerously incensed. He waved his fists in the air and bellowed angry nonsense toward the sky. It was at this point, unbeknownst to the TV audience and most of the stadium, that the referee, **Clay Martin**, left the field. This seemed to make Coach Konstantakos even more agitated. He flexed and crouched and leaped as if he was engaged in mortal combat. But there was no opponent in front of him. Coaches and players kept their distance, fearful of getting hit or having to restrain their head coach. With each thrust and jump the blue glow intensified from the vents of his skull helmet.

The rest of the game was played without a referee. **Danny Short**, the down judge, assumed Martin’s duties. Whether this was legal or not is up for debate, since there is no rule or precedent that covers the referee leaving the field in the middle of the game.

Having no ref might have been for the best anyway. It meant that there were no more long delays and that the few fans still watching on TV got to see what ‘old school’ football used to look like in the dying minutes of a game. Before television took over football, the refs never used to attempt to “make it interesting” for the sake of ratings and sponsors. A team that was whipped was allowed to be whipped – it was part of teaching them a lesson not to be whipped again and getting everyone home in time for dinner.

In keeping with the Spartan mantra of ‘NEVER SURRENDER,’ however, the Pickering players continued to play hard until the end, even attempting a 62-yard field goal with 0:38 left in the faint hope that an improbable success would lead to a successful onside kick, followed by a touchdown and two-point conversion to tie the game. One-in-a-million is still a chance.

But while the game played out mundanely on the field, mayhem was building up off of it. **Smota Platypusopoulos** of the

Royal Greek Society suddenly burst out of the tunnel, shouting loudly in Greek. **Vasilis Vasilinistusakas** of the *Hellenic Cultural Centre* was right behind him, howling obscenities. **Gus Konstantakos** had retreated away from the bench and was being closely monitored by his personal physician, **Kristos Hippocrates** and scrutinized by **Akrotatos Thrombos**, captain of his security detail and the person responsible for authorizing the use of the ‘Gus Gun’ – a shotgun-style device that fired an ouzo-tipped sedative capable of tranquilizing a large elephant.

It was touch-and-go whether or not Gus would have one of his infamous “fits.” Unfortunately, the arrival of the Greek elders did nothing to mitigate the possibility of a full-blown eruption. The angry, loud exchange between them, and **Smota Platypusopoulos**’ attempts to take the field and engage the officiating crew while being restrained by **Vasilis Vasilinistusakas** and a coterie of beefy security guards, only served to agitate the zealous Pickering coach further.

Gus’ breath turned into a misty blue cloud. His eyes, like two burning sapphires, glazed over. “*I AM SPART-O MAN!*” he uttered gutturally in blue.

< ZZZZHHEEEEEEEEEHHPPP! >

A crackling, high-pitched keening sound pierced the air as a faint blue column of light shot upward from one of the vents in his skull helmet. The beam struck one of the dozens of bronze busts of Leonidas crowning the rim of the stadium bowl, causing it to melt instantly. Fans in Section 840 cried out in alarm and scattered toward the exits. Gus turned his large frame around, his blank eyes surveying the crowd. He howled, “*AAAAHHRRRRQQQQARRGAARHHHHAAHHH!*”

< ZZZZHHEEEEEEEEEHHPPP! >

Another blue laser beam issued forth from Gus’ helmet. It struck the visiting owner’s luxury box next to the media booth, melting the glass and boring a hole straight through the walls and the stadium façade behind it. A shriek from Durham owner, **Celine Dion** filled the air, a grating fusion of long notes from ‘*All By Myself*’ and ‘*The Power of Love*.’ The sound caused fans in the 400 level below to scream in horror and race for the exits.

The unleashing of Dion’s highest vocal range signalled real danger. Without further hesitation, Captain Thrombos issued the stern command to “deploy the gun!” An armoured sniper levelled the device and pulled the trigger. The ouzo-tipped dart landed with precision into the side of Gus’ neck – the optimum location for accelerating the action of the sedative. The great man jolted, his eyes refocused, a look of confusion crossed his face for a brief moment before his eyelids drooped and he fell to the ground with a loud thud.

The danger had passed for now. But there was still much confusion on the ground and in the stands. That something strange had happened was certain, but exactly what and why were unclear.

AFTERMATH

The league announced immediately after that it would be investigating the refereeing – both the calls and the “false flags.” The league also announced that it would be suspending Pickering coach, **Gus Konstantakos** until appropriate safety features were installed to prevent his “helmet-head” from discharging during play.

A local Police investigation was initiated when referee **Clay Martin** was found unconscious, but alive, stuffed inside his clothing locker in the officials’ dressing room, with no memory of having refed the game. A false jaw and a toupee had been discovered discarded in the hall outside the dressing room and had been seized.

Smota Platypusopoulos, head of the *Royal Greek Society*, announced that he would be launching a lawsuit against **Vasilis Vasilinistusakas**, the *Hellenic Cultural Center* and the Board of Thermopylae Stadium for the injuries he suffered while, as he described it, “I was fulfilling my duty as a Greek to denounce and expose the scandal of Greek Football corruption imported to Canadian shores by unscrupulous criminals associated to the Pickering Spartans organization.” For his part, **Vasilis Vasilinistusakas** of the *Hellenic Cultural Centre* announced a counter-suit against **Smota Platypusopoulos** and the *Royal Greek Society* to compensate for injuries he suffered while, as he described it, “attempting to restrain a mad dog of a man who had threatened my life and the life of the referee, who was just trying to do his job” and for “slandorous allegations against me and the proud and just Pickering Spartans team.”

Durham coach, **George Kaldis** presided over a grim post-game presser in which he took the referee to task in a very blunt and direct way, seemingly uncaring about the fine usually levied for such brazen criticism of EFL officials. But as of this writing, the league had not announced any action in that regard. Very little was said about his team’s impressive upset and **Cam Newton**’s big day.

Although it is too early for the official investigations to have drawn conclusions, sources inside the league have informed me confidentially that the Committee believes an imposter took the field, pretending to be first year referee, **Clay Martin**. They are cooperating with the police investigation and hoping to identify the main suspect who, it is rumoured, may have come all the way from Greece to fix the match. Pay attention to these pages, dear readers, for breaking news about this unprecedented scandal.

AROUND THE EFL

The average losing deficit in Week Three EFL games was a whopping 16 points. The closest differential was 5 points (two games) while the widest differential was 32. No question this was not a week where fans of any team spent an entire game glued to their seats in suspense. But that does not mean that nothing of interest transpired. Read on....

The new-and-improved New Jersey Wrecking Balls had the misfortune of running into the Twin Cities Triumph on ‘*Bud Grant Day*’ at Wilhalla Stadium. It seems that every year, the Triumph organization honours the former, and greatest, Vikings head coach. Bud is a local icon and is listed as a “consultant” for the Triumph, even though he is rarely seen at the team’s head offices. It seems he

really enjoys being honoured on game day and rumour has it that he is secretly behind the letter campaigns spearheaded by his family to have him featured under the Wilhalla Stadium spotlight each year. This year, Bud kicked the “Ceremonial Opening *Onside Kick*” to start the game. This was done to avoid the embarrassment he suffered in previous seasons when his ceremonial kick-offs were hardly able to cover 10 yards. Bud dribbled one just shy of the 10-yard marker that was deemed “recovered by the kicking team” to polite applause from the capacity crowd and the great and obvious delight of Bud himself. A pumped-up **Bud Grant** was all *Müch Trubisky* needed to inspire him to rise above his limited and still-developing talent to throw for 268 yards, run for two touchdowns and pass for another in a 41-9 thrashing of New Jersey. There was not much, if anything, positive to take away from this game for the Wrecking Balls. “We’ll put this behind s and drive on,” Head Coach **Bill Parcels** wisely said after the game.

At Ferenc-Liszt International Airport Stadium in Budapest, the North Stars’ defence slowly strangled the **Joe Flacco**-led Corn Kings’ offence while **Tyrod Taylor** dodderingly and painstakingly built an 18-point lead, mostly through his legs, to finish in front of Cowtown 18-3. This was the most difficult game of the week to watch and I recommend that if you haven’t viewed the film yet, don’t. Take my word for it: fears that Flacco would be Cowtown’s Achilles Heel in 2018 were revived as a result of this performance after being put on hold following Week 1 & Week 2 victories. Certainly, the early loss of receiver **Mike Evans** hurt the game plan. But that does not excuse Flacco’s indecision in the pocket, the mis-reads, the badly-timed audibles and the unforced misses downfield. Flacco may be hurt, or may be past his prime. Whatever the reason, **Jimmy Garoppolo** deserves a shot.

At Paul Brown Stadium in Cincinnati, the visiting Gladiators pushed their record to 3-0 with a 27-22 victory over the struggling Crusaders. An incredible late burst of offence by **Kirk Cousins**, in which he threw 2 TD passes in a span of 21 seconds, made this game look close on the scoreboard. But for 58 minutes it was anything but close. The one-two backfield punch of **Alex Collins** and **Sony Michel** combined for 192 yards rushing, helping to pave the way for a 281-yard, two-touchdown performance by **Ben Roethlisberger**. The controversial decision to trade star, **LeSean McCoy** to New Jersey during the off-season is hardly being talked about any more in Georgia.

At New Era Field in Buffalo, the Derailers stunned the visiting Cadillac 31-0 for their second win of the season. This was a case of total defensive domination by a team that most pundits had predicted would be dominated in the same manner by the talented and dangerous Erieau defence. Instead, it was the Derailer ‘D’, led by rookie linebacker **Rashaan Evans**, that clamped a vice on **Matt Stafford**, limiting the beleaguered Cadillac QB to just 98-yards passing while sacking him 6 times and forcing 3 turnovers. Meanwhile, **David Fales**, who most had expected to melt down in the face of defensive studs like **Joey Bosa** and **Justin Houston**, had the best day of his limited career, passing for 241 yards and limiting his turnovers to a single interception. While not remotely close, this game was a stunner that provided a classic “on-any-given-Sunday” outcome and is therefore worth mentioning.

The **Drew Brees** Era finally arrived in Sebastian this week as the Swordfish filleted the Hawks 41-26 at the Fish Tank. Brees threw for 384 yards and 3 touchdowns, two of those to **Doug Baldwin**, who led the receiving corps with 11 catches for 186 yards. Brees provided the kind of offensive fireworks fans and sportswriters in Florida had been calling for after **Eron Osman** made the trade for the future Hall-of-Famer to both “mentor” **Jameis Winston** and win a Championship while doing so. As important as the numbers and the win were, the fact that they came against a good team in the Hawks bolsters the statement. But the Hawks fall to 0-3 with this loss and it is clear that the team, for all its talent, is in some kind of disarray. Maybe this big Swordfish win will not look so big by Week 16.

At **TERRODOME** in Virden the Chargers maintained their early season hot streak with a 27-13 win over the consistently inconsistent Violators. **Carson Wentz** outdueled **Derek Carr**, throwing for 198 yards and 2 touchdowns with no interceptions. The fatal blow came from the defence in the 4th quarter when **Shaquil Barrett** stripped Carr and **Demario Davis** scooped it up for a 74-yard fumble recovery touchdown to make the score 27-6. A virtual tie statistically away from the scoreboard, this game turned on field position and the ability of Wentz to finish off drives in the red zone. St. Charles is winning by doing the little things right.

At Magna Park in Aurora the Mustangs trotted to a 21-10 victory over division rival Toronto. Aurora coach, **Rich Liotta** did a radical makeover of his entire offensive strategy of the past four years specifically for this game. The Wolverines were not mentally prepared for a run-first Aurora offence and were caught many times guarding against the pass as the Mustangs threw a rotating barrage of **Kenyan Drake**, **Wayne Gallman**, **Mike Tolbert** and **Kalen Ballage** at the wavering Toronto defensive line, combining for a whopping 51 carries. The cumulative effect of the ground assault was 198 yards and 2 touchdowns and a 36.5 to 23.5 time of possession advantage. It was a smart win for the Mustangs – a team that will have to become increasingly resourceful in order to maintain its traditional dominance over the league.

At the Kingdome in Seattle, the plucky Pilots fell pluckily to the high-flying Convicts, 28-23. **Dak Prescott** threw for 359 yards and 3 TDs, taking advantage of a depleted Seattle secondary that was missing its two best defenders, **Marshon Lattimore** and **Kam Chancellor**. It was a knock down drag ‘em out fight for most of the 1st half, with Seattle taking a 17-14 lead with just 0:49 left in the 2nd quarter. But passes of 56 yards and 12 yards to speedster **Marquise Goodwin** vaulted the Convicts in front 21-17 in the dying seconds of the half. The late major seemed to break the Pilots’ will. They are still a team finding its way with sparse talent.

And finally, at Round Table Stadium in LA, the Iowa City Cubs took advantage of an opposing quarterback who was playing worse than their own, intercepting the Knights’ **Josh McCown** twice to set up 10 points and spark a lacklustre 20-6 win. This was not a feel-good story for either team. **Russell Wilson** played a losing game and the Knights lost an opportunity to exploit a rare off-day for their QB nemesis by getting even worse play from their veteran “solution” to **Andy Dalton**’s erratic play.

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RECORD VS THE SPREAD AFTER WEEK 3:

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Jimmy's WEEK FOUR PICKS

BRUXELLES @ BROOKLIN (line – BOMBERS by 1)

INJURIES: **Bruxelles** – Travis Kelce (PROBABLE), Terrelle Pryor Sr (OUT), Anthony Walker Jr (OUT), Dede Westbrook (OUT), Mitch Morse (OUT); **Brooklin** – Brandon Williams (QUESTIONABLE), DeAndre Hopkins (OUT), Janoris Jenkins (OUT).

This is not the same Bombers team that bowled over most challengers on its way to the final in 2017. Yet, they are favoured on the road here because the Hawks are not the same team they were last year either and, so far this year, have looked invitingly perversive on defence and prone to seizures on offence. The Bombers have not looked good either but at least they have a win. The lack of a vertical passing game from the wings is bringing Marcus Mariota's numbers down to earth. They could get a boost here against a ragged Brooklin secondary that has not picked off a pass while surrendering plenty of yards. Brooklin, a pre-season favourite to challenge in a tough Coastal Division, is looking like a team lost. One of their few constants, DeAndre Hopkins, is listed as 'out.' They have been burning through Gronk trying to stay afloat. They need to win here or it's basically over. **PICK: BROOKLIN**

BUFFALO @ BUDAPEST (line – NORTH STARS by 1)

INJURIES: **Buffalo** – Rashaan Evans (OUT), Josh Rosen (OUT); **Budapest** – Stefon Diggs (QUESTIONABLE), Orlando Scandrick (OUT), Jason Peters (OUT), Jordan Reed (OUT).

I spit up my coffee when I first saw this line. Clearly, I am not reading this Buffalo team correctly. Or maybe I am and they were just the beneficiaries of some divine intervention against Erieau last week. Whatever I am not seeing, Vegas sees clearly. It must be the Derailers' currently no.1 ranked defence doing the trick. I caution that one big reason for that ranking is the utter incompetence of the Cadillac offence they shutout last week. A few well-placed and clearly-marked road signs could have diverted Matt Stafford away from the end zone. I am willing to concede that they could give Tyrod Taylor and the systematically slow Budapest offence trouble. But Ferenc-Liszt Int'l is where visiting offences go to die and I don't see David Fales bucking that trend. **PICK: BUDAPEST**

PICKERING @ ST. CHARLES (line – CHARGERS by 8)

INJURIES: **Pickering** – Devonta Freeman (PROBABLE), Tyvon Branch (OUT); **St. Charles** – Zach Line (PROBABLE), Tyler Decker (OUT).

A 3-0 start in a mediocre East Division was never an unrealistic goal for the Chargers. But until they pulled away with authority from Virden they had not looked like an authentic 3-0 team. This week they get a chance to prove they deserve to be elevated, Bruxelles-of-2017 style, into the next level of competition based on merit. The Spartans are coming off two losses in which their defence looked passive and Philip Rivers looked exasperated. Telvin Smith is back, which should help, but the Spartans need to find ways to generate pressure or Carson Wentz will pick apart a rather ordinary secondary that is missing heavy-hitter Tyvon Branch. Oh...and Rivers has to stop throwing picks, too. The line is a little too ambitious for a game that could go either way. **PICK: PICKERING**

YORK @ NEW JERSEY (line – EXCALIBURS by 1)

INJURIES: **York** – Jordan Power (OUT), Kolton Miller (OUT); **New Jersey** – Willie Henry (PROBABLE).

After what appeared to be a major Week One upset over Pacific Champion Bruxelles, the Wrecking Balls have reverted to more familiar form. Maybe Cinderella is not in the cards for them after all. Still, there is a different vibe surrounding this team. It is fair to consider that they were simply in the wrong place at the wrong time last week when they got caught in a tempest of Triumph power

fueled by the maniacally-charged vortex of Wilhalla Stadium. It happens from time to time there. If NJ has an A-game worthy of a contender they will need to bring it here against a York team that continues to get the job done on defence while showing unusual pop on offence. A resolute Tom Brady means business and he won't let little Jared stand in his way. **PICK: YORK**

AURORA @ VIRDEN (line – MUSTANGS by 3)

INJURIES: Aurora – Trent Williams (OUT); Virden – Leonard Floyd (OUT), Shane Ray (OUT), Ja'Wuan James (OUT), John Kuhn (OUT), Eric Berry (OUT), Marshall Yanda (OUT).

The Violators, as usual, have me guessing. Are they going to be good or bad this week? They have the personnel to emerge as the top team in the Central, but are plagued by sporadic execution. There will be little room for error going up against a Mustangs team that has shown the ability to adjust its approach in order to win. Last week they ran the ball an unprecedented 51 times to avoid throwing into a loaded Wolverine secondary. No such dramatic adjustments are required here, but expect a balanced attack designed to get the Virden defence off-balance. The Violators will miss Leonard Floyd as an extra pass rush threat, but otherwise they are healthy enough to take this game. Success will depend on Ezekiel Elliott getting traction on the ground and Derek Carr taking advantage of the air opportunities that provides. Execution will be the key and I think they will. **PICK: VIRDEN**

GEORGIA @ CHARLESWOOD (line – GLADIATORS by 5)

INJURIES: Georgia – Jourdan Lewis (QUESTIONABLE), Reuben Foster (OUT); Charleswood – Jalen Mills (OUT), Brandon Linder (OUT), Deshaun Watson (OUT), Marcus Gilbert (OUT), Jamie Collins (OUT).

The Gladiators were nobody's pre-season pick to be one of the league's final three undefeated teams, but they are. They have a good shot at increasing that winning streak to four against a Pats team that does not look capable of winning with Blake Bortles at QB. The Pats' former 1st round pick turned back-up apparently needs lots of help to succeed and there just isn't enough high-powered talent on the Charleswood roster to make up the difference. Never mind that the Glads' defence is not exactly intimidating, simply taking the field and moving around may be enough to stop the Pats' hapless pivot. There still is hope for the home team, albeit faint. The "Bad Ben" is overdue to make his debut in 2018. If that happens, all bets are off. **PICK: GEORGIA**

CINCINNATI @ TWIN CITIES (line – TRIUMPH by 14)

INJURIES: Cincinnati – None; Twin Cities – Carson Palmer (OUT), Joe Thomas (OUT).

It is not looking good for the Crusaders – not in this game, not in this season. The injuries that have historically plagued this team have not been the issue this year and that is causing even more of an alarm. If this is their level of play when healthy, how bad will it be when the injury bug finally hits? The undefeated Triumph, on the other hand, are coming off a blowout home victory where they looked like the Triumph of two years ago. And they did it with Mitch Trubisky at quarterback. It certainly does not look like Cincinnati stands a chance here, except an outside one against the abnormally high two-touchdown spread. It is at this point when I usually offer the other side a hope for victory, but not this time. Cincy is a mess and will get messed up. **PICK: TWIN CITIES**

TORONTO @ ERIEAU (line – WOLVERINES by 3)

INJURIES: Toronto – Tom Compton (OUT), Shawn Williams (OUT), Billy Price (OUT), John Simon (OUT); Erieau – Jabrill Peppers (OUT).

The optimist will point out that the Cadillac offence cannot perform worse than it did in Week Three against Buffalo. I'm not so sure. One thing I am sure of is that its defence, particularly the line, will create serious problems for the Wolverines' offensive line, as Toronto will be vastly over-matched in the trenches with Billy Price out. Saquon Barkely – you're on your own. Jay Cutler, throw it away first, read through your progressions later. It is quite possible that we could see neither team break double digits on the scoreboard. But if we do it will be likely due to one or both teams striking suddenly from a distance as opposed to sustained, well-executed series. This should be Erieau's game but that offence...ugh! Take the under! **PICK: TORONTO**

IOWA CITY @ SCARBOROUGH (line – CUBS by 4)

INJURIES: Iowa City – None; Scarborough – Brock Osweiler (OUT), Aaron Rodgers (OUT), Cordy Glenn (OUT), Dont'a Hightower (OUT).

The Blue Eagles picked up Brett Hundley in a trade this week in an attempt to avoid seeing any more of Sean Mannion at quarterback. So, a guy who couldn't find playing time on the Cadillac is going to be better than the worse QB to play for Scarborough since Terrelle Pryor? Possibly. But not so much better that it will make a difference against the perilous Cubs' cornerbacks and the ever-dangerous Fletcher Cox. The only mystery in this game is why the Vegas odds-makers have set the line

at a modest 4 points. Russell Wilson is looking a bit shaky, but he could still be bad and the Cubs will cover. **PICK: IOWA CITY**

LOS ANGELES @ DURHAM (line – THUNDER LIZARDS by 10)

INJURIES: Los Angeles – Bryan Bulaga (OUT), Weston Richburg (OUT); Durham – Oren Burks (PROBABLE), Laurent Duvernay-Tardif (OUT), Richard Sherman (OUT).

The Josh McCown experiment in LA is Turning sour while the Cam Newton Era in Durham is going surprisingly well. There is talk in Durham about foregoing the current rebuild and going for it now that the road to the championship appears wide open. This talk is premature. The Knights are familiar with Newton and inflicted on him the worst game-day passer rating of his career (15.7) back in 2016. The 'Blue Shield' is holding up well against the pass and proving respectable against the run, but this has not been enough to shore up what has been, so far, a terrible offence. Simply put, the Knights have to stop giving the ball away or they will suffer a long season. Durham just has to avoid mistakes to win, but 10 points may be too much to give. **PICK: LOS ANGELES**

COWTOWN @ CHINO (line – Pick'Em)

INJURIES: Cowtown – Mike Evans (DOUBTFUL), Greg Mancz (OUT), Ronald Darby (OUT); Chino – Austin Seferian-Jenkins (QUESTIONABLE), Ryan Kalil (OUT).

The limitations of Joe Flacco at quarterback were on display in Budapest last week after being covered up by two good defensive efforts to start the season. Fans are calling for Jimmy Garoppolo but the coach is unwilling to make the move. This could prove costly on the road against a ball-hawking Chino secondary and a defensive line that will win more than its share of battles. Mike Evans is listed as 'doubtful' and he will be sorely missed if he cannot play, putting Todd Gurley into the spotlight. After a slow start, Dak Prescott exploded last week against a battered Seattle secondary. It won't be as easy for him against a good defence ranked no.3 overall in efficiency, but time will be on his side if Cowtown's offence can't get anything going. **PICK: CHINO**

SEBASTIAN @ SEATTLE (line – PILOTS by 6)

INJURIES: Sebastian – Arik Armstead (OUT); Seattle – Marshon Lattimore, Kam Chancellor (OUT).

We all saw last week what the Swordfish are capable of with Drew Brees at quarterback. But three strong showings by the Pilots, coupled with the homefield advantage and signs of inconsistency in Sebastian, have resulted in an unflattering line for the visitors. Sebastian sees itself as a top contender and this will not sit well with the coach, who probably has this posted on the player's bulletin board already. Seattle is playing slightly over its head at the moment. Its quarterback has not convinced skeptics that he has permanently returned to old form, while the two main players in the secondary, Marshon Lattimore and Kam Chancellor, are still out, leaving a gaping hole for Drew Brees to throw through. The Swordfish are healthy, gaining confidence and have yet to show their best. The Pilots are gamers and will hang in as long as they can, but don't expect any miracles. **PICK: SEBASTIAN**



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This Week in EFL History
With Professor Sterling Smitherman

FROM THE EFL ARCHIVES – Week Three of the 2012 EFL Season was the week the woeful Iowa City Cubs secured their sole victory of the 2012 campaign, defeating Charleswood 17-6. **Jason Pierre-Paul** starred for the defence with 13 tackles, 2 sacks and a forced fumble that clinched the win. **Sam Bradford** starred for the offence with 2 TD passes and amazingly no picks. This was the year of the "Black Cubs," so-named due to a uniform change to black and gold in imitation of the Iowa Hawkeyes. The look and the team did not go over well with the fans and the team

did nothing to create a legacy for the new look. The 'Hawkeye' colours were discarded the following year.

The Death Valley offence continued its torrid pace to start the year, racking up 548 yards of offence and 34 first downs in a 31-28 win over the Chino Convicts. **Drew Brees** threw for 481 yards and 3 TDs but in the end his team needed an interception by **Janoris Jenkins** late in the game to set up the game-winning FG by **Graham Gano**.

The heavily-favoured Durham Thunder Lizards piled up 497 yards of offence against the Pickering Spartans but still needed a late miracle from **Calvin 'Megatron' Johnson** to pull out a 24-21 victory. Facing 3rd & 10 at the Pickering 32 with just 0:47 left in the game, Rivers connected with Johnson on a medium crossing pattern that the stud receiver took all 32-yards for the game-winning score.

Mark it down for the EFL Trivia test later on: 2012 was the year that **Matt Stafford** was good. The Violator QB passed for 294 yards and 3 TDs, including a 3-yard check down pass to **John Kuhn** on 4th & goal at the 3 with just 0:54 left in the game, to propel Virden in clutch fashion to a 38-35 victory over main Eastern rival York.