

2018



WEEK

5



EFL

ELITE FOOTBALL LEAGUE

In our 11th season and still going strong!

November 4, 2018

2018



WEEK

5

A STAR IS BORN!



Jimmy Garoppolo

Corn Kings QB, **Jimmy Garoppolo** stands in the pocket and surveys the field in 1st quarter Week Five action against Aurora. All he did in his first start of 2018 was throw for 315 yards and 6 TD passes in a shocking 48-13 rout of the defending champs. In other league action, the Gladiators and the Wolverines kept pace with each other at the top of the South Division. **Big Ben** connected with **Kenny Stills** for a 62-yard game-winning TD pass with 6 seconds left to beat Durham 35-28; while Toronto safety, **Eric Weddle** haunted his former team with a 30-yard pick-six for the only TD in a 13-0 win over the Blue Eagles. In the Pacific Conference, **Mitch Trubisky** delivered a 63-yard TD pass to **Antonio Brown** for the only TD in a 10-9 Twin Cities victory over the Cubs; while the Chargers finally lost one, dropping a 25-16 decision to the Bombers across the Atlantic in Bruxelles. (See inside for other EFL action)

EAST



CENTRAL



WEST



NORTH



COASTAL



SOUTH



*Who was slick
in Week Five?*

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



Jimmy Garoppolo
RB
Cowtown
Corn Kings

14 Carries, 172 yards, 2 TDs
Exploded in 2nd half to upset Chino



Ryan Kerrigan
ILB
Cowtown
Corn Kings

17 tackles, 1 PD, 2 STFs 1 INT.
Always around the ball and spied too

OFFENSIVE PLAY OF THE WEEK

1st & 10, OWN 38,4th quarter, DTL 28, GEO 27: **Kenny Stills** (GEO) long fly for 62-yards and winning TD.





















GAME CENTER 2018 Week Five

By Chris Sherman



DEFENSIVE PLAY OF THE WEEK

TOR 6, SBE 0: 3:51 4th quarter. **Eric Weddle** (TOR) picks **Brett Hundley** & returns 30yds for a TD.

	7	Another flat uninspired game by the Crusaders. So spooked was Cincinnati's defensive co-ordinator by quarterback Drew Brees that he called 15 prevent defences, mostly on early downs only to be constantly gouged by the run. The defense never adjusted and Sebastian came away with an extremely easy win as Brees barely broke a sweat in completing 15 of 19 passes for 160 yards and 3 TDs. Menefee's crew was led by wide receiver Keenan Allen who hauled in 11 of 17 targets for 136 yards and the Crusaders' only score on the day. As for "light at the end of the tunnel" for Cincinnati – there is none as they travel to Aurora for a Week 6 matchup.
	31	
	10	Twin Cities travelled to Iowa City and engaged the Cubs in a sleeper, coming away with a numbing 10-9 victory. Neither quarterback cracked the 50% completion mark, with Mitchell Trubisky being slightly less offensive than Russell Wilson and actually throwing a TD pass on a 63 yard bomb to Antonio Brown for the game's only major early in the second half, giving the Triumph an insurmountable four point advantage. For Iowa City, Coach Redding is extremely pleased with the recent kicking of his 4 million dollar man, Justin Tucker, who has now converted on his last 14 kick attempts (7 FGs – 7 XPs). Twin Cities is the EFL's last undefeated team.
	9	
	16	And then there was one. With St. Charles' unexpected loss to Bruxelles the Chargers fail out of the ranks of the undefeated. Carson Wentz had his second abysmal passing outing in a row as he only completed 16 of 36 passes for 140 yards and 2 INTs, while being sacked six times by a tenacious Bombers defense led by veteran linebacker Terrell Suggs who was in Wentz's grill all day, sacking him twice and forcing another two fumbles. Marcus Mariota was a workman-like 19 of 33 for 232 yards and 3 TDs for Bruxelles who never trailed in this one. A late score and two point conversion by the Chargers made this one look closer than it actually was.
	25	
	20	With Pickering's season on the brink the Spartan's travelled to Camelot to face division foe York. The first half was a see-saw affair with the teams trading scores, the difference being York's forced FG on Pickering's first possession. Half time score 21-17 York. After a scoreless 3 rd quarter the Excaliburs increased their lead to 11 points on a late Tom Brady to Josh Doctson 10-yard TD pass. Pickering got the ball back with 3:15 left on the clock and quickly managed to move into FG range, with Greg Zuerlein kicking a 48-yard FG on 2 nd down. The Spartans recovered the onside kick but Philip Rivers was immediately intercepted. Game over for the Spartans.
	28	
	0	With Aaron Rodgers still nursing an injury suffered late in week one's loss to Cowtown, Scarborough once again went with Brett Hundley and once again the results were not good. Toronto held Hundley and the Blue Eagles to 5 first downs, 108 yards of net offense and 0 points. The Wolverines were only marginally better on offense, managing six points on two Daniel Carlson FGs. A late 30-yard pick-6 by Eric Weddle iced this one for Toronto which moves to 4 – 1 and tied with Georgia for first place in the South. Scarborough is in a neck and neck race to the bottom with Cincinnati for the number one overall pick in the 2019 EFL College Draft.
	13	
	25	3-1 Budapest made the cross Atlantic trek to play 1-3 Brooklin. The Hawks jumped out to a 13-0 lead on two Alex Smith TD passes. The North Stars evened the score at 13 on an Isaiah Crowell TD run and Tyrod Taylor TD before a Smith to Randall Cobb 42-yard TD restored Brooklin's lead at 20-13. Facing a 3 rd and 8 with under 2 minutes left in the half Taylor hooked up with a wide open Donte Moncrief for a 62-yard score. Kai Forbath missed his 2 nd XP of the game, keeping the scored tied at the half. Two 2 nd half Forbath FGs gave Markham the lead but a Smith to Rob Gronkowski 44-yard TD with 1:08 remaining gave Brooklin a hard fought 26-25 victory.
	26	
	0	For the third time in five games Erieau failed to get double digit first downs, recording eight. Matthew Stafford has officially bottomed out, completing 5 of 18 passes for 51 yards and 2 INTs for a QB rating of 0.00. Dak Prescott, on the other hand, hit on 26 of 35 pass attempts for 302 yards and 3 TDs, two to Nelson Agholor, as Chino put up 28 points for an easy 28-0 win. The game was not as close as the score indicates as the Convicts held the ball for over 38 minutes and put up 418 yards of net offense to the Cadillac's 115 yards. Things do not get any easier for Stafford and company in week 6 as they travel to the Twin Cities to face the undefeated Triumph.
	28	
	0	Jared Goff had his best game of the season, going 17 of 26 for 226 yards and 2 TDs and LeSean McCoy chipped in 107 yards on 19 carries as New Jersey easily bested an offensively challenged Buffalo squad 31-0. David Fales, once again starting in place of injured rookie quarterback Josh Rosen, completed 19 of 33 passes for 133 yards with no TDs or INTs. Trailing 24-0 in the latter stages of a boring game the Derailers injected a bit of color into things as punter Andy Lee looked to pass on 4 th down, instead he was hit and fumbled the ball away with Wrecking Balls' rookie linebacker Harold Landry scooping it up and rumbling 32 yards for the score.
	31	
	10	Charleswood opened the scoring with an 11 play, 79 yard drive capped by an Alvin Kamara 20-yard TD run late in the first. Seattle countered with two late second quarter scores, an Eli Manning to Dion Lewis 9-yard TD pass and a Josh Lambo 52-yard FG as time expired, to take a 10-7 lead into the locker room at the half. The second half was the Manning show <i>for</i> Charleswood. Manning interception by C.J. Mosley, Blake Bortles 28-yard TD pass to Kamara. Manning strip-sack by Demarcus Lawrence, Lamar Miller 1-yard TD run. Manning interception by Johnathan Joseph, pick-6. Manning strip-sack by Nazir Jones, Ryan Succop 30-yard FG.
	29	
	28	Georgia takes an early 6-0 lead on two 1 st quarter Giorgio Tavecchio FGs. Both offenses are unstoppable in the 2 nd quarter as they each tally 2 TDs, making it a 20-14 game in favour of the Gladiators at the half. A late 3 rd quarter 54-yard Ben Roethlisberger to Jarvis Landry TD strike gives Georgia a commanding 27-14 lead heading into the 4 th quarter. Durham gets hot late in the fourth and takes a 1-point lead with 41 seconds on the clock when Anthony Sherman crashes over from the one. With time running out Roethlisberger hits a streaking Kenny Stills who never breaks stride as he scores from 62 yards out with six seconds on the clock for the win.
	35	
	13	Aurora is humiliated at the hands of Cowtown, equalling the worst loss in franchise history, a 52-17 beat-down by Carthage in 2015. A Jimmy Garoppolo to Larry Fitzgerald 28-yard TD strike at 8:49 of the 1 st quarter put the Corn Kings up by 14. On Aurora's ensuing drive Kenyan Drake took a pitch right 70-yards for the score, bringing the Mustangs to within 7. That would be the highlight of the afternoon for the Mustangs as Garoppolo shredded Aurora's defense for 6 TD passes on 19 of 25 passing and Todd Gurley added 128 yards on 21 rushing attempts. On defense for the Corn Kings, Ryan Kerrigan sacked a constantly harassed Matt Ryan 3 times.
	48	
	7	When you have two quarterbacks you have no quarterbacks. Los Angeles appears to have no quarterbacks. Josh McCown took his turn under center and once again was mostly ineffective, going 22 of 43 for 218 yards and 1 TD while getting sacked 5 times. Virden scored via all three facets of the game; 2 Derek Carr TD passes and 1 rushing TD by Ezekiel Elliott for the offense, a fumble recovery TD by former Knight Deone Bucannon on defense and a JuJu Smith-Schuster kick return TD on special teams. Los Angeles' only score came when McCown hit Brandon Cooks for a 27-yard TD late in the third, preventing a Violators shutout but nothing more.
	35	

CRUSADERS



7

PASSING: Kirk Cousins, 23 of 33, 270 yds, 1 TD, 2 INT
RUSHING: Peyton Barber, 8C, 25yds, (3.1), 0 TD
RECEIVING: Keenan Allen, 11 for 136yds, 26LG, 1 TD
DEFENCE: Kendall Beckwith, 9 T
KICKING: Blair Walsh, 1 of 1 XP, 0 of 0 FG, 1 Pts

SWORDFISH



31

PASSING: Drew Brees, 15 of 19, 160 yds, 3 TD, 0 INT
RUSHING: D'Onta Foreman, 12C, 96yds, (8.0), 1 TD
RECEIVING: Jason Witten, 6 for 64yds, 27LG, 1 TD
DEFENCE: Patrick Robinson, 9T, 1 PD
KICKING: Adam Vinatieri, 4 of 4 XP, 1 of 1 FG, 7 Pts

The Fish Tank Temp: -1 Wind: None

MVP: Brees

	1	2	3	4	Tot
Cincinnati (0-5)	0	0	0	7	7
Sebastian (4-1)	14	14	3	0	31

Scoring Summary

1 3:57 Sebastian	TD Brees 11 pass to Kearse (Vinatieri) (15-75-8:46)	0-7
1 2:49 Sebastian	TD Brees 33 pass to Kearse (Vinatieri) (3-42-1:04)	0-14
2 12:01 Sebastian	TD Brees 6 pass to Witten (Vinatieri) (9-60-4:22)	0-21
2 6:58 Sebastian	TD Foreman 31 run (Vinatieri) (6-90-3:56)	0-28
3 8:08 Sebastian	FG Vinatieri 34 (12-41-6:42)	0-31
4 3:57 Cincinnati	TD Cousins 15 pass to Allen (Walsh,B) (13-84-6:18)	7-31

	CIN	SS
First Downs	16	22
Rushes	12-36	34-192
Passes	23-33-270	20-25-191
Sacked	4-30	0-0
Fumble	1	1
Penalties	6-35	7-45
Turnovers	4	0
Missed Tackles	8	6
Dropped Passes	0	0
Bad Passes	3	0
Passes 25+	2	2
Runs 10+	0	3
Blitzers	7	12
Time	25:59	34:01
Third Down	2-9	9-13
Fourth Down	2-3	0-0
Red Att/Td/Fg	3/1/0	3/2/1
Net Offense	276	383

TRIUMPH



10

PASSING: Mitch Trubisky, 10 of 22, 168 yds, 1 TD, 0 INT
RUSHING: Melvin Gordon, 29C, 199yds, (3.8), 0 TD
RECEIVING: Antonio Brown, 4 for 96yds, 63LG, 1 TD
DEFENCE: Danielle Hunter, 9 T, 2 SK
KICKING: Dustin Hopkins, 1 of 1 XP, 1 of 1 FG, 4 Pts

CUBS



9

PASSING: Russell Wilson, 13 of 28, 102 yds, 0 TD, 0 INT
RUSHING: Bilal Powell, 9C, 44yds, (4.9), 0 TD
RECEIVING: Jerick McKinnon, 4 for 29yds, 10LG, 0 TD
DEFENCE: B.J. Hill, 9T, 1 STF
KICKING: Justin Tucker, 0 of 0 XP, 3 of 3 FG, 9 Pts

Joe Ferguson Stadium Temp: 71 Wind: 0-5

MVP: Gordon

	1	2	3	4	Tot
2017 Twin Cities (5-0)	0	3	7	0	10
2017 Iowa City (3-2)	3	3	0	3	9

Scoring Summary

1 9:50 Iowa City	FG Tucker 53 (7-40-3:10)	0-3
2 13:31 Iowa City	FG Tucker 44 (13-46-5:45)	0-6
2 0:53 Twin Cities	FG Hopkins 39 (9-71-2:39)	3-6
3 13:18 Twin Cities	TD Trubisky 63 pass to Brown (Hopkins,D) (3-75-1:42)	10-6
4 13:45 Iowa City	FG Tucker 51 (4-8-1:04)	10-9

	TCT	ICC
First Downs	18	12
Rushes	49-175	22-97
Passes	10-22-168	13-28-102
Sacked	0-0	5-35
Fumble	1	1
Penalties	7-55	3-22
Turnovers	0	0
Missed Tackles	4	9
Dropped Passes	2	1
Bad Passes	6	1
Passes 25+	2	0
Runs 10+	4	2
Blitzers	3	5
Time	35:35	24:25
Third Down	2-14	4-15
Fourth Down	2-6	0-1
Red Att/Td/Fg	1/0/0	0/0/0
Net Offense	343	164

CHARGERS



16

PASSING: Carson Wentz, 16 of 36, 140 yds, 0 TD, 2 INT
RUSHING: Carson Wentz, 11C, 95yds, (8.6), 0 TD
RECEIVING: Kelvin Benjamin, 4 for 43 yds, 14LG, 0 TD
DEFENCE: Shaquil Barrett, 8 T, 1 SK, 2 PD, 1 HUR
KICKING: Steven Hauschka, 0 of 0 XP, 2 of 2 FG, 6 Pts

BOMBERS



25

PASSING: Marcus Mariota, 19 of 33, 232 yds, 3 TD, 0 INT
RUSHING: Leonard Fournette, 13C, 80yds, (6.2), 0 TD
RECEIVING: Leonard Fournette, 6 for 61yds, 20LG, 1 TD
DEFENCE: Jarrad Davis, 11 T, 1 SK
KICKING: Chandler Cantanzaro, 2 of 2 XP, 1 of 2 FG, 5 Pts

The Fortress Temp: 77 Wind: None

MVP: Mariota

	1	2	3	4	Tot
St. Charles (4-1)	3	3	2	8	16
Bruxelles (2-3)	7	7	0	11	25

Scoring Summary

1 13:57 Bruxelles	TD Mariota 30 pass to Sanders (Catanzaro) (2-75-1:03)	0-7
1 6:33 St. Charles	FG Hauschka 53 (15-46-7:04)	3-7
2 9:52 St. Charles	FG Hauschka 39 (7-40-3:12)	6-7
2 6:19 Bruxelles	TD Mariota 11 pass to Fournette (Catanzaro) (8-75-3:33)	6-14
3 6:18 St. Charles	Safety Barrett	8-14
4 14:51 Bruxelles	TD Mariota 8 pass to Kelce (- Fournette) (7-49-2:11)	8-22
4 2:54 Bruxelles	FG Catanzaro 40 (6-20-3:19)	8-25
4 0:04 St. Charles	TD Lewis 1 run (2 - Gore) (14-75-2:50)	16-25

	STC	BRX
First Downs	19	20
Rushes	32-197	25-120
Passes	16-36-140	19-33-232
Sacked	6-45	3-16
Fumble	3	0
Penalties	6-57	11-76
Turnovers	3	0
Missed Tackles	5	8
Dropped Passes	1	0
Bad Passes	0	1
Passes 25+	0	2
Runs 10+	5	3
Blitzers	33	57
Time	33:05	26:55
Third Down	7-18	3-11
Fourth Down	1-2	0-2
Red Att/Td/Fg	6/1/1	2/2/0
Net Offense	292	336

SPARTANS



20

PASSING: Philip Rivers, 22 of 35, 351 yds, 2 TD, 1 INT
RUSHING: Devonta Freeman, 9C, 33yds, (3.7), 0 TD
RECEIVING: Golden Tate, 7 for 119yds, 67LG, 1 TD
DEFENCE: Tahir Whitehead, 11 T, 1 PD
KICKING: Greg Zuerlein, 2 of 2 XP, 2 of 2 FG, 8 Pts

EXCALIBURS



28

PASSING: Tom Brady, 22 of 31, 231 yds, 3 TD, 0 INT
RUSHING: Nick Chubb, 19C, 61yds, (3.2), 0 TD
RECEIVING: Danny Amendola, 7 for 69yds, 13LG, 1 TD
DEFENCE: Darqueze Dennard, 7 T, 2 PD
KICKING: Graham Gano, 4 of 4 XP, 0 of 0 FG, 4 Pts

Camelot Temp: 70 Wind: 0-5

MVP: Brady

	1	2	3	4	Tot
Pickering (1-4)	3	14	0	3	20
York (3-2)	0	21	0	7	28

Scoring Summary

1 7:19 Pickering	FG Zuerlein 26 (15-86-7:30)	3-0
2 14:36 York	TD Henry 2 run (Gano) (17-75-7:43)	3-7
2 13:38 Pickering	TD Rivers 67 pass to Tate (Zuerlein) (3-75-0:58)	10-7
2 8:12 York	TD Brady 12 pass to Amendola (Gano) (9-74-5:20)	10-14
2 5:49 Pickering	TD Rivers 61 pass to Shepard (Zuerlein) (6-75-2:23)	17-14
2 0:45 York	TD Brady 25 pass to Richardson (Gano) (10-71-4:56)	17-21
4 3:20 York	TD Brady 10 pass to Doctson (Gano) (21-92-11:27)	17-28
4 1:21 Pickering	FG Zuerlein 48 (10-45-1:45)	20-28

	PIC	YOR
First Downs	15	27
Rushes	13-43	38-128
Passes	22-35-351	22-31-231
Sacked	2-18	3-25
Fumble	2	0
Penalties	12-87	2-12
Turnovers	1	0
Missed Tackles	6	4
Dropped Passes	2	0
Bad Passes	3	0
Passes 25+	2	1
Runs 10+	0	1
Blitzers	0	7
Time	19:56	40:04
Third Down	5-11	12-18
Fourth Down	1-1	1-2
Red Att/Td/Fg	1/0/1	3/3/0
Net Offense	376	334

BLUE EAGLES



0

PASSING: Brett Hundley, 10 of 20, 62 yds, 0 TD, 1 INT
RUSHING: Jordan Howard, 17C, 32yds, (1.9), 0 TD
RECEIVING: Pierre Garcon, 4 for 36yds, 12LG, 0 TD
DEFENCE: Derrick Morgan, 10 T, 1 SK, 1 STF, 3 HUR
KICKING: Mason Crosby, 0 of 0 XP, 0 of 0 FG, 0 Pts

WOLVERINES



13

PASSING: Jay Cutler, 12 of 21, 149 yds, 0 TD, 0 INT
RUSHING: Saquon Barkley, 16C, 34yds, (2.1), 0 TD
RECEIVING: Tyreek Hill, 8 for 110yds, 20LG, 0 TD
DEFENCE: Sylvester Williams, 8 T, 1 SK, 1 STF
KICKING: Daniel Carlson, 1 of 1 XP, 2 of 2 FG, 7 Pts

Kelly-Burke Field Temp:-2 Wind: None

MVP: Thielen

	1	2	3	4	Tot
Toronto (3-1)	7	0	10	7	24
Erieau (2-2)	7	0	7	6	20

Scoring Summary

1 5:15 Toronto	TD Cutler 6 pass to Thielen (Carlson) (11-83-5:40)	7-0
1 1:01 Erieau	TD Stafford 10 pass to Nelson (Gostkowski) (2-20-0:46)	7-7
3 14:39 Erieau	TD Stafford 64 pass to Nelson (Gostkowski) (1-64-0:13)	7-14
3 5:16 Toronto	FG Carlson 23 (7-68-2:40)	10-14
3 3:07 Toronto	TD Cutler 40 pass to Thielen (Carlson) (2-65-0:23)	17-14
4 14:10 Erieau	FG Gostkowski 44 (9-44-3:38)	17-17
4 4:11 Toronto	TD Barkley 3 run (Carlson) (5-75-2:19)	24-17
4 2:05 Erieau	FG Gostkowski 54 (5-16-1:53)	24-20

	TOR	ERI
First Downs	21	14
Rushes	36-163	29-154
Passes	17-30-293	8-23-132
Sacked	1-10	3-21
Fumble	0	1
Penalties	9-86	8-58
Turnovers	0	1
Missed Tackles	12	6
Dropped Passes	3	2
Bad Passes	0	1
Passes 25+	5	1
Runs 10+	5	4
Blitzers	2	13
Time	33:09	26:51
Third Down	3-15	0-13
Fourth Down	0-2	0-0
Red Att/Td/Fg	3/2/1	1/1/0
Net Offense	446	265

NORTH STARS



25

PASSING: Tyrod Taylor, 15 of 23, 243 yds, 2 TD, 0 INT
RUSHING: Isaiah Crowell, 21C, 105yds, (5.0), 1 TD
RECEIVING: Stefon Diggs, 5 for 70yds, 27LG, 1 TD
DEFENCE: Benny Logan, 7 T, 2 1TF
KICKING: Kai Forbath, 1 of 3 XP, 2 of 2 FG, 7 Pts

HAWKS



26

PASSING: Alex Smith, 22 of 34, 291 yds, 4 TD, 0 INT
RUSHING: Ito Smith, 6C, 39yds, (6.5), 0 TD
RECEIVING: Rob Gronkowski, 6 for 95yds, 44LG, 2 TD
DEFENCE: Gerald McCoy, 9 T, 1 SK, 1 STF
KICKING: Cody Parkey, 2 of 3 XP, 0 of 0 FG, 2 Pts

Optimist Park Temp: 52 Wind: 0-5

MVP: Smith


	1	2	3	4	Tot
Budapest (3-2)	0	19	3	3	25
Brooklin (2-3)	13	7	0	6	26

Scoring Summary

1 8:31 Brooklin	TD Smith 4 pass to Gronkowski (no good) (4-45-2:27)	0-6
1 2:33 Brooklin	TD Smith 26 pass to Engram (Parkey) (7-71-3:46)	0-13
2 12:09 Budapest	TD Crowell 34 run (no good) (3-57-1:12)	6-13
2 6:46 Budapest	TD Taylor 27 pass to Diggs (Forbath) (6-61-3:14)	13-13
2 4:08 Brooklin	TD Smith 49 pass to Cobb (Parkey) (7-75-2:38)	13-20
2 1:43 Budapest	TD Taylor 62 pass to Moncrief (no good) (5-75-2:25)	19-20
3 6:38 Budapest	FG Forbath 53 (14-61-8:08)	22-20
4 13:23 Budapest	FG Forbath 37 (7-38-3:00)	25-20
4 1:08 Brooklin	TD Smith 44 pass to Gronkowski (2 - failed) (4-75-1:24)	25-26

	BUD	BRH
First Downs	16	21
Rushes	33-164	28-114
Passes	15-23-243	22-34-291
Sacked	4-22	2-15
Fumble	1	0
Penalties	7-75	4-20
Turnovers	0	0
Missed Tackles	4	10
Dropped Passes	1	3
Bad Passes	1	2
Passes 25+	2	3
Runs 10+	5	3
Blitzers	8	5
Time	31:00	29:00
Third Down	3-12	6-14
Fourth Down	1-2	1-2
Red Att/Td/Fg	1/0/1	2/1/0
Net Offense	385	390


CADILLAC



0

PASSING: Matt Stafford, 5 of 18, 51 yds, 0 TD, 2 INT
RUSHING: DeShone Kizer, 3C, 28yds, (9.3), 0 TD
RECEIVNG: Jordy Nelson, 2 for 20yds, 14LG, 0 TD
DEFENCE: Wesley Woodyard, 10 T, 1 PD, 1 STF
KICKING: Steven Gostkowski, 0 of 0 XP, 0 of 0 FG, 0 Pts

CONVICTS



28

PASSING: Dak Prescott, 26 of 35, 302 yds, 3 TD, 0 INT
RUSHING: Dak Prescott, 14C, 59yds, (4.2), 0 TD
RECEIVNG: Nelson Agholor, 8 for 71yds, 15LG, 2 TD
DEFENCE: Grady Jarrett, 5 T, 1 SK
KICKING: Dan Bailey, 4 of 4 XP, 0 of 0 FG, 4 Pts

The Big House Temp: 75 Wind: Calm						MVP: Prescott							
						ERI						CHI	
						1	2	3	4	Tot			
Erieau (2-3)						0	0	0	0	0			
Chino (2-3)						14	7	7	0	28			
Scoring Summary													
1	11:09	Chino	TD Prescott 15 pass to Agholor (Bailey,D) (4-68-0:34)						0-7				
1	5:10	Chino	TD Prescott 9 pass to Agholor (Bailey,D) (2-13-0:49)						0-14				
2	2:17	Chino	TD Prescott 38 pass to Jones Jr. (Bailey,D) (7-64-3:17)						0-21				
3	5:29	Chino	TD Ingram 1 run (Bailey,D) (10-82-5:30)						0-28				
</													

DERAILERS



0

PASSING: David Fales, 19 of 33, 119 yds, 0 TD, 0 INT
RUSHING: Jay Ajayi, 12C, 38yds, (3.2), 0 TD
RECEIVNG: Robert Woods, 6 for 36yds, 8LG, 0 TD
DEFENCE: Derek Barnett, 8T, 1 STF
KICKING: Jake Elliott, 0 of 0 XP, 0 of 2 FG, 0 Pts

WRECKING BALLS




31

PASSING: Jared Goff, 17 of 26, 226 yds, 2 TD, 0 INT
RUSHING: LeSean McCoy, 19C, 107yds, (5.6), 1 TD
RECEIVNG: Eric Decker, 4 for 38yds, 14LG, 0 TD
DEFENCE: Avery Williamson, 9 T, 1 STF
KICKING: Chris Boswell, 4 of 4 XP, 1 of 3 FG, 7 Pts

Stone Pony Shore Temp: 73 Wind: 0-5						MVP: Goff		BUF		NJ			
	1	2	3	4	Tot								
Buffalo (2-3)	0	0	0	0	0								
New Jersey (3-2)	7	3	7	14	31								
Scoring Summary													
1 8:28	New Jersey	TD McCoy 6 run (Boswell) (9-63-5:23)				0-7							
2 3:27	New Jersey	FG Boswell 22 (8-33-3:30)				0-10							
3 11:28	New Jersey	TD Goff 6 pass to Maclin (Boswell) (6-75-3:32)				0-17							
4 9:13	New Jersey	TD Goff 59 pass to Ginn Jr. (Boswell) (6-74-3:30)				0-24							
4 7:18	New Jersey	TD Landry 32 yd fumble recovery (Boswell)				0-31							
First Downs												11	21
Rushes												27-95	34-160
Passes												19-33-119	17-26-226
Sacked												2-19	0-0
Fumble												2	1
Penalties												9-70	5-33
Turnovers												2	0
Missed Tackles												12	1
Dropped Passes												2	2
Bad Passes												3	1
Passes 25+												0	1
Runs 10+												3	5
Blitzers												28	35
Time												27:48	32:12
Third Down												6-18	4-11
Fourth Down												0-2	1-1
Red Att/Td/Fg												1/0/0	4/2/1
Net Offense												195	386


PILOTS



10

PASSING: Eli Manning, 16 of 33, 189 yds, 1 TD, 2 INT
RUSHING: Kareem Hunt, 19C, 103yds, (5.4), 0 TD
RECEIVNG: Michael Crabtree, 5 for 45yds, 17LG, 0 TD
DEFENCE: Uchenna Nwosu, 10T
KICKING: Josh Lambo, 1 of 1 XP, 1 of 1 FG, 4 Pts



PATRIOTS



29

PASSING: Blake Bortles, 17 of 25, 155 yds, 1 TD, 0 INT
RUSHING: Alvin Kamara, 11C, 57yds, (5.2), 1 TD
RECEIVNG: Mohamed Sanu, 7 for 62 yds, 13LG, 0 TD
DEFENCE: Cameron Heyward, 8 T, 1 PD, 2 HUR
KICKING: Ryan Succop, 2 of 3 XP, 1 of 1 FG, 5 Pts

Patriot Place Temp: 75 Wind: None						MVP:Kamara		SEA		CHP	
	1	2	3	4	Tot						
Seattle (1-4)	0	10	0	0	10						
Charleswood (2-3)	7	0	19	3	29						
Scoring Summary											
1 3:56	Charleswood	TD Kamara 20 run (Succop) (11-79-6:27)				0-7					
2 2:20	Seattle	TD Manning 9 pass to Lewis (Lambo) (7-80-3:47)				7-7					
2 0:00	Seattle	FG Lambo 52 (7-45-1:35)				10-7					
3 4:13	Charleswood	TD Bortles 28 pass to Kamara (no good) (5-53-2:29)				10-13					
3 2:02	Charleswood	TD Miller 1 run (2 - failed) (2-6-0:23)				10-19					
3 0:16	Charleswood	TD Joseph 51 interception return (Succop)				10-26					
4 11:03	Charleswood	FG Succop 30 (4-8-1:22)				10-29					
First Downs 16 13											
Rushes 25-114 29-106											
Passes 16-34-189 17-25-155											
Sacked 5-34 0-0											
Fumble 2 0											
Penalties 8-55 5-44											
Turnovers 4 0											
Missed Tackles 2 8											
Dropped Passes 3 0											
Bad Passes 2 0											
Passes 25+ 3 1											
Runs 10+ 3 4											
Blitzers 5 2											
Time 31:21 28:39											
Third Down 5-14 3-14											
Fourth Down 0-0 0-0											
Red Att/Td/Fg 1/1/0 3/2/1											
Net Offense 269 261											

<div> <div>THUNDER LIZARDS</div> <div>  <div>28</div> </div> </div>	<div> <div>PASSING: Cam Newton, 20 of 35, 268 yds, 1 TD, 1 INT</div> <div>RUSHING: Rashaad Penny, 11C, 72yds, (6.5), 0 TD</div> <div>RECEIVNG: Austin Hooper, 5 for 54yds, 14LG, 0 TD</div> <div>DEFENCE: Tyrann Mathieu, 11 T, 1 PD</div> <div>KICKING: Phil Dawson, 4 of 4 XP, 0 of 0 FG, 4 Pts</div> </div>	<div> <div>GLADIATORS</div> <div>  <div>35</div> </div> </div>	<div> <div>PASSING: B. Roethlisberger, 23 of 35, 334 yds, 3 TD, 0 INT</div> <div>RUSHING: Sony Michel, 12C, 80yds, (6.7), 0 TD</div> <div>RECEIVNG: Jarvis Landry, 10 for 158yds, 54LG, 1 TD</div> <div>DEFENCE: Reggie Ragland, 10 T, 1 STF</div> <div>KICKING: Giorgio Tavecchio, 3 of 3 XP, 2 of 3 FG, 9 Pts</div> </div>

WEEK FIVE

STANDINGS

PACIFIC CONFERENCE												
East	W	L	T	Pct	Pts	Ave	Opp	Ave	Diff	Home	Div	Conf
St. Charles	4	1	0	.800	101	20.2	89	17.8	2.4	2 0 0	2 1 0	3 1 0
New Jersey	3	2	0	.600	94	18.8	92	18.4	0.4	2 1 0	2 1 0	2 2 0
Buffalo	2	3	0	.400	72	14.4	91	18.2	-3.8	2 0 0	1 2 0	2 2 0
Bruxelles	2	3	0	.400	114	22.8	95	19.0	3.8	2 1 0	1 2 0	2 2 0
Central	W	L	T	Pct	Pts	Ave	Opp	Ave	Diff	Home	Div	Conf
Twin Cities	5	0	0	1.000	137	27.4	69	13.8	13.6	3 0 0	1 0 0	4 0 0
Virden	3	2	0	.600	135	27.0	91	18.2	8.8	2 1 0	0 0 0	2 1 0
Erieau	2	3	0	.400	62	12.4	119	23.8	-11.4	2 1 0	1 1 0	2 2 0
Charleswood	2	3	0	.400	89	17.8	110	22.0	-4.2	2 1 0	0 1 0	1 3 0
West	W	L	T	Pct	Pts	Ave	Opp	Ave	Diff	Home	Div	Conf
Iowa City	3	2	0	.600	105	21.0	77	15.4	5.6	0 2 0	1 1 0	2 2 0
Chino	2	3	0	.400	97	19.4	111	22.2	-2.8	1 2 0	1 1 0	2 2 0
Seattle	1	4	0	.200	101	20.2	133	26.6	-6.4	0 3 0	1 1 0	1 3 0
Los Angeles	1	4	0	.200	70	14.0	116	23.2	-9.2	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 3 0
ATLANTIC CONFERENCE												
North	W	L	T	Pct	Pts	Ave	Opp	Ave	Diff	Home	Div	Conf
Cowtown	4	1	0	.800	119	23.8	62	12.4	11.4	3 0 0	2 0 0	3 1 0
Sebastian	4	1	0	.800	139	27.8	81	16.2	11.6	3 0 0	1 1 0	3 1 0
Durham	3	2	0	.600	112	22.4	98	19.6	2.8	2 0 0	1 1 0	2 2 0
Scarborough	0	5	0	.000	32	6.4	120	24.0	-17.6	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 4 0
Coastal	W	L	T	Pct	Pts	Ave	Opp	Ave	Diff	Home	Div	Conf
Budapest	3	2	0	.600	96	19.2	67	13.4	5.8	2 1 0	1 1 0	2 2 0
York	3	2	0	.600	110	22.0	69	13.8	8.2	1 1 0	1 1 0	3 1 0
Brooklin	2	3	0	.400	115	23.0	141	28.2	-5.2	2 1 0	1 1 0	1 3 0
Pickering	1	4	0	.200	97	19.4	121	24.2	-4.8	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 3 0
South	W	L	T	Pct	Pts	Ave	Opp	Ave	Diff	Home	Div	Conf
Georgia	4	1	0	.800	124	24.8	101	20.2	4.6	2 0 0	2 0 0	4 0 0
Toronto	4	1	0	.800	99	19.8	68	13.6	6.2	2 0 0	1 1 0	3 1 0
Aurora	2	3	0	.400	96	19.2	125	25.0	-5.8	2 0 0	1 1 0	2 2 0
Cincinnati	0	5	0	.000	73	14.6	143	28.6	-14.0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 4 0

TOP PASSERS												
Rk	Player	Team	Att	Cmp	C%	Yards	In	I%	Lg	TD	TD%	Rate
1	Roethlisberger	GEO	165	96	58.2	1281	0	0.0	62	13	7.9	109.2
2	Carr,D	VV	147	90	61.2	1183	1	0.7	54	9	6.1	104.2
3	Brees	SS	168	109	64.9	1183	2	1.2	44	10	6.0	100.4
4	Brady	YOR	150	94	62.7	1148	5	3.3	53	12	8.0	99.0
5	Cutler	TOR	108	62	57.4	895	2	1.9	52	7	6.5	98.3
6	Trubisky	TCT	127	74	58.3	1044	2	1.6	63	7	5.5	96.7
7	Taylor,T	BUD	139	84	60.4	941	1	0.7	62	7	5.0	94.4
8	Prescott	CHI	177	111	62.7	1247	3	1.7	56	9	5.1	93.6
9	Smith,A	BRH	178	99	55.6	1223	3	1.7	76	11	6.2	90.6
10	Manning	SEA	162	93	57.4	1112	3	1.9	53	9	5.6	89.3
11	Newton,C	DTL	161	92	57.1	1168	5	3.1	53	9	5.6	85.6
12	Goff	NJ	144	76	52.8	899	2	1.4	59	7	4.9	82.5
13	Dalton	LAK	81	45	55.6	507	1	1.2	50	3	3.7	81.7
14	Ryan,M	AUR	173	100	57.8	1154	5	2.9	66	8	4.6	81.4
15	Rivers,P	PIC	168	94	56.0	1242	7	4.2	67	9	5.4	80.0
16	Flacco	COW	110	67	60.9	628	2	1.8	56	3	2.7	78.1
17	Mariota	BRX	152	89	58.6	1072	8	5.3	53	9	5.9	78.1
18	Wilson,R	ICC	134	75	56.0	837	5	3.7	37	4	3.0	69.2
19	Cousins	CIN	185	101	54.6	1259	8	4.3	58	6	3.2	68.7
20	Stafford	ERI	106	51	48.1	562	3	2.8	64	5	4.7	68.2
21	Wentz	STC	167	90	53.9	932	5	3.0	36	5	3.0	67.8
22	McCown	LAK	122	65	53.3	703	5	4.1	42	4	3.3	64.3
23	Fales	BUF	117	74	63.2	666	4	3.4	38	0	0.0	64.3
24	Bortles	CHP	184	98	53.3	955	7	3.8	42	5	2.7	61.3
25	Garoppolo	COW	38	30	78.9	459	0	0.0	43	7	18.4	156.6

KICKOFF RETURNERS								PUNT RETURNERS								
Rk	Player	Team	No	Yds	Ave	Lg	TD	Rk	Player	Team	No	Fc	Yds	Ave	Lg	TD
1	Patterson	BUF	7	246	35.1	43	0	1	Davis, T	ICC	13	5	144	11.1	20	0
2	Cooper,P	ERI	22	681	31.0	90	1	2	Fuller V	GEO	5	4	54	10.8	19	0
3	Lockett	ICC	6	169	28.2	37	0	3	Ervin	VV	12	7	120	10	44	0
4	Bray	CHI	13	366	28.2	33	0	4	Cooper,P	ERI	13	3	130	10	17	0
5	Williams,K	GEO	12	325	27.1	42	0	5	Jackson,A	STC	12	1	113	9.4	16	0
6	Smith-Schuster	VV	13	347	26.7	94	1	6	Jones,A	NJ	19	1	172	9.1	25	0
7	Hunt,A	BRX	10	252	25.2	39	0	7	Erickson	BUF	14	6	121	8.6	17	0
8	Switzer	PIC	9	224	24.9	41	0	8	McCaffrey	CHI	12	11	99	8.3	23	0
9	Grant,C	CHP	14	342	24.4	39	0	9	Callaway	SS	6	6	49	8.2	15	0
10	Lewis,D	STC	11	268	24.4	31	0	10	Amendola	YOR	17	7	138	8.1	15	0
11	Moore,C	SS	9	218	24.2	36	0	11	Sherels	BUD	21	2	156	7.4	17	0
12	Bolden Jr.	YOR	7	166	23.7	35	0	12	Roberts,A	LAK	13	8	86	6.6	14	0
13	Roberts,A	LAK	14	323	23.1	34	0	13	Alexander	TCT	14	3	91	6.5	12	0
14	Barner	BRH	10	220	22.0	35	0	14	Campanaro	COW	13	4	80	6.2	12	0
15	Agnew	SEA	7	150	21.4	42	0	15	Crowder	SBE	11	7	67	6.1	11	0
16	Ballage	AUR	9	185	20.6	28	0	16	Richard	CHP	15	7	84	5.6	12	0
17	Lewis,T	SBE	14	274	19.6	28	0	17	Pettis	BRX	10	7	53	5.3	14	0
18	Harris,D	TOR	8	155	19.4	25	0	18	Taylor,T	DTL	12	5	63	5.3	13	0
19	Foster,D	NJ	6	115	19.2	23	0	19	Switzer	PIC	10	2	49	4.9	13	0
20	Erickson	BUF	8	144	18.0	25	0	20	Barner	BRH	10	5	42	4.2	14	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	146	538	3.7	30	2	1	Landry	GEO	41	601	14.7	54	6
2	Gurley II	COW	84	511	6.1	66	3	2	McCaffrey	CHI	40	371	9.3	24	1
3	Elliott,E	VV	124	507	4.1	31	5	3	Bell,L	LAK	37	381	10.3	50	4
4	McCoy,L	NJ	114	502	4.4	40	2	4	Allen,K	CIN	35	525	15	51	4
5	Hunt,K	SEA	102	447	4.4	21	1	5	Brown,A	TCT	34	512	15.1	63	4
6	Barkley	TOR	84	430	5.1	37	3	6	Adams,D	AUR	33	539	16.3	66	4
7	Howard,J	SBE	88	402	4.6	58	2	7	Fitzgerald	COW	32	365	11.4	43	3
8	Crowell	BUD	80	381	4.8	34	3	8	Gronkowski	BRH	31	388	12.5	44	4
9	Gordon,M	TCT	100	373	3.7	20	3	9	Hill,T	TOR	29	495	17.1	52	3
10	Drake	AUR	72	369	5.1	70	1	10	Witten	SS	29	283	9.8	36	1
11	Collins,A	GEO	73	350	4.8	55	2	11	Smith-Schuster	VV	28	482	17.2	46	6
12	Penny	DTL	67	339	5.1	14	0	12	Tate,G	PIC	28	490	17.5	67	7
13	Lynch,M	ERI	83	324	3.9	24	0	13	Thompson,C	BRX	27	299	11.1	53	2
14	Freeman,D	PIC	60	316	5.3	28	2	14	Kearse,J	SS	26	299	11.5	34	4
15	Fournette	BRX	76	315	4.1	26	1	15	Baldwin,D	SS	26	406	15.6	44	3
16	Michel	GEO	54	311	5.8	50	1	16	Green,A	VV	25	372	14.9	54	3
17	Ingram,M	CHI	72	292	4.1	33	3	17	Stills	GEO	25	392	15.7	62	6
18	Gallman	AUR	46	269	5.8	24	0	18	Agholor	CHI	25	270	10.8	32	4
19	Powell,B	ICC	48	267	5.6	46	2	19	Sanu	CHP	24	253	10.5	17	0
20	Lewis,D	STC	53	266	5	34	1	20	Crabtree	SEA	23	303	13.2	49	1
21	Ajayi	BUF	60	257	4.3	20	0	21	Thomas,M	STC	23	296	12.9	24	0
22	Stewart,J	BRH	58	253	4.4	27	1	22	Cooks	LAK	23	293	12.7	39	2
23	Chubb,N	YOR	65	234	3.6	22	0	23	Woods,R	BUF	23	234	10.2	38	0
24	Miller,L	CHP	61	232	3.8	18	1	24	Amendola	YOR	23	204	8.9	22	1
25	Anderson,C	SS	63	230	3.7	19	2	25	Kamara	CHP	23	203	8.8	42	2

INTERCEPTION LEADERS								SACK LEADERS				TACKLE LEADERS			
Rk	Player	Team	No	Yds	Ave	Lg	TD	Rk	Player	Team	No.	Rk	Player	Team	No.
1	Weddle	TOR	3	74	24.7	44	1	1	Morgan,D	SBE	6	1	Kuechly	CIN	46
2	White,T	LAK	3	40	13.3	40	0	2	Jones,C	SS	6	2	Reid,E	ERI	45
3	Bouye	ICC	3	58	19.3	25	1	3	Lawrence	CHP	5	3	Barrett	STC	41
4	Trufant	CHP	2	0	0	0	0	4	McCoy,G	BRH	5	4	Smith,R	COW	40
5	Watt,T	COW	2	15	7.5	15	0	5	Houston,L	BUD	5	5	Smith,J	TOR	39
6	Hyde,M	YOR	2	16	8	16	0	6	Suggs	BRX	4	6	Ogletree	ICC	38
7	Smith,H	BRX	2	0	0	0	0	7	Smith,P	BRX	4	7	Morgan,D	SBE	37
8	Mosley	CHP	2	13	6.5	13	0	8	Ngakoue	STC	4	8	Brown,P	AUR	37
9	Bradberry	NJ	2	21	10.5	21	0	9	Heyward	CHP	4	9	Bowman	AUR	37
10	Butler,M	NJ	2	41	20.5	32	0	10	Judon	NJ	4	10	Poole	ERI	37
11	Robinson,P	SS	2	13	6.5	9	0	11	Dupree	BRX	4	11	Hankins	VV	37
12	Boston	SS	2	37	18.5	35	0	12	Kerrigan	COW	3	12	Mosley	CHP	36
13	Wagner,B	TCT	2	0	0	0	0	13	Ingram,M	VV	3	13	Shazier	CHI	36
14	Reid,E	ERI	2	6	3	6	0	14	Hunter,D	TCT	3	14	Irvin	BUF	36
15	Howard,X	PIC	2	33	16.5	24	0	15	Peppers	STC	3	15	Judon	NJ	36
16	Hayward	ICC	2	4	2	4	0	16	Buckner	YOR	3	16	Thomas,S	SBE	35
17	McCourty,J	AUR	2	77	38.5	46	0	17	Wake	NJ	3	17	Davis,D	STC	35
18	Neal,K	NJ	2	31	15.5	29	1	18	Jackson,M	AUR	3	18	Jewell	ICC	35
19	Jackson,J	CHI	2	41	20.5	38	0	19	Jones,C	BRX	3	19	Jackson,K	SEA	35
20	Davis,J	BRX	2	8	4	8	0	20	Shelton	CHP	3	20	Ward,D	PIC	35

SCORING LEADERS													
Rk	Player	Team	FG	XP	2Pt	Run	Rec	Int	KR	PR	Fmb	Sf	Tot
1	Smith-Schuster	VV	0	0	0	0	6	0	1	0	0	0	42
2	Tate,G	PIC	0	0	0	0	7	0	0	0	0	0	42
3	Hauschka	STC	11	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	41
4	Trubisky	TCT	0	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	36
5	Bell,L	LAK	0	0	0	2	4	0	0	0	0	0	36
6	Landry	GEO	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	36
7	Stills	GEO	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	36
8	Bryant,M	COW	7	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	35
9	Tucker,J	ICC	7	12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	33
10	Vinatieri	SS	5	16	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	31
11	Parkey	BRH	7	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	31
12	Foreman	SS	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	30
13	Gonzalez	VV	5	15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	30
14	Forbath	BUD	8	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	30
15	Elliott,E	VV	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	30
16	Hopkins,D	TCT	4	17	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	29
17	Boswell	NJ	6	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	28
18	Catanzaro	BRX	5	13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	28
19	Lambo	SEA	6	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	27
20	Carlson	TOR	5	12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	27
21	Gostkowski	ERI	7	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	26
22	Tavecchio	GEO	4	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	26
23	Gano	YOR	4	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	26
24	Elliott,J	BUF	7	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	26
25	Zuerlein	PIC	5	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	25
26	Ginn Jr.	NJ	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	24
27	Allen,K	CIN	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	24
28	Thielen	TOR	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	24
29	Gronkowski	BRH	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	24
30	Nelson,J	ERI	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	24
31	Hilton	DTL	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	24
32	Hyde,C	DTL	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	24
33	Agholor	CHI	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	24
34	Brown,A	TCT	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	24
35	Wilson,R	ICC	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	24

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	Hauschka	STC	12	11	91.7	5	1	53	41	1	Dickson	ERI	36	1650	1	17	89	0	45.8
2	Bryant,M	COW	8	7	87.5	0	0	38	35	2	King,M	TOR	34	1534	1	13	57	0	45.1
3	Tucker,J	ICC	10	7	70	4	2	53	33	3	Kern	BRX	23	1160	2	6	71	0	50.4
4	Vinatieri	SS	7	5	71.4	3	0	41	31	4	Kaser	BUD	27	1316	3	8	58	0	48.7
5	Parkey	BRH	10	7	70	2	1	55	31	5	Colquitt,B	SEA	22	1069	0	8	58	0	48.6
6	Gonzalez	VV	6	5	83.3	2	0	49	30	6	Lechler	STC	25	1204	0	11	55	0	48.2
7	Forbath	BUD	10	8	80	7	3	54	30	7	Lee,A	BUF	22	1058	0	5	64	0	48.1
8	Hopkins,D	TCT	5	4	80	0	0	39	29	8	Huber	CHP	25	1194	4	9	57	1	47.8
9	Catanzaro	BRX	8	5	62.5	1	0	40	28	9	Hekker	COW	30	1428	2	14	60	0	47.6
10	Boswell	NJ	10	6	60	2	0	43	28	10	Morstead	DTL	19	902	1	7	67	0	47.5
11	Carlson	TOR	9	5	55.6	3	1	51	27	11	O'Donnell	NJ	30	1420	3	11	63	0	47.3
12	Lambo	SEA	11	6	54.5	1	1	52	27	12	Jones,D	YOR	23	1074	0	13	55	0	46.7



AROUND THE



With Spats McChad

NEW YORK – The New York City Marathon captured the city today. The majority of my colleagues in the field of journalism would likely write “captivated the city” or “captured the hearts of the city,” or “captured the attention of New Yorkers” or some equivalent idealistic, high-minded drivel. Not me. I call it as I see it and, in my view, the Marathon captured the city and held us hostage for close to 24 hours.

Many were willing hostages. 53,121 runners started the race and 52,812 of them finished – a new world record. Over 1 million people lined the course to watch the runners alongside thousands of volunteers, police, medics, firemen and officials. Everyone else, however, was a hostage to the gridlock and the ambling crowds, on the streets and sidewalks, elbowing the rest of us away from our Sunday routines.

The usual stories emerged from this event; the 48th Marathon in the City’s history. We were reminded that the first one took place in 1970 and featured 55 runners. This illustrates how the event has grown spectacularly over the years. But all it tells me is that a lot more people have a lot more time on their hands these days. A Kenyan won the Women’s division and an Ethiopian won the Men’s. Don’t they always? At least when a Kenyan is not winning the Men’s and the Ethiopian winning the Women’s, or one or the other winning both. An 84-year old woman living in New York but originally from France was the oldest finisher. The usual human-interest pieces were run on her. 80 is the new 70 when it comes to impressing young people with what old people can do. There was another “first” to report. A 20-year old became the first American to win the New York City Marathon’s Men’s Wheelchair division. He was also the youngest to do so. And of course, the electronic media was filled with shots of people – participants and spectators – crying rivers of tears when crossing the finish line. Everybody cries at the end of marathons it seems and probably for good reason; they’ve either just run more than 26 miles or had to spend hours watching people who have just run more than 26 miles. It would probably make me cry as well.

But I am never going to be in a position to cry at the end of a marathon because I can think of much better things to do and better things to watch. A Budapest – Erieau game would be more entertaining to me than watching a marathon. In my opinion, the most amazing fact about any Marathon is that people who aren’t running in the race, or know someone running in the race, come to watch it. Watching hundreds of exhausted, crying, runners, people I don’t know, stumble across a finish line is only slightly more entertaining than watching somebody fish.

A marathon strikes me as a very personal thing. A person who dedicates so much time and effort simply to preparing to run one is either insane, addicted to endorphins, or a person determined to prove something of deep significance to him or her self. I respect that personal journey. But I can achieve the same satisfaction by combing the streets of Manhattan looking for and discovering that hidden gem of a pub with a perfect micro brew, a spicy Indian curry and a dozen flat screen TVs to watch the Sunday games. And I can do that without messing around with millions of people’s days.

So, if you’re wondering why I am in such a surly mood, it’s because this marathon has confined me to my condo and forced me to channel-surf to get what I can out of an interesting, if not always suspenseful, slate of Week Five games.

CARE CUBBIES

The Iowa City Cubs are not where they or their fans think they should be. While it is only five weeks into the season and far too early to write the book on the 2018 edition of the squad, worrying signs that this group will follow in the Cub tradition of failing to meet expectations are plain for everyone to see. Everyone, of course, except the coach. News agencies in Iowa and sports stations around the country are buzzing about a bizarre post-game ritual presided over by Cubs’ coach, **Deron Redding**, immediately following a gut-wrenching 10-9 loss to the Twin Cities at Joe Ferguson Stadium.

The Triumph came into Iowa City with a perfect 4-0 record. But the majority of Cubs fans were smugly confident that the visitors would leave their state with a “1” in the loss column, once **Mitch Trubisky** had gotten a taste of the Cubs’ elite secondary and had received a schooling in extending and making plays by the Master himself, **Russell Wilson**. It would be a valuable learning experience for the kid and an example to follow for a future time when the Triumph would be fully his team.

What transpired on the field was almost exactly the opposite of what Iowa fans and Media had anticipated. It was Wilson who looked lost and harried in the pocket against a well-prepared and motivated Triumph defence that gave him and his receivers precious little room to manoeuvre. The veteran didn’t make many mistakes, but he was unable to make many plays



Cubs' coach **Deron Redding** hands out Care Cubbies following Iowa City's 10-9 loss to the Triumph. It was not a good day for **Russell Wilson** and the offence in general. **Tyler Lockett** (above) receives two of the cuddly stuffed animals after coming up short on 4th down and ending the Cubs' comeback hopes.

either. The Triumph put him in a box and kept him in it for the less than 25 minutes the Cubs possessed the football.

Trubisky, in contrast, looked composed and in control in the face of a Cubs' secondary that consistently shadowed his primary reads and limited his options through the air. The young quarterback, making only the 4th start of his career, was not always on target, but he did not attempt to force throws into dangerous situations. He also got critical help from his coach, **Guy Williams**, who committed **Melvin Gordon**, **Royce Freeman** and **James White** to pounding the Iowa front seven on the ground. That strategy set the stage for the 'Play of the Game.'

After a first half that consisted of two turnovers on downs, 4 punts, 3 field goals and one expired drive, the Cubs held a narrow 6-3 lead. The way the game was going, it was looking like **Guy Williams'** failed 4th & 3 gamble at the Cubs' 26 that he opted to try over a **Dustin Hopkins** field goal attempt might come back as the subject of a challenging postgame question.

The Triumph took care of that potential controversy when they suddenly shifted gears

three plays into the second half. After a 9-yard out pass to **Antonio Brown** and 3-yard dive by **Melvin Gordon** gained a first down at their 37, Trubisky faked a handoff that caused the five-man Iowa front to bite. As he glided back in the pocket Brown took off from the line of scrimmage, flat-footing corner **Casey Hayward**, who had been in tight man-to-man coverage. The safety, **Kevin Johnson**, a converted corner who was still getting accustomed to the position, moved over to assist. But Johnson's angle was slightly off, giving Brown leverage on the inside as he streaked at full speed along the left hash mark. Trubisky did not miss this time. He laid the ball in perfectly, connecting with Brown in stride from 40-yards away. Johnson lunged at Brown and missed. There was now nobody between Brown and the Cubs' goal line. In a flashback to his MVP year in 2016, Brown breezed into the end zone untouched, holding the ball high as he crossed the plane then stopping at the back line to do a dirty little dance. The partisan crowd moaned in unison as a few hundred Triumph fans scattered in small pockets throughout the *Joe Ferguson Stadium* leaped up and hooted in glee. As Hopkins drilled the extra point to make it 10-6 for the Triumph, there was a feeling that game would open up. Cubs fans, in particular, were ready for their hero, **Russell Wilson**, to match the impertinent welp from Minneapolis.

"Mitch Trubisky laid that ball in there real nice for Antonio," the Voice of the Cubs, **Bucky "Papa Bear" McCready** of AM-1100 THE-IOWA commented as the special teams units set up for the kickoff. "Now you know that's gonna light a fire under Russell. I'd be surprised if we don't see a Russell Special here on this drive."

A 'Russell Special' was local Cubs shop talk for Wilson taking charge of the offence and making things happen in dazzling ways. The Cubs' QB had served a couple of those "specials" to the Patriots in Iowa's 4th quarter comeback victory in Week Two, but otherwise the drama had been in short supply to this point in the season. Still, as the Cubs' offence took the field, nobody suspected that that 63-yard TD pass from Trubisky to Antonio would turn out to be the last beautiful offensive play of the game for either side.

The punt-fest that followed was broken up by a turnover on downs by the Triumph after a failed 4th & 1 at their own 42-yard line. That set up the Cubbies nicely in Twin Cities territory and led to a 51-yard **Justin Tucker** field goal after just an 8-yard "drive." The Triumph were now hanging on by a 10-9 lead early in the 4th quarter. The postgame question period was shaping up to be uncomfortable one for **Guy Williams** if his team were to lose by less than 3 points.

The Cubs, however, were unable to gain even one first down after narrowing the deficit to one point. They got the ball back twice and went three-and-out then four-and-out. With survival at stake, backed up in their own end and facing 4th & 10 with still over a minute remaining, Wilson side-stepped the pass rush to buy himself time. But instead of looking downfield, he suddenly turned and checked down to **Tyler Lockett** at the 11. Linebacker, **Kwon Alexander**, who had been lurking to keep an eye on Wilson, zeroed in on Lockett and wisely wrapped him up as opposed to trying to jar the ball loose with a massive hit. The slippery but light Cubs' wide receiver was unable to wriggle free and went down at the 17, 5 yards short of the first down.

The sudden silence of the crowd at Joe Ferguson Stadium was deafening. The absence of a discernible reaction from the

home fans drowned out the cheers of Triumph supporters, who knew they were just one Joe Pisarcik-style fumble away from scoring an upset against an important conference rival in a hostile environment.

All eyes were on Wilson as he walked slowly, his head down, toward the Iowa bench. Center, **Travis Frederick** walked beside him, his arm on his shoulder. Lockett stayed down where he had been tackled. He was not injured. He was fixed there, on both knees, looking down at the turf. An official had to prompt him several times to get off the field. On the Cubs' sideline there was a flurry of activity. The back-ups gathered in a group and greeted members of the offence as they left the field. Each player was embraced or patted as he took his funereal stroll toward the benches.

Behind the players, a number of Cubs employees were busily clearing an area behind the bench. They set up tables and placed a large box on top of each. The familiar tweed jacket and baggy trousers of **Dr. Rodney Alberhasky Jr.** – the team's CEO, psychologist and dietician – were visible in the midst of this group. The person wearing them was pointing here and there while providing quiet, but clear, verbal direction. He waded into a group of players and began to separate them into groups.

Meanwhile, on the field, **Melvin Gordon** dove into the arms of **Jason Pierre-Paul** in the center of the Cubs' line for no gain. The Cubs could not stop the clock. The Triumph stopped it with 0:22 left, to avoid the delay of game penalty and set up Trubisky's final kneel down. The gun sounded the end of the contest. Almost immediately, the Cubs' defence jogged off the field, ignoring the traditional post-game mingling on the field with the opposing players and coaches. They went straight for their colleagues on special teams and offence and, as a team, the entire roster of Cubs players gathered for a group hug.

Coach **Deron Redding** received a clipboard from Dr. Alberhasky and began to read names. One by one, Cubs players approached their coach to receive a warm embrace and a curly, soft, stuffed teddy bear dressed in a Cubs' jersey. **Marqise Lee** – who had dropped a ball and had many missed targets – and **Tyler Lockett** – who had been the last Cub to possess the ball – received two of these teddy bears. They both appeared very grateful and stayed with their coach longer than the others. The crowd watched in bewilderment. *What the heck is going on down there?* They likely thought.

In the postgame press conference, co-presented by Coach Redding and Dr. Alberhasky, an explanation, of sorts, was provided to a group of reporters that was both curious and concerned about what had transpired on and off the field during the game.

"This was a difficult game for the boys," Coach Redding began. "While I am disappointed that we lost, I am proud of their effort against a very good Triumph team. I cannot blame the boys for what happened out there. We have some issues we have to resolve at the management level and as a coaching staff."

"And what are those issues, coach?" piped up **Fermin Riddley** of the *Country Style Free Press*. Riddley had been building a reputation as a fair challenger of the status quo in Iowan sports. With **Archibald Thacker** of the *Des Moines Register* losing credibility due to his steady and increasingly unobjective harangues against Coach Redding, and **Sparky McGillicuddy** of *The Iowan* pigeonholed as a "Cubs company man," Riddley was slowly earning respect and recognition as a writer who walked a line between the two and provided his readership with an incisive, balanced narrative.

"Well, for one, the offence we have designed is not getting the receivers open and that has to change, starting now," Redding replied, his tone changing to severe. "Kay Stephenson is gone as offensive coordinator effective immediately. If you are watching, Kay, you're fired as of right now. Apologize to the boys and pack your things!"

This announcement caused a stir in the media pool. Several reporters tried to pose questions but they were lost in the din.

"The other thing," Redding continued, raising his voice. "Is that we, as an organization, have to start taking better care of our players. They are our number one resource and we can't achieve anything on the field without them. So, we are taking steps toward fixing this." He turned toward Dr. Alberhasky. "Perhaps you would like to elaborate, Rodney."

Dr. Alberhasky took the microphone, paused to look in every direction at once, then started to speak to the media in even, dulcet tones. "As you are probably aware from inside your own organizations, the wellness of employees is paramount to the success of any organization. Not just physical wellness, but mental and emotional wellness as well. Football players are perceived to be tough due to the nature of the game they play. And physically, they are tough indeed. But they also experience the mental and emotional challenges that come with the game they play and the pressure they are under. We took a close look at our players after our loss to Seattle to start the year. We canvassed them for input and brought in specialists. And, in my medical opinion, the players, as a group, are experiencing post-traumatic stress from their loss to the Bombers last year in the Conference Final. The feeling of shame is still strong in many of the players. Their fear at failing again is ever-present in the back of their minds, whether they are aware of it or not. This is a group that has not yet healed."

One could hear a pin drop in the press gallery. **Bobby Elder** post-game rants were always good show stoppers, but this was unprecedented territory the good doctor was entering.

"So, we are taking necessary steps to heal our players," Dr. Alberhasky continued. "The counselling sessions addressing last year's game continue as part of the team's practice routine. We have also introduced a Critical Incident policy to identify and proactively deal with potential traumatic events like the one in Bruxelles last year. We have a team of sports psychologists and volunteers at the ready to address critical losses immediately after they occur. We call the volunteers 'Peer Counsellors' and they consist of retired players who know failure better than most – players like Joe Pisarcik, Trent Richardson, Akili Smith, just to name a few of the better known. There are many others you likely do not remember or have never heard of – players who simply weren't all that good and were unable to stay on a professional roster. We activated this group today following what I, in my capacity as team

psychologist, classify as a traumatic loss to the Triumph. This loss has the potential to escalate into inappropriate and unwanted behaviours in the future and therefore we are taking appropriate steps to deal with the trauma now.”

“But what about those teddy bears?” somebody called out from the crowd.

“Ah yes,” Dr. Alberhaksy smiled. “We call those ‘Care Cubbies’ and they are simply given to the players immediately after the tragedy to provide them with comfort and take their minds off the loss. I think we could all see that the ‘Care Cubbies’ helped. Tyler was smiling again within minutes – his failure to gain a first down when the team needed it all but forgotten.”

The announcement of these measures provoked immediate controversy in the press – as did the decision to hold the players back from meeting reporters after the game as per Doctor’s orders. Although this is a breach of the league’s collective agreement with the players, the EFL cannot do anything about it because it is considered a *bona fide* medical reason.

I don’t see any of this as a positive development for the Cubs. The body language of the players during and after the game revealed their lack of confidence. **Russell Wilson** looked like a beaten man. But it is only fair to wait and see. The ‘Care Cubbies’ might well work their magic on this new and softer generation of players.

AROUND THE EFL

A strange thing happened in Cowtown this week. The Mustangs had their tails handed to them by the new starting quarterback for the Corn Kings, **Jimmy Garoppolo**, in a jaw-dropping 48-13 mauling at Tillman Field. The 35-point deficit equalled the worst loss in Aurora Mustangs history under Coach **Rich Liotta** and was just their 6th regular season loss overall in four-and-one-third seasons. Garoppolo made the Mustangs pay a price for their understandable focus on running back **Todd Gurley**, throwing for 315 yards and 6 touchdown passes while Gurley ran for 128 yards, in spite of all the attention. Although it was clear very early that **Matt Ryan** was having an off day and that **Aqib Talib** was joined at the hip to his top receiver, **Davante Adams**, the Mustangs refused to give in. The further behind they fell the wilder their game plan became. By the late 3rd quarter Ryan was throwing naked bombs every two or three plays and taking a beating from the Cowtown pass rush. On another day, against a different defence, that strategy might have worked. On this day, it only put their starting QB at risk and made matters worse. Excited fans in Cowtown are now hailing Garoppolo as a superstar. **Joe Flacco**, who has served the organization faithfully for close to a decade, might as well be pumping gas at *Joe Green’s Corner Gas & Variety* for all he was talked about in the post-game mania.

While everything went wrong in Cowtown for their divisional rivals, fortune continued to shine on the Gladiators. They stole a game from the Thunder Lizards, prevailing 35-28 on a 62-yard TD pass from **Ben Roethlisberger** to **Kenny Stills** with 0:06 seconds left in the game. The play came merely 35 seconds after Durham had appeared to write the final chapter in the game script, with a 1-yard touchdown run by **Anthony Sherman** giving them a 28-27 lead. But Big Ben put his confidence in one of the league’s lesser known playmakers and Stills delivered. It was a case of a superior player simply making a play. Stills navigated the Durham zone, found an opening and jetted through the gaps untouched all the way to the end zone. Georgia is now 4-1 and looking for a showdown with 4-1 Toronto in a battle for the South Division next week.

At Optimist Field in Brooklin, the Hawks took another step forward after a rough start with a tenacious 26-25 victory over Budapest for their second win in a row. Brooklin had it under control early with two 1st quarter touchdowns to grab a 13-0 lead. But the Stars bounced back with three big plays in the 2nd quarter, including a 62-yard TD pass to **Donte Moncrief**, to post 19 points and trail by just a single point, 20-19, at half time. In the 2nd half, the Stars put their trademark “sleeper hold” on the Hawks with a mind-numbing and bone-bruising ground attack leading to a pair of **Kai Forbath** field goals to put them in front 25-20. With time running out and most of the Hawks in a **Darrin Jones**-induced stupor, one man, **Rob Gronkowski**, turned it all around. He woke up his team and his fans by taking a medium cross from **Alex Smith** and ploughing through the Budapest defence, carrying both safeties with him into the end zone, for a 44-yard game-winning TD catch with 1:08 left. The reinvigorated Brooklin defence did the rest, stymying **Tyrod Taylor** the rest of the way. The race in the Coastal Division is looking very interesting once again.

At Camelot, the Excaliburs ground down the Spartans to post a 28-20 win and draw even with Budapest at the top of the Coastal Division. The Spartans’ offence showed explosiveness, with **Philip Rivers** connecting on TD passes of 67 and 61 yards to **Golden Tate** and **Sterling Shepard**, but it was limited in its production opportunities by a steady York offence that converted 12 of 18 third downs and possessed the ball for over 40 minutes. **Tom Brady** was not spectacular, but he was flawless in throwing for 231 yards and 3 TD passes. **Nick Chubb** and **Derrick Henry** combined for 121 yards on 35 carries, bringing balance and brawn to the Swords’ offence. Coach **Jay Hammond** is quietly developing a patient, balanced attack mechanism through his all-star quarterback that uses all its weapons in the right measure. On the other side, **Gus Konstantakos** is reportedly on medication to deal with the mistakes of Rivers and the missed tackles and assignments of his defence.

There will be no perfect season in St. Charles this year after the Chargers were bested 25-16 by the Bombers at The Fortress in Bruxelles. This game was a Blitz-a-thon with the teams combining for 90 blitzes, 9 sacks, 9 hurries, 1 safety and countless pressured throws. The quarterback who held up best, won the game. **Marcus Mariota** completed 19 of 33 passes for 232 yards, 3 TDs and, most importantly, no interceptions. **Carson Wentz**, conversely, completed less than half of his attempts for a mere 140 yards and 2 interceptions. The Charger quarterback did rack up 95 yards rushing, all of it on scrambles, but was unable to exploit that added dimension. The Bombers have won two straight and, with this win against a division rival, things are looking up.

And finally, at Stone Pony Shore in New Jersey, the Wrecking Balls punished the Derailers 31-0. While **Josh Rosen** rested one more week, **David Fales** was ineffective and **Jared Goff** enjoyed a pressure-free afternoon to finish with 226 yards and 2 TD passes. Buffalo is now starting to look like we thought they would look without **Andrew Luck**. Rosen’s return won’t change much.

BUG THE BOOKIE!

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

Your source for fantasy and on-line betting solutions



RECORD VS THE SPREAD AFTER WEEK 5:

34-25-1

Jimmy's WEEK SIX PICKS

SEATTLE @ ST. CHARLES (line – PILOTS by 2)

INJURIES: Seattle – Kam Chancellor (OUT), Josh Sitton (OUT); St. Charles – Darius Leonard (OUT), Nick Kwiatkowski (OUT), Tyler Decker (OUT).

Another whacky line from our friends in Vegas. Or is it? The Chargers have been winning by the skin of their teeth while the Pilots have been losing and holding their own against good teams. The Pilots' impact players are mostly outperforming their Charger counterparts and, at the most important position, Eli Manning is looking a decade ahead of Carson Wentz in form (because he is!). But there is something to be said about a winning culture, which the Chargers seem to be developing, and home field advantage for an East Coast team against a West Coast team. Making sense of Vegas is an exercise. I know who's winning on Sunday. **PICK: ST. CHARLES**

CHINO @ NEW JERSEY (line – WRECKING BALLS by 4)

INJURIES: Chino – Ali Marpet (OUT), Spencer Long (OUT), Ryan Kalil (OUT); New Jersey – Matt Longacre (OUT), William Gholston (OUT), Demar Dotson (OUT), Kentrell Brice (OUT).

Just when you thought that New Jersey was about to slide down the slippery slope to another 1-15 season, they come back with two impressive wins to move to above .500. Now they enjoy a field goal-plus line at Stone Pony Shore against a Convicts team pumped up with false bravado after pounding helpless Erieau last week. This is a deceptively important game for both teams. The Convicts have a chance to regain some lost ground with the faltering Cubs inviting them to hang around in the West. With the Chargers' loss last week, the Wrecking Balls see themselves as the rightful heirs to the East division crown, even if they have proved nothing. What the teams have in common is the urgent need to keep pace with their competition. Expect a tight and oddly brutal contest. **PICK: CHINO**

VIRDEN @ CHARLESWOOD (line – VIOLATORS by 2)

INJURIES: Virden – Leonard Floyd (OUT), Shane Ray (OUT), Ja'Wuan James (OUT), John Kuhn (OUT), Eric Berry (OUT), Marshall Yanda (OUT), Neville Hewitt (OUT); Charleswood – Brandon Linder (QUESTIONABLE), Deshaun Watson (OUT), Marcus Gilbert (OUT), Jamie Collins (OUT).

The Battle of Manitoba – Part I, is shaping up to be more interesting than originally thought following back-to-back Patriots wins in which Blake Bortles looked like a competent quarterback. But the Violators are riding a little higher after knocking off the Mustangs then walloping the Knights to keep within sight of perfect Twin Cities in the Central. Despite a poor start and the cloud of pessimism hanging over their heads, the Pats can actually draw even with a stronger-looking Virden team if they can continue to play stout defence and successfully hide the flaws of their quarterback. The Violators are riddled with injuries to their linebackers, but this has not prevented the defence from being effective. They will be able to handle the Charleswood attack. The difference between a convincing Virden victory and a gut-wrenching close affair will be the play of Derek Carr; and he hasn't faltered lately. **PICK: VIRDEN**

ERIEAU @ TWIN CITIES (line – TRIUMPH by 14)

INJURIES: Erieau – Jabrill Peppers (QUESTIONABLE), Stephon Gilmore (OUT); Twin Cities – Rishard Matthews (OUT), Carson Palmer (OUT), Joe Thomas (OUT).

The Cadillac have been shutout twice this year already and are dead last in most major offensive categories. I am running out of gas trying to keep up with all the stalling car analogies to describe the backfiring Staffordmobile. This week they face the top-ranked and, many argue, the most talented defence in the league inside the raucous, cage-match atmosphere of Wilhalla Stadium. What could possibly go wrong? While nobody expects the Triumph to match the perfect mastery of their 2016 season, they are off to an impressive

start and there is no reason to suspect they will not take care of business against their underwhelming division rivals. The question of the spread is easily answered – if the Caddies cannot score, their defence will get battered. 14 points is a cinch. **PICK: TWIN CITIES**

BROOKLIN @ DURHAM (line – HAWKS by 3)

INJURIES: Brooklin – Janoris Jenkins (OUT); Durham – Laurent Duvernay-Tardif (OUT), Richard Sherman (OUT).

The Thunder Lizards aren't getting much love from the odds-makers despite a winning record and homefield advantage. Professionals are betting on the fundamental Brooklin advantage in playmaking talent and the boost the Hawks got from beating a tough Budapest team in the final minute last week. The Lizards have no answer for Rob Gronkowski and DeAndre Hopkins and the Hawks' are starting to get production from their running game. On the other side, the Brooklin defence has not been playing well and it shows in the bottom line, having surrendered 28 points per game. Cam Newton is looking settled in behind center and his mere presence keeps the opposing pass rush from teeing off on passing downs. Expect fireworks aplenty in this homefield-assisted finish. **PICK: DURHAM**

BUDAPEST @ SCARBOROUGH (line – NORTH STARS by 15)

INJURIES: Budapest – Orlando Scandrick (OUT), Martellus Bennett (OUT), Jason Peters (OUT), Jordan Reed (OUT); Scarborough – Brock Osweiler (OUT), Aaron Rodgers (OUT), Earl Watford (OUT), Cordy Glenn (OUT), Dont'a Hightower (OUT).

Brett Hundley looks as confused in the pocket as Sean Mannion does, but he does have a pair of sturdy legs to escape from trouble. Expect him to use them often to flee the twin terrors on the Budapest line, Calais Campbell and Cameron Jordan. With Hundley running for his life, there won't be much pressure on a Stars' secondary still missing Orlando Scandrick, freeing them up to pursue the run if the Eagles elect to go with a "full-Howard" game plan. The Budapest offence continues to bore opponents into surrender, chipping away at defences like a spoon digging through a crumbly cement prison wall. They will get many opportunities to pile up enough field goals to beat the spread. This game will attract almost zero interest outside of Scarborough and Budapest. **PICK: BUDAPEST**

COWTOWN @ YORK (line – CORN KINGS by 4)

INJURIES: Cowtown – Roquan Smith (OUT), Greg Mancz (OUT), Ronald Darby (OUT); York – God (OUT).

The Garoppolo Era in Cowtown was confirmed last week when he threw 6 TD passes against Aurora. This lifts the Corn Kings from the status of Playoff Prospect to Conference Contender. The defence is playing well, even after giving up a few big plays in garbage time against Matt Ryan and a big run to Kenyan Drake. Things are looking good for the visitors, but the Excaliburs are the kind of team that will sandbag an overconfident opponent. Despite two rather serious lapses in their two losses, Tom Brady is looking stronger than ever in the games his team wins. He gets the ball out quickly, which will blunt the effectiveness of the Cowtown pass rush and put pressure on weak side corner, Aaron Colvin. The Swords' trio of running backs make an underrated but potentially effective rotation if the defence is looking elsewhere. I can't see this game turning lop-sided, nor a separation of more than a field goal. **PICK: YORK**

SEBASTIAN @ PICKERING (line – SWORDFISH by 7)

INJURIES: Sebastian – Ramon Foster (OUT), Aaron Lynch (OUT), Arik Armstead (OUT), Darren Sproles (OUT); Pickering – Tyvon Branch (OUT), Andre Branch (OUT), Dion Jordan (OUT).

The Spartans are free-falling out of the division race and fans are starting to panic. The defence continues to play below expectations and the offence turns the ball over at critical times. Compare this with the steady execution of the Drew Brees-directed Swordfish offence and the lethal pass-rush of their defence and it is hard to imagine the Spartans turning things around this week. But when two talented teams going in different directions meet, the conflicting dynamics can turn each other around in a hurry. Pickering is a good team playing poorly and they need to win this game. The Swordfish are a good team playing well, and do not need to win this game to stay relevant. Not saying the Spartans will win, but they will fight hard enough to keep it closer than a TD. **PICK: PICKERING**

CINCINNATI @ AURORA (line – MUSTANGS by __)

INJURIES: Cincinnati – Riley Reiff (QUESTIONABLE), Joe Haden (OUT); Aurora – Trent Williams (DOUBTFUL).

The Crusaders are off to a dismal 0-5 start and things are not about to get better this week on the road in Aurora. Cincy has held just one lead all year, a first possession field goal after a fumble against York, which was quickly erased on the Swords' next possession. It is too early and the team is too talented to use the word "winless" yet, but it is getting harder to find the prospective W's on their schedule with the way they are playing. With the Mustangs smarting from a severe cropping in Cowtown last week, the prospects of the visitors catching Rich Liotta's crew by surprise are next to nil. While Matt Ryan is not performing at historical levels, it is not feasible that he won't find plenty of open targets against the injured and not very effective Cincy secondary. **PICK: AURORA**

GEORGIA @ TORONTO (line – GLADIATORS by 3)

INJURIES: **Georgia** – Reuben Foster (OUT), Will Fuller V (OUT); **Toronto** – Shawn Williams (PROBABLE), Feliciano (DOUBTFUL), (OUT), John Simon (OUT), Jermaine Gresham (OUT), Danny Trevathan (OUT).

We will discover a lot about where these two teams are heading after this game. Both are surpassing pre-season expectations so far. The pretender could be exposed here as Analysts study how the strengths and weaknesses of each play against the other. The Wolverines' secondary is waiting with baited breath for Big Ben to air it out, believing they can turn the Glads' QB into a turnover machine when they know what's coming. The Glads will be eager to test the Toronto line with a hard dose of Alex Collins and Sony Michel to set up the kill strike on play action. The wildcard, Jay Cutler, does not need to experience pressure to throw an interception while being capable of making all the throws. I will go with Big Ben over JC here, but not confident in either. **PICK: GEORGIA**

BUFFALO @ IOWA CITY (line – DERAILERS by 2)

INJURIES: **Buffalo** – DJ Fluker (OUT), Jordan Hicks (OUT); **Iowa City** – None.

Yes, the entire continent saw how dazed and confused Russell Wilson looked against the Triumph last week, but that was against the top-rated defence in the league on a day when the front four was generating pressure and his wide receivers were not getting separation. Don't expect a repeat performance against the Derailers, not because Buffalo's pass rush and defensive line play aren't formidable, but because its defence will spend too much time on the field due to their sorry offence. Josh Rosen will pass into the swarm of pick-hungry Iowa DBs at his peril. On the other side, Wilson's mobility and ability to throw accurately on the run will sap the pass rush of its vitality, break down the cohesion of the defence and cause an inevitable rout to ensue. **PICK: IOWA CITY**

BRUXELLES @ LOS ANGELES (line – BOMBERS by 4)

INJURIES: **Bruxelles** – Terrelle Pryor Sr (OUT), Anthony Walker Jr (OUT), Kyle Long (OUT), Dede Westbrook (OUT), Mitch Morse (OUT), Chris Conley (OUT); **Los Angeles** – Bryan Bulaga (OUT), Weston Richburg (OUT).

Neither team is off to a good start but Bruxelles appears to be turning the ship around after winning two of their last three games. Last week against St. Charles they looked like the Bombers of last year, with Marcus Mariota connecting on a long play-action TD pass to Emmanuel Sanders and Leonard Fournette toting the rock at a 6.2 yards per-carry pace. Meanwhile the Knights are regressing to a form not seen since Sam Bradford and Mike Glennon battled for playing time during a winless 2014 campaign. Nobody is certain who the starting quarterback in LA is, causing the offence to wilt under the heat of constant change. Le'Veon Bell is piling up mileage at his current pace of more than 36 touches per game. Kenny Stills is a speed threat, but not a reliable no.1 wide receiver, while DeVante Parker has been nothing more than average in the no.2 slot. If the Knights are going to win this game and re-enter the post-season discussion, the legendary Blue Shield will have to invoke the spirit of its past dominance and take control. **PICK: LOS ANGELES**



CHANNEL
ANCIENT HISTORY
CHANNEL
PRESENTS
This Week in EFL History
With Professor Sterling Smitherman

FROM THE EFL ARCHIVES – Week Five of the 2012 EFL Season witnessed Markham and Cowtown square off at the Dawg Pound to decide which of these division rivals would keep pace with Durham in the North. But the game decided nothing, apart from allowing Durham to slide into sole possession of first place, as the teams battled to a rare 20-20 tie. It was particularly unsatisfying for the North Stars. **David Akers**, the most prolific kicker that year, missed a 49-yard field goal attempt in overtime that would have sealed the win. Cowtown linebacker **Derrick Johnson**

won Defensive Player of the Week for his efforts to contain the Markham offence with 12 tackles, 1 sack, 2 forced fumbles and 1 interception.

In the much-anticipated match-up between the league's top two quarterbacks, the Violators led by **Matt Stafford** took on the Undertakers, led by **Drew Brees**, in a battle of undefeated teams at the Graveyard. It started well for Virden. **Terence Newman** picked off Brees and returned it for a touchdown then Stafford hit **Julio Jones** for a 24-yard TD to make it 14-0 early. But Death Valley fought back to take a 21-20 lead into the 4th quarter. The final frame belonged to the home team. They outscored the visitors 20-7, to finish with a 41-27 victory and remain undefeated at 5-0.

The other undefeated team, Scarborough, held on to its status by a hair with a thrilling 27-26 win over Pickering. The strange story of **RGIII** completing only 7 passes for a staggering 271 yards and 3 TDs was overshadowed by the heroics of **Aaron Rodgers** on the final drive. Facing 4th & 20 at the Pickering 33 with just 0:45 left, Rodgers completed a pass for exactly 20 yards. Four plays later, at the 1, with 0:09 left, he hit **DeSean Jackson** in the back of the end zone for the TD.