



2008

WEEK TEN

November 30, 2008



A pumped up Patrick Kerney celebrates his third sack of the day in Durham's 20-17 overtime win over Ringgold.

THUNDER LIZARDS SQUEAK PAST HAWKS

*Mason Crosby boots 33-yard field goal
with 1:58 left in OT to avoid tie.*



RINGGOLD

17

OT



DURHAM

20

DURHAM – In a game many thought Durham would win easily – they were at home facing a back-up quarterback on a struggling team – it took a hard-nosed performance by the defense, led by **Patrick Kerney**, and a clutch kick by young **Mason Crosby** with less than two minutes remaining in overtime to avoid a tie and allow the T-Lizards to keep their playoff hopes alive with a narrow 20-17 win. Kerney dominated the line of scrimmage; recording 3 sacks and disrupting Ringgold's passing and running games to keep the Dinosaurs ahead for most of the game despite inconsistent play and 3 costly turnovers by the offense.

The game started well for Durham – two big plays; a 33-yard run by **Frank Gore** and a 48-yard pass from **Philip Rivers** to **Calvin Johnson**, set up the first two scores of the game to give the home team an early 10-0 lead. But as has happened all too often this year for Durham, a mental mistake by their quarterback breathed life into their opponent. Trying to force a ball over the middle, Rivers didn't see **Nick Barnett** drop back in coverage and threw a perfect dart right into his hands. Barnett returned the interception 27 yards for a touchdown and suddenly the Hawks were back in the game, trailing 10-7 going into the half.

A see-saw battle for field position in the third quarter finally broke Durham's way with a prolonged 14 play, 96 yard drive that ended with Rivers finding **Calvin Johnson** open in the middle of the defense for an 11-yard TD pass to extend the Dinos' lead to 17-7. But mid-way through the 4th, a stand by the Ringgold defense and a shanked punt by **Matt Turk** set up the Hawks' first offensive score of the day, a 38-yard pass from **Vince Young** to **Santonio Holmes** to put Ringgold back within 3 points, 17-14. With Durham trying to hold on to the ball as time ticked away in regulation, Rivers threw his second disastrous pick of the day into the hands of **Aaron Ross**, who returned it to the Durham 25 yard line. 3 plays later, a 46-yard field goal by **Shaun Suisham** put the game into overtime. With both teams playing conservatively in the final frame, it finally took individual efforts from **Frank Gore**, a 14-yard run, and **Clinton Portis**, a 19-yard pass reception, to produce enough yards to put Durham into field goal range. At the 1:54 mark, **Mason Crosby** made good on a 33-yard field goal attempt to notch the win for Durham.

Philip Rivers finished 18 of 32 for 232 yards and 1 TD, but almost gave away the game with 2 INTs and 1 lost fumble. **Frank Gore** gained 127 total yards and made two key plays to earn Game MVP. **Patrick Kerney** had 3 sacks, 1 run stuff, and 7 tackles to lead the Durham defense. Ringgold's **Vince Young** played well in relief of **Ben Roethlisberger**, finishing 21 of 33 for 231 yards, 1 TD passing, and led his team in rushing with 48 yards on 13 carries.

11-28-2008	Jurassic Park	Temp: 73	Wind: Calm	Rain	MVP: Gore		RCH	DTL	
2007 Ringgold (3-7)	0	7	0	10	0	-17	First Downs	14	20
2007 Durham (5-5)	10	0	7	0	3	-20	Rushes	26-72	42-137
							Passes	33-21-231	32-18-232
							Sacked	6-46	3-28
1 5:12 Durham	FG Crosby	47	(6-27-3:52)			0-3	Fumble	1	1
1 1:03 Durham	TD Portis	7	run (Crosby,M) (4-58-2:18)			0-10	Penalties	8-50	4-30
2 9:30 Ringgold	TD Barnett	27	interception return (Suisham) (0-0-0:00)			7-10	Turnovers	0	3
3 0:02 Durham	TD Rivers	11	pass to Johnson (Crosby,M) (14-96-6:35)			7-17	Time	32:31	40:29
4 7:39 Ringgold	TD Young	38	pass to Holmes (Suisham) (6-69-2:56)			14-17	Third Down	2-16	6-17
4 1:45 Ringgold	FG Suisham	46	(4--4-1:03)			17-17	Fourth Down	2-3	1-1
5 1:58 Durham	FG Crosby	33	(7-53-3:55)			17-20	Net Offense	257	341

**COLORADO**

LOS ANGELES

9

24

KNIGHTS GOOD ENOUGH TO WIN

GAME POINTS: A 33-yard pass from **Brodie Croyle** to **Steve Smith** on an early 4th down-and-2 gamble by LA broke the ice in a tight first quarter and set up a 3-yard TD run by **Najeh Davenport** to give the Knights a lead they would never surrender. Trailing 14-6 at the half, a determined Thundersnow 'D' held the Knights at bay for the third quarter while their offense added a FG to narrow the LA lead to 5 points. But **Kevin Williams** forced a **Matt Ryan** fumble deep in Colorado territory in the 4th that led to an easy **Kris Brown** field goal to turn the tide back in the home team's favour. A late TD pass to **Roddy White** capped the scoring and sealed the win for Los Angeles.

KEY PERFORMANCES: LA QB, **Brodie Croyle** managed the game well, completing 13 of 17 passes for 180 yards, 2 TDs and 1 INT. **Roddy White** caught 7 passes for 121 yards and 1 TD. **Kevin Smith** rushed for 73 yards on 14 carries while **Matt Ryan** threw for 127 yards without throwing a pick.

11-28-2008 Round Table Stadium Temp: 65 Wind: 0-10 None MVP: White							COL	LAK	
2007 Colorado (0-10)						0 6 3 0 - 9	First Downs	12	15
2007 Los Angeles (5-5)						7 7 0 10 - 24	Rushes	29-131	28-110
							Passes	22-13-127	19-14-200
							Sacked	4-17	1-7
1 2:33 Los Angeles TD Davenport 3 run (Brown,K) (9-61-4:39)						0-7	Fumble	3	0
2 8:27 Colorado FG Gould 40 (15-66-9:00)						3-7	Penalties	6-35	5-26
2 1:53 Los Angeles TD Croyle 6 pass to Heap (Brown,K) (11-83-6:24)						3-14	Turnovers	1	1
2 0:03 Colorado FG Gould 44 (4-44-1:36)						6-14	Time	30:32	29:28
3 8:16 Colorado FG Gould 39 (11-61-6:37)						9-14	Third Down	3-13	5-11
4 9:41 Los Angeles FG Brown 28 (3--4-2:41)						9-17	Fourth Down	1-1	1-1
4 2:26 Los Angeles TD Croyle 10 pass to White (Brown,K) (6-75-3:54)						9-24	Net Offense	241	303

**IOWA CITY****WINNEMUCCA**

58

17

CUBS BEAT UP OUTLAWS

GAME POINTS: The Cubs established the air assault early and finished off with a ground offensive in hammering the Winnemucca Outlaws, 58-17. **Jeff Garcia** threw the first of his 3 TD passes to **Kellen Winslow**, a 22-yard short cross into an empty secondary , to give the Cubs a 14-0 lead at the 4:26 mark of the 1st quarter. Garcia would go on to throw 2 more TD passes in the 2nd quarter and **Ronnie Brown** would add a 1-yard TD run to stake Iowa City to a 35-14 half time lead. The Cubs continued to pour it on in the second half, finishing with the second highest single game point total in EFL history.

KEY PERFORMANCES: **Jeff Garcia** completed 16 of 25 passes for 248 yards and 4 TDs for a game day rating of 136.3. **Ronnie Brown** rushed for 137 yards and 1 TD on 15 carries. **Kellen Winslow** caught 6 passes for 78 yards and 3 TDs. **David Garrard** completed 16 of 29 for 172 yards, 2 TDs and 1 INT.

11-30-2008 Hole in the Wall	Temp: 31 Wind: 10-20 MVP: Garcia		
2007 Iowa City (8-2)	14 21 10 13 - 58	First Downs	ICC 26 WMO 14
2007 Winnemucca (1-9)	7 7 3 0 - 17	Rushes	39-270 21-90
		Passes	26-16-248 32-17-180
1 9:08 Iowa City	TD Jacobs 6 run (Feely) (5-63-2:13)	Sacked	1-4 3-27
1 4:26 Iowa City	TD Garcia 22 pass to Winslow (Feely) (3-41-1:28)	Fumble	1 3
1 0:51 Winnemucca	TD Garrard 7 pass to Ward (Vinatieri) (9-65-3:22)	Penalties	7-51 6-40
2 13:25 Iowa City	TD Garcia 8 pass to Winslow (Feely) (7-89-2:19)	Turnovers	1 3
2 7:55 Iowa City	TD Garcia 6 pass to Brown (Feely) (5-65-2:49)	Challenges	0-0 1-1
2 4:37 Iowa City	TD Brown 1 run (Feely) (4-58-1:45)	Time	33:47 26:13
2 1:20 Winnemucca	TD Garrard 37 pass to McFadden (Vinatieri) (2-43-0:23)	Third Down	6-11 3-12
3 7:34 Iowa City	FG Feely 28 (13-73-7:18)	Fourth Down	0-0 0-0
3 7:23 Iowa City	TD Garcia 9 pass to Winslow (Feely) (1-9-0:03)	Net Offense	514 243
3 0:14 Winnemucca	FG Vinatieri 23 (8-53-3:11)		
4 7:50 Iowa City	FG Feely 48 (9-40-7:10)		
4 3:28 Iowa City	FG Feely 42 (4-6-2:47)		
4 1:48 Iowa City	TD Whitner 27 interception return (Feely) (0-0-0:00)		



27

ANCHORAGE

OT



30

PICKERING

SPARTANS PULL OFF MIRACLE COMEBACK!

GAME POINTS: Drew Brees threw three interceptions in the 4th quarter, leading to 14 opposition points, to help squander, in one quarter, a 27 point lead that the Buccaneers took 3 quarters to build. What had appeared to be a runaway rout for Anchorage turned around suddenly at the end of the 3rd quarter when **Donovan McNabb** found **Reggie Williams** in the corner of the end zone for a 20-yard TD pass. Aided by Brees miscues, the Spartans then exploded for 3 more TDs in the final period to send the game into overtime. The Spartans won the toss and marched slowly into field goal range to finish off an amazing rebound.

KEY PERFORMANCES: Drew Brees threw 3 TDs in the 1st half and 3 INTs in the 2nd half. **Donovan McNabb** completed only 13 of 30 passes for 137 yards but tossed 4 TD passes. **Fred Taylor** rushed for 100 yards on 15 carries.

11-29-2008 Thermopylae Stadium	Temp: 3 Wind: Calm MVP: Cartwright		
2007 Anchorage (3-7)	3 17 7 0 0 - 27	First Downs	ANC 22 PIC 16
2007 Pickering (5-5)	0 0 6 21 3 - 30	Rushes	30-121 34-221
		Passes	36-24-260 30-13-137
1 2:29 Anchorage	FG Stover 21 (5-53-2:23)	Sacked	1-3 4-30
2 9:00 Anchorage	TD Brees 9 pass to Colston (Stover) (12-62-6:49)	Fumble	0 0
2 4:55 Anchorage	TD Brees 19 pass to Curtis (Stover) (5-65-2:25)	Penalties	5-35 6-39
2 1:09 Anchorage	FG Stover 34 (8-53-2:38)	Turnovers	3 1
3 8:23 Anchorage	TD Brees 24 pass to Curtis (Stover) (12-83-6:30)	Time	33:33 34:15
3 0:00 Pickering	TD McNabb 20 pass to Williams (no good) (10-67-6:09)	Third Down	2-12 4-15
4 14:33 Pickering	TD McNabb 11 pass to Williams (Tynes) (2-6-0:16)	Fourth Down	2-2 1-1
4 7:28 Pickering	TD McNabb 17 pass to Johnson (Tynes) (6-76-3:04)	Net Offense	378 328
4 1:50 Pickering	TD McNabb 17 pass to Smith (Tynes) (1-17-0:13)		
5 7:17 Pickering	FG Tynes 42 (13-48-7:30)		



3

MARKHAM



37

CHINO

TURNOVERS TURN GAME INTO CHINO ROUT

GAME POINTS: Matt Hasselbeck lost a fumble at his own 40 yard line late in the 1st quarter, leading to Chino's second TD of the day and setting the tone for a mistake-filled performance by the struggling North Stars. In the 3rd quarter **Matt Cassell** came on in relief of an ineffective Hasselbeck and threw an interception to safety, **Bernard Pollard** that **Jay Cutler** eventually turned into more Convicts points with a 34-yard TD pass to **Anquan Boldin**, officially turning an easy game into a 37-3 blowout.

KEY PERFORMANCES: Matt Hasselbeck was benched after completing only 3 of 15 passes for 29 yards and losing a fumble. A 3 sack performance by **Mike Vrabel** was wasted by the Star's offense. **Jay Cutler** won game MVP honours by completing 20 of 32 passes for 250 yards and 3 TD passes. **Anquan Boldin** caught 5 passes for 70 yards and 2 TDs.

11-28-2008 The Big House Temp: 89 Wind: 0-5 None MVP: Cutler							MAR	CHI	
2007 Markham (2-8)						0 3 0 0 - 3	First Downs	10	21
2007 Chino (6-4)						14 3 14 6 -37	Rushes	25-75	32-127
							Passes	28-12-133	32-20-250
							Sacked	1-4	3-24
1 6:09	Chino	TD Tomlinson 17 run (Reed,J) (10-48-5:43)				0-7	Fumble	4	2
1 1:56	Chino	TD Cutler 11 pass to Boldin (Reed,J) (6-40-3:02)				0-14	Penalties	6-50	5-45
2 12:46	Markham	FG Lindell 52 (8-32-4:02)				3-14	Turnovers	4	0
2 3:04	Chino	FG Reed 44 (3--20-0:18)				3-17	Time	23:55	36:00
3 9:20	Chino	TD Cutler 9 pass to McMichael (Reed,J) (9-68-4:21)				3-24	Third Down	4-16	8-15
3 1:53	Chino	TD Cutler 34 pass to Boldin (Reed,J) (1-34-0:16)				3-31	Fourth Down	0-0	1-1
4 11:42	Chino	FG Reed 40 (3-9-2:10)				3-34	Net Offense	204	353
4 4:06	Chino	FG Reed 32 (7-34-6:07)				3-37			



KUTZTOWN



MOHAVE

30

14

ROMO TURNS WARNER MISCUES INTO WIN

GAME POINTS: The Golden Bears converted 4 **Kurt Warner** interceptions into 20 points to make the difference in a surprising upset at the Fiery Depths. Mohave's **Roderick Hood** returned an errant **Tony Romo** pass 53 yards for a TD to give the Hellfire a 14-10 half time lead despite two costly 1st half picks by Warner. But early in the 3rd quarter, Romo hit a big play, 36-yard TD pass to wide receiver, **Greg Jennings** to put Kutztown ahead for good. Warner's attempt to mount a comeback turned sour with two more picks, allowing the opportunistic Bears a chance to turn the tables on the favoured Hellfire, 30-14.

KEY PERFORMANCES: **Tony Romo** created most of the Kutztown offense, throwing for 216 yards, 3 TDs and 1 INT while completing 17 of 32. **Jason Taylor** was a factor with 2 sacks while **Clinton Hart** had 2 picks. **Kurt Warner** completed 13 of 26 passes for 197 yards, 1 TD, and 4 INTS.

11-29-2008 The Fiery Depths Temp: 91 Wind: Calm MVP: Romo							KUT	MOH	
2007 Kutztown (5-5)						0 10 13 7 - 30	First Downs	11	16
2007 Mohave (7-3)						7 7 0 0 - 14	Rushes	18-36	39-153
							Passes	32-17-216	26-13-197
1 3:09 Mohave TD Warner 41 pass to Owens (Bironas) (11-93-6:51)						0-7	Sacked	1-6	2-19
2 12:53 Kutztown FG Kaeding 43 (5--2-1:09)						3-7	Fumble	0	1
2 11:54 Kutztown TD Romo 5 pass to Clark (Kaeding) (1-5-0:04)						10-7	Penalties	10-60	8-52
2 1:23 Mohave TD Hood 53 interception return (Bironas) (0-0-0:00)						10-14	Turnovers	1	4
3 9:33 Kutztown TD Romo 36 pass to Jennings (Kaeding) (4-58-2:14)						17-14	Time	25:55	34:05
3 5:43 Kutztown FG Kaeding 48 (5-17-1:41)						20-14	Third Down	2-13	7-13
3 2:27 Kutztown FG Kaeding 31 (6-15-2:51)						23-14	Fourth Down	1-1	2-6
4 14:41 Kutztown TD Romo 8 pass to Watson (Kaeding) (1-8-0:08)						30-14	Net Offense	246	331



GWINNETT



COWTOWN

20

38

COWTOWN RUNS OVER GWINNETT

GAME POINTS: **Tramon Williams** returned a punt 83 yards for a TD to break a 17-17 deadlock mid-way thru the 4th quarter and signal the end of the Gladiator's hopes for a 7th straight victory. The Corn Kings would pile on two more late TDs to widen the point spread as the Gwinnett defense collapsed in the face of a punishing Cowtown running attack that gained 287 yards on the day. **Carson Palmer** had a hot hand early, connecting on a 29-yard TD pass to **Braylon Edwards** to open the scoring, but struggled in the second half, completing only 2 of his last 10 passes with the game on the line.

KEY PERFORMANCES: **Laurence Maroney** rushed for 146 yards on 16 carries and **Marion Barber** rushed for 123 yards on 18 carries – each scored a TD to lead the Cowtown offense. **Chris Redman** completed 10 of 16 passes for 139 yards and 2 TDs in relief of **Chad Pennington**. **Willie Parker** rushed for 109 yards on 22 carries. **Leon Washington** returned a kickoff 97 yards for a TD.

11-28-2008 Tillman Field		Temp: 44		Wind: 0-10		MVP: Maroney					
2007 Gwinnett (6-4)		7	0	10	3	- 20		First Downs	19	27	
2007 Cowtown (5-5)		0	7	7	24	- 38		Rushes	27-144	40-287	
								Passes	33-17-184	23-15-191	
1 5:08 Gwinnett		TD Palmer 29 pass to Edwards (Brown,J) (13-80-6:51)						7-0	Sacked	1-3	0-0
2 14:50 Cowtown		TD Redman 3 pass to Mughelli (Hanson,J) (12-80-5:18)						7-7	Fumble	0	0
3 7:09 Cowtown		TD Maroney 4 run (Hanson,J) (10-75-5:20)						7-14	Penalties	3-27	3-45
3 6:53 Gwinnett		TD Washington 97 kick return (Brown,J) (0-0-0:00)						14-14	Turnovers	1	0
3 0:37 Gwinnett		FG Brown 39 (10-55-5:27)						17-14	Challenges	0-0	1-1
4 9:41 Cowtown		FG Hanson 20 (12-82-5:43)						17-17	Time	31:07	28:46
4 7:16 Cowtown		TD Williams 83 punt return (Hanson,J) (0-0-0:00)						17-24	Third Down	6-12	5-8
4 4:45 Gwinnett		FG Brown 39 (5-39-2:16)						20-24	Fourth Down	0-2	0-0
4 2:57 Cowtown		TD Barber 10 run (Hanson,J) (3-80-1:44)						20-31	Net Offense	325	478
4 1:54 Cowtown		TD Redman 39 pass to Furrey (Hanson,J) (2-39-0:21)						20-38			



20

CHARLESWOOD



37

FLORIDA

THE "JACKSON 4" OUTPERFORMS PATS

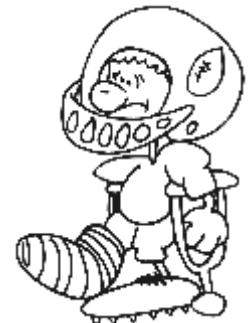
GAME POINTS: Peyton Manning caught the Florida defense guessing early in the game and made them pay with 2 first half TD passes to **Jason Witten** to give the Patriots a 14-7 lead. But the game turned around suddenly in the 2nd quarter after **Steven Jackson** bowled across the goal line from 3 yards out, his 2nd of 4 TDs on the day, to tie the game 14-14. On the Pats' next possession, **Wes Welker** fumbled after a catch, giving Florida the ball back in Charleswood territory. **Tom Brady** shot a little flare to **DeAngelo Williams** near the sideline and he ran it in from 18 yards to put the Dragons ahead for good. The Dragons used the ground game to slowly pull away from the Pats the rest of the way to win with relative ease, 37-20.

KEY PERFORMANCES: Steven Jackson rushed 30 times for 144 yards and 4 TDs and caught 3 balls for 32 yards to earn the MVP award. **Tom Brady** was a solid 14 of 22 for 188 yards and 1 TD. **Peyton Manning** was 20 of 33 for 219 yards and 3 TD passes. **Adrian Peterson** was held to 55 yards on 16 carries.

11-28-2008	Dragonmount	Temp: 90	Wind: 0-10	None	MVP: Jackson																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																												
------------	-------------	----------	------------	------	--------------	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

INJURY REPORT - Out in Week Ten

ANCHORAGE – Addai (knee), Olson (knee), J. Wilson (shaken), Naeole (knee); **CHARLESWOOD** – None; **CHINO** – None; **COLORADO** – Pryce (hand), Vasher (shaken), Vilma (knee), A. Johnson (knee), Simpson (wrist), D. Williams (back), Mayo (shaken), Booker (hand); **COWTOWN** – Kampman (knee); **DURHAM** – B. Williams (knee); **FLORIDA** – None; **GWINNETT** – McFadden (shoulder); **IOWA CITY** – Jacobs (hand), Lawson (achilles); **KUTZTOWN** – M. Harrison (elbow), A. Smith (shaken), L. Johnson (knee); **LOS ANGELES** – T. Bell (hip); **MARKHAM** – D. Robinson (arm), Holliday (shoulder), C. Long (shaken); **MOHAVE** – J. Mathis (neck); **PICKERING** – Sensabaugh (hand); **RINGGOLD** – Ugoh (shoulder), Jones-Drew (hamstring); **WINNEMUCCA** – Leftwich (hamstring), M. Brown (shaken), W. Anderson (stinger), Jansen (knee), T. Kelly (shaken), Dawkins (hamstring), Hayward (shoulder), McAlister (hip), Fargas (foot).





AROUND THE



With Spats McChad

NEW YORK – I am proud of the fact that New Yorkers are relatively civilized when compared with, say, Los Angelians. But the Black Friday incident at the Valley Stream Wal-Mart, where a temporary employee was killed when the front doors were broken down by a stampeding mob on the hunt for cheap DVD players, has shaken my faith. Apparently, when they advertise “Door Buster” specials, New Yorkers take it literally.

CLASH OF THE TITANS TURNS INTO GODZILLA VS JAPANESE ARMY

What many had expected to be a battle of ‘*Godzilla vs Rodan*’ proportions turned into a skirmish between the King of Monsters and the Japanese Army. After scoring a couple of direct hits on Godzilla’s nose with volleys of tank blasts, the Japanese Army, (played by Jason Findlay’s Charleswood Patriots), were swept away with an angry swish of Godzilla’s (Jim Heaton’s Florida Dragons) tail, leaving EFL City helpless and exposed to the monster’s wrath. Can anyone stop the *Godzilla* that is Florida? Unlikely. There are no other monsters of the same weight class hanging around. Unless Findlay can somehow rescue *Rodan* from inside that Japanese volcano, it looks like the only thing capable of stopping Florida’s *Godzilla* from reducing the league to ruins is Florida itself. Maybe the Dragons will simply decide it is not worth the effort and withdraw quietly back into the ocean.

SFL FREE AGENTS LOOKING FOR WORK

With the legal confusion surrounding the state of the Stupendous Football League, unemployed players have been largely heeding the advice of agents and refraining from entering into talks with teams from rival leagues, including the EFL. But cracks are beginning to appear in the resolve of the less prudent, as several former SFL players have come out and declared themselves Free Agents, looking to cash in on the growing popularity, and cash reserves, of the EFL. Among the more notable are young talents such as defensive end, **Ray Edwards**, formerly of the Torrance Tigers, and cornerback, **Eric Green** of the Miami Monsoons. Veteran linebackers, **Teddy Bruschi** and **Willie McGinest** are also looking to make the jump, having served more time than they would have liked with the now defunct Bugsville Bunnies. Other notable names are QB, **Derek Anderson**, RB, **Michael Pittman** (the self-styled “Greatest Running Back in the World”), and center, **Melvin Fowler**. My anonymous inside source in the financially unstable SFL Head Office tells me that we can expect more defections soon. That means some big names could be floating about when the season ends.

HALFTIME HANGOVER?

Markham has surrendered 89 points in the third quarter and 121 in the second half of games this season, more than any other team, including Colorado (a team usually so behind by the end of the first half that opponents are in blowout mode by the start of the second half). What are the North Stars doing in the locker room at half time? Reporter, **Lanny McDonald**, well known to tip a few, does half time interviews and serves refreshments in the Markham locker room for his popular “In the Game” feature for the Markham Economist and Sun, managing somehow to extract marvelous and controversial quotes from his subjects. Is that *Gatorade* they are drinking or *Mike’s Hard Lemonade*?

SPARTANS LIVING UP TO THEIR NAME

The Pickering Spartans are beginning to look like they could be this year’s Cinderella Team. After an emotional victory over Chino in Week Nine, the Spartans staged one of the greatest comebacks in EFL

history in Week Ten, overcoming a 27-point deficit against the Buccaneers in slightly more than one quarter's worth of time to force overtime and eventually win it on a 42-yard field goal by Lawrence Tynes. Okay, so it was against the Buccaneers, a team forever cursed for reasons unfathomable to Man! But still, there are limits to the Anchorage Curse. I believe that Spartan Magic, born of that heroic stand in the Mountain Pass at Thermopylae thousands of years ago, had a hand in magnifying 'The Curse' on this occasion. Beware the Spartans! They are going to win the East Division and with Donovan McNabb at the helm, anything can happen in the playoffs.

FAN PURGATORY

Speaking of Anchorage – what's worse: to be a fan of the **Colorado Thundersnow** or a fan of the **Anchorage Buccaneers**? It's a tough call. One team has no hope of winning, and doesn't; while the other reasonably expects to win, and doesn't. This week's collapse by the Buccaneers against Pickering has to be one of the cruelest blows yet struck against Anchorage fans – a group that has been dealt with cruelly by the Football Gods all year. The 4th quarter has not been kind to the Bucs so far this season and this past week it was particularly mean – 3 Brees picks and 3 Spartans' touchdowns erased a 27-point lead, sent the game into overtime and brought about an eventual 30-27 win for Pickering. As weak as I think the Bucs are overall, it was still a shocking outcome! **Drew Brees** has thrown a league-high 18 interceptions and this is ruining the Bucs' season. Can **Kyle Boller** be any worse?

NEW YORK GRIPES

I've got a long list this week, so let's get started. First, what was Iowa City's **Brandon Jacobs** doing still in the game with his team up 45-17 in the 4th quarter? Jacobs was apparently given the job of running out the clock, carrying the ball 6 straight times to start the final frame. After his last carry, an 11-yard burst around the right side, Jacobs was seen favouring his right hand as he walked back to the sideline. After the game it was announced that Jacobs had suffered a broken index finger and would be out at least two weeks. **Coach Redding** is well-known to protect his starters against weaker opponents. One has to wonder what happened this week.

Why is Kutztown's **Chris Cooley** making \$3.8 million a year? One of two big Free Agent signings by the spendthrift Bears has caught...get ready for it....6 passes in 10 games! Five of those came in one game. Kutztown's other big Free Agent signing, **Greg Jennings**, at \$4 million a year, is doing a little better with 18 catches for the season, but it is still far, far below expectations. These performances are making the **DeMeco Ryans** signing look like a Black Friday bargain.

Matt Hasselbeck was benched against the Chino Convicts for, basically, being the most horrible quarterback in the EFL at the moment. What the move showed was that the Stars are not any better with **Josh Johnson** and **Matt Cassell** leading the offence.

Am I imagining it, or is the **Colorado Thundersnow** offense not quite as funny as it used to be? For the second straight week they have...well... not really *done well*, but have not looked as inept as we have become accustomed to seeing. They are starting to look like Markham in terms of efficiency, which, while not at all good, is a vast improvement. At this rate they may be able to keep a game close, or dare I sav. *win* a game. by the end of the year.

WEEK TEN LEADERS

Passing Yards

Brees (ANC)	36-24-260
Cutler (CHI)	32-20-250
Garcia,J (ICC)	25-16-248
Rivers,P (DTL)	32-18-232
Young,V(RCH)	33-21-231

Rushing Yards

Maroney (COW)	16-146
Jackson,S (FLD)	30-144
Brown,R (ICC)	15-137
Barber,M (COW)	18-123
McGahee (ANC)	22-111

Receiving Yards

White,R (LAK)	7-121
Owens,T (MOH)	4-119
Holt,T (CHI)	6-90
Curtis,K (ANC)	5-83
Winslow (ICC)	6-78

LEADER BOARD

STANDINGS

PACIFIC - ATLANTIC CONFERENCE

East	W	L	T	Pct	Pts	Ave	Opp	Ave	Diff	Home	Div	Conf
Pickering	5	5	0	0.5	199	19.9	239	23.9	-4	4 1 0	3 0 0	5 2 0
Markham	2	8	0	0.2	120	12	232	23.2	-11.2	1 3 0	2 1 0	2 5 0
Winnemucca	1	9	0	0.1	103	10.3	282	28.2	-17.9	0 5 0	1 2 0	1 6 0
Colorado	0	10	0	0	59	5.9	280	28	-22.1	0 4 0	0 3 0	0 7 0

West	W	L	T	Pct	Pts	Ave	Opp	Ave	Diff	Home	Div	Conf
Iowa City	8	2	0	0.8	286	28.6	167	16.7	11.9	4 1 0	3 0 0	7 0 0
Chino	6	4	0	0.6	284	28.4	169	16.9	11.5	4 0 0	2 1 0	5 2 0
Los Angeles	5	5	0	0.5	253	25.3	229	22.9	2.4	3 1 0	1 2 0	5 2 0
Anchorage	3	7	0	0.3	192	19.2	232	23.2	-4	2 3 0	0 3 0	3 4 0

CAN - AM CONFERENCE

North	W	L	T	Pct	Pts	Ave	Opp	Ave	Diff	Home	Div	Conf
Charleswood	9	1	0	0.9	252	25.2	121	12.1	13.1	5 0 0	3 0 0	6 1 0
Cowtown	5	5	0	0.5	184	18.4	193	19.3	-0.9	3 3 0	0 3 0	2 5 0
Durham	5	5	0	0.5	186	18.6	201	20.1	-1.5	4 2 0	2 1 0	3 4 0
Kutztown	5	5	0	0.5	220	22	212	21.2	0.8	3 2 0	1 2 0	3 4 0

South	W	L	T	Pct	Pts	Ave	Opp	Ave	Diff	Home	Div	Conf
Florida	10	0	0	1	313	31.3	137	13.7	17.6	5 0 0	3 0 0	7 0 0
Mohave	7	3	0	0.7	270	27	234	23.4	3.6	4 1 0	2 1 0	4 3 0
Gwinnett	6	4	0	0.6	243	24.3	166	16.6	7.7	4 2 0	1 2 0	3 4 0
Ringgold	3	7	0	0.3	169	16.9	239	23.9	-7	2 4 0	0 3 0	0 7 0

PASSING

			Att	Cmp	C%	Yards	In	I%	Lg	TD	TD%	Rate
1	Garcia,J	ICC	174	119	68.4	1587	3	1.7	54	12	6.9	112.9
2	Brady,T	FLD	278	181	65.1	2151	2	0.7	56	18	6.5	107.2
3	Jackson,T	LAK	134	83	61.9	1103	5	3.7	71	10	7.5	97.3
4	Garrard	WMO	201	128	63.7	1281	3	1.5	37	9	4.5	90.4
5	Warner,K	MOH	259	156	60.2	2068	12	4.6	51	18	6.9	89.4
6	Rivers,P	DTL	286	176	61.5	2188	8	2.8	48	13	4.5	88.7
7	Manning,P	CHP	306	187	61.1	2315	12	3.9	48	18	5.9	87.8
8	Cutler	CHI	236	155	65.7	1763	12	5.1	34	12	5.1	83.7
9	Palmer,C	GWG	299	176	58.9	2058	10	3.3	75	16	5.4	83.7
10	Roethlisberger	RCH	209	127	60.8	1551	10	4.8	54	12	5.7	82.8
11	McNabb	PIC	286	162	56.6	1773	7	2.4	50	15	5.2	82.4
12	Romo	KUT	348	198	56.9	2372	14	4	72	17	4.9	77.4
13	Brees	ANC	335	199	59.4	2042	18	5.4	50	17	5.1	71.5
14	Pennington	COW	215	129	60	1423	10	4.7	30	6	2.8	69.6
15	Hasselbeck	MAR	254	142	55.9	1363	10	3.9	46	7	2.8	63.8

RUSHING

			Att	Yds	Ave	Lg	TD				Att	Yds	Ave	Lg	TD
1	Tomlinson	CHI	199	1065	5.4	49	12	8	Brown,R	ICC	71	543	7.6	66	2
2	Barber,M	COW	186	946	5.1	56	6	9	Maroney	COW	80	527	6.6	64	3
3	Taylor,F	PIC	149	829	5.6	83	2	10	Gore	DTL	123	511	4.2	33	5
4	Peterson,A	CHP	150	770	5.1	72	6	11	Davenport	LAK	90	497	5.5	41	4
5	Westbrook	MOH	147	736	5	36	2	12	Jones-Drew	RCH	110	488	4.4	59	0
6	McGahee	ANC	155	713	4.6	44	2	13	Young,S	LAK	102	477	4.7	44	0
7	Parker,W	GWG	165	632	3.8	32	1	14	Williams,D	FLD	88	458	5.2	53	3
8	Brown,R	ICC	71	543	7.6	66	2	15	Lewis,J	MAR	109	453	4.2	54	1

RECEIVING

			No	Yds	Ave	Lg	TD				No	Yds	Ave	Lg	TD
1	Holt,T	CHI	55	719	13.1	34	3	8	Johnson,C	CHP	48	735	15.3	47	7
2	Welker	CHP	51	606	11.9	33	2	9	Moss,R	ANC	48	635	13.2	44	5
3	Smith,S	LAK	51	691	13.5	71	6	10	Houshmandz	FLD	47	597	12.7	37	6
4	Wayne,R	GWG	51	713	14	55	1	11	Edwards,B	GWG	47	655	13.9	75	9
5	Ward,H	WMO	50	532	10.6	24	2	12	Burress	KUT	44	581	13.2	46	1
6	Gonzalez,T	GWG	50	460	9.2	21	5	13	Gates,A	DTL	44	629	14.3	35	1
7	Witten	CHP	49	587	12	48	6	14	Colston	ANC	44	424	9.6	34	4
8	Johnson,C	CHP	48	735	15.3	47	7	15	Marshall,B	FLD	43	624	14.5	56	4



BRYLCREEM PLAYERS OF THE WEEK WHO WAS SLICK IN WEEK TEN?

Brylcreem continues to be a proud sponsor of the EFL

OFFENSE



RB – Steven Jackson, Florida Dragons

30 Car., 144 yds., 280 yds, 4 TDs, 3 Rec., 32 yds.

Carried the day against undefeated opponent.

DEFENSE



DE –Patrick Kerney, Durham T-Lizards

7 Tackles, 3 Sacks, 1 Run Stuff, 2 QB Pressures

Kept Vince Young under wraps in a must win for Durham.

SPECIAL TEAMS



PR –Tramon Williams, Cowtown Corn Kings

2 PR, 107 yards, 53.5 avg., 83 yd long, 1 TD.

Broke open close game with the game-winning TD vs Gwinnett.

BUG THE BOOKIE!
JIMMY THE GEEK GIVES YOU HIS PICKS FOR WEEK
ELEVEN EFL ACTION
YOUR SOURCE FOR FANTASY AND ON-LINE BETTING SOLUTIONS



JIMMY'S WEEK ELEVEN PICKS

CHARLESWOOD @ WINNEMUCCA (LINE – PATRIOTS BY 10)

The Outlaws continue to be crippled by injuries. This week they face one of the toughest teams in the league without their top cornerback, Chris McAlister, who is out for the season with a hip injury. That leaves Winnemucca with, once again, only 4 defensive backs on their roster. It could be a record-setting day for Peyton Manning. That is, if it is not a record-setting day for Adrian Peterson, who faces a banged up Outlaw defensive line that also happens to be below average when healthy. On offense, the Outlaws are without their top running back, Justin Fargas and their top two offensive tackles. Is any area of the field *not* banged up for Winnemucca? Yes, the healthiest and most numerous line-backing corps in the league thrives and is looking for work. They should get it as you can expect the Outlaw defense to spend a lot of time on the field. Meanwhile, the league's second best team is completely, certifiably, healthy. The question is not whether the Pats will cover the spread – it is whether they will break their own EFL margin-of-victory record, 52 points, set last season against Meadowlands.

PICK: CHARLESWOOD

DURHAM @ COLORADO (LINE – THUNDER LIZARDS BY 6)

The Thundersnow have been playing less comically lately. Slowly but surely they are improving into a poor professional football team from a horrendous professional football team. This week they have an opportunity to narrow their margin of loss to something less than double digits. It will be a difficult task. Key injuries to what few quality players they have will make competitiveness difficult. The loss of Andre Johnson continues to have a ripple effect on the hamstrung offense, while the absence of Nathan Vasher, Jonathan Vilma, Trevor Pryce, and Jerod Mayo on defense makes them almost as vulnerable as a baby goose sleeping in the middle of a busy roadway. The Thunder Lizards have no key injuries that will hold them back against the league's only winless team. A conservative game plan will guarantee a solid victory.

PICK: DURHAM

COWTOWN @ MARKHAM (LINE – CORN KINGS BY 2)

The Corn Kings are creeping up in the ranks of team offense because of their running game, which appears to be finally on track and making a difference in games. The passing attack continues to be suspect, but has improved as opponents bring linebackers and safeties up to support the defensive line, opening up room in the secondary. Markham benched Matt Hasselbeck last week due to chronic ineffectiveness and soon discovered they have no other options at the sport's most important position. Look for Hasselbeck to be reinstated and play hungry, if for no other reason than to avoid being cut next year. The North Stars' defense is missing their top corner and two important linemen. The Corn Kings are missing Aaron Kampman, their top but most underperforming defender. Cowtown is on a 5-game winning streak and the North Stars are on a 5-game losing streak. Look for both streaks to continue as Cowtown will struggle to get started but will finish with a win while running away.

PICK: COWTOWN

KUTZTOWN @ PICKERING (LINE – SPARTANS BY 1)

Two teams with intangibles coming out their *ying-yangs* face off at Thermopylae Stadium this week and only one of them is in dire straits – Kutztown. The Golden Bears must continue to win in order to keep their

playoff hopes alive. I am tired of saying that Kutztown's fortunes rise and fall with Tony Romo, a condition that continues to be true, so I will focus for a moment on the Golden Bear's defense. The Honey Lovers have forced 20 turnovers by their opponents, third in the league. They are solid through each phase of the game but will be missing defensive end, Aaron Smith this week. Opportunism on both sides of the ball has defined their season and kept them in the hunt despite some glaring weaknesses. So the question for the Bears will be whether or not they can catch some more breaks on the road against a team still riding the crest of an emotional wave after two big wins. The Spartans have the best running game in the league for average yards per rush and a respectable passing attack in spite of mediocrity at the wide receiver position. Their defense contains some certified ball hawks who have not yet really asserted themselves, but remain a constant threat. Kutztown has no real running game to fall back on so Romo will have no choice but to test the Spartans' secondary. Coming off a surprising upset of Mohave last week, I am tempted to go with the Bears out of respect for their unpredictability. However, my head tells me that the Spartans have more than a small edge at home and should prevail. I call, "heads."

PICK: PICKERING

FLORIDA @ CHINO (LINE - DRAGONS BY 3)

It may be foolish to think that Chino can pull off an upset here after witnessing what the Dragons did to undefeated Charleswood last week. If so, I am definitely a fool, because I cannot shake the feeling that Chino has a surprise in store for the EFL's premiere team. There is no rational basis for my thought, apart from the knowledge that the Convicts at The Big House have always been a lot more dangerous than the Convicts on the road. That, of course, is not enough of a reason to believe they will hand Florida their first loss of the season, but it's a start. After that, the Dragons surpass Chino in virtually every category except the feature running back spot, where L.T. leads the league in rushing yards and touchdowns scored. He faces a solid Florida defense that handled Adrian Peterson without much trouble last week, but that does not mean he will have the same difficulty. The "LT Factor" is the kind of wildcard that can turn a weak hand into a winner, and that will be the key to Chino's success. As for the Dragons, a possible letdown after last week's big win over Charleswood and looking ahead to Gwinnett in Week 12 may be enough distraction to allow Cutler and Co. to sneak up on them and steal a win. It's a slim chance...very slim....too slim....but you have to bet a long shot occasionally.

PICK: CHINO

GWINNETT @ IOWA CITY (LINE - CUBS BY 5)

The Gladiators hit the middle game of a three-game road trip still in possession of the final wildcard slot in the Can-Am Conference. That could change this week as they travel to the home of the top team in the Pacific-Atlantic Conference, the Iowa City Cubs. The teams are very close in overall skill level, but the Cubs have more stars on defense than the Glads, who play a more disciplined system to make up for it. On offense, the Cubs have lots of young talent led by a savvy vet in Jeff Garcia. Last week they put up a franchise record 58 points on the hapless Winnemucca Outlaws, but this week they face a stronger opponent and they will be without Brandon Jacobs. Ronnie Brown and Reggie Bush will carry the load on the ground while Garcia looks for Larry Fitzgerald and Kellen Winslow thru the air. To put it bluntly, the Glads will need Carson Palmer and Braylon Edwards to take control of the game in order to win. As good as Willie Parker is, he will not be able to avoid both Patrick Willis and DeMeco Ryans enough to make the difference in the game for Gwinnett. Its Palmer, or bust. On the road, I say it's a bust.

PICK: IOWA CITY

LOS ANGELES @ RINGGOLD (LINE - KNIGHTS BY 1)

Ben Roethlisberger is back for Ringgold, giving them an edge in the passing game, but Maurice Jones-Drew is out, taking away the main ground threat. The Knights, ranked second in the league in overall offense, are getting full value for their bargain basement quarterbacks and grab-bag of running backs. Watch them run the ball against Ringgold while the Hawks take to the air against the Knights' crazy blitz

packages. The Hawks can win if they hold on to the ball and force LA's Thing 1 or Thing 2 into predictable passing situations. If they turn the ball over, it will be another win for the surprising Knights. The Hawks are still looking for a win against .500 or better team. They will still be looking after this week.

PICK: LOS ANGELES

ANCHORAGE @ MOHAVE (LINE - HELLFIRE BY 6)

The Hellfire appear to be sliding after Kurt Warner melted down against Kutztown last week. Are they on enough of a downward trend to warrant seriously considering Anchorage a threat to stage an upset in the Mohave desert? I would say the Hellfire are ripe for the picking by just about anybody *except* the Bucs (and, of course, the Thundersnow). The weight of losing a 27-point lead in the span of one quarter, and eventually losing the game, will torment the Bucs' spirit for many weeks, if not the rest of the year. They are done....toast....and therefore the perfect remedy for getting a jittery Hellfire team back in the winning groove.

PICK: MOHAVE

SHOULD YOU LISTEN TO A THING I SAY??????

HOW I'M DOING AGAINST THE SPREAD

LAST WEEK: 6-2-0

OVERALL: 62-18-0

EFL FOCUS

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

PICKERING



By Spartan Law

A TRUE ACCOUNT OF FOOTBALL HEROISM BY MODERN DAY SPARTANS

By SPARTAN SOCIETY SPORTS CORRESPONDENT, **ARISTEDES KALOGIANNIS**

PICKERING (Modern Day Sparta) - "No retreat, no surrender. That is Spartan Law. And by Spartan Law, we will stand, and fight, and die. A new age has begun, an age of freedom. And all will know that 53 Spartans gave their last breath to defend it. *A-woo, a-woo!*"

By Spartan Law indeed! While most fans would have left their respective stadiums, trailing 27-0 midway through the 3rd quarter, Spartan fans stayed, and watched their team's greatest comeback in the Gates of Hell.

Yet before we can speak of miraculous comebacks, how the game arrived at that crucial juncture was a game in itself. In as dominating a half that you will see any team play, the Buccaneers thoroughly trampled over Pickering, both on offense and defense in building a 20-0 halftime lead. **Drew Brees** was 17-20 for 179 and 2 TD's no INT for the half. Pickering didn't manage a first down in the half, while being sacked four times, twice by **Jared Allen** & twice by **Andre Carter**. Time of possession was almost 2 to 1 for Anchorage. And to start the 2nd half, Anchorage marched down the field on a 14-play 83 yard drive and Brees hit **Kevin Curtis** for a 24-yard TD, his second of the day, to put the game seemingly out of reach.

At that point in time, with 8:10 remaining in the third quarter, **Chris Johnson** was inserted into the line-up beside **Fred Taylor**. On the very first play, Johnson busted a 46-yard rush, bringing the fans out of their seats. And although, **McNabb** immediately got picked off by **Dre Bly** on the next play, a sense of change was occurring on the offensive side of the ball. Could the Spartan defense respond as well?

On the Buccaneer next possession, the defense held, and Anchorage was forced to punt for the first time since the middle of the first quarter. Having Johnson in the game seemed to cause problems for the Buccaneers, as they had trouble determining who would run the ball. A 20-yard TD pass to **Reggie Williams** at the end of the quarter cut the lead to 27-6, with **Lawrence Tynes** missing the extra point. Still, points were finally scored, and Thermopylae Stadium was rocking with chants of "*A-Woo, A-Woo*".

On the ensuing drive, Anchorage, at their 15 after a false start, had their first pass of the quarter picked off by **Sean Taylor**. 3 plays later, **McNabb** found **Reggie Williams** for his 2nd TD of the day, cutting the lead to 27-13, with 14:33 to go in the quarter. After a first down by Anchorage, the Spartan defense held again, and forced another punt. With 9:24 to go in the game, the Spartans started from their own 24, and with Johnson still in the game, **Fred Taylor** was able to bust a 50 yard run down to the Buccaneer 23. With a 4th and 4 at the Buccaneer 17, down by 14 with 7:28 to go in the game, **McNabb** hit Johnson in the flat, who promptly went in for the TD, cutting the lead to 27-20. Anchorage was held to a 3 and out and punted. Pickering, facing a 4th and 13, made the decision to punt the ball, with all their time-outs remaining. After **Willis McGahee** got stuffed on first down, Pickering called their first time-out, with 2:03 remaining. **Jermaine Phillips** then read an attempted screen beautifully and picked off Brees at the Buccaneer 17. On the very next play, **McNabb** hit **Alex Smith** for a TD, and the comeback was complete, score tied with 2 minutes remaining.

Anchorage was unable to get a first down, and punted with 1:30 remaining, to the Spartan 49. Pickering, with one timeout remaining, got down to the Anchorage 36, but **Tynes** hooked his 53-yard effort that would have given the Spartans the lead. On the very next play, **Brees** was picked off for the third time in the half. Pickering, with no time-outs and at their 31 yard line with 22 seconds remaining, was unable to get into field goal range.

Pickering won the toss in overtime, starting at their own 27. The combination of **McNabb**, **Taylor** and **Johnson**, chewed up over 7 minutes, marching down to the Buccaneer 25, where **Tynes** would not miss on his 42 yard attempt, the Spartans would win a game some would say they had no business winning.

Numbers by Spartan Law:

For *Anchorage*, **Drew Brees** was 24-36 260 yards, 3TD's 3 INT's. **Willis McGahee** rushed 22 times for 111 yards. **Kevin Curtis** caught 5 balls for 83 yards and 2 TD's. **Keith Bullock** had 10 tackles, with **Jared Allen** and **Andre Carter** having 2 sacks each. **Dre Bly** had an interception.

For *Pickering*, **Donovan McNabb** was an erratic 13 for 30, for only 137 yards, but threw 4 TD's to one interception. The Spartan ground game churned out 221 yards, with **Fred Taylor** leading the way with 15 rushes for 100 yards. **Reggie Williams** only 2 ball for the game were both for TD's. **Marlin Jackson** had 9 tackles, **Sean Taylor** had 2 INT, **Jermaine Phillips** 1 INT, and **Michael Strahan** added a sack.

