



2009

WEEK ELEVEN

December 13th, 2009



Jason Elam celebrates after chipping in the game-winning field goal from 21 yards away against Los Angeles. The Dragons maintain their perfect season but did not clinch the Division.

DRAGONS FIGHT KNIGHTS FOR 11th WIN!

ELAM KICKS 3 FIELD GOALS, WILLIAMS SCORES 18TH TD AS FLORIDA STAYS UNDEFEATED



LOS ANGELES

14

7 - 4



FLORIDA

16

11 - 0

FLORIDA – With each week the pressure on Florida mounts to complete the EFL’s first ever perfect season. In Week Eleven they faced their third major obstacle on the road to perfection – the defensive-minded Los Angeles Knights. But this game was not all about attaining perfection. Having already clinched a playoff berth the Dragons needed a win and losses by Garland and Gwinnett to clinch the South Division. The Knights, in a dogfight with Chino for the Western Crown, needed a win to pull one game ahead of their despised cross-state rival. With that much on the line, and the two top EFL defenses clashing in a struggle for supremacy, it was no surprise that across the continent so many eyes focused on the outcome of this game.

Defense came into play immediately with Florida’s “Firewall” striking first. On the second play from scrimmage, Jason Campbell rushed a throw across the middle and Michael Griffin tracked it the whole way, snaring his second pick of the year and returning it 32 yards to the Los Angeles 9 yard line. Riding the momentum and the roar of the crowd at Dragonmount, DeAngelo Williams bowled past Kevin Williams and a keying Matt Wilhelm to break through the end zone for his 18th touchdown of the season and a quick 7-0 Florida lead.

The next four possessions took just under 6 minutes to play as both defenses smothered their opposing offences, forcing four consecutive punts. The Los Angeles offence was the first to break the deadlock after Coach Dohrn took everyone by surprise and gave Jason Campbell the quick hook, pulling him after only three possessions. The move paid off immediately. Starting at his own 2 yard line, Tarvaris Jackson entered the game at quarterback and set the offensive tone with two quick completions for 11 and 9 yards to gain some breathing room for LA. Determined to move the ball, the Knights gambled on fourth down and 1 at their 44 yard line and succeeded with a 6-yard pass from Jackson to Tatum Bell. Then Steve Smith stepped up with a terrific play, shaking off double coverage on a short crossing route and dashing 31 yards to drive inside the Dragons’ red zone. Smith finished it off three plays later on another crossing pattern, snatching the ball in mid-stride and cutting through the Florida secondary for the equalizing touchdown from 18 yards away. Covering 98 yards in 14 plays, it was the drive of the game for both teams.

Florida answered with their first sustained offensive drive of the day, moving from their 46 yard line to the Knights’ 11 yard line where they stalled after Logan Mankins was called for holding and Aaron Rodgers was held short of a first down on a 3rd down scramble. Jason Elam made good from 26 yards away to give Florida back the lead, 10-7. Then former Dragon, Yamon Figurs, broke loose for a nice return of 26 yards to set up the Knights in good field position. Steven Jackson ground out 18 yards on four carries to bring the Dragons’ linebackers in, then Tarvaris Jackson struck, hitting Steve Smith on another medium

pattern that the LA star wide receiver took all the way to “the house” from 37 yards to give LA a 14-10 lead. The advantage held up until the end of the half, marking the first time in 2009 that the Dragons had trailed at half time.

The defensive struggle continued in the second half, with neither offence getting on track again until near the end of the third quarter when **Aaron Rodgers** hit **TJ Houshmandzadeh** on consecutive passes of 16 and 10 yards and a personal foul penalty against LA helped bring Florida to the Knights’ 7. But the “Blue Shield” did not buckle further, holding the Dragons to a field goal to maintain the slimmest of leads, 14-13. After another nice return by Figurs, the Knights drove to the edge of **Kris Brown’s** field goal range, but he missed from 53 yards away, turning the ball over to the Dragons at their 43. Florida could not move the ball far and had to punt, pushing LA back to their 6 yard line. The Knights managed a couple of first downs but had to punt after Jackson misfired to Smith on 3rd down and 3. Taking over at their 44 yard line, the Dragons turned to their bread-and-butter man, **DeAngelo Williams**, who ripped off a 14-yard run off left tackle to get things started. A big completion of 12 yards to **Heath Miller** on third down and 10 brought the ball into Elam’s field goal range at the 30. Playing it “safe,” the Dragons kept the ball on the ground, running Williams five straight times before the Knights finally stopped him at their 4 yard line with 1:53 remaining in the game. Jason Elam came on and made no mistake from 21 yards away, kicking it through to give the Dragons a 16-14 lead.

The Knights had one last chance, but it was a slim one. Starting at their own 36 yard line, they made one first down before **Terrell Suggs** broke through and sacked Tarvaris Jackson. Then, with linebackers blitzing and 5 defensive backs swarming, 3 straight passes from Jackson found nothing but air as the Dragons prevailed for the 11th time this year without a loss.

12-13-2009 Dragonmount. Temp: 79 Wind: 0-5 None MVP: **DeAngelo Williams**

2008 Los Angeles (7-4) 7 7 0 0 - 14
 2008 Florida (11-0) 7 3 0 6 - 16

1 13:50 Florida TD Williams 9 run (Elam,J) (1-9-0:05) 0-7
 1 0:02 Los Angeles TD Jackson 18 pass to Smith (Brown,K) (14-98-8:00) 7-7
 2 11:02 Florida FG Elam 26 (11-45-4:00) 7-10
 2 7:01 Los Angeles TD Jackson 37 pass to Smith (Brown,K) (7-64-3:56) 14-10
 4 14:52 Florida FG Elam 25 (9-64-3:35) 14-13
 4 1:53 Florida FG Elam 21 (9-52-4:50) 14-16

	LAK	FLD
First Downs	14	18
Rushes	20-35	24-107
Passes	36-18-210	40-23-192
Sacked	1-5	2-18
Fumble	2	1
Penalties	3-40	6-35
Turnovers	1	0
Time	29:20	30:40
Third Down	3-12	4-15
Fourth Down	1-2	0-0
Red Att/Td/Fg	1/1/0	4/1/3
Net Offense	240	281

KEY PERFORMANCES: **FLD** – **Aaron Rodgers** completed 23 of 40 for 192 yards; **DeAngelo Williams** rushed for 90 yards on 20 carries and 1 TD; **TJ Houshmandzadeh** caught 8 passes for 72 yards. **LAK** – **Tarvaris Jackson** went 18 of 31 for 210 yards and 2 TDs; **Steve Smith** caught 7 passes for 118 yards and 2 TDs; **Steven Jackson** rushed for only 27 yards on 15 carries; **Chris Kelsav** had 11 tackles; **Joey Porter** had 2 sacks.

TURNOVERS TOPPLE OUTLAWS



14

WINNEMUCCA



30

GWINNETT

GAME POINTS: The Gwinnett offence did not have to work hard to hang 30 points on the Winnemucca Outlaws. D.J. Williams and the Glads’ defense put Winnemucca in an early hole, forcing 3 turnovers in the first half, leading to 17 points. After Matt Cassel connected with Reggie Wayne for a 10-yard TD pass to cap their opening drive, Williams sacked David Garrard and forced a fumble on the Outlaws’ first possession. Cassel turned that break into 7 points two plays later with an 11-yard TD pass to Dallas Clark to make it 14-0 little over 5 minutes into the game. Robert Mathis broke the game open early in the 2nd when he picked up another Garrard fumble and returned it 42 yards for a TD and a 24-0 lead. The Glads switched to auto-pilot to finish it off and win easily.

KEY PERFORMANCES: **D.J. Williams** made 13 tackles, 3 sacks, 1 run stuff and 3 forced fumbles; **Matt Cassel** completed 10 of 19 passes for 118 yards and 2 TDs; **Reggie Wayne** caught 4 passes for 68 yards and 1 TD. David Garrard completed 13 of 20 for 95 yards and 1 INT.

12-13-2009 Gwinnett Coliseum. Temp: 52 Wind: 0-5 None MVP: **D.J. Williams**

2008 Winnemucca (1-10) 0 0 7 7 - 14
 2008 Gwinnett (6-5) 17 10 3 0 - 30

1 11:06 Gwinnett TD Cassel 10 pass to Wayne (Brown,J) (7-57-3:54) 0-7
 1 9:51 Gwinnett TD Cassel 11 pass to Clark (Brown,J) (2-14-0:54) 0-14
 1 0:34 Gwinnett FG Brown 18 (6-14-3:01) 0-17
 2 14:10 Gwinnett TD Mathis 42 yd fumble recovery (Brown,J) (0-0-0:00) 0-24
 2 2:14 Gwinnett FG Brown 29 (8-35-5:21) 0-27
 3 8:33 Gwinnett FG Brown 38 (3-2-2:15) 0-30
 3 0:41 Winnemucca TD White 2 pass to Walker (Graham,S) (17-80-7:48) 7-30
 4 0:12 Winnemucca TD Brady 11 pass to Coles (Graham,S) (3-88-1:02) 14-30

	WMO	GWG
First Downs	17	10
Rushes	22-120	34-76
Passes	39-24-196	15-10-118
Sacked	5-36	0-0
Fumble	3	2
Penalties	2-12	1-10
Turnovers	4	0
Time	28:15	31:45
Third Down	2-12	5-13
Fourth Down	3-4	0-0
Red Att/Td/Fg	2/2/0	4/2/2
Net Offense	280	194



21

RINGGOLD



31

IOWA CITY

CUBS GET AIR SUPPORT, GROUND HAWKS

GAME POINTS: One critical error separated these two teams in a hard fought contest at Joe Ferguson Stadium. **Ben Roethlisberger**, who had been carving up the Cubs' secondary for big yardage all day, tried to force a pass into tight coverage and was picked by Iowa's **Chris Gamble** to thwart an opportunity for Ringgold to regain the lead in the fourth quarter. Five plays later, **Brandon Jacobs** burst through the Hawks' line for a 14-yard TD run to give Iowa City a 31-21 lead and end the scoring. Prior to that, Cubs quarterback **Trent Edwards** had been in a passing duel with Big Ben, connecting twice with **Larry Fitzgerald** and once with **Kellen Winslow** to keep pace with a Ringgold offence that moved quickly through the air, but slowly on the ground.

KEY PERFORMANCES: **Trent Edwards** completed 21 of 25 passes for 212 yards and 3 TDs; **Brandon Jacobs** rushed for 80 yards and 1 TD on 13 carries; **Larry Fitzgerald** caught 10 passes for 100 yards and 2 TDs. **Big Ben** went 25 of 42 for 293 yards, 1 TD and 1 INT; **Andre Johnson** caught 7 passes for 146 yards; **Beanie Wells** rushed for 38 yards on 4 carries.

12-11-2009 Joe Ferguson Stadium. Temp: 34 Wind:0-10 None MVP: **Edwards**

2008 Ringgold (2-9) 7 7 7 0 -21
2008 Iowa City (6-5) 0 17 7 7 -31

1 4:38 Ringgold TD Jones-Drew 3 run (Suisham) (11-68-5:03) 7-0
2 14:02 Iowa City TD Edwards 16 pass to Winslow (Rackers) (12-74-5:36) 7-7
2 10:58 Ringgold TD Roethlisberger 7 pass to Royal (Suisham) (5-67-3:04) 14-7
2 2:33 Iowa City TD Edwards 5 pass to Fitzgerald (Rackers) (14-85-8:25) 14-14
2 0:03 Iowa City FG Rackers 35 (6-38-1:49) 14-17
3 4:25 Ringgold TD Royal 19 run (Suisham) (9-93-4:23) 21-17
3 1:58 Iowa City TD Edwards 26 pass to Fitzgerald (Rackers) (4-62-2:27) 21-24
4 8:25 Iowa City TD Jacobs 14 run (Rackers) (5-46-3:18) 21-31

	RCH	ICC
First Downs	22	19
Rushes	14-83	29-151
Passes	42-25-293	25-21-212
Sacked	2-11	2-15
Fumble	2	0
Penalties	5-31	2-15
Turnovers	1	0
Time	26:52	33:08
Third Down	6-10	7-13
Fourth Down	2-4	1-1
Red Att/Td/Fg	3/3/0	3/3/0
Net Offense	365	348

GARLAND GOOD AS GOULD

GAME POINTS: Garland stymied the Convicts' offense early to grab a 10-6 lead at halftime. The Mustangs carried the momentum into the third quarter when **Frank Gore** tore thru the "Lockdown Crew" for a 46-yard run to set up a 12-yard pass from **Matt Ryan** to **Wes Welker** to make it 17-6 for Garland. Chino struck back with fury when **Cortland Finnegan** followed up a **Jay Cutler** TD pass late in the 3rd quarter with a 48-yard interception return for a TD to capture a 20-17 lead. After **Jeff Reed** extended the lead to 23-17, he kicked off out-of-bounds to give Garland offensive life. Ryan completed 4 of 5 passes on the ensuing drive, leading to a 4-yard TD run by **Kevin Smith** to stake out a slim 24-23 Garland lead. After Reed kicked what looked like the game-winning field goal with 1:32 remaining, Ryan hit Welker for 22 yards to key a 41-yard drive that ended in a dramatic 47-yard field goal by **Robbie Gould** for the win.

KEY PERFORMANCES: **Matt Ryan** completed 30 of 46 for 304 yards, 1 TD and 1 INT; **Matt Forte** caught 8 passes for 70 yards. **Jay Cutler** went 23 of 40 for 270 yards, 1 TD & 1 INT; **Lendale White** ran for 84 yards on 20 carries.



27

GARLAND



26

CHINO

12-11-2009 The Big House. Temp: 79 Wind: 5-15 None MVP: **Ryan**

2008 Garland (6-5) 0 10 7 10 -27
2008 Chino (7-4) 0 6 14 6 -26

2 13:23 Garland TD Bartell 42 interception return (Gould) (0-0-0:00) 7-0
2 7:46 Chino FG Reed 50 (9-32-5:37) 7-3
2 4:01 Garland FG Gould 29 (7-36-3:38) 10-3
2 0:11 Chino FG Reed 36 (9-78-1:37) 10-6
3 11:36 Garland TD Ryan 12 pass to Welker (Gould) (7-63-3:24) 17-6
3 4:59 Chino TD Cutler 2 pass to Ginn Jr. (Reed,J) (14-66-6:37) 17-13
3 0:49 Chino TD Finnegan 48 interception return (Reed,J) (0-0-0:00) 17-20
4 9:13 Chino FG Reed 23 (10-57-4:55) 17-23
4 3:23 Garland TD Smith 4 run (Gould) (10-60-5:47) 24-23
4 1:32 Chino FG Reed 23 (6-68-1:51) 24-26
4 0:19 Garland FG Gould 47 (3-41-1:09) 27-26

	GDM	CHI
First Downs	21	21
Rushes	13-67	29-101
Passes	46-30-304	40-23-270
Sacked	4-27	1-5
Fumble	1	1
Penalties	7-55	5-30
Turnovers	2	2
Time	29:53	30:07
Third Down	4-11	9-15
Fourth Down	1-2	0-1
Red Att/Td/Fg	3/2/1	5/1/3
Net Offense	344	366



7

KUTZTOWN



27

DURHAM

EARLY BREAKOUT CARRIES DINOS OVER BEARS

GAME POINTS: Kutztown's **Le'Ron McClain** fumbled on the second play from scrimmage and Durham turned it into an early 7-0 lead four plays later when **Philip Rivers** found **Calvin Johnson** for a 6-yard TD pass. Hoping to get even immediately, the Bears tried to convert on 4th down and 2 at Durham's 47 on their next possession but **Greg Ellis** sacked **JaMarcus Russell** and forced a fumble to give Durham the ball in good field position. **Larry Johnson**, seeing his first significant action of the season, ran the ball in from 4 yards out to make it 14-0 for Durham. The Thunder Lizards would keep the ball on the ground after that, shutting down the Bears' offence and adding another 13 points before a late touchdown pass from Russell to **Anthony Gonzalez** broke the shutout.

KEY PERFORMANCES: **Philip Rivers** completed 10 of 16 passes for 129 yards and 2 TDs; **Michael Turner** rushed for 109 yards on 27 carries; **Larry Johnson** rushed for 77 yards and 1 TD on 16 carries; **Calvin Johnson** and **Dwayne Bowe** each caught a TD pass. **JaMarcus Russell** went 12 of 23 for 131 yards and 1 TD; **Le'Ron McClain** carried 9 times for 38 yards.

12-11-2009 Jurassic Park. Temp: 65 Wind: Calm None MVP: Rivers					KUT	DTL
2008 Kutztown (5-6)	0	0	0	7	-	7
2008 Durham (9-2)	14	10	3	0	-	27
1 12:32 Durham	TD Rivers 6 pass to Johnson (Crosby) (4-32-2:08)	0-7	First Downs	11	21	
1 4:07 Durham	TD Johnson 4 run (Crosby) (6-47-3:02)	0-14	Rushes	18-72	47-221	
2 4:15 Durham	TD Rivers 3 pass to Bowe (Crosby) (14-80-7:48)	0-21	Passes	23-12-131	16-10-129	
2 0:49 Durham	FG Crosby 24 (6-17-3:09)	0-24	Sacked	1-6	1-4	
3 8:49 Durham	FG Crosby 26 (11-40-6:11)	0-27	Fumble	4	1	
4 9:12 Kutztown	TD Russell 8 pass to Gonzalez (Kaeding) (11-72-6:26)	7-27	Penalties	6-43	4-40	
			Turnovers	3	0	
			Time	21:00	39:00	
			Third Down	5-9	10-16	
			Fourth Down	0-1	1-1	
			Red Att/Td/Fg	1/1/0	6/3/2	
			Net Offense	197	346	

BARBER SCALPS VIOLATORS

GAME POINTS: Aaron Ross picked off **Drew Brees** on Virden's first possession and returned it 56 yards for a touchdown and a quick 7-0 lead for Cowtown. **Clinton Portis** was stuffed by **Derrick Johnson** and fumbled at the 17 yard line on the next play from scrimmage and Cowtown's **Marion Barber** exploited it by rushing for a 2-yard touchdown run three plays later. Barber would add another touchdown before the end of the first quarter, punching it in on his second try from the one-yard line to make it 20-0 for Cowtown. Virden chewed up a whopping 11:33 of time on their next possession but had to settle for a field goal. The Corn Kings came right back with an efficient 80-yard drive to score the go-away touchdown with over 3 minutes remaining in the first half.

KEY PERFORMANCES: **Chad Pennington** completed 15 of 19 passes for 154 yards, 1 TD and 1 INT; **Marion Barber** rushed for 101 yards and 2 TDs on 27 carries and caught 6 passes for 52 yards and 1 TD. **Drew Brees** went 14 of 25 for 143 yards and 1 INT; **Clinton Portis** rushed for 87 yards on 27 carries.



6

VIRDEN



30

COWTOWN

12-09-2009 Tillman Field. Temp: 48 Wind: 0-10 None MVP: Marion Barber					VV	COW
2008 Virden (3-8)	0	6	0	0	-	6
2008 Cowtown (5-6)	20	7	0	3	-	30
1 13:12 Cowtown	TD Ross 56 interception return (Hanson,J) (0-0-0:00)	0-7	First Downs	14	18	
1 11:32 Cowtown	TD Barber 2 run (Hanson,J) (3-17-1:31)	0-14	Rushes	33-114	33-121	
1 6:24 Cowtown	TD Barber 1 run (no good) (7-51-3:27)	0-20	Passes	25-14-143	19-15-154	
2 9:51 Virden	FG Vinatieri 35 (20-62-11:33)	3-20	Sacked	1-8	0-0	
2 3:40 Cowtown	TD Pennington 4 pass to Barber (Hanson,J) (11-80-6:08)	3-27	Fumble	2	0	
2 0:29 Virden	FG Vinatieri 21 (12-61-3:11)	6-27	Penalties	3-30	3-20	
4 15:00 Cowtown	FG Hanson 35 (9-42-4:19)	6-30	Turnovers	2	1	
			Time	30:51	29:09	
			Third Down	7-14	4-9	
			Fourth Down	1-4	1-3	
			Red Att/Td/Fg	2/0/2	6/3/1	
			Net Offense	249	275	



PICKERING



CHARLESWOOD

10

24

MANNINGS SQUARE OFF IN CHARLESWOOD

GAME POINTS: Adrian Peterson carried the ball 6 times on the Pats opening drive, wrapping it up with a 6-yard TD run to give Charleswood an early 7-0 lead. The Pats failed to capitalize on their next long drive, coming up short on 4th down and 1 at Pickering's 34 yard line, but still managed to maintain a 7-point lead going into half time. A 6-yard TD pass from Peyton Manning to Tony Gonzalez put Charleswood ahead 17-3 to open the second half, but Pickering struck right back with then help of a personal foul on Jamal Williams to pull within 7 on a 27-yard TD pass from Eli Manning to Isaac Bruce. The elder Manning responded with a 10-yard TD pass to Jason Witten early in the fourth quarter. Both teams lost interest and ran out the clock after that.

KEY PERFORMANCES: Peyton Manning completed 25 of 38 passes for 311 yards, 2 TDs and 1 INT; Adrian Peterson rushed for 141 yards and 1 TD on 29 carries; Tony Gonzalez caught 8 passes for 118 yards and 1 TD; Jason Witten caught 6 passes for 70 yards and 1 TD. Eli Manning went 5 of 13 for 61 yards and 1 TD; Chris Johnson carried 16 times for 104 yards.

12-09-2009 Patriot Place. Temp: 75 Wind:		MVP: Peyton Manning			PIC	CHP
2008 Pickering (3-8)	0 3 7 0	- 10		First Downs	6	35
2008 Charleswood (9-2)	7 3 7 7	- 24		Rushes	18-109	41-188
				Passes	13-5-61	38-25-311
1 5:56 Charleswood	TD Peterson 6 run (Gostkowski) (11-88-7:13)	0-7		Sacked	0-0	0-0
2 6:51 Charleswood	FG Gostkowski 47 (8-48-4:03)	0-10		Fumble	0	0
2 4:52 Pickering	FG Kasay 28 (4-69-1:53)	3-10		Penalties	1-10	6-47
3 6:53 Charleswood	TD Manning 6 pass to Gonzalez (Gostkowski) (13-87-8:07)	3-17		Turnovers	0	1
3 3:40 Pickering	TD Manning 27 pass to Bruce (Kasay) (7-65-3:13)	10-17		Time	16:18	43:42
4 12:16 Charleswood	TD Manning 10 pass to Witten (Gostkowski) (12-80-6:24)	10-24		Third Down	2-8	10-13
				Fourth Down	0-0	0-2
				Red Att/Td/Fg	1/0/1	4/3/0
				Net Offense	170	499

MOHAVE CLEANS OUT SLOPPY STARS

GAME POINTS: Two lost fumbles by Markham on consecutive possessions led to two first quarter Rob Bironas field goals. Three more Markham turnovers in the second quarter led to another 10 Hellfire points, including a 57-yard interception return for a TD by Kelvin Hayden, giving Mohave a 16-0 half time lead. In the second half, a fumble by Markham's BJ Askew turned the ball over again, this time at the Mohave 42 yard line. A 41-yard pass to Owen Daniels brought the ball to the Markham 4 yard line where Kurt Warner connected with Donald Driver for a 4-yard TD pass to widen the lead to 23-0.

KEY PERFORMANCES: Kurt Warner completed 22 of 35 for 236 yards and 1 INT; Steve Slaton rushed for 98 yards on 25 carries; Owen Daniels caught 9 passes for 130 yards; Trent Cole made 6 tackles, 1 deflection, 4 QB Pressures, 2 forced fumbles. Donovan McNabb completed 14 of 24 for 135 yards and 3 INTs; Jamal Lewis rushed for 78 yards and 1 TD on 19 carries.



MARKHAM



MOHAVE

6

26

12-11-2009 The Fiery Depths. Temp: 84 Wind: Calm None		MVP: Owen Daniels			MAR	MOH
2008 Markham (3-8)	0 0 0 6	- 6		First Downs	13	16
2008 Mohave (5-6)	6 10 7 3	- 26		Rushes	30-124	32-112
				Passes	25-14-135	35-22-236
1 7:01 Mohave	FG Bironas 49 (3-3-0:57)	0-3		Sacked	0-0	1-5
1 4:52 Mohave	FG Bironas 46 (3-8-2:04)	0-6		Fumble	5	0
2 1:51 Mohave	FG Bironas 42 (9-55-1:33)	0-9		Penalties	2-25	3-30
2 0:53 Mohave	TD Hayden 57 interception return (Bironas) (0-0-0:00)	0-16		Turnovers	7	1
3 7:13 Mohave	TD Driver 4 run (Bironas) (6-58-2:58)	0-23		Time	25:18	34:42
4 12:47 Mohave	FG Bironas 32 (11-71-7:45)	0-26		Third Down	4-10	5-16
4 6:06 Markham	TD Lewis 19 run (2 - failed) (12-75-6:37)	6-26		Fourth Down	2-2	0-2
				Red Att/Td/Fg	1/1/0	2/1/1
				Net Offense	259	343



AROUND THE EFL With Spats McChad

NEW YORK – The Commander-in-Chief of the world’s most powerful military force was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for, essentially, *talking peace*. Meanwhile, for better or worse, his army occupies Iraq, fights in Afghanistan, and threatens Iran. I’m kind of new to this international politics thing, but I’ve been to too many cocktail parties lately where Obama’s greatness has been a central topic of discussion. I’m fed up! It’s all rhetoric to me. What has he *done*? His predecessor came across as a boob when he spoke, but he actually *did* things. Some of those things were the kind of things boobs do, but nobody could accuse him of fiddling while Rome burned (he would have been too busy burning Rome!).

My hunch is that Obama is being set up for failure. Who’s setting him up? Ironically, his hypothetical allies are the ones inadvertently propelling him to future infamy and ridicule. He has received so much credit for things he hasn’t actually done yet, that when the things he hasn’t done fail (because they haven’t been actually done), the far more radical and un-peaceful alternatives will appear much more attractive.

TERRIFIC TOM TEASES OUTLAW FAITHFUL

Tom Brady made his first appearance in an Outlaw uniform and threw a touchdown pass in the final minute of a blowout loss to Gwinnett. Brady entering the game was a shock. Word about it spread like wildfire around the league and overshadowed Florida’s close shave victory over Los Angeles. Brady, whose “injury” status was a closely guarded secret in Winnemucca, is apparently healthy enough to take the field in a meaningless game. After 5 pass attempts and one touchdown, Brady, whose mysterious ailment was enough to keep him off the field but not enough to place him on the injury list, now leads the Outlaws pivots in quarterback rating at 123.3. So, are we likely to see more of “Terrific Tom?”

With **Pierce Roberts** now far away from the action, sources close to the team are starting to speak confidentially about the drama that unfolded in Winnemucca after the Brady trade. The unexpected move to acquire Brady sent shockwaves through the organization. It generated excitement and optimism for everybody except David Garrard. But Brady was also, apparently, in a state of shock. After leading the Florida Dragons to the EFL Championship, he found himself suddenly on the worst team in the EFL. To add insult to injury, his new team promptly cut him and forced him to re-sign at the league minimum salary for five years. All the while, Roberts smiled and showered Brady with platitudes about new beginnings and overcoming challenges.

After being forced to sign, or retire, Brady stated that he “wasn’t feeling well,” and walked away from the Winnemucca head office. He never returned to the Outlaws’ training facility and only communicated with the team through his agent. He purportedly suffered from various vague ailments; such as a bad back, headaches, fatigue, and a “sore tummy.” The Outlaws, anxious to keep a door open for his return, refused to place him on injured reserve, while suggesting to the Media that Brady was unable, but wished, to play.

A source close to the team, but willing to speak only on condition of anonymity, claims that, since acquiring the team, interim Outlaws owner **David Neely** has been busy making secret overtures to Brady to reignite his interest in playing. Those overtures include paying for expensive trips to Las Vegas, buying him prostitutes, and offering him a “personal services” contract to circumvent the salary cap. After a few weeks of such attention, Brady was spotted at a closed door practice the week before the Outlaws played Mohave at ‘The Fiery Depths.’ His appearance in a real game, even a meaningless one, signals his intention to return to football. But before Winnemucca fans (the few who remain) get too excited, they should remember that the Outlaws are out of the playoff hunt already. The team will not put their future at risk by bringing Brady back to full time action before he is ready. Playing in the dying minutes of a lost cause against Gwinnett is not the same as starting on the road against an angry Ringgold squad looking to take out a season of frustration on the most vulnerable victim available.

The whole 'Brady Affair' stinks as far as I'm concerned, but it does not get much air time. Exploring the controversy in depth is frowned upon by the league since it exposes a flaw in their system. The EFL Player's Club clearly has a long way to go before they attain the clout of the former NFL's Player Union, but they are bound to get there faster, as a matter of necessity, as long as waiver rules exist that allow the kind of travesty that occurred in Brady's situation.

FOOTBALL GOD WATCH

As I asserted in last week's column, the Football Gods are real. This esoteric concept is not easy for most to accept, but conscious acceptance doesn't really matter because the Gods influence our reality nonetheless. To be honest, all of us subconsciously know and *want* them to exist. We need them in order to make sense of the cockamamie outcomes that vex us all from week to week. How else do we explain Devery Henderson's 67-yard TD reception in Week One to win a game for Markham against Cowtown with 13 seconds against a pass defense with 7 defensive backs in deep coverage? The Football Gods, (in this case the singular minor Deity known to acolytes as '*Starpawr*') clearly wanted to send a message early in the year about who was in charge.

But the "Henderson Miracle" (as it is known in Football religious circles) is a mere parlour trick when compared with the over-reaching power of the Great God that protects Garland's **Matt Ryan**. The Mustang quarterback is at the center of a maelstrom of occult energy that, if it gathers sufficient force, could actually propel him and his team into the playoffs against all rational projection. The Question is: *why?* The answer is a matter of great debate, but most agree that Garland's local Football God, '*Garmustanga*,' is not powerful enough to carry Ryan's fortunes on his own. Those of great faith who are aware of such things see the hand of a far greater entity at work, engineering the ascendance of Ryan to the top of the quarterback rankings.

That hand belongs to the One True Football God; the Original; the "Creator." This supreme Football God, simply called *Kuk*, is the one whose vision and essence brought all of this into existence in the very beginning. It is *Kuk* who controls the ebb and flow of entire seasons, as opposed to a single play or series. It is *Kuk* who determines the greater fate of teams and leaders. It is *Kuk* who changes the laws from year to year but deigns not to reveal them to any but his closest followers. For reasons known only to *Kuk*, **Matt Ryan** is the Chosen One for League MVP, or at least *appears* to be the Chosen One at this stage of the season.

I must say that this explanation is somewhat comforting, in that it absolves us pundits of the responsibility of figuring out why Ryan is doing so well. But I am not content to take such a thing on faith. I need to know *why*. My pilgrimage to find the truth continues.

FOOTBALL GOD WATCH II

Like a good novel writer, the Football Gods love foreshadowing. And like a good novel writer, they constantly attempt to devise new methods of foreshadowing so that the effect is delivered without blatantly giving away the fated outcome. This week, the early signs of victory in a given game were revealed in turnovers. In all but one game, the team to turnover the ball *first* was the eventual loser of the contest. In all but one of those 7 games, the turnover came early in the first quarter. The single exception came in Charleswood, where the Pats made the only turnover in a 24-10 win over Pickering. Interestingly, the Pats, despite totally dominating the Spartans, laboured to score points – cashing in only 24 while gaining 499 net yards of offense, 35 first downs, and controlling the ball for a staggering 44 minutes! They received no breaks and were penalized 6 times to only once for Pickering. This tells me that Pickering was supposed to win, but Charleswood's '*Patatat*,' being a strong Football God, worked very hard to overturn the Week Eleven edict of *Kuk*. *Patatat* can also thank the weakness of Pickering's '*Spartacus*,' who was without many worshippers at the game.

WATCH OUT GOAT, HERE COMES 'PLODE!'

The arrival of 'Goat' gear to North America is rapidly changing the face of sponsorship in the EFL. With teams dropping traditional labels for fear of being branded by the scandal of the old NFL, the race is on to fill the market void. The success of 'Goat' has emboldened other clothing designers to jump in with their own product lines and marketing campaigns. Without ready-made world-wide networks in place, many of them are



**PLODE – It's on
your pants!**

aiming for specific and obscure niche markets, such as Basque 'jai alai' and Peruvian Llama Polo. But one label has risen suddenly to international prominence and appears ready to take on the North American professional sports market. That label is 'Plode,' the creation of Shontov Slont, an eccentric fashion designer from the tiny Eastern European Republic of Chuvashia.

One reason 'Plode' has risen so rapidly is because Chuvashia is actually a highly industrialized tiny statelet. Practically the entire population is dedicated to the production of 'Plode' kit. 'Plode' is actually short for *Plodivskikaratchkorovnoskatnik*, Slont's home town. Western marketing gurus have jumped all over the short form and are churning out

a brash and “sassy” ad campaign to introduce ‘Plode’ to the Western European and North American markets. “Our goal is to bring ‘Plode’ everywhere,” says Mark Pickle of Dante Designs, the marketing firm for ‘Plode.’

The campaign consists of brightly lit and active media snippets showing the ‘Plode’ image in every conceivable place. Common mottos are: “Plode – it’s on your pants;” “Plode – it’s under your nose;” “Plode- it’s in your hair;” and “Plode – it’s everywhere!” A controversial bus shelter ad in New York City shows the Statue of Liberty smiling a photo-shopped smile and holding the ‘Plode’ symbol in place of a torch.

The Cowtown Corn Kings have reportedly dropped ‘Reebok’ and are moving to ‘Plode’ as a counter stance to their hated Divisional rival, Durham. The Thunder Lizards announced the switch to ‘Goat’ last week and the timing of the Cowtown announcement is no coincidence as the Divisional race hits its final leg. Who else will enter the fray and make the switch?

NEW YORK GRIPES

When the Obituary is written for the Ringgold Crimson Hawks’ 2009 season, a special mention should be made of Maurice Jones-Drew. Ringgold’s leading rusher is last in the league among starting running backs with 331 yards gained and a paltry 2.8 yards-per-carry average. There had been high hopes for the Ringgold runner, based on last year’s performance, but he has not delivered. His reputation cannot recover from this horrendous start since the Hawks are essentially out of contention. A late surge would be meaningless and a source of bitterness.

The Battle of the Manning Brothers was anti-climatic, with the elder coming out on top easily over the younger in an uneven contest. It is perhaps unfair to bill it as a “battle,” since Eli hardly had the ball all game and there was nothing standing in Peyton’s way on the other side. It was more of a “meeting” than a battle.

SPATS.



IF SPATS LIKES IT....IT'S GOOD!!

PLAY OF THE WEEK

SITUATION

Chino 26, Garland 24, 4th Quarter, 00:55 mark, Mustangs in possession, 1st down & 10 at Chino 37 yard line. Basic Pro set vs.5-1-5 Nickel package, short ZONE coverage, PASS defense, 1 blitz.

RESULT

With no timeouts remaining, Matt Ryan dodges the blitzing James Harrison and completes a 7-yard pass to Mark Clayton in tight coverage at the 30 yard line.

ANALYSIS

The completion put the Mustangs in position for Robbie Gould’s heroics – a 47-yard game-winning field goal to finish the upset of Chino at “The Big House.”

WEEK ELEVEN LEADERS

PASSING

Manning, P. (CHP) 38-25-311
 Ryan, M. (GDM) 46-30-304
 Roethlisberger (RCH) 42-25-293
 Cutler (CHI) 40-23-270
 Warner (MOH) 35-22-236

RUSHING

Peterson, A. (CHP) 29-141
 Turner, M. (DTL) 27-109
 Johnson, C. (PIC) 16-104
 Barber, M. (COW) 27-101
 Slaton (MOH) 25-98

RECEIVING

Johnson, A. (RCH) 7-146
 Daniels, O. (MOH) 9-130
 Gonzalez, T. (CHP) 8-118
 Smith, S. (LAK) 7-118
 Fitzgerald (ICC) 10-100

LEADER BOARD

STANDINGS

PACIFIC-ATLNTIC CONFERENCE

East	W	L	T	Pct	Pts	Ave	Opp	Ave	Diff	Home	Div	Conf
Charleswood	9	2	0	0.818	283	25.7	144	13.1	12.6	5 1 0	2 1 0	6 1 0
Kutztown	5	6	0	0.455	209	19	240	21.8	-2.8	2 3 0	2 1 0	3 4 0
Mohave	5	6	0	0.455	233	21.2	234	21.3	-0.1	4 1 0	2 1 0	3 4 0
Virden	3	8	0	0.273	187	17	278	25.3	-8.3	1 5 0	0 3 0	2 5 0

West	W	L	T	Pct	Pts	Ave	Opp	Ave	Diff	Home	Div	Conf
Chino	7	4	0	0.636	240	21.8	160	14.5	7.3	3 2 0	2 1 0	5 2 0
Los Angeles	7	4	0	0.636	237	21.5	156	14.2	7.4	4 1 0	2 1 0	5 2 0
Iowa City	6	5	0	0.545	212	19.3	217	19.7	-0.5	3 3 0	1 2 0	3 4 0
Winnemucca	1	10	0	0.091	148	13.5	299	27.2	-13.7	0 6 0	1 2 0	1 6 0

CAN-AM CONFERENCE

North	W	L	T	Pct	Pts	Ave	Opp	Ave	Diff	Home	Div	Conf
Durham	9	2	0	0.818	237	21.5	164	14.9	6.6	5 1 0	3 0 0	5 2 0
Cowtown	5	6	0	0.455	231	21	226	20.5	0.5	3 2 0	1 2 0	3 4 0
Markham	3	8	0	0.273	161	14.6	241	21.9	-7.3	2 4 0	1 2 0	2 5 0
Pickering	3	8	0	0.273	192	17.5	294	26.7	-9.3	1 4 0	1 2 0	2 5 0

South	W	L	T	Pct	Pts	Ave	Opp	Ave	Diff	Home	Div	Conf
Florida (y)	11	0	0	1.000	319	29	130	11.8	17.2	6 0 0	3 0 0	7 0 0
Garland	6	5	0	0.545	262	23.8	270	24.5	-0.7	4 2 0	1 2 0	4 3 0
Gwinnett	6	5	0	0.545	218	19.8	217	19.7	0.1	2 3 0	2 1 0	4 3 0
Ringgold	2	9	0	0.182	172	15.6	271	24.6	-9	1 4 0	0 3 0	1 6 0

y-clinched wildcard
z-clinched division

PASSING

			Att	Cmp	C%	Yards	In	I%	Lg	TD	TD%	Rate
1	Ryan, M	GDM	340	227	66.8	2732	8	2.4	69	24	7.1	104.9
2	Manning, P	CHP	296	205	69.3	2394	8	2.7	50	18	6.1	102.5
3	Rivers, P	DTL	305	188	61.6	2701	6	2	80	17	5.6	100.7
4	Warner	MOH	288	198	68.8	2270	8	2.8	61	16	5.6	99.2
5	Campbell, J	LAK	253	162	64	1774	5	2	47	14	5.5	94.9
6	Cassel	GWG	260	161	61.9	1682	4	1.5	41	12	4.6	89.6
7	Rodgers	FLD	290	191	65.9	2062	6	2.1	46	10	3.4	89.5
8	Brees	VV	296	179	60.5	2142	8	2.7	51	14	4.7	87.1
9	Edwards, T	ICC	197	131	66.5	1323	5	2.5	26	6	3	85.1
10	Manning, E	PIC	267	154	57.7	2078	10	3.7	74	13	4.9	83.2
11	Pennington	COW	342	217	63.5	2368	11	3.2	41	13	3.8	83.1
12	Cutler	CHI	330	216	65.5	2170	9	2.7	63	10	3	82.8
13	Roethlisberger	RCH	318	183	57.5	2037	6	1.9	41	13	4.1	82.5
14	Romo	KUT	289	176	60.9	1946	9	3.1	41	11	3.8	80.6
15	Garrard	WMO	302	183	60.6	1796	10	3.3	49	8	2.6	72.4

RUSHING

		Att	Yds	Ave	Lg	TD			Att	Yds	Ave	Lg	TD		
1	Williams, D	FLD	188	1027	5.5	48	18	8	Brown, R	ICC	156	697	4.5	53	4
2	Peterson, A	CHP	221	996	4.5	69	7	9	Barber, M	COW	167	677	4.1	40	7
3	Turner, M	DTL	212	905	4.3	85	3	10	Johnson, C	PIC	129	630	4.9	69	3
4	Portis	VV	238	879	3.7	36	0	11	Slaton	MOH	174	575	3.3	80	4
5	Jacobs, B	ICC	161	814	5.1	49	10	12	White, L	CHI	126	555	4.4	75	8
6	Jones, T	GWG	186	780	4.2	69	6	13	Gore	GDM	105	493	4.7	46	1
7	Lewis, J	MAR	188	765	4.1	19	2	14	McCoy, L	KUT	88	475	5.4	52	1
8	Brown, R	ICC	156	697	4.5	53	4	15	Stewart, J	FLD	102	474	4.6	46	2

RECEIVING

		No	Yds	Ave	Lg	TD			No	Yds	Ave	Lg	TD		
1	Jennings, G	KUT	69	959	13.9	62	7	8	Hester, D	VV	55	820	14.9	40	4
2	Royal, E	RCH	66	589	8.9	33	4	9	Houshmandzad	FLD	55	514	9.3	19	0
3	Gonzalez, T	CHP	65	734	11.3	34	8	10	Marshall, B	FLD	54	762	14.1	43	3
4	White, R	LAK	63	683	10.8	27	5	11	Coles	WMO	52	562	10.8	49	3
5	Johnson, A	RCH	62	892	14.4	41	5	12	Welker	GDM	52	671	12.9	69	10
6	Fitzgerald	ICC	57	645	11.3	31	4	13	Johnson, C	DTL	51	941	18.5	80	5
7	Ward, H	CHI	56	652	11.6	37	3	14	Harrison, M	VV	49	591	12.1	51	7
8	Hester, D	VV	55	820	14.9	40	4	15	Wayne	GWG	48	667	13.9	41	6



BRYLCREEM PLAYERS OF THE WEEK *WHO WAS SLICK IN WEEK ELEVEN?* Brylcreem continues to be a proud sponsor of the EFL

OFFENSE



RB – Marion Barber, Cowtown Corn Kings
27 Att., 101 yards, Long 18, 2TDs, 6 Rec., 52 yards, 1 TD.
Versatile performance with 153 totals yards and 3 TDs.

DEFENSE



OLB – D.J. Williams, Gwinnett Gladiators
13 Tackles, 3 Sacks, 1 Stuff, 3 Forced Fumbles.
Forced 3 turnovers leading to rout of Outlaws.

SPECIAL TEAMS



K – Rob Bironas, Mohave Hellfire
4 for 4 Field Goals, Long 49, 2 for 2 Extra Pts, 14 Points.
3 field goals of over 40 yards gave Hellfire early cushion.

INJURY REPORT - Week Twelve

CHARLESWOOD – A. Thomas (DOUBTFUL), Burgess (OUT); **CHINO** – Newman (OUT), Boldin (PROBABLE); **COWTOWN** – Schobel (OUT), Steinbach (OUT); **DURHAM** – Monroe (DOUBTFUL), Jason Jones (OUT); **FLORIDA** – Woodley (OUT); **GARLAND** – M. Williams (OUT), Cushing (OUT); **GWINNETT** – Hardwick (OUT), Burleson (OUT); **IOWA CITY** – Hartsock (OUT); **KUTZTOWN** – Romo (OUT), T. Porter (OUT), D. Landry (OUT), F. Jones (OUT); **LOS ANGELES** – None; **MARKHAM** – Shockey (OUT), Pittman (OUT), A. Hall (DOUBTFUL); **MOHAVE** – None; **PICKERING** – F. Davis (OUT), Vanden Bosch (OUT), J. Joseph (OUT), M. Jackson (OUT); **RINGGOLD** – Barnett (OUT); **VIRDEN** – B. Davis (OUT); **WINNEMUCCA** – J. Griffith (OUT), McAlister (OUT).



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**JIMMY THE GEEK GIVES YOU HIS PICKS FOR WEEK
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JIMMY'S WEEK TWELVE PICKS

FLORIDA @ CHINO (LINE – DRAGONS BY 2)

The Dragons continue their run through the western gauntlet hoping to emerge with their perfect season intact. This week they face a traditional challenger and the spoiler of last year's near perfect run. The Convicts would like nothing better than to ruin Florida's perfect season again, but more for practical reasons than for '*schadenfreude*' (but the Convicts wouldn't call it that; they'd call it something unprintable). The Convicts are in the thick of the only true Divisional race left and cannot afford to drop a game. But with Terrence Newman missing from the secondary, the slip-sliding "Lockdown Crew" will struggle to put a lock on TJ Houshmandzadeh and Jerricho Cotchery. Worry too much about them and DeAngelo Williams will do the damage. Heck, he will probably do some damage anyway! The Dragons continue to force opponent's turnovers and surrender few themselves (+15 at last count). If the trend holds up this week at "The Big House," (and there is no reason to think it will not with Cutler flinging the ball), it will not even be a close game. The Convicts need to play a perfect game at home and get some help from the crowd.

PICK: FLORIDA

GWINNETT @ IOWA CITY (LINE – CUBS BY 4)

When is it going to be the appropriate time to say the Gladiators are second-rate? I am tempted, but cannot bring myself to say it as long as they hover above .500. They are winning with smoke and mirrors, but signs of life on the defensive side of the ball and a lively connection between Matt Cassel and Reggie Wayne conspire to offer Glads fans cautious hope. Iowa City has made a remarkable recovery after a rough start and looks to be firing on all cylinders. They are back in the hunt and looking to establish an identity with Trent Edwards behind center. Whatever that identity is will show itself this week against a tough defense. Look for Gwinnett to give Edwards a difficult test.

PICK: GWINNETT

WINNEMUCCA @ RINGGOLD (LINE – CRIMSON HAWKS BY 5)

Everyone wants to know whether or not Tom Brady will make another appearance for the Outlaws and Coach Neely is not telling. The confusion is playing havoc with the line, but fear not – Jimmy is coming to the rescue! Brady playing is not nearly as relevant as how Ben Roethlisberger will perform without a swarming pass rush in his face. If Big Ben gets the time to throw that I think he will, Brady (if he plays) will be playing catch-up all day, but without the weapons he had in Florida.

PICK: RINGGOLD

LOS ANGELES @ GARLAND (LINE – PICK ‘EM)

At the beginning of the year this would have been an unthinkable line. But after the Mustangs squeaked by Chino at “The Big House” last week pick’em is not only thinkable, it’s as real as Matt Ryan is. Yes, the Mustangs pivot is a legitimate force in the league and capable of taking control of any game, but this week he faces his sternest test since Florida in Week Three. The Knights’ defense kept a lid on those same Dragons last week and they are certainly as capable as anyone of containing Ryan and his supporting cast of Wes Welker, Mark Clayton and Frank Gore. The Mustangs’ defense, shaky to begin with, is missing Brian Cushing, who made some much-needed plays before falling to injury. I love Garland, but when it comes to my money, I am going to pass on them this week and lay the mortgage on LA.

PICK: LOS ANGELES

DURHAM @ MOHAVE (LINE – THUNDER LIZARDS BY 5)

The T-Lizards are starting to wake up and the five-point line on the road at The Fiery Depths is an indication that Vegas believes. I believe too...that anything can happen in Mohave! The Hellfire are almost as predictable as the weather in New Orleans. Depending on which team shows up to play this week, it is equally reasonable to expect either a complete blowout by Durham or a convincing upset by Mohave. If it is the latter, it will be because Kurt Warner finds his range. If it is the former, it will be because Kurt Warner does not find his range. Philip Rivers and the Dinos’ top-rated offence will have opportunities to move the ball on the ground against a line that will need a lot of help from London Fletcher and Julian Peterson. They can run and pass as well. With nagging reservations about the Mohave heat, I’ll take the better team.

PICK: DURHAM

COWTOWN @ CHARLESWOOD (LINE – PATRIOTS BY 7)

Charleswood totally dominated Pickering last week but managed only 24 points of offence. The Corn Kings are significantly stouter on ‘D’ than the damaged Spartans were, but will it be enough to contain Adrian Peterson, Peyton Manning and his “Terrible Tights Ends?” A more suitable question is, perhaps, whether or not Chad Pennington can crack the one of the stingiest pass defenses in the league? Without offence, it won’t matter whether Cowtown can hold Peterson to under 100 yards.

PICK: CHARLESWOOD

VIRDEN @ PICKERING (LINE – SPARTANS BY 3)

Until Pickering gets Kyle VandenBosch and their two starting cornerbacks back they will be a sitting duck on defense. Drew Brees is taking aim and expects a big day throwing against the Spartans’ practice squad. The only hope for Pickering is to keep up with the Violators on the scoreboard by moving the ball any way they can, something they have done pretty well all year. Virden is vulnerable defensively, especially against the pass, and Eli likes to throw. At 4.9 yards per carry, running back Chris Johnson is a constant threat. Expect a lot of scoring in this one, with the Violators scoring last.

PICK: VIRDEN

KUTZTOWN @ MARKHAM (LINE – NORTH STARS BY 1)

The Golden Bears were ineffective on offence last week against Durham with JaMarcus Russell leading the way. The North Stars secondary will offer more opportunities through the air, but throwing more may not be in Kutztown’s best interest. They need a solid contribution from Le’Ron McClain and LeSean McCoy to have any hope of keeping pace with Markham. Did I actually write “keeping pace with Markham?” Yes, I did. With Tony Romo out, the North Stars have the initiative in this contest. The hot-and-cold Donovan McNabb is drooling over film of Fred Smoot blowing coverage. The Fat Lady will sing!

PICK: MARKHAM

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

HOW I’M DOING AGAINST THE SPREAD

LAST WEEK: 7-1-0

OVERALL: 59-28-1