

# 2011

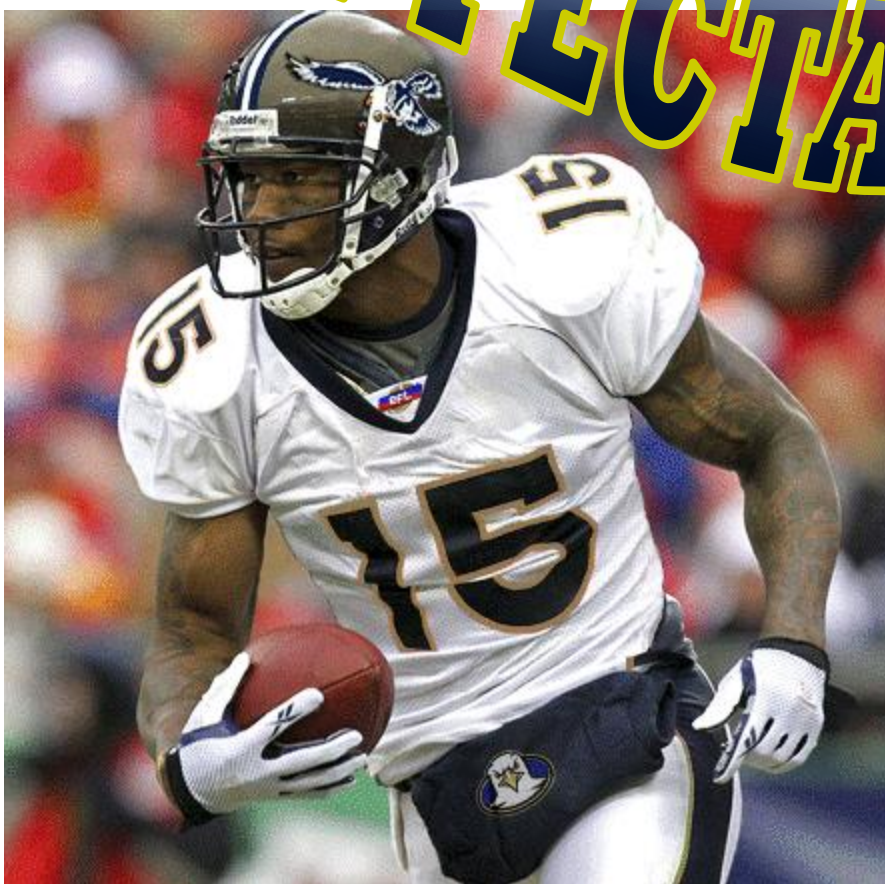


# 2011

## WEEK FIFTEEN IN REVIEW

January 22, 2012

# TRI-FECTA!



**Brandon Marshall** turns up field and eyes the end zone on his way to his third TD reception of the afternoon. The Blue Eagles' offence came alive in the Deep South in a 31-17 victory over the South Carolina Regulators. The win sets up a Week 16 showdown at Gwinnett for the South Division title.

### LATEST EFL NEWS INSIDE

#### THE GAMES

- CORN KINGS FORCE WEEK 16 SHOWDOWN
- SPARTANS MAINTAIN LEAD
- PATS BEND SWORDS
- HELLFIRE TURN UP HEAT
- CHINO GONE
- CUBS DUMP UNDERTAKERS
- RODGERS STARS FOR BLUE EAGLES
- GLADS SADDLE MUSTANGS

#### COMMENT

"Trench Warfare," "I'd like to thank my mom," "No Respect," "Around the EFL," and more – Spats McChad

#### PREDICTIONS

'Who will win the North?' 'Who will win the South?' 'Will Mohave reach 4 wins?' Jimmy knows – Jimmy the Geek



*Who was slick in Week Fifteen?*

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



**Aaron Rodgers**  
QB  
Scarborough  
Blue Eagles

24 of 34, 274 yards, 4 TD passes in must win over South Carolina.



**Ray Edwards**  
DE  
Pickering  
Spartans

8 tackles, 4 sacks, 4 QB Pressures, 3 forced fumbles against Markham

# CORN KINGS KEEP WINNING!



**COWTOWN CORN  
KINGS**

**27**

**17**

**DURHAM THUNDER  
LIZARDS**



## CORN KING OF THE GAME

**Maurice Jones-Drew**

25 carries, 114 yards, 1 TD

Team	1	2	3	4	OT	Total
<b>COWTOWN</b> (13-2)	6	0	7	14	-	27
<b>DURHAM</b> (8-7)	0	7	3	7	-	17

## LIZARD OF THE GAME

**David Reed**

3 KR, 127 yards, Long 89, 1 TD

**HIGHLIGHT REEL:** Joe Flacco completed 20 of 29 for 206 yards, 2 TDs and a game day QB rating of 112.1.

- **Kevin Walter** caught 5 passes for 67 yards, 1 TD and a long of 33 yards.
- **Aaron Kampman** made 5 tackles, deflected 2 passes, stuffed a run, pressured the QB twice, and forced a fumble.
- **Philip Rivers** completed 11 of 24 for 105 yards, 1 INT for a game day QB rating of 41.1.
- **Jared Allen** made 4 tackles, 1 sack and pressured the QB twice.

**GAME SUMMARY:** The Corn Kings held the ball for nearly 10 minutes to start the game thanks to a **Nick Mangold** fumble, recovered by **Aaron Kampman**, on a return of a short kick-off after the Corn Kings had converted the opening drive into a 22-yard **Olindo Mare** field goal. Taking advantage of the short field, Cowtown moved it 24 yards to the Durham 1 yard line, but an incomplete pass on 3<sup>rd</sup> down forced a decision to take the easy points, sending Mare on for a 19-yard field goal to make it 6-0 before the Durham offence had got their hands on the ball. The Lizards wiped out that advantage and took the lead on their first possession of the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter, driving 80 yards in 13 plays with **Tim Tebow** finishing it off with 3 straight carries, including a 17-yard bootleg to set up a 1-yard TD run on the sneak to make the score 7-6 for Durham at half time. Durham started the second half with the ball but soon gave it away when **Terrell Thomas** picked off **Philip Rivers** and returned it 24 yards to the Durham 15 yard line. Three plays later, **Maurice Jones-Drew** followed a block by **Maurkice Pouncey** up the middle for a 4-yard TD run to give Cowtown a 13-7 advantage. The Thunder Lizards bounced back with a 24-yard field goal by **Adam Vinatieri** to close the gap to three points, then the two teams settled into a punting duel that took the game into the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter. The Corn Kings broke the stalemate with a 63-yard drive that featured a key 3<sup>rd</sup> down, 34-yard completion to **Devery Henderson** that put the ball on the 2 yard line. After Jones-Drew was stuffed for losses on two carries, Henderson came through again, getting the dump-off pass from **Joe Flacco** for a 5-yard TD that gave the Corn Kings a 10-point lead with 8:14 remaining. But Durham got that back immediately when **David Reed** took the ensuing kickoff 89 yards to the house to make the score 20-17. Cowtown put it away on their next series when Flacco went long to **Kevin Walter** for a 33-yard TD pass to give Cowtown a 27-17 lead with 4 minutes left. They would hold the lead and emerge with their 13<sup>th</sup> win.



**THE FANS LOVED**  
Flacco to Walter

**THE FANS HATED**  
Two Durham TOs in own end



**FAN RATING**



01-20-2012 Jurassic Park Temp: 65 Wind: Calm MVP: **Maurice Jones-Drew**

1 7:49 Cowtown	FG Mare 22 (14-64-7:00)	3-0
1 4:15 Cowtown	FG Mare 19 (7-24-3:23)	6-0
2 5:46 Durham	TD Tebow 1 run (Vinatieri) (13-80-7:08)	6-7
3 11:51 Cowtown	TD Jones-Drew 4 run (Mare) (3-15-1:27)	13-7
3 7:14 Durham	FG Vinatieri 24 (11-53-4:25)	13-10
4 8:14 Cowtown	TD Flacco 5 pass to Henderson (Mare) (9-63-4:53)	20-10
4 8:08 Durham	TD Reed 89 kick return (Vinatieri) (0-0-4:53)	20-17
4 4:21 Cowtown	TD Flacco 33 pass to Walter (Mare) (6-66-3:40)	27-17

	<b>COW</b>	<b>DTL</b>
First Downs	22	18
Rushes	36-159	23-89
Passes	29-20-206	34-17-162
Sacked	2-12	1-3
Fumble	1	2
Penalties	6-41	5-29
Turnovers	0	2
Time	34:31	25:29
Third Down	7-14	4-11
Fourth Down	0-0	1-2
Red Att/Td/Fg	4/2/2	5/1/1
Net Offense	353	248



## INJURIES

COWTOWN – None

DIURHAM – Eugene Monroe (2 games)

## QUOTE OF THE GAME

"It's looking like we're going to have to beat Pickering and win the Championship to get any respect." – Corn King QC, **Joe Flacco**, responding to reporters.

# SPARTANS NOTCH 14<sup>TH</sup> WIN!



**MARKHAM  
NORTH STARS**

**14**

**17**

**PICKERING  
SPARTANS**



## NORTH STAR OF THE GAME

**Mark Sanchez**

16 of 28, 183 yards, 2 TDs

Team	1	2	3	4	OT	Total
<b>MARKHAM (4-11)</b>	0	7	7	0	-	14
<b>PICKERING (14-1)</b>	0	10	7	0	-	17

## SPARTAN OF THE GAME

**Chris Johnson**

23 carries, 110 yards, 2 TDs

**HIGHLIGHT REEL:** **Matt Cassel** completed 16 of 29 for 179 yards and a game day QB rating of 73.8.

- **Percy Harvin** carried once for 37 yards and caught 2 passes for 23 yards.
- Defensive end **Ray Edwards** made 8 tackles, 4 sacks, 4 QB Pressures and 3 forced fumbles.
- **DeAngelo Williams** carried 17 times and gained 81 yards.
- **Patrick Crayton** made 3 receptions for 57 yards and 1 TD and **Kenny Britt** caught 2 passes for 46 yards.
- **Trent Cole** made 4 tackles, stuffed one run, and made 2 QB Pressures.

**GAME SUMMARY:** Two missed field goal attempts by **Josh Scobee** wasted 79 yards by the Pickering offence in the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter to keep the game scoreless through one period. The Spartans posted their first points after 3 straight carries for 22 yards by **Chris Johnson** brought the Markham linebackers in close to guard the run. **Matt Cassel** took advantage with a 32-yard long pass to **Anquan Boldin** that set up a 1-yard TD run by Johnson to make it 7-0. The Markham offence, quiet until that point, suddenly came alive after a 15-yard personal foul penalty against **Ray Edwards** converted a 3<sup>rd</sup> and 11 in the Markham zone. **Mark Sanchez** lofted a pass into the arms of **Kenny Britt** for a 24-yard gain and converted a 3<sup>rd</sup> and 6 with a 10-yard hitch to **Jahvid Best**. Three plays later, on 3<sup>rd</sup> and 8, Sanchez drilled a long pass into the hands of **Patrick Crayton** for a 29-yard TD pass to even the score at 7. The Spartans bounced right back with a quick drive to the Markham 13 yard line, but a 7-sack by **Rob Ninkovich** and two incomplete passes brought out Scobee for a 38-yard field goal to give Pickering a 10-7 lead at half time. A 5-yard sack by **Ray Edwards** and a holding penalty on **Tyson Clabo** helped stop Markham's opening drive cold, giving the ball to Pickering at their own 46 yard line. **Percy Harvin** turned the corner for a 37-yard end around to the Markham red zone, where Johnson took over and took it the rest of the way to score on a 10-yard run and make it 17-7 for the home team. The North Stars charged right back, converting 3 more 3<sup>rd</sup> downs on an 80-yard drive that finished with Sanchez finding **Jared Cook** for an 11-yard TD. The rest of the game was a battle for field position with both kickers missing field goals to keep the score at 17-14 and give Pickering their 14<sup>th</sup> win of the season.



## THE FANS LOVED

Chris Johnson's goal line nose

## THE FANS HATED

Strange ending



## FAN RATING

★ ★ ½

01-21-2012 Thermopylae Stadium Temp: 21 Wind: 0-5 None MVP: Chris Johnson

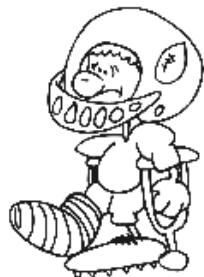
2 8:42 Pickering TD Johnson 1 run (Scobee) (9-69-4:28) 0-7  
 2 3:09 Markham TD Sanchez 29 pass to Crayton (Akers) (9-92-5:19) 7-7  
 2 0:25 Pickering FG Scobee 38 (11-51-2:30) 7-10  
 3 10:53 Pickering TD Johnson 10 run (Scobee) (4-54-1:43) 7-17  
 3 2:54 Markham TD Sanchez 11 pass to Cook (Akers) (13-80-7:59) 14-17

	MAR	PIC
First Downs	21	18
Rushes	29-126	30-158
Passes	28-16-183	29-16-179
Sacked	4-20	1-7
Fumble	3	1
Penalties	5-36	9-85
Turnovers	1	0
Time	31:15	28:45
Third Down	6-15	4-13
Fourth Down	1-2	1-1
Red Att/Td/Fg	2/1/0	5/2/1
Net Offense	289	330

## INJURIES

MARKHAM – Prince Amukamara (5 games)

PICKERING – None



## QUOTE OF THE GAME

"We knew this would not be easy. It's easy for people in the Media to say Markham can't compete, but they don't have to play the games." – Pickering coach, **Gus Konstantakos**.

# PATS DOMINATE, DUMP YORK!



**YORK  
EXCALIBURS**

**17**

**24**

**CHARLESWOOD  
PATRIOTS**



## EXCALIBUR OF THE GAME

**Pierre Thomas**

**13 carries, 82 yards, 1 TD**

Team	1	2	3	4	OT	Total
<b>YORK (6-9)</b>	7	0	0	10	-	17
<b>CHARLESWOOD (10-5)</b>	14	7	3	0	-	24

## PATRIOT OF THE GAME

**Peyton Manning**

**30 of 38, 301 yds, 2 TDs, 1 INT**

**HIGHLIGHT REEL:** **Marques Colston** caught 11 passes for 107 yards and 1 TD.

- **Adrian Peterson** rushed for 78 yards and 1 TD on 28 carries.
- **Jason Witten** caught 9 passes for 80 yards and 1 TD.
- **Tom Brady** completed 11 of 21 for 113 yards and 1 INT for a game day QB rating of 48.3.
- **Roy Williams** caught 3 passes for 59 yards and a long of 33 yards.
- Linebacker, **Geno Hayes** made 1 tackle, deflected 1 pass and made an interception that he returned 61 yards for a TD.

**GAME SUMMARY:** In the hunt for a playoff berth, the Excaliburs got off to a good start when linebacker **Geno Hayes** intercepted **Peyton Manning** on the Pats' opening drive and returned it 61 yards for a TD and an early 7-0 lead. That would turn out to be the high point of the game for York and they would not enjoy their lead for long. Starting with poor field position at the 7 yard line after **Mike Goodson** was tripped up on the kick-off return, the Pats started slowly, with 6 consecutive running plays and a daring, but successful 4<sup>th</sup> and inches gamble at their own 17 yard line, but gradually picked up steam. Using the short passing game, they converted another 4<sup>th</sup> down at their 44 yard line to reach mid-field. Three plays later, Manning connected with **Marques Colston** on a medium fly that went 36 yards for a TD to tie the game at 7-7. The York offence finally touched the ball at the 3:29 mark of the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter but gave it away immediately when **Marcus Trufant** intercepted **Tom Brady** at the York 42 yard line. A 25-yard pass in the flat to Goodson followed by a pass interference penalty on York safety, **Danieal Manning** set up a 9-yard TD pass to **Jason Witten** to give Charleswood a 14-7 lead. The Pats got the ball back after a short York drive and moved 78 yards in 18 plays, consuming over 10 minutes on the clock, finishing off with 3 straight carries by **Adrian Peterson**, who busted the last one into the end zone from 3 yards out to grab a 21-7 lead heading into half time. The Excaliburs started the 2<sup>nd</sup> half with an 11-play, penalty-riddled drive that stalled at the York 48. Starting at their 26 yard line, the Pats drove all the way to the York 4 yard line where Mike Goodson appeared to have scored; but after review the ball was placed at the one foot line. The Pats tacked on a short field goal to finish off a 24-point burst that carried them through a late York push to lift their record to 10-5 and put a dent in York's post-season hopes.



**THE FANS LOVED**  
Ball control = Pats' Points

**THE FANS HATED**  
17 mins with ball for York



**FAN RATING**

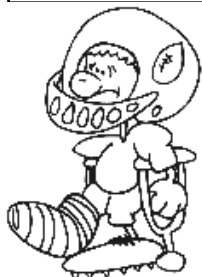
★ 1/2

01-20-2012 Patriot Place Temp: 75 Wind:

MVP: **Peyton Manning**

1 11:42 York TD Hayes 61 interception return (Gano) (0-0-3:11) 7-0  
 1 3:36 Charleswood TD Manning 36 pass to Colston (Gostkowski) (13-93-7:58) 7-7  
 1 1:10 Charleswood TD Manning 9 pass to Witten (Gostkowski) (5-42-2:11) 7-14  
 2 3:23 Charleswood TD Peterson 3 run (Gostkowski) (18-78-10:44) 7-21  
 3 1:05 Charleswood FG Gostkowski 18 (16-74-9:50) 7-24  
 4 14:09 York FG Gano 50 (7-39-1:44) 10-24  
 4 1:20 York TD Thomas 6 run (Gano) (17-85-7:38) 17-24

	YOR	CHP
First Downs	12	28
Rushes	18-112	37-122
Passes	21-11-113	38-30-301
Sacked	1-5	0-0
Fumble	1	3
Penalties	6-38	5-36
Turnovers	1	2
Time	17:33	42:27
Third Down	4-9	7-14
Fourth Down	1-1	4-4
Red Att/Td/Fg	1/1/0	4/2/1
Net Offense	220	423



## INJURIES

**YORK** – Darren McFadden (1 game-QUESTIONABLE),  
Steve Hutchinson (6 games)

**CHARLESWOOD** – None

## QUOTE OF THE GAME

"The game was over and, like, what the – it's over? It felt like half a game for us!" –  
*Charleswood safety, Chris Harris.*

# HELLFIRE TURN UP THE HEAT!



**VIRDEN  
VIOLATORS**

**17**

**41**

**MOHAVE  
HELLFIRE**



## VIOLATOR OF THE GAME

**LeGarrette Blount**

24 carries, 107 yards, 1 TD

## Team

**VIRDEN (6-8)**

**MOHAVE (2-12)**

**1**

**2**

**3**

**4**

**OT**

**Total**

7

0

3

7

-

17

10

14

7

10

-

41

## HELL PLAYER OF THE GAME

**Matt Schaub**

30 of 41, 274 yards, 4 TDs

**HIGHLIGHT REEL:** **Christopher Ivory** rushed for 161 yards and 1 TD on 19 carries.

- **Hakeem Nicks** caught 12 passes for 116 yards and 2 TDs and **Terrell Owens** caught 10 passes for 100 yards and 2 TDs.
- Mohave safety, **Quintin Mikell** made 6 tackles and intercepted a pass.
- **Eli Manning** completed 18 of 25 for 234 yards, 1 TD and 1 INT for a game day QB rating of 97.8.
- **Dez Bryant** caught 6 passes for 71 yards and 1 TD and **Mike Thomas** caught 5 passes for 65 yards.
- **Paul Posluszny** made 9 tackles and stuffed 1 run and **DeMeco Ryans** made 8 tackles and deflected a pass.

**GAME SUMMARY:** Mohave running back **Christopher Ivory** broke a 50-yard TD run at the 4:02 mark of the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter to post a 10-0 lead and give the Hellfire offence a jolt that powered them the rest of the way. The Violators struck back with **Eli Manning** hitting **Dez Bryant** 3 times for 53 yards, including a 14-yard TD toss to round off a quick 66-yard drive to make the score 10-7. However, Mohave came right back with a 66-yard drive to the end zone that featured a 4<sup>th</sup> and 3 conversion near mid-field and a pair of key 3<sup>rd</sup> down conversions, including a 5-yard TD pass from **Matt Schaub** to **Terrell Owens** to give the Hellfire a 17-7 lead. After **Lawrence Tynes** missed a 52-yard field goal attempt, Mohave added to their lead as Schaub picked apart the Virden secondary, completing 6 of 8 for 48 yards of a 58-yard drive that ended with Schaub finding **Hakeem Nicks** crossing the middle of the end zone from 4 yards out for a TD and a 24-7 Mohave lead at half time. The Hellfire picked up in the 2<sup>nd</sup> half where they left off in the 1<sup>st</sup>, with Ivory breaking a 29-yard run and Schaub completing 4 of 5 for 46 yards, including a 24-yard catch-and-run TD pass to Nicks to make the score 31-7. The Violators took over and held on to the ball for almost a full 9 minutes, covering 61 yards on 15 plays, but ultimately settled for a field goal when **Mike Thomas** was stopped 5 yards short of a 1<sup>st</sup> down inside the Mohave red zone. The Hellfire did not let up despite a 21-point lead. With both the rushing and passing games in high gear, Schaub led his team 86 yards in 10 plays and topped it off with a 7-yard TD pass to Owens to increase their lead to 38-10. They added a 48-yard **Rob Bironas** field goal after a **Quintin Mikell** interception gave Mohave the ball in Virden territory. As faint playoff hopes vanished, the Violators posted a final TD on a drive consisting of 12-straight carries by **LeGarrette Blount**, who scored on a 13-yard pitch after covering 80 yards of real estate.



**THE FANS LOVED**  
Hellfire explosion!

**THE FANS HATED**  
11 violations by Violators



**FAN RATING**

★ ½

01-21-2012 The Fiery Depths Temp: 79 Wind: Calm None MVP: **Matt Schaub**

1 9:29 Mohave	FG Bironas 53 (6-17-3:02)	0-3
1 4:02 Mohave	TD Ivory 50 run (Bironas) (5-78-2:49)	0-10
1 0:13 Virden	TD Manning 14 pass to Bryant (Tynes) (7-66-3:43)	7-10
2 8:03 Mohave	TD Schaub 5 pass to Owens (Bironas) (17-84-7:05)	7-17
2 0:18 Mohave	TD Schaub 7 pass to Nicks (Bironas) (10-58-2:02)	7-24
3 11:57 Mohave	TD Schaub 24 pass to Nicks (Bironas) (7-82-2:58)	7-31
3 2:53 Virden	FG Tynes 36 (15-61-8:53)	10-31
4 14:04 Mohave	TD Schaub 7 pass to Owens (Bironas) (10-86-3:42)	10-38
4 8:36 Mohave	FG Bironas 48 (6-16-3:33)	10-41
4 1:41 Virden	TD Blount 13 run (Tynes) (12-80-6:55)	17-41

	VV	MOH
First Downs	18	27
Rushes	29-124	20-165
Passes	25-18-234	41-30-274
Sacked	0-0	0-0
Fumble	2	1
Penalties	11-73	4-25
Turnovers	1	0
Time	32:38	27:22
Third Down	5-12	6-9
Fourth Down	2-2	1-1
Red Att/Td/Fg	2/2/0	3/3/0
Net Offense	358	439



## INJURIES

VIRDEN – Aldon Smith (1 game-QUESTIONABLE);  
Corey Webster (PG-2<sup>nd</sup>)

MOHAVE – Robert Ayers (6 games)

## QUOTE OF THE GAME

“This is the kind of performance we expected to do more often than we have. We know we can be dangerous, but it just hasn’t happened for us.” – Mohave quarterback, **Matt Schaub**.

# PUNCHLESS CHINO OUT OF PLAYOFF HUNT!



**CHINO  
CONVICTS**

**7**

**13**

**LOS ANGELES  
KNIGHTS**



## CONVICT OF THE GAME

**Julius Peppers**

7 tackles, 1 sack, 1 FF

Team	1	2	3	4	OT	Total
<b>CHINO</b> (5-10)	0	7	0	0	-	7
<b>LOS ANGELES</b> (12-3)	3	3	7	0	-	13

## KNIGHT OF THE GAME

**Josh Freeman**

16 of 30, 161 yds, 1 TD

**HIGHLIGHT REEL:** **Josh Freeman** rushed for 77 yards on 7 carries in addition to his 161 yards through the air for 238 total yards.

- **Shonn Greene** rushed for 92 yards on 24 carries while **Roddy White** caught 3 passes for 52 yards and 1 TD to lead the offence.
- Knights' linebacker **Chris Kelsay** made 2 tackles, deflected 3 passes and caused a QB pressure.
- **Cam Newton** completed 9 of 24 passes for 89 yards, 2 INTs and rushed for 76 yards on 12 carries for 164 total yards.
- **Chad Ochocinco** caught 2 passes for 25 yards and **Knowshon Moreno** rushed for 14 yards on 6 carries to "lead" the skill players.
- **Barrett Ruud** made 11 tackles while **Bernard Pollard** made 4 tackles, stuffed a run and forced a fumble.

**GAME SUMMARY:** Three completions to **Tony Gonzalez**, including one for 25 yards, keyed an opening drive that came to a halt at the Chino 8 yard line, forcing the Knights to settle for 26-yard field goal to open the scoring. LA added a second field goal in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter after **Antoine Bethea** intercepted **Cam Newton** and returned it 25 yards to the Chino 38 yard line. After gaining a quick first down, **Roddy White** was stopped short on 3<sup>rd</sup> and 11, bringing on Carpenter again for a 33-yard field goal to make the score 6-0, Knights. After a pair of punts by each team, the Convicts' suddenly burst free on offence. Newton completed 4 of 5 attempts for 46 yards and ran for 22 in leading his team on a 69-yard drive that he capped off with a 1-yard QB sneak across the goal line, to give the convicts a 7-6 lead at half time. The slim Chino lead did not last long, however. After shutting down Newton and the Convicts on the opening possession of the 2<sup>nd</sup> half, the Knights took over at their 31 yard line and went on the move. **Shonn Greene** turned the corner on a sweep and galloped 19 yards to mid-field then **Josh Freeman** converted 4<sup>th</sup> and 3 at the Chino 41 with a 14-yard yard sweep. On the next play, Freeman found White over the middle for a 29-yard TD pass to give his team a 13-7 advantage. That is where the score would stay. The 'Blue Shield' stiffened after that and the Convicts' offence could not penetrate, gaining just 4 first downs, one of those on a penalty, over the course of the remaining quarter-and-a-half. Starting their final two drives at their 3 yard line, Chino's rookie QB failed to fight off poor field position and a swarming, hungry Knights' defence in his bid for a miracle comeback. A low throw, incomplete to **Knowshon Moreno** signalled the final play for Chino and the end of their 2011 playoff hopes.



## THE FANS LOVED

Freeman climbing the "Wall"

## THE FANS HATED

The entire Convicts' offence



## FAN RATING

★ ★ ½

01-20-2012 Round Table Stadium Temp: 51 Wind: 0-5 None MVP: **Josh Freeman**

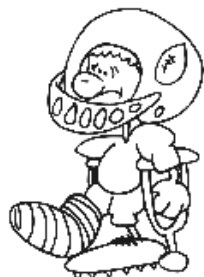
1 9:42 Los Angeles FG Carpenter 26 (11-68-5:09) 0-3  
 2 10:27 Los Angeles FG Carpenter 33 (6-23-2:55) 0-6  
 2 1:12 Chino TD Newton 1 run (Cundiff) (8-69-3:54) 7-6  
 3 7:33 Los Angeles TD Freeman 29 pass to White (Carpente,D) (6-69-3:50) 7-13

	CHI	LAK
First Downs	12	16
Rushes	22-97	37-169
Passes	24-9-89	30-16-161
Sacked	1-3	2-8
Fumble	1	2
Penalties	6-39	7-52
Turnovers	2	0
Time	21:25	38:35
Third Down	3-14	5-19
Fourth Down	0-1	3-3
Red Att/Td/Fg	1/1/0	2/0/1
Net Offense	183	322

## INJURIES

CHINO – Mohamed Massaquoi (PG-3<sup>rd</sup>)

LOS ANGELES – Cortland Finnegan (PG-2<sup>nd</sup>)



## QUOTE OF THE GAME

"It's safe to say that when you commit 2 turnovers, hold the ball for just 21 minutes, and gain less than 200 yards, you're going to lose. I'm surprised it was this close, actually."

– A grim Chino coach, **Rob Nazar**.

# SPURLOCK TIPS BALANCE IN CUBS' WIN!



**DEATH VALLEY  
UNDERTAKERS**

**27**

**34**

**IOWA CITY  
CUBS**



## UNDERTAKER OF THE GAME

**Drew Brees**

35 of 51, 360 yards, 3 TDs, 2 INTs

Team	1	2	3	4	OT	Total
DEATH VALLEY (8-7)	7	10	7	3	-	27
IOWA CITY (6-9)	0	7	14	13	-	34

## CUB OF THE GAME

**Sam Bradford**

23 of 29, 251 yards, 1 TD

**HIGHLIGHT REEL:** **Arian Foster** carried the ball 15 times for 104 yards, 1 TD and 8 first downs. He also caught 6 passes for 28 yards.

- **Mike Wallace** made 5 receptions for 121 yards, 1 TD and a long pass of 38 yards.
- **Michael Spurlock** returned 6 kicks for 189 yards, including a 96-yard TD return.
- **Andre Johnson** caught 8 passes for 111 yards in 15 targets, including a long reception of 36 yards.
- **Aaron Hernandez** caught 7 passes for 102 yards and **Mario Manningham** caught 6 passes for 48 yards and 2 TDs.
- **Ray Lewis** made 16 tackles and 2 run stuffs, while **Charles Johnson** added his 7<sup>th</sup> sack of the season and 3 QB Pressures.

**GAME SUMMARY:** A shaky start by the Cubs and an aggressive game plan by Death Valley staked the Undertakers to an early 14-0 lead. Cubs' corner **Malcolm Jenkins** was flagged for a 23-yard pass interference penalty to fuel a 1<sup>st</sup> quarter scoring drive that put the Undertakers up 7-0 on a 15-yard short quick TD pass to **Mario Manningham**; then a 36-yard long slant completion to **Andre Johnson** put **Drew Brees** in position for another TD pass to Manningham, a 2-yard short quick nearly identical to the first. The Cubs got on the board with a 3-yard TD run off left tackle by **Arian Foster**, but the Undertakers scored again before the half with a 36-yard **Jon Kasay** field goal to establish a 10-point lead, 17-7. The Cubs' offence came alive in the 2<sup>nd</sup> half, starting on the 1<sup>st</sup> series: Foster dashed for 15 yards on the first play then **Sam Bradford** connected with **Mike Wallace** for 26 yards to cross into Death Valley territory. Another 15-yard run by Foster brought his team to the 2 yard line and two plays later Bradford snuck across the goal line from 1 yard out for a TD to make it 17-14. Death Valley countered immediately with a 55-yard pass to **Aaron Hernandez**, setting up a 3-yard TD pass to **Brandon Tate** to re-establish their 10-point advantage, 24-14; but the Cubs fired back with equal speed, with a 17-yard run by Foster setting the stage for a 38-yard TD pass to Wallace to make it 24-21, Undertakers. After **Neil Rackers** tied the game on a 42-yard field goal, Kasay put Death Valley in the lead with a 50-yard boot, only to see the slim lead vanish on the ensuing kickoff with **Michael Spurlock's** 96-yard return for a TD, giving the Cubs their first lead of the game. **Jairus Byrd** and **DeAngelo Hall** both snared interceptions in the final minutes to hold off a Brees rally and the Cubs stayed alive in the playoff race.

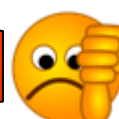


## THE FANS LOVED

Bradford taking charge

## THE FANS HATED

Brees' late picks stops comeback



## FAN RATING



01-20-2012 Joe Ferguson Stadium Temp: 30 Wind: 0-5 None MVP: **Michael Spurlock**

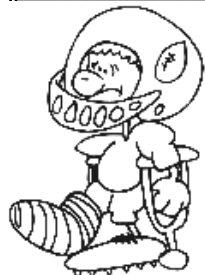
1 3:33	Death Valley	TD Brees 15 pass to Manningham (Kasay) (10-81-4:57)	7-0
2 12:05	Death Valley	TD Brees 2 pass to Manningham (Kasay) (8-62-4:04)	14-0
2 5:15	Iowa City	TD Foster 3 run (Rackers) (11-60-6:42)	14-7
2 0:09	Death Valley	FG Kasay 36 (14-46-4:56)	17-7
3 9:20	Iowa City	TD Bradford 1 run (Rackers) (11-74-5:34)	17-14
3 5:17	Death Valley	TD Brees 3 pass to Tate (Kasay) (8-75-3:57)	24-14
3 2:55	Iowa City	TD Bradford 38 pass to Wallace (Rackers) (4-71-2:17)	24-21
4 10:34	Iowa City	FG Rackers 42 (9-66-4:58)	24-24
4 6:07	Death Valley	FG Kasay 50 (9-32-4:14)	27-24
4 5:59	Iowa City	TD Spurlock 96 kick return (Rackers) (0-0-4:14)	27-31
4 1:23	Iowa City	FG Rackers 45 (9-27-2:26)	27-34

	DVU	ICC
First Downs	21	22
Rushes	11-20	24-127
Passes	51-35-360	29-23-251
Sacked	1-5	2-16
Fumble	1	0
Penalties	6-39	5-53
Turnovers	2	0
Time	29:41	30:19
Third Down	7-14	4-8
Fourth Down	2-2	1-1
Red Att/Td/Fg	4/3/1	6/2/1
Net Offense	375	362

## INJURIES

DEATH VALLEY – Clay Matthews (1 game-PROBABLE)

IOWA CITY – None



## QUOTE OF THE GAME

"Michael's play for us today showed that any player can contribute to the success of this team, no matter how low he is on the depth chart. Little Michael was a big man today!" – Iowa City coach, **Deron Redding**.

# RODGERS THROWS 4 TD PASSES!



**SCARBOROUGH  
BLUE EAGLES**

**31**

**17**

**SOUTH CAROLINA  
REGULATORS**



BLUE EAGLE OF THE GAME	Team	1	2	3	4	OT	Total	REGULATOR OF THE GAME
Aaron Rodgers	SCARBOROUGH (9-6)	7	7	14	3	-	31	Austin Collie
24 of 34, 274 yards, 4 TDs, 1 INT	SOUTH CAROLINA (4-11)	0	7	3	7	-	17	7 receptions, 126 yards

**HIGHLIGHT REEL:** Brandon Marshall caught 8 passes in 8 targets for 64 yards and 3 TDs.

- DeSean Jackson caught 5 passes for 124 yards, while Ray Rice rushed for 48 yards on 15 carries.
- Defensive tackle, Ndamukong Suh made 3 tackles, 1 sack, and create 2 QB pressures.
- Tony Romo completed 23 of 38 pass attempts for 306 yards and 1 TD, 2 INTs for a game-day QB rating of 72.9.
- Frank Gore rushed for 39 yards and 1 TD on 11 carries and caught 2 passes for 21 yards and 1 TD to lead the scoring for SC.
- Greg Jennings had 6 receptions for 111 yards, a long of 28 yards, and 5 first downs.

**GAME SUMMARY:** LaMarr Woodley shut down a first series incursion into Scarborough territory by intercepting Tony Romo at the 10 and returning it 38 yards to the 48 yard line. From there the Blue Eagles pushed into Regulators' territory and, with the help of a 12-yard pass interference penalty on Patrick Chung and a 13-yard scramble by Aaron Rodgers, went on to draw first blood on a 4-yard TD pass to Jermaine Gresham to give the visitors a 7-0 lead. South Carolina retaliated in kind when linebacker Brandon Spikes picked off Rodgers and returned it 10 yards to mid-field. Completions of 17 yards to Austin Collie and 13 yards to AJ Green put them in the red zone and set up an 11-yard TD pass from Romo to Frank Gore to even the score at 7-7 in the opening minute of the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter. Scarborough missed a chance to take the lead half-way through the period when Sebastian Janikowski missed a 32-yard field goal attempt, but made up for that and more in the final minute after a 40-yard completion to DeSean Jackson and a 12-yard Ray Rice run led to Rodgers finding Brandon Marshall for his first of 3 TD receptions on the day from 6 yards out to give them a 14-7 lead at half time. The Blue Eagles flew out of the lockers after the break with a 31-yard screen pass to CJ Spiller and a 37-yard catch-and-run by Jackson eating up most of 78-yard drive that finished with another 6-yard TD pass to Marshall. Consecutive passes of 28 and 25 yards to Greg Jennings jump-started the Regs' next drive, but three straight incomplete passes after that forced a Nate Kaeding field goal from 35 yards to make the score 21-10 for Scarborough. The Eagles took control on their very next possession after Spiller's 70-yard kickoff return set up the short field for Marshall's 3<sup>rd</sup> 6-yard TD catch of the game to make it 28-10. The Regs struck back with a 4<sup>th</sup> quarter TD but it was not enough against a desperate and determined Scarborough team.



**THE FANS LOVED**  
Rodgers-to-Marshall for 3 TDs

**THE FANS HATED**  
Regs on third down



**FAN RATING**  
★ ★ ½

01-21-2012 Williams-Brice Stad. Temp: 57 Wind: 0-10 None MVP: Aaron Rodgers

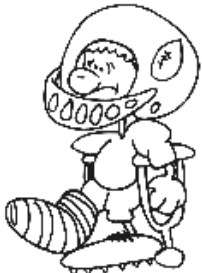
1 7:29	Scarborough	TD Rodgers 4 pass to Gresham (Janikowski) (11-52-4:53)	7-0
2 14:50	South Carolina	TD Romo 11 pass to Gore (Buehler) (5-50-3:02)	7-7
2 0:44	Scarborough	TD Rodgers 6 pass to Marshall (Janikowski) (6-76-2:14)	14-7
3 11:49	Scarborough	TD Rodgers 6 pass to Marshall (Janikowski) (7-78-3:06)	21-7
3 5:24	South Carolina	FG Kaeding 35 (6-53-1:49)	21-10
3 2:00	Scarborough	TD Rodgers 6 pass to Marshall (Janikowski) (6-25-3:16)	28-10
4 9:53	South Carolina	TD Gore 6 run (Kaeding) (7-98-4:19)	28-17
4 4:18	Scarborough	FG Janikowski 47 (10-44-5:23)	31-17

	SBE	SC
First Downs	18	16
Rushes	29-78	13-44
Passes	34-24-274	38-23-306
Sacked	1-2	3-26
Fumble	1	0
Penalties	3-26	8-72
Turnovers	1	2
Time	31:26	28:34
Third Down	9-17	1-10
Fourth Down	0-0	0-0
Red Att/Td/Fg	9/4/0	3/2/1
Net Offense	350	324

## INJURIES

SCARBOROUGH – Chris Kemoeatu (2 games)

SOUTH CAROLINA – None



## QUOTE OF THE GAME

"We needed this game, for sure, so we watched some film this week. It really helped and I think we'll do that again next week." – Scarborough coach, "Jonesey."

# GLADS CLINCH PLAYOFF BERTH!



**GARLAND  
MUSTANGS**

**10**

**20**

**GWINNETT  
GLADIATORS**



## MUSTANG OF THE GAME

**Jordan Shipley**

1 Reception, 77 yards, 1 TD

Team	1	2	3	4	OT	Total
<b>GARLAND (4-11)</b>	3	7	0	0	-	10
<b>GWINNETT (10-5)</b>	0	13	7	0	-	20

## GLADIATOR OF THE GAME

**Reggie Wayne**

10 catches, 107 yards, 1 TD

**HIGHLIGHT REEL:** **Ben Roethlisberger** completed 16 of 26 for 193 yards, 1 TD and 1 INT for a game day QB rating of 81.1.

- **LeSean McCoy** rushed for 79 yards and 1 TD on 21 carries and caught 2 passes for 11 yards.
- **Asante Samuel** made 6 tackles, intercepted 1 pass and returned it 30 yards.
- **Matt Ryan** completed 27 of 38 for 316 yards, 1 TD and 3 INTs for a game day QB rating of 71.8
- **Wes Welker** caught 6 passes for 83 yards while four other receivers had 4 receptions each.
- **Karlos Dansby** made 11 tackles, defended a pass and stuffed 2 runs.

**GAME SUMMARY:** **Asante Samuel** stepped in front of **Wes Welker** and picked off **Matt Ryan** on a deep sideline pass, returning it 30 yards to the Garland 19 yard and setting up an eventual 1-yard TD run by **LeSean McCoy** to give the Gladiators a two-score advantage, 20-10, in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter. It was the first time either team had led by more than one score and the double-digit difference would hold up the rest of the way as Gwinnett clinched at least a wildcard berth in the Can-am Conference. Garland opened the scoring with a 20-yard field goal by **Robbie Gould** after **Tim Hightower** was stopped at the line of scrimmage on 3<sup>rd</sup> and goal from the 2 yard line on the opening drive of the game. The Glads tied it up on a 26-yard field goal by **Josh Brown** after a 16-play drive that featured a 4<sup>th</sup> and-a-foot conversion at midfield to keep it alive. Gwinnett followed that up with a **Lance Briggs** interception of Ryan on the Mustangs' next possession, setting up a 40-yard drive that finished with a 9-yard TD pass from **Ben Roethlisberger** to **Reggie Wayne**. Garland struck back quickly with a short pass in the flat that **Jordan Shipley** turned into the team's longest play from scrimmage this year, a 77-yard TD reception to tie it up at 10 apiece with 8 minutes remaining in the half. The Glads whiffed on a golden opportunity on their next possession when **Big Ben** was intercepted at the Garland 1 yard line by safety, **Earl Thomas**, who returned it to the 14 yard line. After moving the ball out of their own territory, the Mustangs' drive stalled and they punted out-of-bounds at the Gwinnett 18 yard line. The Glads moved 48 yards in 48 seconds, aided by a 22-yard pass interference penalty against defensive tackle **Fred Robbins**, to set up a 52-yard field goal by Brown to give Gwinnett a 13-10 lead at half time. Trailing 20-10, Garland's last chance at a comeback came up short when Hightower was stuffed for a loss on 4<sup>th</sup> a goal at the Gwinnett 1 in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter.



## THE FANS LOVED

Clutch Vet Reggie Wayne

## THE FANS HATED

Mustangs' many miscues



## FAN RATING

★ ★ ½

01-19-2012 Gwinnett Coliseum Temp: 50 Wind: 0-10 None MVP: **Reggie Wayne**

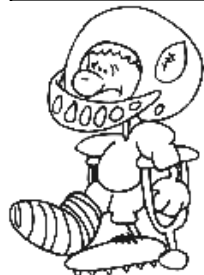
1 7:52	Garland	FG Gould 20 (9-55-5:22)	3-0
2 14:20	Gwinnett	FG Brown 26 (16-62-8:21)	3-3
2 9:20	Gwinnett	TD Roethlisberger 9 pass to Wayne (Brown,J) (8-40-3:33)	3-10
2 8:21	Garland	TD Ryan 77 pass to Shipley (Gould) (2-80-0:59)	10-10
2 0:01	Gwinnett	FG Brown 52 (7-48-0:49)	10-13
3 4:59	Gwinnett	TD McCoy 1 run (Brown,J) (4-19-1:35)	10-20

	<b>GDM</b>	<b>GWG</b>
First Downs	14	22
Rushes	13-51	40-141
Passes	38-27-316	26-16-193
Sacked	0-0	1-5
Fumble	1	1
Penalties	9-81	4-35
Turnovers	4	2
Time	24:43	35:17
Third Down	3-12	7-15
Fourth Down	1-2	2-2
Red Att/Td/Fg	2/0/1	5/2/1
Net Offense	367	329

## INJURIES

**GARLAND** – Cliff Avril (4 games)

**MARKHAM** – None



## QUOTE OF THE GAME

"It's nice to secure our playoff berth, but that's not all that motivates us. Our goal is to win the Division and we have that chance now. We are focused now on making it real."  
*Gwinnett coach, David Birdsall.*

## EFL STANDINGS

East	W	L	T	Pct	Pts	Ave	Opp	Ave	Diff	Home	Div	Conf
Charleswood (z)	10	5	0	0.667	332	22.1	301	20.1	2.1	5 2 0	5 0 0	7 2 0
York	6	9	0	0.400	277	18.5	304	20.3	-1.8	2 5 0	2 3 0	4 5 0
Virden	4	11	0	0.267	242	16.1	347	23.1	-7	3 5 0	2 3 0	3 6 0
Mohave	3	12	0	0.200	224	14.9	383	25.5	-10.6	2 6 0	1 4 0	2 7 0
West	W	L	T	Pct	Pts	Ave	Opp	Ave	Diff	Home	Div	Conf
Los Angeles (z)	12	3	0	0.800	370	24.7	217	14.5	10.2	8 0 0	5 0 0	9 0 0
Death Valley (y)	8	7	0	0.533	383	25.5	363	24.2	1.3	3 4 0	2 3 0	5 4 0
Iowa City	6	9	0	0.400	305	20.3	317	21.1	-0.8	3 4 0	3 2 0	5 4 0
Chino	5	10	0	0.333	230	15.3	226	15.1	0.3	3 5 0	0 5 0	1 8 0
North	W	L	T	Pct	Pts	Ave	Opp	Ave	Diff	Home	Div	Conf
Pickering (y)	14	1	0	0.933	358	23.9	257	17.1	6.7	8 0 0	4 1 0	8 1 0
Cowtown (y)	13	2	0	0.867	393	26.2	210	14	12.2	6 1 0	4 1 0	7 2 0
Durham	8	7	0	0.533	342	22.8	293	19.5	3.3	5 2 0	1 4 0	4 5 0
Markham	4	11	0	0.267	183	12.2	307	20.5	-8.3	3 5 0	1 4 0	2 7 0
South	W	L	T	Pct	Pts	Ave	Opp	Ave	Diff	Home	Div	Conf
Gwinnett (y)	10	5	0	0.667	348	23.2	251	16.7	6.5	4 4 0	3 2 0	6 3 0
Scarborough	9	6	0	0.600	311	20.7	282	18.8	1.9	3 4 0	4 1 0	5 4 0
Garland	4	11	0	0.267	182	12.1	313	20.9	-8.7	2 5 0	2 3 0	2 7 0
South Carolina	4	11	0	0.267	253	16.9	362	24.1	-7.3	2 6 0	1 4 0	2 7 0

(z)-clinched division

(y)-clinched

wildcard

## PASSING

Rk	Player	Team	Att	Cmp	C%	Yards	In	I%	Lg	TD	TD%	Rate
1	Flacco	COW	489	316	64.6	3891	7	1.4	75	30	6.1	103.6
2	Brees	DVU	499	330	66.1	3690	10	2	89	34	6.8	102.4
3	Freeman	LAK	451	289	64.1	2867	5	1.1	65	26	5.8	96.6
4	Romo	SC	158	112	70.9	1218	7	4.4	56	8	5.1	91.7
5	Campbell, J	SC	330	217	65.8	2147	5	1.5	52	11	3.3	88.8
6	Rodgers	SBE	458	296	64.6	2962	8	1.7	53	17	3.7	88.0
7	Roethlisberger	GWG	329	195	59.3	2324	8	2.4	78	17	5.2	88.0
8	Manning, P	CHP	498	334	67.1	3460	14	2.8	56	19	3.8	87.9
9	Rivers, P	DTL	432	265	61.3	3178	13	3	62	17	3.9	84.4
10	Cassel	PIC	291	156	53.6	2077	3	1	78	9	3.1	82.5
11	Brady, T	YOR	448	261	58.3	2729	8	1.8	88	13	2.9	78.2
12	Newton	CHI	259	156	60.2	1559	6	2.3	51	8	3.1	78.0
13	Schaub	MOH	504	302	59.9	3129	11	2.2	54	13	2.6	77.4
14	Bradford	ICC	389	226	58.1	2883	15	3.9	70	12	3.1	75.6
15	Ryan, M	GDM	536	321	59.9	3162	12	2.2	77	7	1.3	71.6
16	Manning, E	VV	491	298	60.7	3856	29	5.9	91	15	3.1	71.0
17	Sanchez	MAR	354	195	55.1	2128	11	3.1	55	6	1.7	65.7

## RUSHING

Rk	Player	Team	Att	Yds	Ave	Lg	TD	Rk	Player	Team	Att	Yds	Ave	Lg	TD
1	Foster, A	ICC	314	1614	5.1	72	8	11	McFadden, D	YOR	174	764	4.4	39	7
2	Peterson, A	CHP	293	1417	4.8	74	13	12	Jacobs, B	YOR	146	736	5	59	10
3	Johnson, C	PIC	320	1351	4.2	58	14	13	Turner, M	DTL	189	735	3.9	78	2
4	Charles	LAK	216	1139	5.3	28	5	14	Gore	SC	137	660	4.8	59	5
5	Jones-Drew	COW	237	1075	4.5	44	5	15	Newton	CHI	110	614	5.6	46	6
6	McCoy, L	GWG	204	1055	5.2	40	4	16	Blount	VV	168	607	3.6	14	4
7	Jackson, S	CHI	259	945	3.6	47	2	17	Forte	GDM	131	580	4.4	59	4
8	Bradshaw	GWG	187	779	4.2	20	5	18	Best	MAR	172	549	3.2	35	3
9	Ivory	MOH	140	771	5.5	50	2	19	Tolbert	MOH	159	529	3.3	31	5
10	Rice, R	SBE	237	769	3.2	38	1	20	Jackson, B	COW	101	519	5.1	42	2

## RECEIVING

			No	Yds	Ave	Lg	TD				No	Yds	Ave	Lg	TD
1	White, R	LAK	110	1119	10.2	33	11	11	Jennings, G	SC	72	998	13.9	41	5
2	Witten	CHP	92	865	9.4	22	10	12	Cooley	SC	71	575	8.1	34	1
3	Wayne	GWG	90	1285	14.3	47	12	13	Watson, B	MOH	69	681	9.9	52	5
4	Moss, S	COW	86	1362	15.8	75	17	14	Johnson, A	DVU	69	969	14	89	8
5	Thomas, M	VV	78	1242	15.9	91	4	15	Colston	CHP	66	673	10.2	38	2
6	Bowe	DTL	75	1046	13.9	53	9	16	Miller, Z	COW	64	834	13	52	6
7	Owens, T	MOH	74	743	10	36	4	17	Gonzalez	LAK	62	534	8.6	29	7
8	Fitzgerald	ICC	73	721	9.9	35	3	18	Welker	GDM	59	664	11.3	42	0
9	Marshall, B	SBE	72	797	11.1	53	6	19	Holmes, S	CHP	59	709	12	54	4
10	Nicks	MOH	72	975	13.5	54	3	20	Keller	GDM	57	621	10.9	48	2

## TACKLES

1	Lewis,R	DVU	140	8	Timmons	YOR	115	15	Ruud	CHI	102
2	Henderson ,EJ	SC	134	9	Urlacher	YOR	113	16	Spikes, T	MAR	98
3	Beason	CHP	125	10	Johnson, D	COW	111	17	Cole, T	MAR	95
4	Barber, R	PIC	121	11	Dansby	GDM	109	18	Dorsey	SC	93
5	Posluszny	VV	120	12	Whitner	ICC	109	19	Hall, D	ICC	90
6	Jones, D	MOH	120	13	Willis,P	ICC	107	20	Tulloch	COW	89
7	Mayo	DVU	116	14	Laurinaitis	GWG	102	21	James, B	LAK	89

## KICKING

Rk	Player	Team	FGA	FGM	FG%	40	50	Lg	Pts
1	Brown, J	GWG	42	38	90.5	13	2	53	142
2	Mare	COW	36	31	86.1	6	0	49	135
3	Carpenter, D	LAK	36	30	83.3	7	1	55	130
4	Rackers	ICC	42	32	76.2	17	6	56	123
5	Kasay	DVU	29	26	89.7	11	5	52	119
6	Scobee	PIC	34	26	76.5	5	1	50	116
7	Vinatieri	DTL	28	25	89.3	5	0	46	112
8	Cundiff	CHI	33	30	90.9	9	2	55	108
9	Janikowski	SBE	32	22	68.8	11	3	55	101
10	Tynes	VV	36	23	63.9	11	4	58	92
11	Akers	MAR	27	24	88.9	5	0	49	87
12	Bironas	MOH	22	21	95.5	7	2	54	86
13	Gould	GDM	26	21	80.8	7	1	53	80
14	Gano	YOR	21	15	71.4	4	2	50	77
15	Kaeding	SC	16	12	75	2	0	44	56
16	Gostkowski	CHP	9	7	77.8	2	0	45	42
17	Rayner	CHP	8	8	100	0	0	39	42
18	Buehler	SC	3	2	66.7	0	0	39	13

## INTERCEPTIONS

Rk	Player	Team	No	Yds	Ave	Lg	TD	Rk	Player	Team	No	Yds	Ave	Lg	TD
1	Haden	PIC	5	119	23.8	52	1	11	Cason	PIC	3	26	8.7	26	0
2	Polamalu	GWG	5	31	6.2	14	0	12	Cox, D	VV	3	25	8.3	13	0
3	Rodgers-Crom	DTL	4	158	39.5	67	1	13	Moore, W	DVU	3	37	12.3	37	0
4	Tillman	MAR	4	102	25.5	43	0	14	Clements	DVU	3	2	0.7	2	0
5	Williams, T	COW	4	78	19.5	33	1	15	Hall, L	DVU	3	2	0.7	2	0
6	Briggs, L	GWG	4	3	0.8	3	0	16	Hall, D	ICC	3	4	1.3	4	0
7	Godfrey	COW	4	45	11.3	38	1	17	Lawson, M	ICC	3	9	3	7	0
8	Harris, C	CHP	3	48	16	27	1	18	McCourtly	DTL	3	32	10.7	18	0
9	Winfield	MAR	3	58	19.3	34	1	19	Thomas, T	COW	3	61	20.3	37	1
10	Atogwe	PIC	3	105	35	60	2	20	Matthews	MAR	2	10	5	10	0

## SACKS

1	Edwards, R	PIC	11	8	Houston, L	DTL	7	15	Ware, D	DVU	7
2	Harrison, J	CHI	10	9	Johnson, C	DVU	7	16	Wimbley	LAK	6
3	Mathis, R	GWG	10	10	Kelly, T	YOR	7	17	Dunlap	VV	6
4	Allen, J	DTL	9	11	Umenyiora	LAK	7	18	Tuck	SBE	6
5	Orakpo	LAK	8	12	Suh	SBE	7	19	Smith, J	CHP	6
6	Woodley	SBE	8	13	Suggs	SBE	7	20	Williams, M	ICC	6
7	Matthews, C	DVU	8	14	Abraham	CHP	7	21	Cole, T	MAR	6



# AROUND THE



## With Spats McChad

NEW YORK – First it snows. Then it rains. It is cold one day and mild the next. What kind of winter are we having on the east coast? Is there a special name for it? If not, there should be. The Pacific Ocean has ‘El Nino;’ we should call this East Coast winter ‘El Unpredicto.’ I never know from one day to the next whether to wear my leather jacket or my parka. It has reached the point where I will call down to the concierge and ask him what the pedestrians are wearing on the street before I will emerge from my condo to tackle the City every day. It’s not only annoying as hell; it is also having a deleterious effect on my Healthy Urban Lung Disease (HULD), which has returned this year stronger than ever. I hate winter and I hate people who like winter.

### **TRENCH WARFARE**

**Benny Clamp**, the lovable but ugly teddy bear of a lug who hosts ABC’s weekly TV magazine, ‘*Crush*,’ is back with his “Top Ten Trenchmen,” and once again making the claim that one of them should be on the ballot for Offensive MVP. Benny’s number one candidate for that prestigious honour comes as no surprise because he is the same one he vouched for last year: Los Angeles offensive tackle, **Joe Thomas**. But he’s not just saying it because he likes Thomas; he has the stats to back up his claim.

Benny has rating offensive linemen down to a science; whether or not it’s a junk science is yet to be determined. But there is no doubting that Benny spends more time breaking down offensive line play than anybody who is not actually coaching an offensive line in the EFL. He pours over tapes of every team in the league and rates the run blocks and pass protection. Once he has determined the ‘Big Runs’ (runs of 10+ yards or key short down yardage situations) and the ‘Bad Runs’ (runs resulting in a loss), he determines the player who threw the key block, or missed the key assignment, and assigns that player a ‘Big Run’ or a ‘Bad Run’ accordingly. Subtract the bad from the good and another 2 points for each sack allowed, and you have Benny’s “Trench Plus-Minus” (TPM) rating. Benny uses the TPM and his own keen sense of good line play to rank his linemen. His Top Ten, revealed this week, contained some names that will surprise most fans and supposed “experts” in the Media.

Ever wonder how the Knights’ **Jamaal Charles** is running over the competition at an absurd 6.4 yards-per-carry pace? It’s not just his moves and his speed, it’s **Joe Thomas**! Thomas is Benny’s Top Lineman, “the All Pro of All Pros,” he calls him, with a league-leading 44 ‘Big Runs,’ 2 ‘Bad Runs,’ and no sacks allowed for a TPM of **42**! That puts him 23 points ahead of the no. 2 ranked lineman, teammate guard, **Vince Manuwai**, with a TPM of **19** (28/9/0).

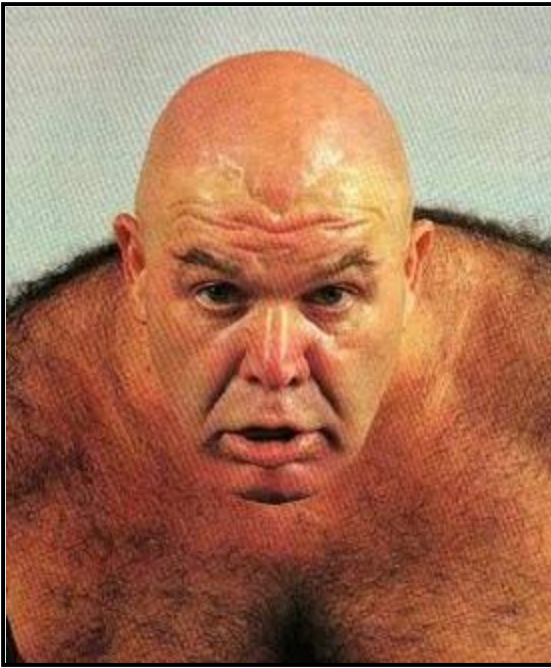
Following Thomas and Manuwai, in rank order, are: **Chris Snee** (PIC) 19; **Jahri Evans** (CHI) 18; **Nick Mangold** (DTL) 16; **Doug Free** (CHP) 13; **Jordan Gross** (COW) 10; **David Diehl** (COW) 10; **Jason Peters** (YOR) 9; **Gabe Carimi** (YOR) 9. Both Free and Carimi jump out at the reader as big surprises but Benny stands by his numbers.

Who are the worst offensive linemen in the league? Clamp is keeping his mouth clamped shut on that subject. “Linemen get all the blame when things don’t go well and none of the credit when they do,” he explains. “I’m not going to add to someone’s bad day by letting the world know about it.” However, you can find out if you order his book, ‘*Block Party*,’ due for release at the end of the season, for just \$29.99 plus shipping and handling.

### **COACHING FOR DUMMIES**

Think of **Brian Billick** and Super Bowl XXXV might be the first thing to come to mind or, in more recent times, EFL TV analyst for FOX. More likely, however, you will think of a coach with a reputation as an excellent offensive coordinator who, as a Head Coach, led a defensive-minded team with a perennially sick offence. This lack of offensive production was Billick’s *Achilles’ heel* and eventually got him fired. Billick knows what it feels like to be labelled an “under-achiever.” He never, in retrospect, got full credit for winning the big one because, in the end, he never changed the nature of the team he coached. The team stayed within its original character and won or lost seemingly in spite of its coach.

It has been reported that Scarborough coach, “Jonesey,” struck up a friendship with Billick after a FOX telecast of the Blue Eagles’ Week Eleven loss to Pickering. There was a lot of pressure on Scarborough to win that game; it was at home, the Spartans looked beatable, and the Blue Eagles needed the win both for practical reasons and for morale.



**Benny Clamp**, host of ABC's 'Crush,' a weekly TV magazine focusing on "trench warfare," shows what linemen must face down each and every week....but without the clothes.

The subsequent loss left new owner **Chris Dickinson** and his high school pal-cum-coach, "**Jonesey**" despondent. Feelings of despair and inadequacy drove them, as they had in the old days, to Spanky's Pub on Kingston Road where, to their surprise, they ran into Billick, who for some reason was secretly waiting to meet his agent in this obscure hole-in-the-wall bar. Some say there is no such thing as chance and, in retrospect; this "chance" meeting may have been ordained by the hand of a *Higher Power*.

After a moment of awkwardness, as they lied to each other about why they were there, the trio got comfortable as Tammy the bartender brought an unending stream of draft and shots to the table. In a few hours they were drunk and having a grand old time. The combination of the alcohol with the realization, within their little group, that they were all losers and no longer had to hide that fact from each other, created a bond between them. If my sources are correct, it's a bond that may end up saving the Blue Eagles' season.

Billick may not have been able to see or correct his own situation while he was coach of the Ravens, but there is no doubting that he remains a shrewd observer and a student of the game. His knowledge and expertise were two key things the Scarborough coaching staff was missing. It turns out that, since their chance meeting at Spanky's, Billick has been providing "Jonesey" and his staff with tips and advice via e-mail, telephone, and Skype. The results of this coaching tutelage were

not immediately apparent as Scarborough dropped two of their next three games, including a deeply embarrassing 21-14 home loss to Garland. But this week, things started to click in practice after Billick suggested that "Jonesey" and his staff watch some film of South Carolina.

"Good idea!" said 'Jonesey', "We'll get used to the sites then we can fly down there early and get used to the weather."

"Not South Carolina, the *State*," Billick said with slight exasperation, "South Carolina, the *football team*! Haven't you watched any game film?"

"Game film? What's that?" Jonesey asked.

Professional football players can be just like kids: they will take advantage of the babysitter, which is how they have viewed the Scarborough coaching staff to this point. Watching game film can be tedious, so if nobody is there to tell them to do it, most of them won't do it, which is apparently what has been happening for most of this season. Well, it turns out that a little film can go a long way. **Aaron Rodgers** and **Brandon Marshall** were the principal benefactors of three-day film study session, connecting for three touchdown passes in a 31-17 thumping of the Regulators at Williams-Brice Stadium. Rodgers added a fourth TD pass to **Jermaine Gresham** to post his best statistical day of the season, finishing with a game-day QB rating of 121.4. Perhaps more importantly, for its playoff implications, the defence held off **Tony Romo** and **Frank Gore**, two of the main forces behind a suddenly potent South Carolina offence. "Jonesey" already has the stockpiled film of Gwinnett for the Blue Eagles' Week Sixteen showdown for the South Division. We'll know soon if he can turn the film into a wrap.

#### ***I'D LIKE TO THANK MY MOM***

Since clinching a playoff berth, the Undertakers have passed first and asked questions later. In Week Fourteen, **Drew Brees** attempted a season-record 61 passes in a 28-16 loss to LA. That number is just 4 shy of the all-time single game record of 65 set by **Matt Ryan** of Garland in the Mustangs' 55-24 loss to Ringgold in the final week of the 2010 season. In Week Fifteen, Brees attempted 51 while trying to out-pace a near career-day for **Sam Bradford** as the Undertakers fell 34-27 to the Cubs at Joe Ferguson Stadium.

It was a much-needed win for **Deron Redding's** team and, with York dropping a decision to Charleswood, now puts them in the driver's seat for the final wildcard berth in the PAC. The Cubs' offence awoke from a 3-week slumber, posting 360 total yards, 236 of those in the second half, to stay close to the pass-happy Undertakers. But it was finally a 96-yard kickoff return for a TD by **Michael Spurlock** that put the Cubs over the top and completed their comeback. **Deron Redding** was his usual buoyant, up-beat self after the win, blathering on excitedly about each player on the team and the loyal support of his coaching staff; he even managed to sneak in a thank you to his parents, grand-parents, various cousins, and his wife for supporting him through this tough season. He handed out 53 game balls, including one to injured Chris Gamble, "because we are all in this *together*!" he bellowed while shaking a stuffed replica of 'Barry the Bear Cub.' "I'm really proud of how we showed resiliency and mental toughness in this win," he said, coming close to tears at the podium. "It would have been real

easy to pack it in after we fell behind 14-0 and were sputtering on offence. But you never gave up. Like a baby bear protecting its mother you showed you were real Cubs!" (Redding can get a little excited and mix up the metaphors, but one gets his drift).

It's the same as it always is after a Cubs' win: Redding's post-game address is like an Academy Award acceptance speech that concludes with a sermon on grit and determination. This one was particularly melodramatic because there have been few wins this year that meant as much as this one. Coming against hated Death Valley, the victory may have turned the tide in a season that appeared to be slipping away fast with 3 straight losses prior to a shaky rebound against feeble Chino last week. The Cubs control their destiny, as Redding pointed out as he approached the climax of his motivational address to his team and the Iowa City faithful. "When you get home tonight to your families, kiss your wives, take some time to play with your children or spend time with others you hold dear to your hearts, say a prayer thanking the Lord for your blessings, and plug in CD #12 of my '**Be the Game Boys**' motivational series, entitled: '*Go for It!*' Now we turn our focus to the Knights!"

#### ***NO RESPECT FOR FLACCO AND CORN KINGS***

The Corn Kings are 13-2 after beating Durham 27-17 at Jurassic Park this week and find themselves in a rare position to knock off 14-1 Pickering for the North Division title if they can beat them at home next week. Despite that, one reporter from a major network asked **Joe Flacco** how he felt about coming into Durham and upsetting the now 8-7 Thunder Lizards. The unflappable Flacco looked momentarily flapped as he tried, it appeared, to resolve the illogic of it all. His team was now 5 games ahead of the Thunder Lizards and leading the league in overall offence and defence. Most Power Rankings listed them at number one, ahead of the team they are trailing by one game in the North Division. Yet, here was a reporter asking him how it felt to *upset* the Thunder Lizards. Certainly, it was a big win – the Lizards are talented, had the home field, and sensed they were playing for their playoff survival. Nevertheless, the Vegas line listed Cowtown as a slim favourite on the road, a clear endorsement of their record. Yet, first impressions die hard - even in the face of evidence. The pre-season pre-conception that the Corn Kings were in rebuilding mode has left an indelible impression on the football world. The team itself had declared so. With many of the same players as those who participated in the team's 3-13 campaign last season still on the roster, the question has to be asked: how are they doing it?

Flacco had a simple answer. "We are executing on the field," he said. "We prepare good game plans and execute. We have also been fortunate that when we run into problems on offence, our defence steps up. It's pretty synergistic." If Flacco and the Corn Kings can execute next week against Pickering, they will do the unthinkable – knock a 14-2 team out of the top spot in a Division and grab the #1 seed in the Can-am Conference. Only then, it would appear, will they get the respect they deserve.

#### ***AROUND THE EFL***

The Convicts eliminated themselves from the playoff race with a deflating 13-7 loss to the Knights at Round Table Stadium in Week 15. Make no mistake - they did it themselves. The disinterested Knights paid respect to the spirit of competition by trying, but some key regulars either did not dress or saw little playing time. The air has been escaping from the Newton Balloon for weeks now and the last remnants finally came sputtering and fluttering to earth with a 7-point, 183-yard, two-turnover performance by the comatose Convicts' offence. Tragically, the only sign of life when Chino had the ball came from **Cam Newton** himself, who rushed for 76 yards in addition to the 89 passing yards to account for 164, or 90% of his team's yards. So, where was the rest of the offence? Where were veterans **Hines Ward**, **Derrick Mason** and **Chad Ochocinco**, or power-back, **Steven Jackson**? According to film of the game they were on the field; or people wearing their numbers were. No player had any comment to make after the game, so we do not know yet what was going through their heads - if anything.

With an opportunity to keep their playoff destiny in their own hands, York went to Patriot Place needing a win by any means. In the end, neither their offence nor their defence stepped up to the challenge in one of the more pathetic team efforts seen by any team this year as the Swords fell 24-17 in a game not nearly as close as the score suggests. After a 61-yard "pick six" by York linebacker, **Geno Hayes** on the opening drive, **Peyton Manning** and the Pats posted 24 unanswered points and held on to the ball for a jaw-breaking 42-and-a-half minutes. As for **Tom Brady**, words cannot do justice to the bleakness of his performance, and that of his supporting cast. If this team makes the playoffs it will be an indictment of the entire Conference.

With one eye looking ahead to their climactic final week clash with Scarborough and the other on the Mustangs, the Glads forced 4 Garland turnovers, three of those **Matt Ryan** interceptions, and used the short field to put just enough points on the board to dispatch the pesky South Division basement-dwellers 20-10 at The Gwinnett Coliseum. **Doug Shirley's** team continued to perfect the 'Swiss 4-3' and worked out the 'Zurich 3-4' while playing the perfect sparring partner for Gwinnett to prepare them for their real test coming up this week.

It was a similar situation in Pickering as the distracted Spartans held off the annoying North Stars, 17-14 in a game marred by a referee's oversight as the Spartans clung to a 3-point lead with less than two minutes left. The ref forgot to advance the ball after a Pickering first down and nobody except **Gus Konstantakos** noticed until 4<sup>th</sup> down had been announced. Luckily, Pickering won anyway, thereby preventing a homicide.

Finally, The Hellfire squashed what little hope the Violators had of making the playoffs by torching their defence for 439 yards and 41 points in a 41-17 blowout at the Fiery Depths. A season's worth of frustration came out in 27 minutes of ball possession as **Matt Schaub** cut up the Virden secondary on 30 completions for 274 yards and 4 TD passes.

# BUG THE BOOKIE!

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



## PLAYOFF PICTURE AT A GLANCE

		PACIFIC-ATLANTIC CONFERENCE		CAN-AM CONFERENCE	
OUT	ALIVE	IN	IN	ALIVE	OUT
			1		
			2		
			3		
			4		

## JIMMY'S WEEK FIFTEEN PICKS

### GWINNETT @ SCARBOROUGH (line – GLADIATORS by 1)

In spite of all their troubles throughout the course of an under-achieving season, the Blue Eagles can actually win the South Division with a victory over Gwinnett this week. The Glads have not been able to gain separation from their unlucky rival despite near-catastrophic stumbling by the team favoured by most to win their third championship, albeit under a different name than the first two. Now it comes down to one game. Based on both teams' body of work this season, the Glads have to be the favourite here; but one must pause to consider the home field advantage and a strong performance by the Scarborough offence last week in South Carolina. If Aaron Rodgers is finally on track, it could give the over-worked Scarborough defence a much-needed boost. Leading in no category except sacks (38) they have been an embarrassment defending the run and mediocre just about everywhere else. They *think* they are the best, but now the Blue Eagles 'D' must balls up and prove it or shut up. The Glads are playing defence at a high level but are not blowing up anybody with their offence despite more weapons than the Pentagon. I'm blaming the lack of finish by the Glads' offence on Big Ben's tendency to be an occasional idiot. So, the match-up I see is this: an under-achieving offence against an under-achieving defence when Gwinnett has the

ball; and an under-achieving offence against one of the league's best defences when Scarborough has the ball. It does not take the proverbial "rocket scientist" to see where this game is going, but I don't expect it to be decided conventionally. A big turnover will carry the day and I am guessing the Glads will be the beneficiary. **PICK: GWINNETT**

### **SOUTH CAROLINA @ GARLAND (line – MUSTANGS by 1)**

Both these teams are 4-11 and going nowhere except to position themselves on the 2012 rookie draft board. Neither team will admit it publicly but neither really wants to win this game. I know that reality comes as a shock to those naive few who think pride plays a role in the manliest of games – it may to the players, but not to the coaches, unless their jobs are on the line. Mysteriously, neither one of these two losing coaches is in the remotest danger of losing his job if one of them were to lose this game. Doug Shirley is revered in small town Texas and Hal Corson has at least one more year of grace before the fans and Media start calling for his head to be stuck on a pike. This one is a virtual coin flip and a game to be avoided if you are betting the mortgage money. However, if you *must* bet the mortgage money because a beefy, mean man with a crowbar is threatening you with bodily harm, or worse, if you don't pay back the \$130,000 you lost betting on Scarborough this year, then go with the home team. **PICK: GARLAND**

### **PICKERING @ COWTOWN (line – CORN KINGS by 7)**

This is it – the battle for the North Division crown. Pause, for one moment, to recognize the achievements of both of these teams – a combined 27-3 heading into the final week of the season and now fighting it out for home field advantage in the playoffs. The fact that the two teams with the best records in the league are fighting it out in the same division is not actually a surprise. The surprise is that it is happening in the North Division; not the South Division, where it was originally predicted by many analysts. According to 'Professional Football Focus,' a statistics-based rating agency, neither of these teams should be where they are now in the standings; which begs the question: "how are they doing it?" As a bettor, I care less about "how" and more about "will." In the world of "will," I see Pickering as the team most likely to defy the odds and carry the day on the road against the team with the overall statistical edge; mainly because they are the Champions and carry the pedigree. Pickering's Kyle Vanden Bosch is out, but otherwise there are no significant injuries to report for either team. The Corn Kings probably deserve their favourite status, but the Spartans will continue to get the job done against the odds, just as they have all year. **PICK: PICKERING**

### **MARKHAM @ DURHAM (line – THUNDER LIZARDS by 9)**

Durham must win this game to stay alive in the playoff race, but if they do, their fate will still depend on the outcome of the Scarborough and Gwinnett match-up – a Gwinnett win means a wildcard berth for Durham, but a Scarborough win means elimination. The Thunder Lizards no longer control their fate but they can increase their odds with a win against the only doormat left in the North Division – Markham. The team with only six defensive backs has just five healthy ones heading into Week Sixteen. That means the North Stars cannot field a 'Dime' package, forget a 'Quarter' defence; but that fine point is not likely to matter a lot as such defences are usually employed by teams protecting a lead – an unlikely situation for Markham. With the home field in their favour, the Thunder Lizards are well-positioned to tear apart the Markham offence and in an even better position to stop Mark Sanchez and his feeble supporting cast. But the same could have been said about Pickering last week and the North Stars gave them a run for their money. Like always with the league's most un-inspiring team there is an element of uncertainty about how they will perform heading into each game. I think I have them finally figured out, but don't ask me to explain it. I was right about them covering the spread versus Pickering last week and I will be right again in picking them to come up short at Jurassic Park. **PICK: DURHAM**

### **VIRDEN @ YORK (line – EXCALIBURS by 4)**

The pitiful performance by York last week has frightened away better's support heading into this do-or-die contest, shrinking the line down from 6 points at the beginning of the week to the number you see above. By falling to Charleswood in ignoble fashion, the Excaliburs have created for themselves a dilemma: they could very well do *and* die, if Iowa City knocks off the Knights. They are also demoralized. The York receiving corps is actually regressing, a development previously thought to be impossible given the extent of their season-long troubles. This is having an effect on the entire offence, including Tom Brady, and the malaise has spread to the defence. The Violators have nothing to play for except the joy of beating a team when it's down – an activity they apparently enjoy. I don't expect Virden to completely have its way with struggling York, but I expect that Brady will have an unwelcome fight on his hands. **PICK: VIRDEN**

### **LOS ANGELES @ IOWA CITY (line – KNIGHTS by 1)**

For the second straight week the Knights will go through the motions against a Divisional opponent. Last week the motions were enough to dispatch the tired Convicts; this week will be a different story. The Cubs' offence awoke from a three-week nap and hung 34 points on the Undertakers in Week Fifteen. Okay, it was the Undertakers' defence – not exactly the cream-of-the-crop – but the point is that the Cubs have regained a bit of their lost swagger. Attitude is the most important thing for Iowa's coach and he likes what he sees at the moment. His team has been practicing hard all week, knowing they can clinch the final playoff berth in the PAC if they can ambush the Knights at Joe Ferguson Stadium. Having long ago clinched the West Division and having just recently locked up the number one seed in the PAC, the Knights' motivation in this game consists almost entirely of a virulent, undying loathing of their opponent. LA would like nothing better than to end the Cubs' season this week and avoid having to face them in the playoffs. Don't expect the Knights to play safe and count on Iowa City to charge hard out of the gate. It will be a good game, down to the wire. **PICK: LOS ANGELES**

### **MOHAVE @ CHARLESWOOD (line – PATRIOTS by 10)**

The Hellfire have lit a fire under their offence too late to be of any real benefit but early enough to jeopardize their draft status. Not to worry, you Mohave fans looking to the future; the Pats will put Matt Schaub back in his place and ensure that he does not reach the 60% completion mark for the season. With nothing to play for but pride, Charleswood slowly crushed York to death last week and did it so methodically and effortlessly that nobody is concerned that they tired themselves out with the effort. A similar kind of game is very possible this week as Peyton Manning, never one to take any game lightly, sits alone studying film, determined to add another easy win to his statistical legacy. If you value money, taking the Pats is a good buy. **PICK: CHARLESWOOD**

### **CHINO @ DEATH VALLEY (line – UNDERTAKERS by 5)**

Expect the Undertakers to continue their passing experiments this week against the Great Wall of Chino. If you're interested in a real betting challenge, forget the game; the over/under line for Death Valley called running plays this week is 6 and worth a look at the "under." The Undertakers have made it clear since they locked themselves into the third seed that the rest of the season would be about fine-tuning the Death Machine for a post-season rampage. The defence is experimenting with pass coverage and "Crazy" Clay Matthews is resting up for even scarier berserker rages in the playoffs. On Chino's side of the fence, the situation is grim – even for a team that calls a refitted prison its home. Punishment drills have become so severe that players are reportedly faking injury to avoid practice. No wonder the running backs can't run and receivers can't get open. The Convicts just want the season to end so they can sit in their cells and watch American Idol auditions. **PICK: DEATH VALLEY**