

2011



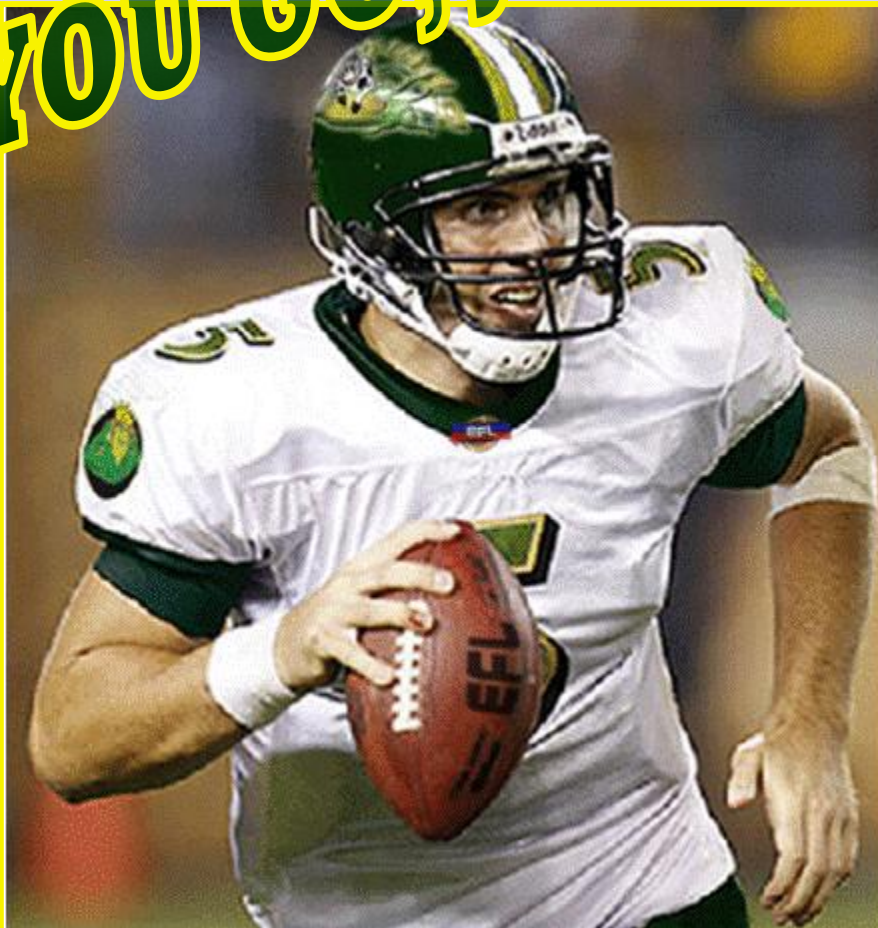
2011

WEEK FOUR IN REVIEW

October 30, 2011



YOU GO, JOE!



Joe Flacco looks downfield in the face of heavy pressure. The Corn Kings stunned the EFL by trouncing the Blue Eagles at Bluffs Stadium. (STORY P. 7)

LATEST EFL NEWS INSIDE

THE GAMES

- CAM CAN'T RESCUE CONVICTS
- HELLFIRE COOL AGAIN
- MUSTANGS WHIPPED BY DINOS
- NO CONTEST IN CAMELOT
- HOMECOMING FOR BREES
- THE UPSET OF THE YEAR
- STARS FALL IN COLISEUM
- REGULATORS GO DOWN FIGHTING

COMMENT

"Mr. Abbott's Revenge," "The Newton Era," "Something in the Water," "Swiss 4-3," "Around the EFL," and more – Spats McChad

PREDICTIONS

I give you my 'Lock Pick,' my 'Dog of the Week,' and much, much more! – Jimmv the Geek



*Who was slick
in Week Four?*

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



Chris Johnson
RB
Pickering
Spartans

235 yards rushing, 2 TDs to lead
Pickering past South Carolina.



**Dominique
Rodgers-Cromartie**
CB
Durham T-Lizards

"Pick Six" and led domination that
held Mustangs to 46 yards passing.

PATS HOLD OFF "CAM" TO WIN AGAIN!



**CHINO
CONVICTS**

18

21

**CHARLESWOOD
PATRIOTS**



CONVICT OF THE GAME

Cam Newton

9 of 13, 114 yards, 1 TD

Team	1	2	3	4	OT	Total
CHINO (0-4)	0	0	10	8	-	18
CHARLESWOOD (4-0)	7	7	0	7	-	21

PATRIOT OF THE GAME

Peyton Manning

21 of 30, 228 yards, 1 INT, 1 TD

HIGHLIGHT REEL: **Santonio Holmes** caught 9 passes in 9 targets for 117 yards to lead the Pats' offence.

- **Peyton Manning** threw for 228 yards and 1 TD to earn the Game MVP honour.
- **Adrian Peterson** struggled against the Chino defence, earning just 33 yards in 18 carries, but scoring a TD.
- **Cam Newton** in relief of **Jay Cutler** threw for 114 yards and had a hand in Chino's first TD from scrimmage.
- **Julius Peppers** made 8 tackles, stuffed 2 runs and forced a fumble.

GAME SUMMARY: After testing the Chino defensive line with the league's top rusher and getting nowhere, the Pats turned to veteran **Peyton Manning**. The result was a string of 5 straight completions, including one for 28 yards to **Santonio Holmes**, for a total of 63 yards and a trip to the Chino 1-foot line where **Adrian Peterson** found enough space to squeeze across the goal line for a 7-0 Charleswood lead. A punting duel followed until late in the 2nd quarter when **Jay Cutler** found Pats' safety **Melvin Bullitt** for his 6th interception of the year to set up his opponent inside the Chino red zone. The Pats responded with **Javon Ringer**, who found room to run around **Haloti Ngata**. Three plays, three Ringer runs and 16 yards later, the Pats were in the end zone again to extend their lead to 14-0 at half time. The Convicts made a game of it when **Shane Lechler** punted out of bounds at the Pats' 1 yard line. Feeling pressure from the blitz, Manning unloaded quickly from his end zone and into the hands of the Convicts' **Nick Collins**, who sprinted untouched into the end zone for 6. The suddenly shaken Pats turned the ball over on their very next possession when **Mike Goodson** was stripped by **Barret Ruud** at the Charleswood 47 yard line. **Steven Jackson** rumbled for 28 yards on the next play to gain the red zone and set up a 32-yard **Billy Cundiff** field goal to narrow the Charleswood lead to 14-10. With the momentum slipping away, Manning hit Holmes for a 30-yards pass, setting up a 16-yard catch-and-run TD to **Jason Witten** for a 21-10 lead. With **Cam Newton** at the helm, the Convicts rallied for a late TD. A 51-yard bomb to **Chad Ochocinco** set up a 7-yard TD pass to **Derrick Mason** and a successful 2-point convert. Clinging to a 3-point lead, the Pats kept the ball for the final 3 minutes to preserve the win.



THE FANS LOVED

The Field General at work

THE FANS HATED

Jay Cutler



FAN RATING

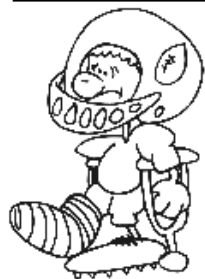


10-28-2011 Patriot Place Temp: 75 Wind:

MVP: **Peyton Manning**

1 3:50	Charleswood	TD Peterson 1 run (Gostkowski) (8-63-3:49)	0-7
2 4:04	Charleswood	TD Ringer 4 run (Gostkowski) (3-16-1:22)	0-14
3 7:38	Chino	TD Collins 6 interception return (Cundiff) (0-0-0:12)	7-14
3 1:52	Chino	FG Cundiff 32 (5-33-2:50)	10-14
4 11:46	Charleswood	TD Manning 16 pass to Witten (Gostkowski) (12-80-4:58)	10-21
4 3:52	Chino	TD Newton 7 pass to Mason (2 - Newton) (9-77-4:05)	18-21

	CHI	CHP
First Downs	12	19
Rushes	28-124	32-64
Passes	24-13-138	30-21-228
Sacked	0-0	0-0
Fumble	2	2
Penalties	12-75	7-53
Turnovers	2	3
Time	27:26	32:34
Third Down	3-11	6-13
Fourth Down	1-1	0-0
Red Att/Td/Fg	3/1/1	4/3/0
Net Offense	262	292



INJURIES

CHINO – None.

CHARLESWOOD – None.

QUOTE OF THE GAME

"No, I don't know who hid Jay's helmet. He could have misplaced it. That happens sometimes in the heat of the moment. I'm not jumping to conclusions." – Chino coach, **Rob Nazar**.

KNIGHTS WALK OVER FIRE!



**LOS ANGELES
KNIGHTS**

27

10

**MOHAVE
HELLFIRE**



LA PLAYER OF THE GAME

Cedric Benson

22 for 115 rushing, 2 TDs

Team	1	2	3	4	OT	Total
LOS ANGELES (4-0)	10	7	0	10	-	27
MOHAVE (0-4)	0	3	0	7	-	10

HELL PLAYER OF THE GAME

Mike Tolbert

16 for 52 rushing, 1 TD

HIGHLIGHT REEL: **Cedric Benson** rushed for 115 yards, including a pair of 5-yard TD runs, and caught 3 passes for 25 yards more.

- **Josh Freeman** went 14 of 22 for 155 yards and 1 TD.
- **Osi Umenyiora** made 9 tackles, stuffed 2 runs, hurried the QB 3 times and forced a fumble to star for the Knights' defence.
- **Mike Tolbert** scored the Hellfire's only TD and led the team in rushing yards with 52.
- **Champ Bailey** held the league's leading wide receiver in check, holding **Roddy White** to 3 catches and forcing a fumble.
- **Brian Orakpo** and **BJ Raji** had a sack apiece and pressured Matt Schaub twice.

GAME SUMMARY: The Knights took their opening drive 70 yards in 11 plays, finishing with a 2-yard TD pass from **Josh Freeman** to **Tony Gonzalez**, and never looked back from their early 7-0 lead. The Mohave offence could not find an answer to the problem of the Los Angeles "Blue Shield" until the outcome was no longer in doubt. **Osi Umenyiora** and **BJ Raji** hounded **Matt Schaub** in the pocket while **Kevin Williams** and **Bradie James** disrupted the running game against the tattered Hellfire front five. **Cedric Benson**, filling in for a resting **Jamaal Charles**, found room to run against the Mohave defence, but did cough a fumble at the end of a 26-yard run that led to Mohave's only points of the 1st half – a 47-yard field goal by **Rob Bironas**. Hanging tough despite problems moving the ball offensively, the Mohave effort cracked deep in their own territory when **Brian Orakpo** broke through and sacked Schaub, causing a fumble that was recovered by the Knights at the Mohave 5 yard line. Two plays later, Benson swept left for the first of two 5-yard TD runs on the afternoon to make it 17-3 at half time. After a closely contested third quarter that saw the Hellfire control the time of possession, the Knights took away all doubt by stuffing **Chris Ivory** for a 4-yard loss on a daring 4th and inches gamble by the Hellfire at the Mohave 30 yard line. That set up a 35-yard field goal by **Chris Carpenter** to begin the 4th quarter and put Los Angeles firmly in control. The teams traded late TDs to round out the scoring in an easy Knights' win.



THE FANS LOVED

Timely plays by the LA 'D'

THE FANS HATED

No drama



FAN RATING



1/2

10-29-2011 The Fiery Depths Temp: 116 Wind: Calm None MVP: **Cedric Benson**

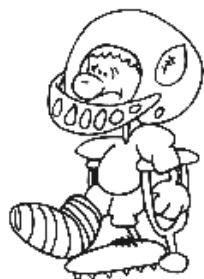
1 9:09	Los Angeles	TD Freeman 2 pass to Gonzalez	7-0
1 2:30	Los Angeles	FG Carpenter 46 (9-42-4:13)	10-0
2 1:55	Mohave	FG Bironas 47 (12-47-5:16)	10-3
2 0:44	Los Angeles	TD Benson 5 run (Carpente,D) (2-5-0:16)	17-3
4 13:30	Los Angeles	FG Carpenter 35 (4-9-1:33)	20-3
4 5:43	Los Angeles	TD Benson 5 run (Carpente,D) (8-46-4:33)	27-3
4 0:14	Mohave	TD Tolbert 1 run (Bironas) (11-80-5:24)	27-10

	LAK	MOH
First Downs	14	16
Rushes	27-118	34-76
Passes	22-14-155	33-20-190
Sacked	0-0	2-6
Fumble	2	3
Penalties	7-67	7-65
Turnovers	1	1
Time	25:01	34:59
Third Down	4-10	7-18
Fourth Down	1-1	2-6
Red Att/Td/Fg	5/3/1	1/1/0
Net Offense	273	260

INJURIES

LOS ANGELES – Madison Hedgecock (12 games);
Vincent Brown (1 game-QUESTIONABLE).

MOHAVE – None.



QUOTE OF THE GAME

"It was hot! The heat cooled off both offences." *Los Angeles coach, Jeff Dohrn, on the effect of 116-degree heat at The Fiery Depths.*

LIZARDS WHIP MUSTANGS!



**GARLAND
MUSTANGS**

3

34

**DURHAM THUNDER
LIZARDS**



MUSTANG OF THE GAME

Robbie Gould
48 yd FG

Team	1	2	3	4	OT	Total
GARLAND (1-3)	0	0	0	3	-	3
DURHAM (2-2)	10	10	14	0	-	34

LIZARD OF THE GAME

Dominique Rodgers-Cromartie
3 tackles, 1 INT for TD

HIGHLIGHT REEL: **Philip Rivers** completed 7 of 9 passes for 168 yards.

- **Dwayne Bowe** caught 3 passes for 98 yards, including a 49-yard long.
- **Michael Turner** rushed for 74 yards and 1 TD on 22 carries.
- Lizards' corner **Dominique Rodgers-Cromartie** returned an interception 29 yards for a TD to open the scoring.
- **Matt Ryan** had the worst day of his career, completing just 6 of 23 for 46 yards and 2 INTs.
- **Tim Hightower** rushed for 44 yards on 12 carries to lead all Mustangs in yards gained.

GAME SUMMARY: Things started badly for Garland and quickly got worse. On their second play from scrimmage, **Matt Ryan** under-threw a pass to the sideline. **Dominique Rodgers-Cromartie** stepped in front of it for the pick it and a 29-yard return for a TD. After a Durham field goal made it 10-0, the home team grabbed a chunk of real estate on a 32-yard pass from **Philip Rivers** to **Dwayne Bowe**, setting up a series of rushes by **Michael Turner** that eventually saw him punch the pigskin across the goal line from 2 yards to make it 17-0 for Durham. With panic already setting in, the Mustangs gambled on 4th and 1 at their own 26 yard line, but Ryan threw too far for **Wes Welker** and the Lizards had another easy scoring opportunity. They made it count with a 32-yard field goal by **Adam Vinatieri** to make the score 20-0 for Durham at half time. The Dinos dominated the second half as they had the first starting with safety, **Michael Huff's** interception of Ryan at the Garland 26 yard line. An 11-yard run by **Michael Bush** and a 14-yard run by **Toby Gerhart** put the ball inside the 5 and Gerhart pushed it in from 2 yards out for a TD and a 27-0 lead for Durham. With only two first downs in over one half of play, the Garland offence continued their suicide run with a 4th and 1 gamble at their own 35 mid-way in the 3rd quarter. It failed and the Lizards capitalized on the short field to log their final score, a 4-yard TD run by Bush. With the back-ups mopping up, Garland managed a long field goal in the 4th quarter to break the shutout.



THE FANS LOVED
An effective Philip Rivers

THE FANS HATED
46 yards passing for Ryan



FAN RATING



10-28-2011 Jurassic Park Temp: 91 Wind: Calm None MVP: **Michael Turner**

1 14:07	Durham	TD Rodgers-Cromartie 29 interception return (Vinatieri)	0-7
1 3:49	Durham	FG Vinatieri 21 (7-61-3:18)	0-10
2 7:42	Durham	TD Turner 2 run (Vinatieri) (7-68-4:13)	0-17
2 3:25	Durham	FG Vinatieri 36 (4-8-1:48)	0-20
3 10:37	Durham	TD Gerhart 2 run (Vinatieri) (4-26-2:25)	0-27
3 5:17	Durham	TD Bush 4 run (Vinatieri) (5-35-2:42)	0-34
4 13:15	Garland	FG Gould 48 (12-31-6:52)	3-34

	GDM	DTL
First Downs	7	19
Rushes	27-80	45-151
Passes	23-6-46	13-9-181
Sacked	1-10	0-0
Fumble	2	0
Penalties	5-35	2-27
Turnovers	2	0
Time	27:00	33:00
Third Down	0-12	4-12
Fourth Down	3-6	3-3
Red Att/Td/Fg	0/0/0	6/3/2
Net Offense	116	332



INJURIES

GALRAND – Duane Brown (5 games); Jeff Faine (7 games);

DURHAM – None.

QUOTE OF THE GAME

"This is where we really earn our pay-cheques, Jim." – *Television announcer, Dick Stockton*, first words to booth partner *Jimmy Cefalo* before start of the 4th quarter.

CUBS WIN NO CONTEST IN CAMELOT!



**IOWA CITY
CUBS**

30

7

**YORK
EXCALIBURS**



CUBS PLAYER OF THE GAME

Sam Bradford

17 of 28, 182 yds, 1 TD

Team	1	2	3	4	OT	Total
IOWA CITY (2-2)	14	13	3	0	-	30
YORK (1-3)	0	7	0	0	-	7

YORK PLAYER OF THE GAME

Tom Brady

22 of 40, 184 yds.

HIGHLIGHT REEL: Sam Bradford opened the scoring with a TD pass and managed the game nicely with a 91.7 QB rating.

- **Arian Foster** rushed for 76 yards on 12 carries and broke a 30-yard run.
- Cubs' linebacker, **Patrick Willis** made 10 tackles, deflected a pass and forced a fumble that led to his team's second TD.
- **Lary Fitzgerald** caught 8 balls for 62 yards and 1 TD.
- **Darren McFadden** carried the ball just 7 times for 25 yards and caught 3 passes for 24 yards for York.
- **Brandon Jacobs** rushed for 21 yards on 9 carries and scored York's only TD.

GAME SUMMARY: The Cubs took control early, pushing the Excaliburs back on the first series of the game and gaining a short field for their opening drive which finished with a 6-yard TD pass from **Sam Bradford** to **Larry Fitzgerald**. The Yorkies gave the ball right back on their next possession when **Patrick Willis** forced a **Darren McFadden** fumble which was recovered by Cubs' rookie **Muhammad Wilkerson**. The turnover set up a 19-yard TD on the end-around by wide receiver **Mike Wallace** to give Iowa City a 14-0 lead less than 10 minutes into the game. The Cubs added a field goal after another quick three-and-out by York. They then vaulted into a 24-0 lead on **Dexter McCluster's** 75-yard punt return for a TD. The Swords punted for the 4th time in 5 possessions after once again failing to gain a first down and the Cubs made it 27-0 when **Arian Foster** busted free for a 30-yard run to help set up a 27-yard field goal by **Neil Rackers**. York finally gained a first down on their next possession and went on to score after a 22-yard completion to **Jeremy Shockey** brought them into the Cubs' red zone and, six plays later, **Brandon Jacobs** careened into the right pylon for a 2-yard TD run. The second half saw the Cubs open with a field goal drive then sit back and hold on. Facing 6 and 7 seven defensive backs on almost every play, **Tom Brady** could not score again and the Cubs coasted to victory.



THE FANS LOVED

McCluster's 75-yard punt return

THE FANS HATED

York never in the game



FAN RATING

★ 1/2

10-29-2011 Camelot Temp: 68 Wind: 0-5 None MVP: Sam Bradford

1 6:48	Iowa City	TD Bradford 6 pass to Fitzgerald (Rackers) (13-58-5:48)	7-0
1 4:35	Iowa City	TD Wallace 19 run (Rackers) (3-22-1:23)	14-0
2 14:43	Iowa City	FG Rackers 41 (8-52-3:18)	17-0
2 12:53	Iowa City	TD McCluster 75 punt return (Rackers) (0-0-1:32)	24-0
2 5:53	Iowa City	FG Rackers 27 (11-70-5:50)	27-0
2 0:53	York	TD Jacobs 2 run (Gano) (15-76-4:56)	27-7
3 11:30	Iowa City	FG Rackers 37 (7-55-3:20)	30-7

	ICC	YOR
First Downs	17	13
Rushes	31-135	21-56
Passes	28-17-182	40-22-184
Sacked	0-0	0-0
Fumble	0	1
Penalties	4-22	8-61
Turnovers	0	1
Time	33:51	26:09
Third Down	4-13	3-14
Fourth Down	2-2	2-6
Red Att/Td/Fg	5/2/2	3/1/0
Net Offense	317	240



INJURIES

IOWA CITY – Patrick Willis (1 game-OUT).

YORK – Darren McFadden (PG-3rd).

QUOTE OF THE GAME

"We got the big lead and it really helped our 'D' shut down Tom. We thought positive coming in and things went our way today. 'Think Positive;' that's CD # 3." – Cubs' coach, **Deron Redding**.

BREES BURNS FORMER TEAM!



**DEATH VALLEY
UNDERTAKERS**

20

10

**VIRDEN
VIOLATORS**



DV PLAYER OF THE GAME

Drew Brees

21 of 29 for 226 yards, 2 TDs

Team	1	2	3	4	OT	Total
DEATH VALLEY (3-1)	0	3	7	10	-	20
VIRDEN (2-2)	0	3	0	7	-	10

VIOLATOR OF THE GAME

Mike Thomas

7 for 95 receiving, 26 long

HIGHLIGHT REEL: Drew Brees was efficient against his former team, completing 21 of 29 for 226 yards and 2 TDs.

- **Andre Johnson** caught 9 passes for 101 yards and 1 TD to break into the Top Ten receivers at no. 6.
- **Ray Lewis** made 10 tackles, forced a fumble and intercepted a pass to lead the Undertakers' defence.
- **Eli Manning** passed for 237 yards and 1 TD but was also picked off 3 times and leads the league in that category with 10.
- VirDen wide receiver, **Mike Thomas** continues to be the most valuable Violator with 7 catches for 95 yards.
- **LaDainian Tomlinson** rushed for 54 tough yards and caught 6 passes for 50 yards more to finish with 104 total yards.

GAME SUMMARY: A failed 4th down gamble by the Undertakers in the VirDen red zone kept a defensive struggle scoreless in the 1st quarter and led to a time-consuming, 79-yard drive by the Violators that drew first blood with a 24-yard **Lawrence Tynes** field goal early in the 2nd quarter. Death Valley answered soon after when **Ray Lewis** intercepted **Eli Manning** and returned it 14 yards to the VirDen 23 yard line. Unable to gain a first down, the Undertakers tied it at 3 with a 33-yard boot by **John Kasay** to round off the scoring in a lacklustre 1st half of play. The Undertakers came alive at the beginning of the second half, resurrected by a **Randall Cobb** kickoff return of 70 yards to the VirDen 18 yard line. On the first play from scrimmage, former Violator, **Drew Brees** found **Andre Johnson** open up the field for an 18-yard TD strike and a 10-3 lead. VirDen drove back but **Lawrence Tynes** missed a 37-yard field goal attempt to keep the difference at 7 points. The Undertakers put the game away with a virtuoso performance by Brees, who completed 5 of 7 for 75 yards and a TD pass to **Aaron Hernandez**, in leading his team 91 yards to take a 17-3 lead early in the 4th quarter. VirDen responded with an even longer drive, 94 yards in over 9 minutes, finishing with an 8-yard TD pass to **Dez Bryant**. But with time running down, Death Valley drove 40 yards and iced the game with a 43-yard Kasay field goal.

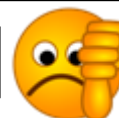


THE FANS LOVED

Brees bending the VirDen 'D'

THE FANS HATED

Eli Manning's 8th, 9th, & 10th picks



FAN RATING

★ ★ ½

10-24-2011 **TERRORDOME** Temp: 70 Wind: Calm None MVP: **Drew Brees**

2 13:28	VirDen	FG Tynes 24 (14-79-7:58)	0-3
2 4:39	Death Valley	FG Kasay 33 (4-8-1:57)	3-3
3 14:43	Death Valley	TD Brees 18 pass to Johnson (Kasay) (1-18-0:11)	10-3
4 13:34	Death Valley	TD Brees 18 pass to Hernandez (Kasay) (13-91-6:28)	17-3
4 3:35	VirDen	TD Manning 8 pass to Bryant (Tynes) (16-94-9:43)	17-10
4 0:14	Death Valley	FG Kasay 43 (10-40-3:07)	20-10

	DVU	VV
First Downs	15	18
Rushes	28-58	22-74
Passes	29-21-226	37-23-237
Sacked	1-4	0-0
Fumble	2	4
Penalties	2-10	7-63
Turnovers	0	3
Time	29:52	30:08
Third Down	12-16	7-13
Fourth Down	0-3	0-0
Red Att/Td/Fg	4/2/1	2/1/1
Net Offense	280	311

INJURIES

DEATH VALLEY– None.

VIRDEN – Anthony Castonzo (2 games).



QUOTE OF THE GAME

"I wasn't looking for revenge or anything. I actually feel grateful to the Violators for letting me go. I wish them all the best." –
Death Valley QB, **Drew Brees**.

CORN KINGS CLOBBER EAGLES!



**COWTOWN CORN
KINGS**

36

7

**SCARBOROUGH
BLUE EAGLES**



KING OF THE GAME

Joe Flacco

19 of 28, 276 yards, 1 TD.

BLUE EAGLE OF THE GAME

Ray Rice

7 for 40 yds rushing

HIGHLIGHT REEL: **Santana Moss** beat the coverage of **Darrelle Revis** with 7 catches for 114 yards, a 64-yard long and 1 TD..

- **Joe Flacco** dodged the pass rush all day and completed 19 of 28 for 276 yards and 1 TD.
- Cowtown's running back, **Maurice Jones-Drew**, closed off the win with 139 yards on 22 carries.
- **Kevin Walter** was targeted twice and caught 2 passes for 68 yards.
- **Aaron Rodgers** completed just 13 of 23 passes for 126 yards before getting knocked out of the game in the 4th quarter.
- **Jonathan Stewart** scored the Blue Eagles' only TD late in the 3rd quarter.

GAME SUMMARY: The Corn Kings took a 7-0 lead in the 1st quarter when, facing 3rd and 10, **Joe Flacco** hit **Santana Moss** in stride on a slant pattern for a 64-yard TD pass. On the Kings' next possession, **Kevin Walter** took a short slant 35 yards to the Scarborough red zone but Cowtown failed to convert inside the 10 yard line, forcing a 23-yard **Olindo Mare** field goal to make it 10-0. The Corn Kings continued to move the ball steadily but could not score the six-pointer from inside the Scarborough red zone. They built up a 19-0 lead through two-and-a-half quarters before the Blue Eagles finally scored a major, but at a huge price. While completing a pass to the Cowtown 12 yard line, **Aaron Rodgers** tripped while drifting toward the sideline and injured his toe. **Chad Henne** was forced into the game and promptly completed a 10-yard pass to **Lance Moore** that put the ball at the Cowtown 2 yard line. On the next play, **Jonathan Stewart** burst into the end zone off right tackle to trail the Kings 19-7. A 29-yard run by **Maurice Jones-Drew** set up another Corn Kings' field goal to make the score 22-7 to begin the 4th quarter. With Henne trying to make up a 15-point deficit, the game suddenly turned hard against the home team. **Charles Godfrey** picked off Henne on the Blue Eagles' next possession and returned it 38 yards for a TD to make the score 29-7. On the very next series, Henne threw wild again and the beneficiary was **Terrell Thomas**, who returned it for a "pick six" giving Cowtown an insurmountable lead and the biggest upset of the year.



THE FANS LOVED

Shocking upset

THE FANS HATED

Injury to Rodgers



FAN RATING



10-28-2011 Bluffs Stadium Temp: 66 Wind: Calm MVP: **Joe Flacco**

1 9:00 Cowtown	TD Flacco 64 pass to Moss (Mare) (3-64-1:27)	7-0
1 2:42 Cowtown	FG Mare 23 (8-58-3:07)	10-0
2 11:36 Cowtown	FG Mare 39 (8-41-4:12)	13-0
2 2:12 Cowtown	FG Mare 25 (14-72-7:04)	16-0
3 8:26 Cowtown	FG Mare 28 (14-70-6:29)	19-0
3 3:24 Scarborough	TD Stewart 2 run (Janikowski) (10-76-4:56)	19-7
4 14:57 Cowtown	FG Mare 23 (6-71-3:17)	22-7
4 14:37 Cowtown	TD Godfrey 38 interception return (Mare) (0-0-0:14)	29-7
4 13:18 Cowtown	TD Thomas 37 interception return (Mare) (0-0-1:11)	36-7

	COW	SBE
First Downs	20	15
Rushes	33-174	17-100
Passes	28-19-276	37-18-166
Sacked	0-0	1-6
Fumble	2	0
Penalties	5-30	5-51
Turnovers	0	2
Challenges	0-1	0-0
Time	34:25	25:35
Third Down	6-13	3-13
Fourth Down	0-0	0-2
Red Att/Td/Fg	4/0/4	2/1/0
Net Offense	450	260

INJURIES

COWTOWN – Harvey Dahl (PG-1st); Ryan Kerrigan (1 game-OUT); Mark Anderson (1 game-DOUBTFUL).
SCARBOROUGH – Aaron Rodgers (1 game-QUESTIONABLE); Chris Kemoatu (1 game-PROBABLE)



QUOTE OF THE GAME

"Our secondary played extremely well today and Joe Flacco came of age with his coolness under pressure. We beat a great team today and I'm proud of my players!" – Corn King coach, **Jim Coghlin**.

YOUNG-WAYNE TEAM GOOD FOR GLADS!



**MARKHAM
NORTH STARS**

10

26

**GWINNETT
GLADIATORS**



STAR OF THE GAME

Trent Cole

6 Tackles, 2 Sacks, 1 Pr

Team	1	2	3	4	OT	Total
MARKHAM (1-3)	7	0	0	3	-	10
GWINNETT (3-1)	10	3	10	3	-	26

GLADIATOR OF THE GAME

Vince Young

131 QB Rating, 2 TD passes

HIGHLIGHT REEL: Vince Young passed for 200 yards, 2 TDs and 0 interceptions, posting a 131 game-day QB rating.

- **LeSean McCoy** gained 107 total yards – 45 rushing and 62 receiving to lead all skill players.
- **Reggie Wayne** caught his 3rd and 4th TD passes of the season on 5 receptions for 87 yards.
- **James Laurinaitis** made 13 tackles, stuffed two runs and forced a fumble.
- Gwinnett kicker, **Josh Brown** was a perfect 4 for 4 in field goals, his longest from 43 yards out.
- **Trent Cole** was the only North Star who came to play, logging 6 tackles and sacking Young twice.

GAME SUMMARY: Gwinnett defensive leader, **Troy Polamalu** picked off **Mark Sanchez** on Markham's first possession, giving the Glads the ball on the North Stars' 48 yard line. Eight plays later, **Reggie Wayne** snatched a pass over the middle from **Vince Young** to give Gwinnett an early 10-0 lead. Markham's return specialist, **Stefan Logan** ran back the ensuing kickoff 41 yards to give his team good field position for a rare offensive push. With **Joseph Addai** ripping off runs of 11 and 12 yards and Sanchez connecting for 25 yards to **Jordy Nelson**, Markham penetrated the Glads' red zone and cashed in with a 3-yard TD run on a trap by **Jahvid Best** to pull within 3 points. The Glads responded with a smart drive to the Markham 5 yard line, but **Trent Cole's** sack of Young on 3rd down held Gwinnett to a field goal to make the score 13-7 – a count that would hold until half time. Gwinnett struck quickly to begin the 2nd half: **Lance Briggs** intercepted Sanchez on the very first play from scrimmage and on the next play, Young found Wayne in the end zone from 22 yards out for their second TD hook-up of the day and 4th of the year. After a three-and-out by Markham, the Glads returned to the North Stars' red zone on a 48-yard pass from Young to **LeSean McCoy**. But again Cole pushed the Glads back with a sack on 3rd down, forcing another field goal to make the score 23-7 for Gwinnett. Markham had one last sustained drive snuffed out by **Casey Hampton's** 10-yard sack on 4th down and the Glads cruised to victory.



THE FANS LOVED

Vince to Reggie

THE FANS HATED

Injury to Troy



FAN RATING



10-28-2011 Gwinnett Coliseum Temp: 87 Wind: Calm None MVP: Vince Young

1 11:38 Gwinnett	FG Brown 43 (7-36-3:07)	0-3
1 6:24 Gwinnett	TD Young 9 pass to Wayne (Brown,J) (8-48-4:16)	0-10
1 1:39 Markham	TD Best 3 run (Akers) (9-61-4:39)	7-10
2 8:49 Gwinnett	FG Brown 28 (14-72-7:40)	7-13
3 14:42 Gwinnett	TD Young 22 pass to Wayne (Brown,J) (1-22-0:08)	7-20
3 6:52 Gwinnett	FG Brown 43 (9-53-5:12)	7-23
4 12:45 Gwinnett	FG Brown 36 (5-33-2:27)	7-26
4 2:42 Markham	FG Akers 27 (16-56-9:56)	10-26

	MAR	GWG
First Downs	12	16
Rushes	34-112	30-127
Passes	17-10-86	20-13-200
Sacked	2-18	3-25
Fumble	2	1
Penalties	2-10	4-29
Turnovers	2	0
Time	30:12	29:48
Third Down	5-13	5-12
Fourth Down	2-3	0-0
Red Att/Td/Fg	2/1/1	3/1/2
Net Offense	180	302

INJURIES

MARKHAM – Titus Young (5 games); Takeo Spike (PG-1st).

GWINNETT – Darnell Docket (1 game-OUT); Troy Polamalu (2 games).



QUOTE OF THE GAME

"He has to have his MRI before we know for sure, but we held him out as a precaution. We figured it's just Markham and Sherrod wanted the work." – Gwinnett coach, **Dave Birdsall**, on Polamalu's injury.

JOHNSON BREAKS OUT!



**SOUTH CAROLINA
REGULATORS**

21

28

**PICKERING
SPARTANS**



REGULATOR OF THE GAME

Jason Campbell

30 of 48, 272 yards, 2 TDs

Team	1	2	3	4	OT	Total
SOUTH CAROLINA (0-4)	0	6	7	8	-	21
PICKERING (3-1)	14	7	0	7	-	28

SPARTAN OF THE GAME

Chris Johnson

35 for 235 yards rushing, 2 TDs

HIGHLIGHT REEL: **Chris Johnson** broke out with 235 yards rushing and 2 TDs on 35 carries to lead the Spartans' offence.

- **Matt Cassel** was used sparingly but efficiently, completing 4 of 5 for 137 yards and 2 TDs.
- Spartans' defensive end, **Ray Edwards** terrorized the QB with 3 tackles, 2 sacks, and 4 QB pressures.
- Regulator QB **Jason Campbell** completed 30 of 48 for 272 yards, 2 TDs and was turnover-free.
- Rookie SC wide receiver **A.J. Green** caught 9 passes for 106 yards and a TD.
- **Jacquizz Rodgers** filling in for injured Frank Gore, gained a tidy 67 yards in 9 carries.

GAME SUMMARY: Last year's Offensive MVP, **Chris Johnson** went to the races, rushing for 235 yards and 2 TDs to lead the Spartans to their third victory. In the face of a Regulator defence that had game-planned for him, Johnson found open space anyway starting on the opening drive. The Spartan star rushed 9 times for 41 yards of a 65 yard drive that ended with him crossing the goal line from 6 yards out for a 7-0 Pickering lead. They struck again on their next possession, this time from a distance when **Matt Cassel** found **Louis Murphy** open deep for a 62-yard TD pass to make it 14-0, still in the 1st quarter. Six minutes later, it looked as if a blowout was in the making when Cassel hit **Anquan Boldin** deep for 51 yards and another TD to make it 21-0 early in the 2nd quarter. But the Spartans would attempt only one pass for the remainder of the game and South Carolina would mount a counter-attack, scoring 13 unanswered points to crawl back within 8 heading into the 4th quarter. Johnson continued to dominate, ripping off a 58-yard run to set up his second TD of the game from 1 yard out to make it 28-13. A second 58-yard run by Johnson with 3 minutes left appeared to ice the game, but rookie **Taiwan Jones** fumbled at the Regulator 6 yard line and **Tamba Hali** returned it 46 yards to set up a late TD pass from **Jason Campbell** to **Greg Jennings**. After cashing in the 2-point conversion, the Regulators trailed by 7 and were an onside kick away from a chance to tie. But the onside kick failed and the Spartans held on.



THE FANS LOVED

235 yards rushing for Johnson

THE FANS HATED

Invisible Regulator 'D'



FAN RATING

★ ★ ½

10-26-2011 Thermopylae Stadium Temp: 56 Wind: 0-5 None MVP: **Chris Johnson**

1 8:16 Pickering	TD Johnson 6 run (Scobee) (11-65-6:36)	0-7
1 5:00 Pickering	TD Cassel 62 pass to Murphy (Scobee) (3-84-1:41)	0-14
2 13:59 Pickering	TD Cassel 51 pass to Boldin (Scobee) (4-64-1:15)	0-21
2 4:26 South Carolina	FG Kaeding 25 (16-74-9:21)	3-21
2 0:00 South Carolina	FG Kaeding 20 (11-78-2:31)	6-21
3 9:02 South Carolina	TD Campbell 3 pass to Green (Kaeding) (10-80-5:58)	13-21
4 12:20 Pickering	TD Johnson 1 run (Scobee) (8-85-4:04)	13-28
4 0:54 South Carolina	TD Campbell 4 pass to Jennings (2 - Jones) (5-43-1:31)	21-28

	SC	PIC
First Downs	23	15
Rushes	23-141	39-253
Passes	48-30-272	5-4-137
Sacked	3-12	0-0
Fumble	0	1
Penalties	4-35	3-15
Turnovers	0	1
Time	35:44	24:16
Third Down	6-13	6-11
Fourth Down	1-2	0-0
Red Att/Td/Fg	4/2/2	3/2/0
Net Offense	401	390

INJURIES

SOUTH CAROLINA – Tracy Porter (5 games); Myron Lewis (4 games); Todd Herremans (PG-2nd).

PICKERING – Kerry Rhodes (PG-3rd).



QUOTE OF THE GAME

"South Carolina just wouldn't quit. I have to hand it to them. Actually, I almost did that, or Taiwan did, with that late fumble." –
Pickering coach, Gus Konstantakos.

EFL STANDINGS

East	W	L	T	Pct	Pts	Ave	Opp	Ave	Diff	Home	Div	Conf
Charleswood	4	0	0	1	89	22.3	34	8.5	13.8	2 0 0	3 0 0	4 0 0
Virden	2	2	0	0.5	40	10	48	12	-2	2 1 0	2 1 0	2 2 0
York	1	3	0	0.25	44	11	81	20.3	-9.3	1 2 0	1 2 0	1 3 0
Mohave	0	4	0	0	35	8.8	92	23	-14.3	1 2 0	1 2 0	0 3 0
West	W	L	T	Pct	Pts	Ave	Opp	Ave	Diff	Home	Div	Conf
Los Angeles	4	0	0	1	112	28	59	14.8	13.3	1 0 0	3 0 0	4 0 0
Death Valley	3	1	0	0.75	91	22.8	77	19.3	3.5	1 1 0	2 1 0	3 1 0
Iowa City	2	2	0	0.5	91	22.8	83	20.8	2	1 0 0	1 2 0	2 2 0
Chino	0	4	0	0	52	13	80	20	-7	0 2 0	0 3 0	0 4 0
North	W	L	T	Pct	Pts	Ave	Opp	Ave	Diff	Home	Div	Conf
Cowtown	3	1	0	0.75	94	23.5	48	12	11.5	2 0 0	2 1 0	3 1 0
Pickering	3	1	0	0.75	71	17.8	63	15.8	2	2 0 0	2 1 0	3 1 0
Durham	2	2	0	0.5	81	20.3	64	16	4.3	2 0 0	1 2 0	2 2 0
Markham	1	3	0	0.25	46	11.5	66	16.5	-5	1 1 0	1 2 0	1 3 0
South	W	L	T	Pct	Pts	Ave	Opp	Ave	Diff	Home	Div	Conf
Scarborough	3	1	0	0.75	85	21.3	73	18.3	3	1 1 0	3 0 0	3 1 0
Gwinnett	3	1	0	0.75	92	23	61	15.3	7.8	1 1 0	2 1 0	3 1 0
Garland	1	3	0	0.25	41	10.3	89	22.3	-12	0 2 0	1 2 0	1 3 0
South Carolina	0	4	0	0	63	15.8	109	27.3	-11.5	0 2 0	0 3 0	0 4 0

PASSING

			Att	Cmp	C%	Yards	In	I%	Lg	TD	TD%	Rate
1	Brees	DVU	128	87	68	988	1	0.8	81	6	4.7	103.3
2	Young, V	GWG	73	45	61.6	524	1	1.4	48	5	6.8	100.5
3	Freeman	LAK	148	99	66.9	1050	2	1.4	65	8	5.4	99.8
4	Manning, P	CHP	117	82	70.1	838	2	1.7	38	4	3.4	94.6
5	Campbell, J	SC	113	71	62.8	718	2	1.8	34	5	4.4	88.3
6	Flacco	COW	145	91	62.8	979	4	2.8	64	5	3.4	82.5
7	Cassel	PIC	76	35	46.1	536	1	1.3	69	4	5.3	81.9
8	Rodgers	SBE	104	63	60.6	626	1	1	40	1	1	76.8
9	Bradford	ICC	127	74	58.3	947	4	3.1	49	3	2.4	76.5
10	Brady, T	YOR	121	68	56.2	547	0	0	29	1	0.8	70.5
11	Schaub	MOH	129	73	56.6	645	2	1.6	42	1	0.8	66.2
12	Rivers, P	DTL	135	83	61.5	933	6	4.4	62	1	0.7	66.1
13	Ryan, M	GDM	139	75	54	712	3	2.2	48	1	0.7	61.8
14	Manning, E	VV	127	76	59.8	921	10	7.9	42	2	1.6	54.6
15	Cutler	CHI	105	66	62.9	536	6	5.7	73	0	0	51.9
16	Sanchez	MAR	70	32	45.7	351	4	5.7	45	0	0	37.3
17	Newton	CHI	13	9	69.2	114	0	0	51	1	7.7	122
18	Dalton	ICC	3	2	66.7	25	0	0	26	0	0	92.4
19	Losman	YOR	1	1	100	6	0	0	6	0	0	91.7
20	Romo	SC	20	13	65	154	1	5	28	1	5	84.2

RUSHING

			Att	Yds	Ave	Lg	TD				Att	Yds	Ave	Lg	TD
1	Peterson, A	CHP	93	457	4.9	50	5	11	Forte	GDM	39	210	5.4	59	1
2	Johnson, C	PIC	93	414	4.5	58	2	12	Jones-Drew	COW	43	207	4.8	29	0
3	Foster, A	ICC	72	398	5.5	72	2	13	Jackson, S	CHI	57	200	3.5	30	0
4	Ivory	MOH	65	302	4.6	39	0	14	Turner, M	DTL	56	198	3.5	19	1
5	McCoy, L	GWG	60	267	4.5	18	3	15	Best	MAR	62	191	3.1	14	2
6	Charles	LAK	55	260	4.7	19	2	16	Tolbert	MOH	44	181	4.1	31	1
7	Rice, R	SBE	65	243	3.7	38	0	17	Addai	MAR	48	167	3.5	14	0
8	Bradshaw	GWG	53	240	4.5	20	1	18	Gore	SC	36	165	4.6	11	0
9	McFadden, D	YOR	44	218	5	39	0	19	Mendenhall	DVU	58	159	2.7	20	2
10	Tomlinson	VV	68	211	3.1	17	0	20	Jackson, B	COW	33	151	4.6	33	1

RECEIVING

			No	Yds	Ave	Lg	TD				No	Yds	Ave	Lg	TD
1	White, R	LAK	34	378	11.1	33	2	11	Bowe	DTL	20	266	13.3	49	0
2	Moss, S	COW	24	313	13	64	1	12	Holmes, S	CHP	20	211	10.6	30	2
3	Gonzalez	LAK	23	221	9.6	29	3	13	Wallace, M	ICC	20	480	24	49	2
4	Thomas, M	VV	23	319	13.9	29	0	14	Jennings, G	SC	20	285	14.3	32	4
5	Keller	GDM	23	262	11.4	48	1	15	Bryant, D	VV	19	286	15.1	42	2
6	Johnson, A	DVU	22	230	10.5	21	2	16	Wayne	GWG	18	261	14.5	26	4
7	Colston	CHP	22	248	11.3	38	0	17	McCoy, L	GWG	18	180	10	48	0
8	Fitzgerald	ICC	21	193	9.2	18	1	18	Watson, B	MOH	17	142	8.4	17	0
9	Miller, Z	COW	21	218	10.4	21	1	19	Owens, T	MOH	17	149	8.8	21	1
10	Amendola	DTL	20	216	10.8	38	0	20	Green	SC	17	194	11.4	31	1

TACKLES

1	Henderson, EJ	SC	44	8	Urlacher	YOR	31	15	Johnson, Char	DVU	27
2	Lewis, R	DVU	43	9	Williams, D	GWG	30	16	James, B	LAK	27
3	Barber, R	PIC	43	10	Laurinaitis	GWG	30	17	Cole, T	MAR	27
4	Willis, P	ICC	42	11	Scott, B	SBE	29	18	Johnson, D	COW	26
5	Mayo	DVU	41	12	Atogwe	PIC	29	19	Jones, D	MOH	26
6	Timmons	YOR	34	13	Beason	CHP	29	20	Dorsey	SC	26
7	Whitner	ICC	34	14	Landry, L	VV	29	21	Flowers, B	VV	25

KICKING

			FGA	FGM	FG%	40	50	Lg	Pts
1	Rackers	ICC	15	12	80	5	3	55	43
2	Brown, J	GWG	11	10	90.9	3	0	43	38
3	Mare	COW	10	8	80	1	0	49	34
4	Carpenter, D	LAK	9	7	77.8	3	1	55	34
5	Vinatieri	DTL	10	8	80	3	0	43	31
6	Kasay	DVU	8	7	87.5	3	0	49	31
7	Gould	GDM	11	9	81.8	3	1	53	29
8	Cundiff	CHI	8	8	100	2	0	44	26
9	Janikowski	SBE	7	5	71.4	3	1	55	25
10	Bironas	MOH	7	7	100	1	0	47	23
11	Scobee	PIC	7	5	71.4	1	0	42	23
12	Akers	MAR	6	6	100	1	0	46	22
13	Rayner	CHP	4	4	100	0	0	30	20
14	Tynes	VV	10	4	40	1	1	58	16
15	Gano	YOR	4	3	75	0	0	37	14
16	Kaeding	SC	5	4	80	0	0	33	13
17	Buehler	SC	1	0	0	0	0	0	4

INTERCEPTIONS

			No	Yds	Ave	Lg	TD				No	Yds	Ave	Lg	TD
1	Florence	YOR	2	20	10	20	0	11	Thomas, T	COW	1	37	37	37	1
2	Williams, T	COW	2	30	15	30	1	12	Phillips, S	CHP	1	17	17	17	0
3	McCourty	DTL	2	14	7	14	0	13	Godfrey	COW	1	38	38	38	1
4	Tillman	MAR	2	27	13.5	26	0	14	Jones, S	COW	1	0	0	0	0
5	Winfield	MAR	2	37	18.5	34	1	15	Mikell	MOH	1	16	16	16	0
6	Clements	DVU	2	2	1	2	0	16	Black, Q	DTL	1	3	3	3	0
7	Hall, L	DVU	2	0	0	0	0	17	Rodgers-Crom	DTL	1	29	29	29	1
8	Whitner	ICC	2	4	2	4	0	18	Huff	DTL	1	0	0	0	0
9	Briggs, L	GWG	2	0	0	0	0	19	Houston, C	MOH	1	5	5	5	0
10	Bullitt	CHP	1	76	76	76	0	20	Delmas	MAR	1	4	4	4	0

SACKS

1	Allen, J	DTL	5	8	Fairley	DVU	2	15	Abraham	CHP	2
2	Cole, T	MAR	5	9	Matthews, C	DVU	2	16	Freenev	SBE	2
3	Woodley	SBE	4	10	Wilkerson	ICC	2	17	Smith, W	GDM	2
4	Orakpo	LAK	3	11	Williams, M	ICC	2	18	Hampton	GWG	2
5	Edwards, R	PIC	3	12	Anderson, M	COW	2	19	Sheard	PIC	2
6	Mathis, R	GWG	3	13	Tuck	SBE	2	20	Bowers	YOR	1
7	Ware, D	DVU	2	14	Suggs	SBE	2	21	Franklin, A	PIC	1



AROUND THE



With Spats McChad

NEW YORK – I got a call from the Manager of my condo last week while I was waiting for my flight out of Death Valley.

“Mr. McChad, we have a problem. It’s your cat,” Mr. Nanton blurted tensely, getting straight to the point. “We believe it has destroyed your apartment, sir.”

“What? Mr. Abbott? You have to be joking!” I replied, not believing him, but worried nevertheless about my condo unit. *Oh Sh*&! I thought suddenly. I forgot to call Millicent.*

“We are pretty certain it was your cat, Mr. McChad. There is evidence it was the cat.” Mr. Nanton, a punctilious young gentleman at all times, delivered his message with measured deliberation but failed to completely conceal his distress at delivering the news. “I think you might need to make alternate living arrangements for a time while repairs are completed.”

Repairs? What had Mr. Abbott done? What could he possibly *do* that would require repairs and “alternate living arrangements?” He was only 8 or 9 lbs (if that) and of a benign and somewhat lazy disposition. There was no doubt he could pout if left unattended and sometimes would leave a little message on the carpet when neglected; but he was a good cat, as cats go.

I had been gone longer than usual and, absent-mindedly, I had forgotten to call Millicent – the old woman down the hall who enjoyed looking after Mr. Abbott when I was away on business. Come to think of it, I had never been gone for more than two weeks before and, on that occasion, Millicent had taken Mr. Abbott into her apartment and fed him human food. He had come back so thoroughly spoiled that he would jump up onto my table and try to eat from my plate for weeks after that. I think he came to resent me for knocking him back on the floor and forcing him to eat ‘*Friskies.*’

Resentment is one thing; but what Mr. Abbott had done – I was soon to discover – was clearly the product of panic and fury. The only comparison I can think of would be the feeling a home owner might have when a tornado, without warning, lands in his neighbourhood and rips off the roof of his house. It was that shocking and that destructive.

A forensic reconstruction of the crime scene indicates that Mr. Abbott started with simple clawing of the furniture – pretty standard behaviour for a bored cat missing his supper for a few days. Having torn through my duvet, my chesterfield, my comfy chair and my living room curtains, (or perhaps concurrent with it) Mr. Abbott turned his attention to knocking things over – things like vases, bowls, glasses, lamps, toasters, and televisions. Yes – televisions. He actually moved mine from its wall unit and onto the floor. It must have taken him quite some time and determination to do it – since the item weighs about 12 times more than he does. He managed to find food – but not the kind he normally eats. Uncooked macaroni, sugar, coffee beans, corn flakes and saltines were strewn about the kitchen; uneaten but thoroughly examined. He didn’t get inside the fridge, thank goodness.

But the real damage – the stuff that will cost me a good chunk of my savings – came much later. It appears that my cat became really thirsty about one week after I had hurried out the door for Scarborough. I have dual faucet handles in my kitchen sink and he knew, from watching me, that all he had to do was push the handle inward from the wall to get the water flowing. Mr. Abbott, all 8.5 lbs of him, managed to do that. But he couldn’t, or didn’t think, to push it back. The water flowed lightly, but steadily, into a sink plugged quite unfortunately by a bag of Starbucks French roast knocked into it from a pillaged cupboard overhead. Over the course of several days the water overflowed from the sink and onto the floor. Eventually, it did what water tends to do – find the empty spaces. After about three inches had accumulated it began to seep through the floor, alerting my neighbours and bringing Mr. Nanton on the scene.

By then, a frightened and angry Mr. Abbott occupied the high ground on top of a book shelf and used it to his advantage to leap upon an unsuspecting Mr. Nanton as he entered the flooded apartment. The scratches to his face are severe and will cost my insurance company a considerable sum, even with an out-of-court settlement.

The end result is that Mr. Abbott is staying with Millicent while repairs are being made to my apartment and I find myself, abashedly, living in Zuccotti Park with the Occupy Wall Street protestors. I am not happy about it, but it is what it



Mr. Abbott was not very happy while I was away on my three week EFL sojourn.

is. At least they have a Wi-Fi connection here I can use so that I can hurriedly write my column this week.

VIRDEN'S SECRET WEAPON

Is it wise to put anything past a team that calls itself the "Violators" and plays its games in a re-fitted 1930's psychiatric prison called **TERRORDOME**? They may be completely unsubstantiated but I, for one, believe there should be an investigation into the rumours that the Violators are administering the so-called "date rape" drug, *midazolam* to visiting teams through the water system.

TERRORDOME owner, **Mark de Saad**, issued a pre-emptive statement that can only be viewed as suspicious under the circumstances. Enough players believe there is something wrong, and are speaking about it to everyone but the media, that a little pre-emptive strike must have appeared necessary to the Violator brain trust.

In response to the "unsubstantiated rumours," de Saad had this to say: *"I want to categorically deny that the **TERRORDOME** Corporation, the Virden Violators, or any of its employees have knowingly administered a hypnotic sedative to the players of the visiting team. I am appalled that any player, coach, or owner of a franchise would even suspect such a thing. However, out of an abundance of caution due to the facility's previous use as a psychiatric hospital in which various drugs were present and used to control patient's behaviours, I have ordered testing of the plumbing and the ventilation systems to determine if there is residual presence of any substance that could affect anybody using the facility. This should not be construed as an admission of any knowledge or suspicion that such a substance could be present. It is to quell vicious gossip and rumour that borders on criminal libel that we are taking this extraordinary step. Let me add that the performance of the Violators' defence to this point has been the result of great coaching by **Lance Barrate** and unbelievable effort from the players. We take any suggestion to the contrary as a grave insult. Those who may accuse us in the future or whisper in the present, should we find out who you are, we will make you pay dearly for it. Yours will be a very painful end!"*

Well put me on the rack, then, Mark! I don't know what it is, but something is up (or down) in Virden and it smells funny to me. Another EFL offence (and a good one) was held to under 300 yards at **TERRORDOME** in Week Four by a bad defence missing 4 starters. Yes, **Drew Brees** had a good day in his "homecoming," throwing for 226 yards and 2 TDs in a 20-10 Death Valley victory; but having played in Virden he probably knew enough not to drink the water.

CAM NEWTON ERA BEGINS IN CHINO

So who hid **Jay Cutler's** helmet? Somebody did; and the person who did was one quick-thinking guy. After Cutler threw a pass to Charleswood's **Melvin Bullitt** to set up a Patriots' touchdown in the second quarter of Chino's fourth straight loss, the Convicts' quarterback could not make it back onto the field because he was missing that key piece of equipment. **Cam Newton** was quickly pressed into action and, although he did not lead the Convicts to their first victory, he did turn an apparent walk-over into a real game and got the attention of coach, **Rob Nazar**. It looks like the Newton Era will begin ahead of schedule. It is necessary because the Convicts are desperate to turn around a calamitous 0-4 start and mount a challenge in the West Division. The Convicts are not a team to be relegated to the sidelines with a world class defence featuring **Haloti Ngata**, **Julius Peppers** and **James Harrison**. The league's top rusher, **Adrian Peterson**, had trouble breaking through the "Great Wall of Chino" in a 21-18 win. If the Convicts can stop Peterson, they can stop anyone and they deserve an offence that can make the most of it.

THE SPARTANS OF OLD

This week I saw the Spartans I remember from 2010, but without the Old Guy trying to steal the show. **Chris Johnson** was back in form, tearing up the grass at Thermopylae Stadium to the tune of 235 yards rushing - just 3 shy of **LaDainian Tomlinson's** single game record set with Chino back in 2007. **Matt Cassel** was kept under tight control, passing just 5 times, but making the most of it by completing 4 of those for 137 yards and 2 TDs. With the desperate Regulators sending 10 men into the box in an effort to stop Johnson, this was not as impressive an accomplishment as it first appears. Cassel is my early season favourite for the '**Bob Griese Award**,' given to that quarterback who passes most successfully against defences selling out to stop the run.

Gus Konstantakos used an extreme version of Pickering's 2010 game plan - this time it was '**CJ 7 to 1**' instead of the '**CJ 2 to 1**' used in the Favre year. The first number stands for the number of times Johnson gets the call for every pass play. The '**CJ 7-1**' worked well against a South Carolina defence missing its top corner and best lineman. Not exactly a balanced attack but victory has a way of justifying anything. However, the second-guessers (myself included), would have enjoyed plenty of post-game amusement grilling the bull-headed Spartan coach on his decision to insert rookie **Taiwan Jones**

into the line-up after Johnson appeared to put the game away with a 58-yard run to the Regulators' 6 yard line with just over 2 minutes left. The rookie's number was called on the next play and **Glenn Dorsey** stripped the ball. **Tamba Hali** picked it up and returned it 46 yards to give the Regulators false hope in the 4th quarter. This led to a late TD and a failed onside kick attempt that, temporarily at least, kept the Spartan faithful nervously sitting on their hands. Had disaster struck - fairly or not the Jones play would have been blamed and **Aristedes Kaliogiannis** would have been in over his head again trying to apologize for it. Speaking of Hali, until that play, I had not noticed him all game. The Regulators need to get more from their monster linebacker, who has just one sack this year.

THE SWORD IS STONED

The first quarter of the season has been nothing short of disastrous for York. Take away an easy win in Week Two over a Mohave squad led by a temporarily insane coach and you will see that the team that many predicted would challenge Charleswood in the East Division has looked awful. In their three losses the Swords have been outscored 74-17 and that includes a trip to Virden – a team they should have chewed up and spat out. **Tom Brady** looks human for the first time ever and **Darren McFadden** has still not scored a touchdown.

This week the Yorkies hardly stood a chance after the Cubs jumped out to a quick and commanding lead in the first half. In the second half, leading 27-7, **Deron Redding's** crew sat back in Dime and Quarter packages and watched Brady's blood pressure rise as his gaggle of flat (not fleet) footed wide receivers tried unsuccessfully to gain separation from the barnacle-like Cubs' secondary. With sometimes as much as 10 seconds to throw the ball, Brady still had to chuck it away or check down to the short man. In Camelot, fights are breaking out with regularity in the formerly happy crowd as fans try to cope with the pain of watching their high hopes dashed with such severity each week. And the latest Brady rumour has him growing his own pot for medicinal purposes and sharing it at practices with the offence.

THE SWISS '4-3'

Similar to the Spartans, the Thunder Lizards turned to the ground game to get the best out of their quarterback. The dangerous **Philip Rivers** (dangerous to both sides on any given Sunday) attempted just 9 passes, but completed 7 for an impressive 168 yards. No TDs, but you can't have everything. The most important thing is that Rivers was back - for this game anyway – against a Mustang defence that offered little resistance both in plan and execution. Garland played what defensive coordinator, **Ron Meeks** calls the 'Swiss 4-3,' which is as neutral as you can get. The benefit of this formation is that the defence is in a good position to prevent a big play by the offence. The drawback is that it rarely produces a big play for the defence and, if used by a team with the talent pool of the Mustangs, doesn't actually *stop* anybody. In their 34-3 loss to Durham the tactic increased Durham's time of possession and points scored while reducing the opportunities for the Garland offence - which was just as well, actually, since their offence was more likely to score on themselves as on their opponent.

BLOWN AWAY AT THE BLUFFS

The biggest upset of the season so far – and possibly the most impressive in years – came at Bluffs Stadium this week where the suddenly surging Corn Kings came out of nowhere to knock off the vaunted Blue Eagles. Not only did they win the game; they completely shut down **Aaron Rodgers** and thoroughly thumped the previously impenetrable Scarborough defence in a devastating 36-7 blowout. It was as if the teams had switched jerseys as a prank. The crowd was so stunned by the display that they forgot to boo until the very end of the game when **Chad Henne**, who had just replaced an injured Rodgers, threw his second “pick six” in less than two minutes to pad Cowtown's margin of victory to 29 points. When we say “on any given Sunday” we like to imagine games like this are possible but in our hearts never think they really are. Well, believe it, folks, because it happened this week and that means hot races developing in both the North and South Divisions of the Can-am Conference.

AROUND THE EFL

In Mohave, the Hellfire attack continued to stall in a 27-10 loss to the Knights. Although they managed 16 first downs, more than their victorious opponent, they turned that into just 10 points. After four games they are last in the league in points scored. With **Matt Schaub** at the helm, this has to be as worrisome as it is perplexing.

Death Valley's 'Fearsome Foursome' at linebacker are each wearing black visors on their helmets. It looks scary and impressive but may be adversely affecting their vision. Some strange pass rush angles were in evidence on the field and **Eli Manning** was not sacked once.

Conscious not to get too carried away with its significance, I was once again impressed by **Vince Young** as he subbed for **Ben Roethlisberger** in a tidy and drama-free 26-10 victory over the “No Stars” at the Dawg Pound. Big Ben was back on the sideline for this game but did not dress and the team is saying very little about it other than his absence from the field is “not injury related.” **Dave Birdsall** promised the Media he would make an announcement later this week about Roethlisberger's status for their Week Five match-up against Death Valley. After another uninspired performance by Markham in which **Mark Sanchez** subtracted from his league low QB rating with 2 interceptions and no TD passes, **Darrin Jones** announced that **Shaun Ellis** was on the move to Charleswood in a deal for younger talent. The writing is on the wall for the team that would be 6-10 and it says **MARKHAM SUCKS!** The **Fat Lady** even sees it and is quieter these days.

BUG THE BOOKIE!

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



JIMMY'S Week FIVE picks

SOUTH CAROLINA @ IOWA CITY (line – CUBS by 8)

Decimated by injuries, the Regulators catch a bit of a break with both Patrick Willis and Mario Williams out for the Cubs. From Deron Redding's perspective, he too gets a bit of a break by being able to rest Willis against a team missing three big weapons on offence: Tony Romo, Austin Collie and Frank Gore. So neither the South Carolina offence nor the Cubs' defence will perform at their peak. That means Sam Bradford will be called upon once more to manage the game while Arian Foster tries to outdo Chris Johnson by running over the same Richard Seymour-less line that Johnson trampled last week. With Tamba Hali scratching his head when not rushing the passer and with the home crowd at Joe Ferguson Stadium dancing and cheering noisily to the beat of Iowa Joe, this will be a slaughter best avoided unless you are a Cubs fan. **PICK: IOWA CITY**

DEATH VALLEY @ GWINNETT (line – GLADS by 3)

The heart of the Gwinnett secondary will be missing in action as both Asante Samuel and Troy Polamalu nurse injuries. Facing Drew Brees and the league's most talented wide receiver in Andre Johnson, this does not bode well for them. Darnell Dockett is also out but this bodes less ominously as the Undertakers cannot seem to get a running game on track with Rashard Mendenhall despite Jake Long and Brandon Moore paving the way for him. The Glads' offence is fully healthy and Ben Roethlisberger is expected to start – although after seeing Vince Young in action these past two weeks I, for one, question that decision. Young is mobile and may be the best bet to avoid the Fearsome Foursome, a group that will certainly be coming after lazy Big Ben, their former teammate and a source of annoyance from their days in Ringgold. In the end, it will come down to which team makes the most mistakes and I am betting here that Death Valley stumbles enough to lose the day. **PICK: GWINNETT**

GARLAND @ LOS ANGELES (line – KNIGHTS by 12)

The Knights are the team to beat in the West and they are living up to their hype for once. Call it conditioning from years of puzzling over Jeff Dorhn's unpredictable squad, but I have an eerie and counter-intuitive hunch that Matt Ryan is about to ambush the Blue Shield. Yes, I know – Ryan had 46 passing yards against Durham last week. But it is because of this, and the impression that the Knights are beginning to strut around like Hollywood Divas, that I think an upset could be in the making. Certainly, this will be a test far more severe for LA than the fat 12-point spread would suggest. Here it is: my *"Dog of the Week."* **PICK: GARLAND**

CHINO @ SCARBOROUGH (line – BLUE EAGLES by 7)

Nobody could have predicted that the Blue Eagles would get so severely trounced by the unheralded Corn Kings – a team that finished 3-13 just a year ago. But now that it has happened, what does that mean for Scarborough? It means they better get back on track soon and this is the perfect opportunity for them to re-establish their myth of dominance. The Convicts are struggling but nobody is taking them lightly at 0-4. They are also the last team before Cowtown to beat this franchise (as Florida in 2009) in the regular season proud. They are proud and their record alone is enough to cause the kind of anxiety that comes with the knowledge that your proud and still dangerous opponent will not be pulling any punches. The Cam Newton era begins and who knows what will come with it. If I were Chris Dickinson, I would be a little nervous. **PICK: CHINO**

DURHAM @ YORK (line – THUNDER LIZARDS by 1)

The season has not gone well for York and it is not about to get better this week against a team that leads in the league in pass defence. Tom Brady is surrounded by a pedestrian group of wide receivers and an under-achieving feature back who has not yet hit his stride. It appears to be affecting him because he is starting to rush and force his throws, although fortunately this has not resulted in turnovers as Brady has yet to be intercepted and the offence as a group has only given the ball away twice. They are simply bad in the most boring way possible: by not getting first downs. The Thunder Lizards meanwhile are on a roller coaster ride – kicking butt one week and blundering awkwardly the next. Which Lizards team will show up in Camelot and will the *real* Tom Brady be ready to face them? **Pick: DURHAM**

VIRDEN @ MARKHAM (line – Pick'Em)

With the trade of Shaun Ellis to Charleswood the North Stars weakened the side of the ball that was keeping them alive in games. How much weaker remains to be seen but Chris Long and Stylez White, who will share time replacing Ellis, are both downgrades against the run, which Markham has been adept at stopping so far. Both defences have been playing above expectations, making it difficult to anticipate their performance from week-to-week as reality struggles to overcome entrenched analytical prejudices. Virden has been moving the ball well in four games against strong defences but a -7 turnover ratio has taken some points off the board. The Markham offence – sorry, “ball-sitters,” – remain a distant last in efficiency league-wide. Because of this, and the surprising Virden defence, I have to go with the Violators to win on the road. **Pick: VIRDEN**

COWTOWN @ MOHAVE (line – CORN KINGS by 12)

Mohave's poor start has been bedevilled by a lack of offence. As a group, they fall into the bottom third of the league at less than 4.5 yards per play. Matt Schaub must shoulder his share of the blame for this but problems with the front five and an injury to Hakeem Nicks have not helped him. A healthy Nicks will give the unit a boost but his return for this game is doubtful. On defence, the Hellfire have played respectably and this is the key to their performance this week. The Corn Kings are shocking the football world with a league-leading defence and an offence that started clicking out of the blue against two very good defences in Durham and Scarborough. At 3-1 they share a piece of first place in the North Division and look to continue their win streak at the Fiery Depths. Call me ‘Thomas,’ but I doubt Cowtown will be able to force its will on a Mohave team that will be fighting like mad to erase the goose egg in the “W” column. It will be a tight game and the difference well within the massive 12-point spread. **Pick: MOHAVE**

PICKERING @ CHARLESWOOD (line – PATRIOTS by 8)

This re-match of the 2010 EFL Championship is drawing a lot of attention and was the first Monday Night Football match-up slotted by the League. No doubt it will attract a lot of viewers but with four weeks in the books already it is obvious that the Spartans are not quite the powerhouse they were last year while the Pats continue to be steady as always and good enough to win each week. Pickering has a new and unthreatening face at quarterback and that is putting much more pressure on Chris Johnson and the wide receivers. Johnson responded well to the workload last week by nearly setting a single game record with 235 yards rushing against the Regulators, but up until that game he had been struggling. The Patriots have a much better defence and that will force Matt Cassel to play more than a bit role in the offence. The good news for Matt and the Pickering passing game is that Captain Turnover, Ed Reed is still out with an ankle injury. The bad news is that Percy Harvin remains sidelined with a hamstring pull. Of course, the real showdown will be between the two mega-backs, CJ and Adrian Peterson, both of whom are eager to stake their claim to the rushing title. Will that become a distraction for both teams and their coaches? In that battle I am going to side with the Pickering offensive line over the Pats' and call an outright win for the Spartans as my “lock pick” of the week. **Pick: PICKERING**

