

2011



2011

WEEK THIRTEEN IN REVIEW

January 8, 2012

TEBOW TIME



Tim Tebow charges forward to score a TD from 14 yards away in Durham's 34-23 win over Scarborough. It's "Tebow Time" in Durham in time for the playoff race!

LATEST EFL NEWS INSIDE

THE GAMES

- UNDERTAKERS CLING ON VERSUS PATS
- TEBOW TIME IN DURHAM
- BIRONAS BURNS CUBS
- "GORED" IN CAROLINA
- KNIGHTS STRIKE TERROR IN VIRDEN
- SPARTANS KNOCK OFF GLADS
- SWORDS CARVE CONVICTS
- COWS DUMP ON HORSES

COMMENT

"Tebow Time," "Haunted by Dragons," "Monekys and Cows," and more – Spats McChad

PREDICTIONS

'Who will Win the West?' 'Can Durham do it Again?' Jimmy knows – Jimmy the Geek



*Who was slick
in Week
Thirteen?*

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



Frank Gore
RB
South Carolina
Regulators

125 yards rushing, 63 yards
receiving, 3 TDs vs Markham.



Robert Mathis
DE
Gwinnett
Gladiators

6 Tkls, 2 sacks, 1 PD, 1 stuff, 3
Hurries in losing cause vs Pickering

UNDERTAKERS HOLD ON FOR 3RD STRAIGHT!



**CHARLESWOOD
PATRIOTS**

20

26

**DEATH VALLEY
UNDERTAKERS**



PATRIOT OF THE GAME

Peyton Manning

35 of 51, 382 yards, 3 TDs, 1 INT

Team	1	2	3	4	OT	Total
CHARLESWOOD (8-5)	0	0	0	20	-	20
DEATH VALLEY (8-5)	3	10	10	3	-	26

UNDERTAKER OF THE GAME

Drew Brees

22 of 30, 208 yards, 2 TDs

HIGHLIGHT REEL: Andre Johnson had 10 receptions for 116 yards.

- **Ryan Matthews** rushed for 120 yards on 24 carries, 4 first downs and a long run of 22 yards.
- Kicker, **John Kasay** made four out of five field goal attempts, including a long of 51, and 2 extra points, accounting for 14 total points.
- **Santonio Holmes** made 10 catches for 140 yards, 1 TD, and a long reception of 49 yards.
- **Jacoby Jones** had 9 catches for 93 yards, 1 TD and a long reception of 39 yards.

GAME SUMMARY: The Patriots opened the game with a long drive from their 30 yard line to the Death Valley 1, where they faced 3rd and goal. Two attempts to drive the ball home from there with **Adrian Peterson** were stopped cold by a fired-up Death Valley defence and the Undertakers dodged an early bullet. On the Pats' next possession, Death Valley's **Nate Clements** made a diving interception at his 44 yard line that was upheld after review. **Drew Brees** took over and connected with **Andre Johnson** for 22 yards to set up the opening score – a 36-yard field goal by **John Kasay**. The Pats' offence went into a funk, allowing the Undertakers to add another field goal and score the game's first TD on a 3-yard pass from Brees to **Aaron Hernandez** to make it 13-0. **Peyton Manning** responded by engineering a two-minute drill from the 21 yard line to the Undertakers' 17 with 12 seconds remaining in the half. But a pass underneath to **Jason Avant**, good for 11 yards, took too long and time expired on the Pats in the red zone to keep them off the scoreboard. The 2nd half started with an impressive Death Valley drive, fuelled by passes of 21 and 28 yards to Johnson and steady running by **Ryan Matthews**, that covered 83 yards and finished up with a 4-yard sideline pass to Hernandez good for his second TD catch of the game. Leading 20-0, the Undertakers got a 3-point gift when Charleswood boldly went for it on 4th down and 5 at their own 18 yard line and missed. The Undertakers managed to gain just 3 yards but still came away with points on a 33-yard Kasay field goal. Manning dialled up the tempo by going to the air all 13 times on an 82-yard drive for the Pats' first points of the game on a 1-yard TD strike to **Santonio Holmes**. A recovered onside kick and a 49-yard pass to Holmes set up another quick TD to **Marques Colston** and suddenly the Pats were back in it, trailing 23-13. A third TD drive through the air brought the Pats to within 3 points with 5:55 remaining. However, a time-consuming FG drive using the fresh legs of **DeMarco Murray** burned up the clock to preserve the win.



THE FANS LOVED

Balanced ball-control DV attack

THE FANS HATED

Red zone roadblocks for Pats



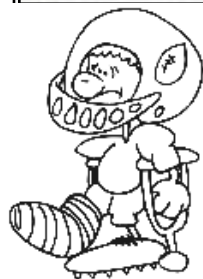
FAN RATING



01-03-2012 The Graveyard Temp: 22 Wind: 20-30 None MVP: **Drew Brees**

1 2:48	Death Valley	FG Kasay 36 (6-38-3:27)	0-3
2 10:48	Death Valley	FG Kasay 51 (11-46-5:20)	0-6
2 3:22	Death Valley	TD Brees 3 pass to Hernandez (Kasay) (12-75-5:07)	0-13
3 6:22	Death Valley	TD Brees 4 pass to Hernandez (Kasay) (14-83-8:33)	0-20
3 3:48	Death Valley	FG Kasay 33 (4-3-1:24)	0-23
4 13:22	Charleswood	TD Manning 1 pass to Holmes (2 - failed) (13-82-5:19)	6-23
4 12:09	Charleswood	TD Manning 9 pass to Colston (Rayner) (3-58-1:08)	13-23
4 5:55	Charleswood	TD Manning 11 pass to Jones (Rayner) (6-78-2:57)	20-23
4 0:29	Death Valley	FG Kasay 36 (12-60-5:14)	20-26

	CHP	DVU
First Downs	24	20
Rushes	9-27	33-151
Passes	51-35-382	30-22-208
Sacked	1-3	2-15
Fumble	0	0
Penalties	4-25	4-36
Turnovers	1	0
Time	24:51	35:09
Third Down	4-8	8-15
Fourth Down	1-3	1-1
Red Att/Td/Fg	5/3/0	6/2/3
Net Offense	406	344



INJURIES

CHARLESWOOD – Asher Allen (PG-2nd)

DEATH VALLEY – Stefan Wisniewski (1 game-DOUBTFUL)

QUOTE OF THE GAME

"A Hell of a game this was! Windy and cold – near perfect conditions for the undead, and we responded." – *Death Valley coach, Chris Worthley.*

DINOS NOT EXTINCT IN "TEBOW TIME!"



**SCARBOROUGH
BLUE EAGLES**

23

34

**DURHAM THUNDER
LIZARDS**



BLUE EAGLE OF THE GAME	Team	1	2	3	4	OT	Total	LIZARD OF THE GAME
Aaron Rodgers	SDCARBOROUGH (8-5)	3	0	6	14	-	23	Philip Rivers
2 rushing TDs	DURHAM (8-5)	14	14	3	3	-	34	18 of 25, 234 yds, 3 TDs, 1 INT

HIGHLIGHT REEL: **Dwayne Bowe** caught 8 passes for 88 yards and **Calvin Johnson** caught 3 passes for 57 yards and 2 TDs.

- **Tim Tebow** rushed for 35 yards and 1 TD on 3 carries and went 1 of 2 for 15 yards passing.
- Defensive end **Jared Allen** recorded 3 tackles, 1 sack and 5 QB pressures to put the heat on Rodgers.
- **Aaron Rodgers** completed 27 of 42 for 217 yards and 1 INT for a game day QB rating of 67.5
- **Ray Rice** rushed for 57 yards on 16 carries and caught 3 passes for 42 yards
- **La Marr Woodley** made 4 tackles, deflected 2 passes and intercepted a pass that he returned for 35 yards.

GAME SUMMARY: In a game with major playoff implications, the Thunder Lizards, facing elimination, came out charging from the starting whistle as Durham's **Mike Peterson** hammered Florida's **CJ Spiller** on the opening kickoff return, forcing a fumble that was recovered by **Jonathan Vilma**. The Lizards' offence struck five plays later when **Philip Rivers** found **Calvin Johnson** open in the end zone from 9 yards away to give Durham a quick 7-0 lead. The Blue Eagles gift-wrapped another opportunity for the home team on their next possession when **Aaron Rodgers**, under pressure, attempted a screen pass that was picked off by safety **Adrian Wilson**. He returned it 11 yards to the Scarborough 37 yard line and five plays later Durham was back in the end zone on a 13-yard TD pass from Rivers to **Antonio Gates** to make it 14-0 at the 9:11 mark of the 1st quarter. Scarborough staged a long drive to the Durham one yard line but failed to push it home and settled for a 19-yard chip shot by **Sebastien Janikowski**. The Lizards rebounded with a drive from their 35 that saw back-up **Tim Tebow** convert a 4th and 2 at the Blue Eagles' 39 with a 17-yard bootleg and score three plays later on a 14-yard dive up the middle to make it 21-3. Durham continued its 1st half cakewalk over the Scarborough defence with a 6-play, 86-yard drive that featured a 26-yard completion to **Danny Amendola** and a 40-yard screen pass for a TD to Johnson to make it 28-3 at half time. Scarborough bounced back in the 2nd half with a pair of 3rd quarter field goals, but couldn't find the end zone until the 12:14 mark of the 4th quarter when Rodgers scrambled 12 yards across open field for a TD to make it 31-16, Durham. Rodgers later added another TD on a sneak but got no closer as Durham burned time and added a field goal to ensure the win.



THE FANS LOVED
Tim Tebow

THE FANS HATED
Scarborough turnovers



FAN RATING



01-07-2012 Jurassic Park Temp: 73 Wind: Calm None MVP: **Philip Rivers**

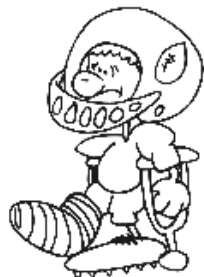
1 13:18	Durham	TD Rivers 9 pass to Johnson (Vinatieri) (5-23-1:36)	0-7
1 9:11	Durham	TD Rivers 13 pass to Gates (Vinatieri) (5-37-2:39)	0-14
1 1:08	Scarborough	FG Janikowski 19 (15-85-7:46)	3-14
2 11:17	Durham	TD Tebow 14 run (Vinatieri) (9-65-4:47)	3-21
2 2:30	Durham	TD Rivers 40 pass to Johnson (Vinatieri) (6-86-4:01)	3-28
3 10:40	Scarborough	FG Janikowski 40 (8-31-2:30)	6-28
3 7:14	Scarborough	FG Janikowski 28 (4-7-1:29)	9-28
3 0:42	Durham	FG Vinatieri 37 (10-60-6:22)	9-31
4 12:14	Scarborough	TD Rodgers 12 run (Janikowski) (10-70-3:20)	16-31
4 6:41	Scarborough	TD Rodgers 1 run (Janikowski) (14-63-3:38)	23-31
4 2:12	Durham	FG Vinatieri 35 (10-53-4:18)	23-34

	SBE	DTL
First Downs	20	17
Rushes	23-81	31-93
Passes	42-27-219	27-19-249
Sacked	1-3	0-0
Fumble	1	0
Penalties	6-50	7-47
Turnovers	2	1
Time	28:10	31:50
Third Down	7-16	8-13
Fourth Down	2-4	1-1
Red Att/Td/Fg	4/2/2	4/3/1
Net Offense	297	342

INJURIES

SCARBOROUGH – Heath Miller (PG-1st)

DURHAM – None



QUOTE OF THE GAME

"Facing playoff death, the players showed a stiff upper lip and bit the bullet in the face of dangerous Scarborough. Durham lives to fight another day!" – Durham correspondent, Sir Reginald Malcolm Clapham.

BIRONAS BURNS CUBS!



**MOHAVE
HELLFIRE**

23

22

**IOWA CITY
CUBS**



HELL PLAYER OF THE GAME

Matt Schaub

21 of 40, 295 yards, 1 INT, 1 TD

Team	1	2	3	4	OT	Total
MOHAVE (2-11)	3	3	7	10	-	23
IOWA CITY (4-9)	3	6	7	6	-	22

CUB OF THE GAME

Andy Dalton

14 of 26, 175 yards, 1 TD

HIGHLIGHT REEL: **Hakeem Nicks** caught 8 passes for 154 yards, 5 first downs and a long reception of 54 yards.

- **Terrell Owens** caught 7 passes for 77 yards, 2 first downs and a long catch of 24 yards.
- **Daniel Thomas** rushed for 76 yards, 6 first downs and 1 TD on 21 carries.
- **Arian Foster** rushed for 71 yards on 23 carries with a long run of just 7 yards.
- **Larry Fitzgerald** caught 7 passes for 72 yards in 15 targets.
- **Mike Wallace** caught 3 passes for 67 yards and 1 TD with a long catch of 30 yards.

GAME SUMMARY: In a back-and-forth struggle that saw the lead change hands six times, a 54-yard field goal by **Rob Bironas** with 32 seconds remaining nudged the Hellfire one-point past the Cubs to finish off a 23-22 upset and gave Mohave just their second victory of the season. The first half was a place-kicking duel, won 3-2 by the Cubs' **Neil Rackers**, whose 41-yard field goal with 2:55 remaining in the 2nd quarter, set up by a 30-yard pass from **Andy Dalton** to **Mike Wallace** and 3 carries for 15 yards by **Arian Foster**, gave the Cubs a 9-6 lead at half time. When Cubs' linebacker **Manny Lawson** intercepted **Matt Schaub** in Mohave territory to set up a 22-yard TD pass from Dalton to Wallace early in the 3rd quarter, it looked like this contest was going to play out as another Mohave loss. But on Mohave's next possession, a 23-yard pass interference penalty against Cubs' corner **DeAngelo Hall** followed by a 24-yard pass to **Terrell Owens** brought the Hellfire into Cubs' territory, then a 22-yard completion to **Hakeem Nicks** put them in striking distance for a 3-yard pitch outside to **Daniel Thomas** for a TD to narrow the Iowa City advantage to 3 points, 16-13. Moving early in the 4th quarter, the Cubs extended their lead by 3 when Rackers hit from 31 yards out after a holding penalty on rookie **Tyron Smith** stalled a drive in the Mohave red zone. The Hellfire snatched the lead away on their next possession after Schaub connected for 54 yards to Nicks then found **Benjamin Watson** open on a slant from 12 yards away for a TD and a slight 20-19 advantage. With time winding down, the Cubs got good field position after a 14-yard punt return by **Michael Spurlock** put them at their 48. Six plays later Rackers booted his 5th field goal to put Mohave on the ropes with 2:24 remaining. But a 13-yard completion to Owens and a 10-yard holding call on Iowa's **Malcolm Jenkins** helped bring the Hellfire to the Iowa 36, just close enough for Bironas' late heroics.



THE FANS LOVED

54-yard game-winning FG

THE FANS HATED

Where was Foster??



FAN RATING



01-04-2012 Joe Ferguson Stadium Temp: 50 Wind: 0-5 None MVP: **Matt Schaub**

1 9:23	Mohave	FG Bironas 34 (9-56-5:28)	3-0
1 2:55	Iowa City	FG Rackers 25 (4-3-0:58)	3-3
2 6:46	Mohave	FG Bironas 29 (12-46-5:11)	6-3
2 3:03	Iowa City	FG Rackers 46 (7-40-3:32)	6-6
2 0:46	Iowa City	FG Rackers 41 (8-45-1:24)	6-9
3 12:40	Iowa City	TD Dalton 22 pass to Wallace (Rackers) (3-37-0:28)	6-16
3 1:37	Mohave	TD Thomas 3 run (Bironas) (8-85-4:19)	13-16
4 11:59	Iowa City	FG Rackers 31 (9-64-4:24)	13-19
4 10:02	Mohave	TD Schaub 12 pass to Watson (Bironas) (4-69-1:51)	20-19
4 2:24	Iowa City	FG Rackers 38 (6-32-2:49)	20-22
4 0:32	Mohave	FG Bironas 54 (10-42-1:41)	23-22

	MOH	ICC
First Downs	20	13
Rushes	27-99	26-84
Passes	40-21-295	31-16-197
Sacked	1-7	0-0
Fumble	2	3
Penalties	5-60	4-48
Turnovers	2	1
Time	32:03	27:57
Third Down	5-17	1-12
Fourth Down	1-1	0-0
Red Att/Td/Fg	5/2/2	5/1/2
Net Offense	387	281



INJURIES

MOHAVE – Kelvin Hayden (6 games)

IOWA CITY – Terrence Cody (2 games)

QUOTE OF THE GAME

"This is more like what I envisioned for this team at the beginning the season. But we've played so sh&* for so long I'd forgotten what it was supposed to look like." – *Mohave coach, Bobby Elder.*

NORTH STARS "GORED" IN CAROLINA!



**MARKHAM
NORTH STARS**

10

31

**SOUTH CAROLINA
REGULATORS**



NORTH STAR OF THE GAME

Jahvid Best
14 carries, 80 yards, 1 rec., 14 yds

Team	1	2	3	4	OT	Total
MARKHAM (4-9)	7	0	0	3	-	10
SOUTH CAROLINA (3-10)	7	10	7	7	-	31

REGULATOR OF THE GAME

Frank Gore
193 total yds (125 rush) 3 TDs

HIGHLIGHT REEL: **Tony Romo** completed 20 of 24 for 201 yards, 2 TDs, 1 INT, game day QB rating of 112.0.

- **Austin Collie** caught 6 passes for 58 yards, 1 TD and a long reception of 13 yards.
- Regulator nose tackle **Amobi Okoye** made 6 tackles and recorded 1 sack, 1 stuff and 1 QB pressure.
- **Mark Sanchez** completed 9 of 19 for 129 yards and 2 INTS. He was relieved by **Jake Locker** late in the game.
- **Joseph Addai** rushed for 57 yards on 18 carries.
- **Takeo Spikes** made 5 tackles, deflected 1 pass, stuffed a run, forced a fumble, and intercepted a pass.

GAME SUMMARY: A 41-yard pass from **Mark Sanchez** to **Jared Cook** on Markham's first play from scrimmage and an offsides penalty against the Regulators to convert third down inside the 10 yard line, set up a 4-yard TD on a bootleg by Sanchez that gave Markham an early 7-0 advantage. South Carolina answered that with a dose of **Frank Gore** – the star running back gained 20 yards on the ground on 4 consecutive carries, but struck the big blow on a 40-yard reception for a TD on a short out pass from **Tony Romo** to tie the game at 7-7. On Markham's next possession, corner **Sam Shields** intercepted Sanchez and returned it 2 yards to the Markham 38 yard line. From there, South Carolina gained a pair of first downs and survived a fumble by **Austin Collie** to take the lead on a 35-yard **Nate Kaeding** field goal. There would be no turning back from that point as the South Carolina defence stopped the North Stars on 4th down at their 30 yard line. The offence took over and engineered a 12-play, 70 yard drive that again featured Gore on the ground and through the air. Determined to stop him, the North Stars sold out to stop the run, opening up room for Collie to grab a medium hitch for an 11-yard TD reception to make the score 17-7, which would be the count at half time. There would be no recovery for Markham in the second half. **Amobi Okoye** broke through and sacked Sanchez to force a three-and-out on the opening drive. South Carolina wasted no time turning the game into a laughter: Romo connected with **Greg Jennings** for 37 yards on a long slant then two plays later Gore broke free off right tackle for a 21-yard TD run to make the score 24-7. An interception by **Takeo Spikes** early in the 4th quarter gave the North Stars faint hope for a comeback, but they were stopped inside the 10 yard line and had to settle for a field goal. Five minutes later, a 59-yard TD run by Gore wrapped up the scoring as the Regulators romped.



THE FANS LOVED
More Gore!

THE FANS HATED
Santa Sanchez



FAN RATING



01-06-2012 Williams-Brice Stad. Temp: 78 Wind: 5-15 None MVP: **Frank Gore**

1 10:29	Markham	TD Sanchez 4 run (Akers) (5-63-2:26)	7-0
1 4:34	South Carolina	TD Romo 40 pass to Gore (Buehler) (10-85-5:55)	7-7
2 13:39	South Carolina	FG Kaeding 35 (8-21-4:17)	7-10
2 2:29	South Carolina	TD Romo 11 pass to Collie (Kaeding) (12-70-6:46)	7-17
3 11:43	South Carolina	TD Gore 21 run (Kaeding) (3-67-1:39)	7-24
4 14:03	Markham	FG Akers 25 (9-51-4:29)	10-24
4 9:42	South Carolina	TD Gore 59 run (Kaeding) (1-59-0:19)	10-31

	MAR	SC
First Downs	14	15
Rushes	35-137	27-132
Passes	24-11-154	24-20-201
Sacked	1-8	2-16
Fumble	0	2
Penalties	8-51	4-39
Turnovers	2	2
Time	29:44	30:16
Third Down	1-13	4-11
Fourth Down	0-5	0-0
Red Att/Td/Fg	3/1/1	2/1/1
Net Offense	283	317



INJURIES

MARKHAM – Casey Matthews (1 game-QUESTIONABLE)

SOUTH CAROLINA – None

QUOTE OF THE GAME

"We Gored them! We Gored them good!" –
South Carolina play-by-play man, **Bill Rosinski**.

KNIGHTS BACK ON TRACK AT *TERRORDOME!*



**LOS ANGELES
KNIGHTS**

37

24

**VIRDEN
VIOLATORS**



KNIGHT OF THE GAME

Josh Freeman
27 of 40, 251 yards, 1 INT, 3 TDs

Team	1	2	3	4	OT	Total
LOS ANGELES (10-3)	7	13	7	10	-	37
VIRDEN (4-9)	0	14	0	10	-	24

VIOLATOR OF THE GAME

Robert Meachem
5 catches, 109 yards, 2 TDs

HIGHLIGHT REEL: **Shonn Greene** rushed for 81 yards and 1 TD on 19 carries.

- **Roddy White** caught 6 passes for 62 yards, 4 first downs and 1 TD.
- LA defensive tackle **BJ Raji** made 3 tackles, recorded 1 sack, 1 deflection, 2 QB Pressures and 2 forced fumbles
- **Eli Manning** completed 18 of 39 for 266 yards, 1 INT and 2 TDs for a game day QB rating of 75.4.
- **LeGarrette Blount** was held to 30 yards on 10 carries.
- **Paul Posluszny** made 12 tackles and deflected 2 passes.

GAME SUMMARY: Knights' return specialist **Eric Weems** went backwards 8 yards returning the opening kickoff, giving his team the worst possible field position to start the game, at the one yard line. Undeterred, **Josh Freeman** tossed consecutive completions of 10 and 9 yards to reach the 20, then the Knights took a risk, going for it on 4th and inches at their 30 yard line, and converted big on a 12-yard pass to **Jamaal Charles**. A sweep to the right by Freeman for 14 yards brought them to the Virden 37 where back-up **Shonn Greene** took over, carrying the ball the rest of the way with the help of a 15-yard personal foul against **Paul Posluszny** to cap off the 99-yard drive with a 10-yard TD run. The Knights added a field goal to start the 2nd quarter before Virden got back in the game on a 69-yard punt return for a TD by **Mike Thomas**, his 3rd of the season. Weems redeemed his earlier -8 yard return with a 70-yard kickoff return to set up a 43-yard field goal by **Dan Carpenter** to make the score 13-7 for LA, but the Violators roared back to take a 14-13 lead on a 67-yard drive capped off by a 29-yard TD pass from **Eli Manning** to **Robert Meachem**. The Knights regained the advantage, 20-14, with one minute remaining in the first half, after a 69-yard drive ended with a 3-yard TD pass from Freeman to **Steve Smith**. LA put together another long, time-consuming drive at the start of the 2nd half with the help of two 4th-and-short conversions, bringing it close for 4-yard TD pass to **Roddy White** to make it 27-14. **Derek Cox** picked off Freeman deep in Knights' territory to set up a 2-yard TD pass to Meachem. But the Knights regained their 13-point lead on their next possession with a 20-yard TD catch by **Lee Evans**. The teams traded field goals the rest of the way as LA cruised to their 10th win.



THE FANS LOVED
Free-wheeling Freeman!

THE FANS HATED
No running game for Virden!



FAN RATING



01-05-2012 **TERRORDOME** Temp: 66 Wind: Calm None MVP: **Josh Freeman**

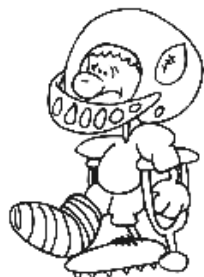
1 8:46	Los Angeles	TD Greene 10 run (Carpente,D) (13-99-6:07)	7-0
2 14:56	Los Angeles	FG Carpenter 26 (12-54-7:04)	10-0
2 8:18	Virden	TD Thomas 69 punt return (Tynes) (0-0-1:10)	10-7
2 6:41	Los Angeles	FG Carpenter 43 (4-2-1:24)	13-7
2 4:04	Virden	TD Manning 29 pass to Meachem (Tynes) (6-67-2:31)	13-14
2 1:04	Los Angeles	TD Freeman 3 pass to Smith (Carpente,D) (9-69-2:52)	20-14
3 3:29	Los Angeles	TD Freeman 4 pass to White (Carpente,D) (13-67-7:55)	27-14
4 14:56	Virden	TD Manning 2 pass to Meachem (Tynes) (3-18-0:53)	27-21
4 9:16	Los Angeles	TD Freeman 20 pass to Evans (Carpente,D) (10-70-5:33)	34-21
4 5:21	Los Angeles	FG Carpenter 47 (4--3-0:52)	37-21
4 2:16	Virden	FG Tynes 44 (12-35-2:51)	37-24

	LAK	VV
First Downs	24	16
Rushes	33-168	11-32
Passes	40-27-251	39-18-266
Sacked	0-0	2-11
Fumble	1	3
Penalties	8-41	4-40
Turnovers	1	2
Time	36:49	23:11
Third Down	8-15	1-11
Fourth Down	3-3	3-3
Red Att/Td/Fg	5/4/1	1/1/0
Net Offense	419	287

INJURIES

LO ANGELES – Cedric Benson (PG-1st)

VIRDEN – Carlos Dunlap (PG-1st);



QUOTE OF THE GAME

"The Vanquishers are so dreadful to look at. Those are the ugliest uniforms – retro colour-blocking without the colour! I am so glad the better-dressed team won." – *Knights' correspondent, Gabrielle Laurent-Vainluven.*

JOHNSON IGNITES SPARTANS COMEBACK!



**GWINNETT
GLADIATORS**

20

25

**PICKERING
SPARTANS**



GLADIATOR OF THE GAME

LeSean McCoy
163 total yds (100 rush, 63 rec)

Team	1	2	3	4	OT	Total
GWINNETT (9-4)	7	7	3	3	-	20
PICKERING (12-1)	3	9	7	6	-	25

SPARTAN OF THE GAME

Chris Johnson
22 carries, 148 yards, Long 49

HIGHLIGHT REEL: Percy Harvin returned 5 kickoffs for 156 yards including a 72-yard return that set up a field goal.

- **Matt Cassel** completed 9 of 24 for 90 yards and 1 TD, for a game day QB rating of 62.8.
- **Oshiomogho Atogwe** made 3 tackles, intercepted a pass and returned it 45 yards for a TD.
- **Reggie Wayne** caught 11 passes for 101 yards and 2nd year tight end **Ed Dickson** caught 3 passes for 44 yards and 1 TD.
- **Ben Roethlisberger** completed 26 of 44 for 262 yards, 2 TDs and 3 INTs for a game day QB rating of 62.9.
- Defensive end, **Robert Mathis** made 6 tackles, 2 sacks, 1 deflection, 1 run stuff and 3 QB pressures

GAME SUMMARY: Gwinnett put together back-to-back TD drives near the end of the 1st quarter and early in the 2nd to take an early 14-3 lead over the Spartans at Thermopylae Stadium. A 38-yard short hitch to **LeSean McCoy** set up a 6-yard TD pass from **Ben Roethlisberger** to **Jeremy Maclin**; then Big Ben checked down to little-used back-up tight end **Ed Dickson**, who banged his way 34 yards for the major score. Pickering chipped away at that lead one field goal at a time starting with a 72-yard kickoff return by **Percy Harvin** that set up a 35-yard field by **Josh Scobee**. They added another when the Glads' **Dion Lewis** fumbled away the kickoff return at the Gwinnett 26 yard line, leading to a 36-yard Scobee field goal to make it 14-9. The Glads got the ball back but did not have it for long. Big Ben went deep to Maclin but found **Ronde Barber** instead and the Spartans took over at mid-field. They drove all the way to the Gwinnett 2 but could not drive it home and settled for Scobee's fourth field goal of the 1st half. Trailing 14-12 to begin the 2nd half, the Spartans' could not muster more than a first down on their first possession but got a lift when **Oshiomogho Atogwe** picked off Big Ben and returned it 45 yards for a TD to give Pickering their first lead since the 8:42 mark of the 1st quarter. Trailing 19-14, it was now Gwinnett's turn to chip away at the Spartans' lead, getting field goals of 34 and 22 yards on consecutive possessions to regain the lead, 20-19 at the 13:30 mark of the final quarter. After a run of four consecutive punts the contest finally broke open when **Chris Johnson** broke free for a 49-yard run to the Glads' 13, then **Matt Cassel** connected with **Anquan Boldin** for a TD on the next play. The 2-point convert failed, but the Pickering 'D' held the Glads out of FG range to preserve the win.

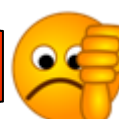


THE FANS LOVED

Johnson in MVP form

THE FANS HATED

10 Glads' penalties and 4 TOs



FAN RATING



01-05-2012 Thermopylae Stadium Temp: 30 Wind: 10-20 None MVP: **Chris Johnson**

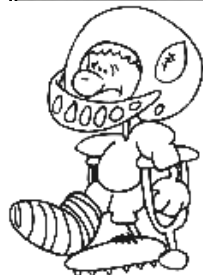
1 8:42 Pickering	FG Scobee 26 (12-73-6:09)	0-3
1 0:25 Gwinnett	TD Roethlisberger 6 pass to Maclin (Brown,J) (10-74-4:37)	7-3
2 10:54 Gwinnett	TD Roethlisberger 34 pass to Dickson (Brown,J) (6-50-2:51)	14-3
2 9:27 Pickering	FG Scobee 35 (4-8-1:17)	14-6
2 6:28 Pickering	FG Scobee 36 (6-8-2:50)	14-9
2 1:16 Pickering	FG Scobee 20 (10-43-4:15)	14-12
3 9:39 Pickering	TD Atogwe 45 interception return (Scobee) (0-0-0:55)	14-19
3 5:06 Gwinnett	FG Brown 34 (11-50-4:22)	17-19
4 13:30 Gwinnett	FG Brown 22 (12-70-5:48)	20-19
4 4:27 Pickering	TD Cassel 13 pass to Boldin (2 - failed) (2-62-0:59)	20-25

	GWG	PIC
First Downs	20	16
Rushes	21-109	34-178
Passes	44-26-262	24-9-90
Sacked	1-5	2-11
Fumble	1	1
Penalties	10-72	6-49
Turnovers	4	0
Time	30:33	29:27
Third Down	4-13	2-13
Fourth Down	1-2	0-0
Red Att/Td/Fg	3/1/2	5/1/4
Net Offense	366	257

INJURIES

GWINNETT – Dallas Clark (PG-1st); Mike Pouncey (1 game-DOUBTFUL)

PICKERING – None



QUOTE OF THE GAME

"The referees get a big thumbs-down for their performance but Big Ben gets both thumbs and both big toes down for his! The lions are hungry!" – Gwinnett correspondent, **Marcus Aurelius**.

YORK CARVES UP CONVICTS!



**CHINO
CONVICTS**

6

34

**YORK
EXCALIBURS**



CONVICT OF THE GAME

Steven Jackson
13 carries, 45 yards

Team	1	2	3	4	OT	Total
CHINO (5-8)	3	0	3	0	-	6
YORK (5-8)	6	7	0	21	-	34

EXCALIBUR OF THE GAME

Tom Brady
20 of 30, 243 yds, 2 TDs, 1 INT

HIGHLIGHT REEL: **Michael Crabtree** caught 8 passes for 140 yards, 1 TD and a long of 70 yards.

- **Brandon Jacobs** carried the ball 16 times for 67 yards and 1 TD.
- Linebacker, **Geno Hayes** made 2 tackles, deflected 2 passes, forced a fumble, picked off a pass and returned it 35 yards.
- **Chad Ochocinco** caught 4 passes for 57 yards with a long of 31 yards.
- **Cam Newton** completed 13 of 21 for 124 yards, 1 INT and a game day QB rating of 58.4.
- **Barrett Ruud** made 9 tackles and forced a fumble while **Nick Collins** intercepted a pass to lead the Chino defence.

GAME SUMMARY: In a game that could eventually decide a wild card berth, the Excaliburs slowly built up a 10-point lead through 2 quarters then exploded for 21 points in the final period to wipe out the Convicts, 34-6. York started with an opening 68-yard drive that took six minutes off the clock, but had to settle for a 30-yard **Graham Gano** field goal to take a 3-0 lead. The Convicts answered that with their own field goal drive, sparked by a 31-yard pass completion from **Jay Cutler** to **Chad Ochocinco**, setting up **Billy Cundiff** from 47 yards to tie it. After a York three-and-out, the Convicts regained possession with Cutler still under center. He was sacked by **Cullen Jenkins** then picked off by **Deon Grant**, who returned it 15 yards to the Chino 24. Despite not gaining a first down, Gano was set up for a simple 34-yard field goal to give York the 6-3 lead. **Cam Newton** took over at QB for Chino but was unable to lead a scoring drive in two possessions, giving **Tom Brady** and the Excaliburs an opportunity to take advantage. Following a 53-yard missed field goal by Cundiff, York took over at their 43 yard line and proceeded to move the ball on the ground and through the air to the Chino 10, where Brady found **Michael Crabtree** open in the corner of the end zone for the game's first touchdown and a 13-3 York lead at half time. The Convicts struggled to move the ball offensively but caught a break when safety **Nick Collins** picked off Brady and returned it 8 yards to the York 42. They moved into field goal range for Cundiff, but his 43-yarder would end up being window-dressing in a game that was about to get out of hand. A failed 4th down conversion by the Convicts in their own territory led to a 6-yard TD pass from Brady to **Roy Williams**; then a 70-yard completion to Crabtree set up a 9-yard TD run by **Brandon Jacobs**. A 35-yard "pick six" by **Geno Hayes** finished off a 21-point flurry in a four-minute span that turned the game into a rout.



THE FANS LOVED
Brady to Crabtree

THE FANS HATED
Jay Cutler



FAN RATING



01-06-2012 Camelot Temp: 44 Wind: 0-10 None MVP: Tom Brady

1 8:33	York	FG Gano 30 (12-68-6:22)	0-3
1 4:50	Chino	FG Cundiff 47 (6-46-3:33)	3-3
1 0:10	York	FG Gano 34 (4-8-1:18)	3-6
2 1:58	York	TD Brady 10 pass to Crabtree (Gano) (8-57-4:20)	3-13
3 4:39	Chino	FG Cundiff 43 (5-17-2:08)	6-13
4 11:08	York	TD Brady 6 pass to Williams (Gano) (6-43-3:08)	6-20
4 7:26	York	TD Jacobs 9 run (Gano) (3-80-1:48)	6-27
4 7:05	York	TD Hayes 35 interception return (Gano) (0-0-0:21)	6-34

	CHI	YOR
First Downs	12	22
Rushes	30-105	30-106
Passes	25-14-155	30-20-243
Sacked	2-8	1-6
Fumble	2	2
Penalties	6-40	4-30
Turnovers	4	1
Time	24:22	35:38
Third Down	0-12	2-9
Fourth Down	1-2	0-0
Red Att/Td/Fg	0/0/0	5/3/2
Net Offense	252	343

INJURIES

CHINO – Greg Olsen (PG-2nd)

YORK – Michael Jenkins (6 games)



QUOTE OF THE GAME

"What was Cutler doing in there?" - ____
Analyst, **Boomer Esiason**.

CORN KINGS WIN A WET ONE!



**COWTOWN CORN
KINGS**

16

3

**GARLAND
MUSTANGS**



CORN KING OF THE GAME

Santana Moss

7 receptions, 134 yards, 1 TD

Team	1	2	3	4	OT	Total
COWTOWN (11-2)	3	10	0	3	-	16
GARLAND (3-10)	0	0	3	0	-	3

MUSTANG OF THE GAME

Wes Welker

6 catches, 64yards, long 24

HIGHLIGHT REEL: **Joe Flacco** completed 17 of 33 for 217 yards and 1 TD for a game day QB rating of 82.0.

- **Maurice Jones-Drew** rushed for 60 yards on 21 carries and caught 2 passes for 10 yards.
- **Marcell Dareus** was a force in the Garland backfield with 5 QB pressures while **Aaron Kampman** forced 2 fumbles.
- **Matt Ryan** completed 18 of 37 for 173 yards and a game day QB rating of 62.1.
- **Peyton Hillis** rushed for 30 yards on 10 carries and **Tim Hightower** gained 23 yards on 7 rushes.
- **Paul Posluszny** made 14 tackles and deflected 3 passes and **Carlos Dunlap** made 5 tackles, 3 run stuffs and 1 QB Pressure.

GAME SUMMARY: Heavy rain at the Corral slowed the track for both teams but did not seem to bother the league's top-scoring wide receiver. **Santana Moss** got behind free safety **Earl Thomas** on a long slant and **Joe Flacco** threw on target for a 75-yard TD pass to put the Corn Kings up 13-0 in the 2nd quarter. It would turn out to be the game's only major score on a day when first downs and points were difficult to come by for both sides, but particularly for the hometown Mustangs, who were bottled up five times inside their 20 yard line by Cowtown punter, **Mike Scifres**. The slippery conditions resulted in a couple of bobbled snaps by **Matt Ryan**, but just one turnover – a fumble by **Matt Forte** on the game's opening series. That miscue gave Cowtown the ball at the Garland 37 and set up a 43-yard field goal by **Olindo Mare** to open the scoring. The Corn Kings added a second field goal at the end of their most sustained drive of the day, covering 49 yards in 10 plays – that included a 1-yard QB sneak by Flacco to convert 4th and inches at the Garland 24 yard line – when Mare split the uprights from 36 yards to make the score 6-0. At the mid-point of the 3rd quarter, it appeared that the Garland offence would be unstoppable on a 14-play, 70-yard possession that started back at its own 4 yard line and featured a 4th down pass to **Wes Welker** at mid-field to keep it alive; but a false start by **Tim Hightower** at the Cowtown 23 yard line stifled the momentum and the Mustangs settled for a 44-yard field goal by **Robbie Gould**. The Corn Kings finished off the scoring with a 37-yard Mare field goal at the 5:17 mark, set up by a 19-yard punt return by **Greg Camarillo** and some hard running in sloppy conditions by **Maurice Jones-Drew**. Although the Mustangs tried both passing and running the ball, the continuing downpour made the conditions for a last minute comeback difficult and the Corn Kings' went on to post their 11th win.



THE FANS LOVED

Flacco-to-Moss...again!

THE FANS HATED

The pouring rain



FAN RATING



01-04-2012 The Corral Temp: 61 Wind: 0-5 Heavy Rain MVP: **Santana Moss**

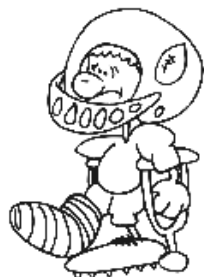
1 11:54	Cowtown	FG Mare 43 (5-12-1:32)	3-0
2 14:35	Cowtown	FG Mare 36 (10-49-4:05)	6-0
2 12:08	Cowtown	TD Flacco 75 pass to Moss (Mare) (1-75-0:16)	13-0
3 0:59	Garland	FG Gould 44 (14-70-7:11)	13-3
4 5:17	Cowtown	FG Mare 37 (10-36-4:55)	16-3

	COW	GDM
First Downs	14	12
Rushes	27-74	25-71
Passes	33-17-213	37-18-173
Sacked	1-6	0-0
Fumble	0	3
Penalties	6-50	7-54
Turnovers	0	1
Time	30:23	29:37
Third Down	5-18	4-15
Fourth Down	1-1	1-4
Red Att/Td/Fg	2/0/2	0/0/0
Net Offense	281	244

INJURIES

COWTOWN – None

GARLAND – Matt Forte (PG-2nd); Patrick Peterson (2 games)



QUOTE OF THE GAME

"This was supposed to be a rebuilding year and it was – we just rebuilt much faster than we expected." Cowtown QB, **Joe Flacco**, commenting on team being on the verge of a playoff berth.

EFL STANDINGS

East	W	L	T	Pct	Pts	Ave	Opp	Ave	Diff	Home	Div	Conf
Charleswood (y)	8	5	0	0.615	276	21.2	262	20.2	1.1	4 2 0	3 0 0	5 2 0
York	5	8	0	0.385	244	18.8	280	21.5	-2.8	2 5 0	1 2 0	3 4 0
Viriden	4	9	0	0.308	203	15.6	274	21.1	-5.5	3 4 0	2 1 0	3 4 0
Mohave	2	11	0	0.154	183	14.1	350	26.9	-12.8	1 5 0	0 3 0	1 6 0
West	W	L	T	Pct	Pts	Ave	Opp	Ave	Diff	Home	Div	Conf
Los Angeles (y)	10	3	0	0.769	329	25.3	194	14.9	10.4	6 0 0	3 0 0	7 0 0
Death Valley	8	5	0	0.615	340	26.2	301	23.2	3	3 4 0	2 1 0	5 2 0
Chino	5	8	0	0.385	217	16.7	204	15.7	1	3 4 0	0 3 0	1 6 0
Iowa City	4	9	0	0.308	262	20.2	284	21.8	-1.7	2 4 0	1 2 0	3 4 0
North	W	L	T	Pct	Pts	Ave	Opp	Ave	Diff	Home	Div	Conf
Pickering (y)	12	1	0	0.923	314	24.2	219	16.8	7.3	6 0 0	2 1 0	6 1 0
Cowtown	11	2	0	0.846	353	27.2	187	14.4	12.8	6 1 0	2 1 0	5 2 0
Durham	8	5	0	0.615	301	23.2	239	18.4	4.8	5 1 0	1 2 0	4 3 0
Markham	4	9	0	0.308	163	12.5	277	21.3	-8.8	3 4 0	1 2 0	2 5 0
South	W	L	T	Pct	Pts	Ave	Opp	Ave	Diff	Home	Div	Conf
Gwinnett	9	4	0	0.692	307	23.6	217	16.7	6.9	3 3 0	2 1 0	5 2 0
Scarborough	8	5	0	0.615	266	20.5	244	18.8	1.7	3 3 0	3 0 0	4 3 0
Garland	3	10	0	0.231	151	11.6	279	21.5	-9.8	2 5 0	1 2 0	1 6 0
South Carolina	3	10	0	0.231	212	16.3	310	23.8	-7.5	2 5 0	0 3 0	1 6 0

(z)-clinched division

(y)-clinched wildcard

PASSING

Rk	Player	Team	Att	Cmp	C%	Yards	In	I%	Lg	TD	TD%	Rate
1	Brees	DVU	387	261	67.4	2993	8	2.1	89	29	7.5	106.9
2	Flacco	COW	431	277	64.3	3428	6	1.4	75	27	6.3	103.9
3	Freeman	LAK	395	254	64.3	2498	5	1.3	65	23	5.8	96.2
4	Campbell, J	SC	330	217	65.8	2147	5	1.5	52	11	3.3	88.8
5	Newton	CHI	200	129	64.5	1329	4	2	51	8	4	88.5
6	Manning, P	CHP	432	285	66.0	2965	12	2.8	56	16	3.7	86.4
7	Roethlisberger	GWG	279	161	57.7	1968	7	2.5	78	14	5	85.8
8	Rivers, P	DTL	370	230	62.2	2829	12	3.2	62	15	4.1	85.7
9	Rodgers	SBE	390	251	64.4	2424	6	1.5	53	12	3.1	85.5
10	Cassel	PIC	224	118	52.7	1648	3	1.3	78	9	4	84.4
11	Brady, T	YOR	403	240	59.6	2513	7	1.7	88	13	3.2	81.2
12	Schaub	MOH	427	251	58.8	2714	10	2.3	54	9	2.1	74.8
13	Bradford	ICC	330	185	56.1	2460	15	4.5	70	11	3.3	72.0
14	Ryan, M	GDM	465	271	58.3	2624	9	1.9	61	6	1.3	70.4
15	Manning, E	VV	430	256	59.5	3348	26	6	91	13	3	69.0
16	Sanchez	MAR	293	160	54.6	1778	11	3.8	55	4	1.4	61.8

RUSHING

Rk	Player	Team	Att	Yds	Ave	Lg	TD	Rk	Player	Team	Att	Yds	Ave	Lg	TD
1	Foster, A	ICC	284	1453	5.1	72	7	11	Rice, R	SBE	207	675	3.3	38	1
2	Peterson, A	CHP	242	1214	5.0	74	10	12	Turner, M	DTL	175	655	3.7	78	2
3	Johnson, C	PIC	278	1177	4.2	58	10	13	Gore	SC	121	612	5.1	59	4
4	Charles	LAK	211	1132	5.4	28	5	14	Ivory	MOH	107	552	5.2	44	1
5	Jackson, S	CHI	244	911	3.7	47	2	15	Forte	GDM	117	526	4.5	59	4
6	McCoy, L	GWG	164	871	5.3	40	3	16	Tolbert	MOH	158	525	3.3	31	5
7	Jones-Drew	COW	192	830	4.3	29	4	17	Best	MAR	156	512	3.3	35	3
8	Jacobs, B	YOR	137	697	5.1	59	10	18	Jackson, B	COW	97	501	5.2	42	2
9	Bradshaw	GWG	166	684	4.1	20	5	19	Newton	CHI	85	483	5.7	46	5
10	McFadden, D	YOR	154	683	4.4	39	6	20	Mendenhall	DVU	140	441	3.2	21	3

RECEIVING

Rk	Player	Team	No	Yds	Ave	Lg	TD	Rk	Player	Team	No	Yds	Ave	Lg	TD
1	White, R	LAK	100	986	9.9	33	10	11	Cooley	SC	58	489	8.4	34	1
2	Moss, S	COW	80	1294	16.2	75	16	12	Marshall, B	SBE	58	643	11.1	53	3
3	Witten	CHP	76	721	9.5	22	8	13	Watson, B	MOH	55	581	10.6	52	5
4	Wayne	GWG	76	1117	14.7	47	10	14	Johnson, A	DVU	55	805	14.6	89	8
5	Thomas, M	VV	65	1056	16.2	91	4	15	Crabtree	YOR	54	776	14.4	88	4
6	Bowe	DTL	65	888	13.7	49	8	16	Gonzalez	LAK	53	457	8.6	29	6
7	Owens, T	MOH	63	637	10.1	36	2	17	Royal, E	GDM	50	462	9.2	26	0
8	Fitzgerald	ICC	62	615	9.9	35	3	18	Colston	CHP	50	514	10.3	38	1
9	Jennings, G	SC	59	794	13.5	41	5	19	Nicks	MOH	50	782	15.6	54	1
10	Miller, Z	COW	58	745	12.8	52	6	20	Welker	GDM	50	556	11.1	42	0

TACKLES

1	Henderson, EJ	SC	116	8	Jones, D	MOH	101	15	Spikes, T	MAR	88
2	Lewis, R	DVU	112	9	Urlacher	YOR	99	16	Cole, T	MAR	85
3	Beason	CHP	109	10	Johnson, D	COW	95	17	Brackett	VV	84
4	Barber, R	PIC	107	11	Whitner	ICC	94	18	Ruud	CHI	83
5	Mayo	DVU	104	12	Laurinaiti	GWG	91	19	Tulloch	COW	79
6	Timmons	YOR	104	13	Willis, P	ICC	91	20	James, B	LAK	77
7	Posluszny	VV	102	14	Dansby	GDM	89	21	Atogwe	PIC	77

KICKING

Rk	Player	Team	FGA	FGM	FG%	40	50	Lg	Pts
1	Brown, J	GWG	38	34	89.5	12	1	53	127
2	Mare	COW	32	27	84.4	6	0	49	119
3	Carpenter, D	LAK	31	28	90.3	7	1	55	119
4	Kasay	DVU	26	23	88.5	10	4	52	106
5	Rackers	ICC	37	27	73	12	5	56	104
6	Scobee	PIC	28	23	82.1	4	1	50	102
7	Vinatieri	DTL	26	23	88.5	4	0	43	101
8	Cundiff	CHI	30	28	93.3	9	2	55	101
9	Janikowski	SBE	29	21	72.4	10	3	55	92
10	Akers	MAR	23	22	95.7	5	0	49	79
11	Tynes	VV	29	19	65.5	9	4	58	77
12	Bironas	MOH	20	19	95	5	1	54	75
13	Gould	GDM	25	20	80	7	1	53	73
14	Gano	YOR	16	11	68.8	2	1	50	62
15	Kaeding	SC	14	10	71.4	2	0	44	46
16	Gostkowski	CHP	8	6	75	2	0	45	36
17	Rayner	CHP	7	7	100	0	0	38	36
18	Buehler	SC	3	2	66.7	0	0	39	12

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	Moore, W	DVU	3	37	12.3	37	0
2	Godfrey	COW	4	45	11.3	38	1	12	Clements	DVU	3	2	0.7	2	0
3	Rodgers-Crom	DTL	4	158	39.5	67	1	13	Hall, L	DVU	3	2	0.7	2	0
4	Williams, T	COW	4	78	19.5	33	1	14	Lawson, M	ICC	3	9	3	7	0
5	Polamalu	GWG	4	31	7.8	14	0	15	Briggs, L	GWG	3	3	1	3	0
6	Tillman	MAR	3	70	23.3	43	0	16	Harris, C	CHP	3	48	16	27	1
7	Winfield	MAR	3	58	19.3	34	1	17	Matthews	MAR	2	10	5	10	0
8	Atogwe	PIC	3	105	35	60	2	18	Florence	YOR	2	20	10	20	0
9	Cason	PIC	3	26	8.7	26	0	19	Ayers	MAR	2	7	3.5	4	0
10	McCourty	DTL	3	32	10.7	18	0	20	Pace	YOR	2	3	1.5	3	0

SACKS

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



AROUND THE



With Spats McChad

NEW YORK – I am free. My condo is repaired and I am at home once more. After weeks of travel, hotels, and occasionally sleeping under the same roof with a dear, sweet, and incredibly annoying senior citizen, I have a new and profound reverence for my personal space. “Home Sweet Home” were once mere words to me; now they *mean* something.

Giving up *Mr. Abbott* to Millicent’s care is another bonus – things were never quite the same between me and my cat after he destroyed my apartment and subsequently experienced unconditional love from his recent, aged benefactor. To be honest, I never really liked the cat; I just kept it, I think, because my parents always had a cat and I had grown accustomed to having something alive moving in predictable ways about the house. Mr. Abbott’s rampage was the inevitable result of my emotional neglect and he is better off with Millicent’s doting and, now that the New York City Opera Company has locked out its singers in a labour dispute, undivided attention.

IT’S “TEBOW TIME!”....NO MATTER WHAT

Do I feel sorry for *Philip Rivers* now that, after throwing 3 touchdown passes to jump-start his team to a must-win this week over Scarborough, he has to share headlines with his back-up *Tim Tebow*? No, I don’t – it was Rivers’ maddeningly inconsistent play and penchant for turning the ball over in critical situations that brought Tebow off the bench in red zone situations in the first place.

Do I think it is *fair* that the ‘Whitby Whistle Blower’ a major Durham daily, ran the headline “TEBOW TIME - IT’S ABOUT TIME” on the front page of its sports section following the Thunder Lizards crucial 34-23 upset of the Blue Eagles? No, I don’t think it’s fair, and I will explain why. Tebow saw the field for just eight plays out of 58 from scrimmage and he took advantage of his opportunities – running for 3 first downs and passing for another, not to mention scoring Durham’s third touchdown on a 14-yard charge up the middle behind a crushing block by center *Nick Mangold*. He did what he was asked to do, certainly, and that is impressive. But the unanswered question is: how would God’s Quarterback perform with 60 minutes under center?

Unless Durham gets eliminated from the playoff race before the final week, we are unlikely to get a glimpse of the answer to that question this year. The Durham offence is still wedded to *Philip Rivers* despite his occasional faults and, frankly, I cannot see Tebow making the throw that Rivers did on the Dinosaurs’ opening touchdown. With his primary receiver doubled, Rivers stood in the pocket as it collapsed, spied *Calvin Johnson* in the end zone, and threw a touch pass over the leaping *LaMarr Woodley* to a spot where only Johnson could have caught the ball. I don’t think Tebow makes that throw more than five times in a hundred, but Rivers has made that type of throw many times before.

For the moment, however, Tebow and the “Cross-Bow” formation is the latest preoccupation of the fans and Media. *Russ Flont* of ESPN wasted no time jumping on the bandwagon to heap over-heated acclaim on Tebow and the Durham coaching staff for their innovation. “We are witnessing history in the making - *Tim Tebow* will revolutionize the quarterback position!” he frothed, bug-eyed, on *EFL Primetime*. “The pocket-passer is going the way of the Dinosaur, fittingly at the direction of the coaching staff in Jurassic Park, and *Philip Rivers* is the first victim. Bye, bye, Philip; hello Timmy! It’s Tebow Time *all* the time!! The Lizards are going to the Championship! Yeahh!”

Durham’s own local correspondent, *Sir Reginald Malcolm Clapham*, was pleased, but more restrained in his assessment of Tebow and the ‘Cross-Bow’ in a column appearing in the *Durham Diggatel and Pick*: ‘Tim Tebow is like a curious new species, a giant flightless bird with magnificent leaping ability, whose exotic plumage and strange mating cry mesmerizes the observer. Defences simply don’t know how to react to him. *George Kaldis* is smartly taking advantage of the novelty. Will he turn into a reliable option in the future? Only time will tell how, or if, defences can adjust to Durham’s secret weapon. In the meantime, “Tebow Time” is keeping the Thunder Lizards alive in a frantic fight for the final playoff berth in the Can-Am Conference.’

HAUNTED BY GHOSTLY DRAGONS

The national attention currently being directed at Durham’s back-up quarterback is muting controversy over the suddenly

precarious position of the Scarborough Blue Eagles, and how they got there. If the season ended today, **Chris Dickinson's** team would be out of the playoffs – a scenario nobody predicted before the start of the season – not even **Sperl Sponefritter**, editor of the “alternative,” and predictably contrarian sports blog, *Sperl's World of Sports*; who infamously once predicted a Winnemucca playoff berth in 2009.

The insane Sponefritter, popular with *Goths* who have involved themselves in fantasy sports, is notorious (by those few who pay attention) for never admitting an error in judgement, no matter how obvious, and his subsequent creativity in providing explanations for predictions he has made that have not been borne out by actual events. Prior to the season, he predicted that, due to “symmetrical appositions of the spheres influencing Jupiter,” the Dragons would lose just one game during the regular season, to Pickering, and defeat the Spartans in the CAC Final, then fall to Chino in the Championship. His article was written prior to the late pre-season transfer of ownership of the Florida Dragons to Scarborough. In this fact he has found an out, as evidenced by his latest Blog entry: *‘The move from Florida to Scarborough disturbed the psychic energies that sustained this great team. No coach or player can overcome the natural laws, nor remain immune to the curse of the ghosts of those hopes and prayers issued from the Everglades. It is not the same team.’*

In other words, the Blue Eagles are somehow cursed because they are no longer the Dragons. My explanation is a more conventional one: the turnover of an entire coaching staff is going to have an effect on performance – positive or negative. In the case of the Blue Eagles, there was not just a steep learning curve for the new staff, but a much more competitive playing environment in both conferences. It's a tougher schedule, with tougher challenges, and little things can make a big difference. With three games remaining in the regular season, the Blue Eagles can still win the South Division. Until they are officially eliminated, it is too early to say theirs is a failed season.

STYLE MATTERS

The best team in the league may not be the best team in the league even if the bottom line says it is so. The Pickering Spartans continued their amazing victory run with a 25-20 victory at home over Gwinnett to rise to 12-1. But, as in their previous five wins, fans came away from this game quite prepared to bet against the Spartans in their next game. Unlike 2010, when the unstoppable combination of **Chris Johnson** and **Brett Favre** made their own defence look redundant, nobody *fears* the Spartans in 2011. They *respect* them, but they do not fear them.

Ironically, the Gladiators in defeat strike more fear in opponents than do the Spartans in victory. Watching the Week 13 match-up between these two potential finalists for the CAC Final, it was hard to avoid the impression that the better team was getting a raw deal at every important turn. Four turnovers and 10 penalties were almost not enough to tip the balance against the Glads, who were already missing their defensive leader, **Troy Polamalu**. In the end, turnovers and a great individual play by **Chris Johnson** – a 49-yard run that brought back memories of his 2010 MVP season – set up **Matt Cassel's** only good pass of the game, a 13-yard corner fade to **Anquan Boldin** that gave Pickering a 25-20 lead. **Big Boob** took care of the rest, misfiring all over the place and throwing a late interception to ensure there would be no miracle comeback.

Speaking of **Big Boob**, I think he is the kind of quarterback who could be a Big ASSet or a Big LIE-ability in the post-season. There is no doubting his raw talent but, being “raw,” it carries risks as well as benefits. For five years since the EFL inaugurated, Roethlisberger has been the main reason for victory or defeat in most of the games he has played in, regardless of the team. Ever the *‘Prima Dona,’* **Big Boob** puts fans and his teammates at his mercy. It will be a nervous few weeks in Gwinnett as the season winds down.

MONKEYS AND COWS

He looked like a monkey at first, but a close-up revealed that the tiny figure wearing a green Corn Kings' jacket on the sidelines at The Corral was, in reality, a 9-year-old boy. His name: **Ryan Rich**, the new co-owner and co-manager of the Cowntown Corn Kings.

Farmer Brown, the low-profile owner of the Cowntown franchise, has apparently run into some financial difficulties after an exceedingly poor corn crop in both 2010 and 2011, and an overinflated contract for **Devery Henderson**, offered for the sake of his lovesick daughter, **Fleur**, who is infatuated with him. Enter, the richest boy in the world; who's burning desire to own a football team from the age of six eventually wore down his fantastically wealthy father, Richard, into purchasing 45% of the Cowntown franchise. The one condition of the deal: that Ryan be allowed to stand on the Corn Kings' sideline during games and call the occasional play from the playbook – at the coach's discretion, of course.

Despite initial protests from Cowntown Coach, **Jim Coghlin**, the deal went ahead as agreed upon and **Ryan Rich** became a regular attendee at practices and games that did not fall on a school day. By all accounts, it was not always an easy relationship; but Coach Coghlin did his best to humour and sometimes include his young apprentice, who irritatingly voiced the opinion that some day he would have his own team and destroy Cowntown.

In Week 13, during the school vacation, **Ryan Rich** took his private jet to Garland to be with the team as it continued its pursuit of a playoff berth in the Can-am Conference. Despite a heavy downpour, Ryan was very excited and hardly



"I AM GREAAAT!!!" says Death Valley linebacker, **Clay Matthews**, after making one of 8 sacks so far this season. Many EFL beat writers think the same way and make the case for Matthews as Defensive MVP. Spats McChad is not so sure that the best player on the worst defence is worthy.

noticed the rain.

"Can I call the first series?" he asked over and over again for as long as the answer did not involve a definitive 'yes.' The coach responded the same way every time: "We'll see," he said; which was not the right answer to avoid further pestering.

Finally, with Cowtown leading 6-0 and taking possession at their 25 yard line in the 2nd quarter, Coach Coghlin relented and said to Ryan, "You can call the next play."

"Long slant to Moss," he replied without hesitation. It was, in fact, the same play he had been trying to call since the game started.

The coach sent in the play, which was not a common one on first down for Cowtown, and closed his eyes. The Mustangs lined up in their usual 'Swiss 4-3' (no surprise there!) in zone defence. **Santana Moss** cut diagonally across the middle and **Joe Flacco** threw on target, catching him in stride. The league's leading scorer snared the pass just beyond the reach of safety, **Earl Thomas** and sprinted the distance for a 75-yard TD. It would be the only touchdown of the game in a 16-3 victory for the Corn Kings, and a source of unending pride for the young boy who called it. "With my play-calling and your oldness, we'll make a great team," Ryan said to Coach Coghlin as he jumped up and down.

AROUND THE EFL

The Undertakers took out a major conference rival with a 26-20 victory over Charleswood at the Graveyard. After building up a 23-0 lead over 3 quarters, **Chris Worthley's** crew hung on as **Peyton Manning** single-handedly mounted a 20-point attack in the final frame. Death Valley linebacker, **Clay Matthews**, with just one tackle on the day, played almost no role in holding the Pats to zero pints over 3 quarters and did not prevent them getting back in the game. Yet national sports writers are speaking of Matthews as a Defensive MVP candidate. With 8 sacks, 7 deflections, 14 hurries, and 2 interceptions, Matthews has impressive numbers, but his team is dead last in yards-allowed per game and third-to-last in points surrendered. It may be shallow, but I cannot bring myself to vote for any player as "most valuable" when the thing that the player does *best* is the thing his team does the *worst*. Unless he's the only player on the field, or everyone else is absolutely terrible, that tells me he is not so "valuable."

The Hellfire surprised the Cubs at Joe Ferguson Stadium with a last-minute 54-yard field goal by **Rob Bironas** to earn a 23-22 victory, only their second win of the season. At first glance, it appeared to be a tremendous upset. But upon review it appears that the Cubs opened the door to such an outcome by starting **Andy Dalton** at QB over **Sam Bradford**. The young second-stringer posed no threat to the Mohave secondary, so the shaky Hellfire front seven turned their full attention to **Arian Foster** and held him to a mere 71 yards on 23 carries. Dalton avoided turning the ball over but he did not take full advantage of the open space in the passing game. **Deron Redding** is facing a firestorm of criticism in broccoli country as fans demand to know what prompted the sudden, and uncalled-for, switch.

The Violators did not go down easily to the Knights, but they went down as expected nevertheless, dropping a 37-24 decision at **TERRORDOME**. **Josh Freeman** controlled the game, throwing for 249 yards and rushing for 49 against an uninspired Virden defence. The Violators, at 4-9, are still alive in the playoff hunt, which is a black mark on the entire Conference.

The **Brady Redemption Watch** registered a redemption-worthy performance in Week 13 as the beleaguered **Tom Brady** threw for 2 TD passes against one of the top defences in the league in a 34-6 blowout at Chino. Warden, **Rob Nazar** is under death threat after inserting **Jay Cutler** back into the Convicts' game plan without warning. Although **Cam Newton** has been struggling recently, the reversion to Cutler served as a nice reminder of why the switch was made in the first place. The Chino back-up and former starter threw 2 picks in 4 pass attempts to help ruin the game for his team.

















Frank Gore had a breakout day for the South Carolina Regulators, gaining 193 total yards and scoring 3 touchdowns in a 31-10 win over the hapless North Stars. Nobody is sure whether a win over Markham is impressive or not. By default, beating the North Stars is not overly remarkable; but losing to the North Stars is always an uncomfortable possibility. So, basically you cannot win when you face Markham – you get no credit when you beat them and horrendous blame when you lose.

BUG THE BOOKIE!

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



PLAYOFF PICTURE AT A GLANCE

PACIFIC-ATLANTIC CONFERENCE		CAN-AM CONFERENCE			
OUT	ALIVE	IN	IN	ALIVE	OUT
	  	   	<div>1</div>  <div>2</div>  <div>3</div>  <div>4</div> 		  

JIMMY'S WEEK FOURTEEN PICKS

DURHAM @ PICKERING (line – SPARTANS by 3)

The Thunder Lizards are still alive in the playoff hunt after a huge win last week over Scarborough. They cannot win the North Division, but they can certainly make a mess of things for the Spartans and keep themselves in the hunt with a win at Pickering this week. The Spartans have the best record in the league, but they know that means nothing against the only team to have beaten them so far in 2011. The Lizards are completely healthy, while the Spartans are missing defensive end Kyle Vanden Bosch. Durham must win their remaining three games to ensure themselves a playoff berth and the hardest part of that challenge begins this week. Apart from Pickering's amazing track record, I see no reason to doubt that the Lizards can repeat their Week Two dominance over the Spartans. Although the Thunder Lizards are vulnerable to the run, their pass defence is one of the best and I expect Matt Cassel will be loathe to launch a bold air assault against them. If Durham can contain the running game, not necessarily stop it, it will be a long day at Thermopylae Stadium for the home team. **PICK: DURHAM**

COWTOWN @ MARKHAM (line – CORN KINGS by 8)

The Corn Kings can clinch a playoff berth this week with a win at the Dawg Pound. With the top-rated offence and the third-rated defence in the league, there is no rational reason to believe the Corn Kings will not validate an extraordinary season with a victory over their weak Division rivals. However, Head Coach, Darrin Jones and the irrational Markham crowd take no such factors into consideration, regardless of the situation, and believe they can win on any given day. It is a well-founded belief, based on precedent, but one that defies explanation. Scott Fujita is out and Casey Matthews is questionable on the Markham side, while Todd Heap is out for Cowtown. If the North Stars can get off to a quick start, the home field could make this a difficult game for the Kings. If Cowtown strikes early, the quick deflation of faint hopes could turn this into a rout. Either way, I see Cowtown winning the game by at least 10 points. **PICK: COWTOWN**

SOUTH CAROLINA @ GWINNETT (line – GLADIATORS by 11)

The Glads are coming off a disappointing loss to Pickering but still retain a one-game lead over their Division rivals, Scarborough. A win here for the Gwinnett will not clinch anything but will bring them closer to clinching and make everything a little easier moving forward. The Regulators, as healthy now as they were at the start of the season, are in their best position to play the spoiler but have a big task ahead of them. If they continue to turn the ball over at their present pace, the game will be over very early. With Big Ben behind center, the Glads can give the ball away almost as much as they take it away. Avoiding turnovers will make the difference, but if Beg Ben continues to be overly generous, it will be either a close game, won by Gwinnett, or a blowout, won by Gwinnett. I'll take the latter. **PICK: GWINNETT**

GARLAND @ SCARBOROUGH (line – BLUE EAGLES by 9)

Statistically by team, overall the Mustangs (3-10) are actually ranked better overall than Scarborough (8-5): one rank behind them on offence, but 4 ranks ahead of them on defence. While amazing on many levels, it is nevertheless not enough to dissuade most bettors from going with what they see as the superior talent pool. Scarborough remains the better team, maybe even the best team in the league, even if they are not performing to expectations. Both of these teams are coming off losses, but only one is highly motivated to win, and that is the one that sees itself as rightfully belonging in first place in the South Division. I cannot envision a situation where Scarborough will lose at home to the predictable and mediocre Mustangs. Ray Rice is due to have a good game in both the running and passing games and I think this will be the week that one, or both, of those phases finally work for him. The only remaining question is whether or not they will win by 9 points or more. Barring a strange string of turnovers, this question is easily answered in the affirmative. **PICK: SCARBOROUGH**

IOWA CITY @ CHINO (line – CONVICTS by 4)

With both teams playing Quarterback Carousel lately it is difficult to peg a winner against the spread. There are several scenarios possible in this game and gauging which one will happen is difficult given that neither coach has announced a starting QB. The Cubs' defence is struggling while the Chino offence is also struggling. The Cubs' offence remains highly ranked despite this but has under-performed in recent weeks. The last time these two teams faced each other, the Cubs prevailed in a low-scoring contest in which Jay Cutler was picked off 3 times. It is safe to say that Rob Nazar will think twice before sending Cutler into the fray against the ball-hawking Iowa defence. Having given the starting job to Sam Bradford at the start of the season, last week's strange and sudden departure from the game plan by starting Andy Dalton has the Cubs' offence, and their fans, confused. Arian Foster is a weapon, but his effectiveness depends on how effective the passing game is, and lately the Cubs' passing game has not been very effective. The winner of this game will gain the inside track for the final

wildcard berth. With so much at stake, it will be a very close game with the home team edging the visitor by a field goal or less. **PICK: IOWA CITY**

DEATH VALLEY @ LOS ANGELES (line – KNIGHTS by 4)

This is it – the battle of the West. The last time these two teams faced each other, the hot-as-hell Knights knocked off the Undertakers at the Graveyard. Now, the resurgent Undertakers are looking to get one back with a win on the road against the conference's top team, and they must win to hold any hope of winning the Division. Defensive end Brett Keisel is "questionable," but otherwise all starters are available. Drew Brees is leading the league in QB rating and TD passes, raising the level of those who play with him, making Andre Johnson and Mario Manningham even more dangerous. Josh Freeman, the third-rated passer in the league, is ready to break out on his own terms and attack the worst rated defence in the league, but one that has played much better in recent weeks. In the end, the LA offensive line, led by left tackle Joe Thomas, will make the big difference between these two teams with many similarities. **PICK: DEATH VALLEY**

YORK @ MOHAVE (line – EXCALIBURS by 3)

If the Excaliburs have any hope of beating out Charleswood for the Division Crown they must take aim at the Hellfire this week and win the game. If they lose, they will remain a part of a down and dirty scramble for the final play-off berth in the PAC. The Hellfire have long since given up hope for this year but the Excaliburs are still looking for 'Tom Brady's Redemption' before hopefully moving on to greater things. On paper, York has the talent on offence to dismantle the Mohave defence on the ground with Darren McFadden and through the air with Brady's precision but, in theory, the Hellfire defence is well-equipped to give Brady a run for his money, even though they have not yet given anyone else a run for their money this year. York is on a roll and I think they will continue to be hot in the Mohave desert this week. **PICK: MOHAVE**

CHARLESWOOD @ VIRDEN (line – PATRIOTS by 6)

The last time these two teams met, the Pats eked out a 9-7 victory; but the closeness of that contest should not influence your betting hunch in Week 14. The big difference between now and Week Two is the lack of hope for Virden, even though a win keeps them alive in the wildcard race. The Pats are missing some key pieces on defence with Ryan Pickett and Stewart Bradley out, but Virden may not be able to get a running game going against this group anyway. If the Violators under Eli Manning somehow manage to snatch this win it will keep them alive long enough to lose more dramatically later. Meanwhile, a Patriots' win will clinch the East Division crown and allow for some resting of key players late in the season. **PICK: CHARLESWOOD**

