

WEEK 8



EFL

ELITE FOOTBALL LEAGUE



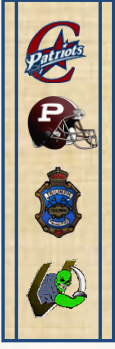
Blazing Through a Pandemic in our 14th Season!

November 29, 2020

EAST



CENTRAL



WEST



NORTH



COASTAL



SOUTH



JONESIN' FOR PERFECTION!



*Julio Jones
Cobb County Coyotes*

Coyotes wide receiver *Julio Jones* goes up and hauls in a short slant from *Ryan Tannehill* for a first down in 4th quarter action at True North Field in Winnipeg. This play resulted in the first of two 1st downs that Cobb County would need to run out the clock and keep the ball out of the hands of *Kirk Cousins* and finish off a 41-38 win over the Crusaders. Jones also caught two 2 TD passes to play a key role in elevating his team's record to a perfect 8-0.



*Who was slick
in Week Eight?*

**“Brylcreem” THE
EFL'S FIRST SPONSOR**

OFFENCE



Ryan Tannehill
QB
Cobb County
Coyotes

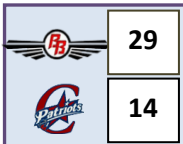
21 of 32, 391 Yds, 5 TDs, 1 INT. Top Gun in Coyotes' 41-38 win over PC.

DEFENSE



Carlton Davis
CB
Cowntown Corn
Kings

15 T, 2 PD, INT (17-yds) FF. Created 2 critical TOs and held Beckham in check



29

14

Jared Goff found **Travis Kelce** on a short hitch route for a 10-yard TD pass then dropped a dime on **Chris Godwin**, who shrugged off 2 tackles on his way to a 72-yard scoring play to help the Bombers build a 22-3 halftime lead. A curious decision by the Pats to go for it on 4th & 17 at their own 5-yard line also helped, as **Matt Prater** came on to kick a chip shot FG after the failure to convert. The Pats offered some resistance, as the Bruxelles offence faltered, with a 5-yard TD to **Juju Smith-Schuster**. But the Bombers pulled off a back-breaking 99-yard drive to score the clinching TD late in the 4th.

11-26-2020 Patriot Place Temp:75 Wind: Line:CHP by 6 MVP:Goff HFA:ON

	1	2	3	4	Tot
2019 Bruxelles (5-3)	10	12	0	7	29
2019 Charleswood (1-7)	0	3	3	8	14

Scoring Summary

1 10:33	Bruxelles	FG Prater 47 (10-46-4:23)	3-0
1 3:10	Bruxelles	TD Goff 10 pass to Kelce (Prater) (10-78-5:44)	10-0
2 11:31	Charleswood	FG Carlson 20 (15-92-6:28)	10-3
2 10:32	Bruxelles	TD Goff 72 pass to Godwin (no good) (2-75-0:59)	16-3
2 2:51	Bruxelles	FG Prater 21 (7-56-3:12)	19-3
2 0:33	Bruxelles	FG Prater 21 (4-8-1:15)	22-3
3 6:52	Charleswood	FG Carlson 47 (15-46-7:54)	22-6
4 14:09	Charleswood	TD Watson 5 pass to Smith-Schuster (2 - Smith-Schuster) (22-14
4 1:19	Bruxelles	TD Williams 7 run (Prater) (15-99-6:05)	29-14

Passing

BRX: Goff 25/14 248 Yds 2 TDs
 CHP: Watson 42/22 187 Yds TD

Rushing

BRX: Fournette 16/84, Johnson 3/20, Williams 3/15 TD, Thompson 2/13
 CHP: Watson 4/58, Kamara 13/51, Dobbins 3/17

Receiving

BRX: Godwin 5/140 TD, Kelce 4/52 TD, Fournette 3/18, Waller 1/8, Claypool 1/30
 CHP: Kamara 9/33, Jones 5/51, Smith-Schuster 4/49 TD, Metcalf 2/24, Meyers 1/21

Defense

BRX: Casey 2-Sks 4-Tk, Fuller 9-Tk
 CHP: Queen 10-Tk

Injuries

BRX: Johnson 6, Clark 1
 CHP: Mosley 9, Funchess 7, Campbell 4, James Jr. 2

Misc

BRX:
 CHP:



21

13

Juan Thornhill plucked a **Deebo Samuel** fumble from the turf and returned it 24 yards for a Twin Cities TD. The rest of the 1st half highlights went to New Jersey as **Case Keenum** capped a 94-yard drive with a 6-yard slant to **Ryan Griffin** to give the Balls a 10-7 lead. NJ got a break in the 3rd when **Antoine Winfield Jr** forced a fumble in Triumph territory. But 3 plays later, **Bobby Wagner** intercepted Keenum in the red zone and the Triumph went on to score to take a 14-10 lead. NJ got 3 points back after a tight struggle, only to see **DJ Moore** catch a 75-yard pass from **Mitch Trubisky** for the clinching TD.

11-28-2020 Stone Pony Shore Temp:49 Wind:0-10 None Line:NJ by 6 MVP:Trubisky HFA:O

	1	2	3	4	Tot
2019 Twin Cities (2-6)	0	7	7	7	21
2019 New Jersey (1-7)	3	7	0	3	13

Scoring Summary

1 1:35	New Jersey	FG Boswell 35 (10-43-5:14)	0-3
2 14:11	Twin Cities	TD Thornhill 24 yd fumble recovery (Hopkins)	7-3
2 2:50	New Jersey	TD Keenum 6 pass to Griffin (Boswell) (13-94-6:27)	7-10
3 4:18	Twin Cities	TD Trubisky 23 pass to White (Hopkins) (5-67-3:12)	14-10
4 8:46	New Jersey	FG Boswell 28 (10-72-3:56)	14-13
4 8:29	Twin Cities	TD Trubisky 75 pass to Moore (Hopkins) (1-75-0:17)	21-13

Passing

TCT: Trubisky 30/18 259 Yds 2 TDs
 NJ: Keenum 51/28 253 Yds TD Int

Rushing

TCT: Edwards-Helaire 16/64, Gordon III 5/10, White 4/2
 NJ: Samuel 1/37, Hill 7/24, Cohen 4/20, Montgomery 6/15

Receiving

TCT: White 7/68 TD, Golladay 5/79, Moore 4/100 TD, Edwards-Helaire 1/9, Stocker 1/3
 NJ: Griffin 9/62 TD, Cohen 7/52, Chark Jr. 5/55, Samuel 3/35, Gandy-Golden 2/20

Defense

TCT: Wagner Int 9-Tk, Thornhill 10-Tk
 NJ: Cunningham 13-Tk

Injuries

TCT: Brown 8, Lindstrom 4, Alexander 3, Okung 2, Edwards-Helaire 1, Brown 1
 NJ: Stafford 4, McLaurin 1

Misc

TCT:
 NJ: |



A dump-off to **Demaryius Thomas** went for 57 yards to set up an opening drive FG for the Derailers. The Violators answered with three consecutive drives for TDs, with **Patrick Mahomes** going 15 of 20 for 183 yards and 2 TDs during that stretch and **Ezekiel Elliott** breaking a 28-yard TD run for a 21-3 lead. **John Brown** helped add to the lead in the 2nd half with a 56-yard catch-and-run to set Elliott's second TD run. A turnover on downs and an Elliott fumble opened a window for Buffalo to get back in the game, but a fumbled KR by **DeAndre Carter** set up the TD that sealed the deal for Virden.

11-26-2020 New Era Stadium Temp:49 Wind:0-5 None No Line MVP:Mahomes HFA:ON(2)

	1	2	3	4	Tot
2019 Virden (7-1)	7	14	7	13	41
2019 Buffalo (5-3)	3	0	14	0	17

Scoring Summary

1 12:26 Buffalo	FG Elliott 39 (6-54-2:30)	0-3
1 8:43 Virden	TD Mahomes 13 pass to Ebron (Gonzalez) (9-75-3:43)	7-3
2 12:23 Virden	TD Mahomes 7 pass to Sanu (Gonzalez) (11-65-4:13)	14-3
2 5:23 Virden	TD Elliott 28 run (Gonzalez) (8-88-4:29)	21-3
3 13:41 Virden	TD Elliott 1 run (Gonzalez) (6-75-1:19)	28-3
3 6:00 Buffalo	TD Jackson 9 run (Elliott,J) (8-54-4:52)	28-10
3 0:07 Buffalo	TD Jackson 5 pass to Coleman (Elliott,J) (8-52-4:49)	28-17
4 8:42 Virden	FG Gonzalez 27 (14-77-6:14)	31-17
4 8:20 Virden	TD Elliott 4 run (Gonzalez) (1-4-0:10)	38-17
4 2:27 Virden	FG Gonzalez 44 (7-34-4:36)	41-17

Passing

VV: Mahomes 36/22 302 Yds 2 TDs
 BUF: Jackson 38/29 268 Yds TD Int

Rushing

VV: Elliott 14/65 3 TDs, Mahomes 6/44, Freeman 6/34
 BUF: Jackson 12/57 TD, Woods 1/19, Coleman 7/7

Receiving

VV: Brown 6/121, Sanu 6/70 TD, Cooper 4/45, Elliott 3/27, Ebron 3/39 TD
 BUF: Woods 8/69, Fant 6/57, Tate 4/24, Coleman 3/14 TD, Sanders 3/19, Thomas 3/69

Defense

VV: Clinton-Dix FF 8-Tk, Waynes FF 8-Tk, Barr Int 4-Tk, Williams Sk 4-Tk, Harris Jr.
 BUF: Barnett Sk FF 4-Tk

Injuries

VV: Adderley 9, Guice 8
 BUF: Abram 8, Dunbar 4



The Coyotes and Crusaders traded heavy blows in the 1st half, with long passing plays from both **Ryan Tannehill** and **Kirk Cousins** and a big **Marcus Maye** pick in the Coyotes' red zone throwing fuel on the fire. When the smoke cleared, Cobb County led 24-21 at the half. A 32-yard dump-off to **JP Holtz** got the Coyotes rolling to an eventual TD on their opening drive of the 2nd half and put the Pegs in comeback mode. Cousins' 2nd TD pass of the game to **Aaron Jones** with 3:35 left brought the Crusaders to within 3 points. But the efficient Coyote offence drained the clock to finish off the win.

	1	2	3	4	Tot
2019 Cobb County (8-0)	10	14	14	3	41
2019 Peg City (5-3)	7	14	7	10	38

Scoring Summary

1 10:30 Peg City	TD Cousins 9 pass to Sutton (Butker) (2-61-0:58)	0-7
1 8:35 Cobb County	TD Tannehill 73 pass to Jones (McManus) (6-75-1:55)	7-7
1 1:06 Cobb County	FG McManus 42 (9-52-4:45)	10-7
2 9:30 Peg City	TD Cousins 3 pass to Sutton (Butker) (2-12-0:50)	10-14
2 4:11 Cobb County	TD Tannehill 10 pass to Cook (McManus) (9-75-5:19)	17-14
2 2:30 Peg City	TD Cousins 4 pass to Jones (Butker) (3-75-1:41)	17-21
2 0:48 Cobb County	TD Tannehill 26 pass to Jones (McManus) (6-75-1:42)	24-21
3 10:04 Cobb County	TD Tannehill 11 pass to Cook (McManus) (8-74-4:44)	31-21
3 4:24 Peg City	TD Cousins 7 pass to Boyle (Butker) (11-75-5:40)	31-28
3 1:16 Cobb County	TD Tannehill 19 pass to Cooks (McManus) (5-75-3:08)	38-28
4 11:42 Peg City	FG Butker 33 (12-45-4:17)	38-31
4 6:44 Cobb County	FG McManus 51 (7-42-4:53)	41-31
4 3:35 Peg City	TD Cousins 6 pass to Jones (Butker) (5-75-3:09)	41-38

Passing

CB: Tannehill 32/21 391 Yds 5 TDs Int
 PCC: Cousins 29/20 299 Yds 5 TDs

Rushing

CB: Mostert 16/113, Peterson 12/33, Tannehill 7/33
 PCC: Jones 11/63, Barkley 5/24, Cousins 1/6

Receiving

CB: Jones 7/166 2 TDs, Cook 5/49 2 TDs, Parker 4/59, Mostert 2/56, Peterson 1/10
 PCC: Jones 5/46 2 TDs, Boyle 4/32 TD, Allen 4/151, Higbee 3/39, Sutton 2/12 2 TDs

Defense

CB: Golden 2-Sks 4-Tk
 PCC: Bush FF 18-Tk, Maye Int 3-Tk

Injuries

CB:
 PCC:

Misc

CB: 570 Yds Offence
 PCC: Hilliard 3/122 KR



38
24

Jakeem Grant returned two kickoffs for TDs in the 1st half and **Christian McCaffrey** found the end zone twice – on a 6-yard run and 19-yard pass – to give Chino a 28-24 lead over Seattle at half time. **Sam Darnold** did his part for the Pilots early, hitting **Demarcus Robinson** for 52 yards to set up a 25-yard TD pass to **Anthony Miller** and hitting **Denzel Mims** on a cross that went for 47 yards and a TD, but could not overcome the big plays. Chino opened the 2nd half with a **Dak Prescott** to **Michael Gallup** TD pass while the Chino 'D' locked down the Seattle offence with two big red zone stops.

11-25-2020 Kingdome Temp:70 Wind: Line:SEA by 8 MVP:McCaffrey HFA:ON(1)

	1	2	3	4	Tot
2019 Chino (3-4-1)	14	14	7	3	38
2019 Seattle (3-5)	14	10	0	0	24

Scoring Summary

1 13:07 Seattle	TD Darnold 25 pass to Miller (Lambo) (4-75-1:53)	0-7
1 13:00 Chino	TD Grant 100 kick return (McLaughlin)	7-7
1 5:50 Chino	TD McCaffrey 6 run (McLaughlin) (8-61-5:19)	14-7
1 0:35 Seattle	TD Darnold 19 pass to Dorsett II (Lambo) (8-75-5:15)	14-14
2 10:49 Seattle	TD Darnold 47 pass to Mims (Lambo) (5-90-3:10)	14-21
2 10:38 Chino	TD Grant 101 kick return (McLaughlin)	21-21
2 0:59 Chino	TD Prescott 19 pass to McCaffrey (McLaughlin) (11-78-5:46)	28-21
2 0:00 Seattle	FG Lambo 44 (6-37-0:51)	28-24
3 9:44 Chino	TD Prescott 10 pass to Gallup (McLaughlin) (9-75-5:16)	35-24
4 4:54 Chino	FG McLaughlin 25 (17-66-10:20)	38-24

Passing

CHI: Prescott 27/20 242 Yds 2 TDs
SEA: Darnold 36/29 335 Yds 3 TDs Int

Rushing

CHI: McCaffrey 17/77 TD, Ingram II 8/20, Prescott 6/7, Jones II 1/4
SEA: Mack 10/85, Akers 1/6, Darnold 2/5

Receiving

CHI: McCaffrey 8/100 TD, Gallup 6/74 TD, Fitzgerald 4/42, Jones Jr. 1/24, Ingram II 1/2
SEA: Harmon 6/53, Miller 6/65 TD, Hunt 4/31, Lamb 4/28, Dorsett II 2/30 TD

Defense

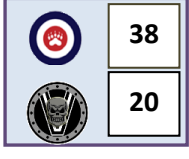
CHI: McKinley Sk FF 4-Tk, Conley Int 6-Tk, McCoy Sk 3-Tk
SEA:

Injuries

CHI: Short 5, Skura 4
SEA: Williams 4, Massie 4

Misc

CHI: Grant 3/225 KR 2 TDs Lg 101
SEA: Agnew 5/152 KR Lg 35



38
20

Russell Wilson went 16 of 21 for 173 yards and 3 TD passes over the Cubs' first six possessions, while **Joe Mixon** added a 7-yard TD run to vault the Cubs into a 28-0 lead just before half time. This prompted the Assassins to turn to rookie **Justin Herbert** in an attempt to turn around their fortunes and it worked. Herbert found **Michael Thomas** for a 59-yard catch-and-run play on the first pass of his career and went on to throw 2 TD passes to pull LV to within 8 points. But the Cubs' defence clamped down on a 4th & 1 attempt at md-field and the offence added 10 more points to win walking away.

11-26-2020 Assassin's Den Temp:74 Wind: Line:LV by 6 MVP:Wilson HFA:ON(

	1	2	3	4	Tot
2019 Iowa City (4-3-1)	14	14	0	10	38
2019 Las Vegas (3-5)	0	7	13	0	20

Scoring Summary

1 12:08 Iowa City	TD Mixon 7 run (Tucker,J) (8-75-2:52)	7-0
1 6:09 Iowa City	TD Wilson 2 pass to Beasley (Tucker,J) (10-64-4:53)	14-0
2 10:14 Iowa City	TD Wilson 21 pass to Lockett (Tucker,J) (9-66-5:21)	21-0
2 2:31 Iowa City	TD Wilson 10 pass to Kirk (Tucker,J) (5-32-2:16)	28-0
2 1:39 Las Vegas	TD Cook 1 run (Fairbairn) (4-75-0:52)	28-7
3 6:50 Las Vegas	TD Herbert 22 pass to Thomas (Fairbairn) (8-77-4:38)	28-14
3 4:30 Las Vegas	TD Herbert 41 pass to Thomas (no good) (1-41-0:15)	28-20
4 7:53 Iowa City	FG Tucker 37 (8-32-4:10)	31-20
4 1:49 Iowa City	TD Wilson 1 run (Tucker,J) (9-46-3:57)	38-20

Passing

ICC: Wilson 42/27 272 Yds 3 TDs Int
LV: Herbert 22/12 222 Yds 2 TDs Int, Brissett 6/2/12 Yds Int, Wentz 5/1 10 Yds

Rushing

ICC: Mixon 18/67 TD, Wilson 7/34 TD, Conner 10/32, Kirk 1/7
LV: Cook 17/63 TD, Brissett 5/17, Herbert 2/2

Receiving

ICC: Lockett 9/97 TD, Beasley 6/61 TD, Mixon 4/22, Brown 3/52, Kirk 3/24 TD, Conner 2/16
LV: Thomas 6/165 2 TDs, Pascal 3/32, Jeudy 2/20, Graham 2/18, Cook 2/9

Defense

ICC: Hayward Jr PD Int 7-Tk, Littleton PD FF Int 4-Tk
LV: Leonard STF 15-Tk, Williams,T PD Int 4-Tk

Injuries

ICC:
LV: Jackson 5, Ngakoue 1

Misc

DTL:
SBE:



16



6

Jimmy Garoppolo checked down to DeAndre Washington for a 9-yard TD pass in the 1st quarter for what would turn out to be the game-winning touchdown on a day when the Corn Kings defence repeatedly denied Drew Brees and the Swordfish in the red zone. An Xavier Woods forced fumble at the 12 and Justin Coleman's 4th down tackle of Laviska Shenault inches shy of the line of gain at the 3, thwarted two long drives. In the 4th quarter, Carlton Davis III came up big with an interception and a forced fumble that led directly to 10 insurance points and the Cowtown 'D' held on.

11-25-2020 The Fish Tank Temp:76 Wind: *Internet* Line:SS by 6 MVP:Davis III HFA:ON(2)

	1	2	3	4	Tot
2019 Cowtown (5-3)	7	0	0	9	16
2019 Sebastian (4-4)	0	3	0	3	6

Scoring Summary

1 5:48	Cowtown	TD Garoppolo 9 pass to Washington (Slye) (6-43-2:44)	7-0
2 0:10	Sebastian	FG Bailey 41 (7-28-1:30)	7-3
4 14:14	Sebastian	FG Bailey 47 (9-25-4:03)	7-6
4 9:32	Cowtown	FG Slye 31 (4-3-2:02)	10-6
4 4:13	Cowtown	TD Kennard 35 yd fumble recovery (no good)	16-6

Passing

COW: Garoppolo 20/13 149 Yds TD Int
SS: Brees 45/33 284 Yds Int, Haskins Jr. 4/2 12 Yds

Rushing

COW: Gurley II 10/21, Garoppolo 4/13, Bell 3/11, Washington 2/8, Powell 2/2
SS: Taylor 11/47, Edmonds 7/12, Williams 11/6

Receiving

COW: Washington 3/35 TD, Humphries 3/26, Bell 3/45, Sprinkle 2/15, Evans 1/8, Cephus 1/20
SS: Beckham Jr. 11/106, Tate 6/54, Shenault Jr. 5/32, Williams 5/31, Reagor 4/45, Witten 2/20

Defense

COW: Watt 2-Sks FF 11-Tk, Davis III Int FF 15-Tk, Kpassagnon 2-Sks 5-Tk, Coleman FF
SS: Dunlap Sk FF 3-Tk, Jones Sk 3-Tk

Injuries

COW:
SS:

Misc

COW: Harris 2 Fumbles
SS: 4 Fumbles- 2 lost, 3/8 4th down



17



0

Rookie Joe Burrow mis-fired on the Eagles' first drive and Tyrann Mathieu intercepted the pass, leading to a 51-yard Ed Piniero FG to give Durham a 3-0 lead. Trevor Davis fumbled away the ensuing kick at the 32 and two plays later Josh Allen found Tyler Boyd on a slant for a 30-yard TD. The Blue Eagles were unable to make headway offensively, with Burrow throwing two more picks, the last coming early in the 3rd quarter to set up a short field for the Lizards' final score on an 8-yard draw by Allen. Drew Lock entered in relief but he was also intercepted, while failing to break the shutout.

11-27-2020 The Wolverine's Den Temp:55 Wind:0-5 None Line:DTL by 1 MVP:Allen H

	1	2	3	4	Tot
2019 Durham (5-3)	10	0	7	0	17
2019 Scarborough (5-3)	0	0	0	0	0

Scoring Summary

1 6:24	Durham	FG Pineiro 51 (8-22-3:22)	3-0
1 5:10	Durham	TD Allen 30 pass to Boyd (Pineiro) (3-32-1:03)	10-0
3 8:29	Durham	TD Allen 8 run (Pineiro) (6-50-3:10)	17-0

Passing

DTL: Allen 23/14 145 Yds TD
SBE: Burrow 18/7 44 Yds 3 Int, Lock 13/6 37 Yds Int

Rushing

DTL: Chubb 22/96, Allen 4/13 TD, Gibson 3/10, Penny 3/4
SBE: Carson 21/115, Freeman 7/36, Burrow 3/35, Lock 1/1

Receiving

DTL: Hilton 4/49, Kupp 4/31, Boyd 2/38 TD, Gibson 1/6, Hooper 1/18, Conklin 1/-3
SBE: Crowder 3/23, Freeman 2/13, Robinson II 2/20, Carson 2/6, Edwards 2/5

Defense

DTL: Mathieu 2-Int 6-Tk, Young Sk FF 3-Tk, Armstead Sk 3-Tk
SBE: Fowler Jr. FF 6-Tk, Ryan 9-Tk

Injuries

DTL:
SBE: Jackson 2

Misc

DTL:
SBE:



The North Stars made three long probes into Irish territory in a slow 1st half and came away with two field **Jason Myers** field goals in 3 attempts. The Irish were more aggressive, attempting and missing twice to convert 4th downs in Budapest territory and coming away with nothing. In the 2nd half, the Irish went for it twice on 4th & 9 from the Budapest 38 and were stopped both times. The Stars' offence came back strong both times, with **Aaron Rodgers** catching the defence short on a 45-yard TD pass to **Stefon Diggs**; and **David Johnson** running it in from 12 yards to complete the scoring

11-25-2020 Ferenc-Liszt Intl Temp:59 Wind:0-10 None Line:BUD by 11 MVP:Rodgers HF

	1	2	3	4	Tot
2019 East Elmhurst (2-6)	0	0	0	0	0
2019 Budapest (7-1)	3	3	14	0	20

Scoring Summary

1 7:19 Budapest	FG Myers 26 (15-64-7:32)	0-3
2 0:00 Budapest	FG Myers 37 (11-44-2:31)	0-6
3 9:58 Budapest	TD Rodgers 45 pass to Diggs (Myers,J) (3-62-1:06)	0-13
3 2:26 Budapest	TD Johnson 13 run (Myers,J) (5-63-2:33)	0-20

Passing

EE: Mayfield 29/19 166 Yds
 BUD: Rodgers 25/17 236 Yds TD

Rushing

EE: Murray 8/28, Kelley 6/24, Hill 5/12, Mayfield 4/10
 BUD: Johnson 11/64 TD, Rodgers 2/32, Walton 10/31, Dallas 2/6, Taylor 4/3

Receiving

EE: Kelley 5/38, Hill 4/71, Thielen 3/20, Agholor 3/18, Everett 2/7, Quinn 1/11
 BUD: Diggs 5/120 TD, Johnson 4/18, Kittle 4/50, Clay 2/20, Jefferson 1/17, Watkins 1/11

Defense

EE: Smith 13-Tk, Weddle FF 6-Tk
 BUD: David 10-Tk, Suggs FF 7-Tk, Campbell Sk FF Tk

Injuries

EE: Anderson 6, Charlton 5, Poe 3, Hill 2
 BUD: Britt 6

Misc

EE: 0/4 on 4th Down
 BUD:



A fly to **Tee Higgins** for 26 yards set up a 41-yard **Austin Seibert** FG that broke the 0-0 deadlock late in the 1st half. On the next play, **Philip Rivers** was picked off by **Stephon Gilmore**, who returned it to the Pickering 4 to set up a TD pass to **Mark Andrews**, giving Erieau a 9-0 lead. **Justin Jackson** put Pickering on the board with a 20-yard TD run to start the 2nd half, but the Spartans did nothing more until **Micah Hyde** forced a fumble that set up the go-ahead TD pass to **Sterling Shepherd** with 2:08 left. Trailing 13-12, **Kyler Murray** moved the Caddies into FG range but ran out of time to set up.

11-25-2020 Thermopylae Stadium Temp:38 Wind:0-5 None Line:PIC by 3 MVP:Rivers H

	1	2	3	4	Tot
2019 Erieau (2-6)	0	9	0	3	12
2019 Pickering (3-5)	0	0	7	6	13

Scoring Summary

2 1:54 Erieau	FG Seibert 41 (7-46-3:05)	3-0
2 1:13 Erieau	TD Murray 4 pass to Andrews (no good) (2-4-0:34)	9-0
3 10:48 Pickering	TD Jackson 20 run (Zuerlein) (9-75-4:12)	9-7
4 14:57 Erieau	FG Seibert 37 (9-53-5:52)	12-7
4 2:08 Pickering	TD Rivers 9 pass to Shepard (2 - failed) (3-36-0:27)	12-13

Passing

ERI: Murray 37/24 219 Yds TD
 PIC: Rivers 29/18 173 Yds TD Int

Rushing

ERI: Murray 10/63, McCoy 4/38, Moss 6/21, Hines 4/11, Gore 2/9, Ruggs III 1/6
 PIC: Swift 9/44, Jackson 6/29 TD, Rivers 3/10

Receiving

ERI: Andrews 8/60 TD, Higgins 6/68, Johnson 3/13, Ruggs III 3/45, Gordon 1/12
 PIC: Sanders 4/33, Swift 4/34, Shepard 2/12 TD, Brown 2/33, Ridley 2/28, Jackson 2/6

Defense

ERI: Murray Sk 6-Tk, Gilmore Int 4-Tk, Walker 9-Tk
 PIC: Hyde FF 10-Tk, Blacklock Sk 5-Tk, Amukamara 9-Tk

Injuries

ERI: Staley 5, Gordon 4, Garrett 3, Hicks 2
 PIC: Joseph 5, Howard 3, Dennard 3, Brown 1, Wolfe 1

Misc

ERI:
 PIC:



20



35

Near the end of a scoreless 1st quarter, York pinned the Mustangs against their end zone at the 1-yard line. **Matt Ryan** patiently led his team the distance in 15 plays, finishing with a 15-yard cross to **Julian Edelman** for the first TD. Ryan and Edelman would hook up for another TD and seek a third, but **Rock Ya-Sin** picked off Ryan to set up a long fly to **Zach Ertz** for a 27-yard TD pass to get York on the board. **Derrick Henry** swept around the end for a 70-yard TD run to tie early in the 3rd then York took a brief lead before Aurora went into overdrive, scoring 3 TDs in 3 series to gallop away with the win.

11-26-2020 Magna Park Temp:60 Wind:10-20 None Line:AUR by 6 MVP:Ryan HFA:ON(4)

	1	2	3	4	Tot
2019 York (4-4)	0	7	10	3	20
2019 Aurora (5-3)	0	14	7	14	35

Scoring Summary

2 11:10	Aurora	TD Ryan 15 pass to Edelman (Lutz) (15-99-7:21)	0-7
2 1:40	Aurora	TD Ryan 12 pass to Edelman (Lutz) (14-80-5:39)	0-14
2 0:08	York	TD Brady 27 pass to Ertz (Hauschka) (4-46-0:41)	7-14
3 14:14	York	TD Henry 70 run (Hauschka) (1-70-0:19)	14-14
3 6:02	York	FG Hauschka 23 (13-78-5:45)	17-14
3 0:14	Aurora	TD Ryan 10 pass to Adams (Lutz) (12-75-5:48)	17-21
4 10:04	Aurora	TD Ryan 46 pass to Edelman (Lutz) (6-70-2:32)	17-28
4 6:50	York	FG Hauschka 49 (8-35-2:58)	20-28
4 1:43	Aurora	TD Drake 10 run (Lutz) (11-75-5:07)	20-35

Passing

YOR: Brady 38/23 235 Yds TD
AUR: Ryan 42/27 324 Yds 4 TDs Int

Rushing

YOR: Henry 14/114 TD, Brady 1/4, Snell Jr. 1/4
AUR: Drake 19/53 TD, Singletary 7/45, Ryan 3/34

Receiving

YOR: Amendola 5/49, Ertz 4/59 TD, Davis 4/44, Williams 4/49, Henry 2/9, Hamilton 2/10
AUR: Edelman 12/169 3 TDs, Adams 6/63 TD, Goedert 3/32, Washington 3/32, Drake 2/21

Defense

YOR: Henderson 2-FF 14-Tk, Ya-Sin Int 10-Tk, Guy Sk 5-Tk
AUR: Williams 8-Tk

Injuries

YOR: Jordan 4, Butler 3, Sproles 2
AUR:

Misc

YOR:
AUR:



31



7

The Hawks scored on their first four possessions, turning a **Jessie Bates III** interception of **Tua Tagovailoa** into a field goal and punching it into the end zone three times at the end of long drives, two of those runs by **Carlos Hyde**, to lead 24-0 at half time. Brooklin opened the 2nd half with a 75-yard march to the Georgia end zone, with **Derek Carr** finding seldom-used **Ito Smith** open in the flat for a 10-yard TD pass. Trailing 31-0, the Glads stitched together their only scoring drive, finishing with a 7-yard draw to **Sony Michel** for the TD. There would be no more scoring as both teams went into clock mode.

11-24-2020 Georgia Stadium Temp:72 Wind:0-10 None Line:GEO by 6 MVP:Carr HFA:O

	1	2	3	4	Tot
2019 Brooklin (5-3)	10	14	7	0	31
2019 Georgia (1-7)	0	0	7	0	7

Scoring Summary

1 7:54	Brooklin	TD Hyde 10 run (Bullock) (10-73-5:06)	7-0
1 2:44	Brooklin	FG Bullock 22 (8-41-4:12)	10-0
2 8:48	Brooklin	TD Carr 5 pass to Fells (Bullock) (10-68-5:13)	17-0
2 2:02	Brooklin	TD Hyde 3 run (Bullock) (10-68-5:08)	24-0
3 8:06	Brooklin	TD Carr 10 pass to Smith (Bullock) (12-75-6:54)	31-0
3 1:41	Georgia	TD Michel 7 run (Bass) (13-93-6:15)	31-7

Passing

BRH: Carr 36/30 278 Yds 2 TDs
GEO: Tagovailoa 27/15 168 Yds Int

Rushing

BRH: Hyde 21/93 2 TDs, Smith 4/19, Breida 4/5, Bonnafon 1/5
GEO: Jacobs 9/51, Robinson 3/12, Michel 2/9 TD

Receiving

BRH: Cobb 6/60, Hopkins 6/66, Jeffery 5/53, Jefferson 3/29, Fells 3/23 TD, Hyde 2/13
GEO: Fuller V 4/65, Landry 3/39, Johnson 3/36, Robinson 2/3, Michel 1/9, Akins 1/11

Defense

BRH: Bates III Int 3-Tk
GEO: Lewis Sk 14-Tk, Edmunds 9-Tk

Injuries

BRH: Engram 7, Elliott 7, McPhee 4, Scott 4, Williams 3
GEO: Johnson III 4, Smith 3, Wylie 3

Misc

BRH: 38:49 TOP, 9/11 on 3rd Down
GEO:



WEEK EIGHT

STANDINGS & STATS

EFL 2020 Official Standings

East	W	L	T	Pct	Stk	Pts	Ave	Opp	Ave	Diff	Home	Div	Conf
Cobb County	8	0	0	1.000	W8	292	36.5	154	19.3	17.3	3 0 0	3 0 0	6 0 0
Bruxelles	5	3	0	.625	W3	242	30.3	185	23.1	7.1	3 1 0	1 2 0	3 3 0
Buffalo	5	3	0	.625	L1	211	26.4	186	23.3	3.1	2 2 0	1 2 0	3 3 0
New Jersey	1	7	0	.125	L6	195	24.4	254	31.8	-7.4	1 3 0	1 2 0	1 5 0
Central	W	L	T	Pct	Stk	Pts	Ave	Opp	Ave	Diff	Home	Div	Conf
Virden	7	1	0	.875	W3	268	33.5	157	19.6	13.9	3 1 0	2 0 0	5 1 0
Peg City	5	3	0	.625	L2	263	32.9	217	27.1	5.8	2 2 0	2 0 0	5 1 0
Twin Cities	2	6	0	.250	W1	127	15.9	192	24.0	-8.1	1 2 0	0 2 0	2 4 0
Charleswood	1	7	0	.125	L6	177	22.1	275	34.4	-12.3	0 5 0	0 2 0	1 5 0
West	W	L	T	Pct	Stk	Pts	Ave	Opp	Ave	Diff	Home	Div	Conf
Iowa City	4	3	1	.563	W2	199	24.9	203	25.4	-0.5	2 1 0	2 0 1	3 2 1
Chino	3	4	1	.438	W1	197	24.6	205	25.6	-1.0	2 1 1	2 0 1	2 3 1
Las Vegas	3	5	0	.375	L4	176	22.0	187	23.4	-1.4	2 3 0	1 2 0	2 4 0
Seattle	3	5	0	.375	L2	160	20.0	190	23.8	-3.8	2 3 0	0 3 0	2 4 0
North	W	L	T	Pct	Stk	Pts	Ave	Opp	Ave	Diff	Home	Div	Conf
Durham	5	3	0	.625	W2	149	18.6	136	17.0	1.6	2 1 0	2 1 0	4 2 0
Cowtown	5	3	0	.625	W1	155	19.4	117	14.6	4.8	2 2 0	2 1 0	4 2 0
Scarborough	5	3	0	.625	L1	171	21.4	168	21.0	0.4	3 1 0	1 2 0	3 3 0
Sebastian	4	4	0	.500		207	25.9	220	27.5	-1.6	3 2 0	1 2 0	2 4 0
Coastal	W	L	T	Pct	Stk	Pts	Ave	Opp	Ave	Diff	Home	Div	Conf
Budapest	7	1	0	.875	W3	180	22.5	87	10.9	11.6	3 1 0	1 1 0	5 1 0
Brooklin	5	3	0	.625	W1	205	25.6	184	23.0	2.6	3 1 0	2 0 0	5 1 0
York	4	4	0	.500	L1	152	19.0	153	19.1	-0.1	4 0 0	0 2 0	3 3 0
Pickering	3	5	0	.375	W2	137	17.1	180	22.5	-5.4	3 1 0	1 1 0	2 4 0
South	W	L	T	Pct	Stk	Pts	Ave	Opp	Ave	Diff	Home	Div	Conf
Aurora	5	3	0	.625	W1	212	26.5	202	25.3	1.3	3 1 0	3 0 0	4 2 0
Erieau	2	6	0	.250	L2	135	16.9	194	24.3	-7.4	1 2 0	2 1 0	2 4 0
East Elmhurst	2	6	0	.250	L1	148	18.5	191	23.9	-5.4	1 4 0	0 3 0	1 5 0
Georgia	1	7	0	.125	L5	113	14.1	234	29.3	-15.1	1 3 0	1 2 0	1 5 0

EFL 2020 Official Passing Leaders

			Att	Cmp	C%	Yards	In	I%	Lg	TD	TD%	Rate
1	Tannehill	CB	171	123	71.9	2200	3	1.8	82	26	15.2	146.4
2	Cousins	PCC	288	193	67.0	2436	2	0.7	71	27	9.4	121.5
3	Mahomes	VV	190	126	66.3	1649	1	0.5	56	17	8.9	121.1
4	Jackson,L	BUF	255	189	74.1	1980	3	1.2	57	18	7.1	114.8
5	Carr,D	BRH	284	203	71.5	2213	2	0.7	51	17	6.0	111.1
6	Brees	SS	268	191	71.3	2259	4	1.5	88	16	6.0	110.3
7	Stafford	NJ	196	131	66.8	1628	4	2.0	68	14	7.1	107.7
8	Garoppolo	COW	240	157	65.4	1887	3	1.3	64	13	5.4	102.2
9	Ryan,M	AUR	234	143	61.1	1710	8	3.4	53	21	9.0	99.1
10	Burrow	SBE	238	155	65.1	1592	3	1.3	58	14	5.9	98.6
11	Wilson,R	ICC	234	150	64.1	1620	4	1.7	48	13	5.6	95.7
12	Prescott	CHI	266	177	66.5	1899	5	1.9	45	13	4.9	95.7
13	Finley	VV	54	26	48.1	446	0	0.0	50	3	5.6	95.1
14	Mayfield	EE	71	44	62.0	576	2	2.8	56	4	5.6	94.6
15	Rodgers,A	BUD	233	137	58.8	1515	0	0.0	50	10	4.3	92.5
16	Trubisky	TCT	133	79	59.4	920	1	0.8	75	6	4.5	92.3
17	Watson,D	CHP	287	187	65.2	2081	7	2.4	49	13	4.5	91.5
18	Darnold	SEA	270	177	65.6	1841	6	2.2	72	12	4.4	90.7
19	Allen,J	DTL	231	137	59.3	1494	1	0.4	63	9	3.9	89.6
20	Goff	BRX	293	151	51.5	2063	4	1.4	72	18	6.1	89.2
21	Minshew II	PIC	86	46	53.5	561	1	1.2	41	5	5.8	88.4
22	Brady	YOR	246	148	60.2	1659	4	1.6	52	11	4.5	88.4
23	Murray,K	ERI	237	143	60.3	1548	4	1.7	53	11	4.6	88.0
24	Keenum	NJ	140	89	63.6	828	2	1.4	25	6	4.3	88.0
25	Rivers	PIC	164	105	64.0	1287	5	3.0	44	6	3.7	87.6

EFL 2020 Official Punt Return Leaders

EFL 2020 Official Kick Return Leaders

			No	Fc	Yds	Ave	Lg	TD			No	Yds	Ave	Lg	TD	
1	Reagor	SS	11	8	136	12.4	49	0	1	Patterson	VV	14	422	30.1	94	1
2	Agnew	SEA	19	5	205	10.8	78	1	2	Grant,J	CHI	16	480	30.0	101	2
3	Carter,D	BUF	19	6	192	10.1	45	0	3	Spencer,D	NJ	14	383	27.4	57	0
4	Ervin	VV	13	9	131	10.1	41	0	4	Hilliard	PCC	12	324	27.0	46	0
5	Johnson,D	GEO	18	4	171	9.5	72	1	5	Roberts,A	BRX	11	292	26.5	46	0
6	Berrios	AUR	19	3	176	9.3	23	0	6	Agnew	SEA	11	286	26.0	35	0
7	Hardman	LV	21	4	190	9.0	20	0	7	Davis,T	SBE	11	285	25.9	34	0
8	Roberts,A	BRX	13	11	108	8.3	13	0	8	Raymond	EE	15	373	24.9	41	1
9	Cooper,P	BUD	14	10	105	7.5	14	0	9	Ruggs III	ERI	18	440	24.4	53	0
10	Cohen	NJ	20	4	149	7.5	21	0	10	Latimer	DTL	11	259	23.5	37	0
11	Rogers,C	CHI	18	5	126	7.0	15	0	11	Carter,D	BUF	26	600	23.1	52	0
12	Harris,D	COW	24	5	162	6.8	17	0	12	Hardman	LV	11	247	22.5	39	0
13	Proche II	DTL	27	3	177	6.6	11	0	13	James Jr.	GEO	16	351	21.9	35	0
14	Logan,T	PCC	16	7	103	6.4	15	0	14	Ballentine	SS	13	280	21.5	37	0
15	Thomas,D	SBE	31	2	190	6.1	17	0	15	Richard	CHP	23	409	17.8	30	0
16	Peppers	ERI	13	9	76	5.8	13	0	16	Perine	AUR	10	137	13.7	31	0
17	Quinn,T	EE	15	11	81	5.4	15	0	17	Cooper,P	BUD	8	243	30.4	91	0
18	Amendola	YOR	13	9	61	4.7	10	0	18	Cohen	NJ	1	28	28.0	28	0
19	Natson	CB	18	4	82	4.6	14	0	19	Natson	CB	7	180	25.7	42	0
20	Barner	BRH	12	1	48	4.0	15	0	20	Harris,D	COW	7	178	25.4	42	0
21	Lockett	ICC	2	2	15	7.5	9	0	21	Campbell,P	CHP	1	24	24.0	24	0
22	Sherels	YOR	1	0	7	7.0	7	0	22	Sanders,M	PIC	8	190	23.8	29	0
23	Kirk	ICC	7	4	46	6.6	9	0	23	Lockett	ICC	4	95	23.8	31	0
24	Switzer	PIC	2	15	8	4.0	6	0	24	Pascal	LV	1	23	23.0	23	0
25	Moore,D	TCT	6	19	20	3.3	6	0	25	Scott,B	BRH	4	90	22.5	28	0

EFL 2020 Official Rushing Leaders

EFL 2020 Official Receiving Leaders

		Att	Yds	Ave	Lg	TD			No	Yds	Ave	Lg	TD		
1	Fournette	BRX	168	943	5.6	56	6	1	McCaffrey	CHI	69	542	7.9	28	5
2	Chubb,N	DTL	169	937	5.5	75	3	2	Hopkins,D	BRH	66	964	14.6	51	7
3	Elliott,E	VV	163	828	5.1	30	7	3	Thomas,M	LV	66	775	11.7	59	5
4	Jackson,L	BUF	127	813	6.4	25	7	4	Woods,R	BUF	57	648	11.4	52	6
5	Carson,C	SBE	146	740	5.1	66	2	5	Edelman	AUR	57	701	12.3	49	11
6	Henry,D	YOR	173	704	4.1	70	5	6	Kittle	BUD	47	502	10.7	21	5
7	Mixon	ICC	139	695	5.0	24	7	7	Brown,J	VV	46	730	15.9	56	6
8	McCaffrey	CHI	117	633	5.4	50	7	8	Cohen	NJ	46	318	6.9	19	0
9	Drake	AUR	95	548	5.8	59	5	9	Sanders,E	BUF	43	462	10.7	28	2
10	Jones,A	PCC	85	537	6.3	66	3	10	Kupp	DTL	42	523	12.5	63	1
11	Jacobs,J	GEO	114	526	4.6	35	0	11	Tate	SS	42	415	9.9	44	1
12	Cook,D	LV	149	524	3.5	19	6	12	Kamara	CHP	42	314	7.5	49	1
13	Hyde,C	BRH	106	508	4.8	24	6	13	Chark Jr.	NJ	41	581	14.2	52	6
14	Mostert	CB	85	490	5.8	45	7	14	Witten	SS	40	452	11.3	40	3
15	Kamara	CHP	109	484	4.4	50	6	15	Lockett	ICC	39	469	12.0	31	5
16	Williams,J	BUD	74	466	6.3	50	3	16	Allen,K	PCC	38	620	16.3	54	4
17	Edwards-He	TCT	114	463	4.1	20	5	17	White,J	TCT	38	386	10.2	47	2
18	Mack,M	SEA	97	431	4.4	43	1	18	Evans,M	COW	38	582	15.3	64	4
19	Howard,J	BUD	86	430	5.0	20	4	19	Andrews,M	ERI	38	408	10.7	53	6
20	Singletary	AUR	83	415	5.0	45	0	20	Smith-Schu	CHP	37	483	13.1	36	4
21	Murray,K	ERI	67	389	5.8	26	2	21	Fournette	BRX	37	274	7.4	26	1
22	Peterson,A	CB	91	389	4.3	45	2	22	Metcalfe	CHP	37	527	14.2	35	3
23	Murray,L	EE	76	310	4.1	32	2	23	Beckham Jr	SS	37	454	12.3	45	2
24	Taylor,J	SS	87	304	3.5	15	1	24	Gallup	CHI	37	597	16.1	45	6
25	Swift	PIC	66	300	4.5	63	0	25	Cooper,A	VV	36	648	18.0	50	7
26	Barkley,S	PCC	61	296	4.9	29	2	26	Robinson,A	SBE	35	436	12.5	58	7
27	Montgomery	NJ	98	272	2.8	33	1	27	Ertz	YOR	35	428	12.2	36	4
28	Gurley II	COW	91	271	3.0	15	3	28	Renfrow	SEA	35	473	13.5	72	5
29	Breida	BRH	60	263	4.4	32	0	29	Bell,L	COW	35	293	8.4	30	3
30	Ingram II	CHI	66	252	3.8	29	3	30	Kelce,T	BRX	35	505	14.4	41	4
31	Allen,J	DTL	41	223	5.4	15	2	31	Freeman,D	SBE	34	253	7.4	28	1
32	Robinson,J	GEO	63	216	3.4	27	0	32	Jones,J	CB	34	672	19.8	82	7
33	Johnson,D	PCC	37	208	5.6	18	0	33	McLaurin	NJ	32	532	16.6	68	6
34	Freeman,D	SBE	60	196	3.3	21	0	34	Boyd	DTL	32	374	11.7	30	2
35	Sanders,M	PIC	79	187	2.4	24	1	35	Reagor	SS	32	636	19.9	88	5
36	Wilson,R	ICC	27	186	6.9	24	1	36	Adams,D	AUR	32	427	13.3	33	6
37	Edmonds	SS	37	184	5.0	24	2	37	Parker,D	CB	32	688	21.5	62	8
38	Watson,D	CHP	15	176	11.7	24	4	38	Miller,A	SEA	31	315	10.2	25	2
39	Dillon	BUF	41	170	4.1	25	2	39	Brown,M	PIC	31	547	17.6	43	4
40	Kelley	EE	46	157	3.4	22	1	40	Fitzgerald	CHI	31	325	10.5	33	1

EFL 2020 Official Kicking Leaders

		FGA	FGM	FG%	40	50	Lg	Pts	
1	Prater	BRX	23	20	87.0	11	4	55	84
2	Gonzalez	VV	18	15	83.3	5	2	51	76
3	Myers,J	BUD	20	16	80.0	7	3	52	66
4	Bullock	BRH	16	15	93.8	3	3	55	65
5	McManus	CB	10	9	90.0	4	1	51	64
6	Fairbairn	LV	17	16	94.1	2	1	51	62
7	Bailey,D	SS	14	14	100.0	6	0	47	61
8	Tucker,J	ICC	14	13	92.9	4	1	51	61
9	Butker	PCC	14	10	71.4	3	1	53	61
10	Boswell	NJ	13	13	100.0	1	1	50	59
11	Lambo	SEA	14	14	100.0	11	2	54	58
12	Crosby	SBE	13	13	100.0	6	2	52	57
13	Pineiro	DTL	18	13	72.2	6	4	52	53
14	Hauschka	YOR	13	12	92.3	6	1	50	48
15	Zuerlein	PIC	11	11	100.0	6	3	55	47
16	Slye	COW	15	11	73.3	4	1	52	47
17	Blankenshi	EE	10	10	100.0	4	2	53	46
18	Elliott,J	BUF	8	6	75.0	2	1	54	43
19	Bass	GEO	13	10	76.9	2	1	50	41
20	McLaughlin	CHI	8	5	62.5	2	0	46	41
21	Lutz	AUR	7	3	42.9	2	0	45	38
22	Seibert	ERI	12	9	75.0	5	1	50	37
23	Carlson	CHP	9	6	66.7	3	2	51	37
24	Hopkins	TCT	6	3	50.0	1	0	40	23
25	O'Donnell	NJ	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0

EFL 2020 Official Sack Leaders

1	Barrett	LV	8
2	Watt,T	COW	7
3	Jones,C	SS	6
4	Smith,Z	CHI	6
5	Smith,P	BRX	6
6	Landry III	NJ	5
7	Dupree	BRX	5
8	Allen,J	EE	5
9	Charlton	EE	5
10	Joseph,L	EE	5
11	Buckner	YOR	4
12	Collins Sr	VV	4
13	Ngakoue	LV	4
14	wolfe	PIC	4
15	Phillips,J	BRX	4
16	Quinn	NJ	4
17	Richardson	VV	4
18	Young,C	DTL	4
19	Hunter,D	TCT	4
20	Armstead,A	DTL	4
21	Poe	EE	4
22	Miller,V	PCC	4
23	Heyward	VV	4
24	Kennard	COW	3
25	Gross-Mato	COW	3

EFL 2020 Official Punting Leaders

		No	Yards	Tb	20	Lg	Bk	Ave
1	Dixon,R	GEO	36	1741	2	11	64	0 48.4
2	Palardy	YOR	39	1886	1	13	79	0 48.4
3	Hekker	COW	40	1902	4	18	59	0 47.6
4	Edwards,L	EE	40	1861	2	15	62	0 46.5
5	Bailey,J	SEA	35	1628	0	14	60	0 46.5
6	O'Donnell	NJ	35	1624	2	12	56	0 46.4
7	Anger	LV	37	1716	6	16	67	0 46.4
8	Wishnowsky	TCT	45	2067	1	13	53	0 45.9
9	Dickson	ERI	43	1954	5	15	56	0 45.4
10	Colquitt,D	SBE	39	1763	5	17	53	0 45.2
11	Jones,C	PIC	40	1697	0	10	57	1 42.4
12	Way	CHI	28	1413	2	10	64	0 50.5
13	Berry,J	SS	15	728	1	2	80	0 48.5
14	Lee,A	BUF	18	869	0	10	60	0 48.3
15	Kern	BRX	28	1350	2	9	60	0 48.2
16	Morstead	DTL	31	1489	3	11	68	0 48.0
17	Scott,J	BRH	13	606	2	5	52	0 46.6
18	Koch	AUR	28	1301	1	10	62	1 46.5
19	Martin,S	CB	24	1113	0	6	65	0 46.4
20	Huber	CHP	20	926	2	5	57	0 46.3
21	Haack	PCC	21	969	1	10	53	0 46.1
22	Mann	VV	25	1133	2	5	58	0 45.3
23	Sanchez	BUD	30	1354	2	11	80	0 45.1
24	Pinion	ICC	27	1180	1	7	51	0 43.7

EFL 2020 Official Tackle Leaders

1	Leonard,D	LV	97
2	Smith,J	EE	70
3	Littleton	ICC	69
4	Henderson	YOR	67
5	Alexander	TCT	65
6	White,D	SEA	61
7	Apple	BRH	61
8	Lattimore	SEA	60
9	Terrell	CHI	58
10	Jones,J	BRH	58
11	Cunningham	NJ	58
12	Martinez	CB	58
13	Ryan,L	SBE	58
14	Kuechly	BRX	55
15	Davis,C	COW	54
16	Landry III	NJ	53
17	Edmunds,T	GEO	53
18	Moreland	CHP	53
19	Schobert	PIC	53
20	Brooks,J	TCT	52
21	Awuzie	NJ	51
22	Ya-Sin	YOR	51
23	Kendricks	AUR	51
24	Hayward Jr	ICC	49
25	Stone	ICC	49



AROUND THE



With Spats McChad

NEW YORK – With crime in New York City well on its way back to levels not seen since the 1980s due to the harmful interventions of our idiot Mayor; and with COVID-19 impossible to avoid, literally or through the airwaves thanks to our Ministry of Truth drumming perpetual and irrational fear of the virus into the “hive mind;” I am seriously considering a move to the end of the earth. While such a move would make following the EFL much more difficult, it might ultimately be better for my psyche, which I feel is under stress from watching my fellow citizens’ brains melt down into a giant lake of unthinking jelly, all the while knowing that once the melt down reaches a critical ‘100 monkeys’ mass, it will sweep me away as well into the great whirlpool of blathering idiots. Of course, once absorbed into the unthinking mass, I won’t have to worry about my psyche because I effectively will not have one. But while I still do, I fear the coming day when I can no longer think critically on my own as part of a mindless mob. Such a condition is the very anti-thesis of what a journalist, or journalism, should be. Unlike those in the MSM who claim to be part of the profession, I am an actual journalist with opinions – right or wrong. I will always fight for the right to be wrong.

But where on Earth would I go? There has to be a place in this world where COVID-19 has not yet nestled its spike proteins into the lungs of man.

A check of the WHO website showed, to my surprise, that the former Soviet Republic of Turkmenistan, pop.6,000,000, has *no* reported cases of COVID-19. Considering that the 4 countries bordering it have over a million reported cases among them, this did not seem possible. It all made sense later when I discovered, in checking out my prospective new home, that all satellite dishes had been banned in Turkmenistan in 2015 to prevent access to a Turkmen-language service of Radio Free Europe. Information flow there is tightly controlled, including medical information. If I thought expressing my opinion was becoming more difficult in the United States, it would be impossible to express it in Turkmenistan, even if I was able to gain access to EFL games. For essentially the same reasons, I scratched the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (North Korea) off my list of COVID-free sanctuaries.

With the two large, totalitarian COVID-free countries not an option, I was left with my pick of about a dozen tiny island “nations,” most of which are located in the geographic region known as Oceania. None of these geographical pin-pricks had a population of more than 200,000 and some, like Niue, were populated with less than 2,000, not even a respectable showing at a Cadillac game. What would it be like living in one of those places? Would they even accept an American, given that our glorious nation leads the world in reported COVID-19 cases? What access would I have to communications technology and would I be able to retain a grip on my extensive network of sources without the ability to hop on a plane and meet somebody in less than two hours? I admit, posing these questions to myself forced me to step back. I decided to put away my bottle of Scotch and sleep on it...

THE McCLANCY BOYS

There is something more than a little suspicious about the East Elmhurst franchise and its sudden emergence onto the EFL scene. For one; prior to the sale of the Wolverines I had never heard of a Cistercian Order of Irish-Portuguese Catholic monks based in Queens. Secondly; what kind of Catholic Brotherhood nicknames itself ‘McClancy Boys’ and builds its monastery on the site of an old boxing gym? Look up the address of the Order of Cistercians, East Elmhurst Abbey and you get a business reference to *McClancy’s Gym* with a phone number and e-mail address. Nobody answers the phone (I have rung it about 100 times) and my e-mails keep getting kicked back. Either the Internet has not kept pace with the change; or the Brotherhood has not kept up with the Internet.

Yet there is undeniably a stadium of sorts newly built on property leased from LaGuardia Airport. The front entrance to Monsignor McClancy Memorial Stadium looks like an Abbey, with two tall medieval-looking stone spires on either side of a gold-gilded cathedral-style door. The body of the stadium looks like a giant wooden porridge bowl. Although the public has not been permitted inside, TV footage from the games confirms that it is an actual stadium, with a field, seats, luxury boxes and tunnels presumably to locker rooms underneath the stands. It is also, according to the team’s website, the site of the team’s head office and base of football operations. The team’s ownership is officially listed as *Cistercian Order of the O’Ferrarions – McClancy Abbey*.

Obviously, something or someone with deep pockets is supporting the East Elmhurst franchise. But the idea that a Cistercian Order of Catholic Monks has the resources and necessary expertise to acquire and support a professional football team strikes me as extremely curious and unlikely.

My first thought when doing my homework on the new team was that this had the appearance of a front of some kind, but a front for what I could not fathom. With the EFL news cycle speeding up due to the vagaries of COVID-19, I was unable to delve too deeply into my research and left my unanswered questions on the back burner for a while. But my curiosity was piqued again this

week while struggling through watching “highlights” of the not so triumphant return to Budapest of **Baker Mayfield**.

As for the game proper, it featured two extremes of the competitiveness spectrum clashing in unspectacular fashion. Spicing up the football experience with a puffed-up storyline about **Aaron Rodgers** and Mayfield seeking revenge on their former teams was an absolute necessity in order to maintain any kind of broader viewer interest. There was, however, some legitimate local interest from hardcore Hungarian football enthusiasts who still debated “the Trade” that had cast aside Mayfield for Rodgers.

The Budapest fan base is divided on the subject of Baker. The general buzz around the North Stars’ first round pick of 2018 had reached a fever pitch by the end of the 2019 season, but had suddenly become muted with Budapest’s divisional round exit in the playoffs at the hands of the Corn Kings. Baker had actually played well in that game, but the team had *lost*...to Cowtown and the strange-looking Gnome of Tillman Field. That was humiliation enough for the particularly hard core, frenetic North Stars’ fan to question whether Baker was actually ‘*The Man*’ – read ‘*Messiah*’ – to carry their franchise to great heights forever. That group welcomed the trade for Rodgers; while a more conservative segment of supporters questioned whether management had been fair to Baker.

The numbers posted by Rodgers through 7 weeks of 2020 did not support cutting bait with Baker after just one season in the starting role. But the team was 6-1 – best in the Conference – and while he had not been lighting up the scoreboard, Rodgers had kept mistakes to a minimum, with zero interceptions and zero fumbles. Those are hidden stats that a coach appreciates more than a fan.

The pre-game hype soon wore off and the hardcore Baker-vs-Rodgers debaters in the North Stars’ fan base lost interest in the argument as soon as it became clear that **Darrin Jones** had a classic ‘North Stars’ game plan prepared for this day, specifically designed to sap any adrenaline that might have been flowing through Mayfield’s and this teams veins at the thought of scoring an upset against the Atlantic Conference front-runners.

So, yes, this 20-0 final in favour of the home team was another dreary contest at Ferenc-Liszt International Airport Stadium. It showcased the Budapest defence smothering Mayfield and the Irish offence, while the North Stars’ offence plodded along in slow, laborious rhythm, giving viewers every incentive to go to the kitchen to make a sandwich and grab a beer in order to make it back for the commercials.

The Irish did themselves no favours with four unsuccessful 4th-down gambles inside the North Stars’ 40-yard line. I get it – field goals are no sure thing from 50+ yards. But when an offence is so clearly overmatched, winning the field position battle is all that is left. It’s not as if the Stars were tearing it up offensively; at least not until the third quarter when **Aaron Rodgers** connected on a long fly to **Stephon Diggs** for a 45-yard touchdown pass to make the score 13-0. It was a rare big-play highlight from the duo that, predictably, has been over-played on sports news reels across two continents ever since Diggs crossed the goal line with the football held high in triumph.

So, it was in this context that my mind began to wander. I took an interest in what was happening on the Irish sideline, particularly as it involved the team’s head coach, Archbishop **Thomas Molloy**, who was a complete unknown to professional football before assuming coaching duties with the Irish. His claim to fame was coaching the St. Basil Catholic School for Boys’ High School football team, nicknamed the ‘Young Catholics,’ to 8 consecutive undefeated seasons. As for his religious title, he appears to be the only Archbishop without a bishopric.

Molloy cut a distinguished figure amongst his players. He was notably low-key and civil at all times – befitting an Archbishop. His reserved demeanour stood out in contrast to the gyrations and antics of an unidentified man, clothed in the costume of an Abbot, who alternately blessed the players as they returned from the field then threatened them with a long gold staff. Although he could be frequently seen during pan shots, the camera settled on the Abbot only once, very briefly. But it was long enough to startle me out of my North Stars stupor.

I had seen that man in the Abbot costume before! His was a face I associated with peril to my person at the same time that I felt reminded of an old friend. It was a curiously contradictory and visceral reaction. I kept rewinding the tape trying to get a better look, hoping to jog my memory. And then, something about the shaking of the Abbot’s staff unlocked my recall. The Abbot was a dead-ringer for former Mission Viejo Monarchs owner, **Chris Ferraro**!

But how could that be possible? The last information I had on Ferraro was that creditors were closing in on him after the Portuguese Government officially renounced his claim to the Throne of Portugal. He had suddenly disappeared from public view after selling his Monarchs to a coffee consortium in Seattle. If Ferraro was even alive, he would be broke. This had to be a doppelganger...or did it? *Portuguese*-Irish monks! Really? *O’Ferrarion* Brotherhood? Come on!

Is this Ferraro’s way of telling people he is back, but without stating it for legal reasons? Is it a strange but simple coincidence? Or, more likely, is Ferraro still in hiding but his huge ego does not permit him to be completely anonymous? As of this writing, I do not know the name – or the alias – of the animated Abbot exhorting the Irish players on the sideline. That will be my first step in getting to the bottom of what is a most intriguing mystery. Stay alert, Dear Readers. Inspector Spats is on the case!

CLOCK MANAGEMENT 101

In the small world of Cadillac fandom, Twitter is ablaze with criticism of **Kyler Murray** as well as calls for the head of Coach **Mike Smith** after the Cadillac failed ‘Clock Management 101’ in the dying seconds of their 13-12 loss to Pickering.

In an age when the two-minute drill takes up a major portion of every team’s practice time, it was shocking and painful for Cadillac supporters to watch the final 26 seconds of this contest. Trailing 13-12, with one timeout and 2:08 left on the clock, Erieau began its trip to Week Eight ignominy with a questionable decision to have **Henry Ruggs** return the Pickering kickoff from 8-yards deep in the end zone, perhaps trying to take advantage of the rookie’s afterburner speed. But Ruggs was hammered at the 8-yard line, 17 yards behind where they would have started had he simply taken a knee.



Chris Ferraro, former owner of the Mission Viejo Monarchs is pictured on the left taking in the awards ceremony with members of 'The Committee' during the 2015 Championship Game in Mission Viejo. Pictured on the right is Irish Head Coach, Archbishop **Thomas Molloy** (foreground) on the sideline in Budapest. In the background, an unidentified Abbott of the McClancy Boys looks on. Notice the uncanny resemblance. Could the mysterious Abbott in the background in fact be the former owner of the Monarchs?

"Henry has the green light in that situation," Erieau coach, **Mike Smith** explained after the game. "No, I did not give him explicit instructions for that scenario before the kick. It was his decision and, like I said, he has the leeway to try to return it if he thinks he can make something out of it."

The wisdom of letting a rookie make a pivotal decision in that particular scenario is questionable at best. And the fact that, despite his speed, Ruggs had not displayed great vision returning kicks, make the coach's hands-off position even more suspect.

However, it appeared that Ruggs would get off the hook thanks to a well-executed, crisp series of plays that brought Erieau close to mid-field, where they used their last timeout with 1:09 left. But the decision to use the timeout there was also questionable. Murray had just scrambled for 12 yards and a first down, putting the Spartans' defence back on its heels; a rush to the line would have put even more pressure on the wavering defenders. Instead, the rest allowed Pickering to regroup and a recharged **Javon Kinlaw** caught Murray running away for a sack and a loss of 5 yards on the next play. No matter, the Caddies hustled to the line and Murray hit his next three throws in quick succession, moving the ball to the Spartans' 39 with 0:26 left, a first down and the clock running. But instead of racing to the line to spike the ball or run another quick play, Murray called the team into the huddle while his teammates on the Erieau sideline jumped up and down, frantically pointing at the clock.

The team broke the huddle without haste and Murray sauntered toward the line, looking like he thought the clock was stopped. The ball was eventually snapped, but only after Murray attempted to draw the Spartans offsides on a hard count, then Murray dropped back and fired toward **Tee Higgins** at the sideline. The problem was, time had expired just before his release. It was a moot point that the pass turned out to be incomplete.

Murray was distraught once he realized what had happened. He had thought that **Olabisi Johnson** had made it out of bounds at the 39 on the previous play. So caught up was he in the adrenaline of the moment, that he had not seen the official rotating his arm to keep the clock moving. The phenomenon of "auditory exclusion" under extreme duress accounted for why he did not hear his teammates warning him from the sideline.

Mistakes happen, but when so many mistakes happen late in a game, people turn to the coach for an explanation. It was not a very good one. Self-preservation led the coach to do the worst thing coaches can do – throw a player under the bus.

"We practice for this kind of moment all the time," Smith continued. "I don't know why Kyler moved away from the hurry-up there – I'll have to talk with him. But there isn't much a coach can do when something like that happens with no timeouts left. It was hard for me to watch too!"

The aftermath of this loss has not been fully realized. The unhappy Cadillac owner, **Jamie Rilett**, gave a brief statement after the game saying simply, "The fourth quarter as a whole was not one of our coaching staff's finest moments, even before that last drive. But I am going to meet with Mike first and see what can be done to get the season back on track."



Durham corner, *Tyrann Mathieu* comes down with the first of two interceptions of *Joe Burrow* to set the tone for the Thunder Lizards' 17-0 shutout of the Blue Eagles. Coming into the game, Burrow, Scarborough's no.1 selection in the 2020 draft, had not been picked in leading his team to a 5-2 record. Mathieu's big day was a wake-up call for the rookie.

Not exactly a ringing endorsement, but not a death sentence either. The fans calling for somebody's head to roll cannot be blamed for venting their frustration, however. Coming into this game, Erieau was thought still to be a good candidate to slip into a wildcard spot, given the state of the Atlantic Conference; while the Spartans were seen as done, in spite of winning the week before. Now the situation is reversed. Winners of two straight, and three of their last four, Pickering no longer needs life support to keep their playoff hopes alive. What a difference a few yards and seconds can make!

REMEMBER THE ALAMO

The Corn Kings' defence put forth an amazing effort in keeping *Drew Brees* and the Swordfish out of their end zone and hanging on for a gritty, 16-6 upset at The Fish Tank in Sebastian. This was a defensive masterpiece of a different kind. Sebastian's 22 first downs and 328 net yards of offence is testimony to the fact that they could move the ball with adequate sufficiency. When it really mattered, however, the Corn King defenders dug deep and stopped them – sometimes in dramatic fashion.

Where was the Cowtown offence on this day? For the most part they stood on the sideline, occasionally taking the field to give their defence a short rest before punting it away for the next Swordfish assault wave. That was exactly what it was: wave after wave crashing down on the shore, threatening at any moment to drown out the Corn King defenders in their beachfront trenches.

To be fair, the Cowtown offence did its bit earlier, in the back half of the 1st quarter, following the first of several inauspicious and ill-advised 4th down gambles by “Crazy Russ.” Facing 4th & 6 at his own 47, Coach **Russ Lemmon** kept his offence on the field in a no-huddle offence. But the Corn Kings had the play read and while Brees looked for his secondary target he was engulfed by **Tanoh Kpassagnon** for a 6-yard loss. This set up the feeble Cowtown offence at the Sebastian 43 and they took advantage of the short field with a couple of short passes and a **Jimmy Garoppolo** 11-yard scramble to set up a 9-yard TD pass on a check down to **DeAndre Washington**. Incredibly, given what was to transpire, this score would hold up as the game-winner.

From that point onwards the Fish played as if they were executing a two-minute drill and needed a touchdown to win. It's a good mindset to get into if you think you are in a shootout. But the Corn King offence looked about as threatening as a grazing Holstein on this day – field goals would have done nicely for the Fish. But they repeatedly turned their rapier-shaped noses up at the opportunities they had. Five incursions into the red zone and no points says it all.

The wounds suffered by the Swordfish offence were not all self-inflicted, however. An impressive 14-play drive in the second quarter was abruptly ended at the Cowtown 12 when safety **Xavier Woods** knocked the ball out of the arms of **Damien Williams** and **Damon Harrison** recovered. Then there was the inspired play of Corn King corner, **Carlton Davis III**, who was guarding Brees' favourite target, **Odell Beckham Jr.** He gave up his share of catches to Beckham – 11 in all – but did not give up a big play and, in the 4th quarter during crunch time, delivered the two biggest defensive plays of the day. The first was an interception that set up a **Joey Slye** field goal and the second was a forced fumble on Beckham's only deep catch of the day that **Devon Kennard** scooped up and ran back for a touchdown to give the visitors an important insurance score. And then there was **TJ Watt**, blitzing until he was blue in the face, keeping the pressure on Brees the entire game.

“This felt like defending the Alamo, except the good guys won,” a weary Coach **Jim Coghlin** said after the game. “They came at us with everything they had, with a hall-of-fame quarterback leading the charge, and our boys turned them back every time. Carlton gets the game ball for chasing Odell around all day and giving us those game-changing turnovers in the 4th quarter, but the entire defence was dialed in from the start, beginning with TJ and Tanoh. Boy, I haven't seen Tanoh so revved up. It's like Drew had stolen his lunch, or something!”

On the other side, Swordfish Coach **Russ Lemmon** appeared truly baffled that his offence had been kept out of the end zone and shook off critical questions about his five fourth down misses.

“You know it guys as well as I do; we all expect Drew and the offence to make a play on at least half of those chances. If he does, the game turns around,” he said wearily. “But you have to give them credit – they were fired up like I've never seen them before and they made the plays instead. They kept pace with us and, honestly, it was amazing and unprecedented. I can't remember the last time our team was held out of the end zone in a game.”

We remember, and it wasn't that long ago – Week Three, in fact. The North Stars held the Fish to three field goals in a 30-9 smothering. But, of course, any coach can be forgiven for wanting to forget that. But the point is acknowledged – holding Drew Brees at bay is not a simple feat. Is the Corn Kings' defence really as good as it showed this week? If this performance is not some sort of mirage, it could change the equation in the North Division.

“FOR COACH!”

The players' campaign to save Coach **Deron Redding**'s job continued at a blazing pace as the Cubs dispatched the Assassins with surprising ease, 38-20. Yes, the Cubs' defence coasted slightly when faced with a rookie quarterback on the other side and a 28-point lead, revealing the tendency of most men to “go soft” once the hard work is done. But the fact of the 28-point lead is the main point.

The Cubs did an impressive job of attacking the Assassins' defence from both the Pro and 4-wideout sets, mixing up the play-calls just enough to keep them continually off balance. **Russell Wilson**'s mobility and accuracy on third down took care of the execution. Offensively, the Assassins had no immediate answer. **Carson Wentz** and **Jacoby Brissett** each took their turn at sucking, with Brissett's terrible throw to the Cubs' **Cory Littleton** that set up the Cubs' fourth touchdown being the last straw for an exasperated **Anthony Holguin**. **Justin Herbert** was told to hand the clipboard over to Wentz and put his helmet on.

The surprise appearance and the even more surprising results temporarily shifted the momentum away from the direction of an Iowa rout to the appearance of a contest. But the Herbert novelty wore off after his second TD pass brought the Assassins back from the brink to make it a one-score game. The interception of Wilson that had led to that last Vegas TD woke the Cubs back up and they got serious again. The outcome was never seriously in doubt. The Cubs, as a team unified, were not going to let Vegas complete the comeback with a rookie QB in his first appearance.

The last two games have given **Deron Redding** and his team some breathing room from media criticism as well as a one-game lead in the West Division. For the second straight week, no member of the Alberhasky family offered comment, which means a second stay of execution has been granted. The players gathered together after the game, as if to pray. Instead they shouted, “For coach!”

For the Assassins, this game marked their fourth consecutive loss. Reporters in Vegas are not wasting any time rallying behind a switch to **Justin Herbert** at the quarterback position. Interestingly, Coach Holguin did not throw cold water on the idea at his post-game presser. He left open the possibility without committing to anything.

“We are taking a merit-based approach to the position, as we have all year,” Holguin replied when asked if Herbert would start against Buffalo next week. “Whoever has mastered the game plan in practice will get the nod and, as you all know, I am not afraid to make a switch in game.”

Carson Wentz's days as the unqualified starting QB of the Assassins appear to be numbered.

AROUND THE EFL – ERUDITE OBSERVATIONS AND LEARNING POINTS

It is officially the halfway point and that means Professor McChad's Mid-Term Report Card for each team. But before we open the envelopes, let's take a look each team's last chance to make a favourable first half impression.

↪ At Georgia Stadium in Greensboro, the Hawks gained a bit more altitude in their bid for the Coastal Division crown by riding roughshod over the Gladiators, 31-7. One had a sense which way this game would go after a holding penalty on **Maurkice Pouncey** nullified a 15-yard run by **James Robinson** on third down, stalling the Glads' opening drive. The Hawks went on to score on five of their first six possessions, with the last possession being a kneel-down to end the first half. There would be no breaks for Georgia on this day, whether from the officials or anyone else. Without breaks, they stand little hope of winning against a motivated opponent like Brooklyn.

↪ At the Kingdome in Seattle, **Jakeem Grant** stole the show by returning two kickoffs for touchdowns in the first half to push the Convicts over top of Seattle, 38-24. The Pilots' offence under **Sam Darnold** came to play. Darnold hit on two big TD passes of 25 yards to **Anthony Miller** and 47 yards to **Denzel Mims**, but Chino's two special teams TDs and a **Dak Prescott** TD pass to **Michael Gallup** to open the third quarter caused the Pilot offence to press in the second half. Darnold was picked off in the red zone by **Gareon Conley** in the third and **Kareem Hunt** was stopped at the Chino 14 by linebacker **Todd Davis**, 1-yard shy of a first down on 4th & 5 in the fourth, to come up empty on their best scoring chances. This was a huge win for the Convicts, who are up against the wall with their fans and in the bumbling race for the West Division title, and a disappointing loss for the Pilots, who missed a chance to rise to 500 and possibly snare the lead in the division at the halfway mark. The West is turning into a free-for-all. The Pilots will get a second shot at Chino in Week 16 and hope it will mean something.

↪ At Patriot Place in Charleswood, the visiting Bombers got off to a quick start and never looked back in handing the Pats' their 7th loss, 29-14. Bruxelles started strong, but seemed to lose steam in the 2nd half, which opened a window for the Pats to push back and get within 8 points early in the 4th quarter. The Bombers offence finally woke up and saved the day with a humongous 99-yard drive that featured a 30-yard pass to **Chase Claypool** to help set up a 7-yard TD run by back-up **Darrel Williams**, who was pressed into action due to injuries to **Kerryon Johnson** and **Leonard Fournette**. The Bombers rise to 5-3 and the Pats sink to 1-7.

↪ At Magna Park in Aurora, a fully healthy Mustangs squad made short work of the Excaliburs with a resounding 35-20 win. While it is true that the Swords led 17-14 past the halfway point of the third quarter and appeared, on the surface, to be competing; all that tiny lead seemed to do was re-awaken the Mustangs to their original purpose. **Matt Ryan** led the offence on three consecutive touchdown drives, drawing out the possessions slowly and also striking quickly to remove all doubt regarding which team in the ring was the heavyweight. Ryan finished with 324 yards passing and 4 TD passes, 3 of those to **Julian Edelman**, serving notice to the league that he is back. This was the first game the Mustangs looked like the Mustangs of old. If it is a sign of things to come, look out Budapest!

↪ At New Era Field in Buffalo the Violators answered an opening drive Derailers' field goal with back-to-back-to-back touchdown drives to jump start a decisive 41-17 victory. **Patrick Mahomes** put on a clinic in the short to medium passing game, carving up a mixed bag of Buffalo defensive formations to establish the early advantage. Mahomes did not appear confused by the constantly shifting personnel groups opposing him on the Buffalo side and in fact took advantage of safety coverage on **Mohamed Sanu** to notch his second TD pass of the afternoon. On the other side, **Lamar Jackson** put up respectable numbers through the air – 268 yards and a touchdown – and led his team once again in rushing with 57 yards and a TD. But he also turned the ball over on an interception, and went 0 for 2 on 4th down in failing to keep pace with the Virden scoring machine. With the loss, Buffalo lapses into third position behind Bruxelles in the East Division, but remains in the mix to capture one of the Conference wildcard spots. The Violators improve to 7-1 and look to be in command of the Conference at the halfway point.

↪ The rookie side of rookie **Joe Burrow** finally took center stage as Durham shut out the Blue Eagles 17-0 at The Wolverine's Den. Coming into the game, Burrow had not thrown an interception and had connected on 14 touchdown passes to lead his team to the top of the North Division and take his place at no.7 in the league's passer rankings. Now, Burrow and the Eagles will share first place with Durham and the Corn Kings after the rookie threw three interceptions, two of those to star **Tyrann Mathieu**, and failed to lead his team to a single score. All of Durham's 17 points came indirectly via turnover. After **Ed Piniero** made it 3-0 for Durham off the first Burrow interception, **Trevor Davis** fumbled away the ensuing kick return to set the Lizards up at the 32-yard line. **Josh Allen** found **Tyler Boyd** in single coverage on a slant and the Durham wide-out took it 30 yards for a TD to make it 10-0. The Lizards added their third and final score in the 3rd quarter after the last of Burrow's picks. Those paying attention to the sub-text of this game will note that Durham won the turnover battle 5-0 and still could not crack 20 points. The Blue Eagles' defence is not *that* good.

↪ The league's top two offences faced off at True North Field in Winnipeg and the visiting Coyotes came out the winners over Peg City in a blazing 41-38 finish. This game was a track meet, with Coyotes ringing up 570 yards of offence and 5 more TD passes for **Ryan Tannehill**. The Crusaders' **Kirk Cousins** was actually more efficient, with 5 TD passes of his own to up his league-leading total to 27. Highlight-reel plays came with almost boring regularity in this back-and-forth contest that broke when Cobb County scored last in the 1st half and first in the 2nd half. With both offences posting air yards at will, the difference came down to the run game and time of possession. The Coyotes had the clear advantage, with **Raheem Mostert**, **Arian Peterson** and **Tannehill** combining for 179 yards.

↪ And finally, at Stone Pony Shore in New Jersey, the Wrecking Balls dropped their sixth game in a row, falling 21-13 to the Triumph, one of the few teams having as miserable a season as they are. I don't think anyone actually watched this game, including fans of the teams involved. I imagine that the game was playing in the background at homes and in bars (those open of course) as fans discussed politics or busied themselves with important household chores. Occasionally one of them might note the score, or a big play: "Hey, Twin cities just scored. Pass to Moore. It's 21-13 now, we're done," or some similar quip from a jaded New Jersey fan.



Professor McChad's Mid-Term Report Card

November 2020

In the Hallowed Halls of High Learning in the Living Football University called the EFL only the strictest standards apply. As a Senior Fellow of said EFL University it falls on me to maintain those standards by applying rigour to my grades. No team is spared the most exacting analysis and criticism based on my profound and every-increasing knowledge of this wonderful sport. For the sake of the sport, I spare no one. But if you meet or exceed the standard, you will be recognized and, in rare cases, praised. Here is my rating scale:

A: Excellent B: Good C: Fair D: Poor F: Fail

A plus (+) indicates slightly above the grade; a minus (-) slightly less.

Aurora (B-): Prior to taking York out to the woodshed for a paddling the Horses were in danger of receiving their first ever C-grade. Game versus the Glads excepted, Aurora had looked shaky in all of their outings. Worse, the game plan had not adjusted to the “new normal” of the Mustangs’ talent being near par with most teams outside their crappy division. Five wins was at the low end of my projection for the halfway point. The fact that it took them to Week 8 to make me believe earns a ‘minus.’

Brooklin (B+): The Hawks are looking better than advertised because their defensive shortcomings have not been fatal to the bottom line in all but their Week 7 loss to the Cubs. The offence is looking strong, with Derek Carr staying upright, protecting the football and making big throws to DeAndre Hopkins and...DeAndre Hopkins. The team’s tenacity every week is impressive and it shows up in their losses as well as their wins. The coach has, so far, wrung the most out of his modest talent.

Bruxelles (C+): Losing to New Jersey is reason enough to fail this bunch, but strong wins over Iowa and Aurora coupled with the recent rehabilitation of their underperforming defence has forced me to re-think the situation. While 5 wins should earn a B-grade of some kind, the Bombers need to be held accountable for clinging to respectability by their finger nails and having to run Leonard Fournette into the ground to do so. Jared Goff had better figure things out soon, or else it’s all over.

Budapest (A): With so much focus on Aaron Rodgers, the game manager, and the hope that he will soon become the quarterback fans envisioned him to be, it is easy to miss what the North Stars have done right and fail to note where they are performing above expectations. Their record, on its own, explains their excellent mid-term grade but, as a professor who provides feedback, I note that the defence is closing in on a record-setting pace, having surrendered a mere 10.9 points per game; and the run game is much better than expected. Yes, they lost to Brooklin, but they beat all the heavy-hitters they faced, so it’s all even.

Buffalo (B): Lamar Jackson deserves an ‘A’ for carrying this team on his back and the team deserves a ‘C’ for riding Jackson to where they are. It all boils down to a solid B-grade for a squad that has had its ups and downs but remains in strong contention for a playoff berth. Despite the disruptive presence of Aaron Donald, the defence has not shown that it can handle a top-tier offence; while there are concerns that opponents will figure out the one-dimensional Jackson offence. If so, then what?

Charleswood (D): The Pats deserve an ‘F’ for their off-season performance and trade deadline talent dump, but since this grade concerns how they have *played* with their current roster, I concede that they have not been terrible. Close to it, yes, but not *worst-team-in-history* terrible. The defence, understandably, has been atrocious overall, but also surprises on occasion. The offence is actually pretty good and can strike without warning. Still, it’s a bad team performing badly most of the time.

Chino (C): Nothing has come easily for the Convicts. Their record reflects their struggles, but does not explain why. One reason is the defence performing below already modest expectations. It is getting picked apart through the air and has not shown the red zone resilience of past years. The offence has been steady, but un-explosive and predictable. Christian McCaffery has touched the ball or been targeted on 43% of their plays from scrimmage. Could over-reliance on him actually be the problem?

Cobb County (A+): At 8-0 their record speaks for itself with respect to their mid-term grade. What it does not capture is the ease with which the Coyotes are shearing through opposing defences. The unstoppable offence is averaging 36.5 points per game, 7.6 yards per play and a stratospheric 13.1 yards per pass attempt, putting it well above their closest competition. The scary thing for the rest of the league is that it is showing no signs of slowing down. Add to the mix a defence that is always fending off opponents in catch-up mode but still ranks no.2 overall in efficiency and the ingredients are there for a perfect season bid.

Cowtown (B): The loss of Todd Gurley, figuratively speaking, has kept this offence in 1st or 2nd gear throughout the first eight weeks. The offensive line has been battered and is also playing poorly, which is making pocket passing painful for Jimmy G. But to the rescue of this offensive gong show comes the defence, currently ranked no.1 in the league! This was an unforeseen development that, if it continues its present course, could lead to a tooth-and-nail battle with Durham for the North.

Durham (C+): Given the pre-season hype around this team, being locked in a three-way tie for 1st place in their Division (as opposed to sitting on top of it) is not where people expected them to be at the halfway point. While the defence is showing clear signs of recovery after a shaky start, the offence has failed to get on track, despite having star Nick Chubb and a bevy of good receivers. It falls on Josh Allen to improve his erratic play or the season will end with Durham in a losing dog fight.

Erieau (C-): The good news is that the Caddies are two wins better than they were at this point last year and their offence is no longer bottom of the barrel. But all this is relative to one of the worst teams in the league in 2019. They are not as

bad now, nor should they be, with all the prime draft picks they have spent on top talent. That talent has not come together yet the way fans had hoped. The wait could be long; the game plan, the execution and the decision-making on the field is all suspect still.

East Elmhurst (C+): We knew where this team was headed after management traded Saquon Barkley and Aaron Rodgers, but somebody forgot to tell the rest of the players it was a “rebuild” year. While two wins in eight games will not put them in the playoff hunt, the élan of the defence and odd flashes from Baker Mayfield could upset the playoff race for others if the Irish keep working hard every week and Mayfield gets to play. This is a quirky team with a nasty little bite if left unmuzzled.

Georgia (C-): On the plus side, the Glads’ ramshackle defence has not been ground into the dirt as badly as many had predicted. The unit started strong and kept them in every game over the first three weeks of the season, including their one win. On the negative side, Tua does not look ready for the pros. The offence is not without weapons, but the rookie does not know how to use them. The lack of punch is starting to take its toll on the defence, making it look more like the motley crew it is.

Iowa City (B-): The Cubs were well on their way to a C-grade before a sudden turnabout in Week Seven bumped up the mid-term mark. A stagnant offence and a vanilla defence over the first six weeks put the coach’s job in jeopardy, but it appears safe for now after two barn-storming wins nudged them into first place in the West Division. Russell Wilson has things covered on offence. What the Cubs really need to push the grade up where it should be is a leader to step up on defence.

Las Vegas (C): The Assassins entered the season with Carson Wentz as the undisputed starter and face of the franchise. His poor play has set in motion a quarterback carousel that has the team spinning like a top. Add to this, two losses that should not have been and their inability, so far, to compete with the big boys in their conference and you have a team that is positioning itself to be on the outside of the playoff circle. This is a better team than its record and still has time to get it together.

New Jersey (D-): The only 1-7 team on the block that thought it could win their division is gradually and grudgingly bowing to reality as it gets punched in the mouth every week. Dissecting this disastrous start will require time after school with the teacher as there is too much wrong to fit it all into the comments box of the report card. Suffice to say that the Wrecking Balls are not that bad; but are not nearly as good as they and their coach think they are, which makes them try some crazy sh*t.

Peg City (B): The offence under Kirk Cousins has been playing lights-out for the most part, but the defence is showing its age-old tendency to loosen up when tightening is required. This is a small disappointment in an otherwise pleasing campaign that has the Pegs firmly ensconced in second place in the Central, with good prospects for a wildcard berth. This team, when fully healthy, has the make-up to flatten the Big Wheels in their conference, so improvement on a good start is more than possible.

Pickering (C+): This was a team heading for the D-list before they stumbled into back-to-back wins to end the first half. All the Spartans really needed was to catch a team in a bad stretch and a coach with terminal brain freeze syndrome to get back on the path to 6 wins. Given their woeful shortcomings in the trenches on both sides of the ball, it is somewhat impressive that they stand where they are now and have not been further abjectly humiliated since getting blown out by the Irish in Week 2.

Scarborough (B+): The doubters will point with satisfaction to the spectacular crash ‘n burn of Joe Burrow in Week 8 to demonstrate that this is not a team destined for greatness in 2020. Burrow finally displayed some unfortunate rookie moments, but they do not take away what he has done to elevate the competitiveness of last year’s doormat. The Blue Eagles can no longer be overlooked, for more reasons than the play of their first-round pick. Win or lose, this team will be in the mix for a playoff spot.

Seattle (B): The Pilots have been streaky – losing their first three, winning their next three and losing their last two – but one constant throughout is the team’s attitude and effort. This group believes in itself despite the dearth of talent around their second-year starting QB and the strange invisibility of Khalil Mack. Their stubborn red zone posture permits them to hang around long enough for their offence to tip the balance with some miracle play. I had them pegged for two wins only. Silly me!

Sebastian (C+): For not being able to get out of their own way the Fish are downgraded from last year’s ‘B’ to a ‘C,’ but two nice wins over Aurora and Peg City earn them a +. That is as generous as I will get with a team that shoots itself in the fins repeatedly. Turnovers – both the real kind and the ones on downs – are killing this team’s fortunes in a Division that looks wide open. On top of the high-risk, low-reward 4th down gambles, Drew Brees is now sharing snaps with Dwayne Haskins!

Twin Cities (D): What a difference a year can make! Last year at this time the Triumph were positioning themselves to take down Virden; this year they are in position to buy a ticket to the ‘Trevor Sweepstakes.’ Looking at their current quarterbacks, that might not be a bad idea. But the team still has too much lingering talent to finish rock bottom in the standings. It will be difficult to get swept by the Pats, for example, unless they start Jameis at QB. Hey, I wouldn’t put it past them!

Virden (A): When their starting quarterback is not on the COVID-19 list, the Violators have done what needs to be done to take charge of their division. The hiccup they experienced against the Pilots was one of those games that can be written off as an anomaly. They are strong and balanced. The only serious challenge faced by a Patrick Mahomes-led Virden squad came in a deluge in Cowtown and, like all great teams, they found a way to win. Not much more to report – they are on schedule.

York (B): Taking it “one game at a time” is not a cliché in York – they literally do exactly that from a mental prep and attitude standpoint. One week they look good, the next week they look bad or, if not bad, foggy. At the end of the day it balances out nicely in the bottom line which, at 500, is slightly better than projected for this group. The loss of Von Miller has not taken the expected toll on the defence while Derrick Henry is paving a way for Tom Brady to revive his creaky arm. It’s a solid ‘B.’

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BRUXELLES @ CHINO (line – BOMBERS by 2)

INJURIES: **Bruxelles** – Frank Clark (OUT), Leonard Fournette (OUT), Kerryon Johnson (OUT); **Chino**– Melvin Ingram III (PROBABLE), Morgan Burnett (QUESTIONABLE), Matt Skura (OUT), Kawann Short (IR).

The Bombers have won three-straight after limping past the Pats last week. The victory came at a price, as Leonard Fournette and his back-up both fell to injury and will miss this contest. Second-year free agent, Darrel Williams, who has compiled a total of 33 yards rushing at 1.9 yards per carry over two seasons, will likely get the nod to start, but will defer to Chris Thompson on passing downs. Either way, the pressure will be on Jared Goff to deliver. He can thank his stars that he gets a shot at the Chino secondary in this situation, because they have been making quarterbacks look good all year so far. The Convicts are coming off a pick-me-up win against Seattle, but against the Bruxelles defence they will have to devise a more sustainable strategy than having Jakeem Grant return kick-offs for touchdowns. Frank Clark is out for Bruxelles, however, so look for Christian McCaffery to have a nice day. **PICK: CHINO**

LAS VEGAS @ BUFFALO (line – DERAILERS by 6)

INJURIES: **Las Vegas** – Yannick Ngakoue (DOUBTFUL), Adoree' Jackson (OUT); **Buffalo** – Quinton Dunbar (OUT), Jonathan Abram (IR).

Riding a five-game win streak going into last week, the Derailers were humbled by powerful Virden and hope to rebound here against a struggling Vegas team that has now lost four-in-a-row. The Assassins' problems stem from poor quarterback play, which seems to have recently spread to the defence judging from the thrashing the Cubs gave them last week. Lamar Jackson remains mostly a one-man show – stop him and you stop the Buffalo offence. So far, nobody has really stopped Lamar, but in terms of ability, the Vegas linebackers have the speed and endurance to contain the edge against him and also bring pressure to bear in the pocket. If Yannick Ngakoue cannot play, however, they will lose a vital pass rush burst from the line and will be forced to blitz more often than they may want to. It will be interesting to see who starts at QB for the Assassins. Justin Herbert flashed some juice in relief last week. **PICK: BUFFALO**

NEW JERSEY @ IOWA CITY (line – CUBS By 6)

INJURIES: **New Jersey** – Terry McLaurin (OUT), Matthew Stafford (OUT); **Iowa City** – Will Dissly (OUT), Reshad Jones (OUT).

Stick a fork in the Wrecking Balls – they're done. The only question remaining is how much pride do they have as a team. Are they going to mail it in or compete? One of the tragic aspects to this lost season is that they players have left it all on the field from week-to-week, except for those freakish freeze-frame moments when the only frozen frames are those of Wrecking Balls defenders watching opposing players run through them for long touchdowns. So, competing may not help the bottom line even if fans appreciate the effort. The Cubs are on a bit of a roll, riding a two-game winning streak. They have looked like a new team in stretch. If the Cubs intend to remove lingering doubts about their fitness for greatness, they have to take chunk out of a wounded NJ squad. **PICK: IOWA CITY**

SEATTLE @ COBB COUNTY (line – COYOTES by 11)

INJURIES: **Seattle** – Bobby Massie (OUT), Olivier Vernon (OUT), Connor Williams (OUT); **Cobb County** – None.

It looks like the pattern of good and bad things coming in threes will continue for the Pilots as they face the undisputed top team in the league. Seattle dropped their first three games of the season, won their next three, and are now one game away from completing the alternating pattern with what, most likely, will be a loss to the Coyotes. But you don't need me to tell you who will win this game. You need me to tell you whether the Pilots will show enough feistiness to keep the loss within the double-digit spread. I have a fondness for the Pilots and their limited, sleight-of-hand success on the field, but I think their "gung-ho" has limits to what it can achieve. They will be pushing those limits here against an overpowering Coyote offence, the likes of which the league has not seen since the 625-point

Death Valley squad of 2012. And the defence is pretty good too. Sorry, Seattle, it will be a long day. **PICK: COBB COUNTY**

CHARLESWOOD @ TWIN CITIES (line – TRIUMPH by 6)

INJURIES: Charleswood – Parris Campbell (OUT), Derwin James (OUT), Devin Funchess (IR), CJ Mosley (IR). Twin Cities – Kwon Alexander (OUT), Trent Brown (OUT), Clyde Edwards-Helaire (OUT), Chris Lindstrom (OUT), Russell Okung (OUT), Antonio Brown (COVID-19).

The schedule makers inadvertently set up a dramatic battle for the basement in Weeks 9 & 16 between two teams that once knew better days. Of the two, the Triumph are clearly the more balanced team, while the Pats have that tantalizing offensive potential lingering in the background waiting for its moment in the spotlight. That moment has not come since their Week Two mauling of the Pilots. Since then they have had to play catch-up against some good defensive units. The Triumph defence is capable of slowing down most opponents, but their offence cannot be relied on to grab an early lead. Although the Pats' defence is as decrepit as any in the league, either one of the Triumph QBs is capable of making a hash of things, just in different ways. I would like the Triumph here, but their O-line is decimated by injuries to three starters and Clyde Edwards-Helaire is unavailable. It's spotlight time for the Pats. **PICK: CHARLESWOOD**

VIRDEN @ PEG CITY (line – VIOLATORS by 3)

INJURIES: Virden – Nasir Adderley (IR), Derrius Guice (IR); Peg City – Chris Jones (COVID-19);

Unless COVID-19 strikes at the 11th hour, the Violator offence will be at full force for this long-awaited Central Division showdown. The Pegs are Virden's only competition for the divisional crown and need this win to remain in close contention. On the other side, the Violators can put their boots on the throat of their rival's bold aspirations with a win. Firepower won't be in sort supply here as the contending offences rank two-three behind Cobb County in efficiency. To the surprise of some, the Crusaders slot in at no.2. That is due to their plethora of weapons and the fact that Kirk Cousins has not imploded yet. The Violators are similarly stacked, but will enjoy the benefit of facing a faltering Crusader defence that is missing Chris Jones. It is not a coincidence that Peg City's defensive woes began with the Jones' positive COVID test. Expect a back-and-forth shootout with a late pick-six spoiling the line. **PICK: VIRDEN**

AURORA @ COWTOWN (line – MUSTANGS by 2)

INJURIES: Aurora – Daniel Kilgore (OUT); Cowtown – Cordy Glenn (OUT).

The Mustangs piled up yards and points against a stubborn York defence last week in a sign that the offence is finally picking up its stride. At the same time, the Corn King defence held off wave after wave of attacking Swordfish to establish itself statistically as the most proficient defence in the league. In all probability the resurgence of the Aurora passing game is more authentic than the temporary dominance of the Cowtown defence, but it is a fact that TJ Watt is having a game-changing impact and raising the performance of those around him. As a result, the Mustangs are unlikely to push around the Cowtown defence for four quarters, although they will likely have many opportunities to try. The Cowtown run game is dead last in the league in both yardage gained and average yards-per-carry. This is exposing Jimmy Garoppolo to sustained pressure, resulting in erratic play and the potential for lots of turnovers. **PICK: AURORA**

EAST ELMHURST @ DURHAM (line – THUNDER LIZARDS by 7)

INJURIES: East Elmhurst – Jalen Ramsey (PROBBLE), Taco Charlton (OUT), Tyreek Hill (OUT), Dontari Poe (OUT), CJ Anderson (IR); Durham – None.

After shutting out the rookie phenom in Scarborough last week, the much-criticized Durham defence is back in fans' good graces. Its potential for high-level impact must again be factored in to any pre-game assessment. In this case it can be assumed that the Durham secondary and pass rush will put a great deal of pressure on [\[insert name of starting Irish QB here\]](#) with game-breaker Tyreek Hill listed as 'OUT.' If the Irish had a credible running threat, they could use it buy some time against the mediocre Durham run defence. But they don't have a credible running threat. The only hope for the Elmhurstians lies in their defence getting the better of scattershot QB Josh Allen. I mean sacks and turnovers – lots of them. Taco Charlton, their sack leader is out. So much for that plan! **PICK: DURHAM**

SEBASTIAN @ GEORGIA (line – SWORDFISH by 5)

INJURIES: Sebastian – Denzel Perryman (OUT); Georgia – John Johnson III (OUT), Jimmy Smith (OUT), Andrew Wylie (OUT).

The Swordfish are coming off a frustrating loss where they controlled the play but ultimately could not find the end zone. Not that finding the end zone was needed against a team that led by 7 or less for almost the entire game. Three field goals spread out over three quarters and winning the field position battle would have done the trick. But the coach's terminal lack of patience had them gambling too often and it cost them a win. I only go into such detail about a game already played because a repeat of that performance might be the only way the Gladiators can steal a win here. They would have to do their part, of course, by making the stops on 4th down and doing something to rattle Dwayne Haskins when he makes his random appearances. And, of course they would also need to score, something

they have struggled to do all year. On second thought, the Fish might do any crazy thing and get away with it. **PICK: SEBASTIAN**

SCARBOROUGH @ ERIEAU (line – BLUE EAGLES by 1)

INJURIES: Scarborough – DeSean Jackson (OUT); Erieau – Myles Garrett (OUT), Josh Gordon (OUT), Joe Staley (IR), Akiem Hicks (IR).

‘Wow’ is all I have to say about this razor thin line. The Blue Eagles went from division contenders two weeks ago to being the slimmest of favourites over an Erieau squad that seems incapable of scoring a win outside of its sickly division. Joe Burrow’s three interceptions last week have spooked a lot of people. They forget that those were the first interceptions he has thrown all year and they came against a secondary universally acclaimed to be the most talented in the league. Of course, people will be watching to see how Burrow rebounds. He will have to be smarter under pressure to succeed this week. The Cadillac have a wealth of edge rush talent and a certified ball-hawk shutdown corner to create uncomfortable scenarios for him. On the other side, the Blue Eagles’ defence has held its own across the board, although they think they should take away the ball more. Kyler Murray will need to call on those legs a lot. **PICK: SCARBOROUGH**

YORK @ BUDAPEST (line – NORTH STARS by 8)

INJURIES: York – Malcolm Butler (OUT), Dion Jordan (OUT), Darren Sproles (OUT); Budapest – Justin Britt (OUT).

The recency effect of York getting mauled by Aurora last week is reflected in the generous line in favour of the home team. Setting aside that debacle as an “Aurora Wakening” moment, the Excaliburs have proven consistently tough to move against this year. The Stars are also stubborn on the back end, giving up an average of 274 yards per game, good for no.1 in the league. Throw in two rather run-of-the-mill offences and you have the makings of another ‘throwback rules’ game. I don’t expect either team to have its way with the other – it is not historically what usually happens when Swords meet Stars. Rather, I expect this to be a grind, with the possibility of the defences scoring or factoring directly into scores. It is not often I look at the kickers for a clue to victory, but I am here. **PICK: YORK**

BROOKLIN @ PICKERING (line – HAWKS by 3)

INJURIES: Brooklin – Pernelle McPhee (OUT), Boston Scott (OUT), Stephon Tuitt (OUT), JoeJuan Williams (OUT), DeShon Elliott (IR), Evan Engram (IR); Pickering – Marquise Brown (OUT), Darqueze Dennard (OUT), Xavien Howard (OUT), Karl Joseph (OUT), Derek Wolfe (OUT).

Over the past four weeks the Spartans have gone from spoiled to playing spoiler in the race for the Atlantic Conference wildcard berths. If they prove too good at that, they may even find themselves in the post-season. Okay...I didn’t mean that. Pickering still sucks, just not as bad as we all thought. To be sure, they have had help from bumbling opponents in their three wins. The Hawks are not likely to be so generous – they have turned the ball over just 4 times this year. They also boast one of the league’s more prolific and efficient offences, scoring 25 points per game. The Spartans defence has been playing over its head to this point, but have yet to face a top tier offence. Like most Hawks games, this will likely turn into a fireworks-display, with the visitors firing the roman candle. **PICK: BROOKLIN**



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This Week in EFL History
With Professor Sterling Smitherman

FROM THE EFL ARCHIVES – Two teams ended Week 8 of the 2014 EFL season with perfect records: the Carthage Cannibals and the Aurora Mustangs. Not coincidentally, these two teams would wind up facing each other in the 2014 Championship Game. But at the time, the Cannibals were seen as somewhat lucky interlopers, a Cinderella team trying to nudge out favoured powerhouses in Santa Clara Twin Cities and Virden. The Violators, however, were in the middle of a nightmare season, failing to meet pre-season expectations. Their 34-24 win over the Regulators in Week 8 was just their 2nd win of the season, basically relegating

them to below also-ran status.

Week 8 was a cross-conference play week, with the Atlantic Conference beating out the Pacific Conference in “Championship Preview” games 3-1. For the Pacific, the Cannibals edged out Scarborough 27-24 in the Game of the Week; for the Atlantic, the Spartans moved away from the pass to handle the Cubs 38-19 on the strength of 167 rushing yards and surgical passing from *Peyton Manning*; the Mustangs rode a 21-point 4th quarter to trample the Triumph, 31-13; and the Thunder Lizards stomped the Banana Sluggs, 48-17 after falling behind 14-0 in the 2nd quarter.

Andy Dalton of the Swordfish headlined the big offensive performances in Week 8, by throwing for 3 TD passes in the 2nd half to rally his team to a come-from-behind 34-29 over Mohave. *Le’Veon Bell* of the Knights rushed for 163 yards on 29 carries in a losing effort against York.

Wallace Gilberry of the Spartans led all defenders with 4 sacks of *Russell Wilson* to keep the Cubs’ offence from getting into a rhythm; while *Chandler Jones* of the Swordfish logged his best game of the year with 3 sacks of *Andrew Luck*, two in key situations, in their aforementioned victory over Mohave.