

WEEK 1



EFL

ELITE FOOTBALL LEAGUE



Blazing Through a Pandemic in our 14th Season!

October 11, 2020

EAST



CENTRAL



WEST



NORTH



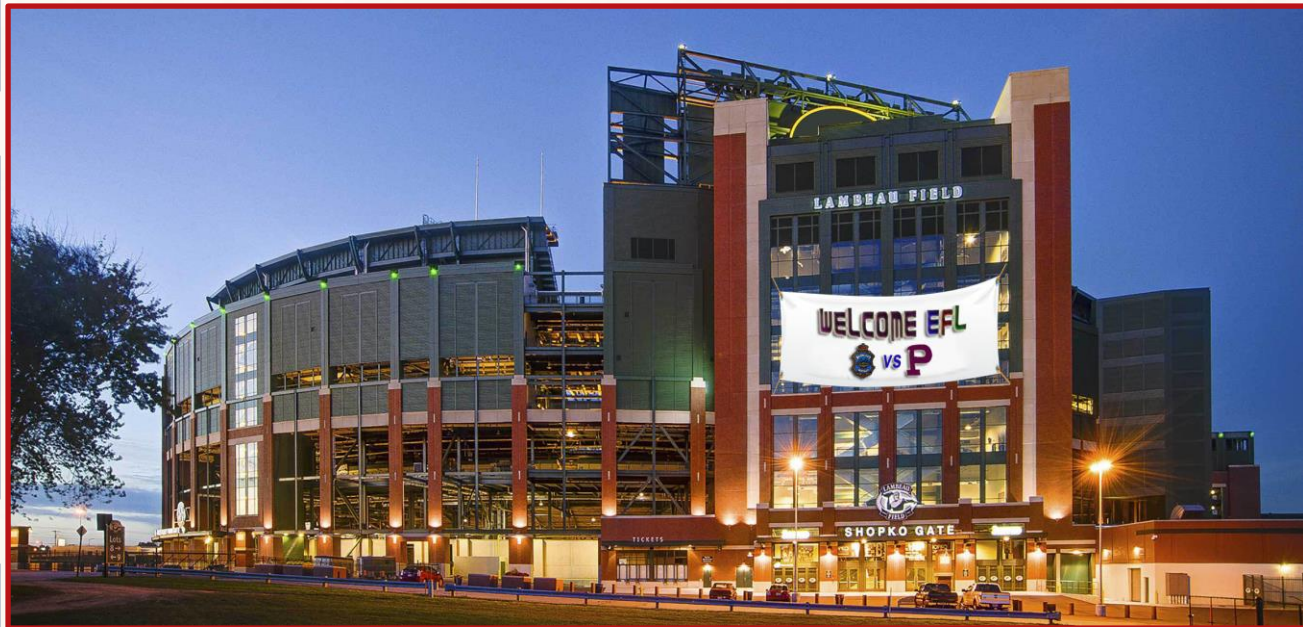
COASTAL



SOUTH



COVID-19 STRIKES!



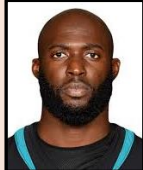
LAMBEAU FIELD - HOME FOR A DAY!

A COVID-19 outbreak among staff at True North Field in Winnipeg caused the league to make a last-minute switch to Lambeau Field across the border in Wisconsin for the Triumph-Crusader game. Lambeau Field, a designated back-up site for Central Time Zone teams, had not seen pro football since the 2006 NFL season. Local fans, starved for pro football, snatched up the 6,000 available tickets and most cheered on the Crusaders, who beat the Triumph 42-28.



Who was sick in Week One?

“Brylcreem” THE EFL’S FIRST SPONSOR



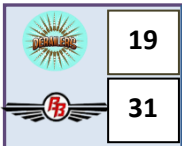
Leonard Fournette
RB
Bruxelles
Bombers

205 yds rushing, 38 yds receiving, 2 TDs. Engine that drove the attack.



James Bradberry
CB
New Jersey
Wrecking Balls

4 T, 2 INT (27 yds) to set up 10 NJ points in a losing cause.



19

31

Lamar Jackson and the Buffalo run game dominated early, but the QB was stoned on 4th & 1 at the Bruxelles' 9 to limit the damage to a 10-0 lead mid-way through the 2nd quarter. **Leonard Fournette** broke the Bombers' offensive stupor with a 56-yard TD run. He followed up with a 1-yard TD run to end the 1st half with a Bruxelles lead. From there it was a footrace to the finish, with the Derailers unable to close the gap due to Fournette's running and aggressive play by the Buffalo defence that backfired. A 65-yard TD pass from **Jared Goff** to **Chase Claypool** put the game away.

10-07-2020 The Fortress Temp:77 Wind: No Line MVP:Fournette HFA:ON(4)

	1	2	3	4	Tot
2020 Buffalo (0-1)	3	7	3	6	19
2020 Bruxelles (1-0)	0	14	7	10	31

Scoring Summary

1 8:57 Buffalo	FG Elliott 54 (12-27-5:49)	3-0
2 6:37 Buffalo	TD Jackson 18 pass to Woods (Elliott,J) (4-59-2:29)	10-0
2 5:20 Bruxelles	TD Fournette 56 run (Prater) (2-69-1:05)	10-7
2 0:52 Bruxelles	TD Fournette 1 run (Prater) (7-76-2:05)	10-14
3 10:13 Buffalo	FG Elliott 37 (8-38-3:35)	13-14
3 6:10 Bruxelles	TD Goff 21 pass to Thompson (Prater) (9-75-4:03)	13-21
4 13:21 Bruxelles	FG Prater 21 (8-94-2:46)	13-24
4 5:39 Buffalo	TD Jackson 19 pass to Sanders (2 - failed) (7-83-4:04)	19-24
4 3:25 Bruxelles	TD Goff 65 pass to Claypool (Prater) (5-75-2:14)	19-31

Passing

BUF: Jackson 37/21 224 Yds 2 TDs Int
BRX: Goff 23/10 240 Yds 2 TD 2

Rushing

BUF: Jackson 22/167, Johnson 6/24, Woods 1/14, Coleman 2/4, Dillon 1/0
BRX: Fournette 26/205 2 TD, Goff 2/-1

Receiving

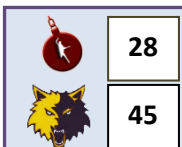
BUF: Sanders 10/117 TD, Woods 6/64 TD, Tate 2/22, Coleman 2/18, Johnson 1/3
BRX: Fournette 3/38, Waller 2/24, Claypool 1/65 TD, Godwin 1/60, Kelce 1/27, Thompson 1/21 TD, Westbrook 1/5

Defense

BUF: Hicks 9-Tk, Joseph 5-Tk, Jackson,E 4-Tk, Mercilus 4-Tk, Dunbar 4-Tk Donald 3-Tk Sk FF
BRX: Moreau 10-Tk, Fuller 9-Tk Int, Slay 8-Tk, Kuechly 7-Tk

Injuries

BUF: Tartt 3, Williams 3, Barnett 2, Brown 2
BRX: Slay 2



28

45

Defence was an after-thought in this free-wheeling scoring fest that saw **Ryan Tannehill** complete 85% of his pass attempts for 362 yards and 5 TDs. The Coyotes piled up 31 first downs and 476 yards of offence and would have run away with the game except for 3 1st half turnovers, 2 picks by Jersey CB, **James Bradberry** and a strip sack by **Matt Judon**, leading to 17 New Jersey points. The Coyotes still led 21-20 at half time. Two Coyote TDs on their first two series of the 2nd half put the Wrecking Balls on their heels. With 6 pass drops and 9 penalties, they could not recover.

10-09-2020 Temp:83 Wind:0-10 None No Line MVP:Tannehill HFA:ON(0)

	1	2	3	4	Tot
2020 New Jersey (0-1)	7	13	8	0	28
2020 Cobb County (1-0)	14	7	14	10	45

Scoring Summary

1 8:24 Cobb County	TD Tannehill 16 pass to Parker (McManus) (11-74-5:04)	0-7
1 4:39 New Jersey	TD Montgomery 1 run (Boswell) (5-28-1:59)	7-7
1 1:05 Cobb County	TD Tannehill 13 pass to Jones (McManus) (7-75-3:34)	7-14
2 11:32 New Jersey	FG Boswell 23 (9-38-4:19)	10-14
2 2:21 New Jersey	TD Stafford 11 pass to McLaurin (Boswell) (8-85-5:12)	17-14
2 1:48 New Jersey	FG Boswell 35 (4-3-0:22)	20-14
2 0:32 Cobb County	TD Peterson 2 run (McManus) (7-72-1:06)	20-21
3 12:36 Cobb County	TD Tannehill 25 pass to Parker (McManus) (4-75-2:24)	20-28
3 6:50 Cobb County	TD Tannehill 4 pass to Holtz (McManus) (8-68-4:36)	20-35
3 4:36 New Jersey	TD Stafford 42 pass to Samuel (2 - Samuel) (5-63-2:06)	28-35
4 12:30 Cobb County	TD Tannehill 5 pass to Cook (McManus) (11-75-7:06)	28-42
4 1:33 Cobb County	FG McManus 42 (4--1-0:12)	28-45

Passing

NJ: Stafford 49/28 318 Yds 2 TDs
CB: Tannehill 27/23 362 Yds 5 TDs 2 Int
Bridgewater 0/1 0 Yds

Rushing

NJ: Montgomery 8/22 TD, Cohen 3/13, Hill 2/6, Stafford 1/6
CB: Mostert 10/63, Peterson 17/56 TD, Calais 3/10, Uzomah 1/0, Bridgewater 1/-1

Receiving

NJ: McLaurin 8/108 TD, Cohen 6/51, Samuel 5/90 TD, Chark Jr. 3/26, Gabriel 3/22, Walker 2/20, Montgomery 1/1
CB: Cook 6/70 TD, Parker 5/88 2 TD, Jones 5/83 TD, Peterson 2/28, Holtz 2/23 TD, Cooks 2/32, Mostert 1/38

Defense

NJ: Landry 16-Tk, Adams 9-Tk, Awuzie 6-Tk, Bradberry 4-Tk 2 Int, Judon 3-Tk Sk FF
CB: Nelson 9-Tk, White 6-Tk, Vaccaro 6-Tk, Jenkins 6-Tk

Injuries

NJ:
CB:



The Patriots matched the Violators TD for TD in the 1st half, but ended 30 minutes trailing 14-13 due to a blocked extra point. Tenacious play by the Charleswood defence held Virden at bay early in the 2nd half. But the wheels came loose late in the 3rd when **DeShaun Watson** threw his first of 3 picks, setting up Virden in the red zone for an easy TD drive and a 24-13 lead. Watson and **Parris Campbell** hooked up for a pair of TDs, but the Violators stayed one step in front with a 30-yard TD run by **Ezekiel Elliott**. A 34-yard pick six by **Marcus Peters** salted the game away for Virden.

10-06-2020 Temp:75 Wind: No Line MVP:Elliott HFA:ON(0)

	1	2	3	4	Tot
2020 Virden (1-0)	7	7	10	17	41
2020 Charleswood (0-1)	7	6	0	13	26

Scoring Summary

1 10:50	Charleswood	TD Watson 10 pass to Smith-Schuster (Carlson) (9-78-4:04)	0-7
1 3:25	Virden	TD Mahomes 10 pass to Cooper (Gonzalez) (13-75-7:25)	7-7
2 6:30	Virden	TD Mahomes 18 pass to Ebron (Gonzalez) (12-88-7:41)	14-7
2 0:43	Charleswood	TD Watson 5 pass to Smith-Schuster (no good) (12-83-5:42)	14-13
3 6:12	Virden	FG Gonzalez 29 (7-39-3:46)	17-13
3 2:38	Virden	TD Mahomes 6 pass to Cooper (Gonzalez) (2-19-0:54)	24-13
4 12:40	Charleswood	TD Watson 18 pass to Campbell (2 - failed) (6-56-3:36)	24-19
4 9:28	Virden	TD Elliott 30 run (Gonzalez) (5-75-3:12)	31-19
4 3:40	Charleswood	TD Watson 12 pass to Campbell (Carlson) (11-75-5:48)	31-26
4 1:03	Virden	FG Gonzalez 51 (11-42-2:32)	34-26
4 0:50	Virden	TD Peters 34 interception return (Gonzalez)	41-26

Passing

VV: Mahomes 30/21 236 Yds 3 TDs
 CHP: Watson 43/31 328 Yds 4 TDs 3 Int

Rushing

VV: Elliott 20/148 TD, Guice 1/3
 CHP: Kamara 13/34, Watson 1/10, Rudolph 2/-1

Receiving

VV: Brown 6/86, Cooper 5/63 2 TDs, Watson 3/22, Elliott 3/17, Ebron 2/29 TD, Sanu 1/13, Guice 1/6
 CHP: Smith-Schuster 9/103 2 TDs, Metcalf 7/102, Kamara 6/56, Campbell 6/46 2 TDs, Dobbins 2/13, DeValve 1/8

Defense

VV: Peters 8-Tk Int, Clinton-Dix 7-Tk, Harris 7-Tk, Barr 3-Tk Int
 CHP: Queen 8-Tk, Ferguson 7-Tk, Mills 6-Tk, Ojemudia 5-Tk

Injuries

VV: Williams 1
 CHP: Trufant 4, Mills 6, James Jr. 11



TD passes from **Kirk Cousins** to **Tyler Higbee** and **Brandon Aiyuk** propelled Peg City to a 17-6 lead. But a personal foul on **Marlon Humphrey** as he attempted to intercept a **Jameis Winston** pass at the 4, set up the 2nd of 3 TD runs for **Clyde Edwards-Helaire** to narrow the gap to 17-13 at half time. A **Nick Vigil** pick-six made it 24-13 for Crusaders to open the 3rd but a TD run by **James White** and 2-point convert narrowed the deficit to 3. That focused the Crusader offence, as they reeled off 17 consecutive points on drives of 83, 68 and 81 yards to assume command, 42-21.

10-07-2020 Lambeau Field Temp:66 Wind:Calm None No Line MVP:Cousins HFA:ON(4)

	1	2	3	4	Tot
2020 Twin Cities (0-1)	0	13	8	7	28
2020 Peg City (1-0)	10	7	10	15	42

Scoring Summary

1 7:19	Peg City	FG Butker 28 (14-65-7:37)	0-3
1 1:45	Peg City	TD Cousins 19 pass to Higbee (Butker) (7-74-3:56)	0-10
2 14:12	Twin Cities	TD Edwards-Helaire 5 run (no good) (8-75-2:36)	6-10
2 11:18	Peg City	TD Cousins 23 pass to Aiyuk (Butker) (6-75-2:54)	6-17
2 3:31	Twin Cities	TD Edwards-Helaire 4 run	13-17
3 13:57	Peg City	TD Vigil 33 interception return (Butker)	13-24
3 11:22	Twin Cities	TD White 8 run (2 - Edwards-Helaire) (7-75-2:35)	21-24
3 3:51	Peg City	FG Butker 32 (12-69-7:20)	21-27
4 14:10	Peg City	TD Cousins 11 pass to McDonald (2 - Jones) (7-68-3:42)	21-35
4 6:21	Peg City	TD Jones 32 run (Butker) (11-91-6:11)	21-42
4 2:00	Twin Cities	TD Edwards-Helaire 1 run (Hopkins) (10-75-4:21)	28-42

Passing

TCT: Winston 36/14 215 Yds 2 Int
 PCC: Cousins 42/32 327 Yds 3 TDs

Rushing

TCT: Edwards-Helaire 18/65 3 TDs, Winston 3/21, White 4/12 TD, Gordon III 2/3
 PCC: Jones 12/114 TD, Barkley 11/55, Cousins 1/6, Logan 1/1

Receiving

TCT: Edwards-Helaire 4/49, Golladay 3/81, Moore 2/28, Brown,A 2/27, White 1/18, Stocker 1/8, Gordon III 1/4
 PCC: Sutton 6/85, Allen,K 6/45, Higbee 5/56 TD, Boyle 5/37, Barkley 4/31, Jones,A 3/18, McDonald 2/32 TD, Aiyuk 1/23 TD

Defense

TCT: Brooks 12-Tk, Alexander 10-Tk, Wagner 7-Tk, Alexander 6-Tk
 PCC: Allen,J 9-Tk, Miller 7-Tk Sk, Vigil 4-Tk Int, Bush 4-Tk, Gardner-Johnson 4-Tk

Injuries

TCT: Okung 10, Stocker 1
 PCC: Rapp 1



The Convicts and Assassins lived up to their reputations with 18 penalties between them – 9 on each side – but did not produce the expected fireworks. Chino controlled the ground, leading to 11 missed tackles and 149 yards rushing by **Christian McCaffrey** and **Mark Ingram**, setting the stage for 2 **Dak Prescott** TD passes. Vegas missed a chance to take the early lead when **Dalvin Cook** was stopped short on 4th & 1 at the Chino 23. Once the Convicts took the lead late in the 2nd quarter, they never looked back. **Michael Thomas** caught 11 balls and 1 TD, for a 9.7-yd average.

10-08-2020 The Big House Temp:92 Wind:0-10 None No Line MVP:McCaffrey HFA:ON(3)

	1	2	3	4	Tot
2020 Chino (1-0)	1	2	3	4	Tot
2020 Las Vegas (0-1)	0	0	7	7	14

Scoring Summary

2 1:28 Chino	TD Prescott 14 pass to McCaffrey (McLaughlin) (11-99-4:50)	0-7
3 7:34 Chino	TD Prescott 33 pass to Fitzgerald (McLaughlin) (6-75-3:27)	0-14
3 2:46 Las Vegas	TD Wentz 2 pass to Thomas (Fairbairn) (10-60-4:48)	7-14
4 10:35 Chino	TD McCaffrey 18 run (McLaughlin) (12-83-6:55)	7-21
4 3:54 Las Vegas	TD Cook 1 run (Fairbairn) (13-68-3:43)	14-21

Passing

LV: Wentz 39/24 221 Yds TD
 CHI: Prescott 28/18 234 Yds 2 TDs

Rushing

LV: Cook 14/27 TD, Wentz 4/39
 CHI: McCaffrey 15/76 TD, Ingram II 14/73, Prescott 5/14

Receiving

LV: Thomas 11/107 TD, Graham 3/25, Richardson 3/25, Jeudy 2/23, Smallwood 2/17, Cook 2/11, Pascal 1/13
 CHI: McCaffrey 8/76 TD, Gallup 6/91, Fitzgerald 2/44, Hurst 2/23

Defense

LV: Leonard 12-Tk, Davis 11-Tk, Griffin 9-Tk, Williams,M 6-Tk
 CHI: Terrell 13-Tk, Carter 9-Tk Sk FF, Conley 5-Tk

Injuries

LV:
 CHI: Burnett 8, Short 14



The Pilots put up their traditional strong Week One fight against the Cubs and actually held a 10-7 lead into the 4th quarter. After an efficient TD drive to open the game, the Cubs' offence went into deep freeze due to a stubborn Seattle defence. With the Cubs in front 7-3, **Joe Mixon** was stuffed by **Khalil Mack** on 4th & 1 at the 50-yard line, setting up Seattle's only TD on a 4-yard pass to **Anthony Miller**. Iowa regained control with Mixon rushing for 45 yards on the ensuing drive and **Russell Wilson** finishing with a 5-yard TD pass to **Ryquell Armstead**. The Cubs defence held on for the rest.

10-10-2020 Temp:67 Wind:Calm None No Line MVP:Wilson HFA:ON(0)

	1	2	3	4	Tot
2019 Seattle (0-1)	0	0	10	0	10
2019 Iowa City (1-0)	7	0	0	10	17

Scoring Summary

1 9:53 Iowa City	TD Mixon 2 run (Tucker,J) (8-75-5:07)	0-7
3 9:50 Seattle	FG Lambo 43 (9-50-5:06)	3-7
3 0:31 Seattle	TD Darnold 4 pass to Miller (Lambo) (11-59-6:41)	10-7
4 8:48 Iowa City	TD Wilson 5 pass to Armstead (Tucker,J) (10-75-6:43)	10-14
4 2:42 Iowa City	FG Tucker 46 (8-32-4:13)	10-17

Passing

SEA: Darnold 31/18 157 Yds TD
 ICC: Wilson 22/16 174 Yds TD

Rushing

SEA: Mack 13/53, Akers 4/6, Darnold 1/2
 ICC: Mixon 20/85 TD, Wilson 3/28, Armstead 9/23, Coutee 1/22

Receiving

SEA: Renfrow 5/48, Moreau 3/26, Miller 3/23 TD, Lamb 2/21, Robinson 2/12, Mims 1/17, Mack 1/5, Hunt 1/5
 ICC: Lockett 4/65, Beasley 4/34, Brown 3/30, Coutte 2/18, Mixon 2/12, Armstead 1/5

Defense

SEA: White FF 8-Tk, Lattimore FF 7-Tk, Murphy-Bunting 6-Tk, Wright 6-Tk
 ICC: Hayward Jr. 7-Tk, Stone 6-Tk, Hargrave 5-Tk, Littleton 5-Tk

Injuries

SEA:
 ICC:



24



10

The Blue Eagles 'D' stopped the first 3 Cowtown drives in Corn Kings' territory. By the 2nd qtr, the already tired Cowtown 'D' began to crack against the running of **Chris Carson** and the 3rd down efficiency of rookie **Joe Burrow**. Burrow threw the first of 2 TD passes to **Jamison Crowder** and Carson scored from 5 yards to give Scarborough a 14-0 lead before **Joey Slye** countered with a 28-yard FG. Scarborough extended their lead to 21-3 to open the 2nd half. 3 forced fumbles by the Cowtown 'D' bounced the other way and the Eagles' D gave QB, **Jimmy Garoppolo** no opening.

10-09-2020 Tillman Field Temp:73 Wind:Calm None *Internet* No Line MVP:Carson HFA:ON(4)

	1	2	3	4	Tot
2019 Scarborough (1-0)	0	14	7	3	24
2019 Cowtown (0-1)	0	3	7	0	10

Scoring Summary

2 11:01	Scarborough	TD Burrow 6 pass to Crowder (Crosby) (16-70-8:00)	7-0
2 1:44	Scarborough	TD Carson 5 run (Crosby) (11-77-6:18)	14-0
2 0:00	Cowtown	FG Slye 28 (12-65-1:41)	14-3
3 9:37	Scarborough	TD Burrow 23 pass to Crowder (Crosby) (10-75-5:23)	21-3
3 5:41	Cowtown	TD Garoppolo 11 pass to Bell (Slye) (6-59-3:47)	21-10
4 11:52	Scarborough	FG Crosby 27 (12-54-4:46)	24-10

Passing

SBE: Burrow 27/20 173 Yds 2 TDs
COW: Garoppolo 41/24 220 Yds TD

Rushing

SBE: Carson 25/125 TD, Freeman 9/39, Burrow 5/38
COW: Bell 7/16, Gurley II 8/10, Garoppolo 2/7

Receiving

SBE: Freeman 5/26, Crowder 5/70 2 TDs, Robinson II 4/46, Eifert 2/14, Carson 2/0
COW: Bell 7/32 TD, Conley 6/55, Humphries 3/40, Washington 2/24, Evans 2/37

Defense

SBE: Hightower Sk 4-Tk, Fowler Jr. Sk 3-Tk
COW: Gross-Matos Sk FF 5-Tk, Woods 12-Tk, Smith 10-Tk, Davis III 8-Tk

Injuries

SBE:
COW: Glenn 10, Darby 5, Harrison Sr. 1



33



20

Tied at 3, the Lizards cracked the end zone first when **Nick Chubb** snared a check down from **Josh Allen** for a 15-yard TD. The extra point failed, allowing the Swordfish to take a narrow 10-9 lead after **Drew Brees** capped a 97-yard drive with an 8-yard TD pass to **Jason Witten**. But the relentless running of Chubb took its toll on the Sebastian D. Back-to-back TD runs by Chubb, the second set up by a **Fred Warner** interception, opened the lead up to 23-10. A 61-yard TD pass to **Jalen Reagor** got the Fish back in the game, but Lizards' D held on and iced it with a late pick-six.

10-07-2020 The Fish Tank Temp:76 Wind: *Internet* No Line MVP:Chubb HFA:ON(3)

	1	2	3	4	Tot
2020 Durham (1-0)	3	13	7	10	33
2020 Sebastian (0-1)	3	7	7	3	20

Scoring Summary

1 10:48	Sebastian	FG Bailey 31 (10-62-4:08)	0-3
1 3:59	Durham	FG Pineiro 25 (12-63-6:37)	3-3
2 12:30	Durham	TD Allen 15 pass to Chubb (no good) (8-50-4:40)	9-3
2 4:49	Sebastian	TD Brees 8 pass to Witten (Bailey,D) (9-97-5:34)	9-10
2 1:44	Durham	TD Chubb 21 run (Pineiro) (8-61-2:55)	16-10
3 5:21	Durham	TD Chubb 1 run (Pineiro) (9-40-5:06)	23-10
3 4:20	Sebastian	TD Brees 61 pass to Reagor (Bailey,D) (2-75-1:01)	23-17
4 6:31	Sebastian	FG Bailey 43 (11-31-5:10)	23-20
4 0:48	Durham	FG Pineiro 30 (14-52-5:29)	26-20
4 0:31	Durham	TD Mathieu 25 interception return (Pineiro)	33-20

Passing

DTL: Allen 32/18 196 Yds TD
SS: Brees 25/16 221 Yds 2 TDs 2 Int

Rushing

DTL: Chubb 26/138 2 TDs, Allen 9/39, Bowden Jr. 3/4
SS: Taylor 12/65, Williams 4/15, Edmonds 2/4, Brees 3/1

Receiving

DTL: Boyd 8/80, Kupp 4/55, Chubb 3/35 TD, Gibson 1/16, Hooper 1/6, Hilton 1/4
SS: Reagor 4/96 TD, Witten 3/22 TD, Williams 3/62, Beckham Jr. 2/23, Taylor 2/2

Defense

DTL: Mathieu Int(TD) 4-Tk, Holmes 2-FF 6-Tk, Warner Int 5-Tk
SS: Wallace 12-Tk, Okereke FF 5-Tk

Injuries

DTL:
SS: Gotsis 5, Dunlap 2



31
10

Strong play by both defences kept the game scoreless through one quarter. Budapest struck first, capping an 8-play, all run drive with a 10-yard run by **Jordan Howard**. **Gardner Minshew** answered with a 31-yard TD pass to **Calvin Ridley**, tying the game at 7. But that was the high point for the Spartans. **Aaron Rodgers** kicked into gear, hitting **George Kittle** twice for TDs on consecutive drives to open up a 21-7 Budapest lead. The 2nd half was a slow grind, with both teams exchanging FGs before the Stars' running game resumed control to churn out the final game-clinching TD.

10-10-2020 Temp:58 Wind:0-5 None No Line MVP:Howard HFA:ON(0)

	1	2	3	4	Tot
2019 Budapest (1-0)	0	21	3	7	31
2019 Pickering (0-1)	0	7	0	3	10

Scoring Summary

2 12:35 Budapest	TD Howard 10 run (Myers,J) (8-76-5:27)	7-0
2 9:11 Pickering	TD Minshew II 31 pass to Ridley (Zuerlein) (8-75-3:24)	7-7
2 4:49 Budapest	TD Rodgers 12 pass to Kittle (Myers,J) (8-75-4:22)	14-7
2 0:16 Budapest	TD Rodgers 9 pass to Kittle (Myers,J) (13-69-2:58)	21-7
3 6:32 Budapest	FG Myers 41 (11-40-5:22)	24-7
4 14:51 Pickering	FG Zuerlein 41 (12-58-6:32)	24-10
4 5:16 Budapest	TD Williams 8 run (Myers,J) (14-75-9:35)	31-10

Passing

BUD: Rodgers 23/13 110 Yds 2 TDs
 PIC: Minshew II 26/11 152 Yds 1 TD

Rushing

BUD: Howard 19/115 TD, Williams 14/107 TD, Johnson 3/26, Dallas 2/14, Taylor,J 2/10, Ozigbo 3/6, Taylor,T 2/-1
 PIC: Swift 3/20, Minshew II 4/20, Sanders 6/15, Hurts 2/1, Jackson 1/0

Receiving

BUD: Kittle 6/55 2 TDS, Watkins 2/16, Hollister 2/13, Diggs 1/4, Howard 1/2, Johnson 1/2
 PIC: Ridley 3/40 TD, Sanders 2/61, Brown 2/27, Swift 2/10, Shepard 1/4, Williams 1/1

Defense

BUD: Jordan Sk 4-Tk, Campbell Sk 4-Tk, McKinney 5-Tk
 PIC: Schobert 11-Tk, Hyde 8-Tk, Wolfe Sk 3-Tk

Injuries

BUD:
 PIC: Howard 10, Harris 2



23
26

York opened a dominant 1st hlf with a FF by **Sean Lee** that led to a 4-yard TD pass to **Danny Amendola** and a 9-0 lead. **CJ Henderson** picked off **Derek Carr** with 1:08 left in the 1st half, setting up the 2nd of 2 TD runs by **Derrick Henry** to give York a 23-3 lead. But the Hawks turned the tables in the 2nd half. A 39-yard TD pass to **DeAndre Hopkins** and a TD pass to **Boston Scott** closed the gap then a **Ronnie Harrison** pick at the York 23 set up a 4-yard **Carlos Hyde** TD to tie it at 23. With 1:37 left, the Hawks converted a 3rd & 21 to help set up the game-winning FG as time expired.

10-10-2020 Temp:76 Wind:0-10 None No Line MVP:Carr HFA:ON(0)

	1	2	3	4	Tot
2020 York (0-1)	3	20	0	0	23
2020 Brooklin (1-0)	0	3	7	16	26

Scoring Summary

1 9:19 York	FG Hauschka 45 (12-52-5:30)	3-0
2 14:08 York	TD Brady 4 pass to Amendola (no good) (12-61-6:02)	9-0
2 8:45 Brooklin	FG Bullock 26 (11-62-5:08)	9-3
2 1:49 York	TD Henry 7 run (Hauschka) (13-75-6:56)	16-3
2 0:15 York	TD Henry 15 run (Hauschka) (4-40-0:53)	23-3
3 11:30 Brooklin	TD Carr 39 pass to Hopkins (Bullock) (7-75-3:30)	23-10
4 12:42 Brooklin	TD Carr 4 pass to Scott (Bullock) (11-79-6:04)	23-17
4 8:53 Brooklin	TD Hyde 4 run (no good) (6-22-3:38)	23-23
4 0:00 Brooklin	FG Bullock 24 (9-39-3:50)	23-26

Passing

YOR: Brady 28/19 196 Yds 1 TD 2 Int
 BRH: Carr 35/28 288 Yds 2 TD 1 Int

Rushing

YOR: Henry 22/111 2 TD, Snell 2/9, Brady 2/-1
 BRH: Hyde 22/88 1 TD, Bonnafon 1/6, Scott,B 1/0

Receiving

YOR: Amendola 7/61 1 TD, Ertz 5/52, Smith,K 2/23, Davis 2/20, Williams 2/33, Henry 1/7
 BRH: Hopkins 8/125 1 TD, Jeffery 5/55, Ingram 4/26, Cobb 3/42, Scott,B 3/20 1 TD, Hyde 2/9, Jefferson 1/5, Perriman 1/6, Breida 1/0

Defense

YOR: Henderson 8-Tk 1 Int, Ya-Sin 7-Tk, Butler 7-Tk, Lee 6-Tk 1 FF, Byard 6-Tk
 BRH: Jones,J 9-Tk, Apple 7-Tk, Simmons 6-Tk

Injuries

YOR:
 BRH: Tuitt 10



28

26

Aurora overcame 4 TOs and **Matt Ryan** delivered some late game heroics with a TD pass to **Davante Adams** with 0:20 left to survive a scare from the Irish. The first two Mustang possessions ended in picks, leading to 10 Irish points. The half closed with a **Brandon Graham** strip-sack of Ryan, leading to the 2nd of 4 **Rodrigo Blankenship** FGs and 13-7 lead. A **Devin Singletary** fumble to start the 2nd half set up an Irish FG and a 16-7 lead. But then Aurora's offence geared up with TD passes of 35 yards to **James Washington** and 3 yards to **Julian Edelman** to set the stage for the comeback.

10-10-2020 Temp:74 Wind:0-5 None No Line MVP:Ryan HFA:ON(0)

	1	2	3	4	Tot
2020 Aurora (1-0)	0	7	7	14	28
2020 East Elmhurst (0-1)	10	3	10	3	26

Scoring Summary

1 6:33	East Elmhurst	FG Blankenship 41 (5-19-2:09)	0-3
1 5:33	East Elmhurst	TD Hill 5 run (Blankenshi) (3-34-0:57)	0-10
2 11:35	Aurora	TD Ryan 2 run (Lutz) (11-77-5:39)	7-10
2 0:07	East Elmhurst	FG Blankenship 26 (6-16-1:44)	7-13
3 13:38	East Elmhurst	FG Blankenship 45 (4-0-0:22)	7-16
3 8:04	Aurora	TD Ryan 35 pass to Washington (Lutz) (3-72-1:45)	14-16
3 6:03	East Elmhurst	TD Mayfield 12 pass to Quinn (Blankenshi) (6-60-2:01)	14-23
4 14:12	Aurora	TD Ryan 3 pass to Edelman (Lutz) (4-37-2:03)	21-23
4 10:36	East Elmhurst	FG Blankenship 30 (9-63-3:31)	21-26
4 0:20	Aurora	TD Ryan 13 pass to Adams (Lutz) (6-88-1:34)	28-26

Passing

AUR: Ryan 36/22 324 Yds 3 TDs 2 Int
 EE: Fitzpatrick 19/6 62 Yds
 Mayfield 13/8 106 Yds TD

Rushing

AUR: Singletary 10/42, Drake 9/42, Ryan 2/15 1 TD
 EE: Murray 17/69, Hill,J 5/27 1 TD, Kelley 6/26, Mayfield 1/6, Fitzpatrick 2/4

Receiving

AUR: Edelman 5/54 1 TD, Adams 4/74 1 TD, Singletary 4/39, Goedert 3/42, Washington 3/80 1 TD, Drake 2/21, Wilson 1/14
 EE: Agholor 3/45, Thielen 2/39, Murray 2/13, Quinn 2/22 1 TD, Kelley 2/3, Everett 1/29, Hill,J 1/9, Hill,T 1/8

Defense

AUR: Kendricks 10-Tk, Onyemata 6-Tk, Davison 5-Tk, Thompson,S 5-Tk
 EE: Smith 9-Tk, Ramsey 8-Tk 1 Int, Charlton 5-Tk 1 FF, Weddle 5-Tk 1 FF

Injuries

AUR: Drake 2, Brown 3
 EE: Kelley 1, Becton 1



19

21

The Gladiators under rookie QB, **Tua Tagovailoa** tore through the highly-touted Erieau defence for 30 first downs, 488 yards of total offence and 40 minutes of possession, but two defensive TDs by the Caddies turned that advantage around. A 20-yard fumble recovery for a TD by **Anthony Walker** and a **Stephon Gilmore** strip of **James Robinson** in the Erieau red zone turned into an 83-yard recovery TD by **Desmond King** to bolster a difficult outing by **Kyler Murray**. Erieau's offence opened the game with a TD drive but was bottled by a Glads' D led by **Tremaine Edmunds'** 6 tackles.

10-06-2020 Temp:60 Wind:20-30 None No Line MVP:Murray HFA:ON(0)

	1	2	3	4	Tot
2020 Georgia (0-1)	0	10	0	9	19
2020 Erieau (1-0)	7	7	0	7	21

Scoring Summary

1 8:38	Erieau	TD Murray 6 run (Seibert) (11-75-6:22)	0-7
2 8:57	Georgia	TD Tagovailoa 6 pass to Landry (Bass) (16-92-9:34)	7-7
2 2:59	Erieau	TD Walker 20 yd fumble recovery (Seibert)	7-14
2 0:04	Georgia	FG Bass 33 (13-70-2:35)	10-14
4 5:47	Georgia	FG Bass 26 (17-72-7:58)	13-14
4 1:00	Erieau	TD King II 83 yd fumble recovery (Seibert)	13-21
4 0:26	Georgia	TD Tagovailoa 55 pass to Landry (2 - failed) (4-75-0:34)	19-21

Passing

GEO: Tagovailoa 37/22 287 Yds 2 TDs Int
 ERI: Murray 21/11 117 Yds Int

Rushing

GEO: Jacobs 22/100, Robinson 14/66, Tagovailoa 6/27, Michel 1/6, Bernard 1/2
 ERI: McCoy 4/35, Murray,K 4/22 TD, Moss 2/9, Gore 5/5, Vaughn 1/2

Receiving

GEO: Fuller 6/109, Landry 4/83 2 TDs, Robinson 4/28, Atkin 3/28, Johnson 2/14, Bernard 1/12, Vannett 1/8, Jacobs 1/5
 ERI: Andrews 5/54, Ruggs III 3/25, Henry 2/12, Gordon 1/14, Moss 1/12

Defense

GEO: Edmunds 6-Tk, Ebukam 4-Tk, Lewis 3-Tk Int
 ERI: Murray 11-Tk Int, Van Noy 9-Tk FF, Gilmore 8-tk FF

Injuries

GEO: Pouncey 3
 ERI: Hicks 11



WEEK FIFTEEN

STANDINGS & STATS

EFL 2020 Official Standings

East	W	L	T	Pct	Stk	Pts	Ave	Opp	Ave	Diff	Home	Div	Conf			
Bruxelles	1	0	0	1.000	W1	31	31.0	19	19.0	12.0	1	0	0	1	0	0
Cobb County	1	0	0	1.000	W1	45	45.0	28	28.0	17.0	1	0	0	1	0	0
New Jersey	0	1	0	.000	L1	28	28.0	45	45.0	-17.0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Buffalo	0	1	0	.000	L1	19	19.0	31	31.0	-12.0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Central	W	L	T	Pct	Stk	Pts	Ave	Opp	Ave	Diff	Home	Div	Conf			
Viriden	1	0	0	1.000	W1	41	41.0	26	26.0	15.0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Peg City	1	0	0	1.000	W1	42	42.0	28	28.0	14.0	1	0	0	1	0	0
Twin Cities	0	1	0	.000	L1	28	28.0	42	42.0	-14.0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Charleswood	0	1	0	.000	L1	26	26.0	41	41.0	-15.0	0	1	0	0	1	0
West	W	L	T	Pct	Stk	Pts	Ave	Opp	Ave	Diff	Home	Div	Conf			
Chino	1	0	0	1.000	W1	21	21.0	14	14.0	7.0	1	0	0	1	0	0
Iowa City	1	0	0	1.000	W1	17	17.0	10	10.0	7.0	1	0	0	1	0	0
Seattle	0	1	0	.000	L1	10	10.0	17	17.0	-7.0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Las Vegas	0	1	0	.000	L1	14	14.0	21	21.0	-7.0	0	0	0	0	1	0
North	W	L	T	Pct	Stk	Pts	Ave	Opp	Ave	Diff	Home	Div	Conf			
Durham	1	0	0	1.000	W1	33	33.0	20	20.0	13.0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Scarborough	1	0	0	1.000	W1	24	24.0	10	10.0	14.0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Cowtown	0	1	0	.000	L1	10	10.0	24	24.0	-14.0	0	1	0	0	1	0
Sebastian	0	1	0	.000	L1	20	20.0	33	33.0	-13.0	0	1	0	0	1	0
Coastal	W	L	T	Pct	Stk	Pts	Ave	Opp	Ave	Diff	Home	Div	Conf			
Budapest	1	0	0	1.000	W1	31	31.0	10	10.0	21.0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Brooklin	1	0	0	1.000	W1	26	26.0	23	23.0	3.0	1	0	0	1	0	0
York	0	1	0	.000	L1	23	23.0	26	26.0	-3.0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Pickering	0	1	0	.000	L1	10	10.0	31	31.0	-21.0	0	1	0	0	1	0
South	W	L	T	Pct	Stk	Pts	Ave	Opp	Ave	Diff	Home	Div	Conf			
Erieau	1	0	0	1.000	W1	21	21.0	19	19.0	2.0	1	0	0	1	0	0
Aurora	1	0	0	1.000	W1	28	28.0	26	26.0	2.0	0	0	0	1	0	0
East Elmhurst	0	1	0	.000	L1	26	26.0	28	28.0	-2.0	0	1	0	0	1	0
Georgia	0	1	0	.000	L1	19	19.0	21	21.0	-2.0	0	0	0	0	1	0

EFL 2020 Official Passing Leaders

			Att	Cmp	C%	Yards	In	I%	Lg	TD	TD%	Rate
1	Tannehill	CB	27	23	85.2	362	2	7.4	38	5	18.5	127.5
2	Mahomes	VV	30	21	70.0	236	0	0.0	18	3	10.0	126.5
3	Cousins	PCC	42	32	76.2	327	0	0.0	23	3	7.1	121.8
4	Burrow	SBE	27	20	74.1	173	0	0.0	23	2	7.4	115.2
5	Prescott	CHI	28	18	64.3	234	0	0.0	33	2	7.1	114.3
6	Mayfield	EE	13	8	61.5	106	0	0.0	32	1	7.7	113.0
7	Goff	BRX	23	10	43.5	240	0	0.0	65	2	8.7	110.8
8	Wilson,R	ICC	22	16	72.7	174	0	0.0	27	1	4.5	110.8
9	Carr,D	BRH	35	28	80.0	288	1	2.9	39	2	5.7	108.1
10	Rodgers,A	BUD	23	13	56.5	110	0	0.0	21	2	8.7	98.1
11	Watson,D	CHP	43	31	72.1	328	3	7.0	20	4	9.3	95.9
12	Ryan,M	AUR	36	22	61.1	324	2	5.6	35	3	8.3	95.1
13	Tagovailoa	GEO	37	22	59.5	287	1	2.7	55	2	5.4	90.7
14	Stafford	NJ	49	28	57.1	318	0	0.0	42	2	4.1	90.3
15	Brees	SS	25	16	64.0	221	2	8.0	61	2	8.0	85.6
16	Wentz	LV	39	24	61.5	221	0	0.0	16	1	2.6	85.5
17	Allen,J	DTL	32	18	56.3	196	0	0.0	19	1	3.1	84.9
18	Darnold	SEA	31	18	58.1	157	0	0.0	17	1	3.2	82.3
19	Jackson,L	BUF	37	21	56.8	224	1	2.7	27	2	5.4	81.4
20	Garoppolo	COW	41	24	58.5	220	0	0.0	22	1	2.4	81.4
21	Minshew II	PIC	26	11	42.3	152	0	0.0	33	1	3.8	74.5
22	Brady	YOR	28	19	67.9	196	2	7.1	18	1	3.6	69.9
23	Murray,K	ERI	21	11	52.4	117	1	4.8	14	0	0.0	49.1
24	Fitzpatr,R	EE	19	6	31.6	62	0	0.0	29	0	0.0	42.0
25	Winston	TCT	36	14	38.9	215	2	5.6	41	0	0.0	36.2

EFL 2020 Official Kick Return Leaders

		No	Yds	Ave	Lg	TD	
1	Spencer,D	NJ	3	114	38.0	57	0
2	Carter,D	BUF	4	150	37.5	52	0
3	Booker	BUF	2	62	31.0	34	0
4	Latimer	DTL	3	87	29.0	37	0
5	Perine	AUR	2	51	25.5	31	0
6	James Jr.	GEO	2	49	24.5	29	0
7	Ballentine	SS	3	71	23.7	30	0
8	Richard	CHP	4	86	21.5	30	0
9	Grant,J	CHI	2	31	15.5	17	0
10	Ruggs III	ERI	2	31	15.5	20	0
11	Bolden	YOR	3	46	15.3	21	0
12	Harris,D	COW	1	42	42.0	42	0
13	Barner	BRH	1	32	32.0	32	0
14	Raymond	EE	1	32	32.0	32	0
15	Roberts,A	BRX	1	31	31.0	31	0
16	Scott,B	BRH	1	28	28.0	28	0
17	Pascal	LV	1	23	23.0	23	0
18	Hardman	LV	1	22	22.0	22	0
19	Hilliard	PCC	1	20	20.0	20	0
20	Sanders,M	PIC	1	19	19.0	19	0
21	Duvernay	TCT	1	15	15.0	15	0
22	Patterson	VV	1	15	15.0	15	0
23	Agnew	SEA	1	14	14.0	14	0
24	Natson	CB	1	9	9.0	9	0
25	Isabella	DTL	1	9	9.0	9	0

EFL 2020 Official Punt Return Leaders

		No	Fc	Yds	Ave	Lg	TD	
1	Ervin	VV	2	0	41	20.5	41	0
2	Barner	BRH	1	1	15	15.0	15	0
3	Roberts,A	BRX	1	0	12	12.0	12	0
4	Berrios	AUR	4	1	48	12.0	19	0
5	Reagor	SS	2	0	23	11.5	12	0
6	Cooper,P	BUD	2	2	19	9.5	10	0
7	Hardman	LV	3	0	28	9.3	11	0
8	Carter,D	BUF	2	1	18	9.0	13	0
9	Natson	CB	2	0	18	9.0	14	0
10	Proche II	DTL	3	0	27	9.0	11	0
11	Thomas,D	SBE	5	0	44	8.8	17	0
12	Agnew	SEA	1	0	8	8.0	8	0
13	Johnson,D	GEO	2	1	13	6.5	9	0
14	Switzer	PIC	1	1	6	6.0	6	0
15	Lockett	ICC	1	2	6	6.0	6	0
16	Quinn,T	EE	4	0	24	6.0	11	0
17	Richard	CHP	1	0	4	4.0	4	0
18	Logan,T	PCC	4	1	16	4.0	6	0
19	Harris,D	COW	2	0	7	3.5	4	0
20	Rogers,C	CHI	2	1	3	1.5	3	0
21	King II	ERI	1	0	-7	-7.0	0	0

EFL 2020 Official Rushing Leaders

			Att	Yds	Ave	Lg	TD
1	Fournette	BRX	26	205	7.9	56	2
2	Jackson,L	BUF	22	167	7.6	25	0
3	Elliott,E	VV	20	148	7.4	30	1
4	Chubb,N	DTL	26	138	5.3	21	2
5	Carson,C	SBE	25	125	5.0	18	1
6	Howard,J	BUD	19	115	6.1	19	1
7	Jones,A	PCC	12	114	9.5	32	1
8	Henry,D	YOR	22	111	5.0	15	2
9	Williams,J	BUD	14	107	7.6	21	1
10	Jacobs,J	GEO	22	100	4.5	14	0
11	Hyde,C	BRH	22	88	4.0	10	1
12	Mixon	ICC	20	85	4.3	16	1
13	McCaffrey	CHI	15	76	5.1	18	1
14	Ingram II	CHI	14	73	5.2	29	0
15	Murray,L	EE	17	69	4.1	12	0
16	Robinson,J	GEO	14	66	4.7	10	0
17	Edwards-He	TCT	18	65	3.6	8	3
18	Taylor,J	SS	12	65	5.4	15	0
19	Mostert	CB	10	63	6.3	34	0
20	Peterson,A	CB	17	56	3.3	15	1
21	Barkley,S	PCC	11	55	5.0	12	0
22	Mack,M	SEA	13	53	4.1	19	0
23	Drake	AUR	9	42	4.7	14	0
24	Singletary	AUR	10	42	4.2	11	0
25	Freeman,D	SBE	9	39	4.3	16	0
26	Allen,J	DTL	9	39	4.3	11	0
27	Wentz	LV	4	39	9.8	19	0
28	Burrow	SBE	5	38	7.6	15	0
29	McCoy,L	ERI	4	35	8.8	32	0
30	Kamara	CHP	13	34	2.6	7	0

EFL 2020 Official Receiving Leaders

			No	Yds	Ave	Lg	TD
1	Thomas,M	LV	11	107	9.7	16	1
2	Sanders,E	BUF	10	117	11.7	27	1
3	Smith-Schu	CHP	9	103	11.4	15	2
4	McLaurin	NJ	8	108	13.5	39	1
5	Hopkins,D	BRH	8	125	15.6	39	1
6	McCaffrey	CHI	8	76	9.5	27	1
7	Boyd	DTL	8	80	10.0	16	0
8	Amendola	YOR	7	61	8.7	13	1
9	Metcalf	CHP	7	102	14.6	20	0
10	Bell,L	COW	7	32	4.6	12	1
11	Campbell,P	CHP	6	46	7.7	18	2
12	Conley	COW	6	55	9.2	15	0
13	Sutton,C	PCC	6	85	14.2	19	0
14	Allen,K	PCC	6	45	7.5	14	0
15	Brown,J	VV	6	86	14.3	18	0
16	Kittle	BUD	6	55	9.2	12	2
17	Cook,J	CB	6	70	11.7	19	1
18	Woods,R	BUF	6	64	10.7	22	1
19	Gallup	CHI	6	91	15.2	19	0
20	Cohen	NJ	6	51	8.5	15	0
21	Kamara	CHP	6	56	9.3	19	0
22	Fuller V	GEO	6	109	18.2	24	0
23	Parker,D	CB	5	88	17.6	25	2
24	Samuel,D	NJ	5	90	18.0	42	1
25	Jeffery	BRH	5	55	11.0	14	0
26	Freeman,D	SBE	5	26	5.2	10	0
27	Ertz	YOR	5	52	10.4	13	0
28	Boyle	PCC	5	37	7.4	14	0
29	Higbee	PCC	5	56	11.2	19	1
30	Crowder	SBE	5	70	14.0	23	2



AROUND THE



With Spats McChad

NEW YORK – We have gone bonkers. As a society. COVID-19 has driven us to Salem witch trials levels of hysteria. As testing and positive cases rise the death toll is hardly mentioned any more – except as an aggregate of every death worldwide. It is because those getting “hit” with the virus now are mostly younger people who are more resistant. These young people have become tired of the joy of life being sucked from them for a phantom and are now taking “risks” – by living.

Most of those who are at risk of dying from the virus have already fallen because we – as a crazy society – neglected to protect them early in the pandemic when the only thing we knew for sure about the virus was that it posed the greatest risk to people 80+ years of age. Talk about nuts! We scare the crap out of everybody, in some places completely shut down the economy, then abandon our elderly and infirm in senior homes, where the underpaid staff refuse to work for fear of getting infected, to die in their own excrement. This is criminal negligence at best. Yet few are talking about it anymore.

The virus is “mysterious.” It can cause no symptoms, mild symptoms or fell a raging elephant. Nobody knows how it will affect individuals, so shut-in and mask-up, even though being shut-in for prolonged periods drives people crazy and we still haven’t figured out whether masks actually do anything other than make the wearer look like a creepy bank robber. And don’t talk to me about containing “droplets,” because the properties of transmission apparently haven’t been nailed down yet either. Droplets will be the least of our worries if COVID-19 passes through aerosols.

I must wear a mask when entering Starbucks to place an order and leave. But if I choose to stay, I can take it off. Does that make sense? Yet we act now as if it’s normal. These measures are sanctioned by medical “experts,” who still have not released a document accessible to the public, in layman’s language, that educates them about the real properties of the virus. We knew all about SARS and MERS shortly after they arrived. We still seem to have little clue about COVID-19, even though all the pharmaceutical companies are working overtime to develop a vaccine. All symptoms – for *everything* – could also be COVID-19.

And what about all of these positive cases popping up now? How positive are they? The widely-discussed and published testing protocols for the EFL offer us a glimpse into how reliable the testing is. If a player tests *positive*, a second test is conducted the next day to verify the result. If the player tests *negative* two days in a row, that player is deemed to be no longer positive. This happens quite frequently, it seems. This abundance of false positives could explain why so many COVID-19 positives are “asymptomatic” – they do not, in fact, have COVID-19. Nevertheless, people who are not professional football players who test positive once are sent off to self-isolate for 14 days. Solitary confinement is considered torture according to Amnesty International.

So, what is actually going on with this worldwide pandemic from which there is seemingly no escape? I do not deny the existence of the virus – a germophobe like me cannot afford to dismiss the invisible enemy. But I certainly question our collective response to it. Instead of prioritizing care to focus on the most vulnerable, the authorities and so-called “experts” have instead shut it all down – as if the Spanish Flu was back. COVID-19, for all its mysteries, is clearly no Spanish Flu.

I don’t have the answers – our response could indeed be mass hysteria fueled by incompetence and fear. Or it could be something more nefarious – the stuff of conspiracy. Whatever it is, I think that, someday, books, treatises and movies will be composed about our society’s historically unprecedented response to COVID-19 and, I expect, we will be viewed with the same shock and disdain by posterity as we view the deranged organizers of the Salem witch trials.

COVID-19 STRIKES – LET’S HAVE A PARTY!

It did not take long for COVID-19 to strike the EFL. Instead of an outbreak among players and coaches, as was most feared, it was an outbreak among the facilities staff at True North Field that caused the Week One match-up between Peg City and Twin Cities to be moved at the 11th hour to Lambeau Field in Wisconsin. The old home of the Packers is a designated back-up site for such an eventuality. It was a prescient decision by the league, but nobody expected it would be needed in Week One.

I have to hand it to the EFL – the league that tried to force a “woke” agenda onto its football broadcasts no more than 2 years ago, has been far more level-headed about handling COVID-19 than other leagues. They set out general rules for teams requiring universal precautions and adherence to local regulations, negotiated a “team bubble” with the Players Association and made a rule that all players, coaches and staff must wear a protective red scarab amulet displaying a tiny goat tattoo at all times. Okay, so that last part is really weird. But something is working because, apart from about a dozen false positives and the odd confirmed positive (so far only fringe players who didn’t wear the amulet), all teams were cleared to start the season on time.

The outbreak at the Crusaders brand new, state-of-the-art facility caught people by surprise, however. But the football-

starved fans in Green Bay were more than ready and eager to accommodate the late switch. Local orders prohibiting attendance at large sporting events were modified to allow 6,000 tickets to be sold for the game – 5,000 of those reserved for residents. They were snatched up in less than one hour. Lambeau Field was prepared in record time.

Since it was a Crusaders home game, giant ‘P’ logos were hung all around the stadium and featured EFL merchandise included red *Von Miller* and *Keenan Allen* jerseys and white *Kirk Cousins* and *Chris Jones* jerseys. As a sop to Triumph fans, a blue *Bobby Wagner* jersey and a white *Kenny Golladay* jersey were also available, along with a commemorative 2016 Triumph poster displaying all members of that championship-winning squad.

The game itself was intense – worthy of a home opener. The fans made the noise of three times their number. The majority favoured the Crusaders, no doubt inspiring the up-and-coming young team to perform at a high level in a 42-28 win. In fact, the Pegs dominated the game in every significant area, including penalties, where they were assessed 11 infractions at the cost of 94 yards, compared with just two transgressions by the Triumph for 17 yards. This disparity in penalties combined with two big passes by *Jameis Winston* and a 114-yard, 3-TD performance by rookie *Clyde Edwards-Helaire*, kept the Triumph competitive deep into the 3rd quarter before the Crusaders finally pulled away.

Kirk Cousins looked impressive, throwing for 327 yards and 3 TD passes. No doubt he was helped by the combined 169 yards rushing posted by *Aaron Jones* and *Saquon Barkley*. My preliminary assessment is that the Crusaders will make some noise this year, even considering that this time they were helped by the overall erratic play of Winston, who was given to nod to start the night before the game. It is a decision, Coach *Guy Williams* stands by, even as he remains ambiguous about who his Week Two starter will be:

“We are still working some things out on offence,” Williams stated softly in the post-game presser. “Jameis has great talent, but needs to become acclimatized to the system. Obviously, if he had a do-over, he would not have thrown that pick-six directly to *Nick Vigil* to start the 2nd half. And yes, he has to work on keeping his feet under him and reading the play. There is a lot to work on. But we look at this as a long-term project. Maybe he needs to step back next week. We’ll see how it goes in practice.”

With True North Field undergoing a deep cleansing and extra maintenance staff being brought over from neighbouring Patriot Place to help with the preparations, it looks like the Pegs will return home for Week Two. The fans of Lambeau will miss them – and so will the Crusaders players miss the Green Bay fans.

NOT BLUFFING ANYMORE

The selection of *Joe Burrow* no.1 overall in the EFL Draft was heralded as the dawn of a new era in Scarborough. As if on cue, a large portion of the Scarborough Bluffs, supporting east grandstand of Bluffs Stadium, collapsed and poured into Lake Ontario, bringing about half of the seating with it. In a matter of minutes, the Blue Eagles had unexpectedly lost their “home” to a natural disaster that, if one looks at it from a detached and philosophical perspective, may actually be a boon.

78 years old, a relic of another age, Bluffs Stadium was originally built at the height of WWII as a grandstand for Naval brass from around the Allied world to observe naval war games with life-sized war ships. It was never actually used for that purpose, as the ships could not actually manoeuvre in Lake Ontario, but it was built anyhow and has since been the subject of debate and controversy. Nature buffs, led by the *Scarborough Birding Club*, wanted it torn down. The *Scarborough Historical Society* wished to see it preserved as a monument. The Historical Society prevailed in the decades-long battle and the arrival of the Florida Dragons to Scarborough gave everyone an excuse to pour money into the inherently dangerous, absurdly proportioned and ill-conceived monstrosity.

Well, that strangeness is no more. City Council held an emergency meeting in which it was decided that the cost to restore Bluffs Stadium would be prohibitive and that, in any case, the unstable cliffs posed an unacceptable risk to sightseers and fans. In a 25-1 vote, the decision was reached to tear down Bluffs Stadium and erect a small monument consisting of an eagle clutching the insignia of the Canadian Navy in one claw and a football in the other.

While this solved the problem of the dangerous eyesore on the lake, it created a dilemma for *Chris Dickinson* and the Blue Eagles. They had their new quarterback and a promising young group of talented players around him. All they were lacking was a stadium to practice in.

Nearby Birchmount High School, one of the few well-kept High School football fields in the GTA, was hastily upgraded at the team’s expense and locker facilities were brought in so that the team could start practicing. Barriers were erected for privacy, but there were gaps and the some of the makeshift partitions had a habit of disappearing over night. The resultant lack of privacy meant that local fans and media were able



The field at Birchmount High School was hastily upgraded and portable lockers installed to allow the Blue Eagles to practice after the loss of their field. Plans to add temporary seating were aborted after a deal was reached to rent the Wolverines Den.

to gather and watch the Blue Eagles' new prize franchise quarterback firing darts to a briskly-stepping Allen Robinson and Jamison Crowder. The Blue Eagles became one of the few teams for which there was a well-documented pre-season progression available to the public. Although nobody could know for sure how things would gel without pre-season games, the crispness of the practices under new coach **Kyle Shanahan** had fans buzzing. Perhaps the Blue Eagles were not bluffing when they declared soon after the draft that fans would see an entirely new team in 2020.

The sudden departure of the Wolverines from Toronto was, for Scarborough at least, another serendipitous happening. In the midst of tangled and despairing negotiations with neighbouring Pickering and Durham to share facilities in 2020, the Wolverines Den became available, as if by Providence. While its location in west end Exhibition Place presented a drawback for east-centric, west-hating Scarborough diehards, the pro dimensions, modern amenities and enclosed practice field meant it was ready to go for football. When measured against the dilapidated facilities at Bluffs Stadium, it was a tremendous upgrade.

So, for a season at least, the Blue Eagles will play their home games at the Wolverines Den, beginning in Week Three when they host Pickering in their home opener. It promises to be a rare good time for troubled Scarborough fans, if the Blue Eagles' Week One 24-10 domination of Cowtown is a true indicator of what is on store for the team in the early Burrow-Era.

In front of around 32,000 boisterous Cowtown partisans at Tillman Field, (the only EFL stadium to open up to near capacity), the Blue Eagles silenced the crowd with a domineering performance against last year's Conference Championship finalists. After forcing the Corn Kings to punt on their first two possessions, the Blue Eagles' offence went to work building a methodical, baby-steps drive that spanned 70 yards in 16 plays, no single play gaining more than 10 yards. They converted 3 third downs and 1 fourth down, and held the ball for 8 minutes before the rookie ended Cowtown's misery with his first career TD pass, a 6-yard hitch in the back of the end zone to **Jamison Crowder**. The Corn Kings never recovered from the psychological and physical impact of that drive.

From that point on, the Blue Eagles slowly tightened the vice. When **Chris Carson** wasn't running roughshod over the banged up and prematurely tired Cowtown defensive line, Burrow was taking the medium to underneath throws or scrambling for first downs. He rushed for 4 of those on the day, piling up 38 yards and showing an unsung dimension to his game.

It certainly appeared as if the Corn Kings were thrown off by Burrow's poise and pocket presence; and the offence appeared rattled by the inspired play of the Scarborough defence, which made progress difficult by shutting down the Cowtown running game and repeatedly getting in the face of **Jimmy Garoppolo**. A 28-yard field goal by **Joey Slye** to get the Corn Kings on the board before halftime did not have the feel of a positive momentum-shifter. It seemed to confirm the dire prognosis for the offence; coming as a consolation prize after the Corn Kings were unable to score a TD on 1st and goal from the 10.

New Head Coach, **Kyle Shanahan** did not speak at length after the game, deferring quickly to owner **Chris Dickinson**, who was savouring the moment while at the same time trying to be gracious.

"A couple of big plays went our way today and we built on that," a diplomatic, but irrepressibly giddy Dickinson said when he stepped up to the podium. "I am proud of Joe Burrow, proud of our offence, proud of our defence, proud of our new coach Kyle for getting his first win, proud to be the owner of the Blue Eagles, proud to be a loyal drinker of Labatt's Blue with all those micro-breweries popping up and turning beer into some kind of snobbish, fruity, girly-drink, proud of my Eagles pride...God damn it Jonsey," he cast a glassy-eyed look to the side where, presumably, his high school buddy and former head coach **Jonsey** was standing off



A photo taken at the Town Ballroom in Buffalo just before the pandemic restrictions took effect show (left to right) Jersey beat writer, **Dave Hodge**, Wrecking Balls owner, **Jeff Cohen** and Derailer owner **Daryl Brothers**. It was here, according to sources, where negotiations for a New York State Football Cooperative began.

camera. "Who would have thought a Week One win against the Corn Kings would feel like a playoff win?!"

It's still early in the season. There is more than enough time and opportunity for the Blue Eagles to fall back into a more familiar pattern of losing and looking incorrigibly dysfunctional while doing it. But with **Joe Burrow** at the helm, this Blue Eagles team has a different look and feel about it. Burrow is bound to have his setbacks, but there is an underlying confidence in his approach, even under duress, that bodes well for the long term. Provided, of course, that he does not get injured while learning the ropes. There is a deceptively decent team around him that appears ready to rally around him and prevent any traumatic early experiences. Will the Eagles soar in 2020?

WHO DA BADDEST?

The spirit of **Al Davis** is still hanging around in ghostly form on the West Coast. With the Raiders long gone and the Undertakers immolated by nuclear fire along with their disturbed but brilliant owner/coach **Chris Worthley**, Pro Football has yearned ever since for a really bad-assed replacement for the rebellious, brash, arrogant and truly Legendary Hall-of-Famer, Davis.

This role has been filled, almost by default, by **Rob Nazar** and his Chino Convicts. 'Warden Nazar,' as his players call him, is not the nicest guy, but he betrays a civilized and educated side seemingly at odds with the "Convict" image of unrepentant ruffians, thugs and thieves. His goal, in theory, is to rehabilitate, not exacerbate the criminality of his charges. Nevertheless, the frequent riots in the stands and the high level of violence required to put them down, cemented the Convict's image as the bad boys of the EFL.

Then the Assassins came along and the dynamic suddenly changed. There were now actual killers on the loose in the West Division...and they wore **BLACK!** Being based out of 'Sin City' was the final, depraved twist that vaulted forward **Anthony Holguin's** claim to be the biggest bad-asses in the EFL.

This created an immediate stir in Chino, according to **Quentin San Pedro** in his article, 'Who Da Baddest?' that appeared recently in the *Chino Champion*. Here is an excerpt from San Pedro's article:

*"When St. Charles was purchased by casino owner, **Sheldon Adelson** and moved to Las Vegas and renamed the Assassins, **Rob Nazar** reportedly panicked. His team had always been the 'bad boys' of the West Division, and he valued that reputation, feeling it gave his team a competitive edge. Suddenly this new team appears in his division, based out of 'Sin City' no less, staking claim to being the worst of the worst; professional hitmen, with a death's head nailed to a 'V' on an iron wheel to drive home the point. This clearly trumped the bad-boy image of the Convicts, who, if any of them had been hitmen, were obviously not very good at it as they were incarcerated."*

Nazar decided something needed to be done, and quickly, to reclaim his team's image as the meanest and nastiest team out

there. He apparently considered changing his team's nickname to something truly horrifying. Among the reported candidates were: *Executioners; Hangmen; and Disembowlers.* But when it was pointed out to him the historical significance of the Chino Penitentiary from which the team originally drew inspiration, and that the Convicts had won the league's first Championship under the name 'Convicts,' he realized it would be extremely bad form for an inaugural franchise and first champion to change its name. So, Nazar decided to do something easy and quick: change the helmet, add more black to the uniform and begin to act like a jerk in public.

The end result was a standard skull-and-crossbones helmet logo on a black background with a red stripe added.



Which helmet would you least want to meet in a dark alley? The Las Vegas Assassins (left) sport the matte black, gunmetal iron look. The Chino Convicts (right) feature death up front over a shiny black leather canvass with a red stripe, representing flowing blood. *Scary!*

Unlike when the Convicts changed their first-year helmet logo of a menacing red-eyed thug in a stylized helmet to the iconic ball-and-chain motif, this unannounced switch to the skull motif is generally not going over well with many fans in San Bernadino County. Outside of Chino, football fans who have an opinion disapprove at a 62% rate. The team claims, defensively, that it conducted market surveys and tested multiple designs in the lead up to the decision. But this clearly was done under the public radar as very little information came out in the media to pave the way for this new look. According to an internal team document leaked to the local media, local surveys showed lukewarm support for the skull and little support for change of *any kind*. There is a hardcore group of Convicts fans who like the skull motif, however. According to the report, these are the more heinous and violent fans at the center of the team's numerous in-game riots, who happen to be mostly convicts. In these surveys, those identifying as part of this group are happy to see the ball-and-chain go as it was a constant reminder of their incarceration. They also, generally, like death and killing.

Quentin San Pedro adds some interesting insider info: *"The so-called market surveys were all done in haste and in secrecy. No open public consultation was conducted at all, which explains with the lack of public awareness prior to the announcement. When Nazar was presented with the options he reportedly zeroed in without regard to survey results on the skull logo. He was the one who decided to add the red striping in order to 'get a little blood in there.'"*

Of course, the ultimate test of which team is the "baddest" in the West Division comes on the football field. And the first round goes to Chino, as I will cover later.

MAD MONKS, PET COYOTES AND THE NY STATE FOOTBALL COOPERATIVE

It would not be a new EFL season if it did not come with at least one franchise disruption. 2020 thankfully brought three, providing football enthusiasts with more welcome distractions from endless circuitous discussion of COVID-19 protocols.

What happens when a wealthy, 17-going-on-18 owner of a pro football franchise and his 17-going-on-18 GM and coach decide at the same time to abandon their interest in football and go to university? You get a franchise fire sale with the potential to turn the EFL

on its head. **Ryan Rich**, owner of the Toronto Wolverines and the richest boy in the world suddenly became bored with his fancy private box at the Wolverines Den. "What's the point really?" he said in a recent interview for *OK! Magazine*. "A person can only drink so much *Red Bull* and when you can't control the players, what's left?" **Ryan Preston**, the young football genius, who built the Wolverines into a contender in two short years, became disillusioned after **Aaron Rodgers** failed to deliver a championship last year and turned his attention to girls and university. "I need to discover life after football," Preston told *McLean's* as he celebrated his 18th birthday.

Ryan Rich's father, the immensely wealthy **Richard Rich**, was not looking to make a profit on what had been a birthday gift for his son at 14 and sold to the first bidder who came along. As a result, the team was snatched up by the local NY chapter of an Irish-Portuguese offshoot of the Cistercian Order of Monks called the O'Ferrarian Brotherhood, or as they are less formally known in the East Elmhurst area of New York City, the McClancy Boys. It is not known how much the Brotherhood paid for the Wolverines, but there was enough money left in their war chest to quickly build a monasterial style stadium on the land once occupied by a series of old hangars at LaGuardia Airport. I have not seen the inside of the stadium yet – and likely nobody will until the pandemic is over – but it is reportedly "medieval" in appearance. The team was renamed the East Elmhurst Irish and a complete unknown named **Archbishop Thomas Molloy** was appointed head coach and GM. I suspect the McClancy Boys to be more than they appear and you can be sure I will follow-up on this strange addition to the league.

When **Jeff Dohrn**, owner, GM, coach and beloved Patriarch of the Los Angeles Knights announced he was leaving football for "personal reasons," nobody questioned his decision, although many lamented it – more outside of LA than inside it, where fickle fans love the Knights one moment and fail to acknowledge their existence the next. Immediately stepping in to fill the void was a consortium of Georgia businessmen representing a wide range of industry and services in the State of Georgia. They moved the team to Marietta, the capital of Cobb County, a mere 98 miles northeast of Lake Oconee where the Gladiators play and renamed the team the Cobb County Coyotes. Residents of the county, where coyotes run rampant, have apparently taken County officials suggestions to heart and have found ways to live with the coyotes in their midst. This has reached the point of near domestication of the typically feral urban beasts. The Coyotes play at – you guessed it – Coyote Field, an open-air stadium with a 47,610-seat capacity. Former Swordfish GM, **Eron Osman** was named GM and coach and wasted no time putting his stamp on the team, beginning with a block buster trade of the Knights' prime asset, Lamar Jackson. The trade was a shocker, but when Osman's moves are all taken together, this is a team already on the rise.

And finally, word is emerging that, due to COVID-19 travel restrictions, reduced revenue and out of a general sense of health and wellness, Wrecking Balls co-owner, **Jeff Cohen** is pushing for what he calls a New York State Football Cooperative that would pool the scouting and cap management resources of teams based in New York State. East Elmhurst, the new team in the neighbourhood, has not been approached. But at a secret meeting in Buffalo last December, Cohen and Buffalo owner **Daryl Brothers** reportedly agreed to share scout data and collectively manage cap resources in order to put a New York-based team at the front of competition every year. Details are sketchy at this time, but the arrangement might explain the otherwise inexplicable trade the Derailers made for **Jonathan Joseph** and his cap-busting contract. More to follow in these pages....

WHAT DID WE LEARN IN WEEK ONE?

Lamar Jackson could end up being the best running back on the Derailers and possibly in the Division. The Buffalo offence does not look built for comebacks. They have to get the lead early and hold on. Bruxelles' 31-19 victory over Buffalo also taught us, in a very practical way, that when you blitz the house and don't get through, there is nobody left to tackle your opponent.

The Charleswood players have some fight left in them even if their management does not. **Patrick Mahomes** was effective, but not God-like against a weak but tenacious Patriots' 'D' in Virden's 41-26 win.

The refs are human...again. With the Crusaders subjecting the Triumph to their will at every turn, **Tony Corrente's** crew found creative ways to penalize the Crusaders and ignore the misdeeds of the Triumph. Likely this was partly due to the shock of seeing last year's Central Division titlists being manhandled at every turn by last year's basement dwellers, but more likely it was to keep the Triumph in the game long enough for the advertisers to get a return on their investment on a night when **Jameis Winston** looked like he could have thrown six pick-sixes, instead of just the one he actually threw.

The Pilots are in the Cubs' heads – at least in Week Ones. It was another dust-up to open the season as the superior Cubs survived the lowly Pilots, 17-10. For 60 minutes, Seattle's defence looked like a top 5 unit – the kind that could actually keep this team in contention down the stretch. But the offence under **Sam Darnold** showed its true colours. It looks like a long year for **Mitch Gangwish**.

The Cadillac may not need their offence to score points this year. After one game, the defence has out-scored the offence 14-7. Miscues by the Glads ruined an impressive debut by rookie QB, **Tua Tagovailoa**. Apart from a snappy game-opening drive, the Caddies offence under **Kyler Murray** looked no better than it did under **Matt Stafford**. Coming out with a 21-19 win is nothing less than a steal.

Nick Chubb is well on his way to the rushing title if **Josh Allen** shows the slightest tendency to be inconsistent throwing down field. Chubb may be on his way anyway, as there are few defences in the Conference, and none in the North Division, capable of stopping him. The Lizards handled the Swordfish easily and if not for almost 100 yards in penalties would have blown them away.

The Hawks finish Week One ranked first in the Guts 'n Glory rankings. They successfully overcame a 23-3 deficit against York and finished it off in classic heart-stopping fashion with a game-winning field goal as time expired, to win 26-23. Every year, a team or two emerge who succeed on grit, determination and a fair dose of luck. The Hawks could be that team this year.

Pickering is bad...really bad. Cowtown could be almost as bad if their no-show against Scarborough turns out to be the norm and not the exception. Aurora spotted the Irish four unanswered giveaways and still won the game. The Irish look done already.

Week One did not teach me enough. I will need one more week before I done the apparel of 'The Great Spatskin!'

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Jimmy's WEEK TWO PICKS

BRUXELLES @ NEW JERSEY (line – BOMBERS by 6)

INJURIES: Bruxelles – Darius Slay (OUT); New Jersey – None.

The Bombers averaged over 8 yards per play against a pretty good Buffalo defence. Leonard Fournette and his 243 yards of total offence was the main reason for that, but Jared Goff pitched in with 4 completions of over 25 yards, including a 65-yard TD pass to Chase Claypool. Fournette will be hard pressed to match that effort this week against a Wrecking Balls defence that should, in theory at least, be tough against the run. That defence, highly-ranked coming into the season, was eaten alive by Ryan Tannehill in their Week One loss. It has to do better, because Week One also taught us that Matt Stafford is not going to succeed throwing the ball 49 times per game. David Montgomery has to find a way to contribute. The line is a little extended for my liking – we still don't know enough about these teams. This game could go either way. For that reason, I will take the points. **PICK: NEW JERSEY**

COBB COUNTY @ BUFFALO (line – COYOTES by 7)

INJURIES: Cobb County – None; Buffalo – Derek Barnett (OUT), Jayon Brown (OUT), Jaquiski Tartt (OUT), Quinnen Williams (OUT).

Lamar Jackson is one slippery and fast dude, but if the Derailers fall behind by double-digits again it will not matter much. The Coyotes' offence earned all of the accolades last week, but what went unnoticed by everyone but the coaches was how the elite duo of Steve Nelson and Tre'Davious White rendered Terry McLaurin and DJ Char ineffective in the second half, when New Jersey needed them most. Robert Woods will earn catches in this game, but a step slower Emmanuel Sanders could struggle. That will put pressure on Jackson to use his mobility to maximum effect if Buffalo hope to keep up with the deceptively dangerous Coyote attack. One red flag in Cobb County's offensive blitz was Ryan Tannehill's two picks. The Derailers' D plays an aggressive style that could force that type of error. Turnovers could turn this game around. Once again, I don't like the big Week Two line here. **PICK: BUFFALO**

IOWA CITY @ VIRDEN (line – VIOLATORS by 7)

INJURIES: Iowa City – None; Virden – Leonard Williams (QUESTIONABLE).

The Violators covered against the hapless Pats in Week One but the game was more highly contested than the final score suggests. Three DeShaun Watson interceptions, one returned for a TD, helped Virden avoid a huge upset. Chalk it up to Violator complacency against the team most likely to finish last in the conference. This week, Virden will be focused as they host their primary competition in the Pacific. The Cubs survived their annual Week One challenge from the feisty Pilots and did not look like a playoff team in the process. Russell Wilson saved the Cubs again. This week, they will need their 'A' game to knock off Virden in their home stadium, where fans or no fans, opponents fear to tread. While Wilson gives them a chance, the Cubs' defence may render that chance slim at best. Cameron Heyward will attempt to limit Amari Cooper, but expect John Brown to create some juicy opportunities against AJ Bouye, who sat out Week One with a stomach ulcer. Expect that ulcer to get worse. **PICK: VIRDEN**

CHARLESWOOD @ SEATTLE (line – PILOTS by 1)

INJURIES: Charleswood – Derwin James (OUT), Jalen Mills (OUT), Desmond Trufant (OUT); Seattle – None.

Nobody expects much from either of these two teams in 2020, but both looked better than projected in pushing a pair of top contenders to the wall in Week One. The Pats' achievement was a touch more impressive because the offence, except for 3 critical turnovers, went toe-to-toe with arguably the best offence in the league. But the Pats paid a big price on the other side of the ball in containing the Violators to 372 yards. A nightmare scenario in the secondary came to life when both starting corners and star safety

Derwin James went down to injury. All will be out for multiple games and James could be placed on IR. The net result is that Sam Darnold has a chance to show what he can do against back-ups and he should be able to deliver just enough. **PICK: SEATTLE**

CHINO @ PEG CITY (line – CRUSADERS by 5)

INJURIES: Chino– Morgan Burnett (OUT), Kawann Short (IR). Peg City – Taylor Rapp (DOUBTFUL).

Peg City returns to empty True North Field after getting a boost from the fans at Lambeau Field in Week One. How much of a letdown will that be? The Crusaders could fall off slightly and still rack up more than enough points to win – that is how dominant they looked in piling up 499 yards, an average of 7.3 yards-per-play, against a decent Triumph defence last week. The Convicts' offence, spearheaded by the running combo of Christian McCaffery and Mark Ingram, did enough to win in Week One, but it was the surprisingly stout Chino defence that kept the Assassins at bay. Does the 'Lockdown Crew' have what it takes to match that performance against the high-powered Crusaders? I have my doubts. But again, the line is a little long for my taste, given that both teams have star players capable of taking over a game. Although I think the Pegs are probably superior, I will take my chances on the visitors. **PICK: CHINO**

TWIN CITIES @ LAS VEGAS (line – ASSASSINS by 6)

INJURIES: Twin Cities – Russell Okung (OUT), Luke Stocker (OUT). Las Vegas – None.

It is telling for the coach that the Triumph were out-classed in every statistical category in their loss to Peg City last week, but still managed to hang in for 3 quarters and score 28 points. Jameis Winston posted a 36.2 QB rating and threw 2 picks, but was kept in the game anyway. Guy Williams clearly thinks Winston gives the Triumph their best chance to win, but rumours persist that Mitch Trubisky could start at QB here. Either way, the Triumph will be fighting uphill against an Assassins team that was not firing on all cylinders last week but still lost by a TD. Dalvin Cook needs to do better or another setback for the Assassins will be looming. The Triumph defensive line will be looking to dominate the point of attack to keep Cook in line and Wentz dancing. Anthony Holguin will need to be creative on offence and disciplined on defence, where his team has a decided edge. Vegas should win, but it will be close. **PICK: TWIN CITIES**

DURHAM @ COWTOWN (line – THUNDER LIZARDS by 12)

INJURIES: Durham – None; Cowtown – Damon Harrison (PROBABLE), Ronald Darby (OUT), Cordy Glenn (OUT).

In one of the more lop-sided decisions of Week One, the Corn Kings looked sluggish on offence and their defence could not get off the field on third down in their home opener against Scarborough. This could mean that the Blue Eagles are underrated, or the Corn Kings are not the same team that went to the Conference Final the past two years. Although the Swordfish appeared on the surface to pose a threat to Durham last week, it was an illusion facilitated by 9 penalties against the Lizards, many of the ticky-tack variety. In any analysis of the match-ups in this game, Durham comes out on top. Home field did nothing for Cowtown last week and it should not be factored too heavily here. The one double-digit line is a little concerning – but more concerning is the state of Cowtown. **PICK: DURHAM**

SCARBOROUGH @ SEBASTIAN (line – SWORDFISH by 3)

INJURIES: Scarborough – None; Sebastian – Carlos Dunlap (OUT), Adam Gotsis (OUT).

It will be interesting to see how Joe Burrow performs this week after a neatly impressive debut win over the Corn Kings. The Swordfish defence is in a similar mold to that of Cowtown, a touch better overall due to a stronger defensive line. Will Chandler Jones be able to do what T.J. Watt could not – bring pressure to bear on the rookie QB? On the other side, veteran and master Drew Brees is likely to offer more of a challenge to the temporarily no.1 ranked Blue Eagles defence. Odell Beckham Jr was locked down by Richard Sherman last week and subsequently made a lot of noise this week about breaking out in Week Two. Jonathan Taylor should pose enough of a threat to induce the Scarborough defence to stay at home for the run which should open up opportunities in the passing game. Much is still unknown about these teams, but the line is a reasonable one that justifies going with the veteran over the rookie. **PICK: SEBASTIAN**

BUDAPEST @ AURORA (line – NORTH STARS by 2)

INJURIES: Budapest – None; Aurora – Duane Brown (OUT), Kenyan Drake (OUT).

This game represents the first true heavyweight battle of the season in the Atlantic Conference. The Mustangs survived a scare against undermanned East Elmhurst last week, brought on by a surprisingly persistent lack of ball security. In the end, the sheer talent of the Mustangs' offence and the Matt Ryan-to-Davante Adams insurance policy pushed them into the 'win' column by a nose. The Mustangs will not get away with such carelessness against the North Stars. Fortunately for Aurora fans, this team does not stumble severely two weeks in a row. Expect Aurora to bounce back with urgency as they look to send a message to the Pretenders to the Atlantic Throne that they remain the reigning champs. Aaron Rodgers showed last week against Pickering that he is still mastering Darrin Jones' 1956 playbook. But he did deliver two red zone strikes to George Kittle to show that he retains the skill he displayed with the Wolverines in 2019. Having said that, Rodgers will have to stretch the field if he hopes to keep pace with Aurora. If the North Stars have to run the ball 45 times without the benefit of a big lead, it will be a sign they are in trouble. The X-Factor in this contest could be Minkah Fitzpatrick

and Joe Haden, two ballhawks who will be watching for a Matt Ryan slip. Flipping a coin here. **PICK: BUDAPEST**

GEORGIA @ YORK (line – EXCALIBURS by 2)

INJURIES: Georgia – Maurkice Pouncey (OUT); York –Preston Brown (PROBABLE).

Both of these squads suffered emotionally-draining 2-point losses in Week One. The Glads dominated the play – and “dominated” is no exaggeration – but lost on two defensive touchdowns that wiped out hard-fought gains. The Excaliburs squandered a 23-3 halftime lead to lose as time expired in the 4th quarter. The team that ends the pity party first will be the team that prevails in this contest. Expect that team to be the Tom Brady-led Swords. Brady buried that game in the memory hole on the bus back from Brooklin. Tua is likely still wondering what more could he have done. On top of that, the Excaliburs are a better team than Georgia and have the two best players on the field in Brady and Derrick Henry. They are at home (albeit with no fans), but Camelot has its own built-in magic. **PICK: YORK**

ERIEAU @ BROOKLIN (line – Pick ‘Em)

INJURIES: Erieau – Akiem Hicks (IR); Brooklin – Stephon Tuitt (OUT).

The two victors of the emotionally-draining losses mentioned above face off this week in what will be an early watershed moment for both. The team that watches their highlight reels the least will be the team most ready to prevail here. Expect that team to be Hawks, a group that has been together longer and has experience winning (and losing) closely-contested matches that go down to the final drive. For the Cadillac, stuck in neutral for most of their existence, such close-fought victories are less familiar. Kyler Murray looked ragged in Week One and cannot claim credit for the victory. He and his coach will look at this as a “bounce-back” game, despite the win. The Hawks’ defence is certainly vulnerable on paper. But they rose to the occasion in the second half against York and may be capable of sustained play over their heads against an offence like Erieau’s. In a pick ‘em, game, I go with the better QB. **PICK: BROOKLIN**

PICKERING @ EAST ELMHURST (line – IRISH by 7)

INJURIES: Pickering – Charles Harris (OUT)a, Xavien Howard (OUT); East Elmhurst – Mekhi Becton (PROBABLE), Joshua Kelley (DOIBTFUL).

The Spartans showed some grit for a little more than one quarter against Budapest before caving in and looking for the remaining 39 minutes like the team we expected. The Irish won the turnover battle by a 4-0 margin against Aurora and still could not finish off the win. Given the pedigree and history of the Mustangs, that result is not too surprising. Neither of these teams is expected to compete for a playoff spot, but when taking everything into consideration the Spartans are expected to compete a little less. This is partly due to slightly higher level of divisional competition, but it is mostly due to their lack of veteran talent. One of those talents, Xavien Howard, is ‘OUT’ for this game, which will help the fragile but potentially explosive Irish pass attack. The Elmies went with a two-QB system last week, so whoever starts, Baker Mayfield or Ryan Fitzpatrick, might not finish. I like the Irish but the line scares me a bit. **PICK: PICKERING**



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This Week in EFL History
With Professor
Sterling Smitherman

FROM THE EFL ARCHIVES – Week One of the 2014 EFL season was the first year the Patriots entered a season without their inaugural no.1 pick **Peyton Manning** at QB. To add more drama, the Pats had just dismantled their core group of players after winning the Championship in 2013. The consternation this caused put the normally placid Pats fanbase into as surly a mood as they could muster. **Blake Bortles**, a raw rookie, started at QB against the highly-respected Virden defence, a unit that was ranked in the top five. Nobody was expecting anything but a humiliating loss. Instead, the Pats hung in long enough to see a dump-off

from **Blake Bortles** to **Sammy Watkins** go for 71 yards and a TD with 0:23 left in the 4th quarter to give Charleswood a shocking 21-20 upset victory.

2014 was the beginning of the unstable post-Worthley years for the Death Valley franchise. Not that Worthley’s tenure as head of the Undertakers was so stable, but he did make a mark in his three years at the helm that his predecessors, Meadowlands and Ringgold had not. **Cooper Gerow**, a Major in the Special Forces, took control and named the team the Santa Clara Banana Sluggs. This was a strong team that won its Week One game over Mission Viejo with ease. At this early point, at least, things looked promising for the new franchise.

The game of the week, however, had to be the Convicts’ thrilling 36-35 victory over rival Iowa City. The Cubs led for most of the game, but in the 4th quarter **Cam Newton** hooked up 5 times with **Dany Woodhead** for 54 yards and 2 TDs and the Convicts miraculously turned away **Russell Wilson**, as he marched to try and eliminate a 1-point deficit late in the game, to preserve the win.

Despite his team losing a heartbreaker, the Cubs’ **CJ Spiller** won player of the week with a 246-yard rushing performance, 3 yards short of the all-time record.