

2013
Week Ten



EFL NEWS
ELITE FOOTBALL LEAGUE

2013
Week Ten

December 8, 2013



GWG	10	DTL	38	SC	27	COW	34	MAR	21	PIC	34	GDM	21	TCT	24	SBE	7	SEB	3
VV	33	CAR	21	MOH	7	CHP	41	DVU	48	ICC	19	LA	9	CHI	19	MVM	21	YOR	17



LATEST EFL NEWS INSIDE

- PATS WIN
- REVENGE OF DEATH
- RIOT IN MOHAVE
- SPARTANS EXPOLDE
- AND MORE.....

Also in this issue

- EFL FAN BLOG – 300FANS.COM
- SPATS
- JIMMY
- THIS WEEK IN EFL

Charleswood cornerback **Leonard Johnson** hurls himself across the goal line after picking off **Joe Flacco** in 2nd quarter action at Patriots Place. The Pats would go on to win 41-34, thanks in large part to Johnson's two interceptions, both returned for touchdowns. The Pats remained tied with Virden for top spot in the East Division. (story inside).



Who was slick in Week Ten?

"BRYLCREEM" THE EFL'S FIRST SPONSOR



RGIII
QB
Death Valley Undertakers

16 of 26, 140 yards, 5 TDs, 108 rush, 1 TD. Total package vs Stars.



Leonard Johnson
CB
Charleswood Patriots

7 Tackles, 2 INTs, 91 yards in returns and 2 TD s in Pats' win.



5-5-0



GAME OF THE WEEK



6-4-0

Cowtown

34

MVP

Leonard Johnson

41

Charleswood

TEAM LEADERS				
Passing	Cmp	Att	Yds	TD
Flacco	29	45	367	3
Rushing	Car	Yds	Avg	TD
Morris	22	86	3.9	1
Receiving	Rec	Yds	Avg	TD
Floyd	7	93	13.3	0

Team	1	2	3	4	OT	Total
Cowtown	14	10	0	10	-	34
Charleswood	0	17	7	17	-	41

TEAM LEADERS				
Passing	Cmp	Att	Yds	TD
Manning	20	27	293	0
Rushing	Car	Yds	Avg	TD
Peterson	27	104	3.9	3
Receiving	Rec	Yds	Avg	TD
Hartline	4	103	25.8	0

Play of the Game
 Holding on to a 34-27 lead with 2 minutes left in the 4th quarter, the Pats clinched victory when **Leonard Johnson** plucked his 2nd "pick six" of the day off Cowtown's **Joe Flacco**.

SUMMARY: The Corn Kings' offence controlled the opening period, gaining 168 yards in their first two drives and scoring two touchdowns on TD passes of 31 yards to **Zach Miller** and 8-yards to **Alfred Morris** to take a 14-0 lead. The Pats' offence soon switched into gear with **Adrian Peterson** leading the way on a 68-yard drive that ended when he busted through the line for a 5-yard TD run. The teams traded field goals before Pats' corner **Leonard Johnson** tied the game by picking off a hurried **Joe Flacco** and returning it 51 yards for a touchdown. Cowtown regained their earlier momentum, however, when punter **Johnny Hekker** completed a trick pass to **Mercedes Lewis** for 12 yards to convert 4th and 10 at the Pats 47 yards line. The Corn Kings continued that drive and scored the go-ahead TD on a 1-yard run by Morris to take a 24-17 lead into the locker room. Charleswood got the ball to start the 2nd half and marched 81 yards down the field to tie the game on a 1-yard TD run by Peterson. **Jarvis Jones** sacked Flacco to stop the Cowtown counter-punch then **Garrett Hartley** gave the Pats a 27-24 lead early in the 4th on a 22-yar field goal. Peterson's third TD of the game made it a 10-point Pats lead but a 45-yard **Nick Novak** FG and a timely stop by the defence set up a chance for Cowtown to tie the game with 2 minutes left. But Johnson picked off Flacco for a second time, returning it 40 yards to assure the win with his second TD of the game.

QUOTES: "It's always a great day you get two interceptions returned for touchdowns but I'm just as excited about the discipline our boys showed out there today....one penalty all game! We didn't shoot ourselves in the foot this week." – Charleswood coach, **Jason Findlay**.
 "We did a lot of things well today but the couple of mistakes we made really killed us. It's hard to overcome those turnovers against a great offense like they have. Some untimely penalties didn't help our cause either." – Cowtown coach, **Jim Coghlin**.

ANGRY FAN

Danny Boy @DGreen

The refs gave this game to sucky baby Peyton. He got the calls when he needed them. Fix was in!

titter

HAPPY FAN

BledRed @PatsFan332

Master Game from the Team! #Peyton was deadly, #AP was money, and LJ was the game-changer! GO PATS!

12-04-2013 Patriot Place Temp: 75 Wind: MVP: **Adrian Peterson**

1 9:53	Cowtown	TD Flacco 31 pass to Miller (Novak) (9-80-4:56)	7-0
1 1:15	Cowtown	TD Flacco 8 pass to Morris (Novak) (10-88-6:23)	14-0
2 11:54	Charleswood	TD Peterson 5 run (Hartley) (8-68-4:13)	14-7
2 8:03	Cowtown	FG Novak 40 (8-46-3:37)	17-7
2 4:01	Charleswood	FG Hartley 21 (8-72-3:51)	17-10
2 2:59	Charleswood	TD Johnson 51 interception return (Hartley)	17-17
2 0:13	Cowtown	TD Morris 1 run (Novak) (12-59-2:41)	24-17
3 9:02	Charleswood	TD Peterson 1 run (Hartley) (12-99-5:50)	24-24
4 14:50	Charleswood	FG Hartley 22 (14-76-5:28)	24-27
4 9:41	Charleswood	TD Peterson 3 run (Hartley) (9-89-2:35)	24-34
4 5:44	Cowtown	FG Novak 45 (7-39-3:44)	27-34
4 1:51	Charleswood	TD Johnson 40 interception return (Hartley)	27-41
4 0:50	Cowtown	TD Flacco 11 pass to Fitzgerald (Novak) (7-71-0:55)	34-41

	COW	CHP
First Downs	26	28
Rushes	24-95	32-105
Passes	46-30-379	27-20-293
Sacked	2-15	0-0
Fumble	0	1
Penalties	6-45	1-5
Turnovers	2	0
Missed Tackles	7	7
Blitzes	18	16
Time	31:15	28:45
Third Down	7-14	3-7
Fourth Down	3-3	0-0
Red Att/Td/Fg	3/3/0	5/3/2
Net Offense	459	398

Blue 35, Blue 35, hut, hut hut! Red 23, 3, Red 23, 3, hut, hut, hut! Green 49, hut!



MUSTANGS
7-3-0

0	14	0	7	0	21
OT					

Arian Foster
15 Carries, 74 yards, 2 TDs



KNIGHTS
3-7-0

3	3	3	0	0	9
OT					

Shonn Greene
23 of 35, 199 yards, 1 TD

The Knights' defence kept the Mustangs contained while **Shonn Greene** set up a FG with a 28-yard run and **David Bakhtiari** set up another with a fumble recovery on a punt return in Garland territory, giving LA a 6-0 lead. But the Mustangs pressed the attack, driving 86 yards to take the lead on a 14-yard TD pass from **Matt Ryan** to **Brandon Lloyd** then extending it before the half on a 6-yard TD run by **Arian Foster**. The Knights stayed close, thanks to a FG set up by a **Kenny Vaccaro** pick, but a 99-yard, 12-minute drive ending with Foster's 2nd TD run put the game away for Garland.



T-LIZARDS
7-3-0

10	14	0	14	0	38
OT					

Drew Brees
22 of 32, 252 yards, 4 TDs



CANNIBALS
4-6-0

0	7	7	7	0	21
OT					

Philip Rivers
22 of 33, 215 yards, 3 TDs, 2 INTs

Drew Brees connected for 2 TD passes to **Vernon Davis** and capitalized on a pair of Carthage fumbles to build a 24-7 half time lead. **Eddie Lacy** delivered 27 total yards to spark a TD drive at the start of the 2nd half that ended with **Philip Rivers** checking down to **MJD** for a 14-yard score. An impressive goal line stand at the 1-foot line kept Durham off the scoreboard then Carthage pulled with 3 points at the start of the 4th quarter on a 10-yard TD pass to **Kyle Rudolph**. But back-to-back picks of Rivers by **Anthony Walters** and **Thomas Davis** led to a pair of late Durham TDs to seal the win.



TRIUMPH
5-5-0

3	0	7	14	0	24
OT					

Jay Cutler
23 of 30, 212 yards, 1 TD



CONVICTS
5-5-0

0	9	7	3	0	19
OT					

Cam Newton
22 of 32, 258 yards, 1 TD, 1 INT

Jurrell Casey stripped **Cam Newton** at the Chino 32 to set up an early Triumph FG. Two trips into the red zone and a last minute drive to the 30 set up three **Dan Bailey** FGs to give the Convicts a 9-3 half time lead. **Jay Cutler** hit **Pierre Garcon** for 32 yards to set up a go-ahead TD run by **Doug Martin**, but the Convicts bounced back with an 81-yard TD drive and a 95-yard FG drive to take a 19-10 lead in the 4th. But the Triumph scored a TD to make it 19-17 then safety **Eric Reid** turned the game around with a 4th-quarter pick of Newton, setting up the game-winning TD pass to Garcon.

Blue 35, Blue 35, hut, hut hut! Red 23, 3, Red 23, 3, hut, hut, hut! Green 49, hut!



GLADIATORS

4-6-0

7	0	3	0	0	10
OT					

Ben Roethlisberger
11 of 24, 83 yards, 1 INT



VIOLATORS

6-4-0

7	6	10	10	0	33
OT					

Matt Stafford
21 of 34, 243 yards, 3 TDs, 1 INT

Matt Stafford connected with **Dez Bryant** for a 39-yard TD pass on Virden's 2nd play from scrimmage, but the Glads soon tied it up after a **William Moore** interception set up the Glads in the red zone and **Ahmad Bradshaw** broke the plane from 3 yards out. That was the high point for Gwinnett on this day. **Ben Roethlisberger** struggled with accuracy, throwing his 1st pick of the season, while his running back **LeSean McCoy** struggled to hold onto the ball, fumbling twice. The Violators slowly pulled away from Gwinnett on 4 **Lawrence Tynes** FGs and 2 TD passes to **Justin Blackmon**.



BLUE EAGLES

3-7-0

0	7	0	0	0	7
OT					

Aaron Rodgers
35 of 57, 297 yards, 1 TD, 2 INTs



MONARCHS

3-7-0

0	14	0	7	0	21
OT					

Ryan Tannehill
17 of 26, 201 yards, 2 TDs

A 47-yard pass from **Ryan Tannehill** to **Mike Williams** set up the game's first TD, a 4-yard run by **Bernard Pierce**. The Monarchs added another TD when linebacker **Demorrio Williams** picked off **Aaron Rodgers** and returned it 41 yards to the Eagles' 24; three plays later Tannehill connected with Williams for a 5-yard TD pass. Scarborough got on the board before the half on a 15-yard TD pass to **Brandon Marshall**. They struggled to move the ball in the 2nd half until the 4th, but **Wes Welker** fumbled in Monarchs territory, setting up a 36-yard TD pass to **Dennis Pitta** to cap off the upset.



REGULATORS

6-4-0

7	13	7	0	0	27
OT					

Tony Romo
20 of 30, 323 yards, 3 TDs



HELLFIRE

2-8-0

0	7	0	0	0	7
OT					

Montee Ball
41 Carries, 176 yards

Receiver **AJ Green** got behind his man and took a pass from **Tony Romo** 77 yards for a TD to break a 0-0 tie late in the 1st quarter. But Green fumbled trying to break a tackle in the 2nd quarter, setting up Mohave at the Regs' 13 yard line. **Andrew Luck** took advantage, checking down to **Montee Ball** for a 1-yard TD pass to tie the game. Three big plays, a 48-yard screen pass to **Marcel Reece**; a pick by **Josh Robinson**; and a high snap, led to 13 points for the Regs before the half. Robinson's 2nd pick of the game to start the 2nd half set up the final score, a 36-yard TD pass to **Jacquizz Rodgers**.

Blue 35, Blue 35, hut, hut hut! Red 23, 3, Red 23, 3, hut, hut, hut! Green 49, hut!



SWORDFISH

2-8-0

0	0	0	3	0	3
				OT	

Carlos Dunlap

8 Tackles, 1 Sack, 1 Stuff



EXCALIBURS

4-6-0

0	3	0	14	0	17
				OT	

Michael Turner

31 Carries, 140 yards, 1 TD

A 45-yard **Blair Walsh** FG was the only the score in a 1st half that saw the teams exchange 7 punts and trade missed 4th down convert attempts. The 3rd quarter was no different, except for a lost fumble by **Michael Turner** in the Sebastian red zone that squandered a scoring opportunity. Turner would make up for it in the 4th quarter with a 48-yard run that sparked the 1st TD drive of the day, ending with **Giovani Bernard** carrying it across form 3 yards for a 10-0 lead. Turner carried it home from 2 yards for the final TD after **Cullen Jenkins** sacked and stripped **Andy Dalton** at his 11 yard line.



NORTH STARS

8-2-0

0	7	7	7	0	21
				OT	

Eli Manning

17 of 26, 227 yards, 3 TDs, 1 INT



UNDERTAKERS

3-6-0

14	13	7	14	0	48
				OT	

RGIII

140 passing, 108 rushing, 6 TDs

RGIII surprised the Markham defence with a 31-yard run off right tackle to key an opening TD drive that touched off a dominating offensive display by the Undertakers. In a re-match of last year's championship final, the Undertakers' new QB passed for 2 TDs and rushed for another to score 3 TDs on their first 3 possessions. **Eli Manning** tried to counter with a 15-yard TD pass to **Jared Cook**, but a 79-yard march for another TD to close the half regained the home team's momentum. There was no let up in the 2nd half as Death Valley exacted sure revenge for last year's loss in the final.



SPARTANS

7-3-0

3	7	3	21	0	34
				OT	

Matt Schaub

15 of 30, 220 yards, 2 TDs



CUBS

7-3-0

3	10	3	3	0	19
				OT	

Trent Richardson

24 Carries, 124 yards

The Cubs led 6-3 before breaking into the end zone first on a 16-yard TD pass from **Russell Wilson** to **Steve Smith** to give them a 13-3 lead in the 2nd. The Spartans closed to within a FG before half time on a 46-yard TD pass from **Matt Schaub** to **Vincent Jackson** to make it 13-10. The teams traded FGs in the 3rd before the game broke suddenly in favour of Pickering. **Madieu Williams** returned an interception 30 yards for a TD, **Tavon Austin** fumbled the ensuing kickoff to set up a 24-yard TD pass to **Demaryius Thomas** then **Steven Jackson** finished off the sudden rout with a 7-yard TD run.



STATS



WEEK TEN

STANDINGS

East	W	L	T	Pct	Pts	Ave	Opp	Ave	Diff	Home	Div	Conf
Charleswood	6	4	0	0.600	321	32.1	244	24.4	7.7	2 3 0	3 1 0	4 2 0
Viriden	6	4	0	0.600	256	25.6	250	25	0.6	3 2 0	3 1 0	4 2 0
York	4	6	0	0.400	233	23.3	245	24.5	-1.2	3 2 0	1 3 0	2 4 0
Carthage	4	6	0	0.400	181	18.1	264	26.4	-8.3	4 1 0	2 2 0	3 3 0
Mohave	2	8	0	0.200	166	16.6	297	29.7	-13.1	0 5 0	1 3 0	1 5 0
West	W	L	T	Pct	Pts	Ave	Opp	Ave	Diff	Home	Div	Conf
Iowa City	7	3	0	0.700	232	23.2	205	20.5	2.7	3 2 0	4 0 0	5 1 0
Death Valley	6	4	0	0.600	303	30.3	298	29.8	0.5	3 2 0	2 2 0	3 3 0
Chino	5	5	0	0.500	267	26.7	234	23.4	3.3	3 2 0	2 2 0	4 2 0
Los Angeles	3	7	0	0.300	186	18.6	274	27.4	-8.8	1 4 0	1 3 0	2 4 0
Mission Viejo	3	7	0	0.300	161	16.1	248	24.8	-8.7	1 4 0	1 3 0	2 4 0
North	W	L	T	Pct	Pts	Ave	Opp	Ave	Diff	Home	Div	Conf
Markham	8	2	0	0.800	248	24.8	185	18.5	6.3	4 1 0	4 0 0	5 1 0
Durham	7	3	0	0.700	290	29	217	21.7	7.3	5 0 0	2 2 0	4 2 0
Pickering	7	3	0	0.700	274	27.4	230	23	4.4	3 2 0	3 1 0	5 1 0
Cowtown	5	5	0	0.500	277	27.7	201	20.1	7.6	3 2 0	0 4 0	2 4 0
Twin Cities	5	5	0	0.500	226	22.6	219	21.9	0.7	3 2 0	1 3 0	2 4 0
South	W	L	T	Pct	Pts	Ave	Opp	Ave	Diff	Home	Div	Conf
Garland	7	3	0	0.700	278	27.8	146	14.6	13.2	3 2 0	3 1 0	3 3 0
South Carolina	6	4	0	0.600	229	22.9	197	19.7	3.2	4 1 0	2 2 0	3 3 0
Gwinnett	4	6	0	0.400	201	20.1	217	21.7	-1.6	3 2 0	3 1 0	3 3 0
Scarborough	3	7	0	0.300	182	18.2	277	27.7	-9.5	1 4 0	1 3 0	2 4 0
Sebastian	2	8	0	0.200	136	13.6	199	19.9	-6.3	0 5 0	1 3 0	1 5 0

PASSING

Passing	Att	Cmp	C%	Yards	In	I%	Lg	TD	TD%	Rate	
1 Manning, P	CHP	336	242	72.0	2673	6	1.8	59	19	5.7	106.7
2 Smith, A	LAK	222	164	73.9	1635	5	2.3	54	13	5.9	104.5
3 Griffin II	DVU	272	169	62.1	2081	8	2.9	77	20	7.4	98.0
4 Romo	SC	334	231	69.2	2576	9	2.7	78	15	4.5	95.6
5 Brees	DTL	373	231	61.9	2979	14	3.8	59	27	7.2	95.5
6 Wilson, R	ICC	240	162	67.5	2019	7	2.9	60	10	4.2	95.1
7 Ryan, M	GDM	302	201	66.6	2288	8	2.6	62	14	4.6	93.5
8 Newton, C	CHI	300	193	64.3	2303	10	3.3	69	16	5.3	91.6
9 Manning, E	MAR	262	151	57.6	1949	9	3.4	46	19	7.3	91.0
10 Rodgers, A	SBE	385	253	65.7	2413	7	1.8	87	18	4.7	91.0
11 Roethlisbe	GWG	222	138	62.2	1323	1	0.5	32	9	4.1	90.4
12 Cutler	TCT	296	185	62.5	2095	7	2.4	58	14	4.7	89.6
13 Stafford	VV	358	196	54.7	2514	10	2.8	54	26	7.3	89.5
14 Schaub	PIC	345	207	60.0	2367	9	2.6	73	19	5.5	88.2
15 Brady	YOR	354	210	59.3	2590	5	1.4	64	12	3.4	87.4
16 Flacco	COW	372	210	56.5	2715	10	2.7	71	21	5.6	87.2
17 Tannehill	MVM	288	171	59.4	1866	8	2.8	78	14	4.9	83.2
18 Rivers, P	CAR	306	203	66.3	1866	8	2.6	57	10	3.3	82.8
19 Luck	MOH	266	145	54.5	1582	8	3.0	52	11	4.1	73.5
20 Dalton	SS	319	185	58.0	2003	11	3.4	77	8	2.5	70.6
21 Hekker	COW	1	1	100.0	12	0	0.0	12	0	0.0	116.7
22 Hill, Sh	LAK	13	8	61.5	96	0	0.0	21	1	7.7	109.8
23 Vick	DVU	95	49	51.6	787	1	1.1	82	9	9.5	106.8
24 Kaepernick	ICC	62	36	58.1	480	1	1.6	53	3	4.8	92.1
25 Kolb	GWG	38	18	47.4	135	0	0.0	24	2	5.3	73.9

RUSHING

Rushing		Att	Yds	Ave	Lg	TD	
1	Peterson,A	CHP	261	1272	4.9	29	15
2	Morris	COW	231	1269	5.5	44	10
3	Martin,D	TCT	227	1066	4.7	31	8
4	Jackson,S	PIC	202	1022	5.1	30	5
5	Charles,J	VV	184	994	5.4	66	0
6	Foster,A	GDM	175	872	5.0	66	14
7	Johnson,C	CHI	166	812	4.9	60	3
8	Greene	LAK	204	790	3.9	28	1
9	Gore	SC	155	761	4.9	39	6
10	Bush,R	DTL	132	751	5.7	27	4
11	Pierce	MVM	170	733	4.3	34	4
12	Bradshaw	GWG	146	723	5.0	41	6
13	Ball,M	MOH	178	677	3.8	27	5
14	Turner,M	YOR	138	608	4.4	48	8
15	Ridley	DVU	150	600	4.0	19	2
16	Richardson	ICC	111	482	4.3	33	1
17	Williams,D	MAR	110	478	4.3	26	4
18	Spiller	SBE	106	465	4.4	17	2
19	Newton,C	CHI	90	454	5.0	27	5
20	Bernard	YOR	91	439	4.8	44	5
21	Rice,R	SBE	99	408	4.1	49	2
22	Lacy	CAR	81	384	4.7	55	2
23	Griffin II	DVU	69	365	5.3	31	3
24	Jones,F	MAR	82	356	4.3	16	0
25	Green-Elli	CAR	101	349	3.5	12	2

RECEIVING

Receiving		No	Yds	Ave	Lg	TD	
1	Johnson,C	DTL	72	1263	17.5	59	14
2	White,R	CHI	69	1012	14.7	69	6
3	Crabtree,M	CHP	66	869	13.2	59	8
4	Welker	SBE	65	682	10.5	64	3
5	Bryant,D	VV	60	881	14.7	54	11
6	Witten	CHP	60	546	9.1	44	4
7	Thomas,D	PIC	59	818	13.9	57	5
8	Johnson,A	DVU	58	1402	24.2	82	17
9	Jackson,V	PIC	56	852	15.2	73	6
10	Graham,J	MOH	56	554	9.9	21	3
11	Marshall	SBE	55	681	12.4	87	7
12	Wayne	GWG	53	646	12.2	27	7
13	Jones,J	VV	52	736	14.2	26	8
14	Decker	DTL	49	654	13.3	50	3
15	Cruz	YOR	48	813	16.9	55	6
16	Cobb	DVU	48	457	9.5	25	5
17	Pitta	MVM	47	417	8.9	36	4
18	Lloyd,B	GDM	47	679	14.4	62	4
19	Rudolph	CAR	47	410	8.7	29	4
20	Williams,M	MVM	44	713	16.2	78	7
21	Smith,S	ICC	44	811	18.4	60	7
22	Fitzgerald	COW	43	562	13.1	44	4
23	Gonzalez	ICC	43	529	12.3	27	2
24	Colston	MAR	43	667	15.5	46	7
25	Martin,D	TCT	42	312	7.4	34	0

KICKING

Kicking		FGA	FGM	FG%	40	50	Lg	Pts	
1	Folk	GDM	19	18	94.7	4	1	51	83
2	Tynes	VV	20	18	90.0	4	1	50	82
3	Scobee	PIC	22	18	81.8	5	3	54	82
4	Zuerlein	ICC	25	19	76.0	9	1	51	82
5	Walsh	YOR	20	17	85.0	7	2	57	77
6	Hartley	CHP	13	12	92.3	5	1	52	75
7	Dawson	DTL	15	13	86.7	3	2	54	74
8	Bailey,D	CHI	19	14	73.7	7	1	50	73
9	Henery	DVU	13	13	100.0	7	3	54	73
10	Suisham	GWG	20	18	90.0	6	3	51	73
11	Bironas	SC	20	16	80.0	8	0	47	71
12	Hauschka	CAR	19	17	89.5	7	3	54	67
13	Lindell	LAK	19	16	84.2	7	2	54	66
14	Novak	COW	17	14	82.4	7	1	53	65
15	Prater	MOH	17	16	94.1	6	1	54	64
16	Gostkowski	TCT	12	10	83.3	3	1	54	58
17	Graham,S	MAR	13	8	61.5	2	0	49	56
18	Vinatieri	SS	14	13	92.9	4	0	46	50
19	Carpenter	MVM	11	9	81.8	4	2	53	45
20	Janikowski	SBE	10	7	70.0	1	1	51	44
21	Medlock	COW	4	3	75.0	0	0	38	18
22	Koch	GDM	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	3

TACKLES

Tackles			
1	Kuechly	SC	100
2	Dunbar	CHI	92
3	Riley	SS	90
4	Freeman, J	SBE	88
5	Mayo	DVU	78
6	Washington	PIC	75
7	Willis, P	ICC	74
8	Posluszny	VV	74
9	Barwin	LAK	72
10	Ninkovich	MAR	69
11	Laurinaiti	GWG	68
12	Bowman	GDM	67
13	Houston, J	MOH	65
14	Barnett	VV	65
15	Jackson, D	MAR	64
16	Bailey, C	DTL	63
17	Greenway	LAK	62
18	Woodyard	YOR	60
19	McClain, R	SC	60
20	Wagner	TCT	60
21	Johnson, J	MVM	58
22	Hawk	MVM	58
23	Miller, V	YOR	57
24	Tulloch	COW	57
25	Lofton	DTL	56

SACKS

Sacks			
1	Atkins	YOR	10
2	Watt	GDM	10
3	Johnson, M	YOR	9
4	Ninkovich	MAR	8
5	Johnson, C	DVU	8
6	Long, C	DVU	8
7	Smith, A	VV	8
8	Quinn, R	LAK	7
9	Abraham	MAR	7
10	Houston, J	MOH	6
11	Hardy	CAR	6
12	Peppers	CHI	6
13	Kerrigan	COW	6
14	Dareus	COW	6
15	Griffen	COW	6
16	Jordan, C	MVM	6
17	Avril	GDM	6
18	Smith, W	GDM	6
19	Dumervil	DTL	6
20	Phillips, S	CHP	5
21	Pierre-Pau	ICC	5
22	Liuget	ICC	5
23	Wake	MOH	5
24	Greenway	LAK	5
25	Sheard	PIC	5

INTERCEPTIONS

Interceptions		No	Yds	Ave	Lg	TD	
1	Sherman	DTL	4	40	10.0	16	0
2	Reid, E	TCT	4	51	12.8	29	0
3	Elam	DVU	4	70	17.5	26	0
4	Hayward, C	ICC	4	43	10.8	30	0
5	DeCoud	GWG	4	28	7.0	22	0
6	Jackson, K	CHP	3	61	20.3	28	1
7	Ward, T	PIC	3	81	27.0	81	0
8	Wagner	TCT	3	91	30.3	49	1
9	Johnson, L	CHP	3	116	38.7	51	3
10	Williams, T	VV	3	85	28.3	43	0
11	Clark, R	YOR	3	3	1.0	3	0
12	Jones, R	ICC	3	51	17.0	43	0
13	Thomas, E	GDM	3	116	38.7	57	1
14	Weddle	GDM	3	32	10.7	18	0
15	Mathieu	DTL	3	49	16.3	47	1
16	Barber	SS	3	44	14.7	34	0
17	Cyprien	MAR	2	52	26.0	38	0
18	Brown, S	PIC	2	20	10.0	11	1
19	Williams, M	PIC	2	93	46.5	63	1
20	Samuel	YOR	2	6	3.0	6	0
21	Wilson, J	TCT	2	0	0.0	0	0
22	Slay	TCT	2	0	0.0	0	0
23	Winfield	TCT	2	33	16.5	33	0
24	Smith, H	CAR	2	49	24.5	49	1
25	Cason	CAR	2	38	19.0	38	1

KICK RETURNS

Kick Returns		No	Yds	Ave	Lg	TD
1	McKelvin GWG	24	684	28.5	57	0
2	Jones, J CHP	32	894	27.9	108	1
3	Cribbs LAK	40	1104	27.6	72	0
4	McKnight MAR	14	384	27.4	103	1
5	Washington VV	36	973	27.0	60	0
6	Rainey COW	32	840	26.3	56	0
7	Patterson MOH	39	1008	25.8	62	0
8	Hester DTL	22	563	25.6	34	0
9	Tate, B MVM	39	974	25.0	38	0
10	Holliday, T CHI	33	801	24.3	102	2
11	Cadet CAR	35	830	23.7	37	0
12	Cobb DVU	25	589	23.6	38	0
13	Robinson, D PIC	17	396	23.3	30	0
14	Rodgers, J SC	13	289	22.2	33	0
15	Austin, T ICC	20	440	22.0	36	0
16	Logan SS	19	410	21.6	34	0
17	Stephens-H GWG	12	235	19.6	28	0
18	Wheaton TCT	21	394	18.8	33	0
19	Bolden, O YOR	24	401	16.7	33	0
20	Royster SBE	11	131	11.9	23	0
21	Edelman GDM	16	185	11.6	25	0
22	Pettis SBE	12	135	11.3	13	0
23	Welker SBE	17	189	11.1	16	0
24	James, L ICC	5	152	30.4	36	0
25	Sproles ICC	1	28	28.0	28	0

PUNT RETURNS

Punt Returns		No	Fc	Yds	Ave	Lg	TD
1	Jones, A PIC	30	3	419	14.0	78	2
2	Austin, T ICC	10	3	134	13.4	76	1
3	Cribbs LAK	28	4	375	13.4	74	0
4	Tate, B MVM	18	7	235	13.1	46	0
5	Martin, K CHI	20	8	244	12.2	79	1
6	Harris, D SS	20	1	205	10.3	22	0
7	Cobb DVU	12	8	122	10.2	40	0
8	Arenas SC	17	7	172	10.1	22	0
9	Ginn Jr. TCT	14	6	141	10.1	22	0
10	Peterson, P GDM	22	5	221	10.0	38	0
11	Welker SBE	12	0	93	7.8	21	0
12	Parrish MAR	23	5	172	7.5	18	0
13	Jones, J CHP	16	7	112	7.0	14	0
14	Banks MOH	23	4	151	6.6	15	0
15	Bernard YOR	21	5	137	6.5	23	0
16	Sherels VV	15	12	93	6.2	14	0
17	Hilton DTL	26	6	140	5.4	14	0
18	Franklin, J COW	14	18	66	4.7	12	0
19	Sanders, E CAR	9	15	236	26.2	87	1
20	Williams, K COW	4	3	52	13.0	22	0
21	McKelvin GWG	8	7	99	12.4	19	0
22	Jenkins, J DVU	1	0	10	10.0	10	0
23	Leonhard GWG	4	0	39	9.8	18	0
24	Easley YOR	2	0	19	9.5	18	0
25	Decker DTL	1	0	9	9.0	9	0

SCORING

Scoring		FG	XP	2Pt	Run	Rec	Int	KR	PR	Fmb	Sf	Tot
1	Johnson, A DVU	0	0	0	0	17	0	0	0	0	0	102
2	Peterson, A CHP	0	0	0	15	0	0	0	0	0	0	90
3	Johnson, C DTL	0	0	0	0	14	0	0	0	0	0	84
4	Foster, A GDM	0	0	0	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	84
5	Folk GDM	18	29	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	83
6	Zuerlein ICC	19	25	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	82
7	Scobee PIC	18	28	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	82
8	Tynes VV	18	28	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	82
9	Walsh YOR	17	26	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	77
10	Hartley CHP	12	39	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	75
11	Dawson DTL	13	35	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	74
12	Henery DVU	13	34	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	73
13	Bailey, D CHI	14	31	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	73
14	Suisham GWG	18	19	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	73
15	Bironas SC	16	23	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	71
16	Hauschka CAR	17	16	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	67
17	Bryant, D VV	0	0	0	0	11	0	0	0	0	0	66
18	Lindell LAK	16	18	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	66
19	Morris COW	0	0	0	10	1	0	0	0	0	0	66
20	Novak COW	14	23	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	65
21	Prater MOH	16	16	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	64
22	LaFell LAK	0	0	0	0	10	0	0	0	0	0	60
23	Gostkowski TCT	10	28	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	58
24	Graham, S MAR	8	32	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	56
25	Jackson, S PIC	0	0	0	5	4	0	0	0	0	0	54

Welcome to the

BLOGOSPHERE



Blogger

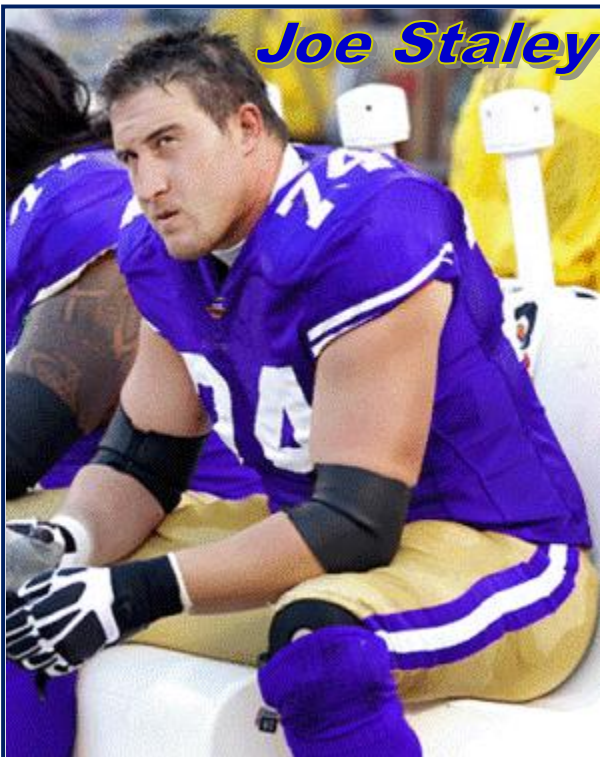
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WHERE FANS SPEAK

**HE WOULD HAVE BEEN A
SPARTAN!**

BY MYLES HYPOCOON (CONTRIBUTOR) ON DECEMBER 7, 2013



It was time for Joe to move on. Something was pulling him away from Gwinnett, where he had been a Gladiator for just one year. He balked at signing a contract, frustrated at the pace of negotiations according to his agent, but there was something else gnawing at the veteran left tackle. It turns out that something was the inner desire to be a Spartan, not a Gladiator. And who can blame him? Gladiators fight for fame and fortune, Spartans for honour. Welcome home, Joe!

This year has been a rebirth for the great Spartan franchise. Matt Schaub, Steven Jackson, Daryl Washington, Vincent Jackson and T.J. Ward are making us proud again. They are the face of the team, but the heart is with the men in the trenches,

and Joe is their leader. In a former life, Joe would have been a real Spartan.

Pro Football Focal Point, the rating agency that provides in-depth analysis of every position has Staley ranked no.2 behind Ryan Clady among tackles, and no. 5 overall among all offensive linemen. The main reason has been his contribution to the running game. The Spartans run almost half their plays to the left, where Staley has shown the quickness to get outside and the toughness to move bodies. He has been credited with laying 21 critical blocks resulting in “impact runs” – runs of 10+ yards, first downs, and touchdowns. While the average fan praises Steven Jackson for running like he was 5 years younger, the hard core fan, and Jackson himself, sees the role of a player like Staley in that success.

“The line is a band of brothers,” explained Staley. “There’s five of us, so we’re not like the three musketeers, or the silver seven, or the fantastic four....we’re like...the five Spartans, you know – five of us, doing the job of defending Matt and making room for Steven.”

Five men, doing the job that 300 once did at Thermopylae – heroes of the new age of Sparta!



AROUND THE



With Spats McChad

NEW YORK – Parity has officially arrived to the EFL. Every week brings more than one surprise or crazy ending, but the key indicator that the talent pool is leveling is the way our view of the top teams changes from week to week. In the past, the dominant teams have been virtually inviolable, but this year even the best look beatable. If you caught a glimpse of 7-3 Durham in Week One you would have pegged them as the top candidate for a #1 draft pick next year. Watch them again in Week Two in the 2nd half of their 43-31 win over Cowtown and you would think they were unbeatable; the same goes for 7-3 Garland (Week 4 versus Week 8), 8-2 Markham (Week 10 versus Week 1), and 7-3 Iowa City (Week 8 versus Week 1).

Not since the league's first season, when a free-for-all draft of suddenly unemployed ex-NFLers yielded about 10 contenders in a field of 12, has the EFL looked so competitive across the board. The fantasy of "on any given Sunday" is a virtual reality in 2013. It will take every week of the 16 on the regular season schedule to determine who truly deserves to enter an elimination tournament for the Gale Sayers Trophy. But with ten weeks of the 2013 season in the history books, it is becoming clear that some teams will definitely not earn that post-season honour and certainly will not go down fighting in the attempt. Read on.....

LYNCH MOB IN MOHAVE

An organic grassroots movement, also referred to as a riot, developed spontaneously as the clock wound down on another Hellfire loss at the Fiery Depths. The Regulators won the game 27-7, but that was not the interesting part. The source of post-game controversy was the new way that Hellfire coach **Bobby Elder** outraged his already angry fan base.

The breakdown in civility began when Regulator corner **Josh Robinson** intercepted **Andrew Luck** on Mohave's first play of the 2nd half. South Carolina turned that interception into 7 points on a 36-yard screen from **Tony Romo** to **Jacquizz Rodgers**, giving them a daunting 27-7 lead. Apparently so daunting that Elder wanted no more part of the game, or at least no more part of Luck throwing the ball in the game. But instead of inserting bench warmer **Blaine Gabbert** in at quarterback or trying out some new plays (assuming he has new plays), Elder called 31 consecutive running plays, of the most mundane variety. For some reason rookie **Montee Ball** was the object of his not so tender attentions; Elder sent him into the line on all but two plays for the remainder of the game. When the panting, frothing, wobbly kneed Ball stumbled off the field before the end of the 3rd quarter, Elder splashed 'Gatorade' on him and pushed him back onto the field for the start of the 4th quarter, drawing boos from the crowd and a feeble protest from running backs coach, **Rufus "Cha Cha" Channing II**, who took a clipboard blow to the side of the head as Elder turned on him with fury and lineman **Tyson Alualu** stepped between them.

With the frustrated, angry and inebriated brains of Mohave fans slow-cooking in 101-degree heat, warped perceptions inspired a sudden rush onto the field by the fans as **Luke Kuechly** brought down Ball on the final play of the game. But the target of the mob was not the goal posts, or the players; it was **Bobby Elder** himself. As the enraged throng cried, "KILL HIM!", Elder looked up from his I-Pad. His expression turned from pique, to surprise, to terror as a hot dog glanced off his right cheek, thrown from the point of the advancing rabble. His players and staff hurried off the field, leaving him scrambling to evade the rush – looking very much like his franchise quarterback does on a weekly basis, but not moving quite as dextrously.

A rare block from guard **Amini Silatolu** allowed Elder to escape to the tunnel unscathed, but missing his hat, headphones and leaving him covered in ketchup and mustard; the Hellfire colours adding a symbolic touch. But that did not spare the stadium from damage or a dozen security guards from injury. Fortunately, only a small fraction of the remainder of the announced crowd of 38,640 that had stayed to the bitter end actually made it on to the field; of that, only a couple of hundred actually caused vandalism or physical injury. But the sentiment that propelled the goonies at the Fiery Depths to try and lynch Bobby Elder was still in evidence long after the stadium had been cleared by the police.

Carmen Diablo, Executive Director of FLAME (Fans Liberation Association of Greater Mohave and Everywhere), was quick to distance her organization from the actions of the mob, but added a twist at the end:

"FLAME in no way supports this action by criminal fans to try and kill the head coach of the Hellfire. Although FLAME is always prepared to stand up for Fans rights, FLAME believes in non-violent protest to express our views. As much as FLAME abhors violence, we also support those who wish to bring change to the Hellfire football team. If that means

getting rid of the person at the top, so be it. We just don't feel he should be seriously harmed in the process."

Although Elder missed the post-game press conference for obvious reasons, he did release a statement via Titter that was quickly withdrawn, but not quickly enough to avoid detection and a firestorm of negative reaction.

@OldGuyFire writes: "It's my fucking team, not yours. They are my players, not yours. If you don't like it, go watch the Monarchs play!"

So a defiant Bobby Elder remains firmly in command of a desert Titanic



Fans at the Fiery Depths pour on to the field looking for **Bobby Elder's** head after the Hellfire dropped a 27-7 decision to South Carolina. Mohave fans are fed up with losing and are ready to hold an apathetic management team accountable.

that is sinking in the drifting sands of desolation. Proof that talent without direction is like a Sphinx in time. (Pretty cool metaphor, isn't it?)

DEATH'S REVENGE

They say you can't cheat Death. Tell that to Death. The Undertakers' loss to Markham in the EFL Championship last year certainly felt, to Death, like a cheat. The league's best passer was suddenly unable to pass; the league's best running tandem was suddenly unable to run; the league's best defence....okay, so that may not be quite right, but you get the idea. Something fishy must have been going on, right? For the Undertakers, the Week Ten match-up versus Markham was a chance to make things right, get rid of the fishy smell, albeit one year too late in a game that didn't matter as much. But, symbolically, a win was important and could set the tone for the remainder of the Undertakers' season. Whether you agree that it was the result of strict preparation by **Chris Worthley** or simply blind luck, victory was not in the stars for Markham in Death Valley this week.

In his best overall performance as a member of the Black and Blacker, **RGIII** caught the #1-ranked Markham defence off guard on the game's opening drive with a designed run off right tackle that went 31 yards. It was not a play Markham had prepared for and their resulting uncertainty was evident on the next two plays as they lined up to stop the run but seemed to gravitate to the quarterback instead of toward **Stevan Ridley**, who ripped off carries of 6 and 7 yards for another first down. The Undertakers finished off their first possession with a touchdown pass to Andre Johnson, but the prelude to that play had the feel of something different. The running game had not been as prominent a piece of the Undertakers' offence this year, but initial reports of its imminent demise appear to have been, as they say, "grossly exaggerated." Ridley, RGIII and a supporting background trio that included **Randall Cobb**, combined for 274 yards on the ground; their consistent success creating room for the Death Valley receivers where it mattered most – in the end zone.

Week Ten was RGIII's 'Coming Out' party – a showcase of his many talents. In addition to rushing for 104 yards, he also threw 5 TD passes and, most importantly, no interceptions. The performance was the kind **Chris Worthley** had envisioned, but had not yet seen, from his most important off-season acquisition. Perhaps he was saving it for this game? Although the high competition level in the West suggests otherwise, it is possible he was holding back. The wound of last year's loss to Markham in the Championship game is still festering in the Hell, Michigan head office of the Death Valley Undertakers. It won't begin to heal until the ghost of that loss is exorcised.

"We don't talk about that team, the coach won't allow it," explained **Cookie Kelly**, the Undertakers' offensive coordinator, when asked about the team's feeling toward the North Stars. "But we've been preparing for them all year, going back to OTAs. We refer to them only as the 'enemy.' We have a special group of plays reserved only for the 'enemy.'"

It is rare for a bitter rivalry to develop between teams that don't play in the same conference and could go several years without playing each other. But from the Undertakers' perspective, this is a bitter rivalry. It is based on a single outcome – a team peaking at the right moment knocking off a team that had been consistently beating opponents into submission for the entire season, (missing out on perfection by a single touchdown in York), in the biggest game of the year. But the profound enmity is not apparently reciprocated by the 'enemy.'

"I take full responsibility for this loss," a forthright **Darrin Jones** told the assembled throng of media after the game. "We were outcoached and outplayed. I tip my toque to Chris and his deadly team....Get it? 'Deadly'.....that's a pun I think," Jones chuckled at his attempt at humour.

Jones may not be ready for a career in stand up comedy, but he is dead on (get it, "dead on?") about one thing: he was outcoached. Not that his was a poor coaching effort, but that his opponent composed a masterpiece against him. There was nothing impetuous or immature about Chris Worthley's play-calling this week; instead he performed careful and precise surgery and, in the process, managed to neutralize Markham's prime asset – its ability to force turnovers. For Markham this week there was no riverboat gambling by the defensive backs, the ends could not tee-off on the pass, the blitz was completely ineffective, and the tackling was surprisingly soft for a Markham team, with a season-high 12 whiffs.

The Undertakers were in control from the beginning to end – Eli fought back valiantly, but also confirmed what many had suspected about the Stars' capacity to survive a shootout. This edition of the North Stars is not built for a flat out race to the end zone, especially with a game-breaker like **Percy Harvin** not available. They can strike suddenly on both sides of the ball, but catching a jack rabbit that gets a jump on them out of the gate is not in the DNA. Thankfully for Markham, they will not be meeting a team like the Undertakers again in the regular season. They have lots of time to think about, and design, a response to this whooping if they should come face-to-face with Death again before the end of the year.

LEONARD WHO?

The attention was focused on the usual players in the aftermath of Charleswood's 41-34 besting of Cowtown at Patriot Place this week. **Peyton Manning** was lauded for his deadly accuracy, **Adrian Peterson** was praised for gaining the tough yards and making tacklers miss on the way to 3 touchdowns, **Jason Findlay** was extolled for his vision of white uniforms at home for the first time in team history, and **Joe Flacco** was defamed for throwing two bad passes that happened to be intercepted and returned for touchdowns. The guy who returned them – a young corner in his second year, named **Leonard Johnson** – now leads the league with 3 pick sixes. Please allow me to be the first to take a closer look at the player who foiled Cowtown's bid for 5 straight victories.

The Iowa State alumnus was selected in the 6th round of the 2012 draft by Virden and was promptly traded to Charleswood along with **Kheeston Randall** for another 6th round pick. Clearly, **Lance Barrate** did not see 3 interception returns for touchdowns in Johnson's future. To be fair, neither, probably, did Jason Findlay, or even Leonard's mother, who I am sure is very proud of her son. Johnson was not the only relative unknown who played an integral role in Charleswood's comeback victory over the Corn Kings. Rookie defensive tackle **Johnathan Hankins**, a 3rd round pick from Ohio State, came in for an injured **Kevin Williams** and played, by all accounts, better than Williams. It was Hankins who put the pressure on Flacco that led to the first Johnson interception, and Hankins who broke through for key 4th quarter sack that forced the Corn Kings to settle for a field goal when they appeared to be driving, with momentum, for a major. It was a day of "whodunnits" at Patriot Place.

AROUND THE EFL

287 was the final number – an impressive one – but **Big Ben's** streak of pass attempts without an interception had to end sometime. A high snap, followed by intense pressure from the Virden line, led to his first interception of 2013. **Tramon Williams** snatched the hastily dumped off ball and returned it 43 yards to the Gwinnett 18 to set up the Violators' last points, a 30-yard field goal, in a 33-10 drubbing of the Glads at **TERRORDOME**.

At Round Table Stadium, an inspired effort by the gambling, fearless Knights' defence contained the Mustangs for a quarter and a half before guessing the plays caught up with them. They eventually fell 21-9, but not before giving their fans something to cheer about. At one point the Knights actually led this game 6-0, but a pair of touchdown drives by Garland in the latter part of the 2nd quarter gave them all the points they would need. Although this was no blowout on the scoreboard, the statistics tell a tale of Garland domination exemplified best by a monstrous 19-play, 99-yard touchdown drive in the 4th quarter that took 12 minutes off the clock.

Megatron was relatively contained in Week Ten, catching just 4 passes and none of them for touchdowns, but he did average 19.5 yards per reception and provided a valuable distraction in Durham's 38-21 handling of Carthage that broke the Cannibals' home winning streak at 4four.

Twin Cities QB, **Jay Cutler** took aim at his former team at his old Big House stomping ground and prevailed 24-19 over Chino with a 2-touchdown pass performance in the 2nd half. The Triumph pivot did not experience an auspicious start, getting sacked by **James Harrison** and **Julius Peppers** on consecutive drop-backs on his first possession of the game, but he finished well with an 18-yard game-winning TD pass to **Pierre Garcon** with 1:28 left in the game.

In Iowa, **Matt Schaub** caught the Cubbies in a stack formation at mid field and made them pay, hitting **Vincent Jackson** deep for a 46-yard TD pass to shrink a 10-point Cubs' lead to a 13-10 lead just before half time. A more dramatic turning point came in the 4th quarter when Pickering safety **Madieu Williams** picked off a pass and returned it 30 yards for the go-ahead touchdown. That set in motion a total Iowa City melt down that resulted in a 34-19 final in favour of Pickering. The crowd at Joe Ferguson Stadium reacted the way they often do to this kind of loss – with stunned silence – while the sound of 300 beer-soaked, shirtless fat guys in bronze helmets bellowing '**NEVER SURRENDER**' from the north end zone filled the 42-degree Iowa air.

At Mission Viejo, an aggressive Monarchs' defence kept the sinking Blue Eagles sinking further in a 21-7 upset. There is no explanation for the outcome other than a demoralized Eagles squad mailing it in on game day.

Finally, **Michael Turner** lives as the Excaliburs edged out Sebastian 17-3 in Week Ten's least noteworthy game.

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JIMMY'S WEEK ELEVEN PICKS

MISSION VIEJO @ VIRDEN (line – VIOLATORS by 9)

INJURIES: **Mission Viejo** – Atari Bigby (OUT), Michael Brocker (OUT), Aaron Maybin (OUT), Brice McCain (OUT), Koa Misi (OUT), DeMarco Murray (OUT), Lardarius Webb (OUT.); **Virден** – Owen Daniels (OUT), Fred Davis (OUT), Brandon Meriweather (OUT), Knowshon Moreno (OUT).

Probably not since he played in High School has William Powell's return to the lineup caused such excitement. But with Bernard Pierce on his last legs, and DeMarco Murray still injured, Powell is a desperately needed fresh body on an offence that has been running on fumes for the past five weeks. The Monarchs managed to bump off Scarborough last week by creating turnovers and making the most of their limited opportunities. They are going to have to repeat that formula to win this week, except they also are going to have to play lights-out defensively. Matt Stafford has put together strong games back-to-back and appears to be regaining last year's form, while Jamaal Charles continues to pose a game-breaking threat on the ground. **PICK: VIRDEN**

YORK @ IOWA CITY (line – CUBS by 6)

INJURIES: **York** – Chris Gamble (OUT), Wesley Woodyard (OUT), Eric Wright (OUT); **Iowa City** – Jamar Taylor (QUESTIONABLE), Rodney Hudson (OUT), LaMichael James (OUT).

Despite what must feel already like a lost season in Camelot, the Excaliburs are still in the playoff hunt in more than a merely mathematical way. But to make the post-season they have their work cut out for them starting this week in Iowa. Last week they fried the Swordfish by turning to the running game but this week they rely on it at their peril. The Cubs have surrendered a league low 84 rushing yards per game and it is easy to see why – they have Patrick Willis supporting a quartet of studs on the defensive line. There is no avoiding it – Tom Brady must show that he is "Tom Brady" this week for York to have a fighting chance. The Cubs were knocked out in the 4th round after going toe-to-toe for three quarters against the Spartans in Week Ten. Their collapse was stunning, but no reason to panic; Pickering has done the same to other teams. The Swords are less likely to finish off any opponent with a "Spartan Death Lock" in the 4th quarter. Still, they have the talent to keep things close. **PICK: YORK**

LOS ANGELES @ CARTHAGE (line – CANNIBALS by 3)

INJURIES: **Los Angeles** – Ryan Mathews (DOUBTFUL), Brian Bulaga (OUT), Barry Church (OUT), Brian Cushing (OUT), Brandon LaFell (OUT), Brian Orakpo (OUT), Charles Woodson (OUT); **Carthage** – Doug Baldwin (PROBABLE), Jon Beason (OUT), David Hawthorne (OUT), Jacob Lacey (OUT), Brooks Reed (OUT), Orlando Scandrick (OUT).

The move to Sam Bradford at quarterback spells the end of surprise victories for the Knights. Last week's heroic performance by the defence, which by conventional standards was not overly impressive but still held the Mustangs to 21 points, was not equalled by the Bradford-led offence, which gained just 6 first downs and 160 total yards. In fairness, it was Bradford's first start and it came against the league's top-ranked defence in yards allowed. The Cannibals' 'D' can lay no claim to greatness, let alone goodness, but they have the advantage of the home field and being able to focus on a very limited set of threats, "set" being probably the wrong word with Brandon LaFell out of action. Carthage lost at home last week after 4 straight victories, but showed well in spite of a late collapse by Philip Rivers. The Knights will be like a picnic in comparison – a veritable Cannibals' feast. **PICK: CARTHAGE**

DEATH VALLEY @ MOHAVE (line – UNDERTAKERS by 3)

INJURIES: **Death Valley** – Alfonzo Dennard (OUT), Daniel Fells (OUT), Todd Herremans (OUT), Janoris Jenkins (OUT), Greg

Jones (OUT), Clay Matthews (OUT); **Mohave** – Hakeem Nicks (DOUBTFUL), Scott Wells (OUT).

My respect for Vegas is being sorely tested at times this year and this is one of those times. With the Undertakers coming off their finest performance of the season and construction crews in Mohave hastily repairing damage to the Fiery Depths after last week's riot, giving the horrendous Hellfire 3 points looks ludicrous. Worse, the line started at 2 but has since moved as money flocked to the Undertakers. Vegas may suspect that Bobby Elder will avoid the stadium all together after nearly getting killed last week. If so, play-calling could fall to the offensive coordinator, a reportedly more stable chap. Provided the Hellfire don't send Montee Ball into the line 41 times, there are plenty of opportunities for Andrew Luck to break out against the notoriously underperforming Death Valley defence. But will they be able to keep up with an RGIII-led attack that will benefit from having Aaron Hernandez and Rob Gronkowski on the field together at the same time? Probably not. **PICK: DEATH VALLEY**

CHINO @ CHARLESWOOD (line – PATRIOTS by 3)

INJURIES: Chino – Jason Avant (QUESTIONABLE), Ben Hartsock (OUT), Davon House (OUT), Chris Ivory (OUT) Jarius Wright; **Charleswood** – Jarvis Jones (PROBABLE), Bjoern Werner (QUESTIONABLE), Marcus Gilbert (OUT), Santonio Holmes (OUT), Cory Redding (OUT), Phil Taylor (OUT).

The Pats' offence is finding its groove while Chino's 'Lockdown Crew' is showing unmistakable signs of age and mediocrity. Expect the Pats to move the ball with relative ease, only to be stopped in the unlikely event of a turnover. Speaking of turnovers, the Convicts are giving the ball away a lot, 9 times in 4 games since their last victory, which explains the losing streak. The culprit is Cam, whose 3.3% interception rate trails only Drew Brees among regular starting quarterbacks. When your most deadly weapon is shooting you in the foot it's hard to take any ground away from your opponents. Chino will need a flawless game from Newton to keep pace, but with rising star Leonard Johnson roaming the secondary, don't bet on it. **PICK: CHARLESWOOD**

SOUTH CAROLINA @ DURHAM (line – THUNDER LIZARDS by 8)

INJURIES: South Carolina – Star Lotulelei (PROBABLE), Rob Housler (OUT), Greg Jennings (OUT), Tracy Porter (OUT), Sam Shields (OUT), Brandon Thompson (OUT); **Durham** – Carl Nicks (QUESTIONABLE), David DeCastro (OUT).

The Regulators are the surprise of the EFL this year and, at 6-4, trail powerhouse Garland in the South by a single game. The difference this season is a defence ranked 5th in efficiency and 3rd in points allowed. This has allowed the team to get the most out of the efforts of franchise QB, Tony Romo and running stalwart, Frank Gore. Much as the feel-good story coming out of Carolina brings a tear to my eye, the Regulator bandwagon is about to get rear-ended by a dinosaur-sized transport truck. Durham leads the league in interceptions and breaking up passes. On the attack, the interception woes of Drew Brees are overcome by the proficiency of their passing game in compiling yards and touchdowns. The spread looks high when comparing these team's records, but the idea of Robert McClain containing Megatron is even more ridiculous. **PICK: DURHAM**

MARKHAM @ SEBASTIAN (line – NORTH STARS by 2)

INJURIES: Markham – Titus Young (QUESTIONABLE), Percy Harvin (OUT), James Starks (OUT); **Sebastian** – Chandler Jones (PROBABLE).

After what happened to the eventual Champions at the Fish Tank last year, the last person to take the Swordfish lightly would be Darrin Jones. But he might be the only one on his team, and he is apparently having trouble getting his defence to stay serious in the film room while watching tape of Andy Dalton getting knocked down repeatedly in the backfield. The Undertakers may have knocked the Stars defenders down a peg last week, but the feeble Swordfish – for lack of a better word – *attack*, ranked last in almost everything, poses little real or imagined threat to their #1 ranking. Still, Vegas does not appear convinced that this will be a swim in the shallow end of pool for Markham. At -2 and holding, the Stars are not getting the love from bettors that an 8-2 team might be entitled to, when facing a 2-8 team. What the gurus may be fixated on is a sneaky good Swordfish defence taking the ball away from a turnover-prone and inconsistent Markham offence. That may be factor, but then so may be the top turnover generating defence against the league's worst offence. This is Jimmy's "Lock Pick" of the week. **PICK: MARKHAM**

GWINNETT @ COWTOWN (line – CORN KINGS by 7)

INJURIES: Gwinnett – Bill Bentley (OUT), Loedis McKelvin (OUT), Troy Polamalu (OUT), LaRod Stephens-Howling; **Cowtown** – Kyle Williams (QUESTIONABLE), Maurkice Pouncey (OUT), Kerry Rhodes (OUT).

The Glads should not have to worry about ball control in this game – they have turned the ball over just 8 times all season while the Corn Kings have forced just 6 from their opponents. The inability of the Corn King defence to steal the ball, while the offence has no difficulty giving away the ball, is the primary factor in their 5-5 record and now distant playoff hopes. The 4-6 Glads, meanwhile, cannot blame turnovers for their problems, but can point to a slew of key injuries and a defence in transition to explain their sub-500 record. These teams might rather sit down over a beer and spill their woes to each other than play the game, but since they must play, expect a lackluster affair with a pair of Cowtown turnovers keeping it close. **PICK: GWINNETT**

SCARBOROUGH @ PICKERING (line – SPARTANS by 10)

INJURIES: Scarborough – Ryan Kalil (OUT), Jordan Norwood (OUT), Darrelle Revis (OUT), Terrell Suggs (OUT); Pickering – T.J. Ward (OUT).

In a season of low points for the Blue Eagles the bottom may have finally been reached last week in Mission Viejo. There is officially nowhere to go now but up. The ability of this team to rise from the muck and salvage something from a disastrous 2013 campaign is questionable, however, and is certainly not likely to happen in Week Eleven at Thermopylae Stadium. In addition to being a good team, the Spartans are well-coached and also getting a lot of bounces. Mostly everything is going right for Pickering and mostly everything is going wrong for Scarborough – a really bad combination if you are a diehard Eagles fan. But in searching for positives, the Eagles continue to have the best 3rd down defence in the league; the trick is to take advantage of this and somehow hold the Spartans in check on 1st & 2nd down. On offence, the Scarborough running game has been a problem, averaging just 4.1 yards per carry. Waiting for C.J. Spiller to break out has been like waiting for the Apocalypse. It will take an event like it for Scarborough to prevail here, but a much more minor miracle to beat the spread. **PICK: SCARBOROUGH**

GARLAND @ TWIN CITIES (line – MUSTANGS by 3)

INJURIES: Garland – None; Twin Cities – Glenn Dorsey (OUT).

The Mustangs are 4-0 under new management but signs that they may be reading their press clippings surfaced last week at Round Table Stadium where they elbowed the Knights out of the way in casual and unremarkable fashion. It does show that a disinterested Mustangs squad can still take care of business on the road against an inferior, but motivated, opponent, but they cannot afford to be so pedestrian at the Metrodome. The Triumph have a pair of impressive “upsets” on their resumé and believe they can add another. Jay Cutler is quietly getting the job done with Doug Martin, the league’s third-ranked rusher, distracting opposing defences. Rookie of the Year candidate Eric Reid is a dangerous ball-hawking safety and Bobby Wagner is dependable on every down in addition to being one of the team’s top play-makers. The Garland defence needs no introduction and will pose a serious challenge, so that Triumph defence will have to step up with a banner day. **PICK: GARLAND**



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With Professor Sterling Smitherman

FROM THE EFL ARCHIVES – 2007 – Week 9 brought an unexpected focus on the Big House in Chino where Jay Cutler made his debut for an injured Donovan McNabb against the league’s only winless team. Cutler struggled mightily and was sacked 5 times, fumbling each time. To the shock of all, the Swamp Dogs were tied with Chino 20-20 in the 4th quarter and looked poised to steal their first win of 2007. But a desperate switch to Vince Young at quarterback for Chino paid off as Young threw the winning TD pass to Anquan Boldin with 5 minutes left in the game.

Both division leaders, Mohave and Durham, held

their positions at the top of their respective divisions with easy wins over Anchorage and Florida respectively.

After participating in the lowest scoring game in league history in Week 8, the Patriots beat that record by one point in Week 9 with a 12-10 victory over LA in Week 9. The Knights had a good defense, but not so good that Peyton Manning was expected to struggle against it. In the post-game presser, Peyton discussed his 22-yard completion to Chad Johnson with 1:49 left that allowed them to run out the clock.

The most exciting game of the week saw the Gladiators avoid all but mathematical elimination by squeaking past the Cubs 30-29 on Willie Parker’s 5-yard TD run with 24 seconds left in the game. At 4-5, neither team was expected to challenge for the playoffs, but both remained in the mix.

Chino running back, LaDainian Tomlinson rushed for 223 yards in Week 9, a full 15 yards less than his record performance in Week 6. As impressive as LT had been to that point, Durham’s Frank Gore was better, dominating all rushers with 1,229 yards and a 6.6 yard per carry average.

On defence, DeMarcus Ware of the Swamp Dogs logged 4 sacks that week against newbie Cutler.