

# WEEK 3



# EFL

ELITE FOOTBALL LEAGUE



*Blazing Through a Pandemic in our 14th Season!*

October 25, 2020

**DAMN IT DAK!**



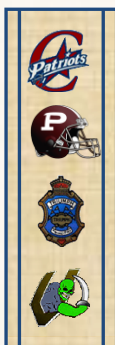
**Dak Prescott**  
**Chino Convicts**

Chino QB, *Dak Prescott* is hauled to the turf in-bounds inside the Cubs' 20 as the Convicts attempt to drive for a field goal as time expires in the 1<sup>st</sup> half, leaving not enough time for the Chino field goal unit to set up for a kick. He repeated the same error in overtime, missing a chance at the winning FG as time expired on a 24-24 Cubs-Convicts tie.

EAST



CENTRAL



WEST



NORTH



COASTAL



SOUTH



*Who was slick  
in Week Three?*

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



**OFFENCE**



**Robert Woods**  
WR  
Buffalo  
Derailers

19 Rec, 252 Yds, 4 TDs. Led his team to 1<sup>st</sup> win and set EFL catch record.



**DEFENSE**



**Raekwon McMillan**  
OLB  
York  
Excaltors

2 SK, HUR, 4 T. Delivered 2 key 3<sup>rd</sup> down sacks to prevent scores.



27

24

Two long TD drives by the Wrecking Balls coupled with early Crusader miscues; two missed FGs and a squandered chance after recovering a fumble at the Jersey 14, put the Balls in front 17-7 nearing halftime. But **Saquon Barkley** turned everything around with a 65-yard catch-and-run on the last play of the half to reduce the Jersey lead to 17-14 and steal the momentum. **Harrison Butker**, hit from 53 yards to tie the game in the 3<sup>rd</sup> then **Marcus Maye** forced a fumble that set up a **Kirk Cousins** TD pass to Barkley for a 24-17 lead. They held on against a demoralized jersey squad.

10-24-2020 Stone Pony Shore Temp:87 Wind:0-5 None Line:PCC by 15 MVP:Cousins HFA

	1	2	3	4	Tot
2019 Peg City (3-0)	7	7	10	3	27
2019 New Jersey (1-2)	3	14	0	7	24

#### Scoring Summary

1 7:50	New Jersey	FG Boswell 36 (8-63-3:12)	0-3
1 2:26	Peg City	TD Cousins 12 pass to Allen (Butker) (10-75-5:24)	7-3
2 8:51	New Jersey	TD Stafford 6 pass to Samuel (Boswell) (10-63-6:06)	7-10
2 0:29	New Jersey	TD Stafford 4 pass to McLaurin (Boswell) (14-65-4:16)	7-17
2 0:00	Peg City	TD Cousins 65 pass to Barkley (Butker) (4-75-0:29)	14-17
3 6:22	Peg City	FG Butker 53 (11-50-6:44)	17-17
3 2:57	Peg City	TD Cousins 8 pass to Barkley (Butker) (5-39-2:28)	24-17
4 2:48	Peg City	FG Butker 32 (18-76-10:09)	27-17
4 0:42	New Jersey	TD Stafford 6 pass to Chark Jr. (Boswell) (8-75-2:06)	27-24

#### Passing

PCC: Cousins 38/25 338 Yds 3 TDs  
 NJ: Stafford 36/28 295 Yds 3 TDs

#### Rushing

PCC: Jones,A 13/64, Johnson,D 7/31, Barkley 2/9, Cousins 2/-2  
 NJ: Samuel 2/30, Montgomery 9/20, Cohen 2/0, Hill 2/-1

#### Receiving

PCC: Allen 7/103 TD, Sutton 4/54, Barkley 3/85 2 TDs, Johnson,D 3/24, Jones,A 3/20, McDonald 2/17, Aiyuk 1/16, Higbee 1/15, Boyle 1/4  
 NJ: Chark 5/62 TD, Walker 5/55, McLaurin 5/46 TD, Cohen 5/38, Samuel 4/57 TD, Hill 2/14, Gabriel 1/12, Griffin 1/11

#### Defense

PCC: Jones,C 2 PDs STF 5-Tk, Miller Sk STF FF 2-Tk  
 NJ: Landry 2 Sks STF 9-Tk, Reader Sk 2-Tk

#### Injuries

PCC:  
 NJ:

#### Misc

PCC:  
 NJ: Hughes 4 QB Hurries



30

7

After dominating play in the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter but only having 2 FGs to show for it, the Coyotes broke loose in the 2<sup>nd</sup>, scoring touchdowns on 3 straight possessions, including a back-breaking 62-yard catch-and-run on a hitch to **DaVante Parker** with 0:03 left in the half to give them a commanding 27-0 lead. The Triumph offence under **Jameis Winston** had 4 three-and-out sequences and one two-and-out, when they elected to punt on 3<sup>rd</sup> & 10 at midfield rather than run a play. Three picks of Winston in the 2<sup>nd</sup> half kept the Triumph from mounting a comeback, giving Cobb County an easy win.

10-22-2020 Wilhalla Stadium Temp:70 Wind: Line:CB by 15 MVP:Tannehill HFA:

	1	2	3	4	Tot
2019 Cobb County (3-0)	6	21	0	3	30
2019 Twin Cities (0-3)	0	0	0	7	7

#### Scoring Summary

1 9:25	Cobb County	FG McManus 35 (6-30-2:17)	3-0
1 1:37	Cobb County	FG McManus 37 (12-76-6:10)	6-0
2 12:02	Cobb County	TD Mostert 13 run (McManus) (6-67-3:33)	13-0
2 1:01	Cobb County	TD Tannehill 14 pass to Jones (McManus) (13-72-8:12)	20-0
2 0:03	Cobb County	TD Tannehill 62 pass to Parker (McManus) (3-76-0:39)	27-0
4 10:30	Cobb County	FG McManus 24 (4-5-1:46)	30-0
4 7:34	Twin Cities	TD Winston 43 pass to Golladay (Hopkins) (6-75-2:56)	30-7

#### Passing

CB: Tannehill 21/13 225 Yds 2 TDs  
 TCT: Winston 42/16 243 Yds TD 3 Int

#### Rushing

CB: Mostert 10/53 TD, Peterson 10/40, Calais 18/34, Tannehill 1/11, Parker 1/3, Bridgewater 1/-1  
 TCT: Edwards-Helaire 11/34, White 6/16, Winston 2/-1

#### Receiving

CB: Jones 5/77 TD, Parker 3/100 TD, Cook 3/28, Pittman Jr 1/14, Williams 1/6  
 TCT: White 7/41, Golladay 3/68 TD, Moore 2/102, Duvernay 2/21, Edwards-Helaire 2/11

#### Defense

CB: Martinez 2PD STF Int 9-Tk, Nelson PD Int 5-Tk, White Int 3-Tk  
 TCT: Brooks 2 STF 14-Tk

#### Injuries

CB:  
 TCT:



**Lamar Jackson** scrambled for an 8-yard TD run to cap the game's opening drive to give the Derailers a 7-0 lead, but a 37-yard interception return by **Michael Ojemudia** set up the Pats in the red zone and they tied it on a 1-yard TD run by **DeShaun Watson**. The 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter was all Derailers as Jackson hooked up with **Robert Woods** for the first of 4 TD passes on the day and **Jake Elliott** kicked 2 FGs. The Jackson-to-Woods combo went into high gear in the 2<sup>nd</sup> half, with TD connections of 52, 5 and 21 yards to give Buffalo a commanding lead. Woods finished with a record 19 catches.

	1	2	3	4	Tot
2019 Buffalo (1-2)	7	12	7	14	40
2019 Charleswood (1-2)	7	0	9	7	23

**Scoring Summary**

1 7:14 Buffalo	TD Jackson 8 run (Elliott,J) (14-94-7:40)	7-0
1 0:20 Charleswood	TD Watson 1 run (Carlson) (5-16-2:48)	7-7
2 8:53 Buffalo	TD Jackson 18 pass to Woods (no good) (13-89-6:18)	13-7
2 2:04 Buffalo	FG Elliott 23 (12-62-5:51)	16-7
2 0:05 Buffalo	FG Elliott 38 (6-20-0:26)	19-7
3 12:05 Charleswood	FG Carlson 51 (8-42-2:50)	19-10
3 5:07 Buffalo	TD Jackson 52 pass to Woods (Elliott,J) (11-91-6:46)	26-10
3 0:08 Charleswood	TD Watson 3 pass to Kamara (2 - failed) (10-75-4:59)	26-16
4 8:50 Buffalo	TD Jackson 5 pass to Woods (Elliott,J) (14-75-6:25)	33-16
4 2:49 Charleswood	TD Watson 5 pass to Smith-Schuster (Carlson) (15-93-5:55)	33-23
4 0:08 Buffalo	TD Jackson 21 pass to Woods (Elliott,J) (7-48-2:30)	40-23

**Passing**

BUF: Jackson 44/36 376 Yds 4 TDs Int  
 CHP: Watson 35/22 230 Yds 2 TDs

**Rushing**

BUF: Jackson,L 14/89 TD, Coleman 7/18, Dillon 5/15, Woods 2/12, Johnson 1/1

CHP: Kamara 8/24, Watson 1/1, Dobbins 1/0, Rudolph 2/-2

**Receiving**

BUF: Woods 19/252 4 TDs, Fant 6/33, Sanders 4/55, Tate 3/21, Dillon 3/8, Thomas 1/7

CHP: Smith-Schuster 7/104 TD, Kamara 7/25 TD, Metcalf 5/76, Meyers 2/22, DeValve 1/3

**Defense**

BUF: Dunbar Sk PD FF 6-Tk, Collins 3 STFs 4-Tk, Donald Sk 2-Tk

CHP: Moreland 20-Tk, Ojemudia Int 6-T

**Injuries**

BUF:  
 CHP: Fuller 5, Funchess 12, Queen 1

**Misc**

BUF: Woods 19 catches EFL record  
 CHP:



**Leonard Fournette** dashed off a 47-yard run on the first drive to set up a TD pass to **Darren Waller**. It set off an exchange of heavy blows. Virden responded with a TD drive, the Bombers answered in kind and Virden got the last shot of the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter with the second of 3 TD passes by **Patrick Mahomes**. The pace slowed, with Virden logging the only TD of the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter to the Bombers' 2 FGs for a 24-20 halftime lead. **Cordarell Patterson** upset the balance with a 94-yard KR for a TD to open the 2<sup>nd</sup> half and Mahomes quickly added a TD to bury the Bombers in a deep 18-point hole.

2019 Virden (3-0)	14	10	14	3	41
2019 Bruxelles (1-2)	14	6	10	3	33

**Scoring Summary**

1 12:39 Bruxelles	TD Goff 17 pass to Waller (Prater) (4-75-2:21)	0-7
1 6:57 Virden	TD Mahomes 2 pass to Ebron (Gonzalez) (11-77-5:33)	7-7
1 3:21 Bruxelles	TD Goff 11 pass to Westbrook (Prater) (8-75-3:36)	7-14
1 2:17 Virden	TD Mahomes 13 pass to Brown (Gonzalez) (2-44-0:56)	14-14
2 14:41 Bruxelles	FG Prater 53 (7-40-2:30)	14-17
2 10:22 Virden	TD Elliott 14 run (Gonzalez) (7-75-4:19)	21-17
2 3:33 Virden	FG Gonzalez 30 (9-59-5:43)	24-17
2 0:36 Bruxelles	FG Prater 23 (11-70-2:54)	24-20
3 14:48 Virden	TD Patterson 94 kick return (Gonzalez)	31-20
3 11:38 Virden	TD Mahomes 28 pass to Cooper (Gonzalez) (5-77-2:21)	38-20
3 8:34 Bruxelles	FG Prater 45 (9-48-2:59)	38-23
3 4:01 Bruxelles	TD Goff 33 pass to Godwin (Prater) (8-66-4:05)	38-30
4 10:47 Virden	FG Gonzalez 51 (9-38-3:53)	41-30
4 5:33 Bruxelles	FG Prater 40 (12-53-5:09)	41-33

**Passing**

VV: Mahomes 34/24 373 Yds 3 TDs Int  
 BRX: Goff 48/25 315 Yds TD 3 TDs

**Rushing**

VV: Elliott 21/111 TD, Guice 10, Dolegala 2/-2  
 BRX: Fournette 18/111, Johnson 3/11, Goff 2/6

**Receiving**

VV: Cooper 6/127 TD, Brown 6/106 TD, Ebron 4/38 TD, Elliott 3/48, Watson 3/29, Sanu 1/14, Guice 1/11  
 BRX: Fournette 9/65, Kelce 6/76, Waller 4/50 TD, Godwin 3/80 TD, Claypool 2/33, Westbrook 1/11 TD

**Defense**

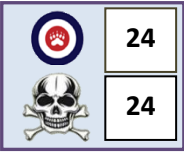
VV: Barr 2 PD 9-Tk, Bradham 9-Tk, Heyward Sk STF 2-Tk  
 BRX: Kuechly 2 STF 13-Tk, Smith,H Int 6-Tk, Dupree Sk STF FF 6-Tk

**Injuries**

VV: Herndon, Lawrence II  
 BRX: Wynn, Casey 2, Ogbah 6

**Misc**

VV: Patterson KR-5/256 TD  
 BRX: Prater 4/4 FG



24

24

**Antoine Bethea's** 1<sup>st</sup> quarter pick set up a 41-yard TD run by **Christian McCaffery** for a 10-0 Chino lead. The Cubs roared back with **Russell Wilson** throwing back-to-back TDs, the 2<sup>nd</sup> set up by a **Cory Littleton** stuff of McCaffery on 4<sup>th</sup> down near mid-field. It was back-and-forth from there. Chino regained the lead on McCaffery's second TD run. A pick by Littleton in the 4<sup>th</sup> set up the go-ahead Iowa TD, but a botched 4<sup>th</sup> down by the Cubs set up a TD pass to McCaffery for a 24-21 Chino lead. The Cubs tied it with 0:24 left. In OT, **Chase McLaughlin** missed the game-winner from 40 yards.

10-23-2020 The Big House Temp:88 Wind:0-5 None Line:CHI by 4 MVP:Lockett HFA:ON(

	1	2	3	4	Tot
2019 Iowa City (1-1-1)	0	14	0	10	24
2019 Chino (1-1-1)	3	7	7	7	24

Scoring Summary

1 3:22 Chino	FG McLaughlin 23 (16-85-7:00)	0-3
2 14:42 Chino	TD McCaffrey 41 run (McLaughlin) (2-71-0:54)	0-10
2 9:54 Iowa City	TD Wilson 9 pass to Lockett (Tucker,J) (8-75-4:48)	7-10
2 3:07 Iowa City	TD Wilson 18 pass to Beasley (Tucker,J) (4-52-1:44)	14-10
3 10:15 Chino	TD McCaffrey 6 run (McLaughlin) (11-75-4:45)	14-17
4 11:00 Iowa City	TD Wilson 12 pass to Lockett	21-17
4 3:59 Chino	TD Prescott 4 pass to McCaffrey (McLaughlin) (8-51-3:01)	21-24
4 0:24 Iowa City	FG Tucker 34 (10-59-3:32)	24-24

Passing

ICC: Wilson 37/24 258 Yds 3 TDs Int  
CHI: Prescott 48/35 379 Yds TD Int

Rushing

ICC: Mixon 12/82, Donner 6/42, Brown 1/9, Wilson 2/1  
CHI: McCaffrey 18/98 2 TDs, Prescott 6/24, Ingram II 8/21

Receiving

ICC: Lockett 6/50 2 TDs, Conner 5/52, Brown 4/60, Kirk 4/33, Beasley 3/41 TD, Dissly 2/22  
CHI: McCaffery 13/96 TD, Jones Jr 9/120, Gallup 4/67, Fitzgerald 3/31, Jones II 3/28, Ingram II 2/21, Olsen 1/16

Defense

ICC: Sonte 16-Tk, Littleton FF 2 STFs 10-Tk  
CHI: Conley 2 PD 7-Tk, Smith 2 Sks PD 5-Tk

Injuries

ICC: Ford 4, Pierre-Paul

CHI:

Misc

ICC: Wilson 2 fumbles

CHI:



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23

**Carson Wentz** was pulled for **Jacoby Brissett** after a 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter interception set up a 54-yard **Josh Lambo** FG. Two big plays – a 66-yard TD pass to **Hunter Renfrow** on a short slant and a 78-yard punt return for a TD by **Jamal Agnew** – propelled the Pilots to a 20-10 half time lead. The Assassins turned to their top star, **Michael Thomas**, to mount a comeback. Thomas caught 10 passes in the 2<sup>nd</sup> half to fuel the Vegas offence. With time winding down, trailing 23-20, Thomas caught a short cross, shook off **Marshawn Lattimore** and sprinted 47 yards for the game-winning TD.

10-24-2020 Kingdome Temp:70 Wind: Line:LV by 15 MVP:Thomas HFA:ON(3)

	1	2	3	4	Tot
2019 Las Vegas (2-1)	3	7	7	10	27
2019 Seattle (0-3)	3	17	3	0	23

Scoring Summary

1 5:26 Seattle	FG Lambo 27 (18-66-9:30)	0-3
1 1:14 Las Vegas	FG Fairbairn 35 (4-3-0:45)	3-3
2 13:05 Seattle	FG Lambo 54 (4--2-1:36)	3-6
2 6:18 Las Vegas	TD Brissett 12 pass to Thomas (Fairbairn) (11-74-6:40)	10-6
2 5:10 Seattle	TD Darnold 66 pass to Renfrow (Lambo) (2-75-1:08)	10-13
2 4:44 Seattle	TD Agnew 78 punt return (Lambo)	10-20
3 6:59 Las Vegas	TD Cook 16 run (Fairbairn) (10-88-5:29)	17-20
3 0:01 Seattle	FG Lambo 29 (13-64-4:42)	17-23
4 8:06 Las Vegas	FG Fairbairn 47 (14-58-6:49)	20-23
4 2:38 Las Vegas	TD Brissett 47 pass to Thomas (Fairbairn) (11-78-4:38)	27-23

Passing

LV: Brissett 42/272 TDs, Wentz 6/1 7 Yds Int  
SEA: Darnold 38/19 199 Yds TD Int

Rushing

LV: Cook 18/61 TD, Brissett 5/33, Lewis 1/4  
SEA: Mack 12/43, Hunt 5/8, Akers 3/5, Darnold 1/1

Receiving

LV: Thomas 14/178 2 TDs, Richardson 7/47, Graham 3/23, Smallwood 1/9, Cook 1/9, Jeudy 1/6, Lewis 1/2  
SEA: Renfrow 5/97 TD, Miller 4/43, Lamb 3/19, Hunt 3/19, Mack 2/15, Moreau 1/4, Robinson 1/2

Defense

LV: Davis Int 2 PDs 8-Tk, Barrett 3 Sks FF 3-Tk, Vea Sk FF 1-Tk  
SEA: Wright Int 2 PDs STF 10-Tk

Injuries

LV:  
SEA: Vernon 6, Ogunjobi 1

Misc

LV:  
SEA: Agnew 78-yard Punt Return for TD



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A 14-play, 80-yard drive ended with a 5-yard trap run by **Derrick Henry** for a York TD and a 10-0 lead. Cowtown got that back midway through the 2<sup>nd</sup> on a 6-yard dump off to **Le'Veon Bell** for a TD, set up by a 34-yard short slant to **Mike Evans**. Tied at 10, **Danny Amendola** turned a medium slant into a 52-yard gain to set up a 20-yard TD pass from **Tom Brady** to **Zach Ertz** to make it 17-10. Cowtown added a late FG before the half. The 2<sup>nd</sup> half was controlled by the defences. Down 20-13, a late Cowtown drive ended with a **CJ Henderson** pick of **Jimmy Garoppolo** at the York 14.



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10-22-2020 Camelot Temp:79 Wind:Calm None Line:YOR by 6 MVP:Brady HFA:ON(3)

	1	2	3	4	Tot
2019 Cowtown (1-2)	0	13	0	0	13
2019 York (2-1)	3	14	3	0	20

Scoring Summary

1 10:48 York	FG Hauschka 34 (7-59-4:09)	0-3
2 14:11 York	TD Henry 5 run (Hauschka) (14-80-7:52)	0-10
2 7:17 Cowtown	TD Garoppolo 6 pass to Bell (Slye) (4-50-1:43)	7-10
2 1:38 Cowtown	FG Slye 25 (6-69-1:38)	10-10
2 0:43 York	TD Brady 20 pass to Ertz (Hauschka) (4-75-0:55)	10-17
2 0:00 Cowtown	FG Slye 43 (4-50-0:40)	13-17
3 8:42 York	FG Hauschka 42 (8-44-4:14)	13-20

Passing

COW: Garoppolo 39/22 317 Yds TD Int, Hekker 1/0 0 Yds  
YOR: Brady 27/16 246 Yds TD

Rushing

COW: Gurley II 11/25, Bell 5/21, Garoppolo 3/11  
YOR: Henry 25/50 TD, Homer 2/12, Brady 1/6

Receiving

COW: Bell 7/60 TD, Evans 5/133, Conley 4/65, Cephus 2/30, Humphries 2/12, Carrier 1/10, Washington 1/7  
YOR: Amendola 4/79, Ertz 4/56 TD, Henry 3/25, Davi 2/53, Smith,K 2/16, Williams 1/17

Defense

COW: Watt Sk 2-Tk  
YOR: McMillan 2 Sks 4-Tk, Henderson Int PD 4-Tk

Injuries

COW:  
YOR: Sproles 9, McMillan 3

Misc



22

A 33-yard TD pass to **DeAndre Hopkins** and a 50-yard FG had the Hawks in front 10-0 after one. A 33-yard run by **Nick Chubb** sparked the Lizards, setting up a 17-yard TD from **Josh Allen** to **Curtis Samuel**. **Boston Scott** replied with a 30-yard run followed by a Derek Carr TD pass to **Alshon Jeffery**. **Randy Bullock** then made it 19-7 Brooklin. After a TD late in the 2<sup>nd</sup> to pull within 5, **Tyler Boyd** put Durham in front in the 3<sup>rd</sup> with a 27-yard catch-and-run for a TD, but Bullock hit a 51-yard FG to give Brooklin back the lead. On Durham's last chance, **Ed Piniero** hit from 34 yards for the win.



24

10-22-2020 Jurassic Park Temp:91 Wind:Calm None Line:BRH by 15 MVP:Allen HFA:ON

	1	2	3	4	Tot
2019 Brooklin (2-1)	10	9	0	3	22
2019 Durham (2-1)	0	14	7	3	24

Scoring Summary

1 9:45 Brooklin	TD Carr 33 pass to Hopkins (Bullock) (9-75-5:15)	7-0
1 0:42 Brooklin	FG Bullock 50 (6-31-2:19)	10-0
2 13:16 Durham	TD Allen 17 pass to Samuel (Pineiro) (4-75-2:26)	10-7
2 10:23 Brooklin	TD Carr 23 pass to Jeffery (no good) (6-75-2:53)	16-7
2 3:50 Brooklin	FG Bullock 22 (11-61-6:01)	19-7
2 1:01 Durham	TD Allen 4 pass to Mattison (Pineiro) (10-75-2:49)	19-14
3 3:24 Durham	TD Allen 27 pass to Boyd (Pineiro) (9-65-5:49)	19-21
4 4:49 Brooklin	FG Bullock 51 (13-41-5:12)	22-21
4 1:02 Durham	FG Pineiro 34 (9-59-3:42)	22-24

Passing

BRH: Carr 39/25 271 Yds 2 TDs Int  
DTL: Allen 32/24 303 Yds 3 TDs

Rushing

BRH: Scott 1/30, Hyde 6/10, Breida 6/1, Smith 1/0  
DTL: Chubb 25/146, Allen 5/34, Mattison 2/7, Gibson 2/4, Bowden Jr 1/2

Receiving

BRH: Hopkins 8/107 TD, Cobb 3/34, Engram 3/26, Breida 3/20, Jeffery 2/31 TD, Scott 2/18, Jefferson 2/13, Perriman 1/13, Fells 1/9  
DTL: Kupp 9/146, Hooper 6/48, Boyd 4/59 TD, Samuel 3/44 TD, Mattison 2/6 TD

Defense



BRH: Apple 14-Tk, Ferrell PD 3 STFs 6-Tk  
DTL: Warner 2 STFs 6-Tk, Simmons Int 2 PDs 2-Tk

Injuries

BRH: Harrison 2, Simmons 2  
DTL:

Misc

BRH:  
DTL: 11 penalties

The North Stars scored TDs on their first 3 possessions. The third TD was aided by a botched 4<sup>th</sup> down convert attempt by the Swordfish at their own 37-yard line, giving Budapest a 20-0 lead after just 17 minutes of play. Sebastian's offence replied with a long drive to the Budapest 7 but settled for a **Dan Bailey** 25-yard FG. Mid-way through the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter, **Aaron Rodgers** connected with **Stephon Diggs** on a 50-yard bomb for Diggs' second TD of the game to make it 27-3 Budapest. The smothering Stars' defence took care of the rest, holding the Sebastian offence to just 3 FGs on the day.

10-21-2020 Ferenc-Liszt Intl Temp:-2 Wind: None Line:BUD by 8 MVP:Rodgers HFA

	1	2	3	4	Tot
2019 Sebastian (1-2)	0	3	3	3	9
2019 Budapest (3-0)	13	14	3	0	30

Scoring Summary

1 8:07 Budapest	TD Rodgers 6 pass to Kittle (Myers,J) (10-65-6:46)	0-7
1 1:38 Budapest	TD Howard 4 run (no good) (10-70-4:53)	0-13
2 13:21 Budapest	TD Rodgers 26 pass to Diggs (Myers,J) (4-42-1:32)	0-20
2 5:48 Sebastian	FG Bailey 25 (13-50-7:20)	3-20
2 2:04 Budapest	TD Rodgers 50 pass to Diggs (Myers,J) (1-50-0:16)	3-27
3 8:59 Sebastian	FG Bailey 37 (11-50-5:50)	6-27
3 4:34 Budapest	FG Myers 33 (9-58-4:17)	6-30
4 6:19 Sebastian	FG Bailey 45 (8-23-3:12)	9-30

Passing

SS: Brees 43/21 157 Yds, Haskins 1/1 3 Yds  
 BUD: Rodgers 27/17 246 Yds 3 TDs

Rushing

SS: Taylor 14/27, Williams 3/11, McFarladn 1/9, Brrees 2/8, Beckham Jr 1/0, Edmunds 1/-3  
 BUD: Howard 15/80 TD, Johnson 8/18, Line 1/14, Williams 2/13, Rodgers 1/1

Receiving

SS: Tate 4/42, Reagor 4/29, Beckham Jr 3/30, Witten 3/25, Shenault Jr 3/20, Taylor 2/9, Williams 2/1, Edmonds 1/4  
 BUD: Kittle 7/75 TD, Diggs 3/89 2 TDs, Hollister 2/34, Johnson 2/16, Jefferson 1/19, Williams 1/10, Howard 1/3

Defense

SS: Baker STF 6-Tk

BUD: Harris Sk PD 6-Tk, Jordan Sk STF 4-Tk

Injuries

SS: Lewis OUT  
 BUD:




**De'Andre Swift** busted a 63-yard run to the Scarborough 2, where **Miles Sanders** drove it home to give the Spartans a 7- lead. A botched snap on a chip shot FG attempt by Pickering gave the Eagles the momentum and they drove 93 yards to regain the lead on a 36-yard TD pass from **Joe Burrow** to **Bryan Edwards**. The Spartans tied it at 10 then the defences battled it out for a quarter until the Spartans surrendered a FG early in the 4<sup>th</sup>. On the next series, **Cameron Dantzler** picked off **Philip Rivers** to set up a 17-yard TD pass to **Greg Ward** and the Blue Eagles hung on for the win.

10-24-2020 The Wolverine's Den Temp:76 Wind:0-5 None Line:SBE by 14 MVP:Burrow

	1	2	3	4	Tot
2019 Pickering (0-3)	7	3	0	7	17
2019 Scarborough (2-1)	3	7	0	13	23

Scoring Summary

1 3:29 Scarborough	FG Crosby 33 (11-70-7:15)	0-3
1 0:43 Pickering	TD Sanders 2 run (Zuerlein) (4-85-2:42)	7-3
2 3:44 Scarborough	TD Burrow 36 pass to Edwards (Crosby) (11-93-5:41)	7-10
2 0:27 Pickering	FG Zuerlein 40 (11-53-3:11)	10-10
4 11:23 Scarborough	FG Crosby 29 (15-70-7:21)	10-13
4 6:06 Scarborough	TD Burrow 17 pass to Ward (Crosby) (8-36-3:42)	10-20
4 3:41 Pickering	TD Rivers 8 pass to Williams (Zuerlein) (11-75-2:25)	17-20
4 1:29 Scarborough	FG Crosby 39 (4-5-0:20)	17-23

Passing

PIC: Rivers 37/22 264 Yds TD Int, Hurts 2/1 12 Yds, Minshew II 1/1 6 Yds  
 SBE: Burrow 30/21 220 Yds 2 TDs

Rushing

PIC: Swift 5/84, Sanders 7/15 TD, Hurts 2/3, Shepard 1/0, Jones 1/-5  
 SBE: Carson 23/100, Freeman 10/14, Burrow 3/4

Receiving

PIC: Brown 6/69, Sanders 5/72, Ridley 5/56, Williams 4/33 TD, Shepard 3/38, Swift 1/14  
 SBE: Ward 5/50 TD, Freeman 4/34, Eifert 3/28, Carson 3/13, Edwards 2/47 TD, Crowder 2/37, Robinson II 2/11

Defense

PIC: Schobert 14-Tk, Wolfe Sk STF 4-Tk  
 SBE: Lawson Sk PD 2 STFs 7-Tk, Hightower Sk 5-Tk, Dantzler Int 2 PDs 2-Tk, Suh Sk PD, 2-Tk

Injuries

PIC:  
 SBE: Ryan

Misc

PIC: Swift 63-yd run

SBE: |



17



20

Heavy rain made ball control a factor. A forced fumble set up a **Kyler Murray**-to-**Mark Andrews** TD pass to give Erieau a quick 7-0 lead. **Julian Edelman** made up for that fumble with a nice curl for a game-tying 8-yard TD catch. A fumble by **LeSean McCoy** was returned 20 yards to set up a 9-yard TD pass to **Davante Adams** two plays later. After interceptions by both QBs, the Caddies turned good field position into a 6-yard TD pass to Andrews to go ahead 17-14 at halftime. A conservative 2<sup>nd</sup> half ended with the Mustangs booting 2 FGs, the last as time expired, to squeak out a win.

10-23-2020 Magna Park Temp:59 Wind:5-15 Heavy Rain Line:ERI by 15 MVP:Ryan HFA:ON(4)

	1	2	3	4	Tot
2019 Erieau (1-2)	10	7	0	0	17
2019 Aurora (2-1)	7	7	0	6	20

#### Scoring Summary

1 11:34	Erieau	TD Murray 15 pass to Andrews (Seibert) (3-36-1:38)	7-0
1 6:30	Aurora	TD Ryan 8 pass to Edelman (Lutz) (14-75-5:04)	7-7
1 1:23	Erieau	FG Seibert 41 (9-52-5:01)	10-7
2 13:23	Aurora	TD Ryan 9 pass to Adams (Lutz) (2-8-0:45)	10-14
2 0:31	Erieau	TD Murray 6 pass to Andrews (Seibert) (10-55-4:24)	17-14
4 11:48	Aurora	FG Lutz 45 (14-53-7:48)	17-17
4 0:00	Aurora	FG Lutz 43 (13-40-4:33)	17-20

#### Passing

ERI: Murray 29/19 196 Yds 2 TDs Int  
 AUR: Ryan 37/22 179 Yds 2 TDs Int

#### Rushing

ERI: Murray 8/36, Moss 5/24, Ruggs II 1/16, Gore 1/2, McCoy 4/0, Hines 2/-3  
 AUR: Singletary 23/86, Perine 2/13, Drake 3/13, Samuels 3/3, Ryan 1/0

#### Receiving

ERI: Andrews 4/39 2 TDs, Hines 4/29, Henry 3/29, Gordon 3/27, Ruggs II 2/48, Gore 1/11, Higgins 1/0, McCoy 1/3  
 AUR: Edelman 8/71 TD, Adams 6/70 TD, Goedert 4/27, Washington 1/7, Samuels 1/3, Gesicki 1/2, Drake 1/-1

#### Defense

ERI: Diggs 2 PD FF 12-Tk, Murray 11-Tk, Hurst Sk 3-Tk  
 AUR: Kendrick PD 10-Tk, Williams,K Int PD FF 6-Tk,

#### Injuries

ERI: Poole 2  
 AUR: Drake 1

#### Misc

ERI: Bosa 4 Hurries  
 AUR:



14



16

After being shutout in Week 2, the Gladiators scored first, with **Tua Tagovailoa** and **Jarvis Landry** hooking up for passes of 75 yards and 4 yards, the latter for the score, to take a 7-0 lead. The Irish tied it just before half time, converting a 4<sup>th</sup> & 1 at the Glads' 4-yard line then running it in from 1-yard with **Latavius Murray**. In the 2<sup>nd</sup> half it was death-by-field goal for East Elmhurst as Glads' kicker **Tyler Bass** hit on three straight kicks to make it 16-7 for Georgia. **Baker Mayfield** relieved **Ryan Fitzpatrick** and threw a TD pass to **Joshua Kelley** but that was all for the Irish as the Glads win their first game.

10-20-2020 Georgia Stadium Temp:89 Wind:Calm None Line:EE by 15 MVP:Tagovailoa HFA:0

	1	2	3	4	Tot
2019 East Elmhurst (1-2)	0	7	0	7	14
2019 Georgia (1-2)	7	0	3	6	16

#### Scoring Summary

1 4:08	Georgia	TD Tagovailoa 4 pass to Landry (Bass) (3-78-1:35)	0-7
2 0:10	East Elmhurst	TD Murray 1 run (Blankenshi) (14-73-4:04)	7-7
3 1:09	Georgia	FG Bass 30 (13-61-6:15)	7-10
4 14:51	Georgia	FG Bass 26 (4-2-0:57)	7-13
4 8:01	Georgia	FG Bass 28 (9-38-5:35)	7-16
4 3:27	East Elmhurst	TD Mayfield 11 pass to Kelley (Blankenshi) (10-79-4:26)	14-16

#### Passing

EE: Fitzpatrick 26/13 119 Yds 3 Mayfield 10/6 66 Yds TD

GEO: Tagovailoa 20/12 179 Yds TD

#### Rushing

EE: Kelley 9/46, Hill 6/23, Murray 4/11 TD, Fitzpatrick 3/3  
 GEO: Jacobs 19/73, Robinson 11/28, Michel 4/8, Tagovailoa 2/2

#### Receiving

EE: Agholor 5/61, Thielen 4/49, Murray 2/21, Hurns 2/16, Davis 2/15, Kelley 2/12 TD, Hill,T 1/9 Hill,J 1/2  
 GEO: Fuller V 3/53, Robinson 3/13, Landry 2/79 TD, Akins 2/23, Jacobs 1/6, Johnson 1/5

#### Defense

EE: Charlton STF 9-Tk, Graham Sk STF 3-Tk  
 GEO: Edmunds 2 STFs FF 7-Tk, Beasley Jr 2 Sks 3-Tk

#### Injuries

EE: None  
 GEO: Jackson, Johnson III 10



# STATS



## WEEK THREE

# STANDINGS & STATS

### EFL 2020 Official Standings

East	W	L	T	Pct	Stk	Pts	Ave	Opp	Ave	Diff	Home	Div	Conf
Cobb County	3	0	0	1.000	W3	106	35.3	42	14.0	21.3	1 0 0	2 0 0	3 0 0
New Jersey	1	2	0	.333	L1	86	28.7	103	34.3	-5.7	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 2 0
Bruxelles	1	2	0	.333	L2	95	31.7	94	31.3	0.3	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 2 0
Buffalo	1	2	0	.333	W1	66	22.0	85	28.3	-6.3	0 1 0	0 2 0	1 2 0
Central	W	L	T	Pct	Stk	Pts	Ave	Opp	Ave	Diff	Home	Div	Conf
Viriden	3	0	0	1.000	W3	123	41.0	69	23.0	18.0	1 0 0	1 0 0	3 0 0
Peg City	3	0	0	1.000	W3	110	36.7	73	24.3	12.3	2 0 0	1 0 0	3 0 0
Charleswood	1	2	0	.333	L1	80	26.7	107	35.7	-9.0	0 2 0	0 1 0	1 2 0
Twin Cities	0	3	0	.000	L3	55	18.3	102	34.0	-15.7	0 1 0	0 1 0	0 3 0
West	W	L	T	Pct	Stk	Pts	Ave	Opp	Ave	Diff	Home	Div	Conf
Las Vegas	2	1	0	.667	W2	71	23.7	64	21.3	2.3	1 0 0	1 1 0	2 1 0
Chino	1	1	1	.500		66	22.0	79	26.3	-4.3	1 0 1	1 0 1	1 1 1
Iowa City	1	1	1	.500		51	17.0	75	25.0	-8.0	1 0 0	1 0 1	1 1 1
Seattle	0	3	0	.000	L3	59	19.7	75	25.0	-5.3	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 3 0
North	W	L	T	Pct	Stk	Pts	Ave	Opp	Ave	Diff	Home	Div	Conf
Durham	2	1	0	.667	W1	64	21.3	69	23.0	-1.7	1 0 0	1 1 0	2 1 0
Scarborough	2	1	0	.667	W1	60	20.0	51	17.0	3.0	1 0 0	1 1 0	2 1 0
Sebastian	1	2	0	.333	L1	53	17.7	76	25.3	-7.7	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 2 0
Cowtown	1	2	0	.333	L1	50	16.7	51	17.0	-0.3	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 2 0
Coastal	W	L	T	Pct	Stk	Pts	Ave	Opp	Ave	Diff	Home	Div	Conf
Budapest	3	0	0	1.000	W3	84	28.0	26	8.7	19.3	1 0 0	1 0 0	3 0 0
Brooklin	2	1	0	.667	L1	75	25.0	69	23.0	2.0	2 0 0	1 0 0	2 1 0
York	2	1	0	.667	W2	61	20.3	39	13.0	7.3	2 0 0	0 1 0	2 1 0
Pickering	0	3	0	.000	L3	44	14.7	92	30.7	-16.0	0 1 0	0 1 0	0 3 0
South	W	L	T	Pct	Stk	Pts	Ave	Opp	Ave	Diff	Home	Div	Conf
Aurora	2	1	0	.667	W1	55	18.3	66	22.0	-3.7	1 1 0	2 0 0	2 1 0
Erieau	1	2	0	.333	L2	60	20.0	66	22.0	-2.0	1 0 0	1 1 0	1 2 0
Georgia	1	2	0	.333	W1	35	11.7	53	17.7	-6.0	1 0 0	1 1 0	1 2 0
East Elmhurst	1	2	0	.333	L1	78	26.0	61	20.3	5.7	1 1 0	0 2 0	1 2 0



EFL 2020 Official Passing Leaders

		Att	Cmp	C%	Yards	In	I%	Lg	TD	TD%	Rate
1	Tannehill	CB	65	47	72.3	761	2	3.1	62	10	137.9
2	Mahomes	VV	92	66	71.7	905	1	1.1	31	11	137.9
3	Cousins	PCC	127	89	70.1	1116	1	0.8	71	11	122.7
4	Stafford	NJ	125	87	69.6	1036	0	0.0	49	9	118.6
5	Mayfield	EE	23	14	60.9	172	0	0.0	32	2	113.0
6	Rodgers,A	BUD	82	49	59.8	522	0	0.0	50	7	106.9
7	Jackson,L	BUF	103	70	68.0	701	2	1.9	52	7	101.6
8	Prescott	CHI	117	77	65.8	891	2	1.7	45	6	98.6
9	Carr,D	BRH	112	79	70.5	806	2	1.8	39	5	98.3
10	Brissett	LV	42	27	64.3	267	0	0.0	47	2	98.0
11	Burrow	SBE	92	57	62.0	556	0	0.0	36	5	97.0
12	Watson,D	CHP	120	81	67.5	941	4	3.3	49	7	96.6
13	Garoppolo	COW	104	65	62.5	750	1	1.0	64	5	96.2
14	Wilson,R	ICC	75	50	66.7	564	2	2.7	30	4	95.6
15	Allen,J	DTL	95	56	58.9	638	0	0.0	36	4	93.2
16	Brees	SS	97	60	61.9	691	2	2.1	61	5	91.9
17	Fitzpatr,R	EE	68	38	55.9	425	0	0.0	52	3	89.4
18	Murray,K	ERI	81	52	64.2	596	2	2.5	37	3	88.3
19	Tagovailoa	GEO	70	43	61.4	548	2	2.9	75	3	88.3
20	Goff	BRX	135	67	49.6	890	2	1.5	65	9	87.0
21	Rivers	PIC	70	43	61.4	566	2	2.9	44	2	84.6
22	Brady	YOR	82	51	62.2	631	3	3.7	52	3	82.9
23	Ryan,M	AUR	99	61	61.6	668	5	5.1	35	6	80.7
24	Minshew II	PIC	27	12	44.4	158	0	0.0	33	1	75.8
25	Darnold	SEA	101	58	57.4	554	3	3.0	66	4	73.6

EFL 2020 Official Kick Return Leaders

EFL 2020 Official Punt Return Leaders

		No	Yds	Ave	Lg	TD			No	Fc	Yds	Ave	Lg	TD		
1	Patterson	VV	6	271	45.2	94	1	1	Agnew	SEA	4	2	148	37.0	78	1
2	Spencer,D	NJ	4	138	34.5	57	0	2	Ervin	VV	5	2	85	17.0	41	0
3	Carter,D	BUF	12	323	26.9	52	0	3	Reagor	SS	4	2	62	15.5	36	0
4	Raymond	EE	6	160	26.7	33	0	4	Berrios	AUR	10	1	101	10.1	19	0
5	Ballentine	SS	7	178	25.4	37	0	5	Roberts,A	BRX	7	3	66	9.4	13	0
6	Latimer	DTL	5	117	23.4	37	0	6	Johnson,D	GEO	9	3	80	8.9	16	0
7	Ruggs III	ERI	6	132	22.0	39	0	7	Harris,D	COW	8	1	71	8.9	17	0
8	Hilliard	PCC	5	109	21.8	35	0	8	Carter,D	BUF	6	2	53	8.8	13	0
9	Sanders,M	PIC	4	86	21.5	26	0	9	Thomas,D	SBE	12	0	99	8.3	17	0
10	James Jr.	GEO	7	144	20.6	29	0	10	Cooper,P	BUD	4	5	33	8.3	10	0
11	Perine	AUR	4	79	19.8	31	0	11	Cohen	NJ	5	1	38	7.6	12	0
12	Richard	CHP	8	148	18.5	30	0	12	Rogers,C	CHI	7	2	51	7.3	15	0
13	Grant,J	CHI	5	90	18.0	23	0	13	Proche II	DTL	7	1	47	6.7	11	0
14	Harris,D	COW	1	42	42.0	42	0	14	Hardman	LV	8	3	53	6.6	11	0
15	Roberts,A	BRX	3	101	33.7	46	0	15	Logan,T	PCC	9	5	56	6.2	13	0
16	Barner	BRH	1	32	32.0	32	0	16	Quinn,T	EE	8	3	42	5.3	11	0
17	Booker	BUF	3	87	29.0	34	0	17	Barner	BRH	4	1	16	4.0	15	0
18	Cohen	NJ	1	28	28.0	28	0	18	Natson	CB	10	2	39	3.9	14	0
19	Scott,B	BRH	1	28	28.0	28	0	19	Amendola	YOR	3	2	3	1.0	4	0
20	Cooper,P	BUD	3	80	26.7	33	0	20	Moore,D	TCT	1	8	6	6.0	6	0
21	Davis,T	SBE	3	69	23.0	29	0	21	Switzer	PIC	1	7	6	6.0	6	0
22	Pascal	LV	1	23	23.0	23	0	22	Lockett	ICC	1	2	6	6.0	6	0
23	Hardman	LV	3	69	23.0	28	0	23	Richard	CHP	2	1	11	5.5	7	0
24	Agnew	SEA	2	45	22.5	31	0	24	Peppers	ERI	1	3	0	0.0	0	0
25	Lockett	ICC	2	42	21.0	25	0	25	King II	ERI	1	0	-7	-7.0	0	0

## EFL 2020 Official Rushing Leaders

			Att	Yds	Ave	Lg	TD
1	Elliott,E	VV	69	409	5.9	30	2
2	Fournette	BRX	65	404	6.2	56	2
3	Chubb,N	DTL	73	369	5.1	33	2
4	Jackson,L	BUF	54	359	6.6	25	1
5	Carson,C	SBE	66	314	4.8	18	1
6	Howard,J	BUD	51	270	5.3	19	2
7	Jones,A	PCC	38	238	6.3	32	1
8	Henry,D	YOR	71	235	3.3	15	3
9	Singletary	AUR	51	227	4.5	17	0
10	Jacobs,J	GEO	55	204	3.7	14	0
11	Hyde,C	BRH	45	203	4.5	24	3
12	Mixon	ICC	42	203	4.8	17	2
13	McCaffrey	CHI	42	196	4.7	41	3
14	Cook,D	LV	58	190	3.3	19	3
15	Peterson,A	CB	38	174	4.6	45	1
16	Williams,J	BUD	23	168	7.3	21	1
17	Mostert	CB	26	167	6.4	34	2
18	Murray,L	EE	33	156	4.7	32	1
19	Edwards-He	TCT	41	139	3.4	18	4
20	Mack,M	SEA	37	135	3.6	24	0
21	Robinson,J	GEO	32	129	4.0	27	0
22	Murray,K	ERI	23	128	5.6	15	1
23	Kamara	CHP	44	118	2.7	12	1
24	Swift	PIC	18	115	6.4	63	0
25	Ingram II	CHI	29	113	3.9	29	0
26	Montgomery	NJ	35	104	3.0	33	1
27	Allen,J	DTL	21	103	4.9	11	1
28	Taylor,J	SS	33	95	2.9	15	0
29	Gurley II	COW	34	93	2.7	12	1
30	Hill,J	EE	19	82	4.3	14	1

## EFL 2020 Official Receiving Leaders

			No	Yds	Ave	Lg	TD
1	Thomas,M	LV	32	349	10.9	47	3
2	McCaffrey	CHI	30	250	8.3	27	3
3	Woods,R	BUF	29	366	12.6	52	5
4	Smith-Schu	CHP	22	299	13.6	36	3
5	Hopkins,D	BRH	22	314	14.3	39	2
6	Chark Jr.	NJ	20	310	15.5	49	4
7	Fournette	BRX	20	181	9.1	26	1
8	Brown,J	VV	20	318	15.9	29	4
9	Kittle	BUD	19	200	10.5	16	3
10	Bell,L	COW	19	134	7.1	22	2
11	Metcalf	CHP	19	294	15.5	35	0
12	Kupp	DTL	19	255	13.4	36	0
13	Allen,K	PCC	18	212	11.8	21	3
14	Kamara	CHP	18	155	8.6	49	1
15	Cohen	NJ	18	116	6.4	15	0
16	Andrews,M	ERI	18	188	10.4	16	3
17	White,J	TCT	17	133	7.8	18	0
18	Cooper,A	VV	17	291	17.1	31	5
19	Boyd	DTL	17	192	11.3	27	1
20	Edelman	AUR	17	153	9.0	14	3
21	McLaurin	NJ	17	231	13.6	39	2
22	Sanders,E	BUF	16	185	11.6	28	1
23	Renfrow	SEA	16	197	12.3	66	2
24	Evans,M	COW	15	288	19.2	64	2
25	Richardson	LV	15	123	8.2	14	0
26	Barkley,S	PCC	15	207	13.8	65	2
27	Jones Jr.	CHI	15	186	12.4	24	1
28	Adams,D	AUR	15	212	14.1	33	2
29	Freeman,D	SBE	15	86	5.7	13	0
30	Engram,E	BRH	14	113	8.1	12	1



# AROUND THE



## With Spats McChad

NEW YORK – Through three weeks the EFL has managed the COVID-19 pandemic very effectively, which is miraculous given all of the variables involved in travel and maintaining the discipline of moving team “bubbles.” The Gladiators’ **Maurkice Pouncey** is the most high-profile player who has tested positive for COVID-19. He remains on the restricted list. On the list with him, on a voluntary basis, is **Antonio Brown** of the Triumph. He declared this week via his usual outlet, Twitter, that he has no immediate plans to recover from the virus. Other than those two, a handful of fringe players and team employees scattered around the league have tested positive, all of whom, through contact tracing, pose no threat to healthy and safety of the players.

The EFL sent out a memo reminding teams not to become complacent in view of the league’s measures working so far. “*Vigilance remains the key to prevention,*” the memo states before informing teams that the league is monitoring developments in Cowtown, Sebastian and Las Vegas, where fans in relatively large numbers are permitted to attend games.

Medical authorities in the Ontario *Historical Zone* of Baxter County, where Cowtown is located, reported no new cases of COVID-19 in the county for the fourth straight week. However, a reported outbreak of ‘*consumption,*’ centered in Cowtown, has forced the town Medical Officer, **Dr. Edison Jacobs**, to order the mobilization of the Women’s Auxiliary to increase production of homemade chicken noodle soup, a traditional local prescriptive remedy for ‘*Grippe*’ and ‘*Consumption.*’ Sadly, the oldest woman in Cowtown, **Eleanor Crabb**, was reported as having succumbed to a “bout of the grippe” after attending the home opener at Tillman Field as the guest of honour of Corn King owner, **Farmer Brown**. Eleanor was 113 years old.

In Florida, where the number of cases in the state is sky-rocketing and where slightly under 13,000 fans attended the Fish Tank in Week Two to watch the Swordfish host **Joe Burrow** and the Blue Eagles, the Swordfish players, coaches and staff have remained unaffected thus far. Zero positive tests were reported on the Saturday before their scheduled Week Three game against Budapest. Despite this, Swordfish owner and coach **Russ Lemmon** expressed grave concern about his players contracting COVID-19 during their trip to Hungary, likening Budapest to something like a third world country, where the “the locals don’t wash their hands or follow basic hygienic principles,” as he put it.

As a result, Lemmon made special and costly arrangements to charter a team flight out of Orlando, scheduled to arrive in Budapest at 4:30 pm local time on October 25<sup>th</sup>, exactly 90 minutes prior to the scheduled 6:00 pm kickoff (CET). This would theoretically enable the Swordfish to debark the plane, go directly to the stadium (which is conveniently located at Ferenc-Liszt International Airport), play their game and get back on a flight home immediately following the game. This arrangement meant the Swordfish players had to board the plane to Budapest at 10:30 pm on Saturday, October 24<sup>th</sup> and fly through the night in football pads. There are many problems with a plan like this. The main one was its total disregard for the COVID-19 protocols meticulously pre-arranged by the EFL, the North Stars and the Hungarian Government to ensure the safety of locals as well as players.

The Swordfish arrived slightly behind schedule, unannounced, without test certificates from the United States and without the requisite quarantine waivers from the Hungarian government. The result was an interminable delay at Customs while the paperwork was sorted out and the players, coaches and staff underwent exigency testing for COVID-19. The game was postponed several hours and when **Russ Lemmon** demanded a US Embassy representative be present at testing, the authorities threatened to cancel the game entirely.

The league became involved. When forfeiture of draft picks and an extremely hefty fine were put on the table, Lemmon relented. But the damage had been done as far as the local authorities were concerned. From that point on they ensured that the Swordfish players were never comfortable, calling them in at random during the game for supplementary COVID-19 testing – “simply a verification of results,” they explained. But everyone knew what was really going on. The game, as can be imagined, was a one-sided affair; but more on that later.

Fortunately, nobody on the Swordfish tested positive. The game was played, albeit late. Nevertheless, this constituted another COVID-related incident, the third in three weeks. It seems like a matter of *when*, not *if*, the season needs to be extended or games cancelled in order to finish the season.

### **THE WIN THAT NOBODY WANTED**

It was a game that many football fans without an emotional stake in the outcome must have enjoyed for its frequent lead changes and sudden twists and turns; but fans of the Cubs and the Convicts are equally dissatisfied with the 24-24 final result. The unhappy tie in Week Three at the Big House pushes back the day of reckoning between these West Division rivals to, at the latest, Week 15 at Joe

Ferguson Stadium. Of course, one of these bitter protagonists in the annual battle to win the West could surge, or fall off a cliff over the ensuing 11 weeks, making their second contest mute. More likely they will both continue to push, pull and claw their way to remain within striking distance of each other up until the end. These teams truly despise one another, as evidenced by the refusal of their coaches to address each other by name or show any kind of mutual respect.

“The Convicts have been coached to head hunt,” **Deron Redding** stated flatly to the media in the lead up to this game, prompting a firestorm of protest from the Chino side and eventually, a forced retraction from Redding after the league told him to produce proof or apologize.

“Everyone in the coaching community understands that the refs put away their flags when **Russell Wilson** is rallying the Cubs from behind late in a game,” **Rob Nazar** pronounced matter-of-factly when asked about the threat Wilson poses. “Whether it is uncalled holding or offensive pass interference, the path is cleared for him to set up these so-called miracles. For us coaches, it has become a sick joke, because we know that the other coach gets bailed out a lot by that.”

This comment brought an immediate \$100,000 fine from the league and a ‘clarify-or-be-suspended’ ultimatum from ‘The Committee.’ Nazar “*clarified*” his comments shortly afterwards:

“My previous comments were not intended to reflect badly on officials,” he stated with bald-faced falsity. “The officials have a difficult job to do and this is especially true when the game is moving quickly in the final two minutes. I support EFL referees and know they call the game according to the rules to the best of their ability.”

Incidentally, the Convicts were flagged 10 times in the game to 7 times for the Cubs. Nothing egregious going either way, however. The post-game controversy revolved around the little things Chino failed to do that could have turned the outcome in the Convicts' favour. Twice in the game – once to end the first half and the other to end the game in overtime – **Dak Prescott** failed to get out-of-bounds on scrambles and was unable to get his team set up for field goals. The last one – in overtime – has Chino fans incensed. For the sake of a few extra yards, Prescott slid down at the Cubs' 19 with 0:13 left and no timeouts, rather than charge for the sideline near the 25-yard line. Time ran out as the Convicts frantically attempted to line up to spike the ball.

**Chase McLaughlin** is also the target of wrath in Orange County after a low kick was blocked by **Jason Pierre-Paul** and the potential game-winner from 40 yards in OT was shanked wide left. I don't know if it's the new skull & crossbones helmets, COVID restrictions, intense hatred of the Cub, or a combination of all three, but media and fans in Chino appear to be in a nasty mood these days and look at this game as a loss, not a tie.

“They blew their chance to send a message to the Cubs and they failed to defend our 'house,’” was the unvarnished accusation of **Quentin San Pedro** of the *Chino Champion*. “Nothing less than the team's honour is at stake now against Pickering next week.”

“We messed up our chances,” a frustrated **Rob Nazar** explained after the game. “Dak has to be smarter and, frankly, Chase has to kick better. I mean, that's all we ask him to do – kick the friggin’ ball! This was not a very impressive Cubs team today and we let them escape with a tie they didn't deserve. That's the price we pay for not doing the little things!”

Cubs coach, **Deron Redding**, arms crossed for much of the game, his unusually sour features visible through the plexiglass shield he wore to ward off the virus, was not particularly encouraging to his players on the sideline. Nor was he expansive or positive in his post-game comments.

“We have to play better than we did,” he stated bluntly. “There are no excuses for giving up over 500 yards to any team, especially Chino. But it shows how much spirit this team has, and how little the other team has, that they could not put us away completely. I look forward to a better outcome the next time we face each other.”

So, the gauntlet has been dropped by both coaches, not that it needed to be dropped again. When it comes to the Cubs versus the Convicts, the gauntlet can be considered permanently dropped.

### **INTRODUCING THE CADILLAC, 2020 MODEL**

They're still losing, but they are looking better doing it. Once permanently stuck in the ditch, the Cadillac are staying on the road and appear to be heading in the right direction. They put a scare into the Mustangs this week. Now all they need is that winning formula.

It was a “near run thing” for the Mustangs that their confidence could do without. They did manage to prevail, 20-17, on a 43-yard **Wil Lutz** field goal as time expired, a sign of a winner. But after getting chloroformed and duct-taped by Budapest last week, the experience of crossing fingers for Lutz to pull out the win against the Cadillac was anything but comfortable for a team that had planned to make a statement comeback against one of the South Division's traditional doormats.

The high-flying Aurora air attack was effectively grounded by a combination of heavy rain, which made the ball slippery, and the rabid play of Erieau's rookie cornerback **Trevon Diggs**, who found himself squaring off against **Julian Edelman** after **Brian Poole** went down to injury on the game's third play from scrimmage. Diggs made his presence felt on his first snap, forcing a fumble by Edelman and recovering it himself to set up a quick Cadillac score. Just as impressive as Diggs' first play aggression was the poised and un-Erieau-like manner in which **Kyler Murray** took advantage of the turnover. He sucked in the Aurora pass rush with a veteran's savvy to set up a 21-yard screen to **Nyheim Hines** on the first play and finished the drive two plays later with a laser beam slant to **Mark Andrews** for a 15-yard TD pass. This quick, targeted strike caught the Mustangs' attention. Notice had been served.

As they always do when caught off-guard, the Aurora offence reflexively turned to the pass. But due to the weather the throws were all short to medium – no long bombs or deep slants to **Davante Adams**. The result was a long, methodical drive that paid off with a nice curl by Edelman at the goal line for an 8-yard TD catch.

The Cadillac of not-so-long ago would have certainly crumpled into a heap at that point. But not this group. They overcame a fumble by **Henry Ruggs II** and drove 52 yards for an **Austin Siebert** field goal to re-take the lead, 10-7.

The Mustangs responded with their defence this time. **David Onyemata** knocked the ball out of the arms of **LeSean McCoy** and **Timmy Jernigan** returned it 20 yards to the Erieau 8-yard line. After **Devin Singletary** was stuffed for a loss, **Matt Ryan** found Adams open on a short cross for a 9-yard TD pass and a 14-10 Aurora lead.

If the Cadillac of not-so-long ago would have crumpled after having an early lead erased, that version of the Cadillac certainly would have collapsed into the fetal position after falling behind. But not this group. After a slapstick interlude involving back-to-back interceptions on mis-thrown wobbly balls on both sides, first by Murray then by Ryan, Erieau took over at their own 45 with less than five minutes left in the half.

They put together a determined drive, overcoming a holding penalty and converting nicely on 3rd and 10 from the Mustangs' 36. On 3rd & 3 at Aurora's 6, with 0:31 left, Murray found Andrews for their second TD connection of the day to give the Caddies a 17-14 lead at halftime.

The cognitive dissonance in the mainstream media at half time was hilarious to watch. "Rain" had Erieau in front, not the efforts of



Members of the Cowtown women's Auxliary boil chicken bones for the nourishing broth prescribed by local doctors to treat the common Fall and Winter ailments 'consumption' and the 'grippe.' Both are on the rise recently in Cowtown due to what local medical professionals are calling a "bad flu season."

the Cadillac; as if the rain was wearing powder blue and making the ball wet for just one team. Many confidently predicted that Aurora would make adjustments, take control and run away with it in the second half.

It did not happen exactly as they imagined. Both offences went into a shell and *both* defences took control. Eventually, the slick field, fatigue and a very smart tactical decision by **Rich Liotta** to switch almost exclusively to the ground game, conspired to tilt the game in the home team's favour. The Mustangs ran 10 straight times with Singletary and **Lamical Perine** to get the ball into field goal range for Lutz. His 45-yarder split the uprights to tie the score at 17 with 11:48 left in the 4th quarter.

Whether it was due to lack of confidence in his running backs, a failure to notice the broad hint given by his opponent that the wet ground favoured the running attack, or a conscious decision to be aggressive, Cadillac coach **Mike Smith** stuck with the passing attack. His team was unable to make any consistent headway and the Caddies ended up punting on all of their second half possessions.

Finally, with 4:29 left and the score 17-17, Aurora took over at their own 35. Using the same formula as they had in their previous field goal drive, the Mustangs stuck to the ground, switching to the pass near mid-field and converting a key 4th & inches at the Erieau 45 to keep the drive alive. Finally, they reached the Cadillac 25 and from there tossed the dice with their kicker. Lutz hit it home without a doubt for the win, touching off a sideline celebration that was much louder than usual for a win over the Cadillac.

In the aftermath of this tight slugfest, **Rich Liotta** spoke only briefly, but in a highly complimentary way about his opponent. "They are a team that is on the rise, for sure," Liotta said when asked to evaluate his opponent. "They made some nice plays on both sides and kept us off our usual game. This was a difficult win."

Cadillac owner, **Jamie Rilett**, who has kept a low public profile since COVID-19, emerged after the game to say how proud he was of **Kyler Murray** and his team. Coach, **Mike Smith**, explained the decision to stick with the passing game in the second half, using the kind of rationale I am coming to expect from the "new breed" of EFL coach.

"I felt we could not back down and play it safe with the lead," he began. "That's not the message we wanted to send to our players on offence. We wanted to send a message of confidence that said, 'we know you can put this away, guys, the way they have done to us too many times.' It didn't work out, but I would do it again."

Of course you would, Mike. You and every other of the *new breed* of attack dog head coach. But if you are going to sic your dog on the enemy, make sure you have a Doberman and not a Terrier.

The league is moving into new territory when a developing but fragile offence like that of the Cadillac, worst in the league for

several years until two weeks ago, retains the confidence of its coach to stick-it to the reigning champs through the air in a steady downpour. But nobody, not even the coach of the Cadillac, wants to fall behind the trend toward balls-to-the-wall aggression in a rules climate that definitely supports it. But do not forget...the pendulum never stops swinging.

### **30 HELENS DISAGREE**

A source inside the Triumph tells me a funny story about how **Guy Williams' Aunt Helen** was at the stadium after the Triumph loss to Cobb County in Week Two. She had been drinking in an empty luxury box along with other relatives and friends who had been brought in under some kind of official guest privilege. After several drinks she reportedly asked very loudly, in front of staff, "Guy, why do you play that Jameis person? He's terrible! Do you want to lose?"

Of course, only family privilege allowed the question in the first place and kept Williams from dressing her down, but he was unable to hide his irritation. It was funny, because almost all of the Triumph staff, down to the locker room cleaners, were asking the same question but keeping it to themselves.

In Week Three, **Jameis Winston** posted his third multiple-interception and sub-40 QB rating game as the Coyotes made short work of the Triumph 30-7 at Wilhalla Stadium. The Triumph defence held up for a bit against the multi-pronged Cobb County attack, but soon collapsed due to a total lack of offensive support.

Unreasonable as it may have been to expect a bounce-back victory from the hard-pressed Winston against Cobb County – a team that looks to have all the ingredients and a coach who knows how to use them – fans and analysts were looking for signs that Winston and Coach Williams would be able to tap into that deep reservoir of talent bubbling under the surface of Winston's follies and ignite some competitive fire in the offence. Unless you count Winston tearing his helmet off his head and throwing it at the bench after being picked off by **Steve Nelson** in the 4th quarter, there was no fire to be seen.

What we did see in Winston for the third straight game was a tentative and confused young quarterback with poor footwork and consequently severe issues with accuracy. It was not as if **Guy Williams** was misusing Winston in some way – trying to get him to do things he cannot do. The plays were simple, the calls – at least early before the game got away – were balanced. Nothing worked.

The Coyotes certainly had a big part to play in Winston's third horrible outing. There is unsung, well-coached talent on the Coyotes' roster that will continue to catch opponents off-guard until some time in the second half of the season when everyone is looking up at them in the standings. But there were plays on the field to be made that were simply *not made*. The calls for **Mitch Trubisky** are getting louder and they are coming from traditionally supportive voices in the media.

*"Triumph fans have seen enough of Jameis Winston," Lars Odegard of the Wilhalla Press writes bluntly in his article, 'No Winning with Winston at Helm.' "At best, he is struggling with a new offence and needs to collect himself on the bench for a while and watch Mitch Trubisky. At worst, he needs to be simply benched and the experiment to bring in a big arm to get the most out of Kenny Golladay shelved permanently. Triumph fans expect and deserve better than this."*

Watching the Triumph over the next few weeks will be interesting. The fiercely competitive Williams, who has demanded 110% commitment to victory from every version of the Triumph since inception in 2012, does not appear overly perturbed by Winston's or his team's struggles, at least outwardly.

"We are going to evaluate this game play-by-play in the film room and make adjustments," Williams said blandly in the post-game video conference. "I still believe in Jameis. If we feel, as a coaching staff, that a switch is needed, we will make it. But I don't think that we are at that point yet."

30 Helens disagree.

### **BURNING EARS**

After losing and looking non-competitive in their first two games, the Derailers came alive in Week 3 with a total 40-23 hammering of the Patriots. The ears of both QB, **Lamar Jackson** and Buffalo coach, **Daryl Brothers** had to be burning after two straight weeks of media criticism of almost everything the Derailers had done over two weeks. Even Jackson's two consecutive 100-yard rushing days had been criticized – "*He is running too often,*" noted **Vic Carucci** of the *Buffalo News*. "*We traded for a quarterback who can run, not a running back who can pass...and he does not pass all that well, by the way.*"

A meme circulating on Twitter showed **Tevin Coleman** throwing a ball on the sideline read: 'SEND ME IN COACH!'

But, for one week at least, the naysayers and cynics are likely to remain silent as the future of the Buffalo franchise flashed the power of his arm against the Pats and showed that one weapon, **Robert Woods**, was all he needed.

**Lamar Jackson** set personal highs for passing yards (376), TDs (4), pass attempts (44) and completions (36). And did I mention yet that he did this and remains the no.4 rusher in the league after 3 weeks? The Buffalo QB has already rushed for 359 yards, 50 yards behind leader **Ezekiel Elliott**.

He also had a hand in helping a teammate set an EFL record:

**Robert Woods** broke the record for catches in a single game with 19 for 252 yards and 4 TDs. He erased the mark set in 2010 by Mohave tight end, **Owen Daniels** in a Week 2 win over Virden. Interestingly, Daniels never caught more than 3 balls in a game after that and ended up with only 33 receptions on the year after missing 8 games with an ankle injury. Another interesting fact is that Mohave is the fore-runner of Buffalo in the league franchise tree.

Now for some sobering perspective. This offensive explosion came against a Pats team that was missing 3 starters in the secondary and lost a fourth, **Kendall Fuller**, on the game's second play from scrimmage. Sure, there no current pro bowlers in the



This week's frame-up is Derailers' wide receiver, **Robert Woods**. He finished with 19 catches in Buffalo's 40-23 trouncing of Charleswood in Week Three, good for an EFL single-game record. Woods turned those catches into 255 yards and 4 touchdowns, giving **Lamar Jackson** a much-needed confidence boost in the passing game.

group, but **Desmond Trufant** and **Derwin James Jr** could be some day. The point is that the Pats' starters in this game were back-ups who nobody knew. However, we did get to know back-up corner **Jimmy Moreland** very well, as he closed in on the league record for tackles in a game, with 20, a record a cornerback should never be honing in on. Suffice to say we learned why he is a back-up.

For the most part, Lamar had time to throw. He was sacked twice, more out of stubbornness to make a play than from real pressure. The Pats never blitzed. A strange fact: They have yet to blitz this season. **Montez Sweat**, their pass-rushing linebacker, was dropped into coverage or played the run, neither of which he excels at. On the Pats, Sweat is a bit like the *Maytag Repairman* in the commercial who has nothing to do.

Sorry Buffalonians; the reality is that Buffalo beat up a beat-up team. But fans are more than okay with that. It is a relief for them that the Derailers are capable of beating up a beat-up team. **Aaron Donald** also notched a sack and a QB hit, which fans hope is a sign that the Super All Pro is finally heating up.

The Derailers definitely needed this win. "A team never wants to fall to 0-3," as the old saying goes; one worn out by talk show

hosts everywhere in the lead up to Week 3. Apparently 0-3 is practically the kiss of death for playoff hopes, as if going 0-3 is the reason and not the fact that bad teams are more apt to start 0-3 than playoff teams. At least we can now say confidently that Buffalo is not an 0-3 team...but they are still unlikely to make the playoffs.

#### ***AROUND THE EFL – ERUDITE OBSERVATIONS AND LEARNING POINTS***

Trying to get ahead of the developing trends is not easy, but if you pay attention, you may learn:

↪ It is easy to write off the North Stars' 30-9 pasting of Sebastian as one of those games where everything worked for one team and nothing worked for the other – just another one of those days when one team is “on” and the other team is “off!” It *was* that in many ways, beginning with the late arrival by the Swordfish in Budapest, followed by their rough treatment at the hands of Hungarian authorities, and ending with their humiliation on the football field. But like their failure to board a reasonable flight and their neglect in not following basic COVID-19 protocols, the Swordfish were part authors of their own demise on the football field as the North Stars were part orchestrators of it. It started with a simple game-opening squib kick by **Dan Bailey** to the up-man that happened to bounce through to **Pharoh Cooper**, who was then able to parlay a below average 20-yard gain into good starting field position at the Budapest 35. It was just a little thing, but it was one extra droplet of acid rain on the wilting garden of Sebastian's prospects that day. I mean, it's not like Cooper is a known threat to return it to the house, but give him a 10-yard head start and he'll likely improve on a 25-yard touchback. Again – just a little thing – but one that nags at me, makes me scratch my head and ask, “*why?*” On the other hand, there was not much Swordfish coach **Russ Lemmon** could do about his foundering defence that yielded two touchdowns in the Stars' opening two possessions; although it was ironic that the only two times the Swordfish blitzed over those two possessions, **Aaron Rodgers** had a screen pass ready to go. It looked like **Darrin Jones** had meticulously studied his opponent beforehand and knew what was coming. There was also not much Coach Lemmon could do about his team going three-and-out on its first series or failing to make a first down after three plays on their second series. But he could have put a brake on the reckless impulse that prompted him to go for it on 4th & 2 at his own 37. I don't care what “analytics” says – as a coach, know your moment. It was not only the wrong moment for such a rash gamble, it was the wrong play – a long slant to **Odell Beckham Jr** that came dangerously close to 'Uber Safety' **Minkah Fitzpatrick**, who deflected it incomplete. All that did was give the Stars momentum on top of their momentum. Four plays later, with the Sebastian defence for some unknown reason selling out to stop **Jordan Howard**, Rodgers fired a medium slant that **Stephon Diggs** took 26 yards to the end zone for the third Budapest TD in three series. The game was basically over at that point. Anyone watching knew it. Plenty of TV sets across both continents flipped to watch the pre-game shows for the early afternoon games in North America. But, of course, the game went on at Ferenc-Liszt Stadium, as it had to in order to make the outcome official. **Drew Brees** was pedestrian; Rodgers was on when he needed to be; and the Stars' defence performed a virtual repeat of their disciplined, workaday smothering of the Mustangs last week. Budapest has now faced arguably the two best QBs in the Atlantic Conference and made them look like journeymen. How will they handle the Cubs' **Russell Wilson** next week?

↪ York's 20-13 win over Cowtown at Camelot bore an uncanny resemblance to other recent contests between these teams, down to the resulting York victory. The Swords have sheared the Cornstalks the last 4 times they have met, including one playoff game, with their average margin of victory in those game 4.25 points. The differential in this game exceeded that average, but it was trending to a much closer result until rookie **CJ Henderson** came out of nowhere and picked off a **Jimmy Garoppolo** check-down to **Mike Evans** that abruptly halted a late Cowtown rally inside the York red zone to preserve the win. It was the only turnover of the game by either team. It was a clear, windless day in York, yet the contest played out as if from an older era – not too old, but not of today – with the defences getting the upper hand more often than not, but making enough mistakes to give up openings for the offences. The main story of this game was in the trenches, where York held the upper hand on D and held its own in pass protection on O, keeping **Tom Brady** reasonably comfortable in the pocket. **Derrick Henry** found it tough slogging against the Cowtown front seven, rushing for just 50 yards on 25 carries. But **Jay Hammond**, to his credit, stuck with Henry. As a result, he delivered tough yards, including a TD run, and kept the Corn Kings pass rush from teeing off on Brady. The numbers for **Jimmy Garoppolo** will not cause anyone's eyes to pop - 22 of 39 for 317 yards, 1 TD and an INT – but he delivered most of those under severe pressure from the York pass rush. Blitz or no blitz, Garoppolo did not have many comfortable pockets to throw from. If the Corn Kings plan to remain respectable and perhaps contend for a wildcard, they cannot have Garoppolo throwing 39 times a game. Which brings me to the Cowtown running game – the strength of the offence in the Todd Gurley Era. Gurley is not running like the stud he was last year. No sudden burst of speed or power and a disconcerting tendency to run into his blocks and not bounce off of them. **Le'Veon Bell** seems to still have his soft hands, but his moves on the ground also lack the zing of his peak years. If this pair cannot get their act together, this could be a very sore year for Jimmy 'G,' who has already been sacked 9 times in 3 games. York now rises to 2-1 and there is already talk of a playoff berth in Camelot. Not so fast! The Excaliburs can hold their own against teams like Cowtown and *should* beat teams like Georgia. But when they start facing the dynamic offences, they will struggle to keep pace. It is still early, but don't go betting on any York-instigated change to the pecking order in the Atlantic Conference.

↪ At 'The Fortress' in Bruxelles, the Violators' **Patrick Mahomes** picked on Bombers' corners **Darius Slay** and **Kyle Fuller**, hitting his top two wideouts, **Amari Cooper** and **John Brown** for a combined 12 catches, 233 yards and 2 TDs in leading Virden to an impressive 41-33 win. The game showed early signs of being a non-stop shootout, with both teams scoring touchdowns on each of their two 1<sup>st</sup> quarter possessions. But the Bombers could not keep up. They started to lag in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter when they had to settle for two field goals, compared with the Violators' touchdown and field goal. When Virden return ace, **Cordarell Patterson** returned the opening



kickoff of the 2<sup>nd</sup> half 94 yards for a touchdown; and Mahomes followed that up with back-to-back completions of 29 yards to Brown and 28 yards to Cooper for a TD, it appeared that Virden was on its way to a blowout win. However, as in Week Two, when the outplayed Bombers were allowed to hang around by the Wrecking Balls, Ken Main's troopers found a way to stay in the game long enough to provoke a decision by the Violators that opened up a small crack in the Comeback Door that had appeared ready to be locked shut. With Virden holding an 8-point lead, 41-33, facing 3<sup>rd</sup> & 8 with the ball at the Bruxelles' 8-yard line and 2:35 remaining in the game, Coach **Lance Barrate** decided to be aggressive. Rather than call another run to **Ezekiel Elliott**, (which would have burned another Bruxelles timeout and set up a chip shot field goal attempt that most likely would have given them a two-score lead), he called a pass play. "Why not?" most of you hipsters to the modern coaching way might ask. Virden had been shredding the Bombers' defence through the air all day. A first down and a TD would make *double-extra-sure* the Bombers never had a chance. But **Ken Main** sensed what Virden had in store and played the pass, adding a blitzer for good measure. Pressure coming from **Bud Dupree** forced a bad throw by Mahomes, which was picked off in the end zone by **Harrison Smith**. For some reason, the wily vet lost his self-control and went aggressive, attempting to return it rather than take the touchback. He was tackled at the Bombers' 4. As a result, the Bombers took over with poor field position. But with 2:37 left and a timeout in the bag, they now had hope where moments before they had had virtually none. Ultimately, the Violators' defence rose to the occasion. **Casey Heyward** put a defensive stamp on the win with a 4th down sack of **Jared Goff**, his first of the game after being a force in the backfield all day, then Victory Formation specialist, **Jake Dolegala** trotted on to the field to run out the clock. The game ended as it should have. But had the Bombers somehow managed to score on their final possession and made the two-point convert, what kind of discussion would we be having?

"I felt we could go for the K.O. there," explained Coach Barrate after the game. "In retrospect it was probably not necessary, but I felt that since we had controlled the ball all game to that point, I was confident in my offence to finish the job."

When I absorb this type of explanation, I wonder what chemical takes over a coach's brain in the heat of battle that makes this seem sensible. At the end of the day, the Violators did not need a touchdown to put the game away – a field goal was good enough. Field goals are not automatic, but the idea that throwing a touchdown pass in the red zone from 8 yards away would be somehow easier than kicking a 25-yard field goal and would be well worth the risk of trying in any case, boggles my mind. I haven't been to the seminars where they preach the "go-for-it" mentality infusing today's head coaching set as a result of the "analytics" fad and the ever-moving Victory Percentage that modulates in the background for only the geeks to see. But it is still true, even in today's EFL, that whenever you throw the ball up in the air you lose control of it for a split second and in that briefest of instants, anything can happen. Ask Lance.

∩It could only happen to the Wrecking Balls. Jersey's 27-24 loss to Peg City involved another stunning turnaround going against the Balls. But, unlike last week, they could not recover. After controlling most of the first half with a balanced and dynamic offensive attack while watching the Crusaders stuck in the mud, it looked as if they would enter the locker room at half time with the momentum going their way and a strong 17-7 lead. But on the very last play of the 1<sup>st</sup> half, **Saquon Barkley** did what very few players in this league are capable of doing: he took a pass in the flat and dashed 65 yards through the defence for a touchdown. A bump at the end by **Antoine Winfield Jr** was the only contact he had with a Wrecking Ball on the play. Where was the rest of the New Jersey defence? They were assiduously guarding their zones in a prevent formation, looking at each other, stupefied, expecting somebody else to tackle Barkley. It is really incredible to watch the replay. You can almost read the minds of the Jersey secondary: "Is somebody going to tackle that guy?" The improbable, nearly impossible touchdown, made it 19-14 for New Jersey, but it may as well have been declared the game-winning score so everybody could go home and rest up for Week 4. It literally sucked the will to play out of the Jersey players. It incapacitated Head Coach, **Sean McDermott**, who fell into a rage and never recovered his composure. President and Assistant GM, **Jeff Cohen** was so stunned that he forgot to put his mask back on after chugging back a pint of beer in one reflexive motion after realizing what had happened. It was so bad that I don't think I am going out on a limb by suggesting that we will look back on this play at the end of the year and declare it to be the turning point, in the wrong direction, of the Wrecking Balls' season. On the other side, it may be Cinderella's signature moment – the sign from above that tells the Crusaders, "You CAN do it!"

∩The Thunder Lizards cling to a share of first place in the North Division after kicker **Ed Pineiro** bailed them out with a 34-yard field goal with 1:02 left in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter to slink by the Hawks, 24-22. The successful kick made up for two earlier misses – from 47 and 36 yards – that had they been made might have meant a less harrowing experience for the rapidly ageing Coach **George Kaldis**. But when you look at the Durham roster and what the team is paying studs like **Terron Armstead** and **Nick Chubb**, it is not a good day when your fate winds up depending on the field goal kicker and his \$1 million paycheque. Brooklin delivered another gritty performance in this game, getting the most out of a statistically inferior day, and were in it up until the final seconds when **Van Jefferson** was tackled 2-yards short of a 1<sup>st</sup> down on a 4<sup>th</sup> down attempt. The Hawks carried no doubts as to what their goals were: *Play Hard; Win*. Durham, acutely aware that they should mop up against a team like Brooklin played not to lose while hoping the Hawks would remember who they are. Virden will demand a much grittier showing from the Lizards in Week Four or they will surely fall to 500.

∩In a game that could wind up having implications in the Trevor Sweepstakes, the Gladiators notched their first win with a blundering 16-14 win over the Irish. The game was not without its skilled moments. **Tua Tagovailoa** flashed the natural ability that made him an attractive draft prospect in the first place when he escaped the clutches of **Brandon Graham** and found **Jarvis Landry** open underneath for a 75-yard gain, setting up the Glads' only TD, a pass to Landry two plays later. **Tyler Bass** demonstrated reliability from unchallenging distances with field goals from 30, 26 and 28 yards to round out the scoring. East Elmhurst switched to **Baker Mayfield** to bring flair to their final TD drive and send a meaningless message for some point in the future. Ho-hum. When Little People Clash!

# BUG THE BOOKIE!

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FOR WEEK FOUR EFL ACTION

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RECORD VS THE SPREAD AFTER WEEK 3:

16-18-2

## *Jimmy's WEEK FOUR PICKS*

### **BRUXELLES @ ERIEAU (line – BOMBERS by 1)**

**INJURIES:** **Bruxelles** – Jurrell Casey (OUT), Emmanuel Ogbah (OUT); **Erieau** – Brian Poole (OUT), Akiem Hicks (IR).

The Bombers are trending down after consecutive losses where their defence has been torched. One of the higher-ranked units in the league coming into the season is ranked last in the league in efficiency, giving up an astounding 477 yards per game. Only Leonard Fournette is exceeding expectations at this point and that will not get it done for Bruxelles. The engine is beginning to rev for the Cadillac offence under Kyler Murray, thanks to his dual threat. He leads the team in rushing and has found a favourite target in Mark Andrews. If the Caddies are to continue their gentle offensive rise against the Bombers, Murray will need to get the ball outside to his wide receivers, where he has only 8 completions so far. The Caddies also need to get their running backs more involved or Murray will not last the year. I like where Erieau is going, but they are far from being ready to defeat the Bombers. **PICK: BRUXELLES**

### **NEW JERSEY @ AURORA (line – MUSTANGS by 6)**

**INJURIES:** **New Jersey** – None; **Aurora** – Duane Brown (PROBABLE), Kenyan Drake (DOUBTFUL).

New Jersey has had enough drama the past two weeks to last a season. How much their wild ride on the emotional roller coaster will cost them or motivate them is a big question. The Mustangs lead their division but nothing has come easily for them. Their last two opponents have forced them to abandon their offensive identity in order to find a path forward. Neither team brings any deep secrets to the table. The Wrecking Balls will pass the ball on offence and blitz the dawgs on defence. The Mustangs will pass to set up the run on offence and stay at home on defence. The line is a little generous to Aurora, but the breakability of the Wrecking Balls' defence could allow things to get out of hand if Matt Ryan gets in a groove with Davante Adams. On the other side, K'Waun Williams will be busy trying to contain the streaky DJ Chark. The Mustangs are at home but that means little these days. Here is banking on another New Jersey cardiac finish. **PICK: NEW JERSEY**

### **BUFFALO @ GEORGIA (line – DERAILERS by 1)**

**INJURIES:** **Buffalo** – Jaquiski Tartt (QUESTIONABLE), Quinnen Williams (QUESTIONABLE), Jonathan Abram (IR); **Georgia** – Maurkice Pouncey (OUT), John Johnson III (OUT).

Both teams are coming off their first wins of the season. The Derailers notched their 'W' in spectacular fashion with Robert Woods setting an EFL record for receptions. In that game, Lamar Jackson showed he can throw as well as run, which bodes ill for the Glads in this contest. Georgia scraped out a 2-point victory over the Irish, which was less impressive, but an important confidence-builder. Unfortunately, the Glads simply do not have the talent to deal with Jackson the runner and Woods the receiver at the same time if both are on their game. The Glads will have to pick one to stop and hope the other is having a bad day. Tua Tagovailoa made some nice plays last week, but he is still early in development. Aaron Donald is preparing to feast. **PICK: BUFFALO**

### **COBB COUNTY @ EAST ELMHURST (line – COYOTES by 3)**

**INJURIES:** **Cobb County** – None; **East Elmhurst** – None.

Despite the jettisoning of two of their top stars in the off-season, the Irish played like more than a pesky out through the first two weeks before falling to a weak Glads team in Week Three. The team is deeply flawed, but the charismatic tag-team of Ryan Fitzpatrick and Baker Mayfield at QB gives this gaggle a style element and attitude that is good for their confidence. The Irish will need much more than confidence this week against the Coyotes, a team that has made going 3-0 to start the season look easy. Ryan Tannehill is the top-ranked passer in the league thanks to a persistent and effective run game that sets up the play-action pass perfectly. As long as this formula continues, it is hard to see a team like the Irish being competitive against them. Add in a Coyote defence that

is built to stop the pass but has also managed to contain the run and you have a pretty easy call here. **PICK: COBB COUNTY**

### **COWTOWN @ TWIN CITIES (line – CORN KINGS by 6)**

**INJURIES:** **Cowtown** – Ronald Darby (OUT), Cordy Glenn (OUT), Brian Winters (OUT); **Twin Cities** – Chris Lindstrom (OUT), Russell Okung (OUT), Antonio Brown (COVID-19).

The troubles of the winless Triumph are well known and they center on the QB, Jameis Winston, who sports a league worst 33.0 QB rating. The good news for Triumph fans is that Winston will be on the bench for this game, to be replaced by the man he displaced in camp, Mitch Trubisky. It is hard to imagine Trubisky playing worse than Winston did, so expect to see a more resilient Triumph squad defending its home turf against the puzzling Corn Kings. Injuries on the Cowtown offensive line are being felt in ways that don't jump out on the score sheet, but explain a maddening inconsistency on offence. Todd Gurley is still not going full bore and Jimmy Garoppolo is spending too much time dancing in the pocket to look past his first read. To win this game, the Cowtown defence will have to take the ball away, which won't be as easy with Winston on the bench. The line is large and Triumph pride is at play. **PICK: TWIN CITIES**

### **DURHAM @ VIRDEN (line – VIOLATORS by 11)**

**INJURIES:** **Durham** – Chase Young (QUESTIONABLE). **Virden** – None;

This game is being billed as potential "Championship Preview." Why not? There is a lot of talent to go around on both squads. The Lizards have not lived up to their billing, but the double-digit line will come across to them as an insult. For the rest of us, it looks like a reaction to the highest-scoring offence in the league facing off against a defence that allowed the Corn Kings to march all over it in Week Two. This is a chance for the Durham 'D' to step up and make a statement, but it will not be easy, especially if Chase Young is unavailable. Durham's investment in the pass rush has not yet paid off, with just 3 sacks so far this year. Without it, even the high-end Durham secondary will give up its share of yards. Pressure on Mahomes, while keeping him locked in the pocket will not be easy, but it is the only chance of slowing down the Violator scoring machine; that, and a virtuoso performance by Josh Allen. **PICK: DURHAM**

### **SEBASTIAN @ CHARLESWOOD (line – SWORDFISH by 3)**

**INJURIES:** **Sebastian** – Adam Gotsis (OUT); **Charleswood** – Patrick Queen (DOUBTFUL), Kendall Fuller (OUT), Derwin James (OUT), Jalen Mills (OUT), Desmond Trufant (OUT), Devin Funchess (IR).

In addition to their identical records there are interesting commonalities between these teams. Both are struggling to get the run game on track, rushing at an identical 2.8 yards per carry clip, tied for last in the league. Both have good running backs who should not be running at such a low level. As a consequence, both QBs are consequently feeling the pressure playing from behind. The inability of Drew Brees to get the ball to Odell Beckham Jr has reduced his quick-strike capability and turned the offence toward more dink-and-dunk. So far, this has not been an explosive offence. Defensively, the Swordfish possess the clear edge, which turns into a cavernous gap when the injuries to the Pats' secondary are factored in. Three of four starters are listed as 'OUT' and the primary back-up at safety is also out. This is the best chance to get Odell back into the groove. Expect a concerted effort to push the ball downfield. **PICK: SEBASTIAN**

### **SCARBOROUGH @ PEG CITY (line – CRUSADERS by 13)**

**INJURIES:** **Scarborough** – DeSean Jackson (OUT); **Peg City** – None.

Odds-makers are telling us what they think of the Joe Burrow Era in Scarborough and for the most part bettors are following suit. I think the line is harsh, but I can understand how it came about. It has to do with the Crusaders being a much better team overall, in all key areas, including quarterback. Burrow has a bright future in front of him, but Kirk Cousins is tested and has too many high-end weapons at his disposal, including a running back capable of turning a pass in the flat into a 65-yard touchdown on the last play of the half. They also have a good defence, especially at the corner position. Marlon Humphrey will be studying the eyes of the rookie waiting for his chance to pounce on an ill-advised throw. While I don't see a win coming, the Blue Eagles can beat the spread. Chris Carson and the road-grading Scarborough O-line will be the key to keeping the ball out of Cousins' hands. **PICK: SCARBOROUGH**

### **PICKERING @ CHINO (line – CONVICTS by 10)**

**INJURIES:** **Pickering** – Xavien Howard (OUT); **Chino** – Morgan Burnett (OUT), Kawann Short (IR).

It still does not feel right when I see a double-digit line going against the Spartans. But as I take a close look at the current state of the Konstantakos Kingdom I see a team with nothing going for it aside from the presence of Joe Schobert at middle linebacker and a handful of young prospects who may or may not be good some day. Philip Rivers appears to be done, at least as far as concerns his ability to operate behind an offensive line that features Kevin Dotson starting at left tackle. Dak Prescott would have to be carted off the field with a dislocated ankle to give Pickering any shot at a win, and that is only because Prescott has no back-up. Seriously, the Spartans have a decent shot at beating the spread, but it will require close to a perfect storm and the kind of mental lethargy from Prescott that he

displayed against Iowa city last week. I don't bet on that happening and expect the Convicts to break out. **PICK: CHINO**

### **BROOKLIN @ SEATTLE (line – HAWKS by 2)**

**INJURIES: Brooklin** – Ronnie Harrison (OUT), Isaiah Simmons (OUT), Stephon Tuitt (OUT), Leighton Vander Esch (OUT); **Seattle** – Larry Ogunjobi (QUESTIONABLE), Olivier Vernon (OUT).

The Hawks have been in every game so far, won two of them, and came within 2 yards of extending a potential game-winning field goal drive against Durham last week. Derek Carr is having fun out there and the team is playing with high morale. They have done this with a no.23 ranked defence that, even at that low level, is playing over its head. That questionable defence will be further degraded by the loss of Isaiah Simmons and Leighton Vander Esch. The Pilots are also playing with spirit – they have been in every game, at least in the scoreboard. On the stat sheet they look a lot like a 0-3 team. It is hard to evaluate Sam Darnold when he has so little to work with and so little protection. The defence is also showing signs of wear and tear. The long year is about to arrive, starting now. **PICK: BROOKLIN**

### **BUDAPEST @ IOWA CITY (line – NORTH STARS by 11)**

**INJURIES: Budapest** – Jamel Dean (QUESTIONABLE), Sammy Watkins (QUESTIONABLE); **Iowa City** – Dee Ford (OUT), Reshad Jones (OUT).

The story of the first three weeks for the North Stars has been their defence, which is ranked no.1 overall in efficiency and in points allowed. It's signature performance so far was a Week Two throttling of Aurora. The offence has been modest by comparison and typically conservative, leading the league in rushing. The fans would like to see more of Aaron Rodgers but the time has not yet come to unleash his arm. That chance may come this week against a Cubs team that is fading defensively, but can pile up the yardage. Russell Wilson can break the air-tight containment of Calais Campbell and Cameron Jordan on the edges and when that happens, the rules no longer apply. A 21<sup>st</sup> ranked red zone scoring percentage is a concern for Iowa that they need to remedy, however. If they can stay close and force the North Stars out of their comfort zone, this game could take a very quirky turn in the late stages. **PICK: IOWA CITY**

### **YORK @ LAS VEGAS (line – EXCALIBURS by 2)**

**INJURIES: York** – Raekwon McMillan (OUT), Darren Sproles (OUT); **Las Vegas** – None.

I admit to a double-take when I saw York favoured here on the road against a team that is in a higher league defensively, is respectable offensively, and leads its division. The main factors leading odds-makers to favour York are Derrick Henry versus the Assassins' defensive line and Tom Brady versus Carson Wentz. Anthony Holguin showed he is not going to wait for Wentz to get his act together if he starts slow. He yanked him early in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter last week after Wentz threw an interception and completed just 1 of his first 6 pass attempts. Jacoby Brissett led the team to victory over Seattle. Holguin won't hesitate to pull the trigger again, but regardless of the QB, this is not an offence that will blow anybody off the field on a regular basis. Expect a slow, tough, typical York grind. **PICK: YORK**



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FROM THE EFL ARCHIVES – The Game of the Week in Week Three of the 2014 EFL season was a titanic battle between the two favourites for the North Division, Durham and Pickering. The game lived up to its billing with the Lizards exploding for 21 points in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter to take a 21-3 lead into the locker room at half time. The Spartans fought their way back and managed to tie the game at 24 with 2:39 remaining. This gave Durham enough time, but facing 4<sup>th</sup> & 12 at the Pickering 46 with 0:56, Coach Kaldis took the supreme gamble and went for it, knowing that the Spartans would take over with great field position if he

failed. This decision, archived for posterity, is proof that the “go-for-it” mentality was already very much alive 6 years ago. In the defining moment of the game, *Nick Foles* scrambled for exactly 12 yards (not an inch more) to keep the drive alive and help set up the 35-yard game-winning FG by *Phil Dawson*.

In the category of big performances, *Frank Gore* gave the Regulators a rare happy moment with 177 yards rushing, 15 yards receiving and 2 TDs, one on the ground and one through the air to make the difference in a 28-23 South Carolina victory over Scarborough.

The Excaliburs were the beneficiaries of another running back having a good day. *Marshawn Lynch* ploughed through the Cowtown line like an ox, rushing 33 times for 162 yards and a TD in York's 21-17. Ex-Corn King *William Hayes* sealed the deal for York with a strip-sack of Joe Flacco at the York 26 as Cowtown was rallying to make a comeback.

Leaders then and now after Week 3: *Jay Cutler* (TCT) had 12 TD passes compared with the 11 each from *Patrick Mahomes* (VV) and *Kirk Cousins* (PCC). *Julio Jones* (VV) had 26 catches compared with 32 for *Michael Thomas* (LV) in 2020. *CJ Spiller* (ICC) led 2014 with 372 yards rushing versus the 409 posted by *Ezekiel Elliott* (VV) in 2020.