



2009

WEEK THREE

October 18th, 2009



LIZARDS SURVIVE LATE STAB BY STARS TO GO 3-0!

RIVERS DOES, MCNABB DOES NOT, IN FINAL DECIDING DRIVES



MARKHAM

27



DURHAM

31

Markham receiver Bobby Wade cannot get a handle on the final pass from Donovan McNabb as time runs out. The North Stars fell 7 yards short in their bid to upset Durham in an exciting see-saw battle at Jurassic Park.

DURHAM – The game went back and forth all night. In the end it came down to two fourth quarter drives – one for each team – as time ticked away. Two drives, two tests, for a couple of veteran quarterbacks who have been in these types of situations before; but one had not expected to be in this

situation on this particular day while the other was just happy to be there.

How heavily favoured Durham, playing on their home field, found itself in difficulty late in the fourth quarter against last year's expansion North Stars is a story in itself. The game had been entertaining from the start, replete with big momentum swings every time the lead had changed hands – 4 times actually, not including tying scores – and featured its share of fine plays by both teams. But the main reason the Thunder Lizards were in a “dawg” fight on their home turf was because of uncharacteristic mistakes – notably three turnovers – of the kind they had managed to avoid in their first two victories of the season. In a sign that Markham has improved significantly since last year, they were able to capitalize on Durham's mistakes and push the better team to the wall, coming a mere 7 yards away from a possible stunning victory and a share of the lead in the North Division.

The game started inauspiciously for Markham when *Darren Sproles* fumbled away the opening kickoff, laying the neck of his team bare to the sharp Raptor-like fangs of the league-leading Durham offence. It took that offence just 3 plays to move 26 yards for the major score, finishing with an 11-yard run off right tackle by *Michael Turner* to grab the quick lead. But Markham charged right back with not one, but two touchdowns and a field goal; all three scores coming after Durham turnovers – a punt return fumble by *Steve Breaston* and two interceptions by *Philip Rivers* on back-to-back drives – giving Markham a 17-7 lead. Durham tied it with a 38-yard TD pass to Breaston and a 36-yard field goal by *Mason Crosby*, but *Donovan McNabb* led a crisp two-minute offense to bring his team into position for *Ryan Longwell's* 32-yard field goal and a 20-17 half time lead.

Durham regained the lead with some razzle-dazzle on the opening drive of the second half. Facing 3rd down and 19 at the Markham 28 yard line, Rivers hit *Mushin Muhammad* on a deep crossing pattern. He was wrapped up by *Louis Delmas* one yard short of the first down marker, but Muhammad tossed the ball back to *Kevin Faulk* who ran it in for the touchdown and a 24-20 Durham lead that stood for almost a full quarter. Both teams traded a pair of punts ending in Markham winning the field position battle. Starting at their own 48 yard line, McNabb completed 4 of 4 for 31 yards on the ensuing drive, the last a 1-yard hitch to *Bobby Wade* for ‘6’ and a 27-24 Markham lead at the 8:27 mark. That set the stage for the final showdown.

Needing only a field goal to tie the game, Rivers led an aggressive drive to gain the lead. Three straight completions

totaling 41 yards brought the ball into field goal range. With Markham defending the pass, **Kevin Faulk** carried the ball 3 times over the next 5 plays, gaining a total of 22 yards and cashing in for the TD on a 3-yard draw play smartly executed with the entire North Stars line-backing corps gunning for him. With 4 minutes remaining, Durham led by 4 points, 31-27.

Markham took over at their 39 yard line for their do-or-die drive. They moved it on the ground to the Durham 35 yard line before turning to the air. For a split second hearts stopped in Durham as **Devery Henderson** almost broke a 25-yard reception on 3rd & 15, but **Dominique Rodgers-Cromartie** stopped him with a shoestring tackle. At the 7 yard line with 27 seconds remaining and no timeouts, Coach Jones gambled on a draw play with Sproles that gained nothing but wasted precious time. With only 2 seconds left after a spike, McNabb dropped back from the 7 yard line and fired a quick slant to **Bobby Wade** in the end zone, who turned late and watched the ball bounce off his chest. As Donovan McNabb bowed his head in dejection Philip Rivers jumped up and pumped his fist in exhilaration – the Lizards had survived imperfection to post a perfect 3-0 record.

10-17-2009 Jurassic Park. Temp: 90 Wind: Calm None MVP: **Rivers**

2008 Markham (1-2) 14 6 0 7 - 27
2008 Durham (3-0) 7 10 7 7 - 31

1 13:07 Durham TD Turner 11 run (Crosby) (3-26-1:53) 0-7
1 7:44 Markham TD McNabb 7 pass to Engram (Longwell) (6-40-2:43) 7-7
1 4:19 Markham TD Thomas 13 run (Longwell) (4-31-2:18) 14-7
2 12:58 Markham FG Longwell 26 (6-48-4:01) 17-7
2 9:46 Durham TD Rivers 38 pass to Breaston (Crosby) (5-54-3:08) 17-14
2 1:57 Durham FG Crosby 36 (12-58-5:57) 17-17
2 0:03 Markham FG Longwell 32 (7-48-1:49) 20-17
3 10:10 Durham TD Rivers 28 pass to Muhammad (Crosby) (9-77-4:50) 20-24
4 8:27 Markham TD McNabb 1 pass to Wade (Longwell) (7-52-4:05) 27-24
4 4:00 Durham TD Faulk 3 run (Crosby) (8-69-4:27) 27-31

	MAR	DTL
First Downs	21	23
Rushes	25-135	25-102
Passes	32-21-206	27-21-292
Sacked	2-17	1-7
Fumble	2	1
Penalties	3-20	4-25
Turnovers	1	3
Time	29:57	30:03
Third Down	4-11	4-8
Fourth Down	1-1	1-1
Red Att/Td/Fg	5/3/1	6/3/1
Net Offense	324	387

KEY PERFORMANCES: Philip Rivers completed 21 of 27 passes for 292 yards, 2 TDs and 2 INTS; Steve Breaston caught 4 passes for 76 yards and 1 TD; Michael Turner rushed for 42 yards and 1 TD on 14 carries. Donovan McNabb completed 21 of 32 passes for 206 yards and 2 TDs; Jeremy Shockey caught 6 passes for 51 yards; Michael Pittman gained 43 yards on 8 carries; Louis Delmas had 1 INT returned for 37 yards and 1 Pass Defended.

WILLIAMS OUTFRONS MUSTANGS



GARLAND

16



FLORIDA

35

GAME POINTS: DeAngelo Williams scored three touchdowns and rushed for 141 yards to lead a dominating offensive performance by the Dragons. The game started off well for Garland with two consecutive 28-yard pass completions by Matt Ryan resulting in a quick touchdown on the opening drive and a 7-0 lead. But a 48-yard run by Williams set up his second touchdown, a 2-yard run on 4th down that put the Dragons in the lead to stay early in the 2nd quarter. Garland remained in striking distance after one half, trailing 21-16, but could not keep up in the second half. Justin Tuck and Dwight Freney kept Ryan from getting into a rhythm and Florida added two touchdowns in the 4th quarter; William's third major and a 9-yard run by Jonathan Stewart, to finish strongly.

KEY PERFORMANCES: Aaron Rodgers completed 17 of 29 passes for 230 yards and 1 TD; DeAngelo Williams compiled 152 total yards and scored 3 TDs; Brandon Marshall caught 7 passes for 116 yards; Justin Tuck had 5 tackles, 2 sacks and 3 pressures. Matt Ryan completed 12 of 26 passes for 176 yards and 1 TD; Frank Gore rushed for 38 yards on 13 carries.

10-16-2009 Dragonmount. Temp: 100 Wind: 0-10 None MVP: **DeAngelo Williams**

2008 Garland (1-2) 10 6 0 0 - 16
2008 Florida (3-0) 7 14 0 14 - 35

1 13:52 Garland TD Ryan 28 pass to Carlson (Gould) (2-56-1:08) 7-0
1 7:48 Florida TD Williams 1 run (Elam,J) (14-80-6:04) 7-7
1 3:20 Garland FG Gould 38 (7-43-4:28) 10-7
2 14:51 Florida TD Williams 2 run (Elam,J) (7-68-3:24) 10-14
2 13:12 Garland FG Gould 36 (3--5-1:39) 13-14
2 8:14 Florida TD Rodgers 15 pass to Rice (Elam,J) (10-77-4:55) 13-21
2 1:53 Garland FG Gould 30 (14-55-6:21) 16-21
4 11:20 Florida TD Williams 1 run (Elam,J) (14-88-8:10) 16-28
4 4:59 Florida TD Stewart 9 run (Elam,J) (6-48-4:33) 16-35

	GDM	FLD
First Downs	11	26
Rushes	20-44	34-194
Passes	26-12-176	29-17-230
Sacked	3-27	1-5
Fumble	0	0
Penalties	7-35	5-32
Turnovers	0	0
Time	22:38	37:22
Third Down	1-12	6-13
Fourth Down	3-5	1-1
Red Att/Td/Fg	2/0/2	5/5/0
Net Offense	193	419



20

GWINNETT



RINGGOLD

3

GLADIATORS CAGE HAWKS IN NEST

GAME POINTS: Matt Cassel threw 2 touchdown passes and the Gwinnett defense held Ringgold to 157 net yards of offense as the Gladiators slowly squashed the Crimson Hawks, 20-3 to raise their record to 2-1. A 1st quarter interception by **Brodney Pool** led to an early 3-0 lead for the home team but they failed to build on that break. Gwinnett took the lead on a 5-yard TD pass from Cassel to **Dallas Clark** and would never look back. The Glads exploited a gambling Ringgold 'D' to add a second TD on a 41-yard pass to **Reggie Wayne** to open the second half, making the score 17-3. Gwinnett added a field goal to finish the scoring after Ringgold failed a midfield 4th down conversion attempt.

KEY PERFORMANCES: Matt Cassel completed 14 of 18 passes for 178 yards, 2 TDs, 1 INT; **Thomas Jones** rushed for 82 yards on 20 carries; **Reggie Wayne** had 4 receptions for 86 yards, 1 TD. **Ben Roethlisberger** completed 12 of 27 passes for 99 yards; **Maurice Jones-Drew** rushed for 21 yards on 8 carries.

10-16-2009 The Hawk's Nest. Temp: 72 Wind: 0-5 None MVP: Cassel			GWG	RCH
2008 Gwinnett (2-1)	0 10 10 0	- 20	First Downs	19
2008 Ringgold (0-3)	3 0 0 0	- 3	Rushes	38-141
1 6:46 Ringgold	FG Suisham 46 (6-12-3:07)	0-3	Passes	18-14-178
2 10:08 Gwinnett	TD Cassel 5 pass to Clark (Brown,J) (6-65-3:10)	7-3	Sacked	1-5
2 2:50 Gwinnett	FG Brown 52 (11-34-5:38)	10-3	Fumble	0
3 12:26 Gwinnett	TD Cassel 41 pass to Wayne (Brown,J) (5-53-2:34)	17-3	Penalties	4-41
3 0:56 Gwinnett	FG Brown 19 (11-51-7:30)	20-3	Turnovers	1
			Time	36:06
			Third Down	10-14
			Fourth Down	1-2
			Red Att/Td/Fg	3/1/2
			Net Offense	314

CORN KINGS POP PICKERING!

GAME POINTS: Chad Pennington connected with Kevin Walter on a 12-yard TD pass late in the first quarter to give Cowtown a 10-0 lead that Pickering would never close. The Corn Kings stayed ahead for the remainder of the contest on the strength of a balanced attack that kept the Spartans 'D' guessing all night. **Eli Manning's** 37-yard TD pass to **Vincent Jackson** in the 3rd quarter finally got the Spartan's offense on a roll but their defense could not hold the fort. **Marion Barber** ploughed the ground for Cowtown, scoring 2 touchdowns from the reddest part of the red zone, the one yard line, to power the win.

KEY PERFORMANCES: PIC – **Eli Manning** completed 24 of 40 passes for 383 yard and 1 INT; **Chad Pennington** completed 24 of 31 passes for 250 yards and 3 TDs; **Marion Barber** rushed for 111 yards and 2 TDs on 21 carries.



45

COWTOWN



27

PICKERING

10-17-2009 Thermopylae Stadium. Temp: 56 Wind: 0-5 None MVP: Pennington			COW	PIC
2008 Cowtown (1-2)	10 9 13 13	- 45	First Downs	28
2008 Pickering (1-2)	0 7 7 13	- 27	Rushes	34-151
1 7:48 Cowtown	FG Hanson 38 (8-59-3:52)	3-0	Passes	31-24-250
1 1:57 Cowtown	TD Pennington 12 pass to Walter (Hanson,J) (7-51-4:09)	10-0	Sacked	3-18
2 11:02 Cowtown	TD Pennington 4 pass to Moss (no good) (9-56-4:22)	16-0	Fumble	0
2 9:10 Pickering	TD Manning 25 pass to Johnson (Kasay) (4-80-1:52)	16-7	Penalties	4-20
2 4:07 Cowtown	FG Hanson 51 (9-40-5:03)	19-7	Turnovers	0
3 11:06 Cowtown	TD Barber 1 run (2 - failed) (2-16-0:47)	25-7	Time	35:21
3 7:59 Pickering	TD Manning 37 pass to Jackson (Kasay) (5-58-3:07)	25-14	Third Down	4-10
3 3:27 Cowtown	TD Pennington 1 pass to Miller (Hanson,J) (9-60-4:32)	32-14	Fourth Down	0-0
4 14:47 Pickering	TD Manning 16 pass to Jones (Kasay) (7-67-3:40)	32-21	Red Att/Td/Fg	6/5/1
4 9:34 Cowtown	TD Barber 1 run (Hanson,J) (10-74-5:13)	39-21	Net Offense	383
4 6:30 Pickering	TD Manning 6 pass to Jenkins (2 - failed) (10-73-2:58)	39-27		394
4 2:21 Cowtown	FG Hanson 42 (3-0-0:22)	42-27		
4 0:45 Cowtown	FG Hanson 34 (3-3-1:32)	45-27		



MOHAVE



KUTZTOWN

13

21

BEARS JUMP AHEAD, HOLD ON FOR WIN

GAME POINTS: Kutztown scored twice in their first two possessions: the first a 9-yard TD run by **Le’Ron McClain** set up by a 52-yard run by **LeSean McCoy**; and the second a 13-yard TD pass from **Tony Romo** to **Greg Jennings** to cap an 80-yard drive. They were starting to march for a third when a **Leon Hall** interception put the brakes on the advance and led to a 12-yard TD run by **Steve Slaton** to put Mohave on the board. McCoy broke another long run, for 31 yards, to key another Bears TD drive ending in a 4-yard run by McClain to make the score 21-7. Mohave ground out a pair of grueling drives in the second half but turned the ball over on downs twice in scoring position.

KEY PERFORMANCES: **LeSean McCoy** rushed for 98 yards on 8 carries; **Greg Jennings** caught 7 passes for 78 yards and 1 TD; **Le’Ron McClain** scored 2 touchdowns and ran for 45 yards on 14 carries; **Greg White** logged 2 sacks and 1 run stuff. **Kurt Warner** completed 21 of 35 passes for 209 yards and 1 INT; **Terrell Owens** caught 6 passes for 72 yards.

10-17-2009 Lincoln Financial. Temp: 74 Wind: 0-10 None MVP: McClain

2008 Mohave (2-1) 0 10 0 3 -13
2008 Kutztown (2-1) 14 7 0 0 -21

1 12:20 Kutztown TD McClain 9 run (Kaeding) (4-75-2:40) 0-7
1 2:28 Kutztown TD Romo 13 pass to Jennings (Kaeding) (12-80-7:32) 0-14
2 11:23 Mohave TD Slaton 12 run (Bironas) (5-39-2:40) 7-14
2 2:52 Kutztown TD McClain 4 run (Kaeding) (6-62-3:32) 7-21
2 0:03 Mohave FG Bironas 33 (10-67-2:43) 10-21
4 4:09 Mohave FG Bironas 29 (10-50-5:55) 13-21

	MOH	KUT
First Downs	19	14
Rushes	31-115	23-142
Passes	35-21-209	19-12-133
Sacked	3-18	0-0
Fumble	0	0
Penalties	3-18	4-40
Turnovers	1	1
Time	33:31	26:29
Third Down	4-14	1-6
Fourth Down	5-8	0-1
Red Att/Td/Fg	4/1/2	3/3/0
Net Offense	306	275

VIRDEN TERRIFIES STANDING PATS

GAME POINTS: The Virden Violators brought the TERRORDOME to Patriot Place, turning an anticipated easy victory for the Pats into a terrifying experience for the home team. Charleswood methodically carved up the Virden defense on the opening drive, taking a quick 7-0 lead on an 8-yard TD pass from **Peyton Manning** to **Tony Gonzalez**. But two turnovers in the red zone kept their offence out of the end zone after that, allowing the Violators to hang around. **Josh Wilson** picked off Manning to start the 4th quarter and returned it 75 yards for a TD to bring Virden within 3, prompting catcalls. But the Pats defense forced two turnovers on downs to thwart the Virden comeback attempt.

KEY PERFORMANCES: **Peyton Manning** completed 16 of 23 for 206 yards, 1 TD and 1 INT; **Adrian Peterson** rushed for 100 yards on 24 carries; **Darryl Tapp** had 1 sack, 1 stuff and 1 forced fumble. **Drew Brees** completed 7 of 21 for 77 yards; **Clinton Portis** rushed for 103 yards on 26 carries.



VIRDEN



CHARLESWOOD

10

13

10-16-2009 Patriot Place. Temp: 75 Wind: MVP: Manning

2008 Virden (0-3) 0 3 0 7 -10
2008 Charleswood (2-1) 7 3 3 0 -13

1 9:25 Charleswood TD Manning 8 pass to Gonzalez (Gostkowski) (12-74-5:35) 0-7
2 10:40 Virden FG Vinatieri 37 (14-47-8:49) 3-7
2 6:50 Charleswood FG Gostkowski 40 (5-37-3:44) 3-10
3 2:38 Charleswood FG Gostkowski 45 (9-29-5:05) 3-13
4 14:09 Virden TD Wilson 75 interception return (Vinatieri) (0-0-0:00) 10-13

	VV	CHP
First Downs	11	18
Rushes	33-120	30-110
Passes	21-7-77	23-16-206
Sacked	1-6	1-9
Fumble	1	1
Penalties	9-53	1-5
Turnovers	0	2
Time	32:16	27:44
Third Down	7-15	5-10
Fourth Down	1-3	0-1
Red Att/Td/Fg	1/0/1	3/1/0
Net Offense	191	307



CHINO

16



LOS ANGELES

17

KNIGHTS RALLY IN 4TH QUARTER

GAME POINTS: The Chino Convicts smothered **Jason Campbell** and the Knight's offense for three quarters while their offense slowly built up a 16-point lead on 3 **Jeff Reed** field goals and an 11-yard TD run by **LenDale White**, set up by a 27-yard end around by **Joshua Cribbs**. Things looked well in hand for Chino until **Tarvaris Jackson** entered the game. The LA back-up immediately went to work, running the ball in from 7 yards on a draw play to put the Knights on the scoreboard. **Jamaal Charles** broke through a rare gap in the Chino line for a 34-yard TD run to make it 16-14. Then, with only 1:52 remaining, Jackson completed 3 of 4 passes for 25 yards to put **Kris Brown** in range for the winning field goal, a 48-yard effort as time expired.

KEY PERFORMANCES: **Tarvaris Jackson** completed 11 of 14 for 103 yards, rushed for 43 yards, and scored 1 TD; **Jamaal Charles** rushed for 76 yards on 9 carries; **Roddy White**, 9 catches for 83 yards. **Jay Cutler** completed 16 of 32 for 125 yards; Chino halfbacks managed only 34 yards on 19 carries.

10-17-2009 Temp:81 Wind: Calm None MVP: Charles								
2008 Chino (2-1)	6	10	0	0	-16			
2008 Los Angeles (2-1)	0	0	0	17	-17			
1 5:53 Chino	FG Reed 48 (5-25-2:09)			3-0				
1 3:39 Chino	FG Reed 29 (3-7-2:08)			6-0				
2 12:57 Chino	FG Reed 40 (9-34-4:24)			9-0				
2 3:33 Chino	TD White 11 run (Reed,J) (6-46-2:58)			16-0				
4 14:10 Los Angeles	TD Jackson 7 run (Brown,K) (13-80-7:37)			16-7				
4 9:49 Los Angeles	TD Charles 34 run (Brown,K) (7-80-2:38)			16-14				
4 0:09 Los Angeles	FG Brown 48 (8-36-1:43)			16-17				
						CHI	LAK	
						First Downs	10	18
						Rushes	24-62	32-160
						Passes	32-16-125	34-22-197
						Sacked	0-0	1-3
						Fumble	0	4
						Penalties	6-66	6-45
						Turnovers	0	4
						Time	26:51	33:09
						Third Down	5-16	7-16
						Fourth Down	0-0	2-2
						Red Att/Td/Fg	2/1/1	3/1/0
						Net Offense	187	354

WINNEMUCCA AMBUSHES CUBS

GAME POINTS: **David Garrard** hit **Laveranues Coles** on a 4-yard strike with 30 seconds left to catapult the Winnemucca Outlaws to their first victory of the season and a third place tie with the Cubs in the West Division. Nursing some injuries and electing to sit several regulars, the Cubs were clearly caught by surprise at the tenacity of the Outlaw's effort. A 44-yard pass from **J.P. Losman** to **Lee Evans** set up Iowa's only touchdown, a 7-yard run by **Donald Brown**. Winnemucca finally got on the scoreboard after a short punt by **Neil Rackers** and 19-yard return by **Dexter Jackson** gave them excellent field position. **Shayne Graham** kicked a 36-yarder 6 plays later to gain the eventual margin of victory.

KEY PERFORMANCES: **David Garrard** completed 14 of 25 for 151 yards and 1 TD; **Julius Jones** rushed for 94 yards on 14 carries; **Laveranues Coles** caught 6 passes for 73 yards and 1 TD. **J.P. Losman** completed 11 of 19 for 139 yards and 1 INT; **Ronnie Brown** rushed for 55 yards on 27 carries; **Donald Brown** rushed for 30 yards and 1 TD on 15 carries.



WINNEMUCCA

10



IOWA CITY

7

10-18-2009 Joe Ferguson Stadium. Temp: 76 Wind: 0-5 None MVP: Garrard								
2008 Winnemucca (1-2)	0	0	0	10	-10			
2008 Iowa City (1-2)	0	7	0	0	-7			
2 7:55 Iowa City	TD Brown 7 run (Rackers) (7-58-4:18)			0-7				
4 12:21 Winnemucca	FG Graham 36 (6-17-2:45)			3-7				
4 0:30 Winnemucca	TD Garrard 4 pass to Coles (Graham,S) (7-47-1:25)			10-7				
						WMO	ICC	
						First Downs	14	11
						Rushes	22-127	44-97
						Passes	25-14-151	21-11-139
						Sacked	3-21	0-0
						Fumble	3	1
						Penalties	6-46	4-30
						Turnovers	1	1
						Time	23:40	36:20
						Third Down	3-11	2-19
						Fourth Down	0-0	4-7
						Red Att/Td/Fg	1/1/0	2/1/0
						Net Offense	257	236



AROUND THE EFL With Spats McChad

NEW YORK – Presidential candidate Barack Obama was in New York last week to pledge more money for anti-terrorism. He praised the work of the New York City Police Department, who has been footing the bill for its own intelligence unit to work alongside the Department of Homeland Security. I certainly feel much safer now that the prospective President is promising tangible steps to help New Yorkers. Hold on, did I say “Presidential candidate?” Sorry, I meant President – a peculiar type of President who is still campaigning almost a year into his first term. It’s easy to forget that he was actually elected as nothing seems to have changed in the dysfunctional and collapsing US of A.

WHITHER THOU NOW, SIR TARVARIS?

The forgotten Knight, **Tarvaris Jackson**, put on his armour this week and vanquished the monstrosly dangerous defense of the Chino Convicts to rally his team to an astonishing 17-16 victory. If anyone, including myself, doubted that the Knights are for real this year they should take a look at that game. Finding ways to win, despite apparent hopelessness, is the key to Championships. The Convicts had manhandled **Jason Campbell** and the Knight’s offense for three quarters, forcing four fumbles and an interception to keep the home team off the scoreboard. **Coach Dohrn**, known for getting the most out of limited talent at the pivot position and also for a quick hook, yanked the shell-shocked Campbell for the “veteran” Jackson and the move paid off. Jackson completed 11 of 14 passes for 103 yards, rushed for 43 yards more and scored a touchdown while erasing a 16-point Chino lead in the final frame.

Jackson is an unlikely hero. Dumped without ceremony from the starter’s role in training camp, he had become Jason Campbell’s mentor and personal slave – bringing him towels and refreshments on the sideline, offering him unwavering encouragement, and reportedly even dressing him before games. The “special” relationship between the two was beginning to draw the notice of LA Football Correspondent and Gossip Columnist, **Gabrielle Laurent-Vainluven**. Now that relationship may be in jeopardy. Despite the win, Campbell is reportedly not happy with being pulled and thinks his leadership is being challenged. Sources say there was an angry exchange between Campbell and Jackson in the locker room with the latter rushing out past the post-game media scrum half dressed and in tears. Once again, Coach Dohrn is on the hot seat in the middle of another LA quarterback controversy.

WINNEMUCCA LOSES OWNER, WINS GAME

The mystery surrounding the sudden abandonment of the Winnemucca Outlaws by owner, **Pierce Roberts** is beginning to clear up. Whispers of disarray and tension in Winnemucca as the season started came to the fore when Roberts quietly turned his team over to the league, citing disillusionment with the entire game of football, the economy, the environment and the future of the world. As Roberts liquidated his considerable cluster of assets and retired to a quiet life of peaceful contemplation on the remote volcanic island of Tristan de Cunha, stories are emerging from the Outlaws organization about a tempestuous personality who could be generous and engaging one moment, and ferociously cruel the next.

Off-season trading, scouting, and contract negotiations were Pierce’s forte, according to former associates, and he was happiest during those times. But with the start of each season he was forced to face the reality of his team’s actual performance. It was becoming too much for him and the stress was trickling down to the players and coaches. In an incident that was suppressed at the time but is now being spoken about openly, Roberts apparently tried to convince defense captain, **Brian Dawkins**, to organize a lynch mob for his defensive coordinator after a 31-7 loss to Los Angeles in Week Two. He then forced the offensive coordinator

and quarterback, **David Garrard** to run their first practice after that same loss dressed in bright orange tutus. He also arranged to have a team bus transporting the offensive line drop them off 50 miles from the nearest gas station in the middle of the Nevada desert.

Roberts' 'Moment of Truth,' according to a close friend, came when he noticed a young boy lining up at the souvenir shop at 'Hole in the Wall' just as he was driving a truckload of combustible fertilizer up to the entrance of the stadium, apparently furious and in a vengeful mood after a bad mid-week practice before this week's game against the Cubs. In that moment, he remembered his own days of innocence as a young boy and decided he hated the person he had become. It was time for a break!

His team responded to their new lack of ownership with perhaps their best effort in their brief but undistinguished existence, knocking off the flat-footed Cubs 10-7 on the road at Joe Ferguson Stadium. It was the "feel good" football story of the week – players digging deep for the sake of each other and stealing a game they were universally predicted to lose. On a side note, what this means for Iowa City football in 2009 is a subject for another article. But I can imagine **Deron Redding** is tempted to take a page from Pierce's Book of Discipline in dealing with his team's poor start.

HAWKS FURY

Ringgold Defensive Coordinator, **Buzz "Hawkeye" Harrigan** responded to criticism of his defense by drawing up some mad blitzes that he unveiled this week against Gwinnett. Imagine a pair of linebackers darting up to the line, adopting threatening poses, then suddenly retreating as both safeties come charging up to take their place in different rush lanes and the left end drops back in coverage; and you will *not* have imagined one of these "Hawkeye Specials." Instead, imagine something much cruder and more violent – like the entire defense charging the line like General Pickett at Gettysburg – and you will have a more accurate picture of Harrigan's defensive "genius." Ringgold's response to a 29-yard completion from Gwinnett's **Matt Cassel** to **Reggie Wayne** was to throw everybody at the line on the very next play. You don't often see an 8-man blitz in any league, so if you have the game taped go back to about the 12 minute mark of the second quarter and see the frenzied burst for yourself. You will also see **Thomas Jones** break through the line, get over-excited at the sight of a wide open field, and stumble over his own cleats for a disappointing 12-yard run.

The blitz is called "Annihilation 8" and it is the last, and most lethal, in a series of "special" blitz packages designed to remove any conscious thought process from players on both the offense and the defense. Instead, survival instincts take over and the results are dramatically unpredictable. Harrigan spotted the flaw in "Annihilation 8" and dialed up "Annihilation 7" on two consecutive plays on Gwinnett's next possession, leaving safety **Brodney Pool** in reserve. In the ensuing chaos **Kerry Rhodes** broke through for a sack and **DeMarcus Ware** stuffed **Leon Washington** for 4-yard loss, knocking the Glads back out of the red zone and holding them to a field goal. By going berserk, Ringgold won that battle but eventually lost the war, falling 20-3 to Gwinnett mostly because **Ben Roethlisberger**, in his anxiety to avoid turnovers, threw the ball away from *everybody*, including his own receivers. Ringgold is in trouble again this year, but will undoubtedly continue to entertain us with exotic defenses to compensate for their bumbling offense.

DURHAM'S DIVA RE-DEFINING BOUNDARIES OF FOOTBALL FASHION

Durham Thunder Lizards owner, pop singer **Celine Dion**, continues to add personal touches to her team's apparel and diet. After being gently discouraged from attempting to add breathing and vocal exercises to team practices; and tactfully resisted in her attempts to enforce mandatory "emotional intelligence" seminars for players who lost their tempers on the field, Dion, by collaborating with obscure fashion designer, Harken LaFayette-Gomes and Moldavian avant-garde chef, Lutu Craiovescu, is dabbling in areas deemed by team management to be relatively harmless. But questions are arising as to how harmless it is to change the player's uniforms and diet on an almost weekly basis.

Durham survived a scare at home in Week Three against the usually inept Markham North Stars, who did not look one bit intimidated by the North Division leaders. Some are speculating this could be due to the "soft" look of Durham's new "Home White" uniforms, on display for the first time at Jurassic Park this past week. According to team sources, "Home White" is the name of just one of approximately half a dozen uniform combinations conceived by Dion and her European collaborator. As the garish orange and greens of the past give way to more austere browns, whites, and khaki, Dion is reportedly giddy with enthusiasm over the new addition of pastels and calming colours to the team's wardrobe. As a substitute for orange pants, this week's Durham outfits featured a custom colour that Dion calls '*satın rose bruné.*' The uniforms arrived from the manufacturer only two hours before game time, giving players little time to dress and no time to absorb the psychological shock of wearing what a layman might call "orangey-pink."

A mentally tough team can overcome the challenge of wearing *faux-pas* football fashions, but there is little they can do to overcome the physical effects of an exotic vegetarian diet, such as the one that Dion has directed all her players to follow. This week, the pre-game meal consisted of cold ‘*gazpacho*,’ marinated palm hearts and eggplant tempura. Not surprisingly, Durham players were dropping like flies in the humid heat of Jurassic Park while the visiting North Stars weathered the heat with aplomb. Only Karlos Dansby, who according to rumour snuck off to the bathroom to devour two whole roasted chickens, brought energy to the defense, notching his third interception of the year. Somebody in the Durham organization has to find another distraction for Celine or the Thunder Lizards are going to sink like the ‘Titanic.’

NEW YORK GRIPES

Is it too much to ask of the league’s powerhouses to stop griping when they don’t win by 20 points and look like Olympian Gods doing it? Last year it was Florida, anxious that the narrower-than-expected margins of victory were a sign of eventual collapse in the playoffs. This year, it is Thunder Lizards coach, **George Kaldis**, who took the post-game media scrum to new levels of pessimism after a nerve-wracking 31-27 win over Markham. Kaldis, with characteristic dourness, stated openly that his players are in for a rough time down the road if they keep playing like they did against the North Stars. To be sure, the Lizards defense looked shaky at times, but **Donovan McNabb** will do that to you occasionally, no matter who you are. **Philip Rivers** had some mental lapses and **Steve Breaston** committed a rare fumble and somehow the Lizards *still won the game* – which actually demonstrates just how good they are. All teams are going to have off nights. Better that Durham’s off night came against a team like Markham than a team like Florida.

SPATS.



IF SPATS LIKES IT....IT'S GOOD!!

PLAY OF THE WEEK

SITUATION

Iowa City 7, Winnemucca 3 4th Quarter, 0:30 remaining
Outlaws in possession, 2nd down & goal at Cubs 4 yard line.
4 WR set vs.4-2-5 Nickel package, TIGHT MAN coverage,
BASIC defense.

RESULT

David Garrard threads the needle through Aaron Curry and Chris Gamble to hit Laveranues Coles near the right pylon for the wining TD pass!

ANALYSIS

It was a damn good throw by Garrard at the critical moment. For a team like the Outlaws, it was miraculous.

WEEK TWO LEADERS

PASSING

RUSHING

RECEIVING

Manning, E. (PIC) 40-24-383
Rivers, P. (DTL) 27-21-292
Pennington (COW) 31-24-250
McNabb (MAR) 32-21-206
Cassel (GWG) 18-14-178

Williams, D. (FLA) 23-141
Barber, M. (COW) 21-111
Portis (VV) 26-103
Peterson, A. (CHA) 24-100
McCoy, L. (KUT) 8-98

Marshall, B. (FLA) 7-116
Jackson, V. (PIC) 5-93
Bruce, I. (PIC) 4-88
Wayne (GWG) 4-86
White, R. (LAK) 9-83

LEADER BOARD

STANDINGS

Pacific-Atlantic Conference

East	W	L	T	Pct	Pts	Ave	Opp	Ave	Diff	Home	Div	Conf
Charleswood	2	1	0	0.667	62	20.7	50	16.7	4	2 0 0	2 1 0	2 1 0
Kutztown	2	1	0	0.667	65	21.7	60	20	1.7	1 0 0	2 1 0	2 1 0
Mohave	2	1	0	0.667	60	20	52	17.3	2.7	1 0 0	2 1 0	2 1 0
Virden	0	3	0	0.000	39	13	64	21.3	-8.3	0 2 0	0 3 0	0 3 0

West	W	L	T	Pct	Pts	Ave	Opp	Ave	Diff	Home	Div	Conf
Chino	2	1	0	0.667	70	23.3	33	11	12.3	1 0 0	2 1 0	2 1 0
Los Angeles	2	1	0	0.667	61	20.3	39	13	7.3	1 0 0	2 1 0	2 1 0
Iowa City	1	2	0	0.333	33	11	53	17.7	-6.7	1 1 0	1 2 0	1 2 0
Winnemucca	1	2	0	0.333	23	7.7	62	20.7	-13	0 2 0	1 2 0	1 2 0

Can-Am Conference

North	W	L	T	Pct	Pts	Ave	Opp	Ave	Diff	Home	Div	Conf
Durham	3	0	0	1.000	88	29.3	55	18.3	11	2 0 0	3 0 0	3 0 0
Cowtown	1	2	0	0.333	76	25.3	73	24.3	1	0 1 0	1 2 0	1 2 0
Markham	1	2	0	0.333	58	19.3	69	23	-3.7	1 1 0	1 2 0	1 2 0
Pickering	1	2	0	0.333	62	20.7	87	29	-8.3	0 1 0	1 2 0	1 2 0

South	W	L	T	Pct	Pts	Ave	Opp	Ave	Diff	Home	Div	Conf
Florida	3	0	0	1.000	110	36.7	43	14.3	22.3	2 0 0	3 0 0	3 0 0
Gwinnett	2	1	0	0.667	64	21.3	58	19.3	2	0 1 0	2 1 0	2 1 0
Garland	1	2	0	0.333	56	18.7	86	28.7	-10	1 1 0	1 2 0	1 2 0
Ringgold	0	3	0	0.000	37	12.3	80	26.7	-14.3	0 1 0	0 3 0	0 3 0

PASSING

	Att	Cmp	C%	Yards	In	I%	Lg	TD	TD%	Rate	
1 Rivers,P	DTL	79	58	73.4	913	2	2.5	80	5	6.3	122
2 Cassel	GWG	62	41	66.1	461	2	3.2	41	5	8.1	101.6
3 Campbell,J	LAK	70	48	68.6	527	1	1.4	47	2	2.9	94.2
4 Pennington	COW	99	66	66.7	667	3	3	37	5	5.1	89.9
5 Manning,E	PIC	98	63	64.3	818	5	5.1	42	6	6.1	89.6
6 Rodgers	FLD	62	38	61.3	484	2	3.2	46	3	4.8	88.4
7 Manning,P	CHP	94	62	66	681	3	3.2	33	4	4.3	88.1
8 Warner	MOH	92	60	65.2	648	3	3.3	34	4	4.3	86.7
9 McNabb	MAR	105	63	60	691	1	1	67	3	2.9	85.1
10 Romo	KUT	82	52	63.4	520	3	3.7	22	4	4.9	82.4
11 Cutler	CHI	101	63	62.4	595	2	2	33	2	2	77
12 Edwards,T	ICC	50	29	58	271	0	0	17	0	0	73
13 Ryan,M	GDM	76	43	56.6	557	4	5.3	32	3	3.9	71
14 Brees	VV	72	35	48.6	456	2	2.8	51	2	2.8	66.7
15 Garrard	WMO	72	42	58.3	418	3	4.2	25	1	1.4	62.2

RUSHING

		Att	Yds	Ave	Lg	TD			Att	Yds	Ave	Lg	TD		
1	Williams,D	FLD	57	345	6.1	48	6	8	Lewis,J	MAR	39	160	4.1	16	0
2	Jones,T	GWG	60	277	4.6	14	2	9	Jones,J	WMO	32	154	4.8	38	1
3	Turner,M	DTL	64	273	4.3	85	3	10	Brown,R	ICC	40	143	3.6	53	0
4	Peterson,A	CHP	60	258	4.3	19	0	11	Slaton	MOH	44	135	3.1	14	1
5	Portis	VV	67	239	3.6	13	0	12	Jacobs,B	ICC	31	117	3.8	23	1
6	Johnson,C	PIC	37	219	5.9	69	2	13	Stewart,J	FLD	30	117	3.9	17	1
7	McCoy,L	KUT	20	177	8.9	52	0	14	Barber,M	COW	22	114	5.2	14	2
8	Lewis,J	MAR	39	160	4.1	16	0	15	Charles,J	LAK	18	114	6.3	34	1

RECEIVING

		No	Yds	Ave	Lg	TD			No	Yds	Ave	Lg	TD		
1	Jennings,G	KUT	25	274	11	22	2	8	Walter,K	COW	15	201	13.4	37	2
2	Gonzalez,T	CHP	22	230	10.5	32	1	9	Coles	WMO	15	163	10.9	25	1
3	Boldin	CHI	21	205	9.8	28	1	10	Johnson,A	RCH	15	180	12	27	0
4	White,R	LAK	21	199	9.5	21	1	11	Ward,H	CHI	14	176	12.6	33	0
5	Owens,T	MOH	18	236	13.1	28	2	12	Evans,L	ICC	14	175	12.5	44	0
6	Bradley,M	LAK	17	201	11.8	47	0	13	Moss,S	COW	14	130	9.3	15	1
7	Hester,D	VV	16	217	13.6	35	1	14	Miller,Z	COW	13	89	6.8	11	1
8	Walter,K	COW	15	201	13.4	37	2	15	Bowe	DTL	13	235	18.1	41	2



BRYLCREEM PLAYERS OF THE WEEK *WHO WAS SLICK IN WEEK TWO?* Brylcreem continues to be a proud sponsor of the EFL

OFFENSE



RB – DeAngelo Williams, Florida Dragons
23 Carries, 141 yards, 6.1 Avg., 48 Lg., 3 TD.
He carried the offensive load against Garland.

DEFENSE



DE – Justin Tuck, Florida Dragons
5 Tackles, 2 Sacks, 3 Pressures.
He and Freeney kept Matt Ryan running for his life all game.

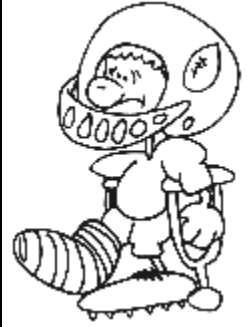
SPECIAL TEAMS



K – Jason Hanson, Cowtown Corn Kings
4 of 4 Field Goals, 51 Long, 3 of 4 Extra Points, 15 Pts.
Reliable from a distance to boost Corn Kings attack.

INJURY REPORT - *Week Four*

CHARLESWOOD – Samueals (OUT); **CHINO** – Crowder (OUT), McKinnie (OUT), P. Williams (OUT); **COWTOWN** – Schobel (OUT), Saturday (OUT), S. Jones (OUT); **DURHAM** – None; **FLORIDA** – Rubin (OUT); **GARLAND** – None; **GWINNETT** – D.J. Williams (OUT); **IOWA CITY** – J. Peters (OUT), Winslow (OUT), Podlesh (OUT); **KUTZTOWN** – None; **LOS ANGELES** – S. Young (OUT), S. Smith (OUT); **MARKHAM** – C. Johnson (OUT); **MOHAVE** – Allison (DOUBTFUL), Westbrook (OUT), Sims (OUT), C. Bailey (OUT); **PICKERING** – D. Harris (OUT), Ryan Clark (OUT), J. Phillips (OUT), M. Jackson (OUT), Edwards (OUT); **RINGGOLD** – Watson (OUT), Brackett (OUT), Sidbury (QUESTIONABLE), Holmes (QUESTIONABLE); **VIRDEN** – None; **WINNEMUCCA** – Harvin (OUT), Washington (OUT), J. Walker (OUT).



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JIMMY'S WEEK THREE PICKS

CHARLESWOOD @ WINNEMUCCA (LINE – PATRIOTS BY 1)

If I were in the Charleswood camp I would be getting a little nervous about my team. There are legitimate questions about their offense; strange to say about a team featuring Peyton Manning, Adrian Peterson and two “All World” tight ends. Their 7 turnovers are second only to Ringgold and doubts are surfacing about the ability of Tory Holt and Bernard Berrian to draw the attention of opposing safeties on a regular basis. Fortunately, their defensive stars in the secondary are still dominant and will shut down the Outlaw’s passing attack, such as it is. Winnemucca, playing on emotion, caught Iowa City with their pants down last week, but do not expect the Patriots to be so exposed – they have something to prove.

PICK: CHARLESWOOD

MOHAVE @ LOS ANGELES (LINE – KNIGHTS BY 2)

The question being asked in Los Angeles is who will start behind center. The answer is obvious – Jason Campbell – but expect a quick hook if he gets bogged down like he did against the Convicts. The story of the Knights season so far has been the dominant play of their defense, which is finally living up to its reputation. Can Kurt Warner penetrate the league’s most dangerous secondary? Will he have enough time against one of the league’s deadliest pass rushes? The answer is probably not, unless Steve Slaton can grab some attention in the running game – a tall order behind that shaky offensive line.

PICK: LOS ANGELES

KUTZTOWN @ CHINO (LINE – CONVICTS BY 9)

Kutztown finds itself in an unlikely tie with Charleswood at the top of the North Division, doing it the only way a Kutztown team can do it – with mirrors. The Convicts are a legitimate contender for a trip to the Championship but must outpace a rising Knights team to do it. They cannot afford to drop a game like this: at home to the flawed but unpredictably dangerous Golden Bears. Their defense could feast on a jittery Tony Romo or have its hands full if the Kutztown pivot is on his game. What should concern Chino fans is the moribund running game which has traditionally been a strong point. Jay Cutler is being asked to carry the load and his hot and cold streaks are enough to give any coach ulcers. I’ll go with the ‘D’ to win this one.

PICK: CHINO

VIRDEN @ IOWA CITY (LINE – CUBS BY 2)

As many predicted, Virden is 0-3 after 3 games. Not predicted was the bang they would get for their weak buck. New owner Lance Barrate is getting the best out of his team even with Drew Brees sucking wind. Imagine if the much-maligned Virden signal-caller could get his act together and make some plays! The Cubs are a good team on paper but so far that is not translating to performance on the field as their inexcusable loss to Winnemucca last week can attest. They are banged up for sure, and will play this week without a viable pass-catching option at tight end, but they were lucky in their only victory and have looked terrible in their two losses. Why would they not lose this game also? Because of Cubs Pride, that's why!

PICK: IOWA CITY

DURHAM @ GARLAND (LINE – THUNDER LIZARDS BY 4)

The old Philip Rivers appeared for about a 5 minute stretch of the first quarter last week against Markham. That was enough to put his team in a hole that called for some strenuous digging to escape from. Despite two laughable interceptions, he came back and threw 2 touchdown passes and completed 21 of 27 passes. Not bad for an off-day. The Mustangs are in fashion at the moment – the star potential of Matt Ryan and their young talent base causing some people to look ahead and think it is the present. But the future is not now for Garland this week. In the comfy confines of the Corral they will be decidedly uncomfortable as Durham literally runs away with the game.

PICK: DURHAM

COWTOWN @ RINGGOLD (LINE – CORN KINGS BY 6)

The Crimson Hawks have been a pretty awful 0-3 while the Corn Kings have played better than 1-2. The problem with Ringgold is an offense that would have trouble moving down a water slide in a scuba suit. Big Ben doesn't even make the Top 15 quarterbacks in a 16-team league. In an effort to avoid sacks this year he is throwing the ball away wildly, having completed only 50% of his passes. The Corn King secondary could not have come at a better time for Big Ben – they were torched last week by Eli Manning for 383 yards and 4 touchdowns and looked slightly worse than Pickering's back-ups on the opposite side. Chad Pennington had a good day throwing against Pickering's second team defense, but how he will perform against a good defense equipped with real defenders is an open question. Regardless, the 6-point spread is ridiculous.

PICK: RINGGOLD

PICKERING @ GWINNETT (LINE – GLADIATORS BY 4)

Gwinnett is the only team with a reasonable shot at stealing the South Division from Florida and at the moment they are looking like a very dark horse to do so. The Glad's pass defense got a boost from facing Ben Roethlisberger last week so don't be deceived by their stats (although holding opposing quarterbacks to a 57.9 QB rating is still pretty impressive). They should keep Eli in check. But why beat around the bush? On top of everything else they don't have, Pickering is missing both starting safeties and one of their starting corners. That's all you need to know when picking this game.

PICK: GWINNETT

MARKHAM @ FLORIDA (LINE – DRAGONS BY 17)

Someone high up in the Markham franchise must have annoyed the schedule maker because continuing on the road to face Florida after visiting Durham is some kind of sadistic test for a developing team. The North Stars played well against the Thunder Lizards, but would have lost by more than 4 points had they not won the turnover battle. The Dragons are looking almost untouchable at this point – leading the league in defense and moving the ball well on offense. Is there *any* way Markham can win this game? Yes – if Florida forfeits. Can they beat the humungous 17-point spread? Yes – if they win the turnover battle. But don't bet on it. The Dragons *love* to steal the ball and they do it better than anybody.

PICK: FLORIDA

SHOULD YOU LISTEN TO A THING I SAY??????

HOW I'M DOING AGAINST THE SPREAD

LAST WEEK: 5-2-1

OVERALL: 14-9-1