



2009

# WEEK SIXTEEN

January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2010



Andre Johnson turns a short quick pass into 7 points to tie game in 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter. Ringgold beat Garland 27-21.

## HAWKS PLUCK PLAYOFF BERTH FROM MUSTANGS

*BIG BEN TO ANDRE JOHNSON  
COMBO TALLIES TWO AS  
RINGGOLD FINISHES ON WINNING  
NOTE!*



**GARLAND**

**21**

8 - 8



**RINGGOLD**

**27**

4 - 12

RINGGOLD – In a season of few ups and many downs, Ringgold quarterback *Ben Roethlisberger* had his highest moment in Week Four when he posted a 122 QB rating and threw 3 touchdown passes while leading his Hawks to a 21-17 victory over Cowtown on the road. It was their first win of the season; a big one at the time, but it did not portend a permanent turnaround in Ringgold’s rocky fortunes. Big Ben and the Hawks fell back into their perennial losing ways the next week and soon fell out of the playoff hunt in the Can-Am Conference. Wins over Virden and Winnemucca did nothing to assuage the misery of a lost season – one in which hopes had been modestly high at the outset, with a playoff berth being part of the discussion. So, heading into their Week Sixteen contest against Garland, the Hawk’s only claim to real relevance was an early season upset of the Corn Kings that had, in retrospect, contributed to Cowtown’s uncomfortable predicament this final week of the season. Ironically, the Hawks now held the key to Cowtown’s fate – a win over Garland would allow the Kings to back into the playoffs; a loss would consummate Garland’s Cinderella season. But would the Hawks, under a dark cloud of strange misfortune and rumoured to be riddled with dissension in the locker room, be able to bring it against an apparently charmed team with something to play for?

The answer to that question came quickly. The Hawks, looking strangely loose on the sideline, got the ball first and went on the attack in an unusual manner. They ran the ball, *effectively*, relying on *Maurice Jones-Drew* for 45 yards of a 68 yard opening drive that he capped off with a 3-yard run into the end zone to make it 7-0 for Ringgold. But Garland responded with a familiar script: *Frank Gore* broke a pitch to the right for a 46-yard run, his fifth run for the exact same yardage this season, to set up an 8-yard TD pass from *Matt Ryan* to *Wes Welker*. The duo’s 13<sup>th</sup> major hook-up of the year had the effect of deflating the Hawks. Jones-Drew immediately reverted to the form he had displayed for most of the season – fumbling after getting stuffed for a loss and giving the ball to the Mustangs with a short field at Ringgold’s 27 yard line. 7 plays later and *Kevin Smith* burst across the goal line from 2 yards away to put the visitors in the lead. Hawks fans had seen this before – in five of their losses they had scored first, only to be stymied the rest of the way.

But this day would turn out to be different for long-suffering Ringgold fans. Big Ben answered with 7 straight pass attempts, completing 5 of them for 70 yards before handing off to Jones-Drew for no gain. No problem, back to the air Ben went, hitting *Andre Johnson* for an 8-yard TD pass to tie the game. Equally determined, and with pictures of a wildcard dancing in his

head, Garland's MVP directed a finely tuned 80 yard drive, mixing runs with well-timed short passes to set up the third 8-yard TD pass of the game, this one his second to Welker to give Garland a 21-14 half time lead.

Both offences had moved the ball easily in the first half. Ringgold's turnover, the only hiccup for either team, made the difference in the game to that point. In the second half, the dormant Ringgold defense woke up. After a Ringgold field goal shortened Garland's lead to 21-17, the Mustangs turned to the ground with Gore leading the way. But **Paul Posluszny** stripped the ball on Gore's third straight carry of the budding drive giving the Hawks their first takeaway, which they turned into 3 points on a 42-yard field goal by **Shaun Suisham** to make it a one-point game, 21-20.

Moving back to the air on Garland's next possession, Ryan began peppering the Hawks with short passes. But just when they looked to be gaining momentum, Gore's second fumble of the game turned the ball back to Ringgold. Roethlisberger would not let this opportunity slip by, returning to the air and completing passes to five different receivers as the Hawks moved 58 yards to pay dirt, scoring on a 9-yard pass to Johnson to make the score 27-21 for Ringgold. Needing a touchdown to prevail, the Mustangs temporarily lost the heart of their offence as Ryan took a hit and had to leave the field on the first play of what would turn out to be Garland's final offensive possession of the year. **Matt Leinart** took over and moved the ball to the Hawks' 36 yard line, but failed to convert on 4<sup>th</sup> down and 3. With 6 minutes remaining, Jones-Drew took over center stage once more, ending the game as he had started it, moving the ball on the ground and running the clock out on Garland's season.

|   |                   |                             |              |   |       |               |           |           |
|---|-------------------|-----------------------------|--------------|---|-------|---------------|-----------|-----------|
| 01-23-2010 The Hawk's Nest Temp: 33 Wind: 5-15 None MVP: <b>Roethlisberger</b>  |                   |                             |              |   | GDM   | RCH           |           |           |
| 2008 Garland (8-8)  | 7                 | 14                          | 0            | 0 | - 21  | First Downs   | 16        | 25        |
| 2008 Ringgold (4-12)  | 7                 | 7                           | 6            | 7 | - 27  | Rushes        | 21-97     | 30-116    |
|   |                   |                             |              |   |       | Passes        | 30-18-154 | 33-23-252 |
|   |                   |                             |              |   |       | Sacked        | 0-0       | 2-9       |
| 1 6:32 Ringgold   | TD Jones-Drew     | 3 run (Suisham)             | (14-68-8:28) |   | 0-7   | Fumble        | 2         | 1         |
| 1 3:13 Garland  | TD Ryan           | 8 pass to Welker (Gould)    | (6-72-3:19)  |   | 7-7   | Penalties     | 2-10      | 4-24      |
| 2 13:41 Garland   | TD Smith          | 2 run (Gould)               | (7-27-3:41)  |   | 14-7  | Turnovers     | 2         | 1         |
| 2 9:19 Ringgold   | TD Roethlisberger | 8 pass to Johnson (Suisham) | (9-78-4:22)  |   | 14-14 | Time          | 26:16     | 33:44     |
| 2 0:54 Garland  | TD Ryan           | 8 pass to Welker (Gould)    | (16-80-8:19) |   | 21-14 | Third Down    | 9-13      | 10-12     |
| 3 9:04 Ringgold   | FG Suisham        | 43 (8-38-4:21)              |              |   | 21-17 | Fourth Down   | 0-1       | 1-1       |
| 3 4:48 Ringgold   | FG Suisham        | 42 (3-6-1:41)               |              |   | 21-20 | Red Att/Td/Fg | 3/3/0     | 4/3/1     |
| 4 13:22 Ringgold  | TD Roethlisberger | 9 pass to Johnson (Suisham) | (10-58-4:35) |   | 21-27 | Net Offense   | 251       | 359       |
| <b>KEY PERFORMANCES:</b> GWG – <b>Ben Roethlisberger</b> completed 23 of 33 for 252 yards and 2 TDs; <b>Maurice Jones-Drew</b> carried 25 times for 98 yards and 1 TD; <b>Andre Johnson</b> caught 9 passes for 116 yards and 2 TDs; <b>Paul Posluszny</b> had 8 tackles and 1 FF. GAR – <b>Matt Ryan</b> completed 16 of 24 for 131 yards and 2 TDs; <b>Frank Gore</b> ran for 72 yards on 11 carries but fumbled twice; <b>Wes Welker</b> caught 7 passes for 61 yards and 2 TDs. |                   |                             |              |   |       |               |           |           |



IOWA CITY



LOS ANGELES

26

3

### CUBS AM-"BUSH" NAPPING KNIGHTS!

**GAME POINTS:** **Reggie Bush** opened the scoring with a 94-yard punt return, giving the Cubs all the offence they would need against a flat Knights team that never got in synch. The Cubs got a solid, if unspectacular performance from **Trent Edwards**, generating enough yards to set up 4 **Neil Rackers** field goals. **AJ Atogwe** scored a TD on a recovered blocked punt to top off a 26-3 pasting that nudged Iowa City into third playoff seed in the PAC. **Steven Jackson**, returning to the Knights after three weeks off, provided little spark for the offence and **Tarvaris Jackson**, appearing in relief of **Jason Campbell** for the third straight week, did not deliver his customary heroics.

**KEY PERFORMANCES:** **Trent Edwards** went 15 of 25 for 158 yards; **Larry Fitzgerald** caught 8 passes for 83 yards; **Brandon Jacobs** ran for 79 yards on 29 carries. **Steven Jackson** carried 10 times for 20 yards and caught 3 passes for 21 yards; **Roddy White** caught 6 balls for 64 yards.

|  |            |                                |            |    |      |               |           |           |
|--|------------|--------------------------------|------------|----|------|---------------|-----------|-----------|
| 01-28-2010 Round Table Stadium. Temp: 59 Wind: Calm None MVP: <b>Reggie Bush</b> |            |                                |            |    | ICC  | LAK           |           |           |
| 2008 Iowa City (9-7)   | 7          | 6                              | 3          | 10 | - 26 | First Downs   | 15        | 13        |
| 2008 Los Angeles (10-6)  | 0          | 3                              | 0          | 0  | - 3  | Rushes        | 34-103    | 19-38     |
|  |            |                                |            |    |      | Passes        | 25-16-158 | 32-20-224 |
|  |            |                                |            |    |      | Sacked        | 2-11      | 3-18      |
| 1 6:54 Iowa City   | TD Bush    | 94 punt return (Rackers)       | (0-0-0:00) |    | 7-0  | Fumble        | 1         | 5         |
| 2 9:01 Los Angeles   | FG Brown   | 39 (8-40-4:53)                 |            |    | 7-3  | Penalties     | 5-45      | 5-40      |
| 2 2:00 Iowa City   | FG Rackers | 34 (11-60-6:58)                |            |    | 10-3 | Turnovers     | 1         | 5         |
| 2 0:03 Iowa City   | FG Rackers | 28 (6-17-1:53)                 |            |    | 13-3 | Time          | 36:57     | 23:03     |
| 3 1:23 Iowa City   | FG Rackers | 43 (5-20-2:18)                 |            |    | 16-3 | Third Down    | 4-16      | 3-13      |
| 4 8:26 Iowa City   | FG Rackers | 31 (4-16-2:46)                 |            |    | 19-3 | Fourth Down   | 2-2       | 1-1       |
| 4 7:06 Iowa City   | TD Atogwe  | 5 yd fumble recovery (Rackers) | (0-0-0:00) |    | 26-3 | Red Att/Td/Fg | 4/0/3     | 1/0/0     |
|  |            |                                |            |    |      | Net Offense   | 250       | 244       |



MOHAVE



CHARLESWOOD

3

28

### PATRIOTS TAKE WHAT HELLFIRE GIVE 'EM

**GAME POINTS:** Derrick Burgess sacked Kurt Warner and forced a fumble that Adalius Thomas snagged and returned 44 yards for the opening TD of the game. The big play set the tone for the rest of the afternoon as the Charleswood 'D' played with aggression, keeping pressure on Warner and forcing him into mistakes. Ed Reed made his league-leading 7<sup>th</sup> pick and returned it 39 yards to the Hellfire 6 yard line, leading to a quick 4-yard TD pass from Peyton Manning to Torry Holt that made the score 21-0 mid-way through the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter. Adrian Peterson was given work horse duty, racking up 175 yards rushing as the Pats played to run out the clock in the second half.

**KEY PERFORMANCES:** Adrian Peterson rushed for 175 yards on 31 carries; Peyton Manning went 12 of 19 for 79 yards and 3 TDs; Tony Gonzalez became the league leader in receptions with 6 for 35 yards and 1 TD; John Abraham had 2 sacks. Kurt Warner went 21 of 35 for 188 yards and 1 INT; Steve Slaton rushed for 14 yards on 6 carries.

|                          |               |                                    |                      |      |          |
|--------------------------|---------------|------------------------------------|----------------------|------|----------|
| 01-21-2010 Patriot Place | Temp: 75      | Wind:                              | MVP: Adrian Peterson |      |          |
| 2008 Mohave (6-10)       | 0             | 0                                  | 0                    | 3    | - 3      |
| 2008 Charleswood (13-3)  | 7             | 14                                 | 0                    | 7    | - 28     |
| 1 10:08 Charleswood      | TD Thomas     | 44 yd fumble recovery (Gostkowski) | (0-0-0:00)           | 0-7  |          |
| 2 14:13 Charleswood      | TD Manning    | 3 pass to Gonzalez (Gostkowski)    | (15-66-8:31)         | 0-14 |          |
| 2 8:14 Charleswood       | TD Manning    | 4 pass to Holt (Gostkowski)        | (2-6-0:49)           | 0-21 |          |
| 4 8:11 Mohave            | FG Bironas    | 36 (8-51-4:24)                     |                      | 3-21 |          |
| 4 3:56 Charleswood       | TD Manning    | 2 pass to Witten (Gostkowski)      | (5-87-4:11)          | 3-28 |          |
|                          | First Downs   |                                    | MOH                  |      | CHP      |
|                          | Rushes        |                                    | 11                   |      | 16       |
|                          | Passes        |                                    | 17-26                |      | 33-180   |
|                          | Sacked        |                                    | 35-21-188            |      | 19-12-79 |
|                          | Fumble        |                                    | 3-17                 |      | 0-0      |
|                          | Penalties     |                                    | 4                    |      | 1        |
|                          | Turnovers     |                                    | 4-35                 |      | 3-20     |
|                          | Time          |                                    | 2                    |      | 0        |
|                          | Third Down    |                                    | 27:51                |      | 32:09    |
|                          | Fourth Down   |                                    | 4-13                 |      | 6-10     |
|                          | Red Att/Td/Fg |                                    | 0-2                  |      | 0-1      |
|                          | Net Offense   |                                    | 1/0/1                |      | 5/3/0    |
|                          |               |                                    | 197                  |      | 259      |

### KUTZTOWN BEARS DOWN IN 4TH QUARTER

**GAME POINTS:** Tony Romo overcame a four-interception performance, putting together one masterful 4<sup>th</sup> quarter drive to salvage a game they appeared destined to lose. The Bears' first two drives to open both halves ended in interceptions, but the Violators did not press their advantage, converting their opportunities into just 3 points as Adam Vinatieri missed two field goals. Drew Brees connected three times with Devin Hester, including an 18-yard TD pass, during a 71 yard scoring drive near the end of the 1<sup>st</sup> half to give Virden a 10-7 lead. They extended that lead to 13-7 before Romo finally got on track in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter, completing 6 of 6 for 87 yards on the winning TD drive that ended with a 6-yard TD pass to Chris Cooley.

**KEY PERFORMANCES:** Tony Romo went 18 of 29 for 198 yards, 1 TD and 4 INTs; LeSean McCoy – 74 yards on 10 carries; Greg Jennings caught 8 passes for 110 yards. Drew Brees was 13 of 19 for 141 yards, 1 TD and 1 INT; Clinton Portis – 95 yards on 25 carries; Devin Hester caught 5 for 76, 1 TD.



VIRDEN



KUTZTOWN

13

17

|                              |               |                               |              |                  |           |  |
|------------------------------|---------------|-------------------------------|--------------|------------------|-----------|--|
| 01-21-2010 Lincoln Financial | Temp: 41      | Wind: 0-10                    | None         | MVP: Felix Jones |           |  |
| 2008 Virden (4-12)           | 3             | 7                             | 0            | 3                | - 13      |  |
| 2008 Kutztown (7-9)          | 0             | 7                             | 0            | 10               | - 17      |  |
| 1 6:44 Virden                | FG Vinatieri  | 44 (12-49-8:16)               |              | 3-0              |           |  |
| 2 6:09 Kutztown              | TD McClain    | 4 run (Kaeding)               | (8-61-3:22)  | 3-7              |           |  |
| 2 0:34 Virden                | TD Brees      | 18 pass to Hester (Vinatieri) | (11-71-5:35) | 10-7             |           |  |
| 4 14:57 Virden               | FG Vinatieri  | 37 (7-13-3:03)                |              | 13-7             |           |  |
| 4 7:37 Kutztown              | FG Kaeding    | 33 (10-46-7:14)               |              | 13-10            |           |  |
| 4 1:32 Kutztown              | TD Romo       | 6 pass to Cooley (Kaeding)    | (8-90-2:47)  | 13-17            |           |  |
|                              | First Downs   |                               | VV           |                  | KUT       |  |
|                              | Rushes        |                               | 14           |                  | 21        |  |
|                              | Passes        |                               | 32-107       |                  | 23-128    |  |
|                              | Sacked        |                               | 19-13-141    |                  | 29-18-198 |  |
|                              | Fumble        |                               | 2-9          |                  | 0-0       |  |
|                              | Penalties     |                               | 0            |                  | 0         |  |
|                              | Turnovers     |                               | 9-61         |                  | 5-40      |  |
|                              | Time          |                               | 1            |                  | 4         |  |
|                              | Third Down    |                               | 33:25        |                  | 26:35     |  |
|                              | Fourth Down   |                               | 5-12         |                  | 4-9       |  |
|                              | Red Att/Td/Fg |                               | 1-1          |                  | 1-1       |  |
|                              | Net Offense   |                               | 3/1/1        |                  | 3/2/1     |  |
|                              |               |                               | 239          |                  | 326       |  |



15

COWTOWN



27

DURHAM

**CORN KINGS NOT SCORE KINGS AS DINOS WIN**

**GAME POINTS:** Kevin Faulk gained 38 all-purpose yards to spark an 80-yard drive that ended with a 9-yard TD run by Michael Turner to give Durham a 10-0 lead in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter and break a sluggish early deadlock. The Corn Kings responded with a field goal but the Lizards marched right back with the help of two defensive offsides penalties to take a 14 point lead on a 12-yard TD pass from Philip Rivers to Faulk. A 71-yard punt return for a TD by Santana Moss narrowed the score to 17-12 after a failed 2-point conversion. But Rivers found receiver Dwayne Bowe 3 times for 79 yards in the second half, including a 16-yard TD pass with 5 minutes left, to stay ahead of the punchless Cowtown attack that moved the ball but could not score the big one.

**KEY PERFORMANCES:** Philip Rivers went 17 of 25 for 245 yards and 2 TDs; Dwayne Bowe caught 6 passes for 111 yards and 1 TD; Michael Turner had 54 yards and 1 TD on 14 carries; Kevin Faulk gained 74 all-purpose yards and caught 1 TD pass. Chad Pennington went 25 of 45 for 279 yards; Earnest Graham – 46 yards on 11 carries; Santana Moss had 10 catches for 113 yards.

|                           |           |                          |                                     |       |           |               |           |           |
|---------------------------|-----------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------|-----------|---------------|-----------|-----------|
| 01-21-2010 Jurassic Park. |           | Temp: 62 Wind: Calm None |                                     |       | MVP: Bowe |               | COW       | DTL       |
| 2008 Cowtown (8-8)        | 0         | 6                        | 6                                   | 3     | -15       | First Downs   | 23        | 20        |
| 2008 Durham (14-2)        | 0         | 17                       | 3                                   | 7     | -27       | Rushes        | 22-103    | 33-122    |
|                           |           |                          |                                     |       |           | Passes        | 45-25-279 | 25-17-245 |
| 2 14:50 Durham            | FG Crosby | 29                       | (12-46-6:23)                        | 0-3   |           | Sacked        | 0-0       | 2-17      |
| 2 8:51 Durham             | TD Turner | 9                        | run (Crosby) (7-80-4:08)            | 0-10  |           | Fumble        | 2         | 2         |
| 2 3:48 Cowtown            | FG Hanson | 38                       | (11-43-5:03)                        | 3-10  |           | Penalties     | 11-81     | 8-50      |
| 2 0:59 Durham             | TD Rivers | 12                       | pass to Faulk (Crosby) (6-61-2:45)  | 3-17  |           | Turnovers     | 2         | 1         |
| 2 0:03 Cowtown            | FG Hanson | 35                       | (6-58-0:56)                         | 6-17  |           | Time          | 28:01     | 31:59     |
| 3 13:51 Cowtown           | TD Moss   | 71                       | punt return (2 - failed) (0-0-0:00) | 12-17 |           | Third Down    | 3-13      | 3-10      |
| 3 11:21 Durham            | FG Crosby | 35                       | (5-44-2:30)                         | 12-20 |           | Fourth Down   | 0-2       | 0-0       |
| 4 9:07 Cowtown            | FG Hanson | 34                       | (15-67-8:13)                        | 15-20 |           | Red Att/Td/Fg | 1/0/1     | 5/3/1     |
| 4 5:04 Durham             | TD Rivers | 16                       | pass to Bowe (Crosby) (7-63-3:59)   | 15-27 |           | Net Offense   | 382       | 350       |

**McNABB JABS FORMER TEAM**

**GAME POINTS:** Donovan McNabb hit Bobby Wade on a fly pattern that the receiver converted into a 33-yard TD pass to give Markham an early 7-0 lead. But fumbles on consecutive possessions gave Pickering two instant red zone opportunities which they turned into 10 points for a 10-7 lead. The Spartans pulled away further after a long drive ended in a 5-yard TD pass from Eli Manning to Vincent Jackson, but McNabb rebounded with a frantic 2-minute drill, building on a 40-yard screen pass to Darren Sproles to finish with a 1-yard scramble for a TD to narrow the Spartans' advantage to 17-14. After tying it on their opening drive, the North Stars quickly got the ball back after Charles Tillman picked off Manning, setting up the winning scoring drive; a 63 yard effort ending with a 1-yard TD run by Jamal Lewis.

**KEY PERFORMANCES:** Donovan McNabb went 20 of 32 for 255 yards and 1 TD; Darren Sproles had 104 total yards; Omar Gaither had 2 sacks. Eli Manning went 22 of 37 for 270 yards, 1 TD and 1 INT.



24

MARKHAM



20

PICKERING

|                                  |             |                          |                                      |       |             |               |           |           |
|----------------------------------|-------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------|-------------|---------------|-----------|-----------|
| 01-21-2010 Thermopylae Stadium . |             | Temp: 29 Wind: 5-15 Snow |                                      |       | MVP: McNabb |               | MAR       | PIC       |
| 2008 Markham (6-10)              | 7           | 7                        | 10                                   | 0     | -24         | First Downs   | 19        | 22        |
| 2008 Pickering (4-12)            | 3           | 14                       | 0                                    | 3     | -20         | Rushes        | 26-76     | 27-61     |
|                                  |             |                          |                                      |       |             | Passes        | 33-21-267 | 37-22-270 |
| 1 6:09 Markham                   | TD McNabb   | 33                       | pass to Wade (Longwell) (11-80-5:46) | 7-0   |             | Sacked        | 2-15      | 2-12      |
| 1 0:38 Pickering                 | FG Kasay    | 27                       | (3-4-0:52)                           | 7-3   |             | Fumble        | 4         | 0         |
| 2 14:30 Pickering                | TD Johnson  | 1                        | run (Kasay) (3-19-0:17)              | 7-10  |             | Penalties     | 3-33      | 5-25      |
| 2 1:44 Pickering                 | TD Manning  | 5                        | pass to Jackson (Kasay) (13-74-6:26) | 7-17  |             | Turnovers     | 1         | 1         |
| 2 0:17 Markham                   | TD McNabb   | 1                        | run (Longwell) (7-66-1:27)           | 14-17 |             | Time          | 27:03     | 32:57     |
| 3 10:02 Markham                  | FG Longwell | 30                       | (9-47-4:58)                          | 17-17 |             | Third Down    | 5-12      | 9-14      |
| 3 0:45 Markham                   | TD Lewis    | 1                        | run (Longwell) (12-63-5:40)          | 24-17 |             | Fourth Down   | 1-3       | 0-1       |
| 4 10:23 Pickering                | FG Kasay    | 28                       | (10-56-5:22)                         | 24-20 |             | Red Att/Td/Fg | 4/2/1     | 4/2/2     |
|                                  |             |                          |                                      |       |             | Net Offense   | 328       | 319       |

## FLORIDA NOTCHES #15 IN MODEST STYLE



# 13

**GWINNETT**



# 24

**FLORIDA**

**GAME POINTS:** Andre' Goodman redeemed a sputtering Florida offense with a 36-yard interception return for a TD in the final minute of the first half to give the Dragons a 7-3 lead. Florida came out on fire in the second half as Aaron Rodgers found Brandon Marshall for a 46-yard pass to set up DeAngelo Williams' 26<sup>th</sup> rushing TD of the season for a 14-3 advantage. Gwinnett then gambled on 4<sup>th</sup> down at their 43 yard line and failed, handing the ball back to Florida. A 28-yard pass to Marshall put them in the red zone and two plays later, Marshall hauled in an 8-yard TD pass to increase their lead to 21-3. Gaines Adams gave the Glads a little life with 68-yard interception return for a TD, but it was not enough to overcome a stilted performance by Matt Cassel and the Gwinnett offence.

**KEY PERFORMANCES:** Aaron Rodgers completed 14 of 24 for 248 yards, 1 TD and 3 INTs; DeAngelo Williams rushed for 130 yards and 1 TD on 21 carries; Brandon Marshall caught 5 passes for 137 yards and 1 TD; TJ Houshmandzadeh caught 5 for 66 yards; Justin Tuck made 8 tackles, 3 sacks and 2 pressures. Matt Cassel went 9 of 19 for 109 yards and 2 INTs; Thomas Jones carried 15 times for 40 yards; Reggie Wayne caught 2 passes for 52 yards.

|   |   |               |          |           |
|---|---|---------------|----------|-----------|
| 01-23-2010 Dragonmount.    Temp: 85 Wind: 0-5    None    MVP: <b>Brandon Marshall</b> |   |               | GWG      | FLD       |
| 2008 Gwinnett (10-6)  | 0 3 7 3 - 13  | First Downs   | 8        | 22        |
| 2008 Florida (15-1)   | 0 7 14 3 - 24   | Rushes        | 24-67    | 33-182    |
|   |   | Passes        | 19-9-109 | 24-14-248 |
|   |   | Sacked        | 4-32     | 2-12      |
| 2 14:11 Gwinnett  | FG Brown 26 (15-50-6:50)                              | Fumble        | 1        | 1         |
| 2 0:21 Florida  | TD Goodman 36 interception return (Elam,J) (0-0-0:00) | Penalties     | 7-59     | 10-70     |
| 3 12:07 Florida   | TD Williams 8 run (Elam,J) (5-80-2:53)                | Turnovers     | 2        | 4         |
| 3 8:24 Florida  | TD Rodgers 8 pass to Marshall (Elam,J) (3-43-1:22)    | Time          | 26:27    | 33:33     |
| 3 0:58 Gwinnett   | TD Adams 68 interception return (Brown,J) (0-0-0:00)  | Third Down    | 4-14     | 2-11      |
| 4 6:46 Gwinnett   | FG Brown 44 (8-60-4:31)                               | Fourth Down   | 0-2      | 2-2       |
| 4 2:33 Florida  | FG Elam 35 (5-33-4:07)                                | Red Att/Td/Fg | 1/0/1    | 3/2/1     |
|   |   | Net Offense   | 144      | 418       |

## FAST JUMP WINS RACE FOR CHINO

**GAME POINTS:** Knowshon Moreno rushed for 27 yards on Chino's opening scoring drive and then punched it into the end zone from 3 yards out on their second possession to help the Convicts jump out to a 14-0 1<sup>st</sup> quarter lead. Tight end Greg Olsen made it 21-0 when he turned a short pass in the flat from Jay Cutler into a 29-yard TD pass play. Then team tackle leader D'Qwell Jackson recovered a Julius Jones fumble 27 yards for a TD to make it 28-7 for Chino at the half. The deficit was too much for the Outlaws to overcome against the tough Chino defense, but David Garrard still managed to lead two late TD drives to finish the season on upbeat note.

**KEY PERFORMANCES:** Jay Cutler went 19 of 27 for 222 yards and 2 TDs; LenDale White carried 11 times for 49 yards; Greg Olsen caught 7 balls for 88 yards and 1 TD; Julius Peppers had 4 tackles, 3 sacks, 2 Deflections, 1 Pressure and 1 FF. David Garrard went 26 of 34 for 231 yards and 2 TDs and rushed 47 yards on 11 carries; Laveranues Coles caught 7 balls for 73 yards.



# 21

**WINNEMUCCA**



# 31

**CHINO**

|   |   |               |           |           |
|---|---|---------------|-----------|-----------|
| 01-21-2010 The Big House    Temp: 72 Wind: 0-10    None    MVP: <b>Cutler</b> |   |               | WMO       | CHI       |
| 2008 Winnemucca (1-15)  | 0 7 0 14 - 21   | First Downs   | 19        | 17        |
| 2008 Chino (9-7)  | 14 14 0 3 - 31  | Rushes        | 21-74     | 24-83     |
|   |   | Passes        | 34-26-231 | 27-19-222 |
|   |   | Sacked        | 5-33      | 1-5       |
| 1 6:35 Chino  | TD Cutler 5 pass to Ward (Reed,J) (12-63-6:27)        | Fumble        | 3         | 3         |
| 1 2:17 Chino  | TD Moreno 3 run (Reed,J) (3-50-1:34)                  | Penalties     | 8-58      | 3-29      |
| 2 12:26 Chino   | TD Cutler 29 pass to Olsen (Reed,J) (4-41-2:25)       | Turnovers     | 1         | 2         |
| 2 6:41 Winnemucca   | TD Garrard 13 pass to Crabtree (Graham,S) (9-64-5:45) | Time          | 30:47     | 29:13     |
| 2 1:46 Chino  | TD Jackson 27 yd fumble recovery (Reed,J) (0-0-0:00)  | Third Down    | 6-11      | 5-10      |
| 4 14:18 Chino   | FG Reed 53 (3-6-1:11)                                 | Fourth Down   | 0-1       | 1-1       |
| 4 7:32 Winnemucca   | TD Garrard 1 run (Graham,S) (15-69-6:40)              | Red Att/Td/Fg | 4/3/0     | 2/2/0     |
| 4 1:01 Winnemucca   | TD Garrard 5 pass to Williams (Graham,S) (12-66-5:42) | Net Offense   | 272       | 300       |



# AROUND THE EFL With Spats McChad

NEW YORK – Plans to hold the trial of Sept. 11 mastermind Khalid Sheik Mohammed in Manhattan have been all but officially dropped after officials came to their senses and realized how expensive, disruptive and potentially risky such a trial would be if held near Ground Zero. The Obama administration is reportedly trying to formulate “Plan B” and is actively seeking other venues for what will certainly be a historic, but protracted and painful trial. One of the venues being considered is Newburgh, a city north of New York City that is experiencing economic difficulties. The Mayor of Newburgh has spoken out about how helpful the trial, if held in their state-of-the-art courthouse, would be to their economy, in both the short and long term. Well, yes, it would. But how seemly is it that such a grave and important decision, concerning the single most catastrophic attack on American civilians in the country’s history, be viewed as an economic opportunity? Or, as the Mayor of New York City has asserted, an economic burden? Isn’t this very attitude at the center of our controversial world image – the idea that it’s all about money? I say yes to the spirit of Enterprise and Free Market, but not at the expense of proper decorum and reverence for the fallen.

## **COWS DROP BIG PLOP IN DINO PARK**

Looking helpless and depressed after a spiritless outing at Jurassic Park, the Corn Kings quietly packed their gear and tried to avoid talk of the misadventure they had just endured. They had just passed their playoff destiny into the hands of another team after a self-destructive performance against an opponent motivated by nothing tangible apart from the desire to see a potentially dangerous rival eliminated from the post-season. But the Corn Kings posed more of a danger to themselves than the Thunder Lizards. Durham, looking somewhat disinterested and beatable, did not have to break a sweat against a Cowtown team that did not know what to do with their chances. 11 penalties for 81 yards and two lost fumbles do not tell the whole story of the Corn Kings’ failure to seize the moment. Even with the miscues, they were still in the game with 5 minutes gone in the fourth quarter. But a suspiciously lazy and inconsistent defense suddenly turned as cottony soft as ‘Cottonelle,’ allowing **Philip Rivers** to pick his receivers without contest as he moved the Lizards 63 yards in 4 minutes to put the game all but out of reach, 27-15 with a TD pass to **Dwayne Bowe**.

The Corn Kings paid big money to **Chad Pennington** to keep him around for what they hoped would be a convincing run at the North Division crown. But his \$7.2 million salary is now looking like a big and growing albatross around the neck of the Corn Kings’ organization. It is becoming apparent to all but the most blinkered homer Cowtown fan that Chad, by himself, cannot get the job done against the good defenses. He logged just one 100+ QB rating game against a Top 8 defense – 100.3 against Iowa City in Week Seven. Yes, you read that correctly, **Top 8**, not Top 3 (the Cubs ‘D’ finished at no. 7 overall). Chad feasted on the also-rans and a curiously inept version of the Mohave defense to push his regular season QB rating up to 87.4.

Dissecting the carcass of Cowtown’s “dead-man-passing,” I note that he threw a lot of passes this year – he was one of only two QBs with over 500 pass attempts. He, of all quarterbacks, should *not* be throwing that much! But the Cowtown ground game this season was not what it was three years ago. **Marion Barber** is the only back remaining from that dreaded ‘*Cerebrus*’ back-field that led the Corn kings to a 13-3 record in the EFL’s inaugural season. Barber found the end zone 12 times this year, 9 times on the ground, but outside the opponent’s ten-yard line he was unreliable, while **Earnest Graham** and **Mewelde Moore** were not consistent options to pick up the slack. With opposing defenses paying mere lip service to the run, Chad was exposed as *not* the guy you want to lead your offence when you are behind by *any* score late in the game.

## **RINGGOLD’S BIG BEN – THE TOAST OF COWTOWN**

Despite Pennington’s mediocre play this year, viewers will get to see him one more time....thanks to Ringgold. Exacting revenge on a league that tormented them in 2009, the Crimson Hawks, with their final

win, both scuttled the happy ending to Garland's Cinderella story and sentenced the TV networks that ignored them for most of the season to a Cowtown at Florida quarter final playoff; a contest likely to be as lop-sided as a left side amputee with two right arms and a heavy coat carrying a large bucket of well-fed eels.

As it was with everything Ringgold did *wrong* this year, there was no obvious explanation for why they suddenly performed *well* in coming from behind to beat Garland 27-21 on the final week of the season. It was as if, unexpectedly awaking from a prolonged nightmare, the Hawks suddenly remembered who they were at the same time that the Mustangs realized what they were *not* – a playoff team.

Watching **Big Ben** hook up expertly with **Andre Johnson** all game prompted the obvious question: where was that all year? Like the toll of the clock at midnight that tore away Cinderella's gown and turned her carriage into a pumpkin, the dagger in Garland's playoff hopes was a check down outside pass to Johnson as the Mustangs sealed off the interior routes. Looking like a true thoroughbred, the Hawks' top receiver galloped through the "Thoroughheads" from 9 yards away to give Ringgold the final lead, 27-21, leaving both teams wondering at the end; *'what could have been?'*

#### **LET'S HOPE IT'S THE LAST TIME.....**

.....we have to watch Gwinnett take on Florida at Dragonmount this year. The Dragons made some uncharacteristic blunders, turning the ball over a season-high 4 times, but the Gladiators could do nothing with their golden opportunities. The league's most cost-effective offence looked just plain cheap against the Florida "firewall," gaining only 8 first downs and 144 total yards while their defense held off **Aaron Rodgers** as long as could be expected under the circumstances – which turned out to be about one half. The Glads missed their chance to give meaning to a technically "meaningless" game. They were the first team to expose serious weaknesses in the Florida attack, but they also exposed that those weaknesses do not matter when an offence as banal as their own is entrusted with the counter-punch.

#### **WEST COAST SHOCKER**

Whatever happens to the Cubs from this point onward is to be expected. Or, to say the same thing differently: when it concerns **Deron Redding's** team, nothing would surprise me. Iowa City charged into Round Table Stadium this week and punched the Knights squarely in the mouth, winning 26-3 on the strength of everything *but* their offence. 5 turnovers by Los Angeles, another punt return TD by red-hot **Reggie Bush**, and a late fumble return for a TD by **AJ Atogwe** were the main on-field factors in the lop-sided win. The victory earned the Cubs the third seed in the PAC and sets up a return visit to LA in the Quarter Finals.

Unrecorded in the box score was the ferocity of the Cubs' performance on the field. It caught the Knights off guard and threw their offence off-balance. Cubs' beat writer, **Sparky McGillicuddy** reported that the team had dedicated the game to their coach, who had been absent during the week due to the unexpected passing of his mother. When Redding returned to the team on game day, he did not have to deliver his customary motivational speech – the intensity of the players in the locker room was enough to light a block of the Vegas strip. That pent up energy was unleashed on the Knights, with shocking results. We all know it's only a game, but sometimes the game is a fulcrum for feelings and experiences larger than the game itself.

#### **REALIGNMENT IMPROVES PLAYOFF PICTURE**

It seemed like a good idea at the time, but when the dust settled on the 2008 season it became acutely apparent that the decision to create a Division of expansion teams to improve competitiveness actually had the opposite effect. While "East Division Champion" Pickering, at 7-9, *hosted* a quarter final game against 10-6 wildcard, Chino, two other teams that had slugged it out in the intensely competitive North Division sat out the post season in golf carts, despite .500 or better records.

In 2009, the League realigned the teams for better balance and, with the regular season over, we can see the wisdom of the changes borne out in the final results. The top 8 teams, according to the Power Rankings, made it to the post-season and the bottom 8 missed out. Each Division has at least one strong representative in post-season play, as it should be. However, there is still a noticeable gap between the top 4 and the bottom 4 of the 8 post-season teams, meaning that the quarter-final round will be no more than a culling of the herd, with the beasts already marked for slaughter. Do not expect any upsets this week. Nevertheless, believe in the Cubs because they have some kind of crazy, good luck thing hovering over them.

#### **IT'S VOTING SEASON IN THE LAND OF JOURNALISM**

It's the time when sports writers across the league levy their opinions on the performance of the league's top players. This week, print and electronic media journalists vote on the EFL Offensive and Defensive MVP, and the All Pro Team. My votes are closely guarded secrets, but my opinions, as usual, are in your face.

**OFFENSIVE MVP: Matt Ryan**, Garland. The case for Ryan diminished with the failure of the Mustangs to make the playoffs, but let's not lose sight of the fact that Garland was not supposed to even make a playoff run. His 33 TD passes and 3,848 yards passing led the league and his 97.0 QB rating was good

enough for 3<sup>rd</sup> overall. Honourable mentions go to: **Peyton Manning**, top-rated QB in the league; **Philip Rivers**, unsung hero of Durham's dominant season; **DeAngelo Williams**, and his 26 rushing touchdowns – a record that will likely stand forever; and finally the league's leading rusher, **Adrian Peterson**, who despite his league high 13 fumbles, probably did more than anyone for Peyton Manning's banner season.

**DEFENSIVE MVP: Mario Williams**, Iowa City. This is a tough one to nail down amongst all the competition, but Williams will likely get my vote for his consistency and overall impact. His 14 sacks were good for a 3<sup>rd</sup> place tie in that category, but he also had 5 run stuffs, 8 forced fumbles and was credited with a phenomenal 32 QB pressures – an “unofficial” stat that is studied hard by scouts. In further research I found that the most common expression used by opponents to describe his impact on the field was, “Oh Gawd!” or “Oh F--!” This implies helplessness and terror more than common expressions such as, “Damn it!” or “Sh--!” used in conjunction with an Ed Reed interception or a Terrell Suggs deflection. Sack leader, **John Abraham** of Charleswood and runner-up, **Jared Allen** of Durham also deserve mention, as both of them posted elite numbers for their positions and contributed to the performance of winning teams. **James Harrison** of Chino, **Ed Reed** of Charleswood, **Darrelle Revis** of Florida, **Stewart Bradley** of Charleswood, and **Terrell Suggs** of Florida are also on my list for various on field deeds (or, in the case of Suggs, because he is scary). Voting concludes this week.

**NEW YORK GRIPES**

The dishonour of being the EFL's *Least Valuable Player* (LVP) is reserved for that player who distinguished himself by consistently or egregiously hurting his team through careless, stupid play, or persistent lack of effort. Although I am tempted to nominate Markham's **Donovan McNabb** for his general negligence in running the North Stars' offence, Markham was never going to be a playoff team anyway, so what's the point of piling on? The guy who really, *really* hurt his team this year was Ringgold's **Maurice Jones-Drew**. The Hawks had a good defense and some serious weapons on offence and should have been a playoff contender. But, thanks in large part to Jones-Drew and his 3.2 yard rushing average, they finished a disappointing 4-12.

**SPATS.**



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

**PLAY OF THE WEEK**

**SITUATION**

Garland 21, Ringgold 20, 4th Quarter, 13:32 remaining, Crimson Hawks in possession, 3rd down & goal at Garland's 9 yard line.

4 WR set vs. 3-3-5 Nickel Package, medium MAN coverage Inside, PASS Defense.

**RESULT**

Ben Roethlisberger looked over the middle for Eddie Royal but held on to the ball when he saw Foxworth cheating inside. With the pocket collapsing he threaded a pass outside to Andre Johnson, who kept his toes in-bounds as he clipped the pylon in the end zone for the winning TD.

**ANALYSIS**

Great throw, great catch. End of season for Garland.

**WEEK SIXTEEN LEADERS**

**PASSING**

|                      |           |
|----------------------|-----------|
| Pennington (COW)     | 45-25-279 |
| Manning, E. (PIC)    | 37-22-270 |
| McNabb (MAR)         | 32-20-255 |
| Roethlisberger (RCH) | 33-23-252 |
| Rodgers (FLD)        | 24-14-248 |

**RUSHING**

|                    |        |
|--------------------|--------|
| Peterson, A. (CHP) | 31-175 |
| Williams, D. (FLD) | 21-130 |
| Jones-Drew (RCH)   | 25-98  |
| Portis (VV)        | 29-95  |
| Jacobs (ICC)       | 26-79  |

**RECEIVING**

|                    |        |
|--------------------|--------|
| Marshall, B. (FLD) | 5-137  |
| Johnson, A. (RCH)  | 9-116  |
| Moss, S. (COW)     | 10-113 |
| Bowe (DTL)         | 6-111  |
| Jennings (KUT)     | 8-110  |



# LEADER BOARD

## FINAL STANDINGS

### PACIFIC-ATLANTIC CONFERENCE

| East            | W  | L  | T | Pct   | Pts | Ave  | Opp | Ave  | Diff | Home  | Div   | Conf  |
|-----------------|----|----|---|-------|-----|------|-----|------|------|-------|-------|-------|
| Charleswood (z) | 13 | 3  | 0 | 0.813 | 410 | 25.6 | 214 | 13.4 | 12.3 | 7 1 0 | 5 1 0 | 9 1 0 |
| Kutztown        | 7  | 9  | 0 | 0.438 | 294 | 18.4 | 352 | 22   | -3.6 | 3 5 0 | 4 2 0 | 5 5 0 |
| Mohave          | 6  | 10 | 0 | 0.375 | 302 | 18.9 | 357 | 22.3 | -3.4 | 5 3 0 | 3 3 0 | 4 6 0 |
| Viriden         | 4  | 12 | 0 | 0.250 | 273 | 17.1 | 404 | 25.3 | -8.2 | 1 7 0 | 0 6 0 | 2 8 0 |

| West            | W  | L  | T | Pct   | Pts | Ave  | Opp | Ave  | Diff  | Home  | Div   | Conf  |
|-----------------|----|----|---|-------|-----|------|-----|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Los Angeles (z) | 10 | 6  | 0 | 0.625 | 338 | 21.1 | 245 | 15.3 | 5.8   | 6 2 0 | 4 2 0 | 7 3 0 |
| Iowa City (y)   | 9  | 7  | 0 | 0.563 | 323 | 20.2 | 290 | 18.1 | 2.1   | 4 4 0 | 4 2 0 | 6 4 0 |
| Chino (y)       | 9  | 7  | 0 | 0.563 | 333 | 20.8 | 268 | 16.8 | 4.1   | 5 3 0 | 3 3 0 | 6 4 0 |
| Winnemucca      | 1  | 15 | 0 | 0.063 | 199 | 12.4 | 453 | 28.3 | -15.9 | 0 8 0 | 1 5 0 | 1 9 0 |

### CAN-AM CONFERENCE

| North       | W  | L  | T | Pct   | Pts | Ave  | Opp | Ave  | Diff | Home  | Div   | Conf  |
|-------------|----|----|---|-------|-----|------|-----|------|------|-------|-------|-------|
| Durham (z)  | 14 | 2  | 0 | 0.875 | 368 | 23   | 205 | 12.8 | 10.2 | 7 1 0 | 6 0 0 | 8 2 0 |
| Cowtown (y) | 8  | 8  | 0 | 0.500 | 344 | 21.5 | 319 | 19.9 | 1.6  | 6 2 0 | 3 3 0 | 5 5 0 |
| Markham     | 6  | 10 | 0 | 0.375 | 239 | 14.9 | 353 | 22.1 | -7.1 | 3 5 0 | 2 4 0 | 3 7 0 |
| Pickering   | 4  | 12 | 0 | 0.250 | 293 | 18.3 | 407 | 25.4 | -7.1 | 1 7 0 | 1 5 0 | 2 8 0 |

| South        | W  | L  | T | Pct   | Pts | Ave  | Opp | Ave  | Diff | Home  | Div   | Conf   |
|--------------|----|----|---|-------|-----|------|-----|------|------|-------|-------|--------|
| Florida (z)  | 15 | 1  | 0 | 0.938 | 472 | 29.5 | 200 | 12.5 | 17   | 8 0 0 | 6 0 0 | 10 0 0 |
| Gwinnett (y) | 10 | 6  | 0 | 0.625 | 317 | 19.8 | 285 | 17.8 | 2    | 5 3 0 | 4 2 0 | 6 4 0  |
| Garland      | 8  | 8  | 0 | 0.500 | 362 | 22.6 | 390 | 24.4 | -1.8 | 5 3 0 | 1 5 0 | 4 6 0  |
| Ringgold     | 4  | 12 | 0 | 0.250 | 240 | 15   | 365 | 22.8 | -7.8 | 3 5 0 | 1 5 0 | 2 8 0  |

z-clinched division

y-clinched wildcard

## PASSING

|    |                |     | Att | Cmp | C%   | Yards | In | I%  | Lg | TD | TD% | Rate  |
|----|----------------|-----|-----|-----|------|-------|----|-----|----|----|-----|-------|
| 1  | Manning, P     | CHP | 408 | 279 | 68.4 | 3258  | 8  | 2   | 50 | 27 | 6.6 | 106.2 |
| 2  | Rivers, P      | DTL | 433 | 267 | 61.7 | 3841  | 8  | 1.8 | 80 | 28 | 6.5 | 104.3 |
| 3  | Ryan, M        | GDM | 526 | 340 | 64.6 | 3848  | 13 | 2.5 | 69 | 33 | 6.3 | 97    |
| 4  | Warner         | MOH | 466 | 315 | 67.6 | 3443  | 10 | 2.1 | 61 | 22 | 4.7 | 96    |
| 5  | Campbell, J    | LAK | 360 | 231 | 64.2 | 2530  | 8  | 2.2 | 63 | 20 | 5.6 | 94.1  |
| 6  | Rodgers        | FLD | 392 | 264 | 67.3 | 3139  | 10 | 2.6 | 50 | 14 | 3.6 | 92.8  |
| 7  | Cassel         | GWG | 377 | 237 | 62.9 | 2509  | 6  | 1.6 | 43 | 18 | 4.8 | 91.5  |
| 8  | Manning, E     | PIC | 432 | 263 | 60.9 | 3445  | 15 | 3.5 | 74 | 23 | 5.3 | 89.3  |
| 9  | Pennington     | COW | 506 | 316 | 62.5 | 3544  | 11 | 2.2 | 59 | 20 | 4   | 87.4  |
| 10 | Brees          | VV  | 432 | 264 | 61.1 | 3098  | 13 | 3   | 51 | 20 | 4.6 | 85.8  |
| 11 | Roethlisberger | RCH | 436 | 248 | 56.9 | 2768  | 8  | 1.8 | 41 | 16 | 3.7 | 80.5  |
| 12 | Edwards, T     | ICC | 300 | 195 | 65   | 1987  | 9  | 3   | 36 | 8  | 2.7 | 80.2  |
| 13 | Cutler         | CHI | 479 | 302 | 63   | 3036  | 15 | 3.1 | 63 | 16 | 3.3 | 79.1  |
| 14 | Romo           | KUT | 403 | 241 | 59.8 | 2571  | 17 | 4.2 | 44 | 14 | 3.5 | 72.5  |
| 15 | McNabb         | MAR | 397 | 233 | 58.7 | 2515  | 18 | 4.5 | 67 | 13 | 3.3 | 69.4  |

## RUSHING

|   |             | Att | Yds | Ave  | Lg  | TD |    |    | Att        | Yds | Ave | Lg   | TD  |    |   |
|---|-------------|-----|-----|------|-----|----|----|----|------------|-----|-----|------|-----|----|---|
| 1 | Peterson, A | CHP | 354 | 1565 | 4.4 | 69 | 9  | 8  | Lewis, J   | MAR | 274 | 1046 | 3.8 | 19 | 3 |
| 2 | Williams, D | FLD | 264 | 1467 | 5.6 | 48 | 26 | 9  | Barber, M  | COW | 218 | 884  | 4.1 | 40 | 9 |
| 3 | Portis      | VV  | 349 | 1230 | 3.5 | 36 | 1  | 10 | White, L   | CHI | 191 | 806  | 4.2 | 75 | 9 |
| 4 | Turner, M   | DTL | 302 | 1225 | 4.1 | 85 | 6  | 11 | Brown, R   | ICC | 184 | 803  | 4.4 | 53 | 4 |
| 5 | Jacobs, B   | ICC | 240 | 1122 | 4.7 | 49 | 12 | 12 | Slaton     | MOH | 231 | 793  | 3.4 | 80 | 4 |
| 6 | Jones, T    | GWG | 292 | 1116 | 3.8 | 69 | 7  | 13 | Stewart, J | FLD | 169 | 772  | 4.6 | 46 | 6 |
| 7 | Johnson, C  | PIC | 251 | 1076 | 4.3 | 69 | 4  | 14 | Gore       | GDM | 150 | 731  | 4.9 | 46 | 1 |
| 8 | Lewis, J    | MAR | 274 | 1046 | 3.8 | 19 | 3  | 15 | McCoy, L   | KUT | 123 | 703  | 5.7 | 52 | 2 |

## RECEIVING

|   |             | No  | Yds | Ave  | Lg   | TD |    |    | No          | Yds | Ave | Lg   | TD   |    |    |
|---|-------------|-----|-----|------|------|----|----|----|-------------|-----|-----|------|------|----|----|
| 1 | Gonzalez, T | CHP | 95  | 1143 | 12   | 41 | 13 | 8  | Marshall, B | FLD | 82  | 1314 | 16   | 50 | 6  |
| 2 | Jennings, G | KUT | 92  | 1252 | 13.6 | 62 | 7  | 9  | Fitzgerald  | ICC | 81  | 921  | 11.4 | 36 | 4  |
| 3 | Hester, D   | VV  | 89  | 1228 | 13.8 | 40 | 8  | 10 | Smith, S    | LAK | 76  | 908  | 11.9 | 63 | 10 |
| 4 | White, R    | LAK | 89  | 944  | 10.6 | 27 | 8  | 11 | Ward, H     | CHI | 75  | 875  | 11.7 | 39 | 5  |
| 5 | Royal, E    | RCH | 87  | 865  | 9.9  | 33 | 4  | 12 | Coles       | WMO | 75  | 861  | 11.5 | 60 | 3  |
| 6 | Welker      | GDM | 86  | 1035 | 12   | 69 | 14 | 13 | Daniels, O  | MOH | 74  | 786  | 10.6 | 41 | 6  |
| 7 | Johnson, A  | RCH | 85  | 1206 | 14.2 | 41 | 7  | 14 | Houshmandz  | FLD | 74  | 732  | 9.9  | 24 | 0  |
| 8 | Marshall, B | FLD | 82  | 1314 | 16   | 50 | 6  | 15 | Johnson, C  | DTL | 74  | 1337 | 18.1 | 80 | 8  |



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

### OFFENSE



**WR – Andre Johnson, Ringgold Cr. Hawks**  
8 Rec., 116 Yards, 12.9 Avg., Long 25, 2 TD.  
Double-covered most of game. Caught winning TD.

### DEFENSE



**DE – Justin Tuck, Florida Dragons**  
8 Tackles, 3 Sacks, 2 Pressures.  
One man wrecking crew vs Gwinnett offensive line.

### SPECIAL TEAMS



**PR – Reggie Bush, Iowa City Cubs**  
4 PR, 133 Yards, 33.3 Avg., 94 Long, 1 TD.  
First to score for the Cubs in upset over LA.

## INJURY REPORT - Quarter Finals

**CHARLESWOOD** – None. **CHINO** – Moreno (OUT); **COWTOWN** – LaBoy (QUESTIONABLE); Camarillo (OUT). **DURHAM** – None. **FLORIDA** – J. Henderson (OUT); **GWINNETT** – Burluson (OUT), McFadden (OUT); **IOWA CITY** – T. Branch (PROBABLE); **LOS ANGELES** – J. Taylor (OUT).



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**JIMMY THE GEEK GIVES YOU HIS PICKS FOR  
QUARTER FINAL EFL ACTION  
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### PLAYOFF PICTURE AT A GLANCE AFTER 16 GAMES

#### PACIFIC – ATLANTIC CONFERENCE

#### CAN – AM CONFERENCE

IN

ALIVE

OUT

IN

ALIVE

OUT

1



1



2



2



3



3



4



4



## JIMMY'S QUARTER FINAL PICKS

### **GWINNETT @ DURHAM (LINE – THUNDER LIZARDS BY 7)**

The feeble offensive performance of the Gladiators in Week 16 was enough to push them into last place in the league in offensive efficiency, gaining 0.6 yards per game less than lowly Winnemucca. They still managed to finish 9<sup>th</sup> overall in scoring and tied for third overall in wins, with 10. If Gwinnett was an individual player, he would be the kind of plucky “grinder” who barely makes the team by giving “110%” and setting a good example for the lazy, but talented, star players who carry the team. Gwinnett, at #8 in the Power Rankings, appears in that respect to be the weak sister entering the playoff sked. However, a closer look shows a deceptively dangerous team that can shut down opponents and force turnovers. A +10 turnover ratio, combined with the 6<sup>th</sup> highest rated defense in the league and a selectively efficient offence that often turns it on when it must, has been enough to edge out 10 wins this season. They simply win. Durham wins too (14 times this year), because of a league-leading offence piloted by Philip Rivers behind the best offensive line in football, and a good defense that generates lots of turnovers (32). Michael Turner and the running game received a lot of pre-season hype and attention, but it turned out to be the Durham passing

game that set the tone for their offensive dominance, finishing second in efficiency and second in yardage gained. Expect the Lizards' passing attack to go into over-drive with Glads' starting corner Bryant McFadden out and Rivers getting time to throw against a merely average Gwinnett pass rush. To pull off the upset, the Glads will need some significant good luck and hope that Durham is off its game.

**PICK: DURHAM**

### **IOWA CITY @ LOS ANGELES (LINE – KNIGHTS BY 5)**

It looks like the Cubs have the Knights' number this year, winning both regular season match-ups because of turnovers and big scoring plays by the defense and special teams. However, in 46 points scored against LA they have scored just one offensive touchdown, which indicates that they have not solved the fundamental problem of the "Blue Shield." Although the Knights have turned the ball over far too much for comfort (28 times for a -10 turnover ratio), the Cubs cannot continue to rely on finding the end zone with takeaways and must find a way to score on offense if they intend to gain real control of this game. They will have trouble passing against one of the league's top secondary units, but should find room for Brandon Jacobs to run the ball with Jason Taylor out due to injury. The Knights, with the most efficient running game in the league, will naturally try to run the ball, but should be mindful of the Cubs' league-leading run defense. Not only that, but Los Angeles leads the league in fumbles (36) and has lost over half of them (19), while Iowa City leads the league in forced fumbles (34). Ball control, or lack of it, will be the main issue for the Knights. If they can hang on to the ball, they will eventually grind down the Cubs with their elite defense and possession-style offence. If not, we know what the results will be, because we've seen them twice before.

**PICK: IOWA CITY**

### **COWTOWN @ FLORIDA (LINE – DRAGONS BY 10)**

When these two teams met in the regular season, Cowtown was held to a season-low 150 total yards of offence. Florida won the game handily and could have jacked the tally up much higher, but chose instead to run the ball in the second half and run out the clock. The Corn Kings looked completely over-matched in that game and nothing has happened in the interim to change the picture in their favour. In fact, with Greg Camarillo out, Pennington has lost his most reliable option at wide receiver in third down situations. The Cowtown run defense is good enough to keep DeAngelo Williams from running away with the game, but their pass defense has not shown much stopping ability all season, let alone the kind that would shut down Brandon Marshall and TJ Houshmandzadeh. Cowtown can win this, of course, by playing like they have not played all year while Florida does likewise. But who would see *that* coming?

**PICK: FLORIDA**

### **CHINO @ CHARLESWOOD (LINE – PATRIOTS BY 6)**

The Convicts' stature has diminished steadily since they handed Florida their only loss. Chino's problems have been mostly on offence but their highly esteemed defense has also shown signs of disarray. As often is the case, problems on one side of the ball tend to influence the other. The Convicts have isolated and diagnosed the initial illness as an acute case of 'Cutleria,' or Quarterback's Disease, which has spread to the defense. The invasion of the malady has resulted in steady deterioration of performance from week-to-week. Charleswood, on the other hand, is healthy and relatively happy, having just swept three straight from Divisional opponents after getting trounced by Durham. They have already beaten Chino at the 'Big House' this season and now face them in the more supportive confines of Patriot Place. The Pat's defensive backfield is too strong for Jay Cutler. Knowshon Moreno, a key support to LenDale White in the running game, is out with an injury. This game looks like an easy win for Charleswood and I haven't even started to talk about top QB, Peyton Manning, top receiver Tony Gonzalez, and top running back, Adrian Peterson.

**PICK: CHARLESWOOD**

**SHOULD YOU LISTEN TO A THING I SAY??????**  
**HOW I'M DOING AGAINST THE SPREAD**

**LAST WEEK: 4-3-1**

**OVERALL: 84-42-2**