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WEEK  
TWO

October 11<sup>th</sup>, 2009



## CHARLESWOOD BURNED BY MOHAVE HEAT

*PAT'S SLOPPY PLAY, OPPORTUNISTIC HELLFIRE 'D' LEAD TO UPSET*

Three Mohave defenders celebrate after forcing a turnover to stop a Charleswood scoring drive in the second quarter. From left to right: Quintin Mikell, Chris Houston, and Trent Cole. Mikell had a standout day with 10 tackles, 1 forced fumble and 1 pick.



CHARLESWOOD

15



MOHAVE

30

**MOHAVE** – In withering Mohave heat the Patriots faltered every step of the way and the Hellfire took advantage, posting a 30-15 upset of “Charleswood’s Finest” and taking surprise possession of first place in the East Division.

It was a frustrating day for *Peyton Manning* and his crew; forced out of their game plan early to keep pace with a scoring

deficit that got steadily wider from the second quarter onward. A combination of Pats mental errors (18 penalties), opportunistic Hellfire defense (4 turnovers), and precision strikes from *Kurt Warner* and the Mohave offence created a perfect storm for the home team. The result was a curious contest where the Charleswood offence was able to move and control the ball while never seeming to be really in control.

The Pat’s opening drive initially took shape as they intended, without any deception; *Adrian Peterson* charged four straight times at the Mohave line, gaining 27 yards and forcing the ‘D’ to tighten up. Then 2 passes to *Jason Witten* for a total of 23 yards put the ball inside the Mohave red zone. Back to Peterson to finish it off but *Rocky McIntosh* finished it instead by punching the ball loose, creating the first of 4 Mohave takeaways on the day. It was a sign of things to come, although Charleswood initially recovered by stopping the Mohave offence then scoring a touchdown on their next possession to make it 7-0, Pats.

After a *Rob Bironas* field goal for Mohave closed the gap to 7-3, Pat’s coach *Jason Findlay* took a gamble that may have turned the momentum against his team. Facing 4<sup>th</sup> down and 1 at their own 41 yard line early in the second quarter, Findlay elected to keep his offence on the field. After 3 straight Peterson runs he changed pace by giving the ball to *Jerious Norwood*, but the Hellfire ‘D’ was waiting for him and safety *Quintin Mikell* broke through the line untouched to stuff Norwood for a loss. *Kurt Warner* made the Pats pay for that error three plays later, connecting with *Terrell Owens* for a 28-yard TD pass and a 10-7 lead.

On the Pats next possession Findlay went right back to Norwood, who initially provided a burst with a 14-yard gain, but coughed up the ball on the next play at his own 38 yard line when Mikell stripped it from him as he made his turn up-field. Warner took advantage of the shortened field for a second time, completing 3 consecutive passes – the last one an 8-yard TD strike to Justin Gage – to extend the Mohave lead to 17-7.

The Pats got a big break near the end of the first half when *Quentin Jammer* picked off Warner at the Mohave 36 yard line. But the Hellfire would dodge a bullet when Julian Peterson wrapped up Manning behind the line and *Marcus Spears* forced a fumble

to turn the ball over to Mohave at their own 9 yard line with seconds remaining and deny Charleswood another scoring chance.

Mohave took possession to open the second half and moved straight down the field for a score on the strength of two bug runs – **Jerome Harrison** was sprung loose by a nice block by **Travelle Wharton** on a trap play that went for 29 yards; and **Brian Westbrook** dodged and darted his way 33 yards to Pay Dirt to extend the Mohave lead to 24-7. Less than two minutes after that, safety **Quintin Mikell**, already having a great day for Mohave, all but secured the game for his team by intercepting Manning at the Charleswood 36, setting up a field goal by Bironas to make it 27-7.

Penalties and a Hellfire ‘D’ playing downhill would keep Charleswood frustrated in their comeback attempt. The Pats would add a late TD and 2-point convert for show points to get the score into double digits. But in the end – a convincing win for Mohave.

10-10-2009 The Fiery Depths, Temp: 101 Wind: Calm None MVP: <b>Mikell</b>					CHP		MOH	
2008 Charleswood (1-1)	7	0	0	8	-15	First Downs	26	16
2008 Mohave (2-0)	3	14	10	3	-30	Rushes	32-120	2
						Passes	48-31-336	33-18-188
1 8:10 Charleswood	TD	Norwood	3 run (Gostkowski)	(6-58-2:29)	7-0	Sacked	3-22	3-12
1 1:51 Mohave	FG	Bironas	37 (10-64-6:19)		7-3	Fumble	3	0
2 7:59 Mohave	TD	Warner	28 pass to Owens (Bironas)	(3-40-1:00)	7-10	Penalties	18-114	10-72
2 5:18 Mohave	TD	Warner	8 pass to Gage (Bironas)	(3-38-1:29)	7-17	Turnovers	4	1
3 11:10 Mohave	TD	Westbrook	33 run (Bironas)	(10-68-3:50)	7-24	Time	30:51	29:09
3 7:15 Mohave	FG	Bironas	39 (5-14-2:05)		7-27	Third Down	9-18	5-14
4 10:39 Mohave	FG	Bironas	37 (10-47-5:11)		7-30	Fourth Down	0-4	0-0
4 6:09 Charleswood	TD	Manning	15 pass to Berrian (2 - Norwood)	(12-80-4:27)	15-30	Red Att/Td/Fg	5/2/0	5/1/3
						Net Offense	434	298
<b>KEY PERFORMANCES: MOH</b> – Mikell 10 tackles, 1 forced fumble, 1 INT; Peterson 2 sacks; Harrison 6 carries, 72 yards; Westbrook 3 carries, 38 yards, 1 TD; Warner 18 of 33 for 188 yards, 2 TDs, 1 INT; Owens 5 rec., 76 yards, 1 TD; CHA – Manning 31 of 48 for 336 yards, 1 TD, 1 INT, Gonzalez 11 rec., 118 yards, A. Peterson 15 carries, 53 yards, Norwood 11 carries 47 yards 1 TD; Abraham 3 sacks								



**34**

**KUTZTOWN**



**13**

**VIRDEN**

### KUTZTOWN BEARS DOWN IN SECOND HALF

**GAME POINTS:** Tony Romo threw 2 TD passes to Anthony Gonzalez in the second half to subdue the Violators after a closely fought first half. The 2 TD passes keyed a surge of 20 unanswered points for the Golden Bears that was assisted by 2 Drew Brees interceptions on back-to-back series in the third quarter. Earlier in the game, Brees had connected with Marvin Harrison for a 51-yard catch-and-run TD pass to open the scoring. Kutztown had answered with a 100-yard kickoff return for a TD by Felix Jones, but the Violators had pushed back with field goal after starting a drive at their own 2 yard line. Kutztown took the lead for good when Le’Ron McClain converted on 4<sup>th</sup> and goal at the one for a 14-13 half time lead.

**KEY PERFORMANCES: KUT** – Tony Romo completed 20 of 27 for 218 yards and 2 TDs; Greg Jennings caught 8 passes for 98 yards; Le’Ron McClain rushed for 31 yards and 1 TD on 13 carries. VV – Drew Brees completed 14 of 25 for 221 yards, 1 TD and 2 INTS; Devin Hester caught 9 passes for 109 yards.

10-10-2009 TERRORDOME, Temp: 81 Wind: Calm None MVP: <b>Jones</b>					KUT		VV	
2008 Kutztown (1-1)	7	7	10	10	-34	First Downs	19	13
2008 Virden (0-2)	7	6	0	0	-13	Rushes	28-58	30-111
						Passes	27-20-218	25-14-221
1 11:40 Virden	TD	Brees	51 pass to Harrison (Vinatieri)	(4-51-1:36)	0-7	Sacked	1-3	1-7
1 11:26 Kutztown	TD	Jones	100 kick return (Kaeding)	(0-0-0:14)	7-7	Fumble	3	1
2 10:46 Virden	FG	Vinatieri	42 (9-73-5:44)		7-10	Penalties	6-36	7-50
2 5:40 Kutztown	TD	McClain	1 run (Kaeding)	(11-56-5:00)	14-10	Turnovers	1	2
2 0:48 Virden	FG	Vinatieri	30 (11-47-4:50)		14-13	Time	33:14	26:46
3 8:11 Kutztown	TD	Romo	12 pass to Gonzalez (Kaeding)	(8-73-4:56)	21-13	Third Down	4-10	7-17
3 3:16 Kutztown	FG	Kaeding	44 (6-22-3:04)		24-13	Fourth Down	1-1	0-2
4 10:59 Kutztown	TD	Romo	17 pass to Gonzalez (Kaeding)	(11-53-5:22)	31-13	Red Att/Td/Fg	7/3/0	2/0/1
4 2:51 Kutztown	FG	Kaeding	49 (9-23-5:53)		34-13	Net Offense	273	325



DURHAM



COWTOWN

26

14

### LIZARDS WIN GIFT-WRAPPED WITH A BOWE

**GAME POINTS:** Dwayne Bowe caught two TD passes, one while he was double-covered, to make the difference in the game and give Durham an important road victory against Division-rival, Cowtown. Bowe's first score came on high ball from Philip Rivers that Bowe wrestled away from two defenders after Karlos Dansby had put the Lizards in scoring position with his 3<sup>rd</sup> interception of the young season. Cowtown came back to lead at one point 14-10, but after that turnovers and penalties kept them from mounting an attack. Chad Pennington accounted for 4 turnovers on 2 picks and 2 fumbled snaps.

**KEY PERFORMANCES:** DTL – Philip Rivers completed 23 of 30 passes for 297 yards, 2 TDs; Dwayne Bowe, 5 rec., for 109 yards and 2 TDs; Michael Turner carried 23 times for 70 yards; Patrick Kerney had 1 sack, 2 stuffs and 1 forced fumble. COW – Chad Pennington completed 21 of 37 passes for 240 yards, 1 TD and 2 INTS; Earnest Graham had 80 total yards and scored 2 TDs.

10-10-2009 Tillman Field, Temp: 66 Wind: 5-15 None MVP: Rivers			DTL	COW
2008 Durham (2-0)	10 6 10 0	- 26	First Downs	22
2008 Cowtown (0-2)	7 7 0 0	- 14	Rushes	32-95
			Passes	30-23-297
1 8:45 Durham	TD Rivers 13 pass to Bowe (Crosby) (4-11-1:08)	7-0	Sacked	2-18
1 3:06 Cowtown	TD Pennington 6 pass to Graham (Hanson,J) (11-78-5:39)	7-7	Fumble	1
1 0:41 Durham	FG Crosby 27 (5-63-2:25)	10-7	Penalties	2-15
2 10:47 Cowtown	TD Graham 1 run (Hanson,J) (11-67-4:50)	10-14	Turnovers	1
2 6:19 Durham	FG Crosby 35 (8-48-4:28)	13-14	Time	34:45
2 0:03 Durham	FG Crosby 37 (13-60-3:43)	16-14	Third Down	10-13
3 4:49 Durham	TD Rivers 24 pass to Bowe (Crosby) (12-97-6:57)	23-14	Fourth Down	0-0
3 0:52 Durham	FG Crosby 18 (3-2-2:08)	26-14	Red Att/Td/Fg	7/1/3
			Net Offense	374
				341

### CHRIS JOHNSON LEADS SPARTANS CHARGE

**GAME POINTS:** Chris Johnson squeezed through a wall of tacklers and broke free for a 69-yard TD run to give Pickering a 21-11 lead late in the fourth quarter. There would be no miraculous comeback for the North Stars this week as the Spartans 'D' blanketed receiver Devery Henderson for Markham's final 14 plays from scrimmage. Eli Manning, signed by Markham as a free agent but traded to Pickering before the start of the season, completed 7 of 8 passes for 70 yards, including an 8-yard TD pass to Tony Scheffler, on the opening scoring drive. Markham ran the ball 9 out of 10 plays on their only TD drive.

**KEY PERFORMANCES:** PIC – Eli Manning completed 17 of 25 passes for 198 yards and 1 TD; Chris Johnson rushed for 152 yards and 1 TD on 19 carries; Marlin Jackson forced 2 fumbles. MAR – Donovan McNabb completed 25 of 41 passes for 231 yards and 1 INT; Bobby Engram caught 7



PICKERING



MARKHAM

21

11

10-10-2009 The Dawg Pound, Temp: 68 Wind: 5-15 None MVP: Chris Johnson			PIC	MAR
2008 Pickering (1-1)	7 7 0 7	- 21	First Downs	16
2008 Markham (1-1)	0 3 0 8	- 11	Rushes	28-168
			Passes	25-17-198
1 4:05 Pickering	TD Manning 8 pass to Scheffler (Kasay) (14-80-7:18)	7-0	Sacked	1-4
2 5:00 Pickering	TD Jackson 6 run (Kasay) (8-80-4:35)	14-0	Fumble	1
2 0:06 Markham	FG Longwell 34 (7-53-1:09)	14-3	Penalties	5-50
4 12:43 Markham	TD Pittman 3 run (2 - Pittman) (10-66-6:13)	14-11	Turnovers	0
4 5:25 Pickering	TD Johnson 69 run (Kasay) (3-87-1:38)	21-11	Time	28:21
			Third Down	7-13
			Fourth Down	0-0
			Red Att/Td/Fg	4/2/0
			Net Offense	362
				343



**34**

**GWINNETT**



**21**

**GARLAND**

## GLADIATORS RIDE MUSTANGS TO VICTORY

**GAME POINTS:** **Matt Cassel** threw 2 TD passes and **Thomas Jones** rushed for 2 more as Gwinnett tore through Garland's defense, controlling the ball for 38 minutes en route to an easy victory. Cassel hit **Braylon Edwards** in stride on a long crossing pattern for a 30-yard TD to open the scoring. After Garland was flagged for offsides on a long Gladiator FG attempt, Jones ran the ball the remaining 28 yards in 2 carries to extend Gwinnett's lead to 14-0. **Matt Ryan** countered with an 8-yard TD pass to **Wes Welker** to keep the game within reach heading into half time. But Gwinnett closed the deal by pouring it on with 17 points in the third quarter, capitalizing on costly interceptions thrown by Ryan.

**KEY PERFORMANCES:** **Matt Cassel** completed 13 of 19 passes for 145 yards, 2 TDs and 1 INT; **Thomas Jones** rushed for 144 yards and 2 TDs on 25 carries. GDM – **Matt Ryan** completed 19 of 32 passes for 216 yards, 2 TDs and 4 INTs; **Frank Gore** rushed for 45 yards on 8 carries; **Matt Forte** rushed for 7 yards and 1 TD on 7 carries.

10-10-2009 The Corral, Temp: 81 Wind: 0-5 None MVP: **Thomas Jones**

2008 Gwinnett (1-1) 7 7 17 3 -34  
2008 Garland (1-1) 0 7 7 7 -21

1 5:26 Gwinnett TD Cassel 30 pass to Edwards (Brown,J) (10-86-5:38) 7-0  
2 13:15 Gwinnett TD Jones 14 run (Brown,J) (10-60-4:33) 14-0  
2 9:14 Garland TD Ryan 8 pass to Welker (Gould) (9-65-4:01) 14-7  
3 10:37 Gwinnett FG Brown 29 (8-55-4:23) 17-7  
3 8:51 Gwinnett TD Cassel 2 pass to Wayne (Brown,J) (3-7-1:19) 24-7  
3 5:30 Garland TD Ryan 6 pass to Keller (Gould) (8-69-3:21) 24-14  
3 1:48 Gwinnett TD Jones 3 run (Brown,J) (2-3-0:10) 31-14  
4 10:49 Garland TD Forte 1 run (Gould) (12-80-5:59) 31-21  
4 0:41 Gwinnett FG Brown 24 (12-58-10:08) 34-21

	GWG	GDM
First Downs	24	17
Rushes	44-216	16-54
Passes	19-13-145	32-19-216
Sacked	0-0	1-7
Fumble	0	0
Penalties	5-50	4-24
Turnovers	1	4
Time	38:08	21:52
Third Down	9-13	6-9
Fourth Down	0-0	1-1
Red Att/Td/Fg	5/3/2	3/3/0
Net Offense	361	263

## DRAGONS TAKE GAME FROM HAWKS

**GAME POINTS:** With the Hawks and Dragons tied at 7 apiece in the first quarter, **Aaron Rodgers** connected on a 46-yard TD pass to **Jerricho Cotchery** to put Florida ahead 14-7. After both teams traded field goals, **Quintin Demps** stretched Florida's lead to 14 with a dramatic 102-yard kickoff return for a TD to close out the first half. A **Kerry Rhodes** interception and 41-yard return to the Florida 9 gave Ringgold hope early in the second half, setting up a 1-yard TD plunge by **Maurice Jones-Drew**. But **Lofa Tatupu** forced a fumble by **Ben Roethlisberger** at the Ringgold 13 to set up a 5-yard TD run by **DeAngelo Williams**. **Antonio Cromartie** added a pick return for a TD to finish the rout.

**KEY PERFORMANCES:** **Aaron Rodgers** completed 9 of 13 passes for 127 yard, 1 TD and 1 INT; **DeAngelo Williams** gained 66 yards on 14 carries and scored 2 TDs; **Ben Roethlisberger** completed 6 of 14 passes for 86 yards, 1 TD and 1 INT; **Maurice Jones-Drew** gained 13 yards on 7 carries and 1 TD.



**17**

**RINGGOLD**



**41**

**FLORIDA**

10-10-2009 Dragonmount, Temp: 91 Wind: 0-5 None MVP: **Demps**

2008 Ringgold (0-2) 7 3 7 0 -17  
2008 Florida (2-0) 14 10 14 3 -41

1 9:27 Florida TD Williams 8 run (Elam,J) (7-50-4:19) 0-7  
1 6:38 Ringgold TD Roethlisberger 18 pass to Holmes (Suisham) (5-62-2:49) 7-7  
1 2:08 Florida TD Rodgers 46 pass to Cotchery (Elam,J) (7-86-4:30) 7-14  
2 9:22 Florida FG Elam 42 (5-23-2:52) 7-17  
2 5:15 Ringgold FG Suisham 44 (6-33-4:03) 10-17  
2 4:56 Florida TD Demps 102 kick return (Elam,J) (0-0-0:13) 10-24  
3 9:13 Ringgold TD Jones-Drew 1 run (Suisham) (3-9-0:54) 17-24  
3 4:55 Florida TD Williams 5 run (Elam,J) (3-13-1:38) 17-31  
3 0:46 Florida TD Cromartie 90 interception return (Elam,J) (0-0-0:00) 17-38  
4 6:57 Florida FG Elam 48 (6-21-4:48) 17-41

	RCH	FLD
First Downs	13	13
Rushes	25-65	35-133
Passes	23-11-125	13-9-127
Sacked	1-3	1-8
Fumble	2	0
Penalties	5-38	9-83
Turnovers	5	1
Time	28:12	31:48
Third Down	6-12	3-10
Fourth Down	0-1	0-0
Red Att/Td/Fg	4/2/0	2/2/0
Net Offense	187	252





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LOS ANGELES



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WINNEMUCCA

### KNIGHTS LOCK UP OUTLAWS

**GAME POINTS:** An even defensive struggle in the first quarter broke 3 minutes into the second when **Charles Woodson** intercepted **David Garrard** and took it to “the house” for 7 points. Winnemucca’s offense responded with their best drive of the day, covering 42 yards and featuring three plays of 10 or more yards to set up a 37-yard FG by **Shayne Graham**. That would be it for the Outlaw’s attack. The Knights would shut them down the rest of the way, holding them to just 1 first down and no points, giving the Knights offense all day to move the ball and grind down the Winnemucca ‘D’ for an easy win.

**KEY PERFORMANCES:** **Jason Campbell** completed 16 of 21 passes for 198 yards and 1 TD; **Tatum Bell**, **Shonn Greene** and **Jamaal Charles** combined for 141 yards on 31 carries; **Mark Bradley** had 8 catches for 96 yards. **David Garrard** completed 9 of 19 passes for 71 yards and 2 INTS; **Pierre Thomas** rushed for 21 yards on 12 carries; **Kyle Larson** punted 6 times, averaging 44.5 yards/punt.

10-10-2009 Hole in the Wall, Temp:-1 Wind: None MVP: <b>Campbell</b>	LAK	WMO
2008 Los Angeles (1-1) 0 14 10 7 - 31	First Downs 23	6
2008 Winnemucca (0-2) 0 3 0 0 - 3	Rushes 41-174	19-39
2 11:49 Los Angeles TD Woodson 17 interception return (Brown,K) (0-0-0:00) 7-0	Passes 23-18-209	19-9-71
2 3:54 Winnemucca FG Graham 37 (13-42-6:08) 7-3	Sacked 1-7	2-9
2 0:45 Los Angeles TD Campbell 12 pass to White (Brown,K) (9-77-3:04) 14-3	Fumble 1	1
3 8:39 Los Angeles TD Benson 2 run (Brown,K) (10-68-5:10) 21-3	Penalties 4-35	7-58
3 0:46 Los Angeles FG Brown 43 (6-18-3:56) 24-3	Turnovers 0	2
4 12:43 Los Angeles TD Jackson 6 pass to Battle (Brown,K) (5-32-1:28) 31-3	Time 37:17	22:43
	Third Down 5-13	1-8
	Fourth Down 1-3	0-1
	Red Att/Td/Fg 4/3/0	1/0/1
	Net Offense 376	101

### ALL CHINO, ALL THE TIME IN CUBS BEATDOWN

**GAME POINTS:** There was no suspense in this one. The Convicts started off with an easy field goal after the Cub’s **Tyvon Branch** fumbled the opening kickoff at his own 12 yard line. Then **Brandon Jacobs** lost a fumble on Iowa’s next possession, setting up Chino in Cub’s territory and leading to **LendDale White** 1-yard TD run up the gut for a 10-0 lead. **Jeff Reed** missed two field goals to slow the Convicts offense until **Knowshon Moreno** caught a pass in the flat from **Jay Cutler** and ran it in from 4 yards for a TD and a 17-0 lead. **Joshua Cribbs** took the opening kickoff of the second half the distance for a 98-yard TD to make the outcome a foregone conclusion against the punchless Cubs attack.

**KEY PERFORMANCES:** **Jay Cutler** completed 24 of 35 passes for 253 yard, 1 TD and 1 INT; **Knowshon Moreno** rushed for 24 yards on 8 carries; **Hines Ward** had 7 catches for 90 yards. **Trent Edwards** completed 14 of 22 passes for 134 yards; **Lee Evans** had 6 catches for 68 yards.



6

IOWA CITY



30

CHINO

10-11-2009. The Big House, Temp: 84 Wind: 0-5 None MVP: <b>Cribbs</b>	ICC	CHI
2008 Iowa City (1-1) 0 0 0 6 - 6	First Downs 10	21
2008 Chino (2-0) 10 7 10 3 - 30	Rushes 28-58	36-63
1 12:55 Chino FG Reed 22 (3-7-2:05) 0-3	Passes 22-14-134	35-24-253
1 6:51 Chino TD White 1 run (Reed,J) (8-41-3:48) 0-10	Sacked 1-7	1-7
2 0:19 Chino TD Cutler 4 pass to Moreno (Reed,J) (11-80-2:38) 0-17	Fumble 3	2
3 14:45 Chino TD Cribbs 98 kick return (Reed,J) (0-0-0:15) 0-24	Penalties 4-35	5-26
3 0:40 Chino FG Reed 32 (14-45-9:15) 0-27	Turnovers 2	1
4 11:48 Iowa City FG Rackers 20 (9-44-3:47) 3-27	Time 23:18	36:42
4 5:04 Chino FG Reed 48 (13-37-6:41) 3-30	Third Down 2-12	15-19
4 2:25 Iowa City FG Rackers 50 (8-30-2:35) 6-30	Fourth Down 1-3	2-2
	Red Att/Td/Fg 1/0/1	9/2/2
	Net Offense 185	309



# AROUND THE EFL With Spats McChad

NEW YORK – If you question the value of trademark or “branding,” then pause to consider the approaching legal battle over the rights to the name, ‘Tavern on the Green.’ The City owns the building housing the famous restaurant in Central Park and is due to take over operations this year. The family that has run the place since 1970 owns the trademark on the name, apparently worth close to \$20 million. The City did not originally claim the name when preparing the change in management but changed its mind yesterday. I can just imagine the City lawyers huddling on that one, wracking their brains on how to deprive a bankrupt family of their legal due.

The previously uncontested trademark is suddenly a point of debate now that creditors are clamoring for cash. No doubt the fight over the name will cost a significant portion of its value and will descend into a bitter battle over complex details that serve to obfuscate a simple fact: to own words or a combination of words to serve as unique identifiers of the services or goods that you provide, you must have a trademark. The family has it and it is legal. It has served them for almost 40 years. Are we going to contest the legality of every trademark as soon as its value comes into play? It should not matter if the name was in use prior to the family claiming it as their own. They recognized the value of it to enhance their business and claimed it long ago. Why didn’t the City think of it back when they gave the business over? The City should pay up and move on – right now they look like cheap bullies.

### ***THE KEY TO DEFEATING FLORIDA.....***

.....is missing. I have looked everywhere; on the “run-on-them” nightstand, in the “blitz-em” jacket pocket, on the “west-coast-offence-them-to-death” kitchen table, and even under the dreaded “pooch-punt-on-third-down” rug. The key is nowhere to be found in any of these places. I suspect **Aaron Rodgers** has the key in his pocket, but he won’t tell anyone and he’s not around long enough to ask.

Rodgers has taken the field with his team in both games but has done just enough to get the ‘Week One’ and ‘Week Two’ T-shirts. He has the fewest pass attempts in the league among starting quarterbacks and his coach has refrained from putting the game on his shoulders to the point where you wonder if he wouldn’t be content running **DeAngelo Williams** and **Johnathan Stewart** 40 times or more a game if he could get away with it. Rodgers has responded, as coaches and analysts love to say, by dutifully “managing the game.” In fairness, he has not *had* to do much. Special teams and the defense have already accounted for 4 touchdowns a mere two games into the season and 6 takeaways by the defense have shortened the field and kept pressure on the opposition. It’s still very early, but Florida has not trailed in a game yet this year. Shades of 2008, but even more dominant!

I think the key for Florida’s opponents is to get a lead and force **Aaron Rodgers** to open the door for his team. Getting a significant lead on Florida is easier said than done. It is beyond the reach of most teams. But for the top echelon teams the task is less daunting and it really is the top echelon teams that Florida has to be concerned about. For Florida, winning the Division is a given – how they perform in the playoffs is the key to their season. The true test of Rodgers will come then. How he performs in all the pop quizzes between now and then is mostly just showmanship.

### ***THE CASE FOR A LONGER PRE-SEASON (A special “NEW YORK GRIPES” Feature)***

The EFL caved into the players and coaches wishes when they shortened the pre-season to 3 games from the previous old NFL standard of 4. The best case for bringing back a 4-game pre-season is the shabby display from teams across the board in Week Two of the EFL season. I am hard pressed to remember a feebler, less

exhilarating slate of performances this early in any pro football season. Flipping from channel to channel on EFL Sunday Ticket was like watching a cluster of crazy Japanese game shows, jam-packed with slapstick stunts performed by every day people. Those shows are a gas when I am drunk and looking for something whacky and humiliating for the participants (like watching Winnemucca games) but when it comes to my 'Football Sunday,' I am *serious*. While I like a little comedic relief on the gridiron to break the tension of watching my fantasy team go up in flames, I expect – in fact *demand* – drama and athletic excellence from professional football players.

The best game of the week was in Mohave, where the Hellfire upset the Patriots 30-15 in a game that would not have normally drawn such attention except for the complete lack of anything better to watch. To be sure, **Kurt Warner** and his supporting cast of **T.O.** and **Brian Westbrook** made some plays on offence while the Hellfire defense, led by safety **Quintin Mikell**, was both inspired at times and opportunistic at others. The Pats also stunk, which helped Mohave. But at least the outcome was *different*.

The narrowest margin of victory this week was 10 points; Pickering topping Markham 21-11 in a game that was not as close as that. In total there were 31 turnovers, almost two per team on average. Running backs in general, except for **Chris Johnson** and **Thomas Jones**, took the week off. Referees generally got involved more than I would have liked but I couldn't blame them – the players were flat out cheating out there on the field.

What does all this mean? Are offences becoming inept or defenses more sophisticated? Are players becoming lazy? Are coaches over-analyzing or going with their "gut" more? Does the imminent approach of 2012 have anything to do with it?

I have my own theories. I think that while players are getting bigger, stronger, and faster than ever, they are also becoming mentally lazier, less disciplined and impatient. A longer pre-season schedule, tougher drills, more exhibition playing time for starters, and a higher threat of pre-season injury will sharpen the player's mental awareness and basic skills; such as tackling and catching and avoiding tackles and stopping catches. Maybe then we won't have to wait until six weeks into the season to see good football.

#### ***HANGING CHAD***

**Chad Pennington** is the third highest paid quarterback in the EFL; signed to a five-year contract after Gwinnett flirted with him in the off-season and caused Corn Kings Management to panic and send him flowers, cars, paid trips to the Caribbean, and a cashier's cheque for \$7,221,000 for 2009. Chad is also the 13<sup>th</sup> rated quarterback in the EFL after two games and is so far looking very similar to the injury-plagued 2008 version of Chad.

After Pennington had a personal hand in turning the ball over 4 times in a critical Week Two loss against rival Durham, angry Corn Kings fans are ready to hang Chad from the church bell tower next to the Farmer's Market (Cowtown's equivalent of Wall Street) in Cowtown Central Square. Normally forgiving and sentimental about their own, Cowtown fans are surprisingly irate these days when the subject turns to Chad. It is an unusual attitude for a Community that extends the concept of "kin" to anyone with a local zip code for an address. Pennington funds a breakfast program for students in the Country Bumpkin School Network and keeps his kids out of school during the Fall harvest season in support of local farmers. He shows up at all the squash-growing competitions and hunts deer with the Mayor during the off-season. His credentials in the community are top-notch. So why are Cowtown fans ready to ship him off to Winnemucca with all of the other washed up veteran quarterbacks?

The answer is the guy behind Pennington, **Joe Flacco**. Without any practice or experience, he placed second in the annual 'Golden Straw Hay-Baling Extravaganza.' In Cowtown, that's almost like winning the 'Masters'! In addition to dating the Mayor's youngest daughter, Emma-Lou, he is tall, throws a mean horseshoe, can square dance, and goes to Church every Sunday during the off-season. He has seen precious little game action with the Corn Kings in his brief career but as far as the fans are concerned he is a "good ol' boy" and ready to lead their team. Chad better get his act together or he is gone.

#### ***THE PILLSBURY TURNOVER AWARD***

In the team category, Ringgold is leading the race for most turnovers with 10. The Crimson Hawks should be recognized and thanked for enabling, through turnovers, a Week One upset by the Garland Mustangs that generated much interest and excitement for everyone outside of Ringgold and provided fodder for a "good news" story about the triumphant return of football to Garland. This past week they gave the game away to Florida, who didn't need the help to beat them but did so much more convincingly with five turnovers helping

them along. On the other side, the Crimson Hawks have taken the ball away only twice in two games, giving them a net turnover/takeaway ratio of -8. For those who need it spelled out, that is *really bad*. Tim Molinaro is in for a long and horrendous season if this trend continues at even half the pace that it is after two games.

**PAPER BAG FANS**

It is still too early to see *legitimate* paper bag fans in the seats, but beginning around Week Five they should begin appearing in significant numbers in cities where the local teams are not faring so well. To be proper and legitimate, the paper bag fan should support a team that is not just currently bad, but has been consistently bad in the past and probably will be bad for the foreseeable future – a team without hope; an embarrassment to its fans and a disgrace to the league. I am dying to weigh in with my “Paper Bag:” predictions right now, but must hold off one more week at least in order to preserve conventional fictions surrounding such teams at the start of seasons; fictions contained in lines such as “*it’s too early to write them off,*” and “*if they can avoid injury they can make an impact,*” and “*on any given Sunday this team can surprise you*” – all designed to maintain the illusion that analysts don’t jump to conclusions based on limited evidence and promote false interest in those teams to keep readers and watcher interested.

**ON A POSITIVE NOTE**

I have been more negative about football this week than even I am accustomed to being for reasons I have already stated. On a positive note I bought two cases of hot pepper sardines at the local ‘Stop ‘n Shop’ for half the usual price at a time when the prices of other football snacks are rising. I’m looking forward to next week.

**SPATS.**



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

**PLAY OF THE WEEK**

**SITUATION**

Pickering 14 Markham 11 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter, 5:25 remaining  
Spartans in possession, 2nd down & 7 at own 13 yard line.  
PRO set vs. 4-3-4 package, MEDIUM coverage, defense keying RUN - Johnson.

**RESULT**

Chris Johnson breaks tackles at the line and busts through for a 69-yard TD run!

**ANALYSIS**

Huge play that clinched a must-win for Pickering  
Chris Johnson is joining the ranks of the league’s most dangerous running backs.

**WEEK TWO LEADERS**

**PASSING**

**RUSHING**

**RECEIVING**

Manning, P (CHA)	48-31-336
Rivers, P (DTL)	30-23-297
Cutler (CHI)	35-24-253
Pennington (COW)	37-21-240
McNabb (MAR)	41-25-231

Johnson, Chris (PIC)	19-152
Jones, T (GWG)	25-144
Harrison, J. (MOH)	6-72
Turner (DTL)	23-70
Graham (COW)	17-67

Gonzalez, T. (CHA)	11-118
Bowe (DTL)	5-109
Hester (VV)	9-109
Jennings, G (KUT)	8-98
Bradley, M. (LAK)	8-96



# LEADER BOARD

## STANDINGS

### Pacific-Atlantic Conference

East	W	L	T	Pct	Pts	Ave	Opp	Ave	Diff	Home	Div	Conf
Mohave	2	0	0	1.000	47	23.5	31	15.5	8	1 0 0	2 0 0	2 0 0
Charleswood	1	1	0	0.500	49	24.5	40	20	4.5	1 0 0	1 1 0	1 1 0
Kutztown	1	1	0	0.500	44	22	47	23.5	-1.5	0 0 0	1 1 0	1 1 0
Virден	0	2	0	0.000	29	14.5	51	25.5	-11	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0

West	W	L	T	Pct	Pts	Ave	Opp	Ave	Diff	Home	Div	Conf
Chino	2	0	0	1.000	54	27	16	8	19	1 0 0	2 0 0	2 0 0
Iowa City	1	1	0	0.500	26	13	43	21.5	-8.5	1 0 0	1 1 0	1 1 0
Los Angeles	1	1	0	0.500	44	22	23	11.5	10.5	0 0 0	1 1 0	1 1 0
Winnemucca	0	2	0	0.000	13	6.5	55	27.5	-21	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0

### Can-Am Conference

North	W	L	T	Pct	Pts	Ave	Opp	Ave	Diff	Home	Div	Conf
Durham	2	0	0	1.000	57	28.5	28	14	14.5	1 0 0	2 0 0	2 0 0
Markham	1	1	0	0.500	31	15.5	38	19	-3.5	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0
Pickering	1	1	0	0.500	35	17.5	42	21	-3.5	0 0 0	1 1 0	1 1 0
Cowtown	0	2	0	0.000	31	15.5	46	23	-7.5	0 1 0	0 2 0	0 2 0

South	W	L	T	Pct	Pts	Ave	Opp	Ave	Diff	Home	Div	Conf
Florida	2	0	0	1.000	75	37.5	27	13.5	24	1 0 0	2 0 0	2 0 0
Garland	1	1	0	0.500	40	20	51	25.5	-5.5	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0
Gwinnett	1	1	0	0.500	44	22	55	27.5	-5.5	0 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0
Ringgold	0	2	0	0.000	34	17	60	30	-13	0 0 0	0 2 0	0 2 0

## PASSING

			Att	Cmp	C%	Yards	In	I%	Lg	TD	TD%	Rate
1	Rivers, P	DTL	52	37	71.2	621	0	0	80	3	5.8	130.4
2	Campbell, J	LAK	50	37	74	433	0	0	47	2	4	113.2
3	Warner	MOH	57	39	68.4	439	2	3.5	34	4	7	100
4	Cassel	GWG	44	27	61.4	283	1	2.3	38	3	6.8	93.3
5	Manning, P	CHP	71	46	64.8	475	2	2.8	32	3	4.2	86.3
6	Cutler	CHI	69	47	68.1	470	2	2.9	33	2	2.9	84.8
7	Romo	KUT	63	40	63.5	387	2	3.2	22	3	4.8	83.2
8	Rodgers	FLD	33	21	63.6	254	2	6.1	46	2	6.1	82.1
9	McNabb	MAR	73	42	57.5	485	1	1.4	67	1	1.4	76.6
10	Edwards, T	ICC	48	29	60.4	271	0	0	17	0	0	76
11	Brees	VV	51	28	54.9	379	2	3.9	51	2	3.9	75.5
12	Manning,E	PIC	58	39	67.2	435	4	6.9	42	2	3.4	72.1
13	Pennington	COW	68	42	61.8	417	3	4.4	37	2	2.9	70.5
14	Ryan, M	GDM	50	31	62	381	4	8	32	2	4	65.5
15	Roethlisberger	RCH	63	33	52.4	379	4	6.3	27	3	4.8	60.2

## RUSHING

			Att	Yds	Ave	Lg	TD			Att	Yds	Ave	Lg	TD	
1	Turner, M	DTL	50	231	4.6	85	2	8	Jacobs, B	ICC	31	117	3.8	23	1
2	Johnson, C	PIC	29	205	7.1	69	2	9	Brown, R	ICC	13	88	6.8	53	0
3	Williams, D	FLD	34	204	6	48	3	10	Washington, L	GWG	15	81	5.4	12	0
4	Jones, T	GWG	40	195	4.9	14	2	11	Moore, M	COW	19	80	4.2	11	1
5	Peterson, A	CHP	36	158	4.4	17	0	12	Harrison, J	MOH	8	79	9.9	29	0
6	Lewis, J	MAR	34	140	4.1	16	0	13	McCoy, L	KUT	12	79	6.6	52	0
7	Portis	VV	41	136	3.3	13	0	14	Moreno	CHI	16	71	4.4	13	1
8	Jacobs, B	ICC	31	117	3.8	23	1	15	Jones-Drew	RCH	24	69	2.9	19	1

## RECEIVING

			No	Yds	Ave	Lg	TD			No	Yds	Ave	Lg	TD	
1	Jennings, G	KUT	18	196	10.9	22	1	8	White, R	LAK	12	116	9.7	21	1
2	Gonzalez, T	CHP	17	177	10.4	32	0	9	Ward, H	CHI	11	150	13.6	33	0
3	Hester, D	VV	14	186	13.3	35	1	10	Johnson, A	RCH	11	142	12.9	27	0
4	Boldin	CHI	14	152	10.9	28	1	11	Camarillo	COW	10	106	10.6	30	0
5	Gonzalez, A	KUT	13	106	8.2	17	2	12	Walter, K	COW	10	141	14.1	37	1
6	Owens, T	MOH	12	164	13.7	28	2	13	Evans, L	ICC	9	99	11	16	0
7	Bradley, M	LAK	12	156	13	47	0	14	Bruce, I	PIC	9	88	9.8	34	0
8	White, R	LAK	12	116	9.7	21	1	15	Bowe	DTL	9	176	19.6	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 – Chris Johnson, Pickering Spartans

19 Carries, 152 yards, 8.0 Avg., 69 Lg., 1 TD.

His 69-yard TD run broke open the game versus Markham.

### DEFENSE



#### S – Quintin Mikell, Mohave Hellfire

10 Tackles, 1 Deflection, 1 Stuff, 1 Forced Fumble, 1 INT.

Everywhere he needed to be keep Charleswood off scoresheet.

### SPECIAL TEAMS



#### KR – Felix Jones, Kutztown Golden Bears

3 KR, 170 yards, 56.7 avg., 100 yd long, 1 TD.

100-yard return for a TD got Bears on track versus Virden.

## INJURY REPORT - Week Three

**CHARLESWOOD** – None; **CHINO** – P. Williams (OUT); **COWTOWN** – Schobel (OUT), Saturday (OUT); **DURHAM** – None; **FLORIDA** – Marshall (DOUBTFUL), Rubin (OUT); **GARLAND** – None; **GWINNETT** – D.J. Williams (OUT); **IOWA CITY** – J. Peters (OUT), Winslow (OUT), Podlesh (OUT), Mack (OUT); **KUTZTOWN** – None; **LOS ANGELES** – S. Young (OUT), S. Smith (OUT); **MARKHAM** – C. Johnson (OUT); **MOHAVE** – Allison (DOUBTFUL), J. Harrison (OUT), R. Harper (OUT), Sims (OUT), C. Bailey (OUT); **PICKERING** – D. Harris (OUT), Ryan Clark (OUT); **RINGGOLD** – T. Jackson (PROBABLE), Watson (OUT), Brackett (OUT); **VIRDEN** – Hester (PROBABLE); **WINNEMUCCA** – Harvin (OUT).



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THREE EFL ACTION**

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## JIMMY'S WEEK THREE PICKS

### **WINNEMUCCA @ IOWA CITY (LINE – CUBS BY 6)**

The roller coaster ride for Iowa City after two games has been short but sharp – an emotional last minute victory against the Knights in Week One followed by a deflating letdown in Chino in Week Two. Meanwhile, Winnemucca has performed as expected – inadequately. The Cubs are missing Jason Peters and Kellen Winslow to injuries, which will cause problems down the road if they stay out, but for this week at least will not be too concerning for them since they face the Outlaws and should be able to move the ball anyway. Winnemucca could be the worst team in the league. If they have any ambition heading into this game it will be to keep it close and hope for a whacky break or ten their way.

**PICK: IOWA CITY**

### **CHINO @ LOS ANGELES (LINE – CONVICTS BY 3)**

The “Game of the Week” has all the makings of a titanic defensive struggle. The Convicts, despite scoring 54 points in two games, have not been moving the ball offensively with their customary ease. L.T. is averaging just 1.5 yards a carry and Jay Cutler is being asked to do more – with mixed results. If he has to go to the air against the Knights he will get into trouble. In LA, the ‘Jason Campbell Era’ is off to a promising start with the Knights signal-caller currently ranked second in the league in QB rating and making plays to boot – he was a Roddy White fumble away from leading his team to victory in the final seconds in Week One against Iowa City. He faces his biggest test of the early season this week against a daunting Convicts defense. His first priority will be one of his strengths – control the ball. The team that gives the ball away least will win. I can’t believe I’m saying this, but put your trust in the Knight’s QB in this game.

**PICK: LOS ANGELES**

### **MARKHAM @ DURHAM (LINE – THUNDER LIZARDS BY 8)**

Durham can sweep their first pass at their Division rivals and go 3-0 with a victory at home against the North Stars. The Lizards are healthy on paper but expect them to rest some of their starters on defense who are nursing nagging ailments. Philip Rivers is on fire to start the season and Michael Turner is leading the league in rushing. Chad Johnson is out for Markham, which will hurt their passing game. The North Stars

really have nothing more than a faint “Hail Mary” hope to win this game, but if they plan on trying they must put that fine offensive line to work and keep the ball away from the Durham offence.

**PICK: DURHAM**

### **COWTOWN @ PICKERING (LINE – CORN KINGS BY 3)**

The Corn Kings are off to a disappointing start due primarily to turnovers and inconsistent play from the quarterback position. Pickering looked surprisingly robust in taking a game from Markham on the road last week to pull their record even at 1-1. Cowtown is already in a must-win position, not wanting to drop another Division game, but they face a challenge on the road against Donovan McNabb. The Corn Kings have to win this and I think they *should* win this. Why am I not so cocksure about it, though?

**PICK: COWTOWN**

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

The Mustangs came back down to Earth last week against the Gladiators. Now they are about to go inside the Earth on the road at Dragonmount against the 2-0 Dragons. If the first two games are a reliable indication (and I’m beginning to wonder if precedent is reliable anymore in this league) then Florida should walk away with this game without breaking a sweat. However, don’t underestimate Matt Ryan’s ability to put points on the board, even in a hostile environment. Not that he’ll win or anything but he could keep the game closer than you might think.

**PICK: FLORIDA**

### **GWINNETT @ RINGGOLD (LINE – CRIMSON HAWKS BY 3)**

The Law of Averages states that Ringgold cannot maintain a pace of 5 giveaways-per-game for 16 weeks. But their penchant for turning the ball over is well-established and skews the pre-game analysis. If Big Ben could hold on to the ball I would be quite comfortable predicting a win for Ringgold here – at home with their pass rush facing a green Matt Cassel sheltering behind a rickety offensive line. But I don’t believe Ben can *not* turn the ball over at least a couple of times a game, especially against the stout and turnover-generating Gladiators defense. I think the odds-makers for this game must be on drugs.

**PICK: GWINNETT**

### **VIRDEN @ CHARLESWOOD (LINE – PATRIOTS BY 3)**

This match-up between two Manitoba-based teams could develop into one of the league’s better and bitterer rivalries – just not this year. To have a proper rivalry the teams involved should be somewhat competitive with each other and right now these two teams are in different leagues even as they play in the same Division. Virden stayed close for a half but fell apart late in the game against Kutztown last week. The Pats, coming home after a sub-par performance in Mohave, are ready to knock someone’s head off and the Violators are the perfect target.

**PICK: CHARLESWOOD**

### **MOHAVE @ KUTZTOWN (LINE – HELLFIRE BY 7)**

The Golden Bears are one of those teams that are hard to gauge this early in the season. They have some playmakers on both sides of the ball that can show up or disappear on any given Sunday. This week they host Mohave in their home opener and Coach Katsafanas is hoping his playmakers show up. The Hellfire showed last week that they still have life in their ageing stars, but they come into Kutztown missing Champ Bailey and Pat Sims on defense and spot-runner Jerome Harrison on offence. I admit, I have no clue which way this game is going. It could be close or a blowout either way. I think the spread is a little too generous so I’m taking the points.

**PICK: KUTZTOWN**

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

**HOW I'M DOING AGAINST THE SPREAD**

**LAST WEEK: 5-3-0**

**OVERALL: 9-7-0**