

# WEEK 10



# EFL

ELITE FOOTBALL LEAGUE



Blazing Through a Pandemic in our 14th Season!

December 13, 2020

# DE-RAILED!



*Eddie Jackson  
Buffalo Derailers*

Buffalo safety, **Eddie "The Playmaker" Jackson** crosses the Seattle goal line for the winning touchdown in 4<sup>th</sup> quarter action at the Kingdome. With the score tied at 14, the Pilots driving and 1:11 left in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter, **Eric Rowe** forced a fumble that was picked up by **Byron Jones** and lateralled to Jackson for a 37-yard fumble return TD.

EAST



CENTRAL



WEST



NORTH



COASTAL

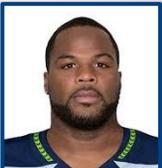


SOUTH



*Who was slick in Week Ten?*

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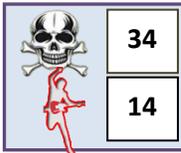
**Carlos Hyde**  
RB  
Brooklin Hawks

23 carries, 167 Yds, 1 TD. Big day versus a tough Budapest defece.



**Troy Hill**  
CB  
Scarborough Blue Eagles

6 T, 1 PD, 2 INTs (19 Yds). Second of 2 INTs helped preserve Eagles win.



34

14

**Larry Fitzgerald** broke a 3-3 deadlock mid-way in the 2<sup>nd</sup> with a 68-yard TD catch off a short slant, a copy of his big play the week before. This score broke the ice for Chino and they would never trail again for the remainder of the game. The 2<sup>nd</sup> half was, as usual, unkind to New Jersey. **Dak Prescott** peppered the Balls' defence with five straight completions to finish off Chino's opening possession of the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter with a 15-yard TD to Fitzgerald. The Convicts held off NJ on a 4<sup>th</sup> & goal at the 5 and, after giving up a safety in return, took a commanding lead on Fitz's 3<sup>rd</sup> TD catch of the game.

12-10-2020 Stone Pony Shore Temp:57 Wind:10-20 None Line:CHI by 1 MVP:Prescott HFA:

	1	2	3	4	Tot
2019 Chino (5-4-1)	0	13	7	14	34
2019 New Jersey (1-9)	3	3	2	6	14

### Scoring Summary

1 11:06	New Jersey	FG Boswell 49 (9-39-3:42)	0-3
2 10:33	Chino	FG McLaughlin 30 (14-69-6:10)	3-3
2 8:39	Chino	TD Prescott 64 pass to Fitzgerald (McLaughlin) (1-64-0:20)	10-3
2 3:24	New Jersey	FG Boswell 26 (8-67-5:12)	10-6
2 0:00	Chino	FG McLaughlin 24 (10-55-3:12)	13-6
3 10:53	Chino	TD Prescott 15 pass to Fitzgerald (McLaughlin) (6-75-4:07)	20-6
3 2:05	New Jersey	Safety Landry III	20-8
4 12:57	Chino	TD Prescott 11 pass to Fitzgerald (McLaughlin) (9-66-3:11)	27-8
4 9:06	Chino	TD McCaffrey 1 run (McLaughlin) (3-22-1:49)	34-8
4 2:02	New Jersey	TD McCarron 5 pass to Cohen (2 - failed) (13-62-3:59)	34-14

### Passing

CHI: Prescott 32/20 304 Yds 3 TDs

NJ: Keenum 31/20 203 Yds Int, McCarron 11/8 38 Yds TD, Love 4/3 15 Yds

### Rushing

CHI: McCaffrey 13/49 TD, Jones II 4/17, Prescott 2/6, Ingram II 4/5

NJ: Montgomery 3/9, McCarron 1/8, Hill 6/7, Cohen 2/6, Gallman Jr. 1/4, Keenum 1/3

### Receiving

CHI: McCaffrey 8/94, Fitzgerald 5/112 3 TDs, Gallup 2/29, Ricard 2/18, Olsen 2/27

NJ: Cohen 7/24 TD, Samuel 7/54, Griffin 6/91, Gandy-Golden 5/27, Gabriel 2/32

### Defense

CHI: Terrell Int 10-Tk, Smith 2-Sks 4-Tk, Carter 10-Tk, Ingram III Sk 3-Tk

NJ: Landry III Sk 11-Tk, Adams Sk 4-Tk, Peters Sk 4-Tk

### Injuries

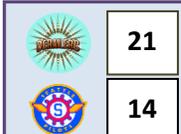
CHI: Short 3, Beachum 2, Skura 2

NJ: Walker 5, Wills Jr. 1, Stafford 1

### Misc

CHI:

NJ:



21

14

The Derailers made a 4<sup>th</sup> & 9 at the Pilots' 40 and went on to score on a 12-yard TD pass to **Alex Erickson**. The Pilots contained **Lamar Jackson** in the 2<sup>nd</sup> and Seattle got two **Josh Lambo** FGs, to finish the half down 7-6. Buffalo scored first in the 3<sup>rd</sup> when **Tevin Coleman** finished off a long drive with a 7-yard TD run, but **Sam Darnold** came back with 4 straight completions, the final one a 16-yard TD to **Ceedee Lamb**. The ensuing two-pointer tied the game. With 1:11 left, Seattle's **Anthony Miller** fumbled. It was picked up by **Byron Jones** and lateralled to **Eddie Jackson** for a 37-yard fumble return TD.

12-12-2020 Kingdome Temp:70 Wind: Line:BUF by 1 MVP:Jackson HFA:ON(1)

	1	2	3	4	Tot
2019 Buffalo (7-3)	7	0	7	7	21
2019 Seattle (4-6)	0	6	8	0	14

### Scoring Summary

1 2:34	Buffalo	TD Jackson 12 pass to Erickson (Elliott,J) (11-75-7:24)	7-0
2 8:25	Seattle	FG Lambo 25 (12-81-6:27)	7-3
2 2:10	Seattle	FG Lambo 54 (9-44-3:59)	7-6
3 2:49	Buffalo	TD Coleman 7 run (Elliott,J) (14-80-6:45)	14-6
3 0:03	Seattle	TD Darnold 16 pass to Lamb (2 - Harry) (4-64-2:29)	14-14
4 1:11	Buffalo	TD Jackson 37 yd fumble recovery (Elliott,J)	21-14

### Passing

BUF: Jackson 28/20 140 Yds TD

SEA: Darnold 29/19 210 Yds TD

### Rushing

BUF: Coleman 13/48 TD, Jackson 10/36, Erickson 2/18, Dillon 2/4, Johnson 2/1

SEA: Akers 15/61, Mack 4/31, Harry 3/22, Darnold 3/18

### Receiving

BUF: Thomas 5/32, Erickson 4/35 TD, Tate 4/31, Ridley 2/9, Fant 2/19, Coleman 1/5

SEA: Miller 6/79, Akers 4/29, Lamb 4/51 TD, Renfrow 3/25, Harmon 1/16, Asiasi 1/10

### Defense

BUF: Jones FF 10-Tk, Collins Sk FF Tk, Rowe FF 5-Tk, Robertson-Harris Sk 3-Tk

SEA: Vernon Sk 6-Tk, Lattimore 8-Tk

### Injuries

BUF: Abram 6, Thomas 4, Dunbar 2

SEA: Hunt 6, Williams 2, Massie 2, Moreau 1, White 1

### Misc

BUF: Jones FR Lateral for TD-Jackson

SEA:



14

23

The Assassins had the Bombers' offence contained until a long slant from **Jared Goff** to **Chase Claypool** in the 2<sup>nd</sup> went 51 yards for the game's first TD. **Jacoby Brissett** entered in relief on his team's first series after two strip-sacks of **Carson Wentz** were recovered by LV. He did not provide the spark they needed. Wentz returned in the 2<sup>nd</sup> half and got the Assassins on the board on a TD pass to **Jerry Jeudy**, set up by a Goff turnover. But Bruxelles came right back with another long slant for a TD, this time to **Chris Godwin** and held the struggling Vegas attack in check for the remainder.

12-09-2020 The Fortress Temp:77 Wind: Line:LV by 1 MVP:Goff HFA:ON(4)

	1	2	3	4	Tot
2019 Las Vegas (3-7)	0	0	7	7	14
2019 Bruxelles (6-4)	3	10	0	10	23

Scoring Summary

1 9:41 Bruxelles	FG Prater 38 (9-55-5:15)	0-3
2 6:25 Bruxelles	TD Goff 51 pass to Claypool (Prater) (8-80-2:53)	0-10
2 0:00 Bruxelles	FG Prater 34 (13-73-5:14)	0-13
3 2:09 Las Vegas	TD Wentz 28 pass to Jeudy (Fairbairn) (2-28-0:21)	7-13
4 14:43 Bruxelles	TD Goff 49 pass to Godwin (Prater) (6-75-2:26)	7-20
4 4:35 Bruxelles	FG Prater 27 (12-60-5:00)	7-23
4 3:32 Las Vegas	TD Lewis 6 run (Fairbairn) (2-63-0:53)	14-23

Passing

LV: Wentz 26/13 188 Yds TD, Brissett 7/2 25 Yds  
BRX: Goff 49/27 425 Yds 2 TDs 2 Int

Rushing

LV: Wentz 6/30, Brissett 4/30, Lewis 4/13 TD  
BRX: Fournette 19/71, Williams 7/8, Thompson 1/2

Receiving

LV: Jeudy 4/57 TD, Graham 3/76, Pascal 3/27, Thomas 2/19, Smallwood 2/24, Lewis 1/10  
BRX: Godwin 6/102 TD, Fournette 6/45, Westbrook 6/103, Kelce 3/54, Waller 3/53

Defense

LV: Leonard 14-Tk, Williams 13-Tk, Lotulelei Sk FF Tk, Wise Jr. Sk 3-Tk, Williams Int  
BRX: Clark 3-Sks FF 4-Tk, Dupree 2-Sks FF 4-Tk, Smith Sk FF 3-Tk, Flowers Sk 3-Tk

Injuries

LV: Jackson 1, Griffin 1  
BRX: Johnson 4

Misc

LV: Wentz 3 Fumbles |  
BRX: 9 Sacks



23

27

The Cubs held the ball for 21½ minutes of the 1<sup>st</sup> half, notching a 4-yard TD pass from **Russell Wilson** to **Christian Kirk** and two **Jason Tucker** FGs to take a 13-3 lead into the locker. Trailing 16-6, the Coyotes found the end zone on a 3-yard check down from **Ryan Tannehill** to **Raheem Mostert**, but the Cubs kept up the pressure with a **Casey Hayward** interception setting up Wilson's 2<sup>nd</sup> TD pass. Tannehill atoned by passing for 74 yards and a TD on their next series. After a Cubs' three-and-out, Mostert wrapped up a 72-yard drive with runs of 21 and 9 yards, the last for a TD and the win.

12-09-2020 Coyote Field Temp:75 Wind:0-10 None Line:CB by 9 MVP:Mostert HFA:ON(3)

	1	2	3	4	Tot
2019 Iowa City (5-4-1)	7	6	3	7	23
2019 Cobb County (9-1)	3	0	10	14	27

Scoring Summary

1 7:20 Iowa City	TD Wilson 4 pass to Kirk (Tucker,J) (16-75-7:40)	7-0
1 1:23 Cobb County	FG McManus 22 (13-71-5:53)	7-3
2 9:10 Iowa City	FG Tucker 39 (13-54-7:10)	10-3
2 0:00 Iowa City	FG Tucker 28 (18-83-6:36)	13-3
3 12:51 Cobb County	FG McManus 41 (7-52-2:03)	13-6
3 7:41 Iowa City	FG Tucker 41 (10-52-5:07)	16-6
3 0:37 Cobb County	TD Tannehill 3 pass to Mostert (McManus) (12-75-7:04)	16-13
4 11:04 Iowa City	TD Wilson 9 pass to Beasley (Tucker,J) (3-21-0:19)	23-13
4 6:55 Cobb County	TD Tannehill 17 pass to Cook (McManus) (8-75-4:09)	23-20
4 1:38 Cobb County	TD Mostert 9 run (McManus) (9-72-4:04)	23-27

Passing

ICC: Wilson 44/26 257 Yds 2 TDs  
CB: Tannehill 32/20 282 Yds 2 TDs Int

Rushing

ICC: Mixon 16/77, Wilson 7/21, Conner 3/20, Brown 1/8  
CB: Mostert 9/73 TD, Tannehill 6/23, Peterson 5/8, Cooks 1/1

Receiving

ICC: Mixon 7/64, Beasley 5/46 TD, Lockett 5/67, Kirk 4/26 TD, Conner 2/15, Brown 2/27  
CB: Parker 7/124, Jones 5/61, Cook 4/57 TD, Mostert 2/12 TD, Peterson 1/10

Defense

ICC: Hayward Jr. Int 9-Tk, Hargrave Sk 5-Tk, Bouye 8-Tk  
CB: Golden Sk 7-Tk, Martinez 9-Tk, Basham 8-Tk

Injuries

ICC: Dissly 2, Jones 1  
CB: Williams 2, Sheard 1

Misc

ICC:  
CB: |



The Triumph defence held the potent Crusader offence in check for most of the game, allowing just a pair of **Harrison Butker** field goals over a 55-minute span. But the Triumph offence was unable to keep up even with that lagging pace. Three times the Triumph offence went for it on 4<sup>th</sup> down in field goal range and they failed to convert each time. They did not score until the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter, when a **Dustin Hopkins** FG narrowed the gap to 6-3 for the Pegs. Finally, **Kirk Cousins** found the end zone for the 32<sup>nd</sup> time this year, hitting **Jeff Heuerman** from 2 yards for a late insurance score.

12-12-2020 Wilhalla Stadium Temp:70 Wind: Line:TCT by 6 MVP:Cousins HFA:

	1	2	3	4	Tot
2019 Peg City (6-4)	3	3	0	7	13
2019 Twin Cities (2-8)	0	0	0	3	3

#### Scoring Summary

1 6:43 Peg City	FG Butker 21 (12-75-5:58)	3-0
2 12:15 Peg City	FG Butker 28 (13-72-5:58)	6-0
4 12:42 Twin Cities	FG Hopkins 33 (12-50-5:50)	6-3
4 5:06 Peg City	TD Cousins 2 pass to Heuerman (Butker) (17-75-7:36)	13-3

#### Passing

PCC: Cousins 38/23 250 Yds TD  
TCT: Trubisky 31/13 130 Yds

#### Rushing

PCC: Barkley 9/38, Jones 15/36, Johnson 2/4, Cousins 2/2  
TCT: Trubisky 10/45, Gordon III 13/42, Henderson Jr. 4/27, White 4/21

#### Receiving

PCC: Sutton 5/56, Allen 5/79, McDonald 4/48, Barkley 2/14, Jones 2/0, Aiyuk 2/29  
TCT: Moore 4/47, Golladay 4/48, White 3/23, Gordon III 1/4, Duvernay 1/8

#### Defense

PCC: Humphrey FF 8-Tk, Allen Sk 4-Tk  
TCT: Clark Sk FF 4-Tk

#### Injuries

PCC:  
TCT: Brown 6, Roby 4, Alexander 1

#### Misc

PCC:  
TCT:



After trading early TDs, the Violators took off and never looked back. **Pat Mahomes** hit **Eric Ebron** for TD passes of 13 and 16 yards, their 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> hook-ups of the day, and **Zane Gonzalez** added a late FG to close off the 1<sup>st</sup> half with Viriden leading 24-7. The Violators got the ball to start the 2<sup>nd</sup> half and padded their lead with Mahomes' 4<sup>th</sup> TD pass, a 6-yard hitch to **TJ Hockenson**. The Pats answered with a 97-yard drive ending in a TD pass to **Juju Smith-Schuster**, but burned 8:37 off the clock. Time turned out to be a moot point. The Pats were shutout in the 4<sup>th</sup> as the Violators piled on.

12-11-2020 TERRORDOME Temp:70 Wind: Line:CHP by 1 MVP:Mahomes HFA:ON(4)

	1	2	3	4	Tot
2019 Charleswood (2-8)	7	0	7	0	14
2019 Viriden (9-1)	7	17	7	10	41

#### Scoring Summary

1 6:41 Viriden	TD Mahomes 14 pass to Ebron (Gonzalez) (10-81-6:11)	0-7
1 0:24 Charleswood	TD Watson 12 pass to Smith Jr. (Carlson) (15-93-6:10)	7-7
2 10:22 Viriden	TD Mahomes 13 pass to Ebron (Gonzalez) (8-75-5:02)	7-14
2 5:24 Viriden	TD Mahomes 16 pass to Ebron (Gonzalez) (8-50-3:19)	7-21
2 0:19 Viriden	FG Gonzalez 35 (10-63-1:28)	7-24
3 9:53 Viriden	TD Mahomes 6 pass to Hockenson (Gonzalez) (11-75-5:07)	7-31
3 1:08 Charleswood	TD Watson 15 pass to Smith-Schuster (Carlson) (14-97-8:37)	14-31
4 13:57 Viriden	TD Freeman 47 run (Gonzalez) (6-75-2:17)	14-38
4 1:55 Viriden	FG Gonzalez 34 (12-45-7:50)	14-41

#### Passing

CHP: Watson 32/20 202 Yds 2 TDs Int  
VV: Mahomes 31/19 258 Yds 4 TDs

#### Rushing

CHP: Kamara 15/59, Watson 5/52, Dobbins 2/4  
VV: Freeman 16/108 TD, Elliott 15/84, Mahomes 1/9

#### Receiving

CHP: Metcalf 5/80, Smith-Schuster 3/37 TD, Kamara 3/19, Dobbins 3/16, Smith Jr. 2/14 TD  
VV: Sanu 11/143, Cooper 3/48, Ebron 3/43 3 TDs, Hockenson 1/6 TD, Freeman 1/18

#### Defense

CHP: Mills 9-Tk, Queen 9-Tk  
VV: Harris Jr. Int 3-Tk

#### Injuries

CHP: Mosley 7, Funchess 5, Campbell 4  
VV: Guice 6, Adderley 6, Richburg 2

#### Misc

CHP: 10 Missed Tackles  
VV: 9/11 3rd Downs



16



27

The Glads controlled the 1<sup>st</sup>, holding Cowtown to 2 three-and-outs, while the early hot hand of **Tua** put a TD on the board with a 16-yard screen to **James Robinson** and set up a **Tyler Bass** FG for a 10-0 lead. **Jimmy Garoppolo** strung together some completions to set up a **Todd Gurley II** TD run then both defences kicked in to close the half with the Glads up 10-7. The 3<sup>rd</sup> opened with an 8-yard TD pass to Gurley II then things went downhill for **Tua**. **Rodney McLeod** picked him off to set up Gurley's 2<sup>nd</sup> TD run and a fumbled snap led to a late defensive TD to cut short a late Glads' rally.

12-09-2020 Tillman Field Temp:53 Wind:20-30 Rain \*Internet\* No Line MVP:Gurley II HFA:ON(5)

	1	2	3	4	Tot
2019 Georgia (2-8)	10	0	0	6	16
2019 Cowtown (6-4)	0	7	14	6	27

#### Scoring Summary

1 5:56 Georgia	TD Tagovailoa 19 pass to Robinson (Bass) (7-53-3:34)	7-0
1 0:16 Georgia	FG Bass 38 (9-54-5:12)	10-0
2 10:30 Cowtown	TD Gurley II 6 run (Slye) (8-75-4:46)	10-7
3 9:58 Cowtown	TD Garoppolo 8 pass to Gurley II (Slye) (11-93-4:50)	10-14
3 1:51 Cowtown	TD Gurley II 2 run (Slye) (7-55-4:21)	10-21
4 2:21 Georgia	TD Tagovailoa 1 pass to Fuller V (2 - failed) (3-49-0:36)	16-21
4 1:19 Cowtown	TD Smith 17 yd fumble recovery (no good)	16-27

#### Passing

GEO: Tagovailoa 33/19 172 Yds 2 TDs Int  
COW: Garoppolo 26/18 281 Yds TD

#### Rushing

GEO: Robinson 7/23, Jacobs 6/21, Michel 7/21, Johnson 1/6, Tagovailoa 2/-3  
COW: Gurley II 12/41 2 TDs, Carrier 1/23, Bell 6/21, Washington 5/7, BPowell 3/6, Boone 1/6, Lazard 1/4, Garoppolo 4/4

#### Receiving

GEO: Fuller V 6/43 TD, Landry 5/56, Robinson 3/26 TD, Akins 2/21, Michel 1/9, Stills 1/9, Johnson 1/8  
COW: Evans 6/91, Bell 3/18, Conley 2/33, Sprinkle 2/18, Gurley II 2/12 TD, Lazard 1/19, Cephus 1/17, Bourne 1/10

#### Defense

GEO: Fulton 9-Tk, McLendon 2 STFs 5-Tk, Beasley Jr STF 5-Tk  
COW: Kerrigan STF 10-Tk, Davis III FF 8-Tk, Ioannidis STF 6-Tk, McLeod 3 PDs Int

#### Injuries

GEO: Baun 3, Edmunds  
COW: Martin, Winters 1

#### Misc

GEO:  
COW: 9/101 Pen



10



24

Durham's **Richard Sherman** picked off **Matt Ryan** and ran it back for a TD to give Durham a 7-3 lead. With **Davante Adams** knocked out of the game early in the 1<sup>st</sup>, the Mustangs' offence went conservative. Durham led 10-6 at the half, but the Mustangs' ground game began to take its toll in the 3<sup>rd</sup>, with 8 straight run plays to **Kenyan Drake** and **Devin Singletary** softening up the Durham 'D' for a 17-yard TD pass to **Julian Edelman**. Desperate for a spark on offence, the Lizards attempted 4<sup>th</sup> & 3 at the Aurora 31 and were stopped. Aurora then put the game away with a 10-yard TD run by Drake.

12-12-2020 Magna Park Temp:60 Wind:5-15 None Line:AUR by 5 MVP:Drake HFA:ON(4)

	1	2	3	4	Tot
2019 Durham (6-4)	7	3	0	0	10
2019 Aurora (7-3)	3	3	7	11	24

#### Scoring Summary

1 10:09 Aurora	FG Lutz 51 (8-42-4:47)	0-3
1 0:48 Durham	TD Sherman 37 interception return (Pineiro)	7-3
2 2:22 Aurora	FG Lutz 24 (10-78-6:21)	7-6
2 0:09 Durham	FG Pineiro 28 (6-29-0:47)	10-6
3 6:44 Aurora	TD Ryan 17 pass to Edelman (Lutz) (13-76-7:49)	10-13
4 14:36 Aurora	FG Lutz 50 (10-49-5:15)	10-16
4 5:44 Aurora	TD Drake 10 run (2 - Drake) (7-70-3:25)	10-24

#### Passing

DTL: Allen 27/14 122 Yds  
AUR: Ryan 17/13 187 Yds TD Int

#### Rushing

DTL: Chubb 16/82, Allen 2/3  
AUR: Drake 23/112 TD, Singletary 13/108, Ryan 3/4

#### Receiving

DTL: Kupp 4/45, Hilton 3/33, Chubb 3/15, Boyd 2/17, Gibson 1/6, Hooper 1/6  
AUR: Edelman 7/103 TD, Goedert 2/18, Singletary 2/13, Washington 2/53

#### Defense

DTL: Sherman Int(TD) 11-Tk, Davis Sr. 17-Tk  
AUR: Watt Sk FF 3-Tk, Autry Sk 3-Tk

#### Injuries

DTL: Johnson 8  
AUR: Jernigan 4

#### Misc

DTL:  
AUR: TOP 35:57



15



10

**Dwayne Haskins** was stuffed for a loss on 4<sup>th</sup> & 1 at his own 17, setting up a 16-yard TD pass to **Henry Ruggs** to put Erieau in front 7-0. The Swordfish drove back up the field but came away empty when Haskins was stoned on 4<sup>th</sup> & 1 at the Erieau 1. The Caddies drove 91 yards for an **Austin Siebert** FG to make it 10-0, but the Fish returned fire with a drive that ended with an 8-yard TD to **Odell Beckham**. Both offences then went into deep freeze until **Dan Bailey's** 26-yard FG with 4:58 left. The Fish got the ball back with 1:32 left, but **Joey Bosa** abruptly ended the rally with a safety.

12-09-2020 The Fish Tank Temp:76 Wind: Line:SS by 7 MVP:Murray HFA:ON(2)

	1	2	3	4	Tot
2019 Erieau (4-6)	7	6	0	2	15
2019 Sebastian (4-6)	0	7	0	3	10

**Scoring Summary**

1	7:08	Erieau	TD Murray 16 pass to Ruggs III (Seibert) (2-16-0:47)	7-0
2	9:04	Erieau	FG Seibert 26 (14-91-6:56)	10-0
2	3:33	Sebastian	TD Haskins Jr. 8 pass to Beckham Jr. (Bailey,D) (9-75-5:3	10-7
2	0:00	Erieau	FG Seibert 48 (4-8-1:30)	13-7
4	4:58	Sebastian	FG Bailey 26 (19-72-9:02)	13-10
4	1:32	Erieau	Safety Bosa	15-10

**Passing**

ERI: Murray 25/14 180 Yds TD  
 SS: Haskins Jr. 18/10 94 Yds TD Int

**Rushing**

ERI: Gore 9/31, Moss 5/26, Murray 4/23, Hines 4/14, McCoy 4/10  
 SS: Haskins Jr. 12/60, Taylor 10/53, Williams 9/50, Edmonds 8/45, Shenault Jr. 1/31

**Receiving**

ERI: Ruggs III 5/59 TD, Andrews 3/55, Higgins 3/34, Arcega-Whiteside 1/10, Hines 1/14  
 SS: Beckham Jr. 3/33 TD, Shenault Jr. 2/20, Witten 2/16, Williams 2/18, Edmonds 1/7

**Defense**

ERI: Hewitt 12-Tk, Crosby Sk 5-Tk, Bosa Sk 4-Tk  
 SS: Jones Sk 5-Tk, Clowney Sk 3-Tk

**Injuries**

ERI: Peppers 3, Staley 3, Gordon 2, Henry 2, Ruggs III 1  
 SS: Tate 4, Brees 3

**Misc**

ERI: 1/10 3rd Down  
 SS: 2/5 4th Down



37



30

Huge swing plays factored into a wild first half. The Blue Eagles held an early 29-0 lead aided by an 86-yard kickoff return to start the game, two **Baker Mayfield** interceptions, including a Damon Arnette pick-six, and a **Kalif Raymond** fumble that set up quick Eagle scores. The Irish fought back, helped by penalties against the Scarborough defence and a **Duron Harmon** scoop and score FR to trail just 29-21 at halftime. The Irish forced a **TJ Yeldon** fumble to set up the go-ahead TD in the 3<sup>rd</sup>, but **Joe Burrow** rallied the Eagles with a TD and the defence stopped the Irish rally at their 7 to hold on.

12-09-2020 Msgr McClancy Mem Temp:60 Wind:10-20 None Line:SBE by 1 MVP:Burrow HFA

	1	2	3	4	Tot
2019 Scarborough (6-4)	19	10	0	8	37
2019 East Elmhurst (2-8)	0	21	9	0	30

**Scoring Summary**

1	13:57	Scarborough	TD Burrow 7 pass to Freeman (Crosby) (3-10-0:58)	7-0
1	10:22	Scarborough	FG Crosby 50 (8-30-2:36)	10-0
1	2:38	Scarborough	FG Crosby 54 (11-42-6:16)	13-0
1	1:43	Scarborough	TD Arnette 18 interception return (2 - failed)	19-0
2	12:01	Scarborough	FG Crosby 22 (5-32-2:07)	22-0
2	10:21	Scarborough	TD Burrow 15 pass to Crowder (Crosby) (3-15-1:29)	29-0
2	6:37	East Elmhurst	TD Mayfield 13 pass to Agholor (Blankenshi) (9-74-3:32)	29-7
2	1:03	East Elmhurst	TD Mayfield 30 pass to Hurns (Blankenshi) (9-83-1:31)	29-14
2	0:49	East Elmhurst	TD Harmon 36 yd fumble recovery (Blankenshi)	29-21
3	7:22	East Elmhurst	FG Blankenship 31 (10-31-4:01)	29-24
3	0:00	East Elmhurst	TD Mayfield 12 pass to Thielen (2 - failed) (6-64-3:29)	29-30
4	9:53	Scarborough	TD Burrow 13 pass to Crowder (2 - Edwards) (10-72-4:57)	37-30

**Passing**

SBE: Burrow 31/21 208 Yds 3 TDs  
 EE: Mayfield 42/20 217 Yds 3 TDs 3 Int

**Rushing**

SBE: Carson 21/81, Burrow 3/11, Yeldon 6/9, Davis 1/1  
 EE: Mayfield 8/78, Murray 12/60, Kelley 4/5

**Receiving**

SBE: Crowder 6/71 2 TDs, Yeldon 4/40, Carson 4/15, Robinson II 3/44, Freeman 2/11 TD  
 EE: Quinn 5/55, Agholor 5/46 TD, Hurns 3/53 TD, Everett 2/21, Thielen 2/26 TD

**Defense**

SBE: Hill 2-Int 6-Tk, Hightower 2-Sks 5-Tk, Arnette Int(TD) 3-Tk, Bosa Sk FF 2-Tk  
 EE: Smith 2-FF 11-Tk, Allen 10-Tk, Carr Sk 4-Tk, Phillips 9-Tk

**Injuries**

SBE: Jackson 1, Arnette 1, Robinson 1  
 EE: Anderson 4, Charlton 3, Poe 1, Joseph 1

**Misc**

SBE: Davis 2/111 KR Long 86  
 EE:



13



19

The Hawks' 'D' held the Budapest attack at bay in the 1<sup>st</sup> half, limiting it to two **Jason Myers** FG attempts, one of them missed. The Hawks' offence turned to **Carlos Hyde** to generate chunk plays against a pass-oriented defence. Hyde scored on an 11-yard TD run, then ripped off runs of 39 and 15 yards to set up a **Derek Carr** TD pass to **DeAndre Hopkins** for a 13-3 Brooklin lead. The teams traded FGs in the 2<sup>nd</sup> half before the Stars netted 6 on a 2-yard run by **JJ Taylor**, set up by a 4<sup>th</sup> & 10 completion to **Stephon Diggs**. But the Hawks bled the clock, adding a late FG to take the season series.

12-11-2020 Optimist Park Temp:40 Wind:0-5 None No Line MVP:Hyde HFA:ON(3)

	1	2	3	4	Tot
2019 Budapest (8-2)	0	3	3	7	13
2019 Brooklin (7-3)	0	13	0	6	19

#### Scoring Summary

2 11:47 Budapest	FG Myers 33 (13-81-6:47)	3-0
2 6:01 Brooklin	TD Hyde 11 run (no good) (9-80-5:37)	3-6
2 1:21 Brooklin	TD Carr 6 pass to Hopkins (Bullock) (8-79-3:44)	3-13
3 9:05 Budapest	FG Myers 47 (13-47-5:41)	6-13
4 11:19 Brooklin	FG Bullock 22 (10-72-4:31)	6-16
4 7:40 Budapest	TD Taylor 2 run (Myers,J) (10-75-3:39)	13-16
4 0:22 Brooklin	FG Bullock 39 (16-54-7:13)	13-19

#### Passing

BUD: Rodgers 33/15 214 Yds, Taylor 1/0  
BRH: Carr 36/20 163 Yds TD

#### Rushing

BUD: Taylor 5/38 TD, Williams 9/18, Rodgers 2/10, Howard 2/2  
BRH: Hyde 23/167 TD, Breida 6/29, Carr 2/6

#### Receiving

BUD: Diggs 5/80, Kittle 3/52, Hollister 3/29, Jefferson 2/25, Watkins 2/28  
BRH: Hopkins 9/83 TD, Jeffery 4/48, Cobb 3/20, Breida 2/2, Perriman 1/7, Fells 1/3

#### Defense

BUD: Hayden 14-Tk, Haden 10-Tk, Woodyard FF 6-Tk  
BRH: Hubbard 2-Sks FF 4-Tk

#### Injuries

BUD: Britt 4, Kittle 1  
BRH: Elliott 5, Engram 3, McPhee 2, Scott 2, Williams 1, Gunter 1

#### Misc

BUD:  
BRH: |



13



38

Former Excalibur, **Micah Hyde** picked off **Tom Brady** on this first pass attempt to set up a **Philip Rivers**-to-**Sterling Shepherd** TD pass that gave Pickering a quick 7-0 lead. The Swords responded by driving 75 yards, tying it up on a 3-yard TD pass to **Corey Davis**. The game got away from the Spartans in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter, starting with a 72-yard TD pass to **Mike Williams** followed by a strip of Rivers on a sneak that **Jordan Poyer** ran back 49 yards for a TD. Brady tacked on a 15-yard TD pass to **Danny Amendola** to give York a 28-10 lead that Pickering was unable to overcome in the 2<sup>nd</sup> half.

12-09-2020 Camelot Temp:50 Wind:Calm None Line:YOR by 9 MVP:Brady HFA:ON(3)

	1	2	3	4	Tot
2019 Pickering (3-7)	7	3	0	3	13
2019 York (5-5)	7	21	10	0	38

#### Scoring Summary

1 11:25 Pickering	TD Rivers 13 pass to Shepard (Zuerlein) (1-13-0:11)	7-0
1 4:47 York	TD Brady 3 pass to Davis (Hauschka) (11-75-6:38)	7-7
2 14:44 York	TD Brady 72 pass to Williams (Hauschka) (3-75-1:27)	7-14
2 11:19 York	TD Poyer 49 yd fumble recovery (Hauschka)	7-21
2 6:30 Pickering	FG Zuerlein 48 (9-45-4:43)	10-21
2 1:21 York	TD Brady 15 pass to Amendola (Hauschka) (10-76-4:58)	10-28
3 12:58 York	FG Hauschka 41 (7-52-1:58)	10-31
3 7:58 York	TD Brady 12 pass to Davis (Hauschka) (3-15-1:39)	10-38
4 12:37 Pickering	FG Zuerlein 37 (9-44-4:47)	13-38

#### Passing

PIC: Rivers 27/19 170 Yds TD Int  
YOR: Brady 19/13 253 Yds 4 TDs Int

#### Rushing

PIC: Sanders 17/51, Swift 10/50, Rivers 4/2  
YOR: Henry 20/65, Snell Jr. 3/2

#### Receiving

PIC: Shepard 5/49 TD, Mooney 4/20, Ridley 3/44, Sanders 2/15, Williams 2/24  
YOR: Davis 4/40 2 TDs, Ertz 3/52, Amendola 2/71 TD, Smith 1/6, Henry 1/3, Hamilton 1/9

#### Defense

PIC: Harris 9-Tk  
YOR: Griffen Sk 5-Tk, Poyer FF 5-Tk

#### Injuries

PIC: Randall 4, Joseph 4, Shepherd 3, Dennard 2, Howard 1  
YOR: McMillan 1, Butler 1

#### Misc

PIC:  
YOR: |



Near the end the win.

# STATS



## WEEK TEN

# STANDINGS & STATS

### EFL 2020 Official Standings

East	W	L	T	Pct	Stk	Pts	Ave	Opp	Ave	Diff	Home	Div	Conf
Cobb County	9	1	0	.900	W1	333	33.3	200	20.0	13.3	4 1 0	3 0 0	7 1 0
Buffalo	7	3	0	.700	W2	256	25.6	207	20.7	4.9	3 2 0	1 2 0	5 3 0
Bruxelles	6	4	0	.600	W1	288	28.8	236	23.6	5.2	4 1 0	1 2 0	4 4 0
New Jersey	1	9	0	.100	L8	225	22.5	314	31.4	-8.9	1 4 0	1 2 0	1 7 0
Central	W	L	T	Pct	Stk	Pts	Ave	Opp	Ave	Diff	Home	Div	Conf
Virden	9	1	0	.900	W5	354	35.4	209	20.9	14.5	4 1 0	4 0 0	7 1 0
Peg City	6	4	0	.600	W1	314	31.4	265	26.5	4.9	2 3 0	3 1 0	6 2 0
Charleswood	2	8	0	.200	L1	215	21.5	336	33.6	-12.1	0 5 0	1 3 0	2 6 0
Twin Cities	2	8	0	.200	L2	150	15.0	229	22.9	-7.9	1 4 0	0 4 0	2 6 0
West	W	L	T	Pct	Stk	Pts	Ave	Opp	Ave	Diff	Home	Div	Conf
Chino	5	4	1	.550	W3	268	26.8	242	24.2	2.6	3 1 1	2 0 1	4 3 1
Iowa City	5	4	1	.550	L1	248	24.8	246	24.6	0.2	3 1 0	2 0 1	4 3 1
Seattle	4	6	0	.400	L1	197	19.7	225	22.5	-2.8	2 4 0	0 3 0	3 5 0
Las Vegas	3	7	0	.300	L6	197	19.7	234	23.4	-3.7	2 3 0	1 2 0	2 6 0
North	W	L	T	Pct	Stk	Pts	Ave	Opp	Ave	Diff	Home	Div	Conf
Durham	6	4	0	.600	L1	182	18.2	163	16.3	1.9	3 1 0	2 1 0	5 3 0
Cowtown	6	4	0	.600	W1	195	19.5	153	15.3	4.2	3 3 0	2 1 0	5 3 0
Scarborough	6	4	0	.600	W1	226	22.6	218	21.8	0.8	3 1 0	1 2 0	4 4 0
Sebastian	4	6	0	.400	L2	241	24.1	270	27.0	-2.9	3 3 0	1 2 0	2 6 0
Coastal	W	L	T	Pct	Stk	Pts	Ave	Opp	Ave	Diff	Home	Div	Conf
Budapest	8	2	0	.800	L1	219	21.9	129	12.9	9.0	4 1 0	2 2 0	6 2 0
Brooklin	7	3	0	.700	W3	254	25.4	204	20.4	5.0	4 1 0	4 0 0	7 1 0
York	5	5	0	.500	W1	213	21.3	192	19.2	2.1	5 0 0	1 3 0	4 4 0
Pickering	3	7	0	.300	L2	157	15.7	248	24.8	-9.1	3 2 0	1 3 0	2 6 0
South	W	L	T	Pct	Stk	Pts	Ave	Opp	Ave	Diff	Home	Div	Conf
Aurora	7	3	0	.700	W3	256	25.6	225	22.5	3.1	4 1 0	3 0 0	6 2 0
Erieau	4	6	0	.400	W2	170	17.0	222	22.2	-5.2	2 2 0	2 1 0	4 4 0
Georgia	2	8	0	.200		164	16.4	285	28.5	-12.1	2 3 0	1 2 0	2 6 0
East Elmhurst	2	8	0	.200	L3	181	18.1	251	25.1	-7.0	1 5 0	0 3 0	1 7 0

### EFL 2020 Official Passing Leaders

			Att	Cmp	C%	Yards	In	I%	Lg	TD	TD%	Rate
1	Tannehill	CB	223	156	70.0	2677	4	1.8	82	30	13.5	142.5
2	Mahomes	VV	260	172	66.2	2292	2	0.8	56	26	10.0	124.1
3	Cousins	PCC	361	238	65.9	2930	2	0.6	71	32	8.9	118.1
4	Jackson,L	BUF	316	235	74.4	2474	3	0.9	58	20	6.3	113.8
5	Brees	SS	292	209	71.6	2498	5	1.7	88	17	5.8	109.6
6	Stafford	NJ	196	131	66.8	1628	4	2.0	68	14	7.1	107.7
7	Carr,D	BRH	354	242	68.4	2554	2	0.6	51	20	5.6	105.6
8	Prescott	CHI	320	214	66.9	2499	5	1.6	73	19	5.9	103.6
9	Garoppolo	COW	296	189	63.9	2268	4	1.4	64	15	5.1	98.5
10	Ryan,M	AUR	273	171	62.6	2049	10	3.7	53	22	8.1	97.2
11	Burrow	SBE	310	198	63.9	2070	4	1.3	58	18	5.8	97.1
12	Wilson,R	ICC	320	204	63.8	2203	5	1.6	48	17	5.3	95.1
13	Finley	VV	54	26	48.1	446	0	0.0	50	3	5.6	95.1
14	Brady	YOR	300	179	59.7	2104	5	1.7	72	17	5.7	93.0
15	Watson,D	CHP	353	230	65.2	2553	8	2.3	49	16	4.5	92.2
16	Murray,K	ERI	294	179	60.9	1938	4	1.4	53	14	4.8	90.5
17	Allen,J	DTL	284	167	58.8	1837	1	0.4	63	11	3.9	89.5
18	Darnold	SEA	328	211	64.3	2150	7	2.1	72	14	4.3	88.3
19	Trubisky	TCT	201	114	56.7	1330	1	0.5	75	8	4.0	88.1
20	Rodgers,A	BUD	308	176	57.1	1973	1	0.3	50	12	3.9	88.0
21	Goff	BRX	393	206	52.4	2860	8	2.0	72	23	5.9	87.1
22	Keenum	NJ	210	138	65.7	1264	4	1.9	54	7	3.3	85.1
23	Minshew II	PIC	92	47	51.1	564	1	1.1	41	5	5.4	83.8
24	Rivers	PIC	210	133	63.3	1554	8	3.8	44	8	3.8	82.5
25	Fitzpatr,R	EE	147	83	56.5	943	3	2.0	53	5	3.4	78.7

### EFL 2020 Official Kick Return Leaders

### EFL 2020 Official Punt Return Leaders

		No	Yds	Ave	Lg	TD			No	Fc	Yds	Ave	Lg	TD		
1	Grant,J	CHI	20	642	32.1	101	2	1	Johnson,D	GEO	22	6	281	12.8	78	2
2	Patterson	VV	14	422	30.1	94	1	2	Reagor	SS	13	9	145	11.2	49	0
3	Cooper,P	BUD	13	383	29.5	91	0	3	Berrios	AUR	27	3	284	10.5	26	0
4	Davis,T	SBE	16	466	29.1	86	0	4	Ervin	VV	14	11	146	10.4	41	0
5	Spencer,D	NJ	17	480	28.2	57	0	5	Agnew	SEA	25	7	242	9.7	78	1
6	Hardman	LV	18	489	27.2	46	0	6	Hardman	LV	26	4	237	9.1	20	0
7	Hilliard	PCC	18	482	26.8	46	0	7	Cooper,P	BUD	20	12	180	9.0	22	0
8	Roberts,A	BRX	16	422	26.4	46	0	8	Carter,D	BUF	28	11	242	8.6	45	0
9	Agnew	SEA	15	393	26.2	37	0	9	Cohen	NJ	23	7	173	7.5	21	0
10	Sanders,M	PIC	11	279	25.4	29	0	10	Rogers,C	CHI	21	11	154	7.3	15	0
11	Latimer	DTL	14	344	24.6	38	0	11	Roberts,A	BRX	21	13	153	7.3	15	0
12	Raymond	EE	21	507	24.1	41	1	12	Harris,D	COW	26	6	173	6.7	17	0
13	Ruggs III	ERI	21	479	22.8	53	0	13	Logan,T	PCC	18	7	115	6.4	15	0
14	Carter,D	BUF	28	637	22.8	52	0	14	Proche II	DTL	33	4	210	6.4	11	0
15	James Jr.	GEO	19	424	22.3	35	0	15	Amendola	YOR	17	14	95	5.6	21	0
16	Ballentine	SS	16	347	21.7	37	0	16	Thomas,D	SBE	37	4	204	5.5	17	0
17	Richard	CHP	30	484	16.1	30	0	17	Peppers	ERI	15	9	81	5.4	13	0
18	Perine	AUR	11	149	13.5	31	0	18	Quinn,T	EE	20	13	105	5.3	15	0
19	Igbinoghen	TCT	1	31	31.0	31	0	19	Natson	CB	19	5	93	4.9	14	0
20	Cohen	NJ	1	28	28.0	28	0	20	Barner	BRH	18	1	56	3.1	15	0
21	Natson	CB	8	207	25.9	42	0	21	Lockett	ICC	2	3	15	7.5	9	0
22	Harris,D	COW	9	221	24.6	42	0	22	Sherels	YOR	1	0	7	7.0	7	0
23	Campbell,P	CHP	1	24	24.0	24	0	23	Kirk	ICC	8	4	47	5.9	9	0
24	Lockett	ICC	4	95	23.8	31	0	24	Switzer	PIC	3	19	12	4.0	6	0
25	Abdullah	CHI	2	47	23.5	33	0	25	Richard	CHP	8	2	27	3.4	7	0

## EFL 2020 Official Rushing Leaders

		Att	Yds	Ave	Lg	TD	
1	Chubb,N	DTL	211	1155	5.5	75	3
2	Elliott,E	VV	196	1015	5.2	30	8
3	Fournette	BRX	187	1014	5.4	56	6
4	Jackson,L	BUF	157	984	6.3	27	8
5	Carson,C	SBE	185	931	5.0	66	2
6	Mixon	ICC	171	896	5.2	32	7
7	Henry,D	YOR	213	850	4.0	70	5
8	Hyde,C	BRH	153	807	5.3	44	8
9	Drake	AUR	143	784	5.5	59	8
10	McCaffrey	CHI	143	724	5.1	50	9
11	Jones,A	PCC	109	683	6.3	66	4
12	Mostert	CB	104	610	5.9	45	8
13	Mack,M	SEA	123	602	4.9	51	1
14	Kamara	CHP	139	587	4.2	50	8
15	Singletary	AUR	105	583	5.6	45	0
16	Jacobs,J	GEO	133	579	4.4	35	0
17	Cook,D	LV	153	525	3.4	19	6
18	Williams,J	BUD	83	484	5.8	50	3
19	Edwards-He	TCT	114	463	4.1	20	5
20	Murray,K	ERI	83	454	5.5	26	3
21	Peterson,A	CB	106	446	4.2	45	2
22	Howard,J	BUD	88	432	4.9	20	4
23	Murray,L	EE	94	407	4.3	32	2
24	Taylor,J	SS	107	395	3.7	15	1
25	Gurley II	COW	116	382	3.3	15	5
26	Swift	PIC	84	380	4.5	63	0
27	Barkley,S	PCC	78	378	4.8	29	2
28	Ingram II	CHI	77	317	4.1	29	3
29	Montgomery	NJ	108	316	2.9	33	1
30	Breida	BRH	72	313	4.3	32	0
31	Sanders,M	PIC	110	283	2.6	24	1
32	Freeman,R	VV	52	262	5.0	47	1
33	Johnson,D	PCC	43	248	5.8	18	0
34	Robinson,J	GEO	73	241	3.3	27	0
35	Watson,D	CHP	24	238	9.9	24	4
36	Edmonds	SS	47	238	5.1	24	3
37	Allen,J	DTL	48	235	4.9	15	2
38	Freeman,D	SBE	66	223	3.4	21	0
39	Wilson,R	ICC	39	221	5.7	24	1
40	William,Dm	SS	62	220	3.5	25	2

## EFL 2020 Official Receiving Leaders

		No	Yds	Ave	Lg	TD	
1	McCaffrey	CHI	82	697	8.5	28	5
2	Hopkins,D	BRH	81	1132	14.0	51	9
3	Thomas,M	LV	72	839	11.7	59	5
4	Edelman	AUR	67	834	12.4	49	12
5	Woods,R	BUF	66	841	12.7	58	6
6	Cohen	NJ	59	363	6.2	19	1
7	Kittle	BUD	56	634	11.3	22	6
8	Kamara	CHP	52	403	7.8	49	2
9	Brown,J	VV	51	814	16.0	56	7
10	Sanders,E	BUF	51	537	10.5	28	3
11	Lockett	ICC	50	623	12.5	34	5
12	Kupp	DTL	49	597	12.2	63	2
13	Tate	SS	49	509	10.4	44	1
14	Jones,J	CB	48	886	18.5	82	9
15	Beckham Jr	SS	48	597	12.4	46	3
16	Cooper,A	VV	47	852	18.1	50	10
17	White,J	TCT	47	525	11.2	52	3
18	Evans,M	COW	46	700	15.2	64	5
19	Allen,K	PCC	45	722	16.0	54	4
20	Metcalfe	CHP	44	635	14.4	35	3
21	Sutton,C	PCC	44	655	14.9	71	8
22	Kelce,T	BRX	44	643	14.6	41	5
23	Witten	SS	44	483	11.0	40	4
24	Smith-Schu	CHP	43	549	12.8	36	5
25	Fournette	BRX	43	319	7.4	26	1
26	Andrews,M	ERI	43	487	11.3	53	6
27	Ertz	YOR	42	542	12.9	36	4
28	Renfrow	SEA	42	529	12.6	72	5
29	Moore,D	TCT	42	568	13.5	75	3
30	Parker,D	CB	42	847	20.2	62	8
31	Freeman,D	SBE	41	321	7.8	28	2
32	Chark Jr.	NJ	41	581	14.2	52	6
33	Gallup	CHI	41	702	17.1	60	7
34	Fitzgerald	CHI	40	534	13.4	73	5
35	Miller,A	SEA	39	408	10.5	35	2
36	Robinson,A	SBE	39	514	13.2	58	7
37	Samuel,D	NJ	39	460	11.8	42	2
38	Bell,L	COW	39	315	8.1	30	3
39	Godwin	BRX	37	762	20.6	72	6
40	Golladay	TCT	37	703	19.0	55	3

## EFL 2020 Official Kicking Leaders

		FGA	FGM	FG%	40	50	Lg	Pts	
1	Prater	BRX	29	24	82.8	12	4	55	100
2	Gonzalez	VV	21	18	85.7	6	2	51	96
3	Myers,J	BUD	28	22	78.6	8	3	52	87
4	Tucker,J	ICC	21	20	95.2	5	1	51	86
5	Bullock	BRH	22	20	90.9	3	3	55	84
6	Crosby	SBE	20	20	100.0	10	4	54	80
7	Butker	PCC	17	13	76.5	3	1	53	76
8	McManus	CB	13	11	84.6	5	1	51	75
9	Boswell	NJ	18	18	100.0	4	1	50	75
10	Lambo	SEA	19	19	100.0	14	3	54	75
11	Bailey,D	SS	16	16	100.0	6	0	47	71
12	Pineiro	DTL	22	17	77.3	9	5	52	68
13	Hauschka	YOR	17	16	94.1	9	2	51	67
14	Fairbairn	LV	17	16	94.1	2	1	51	65
15	McLaughlin	CHI	13	10	76.9	3	0	47	64
16	Bass	GEO	19	16	84.2	3	2	51	62
17	Slye	COW	18	13	72.2	5	1	52	57
18	Lutz	AUR	12	8	66.7	4	2	51	56
19	Zuerlein	PIC	14	13	92.9	7	3	55	55
20	Blankenshi	EE	12	12	100.0	5	3	53	55
21	Elliott,J	BUF	10	7	70.0	3	1	54	52
22	Seibert	ERI	15	11	73.3	6	1	50	46
23	Carlson	CHP	10	7	70.0	3	2	51	45
24	Hopkins	TCT	9	6	66.7	1	0	40	34
25	O'Donnell	NJ	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0

## EFL 2020 Official Sack Leaders

1	Barrett	LV	10
2	Smith,Z	CHI	8
3	Dupree	BRX	8
4	Jones,C	SS	7
5	Smith,P	BRX	7
6	Watt,T	COW	7
7	Heyward	VV	6
8	Armstead,A	DTL	6
9	Landry III	NJ	6
10	Clark,F	BRX	5
11	Allen,J	EE	5
12	Charlton	EE	5
13	Joseph,L	EE	5
14	Bosa,N	SBE	4
15	Quinn	NJ	4
16	Allen,J	PCC	4
17	Miller,V	PCC	4
18	Hunter,D	TCT	4
19	Collins Sr	VV	4
20	Richardson	VV	4
21	Flowers,T	BRX	4
22	Hubbard	BRH	4
23	Wolfe	PIC	4
24	Buckner	YOR	4
25	Casey	BRX	4

## EFL 2020 Official Punting Leaders

			No	Yards	Tb	20	Lg	Bk	Ave
1	Way	CHI	38	1896	5	11	64	0	49.9
2	Dixon,R	GEO	43	2076	3	15	64	0	48.3
3	Morstead	DTL	42	2021	3	15	68	0	48.1
4	Kern	BRX	38	1823	2	11	60	0	48.0
5	Palardy	YOR	49	2315	1	15	79	0	47.2
6	Edwards,L	EE	52	2424	2	20	62	0	46.6
7	Bailey,J	SEA	43	1998	0	16	60	0	46.5
8	O'Donnell	NJ	43	1994	3	15	56	0	46.4
9	Hekker	COW	50	2318	5	19	59	0	46.4
10	Anger	LV	54	2502	7	23	67	0	46.3
11	Koch	AUR	34	1563	1	13	62	1	46.0
12	Sanchez	BUD	38	1720	2	15	80	0	45.3
13	Dickson	ERI	54	2440	6	21	56	0	45.2
14	Wishnowsky	TCT	52	2335	1	18	53	0	44.9
15	Colquitt,D	SBE	47	2078	6	22	54	0	44.2
16	Jones,C	PIC	48	2046	0	15	57	2	42.6
17	Lee,A	BUF	28	1359	1	15	73	0	48.5
18	Berry,J	SS	18	849	1	3	80	0	47.2
19	Scott,J	BRH	20	930	2	8	52	0	46.5
20	Martin,S	CB	28	1297	0	8	65	0	46.3
21	Haack	PCC	27	1246	1	12	53	0	46.1
22	Huber	CHP	27	1226	4	7	57	0	45.4
23	Mann	VV	25	1133	2	5	58	0	45.3
24	Pinion	ICC	31	1377	1	9	54	0	44.4

## EFL 2020 Official Tackle Leaders

1	Leonard,D	LV	122
2	Smith,J	EE	87
3	Littleton	ICC	83
4	Lattimore	SEA	78
5	Alexander	TCT	77
6	Henderson	YOR	75
7	Terrell	CHI	75
8	Ryan,L	SBE	73
9	Martinez	CB	72
10	Landry III	NJ	70
11	Kuechly	BRX	68
12	Davis,C	COW	68
13	Apple	BRH	68
14	Brooks,J	TCT	67
15	White,D	SEA	67
16	Cunningham	NJ	67
17	Jones,J	BRH	66
18	Fulton	GEO	65
19	Schobert	PIC	65
20	Awuzie	NJ	64
21	Okudah	PCC	63
22	Hightower	SBE	63
23	Bush,D	PCC	62
24	Stone	ICC	61
25	Wagner,B	TCT	61



# AROUND THE



# With Spats McChad

NEW YORK – The EFL announced plans this week to move the site of the 2020 Championship Game from Bruxelles to Las Vegas. This was a decision made by ‘The Committee’ in consultation with governmental authorities in Belgium and Nevada. It involved the suspension of a deal that would have made Bruxelles the first city outside of North America to host an American Football pro championship game. Although Belgian fans and officials are not happy, the circumstances created by the COVID-19 panic make holding such an historic contest in front of live fans impossible.

“It is the desire of The Committee to allow fans to attend this year’s championship,” Co-Chair, **Yorrgo Kaldis** droned over *Zoom*, reading from a prepared script. “The authorities in Bruxelles and Belgium are unable to accommodate this arrangement due to legislation currently in effect in those jurisdictions. It is unknown, at this time, what the status of the legislation will be on the date of our final game. Therefore, the Committee is being pro-active in moving the game to Las Vegas. Bruxelles will host its Championship at the conclusion of the 2022 season.”

The decision to move the game to Las Vegas was made at an emergency meeting of ‘The Committee’ in Canton. The Assassin’s Den being a brand new state of the art facility, coupled with Nevada’s relatively relaxed pandemic restrictions and huge hotel accommodation capacity in Las Vegas made it a logical choice. But not everybody is happy with the move.

The Board of Directors for True North Field in Winnipeg, home of the Crusaders, has filed a grievance with the league, arguing that emergency requests for tenders should have been sent to all Pacific Conference teams. Although pandemic restrictions in Winnipeg are among the most restrictive among EFL cities, the Board of True North Field seems to think that they will be able to come to some arrangement that would allow fans to attend the big game at their facility. It is a move of desperation. The impressive ultra-modern domed stadium is quickly turning into a white elephant in the current environment. It was always going to be difficult to support two professional teams in a city of less than one million; throw in a pandemic and no fans in the stands and sustainability becomes impossibility.

Joining the Peg City in its “crusade” are the other Manitoba franchises, the Patriots and the Violators, for essentially the same reason. The Pats make the case that they should have priority, having already hosted an EFL championship. The Violators feel that the **TERRORDOME** should be awarded the game because the Violators will be in the final and having a finalist hosting the championship would be “good for football.” Nobody wants to see a championship played at a refurbished 1890s insane asylum, so there is no chance of that happening, even without a pandemic.

I think moving the game to Vegas is a good move. If we get a better grip on this pandemic by late January the league may even be able to fill the stands. Let’s hope, for the sake societal sanity, that we do.

### **GRIDIRON SOCIETY**

If you ever wondered why Cobb County coach/GM **Eron Osman** looks serious most of the time, it is because he is under more pressure than the average pro football coach. Considering where the Coyotes are currently sitting in the standings – all alone in first place in the East and sharing the top seed in the Pacific Conference with Virden – the idea that Osman would be under inordinate stress seems counter-intuitive. Coaches under stress are usually the ones on the hot seat, not the ones in the cat bird seat.

The loss to Seattle in Week Nine shut down the Coyote’s nascent bid for a perfect season and caught the attention of sports analysts who are still trying to figure out how good both the Coyotes and the Pilots really are. But the loss did not dramatically alter their position in the playoff race with 7 games still to be played. 16-games is a long season for a sport that features big men hurling themselves violently at each other for 60 minutes each week – there are bound to be letdowns. And, unlike the Mustangs of 2014 and the Triumph of 2016, the team formally known as the Knights was on nobody’s radar to finish to perfection, let alone have a stranglehold on the East Division at the season’s halfway point.

But those were merely *our* expectations – outsiders watching in fascination as **Ryan Tannehill** sets a historic standard in passing efficiency and an unknown like **Raheem Mostert** finds the end zone with regularity running behind the powerful blocks of rookie tackle **Tristan Wirfs**. Insiders in the Cobb County organization have a much different set of expectations. And the loss to Seattle in Week Nine sent shockwaves through that organization up to the highest level.

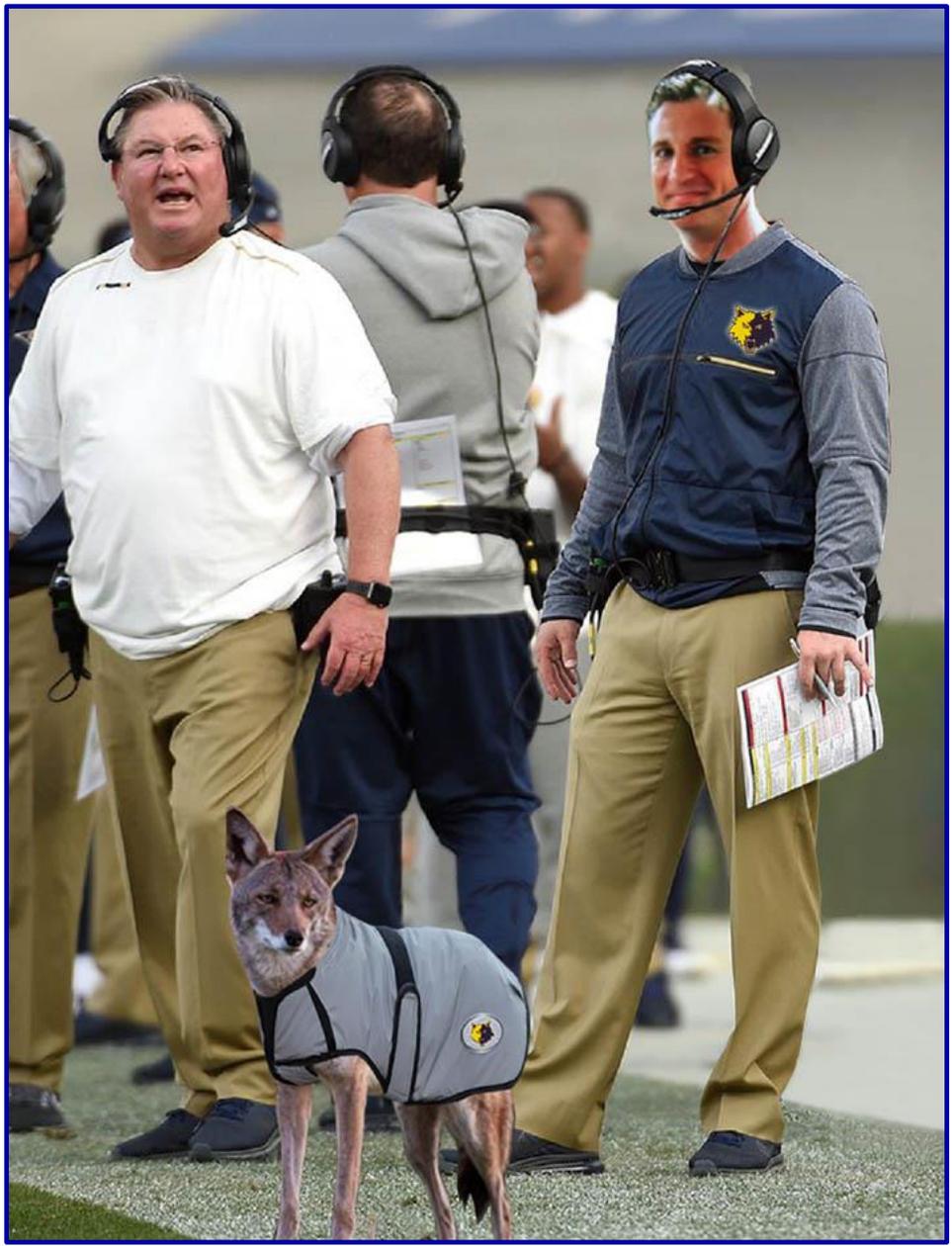
The consortium of Georgia businessmen who purchased the Knights from the Hollywood business consortium that oversaw a see-sawing 13 years of exhilarating ups and discouraging downs are members of the *Gridiron Society* – a secret society originating out of the University of Georgia. While the existence of the society is publicly known, its purpose and membership criteria are not.

One is either “in” or “out.” The people who are known to be “in” are typically powerful Georgia politicians, popular sports figures and athletes. The guiding minds of the society, however, are and will likely never be known to the general public. It is thought that this elect core of decision-makers meets on a semi-regular basis at the clubhouse of a super-secret golf and country club located somewhere in the State of Georgia, an elite retreat more exclusive even than Augusta National.

Insider information is very hard to come by and most of what I was able to dig up on the inner-workings of the *Gridiron Society* was third hand or of dubious reliability. It will probably take Yours Truly some time to develop my own sources from inside both this group and the Coyotes franchise. But what I was able to glean in short order was that the owners of the Coyotes have exceedingly high expectations of coach **Eron Osman**, who they head-hunted from the Swordfish due to his successful tenure as GM there.

“Osman put a radically aggressive, on-the-fringe play-caller like Lemmon in a position to win a Gale Sayers trophy,” somebody familiar with the hiring process, who wished to remain anonymous, told me. “That was all the society needed to know.”

One of the first moves Osman made is still being evaluated by the experts, but has so far worked out like magic. He traded the thought-to-be-franchise quarterback, **Lamar Jackson** for as much as he could squeeze from the Derailers and put journeyman **Ryan Tannehill** in charge. This move had people initially questioning Osman’s sanity. But with each Coyote victory, he is looking more like a prophet than a lunatic.



Coyotes coach, **Eron Osman** smiles for the camera while mascot ‘Cooty the Coyote’ studies the field after their team stopped the Cubs on 4<sup>th</sup> down to finish off a 27-23 win. Osman entered the game on the hotseat after losing to Seattle in Week 9.

Everything was going according to Osman’s multi-dimensional and outside-the-box plan until the Pilots sucker-punched them. The loss was one thing – losing to Seattle was another. While the media in Marietta largely wrote off the loss to “the game of football,” Coyote ownership, at the highest level, was not happy. This was communicated to Osman in the form of an address in the Georgia General Assembly by State Governor, **Brian Kemp**:

“Mr. Speaker and members of the general assembly,” Governor Kemp, a known member of the *Gridiron Society*, stated gravely. “I would also take this time to note here, on the record, that even though our Coyotes football team lost last Sunday to the team from Seattle, Washington, lieutenant governor Duncan and I have full confidence in coach, Eron Osman. We believe he has built firm foundation for the team that will weather this storm and keep us standing tall right up to the final, championship game.”

There it was; the dreaded “vote of confidence.” While most either ignored or failed to understand the significance of Kemp’s pronouncement, the implications were not lost on Osman, nor on this Week Ten adversary, Cubs’ coach **Deron Redding**, who had received his own “vote of confidence” from Cubs ownership a mere four weeks ago and knew how it *really* felt.

“We know we will be facing a determined opponent in the Coyotes,” Redding stated in his Friday pre-game report to the media. “I know it feels good to get that vote of confidence from ownership, but then you have to show you’re worthy of that confidence. We know that’s what Eron will be focusing on this week as he gets ready for us.”

Redding’s hot seat had been turned down several degrees after his team had rallied for three straight victories. But the air in Iowa City was still laden with the cloud of scrutiny. Journalists, such as **Archibald Thacker**, were waiting to pounce on the next

mistake or sign of weakness. Not only that, but the Cubs had a division to win – one they were *expected* to win. The Coyotes-Cubs match-up in Week Ten was shaping up to be a battle of coaches on the hot seat.

As for the game, it was clear from the outset that the Cubs had taken a page from the Pilots' playbook the week before. They took their time driving up the field, using runs and short passes to possess the ball, with the idea of keeping the powerful Coyotes' offence off the field. This strategy was not due to the general over-conservatism that **Deron Redding** has been accused of over the years, but rather was a deliberate tactic. There was certainly nothing conservative about Redding's decision to go for it on 4<sup>th</sup> & 1 from their own 34 on the game's first series. It worked out, as **Russell Wilson** scrambled for the first down to keep the drive alive on its way to an opening touchdown. Had it not worked out, I am confident the script for this thriller would have been dramatically altered and maybe I would be focusing my attention on another game.

The Cubs stuck to this dink-and-dunk strategy successfully and as a result controlled the 1<sup>st</sup> half almost completely, but for one modest Coyote field goal drive. They held the ball for 21 minutes and ran an astounding 47 plays in that time to slog out a 13-3 lead. Visible signs of frustration showed on the Coyotes sideline. The religiously mask-wearing **Eron Osman** dropped his face guard many times to yell at the officials and chew out his offence, which was not in rhythm and had been penalized three times. '*Cooty the Coyote*,' the team's domesticated coyote mascot, let loose with a flurry of high-pitched barks and yips whenever a play went against his team, or a Coyote player had missed an assignment or lined up in the wrong spot. *Cooty* had watched a lot of football in his five years.

Whatever was said in the locker room at the half seemed to briefly light a spark under the Cobb County offence, as Tannehill completed his first three passes for nice chunks of yardage to get into field goal range. But a 3-yard stuff of **Raheem Mostert** on a pitch and two pressured misfires in the direction of **Julio Jones** made them settle for a field goal.

The Cubs responded with a field goal of their own after Wilson checked down in the Wilson-way, by throwing a ball deep downfield to an open **Tyler Lockett** for a 34-yard gain. The drive stalled at the 23, bringing **Justin Tucker** on to kick the 41-yarder to re-establish the Cubs' lead at 10 points, 16-6.

Cobb County finally found the end zone on their next possession. Mostert hauled in a check down from Tannehill for a 3-yard score to narrow the gap to 3 points with just 37 seconds left in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter. There was no overt sign of celebration on the Coyote sideline, however. *Cooty* stared in silence at the defence as it prepared to take the field, while Osman buried his head in his tablet. This was by far the deepest into a game that the powerful Coyotes offence had been held without a touchdown. There was more work to do.

The Cubs sideline remained firm. The players were still committed to saving their coach's job and chose not to waste their energies on feeling sorry for themselves after the Cobb County major. The offence stumbled, however, after **Christian Kirk** was stuffed for a 4-yard loss on a jet sweep. No problem, the defence would take up the mantle. They huddled together as **Bradley Pinion** punted away and as they broke to take the field, bellowed in unison, "*For Coach!*"

On 3<sup>rd</sup> & 10, cornerback **Casey Hayward Jr** struck for the Cubbies. Reading the eyes of a pressured and panicked Tannehill, Hayward stepped in front of a dump-off intended for **J.P.Holtz** and returned it 33 yards to the Coyote 21. Two plays later, Wilson threw a strike into a tight window to **Cole Beasley** for a 9-yard touchdown pass. The Cubs were back in front by 10 points, 23-13.

The momentum had swung completely over to the Cubs. A pumped-up Coach Redding slapped Hayward on the back side as the Iowa defence took the field to defend their gains. He was caught by the field mic barking, "do it again, Casey! For coach!" then, once the defence had left the sidelines, he added, "*For coach...I love it, man!*"

The Coyotes now faced a moment of truth. Things had gone their way through 8 weeks of the season before Seattle surprised them in Week Nine. Now, they faced an opponent that held no surprises and did not appear to be intimidated by the Coyote mystique. They were down by two scores. It was time to get it done. Or, as Osman was caught by field mic saying, "okay Ryan, quick f\*#!ing around out there. Get it in the end zone!"

Some players respond to positive encouragement; others need a good expletive to wake them up. The expletive seemed to be the correct trigger for the league's top-rated passer. Operating out of a three-wide set, Tannehill hit on four key pass plays against the six-back 'dime' defence of the Cubs. After a critical third down cross to **Julio Jones** in traffic for 11 yards and a first down, Tannehill fired another dart over the middle that **DeVante Parker** took 28 yards to the Iowa 17-yard line. Then, facing another 3<sup>rd</sup> & 10, he found **Jared Cook** nestled underneath the zone and the explosive tight end did the rest, taking it the distance to make it a 3-point game once more.

With 6:55 left, the Cubs' offensive plan to bleed the clock and get something out of it at the end was hamstrung by a holding penalty on All-Pro **Quenton Nelson**, that nullified an 8-yard gain and a first down. The Cubs switched to a four-wide set to salvage the drive, while the Coyotes played the pass all the way. The resulting two incompletions brought the Cubs' punting unit back on to the field.

The Coyotes took over at their 28 with plenty of time. They went straight to the air, reaching the Cubs' 30-yard line at the two-minute warning after a 10-yard pass to Jones converted a key 3<sup>rd</sup> & 10. The Cubs came out of the two-minute break determined to stop the two big receivers in the Cobb County arsenal. They doubled Jones and Parker, which took the safeties out of the picture when Mostert was unleashed on a sweep around right end for a 21-yard gain to the Cubs' 9. On the next play, Mostert slashed through the Cubs' line off right tackle for a touchdown. The extra point was good, giving the Coyotes their first lead of the afternoon, 27-23.

The Cubs took over at their own 25 with 1:28 left and all of their timeouts. This was more than enough time for Wilson to engineer a touchdown drive. The Coyote sideline knew this, even as they collectively raised their arms and *Cooty* yipped in celebration of Mostert's go-ahead score. There was still plenty of work left to do.

Iowa coach, **Deron Redding** was anything but grim on the sideline as the Cubs' offence broke from its huddle with a resounding



This week's frame-up photo features rejuvenated veteran, *Larry Fitzgerald* of the Convicts, pictured above hauling in a pass from *Dak Prescott* that he would turn into a 68-yard scoring play in Week Ten action versus New Jersey. Fitzgerald went on to catch 3 TDs on 5 receptions for 112 yards in the 34-14 Chino win, giving him 209 yards and 4 TDs in his last two games.

*"For Coach!"* He was comforted by the awareness that he was leading a much more confident and resilient Cubs' team than the one he had started the season with. There was no reason to think that *Russell the Magician* could not complete the comeback and stretch his coach-saving win streak to four games. Of course, that would mean the seat under *Eron Osman* would get much hotter, which was a shame. But if it came down to Deron or Eron, Deron would naturally go Deron all the way.

The drive proceeded well for the Cubbies. Operating out of a four-wide set against the Coyotes' "quarter" package, Wilson moved his team 61 yards to the Coyotes' 14-yard, using his mobility to keep plays alive and to find his outlets. But this progress underneath came at the price of all three of their timeouts. There were only 17 seconds left as the Cubs set up 1<sup>st</sup> & 10 at the 14.

Wilson's first pass of the do-or-die sequence was a horribly underthrown out-pattern to Beasley. *Trayvon Mullen* nearly ended the game right there, but dropped the gift-wrapped interception. On 2<sup>nd</sup> down, Locket was bumped off his route at the line enough to cause Wilson's pass over the middle to sail just out of his reach. On 3<sup>rd</sup> down, an out-pass to Beasley was tipped by Mullen, leaving 1 second on the clock and a 4<sup>th</sup> and Die situation. Wilson took a deep drop but was quickly chased out of the pocket. He seemed to briefly consider running for the pylon, but at the last second flipped the ball to *Joe Mixon* after catching him out of the corner of his eye unguarded near the line of scrimmage. Mixon cut up the middle but the Coyote pursuit was hot. *Blake Martinez* got to him and wrapped

him up at the 8-yrd as time expired. After briefly surveying the field and seeing no yellow flags, *Cooty the Coyote* howled, while Coach Osman permitted himself a modest smile. His team had come from behind, then held on for a hard-fought, 27-23 win.

A more relaxed, but hardly triumphant-looking **Eron Osman** took to *Zoom* after the game to offer praise for his opponent and give cautious recognition to the efforts of his offence and defence with the game on the line:

“They had a great plan and they executed it to near perfection,” Osman replied when asked how the Coyotes had fallen behind to the Cubs so early and had remained so for most of the game. “That is a talented, well-coached and highly-motivated team we beat today. I thought we were a little slow off the mark, though, not to take anything away from the Cubs. In the end, we did not panic and we executed under pressure. That is probably the biggest takeaway for me – our guys left it all on the field when the chips were down.”

This was an important test of the Coyotes’ mettle. While it is impressive to win easily, blowing out every opponent, it is even more impressive, and the hallmark of a champion, to beat a good team on an off-day. The *Gridiron Society* should be pleased with what they saw this Sunday from their coach on the hot seat.

### **SPERL’S WORLD OF SPORTS**

A coach who feels little external pressure in a media market that hardly knows he exists, but one who is forever tormented by a powerful inner lust for victory that keeps him awake at night, is North Stars’ coach, **Darrin Jones**. He has not finished a full night’s sleep since his reigning champion North Stars were rolled over, 41-24 by the Patriots in Gale Sayers VII. Losing is tough, but being uncompetitive in defeat is anathema to Jones, especially when it takes place on the sport’s biggest stage.

Everything Jones has done since has been geared to getting his North Stars back into the final and winning that final. But, despite having coached some very talented teams in the interim, the best he has managed was an appearance in the 2017 Conference Final. And that didn’t go well.

This off-season, Jones had an epiphany. He had always built his teams moving out from the trenches. While this had resulted in consistently competitive teams, sturdy linemen on both sides of the ball and playmakers in the secondary were simply not enough to get his Stars over the playoff hump against elite teams, like an Aurora. And what did those elite teams have that the Stars did not? A top-tier *quarterback*, of course.

Jones had always made do with what happened to be on the roster at quarterback after his moves to build the team around the quarterback were done. This consistently resulted in playoff disappointment due to what critics unkindly referred to as TTE – the *Tyrod Taylor Effect*. Jones’ plan to solve the franchise quarterback problem by drafting **Baker Mayfield** was soon aborted when Jones realized that he has no patience for rookie quarterbacks. Better a stable veteran with a worn-out arm than an erratic young hot head with a gun he can’t aim. And with that particular hue of the light of wisdom casting its ethereal glow onto his brain, Jones pulled the trigger on a sensational deal for proven champion, **Aaron Rodgers**, recently rehabilitated by the Wolverines after playing through drug and alcohol addiction during the dark years of the “Scarborough Period” of his checkered career.

In wake of the Stars’ second defeat of the season – and second to the Brooklin Hawks – some fans are beginning to wonder if Rodgers is having a relapse. Others are considering the possibility that it is the coach, not the quarterback, who is the problem. As for me, I believe in neither of those speculative theories.

When I reviewed the tape of the Hawks’ gritty 19-13 win over the North Stars, I saw a Hawks team playing with a high-degree of confidence and a Budapest team obviously labouring under the weight of not living up to their own expectations. They aren’t who they thought they were or, if they are, they have not proven it to themselves yet, let alone anyone else.

On the surface, there is no excuse for Rodgers’ ineffectiveness, reflected in a dismal stat line, against the jerry-rigged Brooklin secondary and the line’s sluggish pass rush. But when one looks closely at the game film, it is easy to see why he managed to throw for just 214 yards against one of the statistically worst defences in the EFL. The entire Budapest offence was out of synch. The line blocked lazily, not expecting a guy named **Sam Hubbard** to play at an All-Pro level or a concrete bollard like **Brandon Williams** to flash interior pass rush ability. The receivers ran half-speed, predictable routes, perhaps thinking they didn’t need to go full speed against the likes of **Eli Apple** and **Jonathan Jones**. When receivers did get open, pocket collapses forced Rodgers’ attention elsewhere. He also missed his share of easy throws out of the pocket, seemingly spooked by imaginary pass rushers coming at him from his blindside. To top it all off, Rodgers’ security blanket, **George Kittle**, left the game in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter and did not return.

The vaunted Stars’ defence, practically immune to criticism over the first nine weeks, is taking heat for allowing **Carlos Hyde** to run for more than 1½ football fields against them. But this is unfounded criticism. People easily forget, if they ever knew to begin with, that the Hawks’ offensive line is as solid as any in the league. Their front five is more than capable of creating holes against any front seven determined play the pass almost exclusively, as the Budapest defence did on this day. They picked their poison, choosing to die by Hyde rather than Hopkins. It was a good bet, in theory, but a couple of extra run stops might have thrown the Hawks off their rhythm and gotten the Budapest defence off the field sooner.

Aside from the shock factor of watching the Hawks beat the North Stars for the second time, there were not many highlights to this game. Hyde’s 39-yard and 44-yard runs to set up Brooklin scores and his own 11-yard TD run would qualify; as would **Jason Myers** missing field goals from 44 and 34 yards, that would have been the difference in the game had he made them. And of course, the clip of Hawks coach **Tom Jones** falling to his knees and praying to the *Football Gods* (yes, they exist!), pleading for mercy after **Derek Carr** was stuffed for a loss on 4<sup>th</sup> & 1 at the Hawks’ own 17, is getting air time on virtually every sports outlet across the continent. Incredibly, the Stars got nothing out of the Brooklin turnover. It was just another sign that the Hawks were destined to win this game from the start.

**Darrin Jones**, as usual, was gracious in defeat, offering sincere congratulations to his counterpart, **Tom Jones**, and expressing admiration for his game plan. Under the surface, however, the uber-competitive Jones is seething with rage and has reportedly pinned a picture of the Hawks' head coach to a dart board in his office.

The Hawks' coach was his usual giddy self following victory and did not miss a chance to take a shot at critics who expressed doubt in the ability of his team's defence to sustain a playoff run. "I am very proud of this defence! They are playing at a championship level right now," he stated emphatically, without a hint of irony. "When people say we're bad, or we couldn't stop a granny with a walking stick or some other nonsense, we look at that as a motivating factor. Keep underestimating these boys and they'll keep playing above expectations! *Go Hawks!*"

It's a strange world where Brooklin dominates a team like Budapest in this way. The Hawks are simply a different team when they play the North Stars. It is as if both teams enter an alternate reality – a different world – when facing each other. Ironically, the Hawks look a lot like the traditional North Stars in those games, winning with defence and ball control. **Tom Jones** and his intrepid band of interlopers in the Atlantic Conference playoff picture actually have an outside shot at winning the Coastal Division, which was a possibility nobody, apart from that fringe lunatic **Sperl Sponefritter** of *Sperl's World of Sports*, considered possible before the season.

### **PLENTY OF TIME**

The game that nobody wanted to see turned out to be the game everybody was watching this past Sunday afternoon right around 4:30 pm. By that point, late in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter, the moment of truth was about to be revealed in the epic contest between the Scarborough Blue Eagles and the East Elmhurst Irish.

Readers familiar with my style, who did not witness this game, might read a note of sarcasm into my association of the word "epic" with either of these small-market, recently struggling, generally unloved squads. But in this rare case, I mean the word sincerely. This was, contrary to expectations, a gripping game abounding in emotion and drama, that produced a meaningful result.

The first half alone was worth the price of admission – had there in fact been admission to the still unbaptized-by-fans Monsignor McClancy Memorial Stadium, home of the Irish. It started impossibly bad for the home team. A break down in special-teams coverage allowed the Blue Eagles' **Trevor Davis** to dart and swerve through a maze of Irish defenders until he was forced out of bounds at the Irish 10. That set up a quick opening touchdown and a 7-0 Scarborough lead. The Easties offence could not get anything going, while the Eagles' offence did just enough to enable two long **Mason Crosby** field goals of 5 and 54 yards. Then **Baker Mayfield** tried to do too much. He was picked off on back-to-back possessions, with the first one by **Damon Arnette** being returned for a touchdown and the second by **Troy Hill** setting up a chip shot field goal for Crosby. With the score now 22-0, Irish kick returner **Kalif Raymond** attempted a return from 6 yards deep in the end zone, but **Neville Gallimore** punched the ball out of his arms and it was recovered by Scarborough. Three plays later, **Joe Burrow** threw off his back foot to **Jamison Crowder** in the end zone for a 15-yard TD. A mere 20 minutes into the game, the Blue Eagles already led 29-0.

**Chris Dickinson**, who surrendered the coaching reins to **Kyle Shanahan** this year, still likes to watch games from the sideline to feel part of the action. He went into a state of unbridled euphoria with the touchdown pass to Crowder, jumping up and down, high-fiving the players, the coaches, staff, photographers and even the chain crew. All the while he was bellowing something unintelligible that sounded like "AAWWARRYARRACAAAYEEEEAAHHH!"

The mood on the Irish sideline was somber. Many of the players on the roster had been part of that first-place Wolverines squad in 2018 and the playoff team of 2019. To be losing this early and this badly to the Blue Eagles, the doormat of the league for those two seasons, was nothing less than a disgrace. But head coach, **Archbishop Thomas Molloy**, remained calm and serene. "Have patience, all is not lost. There is plenty of time," he is reported to have told his players as his kick return unit took to the field.

The Irish got back 7 on the ensuing drive. They were helped by 29 yards in penalties against Scarborough that put Mayfield in position to find **Nelson Agholor** open on a short slant with room to run to paydirt. The Irish scored again on their next possession when Mayfield hit **Allen Hurns** on a 30-yard fly pattern for the touchdown. The Blue Eagles took over at their own 25 with 1:03 left in the first half and their lead down to 15 points. On the first play from scrimmage, they sent **Chris Carson** on a trap and he found daylight. But as he reached the second level, **Jalen Ramsey** ripped the ball out and **Duron Harmon** scooped it up and returned it all the way for a 36-yard score. In the span of 14 seconds, East Elmhurst had gone from being down by 22, to being down by just 8, trailing 29-21 at the half.

It was now the turn of the Irish sideline to be jubilant. But the even-tempered Archbishop urged his players not to over-celebrate. "The game is not over," he cautioned. "We still a long way to go."

The third quarter played out at a slower pace, with both teams emotionally exhausted from the roller coaster ride of the first half. Nobody on either squad wanted to make a mistake that would cause a return to chaos. Conservative play-calling led to a field position battle that tilted in favour of the Irish. The result was a 31-yard **Rodrigo Blankenship** field goal that brought them to within 5 points, trailing 29-24. Then, with the Blue Eagles driving in East Elmhurst territory, **TJ Yeldon** coughed up the football and the Irish took over at their own 36. A 20-yard pass to **Trey Quinn** and a Mayfield scramble for 16 yards on 3<sup>rd</sup> & 2 helped set up the E's at the Scarborough 12. From there, Mayfield finished it off with a short cross to **Adam Thielen** that he ran in to the end zone. After the missed two-point convert, the Irish led for the first time all game, 30-29.

It was a remarkable comeback – one that had the Irish celebrating as if they had already won the game. But there was still, incredibly, a full quarter left to play. The Blue Eagles, who had done literally nothing offensively since the 10-minute mark of the second quarter, finally snapped out of their state of shock. They drove to the Irish 39 where they faced 4<sup>th</sup> & 1. Shanahan did not hesitate to keep his offence on the field. Facing an all-dawg blitz, Burrow barely got away a screen pass to Carson, who gained the first down and more

to the Irish 29. A roughing the passer penalty got them closer, then Burrow hooked up with Crowder for their second touchdown of the day. They made the two-point convert and the Eagles now led 37-30 with, as coach Molloy would say, “plenty of time left to play.”

But having faced down the humiliation of giving up a 29-point lead, the Blue Eagles were determined more than ever to not let it get away from them again. **Troy Hill** picked off a pass intended for **Nelson Agholor** to stop the return drive in its tracks. After three-and-outs on both sides, the Irish took over at their 6 with 3:25 left to play. This was the moment when most television sets across the continent tuned into this crazy game. Would Baker be able to bring his Irish back to even with the Blue Eagles?

He almost did it. Had **Tyreek Hill** been in the game, he likely would have. But after 15 plays and 87 yards of offence, the Irish came up short. Mayfield’s 4<sup>th</sup> down pass to Hurns was batted up by **Pierre Desir** one yard from the goal line and time, of which there had been plenty of all afternoon, finally ran out.

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

There were more than a few clunkers in Week 10 to go along with a handful of meaningful contests. The playoff races are getting thick.

∩ At Kingdome in Seattle, the Pilots made the league’s first important contribution to the film vault on how to stop **Lamar Jackson** on the ground, but came away unrewarded in a gut-wrenching 21-14 loss to the Derailers. Jackson was limited to just 36 yards on 10 carries and the offence he led was held to just 14 points through 59 minutes of play. After engineering a 54-yard touchdown drive entirely through the air in just 4 plays, and hitting the two-point conversion to tie the game, Seattle’s **Sam Darnold** had the ball at his own 11 with 1:59 left to play in the 4<sup>th</sup>. On 3<sup>rd</sup> & 5 at his own 30, Darnold completed a pass to **Anthony Miller** for a first down and possibly more; when, out of the blue, Buffalo corner **Eric Rowe** jolted the ball loose into the arms of teammate **Byron Jones**, who lateralled it to **Eddie “the playmaker” Jackson** for a runaway 37-yard fumble return to paydirt. It was a tough loss for Seattle, given how close they are to challenging for top spot in the West Division. The Derailers, winners of 7 of their last 8, are keeping the Coyotes in their sights.

∩ At the Fortress in Bruxelles, **Jared Goff** threw for 425 yards and 2 touchdowns to lead Bombers over the Assassins, 23-14. The score should not have been so close. Goff was also intercepted twice and lost a fumble to set up a Las Vegas touchdown. If only the Assassins had an offence worthy of the name. The quarterback carousel there is revolving at a dizzying pace. **Carson Wentz** didn't even finish off the opening drive, after getting sacked twice and fumbling both times, but recovering both. **Jacoby Brissett** was inserted into the game on 3<sup>rd</sup> & 21, not so much to convert 3<sup>rd</sup> & long but to simply get a bit more room for his punter. Eventually, coach **Anthony Holguin** moved back to Wentz, who led the team to a pair of touchdowns to make it appear on the surface that they were in this game.

∩ At a locked down Stone Pony Shore, the Wrecking Balls wrote another chapter in the slasher flic that is their season (and it ain't the Wrecking Balls doing the slashing!) by dropping a 34-14 decision to the Convicts. Midway in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter, **Larry Fitzgerald** broke his second long-gainer TD in two weeks off a short slant, this one going for 68 yards to break a 3-3 tie. The big play electrified the Chino offence, which had, until that point, been manhandled by the Wrecking Balls. Fitzgerald would catch another TD to cap the opening series of the 2<sup>nd</sup> half and snare his third TD, off a check down from **Dak Prescott** in the 4<sup>th</sup>, to stand out as one of the stars of the game. In what passes for big football news in New Jersey, now that the Wrecking Balls are a wreck, 2<sup>nd</sup> round pick, **Jordan Love**, made his first appearance at QB late in the 4<sup>th</sup>, completing 3 of 4 for 15 yards. Fans are already clamouring to “see what we got in Jordan.”

∩ Peg City put its top-three offence on pause this week with a 70’s style, 13-3 smothering of the Triumph at Wilhalla Stadium in Minneapolis. It was the second game this year where the potent Crusader offence went curiously silent and had to rely on its defence to bail the team out. This game might have had a different outcome if the Triumph had played within their means. Three times the Crusaders held them off on 4<sup>th</sup> down when they were in field goal range, but looking for more. That kept the goose egg on the Triumph side of the scoreboard preserved until early in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter and gave **Kirk Cousins** the opportunity he needed to finally find the end zone in the 4<sup>th</sup>.

∩ Examined from any angle, the 15-10 victory of the Cadillac over the Swordfish at the Fish Tank in Sebastian was one ugly game. Luckily for the sake of football on the East Coast of Florida, very few spectators had the experience especially ingrained in their memories by actually being there in person. The best that can be said about the Cadillac effort is that it was successfully opportunistic, while the best that can be said about the Swordfish is nothing at all. The Fish got off on the wrong fin when they went for it on 4<sup>th</sup> & 1 at their own 17 in a scoreless tie in the first quarter with **Dwayne Haskins** under center. Are you kidding me? They missed it, of course, and the Cadillac made them pay with a quick touchdown to **Henry Ruggs**. Of course, there were other 4<sup>th</sup> down controversies contributing to this Sebastian loss, but none of them top the first one for sheer brazenness and – I’ll say it – stupidity.

∩ The Violators rung-up the Pats, 41-14 at **TERRORDOME**. It was Tight End Appreciation Day in Virden as **Patrick Mahomes** threw all 4 of his TD passes to tight ends **Eric Ebron** and **TJ Hockenson** and his opponent **DeShaun Watson** threw one of this 2 scoring strikes to **Irv Smith Jr**. It was a game that was never in doubt, even before the game. The Pats had one quarter of real fight in them then gave it up to the far superior team from the Winnipeg suburbs.

∩ At Magna Park in Aurora, the Mustangs made their case for being the team to beat in the Atlantic Conference with a 24-10 throttling of offence-less Durham. Aurora turned the ball over twice, giving up a pick-six to **Richard Sherman**, but still trotted away with this game easily. The RB tandem of **Kenyan Drake** and **Devin Singletary** is proving to be a powerfully underrated asset.

∩ At Tillman Field in Cowtown, the Corn Kings weathered **Tua’s** early hot hand to survive the Gladiators 27-16 and grab first place in the North Division on tie-breakers. **Todd Gurley II** scored three touchdowns, 2 on the ground and 1 through the air, to bring back happy memories of a time when he carried Cowtown on his back.

∩ And, finally at Camelot in York, the Excaliburs exacted revenge for the Week Five smack down they endured at the hands of the Spartans with a 38-13 beat down of their own. After ex-York safety, **Micah Hyde** picked him off on the game’s 1<sup>st</sup> drive, **Tom Brady** bullied the Spartans’ secondary with 253 yards passing and 4 TDs in just 19 pass attempts. The Swords are alive and well at 5-5.

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## *Jimmy's WEEK ELEVEN PICKS*

### **ERIEAU @ NEW JERSEY (line – CADILLAC by 2)**

**INJURIES:** Erieau – Myles Garrett (DOUBTFUL), Josh Gordon (OUT), Hunter Henry (OUT), Jabrill Peppers (OUT), Henry Ruggs (OUT), Joe Staley (IR), Akiem Hicks (IR); **New Jersey** – Matthew Stafford (OUT), Delanie Walker (OUT), Jedrick Wills Jr (OUT).

The Cadillac were not convincing in victory last week. They were the beneficiaries of a suicidal coaching strategy and a demoralized opponent. In fact, they have not looked imposing all season, yet have four times as many wins as a Wrecking Ball team that is, and has played, better than its record. Fundamentally, there are few reasons to have confidence in the nominal favourites here, even on a good day. With two of their top three wide receivers and their critical second tight end out for this game, and Myles Garrett listed as 'doubtful,' there are extra reasons to stay away from this bet. But then again, they are dealing with the Wrecking Balls here – a special case team with enough hang-ups to keep a platoon of psychotherapists employed full-time. The good news for New Jersey fans who still care is that the team is fast running out of new ways to lose. I know I am going to hate myself later for this. **PICK: NEW JERSEY**

### **EAST ELMHURST @ BUFFALO (line – DERAILERS by 12)**

**INJURIES:** East Elmhurst – Taco Charlton (OUT), Tyreek Hill (OUT), Linval Joseph (OUT), Dontari Poe (OUT), CJ Anderson (IR). **Buffalo** – Quinton Dunbar (OUT), Demaryius Thomas (OUT), Jonathan Abram (IR);

The Derailers have won 7 of their last 8 after taking out Seattle last week on a play you don't see very often – a fumble recovery and lateral for a score. The dramatic ending generated a postgame high in the Buffalo locker room that they hope will carry over this week against a very beatable, but sometimes very stubborn opponent in the Irish. Camouflaged by the euphoria was the pedestrian day Lamar Jackson had running the ball, finishing behind a running back in rushing for the first time this season. Not saying that Lamar has been figured out, only that D-Coordinator's league-wide, including the Irish, will be studying the game film trying to figure out what Seattle did that others have not. The never-say-die Irish are coming off another loss, but they made their opponent sweat for the win. They are completely over-matched here by Buffalo, but on game day they have a way of forgetting they're bad. **PICK: EAST ELMHURST**

### **GEORGIA @ BRUXELLES (line – BOMBERS by 11)**

**INJURIES:** Georgia – MacKensie Alexander (QUESTIONABLE), Zack Baun (OUT), John Johnson III (OUT), Jimmy Smith (OUT), Andrew Wylie (OUT); **Bruxelles** – Kerryon Johnson (OUT).

The Bombers are currently out of the playoffs despite a bounce-back win over Vegas last week. They are playing catch-up and absolutely must win match-ups like this one, at home, against an under-manned Gladiators squad. Georgia is coming off a somewhat disappointing loss to Cowtown. They started well, but faltered in the second half as Tua started to feel the heat of the pass rush. There is potential for a big takeaway day for the Bruxelles' defence this week as Tua looks to be approaching that "rookie wall," where there is no more room to cram new learning into his head. If the Glads fall too far behind and have to pass, it could be a disaster for the kid. Despite the Glads' reputation for hanging tough, the Bombers won't be messing around here and will cover. **PICK: BRUXELLES**

### **AURORA @ COBB COUNTY (line – COYOTES by 4)**

**INJURIES:** Aurora – Davante Adams (PROBABLE), Timmy Jernigan (OUT); **Cobb County** – Jabaal Sheard (OUT), Greedy Williams (OUT).

The eyes of the football world will be on this game, as it is the most plausible of the potential "championship previews" on the Week 10 schedule. The Coyotes resumed their quest for dominance with a hard-fought win over the spirited Cubs, although it was just the second time that they failed to reach the 30-point threshold on offence. The Mustangs are proving lately to be more multi-dimensional than anybody thought. With Davante Adams not a factor in the offence since Week Four, Kenyan Drake and a resolute defence have been picking up the slack, enabling Aurora to win its last 3 games and solidify its position in the Atlantic Conference race. Although far from

invincible these days, the Mustangs are proving their mettle in this year's competitive pressure-cooker. As such, they pose a challenge to the johnny-come-lately Coyotes to prove they belong amongst the league's elite. Expect a tight and bitter tilt. **PICK: AURORA**

### **SEBASTIAN @ TWIN CITIES (line – TRIUMPH by 1)**

**INJURIES: Sebastian** – Drew Brees (OUT), Golden Tate (OUT); **Twin Cities** – Kwon Alexander (OUT), Chris Lindstrom (OUT), Russell Okung (OUT), Bradley Roby (OUT), Antonio Brown (COVID-19).

Forget the line, the over-under for combined 4<sup>th</sup> down conversion attempts in this game is 10. Multiple fourth down failures were a factor in both of these teams' losses last week, which should normally be a deterrent of future aggression. But as it becomes increasingly clear that neither team has anything to lose at this point, why not let it all hang out in a punt-less game? Theoretically, the Swordfish still have something to lose, however. They play in a division that is beating itself up for the top spot and they have the talent, with Drew Brees at QB, to break through the melee and finish at or near the top. With Dwayne Haskins starting for an injured Brees, this is a winnable match-up the Fish cannot simply throw away. Mitch Trubisky is the lesser of two evils at quarterback for the currently dysfunctional Triumph, a team that now relies exclusively on defence to maintain an air of respectability. I'll take the over. **PICK: TWIN CITIES**

### **SCARBOROUGH @ VIRDEN (line – VIOLATORS by 13)**

**INJURIES: Scarborough** – Devonta Freeman (DOUBTFUL), Damon Arnette (OUT), DeSean Jackson (OUT), Cam Robinson (OUT); **Viriden** – Weston Richburg (OUT), Nasir Adderley (IR), Derrius Guice (IR).

Since their pivotal victory over Cowtown in Week Seven, the Violators have been flexing their muscles on offence and have risen to the top of the ESPN Power Rankings. Patrick Mahomes has ramped up production with 11 TD passes in the last three games while Ezekiel Elliott has averaged 5.4 yards per carry over the same period. The addition of Royce Freeman has allowed Elliott to stay fresh. Meanwhile, the defence has been doing what it needs to do, but no more. The Blue Eagles continue to intrigue, as fans watch to see how far rookie, Joe Burrow can take this team. He rebounded against the Irish last week after humbling showings in losses the previous two weeks. This match-up against what many believe is the top team in the league will be his ultimate test. I see this game developing in a similar way to Viriden's Week Nine win over Peg City, with Burrow playing the role of a poor man's Kirk Cousins. **PICK: VIRDEN**

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

**INJURIES: Cowtown** – Brian Winters (DOUBTFUL), Cordy Glenn (OUT), Adam Humphries (OUT); **Charleswood** – Parris Campbell (OUT), Derwin James (OUT), Devin Funchess (IR), CJ Mosley (IR).

The league's worst running attack by yards-per-carry goes up against the league's worst rush defence by yards-per-carry to see to what extent the resistible force can overcome the moveable object. The disappearance of the Corn King run game is the most mysterious aspect of its newly de-tooled offence – one being barely kept together by Jimmy Garoppolo and Mike Evans. If not for a reasonably efficient passing attack, this game might have matched the league's worst offence against the league's worst defence. The Pats' poor defensive ranking is partly because they share a division with Viriden and Peg City; but mostly it is because they are simply bad. Even so, they are not likely to be torched by Cowtown. The difference will come down to the ability of the no.1 ranked Corn King defence to limit DeShaun Watson, which will mean getting to him in the backfield on every play. Expect TJ Watt to be ready. **PICK: COWTOWN**

### **DURHAM @ PEG CITY (line – CRUSADERS by 5)**

**INJURIES: Durham** – Isaiah Johnson (IR); **Peg City** – Tyler Higbee (QUESTIONABLE).

Durham is hoping to face the Crusaders' offence that dilly-dallied its way to 13 points versus the Triumph last week. That version of the Peg's offense, however, only appears once every five games and, with this one being the beginning of the next cycle, they will likely face the same force that unloaded 42 points on the Triumph in Week One. The Durham defence is creeping up in the team rankings, but will face its sternest test since Week Four against Viriden. Expect the Crusaders to establish the run game before strafing the Durham secondary, which will slow the pace down to one the shaky Durham offence is more able to handle. The Lizards lead the league in run yards per game, but that has not helped it underperforming passing attack. Josh Allen has to get it together soon. **PICK: PEG CITY**

### **BROOKLIN @ CHINO (line – Pick 'Em)**

**INJURIES: Brooklin** – Rodney Gunter (OUT), Pernell McPhee (OUT), Boston Scott (OUT), Stephon Tuitt (OUT), JoeJuan Williams (OUT), DeShon Elliott (IR), Evan Engram (IR); **Chino** – Kelvin Beachum (OUT), Matt Skura (OUT), Kawann Short (IR).

The Hawks are coming off Part II of their signature win(s) over the North Stars and now have a death grip on the tie-breaker in the Coastal Division. If they can keep pace and get some help from elsewhere, they could actually pull off a division title, which would be a shocker. Brooklin's defence is proof that numbers don't always tell the whole story. Although ranked 23<sup>rd</sup> in defensive efficiency and, by general consensus, devoid of top-line talent, the defence is making plays – takeaways or limiting opponents in the red zone – when it matters most. This is a sign of high morale, bolstered by the play of a disciplined and effective offence that puts up 25 points a game.

Convicts, winners of three-in-a-row, are feeling just as confident now that their offence is starting to put serious points on the board. The wide receivers are stepping up with Larry Fitzgerald leading the way. Expect pyrotechnics aplenty and a home edge. **PICK: CHINO**

### **YORK @ IOWA CITY (line – CUBS by 1)**

**INJURIES:** York – Dion Jordan (PROBABLE), Darren Sproles (DOUBTFUL), Malcolm Butler (OUT), Raekwon McMillian (OUT); Iowa City – Will Dissly (OUT), Reshad Jones (OUT).

The Cubs currently sit outside of the Pacific Conference playoff circle after a difficult loss to the Coyotes last week. Although tied in record with Chino, they lose the third tie-breaker – record in common games – and would go home if the season were to end today. This is a wake-up call, as it is improbable that an honourable second-place in the West will be enough to snare a wildcard berth. The Cubs' defence was unable to hang on in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter against a powerful Coyote offence. The Excaliburs' offence is not in the same league, but their defence has been stouter than most, which will make up some of the difference. York is very much in the wildcard race, despite sitting third in their division. They will not lie down, but the clear talent-advantage of the Cubs may be too much. **PICK: IOWA CITY**

### **BUDAPEST @ LAS VEGAS (line – NORTH STARS by 4)**

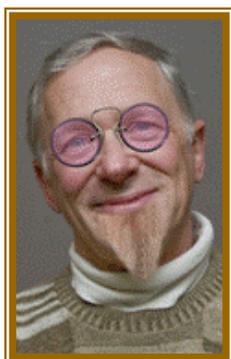
**INJURIES:** Budapest – Justin Britt (OUT), George Kittle (OUT); Las Vegas – Dalvin Cook (PROBABLE), Shaquill Griffin (OUT), Adoree' Jackson (OUT).

The Budapest defence is ranked no.1 overall in key categories, including third-downs, with opponents converting a scant 25.4% of the time. The basket case Vegas offence, which seems to be getting worse every week under a rotating trio of bunglers at the game's most important position and could also be missing Dalvin Cook, is ranked 23<sup>rd</sup> in the league in third down conversion rate, at 27.6%. This simple stat does not bode well for the Assassins' attack. The team will need to lean on its defence, which is holding up well under the circumstances, to stay in this game. They have a chance. The Budapest offence under Aaron Rodgers has yet to establish its identity or any consistency. The Stars will also be relying on their defence to put their offence in advantageous positions. This has all the makings of another Darrin Jones Special, with one good offensive drive and winning the field position battle carrying the day. **PICK: BUDAPEST**

### **PICKERING @ SEATTLE (line – PILOTS by 10)**

**INJURIES:** Pickering – Darqueze Dennard (OUT), Xavien Howard (OUT), Karl Joseph (OUT), Damarious Randall (OUT), Nathan Shepherd (OUT); Seattle – Bobby Massie (OUT), Foster Moreau (OUT), Devin White (OUT), Connor Williams (OUT), Kareem Hunt (IR).

At under-500 and in third place in the West, the Pilots still remain one of the most interesting teams of the 2020 season. They are not out of the race and have shown the ability to bump off strong adversaries, even as their many roster holes take their toll on the bottom line. They deserved better against Buffalo last week and look to clear the stench of the lateral to Eddie Jackson with a good solid pounding of the disintegrating Spartan defence, which is missing four key players in the secondary, including Xavien Howard. Although pitiable to watch at times, Pickering gives it a good run every week and will take aim at the humiliating double-digit line. **PICK: PICKERING**



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FROM THE EFL ARCHIVES – Week Ten of the 2014 EFL season saw a shift in media focus to the unbeaten Aurora Mustangs. They went to Chino to take on the final, but toughest challenge of their four-game inter-conference tour (all inter-conference games were played during weeks 7 thru 10 that season). Unlike all other Mustangs' games to date, the defensive units on both sides controlled the pace, with ex-Convict **James Harrison** leading the way for Aurora with a whopping 19 tackles, 3 for loss and 2 pass deflections to earn Defensive Player of the Week. Trailing by a FG, **Cam Newton** tore off a 47-yard bootleg that set up a 27-yard

chip shot from **Dan Bailey** with 1:01 left to send the game into overtime with the score tied at 13. After an exchange of punts, Mustangs' receiver **Anquan Boldin** snatched a medium hitch and turned it up field for a 41-yard TD. Aurora remained perfect for another week and the countdown continued.

On the other side of the continent in York, the Carthage Cannibals saw their bid for perfection dashed in dramatic fashion. After Carthage overcame a 20-6 deficit to take a 28-20 lead with 3:16 left, the Excaliburs roared back with a 52-yard TD pass to **Victor Cruz** followed by a successful onside kick after the missed two-point. **Tom Brady** then got **Blair Walsh** for his game-winning 31-yard FG.

At Thermopylae Stadium, the Spartans survived a full-blown shootout, prevailing 45-37 over the Santa Clara Banana Slugs. Twice overcoming 10-point deficits, **Peyton Manning** went 3 of 3 for 113 yards and 2 TDs on 4<sup>th</sup> down conversions, including a 65-yard completion to **Demaryius Thomas** for the eventual winning score. This outstanding performance made him the Offensive Payer of the Week. The Spartans win allowed them to maintain their 1-game lead in the North, while the Santa Clara loss kept them even with Chino, who also lost, for a share of the West Division lead.