

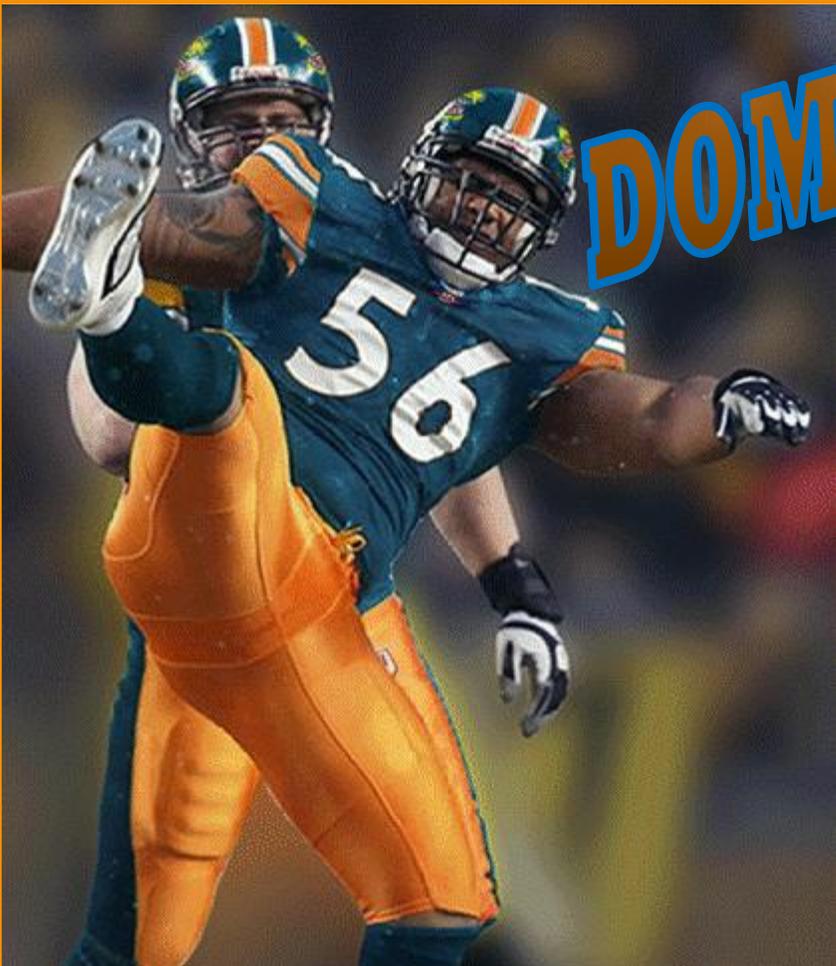
2010



2010

QUARTER FINALS EDITION

February 6th, 2011



DOMI-DANCE!

LATEST EFL NEWS INSIDE

THE GAMES

- HAWKS FLAME OUT IN DRAGON'S LAIR
- SPARTANS ELIMINATE THE DINOSAURS
- CHARLESWOOD KNOCKS OUT KNIGHTS
- CONVICTS MAUL BEARS

COMMENT

"Stewed Hawk," "Bloody Popcorn," "Never Surrender!" – Spats McChad

PREDICTIONS

It will be a Chino-Florida showdown in the Final! – Jimmy the Geek

LaMarr Woodley dances in celebration after sacking Ben Roethlisberger in the 2nd quarter. Woodley and the rest of the Dragons dominated the overmatched Crimson Hawks 42-0 in the most lop-sided of four Quarter Finals in which all four favourites won easily to get through the first round. (STORY INSIDE)



Who was slick in the Quarter Finals?

"BRYLCREEM" THE EFL'S OLDEST SPONSOR



Reyion Manning
QB
Charleswood
Patriots

16 of 19 for 187 yards and 4 TD passes. Cracked the Blue Shield.



LaMarr Woodley
OLB
Florida Dragons

7 tackles, 4 sacks, 1 blocked punt in Florida

CAN-AM CONFERENCE WILD CARD

LATE FLORIDA CHARGE ROUTS RINGGOLD!

DRAGONS EXPLODE FOR 35 POINTS IN 19 MINUTES

FLORIDA – For almost 3 quarters Ringgold’s *Dustin Colquitt* showcased his punting skills by forcing the Florida offence to start drives from deep in their own territory. As a result, the Dragons clung to a 7-0 lead mid-way through the 3rd quarter despite completely shutting down Ringgold’s explosive attack. As Florida took control at the Ringgold 49 with 7 minutes remaining in the 3rd, the pressure was on the Dragons to make it a two-score game lest the cork finally pop loose from the bottled up Hawks’ offence.

The Dragons responded by pounding slowly but steadily at the Ringgold line, handing the ball to *Jonathan Stewart* 5 times for 32 yards then making it a two-score game on a 17-yard TD scramble by *Aaron Rodgers*. The pressure shifted immediately to *Big Ben* and the Ringgold offence; which had been as quiet this day as they were record-setting loud last week when they trounced Garland 55-24. The hot-and-cold Ringgold pivot served up another “cold one,” gaining just one 1st down before calling on the punting unit once again. That’s when the wheels fell off the Ringgold bus – all four of them – suddenly. *LaMarr Woodley*, who already had 3 sacks by that point in the game, broke through the Ringgold line and blocked Colquitt’s punt. *Andre’ Goodman* recovered at the 29 yard line; setting up another all-rushing TD drive keyed by runs of 7 and 12 yards by Stewart and ending on a 7-yard scramble by Rodgers.

Down by 21 points with almost one full quarter remaining, the task facing Roethlisberger and the Hawks was a daunting one. Against another team a comeback may have been possible; but against the league’s best defence, 21 points in one quarter was a virtually insurmountable obstacle. After returning a squib kick to their own 35 yard line, the Hawks gained a quick 1st down before disaster struck again. Looking for *Santonio Holmes*, Roethlisberger threw early to avoid being sacked and found *Andre’ Goodman* instead. Initially ruled an incomplete pass, Florida won the challenge and took over at its own 37 yard line. Two plays later, Stewart broke clean through the line and ran free for a 63-yard TD run to make the score 28-0 for the Dragons.

The shocking downturn for Ringgold turned embarrassing on the next play from scrimmage. *Leigh Bodden* picked off Roethlisberger and ran it back, untouched, 32 yards into the Crimson Hawks’ end zone to make the score 35-0. Florida had scored 21 points in just 2 minutes and 27 seconds and they weren’t finished.

The Hawks mounted token resistance by moving the ball 58 yards and penetrating the Florida red zone on a 17-yard pass to Andre Johnson – the receiving star’s longest catch of the afternoon. Hoping to break the Florida shutout, Roethlisberger fired into a crowd at the goal line and was picked by safety, *Brandon Meriweather*, who returned it to the Florida 10 yard line. Two plays later, the deflated Ringgold defence missed several tackles as *Ray Rice* dodged and weaved through traffic to eventually break free down the sideline for a 91-yard TD run to make the score 42-0.

The crowd at Dragonmount, subdued through most of the game, erupted in fanatic rapture as Rice heaved the ball through the end zone uprights. With all they had seen to give them reason to cheer over 3 seasons of dominance, they had never seen a display as explosive as this one. For shell-shocked Ringgold, their first playoff appearance was mercifully over.



RINGGOLD

0



FLORIDA

42

**M
V
P**

Jonathan Stewart – Florida

“I feel good, real good. This is a good feeling. The whole team is feeling good. We’re in a good place right now, you know. It’s all good, man, all good.”



RINGGOLD

Passing	Att	Cmp	Yds	Sk	25	In	Td	Rate	
Roethlisberger	41	20	178	6	0	4	0	21.2	
Rushing	Att	Yds	Ave	FD	10	Lg	TD		
Jones-Drew	14	55	3.9	2	1	13	0		
Roethlisberger	1	4	4	0	0	4	0		
Receiving	No	Dp	Att	Yds	Ave	Fd	25	Lg	TD
Thomas	5	1	9	47	9.4	3	0	13	0
Johnson	4	0	8	48	12	3	0	17	0
Jones-Drew	3	0	5	15	5	1	0	7	0
Gronkowski	2	0	3	16	8	1	0	10	0
Holmes	2	0	10	15	7.5	1	0	9	0
Casey	2	0	3	23	11.5	1	0	15	0
Royal	2	0	3	14	7	1	0	9	0

FLORIDA

Passing	Att	Cmp	Yds	Sk	25	In	Td	Rate	
Rodgers	34	16	168	1	0	2	0	37.4	
Rushing	Att	Yds	Ave	FD	10	Lg	TD		
Stewart	17	147	8.6	8	4	63	2		
Rice	12	142	11.8	5	3	91	1		
Rodgers	4	32	8	2	1	17	2		
Jackson	1	-5	-5	0	0	0	0		
Receiving	No	Dp	Att	Yds	Ave	FD	25	Lg	TD
Miller	5	0	7	56	11.2	3	0	20	0
Cotchery	3	0	6	30	10	2	0	18	0
Jackson	3	2	9	32	10.7	2	0	15	0
Marshall	3	1	8	33	11	3	0	18	0
Rice	2	1	4	17	8.5	1	0	11	0

* Playoff * 02-05-2011 Dragonmount Temp: 70 Wind: 0-10 None MVP: **Jonathan Stewart**

	1	2	3	4	Tot	
2009 Ringgold (0-1)	0	0	0	0	0	
2009 Florida (1-0)	0	7	7	28	42	
2 14:11 Florida	TD Stewart 2 run (Longwell) (15-74-8:02)					0-7
3 4:15 Florida	TD Rodgers 17 run (Longwell) (6-49-3:36)					0-14
4 14:51 Florida	TD Rodgers 7 run (Longwell) (4-29-2:04)					0-21
4 12:42 Florida	TD Stewart 63 run (Longwell) (2-63-1:08)					0-28
4 12:24 Florida	TD Bodden 32 interception return (Longwell) (0-0-0:00)					0-35
4 7:21 Florida	TD Rice 91 run (Longwell) (2-95-1:06)					0-42

	RCH	FLD
First Downs	13	26
Rushes	15-59	34-316
Passes	41-20-178	34-16-168
Sacked	6-46	1-2
Fumble	2	2
Penalties	5-43	4-25
Turnovers	5	2
Time	26:30	33:30
Third Down	2-12	6-12
Fourth Down	1-2	2-2
Red Att/Td/Fg	3/0/0	3/3/0
Net Offense	191	482

SPARTANS KEEP CHARGING FORWARD

HIGH-POWERED PICKERING PUNCH KNOCKS OUT DINOS



DURHAM

7



PICKERING

30

M
V
P

Chris Johnson – Pickering

"Any time you take the field against a tough opponent you expect a tough game. I prepared for a tough game and we got it – we gave them a tough time today!"



PICKERING – For two quarters it was a close contest on the scoreboard, but this game was never really that close. The promise offered by a stout Durham defensive performance in the 1st quarter was not matched by their offence and eventually the dam broke under the relentless pressure of Pickering's #1 ranked offence.

Durham had an opportunity to grab the momentum early in the contest, but was unable to capitalize on a turnover by **Anquan Boldin** at the Pickering 41 yard line when **Kevin Smith** came up short on 3rd down and **Mason Crosby** hooked a 49-yard field goal attempt. That miscue seemed to snap the Pickering offence out of its slumber. On their ensuing series **Brett Favre** connected with **Vincent Jackson** as he blew past his man in coverage for a 34-yard pass play that put them in scoring range. After a 3rd down pass to Jackson in the end zone was broken up, **John Kasay** booted it through the uprights from 31 yards to break the scoreless tie.

The Thunder Lizards responded with a three-and-out and a fumble by **Philip Rivers** that, luckily, he was able to pounce on. The good fortune was fleeting. On the next play, **Darren Sproles** returned **Jon Ryan's** line drive punt 90 yards for a TD to make the score 10-0

* Playoff * 02-05-2011 Thermopylae Stadium Temp: 13 Wind: 0-10 MVP: **Chris Johnson**

	1	2	3	4	Tot	
2009 Durham (0-1)	0	7	0	0	7	
2009 Pickering (1-0)	0	10	14	6	30	
2 9:22 Pickering	FG Kasay 31 (8-47-2:44)					0-3
2 6:57 Pickering	TD Sproles 90 punt return (Kasay) (0-0-1:58)					0-10
2 2:40 Durham	TD Rivers 15 pass to Johnson (Crosby) (8-75-4:01)					7-10
3 12:06 Pickering	TD Favre 18 pass to Jackson (Kasay) (5-74-2:50)					7-17
3 6:42 Pickering	TD Johnson 1 run (Kasay) (8-53-4:20)					7-24
4 13:32 Pickering	FG Kasay 49 (11-58-5:46)					7-27
4 7:12 Pickering	FG Kasay 42 (4-6-2:09)					7-30

	DTL	PIC
First Downs	13	22
Rushes	21-55	36-157
Passes	38-21-195	26-17-239
Sacked	1-9	1-5
Fumble	3	2
Penalties	3-20	4-38
Turnovers	3	1
Time	26:24	33:36
Third Down	3-15	1-10
Fourth Down	1-2	0-0
Red Att/Td/Fg	1/1/0	4/2/1
Net Offense	241	391

the Spartans. With the crowd at Thermopylae cheering and chanting “NEVER SURRENDER” in celebration, the Thunder Lizards recovered and temporarily toned down the crowd with a quick and efficient 75-yard TD drive that featured 5 completions for 57 yards by **Philip Rivers** and a 15-yard TD pass to **Calvin Johnson**. The Spartans marched back down the field and penetrated the Durham red zone only to see Kasay miss a 33-yard field goal attempt with 20 seconds remaining in the half. This stroke of bad luck signalled the possibility that the Spartans would have a fight on their hands in the second half. But the seed of doubt in the Pickering Faithful had no time to take root.

The home team came out of the gate strong to start the 2nd half. Favre connected with Boldin for 35 yards then hit Jackson in the end zone from 18 yards out for a TD and a 17-7 lead. The Thunder Lizards needed a lift from their quarterback but instead got a letdown. Rivers was picked off by **Asante Samuel** at the Spartans’ 47 yard line. **Chris Johnson** took control on the ensuing series, carrying the ball 53 yards on 6 consecutive plays down to the Durham 6-inch line. After Favre was stuffed on an attempted sneak, Johnson finished the drive he started with a 1-yard plunge for ‘6’ that increased his team’s lead to 24-7 with less than 7 minutes remaining in the 3rd quarter.

The Durham offence continued to break against the impenetrable wall of the Pickering defence, managing just one first down before being shut down once more and having to punt the ball. The Spartans added a field goal after possessing the ball for 11 plays and nearly 6 minutes to take the game into the 4th quarter. Nothing the Lizards tried on offence came close to working. With the contest all but over, insult was added to injury when Rivers was stuffed for a loss while trying to scramble and lost the football at the Durham 31. After 3 carries by back-up **Rashad Jennings** failed to notch a first down, Kasay added his third field goal of the day, from 42 yards away, to cap off the scoring.

Taking a page from their opponent’s book, Durham did not surrender. Rivers kept throwing the ball in a doomed attempt to restore some dignity by finishing on a defiant note. But **Jonathan Joseph** picked off a pass intended for **Steve Breaston** to deprive the Lizards of a token score and launch a wild night of celebration in Pickering.

DURHAM

Passing	Att	Cmp	Yds	Sk	25	In	Td	Rate
Rivers	38	21	195	1	0	2	1	56.4

Rushing	Att	Yds	Ave	FD	10	Lg	TD
Turner	6	30	5	1	1	14	0
Smith	3	8	2.7	1	0	4	0
Rivers	6	8	1.3	0	0	7	0
Faulk	4	7	1.8	0	0	4	0
Bush	1	2	2	0	0	2	0
Breaston	1	0	0	0	0	0	0

Receiving	No	Dp	Att	Yds	Ave	FD	25	Lg	TD
Johnson	6	0	9	59	9.8	4	0	15	1
Muhammad	5	0	11	37	7.4	1	0	10	0
Breaston	3	0	3	34	11.3	2	0	17	0
Davis	3	1	6	37	12.3	3	0	15	0
Smith	1	0	3	3	3	0	0	3	0
Faulk	1	0	2	5	5	0	0	5	0
Bush	1	0	1	13	13	1	0	13	0
Gates	1	0	2	7	7	0	0	7	0
Turner	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0

PICKERING

Passing	Att	Cmp	Yds	Sk	25	In	Td	Rate
Favre	26	17	239	1	3	0	1	108

Rushing	Att	Yds	Ave	FD	10	Lg	TD
Johnson	25	144	5.8	8	4	15	1
Jennings	6	15	2.5	0	0	5	0
Favre	5	-2	-0.4	0	0	2	0

Receiving	No	Dp	Att	Yds	Ave	FD	25	Lg	TD
Gonzalez	5	0	6	50	10	4	0	17	0
Jackson	4	1	8	99	24.8	3	2	34	1
Johnson	3	1	5	16	5.3	2	0	7	0
Boldin	3	0	4	57	19	2	1	35	0
Harvin	2	0	3	17	8.5	2	0	10	0

The Partisan Press - Reaction in the News



“The Quest for Sublime Perfection realized the first of the Supreme Tests on Sunday atop sacred Dragonmount. The feeding of Ringgold into the fire of purification fortifies the Wyvern Soul while the death of the Hawk signals the rebirth of the Phoenix in Chicago. A wall of fire blazed, guarding the lair while the flame of retribution stoked deep within the smoking Dragon – its pent up fury discharged with mortal effect upon the enemy. None were left standing in the face of such awesome power – the power of the Dragon.” – *Merlin Pendragon, Miami Herald.*

“It certainly looked to me like coach Heaton departed from his usual pragmatism and made a conscious effort to establish Aaron Rodgers as the main focus of his offensive game plan. When it did not go as scripted adjustments were finally made in time to demolish the Crimson Hawks and distract from the failure of the Dragons’ passing game to make an impact. Rodgers looked, frankly, better last year. Despite scoring a pair of touchdowns with his legs, there has to be some concern in the Florida War Room about their quarterback’s confidence going into the Conference Final.” – *Jean Boisvert, Swampland Proof*

“I came all the way for *this*?” – *Jebidiah Cleburne, Ringgold Ring & Chronicle*

“Opa! This is a fine day! You are so glorious, Mr. Favre! You are so powerful and elusive, Mr. Johnson! Defence, oh great defence, had you been at Thermopylae facing Xerxes you would have vanquished the Persian and the sons of your sons would be standing there still! This is truly a day of glory thanks to our great Patron of Sport, Mr. Kostantakos. My hat is off to you, sir! Your Faith and Wisdom have guided our great team to victory. Opa! I am so happy for us today!” – *Aristedes Kalogiannis, Pickering Post*

“Philip Rivers is on the right team. He has the brain and dexterity of a Stegosaurus.” – *Sir Reginald Malcolm Clapham, Durham Regional News*

PACIFIC-ATLANTIC CONFERENCE WILD CARD

PATS KNOCK ASIDE KNIGHTS

MANNING THROWS 4 TDS / L.A. MAKES 4 TURNOVERS

CHARLESWOOD – It was not even close. The Knights out-performed the Pats statistically in nearly every offensive category but fell 18 points short on the scoreboard – after scoring two late and meaningless touchdowns – and were never close to taking the lead after **Jerraud Powers** intercepted **Kurt Warner** early in the 2nd quarter at the Pats’ 27 yard line with the score tied 3-3.

For the Knights and the Pats the game reflected their respective fortunes during the regular season. LA fumbled 6 times, losing one, Warner was picked off 3 times, and the Knights took 10 penalties for 75 yards. The Pats took the ball away more than they gave it away and **Peyton Manning** took advantage of those opportunities – as he had all year – and the Pats went on to bury the Knights without a fight.

For one quarter it looked like the game was going to be a repeat of the 2009 PAC Final – a brutal defensive slugfest that LA won 14-13. The Knights made an impressive defensive stand at their own 2 yard line to hold the Pats to a field goal that opened the scoring then Charleswood repaid the debt by stuffing Warner for a 4-yard loss on 3rd down to end a red zone threat and hold LA to a field goal that tied it.

The game would turn suddenly and lopsidedly in Charleswood’s favour at the 9:40 mark of the 2nd quarter when **Sheldon Brown**, the Pats’ unheralded interception leader, picked off Warner at the LA 46 yard line and returned it for “6” to give the Pats a 10-3 lead. LA responded with a 42-yard **Dan Carpenter** field goal, narrowing the Charleswood lead to 4 points, but the Knights would never get any closer the rest of the day.

The Pats took control of the game on their next possession. **Jason Witten** turned a short hitch into a 28-yard gain, **Adrian Peterson** converted a key 3rd down then two plays later **Peyton Manning** found Witten for an 11-yard TD pass to increase their lead to 17-6. Looking rattled, the LA offence took the field. **Shonn Greene** fumbled the ball on the first play from scrimmage but fortunately the Knights recovered. However, three plays later Brown snared his second interception of the game, returning it 36 yards to the Knights’ 3 yard line. On the first play from scrimmage after the pick, Manning found Witten again in the end zone for their second TD connection and the Pats carried a 24-6 lead into half time.

The second half began with the Pats driving 75 yards on 9 plays, 6 of them pass completions, including a 3-yard scoring strike to **Marques Colston** to make the score 31-6. The pounding of the Knights continued on the first play from scrimmage after the kickoff. **Kelly Gregg** sacked Warner and forced a fumble that was recovered by linebacker **Jon Beason**. On the next play, Manning threw his 4th TD pass of the game, hooking up for a 9-yard score to **Sydney Rice** to make it 38-6.

It was a stunning surge by the Patriots and an equally shocking collapse by the Knights. **Tarvaris Jackson** saw some 4th quarter action in relief of a shook-up Warner and threw a TD pass in mop-up duty, while Warner came on at the very end for what may have been the last play of his career, throwing a 47-yard TD pass to **Steve Smith**. It was a bitter exit for one vet but an exhilarating vindication for another as the Pats advance to meet the Convicts in the PAC Final.



LOS ANGELES

20



CHARLESWOOD

38

**M
V
P**

Peyton Manning – Charleswood

“We’ve been taking advantage of our opponent’s mistakes all year and we kind of expect our defence to force those mistakes. My hat goes off to our ‘D.’”



LOS ANGELES

Passing	Att	Cmp	Yds	Sk	25	In	Td	Rate	
Warner	34	20	286	2	3	3	1	59.2	
Jackson	7	5	59	1	1	0	1	136.3	
Rushing	Att	Yds	Ave	FD	10	Lg	TD		
Charles	21	77	3.7	3	3	17	0		
Greene	6	35	5.8	1	2	12	0		
Jackson	3	4	1.3	0	0	2	0		
Warner	2	-2	-1	0	0	2	0		
Receiving	No	Dp	Att	Yds	Ave	FD	25	Lg	TD
White	9	0	12	112	12.4	4	2	27	1
Heap	6	0	9	64	10.7	2	0	22	0
Smith	6	1	12	122	20.3	5	2	47	1
Bradley	2	0	2	26	13	1	0	20	0
Charles	2	0	4	21	10.5	2	0	17	0
Benson	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0

CHARLESWOOD

Passing	Att	Cmp	Yds	Sk	25	In	Td	Rate	
Manning	19	16	187	1	1	0	4	147.3	
Rushing	Att	Yds	Ave	FD	10	Lg	TD		
Peterson	27	112	4.1	2	1	44	0		
Tebow	3	-3	-1	0	0	0	0		
Receiving	No	Dp	Att	Yds	Ave	FD	25	Lg	TD
Witten	8	0	8	97	12.1	4	1	28	2
Colston	5	0	6	67	13.4	5	0	23	1
Rice	3	0	5	23	7.7	2	0	9	1

* Playoff * 02-04-2011 Patriot Place Temp: 75 Wind:						MVP: Peyton Manning		
	1	2	3	4	Tot			
2009 Los Angeles (0-1)	3	3	0	14	20			
2009 Charleswood (1-0)	3	21	14	0	38			
1 7:02 Charleswood	FG Gostkowski 19 (5-44-2:57)					0-3		
1 0:28 Los Angeles	FG Carpenter 34 (12-49-6:22)					3-3		
2 9:40 Charleswood	TD Brown 46 interception return (Gostkowski) (0-0-1:22)					3-10		
2 6:31 Los Angeles	FG Carpenter 42 (8-55-3:09)					6-10		
2 1:59 Charleswood	TD Manning 11 pass to Witten (Gostkowski) (7-64-4:18)					6-17		
2 0:49 Charleswood	TD Manning 3 pass to Witten (Gostkowski) (1-3-0:04)					6-24		
3 9:11 Charleswood	TD Manning 3 pass to Colston (Gostkowski) (9-75-5:33)					6-31		
3 8:11 Charleswood	TD Manning 9 pass to Rice (Gostkowski) (2-7-0:45)					6-38		
4 11:20 Los Angeles	TD Jackson 27 pass to White (Carpenter) (3-59-1:13)					13-38		
4 0:53 Los Angeles	TD Warner 47 pass to Smith (Carpenter) (10-80-2:19)					20-38		

	LAK	CHP
First Downs	19	13
Rushes	32-114	30-109
Passes	41-25-345	19-16-187
Sacked	3-15	1-3
Fumble	6	1
Penalties	10-75	7-61
Turnovers	4	1
Time	30:09	29:51
Third Down	8-19	4-13
Fourth Down	2-5	0-0
Red Att/Td/Fg	3/0/1	5/4/1
Net Offense	444	293

BEARS SNARED AT BIG HOUSE

‘LOCKDOWN’ SHUTS DOWN / MCNABB THROWS 2 TD’S



KUTZTOWN

7



CHINO

24

**M
V
P**

Donovan McNabb – Chino

“This feels like old times, man. Cribbs catching fire with that punt return was like the first year with Pac Man. Those were good times, wild times. We’re a wild team.”



CHINO – The opening statements by both teams were impressive. **Joshua Cribbs** returned a **Brian Moorman** punt 63 yards for a TD to open the scoring for Chino at the 8:30 mark of the 1st quarter. The Bears responded on their next possession with a 70-yard run by **LeSean McCoy** to the Convict’s 2 yard line. Two plays later, **Tony Romo** tossed a screen pass to McCoy, who ran it in for the tying TD. It looked like game on at that point, but the rapid strikes would not continue.

The teams settled into a minor field position battle with an exchange of punts and a turnover on downs by Chino at the Kutztown 35 yard line. The Bears took over and made a pair of 1st downs before the Convicts got the first big break in the deadlock. **Will Witherspoon** stripped McCoy of the ball at the Golden Bears’ 42 yard line and safety, **Bernard Pollard** fell on it to give the Convicts excellent field position. **Donovan McNabb** hit **Hines Ward** on consecutive passes of 26 and 10 yards and on 3rd down at the 9 yard line fired a flare to **Steven Jackson** near the sideline. The stout, hard-running Jackson bowled his way through Kutztown tackles to reach the pylon and give his team a lead they would not relinquish.

Playing with a 7-point lead, the Chino “Lockdown Crew”

* Playoff * 02-04-2011 The Big House Temp: 64 Wind: 0-10 MVP: Donovan McNabb								
	1	2	3	4	Tot			
2009 Kutztown (0-1)	7	0	0	0	7			
2009 Chino (1-0)	7	7	3	7	24			
1 8:30 Chino	TD Cribbs 63 punt return (Reed,J) (0-0-0:49)					0-7		
1 6:37 Kutztown	TD Romo 4 pass to McCoy (Kaeding) (3-72-1:46)					7-7		
2 11:10 Chino	TD McNabb 9 pass to Jackson (Reed,J) (8-58-3:54)					7-14		
3 1:28 Chino	FG Reed 28 (9-41-4:01)					7-17		
4 3:54 Chino	TD McNabb 2 pass to Moss (Reed,J) (4-32-1:01)					7-24		

	KUT	CHI
First Downs	10	19
Rushes	16-110	29-100
Passes	44-24-206	36-23-239
Sacked	4-19	1-2
Fumble	2	3
Penalties	12-73	6-30
Turnovers	2	1
Time	27:36	32:24
Third Down	4-15	5-14
Fourth Down	0-3	0-2
Red Att/Td/Fg	1/1/0	3/2/1
Net Offense	297	337

went to work locking up the Kutztown offence. The Bears went the remainder of the half and the entire 3rd quarter without making a first down. Meanwhile, the Chino offence played conservatively, using a ground and short passing strategy to maintain possession in between Kutztown punts.

The teams' exchange of punts through most of the 3rd quarter resulted in a field position edge for the Convicts. **Jeff Reed** drilled a 28-yard field goal to close a 41-yard drive at the end of the 3rd quarter, giving the home team an all important two-score advantage heading into the final frame.

Smelling blood, the Convicts' defence swarmed Romo on every play as the Kutztown pivot took to the air. **Julius Peppers** ended one drive with a tip and interception while subsequent Kutztown possessions were hampered or stopped by 4 sacks, including a 4th down bagging of Romo by **Haloti Ngata** on an attempted screen pass. Soon after that, Chino put the game all but out of reach on a 2-yard TD pass from McNabb to **Randy Moss** that gave the home team a 24-7 lead with just 3:54 left in the game.

Romo attempted a desperate comeback, looking to hurl the ball deep but unable to find an open receiver in a sea of black jerseys in the Chino secondary. After several dump-off passes earned a pair of first downs, a holding penalty on **Alan Faneca** short-circuited the last ditch rally and the Bears turned the ball over on downs 3 plays later to the jubilation of the Big House crowd.

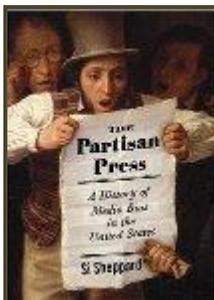
Controversy marred what little remained of the game when fans started to litter the field and the Kutztown bench with debris. Food, empty bottles, bricks and rotting bear paws rained from the stands, prompting a "lockdown" response by heavily armed security at the Big House. After a 40-minute delay, the Convicts took the field and back-up **Laurence Maroney** ran the ball three times into the line to waste some time, but not quite enough. The Bears got one more shot, with 8 seconds left, but a bomb to **Greg Jennings** was underthrown, ending the Bears' season and launching Chino officially into the PAC Final against Charleswood.

KUTZTOWN

Passing	Att	Cmp	Yds	Sk	25	In	Td	Rate	
Romo	44	24	206	4	0	1	1	65.2	
Rushing	Att	Yds	Ave	FD	10	Lg	TD		
McCoy	12	99	8.3	1	1	70	0		
McClain	2	6	3	1	0	4	0		
Romo	2	5	2.5	0	0	6	0		
Receiving	No	Dp	Att	Yds	Ave	FD	25	Lg	TD
Collie	8	1	15	70	8.8	2	0	17	0
Jennings	7	0	13	68	9.7	3	0	15	0
Bennett	3	0	6	17	5.7	0	0	7	0
McCoy	2	1	4	21	10.5	2	0	17	1
Pettigrew	2	0	2	10	5	0	0	5	0
Washington	2	0	2	20	10	1	0	14	0
McClain	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0

CHINO

Passing	Att	Cmp	Yds	Sk	25	In	Td	Rate	
McNabb	36	23	239	1	1	0	2	102	
Rushing	Att	Yds	Ave	FD	10	Lg	TD		
Jackson	18	66	3.7	4	1	16	0		
Caldwell	1	15	15	1	1	15	0		
McNabb	4	12	3	0	0	9	0		
Moreno	3	6	2	1	0	3	0		
Maroney	2	1	0.5	0	0	2	0		
Cribbs	1	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Receiving	No	Dp	Att	Yds	Ave	FD	25	Lg	TD
Ward	7	1	10	104	15	5	1	26	0
Moss	5	0	9	39	7.8	3	0	14	1
Fasano	3	0	5	38	13	2	0	20	0
Caldwell	3	0	3	23	7.7	0	0	11	0
Jackson	3	1	5	24	8	2	0	9	1
Olsen	1	0	1	9	9	0	0	9	0
Moreno	1	2	3	2	2	0	0	2	0



The Partisan Press - Reaction in the News

"Much as it will sadden me to see the Golden Bears leave the fair City of Kutztown, I will be happy for the team if the new management addresses the fundamental deficiencies on both lines next year. Tony Romo cannot do it all on his own. The former owner did not take care of the basic needs of the team and it will take the new owner at least a year to remedy this. Although they were outclassed by the Chino (the football team, not their disgraceful fans) they still fought to the end. They can be proud of their performance this season." – *Coots Schweizerschnitzel, Kutztown Dispatch*

"I don't know which was more violent: the fourth quarter riot in the stands or the battering of Kutztown's offensive line by the Chino pass rush." – **Quentin San Pedro, Chino Champion**

"A lot of so-called football experts appear very foolish this morning. The best record in the conference was not enough to convince some writers that the 7-8-1 Knights would be hard-pressed to win against this Charleswood team in its own house. The Knights were tight and out-of-synch all year. Warner brought them no leadership. Their vaunted defence crumbled under pressure. They were undisciplined and tried to conceal their insecurities with bravado. It was a bad year for them but that L.A. 'mystique' somehow carried over from last year's run to the Championship and overrode common sense. Not that we expect much common sense from Russ Flont or Jimmy the Geek, but they weren't the only hacks blinded by Knight's Fever. National pundits favoured the Knights by a 3-2 margin. Well, Manning and Company showed them. They have too much class to rub it in, so I will do it for them. 'Eat this ESPN!'" – **Charlie Wood, The Charleswood Sun**

"The fans in the Place of the Patriots are very warm and polite in a rustic sort of way. I was touched by their hospitality. The washrooms were very clean but appointed with no more than the personal hygienic necessities. They are plainly a working people. The food was simple fare, but hearty and presented with the common touch. The place was entirely charming and quaint. I would recommend the Charleswood area to my friends for camping, wilderness tours and a change of pace from the usual Jet Set haunts." – **Gabriele Laurent-Vainluven, LA Daily News.**



AROUND THE



With Spats McChad

NEW YORK – This is where I earn my paycheque. Faced with four....I don't even know what to call them...."games" would be too dignified; faced with four lop-sided "football displays" that, according to Gallup, took in the worst ratings of any quarter finals weekend in the EFL's 4-year history; my editor turns to me and demands that I salvage the media's share of this dried up well of football fun with an entertaining and insightful analysis of the one-sided debacles that took place on the field.

Well here's my insightful analysis: *the wildcard teams all sucked!*

Hopefully you found that analysis entertaining, but if you didn't: too friggin' bad! There was nothing funny about Wildcard Weekend unless you are the kind of person who laughs when bricks fall on people's heads.

All the signs pointed to this outcome: four overmatched teams on the road, facing the cream of the league, offer token resistance and fall ignominiously. If you go back and look you will find that I have been saying all along that this would happen due to the cavernous disparity between the "haves" and the "have-nots" in the league this year.

So why am I so disappointed that there was not one real game to be had among them?

Because somewhere deep down inside of me, in that wondrous, innocent place that still believes there is an outside chance there is a Santa Claus, I thought one of those miserably undermanned teams would dig deep and find that spark that is inside all of us. That one of those teams would be ignited by the fire of inspiration, rise heroically above their earthly limitations and play a 'Game for the Ages.' That a *Braveheart* would emerge on the hash-marked battlefield and overthrow his oppressor; signalling to the downtrodden everywhere that - *yes!* - there *is* hope for redemption in this dark world.

Yes, I admit it. I hoped – foolishly – for all of that....and that if I could not have it; one of the heavily favoured teams would choke miserably under the pressure of expectations and fall embarrassingly out of the post-season, bringing scorn and ridicule upon them. Oh, what a fine piece of *schadenfreude* that would have made!

As you know by now, I got neither wish. My celestial punishment for wishing ill upon the favourites is that I must now write glowingly about their victories and find a way to make it appear that they did so heroically, and not on the backs of four perennial losers who arguably did not deserve to be in the post-season to begin with. I know I'm not making friends in LA, Kutztown, Durham or Ringgold by saying it; but they certainly were, and likely will be for a very long time, the worst foursome to *not* be playing golf during the post-season.

STEWED HAWK

Jim Heaton served up a heaping portion of stewed hawk and it tasted good to Dragons fans. If all you saw was the 42-0 score you would probably be surprised to know that the Florida offence stuttered most of the day and clung to a 7-0 lead until late in the third quarter. Yes, the game with the greatest margin of victory was, in reality, the closest game of the day. That splendid irony is the only fascinating fact culled from four full episodes of football drudgery on Quarter Finals Weekend. So, if you choose, you can stop reading now and rest assured that you have in your brain the single interesting thing to talk about at the water cooler with your co-workers. If, however, you like being tortured, please read on.

With pressure mounting because of the slim 7-0 lead, Florida's tactics changed. (The Heaton-led Dragons do not panic or do anything crazy - that is why they win all the time). Showing typical coolness, Heaton dialled down the pressure by putting the ball into the calming hands of **Jonathan Stewart**. (Last year's *Robin to DeAngelo Williams' Batman* appears to have been completely forgiven for the critical fumble he made last year in the Can-Am Conference Final game against Durham). He proceeded to carry the ball 5 consecutive times, gaining 32 yards, setting up a nifty 17-yard scramble by **Aaron Rodgers** for a TD to give the Dragons a 14-0 lead and a bit of breathing room.

The extra air seemed to feed the Dragon's fire. Like an exploding propane tank, Florida wreaked havoc in the final quarter, scoring 28 points in a record 7 minutes. It was a statement of fury rarely seen from the champions. It devastated the fragile morale of the Crimson Hawks; as can be plainly seen in replays of the 91-yard TD run by **Ray Rice** that capped off



Armed popcorn vendors at the Big House in Chino move in to collect payment from a deadbeat fan. They took the money owed and more, causing a fan riot that resulted in a 40-minute delay in the 4th quarter of Chino's 24-7 win over Kutztown.

the scoring binge. I counted 12 missed tackles on the play - a difficult feat for 11 defenders. (I included the attempted trip by Ringgold strength trainer, Hal "the Pal" Salosi, as Rice skirted along the sideline at mid-field).

While Ringgold's first post-season experience ended in catastrophe it was not a total loss for the team. The Hawks gained notoriety for making it to the playoffs with a losing record and a measure of respect for holding their own for 3 quarters in Dragonmount. Small consolation, I know, but better than none – which is what they are accustomed to.

BLOODY POPCORN

A dispute over a \$5 bag of popcorn sparked the first American football riot in North America. A popcorn vendor at The Big House, working the infamous "Death Row" section behind the stadium's east end zone, passed along a bag of popcorn to a drunken spectator then stood at the end of the row waiting for the money to come back to him. But the money never came. The fan started eating the popcorn, but ignored demands for

payment. With the help of an ice cream vendor, the popcorn seller waded into the row where the deadbeat fan was sitting and began clearing out the section to reach him. The fan kept eating and drinking, oblivious to the mounting tension. Vendors in "Death Row," armed with batons and TASERS and wearing full body armour, are specially trained to deal with this type of problem, but this particular popcorn vendor appeared to be having a bad day.

Video of the encounter shows the vendor applying his TASER to the neck of the fan then delivering a couple of forceful blows with his metal baton to his shoulder. A friend of the fan, apparently also drunk, intervenes and suddenly all hell breaks loose in the stands. The two vendors can be seen violently subduing the fan and rifling through his pockets while spectators look on. They make off with his wallet and what appears to be an I-Pod or Blackberry, causing outraged fans to attack the vendors as they attempted to make off with the loot.

While all this was going on, the Convicts were trying to put the finishing touches on their mauling of the Golden Bears. With 3 minutes remaining and a 24-7 lead for the home team, the game was delayed for nearly an hour while riot police moved in to lock down "Death Row" and debris was removed from the field. Luckily, no players or on-field staff were hurt, but the body count in the stands has not been made public as this article goes to publication.

With respect to the actual game it was as lopsided as any of the other pseudo-contests this weekend, but in a different way. The Chino defence had near total control of **Tony Romo** and the Kutztown offence. If not for **LeSean McCoy's** 70-yard run and 2-yard TD catch, the Bears would not have scored a point. **Donovan McNabb** and the Chino offence looked in no hurry to score, but eventually got around to it in the second quarter. It had the appearance of a mere formality as McNabb got down to business for a drive, flinging four straight completions including a short dunk for 9 yards and a TD to **Steven Jackson**. After that, it was back to high-fives and horseplay on the sidelines for McNabb as he watched the "Lockdown Crew" live up to its name.

CHANTS AND CHEERS

Bellowed by thousands in between one-note blasts from blue plastic goat horns after every big play by the home team, the "Never Surrender" chant unique to Spartans fans sounds ludicrous this year. The Spartans have lost only once – in overtime – and through 15 wins have otherwise never had their backs to the wall. The team that actually needs encouragement to "never surrender" is the hapless visitor to Thermopylae Stadium.

The mantra became popular as Pickering played the perennial underdog in their first two seasons. It was fitting then, especially considering the Spartan myth was built on hopeless defiance. But with the Spartans beating the hell out of everybody these days it comes across as counterfeit. "No quarter" would be more appropriate or, as Markham's Fat Lady in Row 54 would say, "crush their bones and eat their hearts!"

There were many opportunities to chant "Never Surrender" on Wildcard Weekend in Pickering. **Darren Sproles**, acquired from Markham in Week Five, provided an early spark with a 90-yard punt return for a touchdown to keep the Spartans in the lead after one half of play. Beginning with their first possession in the second half, Spartans stars, **Brett Favre** and **Chris Johnson** switched into a higher gear, trying to outdo each other in ripping through the "D-Nos."

RIVERS RUNS DRY

With a shot at making everything right again, **Philip Rivers** confirmed the claims of his worst critics with another sloppy and, frankly, brain-dead performance in Durham's quarter final game against Pickering. Not many outside of the 'Dinos Club,'

(Durham's elite fan club composed of football fanatics and amateur gourmands), thought the Lizards stood a chance against the Pickering powerhouse; but a good game in defeat was not too much to ask of their quarterback after a season full of bitter disappointments. It might not have been too much to ask, but was it too much to expect? Rivers has not been good for several weeks. His performance against Cowtown in the final week should have been a bright red flag for anyone placing a bet on the T-Lizards or hoping for a sudden rebirth in Thermopylae Stadium. But even I did not expect such an offensive implosion from Durham as they displayed in the second half. The desperate coaching staff ran **Kevin Faulk** on first and second down trying to get something started early in the 4th quarter. Like everything else Durham tried, it failed miserably. The sight of Faulk stumbling as he tried to make his cut to the hole and running directly into **Kyle Vanden Bosch** will be etched in my memory as the perfect allegory for their season. If Durham were a car out of control on an icy prairie road, they would find the only tree within a square mile to crash into. And **Philip Rivers** would be the driver that steered them into it.

KNIGHTS YIELD

The trade for **Kurt Warner** turned out to be of no value for the Knights. It may have even made things worse. With the benefit of hindsight the **Jason Campbell-Tarvaris Jackson** tag team, a bizarre dysfunction on the outside, may have concealed a harmony only visible in the extra wins they compiled during their partnership. It wasn't always a happy arrangement between the two, but winning has a way of making everything seem better. This weekend the Pats demolished the Warner-led Knights 38-20, making the days of Jackson and Campbell seem in retrospect like an idyllic Golden Age.

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PACIFIC-ATLANTIC CONFERENCE

CHINO @ CHARLESWOOD (line – PATRIOTS by 4)

OVERVIEW: When the Pats faced Chino at the Big House in Week 10 they were held to exactly 0 net yards rushing and turned the ball over 4 times in a 13-9 loss. Peyton Manning threw for nearly 400 yards but couldn't find the end zone. Julius Peppers had a monster day mauling back-up right tackle Doug Free, sacking Manning twice, stuffing 3 runs, and forcing 3 fumbles. It was a game the Pats would like to forget. They have the chance to wash away the bad taste from that rancid ration of over-peppered prison chow they were served up that day and earn a trip to the season's biggest game if they can do a few simple but effective things on offence and maintain control of the ball. These two teams know better than most the value of winning the turnover battle – owing much of their success this year to turnover ratios of +15 (Charleswood) and +14 (Chino). Assuming these cancel each other out, the edge statistically between the two teams is almost too close to call. The Pats have the advantage in total offence while the Striped Pyjamas get the nod in defence. The game will come down to individual match-ups and execution.

WHEN THE PATS HAVE THE BALL: Peppers will not have a "Free" pass to the Patriots backfield this time – Joe Staley is back from injury and Free is on the bench. Sydney Rice caught 8 passes in Week 10 against Terrence Newman, but none for 20 yards or more. Manning will have to do a better job of spreading the field to make room for Adrian Peterson. Speaking of Peterson, his 3-yard performance in Week 10 was not entirely his fault – Charleswood has to make a firmer commitment to the run if they are going to post big scores on the board. They don't have to run all day – just show they can do it.

WHEN THE CONVICTS HAVE THE BALL: The Convicts will have the loud but polite crowd at Patriot Place to contend with – a marked departure from the murderous "Thunderdome" atmosphere in Chino. Disconcerting as that may be to Donovan McNabb, who prefers his crowds rabid and fickle; he will be too focused on the gaping hole in the Patriot's secondary where Ed Reed and Melvin Bullitt used to be to notice the crowd. Randy Moss or Mohamed

Massaquoi are bound to get open deep, it's just up to McNabb to find them when they do. Steven Jackson will provide a steady beat on the ground to back-up the solo "stylings" of McNabb dancing in and out of the pocket. Chino will move the ball better than they have in the past. But will they hold on to it?

WHO WILL WIN? This game could go either way. The Pats are favoured by 4 because of the home field advantage, a pair of late stumbles by the Convicts, and questions about McNabb's health after missing 3 of the final 4 regular season games. I see this as more of a pick'em game, with Reed's injury negating the home field advantage (yes, he is that valuable!). I think it will be higher scoring than Week 10 and very close; but the Convicts defensive playmakers will force the big break that tips the balance.

INJURY REPORT: CHP – Michael Boley (Out), D'Qwell Jackson (Out), John McCargo (Out), Luis Castillo (Doubtful); CHP – Ed Reed (Out), Melvin Bullitt (Out). **Pick: CHINO**

PACIFIC-ATLANTIC CONFERENCE

PICKERING @ FLORIDA (line – DRAGONS by 3)

OVERVIEW: This is it – *the* game; the semi-final-final. It is widely accepted that the winner of this contest will defeat any PAC opponent in the Gale Sayers Game, making this the *de facto* championship. It is hard to argue against that perspective because it is supported by so many facts – such as 1 loss in 34 games and 1st and 2nd place team rankings in both offence and defence between the two teams. The Spartans came closer to ruining Florida's perfect season than any other opponent and because of it, the controversy surrounding the Pickering offensive play-calling in that game still swirls. If there was an upside to that loss for the Spartans, it was that they were able to gauge where they really were in relation to the league's incumbent champion – and as a result they made a key move in trading for Jason Taylor and Darren Sproles. Since that loss, the Spartans have been picking up steam and now appear virtually unstoppable. The Dragons have just kept winning, but for the first time, their defence is getting most of the credit for their success. While people quibble over what makes the Dragons a great team, I look to the simple fact that they are unbeaten and carry a swagger and attitude unmatched by anyone else. They are the class of the league until proven otherwise.

WHEN PICKERING HAS THE BALL: The league's top-ranked offence (by far) has all of the weapons needed to score fast and often. Starting with the league's most dangerous offensive weapon in running back Chris Johnson and moving to the league's most dangerous passer in Brett Favre, it hardly needs to be mentioned that they also have the best line and top grade receivers at each position to prove the point. So, with all options at hand, we look to the gaps in the "Firewall" for a clue to their strategy. Ooops, there *are no* gaps in the "Firewall," sorry. The Spartans had success running the ball in their Week 4 match-up as the Dragons doggedly stuck to their strategy of stopping the pass at all costs. Once again they will form their attack around Johnson, but unlike last time, Favre will get more than 16 chances to pass the ball.

WHEN FLORIDA HAS THE BALL: Jonathan Stewart has become the fashion lately in Florida with three consecutive 100 yard rushing games. That does not mean he will be the fashion in this game. Ray Rice has been playing possum but he will come to life in this contest. Rice's duo threat is the ultimate weapon against a Pickering defence that, with Taylor making big plays from the edge, has a bite it was missing before. Rice makes defenders miss, making big gainers out of short passes. This is important because the deep vertical game has been sputtering lately. Brandon Marshall does not really scare Asante Samuel, nor does TJ Houshmandzadeh strike fear in the heart of Jonahan Joseph. DeSean Jackson is ever dangerous but has not broken a big play in a while. The Florida offence has hardly been explosive in the second half of the season and will need a more aggressive attitude to keep up with the turbo-charged Spartans.

WHO WILL WIN? With their improvements on defence and their apparent invincibility on offence, it is easy to envision an upset by the Spartans. It appears many other people smell an upset too because the line has been quickly dropping since it was originally posted in Vegas at 4.5. For me, it's pretty simple: the Dragons are a slightly better team and they are at home. They also know how to win the big games. They won't do anything really crazy, and it won't be easy, but the Dragons will advance and cover the 3 points for punctuation.

INJURY REPORT: PIC – Tank Johnson (Out); FLD – None. **Pick: FLORIDA**