

# 2011

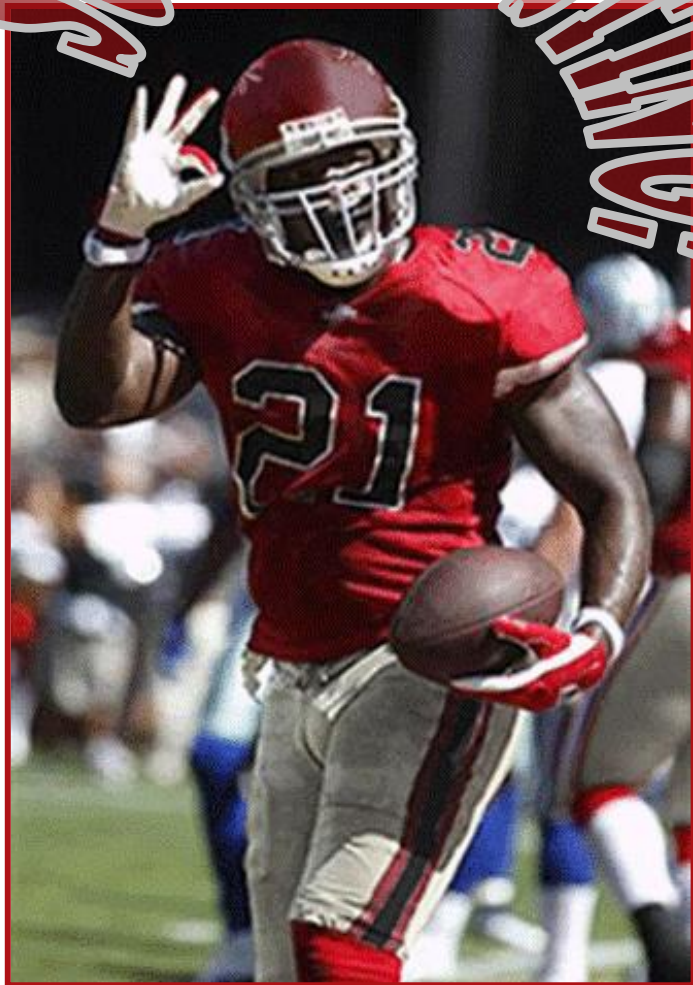


# 2011

## WEEK NINE IN REVIEW

December 4, 2011

# SOUTHERN COMFORT



### LATEST EFL NEWS INSIDE

#### THE GAMES

- MUSTANGS RAIN ON CUBS PARADE
- RODGERS COMES ALIVE VS. DEATH VALLEY
- REGULATORS RUIN PERFECTION BID
- GLADS LOCK DOWN CONVICTS
- CORN KINGS SLASH SWORDS
- SPARTANS "PICK" UP WIN #8
- LIZARDS BEAT DOWN HELLFIRE
- BACK TO REALITY FOR MARKHAM

#### COMMENT

"Southern Comfort," "Death Valley Shake-Up," "Around the EFL," – Spats McChad

#### PREDICTIONS

'Regulators in vogue,' 'Chino back on track.' – Jimmy the Geek

Regulator running back, **Frank Gore**, flashes the "perfect" sign at the LA bench after breaking several tackles to score on a 47-yard catch-and-run from **Jason Campbell**. The touchdown drove a knife into LA's perfect season as South Carolina went on to post a major upset at home, 17-7.



*Who was slick in Week Nine?*

**"BRYLCREEM" THE EFL'S FIRST SPONSOR**



**Adrian Peterson**  
RB  
Charleswood  
Patriots

27 carries, 131 yards, 3 TDs to lead thrashing of Markham.



**Robert Mathis**  
DE  
Gwinnett  
Gladiators

10 tackles, 1 sack, 1 stuff, 3 QB hurries, 1 FF to dominate the line.

# GARLAND GUTS OUT WIN!



**IOWA CITY  
CUBS**

**10**

**13**

**GARLAND  
MUSTANGS**



## CUB OF THE GAME

**Michael Spurlock**

4 KR, 48.5 avg., 103 Long, 1 TD

Team	1	2	3	4	OT	Total
IOWA CITY (3-6)	3	0	7	0	-	10
GARLAND (2-7)	3	3	0	7	-	13

## MUSTANG OF THE GAME

**Matt Ryan**

28 of 40, 359 yards, 1 INT, 1 TD

**HIGHLIGHT REEL:** **Dustin Keller** caught 7 passes for 79 yards to lead the Mustangs in receptions.

- **Peyton Hillis** caught 4 passes for 75 yards, including a 56-yard TD catch, while adding just 16 yards rushing on 10 carries.
- **Brian Cushing** made 9 tackles and 1 run stuff, and **Fred Robbins** logged a sack and 3 QB pressures to lead the defence.
- **Sam Bradford** struggled, completing just 12 passes in 28 attempts for 125 yards.
- **Arian Foster** carried the ball 22 times for 76 yards, for just his lowest yards-per-carry average in a single game this year.

**GAME SUMMARY:** Trailing 10-6 in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter, the Mustangs gambled on 4<sup>th</sup> and 2 at the Iowa City 43 yard and made it. **Matt Ryan** followed up with 27-yard pass to **Wes Welker** to put the ball on the Cubs' 5 yard line then **Peyton Hillis** snatched a short toss from Ryan on a curl route and crossed the goal line for the eventual game-winning TD. The Cubs tried to get it back all at once with a couple of passes to deep-threat **Mike Wallace** that fell incomplete, resulting in a punt. On their second try, a pair of holding penalties led to 4<sup>th</sup> down and 21 at the Garland 46 with 2:02 left. **Adam Podlesh** punted a towering kick that **Julian Edelman** fair caught at the Mustangs' 4 yard line. With Iowa City stopping the clock after each play, and backed up at their 12 yard line, the Mustangs faced a critical 3<sup>rd</sup> down and 2 that they converted with a daring medium pass to **Dustin Keller** – good for 20 yards and a first down. With just one timeout remaining for the Cubs, Garland was able to run out the clock to complete the upset and notch their second victory of the year. It was a game plagued by penalties, both teams combining for 21 flags and 160 yards in lost real estate. A modest field goal battle in the first half resulted in a 6-3 half time lead for Garland. The Cubs broke the touchdown drought when **Michael Spurlock** returned the opening kick-off of the second half 103 yards for a TD. Garland responded with a quick thrust into the Cubs' red zone, keyed by a 42-yard completion to Welker; but **Manny Lawson**, sitting in the zone, picked off Ryan at the 10 yard line to end the threat. Another Garland push into Cubs' territory in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter ended on 4<sup>th</sup> down fumble by Ryan. But with the Mustangs playing strong on 'D,' the Cubs never mounted a TD drive and eventually Garland found the end zone to score the upset.



### THE FANS LOVED

The 4<sup>th</sup> down gamble that worked!

### THE FANS HATED

13 punts & 21 penalties



### FAN RATING



11-30-2011 The Corral Temp: 59 Wind: 0-10 Heavy Rain MVP: Matt Ryan

1 8:27	Garland	FG Gould 22 (12-73-6:24)	0-3
1 3:12	Iowa City	FG Rackers 56 (9-29-5:02)	3-3
2 4:43	Garland	FG Gould 36 (12-65-6:20)	3-6
3 14:55	Iowa City	TD Spurlock 103 kick return (Rackers) (0-0-1:37)	10-6
4 8:19	Garland	TD Ryan 5 pass to Hillis (Gould) (7-61-3:53)	10-13

	ICC	GDM
First Downs	11	21
Rushes	22-76	25-38
Passes	28-12-125	40-28-359
Sacked	2-20	2-15
Fumble	0	1
Penalties	11-96	10-64
Turnovers	0	2
Time	25:22	34:38
Third Down	4-18	6-18
Fourth Down	1-1	1-2
Red Att/Td/Fg	0/0/0	4/1/2
Net Offense	181	382



## INJURIES

IOWA CITY – None.

GARLAND – Trent Williams (3 games); Patrick Peterson (PG-1<sup>st</sup>).

## QUOTE OF THE GAME

"I thought we controlled this game and we deserved to win. We had to be patient and in the end Matt found a way to get us in the end zone. 4<sup>th</sup> down didn't backfire on us for once!" – Garland coach, **Doug Shirley**.

# RODGERS RAZES UNDERTAKERS!



**DEATH VALLEY  
UNDERTAKERS**

**17**

**30**

**SCARBOROUGH  
BLUE EAGLES**



UNDERTAKER OF THE GAME	Team	1	2	3	4	OT	Total	BLUE EAGLE OF THE GAME
<b>Ryan Matthews</b>	<b>DEATH VALLEY (5-4)</b>	3	7	0	7	-	17	<b>Aaron Rodgers</b>
17 for 94 rushing, Long 26, 1 TD	<b>SCARBOROUGH (6-3)</b>	7	10	10	3	-	30	<b>23 of 34, 284 yds, 1 INT, 3 TDs</b>

**HIGHLIGHT REEL:** **DeSean Jackson** caught 7 passes for 102 yards and 2 TDs.

- **Brandon Marshall** caught 7 passes for 84 yards and 1 TD.
- **Ray Rice** led a group of 4 backs, including the QB that accounted for 124 yards with 44 yards on 9 carries.
- **Ndamukong Suh** made 10 tackles, including 2 stuffs and 1 forced fumble, to lead the Blue Eagle's defence.
- **Drew Brees** completed 21 of 32 for 226 yards, 1 INT and 1 TD.
- **Jerod Mayo** made 14 tackles, including 2 run stuffs, to lead the Undertakers' defence.

**GAME SUMMARY:** A 5-yard bootleg by **Aaron Rodgers** on 4<sup>th</sup> and 1 kept a late 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter drive alive in Undertakers' territory. Six plays later, a scrambling Rodgers found **Brandon Marshall** unattended in the end zone for a 5-yard TD pass that broke a 10-10 deadlock and initiated a streak of 17 unanswered points by Scarborough. It could have been more; a Death Valley gamble on 4<sup>th</sup> and inches at their 45 with 54 seconds left in the 1<sup>st</sup> half was unsuccessful, setting up the Blue Eagles for a quick drive to the Undertakers' 6 yard line. Death Valley dodged a bullet when nickel corner **Jimmy Smith** picked off Rodgers in the end zone to allow his team to head into half time down by a touchdown, 17-10. The 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter belonged to the Blue Eagles. **DeSean Jackson**, who had opened the scoring with a 14-yard TD reception in the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter, gashed the Death Valley secondary for a 31-yard reception that vaulted Scarborough into Death Valley territory and eventually led to a 48-yard **Sebastien Janikowski** field goal. After another Death Valley 4<sup>th</sup> down gamble backfired near mid-field, Jackson got in on the action again with an 18-yard catch to open the drive and a 3-yard TD catch to finish it off, giving Scarborough a 27-10 lead heading into the final quarter. Death Valley struck back quickly with a 32-yard TD pass from **Drew Brees** to **Mario Manningham**, but that would be all the scoring the Blue Eagles' defence would allow. Death Valley's last opportunity ended in the red zone with an incomplete pass and Scarborough ran out the clock.

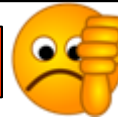


### THE FANS LOVED

Rodgers' trio of TD passes

### THE FANS HATED

No sacks by the 'Fearsome Four'



### FAN RATING



11-29-2011 Bluffs Stadium Temp: 40 Wind: 0-5 None MVP: **Aaron Rodgers**

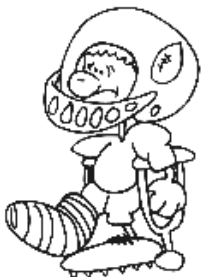
1 9:29	Scarborough	TD Rodgers 14 pass to Jackson	0-7
1 4:15	Death Valley	FG Kasay 30 (11-65-5:02)	3-7
2 11:43	Scarborough	FG Janikowski 32 (6-10-2:23)	3-10
2 6:35	Death Valley	TD Mathews 26 run (Kasay) (8-71-5:00)	10-10
2 1:32	Scarborough	TD Rodgers 5 pass to Marshall (Janikowski) (11-75-4:58)	10-17
3 9:11	Scarborough	FG Janikowski 48 (9-49-4:10)	10-20
3 1:50	Scarborough	TD Rodgers 3 pass to Jackson (Janikowski) (7-51-3:54)	10-27
4 14:49	Death Valley	TD Brees 32 pass to Manningham (Kasay) (4-58-1:54)	17-27
4 5:04	Scarborough	FG Janikowski 19 (10-31-5:18)	17-30

	DVU	SBE
First Downs	17	24
Rushes	22-94	35-124
Passes	32-21-226	34-23-284
Sacked	2-15	0-0
Fumble	3	0
Penalties	2-17	7-45
Turnovers	1	1
Time	24:31	35:29
Third Down	2-9	5-13
Fourth Down	1-4	2-2
Red Att/Td/Fg	2/0/1	6/3/2
Net Offense	305	408

## INJURIES

DEATH VALLEY – None.

SCARBOROUGH – Ray Rice (PG-3<sup>rd</sup>); Calais Campbell (1 game-QUESTIONABLE)



### QUOTE OF THE GAME

"Aaron stayed upright, which was our biggest concern, and picked them apart like I knew he could. I didn't see those linebackers everyone's talking about, though. Did they play?" – Scarborough coach, "**Jonesy.**"



# REGS JOLT KNIGHTS OFF PERFECT PERCH!



**LOS ANGELES  
KNIGHTS**

**7**

**17**

**SOUTH CAROLINA  
REGULATORS**



## KNIGHT OF THE GAME

**Chris Kelsay**  
10 tackles, 1 SK, 1 PD, 1 St, 1 FF

Team	1	2	3	4	OT	Total
<b>LOS ANGELES (8-1)</b>	0	7	0	0	-	7
<b>SOUTH CAROLINA (2-7)</b>	7	0	0	10	-	17

## REGULATOR OF THE GAME

**Jason Campbell**  
22 of 31, 229 yards, 2 TDs

**HIGHLIGHT REEL:** **Frank Gore** gained 109 total yards, 48 rushing and 61 receiving, including a 47-yard TD

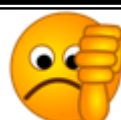
- **Chris Cooley** caught 9 passes for 89 yards and 4 first downs.
- **Richard Seymour** made 6 tackles, deflected 2 passes, stuffed a run and recorded 2 QB pressures to lead the SC defence.
- **Josh Freeman** completed 22 of 38 for 162 yards, 1 INT and 1 TD in a losing cause.
- **Jamaal Charles** gained 48 yards on 6 carries before leaving the game to injury in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter.
- **Lee Evans** had 7 catches for 72 yards to lead in yardage while **Roddy White** caught 9 passes for just 56 yards to lead receptions.

**GAME SUMMARY:** Questionable on the eve of game day, Regulator corner Tracy Porter suited up and made a difference early with an interception that halted the Knights' opening drive. South Carolina took over at their 35 yard line and overcame a holding penalty and a sack on their first two plays from scrimmage to mount a drive that brought them to the Knights' 12 yard line. From there, the Knights' Blue Shield focused on Frank Gore, back after missing five weeks, allowing Greg Jennings to run free for an easy 12-yard TD pass from Jason Campbell to open up the scoring for the home team, 7-0. After a pair of punts by both teams, Los Angeles answered the Regulators early touchdown with one of their own. After Josh Freeman scrambled for 12 yards to convert a 3<sup>rd</sup> and 11, the LA QB connected with Lee Evans for 22 yards then, two plays later, with Tony Gonzalez for a 3-yard TD pass to even the score at half time, 7-7. The South Carolina defence dominated the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter, not allowing the Knights a single first down; but their offence could not take advantage, sustaining just one drive into Knights' territory that ended in a missed field goal by Nate Kaeding. The Regulators gradually gained the edge in field position and started a drive from their 40 yard line at the end of the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter. A 15-yard roughing the passer penalty on Brian Orakpo was the big "play" and soon South Carolina was in position for a 35-yard Kaeding field goal to take the lead. With the Knights missing Jamaal Charles due to injury, and unable to move the ball with Shonn Greene, the Knights soon gave the ball back. That set up the mortal blow as Gore took a short hitch from Campbell, broke a tackle by Kamerion Wimbley, and ran 47 yards for the TD. The Regulators played shutdown 'D' the rest of the way to finish off their amazing upset.



**THE FANS LOVED**  
Everyone loves a BIG upset

**THE FANS HATED**  
10 Knights penalties!



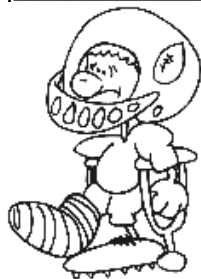
**FAN RATING**



12-02-2011 Williams-Brice Stad. Temp: 72 Wind: 0-10 None MVP: **Jason Campbell**

1 7:48	South Carolina	TD Campbell 12 pass to Jennings (Kaeding) (9-75-4:39)	0-7
2 5:28	Los Angeles	TD Freeman 3 pass to Gonzalez (Carpente,D) (11-68-6:41)	7-7
4 11:42	South Carolina	FG Kaeding 35 (8-43-3:37)	7-10
4 10:22	South Carolina	TD Campbell 47 pass to Gore (Kaeding) (1-47-0:15)	7-17

	LAK	SC
First Downs	14	12
Rushes	23-110	20-58
Passes	38-22-162	31-22-229
Sacked	0-0	6-38
Fumble	1	3
Penalties	10-98	6-39
Turnovers	1	0
Time	26:58	33:02
Third Down	7-15	7-17
Fourth Down	1-2	0-0
Red Att/Td/Fg	1/1/0	1/1/0
Net Offense	272	249



## INJURIES

**LOS ANGELES** – Jamaal Charles (PG-2<sup>nd</sup>); Steve Smith (PG-1<sup>st</sup>); Nnamdi Asomugha (PG-2<sup>nd</sup>)

**SOUTH CAROLINA** – None

## QUOTE OF THE GAME

"We got beat at our own game. Their defence played great. Of course I'm disappointed, but what more can I say? They out-played us and won the game." – *Knights' coach, Jeff Dohrn.*

# GLADS STIFLE ROOKIE FOR 6<sup>TH</sup> WIN!



**CHINO  
CONVICTS**

**3**

**17**

**GWINNETT  
GLADIATORS**



CONVICT OF THE GAME
<b>Steve Jackson</b> 20 carries, 79 yards

Team	1	2	3	4	OT	Total
<b>CHINO</b> (4-5)	0	0	3	0	-	3
<b>GWINNETT</b> (6-3)	3	7	0	7	-	17

**GLADIATOR OF THE GAME**

**Ben Roethlisberger**  
18 of 28, 181 yards, 2 TDs

**HIGHLIGHT REEL:** **LeSean McCoy** gained 127 all-purpose yards – 66 rushing and 61 receiving.

- **Reggie Wayne** had 6 receptions for 79 yards and 1 TD.
- Gwinnett defensive end, **Robert Mathis** made 10 tackles, 1 sack, 1 run stuff, 3 QB pressures and 1 forced fumble.
- Gwinnett linebacker, **Jim Laurinaitis** made 7 tackles, deflected 2 passes and acted as a spy on Cam Newton.
- **Cam Newton** completed 11 of 20 passes for just 65 yards and gained 13 yards on 7 carries.
- **Chad Ochocinco** led all Chino receivers in yards gained with 3 catches for 33 yards.

**GAME SUMMARY:** Gwinnett scored on their opening possession, riding a 48-yard screen to **LeSean McCoy** into the Chino red zone where **Josh Brown** booted a field goal from 31 yards out to give the Glads the early lead. A tight defensive struggle ensued, with neither team showing much offensively until the Gladiators put together a drive toward the end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter. McCoy rushed for 53 yards on 6 carries and **Reggie Wayne** caught 2 passes for 27 yards, the second for 18 yards and a TD, to account for the full 80 yards on the drive that gave Gwinnett a 10-0 lead at half time. The 2<sup>nd</sup> half began much like the first but took a turn against the home team when **Nate Burleson** fumbled at the Gladiator 28 yard line, setting the Convicts up in excellent field position. However, **Cam Newton** was stopped for no gain on 3<sup>rd</sup> and 2, forcing them to settle for a 38-yard **Billy Cundiff** field goal to close the gap to a touchdown. After exchanging punts, the Glads started in fine field position at the Chino 46 yard line after a 12-yard punt return by **Leon Washington**. Wayne caught a 25-yard fly pass then **Barry Cofield** was flagged for a 5 yard offsidess penalty to bring Gwinnett into the red zone. Four plays later, **Ben Roethlisberger** hooked up with **Jeremy Maclin** on a 9-yard slant for a TD and a 17-3 Gwinnett lead. With Newton unable to move the ball, Chino coach **Rob Nazar** suddenly made the switch to **Jay Cutler** at quarterback. The benching of Newton failed to light a fire under the offence, with Cutler faring no better: overseeing a three-and-out then a mistake-riddled final possession that saw the Convicts fall attempting to convert a 4<sup>th</sup> down and 21 from their 35 yard line with an end-around to **Josh Cribbs** that went for no gain. The Glads took over with 2:47 remaining and ran out the clock for their 6<sup>th</sup> win of the season.



**THE FANS LOVED**  
Shut down Glads' 'D'

**THE FANS HATED**  
The return of Jay Cutler



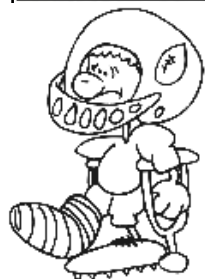
**FAN RATING**



12-02-2011 Gwinnett Coliseum Temp: 65 Wind: 10-20 None MVP: **Ben Roethlisberger**

1 9:21 Gwinnett	FG Brown 31 (12-65-5:31)	0-3
2 0:22 Gwinnett	TD Roethlisberger 18 pass to Wayne (Brown,J) (10-80-4:11)	0-10
3 2:05 Chino	FG Cundiff 38 (4-8-2:09)	3-10
4 10:45 Gwinnett	TD Roethlisberger 9 pass to Maclin (Brown,J) (7-46-3:14)	3-17

	CHI	GWG
First Downs	11	17
Rushes	29-98	26-114
Passes	29-15-95	28-18-181
Sacked	2-10	1-9
Fumble	1	1
Penalties	9-55	3-25
Turnovers	0	1
Time	31:13	28:47
Third Down	5-16	6-12
Fourth Down	4-5	0-0
Red Att/Td/Fg	1/0/1	6/2/1
Net Offense	183	286



## INJURIES

CHINO – Knowshon Moreno (4 games)

GWINNETT – Vernon Carey (3 games)

## QUOTE OF THE GAME

"What a performance by the Gladiator defence today! They had an answer for Chino's rookie and were one Nate Burleson fumble away from a shutout." – *Gwinnett radio announcer, Pompus Peius.*

# 24-POINT FLURRY BOOSTS CORN KINGS!



**YORK  
EXCALIBURS**

**14**

**38**

**COWTOWN  
CORN KINGS**



**EXCALIBUR OF THE GAME**

**Darren McFadden**  
19 carries, 83 yards, 1 TD

Team	1	2	3	4	OT	Total
<b>YORK (3-6)</b>	7	0	0	7	-	14
<b>COWTOWN (7-2)</b>	0	24	14	0	-	38

**CORN KING OF THE GAME**

**Joe Flacco**  
22 of 32, 241 yards, 3 TDs

**HIGHLIGHT REEL:** **Maurice Jones-Drew** carried the ball 24 times for 114 yards and 1 TD.

- **Zach Miller** had 9 receptions for 113 yards and 2 TDs
- **Santana Moss** caught 6 passes for 44 yards and 1 TD.
- **Stephen Tulloch** made 11 tackles and stuffed 2 runs to lead the Corn Kings' defence.
- **Tom Brady** completed 15 of 28 for 115 yards, no interceptions and no touchdowns.
- **Brandon Jacobs** had 6 carries for 28 yards and 1 TD.

**GAME SUMMARY:** **Cullen Jenkins** blocked a **Mike Scifres** punt to set up York at the Cowtown 32 yard line late in the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter. Soon after, they faced 4<sup>th</sup> and 4 at the 26 yard line and elected to go for it. **Tom Brady** found **Michael Crabtree** open on a short look-in pass for 9 yards and a first down, setting up a 14-yard TD run by **Brandon Jacobs** to make it 7-0 for York. The Corn Kings answered with an air show as **Joe Flacco** went a perfect 7 of 7 for 71 yards on their next drive, scoring on a 16-yard TD pass **Zach Miller** to even the score. Following a three-and-out by the Yorkies, part-time punt returner **Golden Tate** lit up the field with a 74-yard return for a TD that put Cowtown in the lead. The Corn Kings continued to control the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter, putting together a long drive, keyed by 21-yard pass to **Kevin Walter** and an 18-yard run by **Maurice Jones-Drew** that ended with Flacco withstanding an all-out blitz to find **Santana Moss** wide open in the back of the end zone for a 2-yard TD strike to make the score 21-7, Cowtown. A quick three-and-out by the Excaltiburs handed the ball back to the Corn Kings at their 43 with 2 minutes remaining in the half. They moved the ball to the York 7 yard line, but with 8 seconds remaining, elected to kick the field goal to round off a 24-point 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter, and give them a 17-point halftime lead. The York offence continued to struggle in the second half, opening with another three-and-out, their third possession without a 1<sup>st</sup> down. The Corn Kings continued to pour it on, adding a pair of TDs in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter to build a 38-7 lead in the face of little opposition. The Excaltiburs added a late TD when **Darren McFadden** scored on a 5-yard run.



**THE FANS LOVED**

Flacco's 3<sup>rd</sup> down precision

**THE FANS HATED**

Brady's imprecision



**FAN RATING**



11-30-2011 Tillman Field Temp: 37 Wind: 10-20

MVP: **Joe Flacco**

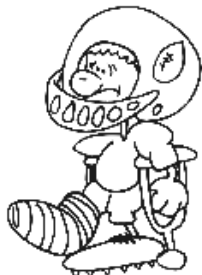
1 1:19 York	TD Jacobs 14 run (Gano) (8-32-3:32)	7-0
2 10:43 Cowtown	TD Flacco 16 pass to Miller (Mare) (9-78-5:30)	7-7
2 9:39 Cowtown	TD Tate 74 punt return (Mare) (0-0-0:44)	7-14
2 3:10 Cowtown	TD Flacco 2 pass to Moss (Mare) (10-83-4:15)	7-21
2 0:05 Cowtown	FG Mare 25 (10-50-2:15)	7-24
3 7:23 Cowtown	TD Flacco 8 pass to Miller (Mare) (11-65-5:53)	7-31
3 3:05 Cowtown	TD Jones-Drew 12 run (Mare) (3-19-1:19)	7-38
4 0:35 York	TD McFadden 5 run (Gano) (12-70-7:08)	14-38

	YOR	COW
First Downs	14	25
Rushes	27-110	31-136
Passes	28-15-115	32-22-241
Sacked	2-11	0-0
Fumble	1	0
Penalties	2-14	6-35
Turnovers	0	0
Challenges	0-0	1-1
Time	28:01	31:59
Third Down	6-16	12-14
Fourth Down	2-4	0-0
Red Att/Td/Fg	3/2/0	5/4/1
Net Offense	214	377

**INJURIES**

YORK – Calvin Pace (4 games)

COTOWN – None



**QUOTE OF THE GAME**

"We wanted to build off last week and it didn't happen. They had our number today – at times it was like they were in our huddle."  
– York coach **Jay Hammond**.



# SPARTANS PICK OFF VIOLATORS FOR WIN #8!



**VIRDEN  
VIOLATORS**

**19**

**22**

**PICKERING  
SPARTANS**



## VIOLATOR OF THE GAME

Gary Brackett  
18 tackles, 1 stuff

Team	1	2	3	4	OT	Total
<b>VIRDEN (2-7)</b>	3	10	0	6	-	19
<b>PICKERING (8-1)</b>	7	0	7	8	-	22

## SPARTAN OF THE GAME

**Chris Johnson**  
28 carries, 121 yards, 1 TD

**HIGHLIGHT REEL:** Joe Webb completed 10 of 13 for 63 yards, 1 INT and 1 TD in relief of injured Matt Cassel.

- **Darren Sproles** rushed for 39 yards on 7 carries and returned 2 punts for 40 yards.
- **Percy Harvin** caught 4 passes for 51 yards and **Mercedes Lewis** caught 3 for 22 yards and a TD to lead the receivers.
- **Eli Manning** completed 27 of 41 for 273 yards, 3 INTs and 1 TD.
- **Mike Thomas** caught 7 passes for 82 yards and **Dez Bryant** added to his team-leading numbers with 7 receptions for 65 yards.
- **LeGarrette Blount** was held to 39 yards on 13 carries, but also ran in a 14-yard TD.

**GAME SUMMARY:** For the second consecutive game and third time this season, starting Pickering QB, **Matt Cassel** was forced out of the game due to injury; but not before he oversaw another running display by **Chris Johnson** on the game's opening drive. Johnson carried the ball 8 times in an 11-play drive, gaining 40 yards and capping it off with a 5-yard TD run to give Pickering the early lead. The Violators responded on their ensuing possession with a 48-yard field goal by **Lawrence Tynes** to get on the board. The teams punted back and forth until mid-way in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter when Virden patched together a drive from inside their 20, keyed by a 26-yard pass to **Robert Meachem**, to set up Tynes for his second field goal to narrow the Pickering lead to one point, 7-6. With Cassel out, **Joe Webb** took over and was picked off by **Brandon Flowers**, who returned it 27 yards to the Spartans' 18 yard line. **Eli Manning** hit **Dez Bryant** for 10 yards then two plays later found an unlikely target in **John Kuhn** open at the back of the end zone for a 5-yard TD pass to give Virden a 13-7 lead at half time. Pickering got back in the game when **Joe Haden** made the first of 3 picks Manning would throw on the day to set up an 11-yard TD run by **Rashad Jennings** to make it 14-13. Virden took the lead back on a 14-yard TD run by **LeGarrette Blount**, but lost it again after Manning was picked off by **David Harris** at mid-field and the Spartans marched it 50 yards to take the lead on a 4-yard TD pass from Webb to **Mercedes Lewis**. Down by 3 after the successful 2-point convert, the Violators squandered their final opportunity when **Jonathan Joseph** picked off Manning with 1:14 remaining.



**THE FANS LOVED**  
Gutsy performance by Webb

**THE FANS HATED**  
Eli's 20<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> picks



**FAN RATING**



11-29-2011 Thermopylae Stadium Temp: 40 Wind: 0-10 None MVP: **Chris Johnson**

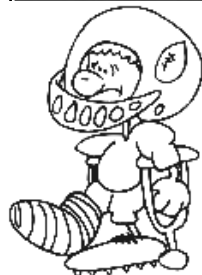
1 8:40 Pickering	TD Johnson 5 run (Scobee) (11-75-6:13)	0-7
1 5:10 Virden	FG Tynes 48 (8-50-3:26)	3-7
2 3:13 Virden	FG Tynes 47 (11-64-5:06)	6-7
2 1:10 Virden	TD Manning 5 pass to Kuhn (Tynes) (4-18-1:21)	13-7
3 4:56 Pickering	TD Jennings 11 run (Scobee) (2-31-0:48)	13-14
4 12:35 Virden	TD Blount 14 run (2 - failed) (8-56-4:10)	19-14
4 1:51 Pickering	TD Webb 4 pass to Lewis (2 - Johnson) (12-50-6:26)	19-22

	VV	PIC
First Downs	16	16
Rushes	15-39	41-179
Passes	41-27-273	20-14-111
Sacked	0-0	0-0
Fumble	0	1
Penalties	5-32	5-32
Turnovers	3	1
Time	27:39	32:21
Third Down	4-10	5-15
Fourth Down	0-0	2-3
Red Att/Td/Fg	2/2/0	3/3/0
Net Offense	312	290

## INJURIES

VIRDEN – None

PICKERING – Matt Cassel (1 game-QUESTIONABLE);  
Jerome Simpson (11 games)



## QUOTE OF THE GAME

"Joe came through for us like \_\_\_\_\_ did for the Spartans at Thermopylae." – Pickering coach, **Gus Konstantakos**.

# DINOS TAKE AWAY GAME FROM HELLFIRE!



**MOHAVE  
HELLFIRE**

**14**

**37**

**DURHAM THUNDER  
LIZARDS**



**HELL PLAYER OF THE GAME**

**Daniel Thomas**  
13 carries, 75 yards, 1 TD

Team	1	2	3	4	OT	Total
<b>MOHAVE (1-8)</b>	7	0	7	0	-	14
<b>DURHAM (6-3)</b>	3	14	7	13	-	37

**LIZARD OF THE GAME**

**Philip Rivers**  
12 of 17 for 152 yards, 2 TDs

**HIGHLIGHT REEL:** Michael Turner gained 79 yards on 19 carries and Michael Bush gained 53 yards and scored a TD on 8 carries.

- **Dwayne Bowe** made 5 receptions for 75 yards and 2 TDs.
- **Dominique Rodgers-Cromartie** made his league-leading 4<sup>th</sup> pick and returned it 67 yards to set up a TD in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter.
- Hellfire QB, **Matt Schaub** went 14 of 27 for 169 yards and 1 INT.
- **Mike Tolbert** carried the ball 20 times for 78 yards and a TD.
- **Terrell Owens** had 5 catches for 80 yards while Hakeem Nicks also had 5 catches for 51 yards to lead the Mohave receivers.

**GAME SUMMARY:** For the sixth time this season, the Hellfire scored first. Riding **Matt Schaub's** 6 for 8 for 53 yards performance, Mohave penetrated the Durham red zone, where 3 straight runs by **Mike Tolbert**, the last one for 10 yards and a TD, concluded their opening drive with the Hellfire in front 7-0. The Thunder Lizards responded with 24 unanswered points, beginning with a modest 29-yard field goal by **Adam Vinatieri** then taking the lead on a 31-yard TD run by **Michael Bush** on a draw that caught the Hellfire in a blitz with 6 defensive backs on the field. Mohave drove back down the field and were threatening in the Durham red zone when **Adrian Wilson** zeroed in on **Mike Tolbert** and stripped the ball. It was picked up by **Curtis Lofton** and returned 35 yards to mid-field. Mohave challenged the play but the ruling was upheld and the Dinosaurs quickly jogged up the field, powered by a 20-yard pass from **Philip Rivers** to **Vernon Davis**, to set up **Tim Tebow** for a 9-yard TD scramble, his 4<sup>th</sup> rushing TD of the season, to make the score 17-7 for Durham at half time. After an opening three-and-out by the Durham offence, the Hellfire looked to get back in the game in a hurry. After crossing mid-field, Schaub went deep to **Hakeem Nicks** but **Dominique Rodgers-Cromartie** had the inside angle and picked the pass cleanly, returning it 67 yards to the Mohave 10 yard line. It took one play for Rivers to find **Dwayne Bowe** open for a 10-yard catch-and-run TD and suddenly the Lizards were in front 24-7. A 34-yard pass to **Terrell Owens** on 4<sup>th</sup> and 10 at mid-field kept Mohave's hopes alive and set up a 7-yard TD run by **Daniel Thomas** to pull within 10 points in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter. But a failed 4<sup>th</sup> down convert and a lost fumble set up Durham for 10 easy 4<sup>th</sup> quarter points and the Lizards cruised to victory.



**THE FANS LOVED**

Dominique R-C's 67-yd INT return

**THE FANS HATED**

3 Mohave turnovers



**FAN RATING**

★ 1/2

11-29-2011 Jurassic Park Temp: 73 Wind: Calm None MVP: Dwayne Bowe

1 8:12 Mohave	TD Tolbert 10 run (Bironas) (12-73-6:40)	7-0
1 2:14 Durham	FG Vinatieri 29 (13-53-5:47)	7-3
2 10:46 Durham	TD Bush 31 run (Vinatieri) (8-79-3:52)	7-10
2 0:31 Durham	TD Tebow 9 run (Vinatieri) (8-50-3:53)	7-17
3 10:32 Durham	TD Rivers 10 pass to Bowe (Vinatieri) (1-10-0:07)	7-24
3 3:30 Mohave	TD Thomas 7 run (Bironas) (14-62-6:55)	14-24
4 13:45 Durham	FG Vinatieri 34 (9-52-4:32)	14-27
4 9:07 Durham	TD Rivers 15 pass to Bowe (Vinatieri) (5-42-2:57)	14-34
4 4:53 Durham	FG Vinatieri 25 (6-19-3:34)	14-37

	MOH	DTL
First Downs	19	16
Rushes	35-157	32-146
Passes	27-14-169	17-12-152
Sacked	1-8	0-0
Fumble	2	2
Penalties	7-46	1-15
Turnovers	3	0
Time	33:15	26:45
Third Down	8-14	7-11
Fourth Down	3-4	0-0
Red Att/Td/Fg	3/2/0	6/3/3
Net Offense	318	298

**INJURIES**

MOHAVE – Champ Bailey (1 game-OUT)

DURHAM – Jason Jones (1 game -PROBABLE)



**QUOTE OF THE GAME**

“Durham took advantage of opportunities and showed aggression, but don't you get the feeling that there's something seriously wrong with their opponent?” – Durham radio announcer, **Gip Vance**, after the game.



# PATS HALT SKID, DUMP STARS!



**MARKHAM  
NORTH STARS**

**9**

**35**

**CHARLESWOOD  
PATRIOTS**



## NORTH STAR OF THE GAME

**Joseph Addai**

22 carries, 89 yards

Team	1	2	3	4	OT	Total
<b>MARKHAM (3-6)</b>	0	6	3	0	-	9
<b>CHARLESWOOD (6-3)</b>	7	14	0	14	-	35

## PATRIOT OF THE GAME

**Peyton Manning**

22 of 31, 266 yds, 1 INT, 2 TDs

## HIGHLIGHT REEL:

**Adrian Peterson** gained 131 yards and scored 3 TDs on 27 carries.

- **Jason Witten** caught 9 passes for 81 yards and 2 TDs and **Jacoby Jones** caught 6 passes for 116 yards to lead the Pats' receivers.
- Pats' outside linebacker, **Jon Beason** made 8 tackles and deflected 3 passes to lead the defence.
- North Stars' QB, **Mark Sanchez** completed 14 of 29 for 148 yards for a game day QB rating of 63.6.
- Running back **Jahvid Best** added to his team-leading reception total with 5 catches for 36 yards.
- Inside linebacker **Takeo Spikes** made 8 tackles, deflected a pass, stuffed a run and forced a fumble to star for Markham's defence.

**GAME SUMMARY:** The Patriots' offence charged out of the gate on their first possession with a no-nonsense 62-yard TD drive on six plays that **Adrian Peterson** finished off with runs of 13 and 8 yards for a TD to give Charleswood a 7-0 lead in the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter. An interception in Pats' territory by Markham linebacker, **Akeem Ayers** allowed the North Stars to get on the board with a 28-yard field goal by **David Akers** to open the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter. **Mike Goodson** was held to 14 yards on the ensuing kick return giving the Pats poor field position to start, but **Stylez G White** was flagged for taking Peterson down by the facemask on the first play from scrimmage, then **Peyton Manning** found **Jason Avant** for a 16-yard completion to land his team at mid-field. Another personal foul, roughing the passer against **Chris Long**, gave the Pats another 15-yard freebie and, after **Jason Witten** recovered a Peterson fumble at the Markham 21, the Pats' star tight end finished off the drive 3 plays with a 6-yard TD reception that made it 14-3 for Charleswood. A 49-yard pass from **Mark Sanchez** to **Titus Young** on Markham's next possession brought them out of their end and into Pats' territory; but after an 8-yard 1<sup>st</sup> down run by **Joseph Addai** the drive stalled at the Patriots' 9 yard line, bringing Akers on for another field goal to close the gap to 8 points. That would be the closest the North stars would get. Charleswood replied with another long drive, covering 81 yards in 10 plays and concluding with Peterson busting free off left tackle for a 9-yard TD and a 21-6 lead at half time. Starting deep in their end to begin the 2<sup>nd</sup> half, the Pats coughed up the ball when **Chris Hope** forced a Goodson fumble at the 33 yard line, setting up yet another Markham field goal. But field goals would not be nearly enough to allow the North Stars to keep pace with the resurgent Pats' offence. The Pats finished strong with 2 4<sup>th</sup> quarter TDs to complete the blowout and easily earn their 6<sup>th</sup> win.



## THE FANS LOVED

Peterson and Manning in top form

## THE FANS HATED

Markham 'O' back to old form



## FAN RATING

★ ½

12-02-2011 Patriot Place Temp: 75 Wind: MVP: **Peyton Manning**

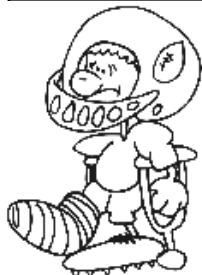
1 9:23	Charleswood	TD Peterson 8 run (Gostkowski) (6-62-3:39)	0-7
2 14:44	Markham	FG Akers 28 (7-14-2:30)	3-7
2 9:47	Charleswood	TD Manning 6 pass to Witten (Gostkowski) (9-71-4:45)	3-14
2 4:35	Markham	FG Akers 27 (10-77-5:03)	6-14
2 0:56	Charleswood	TD Peterson 9 run (Gostkowski) (10-81-3:34)	6-21
3 7:44	Markham	FG Akers 24 (9-27-4:25)	9-21
4 11:47	Charleswood	TD Peterson 1 run (Gostkowski) (12-62-6:23)	9-28
4 3:22	Charleswood	TD Manning 7 pass to Witten (Gostkowski) (9-79-5:03)	9-35

	MAR	CHP
First Downs	12	26
Rushes	29-113	30-131
Passes	29-14-148	31-22-266
Sacked	1-7	0-0
Fumble	1	2
Penalties	7-73	3-18
Turnovers	0	2
Time	28:39	31:21
Third Down	5-15	7-11
Fourth Down	2-2	0-0
Red Att/Td/Fg	3/0/3	5/5/0
Net Offense	254	397

## INJURIES

MARKHAM – None

CHARLESWOOD – Marques Colston (2 games)



## QUOTE OF THE GAME

"This was a good bounce-back game for our offence. We overcame some mistakes against an underrated defence." *Patriot coach, Jason Findlay.*

## EFL STANDINGS

East	W	L	T	Pct	Pts	Ave	Opp	Ave	Diff	Home	Div	Conf
Charleswood	6	3	0	0.667	188	20.9	176	19.6	1.3	3 1 0	3 0 0	4 1 0
York	3	6	0	0.333	152	16.9	208	23.1	-6.2	1 4 0	1 2 0	2 3 0
Viriden	2	7	0	0.222	130	14.4	183	20.3	-5.9	2 2 0	2 1 0	2 3 0
Mohave	1	8	0	0.111	134	14.9	233	25.9	-11	1 3 0	0 3 0	0 5 0
West	W	L	T	Pct	Pts	Ave	Opp	Ave	Diff	Home	Div	Conf
Los Angeles	8	1	0	0.889	233	25.9	113	12.6	13.3	5 0 0	3 0 0	5 0 0
Death Valley	5	4	0	0.556	229	25.4	241	26.8	-1.3	2 3 0	2 1 0	3 2 0
Chino	4	5	0	0.444	162	18	134	14.9	3.1	3 2 0	0 3 0	1 4 0
Iowa City	3	6	0	0.333	187	20.8	205	22.8	-2	2 2 0	1 2 0	3 2 0
North	W	L	T	Pct	Pts	Ave	Opp	Ave	Diff	Home	Div	Conf
Pickering	8	1	0	0.889	236	26.2	156	17.3	8.9	4 0 0	2 1 0	4 1 0
Cowtown	7	2	0	0.778	267	29.7	136	15.1	14.6	4 1 0	2 1 0	3 2 0
Durham	6	3	0	0.667	227	25.2	163	18.1	7.1	4 0 0	1 2 0	3 2 0
Markham	3	6	0	0.333	125	13.9	185	20.6	-6.7	2 2 0	1 2 0	1 4 0
South	W	L	T	Pct	Pts	Ave	Opp	Ave	Diff	Home	Div	Conf
Scarborough	6	3	0	0.667	191	21.2	170	18.9	2.3	3 2 0	3 0 0	4 1 0
Gwinnett	6	3	0	0.667	212	23.6	172	19.1	4.4	2 3 0	2 1 0	4 1 0
Garland	2	7	0	0.222	91	10.1	197	21.9	-11.8	1 4 0	1 2 0	1 4 0
South Carolina	2	7	0	0.222	131	14.6	223	24.8	-10.2	1 3 0	0 3 0	0 5 0

## PASSING

			Att	Cmp	C%	Yards	In	I%	Lg	TD	TD%	Rate
1	Flacco	COW	290	189	65.2	2217	5	1.7	64	20	6.9	104.1
2	Brees	DVU	278	186	66.9	2114	6	2.2	81	18	6.5	102.1
3	Newton	CHI	124	81	65.3	792	1	0.8	51	6	4.8	95.9
4	Freeman	LAK	282	181	64.2	1834	4	1.4	65	16	5.7	95.7
5	Roethlisberger	GWG	149	88	59.1	1087	3	2	78	9	6	93.4
6	Cassel	PIC	144	74	51.4	1174	3	2.1	78	8	5.6	88.7
7	Campbell, J	SC	256	167	65.2	1729	4	1.6	52	8	3.1	88.5
8	Rodgers	SBE	247	157	63.6	1565	2	0.8	41	6	2.4	86.2
9	Rivers, P	DTL	252	159	63.1	1943	9	3.6	62	9	3.6	83.8
10	Schaub	MOH	279	173	62	1845	6	2.2	53	6	2.2	79.5
11	Manning, P	CHP	299	195	65.2	1962	10	3.3	56	8	2.7	78.8
12	Brady, T	YOR	280	160	57.1	1610	3	1.1	88	6	2.1	76.3
13	Bradford	ICC	250	137	54.8	1844	9	3.6	56	8	3.2	74.2
14	Ryan, M	GDM	328	201	61.3	2004	8	2.4	61	4	1.2	72.5
15	Sanchez	MAR	192	101	52.6	1148	6	3.1	55	3	1.6	63.0
16	Manning, E	VV	295	178	60.3	2210	22	7.5	91	9	3.1	62.7
17	Cutler	CHI	114	70	61.4	566	6	5.3	73	0	0	52.0
18	Young, V	GWG	88	55	62.5	647	1	1.1	48	6	6.8	102.8
19	Tebow	DTL	7	3	42.9	31	0	0	26	3	42.9	95.8

## RUSHING

			Att	Yds	Ave	Lg	TD				Att	Yds	Ave	Lg	TD
1	Foster, A	ICC	200	1063	5.3	72	7	11	Rice, R	SBE	145	476	3.3	38	1
2	Peterson, A	CHP	175	879	5	74	9	12	Jacobs, B	YOR	96	459	4.8	59	8
3	Johnson, C	PIC	200	837	4.2	58	8	13	McFadden, D	YOR	99	450	4.5	39	5
4	Charles	LAK	137	715	5.2	19	5	14	Tolbert	MOH	120	440	3.7	31	5
5	Jones-Drew	COW	157	709	4.5	29	3	15	Mendenhall	DVU	137	426	3.1	21	3
6	McCoy, L	GWG	116	623	5.4	40	3	16	Jones, F	SC	88	387	4.4	29	4
7	Jackson, S	CHI	169	594	3.5	47	2	17	Jackson, B	COW	66	369	5.6	42	2
8	Ivory	MOH	107	552	5.2	44	1	18	Addai	MAR	104	346	3.3	25	1
9	Turner, M	DTL	131	548	4.2	78	2	19	Jennings, R	PIC	46	329	7.2	37	3
10	Bradshaw	GWG	122	516	4.2	20	2	20	Forte	GDM	76	321	4.2	59	1

## RECEIVING

			No	Yds	Ave	Lg	TD				No	Yds	Ave	Lg	TD
1	White, R	LAK	70	692	9.9	33	7	11	Fitzgerald	ICC	41	418	10.2	35	1
2	Witten	CHP	54	539	10	22	6	12	Colston	CHP	40	406	10.2	38	0
3	Moss, S	COW	50	774	15.5	64	10	13	Welker	GDM	39	432	11.1	42	0
4	Bowe	DTL	47	663	14.1	49	8	14	McCoy, L	GWG	39	399	10.2	48	1
5	Wayne	GWG	47	710	15.1	47	9	15	Owens, T	MOH	39	374	9.6	34	1
6	Bryant, D	VV	46	660	14.3	51	4	16	Miller, Z	COW	39	480	12.3	52	5
7	Edwards, B	DVU	46	615	13.4	81	3	17	Royal, E	GDM	38	348	9.2	18	0
8	Thomas, M	VV	43	646	15	91	2	18	Gonzalez	LAK	38	340	8.9	29	5
9	Watson, B	MOH	43	463	10.8	52	4	19	Jennings, G	SC	38	492	12.9	41	5
10	Cooley	SC	43	356	8.3	34	0	20	Keller	GDM	37	417	11.3	48	2

## TACKLES

1	Barber, R	PIC	87	8	Timmons	YOR	67	15	Dansby	GDM	58
2	Mayo	DVU	86	9	Urlacher	YOR	64	16	Johnson, D	COW	58
3	Lewis, R	DVU	83	10	Brackett	VV	63	17	Atogwe	PIC	58
4	Henderson, EJ	SC	83	11	Laurinaitis	GWG	63	18	Cole, T	MAR	57
5	Beason	CHP	73	12	Posluszny	VV	63	19	Dorsey	SC	57
6	Willis, P	ICC	72	13	Jones, D	MOH	61	20	Williams, D	GWG	56
7	Whitner	ICC	70	14	Ruud	CHI	59	21	Spikes, T	MAR	56



## KICKING

			FGA	FGM	FG%	40	50	Lg	Pts
1	Brown, J	GWG	26	23	88.5	8	1	53	86
2	Mare	COW	19	17	89.5	4	0	49	81
3	Carpenter, D	LAK	19	17	89.5	4	1	55	77
4	Vinatieri	DTL	20	17	85	4	0	43	75
5	Janikowski	SBE	22	17	77.3	8	3	55	71
6	Cundiff	CHI	20	19	95	6	1	55	70
7	Kasay	DVU	16	14	87.5	7	2	52	67
8	Scobee	PIC	16	13	81.3	3	0	48	66
9	Rackers	ICC	23	16	69.6	8	5	56	65
10	Akers	MAR	17	16	94.1	2	0	46	59
11	Bironas	MOH	13	12	92.3	2	0	48	50
12	Gould	GDM	18	14	77.8	4	1	53	49
13	Tynes	VV	18	11	61.1	4	2	58	46
14	Gano	YOR	8	6	75	2	1	50	36
15	Kaeding	SC	12	8	66.7	2	0	44	33
16	Gostkowski	CHP	7	5	71.4	2	0	45	30
17	Rayner	CHP	4	4	100	0	0	30	20
18	Buehler	SC	1	0	0	0	0	0	4

## INTERCEPTIONS

			No	Yds	Ave	Lg	TD			No	Yds	Ave	Lg	TD	
1	Rodgers-Crom	DTL	4	158	39.5	67	1	11	Bullitt	CHP	2	99	49.5	76	1
2	Godfrey	COW	3	45	15	38	1	12	Ayers	MAR	2	7	3.5	4	0
3	Williams, T	COW	3	45	15	30	1	13	Atogwe	PIC	2	60	30	60	1
4	Tillman	MAR	3	70	23.3	43	0	14	Mauluga	VV	2	84	42	71	0
5	Winfield	MAR	3	58	19.3	34	1	15	Harris, D	PIC	2	6	3	6	0
6	Cason	PIC	3	26	8.7	26	0	16	Jones, S	COW	2	49	24.5	49	0
7	Haden	PIC	3	80	26.7	52	1	17	Peppers	CHI	2	0	0	0	0
8	Polamalu	GWG	3	27	9	14	0	18	Talib	CHI	2	72	36	55	1
9	Florence	YOR	2	20	10	20	0	19	Moore, W	DVU	2	0	0	0	0
10	Thomas, T	COW	2	37	18.5	37	1	20	Clements	DVU	2	2	1	2	0

## SACKS

1	Woodley	SBE	8	8	Orakpo	LAK	5	15	Anderson, M	COW	4
2	Matthews, C	DVU	7	9	Cole, T	MAR	5	16	Suh	SBE	4
3	Edwards, R	PIC	6	10	Tuck	SBE	5	17	Suggs	SBE	4
4	Umenyiora	LAK	6	11	Abraham	CHP	5	18	Williams, M	ICC	4
5	Ware, D	DVU	6	12	Mathis, R	GWG	5	19	Hampton	GWG	4
6	Allen, J	DTL	5	13	Raji	LAK	4	20	Harrison, J	CHI	4
7	Houston, L	DTL	5	14	Vanden Bos	PIC	4	21	Williams, D	GWG	4



# AROUND THE



*With Spats McChad*

COLUMBIA, S.C. – I couldn't take it anymore. Millicent is a wonderful old woman but, as often is the case with the very old, still mobile and in retention of their faculties, she considers me much younger than I am. In fact, she probably thinks I am about 10 years old, judging from her tone and demeanour. I am sure that, intellectually, she is aware that I am a grown man with a good job, perfect hair and a 'Tag Heuer' watch; but emotionally she regards me as a child in need of protection. While I was sick, I was a captive of this Stalinist 'Mother Theresa' who fed me chicken soup until I could take no more. I was forced to conceal bowl after bowl and dump it in the toilet. My innumerable trips to the washroom drew her too kind attention and, thinking I had diarrhea, she fed me cups of raw potato juice, an old home remedy from the days of the pioneers. On top of the smothering mothering I was getting, *Mr. Abbott* decided that he missed me and spent most of the day on my bed or following me wherever I might go, kneading me with his claws and going 'meow' all day and all night.

So, as soon as I felt half the man I felt before suffering a recurrence of my HULD, I picked up the phone and called Mr. Finchley. "Oh, now you surface, you goddamn, anarchist!" Mr. Finchley barked before I'd even had a chance to say hello (oh, the advantages of call display!). "I've been trying to call you to tell you, you're fired!"

"Fired?" I gasped. "But, Mr. Finchley, I can explain!"

A roar of hoarse laughter erupted on the other end, "I'm only joking, McChad! You're not fired... yet! But you will be if you get convicted of assaulting that Police Officer, you closet Commie!"

I protested my innocence but it fell on callous, deaf ears. Mr. Finchley was Old School – he had survived the McCarthy years as a junior mail boy in the news room and knew how to operate in the world of blood politics. You could not afford to get caught giving the benefit of the doubt to anyone accused of subversive behaviour in his day, even if that person had not yet been convicted. If he hadn't done something, the Police wouldn't have charged him – that was what Mr. Finchley thought of "innocent until proven guilty." The only thing separating me from a pink slip at that moment were modern labour laws that would have made it more expensive for the company to prematurely fire me than to wait a few months until the charge had made its way through the courts.

After enduring a torrent of not-so-good-natured abuse, I finally asked for an assignment to get me out of New York for a while.

"That's a great idea, McChad, and I have an assignment in mind. I want you to chronicle the Knights' quest for perfection in a series of weekly articles called, *'Quest for the Holy Grail – in Search of 16-0,'*" he intoned unevenly in his gravelly voice. "The Knights are in South Carolina this week, it should be a real slaughter. There will be a ticket to Columbia at the airport with your name on it. Now go earn a real living, you freeloading socialist fairy!"

## **SOUTHERN COMFORT**

I arrived in Columbia, the State Capital of South Carolina, on the morning of game day with my Media Pass, my laptop, and a carry-on bag with toiletries and an extra pair of underwear. Not much baggage if I found myself stranded, as I had in Scarborough, but I did not intend to stay long in this town one way or the other. Forgive me for missing it, but I have yet to witness this so-called 'Southern Hospitality' in my trips to the Deep South. Sure, everyone in the tourist industry smiles lots and speaks in that sweet, musical Southern drawl; but they charge you for everything and don't have much patience if you question the bill or criticize the food. If you stray off the beaten path, the ubiquitous Southern Male with the over-sized ball cap and the firearm, either on his person or very close by, will size you up as if trying to decide whether or not to challenge you to a wrestle or shoot you outright. The Civil War is still fresh in the minds of many folks here as much of the city was burned by Union troops in the dying days of that conflict, and it doesn't help that I am a Yankee, and a "God damned" one at that.

Self-conscious of my Northern pedigree and concerned that my high-brow, elitist humour might be misinterpreted in the land that King Cotton built, I kept a low profile as I made my way through the city to Williams-Brice Stadium, home of the South Carolina Gamecocks and, very recently, the South Carolina Regulators of the EFL. The place was bustling and the atmosphere infused with the aroma of ribs on the BBQ several hours before game time. The tail-gate crowd was into it



Darth Vader, in happier days, welcoming the deceased Al Davis to the Graveyard following the NFL Legend's sudden passing. Davis, an 'After-Life' season ticket holder at the Graveyard, has been as critical in death as he was in life about coach's performance and had taken aim at Vader as being more suited for Galactic Domination than leading an EFL defence.

with an enthusiasm that belied the 1-7 record of their team. It was a collegial atmosphere that, I am sure, was because so many Gamecocks fans were there and still riding the high of their team's 34-13 pasting of Clemson in the regular season finale.

I admit I was taken in by the energy, both in and around the stadium. I hope that the Regulators' new home, the Carolina Slammer, being built on the opposite end of the city and due to open in 2012, can attract the same character and tradition as the traditional home of the Gamecocks.

I set myself up in the Media Gallery as inconspicuously as possible and settled in to watch the game. Coincidentally, I was seated next to **Johnny Rebb**, Regulator columnist for The State, South Carolina's largest newspaper. He kept shooting me looks, but I pretended not to notice. Finally, he turned to me and asked, "Don't I know you from somewhere?"

"Probably not," I replied tersely, avoiding

his gaze.

"Yes, I do know you from somewhere!" he yelled, slapping his leg. "You're **Spats McChad**, the football columnist from New York! Come to watch the upset of the year, have ya?"

As soon as Johnny said "New York," there was a noticeable dip in the decibel level in the Press Gallery. There was no New York team in the EFL and, if there wasn't a New York playing, why would there be a writer from New York in Columbia? A Yankee! Several local journalists looked up from their computer screens and keyboards to take notice, not bothering to conceal their suspicion and aversion. Suddenly, out of the silence a bright, feminine voice cut through the air, "Spats, *darling*, so nice to see you!"

It was **Gabriele Laurent-Vainluven**, Knights' columnist, fashion consultant and, right now, my very good friend. She jetted across the room, inserted herself between me and **Johnny Rebb**, and fixed me with an intense but fleeting gaze, "Spats, whatever brings you to this...*place*?" she asked.

"I'm following *your* team on its road to a perfect season," I answered, "it's a brand new assignment."

Gabby was overjoyed at the prospect of keeping me company over the course of the Knights' victory run, which looked like it would last at least one more week until the big test in Pickering in Week Ten. Everyone thought the same thing, with the possible exception of **Johnny Rebb**, who seemed to have this crazy faith in the Regulators' ability to pull off an upset.

"Listen, Spats, I know you think you know everything, but admit it: you haven't really been paying attention to this team. I'm telling you, they're going to surprise some people in the second half of the season," **Johnny Rebb** lectured me as if I had never seen a minute of video or followed this squad in its previous incarnation as the Kutztown Golden Bears. Finally, I'd had enough of Johnny Rebb getting in my face and told him to mind his own business and let me concentrate on the game.

Well, after watching this game I am willing to concede that I know nothing about football. I think all of us in the media need to acknowledge it - we are all guessing and don't really know what we're talking about when we weigh in with our "analysis." Now, my colleagues like **Johnny Rebb** will accuse me of exaggerating or say, "Speak for yourself, Spats! I know what *I'm* talking about - I called it!" Perhaps I am exaggerating somewhat - but there is truth to the old adage, "*you never know*" and if you doubt *that*, take a look at the final score.

In what appeared would be a certain win for **Los Angeles**, with only minor disagreement over the spread getting in the way of a unanimous consensus, the **South Carolina Regulators** shocked the football world with a 17-7 victory over the previously undefeated Knights. They did it without much of their defence and without their starting quarterback. They did it the old-fashioned way - with hard work, a sound game plan and belief in themselves. They also got some help from a complacent LA squad that lost three key starters to injury during the game and did not bring the kind of intensity into Williams-Brice Stadium that they have in their previous contests. But when **Frank Gore** turned a short hitch into a 47-yard TD reception to give the Regulators a 17-7 lead, the team that celebrated looked ten feet taller than the other. In that moment there were no standings, graphs or rankings - just football players celebrating the *game* in all its brutal, unpredictable, glory.



### **SHAKE-UP IN DEATH VALLEY**

Death Valley defensive coordinator, **Darth Vader**, had accused the league's Competition Committee of discriminating against the Undertakers by prohibiting "lethal force" in the league's by-law. League officials had been concerned when word reached them that Vader had been experimenting in the early pre-season with micro-wave cannons and electro-magnetic "shock" pads to disable opposing running backs and wide receivers. The league was forced to act when a rumour surfaced that Vader had implanted a laser in **Jerod Mayo's** helmet that had been used to temporarily blind 5th-string practice squad quarterback, **Thaddeus Lewis** during a scrimmage. Although the laser has since disappeared and Lewis has never accused the Undertakers of deliberately injuring him, suspicions that something sinister was happening at the Graveyard were heightened when it was noticed that Death Valley had 15 quarterbacks on their pre-season roster, all but four of them hand-picked by the Defensive Coordinator, Vader. Was this group selected to be guinea pigs for this space-born Dr. Mengele's hideous experiments?

We may never know for certain, but when the league confronted Death Valley management about "alarming practices" that had come to its attention, Vader became very defensive and challenged the league's Rules By-law, that did not, apparently, include specific prohibitions against gadgets, weapons, and lethal force options to stop an opponent from getting a first down. "It's not against the rules!" Vader apparently hissed in anger. Thus, absurd as it seems, the league was forced to hurriedly draft and pass a raft of regulations prohibiting things like 'lightsabers,' 'phasers,' 'neutron propulsion beams,' particle accelerators,' 'powered armour,' flying robots,' 'mind control devices,' 'lasers,' and 'doomsday machines,' not to mention a list of over one thousand more conventional weapons including throwing stars and bowie knives.

Bereft of his arsenal, Vader had to move to Plan 'B,' which apparently involved advanced mind-over-matter experiments in telekinesis using his 'Fearsome Foursome' - **Jerod Mayo, Ray Lewis, Clay Matthews** and **DeMarcus Ware** – as his prize pupils. To much excitement within the organization, the results of these teachings were unveiled in Week Nine against Scarborough. In order to stop the Blue Eagles, Vader dialed up several "*Mind-Blitzes*," the first of which occurred in the 2nd quarter with the score tied 10-10. The Undertakers were in their 'Death Grip' formation (a standard 3-4 by any other team) and Vader called a "*Full Mind Blitz*," which meant all four linebackers were involved. The ball was snapped and **Aaron Rodgers** took a seven-step drop, clearly preparing to go deep. It would have been an ideal situation for a real blitz, but instead, the Death Valley linebackers remained in place behind the line, not moving a muscle except to place their fingers to their temples and thrust their heads slightly forward to stare at the quarterback. Rodgers hit a wide open **Brandon Marshall** for a 21-yard pass play that kick-started what would turn out to be the winning touchdown drive. Eight plays later, Vader dialed up a "*Hybrid Mind Blitz 3*," which called for one linebacker to physically blitz, while the remainder applied the mind-over-matter techniques. Rodgers dropped back while **Clay Matthews** came charging and was picked up by **Heath Miller**. The remaining linebackers stood in place, their fingers to their temples again but this time thrusting their heads even more forward as they stared even more intently at Rodgers, who calmly threw a laser into the hands of **DeSean Jackson** for a 16-yard gain.

When the "*Hybrid Mind Blitz 2*" appeared to play the key role in allowing **Brandon Marshall** to be all alone for the go-ahead TD pass, Death Valley coach, **Chris Worthley** had seen enough. He grabbed the playbook from **Darth Vader** and relieved him of his duties on the spot. Vader was incensed and began to apply his infamous Force Choke on Worthley, who calmly placed a reflective neck guard around his throat and said to Vader, "you don't think I would have hired you if I wasn't capable of firing you!" At that moment, **Obi-Wan Kenobi** appeared next to Worthley, forcing Vader to retreat. "Very well, Worthley, have it your way! You will regret this decision! Some team will hire me and I promise you that my revenge will be very, very unpleasant for you!"

### **AROUND THE EFL**

A deluge of rain in Garland was what it took to slow down **Arian Foster** and make a difference in the outcome. With no running game to slow down, the Mustangs relied on **Matt Ryan** to outduel **Sam Bradford** and the Garland QB came through with a season-high 359-yard passing day to lead his team to a narrow 13-10 victory over the Cubs.

**Cam Newton** was contained and the Convicts went nowhere for the first time since the rookie took over the starting job from **Jay Cutler** in a 17-3 loss to Gwinnett. Can the rookie stand up to the league's top defences? It's a question to ponder.

The Spartans survived another early exit by **Matt Cassel** with another 100+ yard performance by **Chris Johnson**. Backup QB, **Joe Webb** threw a pick, but also threw a TD pass in overcoming the Violators, 22-19.

The Pats put Markham back in their place with a 35-9 shellacking at Patriot Place, allowing Pats fans to fantasize about a Championship for at least another week.

Durham flexed its muscles against the dysfunctional Hellfire, forcing three turnovers to turn what might have been a close game into another joke at Mohave's expense.

**Tom Brady** fell off the wagon a mere week after posting a season-best performance in Week Eight. The Excaliburs could get nothing started in a 38-14 loss to Cowtown, partly due to the Corn Kings playing sound football and partly due to poor execution by Brady and running back, **Darren McFadden**. After falling behind 7-0, Cowtown exploded for 24 points in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter and added 14 more in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter before Brady woke up. Is Cowtown for real, or is York surreal?

# BUG THE BOOKIE!

JIMMY THE GEEK GIVES YOU HIS PICKS  
FOR WEEK TEN EFL ACTION



## JIMMY'S Week TEN PICKS

### **CHARLESWOOD @ SOUTH CAROLINA (line – PATS by 3)**

Coming off a stunning upset of the previously undefeated Knights, the Regulators are feeling confident they can match the Patriots score for score on their home turf. Jason Campbell has played well in place of the injured Tony Romo and the rest of the offence is healthy for the first time since Week One. The secondary is still missing two starters, but that is less of a concern after the fine performance of the back-ups last week against LA. The Pats are coming off a feel-good mauling of the North Stars that has everybody talking Championship again in Charleswood. Ed Reed is finally back, giving Pats fans another reason to celebrate the future. Both teams have a disturbing tendency to give the ball away, which leads to unpredictability. The Pats should be able to cover based on their talent, but don't underestimate South Carolina's capacity to strike fast from any area of the field. A little luck for the resurging home team could make a big difference in the outcome. **PICK: SOUTH CAROLINA**

### **SCARBOROUGH @ MOHAVE (line – BLUE EAGLES by 3)**

The Blue Eagles are under-performing both offensively and defensively but still cling by a talon to first place in the South Division. The Hellfire are, arguably, the biggest under-performers in the league and have a 1-8 record to show for it. The Scarborough offence made use of the porous Death Valley defence to raise its game last week and post 30 points for the first time since Week One against South Carolina. Now they have another opportunity to pad their stats against a defence that ranks last against the run and 15<sup>th</sup> overall in efficiency. Mohave's playoff hopes are practically dead after nine games, but faint hope remains if they can go on seven-game winning streak starting against the most talent-deep team in the league. Expect turnovers to kill the Hellfire. **PICK: SCARBOROUGH**

### **GARLAND @ VIRDEN (line – VIOLATORS by 6)**

The Mustangs got a rare win in a rain storm last week at The Corral when Matt Ryan proved more adept at fighting the elements than his young counterpart, Sam Bradford. This week there will be no rain, just the prickly thistle-studded grass of the *TERRORDOME* and a Garland running game that has no traction in any weather. The Mustangs are averaging just 62 yards per game rushing while the Violators rank third in run defence efficiency, meaning it will be another one-dimensional effort for the Garland offence. The Virden offence, under Eli Manning, is leading the league in passing yards but they are also leading by a country mile in interceptions with 22. Their running game is a mere two ranks above Garland's, so they too will be flinging the pigskin. In an aerial battle like the one shaping up here I'll take the guy who protects the ball better and I'll also go out on a limb and predict that Ryan gets some rare help from his running backs. **PICK: GARLAND**

### **GWINNETT @ YORK (line – GLADIATORS by 2)**

With their lockdown of the Convicts last week, the Gladiators' defence jumped five spots to take over sole possession of the league's #1 ranking in defensive efficiency. LeSean McCoy is getting better each week in both phases and Big Ben is finally starting to look comfortable in the black, red and gold. This is all very bad news for a York team that took two steps backwards last week in a 38-14 embarrassment at Cowtown. Not only did

Darren McFadden fail to follow up on a statement performance against Death Valley, but Tom Brady reverted back to glue-sniffing form at the same time, only cracking the 100-yard passing mark because of a couple of long completions in garbage time. The Yorkies do not match up well against the Gladiators. They must establish the run and hope that Big Ben plays Santa Claus three weeks early to have any hope at all. **PICK: GWINNETT**

### **CHINO @ DURHAM (line – THUNDER LIZARDS by 6)**

The bloom may be starting to come off Cam Newton's rose. Not to diminish his accomplishments to date, but the rookie was exposed last week against a top-ranked defensive unit and questions of his ability to lead the team in the post-season are beginning to be heard in Chino. Jay Cutler made a late appearance last week and pundits wonder if that means a return to the veteran, or was he just mopping up in a lost cause. Regardless of which Chino QB plays, he will have to overcome a challenging Durham secondary that ranks second overall in pass defence. If the Convicts are going to move the ball, they will have to run it first and there will be opportunities to do so against a mediocre Thunder Lizard line. Durham's QB tandem of Philip Rivers and Tim Tebow continues to be successful, but they face a difficult task in scaling the Great Wall of Chino. Watch Steven Jackson come out of his shell and open up room for limited but effective passing in an upset. **Pick: CHINO**

### **LOS ANGELES @ PICKERING (line – SPARTANS by 1)**

For the second consecutive week, questions about Matt Cassel's health leading up to game time plague oddsmakers and opposing defensive coordinators alike. The Spartans' QB is listed as questionable, but if there is any chance at all that he can go, he must. Pickering did a good job improvising the past two weeks against a pair of 2-7 teams when Cassel was knocked out of those games, but against the Knights it will not be so simple. Although it's easy to suggest that LA is losing steam after a torrid start, the combination of humiliation after losing to South Carolina last week and a desire to send a message to a potential opponent in the Championship Game will be enough motivation for Jeff Dohrn's crew. Cassel will sit and LA will stick. **Pick: LOS ANGELES**

### **COWTOWN @ DEATH VALLEY (line – CORN KINGS by 3)**

The league's #2 ranked offence visits the league's 16<sup>th</sup> ranked defence in a mismatch that nobody guessed would be so before the season began. The Corn Kings' offence has come out of nowhere to lead the league in points scored while the 'Fearsome Foursome' in Death Valley has been downgraded to the 'Concerning Quartet.' With the firing of Darth Vader and Chris Worthley taking over the defensive play-calling, a change for the better could be in store, but don't count on it. The Undertakers' defence is set up for failure: they are surrendering huge chunks of yardage because of the blitz, but need to blitz to be effective. If the Cowtown line can hold up under the pressure, Joe Flacco could be destined for another big day. Meanwhile, Death Valley's offence is geared to the passing game, the area of strength for the Corn Kings' defence. The home field advantage could kick in here with miserable weather turning the contest into an arcade game, but don't bet on double points bonus for the Undertakers. **PICK: COWTOWN**

### **IOWA CITY @ MARKHAM (line – Pick'Em)**

The Cubs laid an egg last week in Garland and are looking to get back on the winning track. With Chino back in sub-500 territory and York continuing to struggle, a playoff berth is still a real possibility for Deron Redding's crew if they can live up to their potential. The Cubs lead the league in offensive efficiency but this is mostly due to Arian Foster and Mike Wallace – Sam Bradford is not consistently making the big plays at the critical times. The Cubs need to get more out of their defence and this is a perfect opportunity for them gain some confidence against a Markham offence that, on a good day, "bores" its way down the field at the pace of thawing Arctic permafrost. Markham is tough at the Dawg Pound but they face a foe every bit as gifted in the intangibles of "you-can-do-it" and "never-say-die." **Pick: IOWA CITY**



# EFL FOCUS

A weekly tour of Media from around the EFL. This week we focus on.....

## DEATH VALLEY



## DEATH VALLEY OBITUARY

R.I.P.

The Grim Reaper is well-known as the universal severer of souls and the one responsible for the deaths of every person on the planet. He is also an avid football fan and writes a weekly column for the Death Valley Obituary. Here's his news from the Graveyard.

### VADER OUT!

**DEATH VALLEY** - Death Valley announced the termination of Defensive Coordinator Darth Vader after falling 30-17 to Scarborough. The Undertakers' defence has been downright awful. This should come as a surprise as Vader has been handed some very good pieces. I will agree that it is not a complete defence yet, but it has enough pieces to be at least middle-of-the-road.

The team also announced that Rashad Mendenhall has lost his spot on the roster and will not be re-signed at the end of the season. He had already lost his starting job going into week 9. He was called into duty twice last night and he wasn't prepared either time. Twice on fourth and 1 his number was called to relieve a tired Ryan Mathews. One time he even had to borrow someone else's helmet!! He pouted all night and was unprepared for the moment.

Ryan Mathews, Demarco Murray and Willis McGahee will carry the load the rest of the way and next season while being relieved once in a while by Kendall Hunter.

Ray Lewis and Jarod Mayo will call the defense for the rest of the season, while Owner/GM will continue to call the offensive plays.



### THE FEARSOME FOURSOME

Sources close to the team suggest that Death Valley owner/GM, Chris Worthley, returned from Hell a drastically changed man. Obsessed with the visions he had been shown by an irritated Satan trying to shut him up, Worthley conceived the idea of four "death linebackers" from his first-hand contact with the Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse, who shared a room with Worthley for 5 months. Pictured above, the real horsemen may prove to be far more dangerous than the DV linebackers.