

# WEEK 3



Shooting for the Stars in our 15th Season!

October 24, 2021

# GALLUP-ING HOME!



*Michael Gallup*  
*Chino Convicts*

Convicts' wide receiver, *Michael Gallup* trots home to finish off a thrilling 75-yard pass play in 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter action at the Big House in Chino. Gallup caught a pass from *Dak Prescott* and shook off three tackles on the play, giving his team a 10-3 lead. Chino would go on to beat the Cubs 27-20 but would lose Prescott to injury in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter.

EAST



CENTRAL



WEST



NORTH



COASTAL



SOUTH



Who was slick  
in Week Three?

“Brylcreem” THE  
EFL'S FIRST SPONSOR



Aaron Rodgers  
QB  
Budapest  
North Stars

31 of 37, 450 Yds, 4 TDs. Also ran  
for a TD as Stars shellack Sebastian



Deion Jones  
LB  
Scarborough  
Blue Eagles

17 T, 1 SK, 5 STF, 1 INT (63yds-TD).  
Heroic effort in losing effort vs BRH.


**19**

**Patrick Mahomes** went 4 of 4 for 74 yds on Virden's first drive, finishing with a 5-yard TD pass to **Ezekiel Elliott**. But a penalty, a sack by **Aaron Donald** and a missed 4<sup>th</sup> down attempt at the Derailer's 36 on their next series put on the brakes. Buffalo clawed back to tie it at 10 at the half, with


**24**

**Lamar Jackson** hitting **Auden Tate** for an 11-yard TD pass. **Robert Woods'** 31-yard jet sweep set up an 8-yard TD run by **Devontae Booker** to put Buffalo in front 17-13. Mahomes' fumble on Virden's next series, set up a TD pass to Woods that put Buffalo in the driver's seat and their D held on.

10-23-2021 New Era Stadium Temp:53 Wind:5-15 None | MVP:Jackson HFA:0

	1	2	3	4	Tot
2021 Virden (1-2)	7	3	3	6	19
2021 Buffalo (2-1)	3	7	7	7	24

**Passing**

VV: Mahomes 44/28 356 Yds 2 TDs

BUF: Jackson 29/20 187 Yds 2 TDs

**Rushing**

VV: Elliott 10/41, Mahomes 5/32

BUF: Davis 13/101, Jackson 4/44, Woods 1/31, Johnson 4/13, Schwartz 1/12, Booker 1/8 TD

**Receiving**

VV: Elliott 9/77 TD, Chase 6/103 TD, Davis 5/63, Brown 4/65, Hockenson 3/27

BUF: Sanders 6/84, Tate 5/40 TD, Woods 4/31 TD, Davis 3/17, Fant 2/15

**Defense**

VV: Peters FF 12-Tk

BUF: Mercilus 10-Tk, Donald Sk FF 2-Tk, Williams Sk 4-Tk

**Injuries**

VV: Barr 8, Hooker 8, Osemele 8, Thomas 7, Ford 7

BUF: Tartt 7, Sneed 1

**Misc**

VV: Mahomes 1-F lost

BUF: Horn 1-FR


**15**

**James Bradberry's** pick of **Mitch Trubisky** snuffed out an early Triumph scoring chance and set up the first of 5 **Chris Boswell** FGs. The Triumph offence struggled until **Julian Love** picked off **Matt Stafford** in NJ's end to set up a 7-yard TD pass to **Antonio Brown** with 0:01 left in the 1<sup>st</sup> half, giving TC a 7-6 lead. Stafford's 42-yard pass to **Austin Hooper** set up Boswell's third FG then his fourth, from 46 yards, made it 12-7. Trubisky came back with a 9-yard TD to **Rashod Bateman** but missed the 2-point convert. Stafford drove NJ into range for Boswell's fifth FG with 0:11 left for the win.


**13**

10-23-2021 Temp:70 Wind:Calm | MVP:Stafford HFA:ON(0)

	1	2	3	4	Tot
2021 New Jersey (1-2)	3	3	3	6	15
2021 Twin Cities (1-2)	0	7	0	6	13

**Passing**

NJ: Stafford 34/22 261 Yds Int

TCT: Trubisky 24/11 142 Yds 2 TDs Int

**Rushing**

NJ: Montgomery 21/59, Stafford 2/27, McKissic 2/1

TCT: Gordon III 22/103, Henderson Jr. 1/9

**Receiving**

NJ: McLaurin 7/85, Allen 4/42, Chark Jr. 4/51, McKissic 4/21, Hooper 3/62

TCT: White 3/50, Golladay 2/35, Moore 2/29, Bateman 2/16 TD, Bryant 1/5, Brown 1/7 TD

**Defense**

NJ: Cunningham FF 9-Tk, Bradberry Int 3-Tk, Smith Sk 3-Tk

TCT: Love Int 3-Tk, Wagner 8-Tk

**Injuries**

NJ: Campbell 1

TCT: Golladay 8, Maddox 2

**Misc**

NJ: Boswell 5/5 FG Lg 46, 7/0/4 Red Zone

TCT:



The Coyotes and Patriots exchanged TDs on their opening drives, with **Ryan Tannehill** connecting with **DeVante Parker** for a 14-yard TD and **DeShaun Watson** hooking up with **Amari Cooper** for a 12-yard score. The anticipated shootout looked to be under way but then the wheels fell off the Charleswood offence while the Coyotes stayed hot. On their second series, **Brandin Cooks** took a short slant 34 yards for the go-ahead TD late in the 1<sup>st</sup>. That would be the game-winner. **DeMarcus Lawrence** led the way in keeping Watson contained, with 2 sacks, 3 stuffs & 2 forced fumbles.

10-23-2021 Temp:82 Wind:0-5 None Line:CHP by 4 MVP:Tannehill HFA:ON(0)

	1	2	3	4	Tot
2021 Charleswood (2-1)	7	0	0	0	7
2021 Cobb County (3-0)	14	7	7	7	35

Passing

CHP: Watson 25/14 188 Yds TD Int  
 CB: Tannehill 24/18 235 Yds 3 TDs

Rushing

CHP: Ozigbo 5/20, Kamara 2/5  
 CB: Peterson 14/73 TD, Harris 13/67 TD, Breida 6/17, Tannehill 2/8, Holtz 2/4

Receiving

CHP: Metcalf 6/103, Cooper 4/53 TD, Kamara 2/5, Kelce 2/27  
 CB: Jones 4/65 TD, Cooks 4/48, Parker 3/32 TD, Cook 3/53 TD, Harris 2/19, Pittman Jr. 2/18

Defense

CHP: Lawson 8-Tk, Collins Sr. FF 5-Tk, Landry III 8-Tk  
 CB: Lawrence 2-Sks 2-FF 8-Tk, Payne 2-Sks 4-Tk

Injuries

CHP: Trufant 5  
 CB:

Misc

CHP:  
 CB: 37:34 TOP, 8/12 3rd Down



**Jared Goff**, starting for **Drew Brees**, tossed 2 TD passes and rushed for 2 TDs to lead the Bombers to their first win of 2021. After grinding out two long TD drives on the ground, Goff launched a bomb to **Marquez Valdes-Scantling** for 68 yards and a TD with 0:16 left in the 1<sup>st</sup> half to take a 21-6 lead. The Crusaders pushed back with a 75-yard TD drive to open the 2<sup>nd</sup> half, **Mac Jones** finishing it off with a 15-yard pass to **Laviska Shenault**. But the Bombers came back with their own 75-yard TD drive, Goff scoring on an 8-yard scramble, to re-establish and hold on to their dominant position

10-22-2021 Temp:77 Wind:Calm Line:PCC by 2 MVP:Goff HFA:ON(0)

	1	2	3	4	Tot
2021 Peg City (0-3)	0	6	7	14	27
2021 Bruxelles (1-2)	7	14	7	10	38

Passing

PCC: Jones 35/24 282 Yds 3 TDs  
 BRX: Goff 21/17 264 Yds 2 TDs

Rushing

PCC: Cohen 8/38, Barkley 7/26, Jones 3/15, Michel 1/1, Ingold 1/1  
 BRX: Gainwell 9/48 TD, Williams 7/26, Mitchell 5/23, Goff 6/9 2 TDs, Johnson 9/7

Receiving

PCC: Shenault Jr. 6/74 TD, Aiyuk 6/99 2 TDs, Cohen 3/6, Higbee 3/31, Barkley 2/12  
 BRX: Claypool 4/42, Williams 4/29, Godwin 3/40 TD, Valdes-Scantling 2/93 TD

Defense

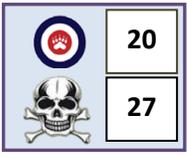
PCC: Okereke 11-Tk, Humphrey FF 5-Tk  
 BRX: Quinn Sk FF 3-Tk, Fuller 10-Tk, Ebukam Sk 4-Tk

Injuries

PCC: Bullard 7, Bush 7, Thompson 7, Allen 6, Rapp 3  
 BRX: Ragnow 1

Misc

PCC:  
 BRX:



20

27

**Dak Prescott** hooked up with **Michael Gallup** for a 75-yard TD pass to break a 3-3 tie late in the 2<sup>nd</sup>. The Cubs bounced back with a **Russell Wilson** TD pass to **AJ Brown**, set up by 62 yards on 6 carries by **James Conner**, to even it at 10. Iowa opened the 3<sup>rd</sup> with a FG then Chino took the lead on a 6-yard TD run by **Christian McCaffrey**, who added another TD on the Convicts' next series to make it 24-13. A 4<sup>th</sup> down gambit by the Cubs failed at their own 29, setting up a Chino FG. The Cubs got within 7 on a 54-yard bomb to Brown, but **Donte Jackson's** 3<sup>rd</sup> INT of the year iced it for Chino.

10-22-2021 The Big House Temp:106 Wind:10-20 Heavy Rain Line:CHI by 11 MVP:Gallup

	1	2	3	4	Tot
2021 Iowa City (1-2)	0	10	3	7	20
2021 Chino (3-0)	3	7	7	10	27

Passing

ICC: Wilson 31/16 239 Yds 2 TDs Int  
CHI: Prescott 29/18 286 Yds TD, Bridgewater 7/4 71 Yds

Rushing

ICC: Conner 14/99, Wilson 6/38, Carter 4/30, McKinnon 1/5, Mixon 1/3  
CHI: Jones II 10/48, McCaffrey 3/23 2 TDs, Prescott 4/17, Jackson 2/4

Receiving

ICC: Brown 5/108 2 TDs, Lockett 4/38, Mixon 2/34, Conner 2/11, Beasley 1/42  
CHI: Gallup 8/172 TD, McCaffrey 4/32, Hurst 3/64, Jones Jr. 2/19, Jones II 2/19

Defense

ICC: Hargrave Sk 2-FF 4-Tk, Pierre-Paul FF 5-Tk  
CHI: Jackson Int 10-Tk, White FF 8-Tk, Jarrett Sk 3-Tk

Injuries

ICC:  
CHI: Prescott 8, Bouye 8, Purcell 8, Carter 7

Misc

ICC: 0/9 3rd Down, 11 MT  
CHI: 10/16 3rd Down, 11 MT



21

24

**Dalvin Cook** opened with a 27-yard TD run then **Yannick Ngakoue** forced a fumble on Seattle's next series, setting up a 5-yard TD pass from **Justin Herbert** to **Sammy Watkins** for a 14-0 Vegas lead. The Pilots hung in and got a break when **Myles Jack** picked off Herbert to set up a TD pass from **Gardner Minshew II** to **Ceedee Lamb**. Vegas extended its lead when a 49-yard run by Cook set up Watkins' 2<sup>nd</sup> TD catch, but Seattle stormed back to tie it on 2 TD passes by Minshew, one a 62-yarder to Lamb. Vegas took the lead on a 40-yd FG then hung on as McPherson missed from 53 yards.

10-23-2021 Temp:74 Wind:Calm MVP:Cook HFA:ON(0)

	1	2	3	4	Tot
2021 Seattle (0-3)	0	7	0	14	21
2021 Las Vegas (3-0)	14	0	7	3	24

Passing

SEA: Minshew II 23/14 188 Yds 3 TDs, Lance 7/5 32 Yds  
LV: Herbert 33/26 246 Yds 2 TDs Int

Rushing

SEA: Hunt 12/30, Akers 7/20, Lamb 1/14, Brown 2/7, Lance 3/3, Agnew 1/1  
LV: Cook 17/140 TD, Herbert 3/27

Receiving

SEA: Lamb 7/106 3 TDs, Anderson 5/58, Mims 3/33, Hunt 3/18, Cole Sr. 1/5  
LV: Watkins 7/64 2 TDs, Pascal 6/76, Cook 5/33, Graham 4/34, Jeudy 4/39

Defense

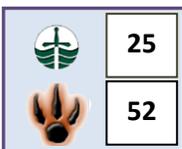
SEA: Vernon Sk 4-Tk, Jenkins FF 6-Tk, Lattimore 9-Tk, Jack Int 3-Tk  
LV: Leonard FF 9-Tk, Heyward Sk 7-Tk

Injuries

SEA: Vernon 1  
LV: Povic 1

Misc

SEA: McPherson 0/2 FG, 2/2 4th Down  
LV: Fairbairn 1/1 FG Lg 40



**Josh Allen** hit **Tyler Boyd** for a 53-yard TD to give Durham an early 7-0 lead. York answered with a 2-yard TD pass from **Tom Brady** to **Kaden Smith** but the extra point was missed. Interceptions by **Fred Warner** and **Justin Simmons** on consecutive York possessions led to 10 more Durham points and a 17-6 halftime lead. The teams traded TDs to start the 3<sup>rd</sup> then, up by 12, **Brian Burns** stripped **Derrick Henry**, setting up no.3 of 5 Allen TD passes on the day. The Thunder Lizards started pulling away decisively after that, capping off the rout with a **Kenny Moore II** pick-six.

10-23-2021 Jurassic Park Temp:99 Wind:Calm Rain MVP:Allen HFA:ON

	1	2	3	4	Tot
2021 York (2-1)	0	6	6	13	25
2021 Durham (3-0)	7	10	14	21	52

**Passing**

YOR: Brady 38/29 316 Yds 4 TDs 3 Int  
 DTL: Allen 35/26 393 Yds 5 TDs

**Rushing**

YOR: Henry 16/100, Homer 3/8, Williams 2/5  
 DTL: Allen 4/30 TD, Edmonds 6/18, Penny 5/9, Hill 4/5

**Receiving**

YOR: Williams 7/101 2 TDs, Henry 6/18, Kmet 3/37, Amendola 3/32, Davis 3/75 TD  
 DTL: Waller 6/90 2 TDs, Kupp 5/97, Edmonds 3/22, Boyd 3/82 TD, Samuel 3/25

**Defense**

YOR: Guy Sk 5-Tk  
 DTL: Moore II Int(TD) 7-Tk, Warner Int 7-Tk, Burns Sk FF 3-Tk, Young Sk 5-Tk

**Injuries**

YOR: Holcomb 4  
 DTL: DeCastro 1

**Misc**

YOR: Henry 1-F Lost  
 DTL: Hendricksson 1-FR



Rain, turning to heavy rain in Pickering made this a field position battle. The Corn Kings struck first, with passes of 28 and 14 yards to **Allen Lazard**, the latter for a TD, forming the bulk of a 61-yard TD drive in the 1<sup>st</sup>. A 52-yard pass from **Ryan Fitzpatrick** to **Kendrick Bourne** set up a FG in the 2<sup>nd</sup> to make it 10-0. The Spartans missed on 4<sup>th</sup> & 2 at the Cowtown 29, keeping the score 10-0. After a 2<sup>nd</sup> half opening FG, the Spartans tied it in the 4<sup>th</sup> on a **De'Andre Swift** TD run after a 95-yard drive. A short field after a **Benson Mayowa** sack of **Philip Rivers** set up the game-winning 47-yard FG.

10-21-2021 Thermopylae Stadium Temp:61 Wind:0-10 Heavy Rain MVP:Fitzpatrick

	1	2	3	4	Tot
2021 Cowtown (2-1)	7	3	0	3	13
2021 Pickering (0-3)	0	0	3	7	10

**Passing**

COW: Fitzpatrick 23/13 162 Yds TD  
 PIC: Rivers 43/21 239 Yds Int

**Rushing**

COW: Gore 8/26, Gurley II 9/19, Murray 5/14, Fitzpatrick 3/7  
 PIC: Sanders 16/52, Swift 5/32 TD

**Receiving**

COW: Lazard 4/63 TD, Bourne 3/75, Murray 2/1, Gurley II 1/1, McKenzie 1/9, Evans 1/8  
 PIC: Shepard 6/65, Ridley 5/79, Brown 3/38, Mooney 2/24, Ricard 2/16, Sanders 1/4

**Defense**

COW: Kerrigan 2-Sks 2-Tk, Williams Int 5-Tk, Van Ginkel 9-Tk  
 PIC: Okwara 3-Sks 3-Tk, Schobert 10-Tk

**Injuries**

COW:  
 PIC: Incognito 9, Joseph 2

**Misc**

COW: 8/50 Pen  
 PIC: 0/3 4th Down



44



25

Budapest jumped out to an early 6-0 on a 3-play drive featuring passes of 46 and 12 yards for a TD to **Stefon Diggs**. After **Jason Myers** made it 9-0, the Swordfish caught the North Stars off guard on 4<sup>th</sup> & 1 and **Kirk Cousins** found **TY Hilton** for a 38-yard TD pass to make it 9-7. Budapest scored again with **Aaron Rodgers** sneaking it across the goal line but Sebastian answered with another long pass to Hilton for a 24-yard TD to narrow the gap to 16-14. Rodgers took over the game from that point, passing at will against the Sebastian defence while Cousins failed to keep up.

10-21-2021 The Fish Tank Temp:76 Wind:Calm Line:BUD by 10 MVP:Rodgers HFA:ON

	1	2	3	4	Tot
2021 Budapest (3-0)	9	14	14	7	44
2021 Sebastian (2-1)	7	7	8	3	25

#### Passing

BUD: Rodgers 37/31 450 Yds 4 TDs  
 SS: Cousins 30/23 265 Yds 2 TDs Int

#### Rushing

BUD: Patterson 4/32 TD, Rodgers 2/9 TD, Felton 2/8, Cannon 2/8, Johnson 2/5  
 SS: Taylor 7/48 TD, Chubb 13/37

#### Receiving

BUD: Diggs 13/191 2 TDs, Jefferson 11/177 TD, Kittle 3/32, Agholor 3/44 TD  
 SS: Hilton 7/119 2 TDs, Marshall Jr. 5/54, Akins 3/25, Reagor 2/25, Ebron 2/16

#### Defense

BUD: Winovich Sk FF 3-Tk, David 9-Tk, Dean 8-Tk  
 SS: Jackson III 11-Tk, Wallace 9-Tk, Dunlap II Sk 3-Tk

#### Injuries

BUD:  
 SS: Massie 5, Clowney 5

#### Misc

BUD: 509 Yds, 32 1st Dwn, 4/5 3rd Down  
 SS:



26



31

After opening the scoring with a 5-yard TD pass from **Derek Carr** to **Randall Cobb**, the Hawks led by at least a TD through 3 quarters until early in the 4<sup>th</sup> when **Logan Ryan** tipped a Carr pass into the arms of **Deion Jones** and he returned it 63 yards for a TD. It narrowed the gap to 5, 28-23 for Brooklin, after a missed two-point convert. **Mason Crosby** hit a 48-yard FG on the Eagles' next series to pull within 2 then a long Hawks' drive set up a 21-yard **Randy Bullock** FG to make it 31-26 with 4:07 left. **Celin Ferrell's** 17-yard sack of **Joe Burrow** thwarted the Eagles' comeback attempt.

10-22-2021 Hawkeye Park Temp:81 Wind:Calm None MVP:Carr HFA:ON(

	1	2	3	4	Tot
2021 Scarborough (1-2)	0	7	10	9	26
2021 Brooklin (1-2)	7	14	7	3	31

#### Passing

SBE: Burrow 24/15 151 Yds 2 TDs  
 BRH: Carr 41/24 261 Yds 2 TDs Int

#### Rushing

SBE: Carson 10/45, Burrow 6/33, Gaskin 3/10  
 BRH: Scott 14/82, Ekeler 6/43, Smith 4/15, Carr 5/8 TD, Hyde 4/3 TD

#### Receiving

SBE: Uzomah 4/43, Robinson II 4/40, Crowder 2/19 TD, Carson 2/2, Ward 1/32 TD  
 BRH: Cobb 6/76 TD, Scott 5/34, Ingram 4/45, Hopkins 3/49, Gronkowski 2/20 TD

#### Defense

SBE: Jones Int(TD) Sk 17-Tk, Amos 12-Tk, Lawson Sk 4-Tk  
 BRH: Tuitt 2-Sks FF 2-Tk, Ferrell Sk FF 3-Tk, McPhee Sk 3-Tk

#### Injuries

SBE: Jackson 8, Collins 7, Bosa 7, Martin 4  
 BRH: Lewan 7, Ekeler 4, Vander Esch 3, Turner 1

#### Misc

SBE: Crosby 2/2 FG Lg 48  
 BRH: 7/11 3rd Down, 36:26 TOP



Georgia got the better of the Pink Panthers early on 2 TD passes by **Ben Roethlisberger**, one a 49-yarder to **Will Fuller V**, for a 14-3 lead. Oshawa pushed back late in the 1<sup>st</sup> half with a 22-yard TD pass from **Matt Ryan** to **Davante Adams**. They then tied it at 17 late in the 3<sup>rd</sup> on a 1-yard run by **Larry Roundtree III** and took a 24-17 lead in the 4<sup>th</sup> on Adams' second TD catch. The Glads tied it at 24 with 0:37 left on a 10-yard run by **James Robinson** after a 98-yard drive to send the game into OT. In OT, **Zane Gonzalez** missed 2 FGs and **Tyler Bass** missed 1 for the season's first tie.

10-21-2021 GM Megadome Temp:72 Wind:Calm MVP:Robinson HFA:ON(4)

	1	2	3	4	Tot
2021 Georgia (0-2-1)	7	7	3	7	24
2021 Oshawa (0-2-1)	3	7	7	7	24

Passing

GEO: Roethlisberger 40/24 243 Yds 2 TDs  
 OSH: Ryan 39/28 270 Yds 2 TDs

Rushing

GEO: Robinson 22/137 TD, Jacobs 6/8  
 OSH: Drake 20/98, Singletary 7/45, Ryan 2/11, Rountree III 1/1 TD

Receiving

GEO: Landry 6/53, Johnson 4/30 TD, Fuller V 4/106 TD, Robinson 4/6, Ertz 3/20  
 OSH: Adams 14/136 2 TDs, Goedert 3/22, Edelman 3/30, Reynolds 3/35, Singletary 2/20

Defense

GEO: Joseph 13-Tk, Moreland FF 8-Tk, Edmunds 9-Tk  
 OSH:

Injuries

GEO: Ingram III 7  
 OSH: Edelman 8, Williams 7

Misc

GEO: Bass 1/2 FG 52 Lg  
 OSH: Gonzalez 1/3 FG 39 Lg



The Cadillac opened the game with a 75-yard, 11-play drive, scoring on a 5-yard run by **Najee Harris**. The extra point was missed, holding the lead to 6-0. This TD held up until the 4<sup>th</sup>, when **Baker Mayfield** atoned for throwing 2 interceptions earlier in the game by leading an 87-yard, 12-play drive that was capped by a 23-yard screen pass to **Aaron Jones**. With 8:24 left the Cadillac gambled on 4<sup>th</sup> & 1 at the 50 and missed. The Irish drove the short field, scoring a TD on a short slant to **Tyreek Hill** to take a 14-6 lead. Erieau got the ball back twice but failed to make headway vs the Irish D.

10-22-2021 Temp:68 Wind:5-15 None Line:EE by 7 MVP:Jones HFA:ON(0)

	1	2	3	4	Tot
2021 East Elmhurst (2-1)	0	0	0	14	14
2021 Erieau (1-2)	6	0	0	0	6

Passing

EE: Mayfield 24/17 174 Yds 2 TDs 2 Int  
 ERI: Murray 25/15 141 Yds

Rushing

EE: Jones 18/100, Hubbard 6/34, Mayfield 2/9  
 ERI: Murray 5/33, Harris 15/24 TD, Ruggs III 1/12, Moss 2/5, Higgins 1/5

Receiving

EE: Hill 6/81 TD, Jones 5/37 TD, Thielen 3/39, Everett 3/17  
 ERI: Andrews 4/33, Waddle 4/45, Henry 3/22, Hines 2/9, Higgins 1/19, Harris 1/13

Defense

EE: Parsons Sk 4-Tk, Ramsey 8-Tk  
 ERI: Van Noy Sk 8-Tk, Bosa Sk 5-Tk, Hewitt 8-Tk

Injuries

EE:  
 ERI: Poole 5, Smith 4

Misc

EE: 8 QB Hurries  
 ERI: 11/65 Pen, 7 Stuffs



<b>WEEK THREE</b>
-------------------

# STANDINGS & STATS

## EFL 2021 Official Standings

East	W	L	T	Pct	Stk	Pts	Ave	Opp	Ave	Diff	Home	Div	Conf
Cobb County	3	0	0	1.000	W3	83	27.7	25	8.3	19.3	2 0 0	1 0 0	3 0 0
Buffalo	2	1	0	.667	W1	68	22.7	48	16.0	6.7	1 0 0	1 0 0	2 1 0
New Jersey	1	2	0	.333	W1	49	16.3	87	29.0	-12.7	0 2 0	0 1 0	1 2 0
Bruxelles	1	2	0	.333	W1	68	22.7	88	29.3	-6.7	1 1 0	0 1 0	1 2 0
Central	W	L	T	Pct	Stk	Pts	Ave	Opp	Ave	Diff	Home	Div	Conf
Charleswood	2	1	0	.667	L1	55	18.3	72	24.0	-5.7	1 0 0	2 0 0	2 1 0
Viriden	1	2	0	.333	L1	71	23.7	61	20.3	3.3	0 1 0	1 1 0	1 2 0
Twin Cities	1	2	0	.333	L2	53	17.7	52	17.3	0.3	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 2 0
Peg City	0	3	0	.000	L3	53	17.7	93	31.0	-13.3	0 1 0	0 2 0	0 3 0
West	W	L	T	Pct	Stk	Pts	Ave	Opp	Ave	Diff	Home	Div	Conf
Las Vegas	3	0	0	1.000	W3	75	25.0	50	16.7	8.3	2 0 0	2 0 0	3 0 0
Chino	3	0	0	1.000	W3	91	30.3	51	17.0	13.3	1 0 0	2 0 0	3 0 0
Iowa City	1	2	0	.333	L1	79	26.3	81	27.0	-0.7	0 1 0	0 2 0	1 2 0
Seattle	0	3	0	.000	L3	38	12.7	75	25.0	-12.3	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 3 0
North	W	L	T	Pct	Stk	Pts	Ave	Opp	Ave	Diff	Home	Div	Conf
Durham	3	0	0	1.000	W3	114	38.0	49	16.3	21.7	2 0 0	1 0 0	3 0 0
Sebastian	2	1	0	.667	L1	95	31.7	100	33.3	-1.7	1 1 0	1 0 0	2 1 0
Cowtown	2	1	0	.667	W2	68	22.7	55	18.3	4.3	1 0 0	0 1 0	2 1 0
Scarborough	1	2	0	.333	L1	56	18.7	68	22.7	-4.0	1 0 0	0 1 0	1 2 0
Coastal	W	L	T	Pct	Stk	Pts	Ave	Opp	Ave	Diff	Home	Div	Conf
Budapest	3	0	0	1.000	W3	108	36.0	42	14.0	22.0	2 0 0	2 0 0	3 0 0
York	2	1	0	.667	L1	69	23.0	87	29.0	-6.0	1 0 0	2 0 0	2 1 0
Brooklin	1	2	0	.333	W1	59	19.7	81	27.0	-7.3	1 0 0	0 2 0	1 2 0
Pickering	0	3	0	.000	L3	34	11.3	66	22.0	-10.7	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 3 0
South	W	L	T	Pct	Stk	Pts	Ave	Opp	Ave	Diff	Home	Div	Conf
East Elmhurst	2	1	0	.667	W1	55	18.3	57	19.0	-0.7	0 1 0	2 0 0	2 1 0
Erieau	1	2	0	.333	L2	45	15.0	51	17.0	-2.0	0 1 0	1 1 0	1 2 0
Georgia	0	2	1	.167		72	24.0	90	30.0	-6.0	0 2 0	0 1 1	0 2 1
Oshawa	0	2	1	.167		55	18.3	84	28.0	-9.7	0 1 1	0 1 1	0 2 1

### EFL 2021 Official Passing Leaders

			Att	Cmp	C%	Yards	In	I%	Lg	TD	TD%	Rate
1	Rodgers,A	BUD	96	78	81.3	983	1	1.0	71	10	10.4	139.7
2	Allen,J	DTL	110	73	66.4	1016	1	0.9	75	9	8.2	119.4
3	Cousins	SS	91	65	71.4	902	3	3.3	41	7	7.7	114.8
4	Prescott	CHI	88	65	73.9	754	0	0.0	75	4	4.5	114.5
5	Tannehill	CB	74	50	67.6	674	2	2.7	34	6	8.1	112.1
6	Wilson,R	ICC	85	63	74.1	701	2	2.4	54	6	7.1	111.9
7	Garoppolo	COW	33	22	66.7	277	1	3.0	41	3	9.1	110.3
8	Watson,D	CHP	97	65	67.0	740	1	1.0	25	7	7.2	109.5
9	Fitzpatric	COW	59	40	67.8	498	1	1.7	52	4	6.8	109.3
10	Mahomes	VV	127	84	66.1	1103	1	0.8	34	6	4.7	105.9
11	Jackson,L	BUF	91	61	67.0	558	0	0.0	37	6	6.6	105.5
12	Brady	YOR	94	65	69.1	751	3	3.2	57	6	6.4	101.0
13	Herbert	LV	101	73	72.3	713	2	2.0	43	5	5.0	100.0
14	Roethlisbe	GEO	123	82	66.7	800	1	0.8	49	6	4.9	97.6
15	Trubisky	TCT	76	46	60.5	526	1	1.3	40	4	5.3	93.4
16	Jones,M	PCC	96	58	60.4	684	2	2.1	48	5	5.2	90.8
17	Burrow	SBE	85	50	58.8	489	0	0.0	32	4	4.7	90.8
18	Mayfield	EE	84	56	66.7	637	3	3.6	48	4	4.8	90.2
19	Stafford	NJ	105	68	64.8	825	3	2.9	54	3	2.9	86.4
20	Brees	BRX	64	31	48.4	441	1	1.6	75	4	6.3	85.5
21	Carr,D	BRH	78	43	55.1	472	1	1.3	28	4	5.1	85.0
22	Ryan,M	OSH	121	78	64.5	736	4	3.3	28	6	5.0	83.9
23	Minshew II	SEA	51	28	54.9	340	2	3.9	62	3	5.9	78.9
24	Murray,K	ERI	74	42	56.8	350	0	0.0	24	1	1.4	73.6
25	Rivers,P	PIC	78	35	44.9	392	2	2.6	29	1	1.3	54.0

### EFL 2021 Official Kick Return Leaders

			No	Yds	Ave	Lg	TD
1	Roberts,A	BRX	5	188	37.6	46	0
2	Agnew	SEA	7	242	34.6	68	0
3	Johnson,D	SBE	5	147	29.4	41	0
4	Patterson	BUD	4	117	29.3	39	0
5	Carter,D	BUF	6	166	27.7	48	0
6	Harris,D	COW	4	106	26.5	32	0
7	Homer	YOR	6	153	25.5	36	0
8	Atwell	OSH	5	126	25.2	38	0
9	Webster,N	NJ	5	119	23.8	30	0
10	Scott,B	BRH	4	94	23.5	30	0
11	Rodgers,I	CHP	6	138	23.0	34	0
12	Duvernay	TCT	5	106	21.2	35	0
13	Hubbard	EE	3	98	32.7	39	0
14	Hill	DTL	2	64	32.0	38	0
15	Adderley	VV	3	89	29.7	33	0
16	Barner	PIC	3	82	27.3	39	0
17	Abdullah	CHI	3	71	23.7	36	0
18	Davis,A	PCC	2	47	23.5	28	0
19	Carter	ICC	3	64	21.3	30	0
20	Dulin	LV	1	19	19.0	19	0
21	Bernard,G	GEO	1	18	18.0	18	0
22	James,R	GEO	2	31	15.5	21	0
23	Ballentine	SS	3	44	14.7	22	0
24	Crowder	SBE	1	14	14.0	14	0
25	McKenzie	COW	1	13	13.0	13	0

### EFL 2021 Official Punt Return Leaders

			No	Fc	Yds	Ave	Lg	TD
1	Lamb	SEA	5	3	74	14.8	38	0
2	Harris,D	COW	7	0	85	12.1	18	0
3	Proche	DTL	12	0	124	10.3	20	0
4	Taylor,T	CHP	5	2	44	8.8	16	0
5	Hill,K	SBE	7	1	61	8.7	25	0
6	Moore	EE	5	3	42	8.4	16	0
7	Spencer,D	NJ	8	1	59	7.4	11	0
8	Peoples-Jo	SS	6	2	38	6.3	14	0
9	Kirk	ICC	4	0	25	6.3	10	0
10	Raymond	CB	5	1	13	2.6	4	0
11	Homer	YOR	4	0	3	0.8	9	0
12	Cooper,P	VV	3	5	52	17.3	41	0
13	Peppers	ERI	3	2	49	16.3	22	0
14	Grant,J	CHI	3	2	43	14.3	20	0
15	Atwell	OSH	2	0	23	11.5	17	0
16	Barner	PIC	3	4	31	10.3	14	0
17	Erickson	BUF	2	1	20	10.0	13	0
18	Rodgers,Am	BUD	2	5	19	9.5	18	0
19	Tate,G	BRH	3	1	28	9.3	19	0
20	Johnson,D	GEO	2	1	18	9.0	12	0
21	Roberts,A	BRX	3	0	26	8.7	14	0
22	Carter,D	BUF	1	2	6	6.0	6	0
23	Fuller V	GEO	1	1	4	4.0	4	0
24	Powell	EE	2	1	5	2.5	4	0
25	Hardman	LV	2	5	1	0.5	1	0

## EFL 2021 Official Rushing Leaders

		Att	Yds	Ave	Lg	TD
1	Henry,D	67	346	5.2	48	2
2	Robinson,J	52	313	6.0	52	2
3	Gordon III	62	281	4.5	32	0
4	Cook,D	52	259	5.0	49	3
5	Conner	37	255	6.9	47	0
6	Harris,D	36	249	6.9	35	2
7	Ekeler	43	246	5.7	21	0
8	Sanders,M	46	215	4.7	14	0
9	Jones,A	34	207	6.1	22	2
10	Elliott,E	44	202	4.6	28	3
11	Chubb,N	43	194	4.5	47	2
12	Taylor,J	31	190	6.1	32	2
13	Davis,M	36	163	4.5	19	1
14	Drake	38	159	4.2	15	0
15	Carson	35	158	4.5	11	1
16	Harris	41	152	3.7	27	1
17	Tannehill	10	141	14.1	43	2
18	Murray,K	26	129	5.0	16	1
19	Allen,J	17	126	7.4	27	5
20	Peterson,A	29	125	4.3	16	1
21	Jackson,L	21	121	5.8	32	1
22	Jones II	32	119	3.7	17	2
23	Wilson,R	18	119	6.6	15	1
24	Scott,B	19	117	6.2	20	1
25	Montgomery	40	114	2.9	10	0
26	Mitchell	21	103	4.9	13	0
27	Cohen	23	102	4.4	15	0
28	Hubbard	26	95	3.7	16	1
29	Gurley II	28	95	3.4	11	1
30	Lance	21	94	4.5	14	0

## EFL 2021 Official Receiving Leaders

		No	Yds	Ave	Lg	TD
1	Adams,D	27	250	9.3	28	4
2	Gallup	25	370	14.8	75	2
3	Sanders,E	25	308	12.3	37	3
4	Jefferson	23	332	14.4	31	3
5	Johnson,D	22	200	9.1	20	3
6	Chase	20	329	16.5	32	2
7	Diggs,S	20	242	12.1	46	2
8	Allen,K	19	213	11.2	35	2
9	Lazard	18	229	12.7	28	3
10	Waller	18	260	14.4	43	3
11	McLaurin	17	256	15.1	54	1
12	Robinson,J	17	47	2.8	11	0
13	Shenault J	17	219	12.9	42	1
14	Lockett	16	165	10.3	19	2
15	Kelce,T	16	205	12.8	19	3
16	Amendola	15	189	12.6	23	1
17	Brown,J	15	231	15.4	34	0
18	Hockenson	15	166	11.1	22	2
19	Graham,J	15	101	6.7	12	0
20	Metcalfe	15	216	14.4	25	1
21	Hilton	15	247	16.5	38	3
22	Aiyuk	15	231	15.4	48	3
23	Brown,A	14	250	17.9	54	2
24	Kupp	14	299	21.4	75	2
25	Jones,J	14	208	14.9	28	2
26	Landry	14	150	10.7	38	1
27	Elliott,E	14	109	7.8	26	1
28	Fuller V	14	293	20.9	49	2
29	Evans,M	14	205	14.6	41	2
30	Cooks	14	211	15.1	24	2



# AROUND THE



## With Spats McChad

NEW YORK – The EFL survived the teeth of the pandemic in better shape than other pro sports leagues despite empty stadiums across most of the league. However, surviving and still thriving is apparently not enough for league executives and owners. The revenue lost at the gate on game day in 2020 is money they thought, with bitterness, they would never see again. That is, until a lightbulb went off in somebody’s head in an executive’s office in Canton. *Hey, let’s add a 17<sup>th</sup> game to the schedule!*

The league is now “consulting” owners and players on a proposal to increase the length of the regular season to 17 games, add a bye week for each team, and reduce the pre-season schedule to 3 games. The consultation with the owners probably took less than a minute in order to convince them to take on more revenue. All 24 owners are, according to my sources in Canton, on board with the concept. Some are even publicly vocal about it, likely hoping to sway the players before the EFL Players Association puts the proposal to its membership.

“More football means more enjoyment for the fans and the players! Who can argue with that?” Wrecking Balls’ part-owner **Jeff Cohen** proclaimed in a tweet following an owner’s meeting where the schedule was first on the agenda. Cohen may have felt the need to push the positive after his supplementary proposal to have every team make the playoffs was shot down in flames.

Adding another game to an already grueling 16-game season might not be something the players want, however. Football is a punishing sport – even with new rules being introduced every year aimed at reducing the degree of violence and the risk of concussion or other serious injury. This is something forefront in the minds of players as negotiations continue with the league.

“We’re just trying to work out the details on how the players will be compensated and how the chance of injury will be mitigated with the extra game,” stated Cubs’ center, **JC Tretter**, President of the EFLPA.

Will players be able to resist if the extra game is tied to bigger salaries, more jobs and better benefits? The league is rolling incentives into their proposal to woo those on the fence between safety and booty. The riches of the game can be alluring enough for some players that they are probably willing to take on extra risk.

“For players on the fringe of rosters, the chance of making a team and earning a little extra will be more than enough inducement to vote for a proposal to add another game,” observed **Vince Parisitis**, a player’s agent who specializes in representing special teams gunners, long snappers and practice squad talent.

As for the fans needing another week of football, there was no public clamour for it that I was aware of. Will people watch it if it is available? Probably many will. At least that is what the league is counting on. However, there will certainly be plenty of fans who will tune out the final week – or earlier – and do household chores instead.

“Imagine being a Cadillac fan and hearing there will be another game?” cracked **Cowan Bullherd** of the syndicated sports talk show, *Morning Bull*, the day after the owner’s meeting. I’m not generally impressed by Bullherd, but he made me laugh there.

The *EFL Network* on Sirius XM radio – a propaganda arm for the league that provides about 30% cogent commentary and analysis, 50% propaganda and 20% commercials for treating erectile dysfunction – is predictably on board with the plan and encourages its listeners to feel the same way. This has the effect of prompting a preponderance of supportive calls from fans with on-air aliases such as ‘Lizard Man,’ ‘Dr. Cub,’ ‘Mr. Bomber’ and ‘Lord Violator.’

“I’m all for it!” gushed a fan calling himself ‘Captain Swordfish’ the other day on the Opening Drive. “Who wouldn’t want more football? Bring it on, EFL, I’m ready!”

We’ll see if “Captain Swordfish” is still holding on to his enthusiasm later this season when the Swordfish defensive line is broken down and the defence is giving up 45 points a game. The sad thing is that this is what the league considers to be “fan consultation.” A few of the more half-baked callers whipped up into a froth and paraded one after the other on air to create the illusion of widespread, enthusiastic support for the most obvious of obvious money grabs in league history.

To the many who think bigger is better, or who believe another week of gambling and fantasy football is nourishing to the soul, I will likely come across as narrow-minded and reactionary when I confess that I am still recovering emotionally from when the EFL’s predecessor, the NFL, expanded to 16 games from the more easily digested 14. I was a young, highly impressionable kid at the time, and as a Giants fan, I could only take so much.

I don’t like the idea of adding another game to the regular season schedule. I especially do not like the idea of playing an *uneven* number of games? What league does that? When I conceive of a record of 9-8 or 8-9 I keep thinking there should be *one more* game. Who knows? Maybe that’s a trick the league’s pulling to get the players to eventually agree to the 18-game schedule

that they secretly desire in their greedy little heart of hearts. They will soothingly tell us in a few years that they can stop the feeling of endless suspension caused by uneven records if we all agree to another game. *Just...one...more...little...game* and the pain of the unfinished season will go away. Even if ‘Captain Swordfish’ is no longer on board by then, there will be somebody like a ‘Pilot Pete’ or ‘King Corn’ who may very well be, if their respective teams can get off the fence of perpetual mediocrity.

The final decision is perhaps a few weeks or a month away, so there is still time to stop the madness. In theory. My sources in Canton and around the league tell me it’s already a done deal in principle. Any more time it takes before a formal announcement will be spent ironing out the details with the EFLPA and the Networks. As for the fans: *If they show it, they will watch.*

### **COMMUNITY COACH**

The Charleswood coach is now under the gun after the vaunted Patriots’ offence led by **DeShaun Watson** put up just 7 points and failed to gain 200 yards in a 35-7 blowout loss to the Coyotes this week. We know the Coyotes are a very good team. They made the Conference Final last year and lost by a dog’s whisker to the Violators in that game. However, the Pats are supposed to be a good team this year as well, especially on offence. The game was one of the league’s Marquee match-ups in Week Three and ended up being one of its biggest duds. The team that took the field wearing white, red, blue and silver could have been the Patriots of 2020 for all anyone could tell by strictly watching the action. They were inefficient, uninspired and – above all – *predictable*.

In his hand-wringing post-game address, owner **Jason Findlay** credited the Coyotes with out-playing his team: “You have to give the Coyotes credit for coming out strong and playing to the whistle. That’s a good team out there.” He also attributed his team’s performance in large part to bad luck: “We came out of the gate strong. It looked like we meant business. Then nothing seemed to go our way after that. It was really weird.”

What went wrong after that first drive was plain for even casual armchair quarterbacks to see. Not everyone sitting at home would be able to name the plays or zero-in on the nuances of pre-snap formation that telegraphed them all, but it was hard for anyone with football eyes *not* to notice that the Pats were simply running the same 2 plays over, and over, again. If an amateur could see it, you know the Coyotes’ players and coaches did as well. When asked about the vapid play calling, Findlay threw up his hands.

“I think you will have to ask the coach about that,” he replied. “I know we have a solid, tried and true playbook that has stood the test of time. If you want details about game-day strategy I would defer to the coach.”

But who actually coaches the Patriots? The question comes up occasionally in sports bars, social media and the comments sections of online sports articles. I have been posed the question on occasion and I am always caught off guard by it, never able to answer it off the top of my head. When I overhear people talking about it in bar conversations, I have yet to hear anyone who knows the answer without having to look it up. There is a reason for that, and it is unique to say the least.

In the old days I didn’t think much about the Pats’ coach. I just assumed the coach was owner, **Jason Findlay**, because he spent the games on the sideline next to **Peyton Manning**, talking to other coaches and staff during the game. These coaches would often look to him at critical times in the game and he would sometimes nod or shake his head, so I naturally thought he was in charge.

Well, it was none other than the main authority on the Patriots, **Charlie Wood** of the *Charleswood Banner* and *Charleswood Sun*, who enlightened me a few years ago with regard to the coaching situation in Charleswood.

“Spats! You telling me that you haven’t heard of the Charleswood Community Coach Program?” he asked with great astonishment while we were sharing brewskis a few years ago at the Thirsty Lion Tavern on one of my rare trips to Charleswood to watch a game. “You don’t usually miss details like that!”

According to Charlie, the Charleswood Community Coach Program goes back to the dawn of the EFL itself. The Patriots had the coveted first overall pick in the EFL’s distribution draft of Spring 2007. They selected a future hall-of-famer in **Peyton Manning**, who was coming off the prime years of his NFL career with the Indianapolis Colts. This selection made the Patriots instantly relevant, but it came with a hitch – literally.

Manning had been in control of the Colts’ offence for years before the NFL imploded in scandal. His control of the offence had spread to include influence on the defence and on personnel decisions as well. He let it be known early on in his Patriots’ tenure that he expected to have the same control in Charleswood. This made selecting a coach for him a very delicate matter.

Findlay wanted to bring in **Tony Dungy** but Dungy was prohibited from coaching football while the Feds investigated the racketeering conspiracy that had brought down the league. The few professional coaches left untainted by the scandal did not want any part of coaching a team with **Peyton Manning**, as they were well aware who would end up calling the shots.

Eventually a compromise was reached, where Manning agreed to oversee and guide a “coaching intern program” to develop Canadian coaching talent and “grow the game” in Canada. The program would consist of a core group of permanent assistant coaches who would act as trainers and maintain continuity in the system from year-to-year. Each year, up-and-coming coaching talent from university and high school football programs across Canada would be selected and plugged into the main positions of Head Coach, Offensive Coordinator, Defensive Coordinator and Special Teams Coach to learn their tradecraft. They would learn under “the system.”

The list of Nobodies who went through this program is long. And while they may have gained valuable experience in the art of game-planning and running practice drills, they certainly did not get much experience dealing with the Media.

The last time I could recall seeing a Charleswood “coach” at the podium was in 2019 after a Week 15 loss to Twin Cities, when Coach **Pete ‘Slo Mo’ Poplawski** appeared briefly in place of the owner to quietly take responsibility for the loss. Poplawski went on next year to become a long-snapper coach with the Moose Jaw Mounties of the CFL only to see the season cancelled due to COVID. He is currently out of football at the professional level and apparently teaching a gym program at Oak Park High School in Charleswood.

The most successful coach to emerge from the ‘Charleswood Coaching Tree’ was **Zeljko Zagbazagbo**, known simply as “Z”, who served as Defensive Coordinator on the Championship winning Patriots of 2015 and went on to take on a head coach position with the Torrance Tigers of the SFL, a position he still holds despite not being able to break the grip of the Driftwood Bullies on the SFL title. Z was not afraid to blitz and is remembered in Charleswood as the only defensive coordinator in the history of the program to have designed his own blitzes and coverages and then received approval to have them inserted in the permanent playbook.

The Patriots’ Playbook is like the Bible in the Charleswood program. According to Charlie, it is mostly just a collection of **Peyton Manning’s** favourite plays from the early years, when nobody in the fledgling EFL dared to coach him. Manning *loved* the alternating fly-hitch combo. Findlay brought in former Colts’ QB coach, **Jim Caldwell** to put together the playbook, very similar to the one Peyton liked to use in Indy. None of these coaching interns participating in the community coach program would dare to change any of the offensive plays. So, for the last 14 years and counting, the Pats have run essentially the same plays, spruced up with the occasional mis-direction and otherwise only differentiated by the personnel, particularly the quarterback, running them on the field.

Recently, however, the current Charleswood coach has focused on two plays in particular: the hitch, and the fly. After I watched the game, aghast as the Pats ran hitch patterns and fly patterns on an astonishing 95% of their pass plays, I contacted Charlie to find out what the heck was going on.

“Oh, it’s that nitwit, Olaf Blätt,” he replied with a chuckle. “He’s the coach this year and he decided to take on the play-calling duties to make sure the team stuck to the ‘Patriot Way.’ The offensive coordinator is some kind of whiz kid from Toronto who has his own ideas about mixing directions and it looks like Blätt is keeping him down. I’m writing an article on it now actually.”

As of this writing, Charlie’s column is not yet available. However, when published the main point will already be old news. **Olaf Blätt**, the head coach at Grant Park High School in Winnipeg and current Patriots’ head coach, is already being singled out for having called the worst game in the history of the league since Mohave coach **Bobby Elder** called 37 run plays to **Montee Ball**, 24 of those off-tackles, in a loss to Chino back in 2013. If the definition of “insanity” is doing the same thing over and over and expecting a different result, then the Pats’ offence is insane – and not in a colloquially good way.



The year’s ‘Community Coach’ of the Charleswood Patriots, **Olaf Blätt**, studies the action on the field as the Pats take on the Coyotes, trying to figure out why the come-back patterns and go routes he is calling aren’t working as designed. One of most talented offences in the league was completely stymied in Week 3, gaining just 10 first downs and 177 yards of offence while scoring just 7 points in an embarrassing 35-7 loss. A review of the tape reveals that the Patriots ran two types of pass routes on 95% of the pass plays in the game.

## AROUND THE EFL

While the Patriots' failure to move the ball against Cobb County was causing football analysts across two continents to consider revising their projections for 2021, the rest of the EFL moved on at slightly more intense pace than last week's casual stroll. The games were mostly closer with a few eyebrow-raisers in the bunch.

At New Era Stadium in Buffalo, the Derailers served notice to all future opponents to respect their run game or get run over. Buffalo surprised Virden 24-19 by tallying 209 yards rushing on just 24 carries, 101 of those yards from running back **Mike Davis**. It was the first time Davis had rushed for over 100 yards in a game in his career and the first time any running back had rushed for over 100 yards in a game with **Lamar Jackson** as their quarterback. As for Lamar; he rushed for a relatively modest 44 yards on 4 carries but 32 of those yards came on a bootleg that helped set up the Derailers' first touchdown. In defiance of common wisdom, the Violators challenged the Derailers to beat them on the ground and the Derailers did. This novel strategy may have been due to two things: the fact that Buffalo had favoured the pass in the first two weeks of the season in an evident bid to take advantage of expected run defences; and that there are no household names in the Derailer backfield. If so, it was a strategy a touch too clever to succeed. While Buffalo indeed attempted more passes than runs (29-24), the runs made up the majority of chunk plays on their scoring drives. Trying to keep up was **Patrick Mahomes**, who put up another nice set of numbers, passing for 356 yards and 2 TDs, but failed to produce a 'W' for the second time in three weeks. The Pacific Conference Champs are now 1-2 and already having to play catch-up with their competition.

At the GM Megadome in Oshawa, the Pink Panthers took the most incremental step possible in turning around a two-game losing streak by playing to a tie against the Gladiators, 24-24. This was an honest tie in the sense that the game was evenly played on the field as well as the scoreboard, with the viewer getting no sense that either team deserved to win or lose on merit or lack thereof. The outcome boiled down to Oshawa kicker, **Zane Gonzalez**, getting one extra field goal attempt over his counterpart, **Tyler Bass**, in overtime and missing it. However, that extra miss came from 58 yards away, making it a failure similar to a quarterback missing on a Hail Mary. No real shame there. A degree of culpability can be assigned to his 47-yard miss off the first drive of OT; as can a black mark be placed against Bass for badly shanking a 45-yard attempt on the next possession that would have won the game. As well-earned as the tie was for the struggling team formerly known as the Mustangs, concern is building that the new coaching staff has no clue what it is doing. I take a more charitable view and chalk up this shaky start to bad rhythm caused by the shock of the move. Give the Pinkos to the halfway mark and then start dumping on the coach if they aren't where they belong: At or near the top of the South.

At The Big House, a rare heavy rain storm in Chino provided a dreary backdrop to a bittersweet 27-20 victory for the Convicts over their hated rivals, the Cubs. Sweet because of the Convicts' strong second-half takeover on both offence and defence that turned a 10-10 deadlock at halftime into a 27-13 lead for Chino heading into the game's final five minutes. Bitter because of a serious leg injury to star quarterback **Dak Prescott** on a quarterback sneak that knocked him out of the game early in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter. Early reports suggest he could be out of action for at least 8 weeks. The Cubs' neighborly coach, **Deron Redding**, who doesn't do the "bad guy" well, betrayed the hint of a satisfied smirk on his face when Prescott remained down as officials peeled bodies off the pile on top of him. The "gangster fans" (as Redding calls them) at The Big House watched with rare soberness as their quarterback was carted off the field. Although Chino had the ball and was leading 17-13, the door seemed to be wide open for the Cubs to take control. The ending did not go according to the usual script. Prescott's back-up, **Teddy Bridgewater** lobbed a mortar shell to **Damiere Byrd** for 40 yards to convert a 3<sup>rd</sup> & 13 to keep the drive alive and four plays later **Christian McCaffrey** was in the end zone for a 24-13 Convicts' lead. It expanded to a 14-point lead after a 'Lemmonesque' 4<sup>th</sup> & 6 gamble by the Cubs deep in their own end failed, giving the Convicts an easy field goal. The bit of **Russell Wilson** magic left that had not been washed off by the rain went into a 54-yard bomb to **AJ Brown** for a touchdown on the Cubs' next series and a 42-yard catch-and-run by **Cole Beasley** with 1:00 left that put Iowa City in position to tie the game. But **Donte Jackson**'s interception of Wilson at the 9-yard line sealed an impressive home win for **Rob Nazar** and his now 3-0 Convicts.

At a rain-soaked Thermopylae Stadium in Pickering, the Spartans faltered for the third straight week, dropping a 13-10 decision to the Corn Kings. It was another "hard luck" game for Pickering quarterback, **Philip Rivers**, according to the local press. **Aristedes Kalogiannis** of the *Pickering Post* described the teetering, semi-legendary Rivers as "*a proud and wounded lion defying the jackals of time in an age of scoundrels*" in an attempt to cover for his third consecutive crappy outing. Rivers was busy, attempting 43 passes in the rain but completing only 21 of those for 239 yards, no touchdowns and one interception. Coach **Gus Konstantakos** put the game on his QB's shoulders and they crumbled. Credit the Cowtown defence for getting pressure, not biting on the frequent play-actions and holding up in the secondary. Meanwhile, the offence under **Ryan Fitzpatrick** did just enough to get by and secure the win to rise to 2-1.

At Hawkeye Park in Brooklin, the Hawks pulled out of their early two-game nosedive by clipping their feathered brethren Blue Eagles, 31-26. Inspired by the cheering of over 45,000 fans at their brand-new facility next to Hwy 407 at Simcoe Street (at the edge of a creeping urban sprawl moving northeast from the GTA) coach **Tom Jones**' plucky team regained its equilibrium and played a complete game on both sides of the ball. They handled Scarborough with greater skill than the final score suggests, out-gaining them 403 to 207 and possessing the ball for 36½ minutes. However, a lapse in judgement by **Derek Carr** created some needless drama in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter when he tried to force a pass over the middle to a double-covered **Rob Gronkowski** and saw it picked off by **Deion Jones**, who returned it 63 yards for a touchdown to pull Scarborough to within 5 points, with most of the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter still to play. The pick-six capped an unbelievable performance by the man Blue Eagles teammates nicknamed "*Deity*" Jones after the game. In addition to the interception, the Eagles' linebacker logged 17 tackles, 5 tackles-for-loss and 1 sack and almost single-handedly turned the game around. The Hawks survived the late pushback from the Blue Eagles thanks in large part to the play of their defensive front on Scarborough's final drive. **Clelin Ferrell** flashed never-seen-before speed in tracking down **Joe Burrow** and burying him for a 17-yard loss just before the two-

minute warning. The setback was too large to overcome on a day when the Brooklin defence was playing exceptionally well. However, in a sign that this happy moment could be a rare occurrence in 2021, the team's star player, **DeAndre Hopkins**, was again limited in his impact, catching just 3 passes in 7 targets. Teams are determined to take Hopkins out of the game and, with no other dangerous options to turn to, Carr has so far been avoiding Hopkins' side of the field. That will have to change if the Hawks hope for sustained success.

At the Fish Tank in Sebastian, the North Stars strafed the Swordfish 44-25 in a failed exhibition of an alternate strategy to stop the Budapest machine. Sebastian's innovative coach, **Russ Lemmon**, continues to think outside the box in developing game plans and making tactical decisions on the field. In Week Three, Lemmon went outside the box by putting safeties *into* the box to deal with a threat that, in the end, never materialized. It is not apparent what intel Lemmon possessed that caused him to focus his defensive game plan on the North Stars' running backs – a quintet of journeymen so obscure that the average attentive fan would struggle to name one. Nevertheless, while **Stefon Diggs** and **Justin Jefferson** ran amok in the undermanned and largely undefended secondary, the Swordfish defence was attentive to the possibility, however unlikely, that one of either **Cordarrelle Patterson** or **David Johnson** would catch them off guard and break a run for more than 10 yards. This strange medicine had the effect of injecting steroids into the Budapest passing attack. **Aaron Rodgers** – not known for gaudy numbers even in his prime – lit up the Fish for 450 yards and 4 TDs through the air, completing 31 of 37 for a 153.4 passer rating on the day. On the plus side, the Swordfish strategy did succeed in limiting the Budapest run game, holding them to just 61 yards on 17 carries and forcing Rodgers to “pass-out the clock,” which he did to the tune of 150 yards and 2 TD passes. “When you have a lead and you want to keep the ball and burn off some clock, you take what the defence gives you,” Rodgers explained after the game, when it was insinuated that he was trying to run up the score. “They weren't showing any signs of letting up on offence, so if they're going to let our receivers run free, I'm going to take that late in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter, or mid-way in the 4<sup>th</sup>.” If there is a silver lining for Sebastian, it was their success in moving the ball against a tough North Star defence. But then, we knew the offence wasn't the problem. It always would be the defence and whatever crazy scheme the coach comes up with on any given Sunday.

At Kelly-Burke Field in Erieau, the Cadillac stayed on target for a 120-point season by dropping a yawner to East Elmhurst, 14-6. The Erieau defence did its part in keeping the Irish at bay through 3 quarters, intercepting **Baker Mayfield** twice and establishing control over the line of scrimmage. However, with the offence under **Kyler Murray** playing with astonishing ineptitude – even for them – it was just a matter of time before the dam burst the other way. Mayfield lobbed a screen pass to **Aaron Jones**, who got a nice lead block from **Mekhi Becton** and found a crease for a 24-yard scoring play. Now trailing 7-6, with 8 minutes left in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter, the Cadillac made a bold move for an offence that had punted on 5 of its 6 possessions: They elected to go for it on 4<sup>th</sup> & 1 at the 50 and wound up botching it in comedic fashion, with Murray spinning to the wrong side attempting to hand the ball off to **Najee Harris**. The busted play resulted in a 4-yard loss, possession for East Elmhurst and a 6-play TD drive that put the visitors in front 14-6. That was more than enough insurance for the Irish, who held on to win by the same score and take sole possession of first place in the South Division. I am not going to make the same error with the Irish that I made with the Caddies after Week one. However, they have a relatively light schedule ahead of them, save for dates with Budapest and Charleswood, and could sneak up on the lesser competition and be relevant.

At Jurassic Park in Durham, a steady rain was unable to slow down **Josh Allen** and the Thunder Lizards as they stomped on the Excaliburs, 52-25. This was actually a more evenly-played contest than the lop-sided score suggests. The Swords moved the ball fairly well early in the game against an excellent Durham defence. They trailed by an extra point, down just 7-6 and in control of the ball with 10 minutes left in the 1<sup>st</sup> half. However, **Tom Brady** tried to force a throw through a tight window to **Danny Amendola** and the wet ball may have affected his control. The pass fluttered and was tipped by safety **Justin Simmons** into the arms of **Fred Warner** for the interception. It was the first of three interceptions thrown by Brady and four York turnovers that would tilt the game decisively in the Lizards' favour. Allen threw 5 touchdown passes, 3 of them covering more than 40 yards, and finished with 393 yards through the air and a 150.4 passer rating. York is not built to come from behind at the best of times, but against the voracious Thunder Lizard secondary they hardly stood a chance. Durham looks real enough for me after three weeks. Wake me up when they go up against Budapest in Week 13.

At Wilhalla Stadium in Minneapolis, the Wrecking Balls got into the win column by slithering past the Triumph, 15-13. Kicker, **Chris Boswell** was the star of the show for New Jersey, kicking five field goals in five attempts to account for all of the scoring. This was a much-needed win for the floundering Jereseyites but it provided little more than technical relief for the fanbase. This was far from an inspiring victory, even if Boswell did make the game-winning kick somewhat dramatically from 36 yards out with 0:11 left on the clock. The Triumph appear to be not much better than last year with placeholder **Mitch Trubisky** in control of the offence. He knows that every game he plays could be his last. Having a lame duck QB did not stop **Guy Williams** from being aggressive. With 0:01 left in the 1<sup>st</sup> and the Triumph in possession at the New Jersey 7, Williams told the field goal unit to stand down and kept the offence on the field. Trubisky, looking composed in the pocket, delivered a strike to **Antonio Brown** crossing the middle of the end zone for a touchdown, which put the Triumph up by 7-6 at the time. The Triumph will be dangerous again some day.

At the Assassin's Den in Las Vegas, the Pilots finally got their plane off the ground but were eventually forced to an early landing when **Ka'imi Fairbairn** kicked a 40-yard field goal in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter for the difference in a 24-21 Las Vegas victory. Seattle flashed some of last year's fighting spirit by overturning three quarters of frustration with 14-point explosion in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter that tied the game. The Assassins kept their composure, however, and finished off a fine day at the office with a disciplined FG drive to secure the win and a share of first place in the West with Chino at 3-0.

And finally, at The Fortress in Bruxelles, the Bombers notched their first victory of the year, 38-27 over the hapless Crusaders, who at times did not look quite as hapless as expected. The Bombers will take the win and try to forget that their defence currently has the tensile strength of a wet paper bag.

# BUG THE BOOKIE!

## JIMMY THE GEEK GIVES YOU HIS PICKS FOR WEEK FOUR EFL ACTION

*Your source for fantasy and on-line betting solutions*



RECORD VS THE SPREAD AFTER WEEK 3:

20-15-1

### *Jimmy's WEEK FOUR PICKS*

#### **BUFFALO @ YORK (line – Pick'Em)**

**INJURIES:** Buffalo – L'Jarius Sneed (OUT), Jaquiski Tartt (OUT); York – Cole Holcomb (OUT), Kolton Miller (OUT).

I understand why Vegas is sitting on the fence for this game: We do not have a good grasp of where either team is heading in the long term and there is hardly a match-up history to gauge how the coaches play each other. For what it's worth (and it isn't much), York eked out a 16-6 road win in 2018, when Josh Rosen was the Buffalo QB. Lamar Jackson brings a new dimension to the offence but it is so far a it-and-miss dimension. Buffalo got Mike Davis involved in the rushing attack and stole a game off Virden last week. It made Lamar more effective as a passer. They need more of that. The Excaliburs dropped in several statistical categories after getting lambasted by Durham. That was a game that got away from them early and the Lizards feasted. York is better than that and if they can keep the ground game rolling with Derrick Henry, expect Tom Brady to be more effective against a Buffalo secondary missing a couple of key pieces. I could go either way, but York is built to keep Lamar off the field and they are at home. **PICK: YORK**

#### **NEW JERSEY @ BROOKLIN (line – WRECKING BALLS by 3)**

**INJURIES:** New Jersey – Calais Campbell (OUT); Brooklin – Austin Ekeler (OUT), Taylor Lewan (OUT), Trai Turner (OUT), Leighton Vander Esch (OUT).

Both teams gained temporary reprieve from the panic button with desperately-needed victories last week. However, one of these squads will be pushing it after this game, as a fall to 1-3 for either club will create debilitating pressure down the road. The Hawks' response to the focus of opponents on DeAndre Hopkins has been to hand the ball off to Austin Ekeler. When he went down against Scarborough, they handed the ball off to Boston Scott. This strategy has a short shelf life. At some point, Brooklin will have to increase Hopkins' targets above his current average of 5 per game, regardless of their opponents' strategy. The Wrecking Balls squeaked by an inferior Triumph team last week thanks to five field goals. A lack of chutzpah in the red zone has the Balls ranked last in the league in TD% there. For some reason, they can't kickstart the run game, although running the same play over and over might have something to do with that. Until they fix it, the Balls should not be favourites on the road against anybody. **PICK: BROOKLIN**

#### **PICKERING @ COBB COUNTY (line – COYOTES by 10)**

**INJURIES:** Pickering – Derek Wolfe (PROBABLE), Richie Incognito (OUT), Karl Joseph (OUT); Cobb County – None.

The Coyotes' defence answered doubts about their pedigree with a commanding performance last week against the talent-rich Charleswood offence. Meanwhile, their offence hummed efficiently as Ryan Tannehill reverted to last year's form. It looks like Cobb County may just be getting started. On the Spartans' side the situation could not be bleaker. The offence on which they had been counting to resurrect their prospects has been horrible, ranked last in points scored and last in every meaningful passing category due to Philip Rivers looking like a 50-year-old man. There isn't a viable option behind him although I would not put it past the coach to put Jalen Hurts out there, as it can't get much worse. It may be time to dial back all the home run swings off play-action and actually establish the run first. The line is uncomfortably large but the Spartans are unpickable right now. **PICK: COBB COUNTY**

#### **BUDAPEST @ BRUXELLES (line – NORTH STARS by 9)**

**INJURIES:** Budapest – None; Bruxelles – Frank Ragnow (OUT).

If it wasn't there already, the North Stars are currently projecting an aura of invincibility after dismantling Sebastian last week. Aaron Rodgers put up gaudy numbers of the kind he was rumoured to be still capable of, but which had not been seen in many years. However, before we anoint Budapest, King of the Hill, please note that Rodgers posted those numbers against a perversely contrarian

Swordfish defensive game plan, one I won't delve into here. Expect the Bombers to be more conventional and attempt to stop the strength of the Budapest attack. Good luck to them. The Bombers' defence is dead last in efficiency and confirmed their dysfunctionality last week by letting Peg City to put up 27 points on them. Bruxelles hasn't stopped anybody and won't start here. **PICK: BUDAPEST**

### **GEORGIA @ VIRDEN (line – VIOLATORS by 4)**

**INJURIES:** Georgia – Melvin Ingram III (OUT), Byron Jones (OUT); Virden – Anthony Barr (OUT), Dee Ford (OUT), Malik Hooker (OUT), Kelechi Osemele (OUT), Solomon Thomas (OUT).

The partial off-season deconstruction of the Violators resulted in a rare defect: Only 4 linebackers on the roster, one of whom is a natural defensive end. So, when one of them goes down – as Anthony Barr did last week – it creates a serious and exploitable hole in the overall defensive scheme. Again, it will come down to Patrick Mahomes playing his way out of the mess his team's baffling off-season moves created. Against a Glads' defence that is currently playing well over its head at no.19 overall in team rankings, Mahomes carrying Virden to victory is more than plausible. But Georgia's offence is enjoying a modest renaissance under the veteran hand of Ben Roethlisberger, who kept pace with Matt Ryan last week and earned his team a tie. With no linebackers to clog the passing lanes, Big Ben could enjoy success against a talented but thin Virden secondary. Will it be enough? Probably not, but it will be fun to watch! **PICK: VIRDEN**

### **CHARLESWOOD @ OSHAWA (line – PATRIOTS by 6)**

**INJURIES:** Charleswood – Desmond Trufant (OUT); Oshawa – Julian Edelman (OUT), K'Waun Williams (OUT).

The highly-weaponized Pats' offence hit a speed bump at 80 mph last week in Cobb County. DeShaun Watson's inaccuracy rose eyebrows, but of greater concern was the complete lack of a run game. Alvin Kamara got just 2 carries against a defence that was begging the Pats to run. Balance on offence must be restored or this supposedly high-octane race car will spin off the track. The Oshawa press is making a virtue of "baby steps" in finding something positive in the Pink Panthers' Week 3 tie vs Georgia. Let's just say that Aurora fans wouldn't tolerate it, even if we never got a chance to see them react to a poor start. The Oshawa attack is also lacking in commitment to the run and opponents are not fooled. Matt Ryan leads the league in picks, with 4, and that number will keep going up if defences are allowed to pin their ears back. The Pats should cover, but a crisis of confidence will hold them back. **PICK: OSHAWA**

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

**INJURIES:** Twin Cities – Kenny Golladay (OUT), Avonte Maddox (OUT), Emmanuel Mosley (OUT); Erieau – Brian Poole (OUT), Tyron Smith (OUT).

The Cadillac have suddenly blown a gasket offensively, now ranking dead last in efficiency and passing yards per game. An effort to get the run game rolling is not yielding dividends in the passing game as Kyler Murray struggles to find open receivers. The Caddie QB has not completed a pass with air travel over 15 yards, an astonishing stat that explains the inertia of their offence. The Triumph attack under Mitch Trubisky is nothing to fear on an average Sunday, but it is finding the end zone often enough to give it an edge in this contest if the Erieau defence is unable to assert itself. Triumph fans are clamouring for the Messiah after offensive woes obstructed a potential win over the Wrecking Balls last week. Unlike on prior occasions, the Twin Cities coach did not discount the possibility and had not announced a starter as of this writing. Absent the Anointed One, this will be an unpredictable and unwatchable game. **PICK: ERIEAU**

### **EAST ELMHURST @ PEG CITY (line – IRISH by 7)**

**INJURIES:** East Elmhurst – Mike Remmers (DOUBTFUL); Peg City – David Long Jr (DOUBTFUL), Josh Allen (OUT), Jonathan Bullard (OUT), Devin Bush (OUT), Taylor Rapp (OUT), Jalen Thompson (OUT).

The South Division leading Irish (yes, you read that right) travel to face a Crusaders team that has a legitimate shot at going winless this season. So, the prospects of East Elmhurst gaining an early "stranglehold" on the division lead are quite good with their rivals in tough against better Central division competition. Of course, a decision by the Irish coach to "rest" his better starters on the road against the sick man of the Central could end up being too-clever-by-far, as the Pegs are at home and, somehow, capable of putting points on the board, as they showed against Bruxelles last week. The Peg City run game has not been the disaster people expected (although still not good) and the defence has not completely collapsed yet. Until then, the flame of hope flickers, if faintly. **PICK: EAST ELMHURST**

### **SEATTLE @ DURHAM (line – THUNDER LIZARDS by 12)**

**INJURIES:** Seattle – Olivier Vernon (OUT); Durham – Cesar Ruiz (QUESTIONABLE), David DeCastro (OUT).

The Pilots displayed a pulse last week in a dogged but doomed effort against the Assassins. Gardner Minshew II threw 3 TD passes in relief of an unready Trey Lance and may have earned himself a start. Or not. The Pilots appear willing to mix and match QBs on rotational basis as if they were running backs. It is hard to get in a rhythm that way, but it is not hard to envision all three making appearances this week against the predatory Lizards' defence. Durham punished the Excaliburs last week for having the temerity to stay close to them for a quarter-and-a-half. Seattle could fall into that same danger zone if they fall behind by more than one score too early

and have to press. Whoever the QB, Seattle must slow the game down, play for the takeaway on D and pray for rain. **PICK: DURHAM**

### **SEBASTIAN @ CHINO (line – CONVICTS by 4)**

**INJURIES:** Sebastian – Jadeveon Clowney (OUT), Bobby Massie (OUT); Chino – AJ Bouye (OUT), Lorenzo Carter (OUT), Erick Flowers Sr (OUT), Dak Prescott (OUT), Mike Purcell (OUT).

The Convicts are coming off a huge but costly win over the Cubs. Dak Prescott went down with a serious leg injury, meaning Teddy Bridgewater will get the start for Chino. Bridgewater is a very solid back-up, but he is still a back-up and can't be counted on to produce at Prescott's level. Where that puts Chino in relation to the Swordfish defence is a bit of a guess, but we know it is not bad. Sebastian is on pace to surrender well over 500 points, which would put it in some historically bad company. Coming off a blowout loss to Budapest inflates the struggles, but this is a back-11 that will tire as the game progresses, so the Felons need to be patient. The Swordfish will be counting on their offence to break what has been a bend-not-break Chino defence. They can do it both ways – on the ground and through the air – but expect them to run first and pass for big gains second. Intriguing match-up will be close. **PICK: SEBASTIAN**

### **LAS VEGAS @ SCARBOROUGH (line – ASSASSINS by 7)**

**INJURIES:** Las Vegas – Matt Judon (PROBABLE), Ethan Pocic (OUT); Scarborough – Nick Bosa (OUT), Landon Collins (OUT), DeSean Jackson (OUT), Zack Martin (OUT).

The Blue Eagles are wondering how their no.5 ranked defence gave up over 400 yards to a Brooklin offence that had sputtered through the season's opening two weeks. Worse, their offence could not move the ball against a Hawks' defence that had been ground into submission over the same time period. Chalk it up to the unusual mojo in the Hawk's first game in their new stadium. Can the Eagles be trusted to rebound? Joe Burrow is struggling to find his no.1 target, Allen Robinson II while Chris Carson has been kind of an afterthought in the run game. It will take those two to crack a steely Assassins' 'D' featuring strengths at each level. Going the other way, Dalvin Cook could have a big day against a lightweight defensive front. If not, Justin Herbert is good enough. **PICK: LAS VEGAS**

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

**INJURIES:** Cowtown – Jimmy Garoppolo (OUT); Iowa City – None.

The Cubs have dropped two tough ones to division rivals and are on the outside looking in in the early leg of the division race. Last week their magician Russell Wilson failed to pull a rabbit out of his hat in the critical moments attempting a comeback in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter. Wilson may need an oil change after all the mileage he has put on. The Corn King pass rush will challenge him to make plays on the run in passing situations, so establishing the run will be key. The Corn Kings scraped out a win in the rain last week and look to continue building momentum toward their big game vs Durham in Week 5. But the Cubs are no pushover on either side of the ball and the Cowtown running game must improve or it could be a long day. Take the Cubs, at home, with something to prove. **PICK: IOWA CITY**



CHANNEL  
**ANCIENT HISTORY**  
CHANNEL  
PRESENTS  
*This Week in EFL History*  
*With Professor Sterling Smitherman*

FROM THE EFL ARCHIVES – Week Three of the 2015 EFL season saw an upset at the Coliseum in Gwinnett. The Durham Thunder Lizards' offence struggled in the red zone for the third straight week but this time it cost them in the standings as they dropped their first game of the season, 24-16 to the Gladiators. The Glads of 2015 were a good team but the Lizards were supposed to be a notch-and-a-half better. Penalties and four missed fourth-down conversions caused a sideline episode by Durham coach, **George Kaldis** that brought national attention for being almost as shocking as a **Gus Konstantakos** tantrum!

The game of the week took place in York between the Excaliburs and the Corn Kings. **Tom Brady** led an 81-yard TD drive in the waning seconds of the 4<sup>th</sup>, hitting James Jones for a 9-yard TD pass with 0:05 left to tie the game at 28 and send it to overtime. The Master carried on, leading another TD drive on the first series of OT for the 34-38 win. It was kind of collapse Cowtown would get used to against York. Looking to put the game away early in the 4<sup>th</sup>, **Joe Flacco** was picked off in the end zone by **Micah Hyde**, giving Brady the opening that he needed.

**Arian Foster** of the Aurora Mustangs earned Offensive Player of the Week for his 30 carries, 170 yards and 2 TDs in a 31-14 win over the Blue Eagles. On the defensive side of Player of the Week honours, **Clay Matthews** of the Beaufort County Ravens was recognized for his 4-sack effort in a 32-17 win over the LA Knights.

By Week Three, 3 undefeated teams remained, but only two of them were perfect: the Patriots and Mustangs, both powerhouses, sported 3-0 records. The Beaufort County Ravens, laboring under QB, **Troy Hill**, stood at 2-0-1 after a Week Two tie with the Cubs.

*Those were the days:* At Week Three, **Cam Newton** led all quarterbacks with 8 TD passes and a 113.6 passer rating.