

LMR 03 - Week 13

Silverado

Week 13 was unlucky for some teams in the NFL while others thrived. Those with triskadeekaphobia included division leaders Tennessee, Dallas and Indy, while the beneficiaries included the Aeronauticals, Nati Who-Deys and KC Baby Backs. The Who Dey-Blitzburgh and Chowds-Horsies games were noteworthy inasmuch as both came down to the final firework-laden possession before the games were decided. Head coaches Bill (Iron Chin) Cowher and Tony Dungy(ness crab) were looking for bridges to jump off after seeing their teams fail in the final seconds. On the other side of the ledger, marvelous Who-Dey coach Marvin (Jerry) Lewis' face was its usual rubbery self, breaking into a broad grin as his kids maintained control of the AFC North division with an uncharacteristic come-from-behind win over the Tissue Paper Curtain defense.

Vikes Coach Enny (no-D) Green used to break the season in four 4-game components for his teams. Each 4-game stretch was a mini-season, and evaluated independently of the rest of the schedule. In Enny's philosophy, the playoff picture rounds into shape in Week 13, with the stretch run determining the playoff contestants. Nine 2002 playoff teams are looking to cue up Auld Lang Syne at home in 2003. The Browns, Aeronauticals, Dirty Birds, Blitzburgh, G-Men, and Seven Squareds join the 2 conference reps in Super Bowl XXXVII which don't look to see the postseason in 2003. The topsy-turvy nature of the NFL has never been more evident than in 2003.

Chowds @ Horsies - Game of the Week:

Tony (Hume Cronyn) Dungy is looking to open a string of crab shacks in Naptown, while hoping that won't be his only employment option. Dungy(ness) was looking to serve up a special seafood feast made of the East Coast Chowds. The Horsies, who embarrassed themselves in last season's playoffs with a 41-0 shellacking courtesy of the Aeronauticals, were in possession of first place in the rugged AFC South division going into last Sunday. The Chowds rolled into town for a clambake, starting to get healthy after a MASH unit opening. Since they were on a roll, they decided they must be buttah, and broke out to a big lead on the strength of Tom (Greg) Brady's right arm. Their physical defense roughed up the Horsies, knocking out TE Dallas (JR) Clark, along with FBs Detron (High Test) Smith and James Mungro (Jerry) in the process.

With 12 seconds left in the half Hume Cronyn let his Alzheimer's get the best of him, deciding to kickoff deep to New England's Bethel(hem) Johnson. Johnson made him pay, taking it to the House on an exciting 96-yard return. Hume had a little trouble swallowing that going into the half, and his indigestion made him come with a more palatable game plan in the second half of play. The Brady Bunch was looking at a 31-7 lead courtesy of the shepherd boy's kick return.

Payless Dogboy Manning then took matters into his own paw, ripping off scores at will and turning the Chowd defense into a Buccaneer look-alike. Dogboy tried to put the kibosh on his "stinks-in-a-big-game reputation, and tied the score at 31. The Brady Bunch wasn't thru, and decided they wanted to shoot a reunion show that was a takeoff on their Hawaii episode. Greg Brady went deep to put them up 38-31, and that's when things got interesting.

Hume decided to eschew the TD in the red zone, sending Mike (Yacht Boy) Vanderjagt out to make it 38-34, with minutes left in the 4th quarter. Yacht Boy has been incredible this season, going perfect from 3-point land, so it's hard to blame Hume. Unfortunately, that sealed the Horsies fate, as they still needed six to win. Dogboy marched them deep into the red zone with a nifty no-huddle offense, setting up a first and goal inside the ten. With many of his offensive weapons in the hospital, the Horsies O-Coordinator Tom Moore called running plays, and (Big) Ted Washington and Willie McGinest had a little horse meat for dinner. After stuffing Edgerrin James 3 times, the Chowds knocked Indy out of the AFC South lead for good with seconds remaining.

"We got down to the one and I called the timeout thinking going over to the sideline that we were going to get into our goal-line offense," Manning said. "But when I got there, we didn't have goal line because the whole team is hurt. We had no fullback and no tight end. That's what it came down to. We had no personnel options." When interviewed by the NFL Channel after the game, former Horsies head coach Jim Mora said, "In my opinion, that sucks. Playoffs?! Playoffs?! We just want to win another game. You guys in the media think you know, but you don't. And you never will." Mora then uttered Brian Dennehy's classic line to Kevin Kline in *Silverado*, saying, "Bad luck, Peyton."

"We ran plays that we run down there," Dungy said of his four failed attempts inside the Patriots 2. "Unfortunately, I couldn't find the swimming pool that had the alien fountain of youth in it, so I had to stay here on Earth with Steve Guttenberg and Tawny Kitaen."

Bengals @ Stillers:

The Bengals were looking to earn their stripes at Blitzburgh with consecutive road wins as part of their unusual 3 game road trip. QB Jon Pickna was sharp, as he solidified his MVP candidacy with some sweet first half scores. Pickna is coming off like a bad Mission Impossible episode where he peels off a mask at the end and reveals that he is really Joe Montana in disguise.

The Stillers have already been disavowed this year with Jerome (Bus) Bettis driving the team off the cliff and the once vaunted defense giving up scores like a high school slut on barbiturates. They faced a must-win game over a team that they handled on the road, and looked shabby in the process.

Tommy (That Deaf Dumb and Blind Kid) Maddox took advantage of a soft Bengals zone in the second half and torched the Bengals D for a score with 1:03 remaining. Announcer Steve (A Tisker A) Tasker wondered how the Bengals would respond after a disappointing loss. The Look Man wondered what A-Tisker was smoking with 1:03 left? Sure enough, Mr. Phelps takes his Impossible Mission Force downfield after a nice return by RB Brandname Bennett.

Brandname also contributed a nice draw play run out of the spread, and when Peter (P-Dub) Warrick picked a Pickna pass off the turf, things looked ugly for the Stillers. But not as ugly as they looked a couple of plays later when Pickna drilled TE Aaron Schoebel (Bakery) with a TD pass with 13 ticks left. Schoebel's catch was reviewed by the booth, but Ref Bernie (the Kook) Kukar, for some unknown reason, penalized the Stillers DB for drilling him after the catch. Bakery has been open like a convenience store all year but Pickna is just now figuring that out.

Afterwards, Marvin Lewis went Silverado as well, asking the stunned reporters in his best Danny Glover impression, "Ever seen a Pickna rifle in the hands of a man who knows how to use one?" Brian Billick(goat) is hoping to avoid playing the Jeff Goldblum role on Sunday, when his second place Flintstones attempt to regain the AFC North lead in a key matchup with his former pupil.

The real question was who was calling the defense for the Stillers? They blitzed with man coverage deep. When they got no pressure, Pickna often took off running while he had Stiller DB's running backwards in coverage right in front of him the whole way. Pickna could have prepared and eaten a sandwich on most of the pass plays.

The Bengals are set up for a Titanic struggle vs. the Flintstones in Bedrock next week; Billick(goat) was apparently trying to scare them with a 4th and 5 run for a TD while up 37-6 and under a minute left in the 7-Squared thrashing. Niners Coach Dennis Ericksson shook his hand afterwards, and gave him a free cell phone along with an easy win. It was obvious that the 7-Squareds WRs were scared, batting up balls to waiting Flintstones. Ed (Dino) Reed barked his way to a turnover and LB Ray(-Ray) Lewis scored for the first time in the regular season to go along with his 18 tackles.

Browns @ Shehawks:

The Coffeetown Shehawks came to play and Cleveland didn't. Game over, man, game over as the Browns absorb their worst beating since their expansion come-back.

Vikes @ St Lew:

Vikes QB Daunte (Stuffed) Culpepper spoke with Hume Cronyn during the week, and decided to open up a Midwest bakery chain with turnovers galore. He threw a TD to Mouflons safety Aeneas (Fables) Williams, who turned back the clock and burned Vikes RB (Curly) Moe Williams and Stuffed to the House, looking very old while doing it.

The story of this game was Mike (Megalomaniac) Martz coming back to his senses and featuring Marshall (Dillon) Faulk instead of his struggling big-armed QB. As a result, the Lambs baahed all over the Vikes, 41-28, in a laughter. The Lambs defense deserves some credit, despite over 400 yards total offense allowed. Stuffed threw for over 3 bills, and Mouth Moss caught balls for a buck sixty, but the six pointers were scarce. The Vikes now need to beat the Shehawks or face a long cold winter catching slimers in Fargo.

DE Leonard Little returned for 4 sacks in one game after a long injury stint, and S Adam (Ant) Archuleta is healthy again. Little's previous infamy was derived from killing 2 people in a DUI deal in St. Louis. The Browns O-line may feel like they were run over by a car after Monday night's full moon tilt. With these weapons, the Lambs look like lions (not THOSE lions!!), as they head to C-Town.

Tampa @ J-Squared:

The Battle for Central Florida was on the ESPN Sunday slate with the Expensive Corn Kings travelling to J-ville to resurrect a sorry season. Despite questionable coaching, J-Squared rookie QB Byron Rightwich is very talented. Of course, he can also step up to throw without having to worry about someone breaking his tibia, unlike Kelly Holcomb in C-town.

The J-squared offense includes former Browns WR Kevin (KJ) Johnson, who was looking for a handle on 1 ball, had 1 bad drop and 1 thrown behind him. Despite a lackluster performance he was seen talking smack to the Tampa DBs, who simply laughed at him for going from one bad team to another. J-Squared coach Jack Del Rio has replaced the ax and the stump in the locker room with a feather duster, but the defense is looking very physical as Corn King's QB (Bad) Brad Johnson will attest. Bad Brad got decleated at least twice, and his WRs became more reptilian as the night went on.

After a sweet Rightwich bomb to WR Jimmy (Blow) Smith to go up 17-10, Kings coach Jon (Chucky) Gruden was looking for the doll maker to get him out of there. DT Warren Sapp was single blocked by C Brad Meester (can you spare a dime) most of the night, and a rookie QB took the Tampa D to school. Stick a fork in the Bucs, because they are done.

MNF:

Tacks @ Aeronauticals:

Air McNair returned from his injury of the week hoping to steal a win and first place in the AFC South after Indy's loss on Sunday. No one told the Aeronauticals to lay down, as (Hanging) Chad Pennington played out of his mind in the second half, going 8 for 8 passing. While both QBs threw for 2 TDs and 2 picks, Pennington did it in crunch time, including a sweet TD pass to WR Harry Swayne. Air ran out of time and pain killing injections, and the Tacks-Horsies matchup next Sunday is now huge.

Zebra of the Week:

The Turkey Day Pokes-Marine Mammals game featured some bad calls early on Fish fumbles. Horsies-Chowds was another 4-timeout fiasco, and Side Judge Rick (Floyd) Patterson got concussed by Flintstones LB Ed Hartwell during a TD celebration (look for a fine to ensue on that hit). To complicate matters, last week's winner Tom (Snow) White donated half a game check to

charity for giving the Flintstones 4 timeouts in Week 12. Bernie (The Kook) Kukar slammed the Replay Official in the Bengals-Stillers game after Shoebel's TD, saying, "The receiver got one, two, three feet dahwn. The play stands as called. Touchdahwn." The Kook earned an Honorable Mention and an invitation to go Mike Ditka while singing *Take Me Out to the Ballgame* at Wrigley next season.

Walt (Disney) Anderson solidified his bid in the Tacks-Aeronauticals Monday nighter for failing to call 3 significant and game altering penalties. Walt (Disney) Anderson went *Fantasia* on the Jersey WR Curtis (Tim) Conway push off in the endzone for the game winning TD. Conway looked like Admiral Binghamton as he barged into Tacks CB Tony (Bend It Like) Beckham before a sweet pirouetting toe-tapper. "I was paying homage to Drew Pearson in the Vikes-Pokes '75 playoff game on that one", said the Lieutenant. "Of course, Drew didn't have all the camera angles that I did, but with those ugly green uniforms we were wearing, I had to do something!" On the second and third, Tacks TE [and frequent visitor to the Concussion Zone] Frank Wychek and TE Erron Kinney (Shoes) were mauled by safety Sam Games on consecutive throws that effectively ended the Tacks' chances. Walt Anderson, you are the Look Man's **Zebra of the Week**. "Hey, I'm going to Disneyworld!"

Miscellaneous:

The more physical Chowds roughed up the Lucky Charms, perhaps ruining their shot at the AFC South Title AND the playoffs. What does bear repeating was the cheating by Bill (Dr. Evil) Belichick at the end of the game. With zero timeouts, both McGinest and another Chowd came up lame, while Dr. Evil and Romeo Crennel strategized. Afterwards, McGinest returned to stuff Edge on 4th and goal, showing no signs of injury.

The NFL Rule Book allows for this without a penalty, and Dr. Evil knows the rules like nobody's business. The no-huddle by the Horsies was effectively nullified by this tactic, and it probably saved the game for the Chowds. Meanwhile Brady Bunch LB Mike Vrabel ran down the field helmetless but got no penalty. Apparently, that helmet rule only applies to players in Cleveland, where the plastic bottles don't pack much of a wallop when the strike referees. Can you say 'tuck rule'?

These guys have more lives than James Bond, and may now be positioned for a stretch run to the playoffs. The Look Man sees them as the hottest team in the AFC, and the only one readily capable of beating the Chiefs in Arrowhead in January.

Horsies K Yacht Boy hasn't missed yet this season and he had better do so before the playoffs. The idiot kicker could wind up like Gary (Lord of the Rings) Anderson, whose perfect streak ended in the NFC Championship game between the Vikes and Dirty Birds. Gary hasn't been back to The Shire since that episode, though he is now kicking for the Thumbtacks, who obviously can't find a helmet to fit his head either.

Dodge is featuring a Pay-Per-View halftime attraction for Super Bowl XXXVIII called the Lingerie Bowl. The game will highlight models in lingerie playing touch football. The teams are coached by Hall of Famers Lawrence Taylor and Eric Dickerson, and will feature models Nikki Ziering and Angie Everhardt. The \$20 PPV fee includes personal lubricants for the patrons, for use when the players hit the showers for the cameras. In a crossover move, Dodge's "Ram Tough" campaign is including Ramses prophylactics on the dashboard of each truck sold. Dick Dog's Squad posed for the Look Man in an LMR exclusive, below:



Dick Dog could... go...all...the...way with this crew.

For a full report, check the attached URL.

http://money.cnn.com/2003/12/02/news/companies/dodge_lingerie/

In a bizarre story, a pack of wild pit bulls outside Denver killed a woman and bit several other folks despite taking several shotgun blasts. Then again, maybe it was just because Lawrence Taylor was in town, saying, "Let's just go out and play like a pack of wild dogs!" Other speculation has it that Dawg Pound denizens living outside of Denver were simply getting ready for the upcoming Browns-Denver game. For a full recap, check the following URL.

<http://www.msnbc.com/news/1000250.asp?vts=120220030924>

Golfer Tiger Woods asked Swedish model Elin Nordegren to marry him last week, making her the newest multi-millionaire on this Big Blue Marble. While Elin is a hottie of some magnitude, Tiger must have lost his mind. Of course she is fine enough to make a man want to engage in alternative lifestyle acts with her father, and now she's rich to boot. The saying goes, "Why buy the cow if you're getting the milk for free?" Of course, that *is* one fine bovine.



Tiger says, "D'oh!! What was I thinking?" Like we can't surmise.

Tony Banks' broken hand has de-railed another promising mini-season and a chance to take Carmen Policy to the cleaners in 2004. The Browns are looking for a QB in the offseason and the Browns need someone to compliment a defense that is bound to get better. The Look Man would love to see Iggles QB AJ (Touchy) Feeley or Lambs QB Kurt Warner in Browns' orange. Of course, Kurt Warner's wife couldn't make it in C-town, but she would get along well with William (Red) Green's fiancée Asia.

Speaking of Red, he has been missing from Possum Lodge since Asia's domestic violence arrest, and now faces additional suspension by the NFL for drug rehab. The police found marijuana in 4 separate places while responding to the 911 call. Red is unlikely to play in 2003, but he is looking for PBS to bring him back in a Siegfried & Roy type show featuring knife throwing with Asia.

President George (Dubya) Bush took Air Force One to the Genocide Victims-Black Cats game last week in a top secret mission. Dubya, engaging in a rare example of unilateralism, decided that embattled GV coach Steve (I Got) Spurrier(s That Jingle, Jangle, Jingle) needed some love from the White House. "I didn't even tell mom and dad I was going. They were 'spectin' me for dinner on Sunday", said the Prez.

While the White House originally stated that a US Air pilot asked, "Did I just see Air Force One down there in the Erickson Stadium parking lot?", they later recanted. "We never said the pilot saw Air Force One; it was actually Strom Thurmond who noticed it.", said staffers. When notified that Thurmond was actually deceased at the time, staffers would say only, "Oh."

Taxpayers who wondered why Dubya spent their hard earned tax dollars on ridiculous photo opportunities had their season tickets revoked under the Patriot Act.

Looking Ahead:

There are a number of big games this week, so it should be a football paradise. To wit:

Pokes @ Lincoln Financial:

The hottest team in the NFC takes on the surprising Starheads for NFC Least supremacy. The Iggles match WRs James (Take Out the Papers and the) Thrash and Todd (Rundgren) Pinkston against the WWF (Williams-Woodson and Friends). In a surprise move, Bill Parcells sent CB Derek (Marian) Ross to play with Potsy because of his 2 kick return fumbles on Turkey Day. The 'Boys have been shut out in their last 2 road losses and the Birds are threatening to replace Rundgren with WR (Fast) Freddy Mitchell to take advantage of the deep ball.

The D-Ross cut was a Machiavellian master stroke which will be the difference maker. Suddenly CBs Mario Edwards and Pete Hunter will become Patrick Surtain and Sam Madison, shutting down the Birds deep ball and opening up their rib cages like a post Thanksgiving turkey carcass [in a little known fact, Philly's Ben Franklin wanted the wild turkey to be the national bird, not the Bald Eagle. Franklin acquiesced when told his photo would be on the US \$100 bill]. Despite popular opinion to the contrary, the Look Man expects the Pokes to prevail with 10 days to prepare.

Horsies @ Tacks:

A big AFC South showdown occurs on Sunday as the Lucky Charms head to Nashville to face the Flaming Thumbtacks. Although the Horsies are reminiscent of the Far Side cartoon of the horse hospital, where the doctor is going from bed to bed with a shotgun, the Tacks aren't too healthy either. Tacks LB Rocky (Adrienne) Calmus has a broken leg, and Steve (Air) McNair's calf grounded him in the second half at the Meadowlands.

The Horsies can't go to the 2 TE set this week due to injury, but they do have WR Aaron (Cravin') Moorehead and the spread offense. Cravin' Moorehead is Sean Connery's favorite player and is best known for running the wrong pattern in the goal line formation last week vs. the Chowds.

The Horsies are looking down the barrel of a shotgun and the Look Man is picking the Tacks in a close one.

Bungals @ Flintstones:

Flintstones LB Ray-Ray is looking for blood after losing to his former coach on the road. The Bengals are looking for respect, and can get it and a lock on the AFC North title with a win on Sunday.

The Look Man is betting that they get neither, as the Flintstones place the first Bengal of the year on the IR. In case you haven't noticed, Chad (The Dentist) Johnson has needed painkillers since he signed a \$26M extension. Defensive players have been hitting him like a bottle of the good stuff, resulting in missed time and extra Novocain. After seeing the Niners WRs arms get shorter as the game went on, look for a similar phenomenon for the Dentist and Co. on Sunday as the Flintstones regain sole possession of 1st place.

Lambs @ Browns (MNF):

The Look Man's Pepto Bismol Upset of the Week is the Browns over the Lambs in C-Town on Monday Night. Marshall Dillon is back as the new sheriff in town, but only on A-Turf as the Mouflons' record on grass is horrible. Unfortunately, Lambs C Dave Wohlabaugh knows the C-town offense like the back of his hand, and with the Browns' make shift O-line, it could be trouble. Still, the Look Man likes the Browns to bounce back and keep Butch (Hurricane Boy) Davis employed for yet another week with strong defense and their first MNF appearance in 8 years. Otherwise, HB will be working at Tony Dungy's crab shack in the offseason.

Out.

The Look Man