

## **The Look Man Report - 2003 Season Wrap Up With People; Down With Scoring Records**

The NFL wound up its season with the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Pro Bowl in Honolulu on Sunday. The game features players voted on by their peers as the best at each position. The Hula Bowl is a natural site for the game, and players take their families for a week of fun in the sunny Aloha State. Although many feel that the game amounts to flag football, the Look Man celebrates the 2<sup>nd</sup> best all-star game in major sports. This year, the game matched that claim, and perhaps exceeded it.

The game featured 2 Bungals players for the first time in many years. OT Willie Anderson was invited as a replacement while WR Chad (The Dentist) Johnson gained an invite the old fashioned way - - - he earned it. The Dentist predicted that he would have a huge game with several big plays, and he backed up his boast on the first AFC play from scrimmage. Herbie scored a long TD when CB Dre (Captain) Bly slipped while walking the plank. Captain Bly ended up getting no closer than the USS Arizona to Herbie, who took a Steve (Air) McNair pass to the House, serving notice that his drill was in good working order.

The AFC went on to demonstrate its superiority, gaining a 25 point lead courtesy of Air and Peyton Manning. Payless and Air went straight Pearl Harbor on the NFC defense, scoring early and often with a cadre of surface to air missiles on the unsuspecting NFC.

Enter Payless Dogboy, who again practiced medicine without a license, nearly putting TE Todd (Uriah) Heap in the hospital with 2 high throws over the middle. Cowpoke S and noted NCAA basketball coach Roy Williams tried to crack open Uriah Heap's head like the island's famous macadamia nuts. "I actually took a little off, since it was the Pro Bowl and all. Plus, I didn't want to risk the intentionally foul, giving them the free throws and the ball", said Williams. When reminded that this was pro football and not NCAA hoops, Williams said, "Aw shucks. Well, dip me in buttahmilk. I have to go tell Pixie and Dixie the news. Oh, my darlin', oh my darlin..."

When Trent (Long) Green came in at QB, things went south in a hurry, as he put the rock on the ground more often than Dave Krieg. Long Green had trouble with the exchange, and the NFC turned his presents into points. Their offensive eruption was reminiscent of the volcanic activity beneath the state, as they climbed back into the contest with hard running and timely short passes by Marc (the Scarecrow) Bulger.

AFC Head Coach Tony (Hume Cronyn) Dungy decided to bring his own QB back into the fray. The human sacrifice theme reemerged despite defensive players claiming to ease up on the offensive guys. Corey Simon did his King Haleakela impression while attempting to sacrifice Peyton Dogboy Manning's knees for a win. Simon rolled into Dogboy's knees in response to a bet with Buddy Ryan that he couldn't knock the QB out of the game Big Philly style. The ESPN announcing team tried to say that it was unintentional until the replay proved otherwise conclusively. Payless got ticked and started firing rockets which his receivers had trouble hanging on to without hot mitts. "Those balls were thrown so hard they looked like a pig with an apple in its mouth", said Burgh WR Heinz (57) Ward. "I just put some poi on my hands and I had a little snack right there on the field." Of course, the defenders had no trouble picking 2 of them off to take the lead.

Payless came back with 2 TDs and a drive to force OT with a Mike (Yacht Boy) Vanderjagt FG. Yacht Boy hasn't missed with his toe since the late 50s, so when the AFC got within range, the Look Man was ready for the first OT in Pro Bowl history. Unfortunately, Dogboy flashed back to the AFC Championship, getting sacked to move the AFC out of FG range. The resultant 51-yard miss by Yacht Boy finished the game as time expired. The AFC ended up on the short end of the score, and the dancing D of the NFC took home \$35K apiece to cover their wives' shopping bills.

The 55-52 final score was the highest in the history of the game, and indicative of the rules changes that don't allow the defense to blitz, rush the kicker or chew gum during school.

The stats were epic. Here are just a few of them:

The Dentist : 156 yards receiving

Manning: 342 passing

The Scarecrow: Pro Bowl MVP with a record 4 TD passes

Lavar Arrington, Corey Chavous, Dante Culpepper and Michael Strahan: shared the Elaine Benes best in class dancing award.

### **Miscellaneous:**

#### Up with People:

The NFL canceled a half-time performance by former boy band 'N Synch member JC Chazez. Chazez is a friend of bodice ripping Justin Timberfake, who embarrassed the NFL in the Super Bowl. The league substituted in a song co-written by Tahra (98) Dergee, a children's entertainer. "The NFL came to us," said 98 Dergee, star of the Nashville Public Television children's show Tahra Time. "The lyrics (of Chazez's song) were too racy. We went with a 'Barney meets Lem Barney gestalt that really got the crowd going."

With lyrics like "kicking back, watching the hula girls sway", the crowd nearly went to sleep, despite the awful racket that the conch blower made. At one point, the conch blower was either lip synching or had some bad flatulence going. All in all, these guys were deader than Bing Crosby and Bob Hope. "I wanted Andy Williams", said league Commish Paul Tagliaball, testifying in front of a congressional panel. "Andy couldn't make it though, due to his lumbago."

The NFL is becoming totally irrelevant and risks losing their "replacement fans" at this rate. Congress and the FCC have even tossed out the idea of taping the half-time to avoid future "costume malfunctions." Was that a baby getting tossed out with that half-time bathwater?

#### Roman Numerology:

Super Bowl XXXVIII featured a record number of penalties called. After just 16 penalties called in the AFC and NFC championships combined, the Zebras walked off 20 penalties in the Super Bowl. While the Panthers doubled the Pats penalty output, the key calls of defensive holding that opened up the passing game for Tom Brady late, resulting in a win for the Pats.

Jake (da Man) Delhomme had over 3 bills passing, with three touchdowns and no picks. The Chowds reversed their usual trend, and rushed for 127 yards before releasing RB Antowain Smith in a salary purge. Twenty four points were scored in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter and the fourth quarter was also high scoring. Fans could actually have seen half the game and missed a score. Still, what a memorable game.

#### Genocide Victims Looking to Make Theirs Mark

A handful of teams are pursuing Jags QB Mark Brunell, creating a possible bidding war. The Genocide Victims seem to have the most interest, thus ticking off their starter, Patrick (Stewart) Ramsey who is represented by a common agent with their left offensive tackle. Since the GVs are looking to renegotiate the tackle's deal, this could get ugly in a hurry. The Look Man wonders if Brunell is even worth the trouble. He might have Kurt Warner disease: too much Bible and not enough balls. No deals can be consummated in February, but March 3 is a key date for free agents, including Peyton Manning, Chris McAlister, Arrington, Tim (Sofa Boy) Couch and Brunell.

Brunell has made it clear he wants to go to a place where he can start. The GVs chose in the first round of the draft two years ago, and Ramsey started 11 games last season. The Look Man

looks for Brunnell to end up elsewhere since there are politics (and cap room) at play in the District. Can Craig T. Nelson play any ball?

#### One does not sell one's soul for a handful of Rice

Tampa DE Simeon (The Disciple) Rice was sent home from the Pro Bowl for disciplinary reasons. The Disciple was replaced by Green Bay defensive end Kabeer (KGB) Gbaja-Biamila on the NFC roster. KGB paid the price, getting facemasked and tackled on nearly every play by various AFC offensive tackles. He is now seeing a neck specialist and plans to kick Rice's ass next time he sees him. Rice, a second-team All-Pro, arrived late and missed meetings and practices in the week leading up to the game. NFC coach Andy (The Walrus II) Reid sent him packing as punishment for roughing up Donovan McNabb in last year's NFC Championship game.

#### Late Night with Dr. Evil?

Bill (Dr. Evil) Belichick appeared on Late Night with David Letterman after the championship. When asked by Letterman whether the Chowds knew about the Janet Jackson fiasco, Dr. Evil went Jerry Seinfeld, deadpanning, "We were in the locker room, so we missed that. Nobody kept us abreast of that." Look for Dr. Evil to get his own TV show next season, starring Charlie Weis as George Costanza and Willie McGinest as a sterner version of Kramer.

As far as the Look Man is concerned, Dr. Evil is a lock for the Hall. He has four Super Bowl rings, two as defensive coordinator under Bill Parcells. Parcells is often mentioned for Hall nomination, but the fact is he has never won one without Belichick.

#### Fee Agents

All free-agent decisions in Cleveland are on hold until the Tim (Sofa Boy) Couch contract situation is resolved. Team President Carmen Policy went to Ft. Lauderdale this week to visit with the Lachrymose Lobber, prior to talking dead presidents with his agent. They also went to the Drew Henson workout in Houston, and they could luck into Eli Manning, Ben Rothlisberger or Philip Rivers. It's time for a brand new recliner in C-town, and both Kelly Holcomb and Sofa Boy ought to be sent out for reupholstering.

#### What were they smoking?

The Bungals bit the bullet and are going to a long blade Astroturf surface in '04 after years of trying to grow grass at Pall Bearer Stadium. With the Bungals switching to synthetic turf, the Browns will be the only AFC North team with real grass. STD-more has FieldTurf and Pittsburgh installed DD GrassMaster, last season.

#### I'm NOT Sowwy!

This just in: Justine Timberlake apologized to CBS for ever having been born, stating that he was sorry if anyone was offended by his parturition. The Look Man is offended, if only because he is more interested in preserving his Mickey D's endorsement deal than keeping his scrotum attached to his torso. Just one more reason to hate boy bands...

#### Pixels and Wheat

And now, without further ado, the Look Man Report 2003 NFL Pick Doctor of the Year.

As always, the Look Man asks, you, the reader, to name your picks for division, wild card, conference and the Super Bowl. This season, we had several worthy contestants including Sundance, Rikki, da Gorill, C-Ray, and GB Shaw (Note: the names have been changed to protect the innocent, or at least, the selection-impaired). Here are each of their selections and a commentary.

#### Dave (Sundance) Sundin:

AFC East: Patriots

AFC South: Colts

AFC North: Steelers  
AFC West: Raiders  
AFC wildcards: Jets, Titans

NFC East: Giants  
NFC South: Bucs  
NFC North: Packers  
NFC West: Niners  
NFC wildcards: Eagles, Rams

Conference winners: Colts, Bucs  
SB winner: Bucs (again)

Sundance is also known as Dave (Long Suffering) Sundin. The Look Man has revealed his identity because after 12 years of futility, the Bungals returned to the NFL in 2003. The Ugly & Black went 8-8 after a 2-14 season previously, and became the comeback story of the year in the process. QB Jon Pickna was voted the NFL Comeback Player of the Year and in a PR move, the NFL rescinded its 5 grrr fine for wearing Christian paraphernalia. Pickna did not join the Krishna Movement as the Look Man predicted, but he was voted to the all-unknown team. When his photo flashed on the screen during a local Xavier-UC Cross-town Shootout, he wore the trademark lid. Otherwise, half the town would not have known his identity.

Not to be outdone in the anonymity category, Sundance forecasted, "If I win the car, I'm almost certain it will be painted black and orange, have a short in the electrical system, and a couple of flat tires." After narrowly missing the playoffs, Long-suffering Sundin dissed the Browns win over his beloved Bengals with a dismissive wave.

Michael (GB Shaw) Hatfield

NFC East: Giants  
NFC South: Bucs  
NFC North: Pack  
NFC West: Ninnies

AFC South: Saints  
AFC East: Dolphins  
AFC North: Browns  
AFC West: Chiefs

SB: Bucs/Dolphins

GB Shaw's Cow-Men were not Supermen, but they did pull themselves out of the belly of the NFC Least division for a decent showing. The Tuna is known for his 3<sup>rd</sup> year turnarounds, but could do it only 2 if not for the hiring of Joe (Gimme some) Gibbs in DC. With the G-men retooling, and the Iggles reeling, it could be anybody's division in 04. The Gauchos still don't know whether Quincy (Klugman) Carter's arm is for real, but the scatological nature was debunked with great deep ball accuracy. With a real running game, the Pokes could be a force to be reckoned with. Meanwhile, Chad (Starsky &) Hutchinson has been assigned to NFL Europe, where he will be reunited with his singing partner from Hard Knocks.

Erica (Rikki) Davis

AFC EAST: Dolphins  
AFC North: Steelers  
AFC South: Titans  
AFC West: Raiders (Despite Rich Gannon going down in preseason more than the average Hooker on the Point)

NFC EAST: Eagles  
NFC NORTH: Packers  
NFC SOUTH: Bucs  
NFC WEST : Seahawks

AFC WILDCARDS: Chiefs and Colts  
NFC WILDCARDS: 49's and Giants  
AFC CHAMPS: Oakland  
NFC CHAMPS: Eagles  
SUPERBOWL: OAKTOWN over FREEDOM BIRDS

Rikki didn't lose that number, but she was dreaming of a commitment to excellence that never materialized. Head Coach Bill (Dirty Harry) Callahan lost his job and nearly a few teeth, as his players mutinied. The Grayders have now hired that apex of charisma - - Norv Turner????? Uh uh, better get a mouthpiece Norv.

Chris (Sea) Reh:

NFC West: San Fran  
NFC North: Minnesota  
NFC South: Carolina  
NFC East: Philly

AFC East: New England at Gillette Stadium  
AFC West: Kansas City  
AFC North: Bal'more  
AFC South: Tennessee

NFC Champs: Carolina  
AFC Champs: Tennessee

Super Bowl: Tennessee

So Sea-Ray gets the brand new car in a walk-off. Now that he is in Beantown, he also gets a season to gloat over his Championship Chowds as well. Too bad the talk of Beantown is whether same sex marriage is more important than coits or blue points. Congratulations, Sea-Ray. You are the Look Man 2003 Pickamonus Champion of the Year!

Well, as the Look Man sinks slowly into the sunset for another offseason, he wishes each of you a fabulous Spring and Summer. The 2003 season saw incredible comebacks, serious upsets, and a great playoff tournament. Perhaps 2004 can top the previous year, but it will have to go a long way to do so. Look for draft updates and miscellaneous free agent and pre-season foolishness as we look forward. With Election 2004, the Look Man should have plenty of fodder for the NFL season in earnest.

Peace.

The Look Man