

## **The Look Man Report 2004**

### **Week 10: Spittin' Imagery**

Week 10 of the NFL season was highlighted by another win by the seemingly unstoppable Stillers, a blowout on Monday Night football, and a teaser for the ABC series *Desperate Housewives* that created a mini-furor. The skit starred introverted WR Terrell (TO) Owens and Nicollette Sheridan in a spoof of the hot ABC series. The brouhaha arose when Sheridan appeared clothed in only a towel, asking TO to eschew the game for some indoor activity with her.

The skit showed Sheridan's nude back, and was merely suggestive as opposed to pornographic. What was uglier was the game, in which the Iggles punished the Pokes 49-21 courtesy of 3 TO TD catches. The NFL announced that it was appalled by the content of the risqué skit, and ABC fired back with its own appall-ogy. Not to be outdone by anyone, TO also apologized, followed by an apology by Pokes coach Bill Parcells, owner Jerry Jones, and serial killer Jeffrey Dahmer, who isn't even alive. So far, the only person involved who hasn't apologized is the skanky Sheridan, who dropped the towel in the first place.

The Look Man has no love lost on TO, but the NFL is engaging in incredible hypocrisy here. If the NFL can show erectile dysfunction ads featuring guys throwing footballs through tires, beer ads with scantily clad twins rubbing up against each other, and cheerleaders simulating sex acts on the sidelines, how is this different? If folks don't like what is on the screen, they can vote by turning the channel or unplugging the television. It is impossible to legislate good taste, although the FCC's Michael (Son of a Colin) Powell seems to be trying mightily to do so. Maybe Powell should focus more on limiting the monopolistic acquisition of newspapers, radio and television outlets in large markets.

Without further soapbox oratory, the Week That Was.

#### Stillers @ Browns:

The Browns faced a must-win game at the midpoint of the season against a molten Stillers team that had just beaten two of the NFL's best. Prior to the game, Stillers LB Joey Porter (Paints) spit in the face of Browns RB William (Red) Green. Red retaliated by throwing a series of punches, and was joined by FB (Cotton)Terrelle Smith. Both Porter Paints and Red Green were summarily ejected when Zebra Jeff (Beanbag) Triplette used the JumboTron replay to score the fight.

The rumble may have started in the week before the game, when DT Gerard (Big Money Wasted) Warren threatened to take Big Ben Roethlisberger's head off during the contest. "One rule they used to tell me: Kill the head and the body's dead," Warren said. "I didn't say knock him out of the game, I said just go upside his head a time or two," said Warren. "I'm still ticked off that I didn't get invited to the Big Man Dance Contest on NFL Network. Brentston Buckner gets commercials for Visa, and I get bupkuss." BMW was fined \$35,000 for an earhole shot on former J-Squared QB Mark Brunell. He currently faces charges of grand larceny for his contract with Cleveland after entering the Witness Protection Program following his rookie season. BMW has only six tackles and two sacks this season.

The Browns came out big, as KR Richard Alston returned the opening kickoff 74 yards before being run out of bounds in the Red Zone. The Browns offense followed with its usual 3 and out, allowing Browns MVP kicker Phil (Richard) Dawson to shoot his regular. The Stillers responded with a long drive for a touchdown and never really looked back all day. The drive featured heavy doses of Jerome (The Bust) Bettis, who mowed down defenders like a school bus.

QB Jeff (Jerry) Garcia was harassed all day long, coughing up the rock and throwing picks. At one point early in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter, Garcia was forced to call time after first down, called time again after second down in order to avoid a delay penalty, and finished by being sacked on 3<sup>rd</sup> down. The Browns totaled 34 offensive plays in the first three quarters and had 153 total yards, including 58 yards on a deep pass to WR Dennis Northcutt.

Porter Paints' replacement, LB James Harrison, filled in nicely with 6 tackles, a sack and a tackle for a loss. Afterwards, Garcia appeared with a hat pulled low over his bloodshot eyes, ripping his team for "...a lack of execution to turnovers to penalties. "You name it, we do it," said the Grateful Dead band leader.

The Play of the Day may have been a crushing comeback block on Browns DT Orpheus (My Boy) Roye. WR Hines (57) Ward was pretty quiet in receptions, but when Big Ben was forced to run for a 1<sup>st</sup> down, Hines 57 drilled Roye, who was trailing BB. When coupled with BMW's inane comments, it was obvious that the Stillers protected their franchise whenever he scrambled.

The Laugh of the Day came with announcer Dan Dierdorf commenting on how angry Stillers Coach Bill (Iron Chin) Cowher became at the officiating. Knowing Iron Chin's penchant for spitting when talking excitedly, he recommended that the Line Judge "...put on some goggles..." before explaining one call to Cowher. The Stillers players know to keep their distance or else bring a towel for these spit shower episodes. In fact, Porter Paints claimed it was really Cowher who spat on William Green in the pre-game. "You've seen Seinfeld episode spoofing the Zapruder film, where Kramer and Newman get a loogie from Mets 1<sup>st</sup> basemen Keith Hernandez. Well, Cowher cost me 10 large when Green thought it was me doing the spitting!", said Porter.

Kelly (Tires) Holcomb replaced Jerry Garcia on lead guitar late in the contest, throwing the Browns only TD. The 24-10 final score was not indicative of the beating issued by the Stillers. Besides Porter Paints' replacement, safety Troy Polamalu (means "big afro" in Samoan) had 2 picks, and the Stillers' Pro Bowl caliber LB James Farrior had a stunning hit on RB Lee Suggs that forced a key fumble.

We can now officially stick a fork in the Browns and head coach Butch (Hurricane Boy) Davis. A QB controversy is likely, as Kelly Tires constitutes a great tire at a fair price, vs. the expensive radial alternative offered by Garcia.

### Bengals @ Genocide Victims:

The Bungals jumped out to an early lead by virtue of crisp offensive execution. Their all-black look may have contributed, as the GV defense was nauseated at its ugliness. GV S Sean (Jean) Taylor decided to emulate Joey Porter, displaying his displeasure with the sartorial statement by expectorating in the face of Bugnals WR TJ (Ponytail) Houshmandzadeh. After seeing what happened earlier in Cleveland Ponytail waited until the end of the game to discuss the matter with Sean Jean.

When GV QB Mark Brunnell couldn't hit the broad side of a barn with the ball, the Nation's Capitol boo birds forced head coach Joe Gibbs to bring in Patrick Ramses, who promptly created a ballgame. Ramses had a lot better prophylactic protection, and nearly tied the game at 17 before throwing a pick. "I'm not surprised because Pat was 'throwing the ball through the tire' pretty good today before the game", said Mrs. Ramses. "But for some reason, he kept saying, 'So it is written, so it shall be done.' during our lovemaking. It was kinda strange."

The game featured a ridiculous amount of turnovers in a veritable bakesale. The suddenly stiff Bungals defense had 3 picks and dropped 5 others. Bungals CB Tory (or Labour) James is quietly having a Pro Bowl season, while young guns like Keiwan Ratliff (means "Keyshawn" in Japanese) and Madieu (pronounced 'I-ma-dee'-u') Williams are ball hawks and hitters. The Ugly & Black now face the Stillers in their recently home-friendly Pall Bearer Stadium where games have become an Oktoberfest in 2004.

### Ravens @ Jets:

The Jersey Jets hosted the Dumpster Ducks at the Meadowlands in real QB battle. Quincy (Klugman) Carter was hoping to do a cadaver graft on the Flintstones D, while Kyle Boller (hat) was merely trying to avoid being indicted for stealing a QB salary in Baltimore.

The Flintstones D kept them in the game, and Boller Hat came up big in crunch time. He threw 2 nice TD balls to go up 17-14 late in the game. Klugman and the Jets were unable to manage their timeouts down the stretch, and were forced to settle for 3 to send the game into overtime. The Flintstones defense played well late, and went home with a W largely due to safety Ed (Can't) Reed, who seems to make a game saving play every week.

Bal'mer is now back in the playoff hunt thanks to the Jets, and the improved play of Boller. Boller threw some sweet passes in this one, courtesy of the tutelage of QB coach Jim (Poker Chips) Fassel.

The AFC North Division may have the best QBs in the league in a few seasons. Palmer and Boller join Big Ben as some of the best young talent in the NFL at QB.

### Vikes @ Pack:

The Gouda Group offered their hospitality to the Minnesota Swedes, who were coming off a gut-wrenching Monday Night Football loss at Indy. In a recurring theme, the University of Wisconsin Band blew their horns right in the faces of the Vikes during warm-ups. DT Chris Hovan had a discussion with the band leader over the incident, but decided to keep his saliva in his own mouth.

The Pack got hot, as Brett Favre (Bean) tossed some early TDs, aided by the hard running of Ahmad Green. The Moss-less Swedes answered late, scoring twice in 93 seconds to tie the game in regulation. Swedes QB Daunte Culpepper is still working on his MVP candidacy, and he took control with accurate, sweet passes.

Daunte's MVP run has been badly hurt by head coach Mike (Fried) Tice, who refused to mix in a run with 1:45 to play. Just as in Indy the week prior, the Swedes scored too soon, leaving their Land O' 10,000 Lakes Defense on the field versus Favre Bean, the greatest comeback player the NFL has ever fabricated. After dropping a surefire INT, Favre Bean went through the LOTL like a hot knife through butter. His sideline pass set up the game winning FG for the Gouda Group.

The Vikes are now in mid-season swoon mode, while the Pack has climbed back to tie for the NFC Norse division lead. The Pack is indeed back after an early season losing streak, having won 4 in a row.

#### Iggles @ Pokes on Monday Night Football:

The explosive Iggles went to Irving Texas to see if the NFC Least division race was even a race at all. After the risqué opener with Sheridan, TO caught a sweet pass and went 59 yards to the Hizzie. The Look Man had to wonder who taught the Pokes pursuit angles after watching both this play and the 76-yarder last week in Cincy. TO caught the ball at the midfield star, then 2 DBs knocked each other off of the tackle before TO turned on the afterburners.

What ensued was a horrible series of events. Zebra Ed (Hulk) Hochuli missed a clear fumble call on the kickoff to Reno (Mahe) Mahe. Pokes CB Frazier was injured tackling TO, then followed with a punt muff and subsequently got his hand stepped on by CB Terence (Hello)Newman. The sequence was reminiscent of OJ Simpson's Nordberg character, who gets shot, burned and waterlogged in the Police Story movie.

Despite heroic efforts by QB Vinny Testaverde and TE (No Quittin' In) Jason Witten, the Gauchos were blasted by a superior Philly squad. Their hopes of the playoffs are still mathematically alive, but only if you have *A Beautiful Mind*.

#### Zebra of the Week:

After a week where the ZOTW title was vacant, the field made a strong outing in Week 10. The contestants were Jeff Triplette with Stillers at Browns, Ron Winter with Vikes-Pack, Ed (Hulk) Hochuli in Dallas-Philly, and the usual steady Mike Carey in SF-Carolina.

Triplette's nomination comes courtesy of 3 plays: the first was the instant replay use for the pregame ejection. The second, was a TD call, where the Bust coughed up the rock at the goal line. On the goal line play, the Bust reached over his head to extend the ball into the end zone. The ball was knocked out at the 1" line, but the refs ruled forward progress was halted. Finally, Triplette actually reviewed Garcia's fumble call after the snap **AND** an encroachment call. The Stillers D scored a TD on the play to make it 24-3, and Cleveland lost a timeout after all of this malarkey.

In a similar vein, something was definitely fishy about Mahe Mahe's non-fumble kickoff call. Hulk Hochuli chose to rule that the fumble in Dallas was not even a fumble. The

call would have given Dallas the ball deep in Philly territory, and perhaps turned the game from a track meet into a grinder.

Carey reviewed a catch by rookie Carolina WR Keary Colbert. The play was ruled a catch on the field, and the replay was due to Colbert's slight juggle. The rookie never lost control, and the catch was obvious. Carey instead overturned the call.

But the winner goes to Ron (A Lyin' in) Winter, who made several game-altering calls in a key NFC Norse division game. Winter allowed a fumble by Green Bay's RB Anderson to stand as a TD, when Anderson obviously coughed it up before crossing the goalline. He then reviewed it and said the Pack recovered the ball during the ensuing end zone scrum.

Next, Winter called no fumble on a kickoff to Javon Walker just prior to overtime. Walker had a strong return, but was stripped, throwing the ball upfield. Winter rightly ruled that the ball cannot be advanced with a fumble inside 2 minutes, but he also ruled that the Pack had the ball well before they even unpiled. Replay clearly showed Vikes CB Derek Ross recover the ball, and the Vikes came up with the ball even after the scrum. Still, the Pack retained possession and went on to kick a game winning FG. Ron Winter, you are the Look Man's **Zebra of the Week!**

Finally, each of these calls were no-brainers, but for some reason, the refs blew it. While the Look Man is not wont to call it a conspiracy, the NFL did have an interest in the outcomes of these key games. In almost every case, the fumbles could have changed the outcome, but the Zebras saw it otherwise. Hmmm.

### **Celebrity Obit of the Week:**

The rapper ODB collapsed and died this week inside his recording studio. ODB was known by many monikers, including Ol' Dirty Bastard, Dirt McGirt, Big Baby Jesus or his legal name of Russell Jones. ODB was a founding member of the Wu-Tang Clan and a constant contributor to the Unintentional Comedy Rating throughout his life.

ODB's unorthodox style stood out in the large ensemble of Wu-Tang Clan, which featured Method Man, RZA and Ghostface Killah. While the cause of death was unknown, ODB had a history of drug problems, and had just completed time served for drug-related crimes.

ODB was synonymous with bizarre and erratic behavior, including taking MTV's camera crew to the welfare office in a limousine to obtain food stamps for several of his kids. He later crashed the stage at the Grammys, ripping the mike from an awardee and complaining that "...he spent a lot of money for new clothes because he thought he was going to win."

Perhaps his most comical exploit was being arrested after escaping from court-ordered drug rehab in California. After dodging the cops for a month, ODB was arrested on the East Coast after performing in a live New York City concert with Wu-Tang.

ODB joins rappers Jam Master Jay of Run DMC, Tupac Shakur, and Notorious B.I.G. who died prematurely. While he was wounded several times in gunbattles, ODB's death was not due to a lead allergy like the others.

ODB's mother received the news of her son's death via telephone. "To the public he was known as Old Dirty Bastard, but to me he was known as Rusty. The kindest most generous soul on earth," said Cherry Jones. "Russell was more than a rapper, he was a loving father, brother, uncle, and most of all, son."

ODB would have been 36 on Monday.

### **Lagniappe:**

#### Simmons 'Not Interested' in Grayders Job:

Grayders Fan Erica (Ricki) Davis was ticked about the Look Man's report on Richard Simmons pursuit of the Oakland job. Ricki emailed the Look Man the following: *\*Richard Simmons???* *Have I wronged you in some previous life? I sat here and read through the entire report and what do I get for my time? Richard (@^%#&(\$)\_\$\_)* Simmons! The Look Man, while 'appalled' at her language, issues a sincere apology to Ricki.

Apparently, Simmons was not interested in the position unless he could play offensive center as well. In truth, The Look Man should have add Mike (The Walrus) Holmgren's name to the list of coaches on the bubble. The Walrus' men lost badly to Mike (Megalomaniac) Martz in St. Louise, despite over 150 rushing yards from Shaun Alexander (the Great). On the other side of the coin Denny Green, who has regained the "D" in his name in Phoenix, Jim Mora in ATL, and Lovie (Howell III) Smith are doing well in their inaugural seasons with new clubs and limited talent.

#### Celebrity Drunk Bus:

The Browns continued their free fall when backup OG Paul Zukauskas failed a field sobriety test on Tuesday AM. An Ohio trooper pulled over Z's Lexus LS 340 for an illegal turn at 2:30 AM, issuing the one-leg stand, walk and turn, and horizontal gaze sobriety tests. Z failed all of them, and when the trooper tried to illegally search his vehicle, Z whiffed in trying to block him from the door. He then refused to take a Blood Alcohol Test on the advice of his attorney.

Zukauskus will automatically enter the NFL substance abuse program if convicted. He will then have to go with Red Green down to the restroom on a regular and random basis to "drop pee." Zukauskus claimed to be embarrassed to even be here talking about this in a press conference. When asked about the missed block on the trooper, QB Jeff Garcia wasn't surprised. "Hell, Z hasn't made a block all year", said the former Pro Bowler.

### **The Look Ahead**

#### Jets @ Browns:

It's been ugly on the field for the 3-6 Browns lately and it isn't likely to get any prettier on Sunday. The Browns will wear their horrible, orange "third jerseys" against the Jets at Cleveland Browns Stadium. Not only are they behind the Bungals in the standings, now they are competing for ugliest uniform and dumbest penalties.

#### Stillers @ Bungals:

This game has AFC playoffs home field advantage implications. IT doesn't look like Duce Staley will play and the Bust has carried the ball a lot the last few weeks. He looked like he didn't have much tread left on the tires in the second half at Cleveland. The Bungals could sneak up on the Stillers, who are overdue for a letdown.

New England @ KC:

Again, homefield implications only, as the Baby Backs will be at home in January. RB Priest Holmes went for a second opinion on his injured knee, and that isn't good. Ick (No D) Vermeil joins Joe Gibbs and Bill Parcells in singing We Three Kings while having to endure a horrid season.

Detroit @ Minneapolis:

The Vikes get another opportunity to regain momentum in the NFC Norse. They have proven they can play without Randy Moss, now they face a beatable opponent who will be looking ahead to its Turkey Day home game.

Colts @ Da Bears:

Colts QB Peyton (Dogboy) Manning attended Bears LB Brian Urlacher's leg surgery this week. Manning was up in the surgical gallery yelling, "CUT THAT MEAT! CUT THAT MEAT! " during the procedure and was asked to leave.

Manning hasn't faced too many serious defenses this season, but he will this week. Lovie has these guys playing with fire, but the real issue is whether Craig Krenzel can put up any points against a Colts defense that is finally getting healthy.

**Epilogue:**

It's my Parity Party and I'll Cry if I want to:

The Look Man has bemoaned parity for the last two years, but it doesn't get much stranger than Week 10. In the NFC, there are 9 teams at 5-4. The more dominant AFC has 8 teams at 6-3. In Week 10, 3 games ended tied at 17-17 at the end of regulation for the first time ever in the 80 year history of the NFL. Strange.

Out.

The Look Man