

The Look Man Report 2010 **Week Five: The Pope of Eden Prairie**

"Take away the Patriots from Bill Belichick and what is he? A gym teacher with better jewelry, no disrespect to gym teachers intended." -- Ron Borges, columnist for the Boston Herald, in a scathing column critical of Belichick for trading Randy Moss.

Week Five ended pretty much the way the Look Man thought, with Dallas getting beat by the Flaming Thumbtacks, and the Colts getting the best of a one dimensional Chiefs in a low scoring affair. But the Minnesota loss to the Jets was somewhat unexpected. Still, the Look Man came within a close Hail Mary play of winning his local football pool for the second consecutive week.

The outlook for the 2010 season was also confirmed, with upset wins by Washington and Oakland. Detroit put their first win on the board with a convincing slam of the Lambs. When the smoke cleared, twenty teams are at or above .500, and even the teams with few victories look as if they might be able to right their seasons.

Regular season NFL games destroyed MLB playoff ratings even in the areas featuring home MLB matchups. The NFL is doing well after posting a nine billion dollar profit in 2009.

LAGNIAPPE

Sexting Allegations by the Pope?

The Look Man was able to uncover proof that Favre was guilty of the recent sexting allegations while with the Jets. The league is investigating, but The Look Man obtained the proof from NFL owner Zygi Wilf of the Minnesota Vikings.

Wilf confessed to the Look Man via a secret hidden microphone placed at the Hornhead headquarters in Eden Prairie, Minnesota. Here's a transcription of the recording:

Wilf: "Brett, we're getting Randy Moss!"

Favre: "Awesome."

Wilf: "Brett, the dick pics you sent that Jets PR woman, Jenn Sterger, are going online and your wife will probably divorce you. Especially since there are voice mails that are clearly you."

Favre: "Not awesome."

Wilf: "Well, Brett, that's old news, back when you were a Jet. Hey, how'd you get tendinitis in your elbow?"

Favre: "Zig, I was feeling a little horny, and my wife was out, so I decided to get out the KY Jelly and take my talents to South Beach."

Wilf: "That's way too much information, Brett."

Favre: "It's fine. It won't affect me on Monday Night at all. Hey, Zig is that a new pen set on your desk?"

Wilf: "That's not a pen set. That's a secret hidden micropho----"

The transmission ended there, but you get the drift.

The tendinitis came into play on Monday, forcing Favre to get some painkiller in that elbow. If you noticed he came out with a sweatband covering up a Band-aid before that last drive.

Favre's accuracy went from bad to worse, highlighted by the two big misses to a wide open Harvin that might've moved them into FG range.

Brett is now in trouble despite the fact that this story appeared in Deadspin nearly a year ago. Favre has more trouble keeping out of the news than Kim Kardashian has keeping her clothes on.



Sterger putting the goods in the window...

Save the Ta-Tas

The NFL is celebrating Breast Cancer Awareness with pink football gear and special footballs. The players look goofy wearing the gear, and the Look Man has noticed an unusual number of dropped balls and turnovers. Suffice it to say that the fault lies not in our stars but in our balls.

"They're playing with these breast cancer awareness balls. These balls are brand new, right out of the bag. Now they get slick -- I texted a couple quarterbacks during the game," said former NFL QB Tim Hasselbeck. "They all said, 'These balls have been a disaster.' "

The Look Man doesn't agree with Elizabeth or her husband very often, but this promotion is way over the top. Tailpipe GB Shaw took it even further, sending the Look Man this vignette:

Uncle Brian: "Look, someone left a pink shoe on the field."

Andy: "If you know what I mean."

And everybody started laughing. I mean, we don't even know what "Somebody left a pink shoe on the field ... if you know what I mean" means, much less why it's funny.

The Look Man thinks “somebody left a pink shoe on the field” should become a euphemism for erratic, idiotic, or penalty laden play. If your team or the zebras do something really dumb, just trot that bad boy out. Just a thought.

Pacman detained for DWB

Bengos DB Adam (Pacman) Jones was arrested on game day when he swerved to avoid the auto in front of him. Pacman exited his vehicle to help a pedestrian who fell trying to avoid being hit when Cincinnati’s Finest detained him for questioning.

“They kept asking me why I was driving a 2010 Jagwire. I like driving a Jagwire. Ain’t nothing wrong with driving a Jagwire. I was just being rebellion, but they wouldn’t let me go”, said Jones.

The Po-Po held Jones for 45 minutes while passersby shot photos of him and passenger Cedric (The Butler) Benson. Photos of the arrest began popping up all over the Internet, including one featuring the Smiling Cigar Guy. Or maybe it was just Zygi Wilf.

Cedric Benson asked if he and Jones could avoid embarrassment by being moved away from the crowd. The officers agreed and drove them two blocks away, in order to get a more private spot to go all Rodney King on the two Bengals. Fortunately, Police Chief Thomas Streicher intervened in the nick of time, telling the politizei to release the two starters so they could go play the Buccaneers.

“Quite honestly, there was a mistake on the part of the police department here,” Streicher said in a news conference on Monday. “I just want to be emphatic about this: Mr. Jones did absolutely nothing wrong. Plus, I had the Bucs and the points, so I needed him to play.”



Cincy Police detain a 27-year old youth on gameday

For Whom the Bell Tolls...

The Browns traded RB Jerome Harrison for Iggles RB Mike Bell this week in a surprise move. The Browns need a downhill runner to compliment their offensive style, and the Iggles need a third down back to replace Brian Westbrook.

Harrison saved Eric Mangina’s job last year by racking up 562 rushing yards in the last three games of 2009, including a record 276 against the Chiefs. This season, Harrison complained that he didn’t know his role after the RB Peyton Hillis erupted for two games.

Harrison became expendable following his failure to chip block on Atlanta DE Kroy Bierman, who pick sixed Jake Delhomme for the game icer. By not stopping his rush, Harrison allowed Bierman to get right in Jake's face. Harrison ran his pattern without the chip and when Jake tried to throw it over the DE, he was picked.

Eric Mangina misplayed this situation. He failed to communicate his thoughts to a talented player. A simple description of his role might have made this moot. Now a fairly talentless Browns team loses as guy who will help Philly.

Harrison's lack of pass protection ability hurt the Browns on 3rd down. Between that, the Bierman play and the fact that Hillis is hurt, this move makes sense for C-Town. Mike Bell is a hard-running big back that will allow the Browns to preserve Hillis for the balance of the season. This might help both teams.

THE LOOK AHEAD

Things heat up in Week Six. No team has really broken away from the pack and many are in must win situations. The best of the week:

Cincy at Bye (-7)

The Bengals are hoping Bye can't manage the clock better than Marvin Lewis. O-Coordinator Bob Bratkowski is filming a new Geico commercial. The Look Man got the ad copy as follows:

Geico Announcer:

"Does Bob Bratkowski really need to be fired from this team for calling a pass play with just over two minutes left in this game?"

"Did the little piggy cry "Wee wee wee" all the way home?"

The Look Man is taking Bye and giving the points.

Dallas at Minnesota (-1.5) [Game of the Week]

Two teams playing mistake ball get together for an NFC showdown. The Pokes and Vikes have a rich history, including Roger Staubach's infamous Hail Mary to Drew Pearson in the NFC Playoffs. Last year, they played the Pants on the Ground game; a 34-3 shellacking that featured six sacks of Romo.

Favre's elbow is an issue, so why not run the football? CJ2K put up over a hundred yards rushing, and the Pokes were vulnerable to the deep ball. The Pokes offense is clicking after deciding the feature Felix (The Cat) Jones.

Jared (Subway) Allen has been located on the side of a milk carton. Subway was shut down completely by Jets LT D'Brickshaw (Fergie) Ferguson last week, and most of the season prior.

Could it be that his strength was in his mullet, but he gets healthy this week against Pokes LT Doug (World B) Free. And that ain't good news for Tony Romo, who's ribs took a pounding last week against Tennessee.

The Pokes can't match up with Moss, Percy Harvin or Adrian Peterson. Look for the Vikes to right the Love Boat with a win over the Pokes. Minnesota.

Baltimore at New England (-2.5)

This is a high-profile game that is a rematch of last season's wild-card playoff game. It's New England's first game this year without future Hall of Fame receiver Randy Moss, and Bill (Dr. Evil) Belichick has had two weeks to game plan. This one ought to be a doozy.

Baltimore has struggled to score points because they can't stretch the field. Anquan Boldin, Derek Mason and Houshmandzadeh will never be mistaken for Husain Bolt, so the Dumpster Ducks plan to pound the run.

New England will counter with Tom (Baby) Brady and the short passing game. One can only hope that Wes Welker and his clones don't get decimated in the process.

The Look Man likes the Chowds on the strength of Dr. Evil's game planning. They get past the Moss trade, getting revenge on B-More and setting up a battle for the AFC wild-card. Chowds.



Brady: "I'm fine with dinking and dunking."

Cleveland at Blitzburgh (-14)

Week Six features the Return of Ben Rapelessberger, but the bigger story might be the first start of Colt (My Little Pony) McCoy. The Browns QBs are both injured, so the MLP era starts early, much to the dismay of GM Mike (The Walrus) Holmgren.

This game features another revenge motif after the 13-6 beatdown the Browns laid on Stillers late in 2009. The loss was the Stillers fifth in a row, eliminating them from the postseason and a defense of their world championship. Needless to say, the Stillers are ticked.

The Browns have recently discovered a ground and pound mentality on offense. Peyton Hillis, the RB the Browns received in the Brady Quinn (Medicine Woman) trade to Denver racked up nearly 300 rushing yards in three games. The O-line has clicked with the addition of Tony Pashos at guard.

But Hillis is hurt courtesy of Mangina's ridiculous coaching. Hillis reinjured a quad last week against the ATL, and he could be done for the season if he is forced to go here. Mangina already lost rookie RB Montario Hardesty after forcing him to start with a bum leg.

Stillers RB Rashard Mendenhall is second in the NFL in rushing (411 yards), despite the Stillers 31st ranked passing game. He will run, over, around and through a Browns defense that will have to play 40 minutes courtesy of My Little Pony. Stillers.



Colt McCoy starting at Ketchup Field?

Atlanta at Philly (-2.5)

A throw back game, with ATL QB Matty Ice Ryan taking on Kevin (Korn) Kolb. Many believe the Falcons may be the class of the weak NFC after winning four in a row. The Iggles are waiting on Mike Vick to return, hoping to string together some wins.

The Iggles can't count on mistakes like Alex Smith made in Week Five, and the ATL throws some buckshot into Philly's plans. After all, an Iggles can't fly with a broken win. Atlanta.

New Orleans at Tampa Bay (+4)

Fans in the Tampa area that can't afford to go to Bucs games are missing out on an exciting young team. The Bucs game has already been blacked out for the week, even with the defending champion Saints in town.

Tampa is the best team in the NFC that no one knows about, but all eight home games are expected to be blacked out. New Orleans wins in a half filled Big Sombrero.

Chicago at Seattle (+6.5)

Jay (the Knife) Cutler is ready to return from a concussion suffered two weeks ago, and just in time. His replacement, Todd Collins put up a 6.2 QB rating in the blowout win over Carolina, setting a record in the process. It was the first time in NFL history a QB threw four picks and still won by 14 points.

The scary part is that Mike Martz QBs have a history of getting hurt. Kurt Warner nearly got his thumb torn off and Marc Bulger endured two years of injuries in the Mike Martz Minimum Protection Pass Offense (M³P²O). Cutler's career could be shorter than Stephen Baldwin's if he continues to take hits.

The Look Man has a theory that the Chicago Bears defense looks good for only about six weeks of the season. Their best defensive player, LB Lance Briggs has an ankle, so look for them to revert back into the Monsters of the Furniture Mart this week.

Pete Carroll goes on the field and helps put up a win with Hair Club for Men president Matt Hasselbeck. Shehawks win on a kick return TD and a lot of pressure on the Knife. Shehawks.



The 5th Baldwin brother to start in Seattle?

Jets at Denver (+3)

No one is giving Denver a chance here, but the Look Man likes Kyle (Foo Fighters) Orton, who is leading the league in passing. WR Brandon Lloyd also leads the league in receptions and yardage.

The problem is the defense, which loses FS Brian Dawkins, CB Andre Goodman and LB Robert Ayers this week. The Jets will be clicking with Santonio Holmes joining Braylon Edwards. If the Jets win, they head into the bye week with a nice cushion in the AFC East and the Conference.

The Look Man is not sure why, but he still likes Denver to cover after the emotional MNF win by the Jets. This one should be a shootout, so taking the over might be the better bet. Denver.

Oakland at Frisco (-6.5)

Niners rebound to win their first game. No one is talking about the fact that the 0-5 Niners still have not played an NFC West division game. They could still win the division with an 8-8 or 9-7 record. Niners cover and win this cross-town battle.

Miami at Green Bay (-4)

The Pack is a M*A*S*H unit that is ready for a fall. Chad Henne and the Marine Mammals knock them out at the not-yet Frozen Tundra. Miami covers.

Detroit at Giants (-10)

The G-Men suffer the Look Ahead syndrome after playing well. They have Dallas next week in a nationally televised game.

The Lions will struggle because of the loss of WR Calvin Johnson to a shoulder, but this defense is better than advertised. Detroit punches Big Blue in the mouth, setting up a battle for the NFC Least division. Detroit covers.

Indy at Washington (+3) [Football Night in America]

Washington is quietly 3-2 with wins over some quality NFC teams. After dispatching the Cheeseheads with yet another OT win, they face Peyton (The Sheriff) Manning and the Colts. Number Five is doing the same thing he did in Philly: winning with no name receivers and pure moxie.

The Look Man has lost a lot of money betting against The Sheriff in big primetime games. The Colts will be looking ahead to Week Seven when they face Houston at home. They're 1-2 on the road and not playing particularly well against the run.

Why not lose some more? McNabb shines and the Genocide Victims cover.

Tennessee at Jacksonville (+3) [Monday Night Football]

The AFC South division features four teams all knotted up at 3-2. It is the best division in football with solid wins over very competitive teams. This game will be interesting, if only because Tennessee just finished a marquee matchup with Dallas.

Jacksonville has quietly strung together some solid wins with David Garrard improving his TD numbers. Mo-Jo Drew is a little nicked up, but they are winning with physical offense and solid defense.

The Look Man is taking Tennessee to cover the spread here and continue its domination. Flaming Thumbtacks in a war.

EPILOGUE

Brett Favre came out this week to say that he would sit instead of hurting the team with a bum elbow. The Look Man is not sure who The Pope thinks he's kidding, but there's not a chance.

Childress should've benched Favre in the first half of the Monday Nighter. Favre had already put the rock on the ground because he couldn't handle the snaps, and he couldn't hit the broad side of Rex Ryan in the first half.

Favre nearly manufactured a comeback, but Tarvaris Jackson would've put them in a position to win that game. Sanchez got dinged and couldn't complete a pass in the second half. Favre's three and outs wore out his own Purple Helmet Wearers defense, allowing the Jets to salt the win away with the running game.

Favre's elbow is in bad shape. He ought to start consecutive game number 290, then turn it over to Tarvaris Jackson. The Hornheads can win with the running game, but they need leadership from the coaching staff. Unfortunately, Favre is the coach, the GM and the QB.

Given the fact that they play the hated Cheeseheads in two weeks, look for Favre's selfishness to cost them a shot at the postseason, just as he did in New York. Owner Zygi Wilf needs a new stadium, and he won't risk alienating the fans just to save a season.

Peace,

The Look Man