

THE LOOKMAN REPORT 2015

Week Six – Money Back Guarantee

“I quit trusting my gut a long time ago. Son of a b— has been lying to me forever.”— Arizona head coach Bruce Arians when asked if his gut feel was that Carson Palmer would win last Sunday.

PROLOGUE

The Look Man went 2-4 in Week Six, but none was more surprising than the Stillers demolition of the Cardinals. Arizona was actually firmly in command until (Johnny) Carson Palmer got a bad case of the yips. Mr. Tonight Show reverted to his previous form when octogenarian LB James Harrison and the rest of the Stillers defense applied pressure.

This simple regression to the mean reminded the Look Man to review the 2015 starters and identify guys out there who are JGETGYB – Just Good Enough to Get You Beat. Most backup QBs fall into this mix, but in addition to Mr. Tonight Show, the Look Man spotted a couple of additions in Week Six.

Peyton Manning, Denver: This just in - - - the Sheriff is officially applying for a new jersey; you know, the Brett Favre model with a hole in the back for the fork to stick out. Peyton was struggling to throw the ball outside the numbers in C-town, and grunting in the process. He threw one nice ball the whole day, and even on that one, the Browns backup safety bit and took a bad angle. He’s done.

Michael (Ron Mexico) Vick, Stillers: The Look Man thought Vick had more tread remaining on the tires, but Mr. Mexico is simply perpetrating a hoax. He may even win the Susan Lucci Emmy nomination for his portrayal of an NFL QB. Not only is Vick a China Doll who gets injured easily and often, he should pick up his paycheck with a gun and a mask.

Alex (Dr. Zachary) Smith, Kansas City: Smith cannot throw the ball to the numbers. In the Bengals game, the Look Man was horrified that no receiver ran a route into the end zone with the ball inside the Bengals 30 yard line. Why? Because Alex cannot throw it that far. The horizontal route tree was created by Andy (the Walrus) Reid to mitigate Smith’s lack of arm strength.

There may be additions to this list as the season progresses, but these guys are prime candidates for the JGETGYB. Send your own candidates to the Look Man with a self-addressed, stamped envelope. Winners will be awarded - - - A BRAND NEW CAR!!!

The Bengals beat an undermanned Buffalo squad, the Iggles housed the Jynts and the Seahawks choked at crunch time. The good news is twofold: (1) the Look Man just saved a boatload of cash by switching his car insurance to Geico, and (2) all predictions wrong, or your money back!

Without further ado, the Week that Was...

ZEBRA OF THE WEEK

He did what????!!!

Tony Corrente wins this week for awarding the ball to the Chowds on a key onside kick play. The ball was clearly on the ground next to a Patriots player when Corrente decided Indy’s challenge was groundless. The term ‘incontrovertible’ appears in the dictionary with a picture of this play.

Olivier Vernon's low hit call on Marcus Mariota in Marine Mammals at Thumbtacks, and the Walt (Disney) Anderson offsides call in the Seahawks-Niners get honorable mention. Vernon is getting fined a game check for giving Marcus a knee, and Mariota is about to apply to the JGETGYB club.

Tony Corrente, you are the Look Man's Zebra of the Week!



"Did you see the blonde at the party last night?"

LAGNIAPPE

Ryan's Hope

Browns head coach Mike Pettine is getting flak from his squad for the complexity of the defense, and why it may be creating a self-fulfilling prophecy about run stuffing. Meanwhile, in Crapchester, Rex Ryan, the architect of said defense, is also getting guff from his front seven, who claim that Rex is responsible for key breakdowns.

These two defenses have something in common. Instead of the classic setting of the edge and forcing plays to the middle, the Ryan's Hope Defense uses smaller corners and safeties from every angle. The result is often getting gashed by the run, and being out of position on big plays. Tom Brady has made a career out of exposing Ryan defenses, and now Pettine is ranked 32nd against the run.

Rex Ryan went to the Bear 46 defense once in last week's Bengals matchup, and Gio Bernard ripped off an untouched 17 yard TD run. Ryan never went back to the 46.

In Cleveland, Pettine went man-to-man with the Browns up a TD, resulting in a 75-yard TD bomb from Manning to Emmanuel. One play changed the entire complexion of that game, and the pressure forced Pettine to go for two instead of the basic PAT. The Browns lost in OT based upon that point difference.

The moral of the story: if you have a solid front seven, you may want to keep it simple. Sometimes, instead of bluster, you simply need to avoid overthinking. Right, Chuck Pagano?

Downton Crapchester Abbey

Bisons playmaker Percy Harvin is injured again, and considering retirement. He did not make the trip to London this week as a result. Meanwhile, QB Tyrod Taylor is also banged up, and the upstart Bisons have been cut down by the injury bug.

Is this a result of bad coaching or bad luck? The Look Man is not a big Rex Ryan fan. Ryan was able to parlay a pedestrian Jets squad into three AFC championship games, but what has he done since? Buffalo's defense includes

several first round picks, and these guys should make noise in the AFC South Division, aka Chowds Central. Instead, they are struggling and a loss today across the pond could put a damper on a once promising season.



"Jenga!"

THE LOOK AHEAD

Cleveland at St. Louis (-6.5)

The Browns gave away a win in Week Six, despite picking Peyton (The Sheriff) Manning three times, including a pick six. Head Coach Mike Pettine owns that L, largely on the strength of a failed two point conversion and awful play calling.

The Browns lost another heartbreaker, and now head to the road with the worst run defense in the NFL. They face a Rams team with rookie RB Todd Gurley (Man), who is ripping it up like Hans and Franz from SNL.

The Look Man wonders whether the Pettine defense is the culprit or the circus atmosphere created by Johnny Drug Test. Manziel is as big a circus as Tebow, and the Browns players wonder how a guy who admitted to drinking and beating his girlfriend gets let off with a warning on the west side of Cleveland, especially in light of the number of DUIs passed out to other players in recent years.

Browns CB Joe Haden is still recovering from a concussion and FS Tashaun Gipson will also miss the game. These two DBs are just a few of the unfortunate guys who are left to force the edge in the Pettine defense, where size doesn't matter.

Blitzburgh at Kansas City (-3)

Tough call this week; backup QB makes good in an emergency appearance, but can he win in a tough venue with the pressure of knowing he will start? This conundrum applies to Landry Jones, the illegitimate love child of former Pokes head coach Tom Landry. Jones replaced Ron Mexico last week, and proceeded to light up the Cardinals with the help of the Killer Bees, Bryant and Brown.

Will this game be a lookahead special, or a portent of good things to come? The Stillers are on a roll, attempting to set up a big battle in Week Eight against the undefeated Bengals. The Look Man likes the Stillers to play hard-nosed defense and eke out a win with the help of the Zebras. Stillers.

Jets at New England (-7.5):

Last week's Deflategate rematch went pretty much as expected, but Belicheat and the Chowds won on the strength of two plays: (1) recovery of an onside kick that contributed to the TD drive despite an unlikely review confirmation, and (2) the most bizarre 4th down gamble in NFL history.

The Jets arrive on the scene with an unlikely 4-1 record, and need this win to legitimize their playoff aspirations. The Jets secondary is solid, featuring Darrelle Revis (Island), Antonio Cromartie and former Browns nickel back Buster Skrine (Door). Skrine Door has added fifteen pounds of muscle, and is actually playing extremely well for Gang Green.

Unfortunately, Tom (Zoolander) Brady and the Chowds run so many offensive pick plays that it may not matter. Edelman and Amendola go horizontal while Gronkowski goes vertical in the seam. The result, when paired with a power running game, is highly effective.

The Look Man is betting the Chowds were higher in the saddle than they care to admit for the Week Six tilt at Indy, and two weeks in a row could be asking too much. New Jets head coach Todd Bowles is a defensive wizard, and with his strong defensive front seven, he figures to force Brady into a lot of passes. Brady's arm hasn't devolved to the level of Peyton's, but it has some miles on it. After taking some brutal hits in Weeks Five and Six, he may have a letdown.

Bowles won't blink like the Ponies, and Belicheat takes one on the chin in Week Seven. J-E-T-S.

Dallas at Jynts (-3.5)

The Look Man jumped on the Jynts bandwagon along with the talking hairdos, and should have known better. The G-Men have always had clunkers whenever they begin reading the newspapers in Gotham, and last week's ugly loss to the Iggles was no exception.

Down in Big D, the Brandon Weeden experiment has played itself out, so enter Matt (Richard) Cassell as the next man up, albeit without Dez Bryant. Cassell is actually a writer helping the Pokes solve crimes with the help of detective Kate Beckett, played by the comely Stana Katic. If you haven't seen the series *Castle*, you need to catch what could be its final season. Ditto for Matt Cassell, who has been stealing money in the NFL for quite a while.

This series is straight up odd; Dallas has won three in a row at the Meadowlands and four of five against the Jynts, including that ugly clock management nightmare in the opener. The Pokes were downright lucky in that one, and even the bye week and new QB Matt Cassel won't make a difference. Jynts.

Oakland at San Diego (-4)

This series is always close, and the Raiders are coming off a bye week to prepare for the Bolts. Philip Rivers put up 503 in a losing effort last week, and has to have some arm fatigue. The new look Raiders are no longer the Grayders, with young, talented players on both sides of the ball.

Oaktown QB Derek Carr is no David, and this LB corps is the best group no one has heard about. Sio Moore returns from the PUP list to join a deep and talented LB group featuring Khalil Mack, Malcolm Smith and Curtis Lofton. These guys will knock your genitals off.



"Return of the Mack."

Rookie WR Amani Cooper is the real deal, so look for Oakland to win in San Diego for the first time since 2011. Oakland.

Philly at Carolina (-3): Football Night in America

The Look Man wrongly predicted a Seahawks win last week, but no one predicted the cold-blooded accuracy of Cam Newton in the crunch. If you missed this battle, you missed a war. Cam was precise, actually reading defense and

looking off the coverage. Carolina scored with seconds remaining to win in an extremely tough environment, maintaining their unbeaten status. And they did it without a single wideout who is a household name.

The Iggles didn't win any beauty pageants with a gutsy win on national TV last week, but a W is a W. Chip Kelly willed his team to a win, but QB Sam (I Am) Bradford didn't look great against a flat Jynt's secondary. He will see a real defense this week, and it doesn't bode well. LB Luke Kuechly returned from the concussion protocol and collected thirteen tackles in Seattle.

Carolina is quietly one of the best teams in the NFC, and though they won't win many track meets, with their defense, they won't have to. Black Cats remain unbeaten.

EPILOGUE

Cincinnati is starting to look more and more like the real deal. Andy (The Red BB Gun) Dalton has an embarrassment of offensive riches, the defense is playing lights out, and Carlos Dunlap (Tire) is leading the NFL in sacks. Marvin Lewis has his guys playing at the top of their game, and the promise of an extra day off following 6-0 was more than the Look Ahead Factor could overcome.

The Bengals must prove that they can win a playoff game this season, and if they can't, ownership will have no choice but to break up the team and fire its head coach. Week Eight features the Bengals at Stillers, and could decide the AFC Asgard division for better or worse. The Stillers will either be one or two games back, and Big Ben will likely return to the starting lineup.

If the Stillers can go 3-1 or 2-2 without Rapelessberger, they are primed for a late season push. The return of Martavis (Don't call me 'Martiv-ious') Bryant means the Killer Bees will be at full strength. Bryant, Bell and Ben are the only AFC team that can match Cincy for offensive talent, and that secondary is quietly coming together ahead of schedule.

The stretch run looks promising for the Stillers, and the Bengals are 7-17-1 following a bye week in the Marvin Lewis era. Don't be surprised if zero undefeated teams remain following Week Nine. Denver is on borrowed time with Peyton Manning leading the NFL in picks. The Chowds may not make it to Week Eight undefeated, and the Panthers and Packers are shorthanded offensively.

The 2015 NFL season is going to get interesting just as the World Series begins. And if anyone tells you different, don't listen, because nobody knows nothing.

Peace,

The Look Man

NFL Lines For Week 7 - NFL Football Line Week Seven
NFL Line 10/25 - 10/26, 2015

| Date & Time | Favorite | Line | Underdog | Total |
|------------------------|-----------------|-------------|-----------------------------|--------------|
| 10/25 9:30 AM | Buffalo | -4.5 | Jacksonville (at London) | 41 |
| 10/25 1:00 ET | At St. Louis | -6.5 | Cleveland | 42 |
| 10/25 1:00 ET | At Kansas City | -3 | Pittsburgh | 43 |
| 10/25 1:00 ET | At Miami | -4.5 | Houston | 44.5 |
| 10/25 1:00 ET | At New England | -7.5 | NY Jets | 48 |
| 10/25 1:00 ET | Minnesota | -1 | At Detroit | 44.5 |
| 10/25 1:00 ET | Atlanta | -6 | At Tennessee | 47 |
| 10/25 1:00 ET | At Washington | -3 | Tampa Bay | 42.5 |
| 10/25 1:00 ET | At Indianapolis | -4 | New Orleans | 52 |
| 10/25 4:05 ET | At San Diego | -4 | Oakland | 47 |
| 10/25 4:25 ET | At NY Giants | -3.5 | Dallas | 45 |
| 10/25 8:30 ET | At Carolina | -3 | Philadelphia | 46 |

Monday Night Football Line

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|---------------|---------|------|-----------|----|
| 10/26 8:30 ET | Arizona | -7.5 | Baltimore | 49 |
|---------------|---------|------|-----------|----|