

THE LOOKMAN REPORT 2022

Week Fifteen – I Don't Believe What I Just Saw

“There’s a lot of things we could fall apart from but we’re not going to do that. We’re going to come together and finish as strong as we can. That starts with this week.” – Chowds QB Mac (the Knife) Jones after a bad OT loss to the Raiders.

PROLOGUE

Week Fifteen provided some wild Thursday, Saturday and Sunday of NFL action, with 12 of 15 games decided by one score and all 15 games were decided by 11 points or fewer. These marks are tied for the most in a single week in NFL history.

To add to the drama, Argentina and France battled to double overtimes in the World Cup. Mbappe and Messi squared off as global soccer superstars combining for five goals in a World Cup final. The game ended on a penalty kick, but it was less satisfying than sudden death.

Tack on some Mapped good college hoops, college football bowl games, and you have a gold-plated sports weekend like no other. And that weekend included seeing Chowds QB Mac Jones get dogged by his brother from another mother, Raiders DE Chandler Jones, on a pick six. That Chandler Jones stiff arm was one of the Plays of the Year.

The only loser of the week might have been Denver center Nikola (the Joker) Jokic. All he did was become only the second NBA player to post a 40-25-10 line since Wilt Chamberlain in 1968. The Joker is looking at back-to-back MVPs, but this stat was a yawn following this sports weekend.

But if you look a little deeper, many of these contests featured some sub-standard officiating, coaching and simple execution. In other words, much of the drama was manufactured instead of organic.

Without further ado, the Look Man Report 2022 for Week Fifteen.

LAGNIAPPE

Zebbras of the Year?

If you saw the Hornheads pull out that win with 0:01 remaining, but the Look Man has never seen the like. The Zebra of the Week award has stiff competition this week between that goofy (and unusual) delay of game call and John (Pa, what’s a) Hussey overturning nearly every call on the field in the Jynts-Commies game.

The Look Man’s personal theories notwithstanding, the NFL is in bed with professional gambling. Whether it wants Washington wins to obtain the highest price on the impending sale or seeking retribution from the Browns for fully guaranteeing the Deshaun Watson contract, it is a bad look. That Jynts-Washington was decided by a bad offensive alignment of a wideout and a no-call on DPI in the endzone. Hell of a way to lose a division game that affects the playoffs. Of course, the Look Man is a conspiracy theorist by nature...

Dirty Harry

From Allen M on Atlanta DC Dean Pees getting hospitalized following a pregame collision with a New Orleans punt returner in warm ups:

Football101, coach... Gotta keep your head on a swivel when ur on the gridiron. Kinda got lucky. Could’ve been a lineman, tightend, or linebacker; running warmup wind-sprints, instead of the kick returner (usually a team’s smallest player except possibly kickers) backing up, trying to keep his weight and

THE LOOKMAN REPORT 2022
Week Fifteen – I Don't Believe What I Just Saw

momentum moving forward anticipating the return. And u definitely don't wanna get 'Sean McVayed'. Ur too old for that. And McVay got hit by his own team's player on the sideline. Would've torn your old head clean off.

The Look Man hasn't heard that line since Clint Eastwood in the original *Dirty Harry* in 1971. It drew the usual comment responses on Twitter:

- *SardinesareGross: Dean Pees. Exactly what he did when the hit happened.*
- *BigJohn: go home and sit in your rocking chair.*
- *Patrick: Pees' defense has been leaking all season.*

Needless to say, it may be time for Pees to retire. Or at least keep his head on a swivel.

THE LOOKAHEAD

The Official Wife of the Look Man asked the other day if a particular NFL game was "important?" The Look Man responded, "At this point in the season, they're ALL important."

Week Fifteen provided some clarity, but the Hornheads and Pokes backed into Division and Wild Card spots respectively. The Iggles claimed the NFC Beasty with a costly win in which Jalen Hurts busted his throwing shoulder.

Things are tight in the AFC, with one game separating only the Bisons, Baby Backs, and Bengals. The Chowds, Raiders and Flaming Thumbtacks have fallen on hard times, and the rest of the pack is bunched up below .500.

The final playoff seeding is unclear, and this week will not provide much elucidation. It will only set up some seeding drama for the balance of the season.

Here is the lookahead for Week Sixteen.

Philadelphia Iggles at Dallas Cowpokes (-6)

The Iggles squeezed by the Monsters of the Furniture Mart in Week Fifteen, largely on the legs of QB Jalen Hurts. Unfortunately, the QB lived down to his surname, injuring his throwing shoulder in the process. Hurts is being replaced by (Chance) Gardner Minshew, whose primary claim to fame is simply *Being There*.

The Look Man has seen the Pokes blow opportunities all season long and last week's loss to the J-Squareds is emblematic. The Pokes were up by fourteen before succumbing to a game J-Ville squad via an OT pick six.

The Dallas defense had regained doomsday status, only to blow it in the last two games. Houston and J-Ville are not exactly offensive juggernauts. Philly, on the other hand, can win via ground and pound or light you up aerially.

Longtime Tailpipe GB Shaw bemoaned the Pokes' troubles in an email:

THE LOOKMAN REPORT 2022

Week Fifteen – I Don't Believe What I Just Saw

My frustration with that game falls on Kellen Moore's shoulders. After the late fumble recovery (by Eleven from Heaven, no less), all the O had to do was get a first down, game over. Then, when 3rd and long (inevitably) came up, all they had to do is not stop the clock, game over. But nooooooooooooo....

The NFC Conference game is going to be in the Linc, and the visitor is going to be either SF or Dallas. But even that assumes that the version of the Starheads that blew out Minnesota is the one that shows up at Tampa and then the Division Round, not the one from the last two weeks.

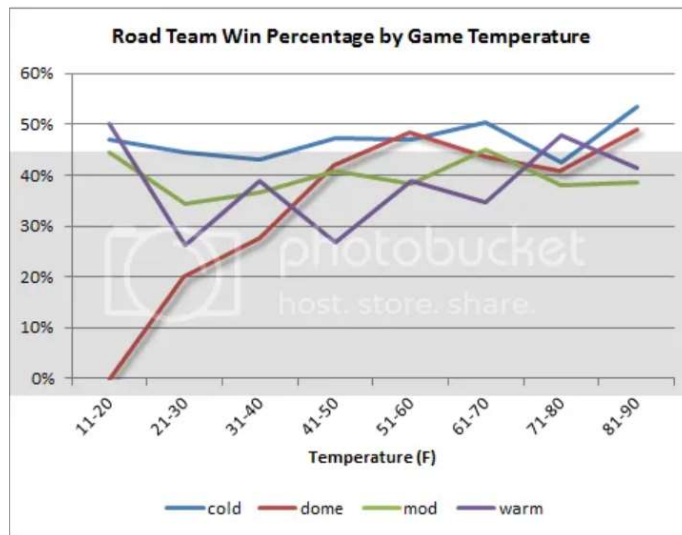
Also, we're going to need McCarthy to shout "Kellen, no!" when, at a critical point in the contest, he wants to rush out into the middle of the Two Minute Warning to save a trick play he absolutely loves, but needs to die if the Starheads' winning timeline is to be re-established.

The Look Man agrees. OC Kellen Moore is coaching for his next job, and may get Mike McCarthy fired doing it. As for calling Micah Parsons (Brown) Eleven from Heaven, the jury is still out after some ill-fated tweets and bulletin board material saying Jalen Hurts is a system QB.

Pokes are already in, and the Iggles are playing for a one seed. Iggles.

New Orleans Religious Icons at Cleveland Browns (-3)

This game is going to be played at 14F with 60 MPH winds. The graphic below shows how poorly dome teams perform in frigid weather. Icons are playing out the string and the Browns have a prayer for the postseason. Browns, baby, Browns.



Doesn't look good for NOLA.

Cincinnati Bengals at New England Chowds (+3)

The Chowds lost in ignominious fashion in Week Fifteen, with QB Mac Jones suffering one of the ugliest stiff arms in NFL history. Now, it's on to Cincinnati, figuratively if not literally, as the AFC's hottest squad comes to the Blade.

Belicheat has to be steaming over that loss, and this Nati defense is the best that no one is talking about. They do everything decent, and the only real chinks in the armor is tempo to stop substitutions on the

THE LOOKMAN REPORT 2022

Week Fifteen – I Don't Believe What I Just Saw

D-line, which is now short DE Sam Hubbard (calf). DE Trey Hendrickson returns for this game, albeit with a broken wrist.

The Bengals were looking ahead to this game, but turned it around in Tampa by forcing four turnovers by Tom (Zoolander) Brady. Apparently, Brady called the Nati defense “pretty tough” and they demanded an upgrade. Three picks and a fumble by the alleged GOAT is quite an upgrade.

The Look Man has no love lost for the Chowds, and he believes the Bengals are a real threat to repeat as AFC Champs. Still, the rules of football don't exist at Foxboro; some may be bent, others broken. On the other side, the NFL Hype Machine would love to see the Week Seventeen Buffalo at Cincy game be for the AFC Top Seed. Never underestimate the power of the NFL to get what it wants.

Belicheat and the Chowds are going to do whatever it takes. Chowds in an upset.



“You have no idea of the powah of the NFL...”

Green Bay Cheeseheads at Miami Marine Mammals (-4)

Aaron (Discount Double Check) Rodgers finally has a healthy receiving corps, and a solid running game. What he doesn't have is a defense, and this Miami team can light it up.

Teams have film on Tua Tagovailoa and it shows. Like Lamar (Action) Jackson, teams clog the middle and force him to hold the ball and throw outside the numbers. Also, like Action, Tua can run at his own peril after two devastating concussions. Both guys are playing for big contracts, and both are Just Good Enough to Get You Beat. The team must craft the offense to their talents, meaning if they are injured, the season is over.

Marine Mammals turn the corner by beating a mediocre defense. Miami.

Seattle Seahawks at Kansas City Baby Backs (-10)

KC is keeping pace and the Seahawks are standing in their way. The AFC West will be decided the old-fashioned way with games between the Bolts, Raiders, Baby Backs and Donkeys. Don't believe Cyril Eugene Smith is going to stand in the way. Baby Backs.

New York Jynts at Minnesota Hornheads (-4.5)

Not saying four and a half is the number; just saying we may find out just how good a team the Hornheads really are. And that is not great. G-Men cover.

Las Vegas Raiders at Blitzburgh Stillers (-2.5) – The Immaculate Reception 50th Anniversary Special

THE LOOKMAN REPORT 2022
Week Fifteen – I Don't Believe What I Just Saw

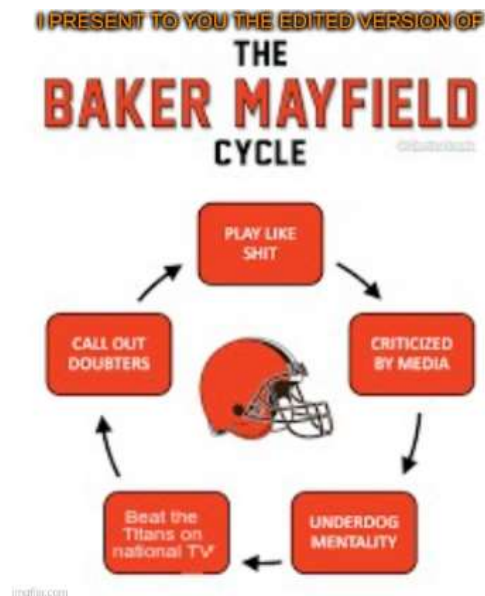
The NFL did not even promote the two biggest anniversaries in its history in 2022. The Perfect Season flew under the radar, and it took the death of Franco (American) Harris to mention The Immaculate Reception.

While the NFL media machine promotes foolishness like Minny's greatest comeback of all time, these games were played when football was really football. Think the Stillers will lose a game in which they celebrate the guy who brought them from the doormat of the NFL to relevancy? Think again.

No one is talking about the masterful coaching of Mike Tomlin, but that is nothing new. He has still never won a Coach of the Year Award and he won't win in 2022. Stillers win on a deflected pass TD, courtesy of a Black Italian who is already in Heaven. Stillers.

Denver Donkeys at Los Angeles Rams (+3)

(Dange)Russ Wilson put on a show two weeks ago before getting a concussion. He put up 250 passing yards in three quarters, and was on his way to shocking the world. This Denver team is on the come, and (Cake) Baker Mayfield's last second win was a typical flash in the pan. Donkeys.



Team may change, but the Cycle is Real...

Los Angeles Bolts at Indianapolis Ponies (+5) - Monday Night Football

The Bolts are stringing tighter wins, and look like the dark horse of the AFC. Unfortunately, the Ponies have benched Matty (Ice) Ryan for the second time, and now look like helpless. Bolts cover and win to set up the Battle of LA in Week Seventeen. Bolts.

THE LOOKMAN REPORT 2022
Week Fifteen – I Don't Believe What I Just Saw



Can this man lead the Bolts to the postseason?

EPILOGUE

The final three weeks have been programmed to provide maximum drama. The Bisons, KC and Bengals all have big games down the stretch, and the AFC and NFC Souse divisions could be decided. Jacksonville is getting good at the right time, and Brady is stinking up the league in Tampa.

The NFC Beast is currently hogging all of the NFC Wild Card spots, but that could change in a hurry. The Niners are battling for seeding with QB Brock Purdy (Good) who is playing a lot better than Mr., Irrelevant or any other rookie QB in recent memory.

It is all very exciting, and the NFL is on the verge of a seven-million-dollar payday for the Washington Football Team. The recent acquisition of the Phoenix Suns NBA and WBA teams by Mat Ishbia has to have the owners salivating.

Peace and happy holidays,

The Look Man