

THE LOOKMAN REPORT 2022

Week Twenty-Two: Joe Montana Was Here

An exchange at Radio Row between Mike Florio and Niners TE George Kittle, who had just revealed a Hobbes tattoo from the cartoon Calvin and Hobbes on his right hand.

Kittle: "I'm Calvin."

Florio: "What does Calvin piss on?," in reference to the flood (pun intended) of unauthorized images on T-shirts and window stickers and plenty of other items showing Cavin urinating on something or another.

Kittle: "Cowboys fans' hopes and dreams."

PROLOGUE

The Conference Championship weekend was pretty much a bust, as the Iggles destroyed the Niners and the Zebra intervention rendered the AFC game nearly unwatchable. The Look Man has been warning fans about Ron Torbert all season, but he saved his best for last.

The officiating changes in defensive pass interference and offensive holding interpretation at crunch time confused the Orange Cats and their frustration resulted in a stupid roughness penalty that decided the game. Apparently, 'poise' isn't their middle name, but it is difficult to lay blame after that fiasco.

The buildup to the Big Game has been nothing short of epic. If you have never been to Phoenix, you're missing out on a treat. State Farm Stadium is located in the western suburbs, and the layout includes an entertainment district with bars and restaurants ringing the stadium.

The dome itself has a neat grass field on wheels that rolls in and out of the building for sunlight. The facility is a little generic inside, but Phoenix is largely a retirement community. You are not going to have rabid fan base of transplants. Think Atlanta without the soul.

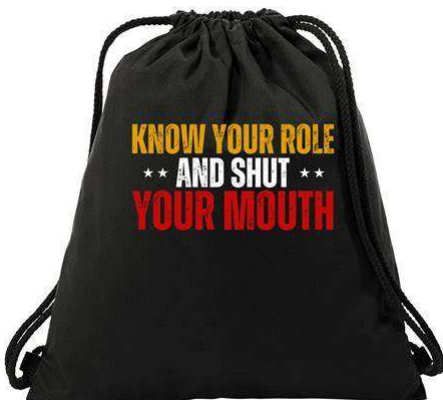
Super Bowl LVII is now set, and Philly and KC fans are descending upon the city. No doubt Kevin Hart and Paul Rudd are knocking back shots this week while waiting for the game.

Without further ado, the Conference Championships week that was.

LAGNIAPPE

Pa, what's a 'jabroni'?

Travis Kelce dropped the hammer on Cincinnati mayor Aftab Pureval following the win. Pureval had been smack talking the Chiefs all week, and Kelce put him in his place. Of course, Kelce's use of the term 'jabroni' confused many but he is spot on with marketing. Check out the satchel below.



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The Look Man read what might qualify as the best article he has read in about five years last week. Wright Thompson of the Four-Letter Network penned a tome for the ages chronicling Joe Montana. The story goes back to Thompson's childhood, stretches through Joe's playing years, and up to the current day. This piece has everything, including how Montana feels about Brady.

Here is an excerpt:

WALMART ONCE PAID Joe Montana, John Elway, Dan Marino and Johnny Unitas to do an event. The four quarterbacks went out to dinner afterward. They laughed and told stories and drank expensive wine. Then the check came. The late, great Unitas loved to tell this story. Montana grinned and announced that whichever guy had the fewest rings would have to pay the bill. Joe had four, including one over Marino and one over Elway. Elway had two. Unitas said he only had one Super Bowl ring but had of course won three NFL titles before the Super Bowl existed. Marino cursed and picked up the check.

If you don't do anything else before Super Bowl Sunday at 6:30pm, do yourself a favor and read this article. Here is the URL: https://www.espn.com/nfl/story/_/id/35604915/49ers-legend-joe-montana-reflects-legacy-ahead-super-bowl

Clap for the Wolfman

Long Suffering Bengals Fan Sundance brought this piece to the Look Man's attention a few weeks back. Apparently, KC superfan ChiefsAholic, whose real name is Xavier Michael Babudar, is known for wearing a KC Wolf costume at Arrowhead Stadium and Chiefs road games. Babudar's Twitter social media has gone silent, and he missed the Houston regular season game, raising suspicion among Chiefs Fans.



Found with a bag containing small, unmarked bones...

Here is the official account:

Babudar was arrested at 10:15 a.m. local time on Friday for armed robbery, per Tulsa County Jail records. Police responded to an armed robbery happening at the Tulsa Teachers Credit Union in Bixby, Okla., with an eyewitness giving a description of the suspect along with the direction he

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fled, according to Emily Farris of 2 News Oklahoma. FOX 23 reports that Bixby police set up a perimeter and arrested the suspect, who had a weapon and large amounts of cash on him. No physical injuries to bank employees or witnesses were reported.

The arrest record says Babudar was wearing a mask while committing the robbery, though it does not specify if it was the wolf mask he sports at Chiefs games. Bond for Babudar is set at \$200,000.

Tough way to support a pro football habit. He should do what the Look Man does: stick to gambling.

Building the Perfect Beast in Philly and KC

Both the Iggles and the Baby Backs have built teams the right way; from the draft up, with free agents sprinkled in. Howie Roseman has done a masterful job building the Iggles, and their front seven is deep and tough.

KC has been able to maintain its coaching staff and front office, losing on Ryan Pace to Chicago and Tyreek Hill to Miami. They replaced both in fine fashion, and now appear in their third Super Bowl in five years. Mahomes doesn't know what it is like to not appear in the AFC Championship game.

For all of you teams attempting to do it using free agents only, please take note. The Look Man is talking to you Cleveland! Now get out there and find some diamonds in the rough.

Trade rumors – Derek Carr, Tee Higgins, Joe Mixon

This time of year, trade rumors are flying faster than coaching contracts. If you believe what you read, Derek Carr is all but signed in New Orleans, and Tee (Magnum PI) Higgins and Joe (Richard Milhous) Mixon have played their last downs in Orange and Black.

The Look Man happens to believe these rumors. The Bengals are about to sign Joe (Goat Boy) Burrow to a mega deal, and Mixon has already proven he cannot stay healthy, pass protect or stay out of trouble. Mixon was nearly arrested this week for pulling a gun on a woman in downtown Cincy.

As for Higgins, his days of minding the lads is likely over. He will be playing somewhere else soon, and doing it as a number one receiver, not behind Ja'Marr Chase.

THE LOOKAHEAD

Super Bowl LVII is upon us, and it promises to be a good one. The Number One seeds are meeting in the final for the first time since Super Bowl LII in 2018, and that game between the Iggles and Chowds featured over 1000 yards of offense. Perhaps more importantly, the good guys won, courtesy of the Philly Special and QB (Big Dick) Nick Foles.

Foles, or BDN as he is known in Philly, received the nickname from teammate Connor Barwin, who was responding to a Reddit question. The nickname was a holdover from Foles' collegiate career in Arizona. When asked about it, former Bears offensive lineman Kyle Long tweeted to Chicago RB Tarik Cohen to "keep his camera away," referring to the time Cohen accidentally filmed Long's package.

But the Look Man digresses. Without further ado, the Lookahead to Super Bowl LVII.

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KC Baby Backs at Philly Cream Cheese Iggles (-1.5/51)

The Iggles arrived in Phoenix after systematically destroying the NFC following a first round bye. They dominated a plucky Jynts team which had little business in the postseason, and compounded that by ripping Niners rookie QB (Big Hen) Brock Purdy's arm off in the NFC Championship.

Niners HC Kyle Shanahan was later arrested for impersonating a head coach due to his attempts to block DE Haason Reddick with a motion TE. Big Hen Brock is slated for UCL surgery to repair his wing, and backup Josh Johnson got knocked into next season after that blocking scheme.

Philly has mastered a clear path to victory: they pound you with the run game, which includes QB Jaen Hurts, get up by two scores, and force you to throw the rock. The Philly D has posted 80 sacks on the season using this formula, and once you have to pass, they can tear you to pieces with four gusy who have double digit sack numbers. Philly's sack total is third overall for a behind the NFL's all-time mark of 72 from the 1984 Bears. And that is nothing to sneeze at.

The Birds are doing this rushing only four and dropping six or seven in coverage, which makes it very difficult on QBs. They also have two solid cover corners in Darius (Big Play) Slay and James (Ray) Bradberry. "I wrote *The Martian Chronicles* one afternoon while I was covering Michael Gallup for the Cowboys," said Bradberry. "It's a story of two civilizations: one which liked cheesesteaks, and the other, which refuses to put beans in chili."

The other side of this equation features the cerebral Andy (Kool Aid) Reid, who uses motion and visual deception to make the defense think for the one split second it takes to get beat. Football, at its core, is simply eleven on eleven, and a one man advantage at the point of attack is the difference between a short gain and a chunk play. To quote Reid's daughter Tara, "This isn't *rock science*."

Geology references aside, KC has talent across the board, including All World TE Travis Kelce, speedy WR Marquez Valdes-Scantling and RB Isiah (Ferdie) Pacheco. But the straw that stirs the drink is the athletic Patrick Mahomes, who does things no one else can. Mahomes and Kelce are the two guys who show up at the basketball court and dominate for the entire afternoon due to their familiarity and cool athleticism.

You cannot sleep on the KC Defense, however. DT Chris Jones is a weapon who lines up all over the formation, and the back end features rookie talent galore. L'Jarius Sneed and Trent McDuffie lock down the corners, while Justin Reid and Juan Thornhill blanket the middle. Just for good measure, rookies Joshua Williams, Bryan Cook and Jaylen Watson can all run like deer, making life miserable for a QB who lacks accuracy.

Here is how the game goes: KC gets the ball first and drives down for a TD early. Philly gets the ball and kicks an FG. KC tacks on another score, forcing the Iggles to put the ball in the air. Pick six makes it a three-score game, and Sirianni and Company panic.

KC can win this game multiple ways, but the Iggles need to dominate with the run game and keep Mahomes on the sideline. If they get behind early, they have to rely on Jalen Hurts' bad shoulder. No one has seen the deep ball from Jalen since he injured that shoulder and the Look Man believes he cannot go deep.

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Mahomes has a chance to cement his legacy in his fourth Super Bowl appearance in five seasons. Baby backs, Baby.



Sirianni, Reid and Reid's daughter Tara

EPILOGUE

This game features a lot of attractive storylines: brother vs. brother in Jason and Travis Kelce; coach vs. coach in Reid and Sirianni, and even offense vs. defense in KC vs. Philly. The other brother vs brother narrative is based upon the first ever meeting between two African American QBs in the Super Bowl. Hard to believe it took 57 attempts to make this happen, but we will reap the rewards.

Mahomes won the MVP with 5300 passing yards and 45 total TDs, 41 passing and 4 rushing. That might actually be a slap in the face to Hurts, who owns 35, but 13 of those are rushing scores. Peyton Manning had only 18 rushing scores in his entire career, so this represents a passing of the guard.

The Look Man has no love lost for Sirianni, whose bluster and emotion may prove to be his undoing. On the other hand, Andy Reid's record following a bye week is an eye popping 27-4. Big Red is a master strategist, and his 31 years' experience is inevitable.

The Look Man can only hope that the Zebras allow the teams to play instead of littering the field with laundry. Carl Cheffers is doing the game, and he threw nearly 100 yards of penalties in the first half of Super Bowl LIV. The result was a 21-6 halftime lead for Tampa Tom at home, and a ho-hum game. Let's hope cooler (and non-striped) heads prevail on Sunday.

The Look Man likes KC and has little reason to pick them to win. On the other hand, this Mahomes kid is the best chance we have of unseating Tom (Zoolander) Brady and his seven rings. Hell, the Look Man might have seven rings too, if you steal signals, deflate footballs and change the rules each time you screw up.

Perhaps the most important thing for Andy Reid to remember: if you can't run and stop the run, you are going fishing, not to Disneyworld.

Oh, and for the record, Joe Montana is the Greatest NFL QB of All Time. And it isn't even close.

Peace,

The Look Man