

THE LOOKMAN REPORT 2025

WEEK TWENTY: Black History Month

"F--- the Packers!" – Chicago HC Ben Johnson following a miraculous comeback win with Caleb Williams in the Wild Card round.

PROLOGUE

Wild Card Weekend lived up the hype, as upsets prevailed. When the dust settled, Buffalo, New England, Frisco, Houston, and the Rams moved on to the Divisional Round. The outcomes also cost Mike (Omar Epps) Tomlin his job, and the firing of Bolts OC Greg Roman, and Ducks HC John (the anti-Milk Man) Harbaugh. The Look Man likes all of these coaches, especially Tomlin and Harbaugh. The AFC Asgard Division now has only one surviving HC in Zac Taylor, who should have been canned.

The Look Man cannot remember a season in which nine head coaches were fired, and there is going to be a scramble to find replacements. Harbaugh is close to signing with the Jynts, but the Raiders, Browns, Atlanta, and others are in freefall. Even if the head jobs are filled, coordinators are at a premium for rebuilding teams. With only one real franchise QB available in the draft, things are gonna get dicey quick for the replacements.

Without further ado, the Week That Was.

LAGNIAPPE

Me 'n Caleb?

Superbowl Nation printed an article saying Williams is not a good QB despite winning seven games when behind at the Two Minute Warning. Now that stat is an NFL record, ahead of one Peyton (the Sheriff) Manning, but SBN believes the Bears are behind because of Willams and his low completion percentage. The details are noted in the following URL:

[Caleb Williams is not a good quarterback](#)

The Look Man isn't buying any of this. Williams has incredible arm talent, as identified in this fourth down pass to Rome Odunze. Caleb put the ball in an eighteen-inch window on a play the Bears had to have. Jazzy Jeff, a longtime Tailpipe, proffered the following meme, suggesting a new NFL silhouette:



Kids in the Chi may not remember Michael, but know Caleb...

THE LOOKMAN REPORT 2025
WEEK TWENTY: Black History Month

The rest is simply shade by teams that passed on Williams, including the Commies (Jayden Daniels) and Chowds (Drake Maye). JJ McCarthy, Michael (Big) Penix (Energy), and Bo Nix were also members of the 2024 draft class.

If Williams walked on water, SBN headline would read, "Caleb can't swim!"

Black History Month

The Look Man has never heard of nine NFL coaches being given a version of the home gain in a single season, but that is indeed what happened in the 2025 season. Tennessee and the G-Men punted early, sending Brian (Dirty Harry) Callahan and Brian Daboll home early.

The season ended with Blitzburgh and Mike (Omar Epps) Tomlin separating, as well as Baltimore and John Harbaugh. When the smoke cleared, Cleveland, Arizona, Atlanta, and Vegas all decided to go a different way with their head coaching assignments. Black Monday turned into Black History Month with all of the firings, including Tomlin after a 30-6 loss in the Wild Card.

The Look Man sees this as a referendum created Chicago, and J-Ville all rebounding in accelerate rebuilds due to coaching changes. You can throw Denver into that mix after they ate \$100 million in (Dange)Russ Wilson salary cap. The Walmart Family apparently has money to burn, making the rest of the Billionaires Boys Club believe you can have anything if you just wish hard and burn cash.

The real story is that coaching salaries do not count against the salary cap, so paying coaches to sit at home is now considered the cost of doing business. Unless you are in Cincinnati, where Zac (Opie) Taylor and Duke Tobin show up each week to collect paychecks with a gun and a mask.

The turnarounds have been miraculous, but one fact remains true: tanking guarantees only that you can get a good QB who will get his head beat in because your offensive line still stinks. Ben Johnson in Chicago acquired an O-line via free agency, reversing the fortunes of his QB and his team. Tennessee allowed Mike Vrabel to walk, drafted Cam Ward Numero Uno, and still stinks on ice.

This factoid is evident in the beatdown in the Battle of Ohio, where the Browns led 14-6 at half due to a Top Five defense, and twelve yards of offense. Shedeur Sanders may not be the answer, but Burrow is still running for his life despite being taken One overall.

The Head Coach is the CEO of your organization. Pick the right one, and you can establish a culture, a team identity, and playoff experience. Pick the wrong one, and you enter The Matrix, where some rules can be bent, and others broken. And if you see a guy in a black suit and sunglasses, you do what the Look Man does: RUN.

Siriani AJ Brown dust up

Fox cameras caught Iggle HC Nick Sirianni sprinting toward WR AJ Brown telling him to "get off the field." Following a pass drop. The two nearly came to blows before an assistant separated them. Brown finished the half with just three catches for 25 yards.

THE LOOKMAN REPORT 2025

WEEK TWENTY: Black History Month

Commentator Michael (Bucky) Strahan addressed the incident with as sharp rebuke of Sirianni for confronting a team leader. "I don't understand why Sirianni's running down there and yelling at one of his star players, A.J. Brown," Strahan said.

"You know, A.J. Brown wanted to get involved in the game, I'm sure. They took two big shots with him, maybe he said, 'Give me a shot,' and the coach said, 'You had your chance, you better catch the ball next time.'

"But I don't understand why you do that in the middle of a game like this, because I don't think that brings out the best in your players. I think it takes away from your players. I think it takes away from the attitude of the team and the energy of the team."

Fox game analyst Tom (Zoolander) Brady suggested the dust-up between Sirianni and Brown was much ado about nothing. They have a great relationship," Brady said. "Everyone always makes a lot of that. It's two great competitors in the heat of the moment. They know how much they care about one another."

The Look Man disagrees. Sirianni is a known knucklehead who should know better, and he could be fired in 2026, just two years removed from a championship.

Felony Assault Charges Filed

Many of the QBs in Wild Card Weekend were beaten up in public, including Josh Allen, Justin Herbert, and Aaron Rodgers. Drake Maye and CJ Stroud were harassed into multiple turnovers. No formal charges are expected, but this behavior is why the league should not be contemplating a schedule expansion to eighteen games.

If we go back to the Dumpster Ducks championship in 2001 over the Jynts, we can remember them knocking out AFC QBs at a prodigious rate. The result was facing Kerry Collins, who was overwhelmed in a 34-7 loss.

The NFL changed the rules in order to protect Zoolander, but the impact will be low ratings. The Look Man is a member in good standing of the "let 'em play" mantra, but this is ridiculous.

ZEBRA OF THE WEEK

The Look Man has eschewed the ZOTW most of the season for a few reasons: (1) it has become a national pastime to criticize the Zebras; (2) officiating quality is so bad at this juncture, it becomes prosaic; and (3) Ron Torbert (the Eight Man) has the award on lock.

But WC Weekend saw some particularly egregious calls, including at least one the Look Man had never seen. To wit:

Niners at Iggles: Alan Eck

The Ineligible man downfield penalty thrown on the Iggles TD pass was unbelievable. Iggles center Cam Jurgens was four or five yards downfield when Hurts released the pass, and the flag was understandable. What was unbelievable was the flag pickup, due to an obscure evaluation about the offensive lineman being engaged from the line of Scrimmage, obviating the flag.

THE LOOKMAN REPORT 2025

WEEK TWENTY: Black History Month

The NFL rulebook goes on ad nauseum about conditions for calling the foul. If an offensive lineman is more than one yard downfield at the time the pass is released, it is a ten-yard penalty. What is unfathomable is the exceptions and variations verbiage, which goes on for paragraphs, including the following:

An ineligible player may legally advance more than one yard beyond the line of scrimmage without incurring the penalty if they initiate contact with a defender within one yard of the line and are subsequently driven beyond that point by the opponent's force, as this demonstrates reactive engagement rather than proactive downfield positioning. This provision allows linemen to maintain their blocking responsibilities near the line of scrimmage during pass plays, preventing the rule from overly restricting fundamental offensive tactics while still prohibiting unengaged advancement.

Linemen are also permitted limited movement allowances, such as sustaining contact within the immediate vicinity of the neutral zone...

TV Rules Analyst and NFL Shill Dean Blandino stated that the O-lineman can go one, two or ten yards beyond the line of scrimmage IF he is engaged at the beginning of the play. "[Cam] Jurgens was downfield, but the exception: if you're blocking within a yard, you can drive that defender five, six, 10 yards downfield. Great flag pickup. Touchdown for the Eagles."

To this the Look Man calls BS. If any offensive player is engaged with the ball in the air, it constitutes pass interference.

Here is the verbatim description from the NFL Rulebook: [Ineligible receiver downfield](#)

LA Bolts at Chowds: Ron Torbert

Bolts QB Justin (Eden) Herbert got destroyed in this game. There were several legitimate hits that made the Look Man wince in vicarious pain. But one call stood out: a Roughing the Passer where the Chowds DT nearly knocked Herbert's head off, with no call by the officials.

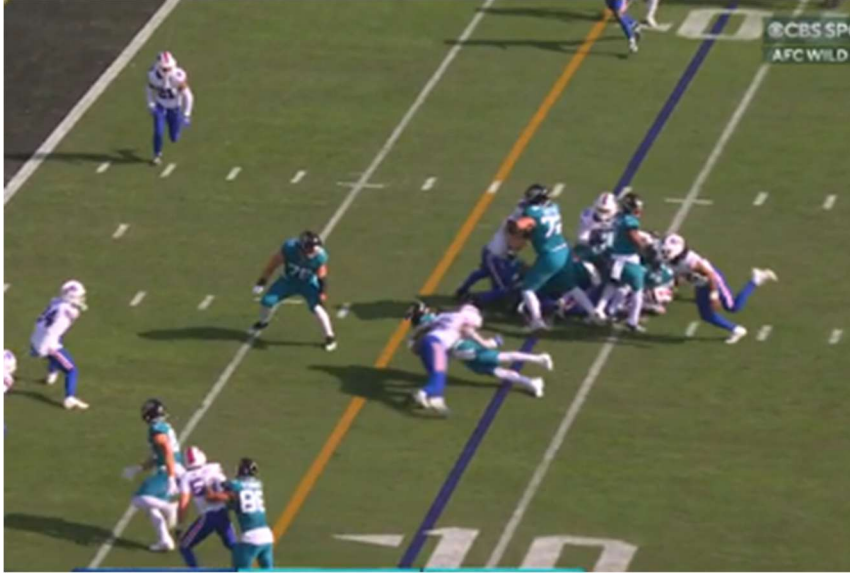
NBC Rent-A-Zebra Terry (Bottlegate) McCaulay went ballistic: "It's forcible contact, he still gets roughing the passer protection until he clearly establishes himself as a runner, which he didn't do," McCaulay told Cris Collinsworth and Mike Tirico. "That's forcible contact; it should have been a penalty for roughing the passer. 15 yards."

The Look Man is tempted to turn off any game in which Torbert officiates, but this was over-the-top. The kicker was a first down call for the Bolts in which the Head Linesman and the Line Judge both ruled fourth down. Torbert immediately overturned the calls, signaling first down.

Crapchester at J-Ville: Brad (Little Head) Allen

Buffalo had to challenge to overturn a first quarter Jacksonville first down when Trevor (that woman) Lawrence's shin clearly went down before he reached the Line to Gain. The worst part: expedited replay called that a first down, meaning Buffalo HC Sean McDermott had to challenge to get a call that was readily obvious to several million viewers.

THE LOOKMAN REPORT 2025
WEEK TWENTY: Black History Month



T-Law wasn't even close to the Line to Gain...

To make matters worse Little Head called another first down for Buffalo that was gahbitch, and had to be overturned by replay. He also allowed the J-Squareds to land on Josh Allen's on a sack, and after the whistle head, and ruled J-Ville had one second remaining on a controversial clock management before the half.

The kick missed, but that call wasn't even close. The RT was not set for one second, and the ball was snapped after the clock read 0:00. One of these calls is bad, three are inexcusable.

It should be noted that the NFL uses All-Star Zebra teams in the postseason. These zebras have not worked together as a team, but have been selected as the Best of the Best.

The net impact: unwatchable officiating that undercuts the credibility of the games due to legal wagering on the outcomes. If you use DraftKings, or any other online betting site, you are wasting your money and hurting the game.

And the winner is...**no one**. We all lose when we have to watch this foolishness.

THE LOOKAHEAD

The Look Man didn't have time to issue the Lookahead for Wild Card Weekend, but he went a miraculous 4-1. The lone loss was the Stillers 30-6 blowout loss to Houston, resulting in Tomlin's mutual parting from Blitzburgh. Too bad, really, because the Look Man has had some awful predictions in 2025, and the one week he is awesome lacks visually corroborating evidence.

The NFL has a set method that allows the One Seeds to play on Saturday, even if the opponents have a short week. This approach screws Crapchester, which has a short week after traveling to J-Ville for a vicious slobberknocker they narrowly won. The Niners know the Seahawks after facing them twice in 2025, so the impact there is not as great. Still, the Hawks beat the snot out of Frisco, and the Look Man was mildly surprised they were able to muster the strength to beat Philly on the road.

THE LOOKMAN REPORT 2025
WEEK TWENTY: Black History Month

The Two Seeds match up very well indeed, as Houston goes to New England to face the ahead-of-schedule Chowds. Both QBs turned the ball over in their previous matchups, and will need to perform better if they want to advance.

Without further ado, the Lookahead:

Saturday – One Seeds

Frisco Niners at Seattle Seahawks (-7/46.5)

QB Sam (Sixth Sense) Darnold has an oblique injury, which could create a built-in excuse for failure. The Look Man doesn't really trust Darnold, whose twenty turnovers leads the NFL. He lives or dies with his *Legion of Whom* defense, which mitigates his turnovers with stifling ferocity.

Kyle Shanahan deserves Coach of the Year in 2025. His schemes are amazing, including the game clinching Option Pass TD to Chirstian (CMC) McCaffrey. Purdy gets turf toe, just turn Mac (the Knife) Jones into a Pro Bowl QB. MLB Fred Warner out for the year, just insert MLB Dee Winters. TE George Kittle tears an Achilles, insert TE Jay Tonges and win anyway. These Niners have a will to win, and do so despite injuries that would cripple any other team.

The Look Man might be nuts, but this Niners look to be a *Team of Destiny*; for at least one more week. Niners cover and win.

Buffalo Bisons at Denver Walmartians (-1.5/46.5)

The Bisons went on the road and beat a J-Ville team that was knocking their primary sex organs off. Folks can claim that QB Josh (Irwin) Allen put on his cape, but what amazed the Look Man is that he did it largely from the pocket. And he did it without WRs Gabe Davis and Tyrell (Ernie) Shavers.

RB James Cook couldn't get the pilot light started, so Allen played point guard, getting what he needed when he needed it. And he did it against a J-Ville defense that was blasting folks. In point of fact, many of the ferocious hits were cheap and dirty, including the one that knocked Gabe Davis out of the game.

Buffalo beat the J-Squareds and the zebras, and is now down to three healthy wide receivers. Bo Nix has no experience in this kind of game but the Denver D is outstanding on the front and back ends. CB Patrick Surtain II is a legacy player, and the other side is held down by one of the few white CBs in professional football in Riley Moss.

The Look Man believes the Bisons will have to beat Denver and the zebras to win. The Walmartians have deep wallets, and outstanding crowd noise. Still, he cannot bet against Josh Allen and his sci-fi antics at QB. Bisons.

Sunday

Houston Slim Shadies at New England Chowderheads (-3/41.5)

The Look Man predicted that Houston would parlay the three ones received in exchange for Deshaun Watson into becoming contenders in the AFC. CJ Stroud, Will Anderson, and CB Derek Stingley Jr. are all first rounders, and combined with some nice free agents, they are taking the AFC by storm.

THE LOOKMAN REPORT 2025

WEEK TWENTY: Black History Month

New England is about one to two years ahead of schedule, but QB Drake Maye looks like the franchise. Rookie LT Will Campbell's arm length and inexperienced showed up last week against the Bolts, and this defense makes them look like the Boy Scouts of America.

The problem: Houston WR Nico Collins is out with a concussion. The solution: Houston defense is too good. You can't run on them and you can't pass either. Their only weakness is QB scrambles, and even that occurs at your own peril.

Slim Shadies in an upset.

LA Rams at Chicago Monsters of the Red Hots (+4.5/51.5)

If you missed the fourth quarter of the Green Bay-Chicago Wild Card game last week, you missed an amazing comeback. Chicago parlayed opportunistic defense and some amazing offensive wizardry into none of the greatest comebacks of all time. That fourth down pass from (Me 'n) Caleb Williams was a thing of beauty. He split four Packers and dropped the ball into Rome Odunze's bucket for a first down.

Meanwhile in Carolina, the Rams nearly blew their second game to the Black Cats. Sure, it is a bad matchup, but losing to an NFC South Division team is tantamount to public indecency. QB Matt Stafford suffered an index finger contusion in the process, when he hit his throwing hand on a pass rushing DT.

Chicago's defense lost MLB TJ Edwards to a broken fibula, but they survived a good portion of the season without him. CB CJ Gardner-Johnson returns from injury this week, and they will need him. Hell, they need twelve on defense just to cover Puka Nacua.

Somehow, WR Davante Adams returned from a helmet on chin hit in Carolina without a concussion. Either his head is made of Adamantium, or he had a concussion. Either way, he will play this week in Chicago.

A lot is being made of the weather, which is supposed to be a subzero wind chill. Dome teams play poorly when the temp is below freezing, but Stafford is 3-3 in these conditions. Further, Green Bay HC Matt LeFleur (MLF) is a close personal friend of Rams HC Sean McVay. Ben Johnson made noise early in the year about nepo babies like McVay getting their jobs the easy way.

No one beats this Bears team, even if they are up by a TD at the Two Minute Warning. Bear down, Chicago Bears.

EPILOGUE

The Tournament has offered some surprising wins, and Now that B-More, KC and Philly are out, the 2025 championship is wide open. Owners believe head coaches are plug and play, and with injuries affecting KC and Baltimore, the AFC is going to be wide open in 2026.

Baltimore is a case in point: Lamar (Action) Jackson still cannot throw outside the numbers, and his weight loss in 2025 led to another injury-plagued year. Jackson is good, but no one is good enough to absorb the physical toll at under 200 pounds. Even Mahomes and Allen are feeling the pain, and Herbert and Burrow are taking punishment at an incredible pace.

THE LOOKMAN REPORT 2025
WEEK TWENTY: Black History Month

The Lombardi will serve as a reckoning, but only if good teams arrive unscathed. The Look Man would hate nothing more than a Denver-Seahawks finish, largely because the QBs are mediocre. Expect Darnold and Nix to star in the game is a farce. More likely, the game will be a defensive battle with low ratings.

Peace,

The Look Man