

THE LOOKMAN REPORT 2024

Week Six – Tom and Jerry: the Return

"That's not your job or I'll get somebody else to ask these questions, men. No, no. I'm not kidding." – Jerrah Jones to his Dallas radio hosts after they questioned his GM decision-making following a 47-9 ass-kicking in their third home loss in 2024.

PROLOGUE

The Look Man took a week off, owing to the pressures of work, the relief following back-to-back hurricanes, and general malaise created by the performances of the Cleveland Browns. Hey, it could be worse: the Look Man could be a Cowpokes Fan.

The Pokes got destroyed in a Detroit playoff rematch that wasn't even that close. Detroit OC Ben Johnson started drawing up plays in the dirt by the second quarter, and the Cadillacs were on fire. Dak couldn't hit the ocean from a boat, and the only negative outcome was the loss of All World DE Hutch Hutchinson for the season. Hutch broke both his fibula and tibia when his leg whipped around on a potential sack.

The Rematch Motif continues in Week Seven, as the Niners return to KC to avenge their 25-22 Super Bowl LVIII loss. That game was a mélange of bizarre, including Niners LB Dre Greenlaw tearing his Achilles while returning on the sidelines, a TD catch and pass by WR Jauan Jennings, and a trick play by KC to win it all in OT.

The balance of Week Six was meh, with the possible exceptions of the Bengals sneaking past the NY Football Jyntz on Football Night in America, and (Cake) Baker Mayfield and the Expensive Corn Kings destroying a depleted New Orleans team 51-27.

Without further ado, the Week that Was:

LAGNIAPPE

"What's the Code?" "Six."

(Cake) Baker Mayfeild is quietly having a career year in Tampa, and his fifteen TD passes lead the NFL. While his QBR is middling, his three picks last week vs. New Orleans prove he can still get greedy and F up a perfectly good game plan.

But the Look Man digresses. The truth is that Baker grew up after being jettisoned from Cleveland and nearly the NFL. He got married, had a kid, and worked his craft in the offseason, and the proof of the pudding is in the eating.

Cleveland Fan wants Bake back and suffer from the convenient amnesia about how he held the team hostage when he demanded to start despite a shoulder that was torn off. Mayfield also refused to share the limelight with Nick Chubb and Odell Beckham Jr. He tanked the season via his selfishness.

All of that seems to have changed in Tampa, and management deserves some credit. They surrounded him with an excellent LT in Tristan (and Isolde) Wirfs, a HOF wideout in Mike (Good Times) Evans, and a physical ball-hawking defense. Bake will never take them to a Lombardi, but he has made a nice career for himself, receiving an under-market value \$30 million per year.

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That salary allows the Expensive Corn Kings to keep the larder supplied around him instead of the Dallas-Cincinnati Model, where the QB takes so much of the pie that there is no room left for support players. It also seems in line with what the Browns offered him before he left.

Double Oh-Thirty-One

The Look Man has long been a Deshaun Watson apologist, but no more. DSW clearly wasn't ready in Weeks One and Two, but his lack of production of late has been his own fault. He is looking at the blocking and not downfield because he doesn't trust his O-line.

Granted, a couple of those dudes show up on pay day with a gun and a mask, but if you play, you have a responsibility for greatness. And DSW's confidence is shot after being sacked 31 times and hit triple that number.

The Look Man would like to remind that DSW was never criminally charged but was the victim of his own stupidity. The NFL suspended him for eleven games after a de facto one-year benching in Houston. That pales in comparison to the three games (Big) Ben Roethlisberger received for anal rape. Perhaps more importantly, it opens the door for the zebras to allow DSW to be tackled by his facemask with impunity.

Having said all this (for the thirty-ninth time), Cleveland must bench Watson. He is at the bottom of the NFL in nearly every category. He has not exceeded 200 passing yards in 2024. He sees ghosts and misses wide open receivers.

The NFL is the ultimate meritocracy; the Browns must start Jameis (30-30 Winchester) Winston. Despite the inevitable rust and penchant for turnovers, 30-30 will keep the locker room from crumbling. The Look Man believes this decision lies in the hands of Owner Jimmy (Flying-A) Haslam and not reigning Coach of the Year Kevin Stefanski.

The Browns traded WR1 Amari (Coop) Cooper to Crapchester last week, and he may be only the first to go. Haslam would like to tank the season for a high draft pick at QB, so he can move the team to suburban Brook Park and build a vault to count his money. He stinks.

ZEBRA OF THE WEEK

The Bisons edged the Aeronauticals on Monday Night Football, but not before some zebra named Adrian (Rocky) Hill threw 22 pieces of laundry and took over the game. The penalty yardage alone exceeded Cleveland's offensive output for the week at over 200 yards. It was like watching paint dry, only more excruciating.

Rob (The Eighth Man) Torbert has long been the Look Man's striped nemesis, but Adrian Hill made a real statement on Monday Night. There were two bad QB roughing calls, an overturned no-catch TD, and about five bad DPI calls on uncatchable balls. It was so bad that it seemed beyond incompetence and bordering on point spread manipulation.

The Look Man's least favorite was the TD no-catch overturn to Garrett (Hawaii Five-O) Wilson. The back judge immediately waved it off when Five-O got both toes and a knee down on the end line. Before NY

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interim HC Jeff Ulbrich could even get his challenge flag out of its holster Vegas, er NFL Football Operations called it into the zebra's headset. It was cover-your-eyes ugly officiating.

With all of the money changing hands-on NFL sanctioned betting websites, plus Vegas, and fantasy football, the game has gotten too big for this type of foolishness. The appearance of impropriety has given way to clear officiating malfeasance.

Something must be done.

Adrian Hill, you are the Look Man's **Zebra of the Week**.

THE LOOKAHEAD

Week Seven is a tweener; the NFL season is not yet at the midpoint, but things are solidifying. The NFL schedule makers decided to provide a goodly number of key divisional games, as well as interconference Super Bowl previews. Getcha popcorn ready, cuz it's gonna be a show.

The Week Ahead:

Bengals at Browns (+5.5/41.5) – Battle of Ohio Part 1

Browns HC Kevin Stefanski is as stubborn as he is intelligent. Nick (the Dark Knight) Chubb makes his return to the lineup after a Week Two injury in 2023 courtesy of Minkah Fitzpatrick. Too bad the Bengals defense will bear the brunt of a run-first, run last offense devoid of Amari (Coop) Cooper, who is now playing in Crapchester with the Bisons.

The Bengals looked awful in the Meadowlands last week, and something is up with Burrow. Burrow is 1-5 vs. Cleveland, and the Orange and Black has not won in Cleveland since 2019. Sometimes teams are just bad matchups, and the Browns' rangy corners create a nightmare for Burrow, Ja'Marr Chase and Tee (Magnum) Higgins.

The Browns will have to beat the zebras and the Bengals this week, and 5.5 points is a slap in the face in a division game. Browns, baby, Browns.

Detroit Cadillacs at Minnesota Hornheads (-1.5/50.5)

The Cadillacs are fresh off their revenge tour destruction in Big D, but this game is bigger. Too bad Hutch misses this contest. This Hornheads defense is legit, and Detroit is going to need to acquire a DE prior to the trade deadline. If they could get Myles Garrett, they win the Lombardi in November. Look for the Hornheads to prevail in a home-and-home. Hornheads.

Philadelphia Iggles at NY Jynts (+3/42.5)

Saquon (Nick) Barkley has been looking forward to this game, and so are we. He plans to go all Big Valley on the G-Men defense after they allowed him to walk to a division opponent in the offseason.

Jynts QB Danny (Dismal) Jones is an example of what happens when you pay a bum \$40 million to be your guy. He is absent LT Andrew Thomas this week, and the revamped Philly defense is no joke.

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Sirianni gets into a fistfight with Jynts Fan, but his team prevails on the gridiron. Iggles.



[“Whassamatta you? I’m coachin’ eah!”](#)

Frisco Niners vs. Kansas City Baby Backs (+1.5/47)

RB Christian (Run CMC) McCaffrey is in Europe, looking for stem cell treatments for an Achilles, and his counterpart in KC Isiah (Ferdie) Pacheco is managing a fight in Venezuela. These two teams like to run the football, so it will be odd without the principles.

Niners WR Deebo Samuels, and TE George Kittle are playing, and Mahomes has rediscovered Travis Kelce of late. Kelce was partying with rock stars all offseason and is now in shape and ready to ball out.

In a tight game, look for coaching to make a difference. Kyle Shanahan is crafty, but Andy (Kool-Aid) Reid is a sorcerer who knows the thoughts in your dreams. Baby Backs as home dogs, with Chili’s afterwards.

NY Aeronauticals at Blitzburgh Stillers (+2/38) - Football Night in America

Tomlin is going to turn to (Dange)Russ Wilson is back at QB for the 4-2 Stillers. Justin (Strawberry) Fields (Forever) did his job, getting to the team to two games over .500, but it is time to turn it over to the Hall of Famer, who needs to get sharp before AFC Asgard Division play.

NY acquired WR Davante Adams in the nick of time, and he will pay dividends. Unfortunately, their O-line is still a work in progress and Aaron (Discount Double Check) Rodgers struggles when pressured. Stillers.

Baltimore Dumpster Ducks vs. Tampa Bay Expensive Corn Kings (+3.5/49.5) Monday Night Football #1

Baltimore is in the midst of a trial by fire, having to play the Nati and DC in consecutive weeks. This battle is an interesting rematch with their old friend Cake Baker, who didn’t win these games as a Brown.

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The Look Man openly questioned the decision to acquire Derrick (King) Henry by Baltimore. When you are the Number One running team in the NFL, why do need King Henry? The answer is to pound your opponents into submission, and Baltimore is getting ready for KC in January.

Tampa is banged up, and RB Rachad White and Pro Bowler Mike Evans will be a game time decision. This offense operates on a solid running game and precision passing. Bake can throw it against a zone, but don't ask him to face man-to-man, which is how Baltimore operates best.

Lamar Jackson carves up the Kings, and Ducks K Justin Tucker, the most accurate kicker in NFL history returns to form to win a shootout following a Cake Baker turnover. Ducks.



Chokelahoma Roomies meet up at the Big Sombrero

EPILOGUE

These postseason previews are a nice touch by the League, and the Look Man is excited for the diversion. Baltimore-Tampa, Frisco-KC, and Detroit-Minnesota are all worthy games, as we near the unofficial midpoint of the NFL 2024 season.

It took Las Vegas to contain Super Bowl LVIII, and Andy (Kool Aid) Reid iced it with eye candy motion and a TD pass to WR Mecole Hardman when everyone was covering TE Travis Kelce. The “Tom and Jerry” playcall name was stolen right from Saturday morning cartoon show about a cat and mouse. Fittingly, KC were the cats in Super Bowl LVIII.

Mahomes was masterful, but the Baby Backs defense really set the table on Super Sunday, and KC is now positioned for something that has never before happened in the National...Football League - a Super Bowl Three-Peat.

Frisco, Dallas, Blitzburgh, and even New England never achieved this feat, and with good reason. It takes a special mix of coaching, players, and luck. If KC does this, their place in the Pantheon will be special. Irrespective of the outcome this weekend, the Look Man sees this freight train coming.

If you haven't watched the MLB playoffs, you are missing some serious entertainment. The Mets and Guardians are doing everything possible to prevent the inevitable Dodgers-Yankees World Series. The

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Look Man hasn't watched regular season MLB for a while, but the pitch clock and other improvements really shine in the postseason. It's a spectacle.

Peace,

The Look Man