

## The Doggity Chiefs Report

Week 10 – Chiefs vs Dawgs at the Head – Score: KC 41 – Clev 20

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**Overview** – Sometimes your dog barks, some times it piddles on the rug, sometimes it bites the neighbor's kid, but sometimes it just lies at your feet and looks happy. That is the Dog this morning. No Dwayne Rudd this year and no need for a helmet toss to bail this one out of the fire. The Dog was fortunate enough to have witnessed the game from Mr. Blowfish's front row, 50-yardline seats. I find it a bit ironic that the Browns are whining about referee Peter Morelli's crew in their paper this morning. This after they were essentially given 14 of their measly 20 points off blown or questionable calls that went in their favor. This is why the Dog refuses to ever blame officials for the game's outcome. To quote Mr Blowfish, "There was more illegal touching in this game than an episode of Pee Wee's Playhouse." To you Cleveland fans, let the Dog explain to you why there was not a 10-second run-off after the illegal touching penalty at the end of the first half. The NFL rule says that the run-off only occurs when the infraction was a deliberate attempt by the offense to illegally extend play – such as intentional grounding, or most anything else called against the quarterback. It was not a "grounding" call because an eligible receiver – Priest Holmes – was in the area. Hence, illegal touching was called, which is against Casey Wiegmann, in this case, not on the QB. Like any of this would have made any difference in the outcome. Puh-lease! The Chiefs pounded the Dawgs and the game was really never in doubt. NINE AND OH, BABY!

**Offense** – This was Trent's best effort this year, and maybe in Chiefs red. He was on fire. How about an amazing 29 of 42 for 368, 3 TDs and 0 picks? That's good for a lofty 119.9 rating. I was a bit dismayed by Al Saunders' failure to run Priest in the fourth quarter to burn clock. But in retrospect, it all makes sense. Green is burning down the house. The Cleveland defense, known for being soft on the run, had safety Robert Griffith up in the box to stop Priest. That meant every spread set we showed put at least two guys in man coverage and created a bunch of favorable mis-matches in the passing game. Even though I think Al Saunders gets a little too cute sometimes with he whoopsy-doopsy, quintuple-reverse, halfback pass option stuff (which led to a Dante Hall fumble), he earned his paycheck Sunday for reading the Cleveland defense. He was never better than the 4<sup>th</sup> down and 3 at the Cleveland 27 in the fourth quarter. Everyone in the Western Hemisphere knew the only options for the Chiefs were to ... a) kick a field goal, or b) run Priest Holmes, or c) try to bait the Browns into jumping off-sides. It turned out to be d) none of the above. Eddie Kennison ran a fade to the corner of the end zone and Green laid a perfect ball on his hands for a score. In addition to getting a killer instinct, everyone said that during the off week the offense had to work on third down efficiency and getting the wide-outs more involved. It would appear to the novice observer that they got that stuff done. The 3<sup>rd</sup> down efficiency went from about 40% to 75%, the wide outs caught 14 balls for 218 yards and two TDs. Lost in all of this was another 150+ yard day with two TDs for Priest – yawn – just another day at the office. Man, if Greg Hill had ever had a day that good, Marty would have had him immediately bronzed. One last point – to those idiots who honestly believe that Jamal Lewis is better than Priest Holmes, just because of the rushing yards – I give you Sunday. Priest *only* had 92 rushing yards, but consistently picked up the blitz and saved Trent's bacon. Priest had 7 receptions for 66 yards and he got across the paint twice. Jamal nearly got his QB killed by failing to block on blitzes, he actually knocked the ball out of his QBs hand and the Rams ran it in for a score. He had two fumbles of his own, he caught only two passes and didn't score. But he ran for 111 yards! Playing football rather than playing running back is why Holmes is the best in the game.

**Defense** – Nice effort against a scrub offense. The "bend" part seemed much worse than it actually was. It looked like they were breaking off some long runs and finding a lot of open receivers underneath. But the stat sheet says otherwise. The finally tally was a Tampa Bay-like performance of 149 passing yards and only 80 on the ground. The Dog wants to single-out a few guys for special effort. The Ruler of the Lake – R-Kal (Ken-L-Ration) Truluck had two big sacks. On one of them he was untouched. His long arms and locomotive speed remind me a lot of Neil

Smith. That is not a bad thing. It is apparent that for all of the good he brings to the team, including a sack on Sunday, Shawn Barber is not a particularly good tackler. In fact, there are bunches of what Lombardi called “grabbers” on this squad. Two guys stand apart from that description – Greg Wesley and Scott F-scale Fujita. Wesley will be marked for giving up a very questionable interference penalty that led to the first Cleveland TD, and padding his stats with another INT at the end of the game. I noticed more that when he makes the first hit on a guy, the guy goes down. Fujita has played well all year, but he was nasty Sunday. He logged eight solo tackles and stopped people dead in their tracks. Oh, Dexter was really only thrown on one time, but he made a highlight film play on the ball, knocking it out of bounds at the last second. Even Warfield had a couple of good plays – and no one gave up the home run. The longest play from scrimmage for the Browns went for 20 yards and only four plays gained more than 10.

**Special Teams** – Dante should have been in the books. If Gary Stills had just slowed down a bit, he would have shielded Crocker out of the play and Hall would have had TD #5. Oh well, after two close calls, you have to believe there is another one in there. The punt coverage was pretty bad, however. Dante did not get a single yard in punt returns. Worse, Crispy Bartee, now relegated to punt flyer, was accused of letting the ball hit his foot, giving Cleveland a cheap score. I was there. I sat on the side of the field where the play occurred, on the first row. I saw the seven different angles on the Arrowvision. I don’t think it hit him. I KNOW the ruling on the field by the official closest was that it was KC ball. Yet, after the stripes held a séance, they said the ruling was that it was Cleveland’s ball. And after the zebra emerged from the tent, he refused to reverse the call. All of that said – WHAT WAS BARTEE DOING THAT CLOSE TO THE @\$\*!# BALL, ANYWAY?

**AFC West** – Here were the week’s results in the AFC West:

#1 Kansas City Chiefs – They are, in fact just getting better every week – scary!

#2 Denver Donkeys – They managed to stay home and still lose a half-game in the division.

#3 San Diego Lightning Bolts – Are you kidding me? Four-foot, three-inch, sixty-two year-old Doug Flutie still has same game! Beat the Vikes in their first actual home game in 2 months.

#4 East Bay Convicts – Lost in OT at home to the lowly J-E-T-S. Now the elegant and immortal Jerry Rice is whining about not getting the ball.

**Throw Him A Bone Award** –

This week’s bone goes to the AFC player of the week – Trent Green. Are you kidding me? The guy threw completions to seven eligible receivers, plus one to Brian Waters! Someone near us said that the incomplete duck that hit Casey Weigmann at the end of the half looked like an Elvis Grbac play. I disagree. Would Grbac have had enough presence of mind to know he only had 4 seconds left in the half and no timeouts, was being tackled short of the goal, and the only way to give the team enough time to line up for a field goal was to throw the ball incomplete and stop the clock? Elvis might have made that play, but then he would have yelled a Weigmann for not catching it. Trent played his best game as a Chief. Here comes your bone – go deep!

**The Doggity Dog** –

William “Crispy” Bartee, where have you been all season? I know, you were hurt so we had to start Oh, Dexter! in front of you. But I have so missed our little ventures to the doghouse from last year. Now you are on special teams and still making bone-head plays. As Mr. Blowfish so rightly stated – when Crispy’s on the field, bad stuff happens. Crispy – welcome home!

**Tailgate Recipe of the Week** –

*The Dog’s own mama is sweet lady, and amazingly talented in about everything except cooking. In one recipe, however, she excels! She makes the best Deviled Eggs anywhere. I conned her out of her secret –*

6 - hard-cooked eggs

1/2 - cup Parmesan cheese

1 - teaspoon horseradish

1/2 - teaspoon salt

1/2 - teaspoon dry mustard

1/4 - teaspoon pepper

3 - tablespoons salad dressing or mayonnaise

1/2 - teaspoon paprika

1/4 - cup garnishes like black olives, sweet gherkins, caviar, capers or pearl onions.

*I put my eggs into a large pot and cover with cold water about an inch over the eggs. Set the temperature to medium-high and heat until water starts to rapidly boil. After the water begins to boil, I turn off the heat, cover, and let stand for 20 minutes. When the timer goes off, pour out the water and add cold water to stop the cooking. Crack the eggshell and remove the shell.*

- Take a knife and cut eggs lengthwise in half.
- Next step is to remove yolk and put into a small mixing bowl.
- With a fork, mesh egg yolks.
- To the egg yolks, add Parmesan cheese, horseradish, salt, dry mustard, pepper, and salad dressing (or mayonnaise).
- Fill egg whites with yolk mixture and you want to have the mixture heaping.

Garnish with paprika and other stuff.

Send your recipes to the Dog, by e-mail or fax them to 913-831-1307.

Next week –

Off to the 'Natti to get chili five-ways and avoid playing Roy Horn with the pesky Bengals.

Your faithful scribe,  
Mr. Doggity