

The Doggity Chiefs Report

Week 16 – Chiefs vs Vikes at The Hump – Score: KC 20 – Min 45

Season's Rantings from The Doggity Report at www.georgeblowfish.com!

Overview – How ironic is it that the game that proved how badly these Chiefs need home-field advantage probably knocked them out of getting it? So what is up with the 45-point thing? This makes three straight weeks someone laid 45 on someone else. Unfortunately, we have been on the back side in two of those three. The Super Bowl bandwagon is back in the shop, this time it looks serious. I knew we should have bought the extended warranty on that thing when the F&I guy offered it. I do not intend to hang the whole problem on the D, although they deserve the lion's share of it. The gifted child offense was misbehaving in class, too. We have all seen the twisted mind of Al Saunders do stupid stuff this season – but some of it worked. Saturday it didn't. I know that T-Rich made the Pro Bowl (more on that later), and rightfully so. It's about time a fullback got credit for doing fullback stuff – like blocking rather than running or catching. Still, why do you keep trying to put the rock in to his broken, casted hands when you are already down by two or three scores and Priest only has five touches? I don't get it. After being perfect last week, Green looked like Tr-INT again, throwing two picks – both in or near the endzone. Four TO's won't get it done at home, let alone on the road. By the way, the Kennison fumble in the first quarter was as poor a call by the stripes as any I've seen all year. How do they review that play and not catch the fact that both of the Viking players who touched the ball were out-of-bounds? The ball was smacked by Williams while he was standing on the paint, then batted by Williams back on the field of play, also while he was out-of-bounds, the recovered by Russell after he had run out of bounds. The rules clearly state that a player who has been out of bounds cannot be the first person to touch the ball. The ball should have been blown dead and it would have been KC's ball at about the 9. Did that impact the outcome of the game? I doubt it. For what it's worth the officiating in the Indy – Donkey game Sunday night was far worse, and probably did affect the score. Not that I minded – it helped the Chiefs get the playoff bye – still Indy fan has every right to egg the zebra's cars. The bottom line – the next time the Chiefs mail one in, let me know. I could have spent that time raking leaves or something productive.

Offense – All year the question has been, "Why do they play so well in the first half and then go to sleep in the third quarter?" Saturday, they failed to make the bus ride to the Metrodome until halftime. When the game was totally out of hand, they make a run. Priest had only five rushes for 16 yards in the first half. That's inexcusable. When Saunders finally got around to calling his number, Holmes finishes with a 100-yards combined and three TD's. As bad as Green looked (a 44.2 passer rating), his receivers didn't do him any favors either. Morton, in particular looked like he is still recovering from Matt Millen's verbal abuse. He had one catch and seven drops. Also, one of Green's picks came when he tried to thread a TD pass into triple coverage (stupid), but Morton did nothing to try to break up the INT. Gonzo and Priest each had a couple of drops, as well. Kennison actually had a pretty solid game, but will be remembered for the fumble that wasn't in the first frame. The lone bright spot was the record-tying performance of Priest Holmes. He stands beside Emmitt Smith at the top of the NFL rushing TD heap with 25. One score against the Bears and he will tie Marshall Faulk for the all-time TD crown. Still, the D is not the only thing in need of a bye week to regroup. The offense was downright offensive on Saturday.

Defense – How does Greg Robinson have a job? Does Dr. Evil have naked pictures of somebody? I really question at what point factual reality overwhelms stubborn loyalty. Just consider that the Vikings have proven to be vulnerable this season to a heavy pass rush, so we play soft most of the game. When we did blitz, it was so poorly timed and obvious that my 9-year-old daughter picked it up. When the Bears blanketed Randy Moss last week, he choked. Why were we playing a soft zone against Moss? If, as Dickie-V says, Dexter McCleon is our defensive MVP this year (I disagree coach – that is clearly Greg Wesley), why was Oh! Dexter! not put in man coverage on the dangerous Moss? Yes, Moss beat Dex on one TD. That was mostly a product of Culpepper having time enough in the pocket to curl up with a good book. On one Moss TD, Wesley, a safety, was covering him one-on-one while the corner Warfield came on the

world's most poorly timed blitz. If you pull that kind of stunt, you better get to the QB! And what kind of defensive scheme has Vonnie Holiday in pass coverage? The only guy on our starting D line with a proven ability to get to the passer is expected to cover the tight-end Kleinsasser in the end zone, while we rush three lesser linemen on third and goal from the four? This is the most ridiculous defense in the history of organized football. By the way, I agree with Eric Hicks for bagging on the kid Simms. Simms' play has fallen off dramatically in the past few weeks. He consistently blows assignments, he fails to wrap-up when trying to tackle, he gets blown off the line by mediocre O linemen. His performance and the lack of Maz in the middle are a big part of the run-defense committing a Chernobyl-esque core meltdown. Curse away Eric, apparently the coaching staff hasn't picked up on it yet. Vermeil is allegedly good friends with Tom Coughlin – the defensive mind that put the Jacksonville Jags in the AFC Championship game in their second season of existence. He is currently unemployed. That's all I want in my stocking this year.

Special Teams – The KC Star rated the Specials “good” for Saturday's performance. Not so fast. Yes, Baker was better – but it was indoors! Hall had a couple of good kickoff returns before going out with leg cramps. He had a lot of opportunities for kickoff returns thanks the generosity of Dr. Evil's D. Kennison did pretty well spelling Hall on the three punts we actually forced in the second half (after the game was over). All that aside, we were still hanging on in this game when Crash Junior decided to put rookie LaShaunn Ward in for Dante on a return that he promptly fumbled, allowing the Vikes to ice the cake.

Pro Bowl

Kudos To The Winners –

- **Willie Roaf** – *one of the two or three best linemen in football.*
- **Will Shields** – *perennial iron-man stud. Shields is defining this team.*
- **Trent Green** – *the second in the league in passing yards, and third rated in the AFC.*
- **Tony Richardson** – *the best blocking back in the league, humble and hard-working*
- **Priest Holmes** – *sorry Clinton Portis – this guy wears the only belt that matters.*
- **Dante Hall** – *the human joy-stick makes a difference without even touching the ball.*
- **Jerome Woods** – *a year after breaking a leg, Woods has his best season as a pro.*

Guys Who Got Dissed –

- **Casey Weigmann** – *the only center in the league who can run like a tightend.*
- **Greg Wesley** – *having a better year than Woods – best tackler on the team*

AFC West – Here were the week's results in the AFC West:

#1 Kansas City Chiefs – Yikes! Team takes a hike against Tice's Vikes.

#2 Denver Donkeys – Donkeys and zebras are related.

#3 San Diego Lightning Bolts – Destroyed by the 6-9 Steelers. Go harass a waitress, Marty.

#4 East Bay Convicts – Play on MNF, hosting the Packers just a day after the sudden, unexpected death of Brett Favre's dad. Go Pack!

Throw Him A Bone Award –

No brainer, here. Only about three guys made the trip to Minneapolis. One of them stands alone – Priest Holmes with a three-TD performance ties the NFL rushing TD record. That was about the only thing worth celebrating after this mess. Priest gets yet another well-deserved bone in his stocking.

The Doggity Dog –

So much has been said about the totally inept defense, it would be redundant to just keep the choke-chain around Robinson's neck all the time. No, we knew this would be a shoot-out, and even when the Chiefs were down three scores, Al Saunders kept the ball out of Priest's hands. Only Holmes could have kept the ball away from Culpepper and Moss. Only Holmes could have eating the clock and slowed the pace. Yet, for no explainable reason, Al Saunders kept the rock out of his hands. Merry Christmas Gary, today you were right. Al Saunders gets his nose rubbed in it this week.

Tailgate Recipe of the Week –

The lovely Mrs. D makes a potato salad with so much boiled egg in it we call it the egg salad with potatoes. That said, it is a wonderful side for the BBQ'ed ribs:

Mrs. D's Egg-salad with Potatoes:

4 – baking potatoes, peeled, cubed, boiled until soft and drained

1/2 – sweet onion, finely chopped

2 – stalks celery, finely chopped

1/2 cup – mayo

1/4 cup – yellow mustard

2 tbsp – cider vinegar

1/4 cup – sweet pickle relish

1/2 tsp – celery seed

Salt, black pepper, cayenne (or Tabasco) to taste

6 – hard boiled eggs, shelled and chopped

Add onion and celery to hot potatoes. Mix dressing ingredients together and fold into potato mixture. Fold eggs in last. If the mixture has too much liquid, add more mayo and mustard.

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

Next week –

End the year at the Head against the suddenly pretty solid Bears. The big news, though, is that Mr. Blowfish has promised to do a Fox-esque unveiling of the ultra-secret recipe to the World's most coveted side dish – the UJDBB!

Your faithful scribe,
Mr. Doggity