

F.O.O.L. Update Season 5

Week 6 (Home Team in caps):

White Knights 24, BLACK BANDITS 41

These top two teams in the Capitol Division, arrived ready to battle it out for an edge in the playoffs. The game swung back and forth, with neither team leading by more than 6 once White retaliated for a first quarter H #44 Bellini TD run with a scoring pass to W #19 EHUD. These two players, yardage leaders for their respective teams, set the pattern. Black was able to run, for 249 yards, but White Q #6 Cain had 458 yards. Two field goals gave Black an edge despite equal numbers of TD's to half way through the 4th quarter, when S #27 Sisera picked off a Q #10 Croscer pass. After a run and a 10 yard penalty, Q #6 Cain lofted a short pass to ex-Black W #49 Zurbaran on the sideline, but CB #23 Botticelli stepped in front and intercepted at the White 33. It took only 4 plays, a pair of short runs followed by passes to E #48 Audubon and W #6 Hogarth to put Black ahead by more than a TD. Zurbaran then fumbled the kickoff; Black LB #51 Shoveltsker recovered. Three plays later Q #10 Croscer zipped a pass to W #86 Hals who slipped into the end zone to make the score look lopsided. With 3 minutes left, Q #6 Cain led the Knights back down the field, but could not get into the end zone.

Key play: White W #19 EHUD had caught 7 passes for 126 yards, and was being given a rest by #48 Zurbaran with 6 minutes to go in the game, White down by 6. It was second and 15, and Q #6 Cain was looking for a short pass to set up a reasonable third down play, or maybe break one longer. He threw a quick loft to Zurbaran on a route that had been profitably exploited by EHUD earlier. But CB #23 Botticelli, Zurbaran's former teammate, had a bit less respect for Zurbaran than Cain, and was not playing off as far. He spotted the ball before Zurbaran and made the grab. Black then ran off 14 unanswered points to make the game look easy.

Game Ball: Black's #44 Bellini, playing hurt, ran for 131 yards including a 56 yard TD despite good line play by the White Knights.

Key Stat: White turned the ball over 4 times, Black only once. Black's first TD, and the two that put the game away, were scored off of White turnovers. The other was an interception in the end zone by OLB#66 Lippi that also cost a TD.

Also of Importance:

Perfect game: Black W #86 Hals caught both passes thrown his way, and scored TD's of 84 and 11 yards.

He wants to start: White's Agag had 33 yards on 8 carries, while their ballcarriers had only 7 yards on 5 carries. Agag also caught 3 passes for 97 yards and a TD.

Tough D, but: Despite giving up so many yards, White's defense, led by #51 MLB Aurochs, allowed Black to convert only on 4 of 12 third downs.

Next week: Black home against revenge-seeking Maroon; White home vs Peridot