# TFL TODAY

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## Hell freezes over!

### Arctic Gators win Sweeney Bowl

By Bob Kostas

Special to TFL Today

ANCHORAGE — The world's premier independent fantasy football league has come to a close with another dramatic finish in the storied Sweeney Bowl — the championship game of the Times Football League.

The East Hartford Ex-Eskimos came to claim the T'Rex for the second time in the history of the team. It was a different story for the Arctic Gators, who were seeking possession of the fabled championship trophy for the first time—indeed it was the first season the Gators had even posted a winning record.

Chris Reidy, Owner/Coach of the East Hartford Ex-Eskimos, hitched up his championship wagon to a team of workhorses named Ricky Williams and Rich Gannon. Each of the players was having a Pro Bowl season — Williams led the NFL in rushing with 1,853 yards and Gannon led the NFL in passing with 4,689 yards.

Arctic Gators Owner/Coach Mark Dolan didn't have the studs that his opponent had, but he rode in on a horse named Destiny. As the Dec. 12 TFL Today cover story pointed out, Coach Dolan didn't have a single player among the top 16 scorers in the TFL—but as one opponent after another found out, he did have his saddle bags packed full of WhupAss.

The team was experiencing a fairy-tale season and everybody was talkin about the Arctic Gators. They were a blue-collar team that the fans identified with. While they didn't have any of the top 16 scorers, they did have six players who scored more than 80 points

Wide receiver Eric Moulds scored 11 points to help lead the Arctic Gators to their first Sweeney Bowl championship. The Gators had not had a winning season until this year.

each. Only two other TFL teams came close to that with four players reaching the 80-point mark.

That balance worked for the Gators all season as they relegated opposing

teams to "also ran" status on their way to an 11-3 record that was the second best in the league and a 684 point total

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#### **Power poll**

The TFL Power Poll uses a formula that calculates how strong each team is on a weekly basis. It eliminates aberrations (high score, low score) and shows the true expected strength of each team on any given week.

1.	Dutch Harbor	00 0
2.	Arctic	97.0
3.	Dugway	96.3
4.	Lackawanna	
5.	East Hartford	88.0
6.	Anchorage	87.3
7.	Bagdad	
8.	Alaska	
9.	Limerick	71.8
10.	Narcoossee	74.0
11.	Willow	73.3
12.	Baltimore	70.2
13.	Tampa Bay	66.8
14.	Denver	
15.	Flint	60.7
16.	Marley	
	•	

#### **Money matters**

Here is an update on the TFL pot:

<b>Team</b> Alaska Anchorage Arctic	Fee \$100 \$100 \$100	\$30 \$10 \$10	<b>FTotal</b> \$5\$130 \$5\$115 \$0\$110
Bagdad Baltimore	\$100 \$100	\$35	\$0\$135 \$10\$140
Denver	\$100	\$50 \$5	\$0\$105
Dugway	\$100	\$35	\$0\$135
<b>Dutch Harbor</b>	\$100	\$30	\$15\$145
East Hartford	\$100	\$40	\$0\$140
Flint	\$100	\$25	\$5\$130
Lackawanna	\$100	\$35	\$0\$135
Limerick	\$100	\$30	\$0\$130
Marley	\$100	\$20	\$0\$120
Narcoossee	\$100	\$20	\$5\$125
Tampa Bay	\$100	\$15	\$5\$120
Willow	\$100	\$25	\$0\$125
Total	\$1,600	\$395	\$50\$2,045

Fee is the \$100 franchise fee each team pays to play the season. D stands for the deals each team has made that required a \$5 charge; F stands for the amount of fines each team has been assessed.

Sweeney Bowl champion	40 percent
Sweeney Bowl runnerup	15 percent
Third place	
Fourth place	
Fifth place	7 percent
Sixth place	5 percent
Regular season champ	5 percent
Points scoring champ	
Pee Wee Bowl champion	3 percent

#### Handing out the checks

Total pot:	Team pay	outs	Team payouts	
Franchise fees\$1,600	Team	Amount	Team	Amount
Transactions\$395	Arctic	\$762.00	Bagdad	\$10
Fines\$50	East Hartford	\$275.75	Tampa Bay	
Total\$2,045	Dutch Harbor	\$288.80	Willow	\$20
Expenses:	Dugway	\$267.70	Alaska	\$15
Web site\$150	Lackawanna	\$201.35	Limerick	\$15
Draft hotel room\$90	Baltimore	\$100.25	Flint	\$15
Total\$240	Denver	\$89.15	Narcoossee	\$20
Total to pay:\$1,805	Anchorage	\$30.00	Marley	\$25

### Gators

#### Continued from page 1

that was only 13 points behind the leader. The team had three 70-plus points games and it's no wonder everybody was talkin about the Gators as they were having a season that was straight out of a Hollywood screenplay—and the Sweeney Bowl was the final act.

Coach Reidy's confidence in Ricky Williams was well founded as the running back scored a game leading 18 points for East Hartford. However the NFL MVP, Rich Gannon, turned in a season-low performance and only contributed six points to the Ex'mo total.

Once again, the Arctic Gators brought a balanced attack and had four players who averaged 10.5 points each towards the team's final total of 49—just 5.4 points over their regular season scoring average. The championship game came down to a photo finish with the Ex-Eskimos only six points behind the Gators coming into the last turn with two players to go in the final Sunday night game of the TFL season.

But in the end, destiny was not to be denied. Coach Dolan and his Gators did what they have done throughout the season — they won. Dolan's personnel showed a surprising calm and confidence throughout the championship weekend as the scoring unfolded. Gator consultant Harley Butkik, CEO of the Acme Industrial Whupass Supply Co. was was seen strolling the sidelines of Anchorage's Park Strip Field, where the largely pro-Gator crowd was in a frenzied state. Butkik was encouraging the fans and sipping Jack Daniels and he looked as if he didn't have a care in the world.

Harley Butkik had become somewhat of a celebrity this year as his partnership with the team proved fortuitous for both the Gators and the Acme Industrial WhupAss Supply Co. As the Gators became the Cinderella team of the TFL, Acme became the darling of investment analysts throughout the country and the company posted record earnings this year riding on the coat tails of the Gator juggernaut.

"This has been the most exciting and rewarding year of my life and the life of Acme," Butkik said. "I was honored by the confidence Coach Dolan showed in Acme and in me personally and I am just so grateful that we were able to help him achieve his goals and be a part of this magical season.

"I am particularly thankful that Coach Dolan maintained his confidence in us despite some rough moments we had in the season," Butkik added, referring to the Whupass buffet fiasco and the shipping mixup with the Loving Cup Pablum Supply Company — a couple of late season glitches widely reported on by the media covering the legendary Fantasy League — as it turned out, they were only insignificant detours on the way to the TFL Championship.

Dolan fulfilled his promise to his players and his staff as he brought the team to TFL prominence. He fulfilled his promise to the fans and brought the T'Rex home to its rightful resting place atop a mantle in Gator headquarters at No Sun Park. The team has already sold out its season tickets for next year's games and Arctic Gator fans are already talking repeat. Although this exciting TFL season is now over, one factor remains unchanged — everybody is STILL talkin about them Gators.

BABY!!

EDITOR'S NOTE: Coach Dolan was vacationing in Florida immediately after his team's victory and was unavailable for comment, however the Associated Press reported numerous sitings of Dolan cruising throughout the state in a yellow Mustang convertible.

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WEEK 15 BOX S	<b>WEEK 16 BOX SCORES</b>			WEEK 17 BOX SCORES		
Sweeney Bowl quarte	Sweeney Bowl semifinals			Sweeney Bowl XIII		
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8R. Gannon QB A. Bro 7L. Johnson RB C. Dill 3R. Williams RB M. Pitt 7K. Robinson WR J. Rice 4M. Booker WR D. Ma:	Ion        1        6        e        0        sson        dney        6     rs	27.East Hartford 12R. Gannor 0L. Johnsor 1R. Williams 2K. Robinsor 0M. Booke 12R. Lindel 0Ravens	n QB B. Ğrie n RB M. Clo s RB W. Gre n WR P. Buri r WR D. Driv ll K G. And	oud 0 een 1 rress 4 ver 7 derson 10 ewks 0	51 Dutch Harbor 19M. Hasselbeck 1L. Tomlinson 20C. Portis 2M. Muhammad 3R. Moss 0M. Husted	Dugway         .25           QB         S. Beuerlein         .12           RB         M. Cloud         .0           RB         K. Barlow         .2           WR         P. Burress         .3           WR         D. Driver         .0           K         G. Anderson         .8           D         Seahawks         .0
	ow38	43Anchorage			5th-p	lace game
9Giants D Eagles	nith          nry       .16         loway       .0         nith       .2         ely       .6         s	16M. Viol 6G. Hears 3A. Greer 13M. Harrison 0Tr. Brown 5J. Reec 0Giants	et RB J. Bett n RB M. Shi n WR K. Mct n WR B. Fini d K D. Ake s D Dolphi	tis	7A. Smith 7F. Taylor 1A. Toomer 1P. Price 15J. Elam	Baltimore14         QB A. Brooks
61Bagdad Alasi 7J. Kitna QB T. Gre	<b>ka 35</b>	<b>33Denve</b> i 1D. Culpeppe		dad33	Pee \	Nee Bowl
7D. McAllister RB D. Sta 12D. Brown RB L. Gor 8J. Smith WR D. Jac 7R. Gardner WR H. Wa 11M. Gramatica K B. Cur 9Titans D Pantho	aley	12Z. Crocket 0M. Alstot 13Ky. Johnson 2S. Sharpe 5O. Mare 049er	tt RB D. Mc, tt RB D. Bro n WR J. Smi e WR R. Gal e K M. Gra s D Titans	Allister 0 own 13 ith 6 rdner 1 amatica 1 6	34Denver 21D. Culpepper 7Z. Crockett 0M. Alstott 0Ky. Johnson 0S. Sharpe	
6B. Favre QB M. Bul	lger15	49Alaska	a Lime	erick44		D Giants
0K. McCardell         WR Ti. Brown           0B. Finneran         WR J. Hor           10D. Akers         K J. Wilk           0Dolphins         D Redsk           49Denver         Lime           30D. Culpepper         QB P. Mar           0Z. Crockett         RB S. Dav           6M. Alstott         RB M. Bei           2Ky. Johnson         WR E. McC           0S. Sharpe         WR T. Holt	ck6 cwn0 cm3 kins12 kins0 crick26 nning14 vis0 nnett1 Caffrey0	25	RB M. Berly RB K. Wann WR E. McCod WR T. Holton K A. Vinis D Colts  Flint A QB M. Bullon RB T. Barly RB S. Marly WR Ti. Brown WR J. Horry K J. Wilk	nnett	28Bagdad 6J. Kitna 3D. McAllister 0J. Smith 1R. Gardner 15M. Gramatica 3Titans 11th-p 27Willow	QB       B. Favre       .6         RB       J. Bettis       .0         RB       M. Shipp       .1         WR       K. McCardell       .0         WR       B. Finneran       .8         K       D. Akers       .1         D       Dolphins       .0         blace game         Alaska       .20         QB       T. Green       .0         RB       M. Faulk       .0
	25	9Eagle	s D Redsk	kins 9	12W. Chrebet	RB D. Staley
	DE <i>A</i>				6J. Carney	K P. Dawson 6
East Hartford places Curtis Conway on IR, adds WR Chris Chambers.  Dec. 25  Dutch Harbor place Andersen, adds K		Michael Husted. Conway.		0Eagles 13th-p 39Limerick 6P. Manning	D Packers	
Dugway places QB Brian Griese on IR, adds QB Steve Beuerlein. Dugway places QB Brad Johnson on IR, adds QB Rob Johnson.  Dec. 21  Dutch Harbor waives QB Rodney Peete, reactivates QB Matt Hasselbeck.	Limerick places RB IR, adds RB Kenny Dugway places RB IR, adds RB Mike C	Dutch Harbor places QB Matt Hasselbeck. on IR, adds QB Rodi Peete.  B RB Tony Fisher,  Dutch Harbor places QB Matt Hasselbeck. on IR, adds QB Rodi Peete.  Dutch Harbor places WR Terry GI		an Barlow 11 s QB Matt adds QB Rodney s WR Terry Glenn	8M. Bennett 7K. Watson 3E. McCaffrey	RB T. Barber

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#### **CURRENT ROSTERS**

Alaska  QB Tim Couch QB Trent Green RB Lamar Gordon RB Duce Staley RB Marshall Faulk WR Todd Heap WR Hines Ward WR Darrell Jackson K Billy Cundiff K Phil Dawson D Carolina Pathers D Green Bay Packers IR Brett Conway, K IR Dennis Northcutt, WR	Baltimore  QB Aaron Brooks QB Trent Dilfer RB Michael Pittman RB Corey Dillon RB Adrian Peterson WR Jerry Rice WR Marcus Pollard WR Derrick Mason K Paul Edinger K Joe Nedney D Oakland Raiders D Cincinnati Bengals IR Trent Dilfer, QB IR LaMont Jordan, RB	Anchorage  QB Jay Fiedler QB Michael Vick RB Ahman Green RB James Stewart RB Garrison Hearst WR Marvin Harrison WR Troy Brown WR Corey Bradford K Bill Gramatica K Jeff Reed D Kansas City Chiefs D New York Giants IR Todd Peterson, K	Arctic  QB Alex Van Pelt QB Drew Bledsoe RB Rob Konrad RB Charlie Garner RB Eddie George WR Eric Moulds WR Laveranues Coles WR Jacquez Green K John Holt K Ryan Longwell D New England Patriots D New York Jets IR Donovan McNabb, QB
Denver  QB Daunte Culpepper  QB Chris Weinke  RB Mike Alstott  RB Anthony Thomas  RB Zack Crockett  WR Shannon Sharpe  WR Keyshawn Johnson  WR James Thrash  K Olindo Mare  K Steve Christie  D San Francisco 49ers  D Jacksonville Jaguars  IR Ike Hilliard, WR	East Hartford  QB Drew Brees  QB Rich Gannon  RB Leon Johnson  RB Ricky Williams  RB Jonathon Wells  WR Marty Booker  WR Koren Robinson  WR Chris Chambers  K Jeff Chandler  K Ryan Lindell  D San Diego Chargers  D Baltimore Ravens  IR Curtis Conway, WR	Tampa Bay  QB Steve McNair  QB Brett Favre  RB Aaron Stecker  RB Marcell Shipp  RB Jerome Bettis  WR Cris Carter  WR Brian Finneran  WR Keenan McCardell  K David Akers  K Hayden Epstein  D Detroit Lions  D Miami Dolphins	Flint  QB Jamie Martin  QB Marc Bulger  RB Stacey Mack  RB Chris Fuamatu-Ma'afala  RB Tiki Barber  WR Qadry Ismail  WR Joe Horn  WR Tim Brown  K Kris Brown  K Jeff Wilkins  D Washington Redskins  D Minnesota Vikins  IR Kurt Warner, QB
Bagdad  QB Mark Brunell  QB Jon Kitna  RB Edgerrin James  RB Deuce McAllister  RB Dee Brown  WR David Patten  WR Rod Gardner  WR Jimmy Smith  K Shayne Graham  K Martin Gramatica  D Tennessee Titans  D Chicago Bears  IR John Kasay, K	Limerick  QB Joey Harrington  QB Peyton Manning  RB Moe Williams  RB Kenny Watson  RB Michael Bennett  WR Reggie Wayne  WR Ed McCaffrey  WR Torry Holt  K Jose Cortez  K Adam Vinatieri  D Indianapolis Colts  D Buffalo Bills  IR Stephen Davis, RB	Dutch Harbor  QB Matt Hasselbeck  QB Tommy Maddox  RB LaDainian Tomlinson  RB Clinton Portis  RB T.J. Duckett  WR Chad Johnson  WR Randy Moss  WR Muhsin Muhammad  K Matt Bryant  K Michael Husted  D New Orleans Saints  D Tampa Bay Buccaneers  IR Morten Andersen, K	Lackawanna  QB Chad Pennington  QB Kerry Collins  RB Antowain Smith  RB Mike Anderson  RB Fred Taylor  WR Terrell Owens  WR Peerless Price  WR Amani Toomer  K Jason Elam  K Mike Hollis  D Cleveland Browns  D Arizona Cardinals
Dugway  QB Steve Beuerlein  QB Rob Johnson  RB Mike Cloud  RB Kevan Barlow  RB William Green  WR Deion Branch  WR Plaxico Burress  WR Donald Driver  K Gary Anderson  K Danny Boyd  D Seattle Seahawks  D Dallas Cowboys  IR Owen Pochman, K  IR Thomas Jones, RB  IR Priest Holmes, RB  IR Brian Griese, QB  IR Brad Johnson, QB	Narcoossee  QB Jake Plummer QB Tom Brady RB Shaun Alexander RB Amos Zereoue RB Jamal Lewis WR Donte Stallworth WR Jerry Porter WR Randy McMichael K Jason Hanson K Mike Vanderjagt D Houston Texans D St. Louis Rams IR DeShaun Foster, RB IR David Boston, WR	Willow  QB Jeff Garcia  QB David Carr  RB Lamar Smith  RB Emmitt Smith  RB Travis Henry  WR Wayne Chrebet  WR Rod Smith  WR Joey Galloway  K Jay Feely  K John Carney  D Atlanta Falcons  D Philadelphia Eagles	Marley  QB Chad Hutchinson  QB Kordell Stewart  RB Warrick Dunn  RB Curtis Martin  RB Cory Schlesinger  WR Isaac Bruce  WR Bubba Franks  WR Tony Gonzalez  K Sebastian Janikowski  K Matt Stover  D Denver Broncos  D Pittsburgh Steelers