

TFL Today

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Nice guy Reidy gets mad, gosh darn it!

By **PEARL NICHOLAS**
Hebron Biweekly Bugle

HEBRON, Conn. — The smell of burnt rubber was unmistakable at Ex-Eskimos headquarters Tuesday. The probable cause was owner Chris Reidy's sneakers, the soles unmistakably blackened by all the brush fires he was trying to stamp out.

More likely, it was caused by what many thought impossible: the lovable owner's fuse finally having burnt to the nub. Reidy, better known for his milk-and-sugar approach, seemed ready for a little fire and brimstone.

"Folks, let me tell you all something," he said, opening his weekly press conference by reading from what appeared to be notes hastily scribbled on last month's copy of UF Update.

"Unlike most of my fellow owners, I've never pounded my chest over what I think is one of the league's more successful careers. But make no mistake, this franchise has pride, and neither I nor the fans will stand for any more of this nonsense.

"There are going to be changes. BIG changes. No one's job is safe."

With that, Reidy uncharacteristically slammed aside the microphone and angrily dashed away from 1 Exmos Place.

The reason for his chagrin was understandable. A season that had begun promisingly had slipped to a 1-2 record with a loss to the lowly Baltimore Barons. And there wasn't much to look forward to, even with East Hartford returning home after a two-game road trip.

The opponent is the Denver Pyles, and the Exmos must play without RB Terry Allen, who has the bye.

Reidy was eventually reached at home Tuesday night, having calmed himself by viewing a tape of Florida's Sugar Bowl victory over Florida State. But not all the ire had subsided.

Reminded that injuries were partly to blame — running backs Allen (thumb) and Rashaan Salaam (leg) each have broken bones — Reidy was nonplussed.

"Salaam? What, did someone tackle him while he was fetching Gatorade for [Dave] Wannstedt?" Reidy said. "And Terry Allen ... I tell you, I didn't think it was possible for someone to play like his

Backfield in (slow) motion

A look at the Ex-Eskimos RB output this season:

Player	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Avg.
Terry Allen	16	INJ	1	8.5
Rashaan Salaam	1	1	DNP	1.0
x-Stephen Davis	—	1	—	1.0
y-Kimble Anders	—	DNP	0	0.0
Mario Bates	0	cut	—	0.0
Totals	17	2	1	6.7

x-Davis was one-week reserve replacement for Allen.
y-Anders signed as free agent to replace Bates.

thumb was stuck up his a--, especially with that cast on it, but he proved me wrong."

Reidy was harder-hit by the news receiver Muhsin Muhammad would miss a month with a fractured wrist. The receiving corps — its zero-point output Sunday notwithstanding — had been one of the Exmos' few bright spots.

The real problem has been the backfield. Already, Reidy finds himself scrambling to replace two of the three players he drafted at that position, a strategy usually reserved for East Hartford's annual late-season playoff drive.

"I didn't think it could get any worse after the backfield scored two points against Marley," Reidy said. "Hey, you lose by three points to a class fran-

chise like that, you figure you probably screwed up somewhere else (Reidy benched Scott Mitchell, whose 22 points that day would have made the difference).

"But sure enough, they came back with ONE point against the Mania — er, Barons. Losing to that team, you figure you did EVERYTHING wrong."

Reidy said he'd be working the waiver wire this week for some help, but hasn't ruled out the possibility of a trade. It would be the first in franchise history, a sign of how desperate the times are at the Mosque.

"I figure I have two marketable quarterbacks," Reidy said. "Besides, if I trade one of them away, it'll save me the frustration of benching the wrong one every week."

TFL Capsules

By Scoop Bias, Dugway Herald

This is the fourth week of the season, meaning its the first meeting of teams who play twice this year in the regular season. Each team will meet their opponent this week in Week 14 on the opposite home field they are on today.

You would think that would keep TrashTalking down to a minimum, but Michael Bourque and Scott Lacy have already been going after the other on the Internet.

Lacy must be feeling cranky because he realizes if he doesn't make the playoffs this year, he'll have to carry out his end of a bet made on draft night with Dugway's Ken Sain: He'll have to wear a dress to the next draft.

On to this week's games:



Denver at East Hartford



Records: Pyles 2-1; Ex-Eskimos 1-2.

Series: Series tied 3-3.

Line: Ex-Eskimos by 3.

Outlook: All that talk in the preseason about the Pyles going undefeated this year on their way to another Sweeney Bowl title has stopped. Reidy is crying about his luck with running backs. Advice: Don't draft bad players.

Pick: East Hartford 27, Denver 25.



Marley at Flint



Records: Wailers 3-0; Bison 0-3.

Series: Series tied 2-2-1.

Line: Wailers by 30.

Outlook: After three weeks, it is clear the best team in the league is the Wailers. It also is clear the Bison could give Sarasota a run for worst team.

Pick: Marley 60, Flint 21.



Willow at Alaska



Records: Weasels 1-2; Oosiks 1-2.

Series: Alaska leads 3-2.

Line: Alaska by 2.

Outlook: Both teams are scoring in the 40s, so this should be an entertaining game. Willow deserves a break, and Bingham's the likely sap to give them one.

Pick: Willow 47, Alaska 41.



Bagdad at Limerick



GAME OF THE WEEK

Records: Newts 2-1; Loons 2-1.

Series: Limerick leads series 4-3.

Line: Limerick by 2.

Outlook: Pity the demise of a once-average fantasy football player. On Monday, while most of the nation was watching one of the greatest Monday night football games ever, Scott Lacy was watching a rental video with his girlfriend, Jennifer.

Obviously, this is not your father's Scott Lacy. He has been kidnapped by aliens and lost all interest in what is truly important. The city of Bagdad, Ariz. is in mourning, knowing this will be the first of a very long losing streak.

You can't play Sarasota forever Scott. And with no quarterbacks, and no running backs, it's going to be ugly.

Pick: Limerick 41, Bagdad 23.



Baltimore at Dutch Harbor



Records: Barons 2-1; Dawgs 1-2.

Series: Baltimore leads series 4-3.

Line: Dawgs by 7.

Outlook: If Casey Brogan can't get his Dawgs to beat the Crabs, er, Barons, then he's got a problem. All you have to do is score 30 points, and you have a 75 percent chance of beating Baltimore.

Pick: Dutch Harbor 32, Baltimore 26.



Anchorage at Narcoossee



Records: Kitchen 2-1; Nose Apes 1-2.

Series: Narcoossee leads 3-1.

Line: Nose Apes by 9.

Outlook: We have it on good authority (Paula) that Iggy is quite handy in the Kitchen. This should be an even matchup, so we'll take the Grape Apes for that reason.

Pick: Narcoossee 43, Anchorage 38.



Dugway at Sarasota



Records: Experiments 3-0; Sharks 0-3.

Series: Dugway leads 4-2.

Line: Experiments by 42.

Outlook: Normally, we don't like to pick the Tubes to win, fearing a jinx. Sarasota is so bad, we have no choice this week.

Pick: Dugway 51, Sarasota 20.

Stop the presses!

Barons top 30-point mark

By Baron von Butterbrain
TFL Today Senior Correspondent

BALTIMORE - To the relief of Barons owner Steve Katz, the combo of Brett Favre and Antonio Freeman finally clicked Sunday, resulting in a victory over the East Hartford Ex-Eskimos and a 2-1 record for Baltimore, good for second place in the powerful Horsack Division of the TFL.

But the story wasn't the fact that Freeman proved he can, indeed, still catch, or that Green Bay proved it can really score from inside the 10 (having failed on four tries from the one-yard line the week before). The story was more.

The Barons shocked the world by scoring 44 points in the victory. Even though they've scored a pathetic 89 points and are the only team in the Horsack, and one of just three in the league, with under 100 points, going over 40 in a win made a statement, Katz said.

"There," he snorted, "the small minds who make judgments about the best teams are finally happy, I guess." It was a thinly veiled shot at commissioner Ken Sain, who last season called the Barons a bunch of bums.

"Ya happy now, Charlie Brown?" Katz said. "I scored over 40 to win. Let's hold a parade tomorrow. I appoint you the Grand Marshal."

Of course Katz knows, as everyone does, that the oldest axiom in football is a win is a win. Katz, however, went that one further. "A win is a win is a win is a



"Ya happy now, Charlie Brown?"

— **Steve Katz**, after scoring more than 30 points in a game.

win is a win." Well, actually three further.

Sain did not have time to comment, too busy adding up all the points his Dugway Test Tubes have scored and pompously touting himself as a great football mind. East Hartford owner Chris Reidy was reached at his Ex-Eskimos office, and could only curse the fact that "the FFF boys, fucking Favre and Freeman," had ganged up on him. "The guy picks the day he plays me to score more than 30 fucking points," Reidy said. "It's shaping up to be another Pee Wee Bowl season for me."

A shaken Reidy the next day offered either of his sorry-ass quarterbacks in a trade for anybody who could offer a quality running back in return.

Next on the menu for the Barons is the Dutch Harbor Dawgs, losers themselves in a low-scoring, 37-30 game against Horsack foe Marley. The Dawgs are last at 1-2, even though scoring nearly 40 more points overall than the Barons.

Pyles happy to lose to Loons

"Frankly, all this talk of an undefeated season was becoming a distraction," said Pyles owner Mike Taylor, whose team fell to 2-1 with the loss to Limerick's Loons. "The Pyles were growing tired of entering every game with a bullseye on their jerseys. So, finally losing a game was actually a relief of sorts.

"And if we had to pick a team to lose to, Limerick would be it. We'll see no more of them. The Loons pose no post-season threat, unless you count the possibility of them unseating East Hartford as Pee Wee Bowl champs. And I don't expect Chris Reidy to give that title up without a fight.

"The Loons obviously were built for early-season success and are destined to fade, reliant as they are on players who will only decline as the season unfolds: the ancient Andre Reed, the combustible Jeff George, the out-of-favor Anthony Johnson and the unreliable Cary Blanchard.

I read in the paper that Andre Reed is a Hall of Fame candidate. Ha. He, Jim Kelly, Thurmal Thomas and Marv Levy should be in a wax museum right now.

"Come December, I see Bagdad edging Limerick in the Pee Wee quarterfinals, with Lacy then appealing to the TFL Interpretations Committee to claim that as his first-ever playoff victory."

— **Donkey Hota**
TFL Today

WEEK 3 STANDINGS

Barbarino Division	Record			Points for				Points against			
	W	L	T	Tot.	Hi	Lw	Avg.	Tot.	Hi	Lw	Avg.
Dugway Experiments	3	0	0	172	76	42	57.3	105	43	24	35.0
Bagdad Red-Bellied Newts	2	1	0	135	70	32	45.0	113	54	18	37.7
Denver Pyles	2	1	0	100	45	22	33.3	95	38	21	31.7
Alaska Oosiks	1	2	0	135	54	38	45.0	154	76	33	51.3
Sarasota Sharks	0	3	0	66	27	18	22.0	94	33	29	31.3

Kotter Division	Record			Points for				Points against			
	W	L	T	Tot.	Hi	Lw	Avg.	Tot.	Hi	Lw	Avg.
Limerick Laughing Loons	2	1	0	117	49	32	39.0	102	64	16	34.0
Anchorage Kitchen	2	1	0	114	40	35	38.0	104	49	26	34.7
East Hartford Ex-Eskimos	1	2	0	116	49	31	38.7	122	44	39	40.7
Flint Bison	0	3	0	72	26	22	24.0	117	42	35	39.0

Horshack Division	Record			Points for				Points against			
	W	L	T	Tot.	Hi	Lw	Avg.	Tot.	Hi	Lw	Avg.
Marley Wailers	3	0	0	140	64	37	46.7	115	49	30	38.3
Baltimore Barons	2	1	0	89	44	16	29.7	90	32	27	30.0
Narcoossee Nose Apes	1	2	0	154	75	38	51.3	159	70	35	53.0
Willow Weasels	1	2	0	124	49	35	41.3	148	75	22	49.3
Dutch Harbor Dawgs	1	2	0	110	51	29	36.7	126	49	37	42.0

WEEK 3 RESULTS

Limerick 36	Denver 22	Narcoossee 75	Willow 35
J. George 11	Marino 6	Young 18	Aikman 6
Watters 3	Davis 3	Kaufman 22	E. Smith 2
A. Johnson 0	Phillips 7	R. Smith 1	Dunn 12
McCaffrey 6	Sharpe 0	Moore 8	Carter 7
A. Reed 12	Kennison 0	Walls 12	Alexander 7
Blanchard 4	Stover 6	Kasay 14	Carney 1
Buffalo 0	Denver 0	Atlanta 0	Kansas City 0
East Hartford 31	Baltimore 44	Alaska 43	Dugway 76
Mitchell 12	Favre 13	Bledsoe 12	Elway 27
T. Allen 1	Murrell 3	Warren 7	R. Harris 7
Anders 1	Alstott 6	Hearst 6	Graham 6
Muhammad 0	Freeman 7	Brisby 0	R. Smith 19
McDuffie 0	Morton 6	J. Reed 4	Perriman 0
Anderson 15	Vinatieri 9	Hanson 14	Cunningham 17
Carolina 3	Baltimore 0	Tampa Bay 0	Cincinnati 0
Dutch Harbor 30	Marley 37	Sarasota 18	Bagdad 32
Brown 9	Testaverde 12	Harbaugh 0	Humphries 0
B. Sanders 5	Byner 1	J. Anderson 0	Green 6
Levins 3	Barber 9	T. Thomas 0	L. Smith 8
Irvin 1	M. Jackson 7	Bruce 0	Miller 6
Galloway 1	Fryar 0	Chrebet 2	T. Brown 1
Longwell 11	Elam 5	Butler 8	Christie 11
Green Bay 0	San Francisco 3	Oakland 8	N.Y. Giants 0
Flint 26	Anchorage 35	Week 4 schedule	
Graham 0	B. Johnson 12	Denver at East Hartford	
Abdul-Jabbar 0	Martin 12	Baltimore at Dutch Harbor	
Faulk 1	Hill 1	Marley at Flint	
Coates 6	Brooks 1	Anchorage at Narcoossee	
K. Johnson 7	Harrison 0	Willow at Alaska	
Stoyanovich 12	Boniol 9	Dugway at Sarasota	
Dallas 0	Minnesota 0	Bagdad at Limerick	

TRANSACTIONS

Sept. 16, 1997

Flint is fined \$5 because QB Kerry Collins played while on the injured reserve list. Flint must activate Collins by midnight tonight, or he becomes a free agent.

East Hartford places RB Rashaan Salaam on I.R., adds RB Byron Hanspard.

East Hartford places WR Muhsin Muhammad on I.R., adds WR Reidel Anthony.

Limerick places RB Ricky Waters on reserve (backup RB Leland McElroy also on bye); adds RB Fred Lane.

Sept. 14, 1997

Narcoossee places D Pittsburgh on reserve (backup D Jacksonville also on bye); adds D Atlanta.

Baltimore waives WR Terrell Owens, adds WR Shawn Jefferson.

Bagdad waives RB Errict Rhett, adds RB Harold Green.

Bagdad waives QB Jim Everett, activates QB Stan Humphries.

Sept. 12, 1997

East Hartford waives RB Stephen Davis, activates RB Terry Allen off of I.R.

Marley waives WR Lesley Shepard; activates WR Mark Chmura.

Marley waives WR Mark Chmura; adds WR Curtis Conway.

Sept. 11, 1997

Limerick places WR Terry Glenn on I.R., adds WR Ed McCaffrey.

Sept. 9, 1997

Sarasota places K Brett Conway on I.R., adds K Kevin Butler.

Sarasota waives WR Michael Westbrook, adds WR Wayne Chrebet.

Flint reserves QB Kordell Stewart (Johnson also on bye), signs QB Kent Graham to a one-week contract.

Dugway reserves RB Eddie George (backup Means also on bye); signs RB Jay Graham to a one-week contract.

Sept. 7, 1997

Bagdad places QB Stan Humphries on I.R., adds QB Jim Everett.

CURRENT ROSTERS

Alaska

QB Drew Bledsoe
 QB Warren Moon
 RB Chris Warren
 RB Garrison Hearst
 RB Corey Dillon
 WR Tony Martin
 WR Jake Reed
 WR Vincent Brisby
 K Jason Hanson
 K Mike Hollis
 D Tampa Bay
 D Miami

Injured reserve

QB John Friesz



Marley

QB Vinny Testaverde
 QB Gus Frerotte
 RB Jerome Bettis
 RB Tiki Barber
 RB Ernest Byner
 WR Michael Jackson
 WR Irving Fryar
 WR Cutris Conway
 K Jason Elam
 K Olindo Mare
 D San Francisco
 D Philadelphia

Anchorage

QB Brad Johnson
 QB Ty Detmer
 RB Curtis Martin
 RB Larry Centers
 RB Greg Hill
 WR Robert Brooks
 WR Marvin Harrison
 WR Andre Rison
 K Chris Boniol
 K Jeff Wilkins
 D Minnesota
 D St. Louis

Denver

QB Dan Marino
 QB Erik Kramer
 RB Terrell Davis
 RB Tim Biakabutka
 RB Lawrence Phillips
 WR Shannon Sharpe
 WR Eddie Kennison
 WR Derrick Mayes
 K Matt Stover
 K Chris Jacke
 D Denver
 D New Orleans

East Hartford

QB Scott Mitchell
 QB Neil O'Donnell
 RB Terry Allen
 RB Byron Hanspard
 RB Kimble Anders
 WR Jimmy Smith
 WR O.J. McDuffie
 WR Reidel Anthony
 K Gary Anderson
 K John Hall
 D Carolina
 D Seattle

Injured reserve

RB Rashaan Salaam
 WR Muhsin Muhammad

Flint

QB Kordell Stewart
 QB Rob Johnson
 RB Karim Abdul-Jabbar
 RB Marshall Faulk
 RB James Stewart
 WR Jermain Lewis
 WR Keyshawn Johnson
 WR Ben Coates
 K Morten Andersen
 K Pete Stoyanovich
 D Dallas
 D Detroit

Injured reserve

QB Kerry Collins
 WR Jerry Rice

Limerick

QB Jeff George
 QB Todd Collins
 RB Ricky Watters
 RB Anthony Johnson
 RB Leland McElroy
 WR Ed McCaffrey
 WR Keenan McCardell
 WR Andre Reed
 K Cary Blanchard
 K Michael Husted
 D Buffalo
 D Indianapolis

Injured reserve

Narcoossee

QB Steve Young
 QB Elvis Grbac
 RB Napoleon Kaufman
 RB Robert Smith
 RB Leon Johnson
 WR Herman Moore
 WR Wesley Walls
 WR Charles Johnson
 K John Kasay
 K Scott Blanton
 D Pittsburgh
 D Jacksonville

Bagdad

QB Stan Humphries
 QB Tony Banks
 RB Ki-Jana Carter
 RB Harold Green
 RB Lamar Smith
 WR Carl Pickens
 WR Tim Brown
 WR Anthony Miller
 K Al Del Greco
 K Steve Christie
 D Tennessee
 D N.Y. Giants

Dugway

QB John Elway
 QB Chris Chandler
 RB Eddie George
 RB Natrone Means
 RB Raymont Harris
 WR Rod Smith
 WR Brett Perriman
 WR Bert Emanuel
 K Richie Cunningham
 K Greg Davis
 D Cincinnati
 D New England

Sarasota

QB Jeff Blake
 QB Jim Harbaugh
 RB Jamal Anderson
 RB Troy Davis
 RB Thurman Thomas
 WR Isaac Bruce
 WR Chris Sanders
 WR Wayne Chrebet
 K Doug Pelfrey
 K Kevin Butler
 D Oakland
 D Washington

Injured reserve

K Brett Conway

Baltimore

QB Brett Favre
 QB Trent Dilfer
 RB Adrian Murrell
 RB Mike Alstott
 RB Marcus Allen
 WR Antonio Freeman
 WR Johnnie Morton
 WR Shawn Jefferson
 K Adam Vinatieri
 K Cole Ford
 D Baltimore
 D Chicago

Dutch Harbor

QB Steve McNair
 QB Dave Brown
 RB Barry Sanders
 RB Dorsey Levens
 RB Gary Brown
 WR Michael Irvin
 WR Joey Galloway
 WR Bobby Engram
 K Ryan Longwell
 K Todd Peterson
 D Green Bay
 D N.Y. Jets

Willow

QB Mark Brunell
 QB Troy Aikman
 RB Emmitt Smith
 RB Warrick Dunn
 RB Antowain Smith
 WR Cris Carter
 WR Derrick Alexander<
 WR J.J. Stokes
 K John Carney
 K Jeff Jaeger
 D Kansas City
 D Arizona