

# TFL Today

*"A Beacon of Truth and Justice in a Topsy-Turvy World"*

## New commish flexes muscles

**By Baron Von Butterbrain**

TFL Today senior writer

It was almost an impossible sight to bear. There they stood, right up there for all to see. One in first place in the Barbarino Division, undefeated and leading the league in points; the other in second place in the division, as well as second overall in points.

The Bagdad Newts and Dugway Proving Grounds Experiments had taken different routes to the top, Bagdad storming to a 57-16, Week 3 rout of Marley to go 3-0, and Dugway sweating out a 3-point victory over Sarasota to improve to 2-1.

The week wasn't without controversy, as Bagdad owner Scott Lacy picked up New York Jets wideout Keyshawn Johnson on a reserve move, then tried to shift the acquisition to permanent rather than let Johnson go back into the free agent pool, as the rules prescribe.

With swift and unerring judgment, Commissioner Steve Katz put his foot down and yanked Johnson away from Lacy,

ruling the wide receiver must be released for all other owners to have a shot at once Week 3's games were over.

When word got out, shock waves were felt and heard from far and wide.

"He can't do that. He KNOWs he can't do that," said Sarasota's Charlie Coggins.

More of the same reaction came from Narcoossee's Wit Tuttell and Alaska's Charles Bingham. And from Denver's Mike Taylor. Taylor was still smarting, and now 0-3 and last in the Barbarino, after a defeat at Tuttell's hands in Tequila Bowl II. But he wasn't smarting so much that he couldn't sum up his agreement with Katz as eloquently as Coggins did bluntly.

"It's another example of Newtie trying to circumvent the rules for his own personal gain, and it's appalling that a former commissioner would stoop to such levels in quest of a Sweeney Bowl."

The new commissioner had again thrown the jurisprudence equivalent of a perfect, 80-yard touchdown spiral in just

the third week of his new reign. The first had come on the season's very first day, when he mulled over Sain's attempt to place Michael Irvin on injured reserve, when Irvin wasn't injured and Sain had known it when he drafted the Cowboy wideout.

A hush. And then: "No way," Katz proclaimed, striking down Sain's foolhardily, not to mention ballsy, move. 'Fucked Up His Life And Is Serving A Punishment For It' is not an available interpretation of the word 'injured.'"

Jaxx saxophonists on Bourbon Street resumed playing. Rousing approval resonated from every grotto in the French Quarter. Live sex shows went back to ripping off tourists. Slot machines aboard the Flamingo cha-chinged again.

"A league with a firm and just commissioner!" said Saints Coach Jim Mora. "Where do I go to get on the waiting list for this league?"

Well, Jim, a couple guys still haven't paid yet . . .

## Going down, Pyle-style

**By Donkey Hota**

TFL Today senior writer

Three games into the 1996 season they're writing off the Denver Pyles, and entertaining the notion that Scott Lacy's Red Bellied Newts might actually appear in, if not ever win, a Sweeney Bowl.

Yeah right. Won't they ever learn? To paraphrase commish Steve Katz: Where can I get some of what they're smoking?

First off, good sense and the finite quality of time discourages me from wasting any precious ticks discussing the Newts' Sweeney Bowl prospects—or nonprospects as it were.

I will, however pontificate on the Pyles

greatness.

Haruump!!!

Throughout their history, the Pyles have possessed an ability to rebound from adversity, in real life, in the draft room, on the field, on paper and in cyberspace. Examples abound:

➤ Their selection of a helmet logo, recognizing B-movie great Denver Pyle—unprecedented in complexity.

➤ Their bold draft of Emmitt Smith a few years ago when he was threatening to hold out the entire season.

➤ Their SWEENEY BOWL title in 1994 against all odds, when they rose to fame not only as the TFL champions, but as the league's all-time winningest team.

➤ The tragic death early this year of fabled scribe Jeb Jenco, an unabashed Pyle booster who expired while trying, with nothing but a manual typewriter, to

chronicle the many gridiron feats of this storied franchise—a foolhardy stunt akin to scaling Mt. McKinley in a Speedo.

So, the Pyles start this season 0-3 after losing the Tequila War rematch against the Steve Youngless Nose Apes. Big deal. I'd be more curious about how long the Newts' Jimmy Hat Harbaugh can go before he springs a leak. For the Pyles, this start is merely a three-pronged prop placed in the script to dramatize their march toward a second Sweeney Bowl title.

Count on it.

The TFL is often painted as an organization of football intellectuals, full of complicated actions and events. Nonsense.

Fans, to understand the TFL, this is all you need to know:

Pyles Rule.

Bagdad Blows.

God is good.

## Standings

### Barbarino

Team	W	L	T	PF	PA
Bagdad	3	0	0	143	70
Dugway	2	1	0	138	93
Alaska	2	1	0	89	78
Denver	0	3	0	87	124
Sarasota	0	3	0	81	104

### Kotter

Team	W	L	T	PF	PA
Flint	3	0	0	106	71
Limerick	2	1	0	95	80
East Hartford	1	1	1	109	97
Anchorage	0	3	0	82	122

### Horshack

Team	W	L	T	PF	PA
Dutch Harbor	2	1	0	133	100
Baltimore	2	1	0	69	100
Willow	1	1	1	108	109
Marley	1	2	0	93	123
Narcoossee	1	2	0	88	105

## Last Week's Results

Dutch Harbor 70, East Hartford 35

Bagdad 57, Marley 16

Willow 56, Baltimore 13

Dugway 44, Sarasota 41

Narcoossee 37, Denver 30

Limerick 37, Anchorage 14

Flint 25, Alaska 9

## Games of Sept. 22

Denver at Anchorage

Marley at Flint

Sarasota at Narcoossee

Willow at Alaska

Dutch Harbor at Dugway

Limerick at Baltimore

Bagdad at East Hartford

## Games of Sept. 15

Limerick	37	Alaska	14
Blake	6	Everett	2
Bettis	19	Means	0
Murrell	0	Warren	0
Early	0	McDuffie	2
Fryar	1	Miller	7
Husted	11	Hollis	3
Colts	0	Vikings	0

Denver	30	Narcoossee	37
Elway	6	Humphries	6
Pegram	2	Allen	10
Salaam	0	Levens	0
Sharpe	0	Harrison	0
K. Jackson	6	Small	0
Elam	10	Pelfrey	12
Broncos	6	Raiders	9

Flint	26	Alaska	10
Moon	6	Brunell	0
Craver	1	Stewart	1
Bates	0	Hampton	1
Morton	0	Martin	6
Brown	7	Blades	0
Jacke	6	Huerta	2
Cowboys	6	Jaguars	0

## Power Poll

1. Bagdad	121.6
2. Dugway	117.3
3. Dutch Harbor	113.1
4. East Hartford	92.7
5. Willow	91.8
6. Flint	90.1
7. Limerick	80.8
8. Marley	79.1
9. Alaska	75.7
10. Narcoossee	74.8
11. Denver	74.0
12. Anchorage	69.7
13. Sarasota	68.9
14. Baltimore	58.7

Bagdad	57	Marley	16
Harbaugh	12	Kelly	0
Watters	12	Smith	9
Abdul-Jabbar	15	H. Williams	1
H. Moore	2	Conway	1
K. Johnson	7	McCardell	1
Hanson	7	Carney	4
Oilers	2	Chargers	0

Willow	56	Baltimore	13
Marino	22	Mitchell	0
Bennett	7	George	1
Allen	13	Milburn	0
Brooks	6	Galloway	1
Perriman	0	Scott	8
Boniol	8	Christie	3
Seahawks	0	Ravens	0

Sarasota	41	Dugway	44
Chandler	12	Favre	18
Martin	22	T. Davis	10
hayden	0	Centers	1
C. Carter	1	Glenn	1
F. Sanders	0	Freeman	6
Johnson	6	Sisson	8
Dolphins	0	Chiefs	0

D. Harbor	70	E. Hartford	35
O'Donnell	25	Bledsoe	18
K. Carter	7	B. Sanders	12
R. Smith	8	L. Russell	0
Pickens	5	Jeffries	0
Coates	7	D. Sanders	0
Del Greco	9	Stoyanovich	5
Steelers	9	Redskins	0

## TFL Leaders

1. Favre	64	6. T. Allen	33
2. Elway	36	7. Bledsoe	30
Harbaugh	36	B. Sanders	30
4. Carney	35	H. Moore	30
5. Marino	34	Del Greco	30