

# The TFL Today

The official newsletter of the world's greatest fantasy football league

Wednesday, Dec. 9, 1998

TFL Today, Volume IX, Issue 14

**Week 14**



Lackawanna	62
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**Inside**

• Carlock celebrates  
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## The second season

Limerick and Bagdad reprise their history-making game, and others limp forward, as the 1998 TFL playoffs begin.

By Baron von Butterbrain  
TFL Today

**A**nd so the dust has settled, and it's playoff time in fantasyland.

(We'll call it fantasyland because Casey Brogan made it while doing nothing but chasing women across the Australian landscape all fall.)

We'll call it fantasyland because Scott Lacy will come face to face with the first playoff victory in his franchise's dubious history, as Randall Cunningham gets to throw into the teeth of that Steel Curtain-esque Baltimore Ravens defense in Lacy's wild-card matchup against Limerick.

That's the same Ravens defense that one week gave up 42 points in a half, in a home game.

Some would say the playoffs also offer a piece

of virtual reality, as the Baltimore Barons return to their more familiar haunts of last place coming off their Sweeney Bowl season.

If anything, this further solidifies Steve Katz's reputation as the Bret Saberhagen of the TFL. In the nine years of the TFL, when he hasn't been either on top or in the playoffs, he's been awful.

"And this time it's particularly painful," Katz said from a downcast Barons headquarters Monday night, swallowing hard again as Green Bay's terrible trio of Darick Holmes, Derrick Mayes and Ryan Longwell got him . . . let's see now, add here, subtract there, carry the one - wait, that's not right, you're not supposed to subtract, are you - let's

### Exmos hope to bounce back in semis

By PEARL NICHOLAS  
Hebron Biweekly Bugle  
HEBRON, Conn. --

Considering the way his Ex-Eskimos had just finished the season, it's a wonder East Hartford owner Chris Reidy didn't enter his weekly press conference on crutches.

"Hey, no sense in trying to make Haagen-Dasz out of muktuk," Reidy said. "This is not the way you want to head into the playoffs."

That way would be to close the season with a 56-27 ass-biting at the hands of the Arctic Gators. The loss not only cost the Exmos (12-2) a

# It's Lacy Time again: the playoffs

*(Continued from page 1)*

try that again ... uh, they got him very few points, and the Barons lost to Barbarino Division champ Alaska, 63-37.

That brought Baltimore's season of woe (SOW, so as not to infringe upon the copyrighted WIM) to a merciful end.

But the coach of the 1997 champs surveyed the field that will produce his team's successor to the trophy in three weeks, and

more or less liked what he saw.

More when he looked at East Hartford's 12-2 finish ("the Exmos' success couldn't have happened to a more respected sportman," he said), and less when he looked at Dutch Harbor's 7-7 prayer of a season. "Brogan will say I should talk, looking back to my oft-maligned story of last year - if he even reads this," Katz told the TFL Today. "Tell him to go wrestle some more crockodiles."

Bagdad will play the hard-charging Limerick Laughing Loons in one wild-card game, and Dutch Harbor will meet Lackawanna in the other.

Looking ahead is tempting, because if the Newts get by Limerick, they get to avenge their Week 7 loss to the then-steamrolling Exmos and settle their months-long verbal jousting match on the field.

The Dutch Harbor-Lackawanna winner will face Alaska in the semifinals.

# Loss puts fear of God into Exmos

*(Continued from page 1)*

shot at tying the TFL's best single-season record ever, but East Hartford's lowest point output of the season allowed the Alaska Oosiks -- remember them? They only beat the Exmos by 40 -- to mount a successful assault on the points title.

The Dicks shot off for 63 points in their finale, edging East Hartford for the points title, 675-673. Those are the second- and third-highest points totals in TFL history, behind the 722 put up by the 1995 Marley Wailers.

It also leaves the Exmos staring down one of the TFL's most unforgiving statistics: The regular season champion has won as many playoff games as Scott Lacy. For those of you living on another planet (or foolish enough to follow some OTHER fantasy league), that is zero. Zip. Nada. Goose egg. Bumpkus.

You get the idea. The Exmos, who had hoped to avoid that fate

**"I wouldn't even consider us a favorite for the Pee-Wee Bowl at the rate we're going."**

**-Chris Reidy**

by becoming the first team to win the TFL Double, are on thin ice.

"Yeah, we're struggling right now," Reidy said, giving that resigned sigh that is much his trademark as the Reidy Snort. "I wouldn't even consider us a favorite for the Pee-Wee Bowl at the rate we're going. I mean, just look at the way we finished compared to the other playoff teams. I can only hope we'll use this first-round bye to regroup."

The Exmos' icy finish extended beyond their only sub-30 outing of the year. Through 12 games, East

Hartford was averaging 50.8 points a game. But even that Week 12 output, 67 points against the Limerick Loons, required a 40-point rally by the Exmos' final two players on Sunday and Monday night.

Last week, the Exmos were down nine with one player to go before pulling out a Monday night victory. Combined with their 27-point "outburst" against the Gators, the Exmos averaged a pull-on-your-parka figure of 32 points the final two weeks. By comparison, the Loons averaged 71; the Bagdad Newts, 65; the Lackawanna Lancers, 64; the Dutch Harbor Dawgs, 51.5; and the Dicks, 43.5.

"Someone mentioned not too long ago we were having a star-kissed season," Reidy said with a face as long as a Nanook left out in the cold. "It's beginning to smell a lot more like Starkist."

# For Flint, a special significance

By Baron von Butterbrain  
TFL Today

FLINT, Mich. - There was not much to smile about this season for the Flint Bison.

They struggled from a losing record early in the season to finish a fairly respectable 7-7, which has been known to launch teams into the playoffs and even produced one Sweeney Bowl champion, but this year was good only for fourth place in the Kotter Division.

But it was a smiling Don Carlock who answered the door at his suburban mansion Sunday, greeting his visitor with a proud glow.

13-1 was still alive.

"We still stand alone, don't we?" Carlock crowed. "Come on in."

Carlock's house bears no reminders of that magical season of 1994, when the Bison won the first 13 games of their inaugural campaign in the league - still the longest winning streak in TFL history - then lost their last regular-season game and, after a bye, dropped their first playoff game to return to mortal status with a crashing thud.

Last season, the fantasy Gods even denied him a championship, as he lost the Sweeney Bowl after getting there without his first-round draft pick, the formerly immortal Jerry Rice.

But this year, one small measure of satisfaction was granted him in watching the Arctic Gators bring the East Hartford Ex-Eskimos back to Earth, 56-27.

"Want to see my voodoo doll?" Carlock asked. There it was, right above the giant-screen TV he bought partly with last year's runner-up share from the Sweeney Bowl.

"I stuck my pin in it every time Steve Young cocked his right arm. It must have worked, because Young scored a puny 12 points, helping the Exmos to their lowest-scoring game of the season. I couldn't help myself, despite my respect for East Hartford."

The phone rang, and Carlock was glad to hear from a former player. It was Dan

"We still stand alone,  
don't we?"

-Don Carlock

Marino, just calling to reminisce and share in his relief that 13-1 had stayed intact. "Yeah, Dan, I feel great," Carlock said into the phone. Thanks for calling. I was just thinking of you.

"Remember I drafted you when you were coming off not only Achilles tendon surgery but an interception-riddled preseason, and proceeded to hang up 48 points on New England in your first game of the year?"

Marino played a hurricane-force first half of 1994, then sagged in the latter half of the season. But the phone call had a special significance in light of Marino's latest incarnation, as coincidence would have it, as East Hartford's backup quarterback, the man who filled in more than admirably the one week he was needed, when Steve Young met the only defense that stopped him all year: his bye week.

How wonderfully circuitous is history.

"I was watching you that week, Dan," Carlock said, ribbing his former prodigy. "I see you still had a couple bullets left in the old gun, huh?"

Carlock beamed as he hung up the phone, wishing Marino continued success. "The guys and I still stay in touch, and this year knitted us together again for a while."

And then Don Carlock retired to his hot tub, the same hot tub from which he watched the championship game with his wife on a cold, December night last season.

Only this time, the champagne tasted good.

# Sweeney Bowl Tournament IX

Week 15

Week 16

Week 17

Bagdad (10-4)

East Hartford (12-2)

Game 1

Game 3

Limerick (9-5)

Game 5

Champion

Dutch Harbor (7-7)

Game 2

Game 4

Lackawanna (9-5)

Alaska (10-3-1)

### Tiebreakers

- 1) Reserve points
- 2) Total yardage by starters
- 3) Total yardage by reserves
- 4) Best of 3 coin flip (please yell)
- 5) Last man standing at next year's Tequilla Bowl.

Game 6

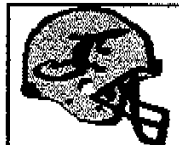
Third place

Game 7

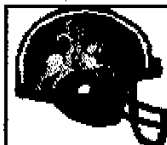
Fifth place



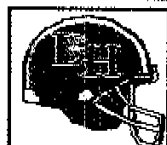
Limerick (9-5) vs. Bagdad (10-4)  
Line: Bagdad - 1/4



Fresh off their brush-off of Denver, Bagdad now takes dead aim at the second most bothersome pain in its side, the team that spanked the Newts, 98-74 just two weeks ago. After a year away from the playoffs, the Newts eye a golden opportunity to exorcise 9 years of playoff demons. This could be the year.  
Naaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaah.

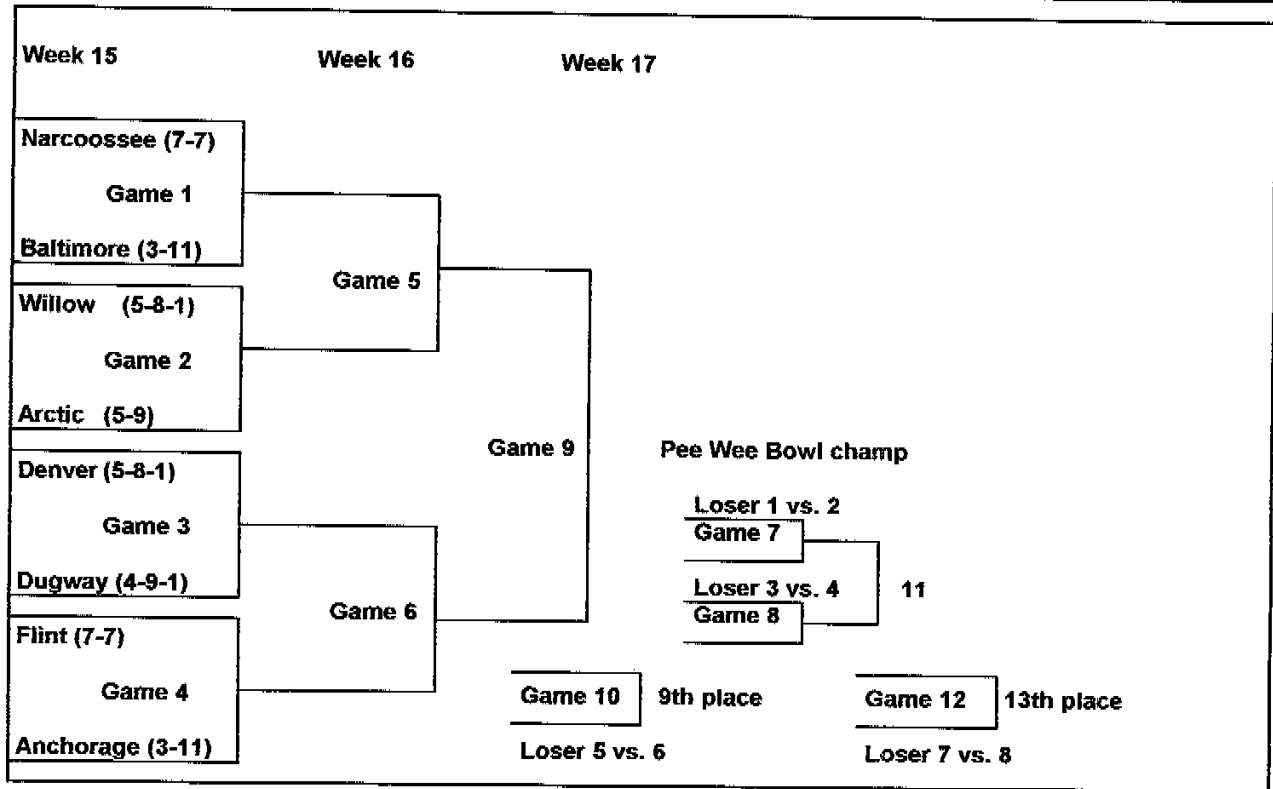


Lackawanna (9-5) vs. Dutch Harbor (7-7)  
Line: Lackawanna - 95



Oh, the humanity. One might ask what good it did the Dugway-East Hartford-Baltimore-Bagdad-Dutch Harbor Dawgs to make the playoffs, but if the Lancers don't watch out, Testaverde will outsling Favre in the shocker of the playoffs.  
Naaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaahhh.

# Pee Wee Tournament



**The pot**

Franchise fees	\$1,400
Transactions/fines	320
CD interest	50
<b>Total in pot</b>	<b>1,770</b>

**Who gets how much?**

Sweeney Bowl winner	\$708
Sweeney Bowl runnerup	265.50
Third place	194.70
Fourth place	159.30
Fifth place	123.90
Sixth place	88.50
Regular season title	88.50
Points scoring title	88.50
Pee Wee Bowl champ	53.10

**The "other" scoreboard**

Team	Spent	Left in bank
Alaska	\$15	\$35
Anchorage	25	25
Arctic	10	40
Bagdad	25	25
Baltimore	40	10
Denver	25	25
Dugway	35	15
Dutch Harbor	25	25
East Hartford	30	20
Flint	25	25
Lackawanna	15	35
Limerick	15	35
Narcoossee	15	35
Willow	20	30

The pot shown at left may increase during the playoffs due to more fines being possible. Please check your amount.

**FINAL 1998 STANDINGS**

Barbarino		Record				Points for				Points against			
Division	W	L	T	Tot.	Hi	Lw	Avg.	Tot.	Hi	Lw	Avg.		
Alaska	10	3	1	675	83	14	48.2	462	74	7	33.0		
Bagdad	10	4	0	632	84	7	45.1	550	98	19	39.3		
Denver	5	8	1	560	75	9	40.0	605	84	15	43.2		
Arctic	5	9	0	551	53	25	39.4	616	82	19	44.0		
Dugway	4	9	1	372	53	8	26.6	578	76	27	41.3		

Kotter		Record				Points for				Points against			
Division	W	L	T	Tot.	Hi	Lw	Avg.	Tot.	Hi	Lw	Avg.		
East Hartford	12	2	0	673	82	27	48.1	539	83	20	38.5		
Lackawanna	9	5	0	595	63	20	42.5	496	74	12	35.4		
Limerick	9	5	0	590	98	19	42.1	528	61	9	37.7		
Flint	7	7	0	557	76	21	39.8	476	59	15	34.0		
Anchorage	3	11	0	414	51	13	29.6	619	69	22	44.2		

Horshack		Record				Points for				Points against			
Division	W	L	T	Tot.	Hi	Lw	Avg.	Tot.	Hi	Lw	Avg.		
Narcoossee	7	7	0	587	64	18	41.9	508	75	14	36.3		
Dutch Harbor	7	7	0	501	69	12	35.8	563	46	8	40.2		
Willow	5	8	1	539	60	22	38.5	578	51	22	41.3		
Baltimore	3	11	0	436	45	17	31.4	564	48	16	40.3		

**WEEK 14 SCORES**

<b>Lackawanna 62</b>	<b>Anchorage 33</b>	<b>Arctic 56</b>	<b>E. Hartford 27</b>
Brett Favre 13	Kordell Stew. 0	Mark Brunell 0	Steve Young 12
Ant. Smith 8	Nap Kaufman 0	Fred Taylor 18	Ricky Watters 8
Skip Hicks 0	R. Holcombe 0	Curtis Enis 0	Mike Alstott 0
Eric Moulds 21	K. McCardell 11	Terry Glenn 18	M. Westbrook 0
Herman Moore 9	JJ Stokes 13	Keyshawn 12	Ben Coates 2
Jason Hanson 11	Todd Peterson 9	John Hall 8	Jason Elam 5
San Fran 0	Pittsburgh 0	Denver 0	Atlanta 0
<b>Bagdad 56</b>	<b>Denver 48</b>	<b>Flint 53</b>	<b>Limerick 43</b>
Randall C. 28	Jake Plummer 7	Drew Bledsoe 13	John Elway 19
Bam Morris 6	Gary Brown 3	Robt Edwards 7	Emmitt Smith 0
Karim 2	Barry 3	LeRoy Hoard 14	Curtis Martin 6
Rod Smith 8	Randy Moss 24	Ed McCaffrey 9	W. Chrebet 1
Johnnie Morton 0	Cris Carter 0	Ant. Freeman 0	Jimmy Smith 6
Gary Anderson 12	Vinatieri 11	Olindo Mare 10	Al Dei Greco 12
Tennessee 0	Carolina 0	Green Bay 0	NY Jets 0
<b>Alaska 63</b>	<b>Baltimore 26</b>	<b>Dutch Harbor 46</b>	<b>Willow 44</b>
Neil O'Donnell 12	Charlie Batch 13	Vinny T. 25	Steve McNair 0
Garrison Hearst 13	Danick Holmes 0	Priest Holmes 0	Adrian Murrell 13
Terrell Davis 20	Eddie George 7	Dorsey Levens 0	Marshall Faulk 14
Terrence Mathis 7	Derrick Mayes 1	Tim Brown 18	Reidel Anthony 0
Frank Sanders 1	Michael Irvin 1	Rob Moore 0	Terrell Owens 7
Mort. Andersen 4	Ryan Longwell 10	Richie C. 3	John Kasay 4
Minnesota 6	Saints 0	Kansas City 0	Seattle 8
<b>Narcoossee 58</b>	<b>Dugway 23</b>	<b>End Regular Season</b>	
P. Manning 12	Jon Kitna 20		
Corey Dillon 6	Jerome Bettis 0		
J. Anderson 10	Tommy Vardell 0		
Andre Reid 1	Sh. Jefferson 0		
Tony Martin 10	Jerry Rice 0		
Stoyanovich 7	Mike Vander. 3		
Miami 12	Tampa 6		

**TRANSACTIONS**

**Tuesday, Dec. 8**  
 Arctic puts QB Mark Brunell on I.R., adds QB Jamie Martin.  
 Willow places QB Erik Kramer on I.R., adds QB Jeff Blake.

**Thursday, Dec. 3**  
 Alaska waives QB Craig Whelihan, adds QB Chris Chandler.

**Wednesday, Dec. 2**  
 Baltimore waives WR Bill Schroeder, reactivates WR Derrick Mayes  
 Dugway waives QB Jay Fiedler, activates QB Jeff George, waives QB Tony Banks.

**TRANSACTIONS NOW  
 CAPPED EXCEPT FOR  
 INJURY MOVES**

**Lackawanna**

QB Brett Favre  
 QB Steve Beuerlein  
 RB Antowain Smith  
 RB Terry Allen  
 RB Harvey Wms.  
 WR Herman Moore  
 WR Robert Brooks  
 WR Eric Moulds  
 K Jason Hanson  
 K Brad Daluiso  
 D San Francisco  
 D Chicago  
*I.R. Yancey Thigpen*

**Alaska**

QB Chris Chandler  
 QB Neil O'Donnell  
 RB Terrell Davis  
 RB Garrison Hearst  
 RB John Avery  
 WR Terrance Mathis  
 WR Tyrone Davis  
 WR Frank Sanders  
 K Morten Andersen  
 K Doug Pelfrey  
 D Minnesota  
 D San Diego

**Denver**

QB Jake Plummer  
 QB Doug Flutie  
 RB Barry Sanders  
 RB Gary Brown  
 RB Ahman Green  
 WR Cris Carter  
 WR M. Muhammad  
 WR Randy Moss  
 K Adam Vinatieri  
 K Norm Johnson  
 D Carolina  
 D Philadelphia

**Dugway**

QB Jeff George  
 QB John Kitna  
 RB Tommy Vardell  
 RB Natrone Means  
 RB Tavian Banks  
 WR Jerry Rice  
 WR Andre Rison  
 WR Jake Reed  
 K Mike Vanderjagt  
 K Steve Christie  
 D Tampa Bay  
 D St. Louis  
*I.R. Jerome Bettis*

**“Who’s got who”  
 (updated rosters)**

**Bold = acquired via free agent, I.R.  
 or bye week pick-up,  
 or trade (as if there are any other ways)**  
*Italic = on injured reserve or bye*

**Anchorage**

QB Kordell Stewart  
 QB Troy Aikman  
 RB Robert Smith  
 RB Napoleon Kaufman  
 RB Robert Holcombe  
 WR Carl Pickens  
 WR Keenan McCardell  
 WR J.J. Stokes  
 K Todd Peterson  
 K Jeff Wilkins  
 D Pittsburgh  
 D Arizona

**Baltimore**

QB Elvis Grbac  
 QB Charlie Batch  
 RB Eddie George  
 RB Chris Warren  
 RB Darick Holmes  
 WR Joey Galloway  
 WR Michael Irvin  
 WR Derrick Mayes  
 K Ryan Longwell  
 K Greg Davis  
 D Baltimore  
 D New Orleans

*I.R. Travis Jervey*

**Narcoossee**

QB Peyton Manning  
 QB Warren Moon  
 RB Corey Dillon  
 RB Jamal Anderson  
 RB Terrell Fletcher  
 WR Tony Martin  
 WR Marvin Harrison  
 WR Andre Reed  
 K Pete Stoyanovich  
 K Wade Richie  
 D Miami  
 D Jacksonville

*I.R. Ray Zellers*

**Arctic**

QB Jamie Martin  
 QB Danny Weurffel  
 RB Fred Taylor  
 RB Curtis Enis  
 RB Sedrick Shaw  
 WR Terry Glenn  
 WR Jacquez Green  
 WR Keyshawn Johnson  
 K Mike Hollis  
 K John Hall  
 D New England  
 D Denver  
*I.R. Mark Brunell*

**Dutch Harbor**

QB Glenn Foley  
 QB Vinny T.  
 RB Charlie Garner  
 RB Donnell Bennett  
 RB Priest Holmes  
 WR Tim Brown  
 WR Rob Moore  
 WR Jermaine Lewis  
 K Richie Cun'gham  
 K Doug Brien  
 D Kansas City  
 D Dallas

*I.R. Dorsey Levens*

**Limerick**

QB John Elway  
 QB Trent Dilfer  
 RB Curtis Martin  
 RB Emmitt Smith  
 RB Charles Way  
 WR Jimmy Smith  
 WR Bert Emanuel  
 WR Wayne Chrebet  
 K Al Del Greco  
 K Michael Husted  
 D NY Jets  
 D Oakland

**East Hartford**

QB Steve Young  
 QB Dan Marino  
 RB Ricky Watters  
 RB Edgar Bennett  
 RB Mike Alstott  
 WR Ben Coates  
 WR Charles Johnson  
 WR Michael Westbrook  
 K Jason Elam  
 K John Carney  
 D NY Giants  
 D Atlanta  
*I.R. Greg Hill*

**Bagdad**

QB Brad Johnson  
 QB Randall Cun'gham  
 RB Karim A-Jabbar  
 RB Bam Morris  
 RB Lamar Smith  
 WR Rod Smith  
 WR Derrick Alexander  
 WR Johnnie Morton  
 K Gary Anderson  
 K Matt Stover  
 D Tennessee  
 D Detroit

*I.R. Isaac Bruce*

**Willow**

QB Steve McNair  
 QB Jeff Blake  
 RB Marshall Faulk  
 RB Fred Lane  
 RB Adrian Murrell  
 WR Shannon Sharpe  
 WR Terrell Owens  
 WR Reidel Anthony  
 K John Kasay  
 K Jeff Jaeger  
 D Seattle  
 D Washington  
*I.R. Erik Kramer*

**Flint**

QB Drew Bledsoe  
 QB Trent Dilfer  
 RB Warrick Dunn  
 RB Robert Edwards  
 RB Leroy Hoard  
 WR Antonio Freeman  
 WR Ed McCaffrey  
 WR James Jett  
 K Olindo Mare  
 K Chris Boniol  
 D Green Bay  
 D Buffalo