NFL GAMEDAY

WEEK 5

TENNESSEE TITANS @ DALLAS COWBOYS

CHRIS JOHNSON ROLLED UP 131 YARDS, THE FIRST TIME IN 18 GAMES DALLAS HAS ALLOWED A ONE-HUNDRED-YARD RUSHER. FOR MOST OF THE FIRST HALF, THE TITANS HAD THEIR WAY.

SIX TIMES TONY ROMO WAS BURIED BENEATH THE TITANS' LEAGUE-LEADING PASS RUSH – FIVE OF THOSE COMING IN THE FIRST HALF. FOR THE COWBOYS, ANOTHER GAME WAS SLIPPING AWAY.

DOWN BY TWO TOUCHDOWNS WITH UNDER TWO MINUTES TO GO IN THE HALF, DALLAS RALLIED.

EASIER SAID THAN DONE AGAINST THE TALENT RICH COWBOYS.

TENNESSEE'S PLAYMAKERS CONTINUED TO EXTEND THEMSELVES.

MIDWAY THROUGH THE FOURTH QUARTER WITH THE SCORE TIED AT TWENTY, THE COWBOYS MADE THE GAME'S MOST CRUCIAL MISTAKE.

JEFF FISHER'S TEAM TOOK THE LEAD AS A RESULT OF ROOKIE ALTERRAUN VERNER'S INTERCEPTION.

TONY ROMO RESPONDED, ECLIPSING THE 400-YARD PASSING MARK AND RETYING THE SCORE.

BUT THIS EXCESSIVE CELEBRATION RESULTED IN A 15-YARD PENALTY – NOT THAT TITAN ROOKIE RETURN MAN MARC MARIANI NEEDED ANY HELP.

CLOSE ENOUGH FOR CHRIS JOHNSON TO PROVIDE THE WINNING POINTS.

KANSAS CITY CHIEFS @ INDIANAPOLIS COLTS

THE CHIEFS OPENED THE GAME WITH AN <u>AMBUSH</u> THE COLTS LAST SAW IN THE SECOND HALF OF SUPER BOWL 44.

FIELD POSITION ISN'T ALWAYS A CRUCIAL FACTOR FOR THE COLTS.

IN THE RARE GAME IN WHICH PEYTON MANNING WOULD NOT THROW A TOUCHDOWN PASS, ROBERT MATHIS AND THE COLTS DEFENSE HAD NO ROOM FOR ERROR.

LATE IN THE FOURTH QUARTER, THE COLTS LED FOUR FIELD GOALS TO THREE. THEY WERE MISSING THEIR TOP TWO RUNNING BACKS. BUT THEY STILL HAD HART.

DENVER BRONCOS @ BALTIMORE RAVENS

IN THE NFL, QUARTERBACKS ARE ALWAYS UNDER PRESSURE.

MUCH OF IT COMES FROM THEIR COACHES.

JOE FLACCO SHOWED HE COULD APPLY PRESSURE//AND WITHSTAND IT AS WELL.

AGAINST THE LEAGUES BEST PASS DEFENSE THE NFL'S TOP RANKED PASSING OFFENSE COULDN'T DO ENOUGH, DESPITE HAVING ITS MOMENTS.

THE RAVENS RAN AWAY WITH THE GAME BY RUSHING FOR 233 YARDS AND 4 TOUCHDOWNS.

MINNESOTA VIKINGS @ NEW YORK JETS

MIAMI GAINED JUST 52 YARDS IN THE FIRST HALF, BUT THE JETS INABILITY TO PUT THE BALL IN THE ENDZONE KEPT THE GAME IN DOUBT.

TRAILING 12-0 LATE IN THE THIRD QUARTER, THE VIKINGS NEWEST ADDITION FLASHED HIS OLD SKILLS

WHAT HAD BEEN A DEFENSIVE STRUGGLE, BECAME A FOURTH QUARTER SHOOTOUT.

ONE MINUTE AND 21 SECONDS LATER, BRETT FAVRE'S THIRD TOUCHDOWN PASS OF THE HALF, CUT THE JETS LEAD TO TWO.

THE VIKINGS GOT THE BALL BACK WITH UNDER TWO MINUTES TO PLAY, GIVING FAVRE YET ANOTHER CHANCE AT REDEMPTION.

JACKSONVILLE JAGUARS @ BUFFALO BILLS

OFF SOT: "WHERE WOULD YOU RATHER BE THAN RIGHT HERE, RIGHT NOW?"

WITH THE SUN OUT IN BUFFALO, THE WINLESS BILLS TRIED TO EMERGE FROM THE SHADOWS.

OFF SOT: "TOUCHDOWN STEVIE JOHNSON! HOW DID HE COME UP WITH THAT?"

THE JAGUARS RUINED THE HOME TEAM'S SUNNY DISPOSITION WITH A STONE-COLD PASS RUSH, SACKING RYAN FITZPATRICK THREE TIMES.

THE OFFENSE WAS JUST AS EFFECTIVE, AS DAVID GARRARD THREW TWO TOUCHDOWN PASSES IN THE SECOND HALF TO HELP JACKSONVILLE PULL AWAY.

TAMPA BAY BUCCANEERS @ CINCINNATI BENGALS

BENGALS LINEBACKER REY MAUALUGA GOES THROUGH THE SAME RITUAL EVERY GAME...

BEFORE EACH DEFENSIVE SERIES, HE GETS HIS PADS POUNDED THREE TIMES.

WHICH IS FITTING BECAUSE MAUALUGA OFTEN SEEMS TO DO THE WORK OF THREE MEN.

BENGALS QUARTERBACK CARSON PALMER WAS A MULTIPLE THREAT HIMSELF, KEEPING BOTH TEAMS IN THE GAME AT THE SAME TIME.

PALMER'S PASS TO NUMBER 84, JERMAINE GRESHAM, GAVE CINCINNATI A 4^{TH} QUARTER LEAD.

MAUALUGA WENT ALL OUT, BUT JOSH FREEMAN STILL BROUGHT TAMPA BAY BACK.

LESS THAN TWO MINUTES REMAINED. THE BENGALS WERE DRIVING TO SNAP THE TIE. BUT A LATE INTERCEPTION NEUTRALIZED ANY HOPES FOR A CINCINNATI VICTORY.

WITH 14 SECONDS LEFT, MICHAEL SPURLOCK'S ACROBATIC GRAB WAS RULED A CATCH, MOVING THE BALL TO THE CINCINNATI 13.

NEW YORK GIANTS @ HOUSTON TEXANS

LIKE <u>ANY</u> STRONG SAFETY, HOUSTON'S BERNARD POLLARD LIKES TO MIX IT UP.

BUT POLLARD AND THE TEXANS WERE ON THEIR HEELS AGAINST THE GIANTS PASSING ATTACK. NOT SINCE <u>OLAJUWON</u> HAD AN "HAKEEM" SO DOMINATED THE HOUSTON SKIES.

LIMITED TO JUST 24 RUSHING YARDS, THE TEXANS WERE OVERWHELMED IN EVERY WAY BY BIG BLUE.

NEW ORLEANS SAINTS @ ARIZONA CARDINALS

THE FOLLOWING NEEDS A DISCLAIMER: DON'T TRY THIS AT HOME. LEAVE THE BACK-FLIPS TO THE PROFESSIONALS, AND NEVER GIVE A PROFESSIONAL TIME TO THROW.

ROOKIE MAX HALL BECAME A DAREDEVIL, AND HIS EVIL KNIEVAL ACT WAS A SMASH HIT.

OFF SOT: "THE ONE THING YOU CAN SAY ABOUT THAT IS, ARE YOU NOT ENTERTAINED?"

BY THE FOURTH QUARTER THE CARDINALS DEFENSE WAS NO LONGER CLOWNING AROUND, TURNING TWO TURNOVERS INTO 14 POINTS.

WHIPAROUND:

Atlanta @ Cleveland; Chicago @ Carolina; St Louis @ Detroit; San Diego @ Oakland; Green Bay @ Washington; Philadelphia @ San Francisco

ALMOST EVERYTHING HAS A NAME/ A CHUB IS THIS NASTY BIT OF ARM FAT ON A LINEMAN. UNFORTUNATELY, THERE IS NO NAME FOR WHAT AILS THE BROWNS.

NO SIGNS OF CHUB IN CAROLINA—WHERE THE PANTHERS DEFENSE WAS LOOKING PRETTY LEAN. CAROLINA'S LIST OF PROBLEMS IS LONGER THAT THE WHIP WILL ALLOW, SO WE'LL JUST LEAVE IT AT THEY HAD TROUBLE STOPPING MATT FORTE.

AMERICAN BAD ASS, COLD AND EMPTY, OHHH, ALL SUMER LONG. I'M A BIG FAN KID, BIG FAN.

THANKS MR. FORD.... (EXHALES) GROUPIES.

CAN'T BLAME AN OWNER FOR BEING EXCITED. WILLIAM CLAY FORD'S LIONS ROCKED THE RAMS....

OR MAYBE THE RAMS JUST ROLLED OVER.

WHATEVER ELSE LAST SUNDAY WAS, IT WAS A HIT IN DETROIT.

THERE'S ONLY ONE THING WORSE THAN GIVING UP A SAFETY ON A BLOCKED PUNT.

YEP, THAT'S THE ONE THAT'S WORSE.

THE RAIDERS WIN WAS A LITTLE WEIRD. /BUT IT'S GOT NOTHING ON THE PACKERS LOSS.

GREEN BAY WALLOPED WASHINGTON.// OUTGAINING, OUT-SACKING, BUT NOT OUTSCORING THE REDSKINS.

SAMURAI MIKE, THE WHIP IS NOT AFRAID. NEITHER WERE THE EAGLES.

IT WASN'T HARI-KARI, BUT THE NINERS DEFINITELY DID THEMSELVES HARM.

MORE LIKE A SAMURAI SWORD, EITHER WAY THE WHIPS SAYS SAYONARA...