

F.O.O.L. Update Season 5

Week 7 (Home Team in caps):

Peridot Pumas 20, WHITE KNIGHTS 47

The race in the Capitol division was tightening up and the Knights needed a win to stay in it, while the Pumas just wanted a win. White jumped out in front to a 16 point lead in the first quarter as B#10 Smythe ran and W #19 Ehud caught TD's, and OLB #96 Hazael caught substitute QB #9 Tamarin on a sack for a safety. But when Q#8 Jaguar came back in, he led the Pumas downfield on an impressive drive, completing 3 passes for first downs. H #46 Snowleopard capped the drive with a 25 yard TD run. Peridot stayed within 9 after an exchange of FG's at the end of the half, and got within 6 after a 3rd quarter FG. But then the Knights woke up. A 62 yard drive, helped along by a 15 yard face mask penalty, ended with another #19 Ehud TD catch. Peridot #35 Rhino fumbled on the first play from scrimmage, but White could do nothing with it and punted. Then #46 Snowleopard fumbled on the very next play on the 10, and TE#83 Bulliach caught a TD pass three plays later to make a close game not.

Key play: With 3:50 left in the third period, with White on the Peridot 19 with third and 9 leading by 6, Cain lofted a short pass to Ehud on a cross field pattern over a clowder of blitzing defenders. Ehud snatched the ball, sidestepped lunging defender CB #18 Passpigeon, faked out Dyatryma, and slipped another dozen yards to the end zone to widen the lead to more than a TD.

Game Ball: DE #87 Jehu, who had two sacks for 24 yards. More important, he picked up a Tamarin fumble after another sack in the end zone for a TD.

Key Stat: Peridot had 4 fumbles and lost 3, while White recovered both of their fumbles and prevented Peridot from scoring after Cain's single interception. Two of the recovered fumbles were converted into TD's. Offensive yards was even.

Also of importance:

Good average: Puma F #36 had a single carry for 86 yards and a TD.

No interception TD : For the second game in a row White's secondary returned no interceptions for TD's and in fact did not even have an int. after more than one TD return per game earlier. (#87 Jehu did have a defensive TD, though.)

Bad situation: Peridot #9 Tamarin entered the game twice in the first half after #8 Jaguar was sacked. The first time he was sacked for a safety, the second time he caused an illegal procedure penalty then threw incomplete. He came back in with the game hopeless in the 4th at his own 5 yard line and was sacked for a fumble and a TD. He later managed to throw incomplete without disaster.

No serious injuries! Good news for both trainers.

Next up: The White Knights face Chartreuse and Pumas hope to ambush Gold.

Black Bandits 29 MAROON DRAGOONS 34

In game 1 Black dominated the previous season's champion, Maroon, 60-38 in a game not as close as the score seems. Maroon needed the win to pull even at 5-2 in the division; a loss would put them in a difficult fight with White for second best in the division. Maroon's defense led the way when LB#30 Van Gogh knocked the ball loose from H #40 Sickert and wound up on the bottom of the pile, injured, but clutching the ball. Two plays later #27 Sidney stepped on S #41 Van Dyke's hand after a reception, sending him out for x-rays, only to be buried by DE #82 ElGreco and S #28 Pissarro and suffering cracked ribs a minute later. On the next play #23 Reed caught a 14 yard pass for Maroon's first TD. Black punted, and #43 Dyer caught a pass and went 70 yards. #35 Congreve ran for the TD. Then after Black's next punt E #87 Hyde caught a bomb for a 92 yard TD, and the rout was on. Black's offense managed one TD by TE #84 Watteau, but Maroon scored two more TD's by #23 Reed, the seconds an 81 yard catch and run, before the half. Trailing 34-7, Black rallied with a #34 Roland run, 47 yard #6 Hogarth pass, and a #24 Sisley run following a #87 Hyde fumble. Then Liske was called for intentional grounding in the end zone, pulling Black to within 5 with 10 minutes left. Maroon held when rookie DT#69 Quintilian sacked Crosker at Maroon's 47 on third down. Then, starting at his own 1, Maroon Q #11 Liske led the Dragons on a 98 yard drive that left Black with only a minute and 98 yards to go after #23 Reed fumbled. It was a pass too far, as #48 Welstead intercepted to preserve the win.

Key Play: With 4:50 left and Black on the Maroon 31, 3rd and 5, #10 Crosker dropped back to aim at #4 Sullivan. But Quintilian managed to shoot between Morisot and DeHooch and roll over Crosker to stop the Bandit's last best threat to score.

Game Ball: Maroon rookie QB #11, who had 414 yards for 414 yards, no interceptions, and 4 TD's including 70, 81, and 92 yard plays. He also had 10 yards on 3 carries on the ground, and gave up only 2 sacks.

Key Stat: Maroon's 430 yards passing (less 12 on sacks and an intentional grounding) bombed Black's chances with a big first half lead.

Also of Importance:

Better as a receiver: Maroon H #23 Reed had 9 catches for 209 yards, and 7 carries for 4 yards.

Big penalties: Maroon converted on 3 third downs thanks to Bandit penalties. Two helped sustain Maroon's time consuming drive late in the 4th quarter: a face mask on #82 El Greco, and pass interference on #42 S Matisse.

Ouch: Maroon's B #27 Sidney and LB #30 VanGogh are lost for the season. This means that VanGogh, only owner of 3 championship rings (all different teams!) will miss the playoffs. Maroon's #94 Cavous will be wearing a splint on one finger, Black #41 VanDyck has a broken hand, and Black's starting FB #30 Whackit has a pulled hamstring and will probably see little playing time the rest of the season.

Next: Black in a possible Championship preview at Violet, and Maroon visits Hematite