

## **F.O.O.L. Update Season 5**

### **Week 8 (Home Team in caps):**

#### **Maroon Dragons 33, HEMATITE HEROES 51 (corrected)**

In the upset of the season, the Expansion and winless Heros ambushed the reigning league champion Maroon Dragons by a convincing score, running up 51 points and 523 yards of offense against a defense that was the league's best. Maroon kept it on the ground and was able to move the ball most of the first half, but Hematite matched them, first with a 68 yard TD pass to #91 W Skunklet to tie it at 7, then a pass to #40 B Chardin after a blocked punt gave Hematite the ball on Maroon's 2. On Maroon's next drive, rookie QB #11 Liske, who had played well most of the season, was injured on a sack by DT #74 York. Recent free agent rookie #10 Q Roualt came in, and handed off the rest of the half well enough to keep Maroon nearly even as Hematite led 24-20 at the half. In the second half, however, Maroon's offense stalled, getting only a FG to stay within 4 in the third quarter. Hematite could not be stopped, and routed the defending champs in the fourth quarter with W #90 Dratsky catching numerous passes from Q#13 Weberan. A 97 and an 86 yard kick return by #25 Surrey gave Maroon 10 points and kept the game from being a total blowout. But meanwhile, Hematite scored 24 points, with some help from 3 Maroon turnovers.

**Play of the Game:** With 9:40 left in the game, Maroon's Surrey had just tied the game at 30-30 with a TD KO return. On third and 11 from his own 19, Weberan heaved the ball deep. W #90 Dratsky caught it between two defenders at Maroon's 30, slid between them, and kept running for an 81 yard TD. From there on, Hematite totally dominated to win.

**Game Ball:** Hematite Q #13 Weberan, with 28 of 38 accuracy, no interceptions, for 436 yards and 5TD's. W #90 Dratsky with 10 receptions for 269 yards and a TD deserves one too. This was Weberan's best game ever. Dratsky probably will win all pro spot at W with this added to earlier performances.

**Key stat:** Maroon got only 46 yards in receiving, 2 interceptions, and 5 sacks totaling 36 yards on 19 attempts to pass. Offensive futility exemplified.

#### **Also of note:**

**Firsts for Hematite:** Outyardaged opponent at home, had lead at home, lead at halftime and in the second half, won vs veteran team, and won in regular season.

**Lots of kicks:** The kickers got lots of practice: 15 points each, on 9 and 7 boots for PAT's and FG's by Theotis and Gawain, without one miss.

**One less rookie QB:** Maroon's Q #10 Roualt, who replaced the starter early in the game, was lost to IR before it was over.

**Next:** Exultant Heamtite vs Peridot Pumas for the expansion team championship, and a vulnerable Maroon travels to a vengeance seeking Gold Rush.

## **Chartreuse 49 at WHITE 27**

In another game against the troublesome Knights the Falcons finally came away with a victory, thanks to fine defensive play late in the game and a good day's work by superstar #82 Manders. White committed ten turnovers, but managed to stay close thanks to aggressive and spirited defensive play. In the first quarter, Chartreuse was given the ball in White territory 3 times but scored only 10 points, with another 7 coming on an interception return. White ended the half with a scoring flurry to lead 24-23 at halftime, with an exciting 85 yard #6 Cain scramble igniting the Knights. Chartreuse's offense woke up in the third quarter. One march netted a FG, the next a TD. An interception at White's 17 yielded only a FG to give a 12 point lead after Hamlin was lost for the season with a broken leg. Then it was the Knight's turn. But a march to the Chartreuse 11 gave only a FG. Q #12 Merkins threw an interception at the end of the third quarter, but White B #10 Smythe fumbled it back at the Chartreuse 26. After the punt, Q #6 Cain led the Knights to the Chartreuse 20, but lost the ball on a sack by DE #87 Rome and DT #52 Brown. Merkens lost it on a sack, and White again had possession, trailing by 9, at the Chartreuse 46. But now there was only 8 minutes left. On the next play, DE #88 Hammond sacked Q #6 Cain and again shook the ball loose. LB#96 Regan fell on it. This time Chartreuse's offense took advantage, and Manders scored on a 17 yard TD pass to put the game out of reach. Chartreuse padded the score with 2 more FG's thanks to additional White turnovers.

**Play of the Game:** In 4th quarter with 8:30 left, the sack by Hammond and fumble recovery by Regan gave Chartreuse the chance to put the game away.

**Game Ball:** Chartreuse #82 Manders, who had 9 catches for 192 yards and 2 TD's, including many key receptions, especially in the third quarter when Chartreuse finally built a lead that White could not overcome.

**Key stat:** 10 turnovers by White, 5 on interceptions, 5 on fumbles. Two of the fumbles lost were on sacks. Two other fumbles were not lost. In the fourth quarter, White gave away the ball on all 6 possessions.

### **Also of Note:**

**Say goodbye to the Master?** Chartreuse's star QB #6 Hamlin is lost for the season, and at 35 might be considering retirement. He led the Falcons to their Championship 2 seasons ago, and is recognized as the premier QB in the league.

**Why?** White's rookie reserve OLB Rehoboam was injured on a PAT.

**What? Rushing?** White countered recent trends with 214 yards rushing, although 85 of that was on Cain's scramble, and Agag accounting for most of the rest. Chartreuse, not known for running the ball a lot either, got 103.

**Incoming:** White faces Violet Storm at home; Chartreuse hosts the Black Bandits.