

## THE LOOKMAN REPORT 2024

### Week Ten – Bad Ball

*“That’s above my pay grade for if I think Mike is coaching next year. Mike can leave and go wherever he wants,” – Pokes LB Micah Parsons on his head coach Mike McCarthy after another loss in Big D last week. Dallas is in full “let’s get the head coach fired” mode right now.*

#### PROLOGUE

Week Nine was a contrast in styles. Well, actually, it was the same style as Detroit and Kansas City won games that they had no business winning. Jared (Subway) Goff threw five picks, only to have CJ Stroud toss in another three for good measure. Patrick Mahomes looked mortal, and only a blocked FG saved their unblemished record against a Denver team that is mediocre.

The amount of nearly unwatchable football is increasing at an alarming rate, and that includes the Thursday, Sunday and Monday night games. Granted, teams are beat up right now, and many are awaiting bye weeks, but there is little excuse. Gone are the days of dominant teams, and the seventeen-game season makes it more, not less, likely that this is a trend.

No Zebra of the Week in a truncated LMR for Week Ten.

Without further ado, the Week that Was:

#### LAGNIAPPE

##### Close But No Cigar?

This came from Clickarino, longtime analyst, but relative newcomer to the Tailpipe Nation:

*According to OptaSTATS, Joe Burrow’s 35-34 loss to Baltimore marked just the second time in NFL history that a player lost a game while recording 30 or more completions, 300 or more passing yards, four or more touchdown passes, including multiple 40+ yard touchdown passes, and no more than one interception.*

*The first player to accomplish this unwanted feat: Joe Burrow in the Bengals’ 41-38 Week Five overtime loss to the Dumpster Ducks.*

Burrow posted 428 passing yards and four TDs in the losing effort. He is now living in Tony Romo (the Place for Ribs) territory where if you score 48 points, the opponent puts up 51.

Clickarino followed with a meme from Good Will Hunting, but you get the drift. It is only a matter of time before Burrow demands to be traded ala Carson Palmer. Mr. Tonight Show finally got fed up and decided to seek his NFL fortune elsewhere.

Burrow’s salary cap implications mean that Tee (Magnum) Higgins will not appear in Orange and Black in 2025, and Ja’Marr Chase is already pricing diamond necklaces based upon his new contract. The Bengals’ playoff window is closing quickly, but they are going to the Super Bowl. They will simply have to buy tickets like everyone else.

##### Sack Party

QBs are getting killed out there and the stats prove that high sack numbers correlate with injury. At least two of the guys on this list are out, and the list could grow in Week Eleven.

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The Look Man watches a lot of X and O shows, including NFL Matchup, This Week in the NFL, and the new one with Peyton and Belichick.

They all point to the same cause: defenses are getting trickier in disguising coverages, and some good QBs get caught holding the rock. Bad QBs simply throw picks as you can see from this list:

most sacked qb in 2024

interpreted as: most passing sacked qb in 2024

	NAME	SCK	SEASON	TM	GP	CMP	ATT	PCT	YDS	AVG	YDS/G	TD	INT	R
1	 Caleb Williams	38	2024	 CHI	9	178	294	60.5	1,785	6.1	198.3	9	5	81
2	 C.J. Stroud	34	2024	 HOU	10	207	329	62.9	2,371	7.2	237.1	12	6	85
3	 Deshaun Watson	33	2024	 CLE	7	137	216	63.4	1,148	5.3	164.0	5	3	79
4	 Daniel Jones	29	2024	 NYG	10	216	341	63.3	2,070	6.1	207.0	8	7	79
5	 Geno Smith	28	2024	 SEA	9	233	342	68.1	2,560	7.5	284.4	11	10	88
6	 Sam Darnold	26	2024	 MIN	9	179	261	68.6	2,141	8.2	237.9	17	10	99
7	 Jalen Hurts	26	2024	 PHI	9	164	235	69.8	1,976	8.4	219.6	12	5	103
8	 Baker Mayfield	24	2024	 TB	10	243	344	70.6	2,505	7.3	250.5	24	9	103
9	 Aaron Rodgers	23	2024	 NYJ	10	219	351	62.4	2,258	6.4	225.8	15	7	86
10	 Gardner Minshew II	23	2024	 LV	8	148	221	67.0	1,501	6.8	187.6	6	8	80
11	 Joe Burrow	23	2024	 CIN	10	246	358	68.7	2,672	7.5	267.2	24	4	105
12	 Will Levis	22	2024	 TEN	6	101	148	68.2	874	5.9	145.7	7	7	79
13	 Dak Prescott	21	2024	 DAL	8	185	286	64.7	1,978	6.9	247.3	11	8	86
14	 Justin Herbert	21	2024	 LAC	9	159	241	66.0	1,889	7.8	209.9	11	1	103
15	 Kirk Cousins	20	2024	 ATL	10	227	333	68.2	2,634	7.9	263.4	17	8	98

*Deshaun Watson hasn't played since Week Seven, but remains in the top five*

### Return to the Planet of the Apes

The Look Man wrote about a South Cackalacki simian jailbreak in Week Nine. As of today, all but thirteen of the 43 escaped apes have been recaptured and returned to the Alpha Genesis research facility on Morgan Island, in South Carolina. Apparently, the monkeys have a weakness for peanut butter and jelly sandwiches that ensured their captivity.

Alpha Genesis CEO Greg Westergaard announced that all recovered primates appear to be in "good health. They did, however, develop a taste for 'macaroni pie' and drinking from the 'hosepipe' during their freedom." Forty-three rhesus macaque monkeys, described as "very young females weighing approximately 6 - 7 lbs.," escaped when a caretaker failed to secure the doors.

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Authorities recovered about two dozen of them as they hung out along the facility's fence line, where they were playing cards and generally monkeying around. Law enforcement baited them with PB&J sammies but had to release several five-year-old human children who fell for the banana in the tailpipe.

The company has been fined nearly thirteen large previously by the USDA for failing to contain the animals, and the FDA for not cutting the crust off of the sandwiches.

### THE LOOKAHEAD

The Look Man did okay last week, but only straight up (SU). The spreads were tight, and Vegas didn't build those casinos by making mistakes. Still, the Look Man is pretty happy with his picks in 2024, but the second half is going to be tough.

Here is the Lookahead:

#### KC Baby Backs at Crapchester Bisons (-1.5/45.5)

The undefeated, undisputed champion Baby Backs head to Orchard Park for an early playoff preview against Crapchester and everyone is worried. KC got an unlikely win with a blocked chip shot FG against Denver last week, and they just keep on rolling.

The Bisons expect the return of Amari (Coop) Cooper, but Deon Coleman is still banged up on the other side. Their best chance to win is Josh (Irwin) Allen revealing his secret true identity and taking over the game. This KC defense is very tricky, and Allen has been throwing picks of late after starting off perfect.

WR DeAndre (D-Hop) Hopkins and TE Travis Kelce prove too much for this rag tag Bisons defense. RB Kareem (Abdul) Hunt is running angry, and KC just finds a way to win the big games. Or all the games.

In big games like this, the Look Man checks coaches. Bisons HC Sean McDermott issued a warning to KC this week. KC HC Andy Reid stayed silent, and silence is golden. Baby Backs, baby.

#### Cleveland Browns at New Orleans Religious Icons (-1.5/43.5)

This is the battle of the quarterbacks as (Famous) Jameis Winston returns to the Big Easy for some big revenge. The Icons broke an ugly seven game losing streak last week against the ATL, but it took everything they had. And Icons QB Derek (You can drive my) Carr didn't even put any receivers in the hospital

Famous puts up solid numbers in this one, ruining the Browns' plans to tank the season and get the Number One overall draft pick. Shedeur Sanders wasn't coming to Cleveland anyway. Browns.

#### Baltimore Dumpster Ducks at Blitzburgh Stillers (+3/47.5)

Baltimore QB Lamar (Action) Jackson owns the Bengals, but somehow has a losing record to the Stillers. The Look Man believes HC Mike (Epps) Tomlin has a lot to do with that stat. Tomlin employs the MOFC defense (aka Middle of the Field Closed) as Jackson stinks at throwing the ball outside the numbers.

This game is a battle for AFC Asgard supremacy, and the Baby Backs at Bisons is a key battle. Whoever wins this game is well positioned to travel to KC in January for a shot at derailing the ThreePeat.

The Ducks defense is giving up fourth quarter points like free beer, and (Dange)Russ Wilson is back to throwing the Moon Ball. WR George (Slim) Pickens is balling out, and new addition Mike Williams can stretch the field.

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The Look Man likes the Stillers to cover and eke out a win here. Stillers.

#### Cincinnati Bengals at LA Lightning Bolts (-2.5/46.5) – Football Night in America

The Look Man is astounded at the success of the Bolts, who are winning with defense and minimal scoring. Jim (Khakis) Harbaugh has QB Justin Herbert balling out, using a staunch running game and a couple of receivers who aren't even household names in their own homes. The milk-drinking head coach is a sorcerer who knows the thoughts in opponents' dreams.

Burrow is getting more and more ticked off, but he gets Tee (Magnum) Higgins back this week. Higgins helps the Lads in the Nati pull off the upset. The Look Man is going to take the over here, because he has seen the Bengal defense. Nati wins a minor upset in the Game of the Week.

#### Houston Slim Shadies at Dallas Pokes – Monday Night Football (+7.5/41.5)

Cooper Rush is at the helm for the long haul as Dakota Prescott deals with a hamstring. LB Michah (Eleven from South of the Border) Parsons returned last week and dominated, and CeeDee Lamb(chop) is playing at another level.

The Houston defense is one of the top ranked against the pass, and the Pokes have little to no running game. The problem in H-Town is the O-line, which is porous and about to get CJ Stroud killed. Still, they return wideout Nico Collins this week, and Joe (Richard Milhouse) Mixon can tote the rock.

Dallas nearly always loses the game before Turkey Day. Slim Shadies.

### EPILOGUE

The Look Man is setting up for a much-needed vacation over the Turkey Day holiday. When mistakes at work keep popping up randomly, you know it is time. This year has been a whirlwind, and it is hard to believe the year is nearly over.

A few days of decompression are well warranted, and the timing is good. The Raiders are playing a game on Black Friday this year on Amazon Prime, and the college football season is heating up.

The Look Man is not big on NCAA football, largely because the drama is artificial. When you place seven SEC teams in the Top 10 at the beginning of the year, it's little wonder five make the mythical National Championship playoffs. Further, the officiating makes the NFL look outstanding by comparison.

The Look Man is looking forward to Saturday football in the NFL in December. And nothing beats the...National...Football...League.

Peace,

The Look Man