Fantasy Football Flyer

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COLD STOVE HEATS UP

The off-season's hot stove league was absolutely ice cold this summer until the final two weeks before the protection deadline. Suddenly the movers and shakers had their phones ringing off the hook. Some owners had their hands in several cookie jars, pitting owners against each other for the best bid.

Running backs were obviously in high demand, as well as Prospects. LA Riot owner Sam McClain, high point and overall money winner for 1992, was trying to beef up his draft stature by possibly dealing highly regarded running back prospects Red Bernstine and Nick Bell.

Interestingly enough, 1992 Fantasy Bowl Champion owner Mike Cerenzia of the State College Bandits was out of the fray, content with his protected roster on the commissioner's desk and readying himself for an extended business trip to Hawaii. (We should all be so lucky!)

Here's how the last-minute trades

 Pittsburgh Pachyderms ship their 7th round draft pick to the Butler Blowfish for Prospect RB Eric Dickerson and the Fish's 8th round pick.

 LA Riot ships Prospect QB Joe Montana and a 6th round pick to the Miami No-Names for Miami's 2nd round pick.

 And the BLOCKBUSTER trade: LA Riot ships Prospect RB Nick Bell and WR Gary Clark to the PA Wildcats for the Cat's 2nd round pick and Prospect K Lin Elliott.

Everyone seems happy with their respective trades. But an anonymous official in the commissioner's office was pretty steamed to see LA gain two 2nd-round picks and was particularly pissed to see Miami

1992 FINAL STANDINGS

COASTAL DIVISION	W	L	T	PF*	DIV	HOM	STRK
LOS ANGELES RIOT	11	3	0	843(1)	6-0	7-0	Won 3
NEW YORK NO-NAMES	7	7	0	679(4)	3-3	4-3	Won 1
NEW JERSEY KINGS	6	8	0	536(6)	3-3	3-4	Lost 1
PRINCETON NO-NAMES	5	9	0	590(7)	0-6	3-4	Lost 4
CENTRAL DIVISION							
BUTLER BLOWFISH	10	4	G	681(3)	5-1	6-1	Wor 1
STATE COLLEGE BANDITS	9	5	0	791(2)	2-4	5-2	Lost 1
PENNSYLVANIA WILDCATS	8	6	0	643(5)	2-4	4-3	Won 1
PITTSBURGH PACHYDERMS	7	7	0	428(11)	3-3	3-4	Lost 1
SOUTHERN DIVISION							
VIRGINIA NO-NAMES	8	6	0	468(9)	4-2	5-2	Won 2
RICHMOND NO-NAMES	6	8	0	581(8)	3-3	4-3	Won i
MIAMI NO-NAMES	5	9	0	378(12)	4-2	1-6	Lost 1
DALLAS ARMADILLOS	2	12	0	445(10)	1-5	1-6	Lost 2

"Home team bonus points are NOT included.

forfeit a 2nd round pick for a player (Montana) that the anonymous official said probably would have been available in the 3rd or 4th round.

HOLDOUTS AND HOT PROSPECTS

Will Emmitt Smith show up in camp? Will Barry Foster walk back out of camp? Will Lorenzo White get his ass into camp so your "Fant Flyer" editor can breathe a little easier?

These issues, as well as many others, will be watched closely as the 1993 Fantasy Draft approaches. Does Garrison Hearst have to sign a contract to still be the Number 1 pick, or will the Dallas Armadillos owner take an established veteran, like maybe Kevin Mack?

Whatever your draft strategy is, owners are encouraged to do their homework. A lot of teams appear to be holding a real competition as to who will be starting QBs and Ks. And in addition, each NFL team has two weeks off this year, not one.

This year's draft is Sunday, Aug. 29 and starts at 11 a.m. See the 1993 rules for specifics.

From the editor's desk...

Here it is — the NEW Fantesy Football Flyer. If everything goes according to my plan, you'll receive a flyer like this every week recapping the previous week's games, reporting news and notes, zeroing in on the significant (and insignificant) stats, and reporting on all the inside happenings from my network of anonymous sources and tipsters.

And if everything goes according to my plan, Week 17's banner headline will read "WILDCATS THUMP RIOT IN FANTASY BOWL IL."

I'll also take feedback from the owners, print letters to the editor, and maybe start an advice column. Some other things I'd like to see:

TEAM NAMES: Get creative and come up with team names! If not, maybe we'll assign some. How's this: Nick salutes his fiancee and keeps with his New York roots in one fell swoop: New York Wackerbockers.

LOGOS: Get some ideas (and a team name) and I'd be happy to work on team logos for those of you who don't have them. I'll feature logos in the newsletters as each team's success (or failure) warrants.

NEWS AND NOTES:

Leveraged Buyout of PA Wildcats Owner

Steve Knopf (a.k.a. Sled), former Pennsylvania co-owner of the Wildcats, sold his share of the team over the summer to Ron Yeany, and President General team Manager.

Yeany says the deal was signed, sealed and delivered in a matter of days. The deal was consummated while several FFL owners were attending a Pittsburgh Pirates game in June. Other owners present, including Bandits owner Mike Cerenzia, Riot owner Sam McClain and Blowfish co-owners Doug and Cathy Weaver, hinted that it took a pretty big lever to complete the leveraged buyout.

League officials say Knopf may be in line for an expansion franchise. Inside sources say Knopf should be careful when dealing with any more "expansion."

An anonymous source in the Wildcats organization says Knopf's former position with the team, Chairman of the Board, will not be filled in the near future because the position was a "figurehead" anyway.

Knopf couldn't be reached for comment.

Pachyderms Ink New Co-Owner

The Pittsburgh Pachyderms, last place finishers in 1992's powerhouse Central Division, have added a new team co-owner.

John Trzeciak, newly-annointed with an MBA degree from Penn State, will share control of the team with David Lieberman. Trzeciak is expected to bring his considerable business savvy to the Pachyderm front office.

While specific details of the agreement have not been released, speculation is running high that Lieberman will retain majority control of the team by offering Trzeciak a 49% share.

The Pachy's open the season against the Richmond No-Namers in

the first of two meetings scheduled this year in this "family feud."

David's brother and Richmond Chris Lieberman owner reportedly still shopping RB Emmitt Smith around for BIG \$. Smith's holdout withstanding, most team owners have indicated that the Richmond owner's trade overtures would easily supply Goodyear with all the blimp gas they would need for the upcoming FFL season.

Correction:

LA Riot owner Sam McClain's home phone number is incorrect in the Team Listings section of the latest 1993 FFL rules.

The correct home phone number is: (714) 557-6639.

1993 Schedule

With the NFL expanding to 18 weeks this year, the FFL has expanded to 15 weeks, with playoffs scheduled for Weeks 16 and 17.

The additional week has been added at the beginning of the FFL season, with a neutral-site game for everyone in Week i based on draft order (1 vs. 2, 3 vs. 4, etc.).

This has made for interesting pairings:

The Bro Bowd: The brothers Lieberman square off in weeks 1 and 8. Pittsburgh blew out Richmond last year 42-20.

Fantasy Bowl II Preview (?): The Riot and the Bandits hook up in Week 1 in what oddsmakers say could be a 1993 Fantasy Bowl Preview. This fast-developing rivalry will be renewed again in Week 11 when the Bandits travel to the City of Angels. State College derailed the Riot express twice last year, with a 50-42 win at home in Week 8 and a 53-241/2 drubbing in the first round of the playoffs.

Haven't I Seen You Before Bowl: The Butler Blowfish and Virginia No-Names will play BACK-TO-BACK in Weeks 1 and 2. Anticipation is at a fever pitch in Butler for their home opener in the ButlerDome. Not only do the Blowfish open at home against the LA Riot in week 3, but word on the street is that the Butler Cheerleaders - the Blowgirls, with

Head Blowgirl Cathy Weaver at the helm, - will unveil new, and even skimpier, uniforms than last year's version. Of course, Fantasy Football Flyer will cover (or uncover) it all!

Protected Rosters Submitted

The following is the list of players protected by team owners prior to the 1993 Fantasy Draft: *indicates player is a Prospect

COASTAL DIVISION:

Los Angeles Riot: QB Dan Marino, RB Barry Foster, RB Ricky Watters, WR Andre Reed, K Lin Elliott, *RB Rod Bernstine.

York No-Names: QB Randall Cunningham, RB Harold Green, WR Michael Irvin, WR John Taylor, WR Herman Moore, *K Jason Hanson.

New Jersey Kings: QB Steve Young, RB Tom Rathman, WR Jerry Rice, TE Keith Jackson, K Pete Stoyanavich, *WR Mark Ingram

Princeton No-Names: QB Stan Humphries. RB Thurman Thomas, WR Michael Haynes, WR Eric Martin, TE Brent Jones, *WR Willie Davis.

CENTRAL DIVISION:

Butler Blowfish: QB Mark Rypien, RB Herschel Walker, WR Irving Fryar, WR Sterling Sharpe, K Morten Anderson, *RB

State College Bandits: QB Warren Moon. RB Marion Butts, RB Reggie Cobb, WR Andre Rison, WR Anthony Miller, *TE Ron

Pennsylvania Wildcats: QB Troy Aikman, RB Rodney Hampton, RB Lorenzo White, WR Gary Clark, K Chip Lohmiller, *RB Nick

Pittsburgh Pachyderms: QB Brett Favre, QB Jim Everett, RB Neil Anderson, WR Mark Clayton, K Steve Christie, *RB Eric Dickerson.

SOUTHERN DIVISION:

Virginia No-Names: QB Chris Miller, RB Chris Warren, WR Haywood Jeffires, WR Rob Moore, TE Shannon Sharpe, *RB Harvey Williams

Richmond No-Names: QB John Elway, RB Emmitt Smith, WR Calvin Williams, WR Randal Hill, K Gary Anderson, *WR

Desmond Howard

Miami No-Names: QB Boomer Esiason, RB Barry Sanders, WR Ernest Givens, WR Tim McGee, K John Carney, *QB Joe Montana.

Dallas Armadillos: QB Jim Kelly, RB Kenneth Davis, RB Keith Byars, WR Chris *WR Webster Carter, K Al DelGreco, Slaughter.

DID YOU NOTICE? All the protected players on the roster of the New Jersey Kings are from either the 49ers or the Dolphins? And the Kings are the only team to cover all 5 positions on their protected list.

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Quotable...

Ying, that's a terrible trade. You're stupid. You made two stupid trades last year that blew up in your face. This one will, too! And you really helped the guy you're trying to catch."

— New York Wacks owner Nick Fisher, in a mini-tirade, upon hearing the Wildcats traded their 2nd round pick to the LA Riot for Nick Bell and Gary Clark. Yeany responds: "The Wildcats aren't even in the Riot's division, so we're not trying to catch them, we're trying to win our division. And, we finished better last year than the two teams I made those 'blew up in my face' trades with."



Do you think the number of FFL players protected from certain NFL teams might reflect how well those NFL teams will do in the coming year? According to these numbers, the 49ers will meet either the Dolphins or the Oilers in the Super Bowl.

Number of FFL players on protected rosters from these NFL teams:

San Francisco 49ers - 7
Miami Dolphins - 6
Houston Oilers - 6
Buffalo Bills - 5
Dallas Cowboys - 4
Atlanta Falcons - 4
San Diego Chargers - 4
Washington Redskins - 4
Denver Broncos - 3
Detroit Lions - 3
Green Bay Packers - 3
Kansas City Chiefs - 3
Philadelphia Eagles - 3
New Orleans Saints - 2

New York Jets - 2
Phoenix Cardinals - 2
Pittsburgh Steelers - 2
Tampa Bay Buccaneers - 2
Chicago Bears - 1
Cincinnati Bengals - 1
LA Raiders - 1
LA Rams - 1
Minnesota Vikings - 1
New York Giants - 1
Seattle Seahawks - 1
Cleveland Browns - 0
Indianapolis Colts - 0
New England Patriots - 0

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