

TFL TODAY

Wednesday, Oct. 22, 1997

<http://www.tffootball.com>

Volume VIII, No. 9

POWER POLL

Rk.	Team	pts
1.	Narcoossee	98.3
2.	Dugway	90.7
3.	Denver	83.7
4.	Willow	81.7
5.	Alaska	80.0
6.	Flint	78.3
7.	Anchorage Marley	71.3
9.	Dutch Harbor	71.0
10.	Limerick	69.3
11.	East Hartford	68.0
12.	Baltimore	66.7
13.	Bagdad	65.3
14.	Sarasota	35.3

THE BANK

Here is how much money each team has in the bank to cover transaction costs:

Team	Fees	Bal.
Alaska	\$5	\$45
Anchorage	\$15	\$35
Bagdad	\$15	\$35
Baltimore	\$25	\$25
Denver	\$40	\$10
Dugway	\$15	\$35
Dutch Harbor	\$15	\$35
East Hartford	\$20	\$30
Flint	\$30	\$20
Limerick	\$35	\$15
Marley	\$20	\$30
Narcoossee	\$15	\$35
Sarasota	\$15	\$35
Willow	\$0	\$50

POINTS RACE

Leaders in the TFL points race (5 percent of pot):

Team	Pts	PB
1. Narcoossee	406	—
2. Dugway	378	28
3. Alaska	350	56
4. Denver	329	77

Oh my! Sharks are really bad

Sarasota on pace to set all-time worst records

By **SCOOP BIAS**
TFL Today

SARASOTA — The streets here are empty. Every once in a while you'll see someone wearing a Cincinnati Reds shirt, since that team begins playing its spring training here next March, but no one is caught wearing shirt of the 1-7 Sharks.

Not even Sharks owner Charles Coggins.

"We're just donating money," Coggins said. "That's what it feels like. I've never been in a hole like this before."

No one has, Mr. Coggins. The 1997 Sharks are on a pace to be the worst team in TFL history. Consider:

■ The Sharks have scored 143 points this year, an average of 17.9 per game. At that rate, they will finish with 251 this year. The all-time low of 331 was set by the Arctic Gators in 1990, when points were as hard to come by as it is to find an ounce of modesty in Bagdad's Scott Lacy.

■ The Sharks could set the worst-ever regular season mark if they can't win



Charles Coggins

Toothless Sharks

Sarasota could score the fewest points ever in a season. The Sharks will have to average 31.4 points per game the rest of the year to avoid the dubious mark. Here's the fewest points scored in a season:

Team	Year	Pts
Arctic	1990	331
Ketchikan	1990	379
Phoenix	1990	381
Anchorage	1996	400
Limerick	1995	413

two of their final six games. Four teams (New York, Maryland, Alaska and Anchorage) have finished with a 3-11 regular season.

"The first three weeks, I was real out of it," said Coggins, looking for any lame excuse he can find.

Continued on page 3

Ask the TFL Doctor

Mike Taylor of Denver asks:

Wow. Flint really put one on the Newts. Man, Bagdad blows. How close did Flint come to the all-time greatest flogging?

I'm glad you asked, Mr. Taylor. The TFL research department went to work to answer your question. Records are incomplete, but this lists shows Flint's 53-13 victory over Bagdad isn't even among the top 10:

1. Netherworld 78 pts Netherworld 85, Narcoossee 7 Week 11	1990
2. Dugway 66 pts Dugway 88, Alaska 22 Playoffs	1996
3. Alaska 65 pts Alaska 83, Panama City 18 Week 6	1990
4. Dugway 64 pts Dugway 91, Sarasota 27 Week 11	1995
5. Commerce City 62 pts Comm. City 79, Dugway 17 Week 2	1993
6. Flint 59 pts Flint 66, W. Hartford 7 Week 13	1994
7. Baltimore 58 pts Baltimore 90, Bagdad 32 Week 6	1996
8. Lincoln 57 pts Lincoln 67, Maryland 10 Week 2	1992
9. Balboa 55 pts Balboa 55, Arctic 0 Week 7	1990
10. Dugway 54 pts Dugway 61, Willow 7 Week 1	1996

TFL Capsules

By Scoop Bias, Dugway Herald

Only six weeks in the TFL regular season remain, and for most of the league, it will decide who makes the playoffs and who doesn't.

After eight weeks, two teams (Dugway and Baltimore) have winning records, two (Sarasota and Bagdad) have losing records, and the other 10 teams are 4-4. That should set up one of the best finishes in TFL history with those 12 teams battling for six playoff spots over the final six weeks. Buckle your seat belts, it could get rough.



**Marley
at
Denver**



Records: Wailers 4-4, Pyles 4-4.

Series: Marley leads 3-1.

Line: Pyles by 3.

Outlook: Shh. They Pyles are on a roll, having scored 229 points in their last five games. Two of their losses came when they scored 54 and 49 points. Look out TFL. The Pyles are for real.

Pick: Denver 60, Marley 33.



**Dugway
at
Dutch Harbor**



Records: Experiments 7-1, Dawgs 4-4.

Series: Dugway leads 4-3.

Line: Experiments by 6.

Outlook: One team has scored 95 points in a game. The other has scored 91. Could the 100-point barrier fall this week? Nah!

Pick: Dutch Harbor 24, Dugway 23.



**Sarasota
at
Limerick**



Records: Sharks 1-7; Loons 4-4.

Series: Limerick leads 4-2.

Line: Loons by 16.

Outlook: It appears TFL owners tell their offenses to take the week off against Sarasota, and still manage to win. Limerick won't have to score much for the W.

Pick: Limerick 24, Sarasota 11.



**Baltimore
at
Anchorage**



GAME OF THE WEEK

Records: Barons 5-3; Kitchen 4-4.

Series: Anchorage leads 2-1.

Line: Kitchen by 1.

Outlook: Baltimore owner Steve Katz has been reading too many posts by Bagdad's Scott Lacy and Limerick's Michael Bourque. Their smugness is rubbing off on him. He had the nerve to go into TrashTalk and brag how he's got the second-best record in the league. Flint's Don Carlock reminded him there are 10 teams within one game of his Barons with six to play. Pay back time.

Pick: Anchorage 53, Baltimore 20.



**Bagdad
at
Willow**



Records: Newts 3-5; Weasels 4-4.

Series: Tied at 2-2.

Line: Weasels by 6.

Outlook: Imagine being Scott Lacy right now. All those years of bragging, and when he looks at the latest power poll, he sees his top rivals (Tuttell, Sain and Taylor) in the top three spots, and his team sucks.

Pick: Willow 52, Bagdad 14.



**East Hartford
at
Alaska**



Records: Ex-Eskimos 4-4; Oosiks 4-4.

Series: Series tied 3-3.

Line: Oosiks by 9.

Outlook: East Hartford scores 18 points and wins. Thank heaven for Sarasota being in the league. Now the Exmos are in a first-place tie in the Kotter.

Pick: Alaska 50, East Hartford 29.



**Flint
at
Narcoossee**



Records: Bison 4-4; Nose Apes 4-4.

Series: Tied at 2-2.

Line: Nose Apes by 12.

Outlook: Doesn't it look strange to see Narcoossee on top of the power poll? The Grape Apes haven't made the playoffs since 1991, but appear to be best in 1997.

Pick: Narcoossee 60, Flint 48.

Hey waiter, weren't you in the TFL?

Here are some random notes from an overstuffed reporter's notebook while Butterbrain, Tinglenut, Hota, Nickalous, Cephus and all the other TFLscribes are taking the decade off:

■ **HEY WAITER:** Sharks owner Charles Coggins was out at an exclusive restaurant to celebrate.

No, it wasn't for his only victory of the year. He was enjoying another birthday.

The waiter comes up and is a friendly enough fellow. They start talking, and during the course of the conversation, Coggins mentions he has some friends who were/are reporters.

"Oh, really," the waiter says. "Which newspaper?"

"Well, most of them worked at The Anchorage Times, but it's no longer publishing," Coggins says.

"Oh, that's amazing," the reporter says. "I use to work at The Anchorage Times. Which years did you friends work there?"

"The early 90s."

"Same with me. What

TFL Insider

Scoop Bias

were there names?"

Coggins gets a little suspicious, thinking this is just a very smooth guy who's looking for a big tip.

"Scott Lacy, Ken Sain, Wit Tuttell, Chris Reidy, Michael Bourque."

"Yep," says the waiter. "I knew all of them, except that Bourque guy."

Coggins eyes him with doubt. "Who else did you know?"

The waiter reels off a dozen names, but they mean nothing to Coggins, who never worked for the Times.

"What's your name?" Coggins asks.

"David Futch," the waiter replies.

Not only was Futch a reporter at The Anchorage Times, but he also was a TFL owner during the 1991

season. His Florida Swamps finished 5-9 that year.

■ **GATOR BAIT:** Futch isn't the only former TFL owner to let us know he's still alive.

TrashTalk, the TFL's Internet chat room, had a recent visit by another former owner. Here's what he wrote:

"Hey TFLers, a voice from the past here. This is my inaugural check-in to Trash Talk and I gotta tell ya this is a beautiful thing. I'm just a little disappointed that the Arctic Gators aren't in the lineup. I am prepared to move my team back to the TFL if you can guarantee television revenue sharing and of course I would be collecting 100 percent of all the Arctic Gator Skybox revenue. Now that it looks like the Patriots will not be moving to Providence I expect demand for my luxury suites to remain strong.

"Anyway I certainly hope that you are planning on either an opening next year or expansion.

Mark Dolan at 8:41:02 PM, 10/21/97

The TFL plans to expand in 1999 when the NFL is scheduled to add two teams.

■ **RECORDS:** Rumor has it Ken Sain was so upset the Dutch Harbor Dawgs broke his two-year-old record for most points scored in a game, he deliberately left out mention of it in last week's TFL Today.

"That's not true," Sain said. "I wanted Casey to write a story talking about his record performance, but he's on the same writer's strike at Hota, Tinglenut, Cephus and the rest."

The Dawgs scored 95 points against Flint in Week 7, beating Sain's best of 91 set in 1995 against, who else, Sarasota.

■ **BAGDAD BLOWS:** As predicted here, Bagdad is on its way to its worse season in three years. The Newts are 13th in the power poll, the same number of points the Newts scored this week.

Sharks

Continued from page 1

"I was working 75 hours a week and I didn't know what was going on."

It shows, Mr. Coggins, it shows.

The Sharks began the year by selecting QB Jeff Blake with the No. 4 overall

pick, a move that surprised most draft experts.

The rest of his starting lineup, RBs Thurman Thomas and Jamal Anderson, WRs Isaac Bruce and Wayne Chrebet and K Doug Pelfrey have been rather bad this year.

Only Chrebet is performing at the level most experts figured he would in the pre-season, and the level was

not high.

"This is not a very good team right now," said Dugway owner Ken Sain, widely regarded as the Greatest Fantasy Football Mind in the Galaxy.

The numbers back up Sain's opinion. The Sharks best game this year was a 27-point performance. And Sarasota has had unbelievably good luck. They have

the lowest points against total in the league. Opponents are averaging only 29.6 points against them.

"Well, they may not be very good right now, but I bet this team turns it around an wins five games," Sain said. "After all, they get to play me in Week 14. And we all know I'm not going to win again."

WEEK 8 STANDINGS

Barbarino Division	Record			Points for				Points against			
	W	L	T	Tot.	Hi	Lw	Avg.	Tot.	Hi	Lw	Avg.
Dugway Experiments	7	1	0	378	76	30	47.3	241	44	14	30.1
Alaska Oosiks	4	4	0	350	81	29	43.8	344	76	17	43.0
Denver Pyles	4	4	0	329	56	22	42.7	306	56	11	38.3
Bagdad Red-Bellied Newts	3	5	0	279	70	13	41.1	313	54	18	39.1
Sarasota Sharks	1	7	0	143	27	10	17.9	237	54	10	29.6

Kotter Division	Record			Points for				Points against			
	W	L	T	Tot.	Hi	Lw	Avg.	Tot.	Hi	Lw	Avg.
Flint Bison	4	4	0	313	56	22	39.1	336	95	13	42.0
Anchorage Kitchen	4	4	0	295	51	30	36.9	316	81	10	39.5
East Hartford Ex-Eskimos	4	4	0	278	56	18	34.8	279	54	11	34.9
Limerick Laughing Loons	4	4	0	274	54	12	34.3	270	64	16	33.8

Horshack Division	Record			Points for				Points against			
	W	L	T	Tot.	Hi	Lw	Avg.	Tot.	Hi	Lw	Avg.
Baltimore Barons	5	3	0	286	75	11	35.8	283	56	27	35.4
Narcoossee Nose Apes	4	4	0	406	75	36	50.8	363	70	24	45.4
Dutch Harbor Dawgs	4	4	0	327	95	19	40.9	355	75	14	44.4
Willow Weasels	4	4	0	327	72	10	40.9	331	75	22	41.4
Marley Wailers	4	4	0	302	64	24	37.8	303	51	28	37.9

WEEK 8 RESULTS

Denver 35	Baltimore 11	Alaska 19	Limerick 29
Marino 0	Case 0	Bledsoe 14	J. George 12
T. Davis 17	Murrell 6	Hearst 3	Watters 8
Stewart 0	Morris 0	Dillon 0	Biakabutuka 0
Sharpe 5	Hastings 0	T. Martin 0	Glenn 0
Jett 6	Bruener 0	Brisby 0	A. Reed 0
Stover 7	Vinatieri 5	Hollis 2	Blanchard 6
Denver 0	Baltimore 0	Miami 0	Indianapolis 3
Marley 34	Anchorage 28	Sarasota 11	East Hartford 18
Testaverde 10	Peete 2	Blake 0	O'Donnell 0
Bettis 10	C. Martin 2	T. Thomas 0	G. Brown 1
Wheatley 0	Hill 0	Anderson 6	Anders 0
Jackson 2	Rison 17	Bruce 1	J. Smith 6
McCaffrey 7	F. Sanders 0	Chrebet 0	McDuffie 2
Elam 5	Boniol 7	Pelfrey 4	Anderson 3
San Francisco 0	St. Louis 0	Washington 0	Carolina 6
Dugway 42	Willow 44	Dutch Harbor 24	Narcoossee 61
Elway 9	Brunell 20	McNair 7	Young 13
E. George 16	E. Smith 8	B. Sanders 9	Kaufman 17
S. Davis 0	A. Smith 0	Bates 0	Kirby 16
R. Smith 1	D. Alexander 8	Irvin 1	H. Moore 2
Emanuel 7	Stokes 1	Fryar 2	Dudley 6
Cunningham 7	Nedney 4	Peterson 5	Kasay 7
New England 2	Kansas City 3	N.Y. Jets 0	Pittsburgh 0
Bagdad 13	Flint 53	Week 9 schedule	
Humphries 0	K. Stewart 12	Marley at Denver	
K. Carter 7	Abdul-Jabbar 21	Baltimore at Anchorage	
L. Smith 0	M. Allen 6	Bagdad at Willow	
Pickens 2	K. Johnson 0	Dugway at Dutch Harbor	
T. Brown 0	Coates 6	East Hartford at Alaska	
Del Greco 4	Stoyanovich 8	Sarasota at Limerick	
Tennessee 0	Detroit 0	Flint at Narcoossee	

TRANSACTIONS

Oct. 20, 1997
 Sarasota waives RB Errict Rhett, adds RB Herschel Walker. Dutch Harbor fined \$5 because Joey Galloway played while on the I.R. Galloway must be activated by midnight tonight or he becomes a free agent. East Hartford places QB Neil O'Donnell on reserve (backup QB Scott Mitchell also on the bye), adds QB Danny Kanell. Alaska waives WR Vincent Brisby, adds WR Terance Mathis.

Oct. 16, 1997
 Limerick waives RB Anthony Johnson, adds RB Tim Biakabutuka. Alaska waives RB Steve Broussard, activates RB Chris Warren. Baltimore places QB Brett Favre on reserve (backup QB Trent Dilfer also on bye), signs QB Stoney Case to a one-week contract. Baltimore waives WR Johnnie Morton, adds WR Andre Hastings.

Oct. 15, 1997
 Willow places K John Carney on I.R., adds K Joe Nedney. Flint waives QB Kerry Collins, adds QB Steve Beurelein. Anchorage waives QB Ty Detmer, adds QB Rodney Peete. Dugway places RB Natrone Means on I.R., adds RB Stephen Davis.

Oct. 14, 1997
 Anchorage fined \$5 because RB Larry Centers played while on the I.R. list; waives RB Williams Henderson; activates RB Larry Centers.

Oct. 12, 1997
 Bagdad waives QB Tony Banks, adds QB Erik Kramer. Baltimore waives WR Shawn Jefferson, adds WR Mark Bruenner.

Oct. 10, 1997
 Marley places WR Michael Jackson on reserve (backup WR Ed McCaffrey also on the bye), adds WR Michael Westbrook.

Oct. 9, 1997
 East Hartford places RB Kimble Anders on reserve (back-up RB Gary Brown also on the

CURRENT ROSTERS

Alaska

QB Drew Bledsoe
 QB Warren Moon
 RB Chris Warren
 RB Garrison Hearst
 RB Corey Dillon
 WR Tony Martin
 WR Jake Reed
 WR Terance Mathis
 K Jason Hanson
 K Mike Hollis
 D Tampa Bay
 D Miami

Injured reserve

QB John Friesz

Anchorage

QB Brad Johnson
 QB Rodney Peete
 RB Curtis Martin
 RB Larry Centers
 RB Greg Hill
 WR Robert Brooks
 WR Frank Sanders
 WR Andre Rison
 K Chris Boniol
 K Jeff Wilkins
 D Minnesota
 D St. Louis

Bagdad

QB Stan Humphries
 QB Erik Kramer
 RB Ki-Jana Carter
 RB Craig Heyward
 RB Lamar Smith
 WR Carl Pickens
 WR Tim Brown
 WR Anthony Miller
 K Al Del Greco
 K Steve Christie
 D Tennessee
 D N.Y. Giants

Baltimore

QB Brett Favre
 QB Trent Dilfer
 RB Adrian Murrell
 RB Mike Alstott
 RB Bam Morris
 WR Antonio Freeman
 WR Andre Hastings
 WR Mark Bruenner
 K Adam Vinatieri
 K Cole Ford
 D Baltimore
 D Chicago

Denver

QB Dan Marino
 QB Heath Shuler
 RB Terrell Davis
 RB James Stewart
 RB Lawrence Phillips
 WR Shannon Sharpe
 WR James Jett
 WR Rob Moore
 K Matt Stover
 K Eddie Murray
 D Denver
 D New Orleans

Dugway

QB John Elway
 QB Chris Chandler
 RB Eddie George
 RB Stephen Davis
 RB Raymont Harris
 WR Rod Smith
 WR Lamar Thomas
 WR Bert Emanuel
 K Richie Cunningham
 K Greg Davis
 D Cincinnati
 D New England

Injured reserve

RB Natrone Means

Dutch Harbor

QB Steve McNair
 QB Dave Brown
 RB Barry Sanders
 RB Dorsey Levins
 RB Mario Bates
 WR Michael Irvin
 WR Irving Fryar
 WR Terrell Owens
 K Ryan Longwell
 K Todd Peterson
 D Green Bay
 D N.Y. Jets

Injured reserve

WR Joey Galloway



Marley

QB Vinny Testaverde
 QB Gus Frerotte
 RB Jerome Bettis
 RB Tyrone Wheatley
 RB Ernest Byner
 WR Michael Jackson
 WR Ed McCaffrey
 WR Curtis Conway
 K Jason Elam
 K Olindo Mare
 D San Francisco
 D Philadelphia

Injured reserve

RB Tiki Barber

East Hartford

QB Scott Mitchell
 QB Neil O'Donnell
 RB Terry Allen
 RB Gary Brown
 RB Kimble Anders
 WR Jimmy Smith
 WR O.J. McDuffie
 WR Reidel Anthony
 K Gary Anderson
 K John Hall
 D Carolina
 D Seattle

Injured reserve

RB Rashaan Salaam
 WR Muhsin Muhammad

Flint

QB Kordell Stewart
 QB Steve Beuerlein
 RB Karim Abdul-Jabbar
 RB Marshall Faulk
 RB Marcus Allen
 WR Jermain Lewis
 WR Keyshawn Johnson
 WR Ben Coates
 K Morten Andersen
 K Pete Stoyanovich
 D Dallas
 D Detroit

Injured reserve

WR Jerry Rice

Limerick

QB Jeff George
 QB Todd Collins
 RB Ricky Watters
 RB Tim Biakabutuka
 RB Leland McElroy
 WR Terry Glenn
 WR Keenan McCardell
 WR Andre Reed
 K Cary Blanchard
 K Michael Husted
 D Buffalo
 D Indianapolis

Narcoossee

QB Steve Young
 QB Elvis Grbac
 RB Napoleon Kaufman
 RB Robert Smith
 RB Terry Kirby
 WR Herman Moore
 WR Wesley Walls
 WR Ricky Dudley
 K John Kasay
 K Scott Blanton
 D Pittsburgh
 D Jacksonville

Sarasota

QB Jeff Blake
 QB Jim Harbaugh
 RB Jamal Anderson
 RB Herschel Walker
 RB Thurman Thomas
 WR Isaac Bruce
 WR Chris Sanders
 WR Wayne Chrebet
 K Doug Pelfrey
 K Kevin Butler
 D Oakland
 D Washington

Injured reserve

K Brett Conway

Willow

QB Mark Brunell
 QB Troy Aikman
 RB Emmitt Smith
 RB Warrick Dunn
 RB Antowain Smith
 WR Cris Carter
 WR Derrick Alexander<
 WR J.J. Stokes
 K Joe Nedney
 K Jeff Jaeger
 D Kansas City
 D Arizona

Injured reserve

K John Carney