**Co-ed Week 9 Recap**

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**CO-ED DIVISION**

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Sorry for the delay ladies and gentlemen but it has been an educational barrage for me this past week. That no longer matters because it is time to talk FlagPlus Football Co-Ed division. This week there were some great match ups and I will now bring to you the full recap of the action we were blessed with.

**Michael Scott’s Tots vs. Flamingos**

Evan Ely Nolet was outstanding in this week’s performance, as he completed 55% of his passes fewer than 200 yards and 6 touchdowns. Sure his completion percentage could have been better, but it was the incredible 19.4 yards per completion that was simply amazing. His touchdown to interception ratio was 6:0, which is phenomenal. Any quarterback who has more touchdown passes than interceptions should consider themselves a winner. In this case Evan was able to protect the ball and make sure that only his team was the one finding the end zone when they were on offense. He spread the ball around very well and was able to ensure each receiver had a part in the game.

It seemed like his receivers had a nose for the end zone this week. The reason behind that statement is that both Kenny Boutilier and Zackary Alberts-Gill had the same amount of catches as they had in touchdowns. Kenny had 2 catches for 74 yards, with both catches being touchdowns. He was indeed a deep threat on the night, as his touchdown grabs were way downfield, delivered perfectly by Evan the Hawk. Zackary defies judgement; when people see him they do not expect him to be a speedster but let me tell you, his 40 yard dash would probably crush my time into smithereens.  He had 4 catches for 64 yards and 4 touchdowns, which is incredible. In my case if I were to run for 20 yards I would be winded for at least 5 plays. Those two were very dangerous threats for the opposing defenders to handle.

In his first start at Quarterback Darryl Murray was not that bad. It was his first start and he was playing against a very hungry defense that was able to pounce and make his game a difficult one. He completed less than half his passes for 72 yards and 3 touchdowns. Unfortunately for him the defense was able to rush him fast, with Leah Finkelstein and Zackary hounding him for sacks. Being rushed well is difficult and it may lead to some mistakes; in this case it was 4 interceptions. Tevyn Nicholls tried his hand at quarterback but the opposing defense did not want him to have the time of day. He was unable to complete a pass and he was the victim of a thrown interception as well. The opposing defense was a menace and came together to earn 5 turnovers. Kenny is trying to make a run at defensive player of the year and he was one of the players that came down with an interception, while preventing 2 other big plays from happening by getting a hand in to bat the ball down. Phuc Pham and Chloe Brazeau-Gelinas were able to turn their interceptions into touchdowns and pick sixes are indeed some of the toughest plays to accomplish. Lastly, Veronica Kost was a defensive juggernaut out there, she knew where to be at all times and ended her defensive night with 2 interceptions, a pass defense and she too brought one of her interceptions all the way back for the score.

There was one receiver in particular that stuck out for the flamingos and that man was Pat Gilbert. Pat had a monstrous game on the receiving end of the ball and he was the go to guy for his quarterback throughout the duration of the game. He always seemed to find an opening as he was on the receiving end of 87.5% of his team completions. That is just unheard of and to top it off he had 75 yards receiving and 3 touchdowns. He single handily outscored the opposing team in the first half of the game. How often do you hear that one player outscored an entire team in the first half of a game? You simply do not.

This performance for the flamingos was one of their best on the season and when you factor it in as the first career appearance for a new quarterback that only means that this is a learning experience to build from. Ultimately however, the second half was a completely different story and it resulted in a 52-19 victory for Michael Scott’s Tots.

**Party Mix vs. Served With Girls**

Bandana Man François Deslauriers was all about ensuring his teammates get their fair share of the ball on offense. He finished the game completing 67% of his passes for 164 yards and 4 touchdowns. Unfortunately for him he was up against a group of defenders among the highest ranks in FlagPlus Football, resulting in 2 interceptions thrown. Vincent Duval- Demers and Charlie Loignon were the defensive players to get their hands on the ball. Considering the outcome of the game, it kind of makes you wonder had those interceptions not been thrown would the game had finished differently? I guarantee that it would have been different and I know that Frank would have found the end zone in those unfortunate drives.

Marc-Antoine Bigué was on the receiving end of 4 catches for under 40 yards and 1 touchdown. He was the guy that was the target in the red zone, which is by far the most important part of the field. Benjamin Parisien had 5 catches for over 30 yards and 1 touchdown. He was the guy that was always open on quick routes just getting enough separation from the defender covering him. Lastly, Marie-Esther Chabot had 3 catches for over 10 yards and 1 touchdown. She had the important job of being the one that gets just the right amount of yardage to ensure the drive does not die. She caught 2 passes that enabled a first down and her third catch was a touchdown in the toughest area to score, the red zone. She always finds just the perfect amount of opening to allow Frank to find her for the score.

Karl Lavallée had a good game at quarterback as he spread the ball well amongst his receivers and most importantly he protected the ball. He completed 65% of his passes for 133 yards and 4 touchdowns. He was kind to his receivers and was able to connect with each of them at least twice during the game. I really enjoy seeing a quarterback play safe and protective football. Sure it’s not as exciting as high paced, big plays, back and forth games but I prefer smart quarterback play rather than reckless. That’s just my opinion and I like to think you enjoy reading my opinion but if you do not that is fine. In the end Karl did not make mistakes and he was able to direct his team to the endzone when needed.

Sandra Clement only had 2 catches, but they were for more than 50 yards and most importantly she had a touchdown. She was a work horse and had this sixth sense of always finding the ball and reading the play as she was the tackle leader of the game as well. Charlie had more than 2 catches for less than 50 yards, but in the end he also found the end zone twice in a very tightly matched game. Lastly, Frédérique Daigle had 3 catches for just over 20 yards and also 1 touchdown. While on defense she had 2 tackles, but that is only because she was covering her receiver so well that the opposing quarterback did not feel safe throwing in her direction.

From start to finish this game was evenly matched, play for play, point for point. These two teams are about as evenly matched as you can get. This led to the 24-24 tie and there was absolutely nothing that could have separated the level of skill in this game.

**Power Rangers vs. It’s A Match**

Stephen Casey stepped in for his second start this season and he was outstanding. He completed 75% of his passes for 217 yards and 5 touchdowns. That stat line is one of the best stat lines I have seen from a team with very bright colored jerseys and some crazy good talent. He made it look easy out there connecting with 6 different receivers. The incompletions came when he could not find an opening down field so he threw it in the path of any receiver within range. He was also able to showcase his speed as he had 4 rushes for 45 yards and 1 touchdown. Rushing touchdowns are tough to obtain, but with the speed and agility of Stephen he was able to do it.

He found 4 different receivers for touchdowns. The most impressive receiver on a team stocked with talent was Marilou Beland. Marilou was phenomenal as she caught 9 passes for 99 yards and 2 touchdowns. There was simply no stopping her and she had without a doubt her best game on the season. Serge Pilon is just an incredible athlete, but even he was upstaged by Marilou, but it did not stop him from getting in on the fun. He had 3 catches for 39 yards and 2 touchdowns, taking simple plays and turning them into gold. Valerie Verdi made sure she became known as she came through with 3 catches for 21 yards and 1 touchdown. On the score she somehow found her way open with a crowd of defenders in her vicinity, shining just the right amount of light for Stephen to find her. Lastly, Wade Shallcross did not take too much time to make an impact on offense, as he had 1 catch for 11 yards and 1 touchdown. Basically, Wade was on board, scored, and his job was done on offense.

Benoit Lawlor had a good game facing off against a very strong defense and he was able to throw 5 touchdowns to 2 different receivers. He spread the ball well amongst his teammates. He made sure that he kept his team in the game throughout. He prevented mistakes, except for one unfortunate pass that was not his fault. His pass took an unlucky bounce and it fell into the sure hands of Wade, who was not a member of his team. Besides that incident he was on the ball with his throws and he made some very good reads against a stiff defense.

The main guy for Benoit was indeed Alexis Labonté. Alexis was his usual tough to defend self. He finished the game with 8 catches for 109 yards and 4 touchdowns. He just has this way about him where he finds openings in the defense, and if his opponents key in on him he still finds a way to get around defenders and make the most of his opportunities. Kelly Lalonde is one of those players that just goes unseen. She keeps finding ways to get open in the tightest of spots on the field. In this game she had 1 catch for 1 yard but it was a touchdown. You would think when the end zone is packed with a bunch of players from both sides there would be no opening. But Kelly just manoeuvers her way around and finds just the right amount of space to make the play.

I knew that this game would be an offensive showcase and it was. Had it not been for those interceptions thrown by Ben it would have been a different outcome. Power Rangers came away with a 45-33 victory in this fun match up.

**Flagiuuu vs. ATH Squad**

Nicolas Saro stepped in at Quarterback for Flagiuuu, and although I know he can throw the ball well, he is much more comfortable playing at receiver. He completed less than half his throws, obtaining almost 150 yards through the air. He had thrown 3 touchdowns but unfortunately it was the 2 interceptions that changed the outcome of the game. Had he not thrown those interceptions to Alex Fortier then he would have been able to maybe add points to the board in his team’s favor. Maybe he had to shake off the rust, considering he has been a receiver this season and he does not need to throw the ball often. If he gets another opportunity to throw he will definitely get the job done.

When he was in doubt his go to receiver was Maxime Marsan, who gets the job done whenever he gets the chance. There was chemistry there as these two have played the whole season on two teams together, so they see each other enough to know their strengths and weaknesses. Maxime caught 6 passes for 75 yards and he capitalized on his opportunities with 2 touchdowns. Now Maxime is a quick receiver who knows how to shake the defender away from him. That was evident in this game as he was able to catch quick routes, hit the defenders with some shake and bake and find openings into the end zone.

Marc-Antoine Jetté had a great game throwing the ball. He completed 66% of his passes and he knew how to ensure his team keep possession of the ball at all times. He also connected with 3 receivers for 6 touchdowns and that does not mean the rest of his receivers were left with nothing. He spread the ball well and played the field safe and smart to get into position to score. He too had one main target, but he was also able to get the ball to the receivers that were not considered threatening at the time. He was able to pick his spots against the defense and thrive.

Olivier Laberge was the main guy for Marc-Antoine as he was found 6 times for 75 yards and 3 touchdowns. He was the nightmare the defense had known about but he was still able to make his presence known. Edouard Gagnon was the other receiver that found openings when Olivier was covered, catching 5 passes for 30 yards and 2 touchdowns. Lastly, Alex was the other factor; not only on the defensive side of the ball but the offensive side as well. He had 3 catches for just below 60 yards and 1 touchdown. Ultimately, the receivers for ATH Squad were too much to handle for the opposing defense. When one was covered there was another open and for Marc-Antoine to notice that is pretty impressive in live game speed.

It was a very good game, but turnovers costs Flagiuuu the victory. ATH Squad was able to capitalize on the turnovers and turn them into points in their favor in the 39-26 victory.

That’s it for me this week. . If you want to reach me, send me an email at (s.berardi@outlook.com) or send me a facebook message. Search my name if we have mutual friends which may very well be the case send me a message.