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FOOTBALL EXTRA POINTS - MONDAYS @ 9:00PM EASTERN

MONDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2013

MILLI VANILLI IS BETTER THAN YOU: EARLY WEEK 7 FANTASY FOOTBALL PICKUPS

In my opinion, if you're going to fake play or sing music, you might as well commit to it.



I mean check out Milli Vanilli from the late 1980's. And for those of you who don't know who Milli Vanilli was, don't bother googling it, unless you want to waste 23 seconds of your life that you're not getting back. All you need to know is that they didn't sing any of their songs, but they sure were committed to faking it. In 1989, during a live performance on MTV (back when MTV actually had music on it and not seventyiterations of reality shows concerning obnoxious people pretending to be from New Jersey, mostly spoiled rich kids with borderline personality disorder and fake Facebook profiles), they were so committed to faking it that even when the recording of the song "Girl You Know It's True" jammed and began to skip, repeating the partial line "Girl, you know it's..." over and overagain, they actually continued to lip sync the partial line and dance around on stage. That's commitment I can respect.



But recently I ran across this horribly offensive attempt to fake play a guitar during a Polish morning show appearance by local celebrity (and I use that term

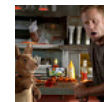
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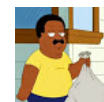
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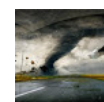


Garbage In, Garbage Out: Cleveland Browns Update 3



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The Ravens stole one against New England last week. Here's a look at week 4 matchups.



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B4



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loosely) Patricia Dłutkiewicz (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jlprOKJ3Vf4&feature=youtu.be>). As for pronunciation, you're on your own with this one. During her "performance", her "guitar player" not only didn't bother to even try faking to play, but she had her guitar on upside down. That's some serious lack of commitment. Also, if you look at the picture, apparently she couldn't be bothered to wear any pants either. Talk about lazy! But apparently, according to Patty's manager, that was the plan all along, to make people talk about how ridiculously bad the fake band was. Well, mission accomplished.

The point is that some things may look good superficially, but end up being terrible. And I don't mean those pumpkin pie donuts at Dunkin Donuts, which had so much potential, but ended up being kinda meh. But they sure look good, don't they? But I digress. As I was saying, some things look better than they actually are, and the same is true in fantasy football. How do you pick out the Milli Vanilli's from the [INSERT YOUR FAVORITE BAND HERE]? Well how about some of these potential pickups (as usual available in more than 50% of standard Yahoo Fantasy leagues)?



Chris Ivory – RB - 26% Owned

Well, when the season started, we all thought Chris Ivory would run away with the starting backfield position for the Jets. But then Ivory proved to be ineffective and then had an injury that really limited his production. Plus Bilal Powell started looking good in Ivory's absence and Mike Goodson came back from his 4-game suspension, making the Jets backfield a real mess. Then suddenly, Powell remembered that he was terrible, and look where we are now? Ivory put up 104 rushing yards on an amazing 34 carries. Ivory is not getting 34 carries every week, and he did get a few extra because of overtime, but it looks like Ivory, barring injury, will get the majority of the carries from this point on (Powell only got 3 carries). He's worth a look for desperate teams in 14-team leagues or deeper, or for those who need to replace Powell.

Mike James – RB - 1% Owned

Doug Martin was out of bounds on the ground for quite some time in the 3rd quarter after a hard hit from William Moore. And after having to leave the rest of the game, it's being called a "shoulder injury", although they don't think it's separated. X-rays have come back negative, so we know there are no broken bones, but we have no idea how serious this really is until later in the week. Seeing as how Martin doesn't shy away from contact, and the Bucs play on Thursday, they're likely to take it easy on him, which may mean at least one missed game. And if there is a missed time, Mike James is likely to be the guy. Is he a special talent? Didn't really look like it, but he held up fine for almost half a game for 14 carries for 45 yards and 3 receptions for 8 yards. Project that into a full game, even one in which the Bucs were behind the entire time, and you're looking at around 100 total yards from scrimmage. Would it be surprising him to get 18-22 touches a week if Martin were out? I don't think so. He's a must add for Martin owners, and a lottery ticket stash for those in 12-team or deeper leagues.

Mike Glennon – QB - 5% Owned

Sticking with the Bucs, as I mentioned above, they were playing from behind all day. And that's not going to be unusual for them. Ever since the Josh Freeman fiasco, Tampa Bay has installed Mike Glennon as their primary signal caller. And he hasn't been that bad with over 250 yards passing and 2 TDs in two consecutive weeks. Like I've said before, one week is chance (ahem, I'm looking at you Matt Cassell in Minnesota), but two weeks will get you a mention. It's entirely likely he'll have to keep

an Elite 2013 Fantasy Quarterback?

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throwing the ball from behind in games, which means he'll at least have the green light to go downfield as much as he likes. Decent pick up in 2 QB leagues, or as a backup in 14-team and deeper leagues.

Brandon Gibson – WR - 4% Owned

We all know that Mike Wallace is the number 1 WR in Miami (and if you don't know, he'll personally let you know about it on Twitter). And sure handed Brian Hartline is the number 2 WR. So what's the value of a number 3 WR in a Miami offense? Well, let's see, how does 6 receptions for 71 yards, 4 receptions for 64 yards, and then 5 receptions for 40 yards and 2 TDs sound? That just so happens to be Brandon Gibson over the last three weeks. Gibson plays mostly out of the slot, so he doesn't get many deep looks or redzone targets, but his first two TDs of the season is a good sign that he's not totally off the radar. Need a WR4 / Flex in 14-team or deeper leagues? There are worse bets than picking up Gibson.

Jeremy Kerley – WR - 7% Owned

Again, let's not get too excited over the Jets defense. But someone has to catch the ball, and since Santonio Holmes remains out, why not Jeremy Kerley? Including this week, Kerley was over 60 yards receiving in 3 of his last 4 games, and this week he had 8 receptions for 97 yards and a TD. He's not going to be consistent with erratic Geno Smith throwing him the ball, but he's getting plenty of looks. Not a bad option as a 3rd WR / Flex during a bye week if you just need to get a few points in 14-team and deeper leagues.

And here's a list of pick ups mentioned in previous weeks that I still recommend picking up if they're still available: *Zac Stacy, Kris Durham, Harry Douglas, Andre Ellington, Terrance Williams, DeAndre Hopkins, Fred Jackson, Brian Hartline, Jaiquie Bell, Julian Edelman, Roy Helu Jr., Terrelle Pryor, Rueben Randle, Joseph Randle, Jared Boykin, Riley Cooper and Jordan Reed.*

So get out there pick up some help for your fantasy football team! Just remember, don't get drawn in by the donuts. And for goodness sake, don't wear your guitar upside down. Eddie Van Halen would not approve.

By Ha Kung Wong (Twitter: @Rhihan)



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Hakung Wong October 23, 2013 at 6:34 PM

UPDATE 1 - Doug Martin, as expected, has been ruled out for Thursday's game against Carolina. It's a tough matchup, but Mike James is locked in as the starter along with Brian Leonard as a third down back. Could be interesting for those of you ravaged by injuries and bye week issues (like me).

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