

IT'S A KNOCKOUT

Welcome all to this year's Football Pool. For the few newbies, these weekly recaps give you the highlights and lowlights of the previous week. Hopefully, you will find them mildly entertaining, and informative. I try to keep them just under a full page but there is a lot to cover in week 1 so this one may be a tad long.

Speaking of newbies, we added one more at the 11th hour so let's introduce him as we did the others last week. It's Ryan Pehush. Neither Bob or I actually know Ryan but I'm pretty sure I've got him pegged already as far as his favorite team (I'm gonna sit on that info for now, until I can use it against him) and he's a Brad (Blue Blood) Yale disciple so you know he's going to be trouble. Welcome Ryan - - and good luck!

That brings the final tally to 40 players. 1 off the record. Not bad. I can now finalize the prize list and will reveal that in next week's recap.

The title of this week's piece revolves around the shocking developments in the Knockout segment of the Pool. So let's start there. A whopping 24 players have already been KNOCKED OUT. Thanks mostly to the Bengals. This decimation means there probably will be a quick ending to this piece of the puzzle. And an early prize for someone.

Week 1 is never easy and this year was no different. 42 games under .500 and an average win total of $6 \frac{1}{2}$ is underwhelming but it does keep everyone in the hunt. Only 17 of 40 had winning records.

I usually start here so sorry for 2nd billing to our first weekly prize winner of the season. It's Tony (The Terminator) Mc Farland with an excellent 11-4-1. Very impressive in a difficult week to find winners. Veterans of the pool know Tony is no stranger to the winner's circle - thus the moniker. Great job T - always nice to get an early prize under your belt.

As mentioned above, the Survivor Pool took a big hit, and the other Major Pool, the Best Bet Pool was hardly a walk in the park. 17-22-1 isn't awful, but. . . I'm hoping we will find our footing after a couple of weeks, just like the players in the league.

I know you've all thought about her from time to time over the 7 months apart. She's as much a part of this as me and Bobby. You wondered how she's making out when it was 5 degrees in February and 95 in August. Well Basement Bertha marches on. The tattered house dress remains. The omni present hair curlers in hopes the phone will ring but does not, remain in the hair. The barely decorated tiny basement flat with one eye level window (cracked btw) remains unchanged. The cat, ungroomed and nearly blind, always under foot. But Bertha's spirits are buoyed with the prospects of welcoming weekly visitors for the next 18 weeks. And she is thrilled it will be such a fine gentleman staying with her this first week. You know where we have to go everyone. LAST PLACE.

John Labriola has been with us for a very long time. John hasn't scored a lot of prizes historically but did win the Best Bet crown for the 2020 season. Just that one title pays for 5 years of entry fees. But largely, he hasn't had too many moments in the sun.

But this year, he scores a small prize right from go! Not the prize he wants but a 3-12-1 total meltdown will get you last place for the week most weeks and it sure did this week. Johnny has the honor of being Basement Bertha's first house guest of the season. Bertha is so looking forward to your stay John. There's no cable down there as you know, so bring some (a lot of) booze. It will make the week down there much more palatable.

Standings after 09/08/24 - Week 01

Standings			
	W	L	T
Tony McFarland	11	4	1
Louis Adams	10	5	1
Frank Pisano	9	6	1
John Moser	9	6	1
Kyle/Kevin Conroy	9	6	1
Paul Korinth	9	6	1
Teresa Kelly	9	6	1
*** Bob for Fun ***	8	7	1
Arnie Komet	8	7	1
Brian/Brady Anderson	8	7	1
Dan Stensgard	8	7	1
Joe Bednarski	8	7	1
John Tallarico	8	7	1
Mike Lamagna	8	7	1
Ralph Marra	8	7	1
Steve DeFabiis	8	7	1
Stu Schrenzel	8	7	1
Tanya Tallarico	8	7	1
Brian Lamagna	7	8	1
Carl Borman	7	8	1
Dave Ritter	7	8	1
John Cocchieri	7	8	1
Rocky/Matt Durocher	7	8	1
Stu Silverstein	7	8	1
Chris Reed	6	9	1
Dom Mancini	6	9	1
Justin Hawkins	6	9	1
Ken Demchak	6	9	1
Kevin Joel	6	9	1
Mark McCain	6	9	1
Mike Banha	6	9	1
Nate Singh	6	9	1
Ryan Pehush	6	9	1
Tony Mascio	6	9	1
Bob Higgins	5	10	1
Brad Yale	5	10	1
JoMarie Sacchinelli	5	10	1
Mike Pasch	5	10	1
Bo Lebon	4	11	1
Ray Lavender	4	11	1
John Labriola	3	12	1

Best Bet			
	W	L	T
Brad Yale	1	0	0
Carl Borman	1	0	0
Frank Pisano	1	0	0
John Cocchieri	1	0	0
John Labriola	1	0	0
John Tallarico	1	0	0
Ken Demchak	1	0	0
Mark McCain	1	0	0
Mike Banha	1	0	0
Paul Korinth	1	0	0
Ralph Marra	1	0	0
Rocky/Matt Durocher	1	0	0
Steve DeFabiis	1	0	0
Stu Silverstein	1	0	0
Teresa Kelly	1	0	0
Tony Mascio	1	0	0
Tony McFarland	1	0	0
Bob Higgins	0	0	1
*** Bob for Fun ***	0	1	0
Arnie Komet	0	1	0
Bo Lebon	0	1	0
Brian Lamagna	0	1	0
Brian/Brady Anderson	0	1	0
Chris Reed	0	1	0
Dan Stensgard	0	1	0
Dave Ritter	0	1	0
Dom Mancini	0	1	0
Joe Bednarski	0	1	0
John Moser	0	1	0
JoMarie Sacchinelli	0	1	0
Justin Hawkins	0	1	0
Kevin Joel	0	1	0
Kyle/Kevin Conroy	0	1	0
Louis Adams	0	1	0
Mike Lamagna	0	1	0
Mike Pasch	0	1	0
Nate Singh	0	1	0
Ray Lavender	0	1	0
Ryan Pehush	0	1	0
Stu Schrenzel	0	1	0
Tanya Tallarico	0	1	0