

Hutch Was Held

Welcome back to another Jart Report, where we lament the unexpected loss for the Lions that paired with key injuries leaves a vastly different sentiment than last week.

Week Two Recap:

Week Two Predictions: 4-2

This Season: 7-5

Goofballs vs Mahomes:

Prediction: *Mahomes by 22.46*

Reality: *Goofballs by 11.62*

Folbe: "MB and I both know our real focus was on the Bowling Green Falcons. Nevertheless, 2-0 and onto the next one."

Bank: "GG Folbe the bigger man won" *Editor's Note: Not 100% sure what Bank meant here*

WR1 University vs 37\$ for IBM Watson:

Prediction: *37\$ for IBM Watson by 12.24*

Reality: *37\$ for IBM Watson by 32.21*

Nooni: "I don't like losing"

Brad: "Nooni didn't put up much of a fight but we celebrate all victories. On to the next."

Amon RAW vs Hu(lu has live spo)rts:

Prediction: *Hu(lu has live spo)rts by 16.78*

Reality: *Hu(lu has live spo)rts by 10.46*

Levine: Could not be reached

Jase: "GGs Levine! I said I was coming for blood and you gave me a good sweat at the end there!!"

Tig Ol' Griddys vs Team Achilles Tear:

Prediction: *Tig Ol' Griddys by 14.54*

Reality: *Team Achilles Tear by 40.18*

NN: "Not sure my week could have had more things go wrong and my opponent have things go right. GG JL. I'm sure he's gonna make some comment like "get wrecked NN," but I'll take the high road."

JL: "Was a pleasure to do battle with NN. Whenever he needs a rb he knows where to find me. Look forward to seeing him again **in the playoffs**"

United Nations vs TaylorMade:

Prediction: *TaylorMade by 24.52*

Reality: *TaylorMade by 16.85*

MW: Could not be reached

Dmichs: "Proud of most of my guys this past week except Najee, I need to have a serious word with Whirlington."

Double Buzz vs TuAnon Penguins:

Prediction: *TuAnon Penguins by 4.64*

Reality: *TuAnon Penguins by 14.85*

Aross: "GGs"

Jart: "His team name is DoubleBuzz, said in his matchup preview, 'Could be a lot of double buzzes in our matchup', and then he sat Courtland Sutton. Deserved to lose."

The Him Larrañaga Award For Excellence

There were players that had better fantasy performances, but Puka Nacua had 20 targets. 20. And he caught 15 of them. Those are numbers that not even Justin Jefferson had neared this year, and for that reason, Puka is the easy winner here.

Record by PF Finish:

1st: 2-0
2nd: 2-0
3rd: 2-0
4th: 1-1
5th: 2-0
6th: 1-1
7th: 0-2
8th: 1-1
9th: 1-1
10th: 0-2
11th: 0-2
12th: 0-2

Roses and Thorns

Rose: It was a really chill week at work, which meant more just fun time hanging out with co-workers and whatnot, so that was nice after it had been a really busy month. I was also on a podcast on Wednesday and I think that went pretty well overall!

Thorn: I'm sick currently! Definitely getting better, but has kind of sucked in some regards. Has been nice to have some forced time to just chill, sleep, and recover.

Jart's Mailbag:

Is anyone actually good in CFB?

Good? Sure. I think every team in the AP Top 10 currently is a good team, and within that so far it would be difficult to categorize further. If I had to take a top 4 currently it would be Georgia, Michigan, USC, and Penn State, but that is certainly subject to change once James Franklin chokes. If there was any team that was going to try to claim the title of elite, I would say Michigan has the best chance currently.

Do they have cider mills in Omaha? Will you be attending one if so?

Yessir! They are certainly not as popular as they are in Michigan (I am a Franklin Cider Mill man myself), but there is a place right outside Omaha called Vala's that is a pumpkin patch and cider mill. We are actually going there as a staff team for a fun day at some point.

Why can't the lions have anything nice? CJGJ getting hurt is peak Bobby Lane curse.

It almost does feel like a sick dream, doesn't it? All the hype this offseason, come out and beat the Chiefs in Kansas City to open the season, electric home opener in a sellout, and then that happens. We lose, CJGJ gets hurt (and not even the only one), and it feels like we've crashed back down to Earth. The curse does feel real, but more on the Lions later.

Will MSU win another game this year?

I pulled up their schedule thinking the answer surely would be yes, but even the games that you would feel best about (Rutgers and Maryland) are on the road, which is never easy in the Big Ten. I will still say yes just because the odds support them winning at least one game, but it is hard to point at one game as the one. Is this week their best chance?

***Frick*, marry, kill: The group chat on an NFL Sunday, Corn (from Nebraska), Dinner with Jay Z**

I am marrying the group chat on an NFL Sunday, because it always brings me back in every week, every season. Between corn and dinner with Jay Z, I am going to kill corn because while it is a fine food and I do enjoy it, I do not eat it that often and would be just fine without it. In terms of my dinner with Jay Z, I would mostly want to inquire as to why his picture is always included in the reports on Microsoft's increased productivity in Japan with 4 day work weeks.

Which (multi week) injury hurts one of our teams most?

Assuming Chubb is not included here or else that would be the obvious answer. The people I am considering are Dmont, Jamaal Williams, Austin Ekeler, and Saquon Barkley. Of those four, I think Ekeler is the pretty clear answer, especially since it has Bank starting Roschon Johnson. Allgeier continuing to have a sizeable role in the Falcons offense gives Brad room to breathe.

If you knew what you knew now, how much would puka have gone for in the draft?

I will go with \$18 for right now, but that certainly could go up over time. Obviously he is on a record setting tear so far and I think that number gives respect to that, but I do still have questions about how much he will sustain it, in particular once Cooper Kupp returns. John Bender will get his, but can Andrew Clark support Brian Johnson as a WR1 also?

How many thoughts and prayers are you sending for Nick Chubb?

Hate to see that for a guy who I am a big fan of, but is also so universally respected and loved around the league. Probably no QB/RB duo that was more polarizing than him and Watson. I hope he is able to play football again some day, but more importantly that he can walk normally and carry his grandkids around one day.

What's your go to Starbucks order?

I don't drink coffee and never go to Starbucks, but as a kid my favorite drink was the double chocolate chip frappuccino. I don't think it actually has any coffee in it, but I loved it as a kid.

Why was it so hard for Merrick Bank to vote this off-season?

In the offseason, I think it is pretty easy to feel indifferent about fantasy football, especially when it feels like something that might be minor, whether that is a bench spot, IR spot, etc. For some people they would rather do something else, and if their vote is not going to matter much, then why would they worry about it! I don't agree with it, but I understand it.

Why does Merrick B say he can't watch ball but he's always watching ball? Like it's okay to not always be busy

Multiple people asked this question so I combined them into one. Much like the question prior, Bank is a busy man, he has things to do! But as someone who last Sunday also thought they would not be able to watch and went so far as to tell Jason that I was going to be unable to, only for a work event to get canceled and enable me to watch, I have some empathy for the situation. We are all busy, but I appreciate the time we take to band together as a league on Sundays. And Bank's boys are cooking! Get watching, and admit you are!

Name the 6 teams you think will make the playoff after week 2.

Brad, Folbe, Bank, Nooni, Jase, Jart. It looks so weird to see those six names, but I think those teams have best positioned themselves currently. I do expect a couple of those teams to shoot themselves in the foot at some point, or suffer a serious injury. In other words, a skill issue.

Start/Sit/Cut: MNF, SNF, TNF

Cut TNF easily, the games usually suck by Week 6, and while it is fun to root for your boys individually, it doesn't carry as much weight when your entire team has not played yet. SNF is great, but it sits because it does not carry the massive weight and energy of MNF. Last game of the week, you know what your players need to do to win, and you're glued to your TV tracking it. Everything means more on Monday night.

**Will the train that passes through royal oak be a problem for folbe?
Will it be too loud for him to work from home/sleep?**

I had no idea, so I did a little investigating myself and went straight to the source. Folbe responded, "Lmao why are you asking that", so I don't know. I will go with no problem, Folbe works so hard that he always earns his rest and will sleep well.

What do you make of the Ravens WR room, and who do you like most if you had to choose going forward?

It is very mid (assuming Andrews not included here), but I have always been a Zay Flowers guy, and so far this season that seems affirmed. Bateman never quite materialized, and OBJ is certainly past his prime. Dmichs got a steal, it was my pick that made me angriest!

Why did Brad pay \$37 for Deshaun?

I am not really sure, although I do wish he would change his name. The simple answer is that someone else wanted him for \$36 and Brad wanted him more! I do wish you could see the bids for each rather than just who won the player, because it would be intriguing to see that data. But Watson looks more like a \$7 player than a \$37, and it is so hard to root for him in general.

Is Noonie a sharp for picking up and playing hunter Henry in both of his leagues this week? TE2

Sharp for picking him up? Sure, because the upside seems great. For playing him this week? So hard to know, because TEs have so much variation depending on the linebacker group they are facing and the overall gameplan. I will say yes though, because in a year when TEs have been unpredictable, you're getting one who has been a dude so far!

Are you watching this season of only murders in the building? If so, what are your thoughts?

I am watching! I had been waiting for a fair amount of the episodes to come out so that I did not have to watch it week by week and could binge. I also watch it with my mom, so it has to wait for the times when I am around in Lincoln for an evening at her house.

You want Mostert?

No.

How do you think the Kelce-Taylor Swift news affects his play and the play of the Chiefs as a whole? Feels like a bad omen to me

I do not think it will make too much of a difference. Heck Kelce once had his own reality dating show, so this is not necessarily anything that strays from the course for him and there shouldn't be any bad blood between him and the Chiefs organization. He's so unguardable that he does not even need to prepare for games I am convinced, and while the Chiefs may continue to struggle some as they have been on offense, they should be ok. I was tempted to work as many Taylor Swift song titles into this response as possible, but perhaps next time.

Alexander Mattison and Cam Akers are a top __ backfield in the NFL?

Top 5! Jaguars, Chiefs, Saints, Seahawks, Vikings. How convenient that those are the teams that my five RBs play for. In all seriousness probably the best you can say at this point is Top 32. Akers did not look good week 1, Mattison has looked terrible both weeks, and the Vikings do not necessarily seem too committed to establishing a ground game, nor should they feel like they need to as their offense has certainly not been the issue. Especially when their WR2, Jordan Addison, is pretty comparable to the Jaguars WR1.

Updated thoughts on the Detroit Lions after a disappointing result on Sunday and a handful of injuries. Is it still their division for the taking?

Devastated. Still a believer, but I thought the defense was going to wreck havoc, and they did not. Important to note is that every NFC North team lost, so I do still feel good about winning the division. I think the Vikings are the biggest threat, but their defense is so bad that we should not have any huge issues with them. I still pick the Lions, but I do not feel as good anymore.

Was that dress black and blue or white and gold?

Black and blue baby!

Oregon is -21 hosting Colorado this weekend. The total is set at 70.5. What is The Reports best bet for this game and why?

I like Oregon and the over. Points are going to be flying as neither team hangs their hat on their defense, and the lack of Travis Hunter makes things much sketchier for the Buffs on that end. I

like Nix and Sanders to both be around 400+ yards passing, and while I think the Ducks are just a much better team, it should be a shootout.

Favorite Mio flavor?

Sweet Tea. I have not had a ton of them, but I think the taste is pretty similar, and I feel a lot better about drinking it in terms of my sugar intake.

Is Justin Fields a starting NFL QB Week 1, 2024?

Yes, for the New York Jets. I don't know if you all read about Garrett Wilson courting him to the Jets, but I am all in on it. He has the tools, he out-threw Trevor Lawrence at a camp when they were both seniors in high school and Fields was not allowed to run. And obviously he is a big threat with his legs. The Bears excel at ruining players' careers, so I do hope Fields can get out of there because I am a big fan of his.

Looking for an NFL team to root for seeing as my team is in the Caleb Williams hunt. Can you sell me on a fun team to root for?

I mean if you want a team that is objectively the most fun to root for, it is the Dolphins. Every skill player on their team runs at least a 4.4, they have the most electric WR duo in history, and they're young two with a literal child as their HC. If you want a different flavor though, I would suggest the Seahawks, as their offense is potentially just as potent with their WR trio and RB duo, and a solid gunslinger in Geno.

I'm driving from Chicago to Denver on Monday, any must hit grub spots in Omaha or Lincoln that you'd recommend?

It is a little disappointing that places are not immediately coming to mind, but I feel like I mostly eat at pretty big chains, and the place I would've recommended, Cocky's, suspiciously went out of business in Lincoln (not convinced something sketchy wasn't going on there). If you like Thai food, I do recommend Thai Spice in Omaha, that is a place I like a lot. Wish I had more to say.

Who is your projected RB1 ROS?

I think the only way that I can approach this question is from the assumption that RB injuries never happen again, which has been anything but the case through the first two weeks of the regular season. With that approach though, I am torn between Christian McCaffrey and Bijan Robinson. I think the Falcons are being incredibly smart with Bijan, and McCaffrey does not need much said about him. Given his pedigree and talent, I will go with McCaffrey, but Bijan could certainly usurp him.

Mailbag Question of the Week:

Can you please include that picture of NNs haircut that was in the report last year?



Mailbag Question Standings:

1. Jason (25)
2. Folbe (17)
3. Brad (15)
4. Bank (14)
5. NN (7)
6. JL (7)
7. Nooni (5)
8. Levine (3)
9. Aross (2)
10. Dmichs (1)
11. MW (0)

League Takes:

Agree:

- Jonah's week was a fluke
- We finally see a trade this week!
- Kareem Hunt or Johnathan Taylor will be playing NFL football within 3 weeks time
- Sirianni actually lets deandre swift play football and doesnt pull the rug out from under him

Neutral:

- Fantasy has nothing to do with luck. Alex should've known Nick Chubb's career was going to end before week 2 ended.
 - Jerome Ford will be a top 10 RB ROS
 - We have 09.5 teams eligible for the playoffs going into the last week of the regular season.
- Very competitive year *Editor's Note: More roto math than I want to do right now*

Disagree:

- Lions miss the playoffs :(

Sleeper Analytics:

Once all of you join the league so I can set it up, this segment will exist.

Jart's Power Rankings:

1. Jason (No Change)
2. Bank (+1)
3. Brad (+2)
4. Jart (No Change)
5. Nooni (+2)
6. NN (-4)
7. Folbe (+2)
8. Alex (No Change)
9. JL (+1)
10. Dmichs (+1)
11. Levine (-5)
12. MW (No Change)

JL's Power Rankings:

1. Bank (+1)
2. Jason (+5)
3. Brad (+1)
4. Nooni (-3)
5. Folbe (+4)
6. Jart (No Change)
7. Jonah (+3)
8. Aross (-3)
9. NN (-6)
10. Dmikes (+1)
11. Levine (-3)
12. MW (No Change)

Family Award:

Despite playing the most electric wide receiver duo who refuses to score a touchdown, JL wins the family award, perhaps for the last time as the Ja'Marr Chase acquisition creates serious concerns for this team (more on that later!). But for this week, he got a big win and is feeling good.

Week Three:

Transaction Analysis:

Best Transaction: Taysom Hill, \$2, Bank. While there are some long term adds like Chuba and JSN that I really like (I hate having only 5 bench spots), Taysom should have an immediate big impact this week with the Saints so thin at RB.

Honorable Mention: Jerome Ford, \$101, Jase. The price tag gives some caution, but Ford could prove to be a Top 12 RB ROS, which is worth the price.

Worst Transaction: Kareem Hunt, \$29. The Browns chose Ford over Hunt this offseason, and there's no reason to expect Hunt to be fantasy relevant.

Honorable Mention: Matt Breida, \$11. I saw a tweet that said something along the lines of "if you're considering starting Breida, you need to look yourself in the mirror"

FAAB Tracker:

This Wednesday saw the biggest bomb of our season so far, with Jase dropping \$101 for new Browns bellcow Jerome Ford.

Prior to this week's Wednesday and Thursday waivers, we had seen \$239 (19.9%) spent.

So far this week, we have seen \$167 (13.9%) spent, bringing our total spend to \$406 (33.8%).

Trade Jartalyzer:

What made Jase able to bomb \$101 on Jerome Ford (unnecessarily) was the trades we saw this week! Let's break them down.

Trade #1:

Jason: Drake London, \$10 FAAB (Grade: B)

NN: Jaylen Warren (Grade: A-)

Jason has wanted London since NN got him, and he makes it happen. Certainly motivated by obtaining FAAB to ensure the acquisition of Jerome Ford, Jase traded a guy who still hasn't taken control of the Steelers backfield for a guy with a lot of upside. I like what NN did here more within the trade itself to get a solid RB, but what it enabled Jase to do should be considered if Ford becomes a dude.

Trade #2:

Nooni: Kyren Williams, Mike Evans (Grade: B)

JL: Ja'Marr Chase, Kendre Miller, 15 FAAB (Grade: A)

After regretting paying \$46 for Chase since the second Dmichs allegedly lured Nooni into bidding such a high price with his quick clicking, Nooni gets him off his team, and adds two guys who have certainly outperformed their pre-season rankings. If Evans and Kyren keep it up this year (which this writer does not expect), then Nooni will be the clear winner. But JL gets a guy with all the upside in the world, and certainly sold high on both Kyren and Evans. Kendre provides a nice play this week too before Kamara and Jamaal return.

Matchups:

Goofballs vs Double Buzz: One of the two remaining undefeated teams, Folbe brings a roster that certainly doesn't wow you, but benefitted from an easy matchup week one and a strong showing last week. For Aross, the loss of Chubb leaves RB as a major concern which elite WR play has not yet been able to offset. All three of Aross' RBs could be primed for bigger weeks though, and the increased star power on his side earns him the nod. ***We like Double Buzz by 12.22.***

Folbe: "I hope Alex is having a nice day."

Alex: "BOL"

WR1 University vs TaylorMade: While I think long term, Dmichs' team might be better suited for success, in the short term Nooni gets the nod, especially with an appealing matchup for McCaffrey and Kyren getting such strong usage. ***We like WR1 University by 18.66.***

Nooni: "I'd like to win"

Dmichs: "I know we're only just past week 2 but I love how much parity there is this year, it truly is anyone's game except MW"

Amon RAW vs Team Achilles Tear: Two pretty evenly matched teams with some question marks in different spots, this week likely rests upon the kind of week Ja'Marr Chase has. With Burrow not practicing and no signs of life yet from the Bengals offense, ***we like Amon RAW by 8.64.***

Levine: Could not be reached

JL: "Levine's team is tough on the eyes but I gotta show respect to a fellow league champ. GL sir"

Tig Ol' Griddys vs 37\$ for IBM Watson: With Kupp still out, NN may boast the top two WRs in the league right now fantasy wise, and while the RBs scare you in name, they have been productive so far. Mainly, we can't see Brad starting 3-0, so ***we like Tig Ol' Griddys by 16.76.***

NN: "Brad and I playing in the injury bowl, should be riveting. Great opponent, good luck to both of us, hope we stay healthy."

Brad: "Looking forward to this matchup with NN. I get up for this game. Need to step on the gas and empty the tank on Commish. No Saq no problem, Alligator's love the fall."

United Nations vs Mahomes: Won't be picking MW. ***Mahomes by 3.24.*** Next!

MW: Could not be reached

Bank: "Battle of Merrick's just lmk what Ekeler doing"

Hu(lu has live spo)rts vs TuAnon Penguins: Well I am 2 for 2 on picking Jason's matchups correctly so far, and I would like to keep that streak going. ***TuAnon Penguins by 6.42.***

Jase: "It's always so fun to play The Report! To be honest I am very scared especially since I believe in both of your stacks especially QB1 Kirk Cousins. I can't mess up my start/sit decisions as I did this week or it will cost me!"

Jart: "Nothing but admiration for my opponent. The Penguins are in mourning this week without Waddle, and Kamara still suspended. Will be a scrappy line-up this week with much higher expectations moving forward."

Jart's Survivor Pool:

Week 2: Jason (Won 124.7-114.24)

This week, while there is not any matchup that I really love, I feel best about taking Nooni this week, capitalizing off of Mike Evans' hot hand and Kyren's usage. McCaffrey should feast too.

Biggest Boom/Bust of the Week

Newly acquired by JL, Ja'Marr Chase may end up in this spot every week until he finally has a respectable week (if he ever does). Burrow could play, and Chase could have a 20+ point game. Burrow could play, and Chase could remain WR63. Burrow could be out, and then who knows what the heck happens. I'd rather have Mike Evans and Kyren Williams!

Best Player at Each Position:

QB: Patrick Mahomes, Bank
RB: Bijan Robinson, Bank
WR: Justin Jefferson, NN
TE: Travis Kelce, MW
D/ST: Patriots D/ST, Jart

A New Idea:

This was submitted to me and I didn't know where to put it.

We're all stubborn traders in this league, even more so this season than in the past. So here's a random idea I just had:

A mid-season white elephant trade.

Everyone picks a solid bench player to sacrifice, we each send our guy to a trusted third party person who will ensure that everyone has sacrificed a player that meets the caliber we all agreed on.

The third party randomly assigns each player to a team, we then all drop our guy and claim the one we were assigned.