

The Tuesday Morning Bear proudly presents....

# League Managers, Tiered

A comprehensive breakdown of each of the 10 managers currently serving time in the Foley Memorial BR Fantasy Football League, currently presided over by Commissioner James Coletta and dominated by the Tuesday Morning Bear himself. Visit <http://foleymemorial.football.cbssports.com/> for details.

## Tier 1: Full Size Candy Bars



Every time we went to some rich person's house in Stony Brook, wasn't this really what we were hoping for? Getting the full size candy bar was a fucking extravaganza – it made the next 12 houses seem like total jack shit because they were too cheap to go to Costco. You wanted to like, change costumes with your buddies and go back to the house again, hoping the fat lady inside hadn't eaten all the rest of them in the meantime. This is the perfect connotation for tier 1 – these are supposed to be illustrious, amazing, awesome moments of trick-or-treating, just like these 4 guys are awesome, amazing owners who each own multiple championships.

### **Brownman: 3 Championships**

There's a decent head on the shoulders here. One of the few managers in our league with a strong long-term view, has proven to be capable of manipulating teams into contenders both during drafts/auctions and during the season through trade and FAAB. Obviously, this year ... not so much. It'd be very interesting if one of our Tier 1 Managers becomes the first in league history to have a winless year, but the chances of anyone losing all 12 games is so small that it probably won't happen. Too bad – we'd be able to hold that one over his head forever. Small thumbs, winless season? Endless ammunition. I expect him to gamble less next year at the auction and come away with a team of more solid, surefire players. Less Zach Ertz, more Antonio Gates kind of shit.

### **Grace: 3 Championships**

I think he might be the best drafter/auctioner we have. He generally seems to end up with good teams straight out of the auction. Maybe I'm wrong here, but has never blown me away as a good in-season manager in terms of player pickups, but he's EXCELLENT at starting lineups. Wins a lot of close games because of good matchup decisions, for sure. He's the exact opposite of Rusak and Murphy in that regard. Got 3 titles to his name, and they're no flukier than my own. Singlehandedly causes me the

most frustration during the auction with his absurdly slow cadence and propensity to bid at the last second no matter what, like our live auction is actually being held on ESPN.com and it's not brain-splittingly rage inducing to have to recount from Going once... when he knew ALL ALONG he was going to bid and just wanted to wait until the last second for some kind of BIG DRAMA or something.

### **Helman: 3 Championships**

Best in-season manager, and probably the best at finding diamonds in the rough. Randall Cobb for \$1 comes to mind. Billy Volek comes to mind. Ahmad Bradshaw for \$1 come to mind. Alshon for \$2 to go overbudget comes to mind. At least 2 of the three championships are a direct result of this – mediocre team that squeaks into the playoffs and gets hot to win. Fluky? Not when it happens as often as it does for this team. Generally, the team gets stronger as the year goes on through trade of FAAB. This year is a bit different – probably the best auction/draft I've ever had has led to a pretty strong regular season team. It's enabled me to get more risky with my in-season moves, as seen by the large bid on D'Angel Shitiams and the trade for Vincent Jackson. No jokes because you can't make fun of perfection.

## **Tier 2: Fun Size Candy Bars**



**Standard candy fare. What you expect on Halloween. It's delicious, it's bad for you, it makes you hyper, but it's too small. Too basic. Too standard. Maybe I should have renamed this tier "Scott Rusak?" Anyway, this is for the managers who act like a fantasy football manager in our awesome league should: in the hunt most years, but not all, have some Championships, generally act like a slightly above average manager in your pickups and drops, etc. It's terrifying that only one person is in this group, gentlemen. And that its....**

### **Correa: 2 Championships**

I almost put him in tier 1, but then I thought about it. I mean, he does have two titles. And those two titles are back-to-back, which is also impressive (and pretty rare... I think I am the only other person to do that. Correct me if I'm wrong, Grace, because I know Brown hasn't.) But, let's be serious – this is Correa. We can't take him too seriously... can we? He's the butt of multiple jokes at the auction, he always seems to fucking blow it on some player like Dez Bryant or something, and he gives me stats that I've known for days like they are some kind of brand new form of clean energy or something. So, here he is. Tier 2 all to himself. He's got a decent team this year, and another title has to bump him into the

upper echelon, but for now, he's just barely on the outside looking up at the real talent. He's like Jeremy Renner – he's *kind of* in the Avengers, I guess, but not really. He's certainly no Downey, am I right? Ohhh the head of hair on that man! (By the way, this team is the prime candidate for the 2014 John Murphy Achievement Award, given annually to the #1 or #2 seed that loses to a 5 or 6 in round 1)

### Tier 3: Dum-Dum Lollipops



**These things are such a fucking tease. They have awesome flavors, like Root Beer, and they SEEM like candy, but really they are the Fox News Reporters of Halloween: dressed up to look like the real thing, but as soon as you put them in your mouth, you know it's some sort of actor and not what you were looking for. (That analogy did not work as well as I'd hoped.) LOTS of pretenders in this tier. We can call them the Peyton Mannings of Foley Memorial: all kinds of hype and excitement from weeks 1-12, nothing but let down, disappointment and misery from weeks 13-16. Sorry, Dum-Dums, but you're too small to be a real fucking candy.**

#### Coletta: 0 Championships

Don't know what to do with this guy. No matter what, he seems destined for regular season success, every year. This year is especially impressive. He has put together a strong record (3<sup>rd</sup>) despite a mediocre point total (7<sup>th</sup>) and having to stitch together a FrankenRB after losing every suspended RB to ever play a game. But, he flames out in the playoffs on the reg, and this year seems no different. There's just not a ton of talent here after losing AP, Rice (and Jennings). Julio is a great player, but the Atlanta offense is in shambles. Kelvin is clearly boom or bust. Wallace was a nice find (and definitely one of Coletta's gems before the draft – he was all in on this guy and turned out to be correct) but there's not a whole lot else here. His point total proves this. Just simply not a tier 2 manager, yet. Not until he proves he can do it in the playoffs. Sorry, lollipop – you want to be, but you're not candy.

#### Murphy: 0 Championships

Is it weird how Sweaze's fantasy life is directly parallel to his real life? As in, full of regret? Every single year after the auction, he puts on his sour face and says something like "welllllllll, I ended up with this guy and that guy who I like butttt I should have done this and this because then I could of ended up with this guy and that guy and probably still kept this guy." This year was no different. He ended up with some studs at WR and some trash at RB, and all I could hear from him was ""welllllllll, I ended up with Brown and DT who I like butttt I should have pushed for an RB earlier instead of nominating AJ Green because I thought people would spend money on him, and they didn't, so I could of ended up with Ellington and probably still kept Green." This is identical to his real life: he finds a sweet chick to marry

(Brown), buys himself a house (Demariyus), but then you he gets himself into situations like this (his RBs):



#### Rusak: 0 Championships

Scary how much he's like his cousin, though Rusak usually finds regular season success through stumbling around in the dark luck, while Sweaze might have some method to his madness. I think his team this year is a perfect example of Rusak as a manager: he has some clearly unsustainable weeks because of some insane unrepeatable performances from unheralded players, this jacks up his confidence and his belief that his team is good, and then week 10 comes, his team plummets back to earth, and he loses in the first round of the playoffs 135-120. It's already starting to happen – I guarantee he thought Brandin Cooks was the second coming of Jordy Nelson, and then last night happened. After two big games, Branden Oliver remembered that he's mediocre, and he's starting a TD sniper as his flex and praying for a 2 yard carry. He put up a few amazing weeks this year, but I can't imagine anyone being threatened by this team in the playoffs. That's a Scott Rusak led squad, folks.

### **Tier 4: Black Licorice**



**Like Dum-Dums, this is garbage pretending to be candy. Does anyone under the age of 65 like the taste of this stuff? Black licorice is a remnant from an age where people didn't understand how GOOD**

**some things can actually be. It's like... black and white television, or the Olympics without professionals, or magazine porn. Outdated shit, right? People used to think it was great, right? Then something actually good came along, like real candy, and BOOM, we realized that Black Licorice is some trash.**

### **Gump: 0 Championships**

First off, thank God he is in this league otherwise there would be like no trades ever at all whatsoever. Also, he's awesome and has that cornhole set that if didn't exist we might have actually had to do something besides throw bags at ramps all weekend. But, I just don't view him as a title contender on a yearly basis. Certainly capable of putting together some quality teams, but just doesn't generate any fear or nervousness. He's an excellent spoiler, but that's really the best compliment I could find. Last year he got completely fleeced by the eventual champion and runner-up, but this year has seemed to learn his lesson and drives a harder bargain. Until he starts making the playoffs with consistency, though, he's black licorice: spoiling the rest of the candy but never worth eating on it's own.

### **Trubs: 0 Championships**

Voted "most likely to move out of this tier" by an informal poll of 1 league manager. Also wins MVP of the auction weekend, without fail, every year. Is down here not because he can't be a threat, but because his teams seem incredibly erratic from year to year and week to week. He's shown a strong in-season ability this year in regards to pickups and trades, but when looking at Dorski as a whole, with a long management career behind him, you just see one thing: lack of consistency. He has a 200 point week this year. He also has a 99 point week. Come playoff time, you can't win with 99 points. Trubman is probably more Red licorice than Black... he can sometimes hold his own, but you're not picking him up first.

## **Tier 4: Candy Corn**



**This shit is just plain gross. Waxy, small, cheap, tastes like a piece of gum that you left on your dashboard to cook. No one wants this, and worst of all, when you get it... you get like 2934892384 pounds of the stuff. It sits at the bottom of your Halloween pillow case until you are completely out of candy and then you try one because you're like "it can't be THAT bad," and then you taste it and you remember it really is that bad. If you like Candy Corn, you are probably an alien. Although, props to it for being able to do this:**



## Tier 5: Apples



**You got one of these, it was thrown back at the house it came from, and if you didn't break a window, you were pissed. What kind of fucking asshole gives out fruit on Halloween? It's a complete misunderstanding of the point, a fundamental breakdown in the idea of the holiday. Look at that fucking apple up there. OH HOW CUTE IT'S A PUMPKIN. No it's not, you motherfucker. It's a fucking apple. I'd rather you give me a pumpkin because at least that's semi-related to Halloween. I mean, Christ, my dad is a fucking DENTIST and we give out candy on Halloween. If someone is giving out apples and they aren't a fresh from Uzbekistielrjkwejhrastan immigrant, they are genuinely a dick. This brings me to our final league manager:**

### Joe: 0 Championships

It has to be, right? It has to be an "apples on Halloween" fundamental flaw in Joe's base football logic, right? He is prepared every year. You can't question that. He takes it seriously, he tries, he has a strategy every year, he sticks to it, and then it blows up in his face. Every. Single. Year. He can answer this better than me, but he has how many Finals appearances in our league history? 1? As an original member?? Woof. This begets my point – there has to be something wrong with the fundamental, basic way he is approaching the game of fantasy football. I wish we could do "Hard Knocks: Fantasy Auction Prep with Joe Loughlin" during the offseason so I could watch and see what his draft strategy is, and what insane over-complicated logic he used to decide it was viable. Because that's gotta be what it is, right? He's overthinking it so much that he ends up coming to idiotic conclusions? It's the only explanation I can think of.

I also LOVE riling him up.

Thanks for Reading,

