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2013 SaberCats Postseason Media Guide



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Media Guide Credits: Jordan Stepp, Sam Drexler and Christine Jacobsen



SaberCats Postseason Media Guide



SAN JOSE SABERCATS (13-5) THIRD PLACE, WEST DIVISION

2013 REGULAR SEASON IN REVIEW

For the SaberCats, there were many questions surrounding the team when the season began. San Jose legend, quarterback Mark Grieb retired after last season's ousting in the first round of the playoffs, and the SaberCats turned to the only player with more career touchdown passes: Aaron Garcia. The Aaron Garcia experiment only lasted a month for the SaberCats, and the production on the field did not mirror the team's expectations. The team started the year 2-0 with wins over San Antonio and Orlando, but they had yet to show the offensive crispness SaberCats fans are so used to. After dropping the next two games handily to West rivals Arizona and Spokane, no one was really sure which San Jose team would show up. One thing was clear: changes needed to be made; in four games, Garcia threw 13 interceptions, and the offense only breached 60 points one time.

In Week 6, the franchise turned over the keys to longtime Chicago Rush quarterback Russ Michna. Also at the Week 6 juncture, the other side of the ball rounded into form to create one of the most devastating defenses in the league. In Weeks 6 through 10, the team went 5-0 with wins over New Orleans, Cleveland, Tampa Bay, Jacksonville and Utah to improve to 7-2 on the season. In this most crucial part of the season, the defense did not allow a single opponent to score more than 40 points in a game, a huge boost to a squad that was getting a new quarterback up to speed. It didn't take Michna very long to round into form though, as in those five games he threw 24 touchdowns to just four interceptions.

In Week 11, the SaberCats faced off for the second time with the Spokane Shock, but the result was the same as Week 4. In Week 12, they bounced back with a home win over the Pittsburgh Power. In Week 13, San Jose traveled to Iowa, where they lost a heartbreaker 73-68, even though they had four chances from inside the eight yard line within the final 15 seconds to find the end zone. This was the real turning point in the season, as the SaberCats could have either dwelled on the tough loss, or put it behind them to face off against their bitter rivals, the Rattlers in the upcoming week. San Jose chose the latter, as they played a near flawless game at home to crush Arizona 72-42 and improve to 9-4 on the year.

After that win, Arizona sat in the division lead at 12-2, followed by Spokane at 10-4 and then San Jose at 9-4. At this point, the three best teams in the league were all still in contention for the coveted division title and number one seed in the National Conference. After beating the Arizona, the SaberCats rattled off three more wins against Utah, San Antonio and Pittsburgh, bringing their record to 12-4 and clinching a playoff spot. Over that three week span, the Rattlers won both of their games while Spokane won three times, keeping San Jose behind the pack for the division lead. In Week 18, the SaberCats fell at home to the Philadelphia Soul 65-43, all but assuring a third place finish in the division and a second place wildcard slot (fourth seed in the playoffs). San Jose finished of the regular season with a home win over the Central Division champion Chicago rush to finish 13-5. Unfortunately for the SaberCats, they finished with the third best record in all of the AFL, but that was only good enough for third place in the brutal West Division of the National Conference.

For the SaberCats, there were many individual accomplishments that shaped the 2013 season. Hall of Fame selection defensive back Clevan Thomas returned to the turf and put up his best statistical season ever, breaking the franchise mark for interceptions in a season with 15 and setting the AFL record for interception return touchdowns at six. Michna came in and delivered ten wins in 13 games, and his efficiency turned the season around for the SaberCats offense. And finally, wide receiver Jason Willis, brought in as Garcia's favorite target, turned out to be a favorite of Michna as well. Willis finished the season by breaking the San Jose franchise record for receiving yards in a single campaign, putting up 1,606 yards while playing in all 18 games.

SABERCATS 2013 SCHEDULE

DATE	OPPONENT	RADIO	TV	TIME (PT)
MAR. 23	@ San Antonio Talons	KNBR	CSN +	W, 47-42
MAR. 29	Orlando Predators	KNBR	CSNBA	W, 65-62
APR. 6	@ Arizona Rattlers	KNBR	CBS SN	L, 73-47
APR. 13	Bye			
APR. 19	Spokane Shock	KNBR	None	L, 69-47
APR. 27	@ New Orleans VooDoo	KNBR	CSN +	W, 57-38
May 4	Cleveland Gladiators	KNBR	None	W, 56-36
May 10	Tampa Bay Storm	KNBR	None	W, 64-34
MAY 18	@ Jacksonville Sharks	KNBR	CSN +	W, 57-36
MAY 25	Utah Blaze	KNBR	None	W, 35-34
JUNE 1	@ Spokane Shock	KNBR	CBS SN	L, 75-45
JUNE 8	Pittsburgh Power	KNBR	None	W, 68-54
JUNE 15	@ Iowa Barnstormers	KNBR	CSNBA	L, 73-68
JUNE 22	Arizona Rattlers	KNBR	CBS SN	W, 72-42
JUNE 29	@ Utah Blaze	KNBR	CSNBA	W, 57-49
JULY 6	San Antonio Talons	KNBR	None	W, 62-35
JULY 13	@ Pittsburgh Power	KNBR	CBS SN	W, 78-20
JULY 20	Philadelphia Soul	KNBR	None	L, 65-43
JULY 27	Chicago Rush	KNBR	None	W, 65-40
DATE	OPPONENT	RADIO	TV	TIME (PT)
AUG. 4	@ Arizona Rattlers	KNBR	CSN BA	5:00 PM.

* ALL DATES AND TIMES SUBJECT TO CHANGE, CHECK LOCAL LISTINGS FOR CHANNEL INFORMATION

2013 STANDINGS

WEST DIVISION				
TEAM	OVERALL	PCT.	PF	PA
y-ARIZONA	15-3	.833	1,203	866
x -SPOKANE	14-4	.778	1,198	896
x-SAN JOSE	13-5	.722	1,033	877
UTAH	7-11	.389	896	988

KEY CAREER STATISTICAL MILESTONES

350	Career Passing Touchdowns for QB Russ Michna
282	Career Touchdown Receptions for WR James Roe
11,169	Career Receiving Yards for WR James Roe
920	Career Receptions for WR James Roe
1,606	Receiving Yards in 2013 by WR Jason Willis
65	Career Interceptions by DB Clevan Thomas
15	Interceptions in 2013 by DB Clevan Thomas
6	Interceptions Returned for Touchdowns by DB Clevan Thomas in 2013 (AFL Record)

MEDIA CONTACT

SAN JOSE
Jordan Stepp, (805) 551-8648 (cell)
j.stepp@thesanjosesebercats.com



Season Notes

HOME AND AWAY

SAN JOSE

REGULAR: 168-92

HOME: 99-32

AWAY: 69-60

POSTSEASON: 15-10

HOME: 13-4

AWAY: 1-5

NEUTRAL: 1-1

PAPER OR PLASTIC?

San Jose set the Arena Football League's single-season sack record last season, posting an eye-popping total of 42 sacks (now second best all-time) and followed that up by posting 41 in 2013. San Jose had a retooled defensive line featuring AFL veterans Francis Maka (11.5), Jason Stewart (11.0 sacks), Terrance Carter (6.5 sacks), Jabari Fletcher (6.0), and a slew of talented linemen who are looking to write their own chapter in the recordbooks. San Jose ranked second in the league behind the Jacksonville Sharks (45).

OFFENSIVE JUGGERNAUT

San Jose concluded the 2013 season ranked fourth in the Arena Football League in scoring, posting 57.4 points per game. They opened the 2013 season with a 47-point performance against San Antonio, hung 65 on Orlando in Week 2, managed 47 again in Week 3 against Arizona, 47 in Week 5 against the Spokane Shock, posted 57 points in a win over New Orleans in Week 6, 56 in a win over Cleveland in Week 7, put up 64 in Week 8 against Tampa Bay, scored 57 in Jacksonville in Week 9, 35 in a win over Utah in Week 10, 45 in a loss to Spokane in Week 11, 68 in a Week 12 win over Pittsburgh, 68 in a loss to Iowa in Week 13, hung 72 on the top-ranked defense of the Arizona Rattlers in Week 14, posted 57 on the road in a win over Utah in Week 15, 62 against San Antonio in Week 16, a season-high 78 in Week 17 in Pittsburgh, 43 in Week 18 against Philadelphia and finished the year with a 65-point output against the Central Division Champion Chicago Rush in Week 19.

AGE IS JUST A NUMBER

Defensive back Clevan Thomas hasn't lost a step after not playing on turf since 2008. The 34-year-old finished the 2013 season tied for the league lead with 15 interceptions in 18 appearances, was third on the team in tackles with 74.0 and also second in the AFL in pass breakups with 25. His 15 interceptions were a single-season franchise record (breaking his own mark of 13, set in 2003). In addition, his six interceptions returned for touchdowns this year set an AFL single-season record. He is a leading candidate to be named the AFL's Riddell Defensive Player of the Year.

WILLIS WRITES NEW CHAPTER

San Jose wide receiver Jason Willis developed quite the chemistry with whoever was under center in 2013, and for the last two-thirds of the season, that was quarterback Russ Michna. Willis finished the season with a career-high 1,606 yards and 35 receiving scores on 123 catches. Willis also scored at least one touchdown in 12 of his last 13 games. Willis eclipsed James Roe's single-season franchise record for receiving yards (1,560 in 2007) in the Week 19 win over the Chicago Rush after posting eight catches for 134 yards and a pair of scores.

#BIGPLAYFREDDY

San Jose receiver Fred Williams (currently on inactive reserve) scored at least two touchdowns in nine of 13 games played in 2013, and 12 out of his last 17, dating back to 2012. The second year man hauled in 96 passes for 1,207 yards with a career-high 21 scores during the 2013 campaign.

MAKA LEADS THE WAY

San Jose linebacker Francis Maka finished the season as the team leader and ranked fourth in the AFL with 11.5 sacks on the season. The former Hawaii Warrior finished his season with nine-and-a-half sacks in his last 12 appearances.

J-STEW POSTS 11

San Jose defensive lineman and four-year Arena Football League veteran Jason Stewart had an unbelievable season, his second as a member of the SaberCats. The former Fresno State Bulldog notched 11 sacks in 2013, which was second most behind teammate Francis Maka, and ranked tied for fifth in the league.

FONTENETTE IS A TACKLING MACHINE

SaberCats defensive back Ken Fontenette, a former Houston Cougar, finished the 2013 season as the Arena Football League's leader in tackles with 107.0 (97 solo) in just 15 games played. In addition, Fontenette nabbed three interceptions (bringing two back for scores) and recovered a pair of fumbles.

SO DEFENSIVE

The SaberCats scored 13 defensive touchdowns in 2013, including 12 via the interception. Clevan Thomas was the leader with six, while Huey Whittaker scored five defensive touchdowns (four interception returns and a fumble recovery for a score).

MICHNA'S SAN JOSE STORY

SaberCats quarterback Russ Michna was extremely efficient in his 13 appearances in 2013, going 10-3 as a starter. He completed 64.3% of his passes for 3,116 yards, 68 touchdowns with only eight interceptions. He really solidified the SaberCats offense when he joined the team prior to Week 6's game against the VooDoo in New Orleans.

WHITTAKER DOES IT ALL

SaberCats wide receiver/linebacker Huey Whittaker caught 89 passes for 998 yards and 27 touchdowns, scored once more on the ground, four more via the interception and recovered a fumble for a touchdown. He finished the 2013 season with six picks, and posted 65.5 tackles with one sack this season. His versatility led to his appearance in all facets of the game, on offense, defense as well as special teams.

MODEL OF CONSISTENCY

With wide receiver/jack linebacker Huey Whittaker, the SaberCats know exactly what they are going to get. In every game but three this season at wide out, the team's Swiss army knife had at least one score. On defense, also in every game but three, Whittaker notched three or more tackles.

OFFENSIVE LINE STANDS TALL

During the 2013 season, the San Jose SaberCats offensive line comprised of Rich Ranglin, George Bussey, Raymond McNeil, TJ Watkins, Jordan Mudge and Dennis Godfrey was one of the best in the league. They allowed just 20 sacks, which ranked fifth best in the Arena Football League. In addition, as the season moved along, their run blocking became a big strength, helping the SaberCats punch in numerous scores from close range.

ROE RETURNS

San Jose wide receiver James Roe returned to the SaberCats prior to Week 18's game against the Philadelphia Soul and picked up right where he left off. The franchise's career leader in nearly every receiving category hauled in 12 passes for 135 yards and five scores in two appearances. He now has 282 career receiving touchdowns, 920 receptions and 11,169 yards.

TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE

In 2013, the San Jose SaberCats averaged the least amount in time of possession at 27 minutes and nine seconds per game.

NO SCORING ALLOWED

The SaberCats defense has been very stingy all season. They ranked third in the Arena Football League in points against (48.7), second in total defense (255.5 ypg), fourth in pass defense (240.6 ypg) and first in rushing defense (14.9 ypg). They were especially stingy within ten yards of the goal line this year. The 'Cats only allowed 66 scores on 85 red zone attempts, good for 77.6% and ranked as the fifth best in the Arena Football League. Their strong red zone defense was a key component in the home-opening victory against Orlando in Week 2, in their wins against the New Orleans VooDoo (Week 6), Cleveland Gladiators (Week 7), Tampa Bay Storm (Week 8), Jacksonville Sharks (Week 9), Utah Blaze (Week 10), in which they allowed only 38, 36, 34, 36 and 34 points, respectively. They were also fantastic in Weeks 14-16, 18 against Pittsburgh when they allowed a season-low 20 points and in the final week of the season when they held the Chicago Rush to 40 points in a win.

THIRD DOWN SHUT DOWN

The SaberCats are the best team in the Arena Football League at stopping opponents on third downs. They stopped their opponents 91-out-of-141 times on third downs (64.5%) this season.

FOURTH DOWN IS BIG TIME

Fourth down is definitely one of the most important downs in Arena Football. Offensively, the 'Cats converted 42.1% of their fourth down opportunities, which ranked tenth in the league in 2013. On defense, it was tough sledding, as they allowed 32 conversions on 60 attempts, ranking 12th on fourth down conversions allowed in the league at a 53.3% clip.

SPREADING THE WEALTH

Nine different SaberCats found the end zone through the air this season. Wide receiver Jason Willis finished with 35 scores, Huey Whittaker had 27, Fred Williams (on inactive reserve) hauled in 21, Jamarko Simmons (on injured reserve) had nine, James Roe posted five, Amari Jackson grabbed three, offensive lineman TJ Watkins reeled in one and both wide receiver Samora Goodson (now a member of the New Orleans VooDoo), and offensive lineman Rich Ranglin joined the party in Week 5 with one each. This spreading of the ball on offense was a big reason why the 'Cats ranked fourth in the league in passing offense on the year (268.6 ypg).

AND 1

SaberCats kicker Nich Pertuit's 89.1% PAT percentage (122-for-137) was the fifth best in the league in 2013. Last season Pertuit's accurate right foot got him a 90.4% PAT percentage (103 for 114) which was the fourth best in the league in 2012. He also made three field goals in 2013, with his last coming in Week 17, knocking through a 34-yarder in the third quarter of the win against the Pittsburgh Power.

AMERICAN DOMINANCE

Despite a Week 18 loss to the Philadelphia Soul, the 'Cats finished the regular season an impressive 7-1 against their American Conference foes this season.

WE NEED A NEW COIN!

The SaberCats lost the coin toss in 12 of their 18 games in 2013, with their only victories coming in Week 6 in the Big Easy, in Week 11 in Spokane, Week 15 against Arizona, Week 16 against the Talons, Week 17 in Pittsburgh and Week 19 against Chicago. This may not seem like such a big deal, but it allowed opposing teams to defer possession and gain momentum to start the second half. In eight of

the 18 games this season, the opposition scored the final points of the first half as well as the first points of the second half.

DURABLE CATS

The SaberCats have a number of players who played in every game this season. Offensive lineman George Bussey, defensive backs Clevan Thomas and JC Neal, defensive tackle Jason Stewart, wide receiver Jason Willis and kicker Nich Pertuit all participated in 18 games this season.

EVERYONE'S DOING IT!

The SaberCats finished the season with a few streaks. Quarterback Russ Michna threw five or more touchdowns in seven straight games. Huey Whittaker recorded a touchdown reception in seven straight games and notched two or more tackles in 13 straight games.

NEAL MAKES THE STOP

SaberCats defensive back JC Neal made quite the impression in his first season with the team. He was the team's second leading tackler, posting 96.5 (83 solo) tackles, which ranked third in the Arena Football League behind only his teammate Ken Fontenette (107.0) and Terrance Sanders of the Spokane Shock (101.0).

VERSATILE FLETCHER

SaberCats defensive lineman Jabari Fletcher had a very successful season on the d-line, posting six sacks. On top of that, he burst on the scene as a goalline fullback option. He concluded the season as the team's leading rusher, carrying the ball 21 carries for 45 yards and nine touchdowns.

CARTER DOMINATES

SaberCats defensive lineman Terrance Carter (on injured reserve) was acquired from the Orlando Predators early in the season and brought all sorts of pressure to opposing quarterbacks, posting six-and-a-half sacks as a member of the SaberCats. Including his time in Orlando, Carter tallied seven-and-a-half sacks on the year.

SIMMONS PLAYS A KEY ROLE

SaberCats wide receiver Jamarko Simmons (on injured reserve) was a key component of the SaberCats' success prior to his injury. Simmons finished the year with 33 catches for 401 yards and nine scores. He also found the endzone eight times on the ground and posted an interception from his jack linebacker position.

JACKSON SHINES

SaberCats wide receiver Amari Jackson was acquired in a mid-season trade with the Orlando Predators that sent Aaron Garcia to Orlando and in eight games he grabbed 23 passes for 312 yards and a trio of scores.

UNDER 40

The SaberCats defense prided themselves on keeping opposing offenses below the 40 point threshold. With the 78-20 blowout win over Pittsburgh in Week 17, San Jose finished with seven wins on the season when holding the other team to less than 40 points, including a stretch of five consecutive games.

PAPIN NAMED HOF FINALIST

Former SaberCats great, Steve Papin was announced as an Arena Football League Hall of Fame finalist. He is one of ten finalists, of which five will be selected to the 2013 AFL Hall of Fame class. Papin, an offensive specialist, played five of his seven year career for the SaberCats and is the AFL single-game record for all-purpose yards per game at 200.4. He is also San Jose's franchise record-holder for all-purpose yards and most categories in the return game for both career, single season and individual game.

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HEAD COACH

DARREN ARBET

An Arena Football League Hall of Fame inductee, three-time ArenaBowl champion and two-time AFL Coach of the Year, Darren Arbet brings a passion and work ethic that is unmatched in the league. Entering 2013, his 17th season with the franchise, Arbet begins his 13th as head coach and third as part owner of the franchise.

Arbet's dedication and leadership turned the SaberCats into a perennial powerhouse, with Arbet ranking fourth all-time in regular season wins (139), third in winning percentage (.675) among coaches with at least 50 games coached and second in postseason winning percentage (.682) among coaches with at least 15 games coached. In 2007, Arbet became the fifth head coach in AFL history to win 100 games when San Jose defeated the Las Vegas Gladiators, 61-34. He is the third fastest coach to accomplish the feat, reaching the century mark in just 145 games.



As leader of one of the most dominating teams over the past decade, he guided the SaberCats to their ninth straight winning season and playoff appearance in 2008 after finishing the year with an 11-5 record - the eighth time in his 11 seasons the team has posted a double-digit regular season win total. The club also captured its third straight Western Division title and seventh under Arbet (eighth overall). He became only the second head coach in the history of the AFL to win three ArenaBowl titles after the SaberCats defeated the Columbus Destroyers, 55-33, on July 29, 2007.

Due to the franchise's success and winning acumen since being named head coach in 1999, Arbet has been elevated within the organization throughout his SaberCats career. He was named the team's player personnel director the following season, remaining in that capacity until taking over general manager duties prior to the 2006 campaign, before being named owner of the franchise in 2011.



DARREN ARBET

Overall Record as Head Coach	154-74
Overall Record with Current Team	154-74
Years as Head Coach in AFL	13
Years as an AFL Coach	18

2013 TEAM STATISTICS

 13-5	2013 CATEGORY	 15-3 (ARI)
57.4 (4TH)	SCORING OFFENSE	66.8 (ARI)
48.7 (3RD)	OPP. POINTS/GM	46.6 (PHI)
279.2 (6TH)	TOT. OFFENSE/GM	311.8 (ORL)
255.5 (2ND)	OPP. TOTAL OFF/GM	254.9 (PIT)
268.6 (6TH)	PASSING YARDS/GM	299.3 (ORL)
240.6 (4TH)	OPP. PASSING/GM	226.5 (PIT)
10.6 (13TH)	RUSHING YARDS/GM	37.0 (JAC)
14.9 (1ST)	OPP. RUSH YARDS/GM	14.9 (SJ)
41.0 (2ND)	SACKS	45.0 (JAC)
20.0 (5TH)	SACKS ALLOWED	7.0 (PHI)
49.0% (5TH)	THIRD DOWN CONV %	58.8% (ARI)
35.5% (1ST)	OPP. THIRD DOWN %	35.5% (SJ)
42.1% (10TH)	FOURTH DOWN CONV %	65.0% (CHI)
53.3% (12TH)	OPP. FOURTH DOWN %	30.2% (PHI)
343 (10TH)	FIRST DOWNS	382 (ARI)
346 (6TH)	OPP. FIRST DOWNS	310 (PHI)
17.5 (8TH)	KICKOFF RETURN AVG.	22.5 (SPO)

2013 INDIVIDUAL LEADERS

 FLETCHER (45)	2013 CATEGORY	 ROSS (PHI) (506)
Michna (3,116)	RUSH YARDS	Garcia (ORL) (5,162)
Willis (1,606)	PASS YARDS	Jones (PHI) (2,121)
*Williams (895)	RECEIVING YARDS	Sanders (SPO) (2,265)
*Williams (2,116)	KO RETURN YARDS	Gray (CHI) (3,144)
*Simmons (22)	ALL-PURPOSE YARDS	Gray (CHI) (3,144)
Willis (123)	RUSHES	Ross (PHI) (153)
Willis (212)	RECEPTIONS	Tennell (SPO) (156)
Willis (35)	POINTS	Tennell (SPO) (336)
Fontenette (107.0)	TOUCHDOWNS	Tennell (SPO) (56)
Maka (11.5)	TACKLES	Fontenette (107.0)
Thomas (15)	SACKS	Sykes (SA) (14.5)
	INTERCEPTIONS	Two Players (15)

* Currently on Inactive or Injured Reserve

No longer with team



NATIONAL CONFERENCE

WEST DIVISION

TEAM	OVERALL	PCT.	PF	PA
z- ARIZONA	15-3	.833	1,203	866
x- SPOKANE	14-4	.778	1,198	896
x- SAN JOSE	13-5	.722	1,033	877
UTAH	7-11	.389	896	988

CENTRAL DIVISION

TEAM	OVERALL	PCT.	PF	PA
x- CHICAGO	10-8	.556	973	947
SAN ANTONIO	10-8	.556	782	884
IOWA	6-12	.333	827	913

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

EAST DIVISION

TEAM	OVERALL	PCT.	PF	PA
y- PHILADELPHIA	12-6	.667	1,052	839
CLEVELAND	4-14	.222	847	1,047
PITTSBURGH	4-14	.222	726	1,014

SOUTH DIVISION

TEAM	OVERALL	PCT.	PF	PA
z- JACKSONVILLE	12-6	.667	941	883
x- ORLANDO	7-11	.389	965	1,032
x- TAMPA BAY	7-11	.389	959	980
NEW ORLEANS	5-13	.278	833	1,069

x - clinched playoff berth y - clinched division
z - clinched homefield advantage

FRESH FACES

The SaberCats final active roster featured four rookies in 2013 (as of Tuesday, July 30). The team also featured seven players from the state of California including four from Northern California.

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA NATIVES

DB Mervin Brookins	Sacramento
LB Francis Maka	San Jose
OL Jordan Mudge	Fresno
LB Wesley Maui'a	Stockton

TITLE TOWN

The SaberCats clinched their third consecutive Western Division title and eighth overall with their 73-70 win over Tampa Bay on June 14, 2008 and own the most division crowns of any team since the AFL went to a four-division format 17 seasons ago in 1995 along with Arizona, who won their eighth in 2013.

WINNING CULTURE

San Jose currently ranks fourth in the AFL with 168 regular season victories. Tampa Bay, Orlando and Arizona entered the AFL prior to San Jose's existence with the Tampa Bay Storm joining the league as the Pittsburgh Gladiators in 1987, Orlando gaining existence in 1991 and Arizona joining in 1992. The Iowa Barnstormers/New York Dragons franchise has recorded 141 wins and the now-defunct Albany/Indiana Firebirds team won 120 games.

SABERCATS RECORD WHEN...

	SCORING 2013	ALLOWING 2013
0-9 Points	0-0	0-0
10-19 Points	0-0	0-0
20-29 Points	0-0	1-0
30-39 Points	1-0	6-0
40-49 Points	1-4	4-0
50-59 Points	4-0	1-0
60-69 Points	5-1	2-1
70-79 Points	2-0	0-3
80+ Points	0-0	0-0
		2013
Decided by 7 or fewer points		3-1
Decided by 3 or fewer points		0-0
Leading after the 1st		9-0
Trailing after the 1st		2-3
Tied after the 1st		2-2
Leading at Half		13-0
Trailing at Half		0-5
Tied at Half		0-0
Leading after the 3rd		12-0
Trailing after the 3rd		1-5
Tied after the 3rd		0-0
Scoring First		9-0
Opp. Score First		4-5
More Total Offense		7-4
Less Total Offense		6-1
More Pass Yards		6-5
Less Pass Yards		7-0
Equal Pass Yards		0-0
More Rushing Yards		7-1
Less Rushing Yards		6-4
Equal Rushing Yards		0-0
Thursday Games		0-0
Friday Games		2-1
Saturday Games		11-4
Sunday Games		0-0
Monday Games		0-0

ALL-TIME REG. SEASON AFL WINS LEADERS

TEAM	RECORD	PCT.
1. Arizona Rattlers	202-108	.652
2. Tampa Bay Storm	198-122	.619
3. Orlando Predators	190-130	.594
4. San Jose SaberCats	168-92	.646
5. Iowa/New York	141-135	.511

ALL-TIME AFL RECORDS (SINCE 2000 REG. SEAS.)

TEAM	RECORD	PCT.
1. San Jose SaberCats	133-59	.693
2. Arizona Rattlers	133-75	.639
3. Orlando Predators	115-93	.553
4. Tampa Bay Storm	112-96	.538

HOME FIELD ADVANTAGE

The SaberCats finished the 2012 season 8-1 on the HP Pavilion turf and finished 8-2 in 2013 at the newly named SAP Center. San Jose has won 44 of its last 52 regular season home games and five of its last six home playoff games. Under Owner/Head Coach Darren Arbet, the SaberCats are 85-19 (.817) overall at the SAP Center, including a 14-3 (.823) playoff ledger.

HIGH OCTANE

The SaberCats scored 60-or-more points in a game ten times in 2012 and did so eight times in 2013. San Jose had a streak dating back to the first incarnation of the franchise where they had won 22 consecutive games when scoring 60 or more points. That streak came to an end in Week 4 of 2011 in a 76-69 loss to the Iowa Barnstormers.

COACHING LEGEND

An instant success when he became head coach of the SaberCats, Darren Arbet has turned San Jose into one of the most respected organizations in AFL history. The SaberCats have become a dynasty since Arbet took over, ranking among the all-time leaders in regular season wins and winning percentage. He currently has 154 total wins throughout his Hall of Fame career.

ALL-TIME REG. SEASON VICTORIES

COACH	YEARS	RECORD	PCT.
1. Tim Marcum	21	185-87	.680
2. Danny White	16	143-82	.636
3. Mike Hohensee	18	146-135	.520
4. Darren Arbet	13	139-67 (154-74 Overall)	.675
5. Mike Dailey	12	104-77	.575
6. Jay Gruden	9	82-54	.603
7. Michael Trigg	12	77-81	.487
8. Perry Moss	9	75-28-1	.726
9. John Gregory	12	76-67	.531
10. Doug Plank	6	65-35	.650

REG. SEASON WINNING PCT.

COACH	RECORD	PCT.
1. Perry Moss	75-28-1	.736
2. Tim Marcum	185-87	.680
3. Darren Arbet	139-67	.675
4. Will McClay	55-26-1	.671
5. Doug Plank	65-35	.650

MINIMUM 50 GAMES

LEADER IN THE CLUTCH

While many coaches have had success during the regular season, Arbet has shown a knack for getting his players to perform at their best when it matters the most, ranking second overall in post-season winning percentage and third in victories.

POSTSEASON WINNING PCT.

COACH	RECORD	PCT.
1. Tim Marcum	27-12	.692
2. Darren Arbet	15-7	.682
3. Jay Gruden	11-7	.611
4. Perry Moss	11-7	.611
5. Danny White	20-13	.606

MINIMUM 15 GAMES

ALL-TIME POSTSEASON VICTORIES

COACH	YEARS	RECORD	TITLES
1. Tim Marcum	21	27-12	7
2. Danny White	16	20-13	2
3. Darren Arbet	13	15-7	3
4. Mike Hohensee	17	12-12	1
5. Jay Gruden	9	11-7	2



2013 Statistics

2013 STATISTICS

DATE	OPPONENT	RESULT/Time	ATT.
3/23	@ San Antonio	W, 47-42	8,161
3/29	Orlando	W, 65-62	11,263
4/6	@ Arizona	L, 73-47	7,156
4/19	Spokane	L, 69-47	10,123
4/27	@ New Orleans	W, 58-37	4,357
5/4	Cleveland	W, 56-36	8,563
5/10	Tampa Bay	W, 64-34	8,001
5/18	@ Jacksonville	W, 57-36	8,641
5/25	Utah	W, 35-34	8,438
6/1	@ Spokane	L, 75-45	9,138
6/8	Pittsburgh	W, 68-54	8,263
6/15	@ Iowa	L, 73-68	9,072
6/22	Arizona	W, 72-42	9,296
6/29	@ Utah	W, 57-49	6,393
7/6	San Antonio	W, 62-35	8,976
7/13	@ Pittsburgh	W, 78-20	7,134
7/20	Philadelphia	L, 65-43	9,163
7/27	Chicago	W, 65-40	8,874

TEAM STATS	SABERCATS	OPP
SCORING	1,033	877
Points Per Game	57.4	48.7
FIRST DOWNS	343	346
Rushing	29	38
Passing	270	241
Penalty	44	67
RUSHING YARDAGE	191	268
Rushing Attempts	93	116
Average/Game	10.6	14.9
PASSING YARDAGE	4,834	4,331
Att.-Comp.	639/397	716/395
Intercepted	24	28
Average/Game	268.6	240.6
TOTAL OFFENSE	5,025	4,599
Total Plays	752	873
Average/Game	279.2	255.5
KICKOFF RETURNS	94-1,644	107-1,761
MFG RETURNS	2-46	2-85
INT RETURNS	28-507	24-373
FUMBLES-LOST	16-10	23-16
PENALTIES-YARDS	157-919	121-667
TIME OF POSSESSION/GAME	27:09	32:51
3RD DOWN EFF.	50/102	50/141
3rd Down Pct.	49%	35%
4TH DOWN EFF.	16/38	32/60
4th Down Pct.	42%	53%
SACKS-YARDS	41-212	20-82
TOUCHDOWNS	147	125

SCORE BY QTR	1	2	3	4	OT	TOT
SABERCATS	223	315	220	275	-	1,033
OPPONENTS	175	257	189	256	-	877

RUSHING	ATT	YDS	AVG	TD	LG
Fletcher	21	45	2.1	9	7
Simmons	22	38	1.7	8	7
Michna	12	33	2.8	4	12
Godfrey	6	20	3.3	1	11
Whittaker	6	15	2.5	1	6
Williams	4	14	3.5	2	8
Folkerts	9	12	1.3	2	8
Jackson	3	8	2.7	0	4
Watkins	5	8	1.6	1	4
Mudge	1	5	5.0	0	5
Goodson	1	4	4.0	0	4
Willis	1	3	3.0	0	3
Mustain	2	-14	-7.0	0	0
SABERCATS	93	191	2.1	28	12
OPPONENTS	116	268	2.3	20	19

RECEIVING	NO	YDS	AVG	TD	LG
Willis	123	1,606	13.1	35	41
Williams	96	1,207	12.6	21	45
Whittaker	89	998	11.2	27	40
Simmons	33	401	12.2	9	47
Jackson	23	312	13.6	3	43
Roe	12	135	11.2	5	27
Goodson	11	134	12.2	1	22
Ranglin	4	37	9.2	1	22
Brookins	4	32	8.0	0	11
Watkins	2	40	20.0	1	23
SABERCATS	397	4,902	12.3	103	47
OPPONENTS	395	4,538	11.5	93	49

KO RETURNS	NO	YDS	AVG	TD	LG
Williams	45	895	19.9	2	57
Brookins	25	488	19.5	1	58
Willis	13	124	9.5	0	25
Jackson	5	71	14.2	0	22
Whittaker	2	-1	-0.5	0	0
Fletcher	1	32	32.0	0	32
Davis	1	17	17.0	0	17
Thomas	1	14	14.0	0	14
Fontenette	1	4	4.0	0	4
SABERCATS	94	1,644	17.5	3	58
OPPONENTS	107	1,761	16.5	3	57

MFG RETURNS	NO	YDS	AVG	TD	LG
Brookins	1	24	24.0	0	24
Thomas	1	22	22.0	0	22
SABERCATS	2	46	23.0	0	24
OPPONENTS	2	85	42.5	1	56

SCORING	TD	FG	PAT	2PT	S	PTS
Willis	35	0	0	1	0	212
Whittaker	33	0	0	1	0	200
Williams	25	0	0	0	0	150
Pertuit	0	3/5	122/137	0	0	131
Simmons	17	0	0	0	0	102
Fletcher	9	0	0	0	1	56
Thomas	6	0	0	1	0	38
Roe	5	0	0	1	0	32
Michna	4	0	0	2/3	0	24
Jackson	3	0	0	1	0	20
Folkerts	2	0	0	0	0	12
Fontenette	2	0	0	0	0	12
Watkins	2	0	0	0	0	12
Godfrey	1	0	0	0	0	6
Brookins	1	0	0	0	0	6
Ranglin	1	0	0	0	0	6
Goodson	1	0	0	0	0	6
Carter	0	0	0	0	1	2
Octavien	0	0	0	1	0	2
Warren	0	0	0	0	1	2
TEAM	0	0	0	0	1	2
Mustain	0	0	0	2/4	0	0
Garcia	0	0	0	0/2	0	0
SABERCATS	147	3/5	122/137	4/9	4	1,033
OPPONENTS	125	5/9	104/120	2/6	1	877

FIELD GOALS	1-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+
Pertuit	0/0	1/1	2/2	0/0	0/2
SABERCATS	0/0	1/1	2/2	0/0	0/2
OPPONENTS	0/0	3/3	0/0	2/3	0/3

SABERCATS (3/5): (-) (-) (-) (-) (-) (-) (-) (37) (-)
(-) (-) (-) (64N) (24) (55N) (34) (-) (-) OPPONENTS
(5/9): (49N) (-) (24) (-) (61N, 25) (42) (60N) (-) (-)
(-) (-) (27) (-) (-) (-) (59N) (47) (-)

INTERCEPTIONS	NO	YDS	AVG	TD	LG
Thomas	15	334	22.3	6	53
Whittaker	6	93	15.5	4	45
Fontenette	3	56	18.7	2	36
Neal	1	16	16.0	0	16
Simmons	1	7	7.0	0	7
Fletcher	1	1	1.0	0	1
Stewart	1	0	0.0	0	0

SABERCATS	28	507	18.1	12	53
OPPONENTS	24	373	15.5	6	54

DEFENSE	I	S	A	SK	PD	FF	FR
Fontenette	107.0	97	20	0	22	0	2
Neal	96.5	83	27	0	17	4	0
Thomas	74.0	65	18	0	25	0	2
Whittaker	65.5	49	33	1.0	4	2	1
Maka	35.0	26	18	11.5	2	1	1
Willis	28.0	24	8	0	0	0	0
Fletcher	21.5	15	13	6.0	3	0	2
Stewart	21.5	13	17	11.0	3	3	4
Warren	16.0	11	10	2.0	3	0	1
Simmons	14.5	10	9	0	0	0	0
Carter	14.0	11	6	6.5	0	0	0
Brookins	12.5	11	3	0	0	0	0
Williams	12.0	9	6	0	0	0	0
Octavien	9.5	8	3	1.0	0	1	0
Mau'i'a	4.5	2	5	1.0	0	0	0
Pertuit	4.0	4	0	0	0	0	0
Jackson	4.0	3	2	0	0	0	0
Vasquez	2.5	1	3	1.0	0	0	0
Norwood	2.0	2	0	0	0	0	0
Campbell	1.5	1	1	0	0	0	0
Folkerts	1.5	1	1	0	0	0	0
Watkins	1.0	1	0	0	0	0	0
TEAM	1.0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Mudge	0.5	0	1	0	0	0	0
Landry	0.5	0	1	0	0	0	0
Roe	0.0	0	0	0	1	0	0

SABERCATS	550.5	448	205	41.0	81	13	13
OPPONENTS	493.0	399	188	20.0	61	11	10

PASSING	GP/GS	CMP	ATT	YDS	PCT	TD	INT	LG	YDS/GM.	RATE
Michna	13/13	249	387	3,116	64.3	68	8	47	239.7	120.22
Garcia	4/4	98	159	1,154	61.6	24	13	41	288.5	87.36
Mustain	11/1	50	93	632	53.8	11	3	36	57.5	91.33
TEAM		0	0	-68	0.0	0	0	0	-5.7	39.58
SABERCATS		397	639	4,834	62.1	103	24	47	268.6	109.31
OPPONENTS		395	716	4,331	55.2	93	28	49	240.6	89.44



SABERCATS INDIVIDUAL SEASON/GAME HIGHS

AFL - 2013 REGULAR SEASON San Jose SaberCats Game Superlatives (Accurate as of 7/28/13)

INDIVIDUAL GAME HIGHS

Rushes.....	5 SIMMONS, Jamarko at New Orleans VooDoo (Apr 27, 2013) FLETCHER, Jabari at Iowa Barnstormers (Jun 15, 2013) GODFREY, Dennis vs Chicago Rush (Jul 27, 2013)
Yards Rushing.....	19 GODFREY, Dennis vs Chicago Rush (Jul 27, 2013)
TD Rushes.....	3 FLETCHER, Jabari vs Pittsburgh Power (Jun 08, 2013)
Long Rush.....	12 MICHNA, Russ at Jacksonville Sharks (May 18, 2013)
Pass attempts.....	45 GARCIA, Aaron vs Spokane Shock (Apr 19, 2013)
Pass completions....	28 GARCIA, Aaron vs Spokane Shock (Apr 19, 2013) MICHNA, Russ at Iowa Barnstormers (Jun 15, 2013)
Yards Passing.....	392 MICHNA, Russ at Iowa Barnstormers (Jun 15, 2013)
TD Passes.....	9 MICHNA, Russ at Iowa Barnstormers (Jun 15, 2013) MICHNA, Russ vs Arizona Rattlers (Jun 22, 2013)
Long Pass.....	47 MICHNA, Russ at New Orleans VooDoo (Apr 27, 2013)
Receptions.....	12 WILLIAMS, Fred at Spokane Shock (Jun 01, 2013)
Yards Receiving.....	155 WILLIAMS, Fred at Jacksonville Sharks (May 18, 2013)
TD Receptions.....	5 WILLIS, Jason at Iowa Barnstormers (Jun 15, 2013) WILLIAMS, Fred vs Arizona Rattlers (Jun 22, 2013)
Long Reception.....	47 SIMMONS, Jamarko at New Orleans VooDoo (Apr 27, 2013)
Field Goals.....	1 PERTUIT, Nich at Jacksonville Sharks (May 18, 2013) PERTUIT, Nich at Utah Blaze (Jun 29, 2013) PERTUIT, Nich at Pittsburgh Power (Jul 13, 2013)
Long Field Goal....	37 PERTUIT, Nich at Jacksonville Sharks (May 18, 2013)
Long MFG Return....	24 BROOKINS, Mervin at San Antonio Talons (Mar 23, 2013)
Long Kickoff Return.	58 BROOKINS, Mervin vs Orlando Predators (Mar 29, 2013)
Tackles.....	10.5 FONTENETTE, Ken vs Chicago Rush (Jul 27, 2013)
Sacks.....	3.0 STEWART, Jason at Pittsburgh Power (Jul 13, 2013) STEWART, Jason vs Chicago Rush (Jul 27, 2013)
Tackles For Loss....	3.0 STEWART, Jason at Pittsburgh Power (Jul 13, 2013) STEWART, Jason vs Chicago Rush (Jul 27, 2013)
Interceptions.....	3 THOMAS, Clevan vs Orlando Predators (Mar 29, 2013)

AFL - 2013 REGULAR SEASON San Jose SaberCats Game Superlatives (Accurate as of 7/28/13)

TEAM GAME HIGHS

Rushes.....	10 at Jacksonville Sharks (May 18, 2013)
Yards Rushing.....	28 at Pittsburgh Power (Jul 13, 2013)
Yards Per Rush.....	5.0 vs Spokane Shock (Apr 19, 2013)
TD Rushes.....	4 at Pittsburgh Power (Jul 13, 2013)
Pass attempts.....	46 at Arizona Rattlers (Apr 06, 2013) at Spokane Shock (Jun 01, 2013)
Pass completions....	28 vs Spokane Shock (Apr 19, 2013) at Iowa Barnstormers (Jun 15, 2013)
Yards Passing.....	386 at Iowa Barnstormers (Jun 15, 2013)
Yards Per Pass.....	11.9 at Jacksonville Sharks (May 18, 2013)
TD Passes.....	9 at Iowa Barnstormers (Jun 15, 2013) vs Arizona Rattlers (Jun 22, 2013)
Total Plays.....	52 at Spokane Shock (Jun 01, 2013)
Total Offense.....	398 at Iowa Barnstormers (Jun 15, 2013)
Yards Per Play.....	9.2 vs Chicago Rush (Jul 27, 2013)
Points.....	78 at Pittsburgh Power (Jul 13, 2013)
Sacks By.....	8 at Pittsburgh Power (Jul 13, 2013)
First Downs.....	26 at Iowa Barnstormers (Jun 15, 2013)
Penalties.....	15 at Spokane Shock (Jun 01, 2013)
Penalty Yards.....	93 at Jacksonville Sharks (May 18, 2013)
Turnovers.....	5 vs Spokane Shock (Apr 19, 2013)
Interceptions By....	4 at Pittsburgh Power (Jul 13, 2013)



SABERCATS INDIVIDUAL SEASON/GAME HIGHS

AFL - 2013 REGULAR SEASON San Jose SaberCats Game Superlatives (Accurate as of 7/28/13)

OPPONENT INDIVIDUAL GAME HIGHS

Rushes.....	11 ROSS, Derrick, vs Philadelphia Soul (Jul 20, 2013)
Yards Rushing.....	44 BOLTUS, Jason, at Utah Blaze (Jun 29, 2013)
TD Rushes.....	3 TENNELL, Adron, at Spokane Shock (Jun 01, 2013)
Long Rush.....	19 DUVALT, Chris, at New Orleans VooDoo (Apr 27, 2013)
Pass attempts.....	48 GRADY, Tommy, vs Utah Blaze (May 25, 2013)
Pass completions....	33 RATERINK, J.J., at Iowa Barnstormers (Jun 15, 2013)
Yards Passing.....	376 RATERINK, J.J., at Iowa Barnstormers (Jun 15, 2013)
TD Passes.....	9 ROWLEY, Kyle, vs Orlando Predators (Mar 29, 2013) RATERINK, J.J., at Iowa Barnstormers (Jun 15, 2013)
Long Pass.....	49 ROWLEY, Kyle, vs Orlando Predators (Mar 29, 2013)
Receptions.....	15 THOMAS, Marco, at Iowa Barnstormers (Jun 15, 2013)
Yards Receiving.....	209 JACKSON, Amarri, vs Orlando Predators (Mar 29, 2013)
TD Receptions.....	5 JACKSON, Amarri, vs Orlando Predators (Mar 29, 2013) THOMAS, Marco, at Iowa Barnstormers (Jun 15, 2013)
Long Reception.....	49 JACKSON, Amarri, vs Orlando Predators (Mar 29, 2013)
Field Goals.....	1 LINDHOLM, Garrett, at Arizona Rattlers (Apr 06, 2013) CISMESIA, Gary, at New Orleans VooDoo (Apr 27, 2013) PETTREY, Aaron, vs Cleveland Gladiators (May 04, 2013) SCACCIA, Fabrizio, at Iowa Barnstormers (Jun 15, 2013) MARTINEZ, Carlos, vs Philadelphia Soul (Jul 20, 2013)
Long Field Goal.....	47 MARTINEZ, Carlo, vs Philadelphia Soul (Jul 20, 2013)
Long MFG Return.....	56 BROWN, Carlton, vs San Antonio Talons (Jul 06, 2013)
Long Kickoff Return...	57 PAYNE, Quorey, at New Orleans VooDoo (Apr 27, 2013) GRAY, Reggie, vs Chicago Rush (Jul 27, 2013)
Tackles.....	9.5 SOLOMON, Jeffrey, at Spokane Shock (Jun 01, 2013)
Sacks.....	2.0 ROBBINS, Aaron, at Jacksonville Sharks (May 18, 2013) BELL, Beau, at Spokane Shock (Jun 01, 2013) FANCE, Calvin, vs Philadelphia Soul (Jul 20, 2013)
Tackles For Loss....	2.0 BELL, Beau, vs Spokane Shock (Apr 19, 2013) ROBBINS, Aaron, at Jacksonville Sharks (May 18, 2013) BELL, Beau, at Spokane Shock (Jun 01, 2013) FANCE, Calvin, vs Philadelphia Soul (Jul 20, 2013)
Interceptions.....	5 STEPHENS, Paul, vs Spokane Shock (Apr 19, 2013)

AFL - 2013 REGULAR SEASON San Jose SaberCats Game Superlatives (Accurate as of 7/28/13)

OPPONENT GAME HIGHS

Rushes.....	13 at Utah Blaze (Jun 29, 2013)
Yards Rushing.....	46 at Utah Blaze (Jun 29, 2013)
Yards Per Rush.....	7.7 at Pittsburgh Power (Jul 13, 2013)
TD Rushes.....	4 at Spokane Shock (Jun 01, 2013)
Pass attempts.....	50 at Pittsburgh Power (Jul 13, 2013)
Pass completions....	33 at Iowa Barnstormers (Jun 15, 2013)
Yards Passing.....	376 at Iowa Barnstormers (Jun 15, 2013)
Yards Per Pass.....	10.4 at Arizona Rattlers (Apr 06, 2013)
TD Passes.....	9 vs Orlando Predators (Mar 29, 2013) at Iowa Barnstormers (Jun 15, 2013)
Total Plays.....	55 vs Utah Blaze (May 25, 2013)
Total Offense.....	385 at Iowa Barnstormers (Jun 15, 2013)
Yards Per Play.....	7.9 at Arizona Rattlers (Apr 06, 2013)
Points.....	75 at Spokane Shock (Jun 01, 2013)
Sacks By.....	2 at San Antonio Talons (Mar 23, 2013) at Arizona Rattlers (Apr 06, 2013) vs Spokane Shock (Apr 19, 2013) at New Orleans VooDoo (Apr 27, 2013) at Jacksonville Sharks (May 18, 2013) at Spokane Shock (Jun 01, 2013) vs Philadelphia Soul (Jul 20, 2013) vs Chicago Rush (Jul 27, 2013)
First Downs.....	24 at Iowa Barnstormers (Jun 15, 2013)
Penalties.....	11 vs Utah Blaze (May 25, 2013)
Penalty Yards.....	73 vs Utah Blaze (May 25, 2013)
Turnovers.....	5 at Pittsburgh Power (Jul 13, 2013)
Interceptions By....	5 vs Spokane Shock (Apr 19, 2013)



SABERCATS PLAYER GAME PARTICIPATION

AFL - 2013 REGULAR SEASON
San Jose SaberCats Games Played (Through games of 7/31/13)

#	Name	GP/GS	SA	ORL	ARI	SPO	NO	CLE	TB	JAC	UTAH	SPO	PIT	IOWA	ARI	UTAH	SA	PIT	PHI	CHI
13	BROOKINS, Mervin	4/4	START	START	START	START	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
68	BUSSEY, George	18/18	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START
60	CAMPBELL, Terrence	1/0	...	...	XXX	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
23	CARTER, Terrance	13/13	...	...	...	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	...	...
77	CLARK, Devin	1/1	...	...	START	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1	DAVIS, Rashied	1/0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	XXX
54	FLETCHER, Jabari	15/12	START	START	START	...	...	...	XXX	XXX	START	XXX	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START
47	FOLKERTS, Brian	6/6	START	START	START	START	START	START	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5	FONTENETTE, Ken	15/15	...	...	...	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START
3	GARCIA, Aaron	4/4	START	START	START	START	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
69	GODFREY, Dennis	4/3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	XXX	...	START	START	START
1	GOODSON, Samora	3/3	START	START	...	START	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
11	JACKSON, Amarri	7/1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	XXX	...	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	...	...	START	...
93	LANDRY, Mike	1/0	XXX	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
98	MAKA, Francis	16/15	START	...	...	START	START	XXX	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START
44	MAUIA Wesley	4/2	...	START	START	...	...	XXX	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
50	MCNEIL, Raymond	18/13	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	XXX	START	START	START	XXX	START	START	START
12	MICHNA, Russ	13/13	...	...	...	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	...	START	START	START	START	START	START	START
70	MUDGE, Jordan	13/8	...	...	...	XXX	XXX	...	...	XXX	XXX	XXX	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START
10	MUSTAIN, Mitch	11/1	...	...	XXX	...	...	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	START	...	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	...	...
6	NEAL, JC	18/16	START	START	START	XXX	START	START	START	START	XXX	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START
18	NORWOOD, Eric	1/0	...	...	...	XXX	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
53	OCTAVIEN, Steve	6/2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	START	START
4	PERTUIT, Nich	18/0	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX
64	RANGLIN, Rich	15/15	...	...	...	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START
9	ROE, James	2/1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	XXX	START
45	SHEPPARD, Malcolm	1/0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	XXX	...	...	...	...	...	...
21	SIMMONS, Jamariko	10/2	XXX	XXX	XXX	START	START	XXX	XXX	...	XXX	...	...	...	...	...	XXX	XXX	...	...
99	STEWART, Jason	18/18	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START
24	TAGGART, Tommy	1/0	...	...	XXX	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
8	THOMAS, Clevon	18/18	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START
36	VASQUEZ, Luis	2/0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	XXX	XXX
20	WARREN, Justin	11/8	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	XXX	XXX	XXX	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
73	WATKINS, TJ	10/8	START	START	...	...	...	XXX	START	START	START	START	START	...	XXX	START	...	...	...	...
17	WHITTAKER, Huey	17/17	START	START	...	...	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START
15	WILLIAMS, Fred	13/12	...	...	START	...	XXX	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	...	...
7	WILLIS, Jason	18/18	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START



WEEKLY AWARDS (IND. GAME AND AFL)

AFL - 2013 REGULAR SEASON

Week 1

SJ @ SA

Russell Athletic Offensive Player of the Game
Riddell Defensive Player of the Game

J. Lewis Small Playmaker of the Game Cutters Catch of the Game

AFL Highlight of the Game

AFL

Arena Football League MVP of the Week
Russell Athletic Offensive Player of the Week
Riddell Defensive Player of the Week

J. Lewis Small Playmaker of the Week

Cutters Catch of the Week

AFL Highlight of the Week

SJ - WR Huey Whittaker

SA - DB Fred Shaw

SJ - WR Huey Whittaker

SJ - WR Huey Whittaker's one-handed three-yard TD catch in the first quarter

SA - DB Fred Shaw's 54-yard interception return for a TD in the third quarter

SPO - QB Erik Meyer

SPO - QB Erik Meyer

IOWA - DB Ter'Ran Benton

SJ - WR Huey Whittaker

NO - DB Eddie Moten recorded the game-winning interception in the endzone vs. ORL

ARI - DL Marcus Pittman's 44-yard fumble return for a score vs. PHI

Week 2

SJ vs. ORL

Russell Athletic Offensive Player of the Game
Riddell Defensive Player of the Game

J. Lewis Small Playmaker of the Game

Cutters Catch of the Game

AFL Highlight of the Game

AFL

Arena Football MVP of the Week
Russell Athletic Offensive Player of the Week
Riddell Defensive Player of the Week

J. Lewis Small Playmaker of the Week

Cutters Catch of the Week

AFL Highlight of the Week

ORL - WR Amarri Jackson

SJ - DB Clevan Thomas

ORL - WR Amarri Jackson

SJ - WR Jamarko Simmons' late fourth quarter TD catch against the wall

SJ - DB Mervin Brookins' 58-yard kick return for a TD with just 27 seconds left

ARI - QB Nick Davila

TB - QB Adrian McPherson

JAC - DL Jerry Turner

ORL - WR Amarri Jackson

TB - WR Joe Hills' touchdown catch where he flipped over the wall.

SJ - DB Clevan Thomas' game winning interception in the fourth quarter (3rd of game)

Week 3

SJ @ ARI

Russell Athletic Offensive Player of the Game
Riddell Defensive Player of the Game

J. Lewis Small Playmaker of the Game Cutters Catch of the Game

AFL Highlight of the Game

AFL

Arena Football League MVP of the Week
Russell Athletic Offensive Player of the Week
Riddell Defensive Player of the Week

J. Lewis Small Playmaker of the Week

Cutters Catch of the Week

AFL Highlight of the Week

ARI - FB Odie Armstrong

ARI - DB Virgil Gray

SJ - DB Mervin Brookins

SJ - WR Huey Whittaker's juggling TD catch in the second quarter

ARI - FB Odie Armstrong's 37-yard TD reception to open the second half

SPO - QB Erik Meyer

TB - WR Joe Hills

ORL - LB Marcus Everett

CLE - WR Dominick Goodman

UTAH - WR Mario Urrutia's 16-yard TD catch where he flipped backwards over the wall

SPO - QB Arvell Nelson's improbable nine-yard TD reception

Week 4

SJ Bye

AFL

Arena Football League MVP of the Week
Russell Athletic Offensive Player of the Week
Riddell Defensive Player of the Week

J. Lewis Small Playmaker of the Week

Cutters Catch of the Week

AFL Highlight of the Week

PHI - LB Joe Goosby

SPO - QB Erik Meyer

PHI - LB Joe Goosby

JAC - WR Jeff Hughley

SPO - WR Adron Tennell's one-handed fourth quarter TD reception against the Arizona Rattlers

JAC - WR Jeff Hughley's missed field goal return for a touchdown

Week 5

SJ vs. SPO

Russell Athletic Offensive Player of the Game
Riddell Defensive Player of the Game

J. Lewis Small Playmaker of the Game

Cutters Catch of the Game

AFL Highlight of the Game

AFL

Arena Football League MVP of the Week
Russell Athletic Offensive Player of the Week
Riddell Defensive Player of the Week

J. Lewis Small Playmaker of the Week

Cutters Catch of the Week

AFL Highlight of the Week

SPO - QB Erik Meyer

SPO - DB Paul Stephens

SPO - DB Paul Stephens

SPO - WR Adron Tennell's one-handed TD catch in the first quarter

SJ - WR Jason Willis' 41-yard TD reception in the third quarter

SPO - Paul Stephens

CLE - QB Brian Zbydniowski

SPO - DB Paul Stephens

SPO - WR Rod Windsor

UTAH - WR Aaron Lesue's diving 38-yard TD catch in the second quarter against the Chicago Rush

CHI - K Jose Martinez's 24-yard game-winning field goal against the Utah Blaze

CLE - K Ross Gornall's 45-yard game-tying field goal against the Philadelphia Soul



WEEKLY AWARDS (IND. GAME AND AFL)

AFL - 2013 REGULAR SEASON

Week 6

SJ @ NO

Russell Athletic Offensive Player of the Game

Riddell Defensive Player of the Game

J. Lewis Small Playmaker of the Game

Cutters Catch of the Game

AFL Highlight of the Game

AFL

Arena Football League MVP of the Week

Russell Athletic Offensive Player of the Week

Riddell Defensive Player of the Week

J. Lewis Small Playmaker of the Week

Cutters Catch of the Week

AFL Highlight of the Week

SJ - QB Russ Michna

SJ - DB Clevan Thomas

SJ - WR/LB Huey Whittaker

NO - WR Chris Duvall's 9-yard TD catch over the wall in the second quarter

SJ - WR/LB Huey Whittaker's 10-yard interception return for a TD in the first quarter.

TB - WR Joe Hills

TB - QB Adrian McPherson

JAC - DB Tracy Belton

CHI - WR Reggie Gray

CLE - DB Lenny Wilks' over-the-wall interception to end the first half against the Utah Blaze

CHI - WR Jared Jenkins' game-winning two point conversion catch against the Iowa Barnstormers

Week 7

SJ vs. CLE

Russell Athletic Offensive Player of the Game

Riddell Defensive Player of the Game

J. Lewis Small Playmaker of the Game

Cutters Catch of the Game

AFL Highlight of the Game

AFL

Arena Football League MVP of the Week

Russell Athletic Offensive Player of the Week

Riddell Defensive Player of the Week

J. Lewis Small Playmaker of the Week

Cutters Catch of the Week

AFL Highlight of the Week

SJ - WR Jason Willis

SJ - DL Jason Stewart

SJ - WR/KR Fred Williams

CLE - WR Dominick Goodman's over-the-wall touchdown reception in the third quarter.

SJ - WR/KR Fred Williams' pair of second quarter kickoff returns for touchdowns.

ARI - WR Rod Windsor

TB - QB Adrian McPherson

JAC - DB Tracy Belton

SJ - WR/KR Fred Williams

CLE - WR Dominick Goodman's over-the-wall touchdown reception in the third quarter.

SJ - WR/KR Fred Williams' pair of second quarter kickoff returns for touchdowns.

Week 8

SJ vs. TB

Russell Athletic Offensive Player of the Game

Riddell Defensive Player of the Game

J. Lewis Small Playmaker of the Game

Cutters Catch of the Game

AFL Highlight of the Game

AFL

Arena Football League MVP of the Week

Russell Athletic Offensive Player of the Week

Riddell Defensive Player of the Week

J. Lewis Small Playmaker of the Week

Cutters Catch of the Week

AFL Highlight of the Week

SJ - QB Russ Michna

SJ - DB Ken Fontenette

SJ - WR/LB Huey Whittaker

SJ - DB Ken Fontenette's second interception of the game in the third quarter, which he returned for a touchdown.

TB - QB Adrian McPherson's record-breaking 23rd rushing touchdown of the season, which came in the third quarter and set the Arena Football League's single-season record for rushing touchdowns by a quarterback.

ORL - QB Aaron Garcia

ORL - QB Aaron Garcia

PHI - DL Bryan Robinson

ORL - WR T.T. Toliver

CHI - WR Reggie Gray's 32-yard touchdown catch from Danny Southwick late in the fourth quarter against the Cleveland Gladiators.

TB - QB Adrian McPherson's record-breaking 23rd rushing touchdown of the season, which came in the third quarter and set the Arena Football League's single-season record for rushing touchdowns by a quarterback.

Week 9

SJ at JAC

Russell Athletic Offensive Player of the Game

Riddell Defensive Player of the Game

J. Lewis Small Playmaker of the Game

Cutters Catch of the Game

AFL Highlight of the Game

AFL

Arena Football League MVP of the Week

Russell Athletic Offensive Player of the Week

Riddell Defensive Player of the Week

J. Lewis Small Playmaker of the Week

Cutters Catch of the Week

AFL Highlight of the Week

SJ - QB Russ Michna

SJ - LB Francis Maka

SJ - WR/LB Huey Whittaker

JAC - WR Jeron Harvey's one-handed touchdown catch in the second quarter.

JAC - DL Jerry Turner's blocked extra point that was returned for two points by Ayanga Okpokowu ruck.

SA - LB Jamar Ransom

NO - WR Donovan Morgan

SA - LB Jamar Ransom

SPO - DB/KR Terrance Sanders

PIT - LB Alvin Ray Jackson's three-yard over-the-wall touchdown catch on a fourth and goal.

UTAH - DB Al Phillips' bone-jarring hit on kick coverage that knocked the ball loose vs. Iowa.



WEEKLY AWARDS (IND. GAME AND AFL)

AFL - 2013 REGULAR SEASON

Week 10

SJ vs. UTAH

Russell Athletic Offensive Player of the Game
Riddell Defensive Player of the Game
J. Lewis Small Playmaker of the Game
 Cutters Catch of the Game
AFL Highlight of the Game

AFL

Arena Football League MVP of the Week
 Russell Athletic Offensive Player of the Week
Riddell Defensive Player of the Week
 J. Lewis Small Playmaker of the Week
 Cutters Catch of the Week
 AFL Highlight of the Week

UTAH - WR Aaron Lesue
SJ - DB Clevan Thomas
SJ - WR Fred Williams
 UTAH - WR Mario Urrutia's flying over-the-wall catch in the third quarter.
SJ - DB Clevan Thomas' 50-yard interception return for a score in the third quarter.

PIT - DB Chris LeFlore
 PHI - QB Dan Raudabaugh
SJ - DB Clevan Thomas
 SA - WR D.J. Stephens
 PHI - WR Ryan McDaniel's diving, one-handed touchdown reception in the fourth quarter vs. TB
 CHI - WR Reggie Gray's 57-yard kick return for a touchdown against NO in the second quarter.

Week 11

SJ @ SPO

Russell Athletic Offensive Player of the Game
 Riddell Defensive Player of the Game
 J. Lewis Small Playmaker of the Game
 Cutters Catch of the Game
AFL Highlight of the Game

AFL

Arena Football League MVP of the Week
 Russell Athletic Offensive Player of the Week
 Riddell Defensive Player of the Week
 J. Lewis Small Playmaker of the Week
 Cutters Catch of the Week
 AFL Highlight of the Week

SPO - WR Adron Tennell
 SPO - DB Terrance Sanders
 SPO - WR/DB Jeffrey Solomon
 SPO - WR Brandon Thompkins' 34-yard TD reception in the second quarter.
 SPO - .DB Terrance Sanders' 42-yard interception return for a touchdown in the second quarter.

SA - WR DJ Stephens
 CHI - QB Carson Coffman
 IOWA - DL Mike Lewis
 NO - DB Cameron McGlenn
 NO - WR Donovan Morgan's circus catch over the wall in the second quarter against Cleveland.
 TB - QB Adrian McPherson threw a game-winning touchdown pass to WR Joe Hills as time expired in the win against Iowa

Week 12

SJ vs. PIT

Russell Athletic Offensive Player of the Game
Riddell Defensive Player of the Game
J. Lewis Small Playmaker of the Game
 Cutters Catch of the Game

AFL Highlight of the Game

AFL

Arena Football League MVP of the Week
 Russell Athletic Offensive Player of the Week
 Riddell Defensive Player of the Week
 J. Lewis Small Playmaker of the Week
 Cutters Catch of the Week
 AFL Highlight of the Week

PIT - WR Mike Washington
SJ - WR/LB Huey Whittaker
SJ - WR/KR Fred Williams
SJ - WR Fred Williams' 35-yard touchdown reception in the third quarter down the sideline
 PIT - DB Sergio Gilliam's 46-yard interception return for a touchdown with under one minute to play to tie the game.

ARI - DB Arkeith Brown
 CHI - WR Jared Jenkins
 ARI - DB Arkeith Brown
 CLE - WR Dominick Goodman
 JAC - WR Jeron Harvey's 23-yard over-the-wall touchdown grab in the third quarter vs. SPO
 PIT - DB Sergio Gilliam's game-tying 46-yard interception return for a touchdown with under a minute to play against the SaberCats.

Week 13

SJ at IOWA

Russell Athletic Offensive Player of the Game
 Riddell Defensive Player of the Game
 J. Lewis Small Playmaker of the Game
 Cutters Catch of the Game
AFL Highlight of the Game

AFL

Arena Football League MVP of the Week
 Russell Athletic Offensive Player of the Week
 Riddell Defensive Player of the Week
 J. Lewis Small Playmaker of the Week
 Cutters Catch of the Week
 AFL Highlight of the Week

IOWA - QB J.J. Raterink
 IOWA - DL Mike Lewis
 IOWA - DL Mike Lewis
 IOWA - OL Anthony Parker's catch on a screen pass.
 IOWA - Defensive stand on the last series to preserve the victory.

IOWA - QB J.J. Raterink
 IOWA - QB J.J. Raterink
 CHI - DB Vic Hall
 IOWA - WR Marco Thomas
 SA - DB Fred Shaw's interception returned for the winning touchdown as time expired in Chicago.
 PHI - FB Derrick Ross becoming the career AFL leader in rushing after posting 54 yards on the ground against Pittsburgh.



WEEKLY AWARDS (IND. GAME AND AFL)

AFL - 2013 REGULAR SEASON

Week 14

SJ vs. ARI

Russell Athletic Offensive Player of the Game
Riddell Defensive Player of the Game
J. Lewis Small Playmaker of the Game
Cutters Catch of the Game
AFL Highlight of the Game

SJ - WR Fred Williams
SJ - DB Ken Fontenette
SJ - WR Fred Williams
SJ - WR Jason Willis' incredible over-the-wall touchdown catch in the second quarter.
SJ - DB Ken Fontenette's interception in the third quarter, which he returned for a touchdown.

AFL

Arena Football League MVP of the Week
Russell Athletic Offensive Player of the Game
Riddell Defensive Player of the Game
J. Lewis Small Playmaker of the Week
Cutters Catch of the Week
AFL Highlight of the Week

SPD - LB Terrance Moore
SJ - WR Fred Williams
SJ - DB Ken Fontenette
PHI - WR Larry Brackins
CLE - WR Dominick Goodman's over-the-wall touchdown reception in a loss to Jacksonville.
CHI - WR/KR Reggie Gray's touchdown pass on an HB pass to Jared Jenkins in a win over Tampa Bay.

Week 15

SJ at UTAH

Russell Athletic Offensive Player of the Game
Riddell Defensive Player of the Game
J. Lewis Small Playmaker of the Game
Cutters Catch of the Game
AFL Highlight of the Game

UTAH - QB Jason Boltus
UTAH - LB Antwan Marsh
SJ - WR/LB Huey Whittaker
UTAH - WR Anthony Jackson's incredible one-handed touchdown catch in the second quarter.
UTAH - WR Anthony Jackson's incredible one-handed touchdown catch in the second quarter.

AFL

Arena Football League MVP of the Week
Russell Athletic Offensive Player of the Game
Riddell Defensive Player of the Game
J. Lewis Small Playmaker of the Week
Cutters Catch of the Week
AFL Highlight of the Week

SA - DL Tim McGill
PHI - QB Dan Raudabaugh
SA - DL Tim McGill
PHI - WR Andrae Thurman
PIT - WR Washington's back shoulder touchdown reception in a loss to New Orleans.
SA - DL Tim McGill's late fourth quarter field goal block on an 18-yard attempt to win the game for the Talons over the Barnstormers, 35-34.

Week 16

SJ vs. SA

Russell Athletic Offensive Player of the Game
Riddell Defensive Player of the Game
J. Lewis Small Playmaker of the Game
Cutters Catch of the Game

AFL Highlight of the Game

SJ - WR Fred Williams
SJ - DB Clevan Thomas
SJ - WR/KR Fred Williams
SJ - DB Clevan Thomas' diving interception that he returned 53-yards for a touchdown in the fourth quarter.
SJ - DB Clevan Thomas' diving interception that he returned 53-yards for a touchdown in the fourth quarter.

AFL

Arena Football League MVP of the Week
Russell Athletic Offensive Player of the Game
Riddell Defensive Player of the Game
J. Lewis Small Playmaker of the Week
Cutters Catch of the Week

AFL Highlight of the Week

PHI - DB Rayshaun Kizer
ARI - QB Nick Davila
SJ - DB Clevan Thomas
ARI - DB Virgil Gray
SJ - DB Clevan Thomas' diving interception that he returned 53-yards for a touchdown in the fourth quarter.
PHI - LB Joe Goosby's 48-yard interception return for a touchdown against the Chicago Rush.

Week 17

SJ at PIT

Russell Athletic Offensive Player of the Game
Riddell Defensive Player of the Game
J. Lewis Small Playmaker of the Game
Cutters Catch of the Game
AFL Highlight of the Game

SJ - QB Russ Michna
SJ - DB Clevan Thomas
SJ - WR/LB Huey Whittaker
PIT - WR Mike Washington's catch against the wall in the third quarter.
SJ - DB Clevan Thomas' diving interception that he returned 53-yards for a touchdown in the fourth quarter.

AFL

Arena Football League MVP of the Week
Russell Athletic Offensive Player of the Game
Riddell Defensive Player of the Game
J. Lewis Small Playmaker of the Week
Cutters Catch of the Week
AFL Highlight of the Week

SA - QB Rohan Davey
SA - QB Rohan Davey
ARI - DB Virgil Gray
SA - WR D.J. Stephens
PIT - WR Mike Washington's touchdown catch into the wall against the SaberCats
PHI - DL Bryan Robinson's 11th sack of the season on Friday against the Utah Blaze



WEEKLY AWARDS (IND. GAME AND AFL)

AFL - 2013 REGULAR SEASON

Week 18

SJ vs. PHI

Russell Athletic Offensive Player of the Game

Riddell Defensive Player of the Game

J. Lewis Small Playmaker of the Game

Cutters Catch of the Game

AFL Highlight of the Game

PHI - QB Dan Raudabaugh

PHI - DL Calvin Fance

PHI - DB LaRico Stevenson

SJ - WR James Roe's 280th career touchdown catch in the second quarter.

PHI - DB LaRico Stevenson's three-yard fumble recovery on a kick return in the third quarter.

AFL

Arena Football League MVP of the Week

Russell Athletic Offensive Player of the Game

Riddell Defensive Player of the Game

J. Lewis Small Playmaker of the Week

Cutters Catch of the Week

AFL Highlight of the Week

CLE - QB Chris Dieker

CLE - QB Chris Dieker

CHI - DB Vic Hall

ORL - WR T.T. Toliver

PIT - WR Tyrone Collins' diving touchdown catch in the fourth quarter against the Storm

CHI - WR Reggie Gray and OL Colin Madison connected on a double pass on Saturday against the Arizona Rattlers.

Week 19

SJ vs. CHI

Russell Athletic Offensive Player of the Game

Riddell Defensive Player of the Game

J. Lewis Small Playmaker of the Game

Cutters Catch of the Game

AFL Highlight of the Game

SJ - WR Jason Willis

SJ - DB Clevan Thomas and DL Jason Stewart

SJ - DB Clevan Thomas

SJ - WR James Roe's one-handed touchdown catch in the third quarter.

SJ - DB Clevan Thomas' 51-yard interception return for a touchdown in the third quarter.

Arena Football League MVP of the Week

Russell Athletic Offensive Player of the Game

Riddell Defensive Player of the Game

J. Lewis Small Playmaker of the Week

Cutters Catch of the Week

AFL Highlight of the Week

TBD

ORL - QB Aaron Garcia

SJ - DL Jason Stewart

UTAH - WR/KR LaVaughn Macon

SJ - WR James Roe's incredible one-handed touchdown catch in the third quarter against the Rush

UTAH - WR/KR LaVaughn Macon returned a kickoff 54-yards for a score against the Gladiators and capped off the score with a celebration with OL Shannon Tevaga. The big man dropped the "People's Elbow" on Macon in one of the more exciting touchdown celebrations of the season.



TRANSACTIONS

SaberCats 2013 Roster Moves

January 2013

Friday January 4, 2013 SAN JOSE SABERCATS assigned QB Mitch Mustain and OL Andres Vargas on one-year contracts.

Monday January 14, 2013 SAN JOSE SABERCATS assigned OL TJ Watkins on a two-year contract.

Tuesday January 15, 2013 SAN JOSE SABERCATS activated OL Wayne Tribue from the Other League Exempt List.

Wednesday January 16, 2013 SAN JOSE SABERCATS placed OL Wayne Tribue from the Other League Exempt List (SF-NFL).

Tuesday January 22, 2013 SAN JOSE SABERCATS assigned WR Corbin Louks on a one-year contract.

Friday January 25, 2013 SAN JOSE SABERCATS assigned WR Jamarko Simmons on a two-year contract and OL Matt Spanos on a one-year contract.

Thursday January 31, 2013 SAN JOSE SABERCATS assigned DL Jabari Fletcher on a two-year contract.

February 2013

Wednesday February 13, 2013 SAN JOSE SABERCATS placed DB Dionte Dinkins on recallable reassignment.

Friday February 15, 2013 SAN JOSE SABERCATS assigned DB Wilfred Billingsley on a one-year contract.

Wednesday February 20, 2013 SAN JOSE SABERCATS assigned OL Jordan Mudge and DL Christian Tupou on one-year contracts.

Wednesday February 27, 2013 SAN JOSE SABERCATS assigned DB Clevan Thomas on a two-year contract.

March 2013

Friday March 1, 2013 SAN JOSE SABERCATS placed DB Jameel Dowling on the refuse to report list, placed DL Terrell Turner on reassignment, and placed OL Mike Diaz, OL Ben Liu and OL Raymond McNeil on the physically unable to perform list.

Sunday March 3, 2013 SAN JOSE SABERCATS placed OL TJ Watkins on the physically unable to perform list.

Monday March 4, 2013 SAN JOSE SABERCATS activated OL Mike Diaz from the physically unable to perform list.

Tuesday March 5, 2013 SAN JOSE SABERCATS assigned WR V'Keon Lacey, DB Greg Laybourn, QB Nate Lewis, DL Larnell Ransom and DL Kyle Thomas on one-year contracts and K Nich Pertuit on a two-year contract, activated OL Raymond McNeil and OL TJ Watkins from the physically unable to perform list and added LB Francis Maka, DL Jason Stewart and WR Huey Whittaker to the physically unable to perform list.

Wednesday March 6, 2013 SAN JOSE SABERCATS assigned OL Brian Folkerts on a one-year contract and placed OL Ako Poti on the physically unable to perform list

Friday March 8, 2013 SAN JOSE SABERCATS placed K Nich Pertuit on the physically unable to perform list and placed DB Wilfred Billingsley, WR V'Keon Lacey, QB Nate Lewis, DL Larnell Ransom, DL Kyle Thomas on reassignment.

Saturday March 9, 2013 SAN JOSE SABERCATS activated LB Francis Maka and WR Huey Whittaker from the physically unable to perform list and placed WR Samora Goodson and LB Justin Lawrence on the physically unable to perform list.

Sunday March 10, 2013 SAN JOSE SABERCATS activated OL Ako Poti from the physically unable to perform list and placed OL Mike Diaz and OL Ako Poti on league suspension.

Wednesday March 13, 2013 SAN JOSE SABERCATS activated WR Samora Goodson and DL Jason Stewart from the physically unable to perform list, placed WR Corbin Louks on the physically unable to perform list and placed DL Cedric McKinley on recallable reassignment.

Friday March 15, 2013 SAN JOSE SABERCATS placed DL Michael Ebbitt on reassignment and are assigned DL Eric Norwood on a one-year contract.

Saturday March 16, 2013 SAN JOSE SABERCATS traded WR Hank Edwards to the Jacksonville Sharks in exchange for DL Delvin Johnson, activate K Nich Pertuit from the physically unable to perform list, placed OL Ben Liu on injured reserve, placed DB Ken Fontenette on team suspension, activated LB Justin Lawrence and WR Corbin Louks from the physically unable perform list and placed them on recallable reassignment and placed DB Greg Laybourn, OL Matt Spanos, DL Christian Tupou and OL Andres Vargas on recallable reassignment.

Monday March 18, 2013 SAN JOSE SABERCATS activated DB Greg Laybourn, OL Matt Spanos and OL Andres Vargas from recallable reassignment, placed DL Delvin Johnson on the refuse to report list and placed OL Terrence Campbell and DB Andre Freeman on recallable reassignment.

Wednesday March 22, 2013 SAN JOSE SABERCATS activated OL Terrence Campbell and DB Andre Freeman from recallable reassignment, placed DL Eric Norwood on league suspension and placed FB Andres Vargas on reassignment.

Thursday March 23, 2013 SAN JOSE SABERCATS assigned DL Mike Landry and placed DB Greg Laybourn on reassignment.

Wednesday, March 27, 2013 SAN JOSE SABERCATS assigned FB Tommy Taggart and LB Wesley Maui'a on a two-year contracts, placed LB Francis Maka on team suspension and placed OL Matt Spanos on reassignment.

April 2013

Monday, April 1, 2013 SAN JOSE SABERCATS activated DB Ken Fontenette from team suspension and placed DL Mike Landry on recallable reassignment.

Wednesday, April 3, 2013 SAN JOSE SABERCATS are assigned OL Devin Clark, activated DL Mike Landry from recallable reassignment and placed DB Andre Freeman and OL Jordan Mudge on inactive reserve.

Monday, April 8, 2013 SAN JOSE SABERCATS activated LB Francis Maka from team suspension and placed LB Wesley Maui'a on recallable reassignment.

Wednesday, April 10, 2013 SAN JOSE SABERCATS activated LB Wesley Maui'a from recallable reassignment and placed FB Tommy



TRANSACTIONS

Taggart on recallable reassignment.

Friday, April 12, 2013 SAN JOSE SABERCATS activated FB Tommy Taggart from recallable reassignment and placed FB Brian Folkerts on recallable reassignment.

Saturday, April 13, 2013 SAN JOSE SABERCATS acquired DL Terrance Carter from the Orlando Predators in exchange for OL Terrence Campbell and DL Mike Landry and activated FB Brian Folkerts from recallable reassignment.

Monday, April 15, 2013 SAN JOSE SABERCATS activated DL Eric Norwood from league suspension, placed defensive back Andre Freeman on injured reserve and placed fullback Tommy Taggart on inactive reserve.

Wednesday, April 17, 2013 SAN JOSE SABERCATS are assigned OL Rich Ranglin, activated OL Jordan Mudge from inactive reserve, placed LB Wesley Maui'a and WR Huey Whittaker on inactive reserve and placed FB Tommy Taggart on injured reserve.

Monday, April 22, 2013 SAN JOSE SABERCATS are assigned QB Russ Michna on a two-year contract and placed QB Aaron Garcia on recallable reassignment.

Tuesday, April 23, 2013 SAN JOSE SABERCATS activated QB Aaron Garcia from recallable reassignment and placed WR Samora Goodson on recallable reassignment.

Thursday, April 25, 2013 SAN JOSE SABERCATS acquired WR Amari Jackson from the Orlando Predators in exchange for QB Aaron Garcia and OL Devin Clark, activated WR Huey Whittaker from inactive reserve and placed WR Samora Goodson on inactive reserve.

Friday, April 26, 2013 SAN JOSE SABERCATS activated LB Wesley Maui'a from inactive reserve, placed WR Amari Jackson on the refuse to report list and placed DL Eric Norwood on team suspension.

Tuesday, April 30, 2013 SAN JOSE SABERCATS traded WR Samora Goodson to the New Orleans VooDoo for future considerations, have been assigned WR Armand Robinson and placed OL Ben Liu on reassignment.

May 2013

Monday, May 6, 2013 SAN JOSE SABERCATS activated WR Amari Jackson from the refused to report list and placed FB Brian Folkerts on League Suspension.

Wednesday, May 15, 2013 SAN JOSE SABERCATS are assigned FB Sifa Etu and placed WR Jamarko Simmons on inactive reserve.

Thursday, May 16, 2013 SAN JOSE SABERCATS placed FB Brian Folkerts on Other League Exempt list (NFL-Carolina Panthers)

Monday, May 20, 2013 SAN JOSE SABERCATS are assigned DL Justin Edison on a one-year contract and placed WR Armand Robinson on inactive reserve.

Thursday, May 23, 2013 SAN JOSE SABERCATS activated WR Jamarko Simmons from inactive reserve and placed FB Sifa Etu on league suspension.

Tuesday, May 28, 2013 SAN JOSE SABERCATS are assigned DL Malcolm Sheppard and placed WR Jamarko Simmons on inactive reserve.

Thursday, May 30, 2013 SAN JOSE SABERCATS are assigned OL Kris Cavitt and placed DL Justin Edison on inactive reserve.

June 2013

Tuesday, June 4, 2013 SAN JOSE SABERCATS are assigned OL Dennis Godfrey and placed DL Malcolm Sheppard on recallable reassignment.

Thursday, June 6 SAN JOSE SABERCATS are assigned quarterback Zack Eskridge, activated DL Malcolm Sheppard from recallable reassignment, placed quarterback Russ Michna and offensive lineman TJ Watkins on inactive reserve and placed WR Jamarko Simmons and WR Armand Robinson on injured reserve.

Monday, June 10 SAN JOSE SABERCATS trade OL Michael Diaz and DL Eric Norwood to the Pittsburgh Power in exchange for future considerations.

Thursday, June 13 SAN JOSE SABERCATS activated QB Russ Michna and OL TJ Watkins from inactive reserve and placed DL Justin Warren and OL Kris Cavitt on inactive reserve.

Monday, June 17 SAN JOSE SABERCATS are assigned DL Steve Octavien on a one-year contract, placed DL Justin Warren on injured reserve and placed QB Zack Eskridge on reassignment.

Thursday, June 27 SAN JOSE SABERCATS activated WR Jamarko Simmons from injured reserve, placed OL Kris Cavitt on injured reserve, placed DL Malcolm Sheppard on league suspension and placed DB Jameel Dowling on reassignment.

July 2013

Monday, July 1 SAN JOSE SABERCATS are assigned DL Luis Vasquez on a one-year contract and placed DL Terrance Carter on inactive reserve.

Thursday, July 4 SAN JOSE SABERCATS activated DL Terrance Carter from inactive reserve and placed DL Luis Vasquez on inactive reserve.

Friday, July 12 SAN JOSE SABERCATS claim OL/FB Nick Torresso off reassignment.

Monday, July 15 SAN JOSE SABERCATS are assigned WR James Roe and DL Ollie Ogbu on one-year contracts, placed OL/FB Nick Torresso on the refuse to report list, activated DL Luis Vasquez from inactive reserve, placed WR Jamarko Simmons on injured reserve, and placed WR Fred Williams and DL Terrance Carter on inactive reserve.

Thursday, July 25 SAN JOSE SABERCATS are assigned WR Rashied Davis on a one-year contract, placed OL TJ Watkins on inactive reserve and DL Terrance Carter on injured reserve.

Monday, July 29 SAN JOSE SABERCATS are assigned DL Duke Pettijohn on a one-year contract and placed WR Rashied Davis on injured reserve.

2013 Roster And Bios



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2013 FINAL SABERCATS ALPHABETICAL ROSTER

NO.	NAME	POS	HT.	WT.	BIRTHDATE	EXP.	COLLEGE	HOMETOWN
13	MERVIN BROOKINS	DB	5-11	190	05/31/85	3	SACRAMENTO CITY COLLEGE	SACRAMENTO, CALIF.
68	GEORGE BUSSEY	OL	6-4	310	10/24/85	2	LOUISVILLE	LOUISVILLE, KY.
54	JABARI FLETCHER	DL	6-3	260	06/23/89	1	APPALACHIAN STATE	ATLANTA, GA.
5	KEN FONTENETTE	DB	5-11	200	01/14/86	2	HOUSTON	PFLUGERVILLE, TEXAS
69	DENNIS GODFREY	OL	6-3	335	11/10/87	0	WAKE FOREST	SANFORD, N.C.
11	AMARRI JACKSON	WR	6-5	225	05/18/85	2	SOUTH FLORIDA	SARASOTA, FLA.
98	FRANCIS MAKA	LB	6-2	250	05/10/85	2	HAWAII	SAN JOSE, CALIF.
44	WESLEY MAUIA	LB	6-2	275	02/05/86	1	WESTERN NEW MEXICO	STOCKTON, CALIF.
50	RAYMOND MCNEIL	OL	6-2	310	10/14/84	3	FORT VALLEY STATE (GA.)	RIVERSIDE, CALIF.
12	RUSS MICHNA	QB	6-2	220	02/03/81	5	WESTERN ILLINOIS	SCHAUMBURG, ILL.
70	JORDAN MUDGE	OL	6-4	320	08/08/89	0	NEVADA	FRESNO, CALIF.
10	MITCH MUSTAIN	QB	6-3	230	02/27/88	0	USC	FAYETTEVILLE, ARK.
6	JC NEAL	DB	6-0	200	01/14/87	2	NC STATE	SUMTER, S.C.
53	STEVE OCTAVIEN	DL	6-2	260	11/25/84	1	NEBRASKA	NAPLES, FLA.
56	OLLIE OGBU	DL	6-1	305	05/18/87	0	PENN STATE	STATEN ISLAND, N.Y.
4	NICH PERTUIT	K	5-11	195	04/07/83	2	UIW	BILLINGS, MONT.
45	DUKE PETTIJOHN	DL	6-2	245	06/07/77	8	SYRACUSE	BOSTON, MASS.
64	RICH RANGLIN	OL	6-3	315	09/27/85	3	CENTRAL CONNECTICUT STATE	YONKERS, N.Y.
9	JAMES ROE	WR	6-1	200	08/23/73	11	NORFOLK STATE	RICHMOND, VA.
99	JASON STEWART	DL	6-0	315	11/14/80	4	FRESNO STATE	BAKERSFIELD, CALIF.
8	CLEVAN THOMAS	DB	5-10	195	04/06/79	7	FLORIDA STATE	MIAMI, FLA.
36	LUIS VASQUEZ	DL	6-3	265	04/23/86	3	ARIZONA STATE	SAN DIEGO, CALIF.
17	HUEY WHITTAKER	WR	6-5	225	06/19/81	6	SOUTH FLORIDA	HERNANDO CTY., FLA.
7	JASON WILLIS	WR	6-1	200	07/26/80	5	OREGON	IOTA, LA.

Owner/Head Coach: Darren Arbet

Offensive and Special Teams Coordinator: Jeff Jarnigan

Offensive Line Coach: Jasper Harvey

*** Rosters Accurate as of 7/30/13, and are subject to change**

Defensive Coordinator: Cedric Walker

Defensive Line Coach: Corey Mayfield



2013 FINAL SABERCATS NUMERICAL ROSTER

NO.	NAME	POS	HT.	WT.	BIRTHDATE	EXP.	COLLEGE	HOMETOWN
4	NICH PERTUIT	K	5-11	195	04/07/83	2	UIW	BILLINGS, MONT.
5	KEN FONTENETTE	DB	5-11	200	01/14/86	2	HOUSTON	PFLUGERVILLE, TEXAS
6	JC NEAL	DB	6-0	200	01/14/87	2	NC STATE	SUMTER, S.C.
7	JASON WILLIS	WR	6-1	200	07/26/80	5	OREGON	IOTA, LA.
8	CLEVAN THOMAS	DB	5-10	195	04/06/79	7	FLORIDA STATE	MIAMI, FLA.
9	JAMES ROE	WR	6-1	200	08/23/73	11	NORFOLK STATE	RICHMOND, VA.
10	MITCH MUSTAIN	QB	6-3	230	02/27/88	0	USC	FAYETTEVILLE, ARK.
11	AMARRI JACKSON	WR	6-5	225	05/18/85	2	SOUTH FLORIDA	SARASOTA, FLA.
12	RUSS MICHNA	QB	6-2	220	02/03/81	5	WESTERN ILLINOIS	SCHAUMBURG, ILL.
13	MERVIN BROOKINS	DB	5-11	190	05/31/85	3	SACRAMENTO CITY COLLEGE	SACRAMENTO, CALIF.
17	HUEY WHITTAKER	WR	6-5	225	06/19/81	6	SOUTH FLORIDA	HERNANDO CTY., FLA.
36	LUIS VASQUEZ	DL	6-3	265	04/23/86	3	ARIZONA STATE	SAN DIEGO, CALIF.
44	WESLEY MAUIA	LB	6-2	275	02/05/86	1	WESTERN NEW MEXICO	STOCKTON, CALIF.
45	DUKE PETTIJOHN	DL	6-2	245	06/07/77	8	SYRACUSE	BOSTON, MASS.
50	RAYMOND MCNEIL	OL	6-2	310	10/14/84	3	FORT VALLEY STATE (GA.)	RIVERSIDE, CALIF.
53	STEVE OCTAVIEN	DL	6-2	260	11/25/84	1	NEBRASKA	NAPLES, FLA.
54	JABARI FLETCHER	DL	6-3	260	06/23/89	1	APPALACHIAN STATE	ATLANTA, GA.
56	OLLIE OGBU	DL	6-1	305	05/18/87	0	PENN STATE	STATEN ISLAND, N.Y.
64	RICH RANGLIN	OL	6-3	315	09/27/85	3	CENTRAL CONNECTICUT STATE	YONKERS, N.Y.
68	GEORGE BUSSEY	OL	6-4	310	10/24/85	2	LOUISVILLE	LOUISVILLE, KY.
69	DENNIS GODFREY	OL	6-3	335	11/10/87	0	WAKE FOREST	SANFORD, N.C.
70	JORDAN MUDGE	OL	6-4	320	08/08/89	0	NEVADA	FRESNO, CALIF.
98	FRANCIS MAKA	LB	6-2	250	05/10/85	2	HAWAII	SAN JOSE, CALIF.
99	JASON STEWART	DL	6-0	315	11/14/80	4	FRESNO STATE	BAKERSFIELD, CALIF.

Owner/Head Coach: Darren Arbet

Offensive and Special Teams Coordinator: Jeff Jarnigan

Offensive Line Coach: Jasper Harvey

*** Rosters Accurate as of 7/30/13, and are subject to change**

Defensive Coordinator: Cedric Walker

Defensive Line Coach: Corey Mayfield



SABERCATS PLAYER INFORMATION

#13 Mervin Brookins - DB - 5-11 - 190 Lbs - 05/31/85 - Sacramento City College

2013: Assigned to the SaberCats on a new two-year contract in Oct. of 2012 ... Made season debut on 3/23 @ SA, posted four total tackles (three solo), recovered a fumble, returned six kickoffs for 127 yards (averaging 21.8 yards per return) and returned a missed field goal for 24 yards ... Made one-and-a-half tackles and returned a kickoff 58 yards for the game-winning touchdown on 3/29 vs. ORL ... Had four solo tackles in addition to 139 return yards @ ARI on 4/6 ... Posted three tackles vs. SPO on 4/19 ... DNP @ NO on 4/27, on 5/4 vs. CLE, vs. TB on 5/10, @ JAC on 5/18, on 5/25 vs. UTAH, @ SPO on 6/1, vs. PIT on 6/8, @ IOWA on 6/15, 6/22 vs. ARI, @ UTAH on 6/29, 7/6 vs. SA, 7/13 @ PIT, 7/20 vs. PHI or vs. CHI on 7/27.

Last Game: 4/19/13 vs. SPO; **Tackles:** 12.5; **Ints:** 0; **FF:** 0; **FR:** 0; **Ret:** 25; **Yds:** 488; **Avg:** 19.5; **TD:** 1

#68 George Bussey - OL - 6-4 - 310 Lbs - 10/24/85 - Louisville

2013: Assigned to the SaberCats on a two-year contract in Nov. 2012 ... Made his SaberCats debut on 3/23 @ SA and started on the offensive line ... Started on the offensive line vs. ORL on 3/29 ... Made third start of the season @ ARI on 4/6 ... Started on 4/19 vs. SPO, on 4/27 @ NO, vs. CLE on 5/4, on 5/10 vs. TB, @ JAC on 5/18, on 5/25 vs. UTAH, @ SPO on 6/1, 6/8 vs. PIT, @ IOWA on 6/15, vs. ARI on 6/22, @ UTAH on 6/29, 7/6 vs. SA, @ PIT on 7/13, 7/20 vs. PHI and vs. CHI on 7/27.

Last Game: 7/27/13 vs. CHI; **Rec:** 0; **Yds:** 0; **TD:** 0

#54 Jabari Fletcher - DL - 6-3 - 260 Lbs - 06/23/89 - Appalachian State

2013: Assigned to the SaberCats on a two-year contract on 1/31 ... Made his SaberCats debut on 3/23 @ SA, posted two total tackles, a half sack, recovered a fumble and returned it 17 yards ... Recorded a sack that resulted in a safety and posted four-and-a-half tackles vs. ORL on 3/29 ... Made one solo tackle @ ARI on 4/6 ... DNP vs. SPO on 4/19, @ NO on 4/27 or vs. CLE on 5/4 ... Returned to action on 5/10 vs. TB and recorded a sack ... Recorded one-and-a-half sacks @ JAC on 5/18 ... Posted a half tackle vs. UTAH on 5/25 ... Record two-and-a-half tackles (two solo) and a half tackle for loss on 6/1 vs. SPO ... Rushed four times for 16 yards and three touchdowns while also recording two assisted tackles and a half sack on 6/8 vs. PIT ... Registered a pass break up along with five rushes for 13 yards and a score on 6/15 @ IOWA ... Started but recorded no statistics vs. ARI on 6/22 ... Rushed three times for seven yards and a score along with one-and-a-half tackles (one solo) @ UTAH on 6/29 ... Rushed twice for seven yards and a score at fullback while registering one-and-a-half tackles (one solo) on defense vs. SA on 7/6 ... Rushed three times for six yards and two touchdowns at fullback and tackled on two-and-a-half tackles (two solo), a fumble recovery and one-and-a-half sacks on the defensive line @ PIT on 7/13 ... Made one tackle and had a rush attempt on 7/20 vs. PHI ... Rushed one time for five yards and a touchdown and added a solo tackle on 7/27 vs. CHI.

Last Game: 7/27/13 vs. CHI; **Tackles:** 21.5; **Sacks:** 6.0; **FF:** 0; **FR:** 2; **ATT:** 21; **Yds:** 45; **TD:** 9

#5 Ken Fontenette - DB - 5-11 - 200 Lbs - 01/14/86 - Houston

2013: Assigned to the SaberCats on a two-year contract in Nov. 2012 ... DNP on 3/23 @ SA, vs. ORL on 3/29 or @ ARI on 4/6 ... Made his SaberCats debut on 4/19 vs. SPO and had seven tackles (all solo) ... Recorded four tackles (all solo) and three pass breakups on 4/27 @ NO ... Led the team with ten total tackles (nine solo) vs. CLE on 5/4 ... Led the team in tackles with nine (all solo) and posted the first two interceptions of his SaberCats career, returning the second one 36-yards for a score on 5/10 vs. TB ... Made seven tackles @ JAC on 5/18 ... Led the team in tackles with nine-and-a-half (nine solo) and had the key pass breakup to seal the victory late in the fourth quarter on 5/25 vs. UTAH ... Notched one tackle and one pass breakup @ SPO on 6/1 ... Made three-and-a-half tackles (three solo) and two pass breakups on 6/8 vs. PIT ... Notched ten tackles (nine solo) and two pass breakups @ IOWA on 6/15 ... Earned Riddell Defensive Player of the Game honors by making eight-and-a-half tackles (eight solo), and recovered a fumble, made a tackle for loss and grabbed an interception (the AFL Highlight of the game) vs. ARI on 6/22 ... Recorded four-and-a-half tackles (three solo), a pass breakup and a fumble recovery @ UTAH on 6/29 ... Led the team with nine tackles (eight solo) on 7/6 vs. SA ... Broke up three passes and added six-and-a-half tackles (six solo) in the win @ PIT on 7/13 ... Registered six tackles, all of which were solo, and three pass breakups on 7/20 vs. PHI ... Broke the 100 tackle barrier for the season with ten-and-a-half tackles (eight solo) and two pass breakups vs. CHI on 7/27.

Last Game: 7/27/13 vs. CHI; **Tackles:** 107.0; **Ints:** 3; **FF:** 1; **FR:** 2

2012 AFL: Appeared in 16 games for the Central Division Champion San Antonio Talons ... Posted 94 total tackles (83 solo), had six interceptions and forced one fumble ... Made his Talons debut with five tackles and an interception on 3/10 vs. UTAH ... Posted four tackles, one interception and forced a fumble vs. SPO on 3/17 ... Recorded four-and-a-half tackles and had an interception for the third consecutive game on 3/29 @ ORL ... Notched five-and-a-half tackles and posted his fourth interception on the season 4/6 @ SJ ... Recorded six tackles on 4/13 vs. NO ... Posted one-and-a-half tackles @ ARI on 4/22 ... Led the team in tackles with nine, including one for a loss on 4/28 vs. CHI ... DNP on 5/5 @ KC ... Made nine tackles and broke up three passes upon returning to the lineup vs. PIT on 5/12 ... Recorded six-and-a-half tackles and broke up four passes vs. SJ on 5/19 ... Posted a team-high eight-and-a-half tackles (seven solo) on 5/26 @ UTAH ... Led the team with eight-and-a-half tackles (seven solo) @ NO on 6/9 ... Made seven tackles on 6/16 vs. IOWA ... Did not



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record any statistics on 6/23 @ TB ... DNP vs. KC on 6/30 ... Led the team in tackles with nine (eight solo) and also had an interception @ CHI on 7/8 ... Made three tackles and intercepted a pass for the second consecutive game on 7/13 vs. ARI ... Led the team in tackles with seven-and-a-half in the regular season finale @ IOWA on 7/21 ... **Playoffs:** Made seven-and-a-half tackles and an interception in the Talons' first round loss vs. UTAH on 7/27.

2011 AFL: Made 14 appearances (13 starts) as a rookie for the Kansas City Command ... Finished the season as the Command's leading tackler, with 110 total tackles (102 solo) ... Posted three interceptions, recovered three fumbles and forced another ... Made his AFL debut on 3/12 @ DAL and led the team with 11.5 tackles, an interception, a forced fumble as well as a recovery ... Led the team in tackles with nine @ SJ on 3/18 ... Recorded five tackles @ SPO on 4/1 ... DNP on 4/9 vs. IOWA, vs. ARI on 4/16, on 4/22 @ CHI or vs. DAL on 4/29 ... Returned to action vs. NO on 5/7 and led the team in tackles with eight ... Finished with five-and-a-half tackles on 5/13 @ TB ... Led the team with nine-and-a-half tackles and also had an interception as well as a fumble recovery @ TUL on 5/21 ... Posted a team-high ten tackles vs. SPO on 5/28 ... Recorded five-and-a-half tackles on 6/4 vs. CHI ... Led the team with nine tackles on 6/11 @ MIL ... Posted a team-high eight-and-a-half tackles vs. CLE on 6/19 ... Recorded three-and-a-half tackles on 6/24 @ UTAH ... Led the team in tackles with eight-and-a-half and also posted his third interception of the season @ IOWA on 7/9 ... Posted ten-and-a-half tackles and recovered a fumble on 7/15 vs. JAC ... Concluded his first season with six tackles vs. TUL on 7/23.

College: Attended the University of Houston (2004-08) ... Earned Second Team All-Conference USA honors in both 2007 and 2008 at safety ... Also earned All-Freshman honors for Conference USA in 2005 ... Appeared in all 52 games for the Cougars, posting a career total of 309 total tackles with nine interceptions, four fumble recoveries and two forced fumbles ... **2008:** Appeared in 13 games (12 starts) ... Ranked second on the team with 92 tackles and nine pass breakups ... Posted three games with double-digit tackles ... **2007:** Started all 13 games ... Led the Cougars with four interceptions ... Played in the Texas Bowl against TCU ... Finished the season second on the team in tackles with 69 (30 solo) and also had two fumble recoveries ... **2006:** Started all 14 games ... Named All-Conference USA Honorable Mention by the head coaches ... Ranked fifth on the team with 72 tackles (56 solo) ... Appeared in the Autozone Liberty Bowl against South Carolina ... **2005:** Appeared in all 12 games for the Cougars (ten starts) ... Led the team with four interceptions during his redshirt freshman season ... Ranked fourth on the team with 76 tackles (42 solo) ... Played in the Fort Worth Bowl against Kansas ... **2004:** Redshirted in his first season on campus.

Personal: Full name is Kenneth Julius Fontenette, Jr. ... Born Jan. 14, 1986, in Austin, Texas ... Son of Ken and Susan Fontenette of Pflugerville, Texas ... Earned his degree in kinesiology-sports administration.

#69 Dennis Godfrey - OL - 6-3 - 305 Lbs - 12/25/88 - Louisiana Tech

2013: Assigned to the SaberCats on a one-year contract on 6/4 ... DNP vs. PIT on 6/8, 6/15 @ IOWA, or vs. ARI on 6/22 ... Appeared but recorded no statistics on 6/29 @ UTAH ... DNP vs. SA on 7/6 ... Started at fullback and rushed one time for one yard @ PIT on 7/13 ... Started but recorded no statistics vs. PHI on 7/20 ... Rushed five times for 20 yards and a touch-down vs. CHI on 7/27.

Last Game: 7/27/13 vs. CHI; **Tackles:** 0; **Sacks:** 0; **FF:** 0; **FR:** 0; **ATT:** 6; **Yds:** 21; **TD:** 1

College: Attended Wake Forest University ... **2011:** Appeared in 13 games for the Demon Deacons, starting ten of them ... Was at left tackle in all ten of his starts ... Started in the Music City Bowl against Mississippi ... **2010:** Started all 12 games for Wake and played the fourth-highest snap total on the team, at 584 ... **2009:** Played in the first six games of the season prior to injuring his knee, and finished the year appearing in the final two games, seeing action in eight over the course of his sophomore season ... **2008:** Moved from defensive tackle to offensive guard during the preseason ... Received honorable mention on the preseason College Football News All-Redshirt Freshman Team at DT ... Missed the final four games of the season ... **2007:** Redshirted his first year on campus.

Personal: Majored in history with a minor in education ... Mother is Jackie Petty ... Participated in the Shrine Bowl of the Carolinas and was an East Team captain ... Named to North Carolina Preps All-State team ... Led the Lee County Yellow Jackets to a district and sectional championship ... Made 27 receptions for 300 yards and a touchdown ... Made 12 tackles for loss with three sacks, three forced fumbles and blocked three extra points ... Averaged 20 points and 10 rebounds per game in basketball ... A two-time all-conference basketball player

#11 Amarri Jackson - WR - 6-5 - 225 Lbs - 05/18/85 - South Florida

2013: Began season with Orlando Predators and appeared in three games ... Acquired by San Jose on 4/25 ... Had 21 catches for 291 yards and six scores on the year with ORL ... Reeled in 12 catches for 209 yards and five touchdowns @ SJ on 3/29 ... DNP on 4/27 @ NO, vs. CLE on 5/4, 5/10 vs. TB ... Made his SaberCats debut on 5/18 @ JAC ... DNP on 5/25 vs. UTAH ... Caught two passes for 22 yards on 6/1 @ SPO ... Finished with five catches for 68 yards and a score and one rush



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for four yards on 6/8 vs. PIT ... Caught two passes for 79 yards @ IOWA on 6/15 ... Made five catches for 72 yards and one touchdown in a win vs. ARI on 6/22 ... Hauled in a team-high eight catches for 68 yards and a score on 6/29 @ UTAH ... DNP vs. SA on 7/6 or @ PIT on 7/13 ... Rushed for four yards on one attempt and caught one pass for three yards while making one solo stop on defense vs. PHI on 7/20 ... Notched a solo tackle vs. CHI on 7/27.

Last Game: 7/27/13 vs. CHI; (Total) **Rec:** 44; **Yds:** 603; **TD:** 9; **ATT:** 3; **Yds:** 8; **TD:** 0

2012 AFL: Appeared in eleven games with the Tampa Bay Storm ... Caught 77 passes for 1,012 yards and 20 touchdowns in addition to six kick returns for 144 yards and one score ... Made six solo tackles while on defense ... DNP in opener @ CHI on 3/10, against GEO on 3/16 and home vs. JAC on 3/30 ... Made six catches for 98 yards and a score in first appearance of the season @ NO on 4/6 ... Made another six catches for 92 yards and three touchdowns and added a solo tackle in a win against CLE on 4/13 ... Reeled in five for 31 yards and added another tackle @ PHI on 4/20 ... DNP against KC on 4/30 ... Led the team in catches against ORL on 5/5 with eleven for 135 yards and a score ... Added three more scores and five catches in addition to 66 yards @ GEO on 5/12 ... Caught seven for 56 yards and a score and had 22 kick return yards @ CLE on 5/19 ... In a win against MIL on 5/26 he led the team with six catches for 85 yards and three touchdowns ... Added nine more for 103 yards and a score against JAC on 6/2 ... Had a season-high 12 catches for 220 yards and four scores as well as two kick returns for 77 yards and two solo tackles on defense @ ORL on 6/15 ... Had three scores and nine catches for 105 yards as well as a solo tackle and one return for 41 yards against SA on 6/23 ... Made just one catch for 21 yards vs. PHI on 6/29 ... DNP @ PIT on 7/7, vs. NO on 7/14.

2011 AFL: Played in 18 games for the Tampa Bay Storm ... Led the team in all receiving statistics with 125 catches for 1,619 yards and 35 touchdowns ... Had one kick return for eleven yards and had a fumble return score ... On defense he had 13 tackles including 12 solo ... Made one and a half tackles @ NO on 3/11 to start the season ... Made one catch for 14 yards @ UTAH on 3/17 ... Had two catches for 14 yards at home vs. CLE on 3/27 ... Got his first receiving score of his career against JAC on 4/1 in addition to five scores for 84 yards ... in Win @ PHI on 4/15 he caught seven passes for 48 yards and a score ... Added four more for 30 yards and a touchdown with a solo tackle vs. DAL on 4/23 ... Had six catches for 89 yards and another touchdown @ MIL on 4/30 ... Mad a monster day with ten catches for 146 yards and two scores in addition to a solo tackle @ ORL on 5/6 ... Led the team against KC on 5/13 with 14 catches for 187 yards and four scores ... Had three scores with six catches for 54 yards @ SPO on 5/20 ... Made two catches for 25 yards and another score @ GEO on 6/4 ... Led the team again with eleven catches for 158 yards and three scores in a win against PIT on 6/11 ... Had eleven catches again, this time for 151 yards and five touchdowns and a solo tackle against ORL on 6/17 ... Continued his hot streak @ JAC on 6/25 with 14 catches for 187 yards and four scores and two solo tackles ... Added eleven more for 123 yards and two touchdowns and two more solo tackles against NO on 7/1 ... Reeled in seven for 81 @ TUL on 7/9 ... Caught eight passes for 112 yards and three touchdowns against GEO on 7/16 ... Had six catches for 116 yards and four scores with two solo tackles in the final victory of the season against SJ on 7/23

Other Professional Experience: 2008-2009: NFL: Participated in training camp with the Tampa Bay Buccaneers of the National Football League (NFL).

College: 2005-2007: Attended South Florida, which is the same Alma Matter as SaberCats wide receiver Huey Whitaker ... **2007:** Had 22 catches for 256 yards and two scores ... **2006:** Collected 26 receptions for 393 yards and three touchdowns ... **2005:** Made 22 catches for 242 yards in his first year as a Bull ... Was named national and Big East Conference Offensive Player of the Week during a matchup against Louisville.

#98 Francis Maka - LB - 6-2 - 250 Lbs - 05/10/85 - Hawaii

2013: Assigned on a new two-year contract in Oct. 2012 ... Made season debut @ SA on 3/23, posted two tackles and a half sack ... DNP on 3/29 vs. ORL or @ ARI on 4/6 ... Returned to action on 4/19 vs. SPO and posted three tackles (all solo) with one sack ... Led the team with four-and-a-half tackles on 4/27 @ NO ... Did not record any statistics vs. CLE on 5/4 ... Led the team with two sacks, finished with two-and-a-half tackles and forced a fumble vs. TB on 5/10 ... Made one-and-a-half sacks in addition to three-and-a-half tackles on 5/18 @ JAC ... Recorded a sack for the third consecutive game, and finished with one-and-a-half tackles and a fumble recovery ... Recorded two assisted tackles and a tackle for loss @ SPO on 6/1 ... Notched two-and-a-half tackles (two solo), one-and-a-half tackles for loss and one-and-a-half sacks vs. PIT on 6/8 ... Registered two solo tackles @ IOWA on 6/15 ... Broke up two passes and notched a quarterback hit vs. ARI on 6/22 ... Made one-and-a-half tackles (one solo) @ UTAH on 6/29 ... Recorded one-and-a-half tackles (one solo) and a quarterback hit on 7/6 vs. SA ... Notched three-and-a-half tackles (two solo) along with one-and-a-half sacks and two quarterback hits @ PIT on 7/13 ... Recorded three-and-a-half tackles, three of which were solo, vs. PHI on 7/20 ... Recorded a solo tackle, a sack and a blocked kick on 7/27 vs. CHI.

Last Game: 7/27/13 vs. CHI; **Tackles:** 35.0; **Sacks:** 11.5; **FF:** 1; **FR:** 1



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#44 Wesley Mau'i'a - LB - 6-2 - 275 Lbs - 02/05/86 - Western New Mexico State

2013: Assigned to the SaberCats on a two-year contract on 3/27 ... Made his SaberCats debut on 3/29 vs. ORL and recorded the first sack of his season, totaling one-and-a-half tackles ... Made one-and-a-half tackles @ ARI on 4/6 ... DNP on 4/19 vs. SPO ... Appeared on 4/27 @ NO and made one total tackle ... Recorded a half tackle vs. CLE on 5/4 ... DNP vs. TB on 5/10, @ JAC on 5/18, on 5/25 vs. UTAH, @ SPO on 6/1, vs. PIT on 6/8, 6/15 @ IOWA, vs. ARI on 6/22, 6/29 @ UTAH, vs. SA on 7/6, 7/13 @ PIT, vs. PHI on 7/20 or 7/27 vs. CHI.

Last Game: 5/4/13 vs. CLE; **Tackles:** 4.5; **Sacks:** 1.0; **FF:** 0; **FR:** 0

#50 Raymond McNeil - OL - 6-2 - 310 Lbs - 10/14/84 - Fort Valley State

2013: Assigned to the SaberCats on a two-year contract in Nov. 2012 ... Made his SaberCats debut @ SA on 3/23 and started at center ... Started at center vs. ORL on 3/29, @ ARI on 4/6, 4/19 vs. SPO, @ NO on 4/27, on 5/4 vs. CLE, vs. TB on 5/10, @ JAC on 5/18, on 5/25 vs. UTAH and @ SPO on 6/1 ... Appeared but did not record any statistics vs. PIT on 6/8 ... Started 6/15 @ IOWA and recovered a fumble to prevent a turnover ... Appeared but did not record any statistics vs. ARI on 6/22 ... Started on 6/29 @ UTAH ... Appeared but did not record any statistics vs. SA on 7/6, @ PIT on 7/13, 7/20 vs. PHI and vs. CHI 7/27.

Last Game: 7/27/13 vs. CHI;

#12 Russ Michna - QB - 6-2 - 220 Lbs - 02/03/81 - Western Illinois

2013: Assigned to the SaberCats on a two-year contract on 4/22 ... DNP on 3/23 @ SA, vs. ORL on 3/29, 4/6 @ ARI or 4/22 vs. SPO ... In his San Jose debut, completed 23-of-35 passes for 312 yards and six touchdowns @ NO on 4/27 ... Made his home debut by completing 18-of-25 passes for 197 yards, four touchdowns and no interceptions vs. CLE on 5/4 ... Finished with 182 yards passing on 16-of-23 passing with five touchdowns and one interception on 5/10 vs. TB ... Completed 16-of-23 passes for 277 yards and five scores and rushed for 15 yards and two touchdowns @ JAC on 5/18 ... Finished 22-of-38 for 246 yards with four touchdowns and two interceptions vs. UTAH on 5/25 ... Completed 12-of-21 passes for 127 yards and zero passing touchdowns with one interception and one rushing touchdown @ SPO on 6/1 ... Was placed on inactive reserve and DNP on 6/8 vs. PIT ... Completed 28-of-39 passes for 392 yards and nine touchdowns with zero interceptions @ IOWA on 6/15 ... Converted 24-of-37 passes for 313 yards and nine touchdowns and no interceptions in the win vs. ARI on 6/22 ... Completed 26-of-40 throws for 269 yards and six scores along with two interceptions while also contributing 12 yards and a score on the ground @ UTAH on 6/29 ... Completed 15-of-28 passes for 182 yards and five touchdowns with no interceptions in the win vs. SA on 7/6 ... Completed 15-of-17 passes for 156 yards and five touchdowns and zero interceptions in the first half of the blowout win @ PIT on 7/13 ... Threw five touchdown passes on 15-of-37 passing for 206 yards and one interception against PHI on 7/20 ... Completed 19-of-24 passes for 257 yards with five touchdowns and no interceptions in the win over his former team on 7/27 vs. CHI.

Last Game: 7/27/13 vs. CHI; **Comp:** 249; **Att:** 385; **Yds:** 3,116; **TD:** 68; **Ints:** 8; **ATT:** 12; **Yds:** 33; **TD:** 4

2012 AFL: Appeared in 16 games for the Chicago Rush ... Completed 351-of-503 passes for 4,470 yards and 89 touchdowns ... Rushed for one score and 57 yards on the year ... Tossed eight touchdowns and passed for 247 yards in the season opening victory against TB on 3/10 ... Completed 19-of-35 for 251 yards and five touchdowns at home against ORL on 3/22 ... Threw for 307 yards and was 25-of-38 passing along with six touchdowns in the narrow overtime victory @ IOWA on 3/31 ... Was 17-of-20 for 311 yards and seven scores in the team's fourth victory in a row against KC on 4/7 ... Threw for 263 yards and four touchdowns and was 20 for 36 passing @ GEO on 4/14 ... Tossed six scores and had 306 passing yards and rushed for a touchdown on 4/21 against MIL ... Was 25-of-33 for 255 yards and four touchdowns in the close loss @ SA on 4/28 ... Completed 69% (22-of-32) of his passes and threw for 369 yards at home against IOWA on 5/6 ... DNP @ ARI on 5/12 ... Threw eight scores and for 351 yards in the overtime loss @ SJ on 5/26 ... Had a career game against SPO on 6/3 by throwing nine touchdowns and 400 yards and was 30-of-36 passing ... Was 16-of-29 and had two touchdowns @ UTAH on 6/9 ... Added six more touchdowns on the year and was 17-of-26 against GEO on 6/16 ... Threw for 301 yards and six scores in addition to being 32-of-43 @ KC on 6/23 ... Racked up 375 yards passing and seven scores and was 27-of-37 passing in a home loss against SJ on 6/30 ... Threw for 356 yards and six touchdowns against SA on 7/8 ... DNP @ MIL on 7/14 and @ CLE on 7/21.

2011 AFL: Played in 13 games for the Chicago Rush ... Completed 235-of-353 passing for 2,895 yards and 65 scores ... Rushed for 90 yards and five touchdowns ... Passed for 239 yards and six touchdowns in the season opener @ MIL on 3/14 ... Was 21-of-29 for 189 yards and three touchdowns against PHI on 3/18 ... Added five more touchdowns and 229 yards against SJ on 3/25 ... Completed 21-of-35 for 235 in the first loss of the season @ CLE on 4/2 ... In the narrow victory @ IOWA on 4/16, he tossed six scores and passed for 243 yards ... Was 15-of-26 for 163 yards and four scores against KC on 4/22 ... Added six more scores and 213 yards against NO on 4/30 ... Completed 17-of-26 for 248 yards @ TUL on 5/7 ... Led CHI to victory @ ARI on 5/14 by throwing for 267 yards and five touchdowns ... Completed 83% (20-of-24) of passes for seven scores and 264 yards against DAL on 5/22 ... Got a narrow home victory against TUL on 5/29 and threw for



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201 yards and five touchdowns ... Was 20-of-28 behind center and threw six touchdowns @ KC on 6/4 ... Racked up 161 yards and threw four touchdowns @ SPO on 6/18 ... DNP against IOWA on 6/26, against UTAH on 7/1, @ GEO on 7/16, @ DAL on 7/16 and against MIL on 7/23.

2010 AFL: Appeared in 14 games for the Chicago Rush ... Completed 290-of-423 for 3,860 yards and 70 touchdowns ... Rushed for 92 yards and seven touchdowns on the year ... Completed 18-of-28 and six touchdowns on 4/2 @ IOWA ... Tossed a season-high eight scores and 315 yards while being 22-of-27 passing on 4/9 against CLE ... Added seven more touchdowns on the year and threw for 215 yards on 4/16 @ ARI ... Got two scores on the ground and had four rushing yards in addition to six scores through the air and 326 passing yards on 4/23 against UTAH ... Was 21-of-33 and passed for 354 yards on 5/7 @ MIL ... Completed 21-of-38 for 247 yards and two scores on 5/15 against IOWA ... Completed 80% (28-of-35) of his passes and tossed four touchdowns @ DAL on 5/21 ... Threw for 272 yards and was 22-of-29 passing on 5/29 @ CLE ... Tossed five touchdowns and completed 22-of-31 against JAC on 6/4 ... Added six more scores and was 16-of-19 behind center on 6/12 @ UTAH ... DNP against MIL on 6/19 ... Completed 22-of-35 passes for 229 yards and four touchdowns on 6/26 against ORL ... Rushed for a season-high 23 yards and was 26-of-38 passing and threw for 334 yards and seven scores on 7/2 @ TB ... Racked up 321 yards and tossed five scores on 7/10 against ARI ... Completed 11-of-16 passes for 138 yards and two touchdowns on 7/17 against DAL ... DNP @ SPO on 7/23.

2008 AFL: Played in 16 games for the Chicago Rush ... Completed 239-of-351 passes for 2,721 yards and 57 touchdowns ... Rushed for 98 yards and 14 scores on 27 attempts.

2007 AFL: Appeared in three regular season games and two playoff games for the Chicago Rush ... was 2-of-3 passing for 44 yards ... Rushed for one touchdown and three yards ... **Playoffs:** Passed for 320 yards and five scores and was 28-of-36 passing in two playoff appearances.

Other Professional Experience: 2009: Played for the Las Vegas Locomotives of the United Football League (UFL) and the Chicago Slaughter of the Continental Indoor Football League (CIFL) ... **2005-2006:** A member of the Winnipeg Blue Bombers of the Canadian Football League (CFL) ... **2004-2005:** A practice squad member of the St. Louis Rams of the National Football League (NFL).

College: Played at Western Illinois ... Completed 734-of-428 for 6,434 yards and 45 touchdowns during his four years playing for the Leathernecks.

#70 Jordan Mudge - OL - 6-4 - 320 Lbs - 08/08/89 - Nevada

2013: Assigned to the SaberCats on a one-year contract on 3/5 ... DNP on 3/23 @ SA, vs. ORL on 3/29 or on 4/6 @ ARI ... Made his Arena Football League debut on 4/19 vs. SPO ... Played at long snapper on 4/27 @ NO ... DNP on 5/4 vs. CLE or vs. TB on 5/10 ... Had half a tackle in his first game back @ JAC on 5/18 ... Appeared but did not record any statistics on 5/25 vs. UTAH and @ SPO on 6/1 ... Started 6/8 vs. PIT, 6/15 @ IOWA, vs. ARI on 6/22, 6/29 @ UTAH, 7/6 vs. SA, @ PIT on 7/13, 7/20 vs. PHI and vs. CHI on 7/27.

Last Game: 7/27/13 vs. CHI;

#10 Mitch Mustain - QB - 6-3 - 230 Lbs - 02/27/88 - USC

2013: Assigned to the SaberCats on a one-year contract on 1/4 ... DNP on 3/23 @ SA or vs. ORL on 3/29 ... Made debut @ ARI on 4/6 and threw first career touchdown pass while completing 2-of-4 passes for 39 yards ... DNP on 4/19 vs. SPO, @ NO on 4/27 ... Appeared in relief of Russ Michna late in the game vs. CLE on 5/4 ... Completed 1-of-3 passes for 24 yards with an interception in relief of Russ Michna vs. TB on 5/10 ... Appeared in the fourth quarter on 5/18 @ JAC ... DNP on 5/25 vs. UTAH ... Completed 14-of-25 passes for 173 yards with three touchdowns and one interception on 6/1 @ SPO ... Started and completed 21-of-37 passes for 250 yards and six touchdowns and one interception on 6/8 vs. PIT ... DNP @ IOWA on 6/15 ... Completed 1-of-5 passes for two yards vs. ARI on 6/22 ... DNP @ UTAH on 6/29 ... Completed 2-of-4 passes for 37 yards vs. SA on 7/6 ... Completed 8-of-14 passes for 102 yards and a touchdown in the second half of the big win @ PIT on 7/13 ... DNP vs. PHI on 7/20 ... Completed one pass for five yards vs. CHI on 7/27.

Last Game: 7/27/13 vs. CHI; **Comp:** 50; **Aff:** 93; **Yds:** 662; **TD:** 11; **Ints:** 3

#6 JC Neal - DB - 6-0 - 200 Lbs - 01/14/87 - NC State

2013: Assigned to the SaberCats on a two-year contract in Nov. 2012 ... Made his SaberCats debut @ SA on 3/23 and posted four-and-a-half tackles (three solo) and broke up two passes ... Posted six-and-a-half tackles, one of which was for a loss vs. ORL on 3/29 ... Recorded two solo tackles on 4/6 @ ARI ... Notched four tackles and forced a fumble on 4/19 vs. SPO ... Made two total tackles (one solo) and broke up two passes on 4/27 @ NO ... Posted six-and-a-half tackles and broke up a pair of passes vs. CLE on 5/4 ... Finished with seven tackles (all solo) on 5/10 vs. TB ... Had a game-high eight-and-a-half tackles on 5/18 @ JAC ... Posted five-and-a-half tackles and forced a fumble in the win on 5/25 vs. UTAH



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... Recorded two tackles on 6/1 @ SPD ... Recorded four-and-a-half tackles (four solo) and two pass breakups vs. PIT on 6/8 ... Registered ten tackles (nine solo) along with a pass breakup @ IOWA on 6/15 ... Made five-and-a-half tackles (five solo), forced a fumble and broke up a pass in the win vs. ARI on 6/22 ... Notched three-and-a-half tackles (three solo), a pass breakup and forced a fumble @ UTAH on 6/29 ... Recorded three solo tackles and two pass breakups vs. SA on 7/6 ... Recorded a team high and SaberCats defensive season high of ten solo tackles and two pass break ups @ PIT on 7/13 ... Registered a game high six-and-a-half tackles vs. PHI on 7/20 ... Notched his first interception of the year in addition five tackles (three solo) and a pass breakup vs. CHI on 7/27.

Last Game: 7/27/13 vs. CHI; **Tackles:** 96.5; **Ints:** 1; **FF:** 4; **FR:** 0

#53 Steve Octavien - DL - 6-2 - 260 Lbs - 11/25/84 - Nebraska

2013: Assigned to the SaberCats on a one-year contract on 6/17 ... DNP vs. ARI on 6/22 ... Recorded four tackles (all solo) on 6/29 @ UTAH ... Notched one-and-a-half tackles (one solo) vs. SA on 7/6 ... Made three solo tackles, forced a fumble and a sack @ PIT on 7/13 ... Recorded half a tackle on 7/20 vs. PHI ... Registered an assisted tackle and returned a blocked kick for a two-point conversion vs. CHI on 7/27.

Last Game: 7/27/13 vs. CHI; **Tackles:** 9.5; **Sacks:** 1.0; **FF:** 1; **FR:** 0

2012 AFL: Played in 15 games for the Tampa Bay Storm ... Accumulated 34.5 tackles, 27 of which were solo, five sacks, two forced fumbles and nine tackles for loss ... Registered three-and-a-half tackles and a sack in his AFL debut @ NO on 4/6 ... Made two solo tackles and broke up a pass in win against CLE on 4/13 ... Had half a tackle @ PHI on 4/20 ... Hurried the quarterback five times while making three-and-a-half tackles and recording another sack against KC on 4/30 ... Made one tackle and forced a fumble on 5/5 against ORL ... Racked up a career high seven tackles on 5/12 @ GEO ... Had half a tackle @ CLE on 5/19 ... Recovered a fumble and added two-and-a-half tackles in win against MIL on 5/26 ... Had a Storm game-high six tackles and recorded another sack @ JAC on 6/2 ... Had half a tackle on the road @ ORL on 6/15 ... Sacked the quarterback once more and made two-and-a-half tackles on 6/23 against SA ... Made half a tackle on 6/29 against PHI ... Registered another tackle in a win @ PIT on 7/7 ... Recorded two-and-a-half tackles and another sack in the thrilling OT win against NO on 7/14 ... Added another tackle in the final regular season game @ SPD on 7/21.

Other Professional Experience: 2012: United Football League: Was a member of the Omaha Nighthawks of the United Football League ... **2010: National Football League:** Appeared in two games for the Cleveland Browns of the National Football League (NFL) ... Made one tackle on the year ... **2009:** Saw action in 14 games for the Dallas Cowboys of the NFL and registered six tackles on defense and special teams ... **2008:** Played in two games for the Dallas Cowboys ... Made two tackles and forced a fumble on special teams in his rookie year ... Was member of the practice squad for the Washington Redskins (NFL) and Kansas City Chiefs (NFL).

College: A three-year player for Nebraska ... Recorded 128 tackles and three sacks in 22 games as a collegiate player ... **2007:** Led Nebraska in tackles his senior season ... Appeared in 12 games and registered 92 total tackles on the year along with two sacks and three passes broken up ... Was an Honorable-Mention All-Big 12 and Nebraska's defensive most valuable player ... **2006:** Saw action in nine games as a junior ... Made 32 tackles and had one sack which came against Auburn in the Cotton Bowl ... **2005:** Had four tackles in one game before suffering a season ending injury.

#56 Ollie Ogbu - DL - 6-1 - 305 Lbs - 05/18/87 - Penn State

2013: Assigned to the SaberCats on a one-year contract on 7/16 ... DNP on 7/20 vs. PHI and vs. CHI on 7/27.

Last Game: N/A; **Tackles:** N/A; **Sacks:** N/A; **FF:** N/A; **FR:** N/A

Other Professional Experience: 2012: CFL: Signed with the Montreal Alouettes of the CFL (Canadian Football League) ... recorded seven tackles and a fumble recovery in three games ... **2012: NFL:** Traded by the Indianapolis Colts to the Philadelphia Eagles of the NFL ... **2011:** Signed as an undrafted free agent by the Indianapolis Colts of the National Football League after the NFL lockout.

College: Played at Penn State University from 2006 until 2010 ... **2010:** Recorded 48 tackles (17 solo) along with a half sack as a fifth year senior ... earned All-Big Ten team honors ... was selected to play in the 86th East-West Shrine Game ... **2009:** Made 30 tackles, eight tackles for loss, two sacks and a team-high three forced fumbles in his senior season ... recorded two tackles and a forced fumble in the Capital One Bowl win over LSU ... **2008:** Playing in every game for the second straight year, he recorded 17 tackles (two-and-a-half for loss) and two sacks during his junior year ... staple of the number eight rushing defense in the country that allowed only 93.2 yards per game ... **2007:** Playing in every contest, he racked up 18 tackles (ten for loss) with one sack and one forced fumble for the Nittany Lions ... named to The Sporting News Freshman All-Big Ten Team ... **2006:** Redshirted as a freshman at PSU.

Personal: Earned dual Crime, Law & Justice and Sociology Bachelor of Arts degrees in 2010 ... charter member of Iota Phi Theta fraternity.



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#4 Nich Pertuit - K - 5-11 - 195 Lbs - 04/07/83 - UIW

2013: Assigned to the SaberCats on a new two-year contract on 3/5 ... Made five-of-six extra points in his season debut on 3/23 @ SA ... Converted all nine of his extra point attempts vs. ORL on 3/29 ... Converted all five of his extra point attempts @ ARI on 4/6 ... Converted five of his seven extra point attempts vs. SPO on 4/19 ... Made seven of eight extra point attempts on 4/27 @ NO ... Converted all eight of his extra point attempts on 5/4 vs. CLE ... Finished eight-of-nine on his extra points and recovered an onside kick attempt vs. TB on 5/10 ... Was six of eight on extra point attempts and converted his first field goal @ JAC on 5/18 ... Made all five of his extra point attempts vs. UTAH on 5/25 ... Made all three of his extra point attempts on 6/1 @ SPO ... Converted eight-of-ten extra point attempts on 6/8 vs. PIT ... Converted eight-of-ten extra point attempts @ IOWA on 6/15 ... Nailed all ten of his extra point attempts vs. ARI on 6/22 ... Made six-of-eight extra point attempts and a 24-yard field goal in the win @ UTAH on 6/29 ... Connected on eight of his nine extra point attempts and recovered his own onside kick vs. SA on 7/6 ... Made nine-of-ten extra point attempts and drilled through a 34-yard field goal in the win @ PIT on 7/13 ... Was a perfect three-for-three on extra point attempts vs. PHI on 7/20 ... Drilled all nine of his extra point attempts on 7/27 vs. CHI.

Last Game: 7/27/13 vs. CHI; **XP:** 122/137; **FGM:** 3/5

#45 Duke Pettijohn - DL - 6-2 - 245 Lbs - 6/7/77 - Syracuse

2013: Assigned to the SaberCats on a one-year contract on 7/29.

Last Game: 7/31/10 @ BOS (w/DAL); **Tackles:** N/A; **Sacks:** N/A; **FF:** N/A; **FR:** N/A

2010 AFL: With the Dallas Vigilantes, he recorded 26.5 tackles (22 solo) along with two sacks, seven pass breakups and four blocked kicks ... rushed nine times for 33 yards and a score ... caught seven passes for 37 yards.

2008 AFL: During his fifth season in Dallas, he notched 59 tackles (51 solo) along with three-and-a-half sacks and two fumble recoveries ... named Second Team All-Arena Team at linebacker.

2007 AFL: In his fourth season with the Dallas Desperados, he recorded 42 tackles (34 solo) with Dallas in addition to six sacks, seven pass breakups, four forced fumbles and four fumble recoveries ... Rushed three times for no yards but registered one touchdown ... earned First Team All-Arena and All-Ironman Team honors for the second straight season.

2006 AFL: Playing his third season for Dallas, he made 39 tackles (37 solo), recorded three sacks and broke up six pass attempts ... Rushed 37 times for 84 yards and two touchdowns ... Caught eight passes for 121 yards and two scores ... Earned First Team All-Arena and All-Ironman Team honors.

2005 AFL: In his second season with Desperados, he notched 43 tackles (39 solo) to go with five-and-a-half sacks and three fumble recoveries ... Rushed 56 times for 211 yards and eight touchdowns ... Caught four passes for 41 yards ... Named to the U.S. Army All-Ironman team as a linebacker/fullback.

2004 AFL: In his first season with Dallas, he registered 38.5 tackles (34 solo) along with one-and-a-half sacks and four pass breakups ... Rushed for 74 yards on 24 attempts and found the end zone four times.

2003 AFL: In his second season with the Orlando Predators, he recorded 27.5 tackles (25 solo), three pass breakups and 3 fumble recoveries ... Rushed 19 times for 80 yards and six touchdowns ... Caught four passes for 32 yards

2002 AFL: In his first season in the AFL, he recorded 24 tackles (20 solo) along with a pass breakup and a forced fumble for the Orlando Predators ... Rushed 42 times for 84 yards and seven scores ... Caught nine passes for 122 yards and three touchdowns.

Other Professional Experience: 2002: NFL: Signed with the Jacksonville Jaguars of the National Football League ... Except for one week in November, spent the season with the practice squad ... **2001:** Signed as an undrafted free agent out of Syracuse with the Cincinnati Bengals of the NFL.

College: Played at Syracuse University from 1997 to 2000 ... Twice earned All-Big East honors in 1999 and 2000 ...

2000: As a senior, recorded 47 tackles, seven-and-a-half sacks and 14 tackles for loss ... Earned Second Team All-Big East honors ... **1999:** As a junior, recorded 45 tackles, including a team high 13 for loss as well as ten-and-a-half sacks ...

1998: Registered 39 tackles and six-and-a-half sacks as a sophomore for the Orange ... **1997:** As a freshman, he saw action in nine games and recorded six tackles.



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#64 Rich Ranglin - OL - 6-3 - 315 Lbs - 09/27/85 - Central Connecticut State

2013: Assigned to the SaberCats on a two-year contract on 4/17 ... Made his 2013 debut on 4/19 vs. SPO and caught one pass for nine yards and scored the first touchdown of his AFL career ... Started on 4/27 @ NO and vs. CLE on 5/4 ... Caught one pass for six yards vs. TB on 5/10 ... Started @ JAC on 5/18, on 5/25 vs. UTAH, @ SPO on 6/1, 6/8 vs. PIT, 6/15 @ IOWA, vs. ARI on 6/22, @ UTAH on 6/29, 7/6 vs. SA and @ PIT on 7/13 ... Reeled in one catch for 22 yards vs. PHI on 7/20 ... Started vs. CHI on 7/27.

Last Game: 7/27/13 vs. CHI; **Rec:** 4; **Yds:** 37; **TD:** 1

2012 AFL: Started the first nine games for the San Jose SaberCats ... caught four passes for 48 yards ... Caught his first pass of the year for ten yards on 4/6 vs. SAT ... Hauled in another catch for nine yards on 4/14 @ PHI ... Recorded two catches for 29 yards on 5/5 @ ARI.

2011 AFL: Started all 18 games for the Kansas City Command ... Named Arena Football League Spalding Offensive Line-man of the Year ... Earned First Team All-Arena honors ... Caught four passes for 67 yards ... Made first reception of the year for six yards on 3/18 @ SJ ... Had one catch for 14 yards vs. ARI on 4/16 ... Recorded one catch for 31 yards on 5/7 vs. NO ... Made final reception of the season for 16 yards @ MIL on 6/11.

2010 AFL: Appeared in ten games as a rookie with the Milwaukee Iron ... The team allowed just one sack all season en route to an 11-5 campaign ... Caught three passes for 30 yards ... **Playoffs:** Appeared in two postseason games for the Iron ... Caught one pass for four yards and a touchdown on 8/12 vs. SPO.

Other Professional Experience: **2012 NFL:** Appeared in four preseason game for the Kansas City Chiefs ... **af2:** Member of the Manchester Wolves from 2007-09 ... **2009:** Had two touchdown receptions while playing tight end and made his third consecutive af2 playoff appearance ... **2008:** Helped the team to the conference championship game, falling one game short of an ArenaCup appearance after a loss to the eventual champion Tennessee Valley Vipers ... **2007:** Spent his af2 rookie campaign with the Wolves.

College: A four-year letterman at Central Connecticut State from 2003-06 ... Preseason All-American selection as a senior in 2006 ... Earned second-team All-Conference honors in both his junior and senior seasons ... Appeared in 42 games for the Blue Devils over his four year career ... Set a weight lifting record for an OL with a 430-pound bench press.

Personal: Welcomed his first child to the world in June, 2011 when Kian Richard Ranglin was born ... Spends free time playing basketball and doing video production ... Attended Saunders Trades and Technical (N.Y.) high school where he earned all-league and all-county honors as a senior playing on both offense and defense.

#9 James Roe - WR - 6-1 - 200 Lbs - 08/23/73 - Norfolk State

2013: Assigned to the SaberCats on a one-year contract on 7/15 ... Made his 2013 debut on 7/20 vs. PHI and caught a team-high six passes for 70 yards and three touchdowns ... Recorded six catches for 65 yards and two touchdowns vs. CHI on 7/27.

Last Game: 7/27/13 vs. CHI; **Rec:** 12; **Yds:** 135; **TD:** 5

2012 AFL: Opened the season with three touchdowns and had ten catches for 100 yards in a 71-70 overtime win vs. ARI on 3/10 ... Opened the season with three touchdowns (one of which was the 250th of his career) and had ten catches for 100 yards in a 71-70 overtime win vs. ARI on 3/10 ... Posted four catches for 45 yards on 3/24 vs. UTAH ... Caught eight passes for 73 yards for three touchdowns on 3/30 @ SPO ... DNP on 4/6 vs. SA ... Caught four passes for 51 yards and two touchdowns on 4/14 @ PHI ... Led the team with seven receptions which went for 88 yards and one touchdown vs. KC on 4/21 ... Caught three passes for 25 yards and two scores on 4/28 @ IOWA ... Caught four passes for 31 yards and a touchdown in the win @ ARI on 5/5 ... Caught five passes for 64 yards and two touchdowns on 5/11 vs. UTAH ... Caught four passes for 32 yards and three touchdowns on 5/19 @ SA ... Caught seven passes for 108 yards and three touchdowns (the second of which moved him into sole possession of fourth place all-time on the Arena Football League receiving touchdowns list) on 5/26 vs. CHI ... Caught seven passes for 76 yards and three touchdowns on 6/2 @ MIL ... Caught one pass for 11 yards on 6/8 vs. ORL ... Hauled in a team-high eight passes for 100 yards and a touchdown on 6/17 @ KC ... DNP on 6/23 vs. SPO ... Caught eight passes for 93 yards and a touchdown on 6/30 @ CHI ... Caught five passes for 50 yards and a touchdown; going over the 900 career receptions and 11,000 receiving yards plateaus on 7/7 vs. NO ... Caught three passes for 30 yards and three scores on 7/14 vs. IOWA ... **Playoffs:** Caught four passes for 56 yards @ ARI on 7/28.

2011 AFL: Played his tenth AFL season, all with San Jose ... Caught seven passes for 53 yards and two touchdowns in



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his first action of the season on 5/14 @ PIT ... Grabbed five passes for 52 yards and two scores on 6/18 at ARI ... Had six receptions for 62 yards on 6/25 at CLE ... Broke out for a monster game vs. JAC on 7/1, hauling in 12 catches for 139 yards and three touchdowns ... Turned in a solid performance 7/9 vs. ORL, catching six passes for 69 yards and two scores ... Nabbed 11 receptions for 132 yards and a season-high four touchdowns @ SPO on 7/16 ... Made eight catches for 98 yards and three touchdowns on 7/23 @ TB.

2008 AFL: Played 14 games at wide receiver while finishing second on the team with 31 touchdowns ... Extended team records in career receptions (762), receiving yards (9,452) and touchdown receptions (232) ... Established a team record with his fourth consecutive 1,000-yard receiving season ... Totaled 100-or-more catches for a fourth straight year ... Snared 31 touchdowns through the air giving him a franchise record with 30-or-more touchdowns in five successive seasons ... Hauled in three or more touchdowns in seven of the 14 games played ... Moved into 12th place on the AFL's career receptions list with 762 ... Took over eighth place for touchdown catches (232) in league history ... Climbed up two spots to 11th place on the AFL's all-time receiving yards chart (9,452) ... Suited up for his 100th career game, catching 12 balls for 114 yards and a score @ CHI on 3/3 ... Suffered a hamstring injury during pregame warm-ups and was inactive for Weeks 5 and 6 of the regular season @ KC on 3/29 and @ NO on 4/5 ... Totaled 11 receptions, giving him 25 career ten-plus catch games, with 112 yards and three touchdowns @ ARI on 5/9 ... Became thirteenth player in league history to collect 250+ receptions with a ten catch, 117-yard and two touchdown outing @ LA on 5/31 ... Scored on three of five receptions, marking the fourth time he registered three touchdowns on six or fewer catches vs. TB on 6/14 ... **Playoffs:** Started at wide receiver in one of the three playoff contests ... Recorded seven receptions for 53 yards and three touchdowns, raising his postseason catch total to 115 which is tied for fifth place in AFL history, but left in third quarter with a knee injury vs. COL on 7/5 ... Placed on IR on 7/11 with a sprained MCL and missed the remainder of the postseason.

2007 AFL: Started all 16 games at wide receiver, earning second team All-AFL accolades ... Set team season records for receptions (127), receiving yards (1,560) and touchdown catches (40) ... Placed sixth in the AFL in receiving yards, seventh in receptions and tied for seventh in touchdown catches ... Established a team record with his third consecutive 1,000 yard receiving season ... Moved into 14th place on the AFL's career receptions list with 660 ... Moved into second place on team's career regular season games played list with 99 ... Tied a team record for the second-most touchdown catches in a game with six ... Had at least one touchdown catch in 15 games and multiple touchdown grabs 12 times ... Had 11 receptions for his 20th career ten-plus catch game @ CHI on 3/9 ... Eclipsed the 7,000 mark in career receiving yards @ GEO on 3/24 ... Had a season-high 12 receptions for 165 yards and three touchdowns, including the 175th of his career @ NO on 4/13 ... Tied a team game record with six touchdown receptions in his 90th career regular season vs. LA on 4/21 ... Surpassed the 7,500 mark in career receiving yards vs. UTH on 4/28 ... Had eight catches to become the 17th player in AFL history with 600 in a career receptions @ ARI on 5/5 ... Had his only game without a touchdown reception vs. LV on 5/12 ... Surpassed the 1,000 receiving yard mark for a club record tying third consecutive season vs. GR on 5/19 ... Had 11 catches to move into 14th place all-time with 631 @ NSH on 5/25 ... Became the 16th player in AFL history with 8,000 career receiving yards by totaling 130 vs. ORL on 6/1 ... Had three touchdown catches, tying James Hundon's 2002 team season record of 35 and had his second onside kick recovery @ UTH on 6/9 ... Caught nine passes for 106 yards, his 35th career 100-yard game, with four touchdowns, including the 200th of his career, setting team season records in all three categories vs. ARI on 6/16 ... Played sparingly in the regular season finale @ LV on 6/25 ... **Playoffs:** Starting at wide receiver in all three games ... Became the sixth player in AFL history with 100 career playoff receptions ... Tied for the most postseason games played in team history ... Set a team playoff record with 14 receptions vs. COL on 7/7 ... Had eight catches and two touchdowns in ArenaBowl XXI win vs. CLB on 7/29.

2006 AFL: Played in 14 games missing two after sustaining a concussion in the season opener ... Team leader with 113 receptions and 31 touchdown catches ... Totaled 1,310 receiving yards, his team record fourth 1,000-yard season ... Caught his 500th career pass and reached the 6,000 yard mark in career receiving yards ... Had five double-digit reception games and seven 100-yard receiving games ... Established a team record for most catches in consecutive games with 25 ... Led team in scoring (188) and touchdowns (31) finishing tenth in the AFL in both categories ... Added a season career-best 27.0 tackles and his eighth career interception on defense ... Starting wide receiver/linebacker but sustained a concussion on first offensive play after catching a touchdown pass vs. UTH 1/28 ... Tied James Hundon with his 22nd career 100-yard receiving game and captured game Ironman honors @ CHI 2/26 ... Named game Ironman for second straight week @ UTH 3/4 ... Surpassed the 6,000 mark in career receiving yards for Offensive Player of the Game vs. LA 3/12 ... Had 111 receiving yards, his 25th career 100-yard game, with four touchdowns, the 15th time he's had four or more in a game vs. ARI 4/2 ... Posted his first interception of the year (eighth career) but failed to catch a touchdown pass for the first time all season @ TB 4/7 ... Had his 500th career reception and caught the 150th touchdown pass of his career vs. LV 4/14 ... Tied a team game record with 14 catches for Offensive MVP vs. Austin 4/22 ... Caught seven passes to reach the 100-mark for the third time in his career @ LA 4/29 ... **Playoffs:** Played in both games totaling 111 yards and two touchdowns on 13 catches ... Had a pair of touchdown catches to surpass James Hundon for team's all-time playoff



SABERCATS PLAYER INFORMATION

lead with 19 vs. CHI 6/3.

2005 AFL: Played in all 16 games earning All-Ironman Team honors for a third straight season . . . Started 14 games at wide receiver and linebacker and two at offensive specialist . . . Team leader with 116 catches and 1,440 yards receiving yards . . . Tied with Rashied Davis for second on team with 30 touchdown catches . . . Added 24.5 tackles, an interception and two pass breakups on defense . . . Became team's all-time receptions leader and receiving yardage leader . . . Placed sixth in the AFL in receiving yards and receiving yards/game (90.0), tied for sixth in receptions and ninth in touchdown catches . . . Starting offensive specialist surpassing Steve Papin as team's career receptions leader after a season-high 13 @ NO 2/13 . . . Had three touchdown receptions and second career rush touchdown as starting offensive @ LA on 2/20 . . . Totaled 136 receiving yards to pass James Hundon as team's career leader vs. PHI 3/11 . . . Caught three touchdown passes, his 12th straight game with a touchdown reception vs. ARI 4/3 . . . Left the game with a hamstring injury midway through the second quarter @ CHI 4/10 . . . Named Defensive Player of the Game after collecting his first interception of the year (seventh career) to preserve the victory in the waning moments of the fourth quarter and had eclipsed the 1,000-yard receiving mark for the third time in his career vs. DAL 4/15 . . . Had the 400th reception of his career vs. LA 5/7 . . . Became the second player in team history with 100 receptions in a season @ ARI 5/14 . . . Had 12 catches with two-and-a-half tackles for game Ironman honors vs. GEO 5/21 . . . **Playoffs:** Game-high three touchdowns and 120 yards on playoff career-high tying 9 receptions as starting wide receiver and linebacker @ COL 5/29.

2004 AFL: Played in 12 games earning All-Ironman Team accolades for a second straight year . . . Missed the final four regular season games after being placed on injured 5/8 with a groin strain . . . Caught a team-high 27 touchdown passes to place eighth in the AFL . . . Placed second on team with 75 receptions and 884 receiving yards . . . Had a team-best four ten-plus reception games . . . Named AFL's Ironman of Week (Week 8) and co-Offensive Player of the Week (Week 9) . . . Credited with 25.5 tackles (19 solo), two pass-breakups, two forced fumbles and two fumbles on defense . . . The first player in team history with 100 career touchdowns catches and the second player to score 100 career touchdowns overall . . . Tied an AFL record and set team mark with seven touchdown catches in a game @ TB 4/4 . . . Had the fourth interception return touchdown of his career vs. LA 3/26 . . . Completed his first-ever pass (a five-yard touchdown to James Hundon) early in third quarter @ DET 2/5 . . . Had ten receptions to move ahead of Barry Wagner into second in career catches @ NY 3/7 . . . Caught three touchdowns becoming the second player in team history with more than 80 vs. COL 3/14 . . . Had a season-long 42-yard reception for a touchdown and a career-high four assisted tackles vs. LV 3/20 . . . Caught the 300th pass of his career and eclipsed the 4,000 mark in receiving yards @ GEO 4/25 . . . Caught the 99th and 100th touchdown passes of his career on his only two receptions vs. NO 5/1 . . . **Playoffs:** Played in all three games with 24 catches for 298 yards and seven touchdowns . . . Set a playoff career-high with nine receptions vs. CHI 6/12 . . . Tied ArenaBowl records for touchdowns (five), touchdown catches (five) and points scored (30) to earn Ironman honors @ ARI 6/27.

2003 AFL: Played in all 16 games and named to the league's All-Ironman Team . . . Had the fourth highest reception total in the AFL with 115 for 1,440 yards and 31 touchdowns . . . Placed seventh in AFL in receiving yards and touchdown catches . . . Led the team and tied for eighth in the AFL with 198 points . . . Placed third on team with three interceptions . . . Tabbed AFL's Ironman of the Month for March . . . Caught the 45th touchdown pass of his career @ LA 2/9 . . . Made seven catches for 97 yards and a score, returned his third career interception 12-yards for a touchdown and added two tackles for Ironman honors vs. COL 2/22 . . . Had two touchdown catches and returned a fumble seven-yards for a score to move into sixth place on team's touchdowns scored list @ LV 3/2 . . . Snared his second interception of the season @ CHI 3/9 . . . Had his 50th career touchdown catch and grabbed his fifth career interception for game Ironman honors vs. BUF 3/14 . . . Caught the game-winning touchdown pass with no time left and totaled nine catches for 103 yards to earn MVP vs. ARI 3/23 . . . Had four touchdown grabs, including the 60th of his career, on a season-high 11 catches @ DAL 4/6 . . . Had four touchdowns receptions, his third four-plus touchdown game of the season, to earn MVP honors vs. Indiana 4/19 . . . Caught the 200th pass of his career @ COL 4/27 . . . Had nine receptions becoming the first San Jose player with 100 in a season vs. GR 5/3 . . . Tied his season-high with 11 catches and had a season-best two-and-a-half tackles vs. LA 5/17 . . . **Playoffs:** Caught four passes for 43 yards vs. GR 5/31 . . . Recorded six receptions for 75 yards and two touchdowns with one-and-a-half tackles on defense vs. ARI 6/8.

2002 AFL: Played in just four games on the year due to a variety of nagging injuries . . . Totaled 14 catches for 228 yards and four touchdowns . . . Had four catches for 44 yards vs. ARI in the season opener on 4/20 . . . Recorded a season-high two-and-a-half tackles but sustained a shoulder injury after his only catch @ TB 4/27 . . . Placed on injured reserve due to the injury 5/1 missing six games . . . Had three catches for 67 yards and a touchdown in his first action since 4/27 but sustained a high ankle sprain vs. CHI 6/15 . . . Put back on injured reserve on 6/19 missing two games . . . Posted season-highs of six catches, 95 yards and three touchdowns @ ARI 7/12 . . . Was de-activated at game time @ CAR 7/21 . . . **Playoffs:** Had 14 catches for 189 yards and three touchdowns in three games . . . Caught the game-winning 35-yard



SABERCATS PLAYER INFORMATION

touchdown pass late in the fourth quarter vs. TB 8/3 . . . Made three catches, including a 12-yard touchdown, vs. ARI in ArenaBowl XVI on 8/18.

2001 AFL: Led team in receptions (78), receiving yards (1,232), receiving touchdowns (28) and scoring (180) in 11 games played . . . Scored 30 touchdowns on the year, becoming the second SaberCat to score 30 in a season . . . Named AFL's Ironman of the Week (Week 4) . . . Had at least one touchdown catch in every game he played and three or more scores in seven games . . . Had four touchdown catches of 40 or more yards . . . Had seven games with 100 or more receiving yards . . . Returned both of his interceptions on the year for scores . . . Had a season-high 13 catches for 152 yards and three touchdowns to earn game MVP honors vs. ARI 4/21 . . . Returned his first career interception for a touchdown and caught three touchdown passes, earning AFL Ironman of the Week vs. OKC 5/5 . . . Had three touchdown catches and returned his second career interception ten yards for a score to earn game Ironman and MVP honors @ MIL 5/18 . . . Became the first SaberCat receiver with back-to-back double-digit reception games when he snared 12 @ LA 6/2 and 11 vs. NSH 6/16 . . . Posted a career-high 195 yards on 11 receptions with four touchdowns and gained 11 yards on his first career rush attempt vs. NSH 6/16 . . . Caught the 100th pass of his career in the regular season finale @ IND 7/15 . . . **Playoffs:** Made his AFL playoff debut with six catches for 102 yards and two touchdowns with three solo tackles on defense @ NSH 8/11 . . . Inactive vs. ARI 8/4.

2000 AFL: Played in ten games, missing four with a hamstring injury . . . Finished fourth on team with 22 receptions, 282 yards and ten touchdowns . . . Had ten touchdown catches, a net recovery touchdown and returned a fumble for a score to finish fifth on the team in scoring with 72 points . . . Had four catches for 57 yards and two touchdowns and added an assisted tackle in his first AFL game vs. HOU 4/15 . . . Had his first career pass breakups @ Iowa 5/6 . . . Had season-highs of five catches and 58 yards vs. OKC 5/12 . . . Matched his season-high with five catches, including two touchdowns @ BUF 5/19 . . . Caught a touchdown pass, had a one-yard net recovery touchdowns and added his first career fumble recovery vs. LA 5/27 . . . Returned a fumble 32-yards for a score and added three solo tackles @ ARI 6/1 . . . Returned to lineup after missing three games and had three receptions for 51 yards and two touchdowns @ LA 7/8.

Other Professional Experience: 1996-98 NFL: A sixth round pick (186th overall) of the Baltimore Ravens in the 1996 National Football League draft . . . Played in 20 games with seven starts over four seasons with the Ravens . . . Totaled 15 receptions for 239 yards and a touchdown in his NFL career . . . Also utilized as a kick return specialist by the Ravens . . . Set a Ravens team game record with seven punt returns for 64 yards vs. PHI (11/16/97) . . . Caught his first NFL touchdown pass, a 15-yarder from current San Francisco 49ers Head Coach Jim Harbaugh, vs. Indianapolis (11/29/98) . . . Participated in training camp with the Xtreme Football League's Orlando Rage in 2001.

College: 1992-95: Played four years at Norfolk State with career totals of 239 receptions for 4,468 yards and 46 touchdowns . . . Consensus Division II All-American who dominated at that level . . . Finished his career ranked second among collegiate yardage leaders (behind Jerry Rice, 4,693), third among Div. II reception leaders (239) and fourth in touchdown receptions (46) . . . Recorded 22 100-yard games and 16 games with two or more touchdown catches . . . Surpassed the 200-yard mark three times . . . Had receptions in 41 straight games, one in each game he played . . . Caught 64 passes for 1,248 yards and 15 scores as a senior in 1995 . . . Had his best season as a junior when he caught 77 passes for 1,454 yards and 17 touchdowns to set NSU and CIAA records . . . Caught 52 passes for 916 yards and five touchdowns as a sophomore . . . Grabbed nine touchdowns as a freshman on 46 receptions for 850 yards.

Personal: Born James Edward Roe II in Richmond, Va. . . Played wide receiver and defensive back at Henrico High School in Richmond . . . Was an all-state selection in football, an all-league pick in basketball and also ran track . . . Majored in Physical Education at NSU . . . Has spent the offseason coaching little league football in Richmond and plans to start up his own AAU basketball team . . . He and his wife Rene have three children, son James 'Lil Noonie', and daughters LaChyna and Zayin . . . Hopes to coach high school football and help his wife open a beauty salon after football career . . . An avid bowler, he once rolled a 287 game . . . Also enjoys video games and playing with his children . . . Makes offseason home in Richmond.

#99 Jason Stewart - DL - 6-0 - 315 lbs - 11/14/80 - Fresno State

2013: Assigned to the SaberCats on a new two-year contract in Oct. 2012 . . . Made his season debut @ SA on 3/23 and recorded his first sack of the season . . . Started but did not record any statistics vs. ORL on 3/29 . . . Made one-and-a-half tackles @ ARI on 4/6 . . . Recorded a half tackle and recovered a fumble vs. SPO on 4/19 . . . Compiled one-and-a-half sacks and forced a fumble @ NO on 4/27 . . . Recorded one-and-a-half tackles, a sack and an interception on his way to Riddell Defensive Player of the Game honors vs. CLE on 5/4 . . . Had one forced fumble and one fumble recovery @ JAC on 5/18 . . . Notched one tackle in the win vs. UTAH on 5/25 . . . Notched an assisted tackle, a half tackle for a loss and two quarterback hits @ SPO on 6/1 . . . Notched an assisted tackle in his start on 6/8 vs. PIT . . . Registered two solo tackles @ IOWA on 6/15 . . . Broke up a pass in the win vs. ARI on 6/22 . . . Made two assisted tackles and recovered a fumble on the final play to



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seal the victory @ UTAH on 6/29 ... Started but did not record any statistics vs. SA on 7/6 ... Recorded three-and-a-half tackles (two solo), forced a fumble and led the team with three sacks @ PIT on 7/13 ... Notches two tackles vs. PHI on 7/20 ... Co-Defensive Player of the Game notched three tackles (all solo), three sacks and a fumble recovery vs. CHI on 7/27.
Last Game: 7/27/13 vs. CHI; **Tackles:** 21.5; **Sacks:** 11.0; **FF:** 3; **FR:** 4; **Ints:** 1

#8 Clevan Thomas - DB - 5-10 - 195 Lbs - 04/06/79 - Florida State

2013: Assigned to the SaberCats on a new two-year contract on 2/27 ... Appeared for the first time since 2008 and recorded the 51st interception of his career, posted four tackles and recovered a fumble @ SA on 3/23 ... Tied a franchise single-game record with three interceptions on 3/29 vs. ORL and also led the team in tackles with seven (six solo) ... Started but did not record any statistics @ ARI on 4/6 ... Tied for the team lead in tackles with seven (all solo) vs. SPO on 4/19 ... Made four tackles (all solo) and posted an interception on 4/27 @ NO ... Notched four-and-a-half tackles and broke up an astonishing six passes vs. CLE on 5/4 ... Posted one-and-a-half tackles and broke up a pass vs. TB on 5/10 ... Made eight tackles and had another interception on 5/18 @ JAC ... Earned Riddell Defensive Player of the Game and Week for his two interception (one returned 50-yards for a score) and four tackle performance on 5/25 vs. UTAH ... Made three tackles on 6/1 @ SPO ... Made two-and-a-half tackles and one pass breakup on 6/8 vs. PIT ... Earned three-and-a-half tackles (three solo) along with a fumble recovery, an interception and a pass breakup on 6/15 @ IOWA ... Notched four-and-a-half tackles (four solo) and two pass breakups on 6/22 vs. ARI ... Led the team with eight-and-a-half tackles (eight solo) along with two pass breakups @ UTAH on 6/29 ... Notched four tackles (three solo), along with two pass break ups and two interceptions, both of which he returned for touchdowns, vs. SA on 7/6 ... Continued his defensive dominance with four tackles (two solo) and two more interceptions, one of which he took 49 yards for a score @ PIT on 7/13 ... Broke up a pass and made two tackles vs. PHI on 7/20 ... Co-Defensive Player of the Game recorded two solo tackles, two interceptions (breaking the SaberCats franchise record for INT in a season at 15 - 2003 Thomas had 13) and returned both for touchdowns (setting the AFL record for INT return TDs in a season at six) vs. CHI on 7/27.
Last Game: 7/27/13 vs. CHI; **Tackles:** 74.0; **Ints:** 15; **FF:** 1; **FR:** 2

#36 Luis Vasquez - DL - 6-3 - 265 Lbs - 04/23/86 - Arizona State

2013: Assigned to the SaberCats on a one-year contract on 7/1 ... DNP @ PIT on 7/13 ... Registered two assisted tackles vs. PHI on 7/20 ... Recorded one-and-a-half tackles (one solo) and a sack vs. CHI on 7/27.
Last Game: 7/27/13 vs. CHI; **Tackles:** 2.5; **Sacks:** 1.0; **FF:** 0; **FR:** 0

AFL Experience: 2012: Started 17 games as a member of the Milwaukee Mustangs ... was named second team All-Arena ... tied for the team lead with eight-and-a-half sacks ... led team with 11 tackles for loss and four fumble recoveries ... recovered a fumble @ ARI on 3/17 ... registered four and half tackles (three solo) with two-and-a-half sacks @ NOV on 3/23 ... notched two-and-a-half tackles (one solo) and a half sack on 3/29 vs. PIT ... started but recorded no statistics @ SPO on 4/14 ... made three-and-a-half tackles (three solo) and a sack on 4/21 @ CHI ... started but recorded no statistics vs. UTAH on 4/28 ... registered two assisted tackles @ PHI on 5/5 ... DNP @ CLE on 5/11 ... notched one-and-a-half tackles (one solo) and a sack on 5/18 vs. GEO ... made three-and-a-half tackles (three solo), a sack and forced/recovered a fumble @ TBV on 5/26 ... recovered two fumbles and scored two touchdowns vs. SJ on 6/2 ... registered two-and-a-half tackles (two solo) vs. PHI on 6/8 ... made two tackles (one solo) and a half sack @ PIT on 6/16 ... notched three assisted tackles vs. ARI on 6/22 ... made one assisted tackle on 6/29 @ CLE ... made three tackles (two solo) and a sack @ JAC on 7/6 ... notched a sack and three solo tackles on 7/14 vs. CHI ... started but recorded no statistics @ ORL on 7/22.

2011 AFL: Appeared in six games for the Milwaukee Mustangs, starting five ... finished with 18 tackles (16 solo) along with three sacks and a two tackles for loss ... made three solo tackles and registered a sack @ PHI on 6/3 ... Notched five-and-a-half tackles (four solo) along with two sacks on 6/11 vs. KCY ... registered two solo tackles @ JAX on 6/18 ... made four solo tackles on 6/25 @ PIT ... made two-and-a-half tackles (two solo) vs. CLE on 7/2 ... finished with one solo tackle @ NOV on 7/8.

2010 AFL: Appeared in three games for the Dallas Vigilantes during the 2010 season ... finished with two-and-a-half tackles (one solo) and a pass break up ... made an assisted tackle on 3/12 vs. KCY ... notched one-and-a-half tackles (one solo) vs. TUL on 3/10 ... registered a pass breakup on 3/31 @ UTAH.

Other Professional Experience: 2012: Signed to the practice squad of the Calgary Stampeders of the Canadian Football League ... **2010:** Played for the Arkansas Diamonds of the Indoor Football League ... was named second-team All-IFL and finished with 47 tackles and seven-and-a-half sacks ... **2009:** Signed a free agent contract with the Baltimore Ravens of the National Football League.

College: Attended Arizona State after transferring from Arizona Western Junior College and appeared in 25 games during his career for the Sun Devils ... originally signed with Purdue University and redshirted during the 2004 season ...



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recorded 78 tackles (47 solo), 22 tackles for loss and 8.5 sacks . . . **2008:** started all 12 games for ASU . . . finished second on the team with ten-and-a-half tackles for loss and four sacks . . . earned honorable mention All-Pac-10 honors for the second consecutive year . . . **2007:** started all 13 games for the Sun Devils . . . finished second on the team in sacks (four-and-a-half) and tackles for loss (11.5) . . . recorded 43 tackles and earned honorable mention All-Pac-10 honors.

Junior College: Played two seasons with Arizona Western Junior College in 2005 and 2006 . . . was one of the most dominant junior players in the country, compiling more sacks (31) than any other player in the nation over those two years . . . selected as the NJCAA Region I Defensive Most Valuable Player and was named WSFL first-team in 2005 . . . collected 61 tackles (33 solo), 24 tackles for loss, 15 quarterback sacks and two forced fumbles in 2006.

Personal: Majored in business management at ASU . . . son of Luis Vasquez Sr. and Dorrie Vasquez . . . was born in San Diego, Calif.

#17 Huey Whittaker - WR - 6-5 - 225 Lbs - 06/18/81 - South Florida

2013: Assigned to the SaberCats on a new two-year contract in Dec. 2012 ... Made his season debut with eight catches for 89 yards and four touchdowns, intercepted a pass and returned it for a 45-yard touchdown, posted three total tackles (one solo) and forced a fumble on 3/23 @ SA ... Caught six passes for 75 yards and a touchdown and also recorded five-and-a-half tackles (four solo) vs. ORL on 3/29 ... Found the end zone once in addition to making five catches for 70 yards and made three-and-a-half tackles @ ARI on 4/6 ... DNP vs. SPO on 4/19 ... Returned to action and caught seven passes for 86 yards and two scores while also registering one tackle and an interception return for a touchdown on 4/27 @ NO ... Caught three passes for 32 yards and posted six total tackles (three solo) vs. CLE on 5/4 ... Caught seven passes for 84 yards and a touchdown and defensively made three tackles (all solo) and recovered a fumble in the endzone for a touchdown vs. TB on 5/10 ... Had three-and-a-half tackles and a pick on defense and also reeled in six catches for 76 yards and two touchdowns, while rushing for three yards and a score on one carry @ JAC on 5/18 ... Hauled in six catches for 46 yards with one touchdown and also finished with three tackles on defense and special teams on 5/25 vs. UTAH ... Caught one pass for six yards and notched two tackles @ SPO on 6/1 ... Led the team with six-and-a-half tackles (five solo) while notching a sack, a forced fumble and a five-yard interception return for a touchdown to seal the victory on 6/8 vs. PIT ... Hauled in eight catches for 85 yards and three touchdowns at wide receiver as well as five tackles (four solo) and a tackle for loss at linebacker on 6/15 @ IOWA ... Made three solo tackles on defense and caught four passes for 35 yards and a score vs. ARI on 6/22 ... Hauled in five catches for 74 yards and two touchdowns at wide receiver and registered three-and-a-half tackles (three solo) and a pass breakup @ UTAH on 6/29 ... Caught six passes for 38 yards and three touchdowns at wide receiver and notched two tackles (one solo) on 7/6 vs. SA ... Caught seven passes for 58 yards and four touchdowns at wide receiver, and recorded five tackles (four solo), a pass break up and an interception @ PIT on 7/13 ... Brought an interception back to the house and made four-and-a-half tackles while making four receptions for 81 yards and a score vs. PHI on 7/20 ... Wrapped up the season in true Ironman style, posting six catches for 63 yards and a touchdown at wide out while tallying five-and-a-half tackles (four solo) at linebacker on 7/27 vs. CHI.

Last Game: 7/27/13 vs. CHI; **Rec:** 89; **Yds:** 998; **TD:** 27; **ATT:** 6; **Yds:** 15; **TD:** 1; **Tackles:** 65.5; **Ints:** 6; **FF:** 2; **FR:** 1

#7 Jason Willis - WR - 6-0 - 200 Lbs - 07/26/80 - Oregon

2013: Assigned to the SaberCats on a two-year contract in Nov. 2012 ... Made his SaberCats debut on 3/23 @ SA and caught seven balls for 77 yards ... Caught eight passes for 98 yards and three touchdowns vs. ORL on 3/29 ... Reeled in ten catches for 99 yards and two scores and also made one-and-a-half tackles @ ARI on 4/6 ... Caught nine passes for 123 yards and three more touchdowns vs. SPO on 4/19 ... Hauled in eight balls for 74 yards on 4/27 @ NO ... Earned Russell Athletic Offensive Player of the Game honors by catching eight passes for 85 yards and three touchdowns vs. CLE on 5/4 ... Caught a pair of passes for 18 yards, both touchdowns vs. TB on 5/10 ... Had three tackles on defense and 46 receiving yards on two catches and a touchdown on 5/18 @ JAC ... Caught five passes for 67 yards and two touchdowns on 5/25 vs. UTAH ... Made ten catches for 152 yards and three touchdowns on 6/1 @ SPO ... Caught eight passes for 96 yards and two touchdowns while also making three-and-a-half tackles (three solo) on 6/8 vs. PIT ... Hauled in nine catches for 116 yards and five scores @ IOWA on 6/15 ... Caught six passes for 87 yards and two scores while also making three tackles (two solo) vs. ARI on 6/22 ... Made seven catches for 80 yards and three touchdowns along with two solo tackles on 6/29 @ UTAH ... Caught four passes for 74 yards vs. SA on 7/6 ... Led the way with nine catches for 150 yards and a touchdown on 7/13 @ PIT ... Made three catches for 30 yards and a touchdown while making a solo tackle vs. PHI on 7/20 ... Recorded a team high eight catches for 134 yards and two touchdowns (breaking the SaberCats record for receiving yards in a season) and added two tackles on 7/27 vs. CHI.

Last Game: 7/27/13 vs. CHI; **Rec:** 123; **Yds:** 1,606; **TD:** 35; **Tackles:** 28.0.



2013 SABERCATS ALPHABETICAL ROSTER (INACTIVE RESERVE)

NO.	NAME	POS	HT.	WT.	BIRTHDATE	EXP.	COLLEGE	HOMETOWN
30	JUSTIN EDISON	DL	6-4	265	03/18/89	0	UCLA	INGLEWOOD, CALIF.
73	TJ WATKINS	OL	6-4	335	10/03/78	4	CLEMSON	NORTH AUGUSTA, S.C.
15	FRED WILLIAMS	WR	6-0	195	04/15/88	1	ST. CLOUD STATE	MILWAUKEE, WISC.

Owner/Head Coach: Darren Arbet
 Offensive and Special Teams Coordinator: Jeff Jarnigan
 Offensive Line Coach: Jasper Harvey

Defensive Coordinator: Cedric Walker
 Defensive Line Coach: Corey Mayfield

*** Rosters Accurate as of 7/30/13, and are subject to change**



2013 SABERCATS NUMERICAL ROSTER (INACTIVE RESERVE)

NO.	NAME	POS	HT.	WT.	BIRTHDATE	EXP.	COLLEGE	HOMETOWN
15	FRED WILLIAMS	WR	6-0	195	04/15/88	1	ST. CLOUD STATE	MILWAUKEE, WISC.
30	JUSTIN EDISON	DL	6-4	265	03/18/89	0	UCLA	INGLEWOOD, CALIF.
73	TJ WATKINS	OL	6-4	335	10/03/78	4	CLEMSON	NORTH AUGUSTA, S.C.

Owner/Head Coach: Darren Arbet
 Offensive and Special Teams Coordinator: Jeff Jarnigan
 Offensive Line Coach: Jasper Harvey

Defensive Coordinator: Cedric Walker
 Defensive Line Coach: Corey Mayfield

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2013 SABERCATS ALPHABETICAL ROSTER (INJURED RESERVE)

NO.	NAME	POS	HT.	WT.	BIRTHDATE	EXP.	COLLEGE	HOMETOWN
23	TERRANCE CARTER	DL	6-4	275	09/08/82	3	COLORADO STATE	TOPEKA, KAN.
42	KRIS CAVITT	FB/OL	6-1	300	12/25/88	0	LOUISIANA TECH	MANSFIELD, TEXAS
1	RASHIED DAVIS	WR	5-10	185	07/24/79	4	SAN JOSE STATE	GRANADA HILLS, CALIF.
3	ANDRE FREEMAN	DB	5-11	190	05/06/89	0	SLIPPERY ROCK (PA.)	PITTSBURGH, PA.
19	ARMAND ROBINSON	WR	6-0	200	12/08/87	0	MIAMI (OHIO)	REYNOLDSBURG, OHIO
21	JAMARKO SIMMONS	WR	6-3	245	09/23/86	2	WESTERN MICHIGAN	FLINT, MICH.
24	TOMMY TAGGART	FB	6-3	285	05/17/86	3	OKLAHOMA	EULESS, TEXAS
20	JUSTIN WARREN	DL	6-3	255	04/10/85	3	TEXAS A&M	TYLER, TEXAS

Owner/Head Coach: Darren Arbet
 Offensive and Special Teams Coordinator: Jeff Jarnigan
 Offensive Line Coach: Jasper Harvey

Defensive Coordinator: Cedric Walker
 Defensive Line Coach: Corey Mayfield

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2013 SABERCATS NUMERICAL ROSTER (INJURED RESERVE)

NO.	NAME	POS	HT.	WT.	BIRTHDATE	EXP.	COLLEGE	HOMETOWN
1	RASHIED DAVIS	WR	5-10	185	07/24/79	4	SAN JOSE STATE	GRANADA HILLS, CALIF.
3	ANDRE FREEMAN	DB	5-11	190	05/06/89	0	SLIPPERY ROCK (PA.)	PITTSBURGH, PA.
19	ARMAND ROBINSON	WR	6-0	200	12/08/87	0	MIAMI (OHIO)	REYNOLDSBURG, OHIO
20	JUSTIN WARREN	DL	6-3	255	04/10/85	3	TEXAS A&M	TYLER, TEXAS
21	JAMARKO SIMMONS	WR	6-3	245	09/23/86	2	WESTERN MICHIGAN	FLINT, MICH.
23	TERRANCE CARTER	DL	6-4	275	09/08/82	3	COLORADO STATE	TOPEKA, KAN.
24	TOMMY TAGGART	FB	6-3	285	05/17/86	3	OKLAHOMA	EULESS, TEXAS
42	KRIS CAVITT	FB/OL	6-1	300	12/25/88	0	LOUISIANA TECH	MANSFIELD, TEXAS

Owner/Head Coach: Darren Arbet
 Offensive and Special Teams Coordinator: Jeff Jarnigan
 Offensive Line Coach: Jasper Harvey

Defensive Coordinator: Cedric Walker
 Defensive Line Coach: Corey Mayfield

*** Rosters Accurate as of 7/30/13, and are subject to change**





SABERCATS PLAYER INFORMATION

#23 Terrance Carter - DL - 6-4 - 275 lbs - 09/08/82 - Colorado State

2013: Began season with the Orlando Predators and appeared in three games . . . Acquired by the SaberCats on 4/13 . . . Made his 2013 debut for the Predators on 3/24 @ NO, but did not record any statistics . . . Recorded a sack on 3/29 @ SJ . . . Recorded two total tackles (one solo) vs. PHI on 4/6 . . . Made his SaberCats debut vs. SPO on 4/19, but did not record any statistics . . . Notched one-and-a-tackles, a sack and a blocked kick @ NO on 4/27 . . . Made one-and-a-half tackles, recorded a sack and blocked an extra point vs. CLE on 5/4 . . . Recorded a half sack vs. TB on 5/10 . . . Made one tackle @ JAC on 5/18 . . . Posted a sack on 5/25 vs. UTAH . . . Started on 6/1 @ SPO . . . Registered a quarterback hit on 6/8 vs. PIT . . . Made one assisted tackle and a quarterback hit on 6/15 @ IOWA . . . Notched two tackles and a sack resulting in a safety vs. ARI on 6/22 . . . Posted four tackles and one sack on 6/29 @ UTAH . . . Made one assisted tackle on 7/6 vs. SA . . . Notched one tackle, a forced fumble, a pass break up and a sack @ PIT on 7/13 . . . DNP vs. PHI on 7/20 or 7/27 vs. CHI.

Last Game: 7/13/13 @ PIT; **Tackles:** 15.5; **Sacks:** 7.5; **FF:** 1; **FR:** 0

2012 AFL: Appeared in 17 games for the Orlando Predators . . . Recorded 14 total tackles (ten solo) with six-and-a-half sacks, three forced fumbles and one recovery . . . DNP in the season opener vs. PIT on 3/9 . . . Made his 2012 debut @ CHI on 3/22 with three-and-a-half total tackles and two sacks . . . Started but did not record any statistics on 3/29 vs. SA . . . Recorded a pass breakup on 4/8 @ CLE . . . Posted a half tackle @ PIT on 4/14 . . . Notched a half tackle and forced a fumble vs. GEO . . . Recovered a fumble vs. PHI on 4/28 . . . Recorded a half tackle on 5/5 @ TB . . . Made one tackle on 5/18 @ NO . . . Posted three-and-a-half tackles and one-and-a-half sacks vs. JAC on 5/25 . . . Started but did not record any statistics on 6/2 @ PHI . . . Broke up one pass @ SJ on 6/8 . . . Posted a sack on 6/15 vs. TB . . . Had a sack and forced a fumble vs. NO on 6/22 . . . Made a half tackle @ GEO on 7/1 . . . Started but did not record any statistics on 7/6 vs. CLE . . . Recorded two-and-a-half tackles, a sack and forced a fumble @ JAC on 7/14 . . . Started but did not record any statistics vs. MIL on 7/22 in the regular season finale.

2011 AFL: Appeared in all 18 games for the Pittsburgh Power . . . Recorded 26.5 total tackles (21 solo) with five sacks and two forced fumbles . . . Made his Power debut on 3/11 vs. PHI with two tackles, one of which was for a loss and a sack . . . Posted three tackles vs. IOWA on 3/19 . . . Made two-and-a-half tackles on 3/28 @ MIL . . . Recorded one-and-a-half tackles vs. TUL on 4/2 . . . Started but did not record any statistics on 4/16 vs. JAC . . . Had one sack and forced a fumble @ NO on 4/21 . . . Finished with a sack on 4/28 @ GEO . . . Posted a half tackle vs. SPO on 5/7 . . . Recorded three tackles on 5/14 vs. SJ . . . Notched one-and-a-half tackles @ DAL on 5/28 . . . Posted one-and-a-half total tackles and a sack vs. CLE on 6/4 . . . Started but did not record any statistics on 6/11 @ TB . . . Finished with a half tackle @ UTAH on 6/18 . . . Had one tackles, forced a fumble and blocked a kick on 6/25 vs. MIL . . . Made one-and-a-half tackles @ ORL on 7/1 . . . Recorded two total tackles, one half of which was for a loss on 7/10 vs. ARI . . . Had one tackle @ CLE on 7/15 . . . Posted three tackles and had a sack @ PHI on 7/22.

2010 AFL: Appeared in 11 games for the Tulsa Talons as a rookie . . . Finished his season with 14.5 total tackles (12 solo), four-and-a-half sacks, three forced fumbles and one recovery . . . DNP vs. TB on 4/3 . . . Made his AFL debut on 4/10 vs. DAL with two-and-a-half tackles and a forced fumble . . . Posted a half tackle on 4/23 @ ARI . . . Started but did not record any statistics on 5/1 @ JAC . . . Had three total tackles (two solo) and forced a fumble vs. ALA on 5/8 . . . DNP on 5/15 @ CLE . . . Finished with one tackle vs. OKC on 5/22 . . . Started but did not record any statistics @ BOS on 5/29 . . . DNP on 6/5 vs. ORL . . . Recorded a tackle @ DAL on 6/11 . . . Posted a half tackle on 6/18 @ SPO . . . DNP on 6/26 vs. CLE . . . Finished with three tackles, one of which was for a loss vs. BOS on 7/10 . . . Had one tackle and a fumble recovery @ ALA on 7/17 . . . DNP on 7/24 vs. ARI . . . Posted two tackles and forced a fumble on 7/30 @ OKC.

Other Professional Experience: 2007-09: af2: Spent three seasons with the Tulsa Talons of arena football 2.

College: Played for four years at Colorado State . . . Posted 46 total tackles and six sacks in 34 appearances during his collegiate career . . . Had his most productive season in his senior campaign . . . Finished with 23 total tackles (13 solo) with two sacks and one forced fumble.

Personal: Father, Woodrow Carter played at Colorado State in the late 1970's . . . Son of Woodrow and Lesia Carter . . . Has one brother and one sister . . . Full name is Terrance William Carter . . . Majored in liberal arts at Colorado State.

#42 Kris Cavitt - FB/DL - 6-2 - 300 lbs - 12/25/88 - Louisiana Tech

2013: Assigned to the SaberCats on a one-year contract on 5/30 . . . DNP @ SPO on 6/1, 6/8 vs. PIT, @ IOWA on 6/15, on 6/22 vs. ARI, @ UTAH on 6/29, vs. SA on 7/6, @ PIT on 7/13, vs. PHI on 7/20 or on 7/27 vs. CHI . . . Is currently on injured reserve.

Last Game: N/A; **Aff:** N/A; **Yds:** N/A; **TD:** N/A



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Other Professional Experience: National Football League: 2012: Signed on a tryout contract with the Detroit Lions.

College: Attended Louisiana Tech for four years . . . **2011:** Appeared in 13 games, starting 12 during his senior season . . . named first team All-WAC . . . **2010:** Played three games and started the final two games . . . **2009:** Appeared in three games along the offensive line as a sophomore . . . **2008:** Played in nine games and started the final six at right guard as a freshman . . . **2007:** Redshirted and helped the team as a member of the scout squad.

Personal: Son of Kenneth and Norma Cavitt . . . Played only one season of football but, as a senior, helped lead Mansfield Summit HS to the state playoffs.

#1 Rashied Davis - WR - 5-10 - 185 Lbs - 07/24/79 - San Jose State

2013: Assigned to the SaberCats on a one-year contract on 7/25.

Last Game: 5/21/05 vs. GEO; **Rec:** N/A; **Yds:** N/A; **TD:** N/A

Other Professional Experience: Played eight seasons in the National Football League, seven with the Chicago Bears and one with the Detroit Lions . . . In his NFL career, he hauled in 92 passes for 1,095 yards and five touchdowns . . .

2012: NFL: Signed with the Chicago Bears for a second stint, and spent the preseason with the team . . . **2011:** Signed a one year deal with the Detroit Lions . . . Played in 11 games, making four catches for 63 yards . . . Made six-and-a-half tackles (six solo) and returned two kicks for 32 yards . . . **2010:** Played in all 16 games for the Chicago Bears, registering nine catches for 84 yards and a score . . . Returned 5 kicks for 70 yards and made eight tackles on defense (seven solo) . . . **2009:** Played in all 16 games for Chicago, notching five catches for 35 yards . . . Returned nine kicks for 114 yards and notched nine tackles (eight solo) . . . **2008:** Had his best NFL season, registering 35 catches for 445 yards and two touchdowns in 16 games with the Bears . . . Rushed three times for 17 yards, returned one kick for ten yards and made six-and-a-half tackles (six solo) . . . **2007:** Hauled in 17 passes for 165 yards in 16 games with Chicago . . . Returned 12 kicks for 168 yards and registered ten solo tackles . . . **2006:** Excelled in preseason to earn a roster spot at wide receiver for the Bears . . . Played in all 16 games to register 22 receptions for 303 yards and two touchdowns . . . returned 32 kicks for 753 yards and notched 11.5 tackles (11 solo) . . . **2005:** Signed as an undrafted free agent with Chicago and was featured solely as a defensive back and return man . . . Had 11 returns for 251 yards . . . Notched eight tackles (six solo).

2005 AFL: Recorded 100 catches for 1,420 yards and 30 touchdowns as a wide receiver . . . Rushed for 23 yards and eight touchdowns . . . Notched 12 tackles (nine solo), four pass breakups and a fumble recovery as a defensive back . . . Had 46 kick returns for 1,147 yards and six touchdowns . . . Earned team MVP and Offensive Player of the Year honors from the SaberCats.

2004 AFL: Hauled in 47 passes for 511 yards and four touchdowns . . . Ran for five yards and a touchdown on the ground . . . Made 44.5 tackles (36 solo), nine pass break ups and three interceptions . . . Returned 51 kicks for 1,237 yards and four touchdowns . . . Was a key component of the SaberCats ArenaBowl run.

2003 AFL: Made 16 catches for 175 yards and a score as a rookie . . . Rushed for seven yards and two touchdowns . . . Notched 11.5 tackles (11 solo), two interceptions and a defensive touchdown . . . had one kick return for five yards.

2002 AFL: Signed with the SaberCats right out of college as a free agent . . . Suffered a significant injury and missed the majority of the season . . . Was a member of the team's practice squad after returning from injury.

College: Attended San Jose State for two years . . . **2001:** Caught seven passes for 100 yards . . . Returned 3 kicks for 59 yards and hauled in two interceptions . . . **2000:** Recorded 40 catches for 785 yards and six touchdowns . . . Added a rushing touchdown . . . Returned 13 kicks for 195 yards . . . **1998-99:** Attended West Los Angeles Community College, where he played his first snap of organized football.

#30 Justin Edison - DL - 6-4 - 265 Lbs - 03/18/89 - UCLA

2013: Assigned to the SaberCats on a one-year contract on 5/20 . . . DNP on 5/25 vs. UTAH, @ SPO on 6/1, vs. PIT on 6/8, on 6/15 @ IOWA, vs. ARI on 6/22, on 6/29 @ UTAH, SA on 7/6, @ PIT on 7/13, vs. PHI on 7/20 or on 7/27 vs. CHI . . . Is currently on inactive reserve.

Last Game: N/A; **Tackles:** N/A; **Sacks:** N/A; **FF:** N/A; **FR:** N/A

College: 2007-2011: Played four years at UCLA . . . Recorded 21 total tackles (seven solo) while playing for the Bru-



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ins. . . Made the Athletic Director's Honor Roll three times while playing . . . **2011:** Started 12 games at defensive tackle. . . Made nine tackles on the year, three of which game in the Kraff Fight Hunger Bowl against Illinois . . . **2010:** Appeared in 12 games and made three starts . . . Made one tackle for a loss and ended the season with nine total tackles . . . **2009:** Played in six games on special teams and defense . . . Had two tackles on the year including one in the EagleBank Bowl win over Temple . . . **2008:** Made one tackle in five appearances . . . **2007:** Redshirted his first year at UCLA.

#3 Andre Freeman - DB - 5-11 - 190 Lbs - 05/06/89 - Slinger Rock (Pa.)

2013: Assigned to the SaberCats on 11/13/12 on a one-year contract . . . Has not yet appeared in a game for the SaberCats and is currently on injured reserve.

Last Game: N/A; **Tackles:** N/A; **Ints:** N/A; **FF:** N/A; **FR:** N/A

#19 Armand Robinson - WR - 6-0 - 200 Lbs - 12/08/87 - Miami (Ohio)

2013: Assigned to the SaberCats on a one-year contract on 4/30 . . . DNP on 5/4 vs. CLE, vs. TB on 5/10, @ JAC on 5/18, vs. UTAH on 5/25, on 6/1 @ SPO, vs. PIT on 6/8, on 6/15 @ IOWA, vs. ARI on 6/22, @ UTAH on 6/29, vs. SA on 7/6, @ PIT on 7/13, vs. PHI on 7/20 or on 7/27 vs. CHI . . . Is currently on injured reserve.

Last Game: 7/21/12 @ ARI (for KC); **Rec:** 0; **Yds:** 0; **TD:** 0

2012 AFL: Midseason acquisition for the Kansas City Command . . . Appeared in six games and reeled in 47 catches for 519 yards and nine scores . . . Made four solo tackles on defense . . . Saw action for the first time against SA on 5/5 where he made eight catches for 96 yards and a touchdown . . . Caught a staggering 13 passes for 143 yards and four scores in addition to two tackles on defense @ IOWA on 5/12 . . . Made nine catches for 96 yards and two touchdowns and another tackle @ PIT on 5/19 . . . Had seven yards receiving on two catches against GEO on 5/26 . . . DNP vs. UTAH on 6/2, @ SPO on 6/9, vs. SJ on 6/17, vs. CHI on 6/23, @ SA on 6/30 and vs. IOWA on 7/7 . . . Reeled in nine catches for 106 yards and two touchdowns and added another tackle against SPO on 7/14 . . . Made six catches for 71 yards in the season finale @ ARI on 7/21.

Other Professional Experience: 2011: NFL: Member of the Pittsburgh Steelers of the National Football League . . . Appeared in all four preseason games making two catches for 27 yards.

College: 2007-2010: Played four years at the University of Miami (Ohio) . . . Second all-time in school history with 210 receptions and fourth all-time with 2,550 receiving yards . . . **2010:** Set the school single season record in receptions his senior year with 94 . . . Earned second-team All-Mid-American Conference honors.

#21 Jamarko Simmons - WR - 6-3 - 245 Lbs - 09/23/86 - Western Michigan

2013: Assigned to the SaberCats on a two-year contract on 1/25 . . . Caught two passes for 23 yards, surpassed 100 career receptions and carried the ball two times for three yards and one touchdown on 3/23 @ SA . . . Caught four passes for 35 yards and three scores vs. ORL on 3/29 . . . Reeled in five catches for 55 yards and two scores in addition to 1.5 tackles on 4/6 @ ARI . . . Led the team in catches and yards with 11 grabs for 126 yards and one touchdown on 4/19 vs. SPO . . . Caught two passes (both for scores), rushed for a touchdown and notched one-and-a-half tackles on defense on 4/27 @ NO . . . Made three catches for 45 yards for a touchdown and carried the ball four times for one yard and scored twice more on the ground vs. CLE on 5/4 . . . Caught three passes for 37 yards and carried the ball four times for nine yards on 5/10 vs. TB . . . DNP on 5/18 @ JAC . . . Caught one pass for nine yards on 5/25 vs. UTAH . . . DNP on 6/1 @ SPO, vs. PIT on 6/8, on 6/15 @ IOWA, vs. ARI on 6/22 or 6/29 @ UTAH . . . Returned to the lineup with two rushes for seven yards and a score and made four assisted tackles vs. SA on 7/6 . . . Caught two passes for 18 yards, rushed three times for eight yards and a score, and racked up two-and-a-half tackles and an interception on 7/13 @ PIT . . . DNP vs. PHI on 7/20.

Last Game: 7/13/13 @ PIT; **Rec:** 33; **Yds:** 401; **TD:** 9; **Att:** 22; **Yds:** 38; **TD:** 8; **Tackles:** 14.5

#24 Tommy Taggart - FB - 6-3 - 285 Lbs - 05/17/86 - Oklahoma

2013: Has missed the majority of the season due to injury . . . Made lone appearance of the season on 4/6 @ ARI, but left due to an injury . . . Has not played since 4/6 and is on injured reserve.

Last Game: 4/6/13 @ ARI; **Att:** 0; **Yds:** 0; **TD:** 0

2012 AFL: Made his SaberCats debut, scoring two touchdowns (one rushing and one receiving) on 3/10 vs. ARI . . . Scored a pair of rushing touchdowns on six carries for eight yards @ UTAH on 3/24 . . . Had six carries for 15 yards and a touchdown and had two catches for 27 yards on 3/30 @ SPO . . . Carried the ball twice for 30 yards and two touchdowns vs. SA on 4/6, including a 29-yard scoring run in the first quarter . . . Had two carries for one yard and a touchdown @



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PHI on 4/14 . . . Caught one pass for 11 yards and carried the ball one time for a two-yard gain on 4/21 vs. KC . . . Carried the ball five times for 16 yards and a touchdown, his eighth of the season . . . Carried the ball twice for five yards and a touchdown on 5/5 @ ARI before leaving at halftime due to injury . . . DNP from 5/11-6/23 due to injury . . . Returned to action for the SaberCats on 6/30 @ CHI and carried the ball nine times for 15 yards and two touchdowns . . . Made his first start vs. NO on 7/7 and had 13 yards rushing on five carries and one catch for 14 yards . . . Finished the regular season . . . Carried the ball four times for 15 yards and a score on 7/14 vs. IOWA . . . **Playoffs:** Had one carry for one yard in the playoff loss @ ARI on 7/28.

2011 AFL: Taggart started in 16 games at fullback for the New Orleans VooDoo in 2011 . . . In his first season on the offensive side of the ball in the Arena Football League, he led the team in rushing with 44 rushes for 193 yards and nine touchdowns to along with seven receptions for 33 yards . . . He rushed for eight yards on three carries and scored a touchdown on 4/16 in a 34-33 win @ CLE . . . Had three carries for 18 yards in a 56-49 loss vs. PIT on 4/21 . . . Scored two touchdowns and rushed three times for 14 yards on 5/7 in a 59-52 win @ KC . . . Carried three times for nine yards in a 48-35 loss vs. TUL on 5/13 . . . Picked up five yards on one carry on 5/20 in a 61-53 loss vs. ARI . . . Scored a touchdown on a two-yard run in a 70-49 loss @ PHI on 5/27 . . . Rushed twice for 25 yards on 6/17 in a 59-47 loss @ GEO . . . Talled six yards on two rushes and scored a touchdown in a 75-54 loss vs. SPO on 6/25 . . . Recorded five carries and rushed for 20 yards on 7/1 in a 64-33 win @ TB . . . Had six carries, nine yards, and a touchdown in a 76-55 loss vs. MIL on 7/8 . . . Rushed once for one yard on 7/16 in a 62-58 loss @ UTAH . . . Broke out for season-highs in carries with seven and in yards with 40 while adding a touchdown in the team's season-ending 62-44 loss @ NO on 7/23.

2010 AFL: In his rookie season in the AFL with the Dallas Vigilantes Taggart played on the defensive line . . . In seven games for the Vigilantes, he posted 14.0 tackles with one-and-a-half tackle for a loss.

Other Professional Experience: 2009: af2: Started his professional playing career with the Bossier City-Shreveport Battlewings of the af2 . . . Went on to play with the team in the preseason when it made the move to the AFL in 2010.

College: Finished his collegiate career at the University of Oklahoma . . . **2006-08:** Transferred to Oklahoma after his redshirt freshman season in 2006 . . . Was a member of two Oklahoma teams that went to BCS Bowls, including the National Championship game against Florida in 2008 . . . **2005:** Named all-conference his redshirt freshman season at Midwestern State University . . . **2004:** Redshirted his first year on campus.

Personal: Son of Denise and Tom Taggart Sr.

#20 Justin Warren - DL - 6-3 - 255 Lbs - 04/10/85 - Texas A&M

2013: Assigned to the SaberCats on a two-year contract in Nov. 2012 . . . Led the team with five total tackles (four solo) in his SaberCats debut on 3/23 @ SA . . . Recorded two total tackles (one solo) vs. ORL on 3/29 . . . Made one solo tackle @ ARI on 4/6 . . . Posted a half tackle vs. SPO on 4/19 . . . Registered two solo tackles, a sack (that resulted in a safety) and a fumble recovery @ NO on 4/27 . . . Made two tackles and broke up a pair of passes vs. CLE on 5/4 . . . Recorded his second sack of the season vs. TB on 5/10 . . . Started but did not record any statistics @ JAC on 5/18 . . . Posted a half tackle, which was for a loss, on 5/25 vs. UTAH . . . Started on 6/1 @ SPO . . . Made a half tackle and a pass breakup vs. PIT on 6/8 . . . DNP on 6/15 @ IOWA, 6/22 vs. ARI, @UTAH on 6/29, vs. SA on 7/6, on 7/13 @ PIT, vs. PHI on 7/20 or 7/27 vs. CHI.

Last Game: 6/8/13 vs. PIT; **Tackles:** 14.5; **Sacks:** 2.0; **FF:** 0; **FR:** 1

#73 TJ Watkins - DL - 6-4 - 335 Lbs - 10/03/78 - Clemson

2013: Assigned to the SaberCats on a two-year contract on 1/14 . . . Debuted for the SaberCats @ SA on 3/23, started on the offensive line and caught one pass for 17 yards for a fourth quarter touchdown . . . Caught one pass for 23 yards vs. ORL on 3/29 . . . DNP on 4/6 @ ARI, on 4/19 vs. SPO, and 4/27 @ NO . . . Returned to action on 5/4 vs. CLE and played on the offensive line . . . Started at fullback on 5/10 vs. TB . . . Had four rushes for four yards on 5/18 @ JAC . . . Started on 5/25 vs. UTAH . . . Started and had scored his first rushing touchdown as a member of the SaberCats on a four-yard run on 6/1 @ SPO . . . Placed on inactive reserve and DNP on 6/8 vs. PIT . . . Appeared @ IOWA on 6/15 . . . Started at fullback on 6/22 vs. ARI . . . DNP @ UTAH on 6/29 . . . Started 7/6 vs. SA . . . DNP @ PIT on 7/13 or vs. PHI on 7/20.

Last Game: 7/6/13 vs. SA; **Rec:** 2; **Yds:** 40; **TD:** 1; **Att:** 5; **Yds:** 8; **TD:** 1; **Tackles:** 1.0

#15 Fred Williams - WR - 6-0 - 195 Lbs - 04/15/88 - St. Cloud State

2013: Assigned to the SaberCats on a new two-year contract in Nov. 2012 . . . DNP on 3/23 @ SA or vs. ORL on 3/29 . . . Made seven catches for 108 yards and two touchdowns along with a solo tackle in his first game of the season @ ARI on 4/6 . . . DNP on 4/19 vs. SPO . . . Caught six passes for 99 yards and two scores on 4/27 @ NO . . . Caught four passes for 45 yards and earned JLS Playmaker of the Game honors for his prowess on special teams, returning a pair of kickoffs



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for touchdowns, from 55 and 57 yards . . . Made four catches for 61 yards and two scores and also had five kick returns for 100 yards on 5/10 vs. TB . . . Reeled in eight catches for 155 yards and two touchdowns and had two kickoff returns for 36 yards while adding half a tackle @ JAC on 5/18 . . . Posted a team-high ten catches for 124 yards and one touchdown on 5/25 vs. UTAH . . . Caught 12 passes for 120 yards on 6/1 @ SPO . . . Hauled in eight passes for 86 yards and three scores with 183 return yards and two assisted tackles on 6/8 vs. PIT . . . Caught nine passes for 112 yards and a touchdown along with 74 return yards @ IOWA on 6/15 . . . Hauled in a team high ten catches for 121 yards and five touchdowns to earn Russell Athletic Offensive Player of the Game and J. Lewis Small Playmaker of the Game honors in the win vs. ARI on 6/22 . . . Caught six passes for 47 yards on 6/29 @ UTAH . . . Led the team with seven receptions for 107 yards and two scores vs. SA on 7/6 . . . Hauled in five passes for 32 yards and one touchdown through the air and added 13 yards and a score on the ground @ PIT on 7/13 . . . DNP vs. PHI on 7/20.

Last Game: 7/13/13 @ PIT; **Rec:** 96; **Yds:** 1,207; **TD:** 21; **Ret:** 45; **Yds:** 895; **Avg:** 19.9; **TD:** 2; **Tackles:** 11.;



**2013 Game
Recaps**

2013 GAME RECAPS



**SATURDAY MARCH 23, 2013
ALAMODOME**
SAN JOSE SABERCATS AT SAN ANTONIO TALONS
ATTENDANCE: 8,161



The San Jose SaberCats (1-0) opened their 2013 season by knocking off the San Antonio Talons (0-1) on Saturday night at the Alamodome in front of 8,161 fans. The SaberCats new quarterback Aaron Garcia completed 23-of-36 his passes for 264 yards and five touchdowns. Garcia also continued to improve on his Hall of Fame numbers, throwing for his 1,200th career touchdown, and currently has 1,201. Wide receiver Huey Whittaker also had a monster day, scoring five total touchdowns, four receiving and one on an interception return.

After the teams traded turnovers on their first possessions, San Jose opened the scoring as Garcia found Whittaker in the back of the endzone for a three-yard score to put the SaberCats up 6-0 midway through the first quarter. Defensive back Clevan Thomas then recorded the 51st interception of his career as San Jose shut out San Antonio in the first quarter.

Garcia found Whittaker for the second time on the first play of the second quarter from six-yards out to stretch the SaberCats lead to 13-0. Whittaker struck again midway through the second quarter, this time from the linebacker position, as he intercepted a John Dutton pass and raced 45-yards for the score to put San Jose on top 20-0. The Talons put up their first touchdown of the game late in the half, as Dutton hooked up with Arena Football League veteran Robert Quiroga on a 21-yard strike.

The teams traded touchdowns to start the second half, as Dutton picked out a wide open Jomo Wilson for a 23-yard score and Garcia found Whittaker for the third time, this time from four-yards out. San Jose led 27-14 midway through the third. The Talons fought back and took the lead briefly, as Dutton and Quiroga connected again from four-yards out and then defensive back Fred Shaw returned an interception 54 yards for the touchdown.

San Jose took the lead right back on the next play from scrimmage as Garcia found Whittaker for the 40-yard touchdown to put the SaberCats on top 34-28 early in the fourth quarter. San Antonio wrestled the lead back, as Dutton picked out a well-covered Wilson for a 27-yard touchdown, and the Talons led 35-34. The see-saw affair continued as new SaberCats offensive lineman TJ Watkins took a 17-yard screen pass in for the score. Garcia's fifth touchdown pass on the night to put San Jose in front 41-35 with a little over nine minutes to play.

A key fourth and goal conversion saw San Antonio take a 42-41 lead, as Dutton picked out a wide open Dwayne Eley, Jr. from seven yards out. SaberCats wide receiver Jamarko Simmons then dove in from one-yard out with just 52 seconds to play to move San Jose into a 47-42 lead. It all came down to a fourth and goal to go for the Talons with just 17 seconds remaining, and the SaberCats defense stood tall, forcing the incomplection to wrap up their first win of the 2013 season.

Score By Quarter	1	2	3	4	Score
SaberCats	6	14	7	20	47
San Antonio Talons	0	7	21	14	42

Scoring Summary

- SJ - Whittaker, 3-yard pass from Garcia (Pertuit kick failed)
- SJ - Whittaker, 6-yard pass from Garcia (Pertuit kick)
- SJ - Whittaker, 45-yard interception return (Pertuit kick)
- SA - Quiroga, 21-yard pass from Dutton (Demos kick)
- SA - Wilson, 23-yard pass from Dutton (Demos kick)
- SJ - Whittaker, 4-yard pass from Garcia (Pertuit kick)
- SA - Quiroga, 4-yard pass from Dutton (Demos kick)
- SA - Shaw, 54-yard interception return (Demos kick)
- SJ - Whittaker, 40-yard pass from Garcia (Pertuit kick)
- SA - Wilson, 27-yard pass from Dutton (Demos kick)
- SJ - Watkins, 17-yard pass from Garcia (Petuit kick)
- SA - Eley, 7-yard pass from Dutton (Demos kick)
- SJ - Simmons, 1-yard run (Garcia pass failed)

Team Statistics

	SJ	SA
First Downs	18	22
Total Net Yds	268	240
Rush Net Yds	8	10
Pass Net Yds	160	230
Comp-Att-Int	23-36-3	19-43-2
KO Returns-Yds-TD	6-127-0	6-125-0
MFG Returns-Yds-TD	1-24-0	0-0-0
Ints for-Yds-TD	2-62-1	3-59-1
Penalties-Yds	10-60	9-56
Fumbles-Lost	0-0	2-2

Individual Statistical Leaders

Passing

Team	Player	Comp.-Att.-Int	Yds	TD	Sack
SJ	Garcia	23-36-3	264	5	2
SA	Dutton	19-43-2	244	5	2

Rushing

Team	Player	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	TD
SJ	Whittaker	1	6	6.0	0
SA	Dutton	3	6	2.0	0

Receiving

Team	Player	Rec.	Yds.	Avg.	TD
SJ	Whittaker	8	89	11.2	4
SA	Wilson	6	105	17.5	2

2013 GAME RECAPS



FRIDAY MARCH 29, 2013
HP PAVILION
SAN JOSE SABERCATS VS. ORLANDO PREDATORS
ATTENDANCE: 11,263



The San Jose SaberCats (2-0) opened their 2013 home slate by defeating the visiting Orlando Predators (0-2) 65-62 in thrilling fashion on Friday night at HP Pavilion in front of 11,263 fans. Quarterback Aaron Garcia completed 22-of-36 passes for 288 yards and seven touchdowns in his home debut for San Jose. Riddell Defensive Player of the Game, defensive back Clevan Thomas led the team in tackles with seven, and posted an eye-popping three interceptions, including one that sealed the game in the endzone as time expired.

A chippy first quarter didn't stop these two prolific offenses from putting up explosive numbers. The SaberCats reached the endzone on all three of their first quarter possessions, led by two touchdown grabs from wide receiver Jason Willis. The Predators found paydirt on both of their first quarter possessions with Russell Athletic Offensive Player of the Game, wide receiver Amarri Jackson scoring both touchdowns, but still trailed 21-14 after one quarter.

After Thomas' second interception in as many games, Garcia and Willis hooked up for a third time, pushing the SaberCats lead to 14. However, Orlando stayed in the game with two touchdowns from quarterback Kyle Rowley to wide receiver Prechae Rodriguez, sandwiched around San Jose wide receiver Jamarko Simmons' second touchdown of the game, which brought the half time score to 35-28, in favor of the SaberCats.

Opening the second half with possession of the football, the Predators struck quickly, with Rowley finding Jackson for his third score to tie the game at 35. The teams then traded touchdowns as well as interceptions before Garcia fired a bullet to wide receiver Huey Whittaker for a 35-yard scoring strike to take the 49-42 lead into the final quarter.

The Predators again countered San Jose's attempts to put them away, starting the fourth quarter with two touchdowns and a pair of defensive stops to take the lead for the first time, 55-49. After a sack by San Jose defensive lineman Jabari Fletcher that resulted in a safety made the score 55-51, the teams traded touchdowns in the final minute. With just 27 seconds left on the clock, defensive back Mervin Brookins took the ensuing kickoff 58-yards for the score, putting the SaberCats ahead for good. Thomas intercepted a last-ditch attempt by Rowley in the endzone, his third interception of the game, to seal the 65-62 victory for San Jose.

For the SaberCats, their deep and dangerous receiving corps lived up to its name in the win. In the balanced attack, Willis led the way with eight catches for 98 yards and three touchdowns. Whittaker finished with six catches for 75 yards and a score while Simmons came through in the clutch with four catches, three for touchdowns and 35 yards. On defense, Thomas, the Hall of Fame selection put his ball-hawking skills on display once again, finishing with the three interceptions.

For Orlando, whose losing streak on the road stretched to 11 games, their gaudy offensive statistics weren't enough to deliver a victory. Rowley finished his impressive night 26-of-46 passing for 373 yards and nine touchdowns. On the outside, Jackson snagged 12 catches for 209 yards and five scores, while running mate Rodriguez ended with eight catches for 98 yards and three touchdowns. On defense, cornerbacks Simeon Castillo and Marcus Everett each registered one interception and fellow defensive back Dominic Jones led the team with five tackles on the night.

Score By Quarter	1	2	3	4	Score
Orlando Predators	14	14	14	20	62
SaberCats	21	14	14	16	65

Scoring Summary

- SJ - Willis, 31-yard pass from Garcia (Pertuit kick)
- ORL - Jackson, 6-yard pass from Rowley (Lewis kick)
- SJ - Simmons, 8-yard pass from Garcia (Pertuit kick)
- ORL - Jackson, 49-yard pass from Rowley (Lewis kick)
- SJ - Willis, 14-yard pass from Garcia (Pertuit kick)
- SJ - Willis, 8-yard pass from Garcia (Pertuit kick)
- ORL - Rodriguez, 9-yard pass from Rowley (Lewis kick)
- SJ - Simmons, 4-yard pass from Garcia (Pertuit kick)
- ORL - Rodriguez, 4-yard pass from Rowley (Lewis kick)
- ORL - Jackson, 7-yard pass from Rowley (Lewis kick)
- SJ - Folkerts, 1-yard run (Pertuit kick)
- ORL - Rodriguez, 35-yard pass from Rowley (Lewis)
- SJ - Whittaker, 34-yard pass from Garcia (Pertuit kick)
- ORL - Townsell, 16-yard pass from Rowley (Lewis kick failed)
- ORL - Jackson, 34-yard pass from Rowley (Lewis kick)
- SJ - Fletcher, safety
- SJ - Simmons, 6-yard pass from Garcia (Peruit kick)
- ORL - Jackson, 4-yard pass from Rowley (Lewis kick)
- SJ - Brookins, 58-yard kick return (Pertuit kick)

Team Statistics

	ORL	SJ
First Downs	23	19
Total Net Yds	355	283
Rush Net Yds	-1	0
Pass Net Yds	356	283
Comp-Att-Int	26-46-3	22-36-2
KO Returns-Yds-TD	5-70-0	5-110-1
MFG Returns-Yds-TD	0-0-0	0-0-0
Ints for-Yds-TD	2-16-0	3-0-0
Penalties-Yds	7-31	6-49
Fumbles-Lost	0-0	0-0

Individual Statistical Leaders

Passing

Team	Player	Comp.-Att.-Int	Yds	TD	Sack
ORL	Rowley	26-46-3	373	9	2
SJ	Garcia	22-36-2	288	7	1

Rushing

Team	Player	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	TD
ORL	Townsell	2	3	1.5	0
SJ	Folkerts	3	1	0.3	1

Receiving

Team	Player	Rec.	Yds.	Avg.	TD
ORL	Jackson	12	209	17.4	5
SJ	Willis	8	98	12.3	3

2013 GAME RECAPS

 47	SATURDAY APRIL 6, 2013 US AIRWAYS CENTER SAN JOSE SABERCATS AT ARIZONA RATTLERS ATTENDANCE: 7,156	 73
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The San Jose SaberCats (2-1) fell to the Arizona Rattlers (3-0) 73-47 on Saturday night at US Airways Center in front of 7,156 fans in Phoenix. Quarterback Aaron Garcia completed 25-of-42 passes for 293 yards and six touchdowns for San Jose. Turnovers told the story in this one, as Garcia was intercepted three times, two of which were brought back for scores and San Jose was stopped once more on downs.

Arizona got on the scoreboard first, as former SaberCats defensive back Marquis Floyd returned a deflected Garcia pass 40 yards for the opening score. San Jose responded quickly, however, as Garcia hooked up with wide receiver Fred Williams from 18 yards out to knot the score at seven midway through the first quarter. The teams traded scores once more to tie things at 14 after one quarter of play.

The Rattlers scored quickly into the second quarter as quarterback Nick Davila picked out wide receiver Tysson Poots for the second time on the night, this time from 12-yards out, to put Arizona in front, 21-14. After Garcia threw his second interception of the first half, Arizona capitalized as Davila connected with Kerry Reed on a 24-yard strike to put the Rattlers on top 28-14 with 7:56 to play in the second quarter. Reed struck again on the next drive, intercepting Garcia from his jack linebacker position and returning it 43-yards for the score, extending Arizona's advantage to 35-14.

Following a 42-yard kick return by defensive back Mervin Brookins, Garcia rebounded with a 12-yard touchdown toss to wide receiver Jason Willis to pull within two scores. Arizona benefitted from a pair of rushing touchdowns by fullback Odie Armstrong sandwiched around a 24-yard touchdown pass from Garcia to Huey Whittaker and Arizona led 49-28 at the half.

The teams traded scores to open the second half, and Arizona pushed the lead to 59-35 on a 24-yard field goal by kicker Garrett Lindholm with just under four minutes remaining in the third quarter. The SaberCats were unable to score on a key fourth down inside the red zone and trailed by the same score heading into the fourth quarter.

Reed found the endzone for the third time on the night, his second offensively as he caught a nine-yard strike from Davila in early in the fourth quarter. San Jose pulled another score back when Garcia threw for his sixth score of the evening, connecting with wide receiver Jamarko Simmons, cutting Arizona's lead to 66-41. After another Arizona score, quarterback Mitch Mustain threw his first career touchdown pass, finding Williams for a 31-yard touchdown, his second score of the night. It wasn't enough however, as San Jose dropped their first game in 2013, 73-47.

Score By Quarter	1	2	3	4	Score
SaberCats	14	14	7	12	47
Arizona Rattlers	14	35	10	14	73

Scoring Summary

- ARI - Floyd, 40-yard interception return (Lindholm kick)
- SJ - Williams, 18-yard pass from Garcia (Pertuit kick)
- ARI - Poots, 14-yard pass from Davila (Lindholm kick)
- SJ - Simmons, 11-yard pass from Garcia (Pertuit kick)
- ARI - Poots, 17-yard pass from Davila (Lindholm kick)
- ARI - Reed, 24-yard pass from Davila (Lindholm kick)
- ARI - Reed, 43-yard interception return (Lindholm kick)
- SJ - Willis, 12-yard pass from Garcia (Lindholm kick)
- ARI - Armstrong, 6-yard run (Lindholm kick)
- SJ - Whittaker, 24-yard pass from Garcia (Pertuit kick)
- ARI - Armstrong, 1-yard run (Lindholm kick)
- ARI - Armstrong, 37-yard pass from Davila (Lindholm kick)
- SJ - Willis, 4-yard pass from Garcia (Pertuit kick)
- ARI - Lindholm 24-field goal
- ARI - Reed, 4-yard pass from Davila (Lindholm kick)
- SJ - Simmons, 4-yard pass from Garcia (Garcia pass failed)
- ARI - Windsor, 20-yard pass from Davila (Lindholm kick)
- SJ - Williams, 31-yard pass from Mustain (Mustain pass failed)

Team Statistics

	SJ	ARI
First Downs	21	21
Total Net Yds	322	254
Rush Net Yds	0	15
Pass Net Yds	322	239
Comp-Att-Int	27-46-3	14-23-0
KO Returns-Yds-TD	7-139-0	5-103
MFG Returns-Yds-TD	0-0-0	0-0-0
Ints for-Yds-TD	0-0-0	3-92-2
Penalties-Yds	14-69	9-60
Fumbles-Lost	0-0	0-0

Individual Statistical Leaders

Passing

Team	Player	Comp.	Att.	Int	Yds	TD	Sack
SJ	Garcia	25	42	3	293	6	2
ARI	Davila	13	22	0	231	6	0

Rushing

Team	Player	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	TD
SJ	Simmons	1	0	0.0	0
ARI	Armstrong	7	11	1.6	2

Receiving

Team	Player	Rec.	Yds.	Avg.	TD
SJ	Williams	8	108	15.4	2
ARI	Reed	5	53	10.6	2

2013 GAME RECAPS



47

FRIDAY APRIL 19, 2013
 HP PAVILION
 SAN JOSE SABERCATS VS. SPOKANE SHOCK
 ATTENDANCE: 10,123



69

The San Jose SaberCats (2-2) fell to the visiting Spokane Shock (5-0) in front of 10,123 strong at HP Pavilion on Friday night. The Shock handled a divisional foe for the second straight week behind Paul Stephens' record-setting five-interception performance and quarterback Erik Meyer's eight-touchdown night. Key penalties and costly interceptions along with Meyer's aerial attack led to San Jose's demise, as they lost their second straight game and their first at home since they lost to the Shock last season 90-63 in June. Meyer ended the night completing 26-of-37 for 242 yards and threw his 40th touchdown pass on the season. Garcia completed 28-of-45 passes for 309 yards and six touchdowns, but also threw the five interceptions.

Garcia struggled on the first drive, throwing his ninth interception on the year to Paul Stephens, his first of the season. Spokane capitalized on the turnover with a one-handed touchdown catch from 19 yards out by Adron Tennell, his 15th on the year. San Jose was able to answer back with a touchdown of their own, a 28-yard pass from Garcia to Jamarko Simmons. Meyer and Tennell would find paydirt one more time, and Garcia found Samora Goodson in the end zone to once again tie it at 14 as the first quarter came to an end.

Meyer opened the second quarter with his 35th touchdown on the young season, this time finding Kamar Jordan. The SaberCats marched down the field in an attempt to tie things up once again, however an unfortunate bounce off the crossbar resulted in Stephens' second interception on the night. Meyer took advantage of the costly turnover and found Jordan again, this time with an 18-yard score. Garcia was able to shake off that last ill-fated drive to find his partner in crime Jason Willis in the corner of the end zone to cut the Shock lead to six. This was Garcia's third score on the night and his 78th career touchdown pass to Willis. After Meyer led the Shock down the field for seven more, the turnover bug bit the 'Cats once again with Stephen's third interception of the half. Meyer's first half performance proved why he leads the league in most passing categories, by completing 16-of-22 passes for 159 yards and five scores.

The SaberCats would start the third quarter down 34-21 and saw their deficit increase to 27 points after Meyer found Jordan for the third time in the end zone and Stephens brought back an interception 27-yards to the house; his fourth on the night. The resilient Garcia once again found Willis for a 41-yard score to make it 48-27 halfway through the third quarter. Shock receiver Jackie Chambers joined the party with a ten-yard touchdown of his own to raise the Shock lead to 28 points.

San Jose would not go down just yet as a Garcia found Willis again from four yards out to narrow the deficit to 21. The 'Cats immediately got the ball back after defensive back JC Neal forced a fumble, which set up a three-yard Brian Folkerts rushing touchdown. The momentum seemed to take a sudden shift San Jose's way after the turnover; however masterful Meyer threw his 40th touchdown on the year with a six-yard reception to Tennell. Recently acquired offensive lineman Rich Ranglin reeled in his first career touchdown on a nine-yard screen pass from Garcia to answer for the SaberCats but Tennell added another touchdown, this time on the ground from two-yards out, to end all hopes of a comeback. The game ended just like it started as Stephens picked off Garcia for the fifth time (an AFL single-game record) in the game with 39 seconds left in regulation to seal the 69-47 victory for the Shock.

Score By Quarter	1	2	3	4	Score
Spokane Shock	14	20	21	14	69
SaberCats	14	7	6	20	47

Scoring Summary

- SPO - Tennell, 19-yard pass from Meyer (Spencer kick)
- SJ - Simmons, 33-yard pass from Garcia (Pertuit kick)
- SPO - Tennell, 39-yard pass from Meyer (Spencer kick)
- SJ - Goodson, 8-yard pass from Garcia (Pertuit kick)
- SPO - Jordan, 15-yard pass from Meyer (Spencer kick)
- SPO - Jordan, 18-yard pass from Meyer (Spencer kick failed)
- SJ - Willis, 27-yard pass from Garcia (Pertuit kick)
- SPO - Brooks, 3-yard pass from Meyer (Spencer kick)
- SPO - Jordan, 9-yard pass from Meyer (Spencer kick)
- SPO - Stephens, 26-yard interception return (Spencer kick)
- SJ - Willis, 41-yard pass from Garcia (Pertuit kick failed)
- SPO - Chambers, 10-yard pass from Meyer (Spencer kick)
- SJ - Willis, 4-yard pass from Garcia (Pertuit kick)
- SJ - Folkerts, 3-yard run (Pertuit kick)
- SPO - Tennell, 6-yard pass from Meyer (Spencer kick)
- SJ - Ranglin, 9-yard pass from Ranglin (Pertuit kick failed)
- SPO - Tennell, 2-yard run (Spencer kick)

Team Statistics

	SPO	SJ
First Downs	20	22
Total Net Yds	265	314
Rush Net Yds	28	15
Pass Net Yds	237	299
Comp-Att-Int	26-27-0	28-45-5
KO Returns-Yds-TD	5-68-0	11-132-0
MFG Returns-Yds-TD	0-0-0	0-0-0
Ints for-Yds-TD	5-65-1	0-0-0
Penalties-Yds	6-26	7-43
Fumbles-Lost	1-1	1-0

Individual Statistical Leaders

Passing						
Team	Player	Comp.	Att.	Int	Yds	TD
SPO	Meyer	26	37	0	242	8
SJ	Garcia	28	45	5	309	6
Rushing						
Team	Player	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	
SPO	Meyer	1	14	14.0	0	
SJ	Folkerts	2	11	5.5	1	
Receiving						
Team	Player	Rec.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	
SPO	Tennell	9	117	13.0	3	
SJ	Simmons	11	126	11.5	1	

2013 GAME RECAPS



SATURDAY APRIL 27, 2013
MERCEDEZ BENZ SUPERDOME
SAN JOSE SABERCATS AT NEW ORLEANS VOODOO
ATTENDANCE: 4,357



The San Jose SaberCats (3-2) knocked off the New Orleans VooDoo (1-4) 57-38 in front of 4,357 fans at the Mercedes Benz Superdome on Saturday night. It marked the first Arena Football League game at the Superdome since July 25, 1992, the last season for the now-defunct New Orleans Night. San Jose's new quarterback Russ Michna debuted impressively, completing 23-35 passes for 312 yards and six touchdowns with just one interception. Wide receivers Huey Whittaker and Jamarko Simmons scored three times each on the night, with Whittaker getting one defensively.

San Jose struck first midway through the first quarter, as Whittaker intercepted a Zack Eskridge pass and returned it ten yards for the opening score. The SaberCats defense played very well in the first quarter, allowing just a field goal and took a 7-3 lead into the second.

Michna threw the first touchdown of his SaberCats career early in the second, as he hooked up with Simmons on a six-yard strike. VooDoo wide receiver Quorey Payne brought the ensuing kickoff back 57-yards for the score to trim the San Jose lead to 14-9. New Orleans' defense made the next big play, stopping a wide receiver screen attempt in San Jose's endzone, as defensive back Demarcus Robinson made the tackle on Fred Williams, bringing the score to 14-11.

After the VooDoo took their first lead of the game, Michna bounced back from an interception to find Simmons on a 47-yard touchdown strike, their second connection on the evening, as San Jose took a 21-17 advantage late in the first half. Following a successful onside kick recovery, the SaberCats extended their lead to 28-17 at the half when Michna picked out Whittaker for a ten-yard score as time expired.

San Jose picked up right where they left off as Michna hit Williams for a 45-yard score, and following a safety on the VooDoo's next drive, the SaberCats were in control early in the third quarter, 37-17. New Orleans then pulled a score back, as Eskridge scored on a quarterback keeper from a yard out to cut the San Jose advantage to 37-24. San Jose responded with another long touchdown pass as Michna and Whittaker connected from 35-yards out, pushing the lead to 43-24 late in the third quarter.

The SaberCats extended their lead to 50-24 early in the fourth, as Simmons scored from the wildcat formation on a one-yard score on fourth down, his third score of the night. New Orleans pulled a bit closer as backup quarterback Bill Stull scored from a yard out on the ground, bringing the score to 50-31 in favor of San Jose. Michna finished off his SaberCats debut, firing a bullet to Williams for an 11-yard touchdown, pushing the score to 57-31 with just over a minute to play in the fourth. New Orleans added a late touchdown to bring the final score to 57-38.

Score By Quarter	1	2	3	4	Score
SaberCats	7	21	15	14	57
New Orleans VooDoo	3	14	7	14	38

Scoring Summary

- SJ - Whittaker, 10-yard interception return (Pertuit kick)
- NO - Cismesia, 25-yard field goal
- SJ - Simmons, 6-yard pass from Michna (Pertuit kick)
- NO - Payne, 57-yard kick return (Cismesia kick blocked)
- NO - Robinson, safety
- NO - Duvall, 9-yard pass from Eskridge (Cismesia kick failed)
- SJ - Simmons, 47-yard pass from Michna (Pertuit kick)
- SJ - Whittaker, 9-yard pass from Michna (Pertuit kick)
- SJ - Williams, 45-yard pass from Michna (Pertuit kick)
- SJ - Warren, safety
- NO - Eskridge, 1-yard run (Cismesia kick)
- SJ - Whittaker, 35-yard pass from Michna (Pertuit kick failed)
- SJ - Simmons, 1-yard run (Pertuit kick)
- NO - Stull, 1-yard run (Cismesia kick)
- SJ - Williams, 11-yard pass from Michna (Petuit kick)
- NO - Smith, 5-yard pass from Stull (Cismesia kick)

Team Statistics

	SJ	NO
First Downs	20	16
Total Net Yds	313	186
Rush Net Yds	11	37
Pass Net Yds	302	149
Comp-Att-Int	23-35-1	15-32-2
KO Returns-Yds-TD	4-49-0	7-147-1
MFG Returns-Yds-TD	0-0-0	0-0-0
Ints for-Yds-TD	2-29-1	1-33-0
Penalties-Yds	8-49	7-33
Fumbles-Lost	2-2	2-2

Individual Statistical Leaders

Passing

Team	Player	Comp.-Att.-Int	Yds	TD	Sack
SJ	Michna	23-35-1	312	6	2
NO	Stull	8-14-0	97	1	2

Rushing

Team	Player	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	TD
SJ	Simmons	5	12	2.4	1
NO	Duvall	2	20	10.0	0

Receiving

Team	Player	Rec.	Yds.	Avg.	TD
SJ	Williams	6	99	16.5	2
NO	Duvall	5	90	18.0	1

2013 GAME RECAPS



56

SATURDAY MAY 4, 2013
HP PAVILION
SAN JOSE SABERCATS VS. CLEVELAND GLADIATORS
ATTENDANCE: 8,563



36

The San Jose SaberCats (4-2) won their second consecutive game, defeating the Cleveland Gladiators (1-5) 56-36 in front of 8,563 fans at HP Pavilion on Saturday night. On a night when SaberCats legend, quarterback Mark Grieb was honored by the retiring of his jersey at halftime, current San Jose quarterback Russ Michna made his home debut, completing 18-of-25 passes for 197 yards and 4 touchdowns with zero interceptions.

The SaberCats got off to a much-needed fast start against the Gladiators. Michna, looking to immediately impress his new home crowd, showed his skills during the opening 45-yard march down the field that ended with a six-yard toss to Russell Athletic Offensive Player of the Game, wide receiver Jason Willis for the score. After the defense forced a turnover on downs, buoyed by a Terrance Carter sack on fourth down, Michna found wide receiver Jamarko Simmons for the 50th touchdown of his Arena Football League career and a 14-0 lead for the 'Cats.

After being held scoreless through the first 15 minutes, the Gladiators got on the board early in the second quarter with a one-yard keeper from quarterback Brian Zbydniwski. After Carter blocked the point after attempt, JLS Playmaker of the Game Fred Williams took the ensuing kickoff 57-yards to the house to extend the lead back to double digits at 21-6, in favor of San Jose. Following an impressive defensive stand led by defensive back Clevan Thomas, the offense kept the momentum rolling for the SaberCats. Michna completed all five of his pass attempts and Simmons found the end zone with a one-yard bull rush to push the San Jose lead up to 28-6. Cleveland answered back with a touchdown in the final minute to close the gap to 16 points; however, Williams wasn't quite ready to be done with the first half. He took the next kickoff 55-yards, his second kickoff return for a touchdown of the night, to prop the San Jose lead back up to 35-12. A last second 42-yard field goal from Cleveland brought the halftime lead to 35-15 in favor of San Jose.

Coming out for the third quarter, Cleveland's halftime adjustments paid off early, as wide receiver Dominick Goodman found the end zone from 17 yards out, making the Cutters Catch of the Game over the boards to close San Jose's lead to 13. The subsequent kickoff bounced off the bar and directly into the hands of Gladiators defensive back Lenny Wicks, who walked into the end zone for a net recovery touchdown to bring Cleveland within six. Getting on the field for the first time in the second half, the offense extended the lead back to 13 when Michna found Willis from 18 yards out, their second touchdown connection on the evening.

Following an interception by Riddell Defensive Player of the Game, defensive lineman Jason Stewart off of a tipped pass late in the third quarter, the offense quickly struck to open the scoring in the final frame. Simmons once again bullied his way into the end zone for his second rushing, and third overall touchdown on the night, to drive the SaberCats lead back up the halftime margin of 20 points. Cleveland wouldn't go away just yet, as Zbydniwski connected with wide receiver Jamar Howard for a 6-yard score, bringing the count to 49-36 SaberCats with just over seven minutes remaining. Michna continued his efficient play, answering the Cleveland score by once again finding Willis for a 20-yard touchdown and ending all thoughts of a Gladiators comeback. After the defense forced its fourth turnover on downs, the offense ran out the clock to seal the 56-36 victory for the SaberCats.

Score By Quarter	1	2	3	4	Score
Cleveland Gladiators	0	15	14	7	36
SaberCats	14	21	7	14	56

Scoring Summary

- SJ - Willis, 6-yard pass from Michna (Pertuit kick)
- SJ - Simmons, 1-yard pass from Michna (Pertuit kick)
- CLE - Zbydniwski, 1-yard run (Pettrey kick blocked)
- SJ - Williams, 57-yard kick return (Pertuit kick)
- SJ - Simmons, 1-yard run (Pertuit kick)
- CLE - Goodman, 1-yard run (Pettrey kick failed)
- SJ - Williams, 55-yard kick return (Pertuit kick)
- CLE - Pettrey, 42-yard field goal
- CLE - Goodman, 17-yard pass from Zbydniwski (Pettrey kick)
- CLE - Wicks, 2-yard net recovery (Pettrey kick)
- SJ - Willis, 18-yard pass from Michna (Pertuit kick)
- SJ - Simmons, 1-yard run (Pertuit kick)
- CLE - Howard, 6-yard pass from Zbydniwski (Pettrey kick)
- SJ - Willis, 20-yard pass from Michna (Pertuit kick)

Team Statistics

	CLE	SJ
First Downs	21	16
Total Net Yds	241	202
Rush Net Yds	21	5
Pass Net Yds	220	197
Comp-Att-Int	24-47-1	18-25-0
KO Returns-Yds-TD	4-34-0	4-147-2
MFG Returns-Yds-TD	0-0-0	0-0-0
Ints for-Yds-TD	0-0-0	1-0-0
Penalties-Yds	6-33	12-56
Fumbles-Lost	0-0	2-1

Individual Statistical Leaders

Passing

Team	Player	Comp.-Att.-Int	Yds	TD	Sack
CLE	Zbydniwski	24-47-1	231	2	2
SJ	Michna	18-25-0	197	4	0

Rushing

Team	Player	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	TD
CLE	Zbydniwski	4	13	3.3	1
SJ	Simmons	4	1	0.3	2

Receiving

Team	Player	Rec.	Yds.	Avg.	TD
CLE	Goodman	10	74	7.4	1
SJ	Willis	8	85	10.6	3

2013 GAME RECAPS



FRIDAY MAY 10, 2013
 HP PAVILION
 SAN JOSE SABERCATS VS. TAMPA BAY STORM
 ATTENDANCE: 8,001



The San Jose SaberCats (5-2) won their third consecutive game, defeating the Tampa Bay Storm (5-3) 64-34 in front of 8,001 fans at HP Pavilion on Friday night. Quarterback Russ Michna dazzled once again at home, completing 16-of-23 passes for 182 yards and five touchdowns with one interception. The story of the night was the SaberCats' defensive line putting pressure on Storm quarterback Adrian McPherson. The 'Cats defense held the dual-threat McPherson to five rushing yards, his lowest total all season, and was sacked six times. Wide receiver/linebacker and J. Lewis Small Playmaker of The Game Huey Whittaker continued his trend of scoring on both sides of the ball by having one fumble recovery score in addition to one receiving touchdown.

The SaberCats started off their offensive showcase with a three-yard scoring run by Jamarko Simmons, his fifth on the year. The Storm struggled early and were unable to move the chains in their first possession, which ended in a 60-yard missed field goal by Juan Bongarra. The 'Cats immediately capitalized on the failed drive with seven more on an eight-yard connection from the Russell Athletic Offensive Player of The Game, Michna, who found Jason Willis to make it 14-0 SaberCats. The Storm put their first points on the board on the following drive by way of a four-yard pass from McPherson to Greg Ellingson. San Jose was able to contain McPherson's scrambling ability, holding him to no rushing yards in the first quarter, which no other defense all season had been able to do.

San Jose began the second quarter just like they did the first, by finding the end zone in only three minutes; this time through the air on the 27-yard Michna pass to Fred Williams to make the score 21-7. On the next Tampa Bay possession, the tandem of Francis Maka and Jason Stewart made their presence felt by getting a key sack and forcing the fumble that resulted in a Whittaker recovery in the end zone for the score. On the ensuing drive, the Storm came back and got in the end zone themselves, on a four-yard McPherson run, his first attempt on the night to cut the San Jose lead to 14. The SaberCats answered with another score by Whittaker, this time on offense from two yards out to make it 35-14. Following a Storm touchdown, the team left the field with San Jose leading 35-21.

SaberCats defensive back and Riddell Defensive Player of The Game Ken Fontenette opened up the second half tracking down his first interception in the green and gold, which then set up the ten-yard Michna to Willis score that put the 'Cats back on top by 21. The Storm's offensive struggles continued as they could not move the chains and turned the ball over on downs. San Jose once again capitalized on the great field position with Williams diving into the end zone for six more. The resilient Tampa Bay squad would not go down just yet, with McPherson leading the Storm down the field for the score on a one-yard run by the quarterback, which broke the all-time Arena Football League record for the most rushing touchdowns in a season by a signal-caller with 23 (Ryan Vena previously held the record) and made the score 48-28. The SaberCats added another rushing score of their own on Simmons' second of the night that extended the lead to 55-28. Back-to-back sacks by Maka, Stewart and Justin Warren ended the Storm's hopes of scoring again in the third as they entered the final 15 minutes down by 27.

Fontenette began the fourth quarter like he did the third, with an interception; this time, he brought it back to the house to make the score 62-28. The SaberCats handled the Storm 64-34, and held their opponents below the 40-point mark for the third straight game.

Score By Quarter	1	2	3	4	Score
Tampa Bay Storm	7	14	7	6	34
SaberCats	14	21	20	9	64

Scoring Summary

SJ - Simmons, 3-yard run (Pertuit kick)
 SJ - Willis, 8-yard pass from Michna (Pertuit kick)
 TB - Ellingson, 4-yard pass from McPherson (Bongarra kick)
 SJ - Williams, 27-yard pass from Michna (Pertuit kick)
 SJ - Whittaker, 0-yard fumble recovery (Pertuit kick)
 TB - McPherson, 4-yard run (Bongarra kick)
 SJ - Whittaker, 2-yard pass from Michna (Pertuit kick)
 TB - Ellingson, 37-yard pass from McPherson (Bongarra kick)
 SJ - Willis, 10-yard pass from Michna (Pertuit kick)
 SJ - Williams, 11-yard pass from Michna (Pertuit kick failed)
 TB - McPherson, 1-yard run (Bongarra kick)
 SJ - Simmons, 3-yard run (Pertuit kick)
 SJ - Fontenette, 36-yard interception return (Pertuit kick)
 TB - Ellingson, 25-yard pass from Hippeard (Hippeard pass failed)
 SJ - TEAM Safety

Team Statistics

	TB	SJ
First Downs	15	15
Total Net Yds	217	218
Rush Net Yds	6	12
Pass Net Yds	211	206
Comp-Att-Int	19-40-2	17-26-2
KO Returns-Yds-TD	5-70-0	5-100-0
MFG Returns-Yds-TD	0-0-0	0-0-0
Ints for-Yds-TD	2-0-0	2-36-1
Penalties-Yds	9-48	6-36
Fumbles-Lost	2-1	0-0

Individual Statistical Leaders

Passing

Team	Player	Comp.-Att.-Int	Yds	TD	Sack
TB	McPherson	13-29-2	166	2	6
SJ	Michna	16-23-1	182	5	0

Rushing

Team	Player	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	TD
TB	McPherson	2	5	2.5	2
SJ	Simmons	4	9	2.2	2

Receiving

Team	Player	Rec.	Yds.	Avg.	TD
TB	Ellingson	8	143	17.9	3
SJ	Whittaker	7	84	12.0	1

2013 GAME RECAPS



SATURDAY MAY 18, 2013
JACKSONVILLE VETERANS MEMORIAL ARENA
SAN JOSE SABERCATS AT JACKSONVILLE SHARKS
ATTENDANCE: 8,641



The San Jose SaberCats (6-2) won their fourth consecutive game, defeating the Jacksonville Sharks (6-3) 57-36 in front of 8,641 fans at Jacksonville Veterans Memorial Arena on Saturday night. Quarterback Russ Michna completed 16-of-23 passes for 258 yards, five touchdowns, no interceptions and also rushed for a pair of scores. On his fourth touchdown pass of the game, he hit the 300-mark for his career. San Jose's defense continued its run of recent dominance, forcing three turnovers and holding their opponent to less than 40 points for the fourth consecutive week.

San Jose got going early, opening the scoring on their first play from scrimmage, as Michna picked out wide receiver Huey Whittaker for a 29-yard strike, the former South Florida Bull's tenth receiving score on the season. After a touchdown pass by Sharks quarterback R.J. Archer to Jeff Hughley leveled things at 6-6, Michna showed his wheels, sprinting in untouched on a bootleg from three yards out to put San Jose on top 13-6 midway through the first quarter. San Jose carried a 16-6 advantage into the second quarter after Nich Pertuit made a 37-yard field goal, his first attempt on the season.

Jacksonville fought back into the game, as Archer picked out Jeron Harvey for a seven-yard score early in the quarter, cutting the San Jose lead to 16-13. The SaberCats scored on their ensuing possession, as Whittaker found paydirt for the second time on the night, this time on a three-yard rush. The Sharks blocked the extra point attempt, and returned it for a two-point score to bring themselves within a touchdown, 22-15. With just over four minutes to play in the half, Archer connected with Harvey again, this time from 23-yards out to tie the game at 22. San Jose struck again, this time as time expired in the half, as Michna picked out a wide open Whittaker once again and the SaberCats carried a 29-22 lead into the break.

Whittaker showed his versatility, intercepting an R.J. Archer pass inside the ten on Jacksonville's opening drive of the half. Michna put his athleticism on display once again, scrambling and scoring his second rushing touchdown of the game, this time from 13 yards out. San Jose forced another turnover and scored their third unanswered touchdown, as Michna found Fred Williams for a 24-yard touchdown on a screen pass to stretch their lead to 43-22 midway through the quarter.

San Jose's defense pitched a shutout in the third, but the Sharks pulled within 14 early in the fourth, as Archer picked out Markee White for a four-yard touchdown. San Jose responded quickly with a four-yard score of their own, as Michna threw the 300th touchdown pass of his career, this time to Fred Williams. Jacksonville pulled a score back with seven minutes remaining, when Archer found Hughley for a 20-yard score in the corner of the endzone, cutting the San Jose lead to 50-36, but they would get no closer. Michna finished off his night, accounting for his seventh score (fifth passing), when he connected with a wide open Jason Willis for a six-yard score to push the lead to 57-36, which is how things finished.

Score By Quarter	1	2	3	4	Score
SaberCats	16	13	14	14	57
Jacksonville Sharks	6	14	0	14	36

Scoring Summary

- SJ - Whittaker, 29-yard pass from Michna (Pertuit kick failed)
- JAC - Hughley, 13-yard pass from Archer (Capozzoli kick failed)
- SJ - Michna, 3-yard run (Pertuit kick)
- SJ - Pertuit, 37-yard field goal
- JAC - Harvey, 7-yard pass from Archer (Capozzoli kick)
- SJ - Whittaker, 3-yard run (Pertuit kick blocked)
- JAC - Okpokowuruck PAT return
- JAC - Harvey, 23-yard pass from Archer (Capozzoli kick)
- SJ - Whittaker, 2-yard pass from Michna (Pertuit kick)
- SJ - Michna, 12-yard run (Pertuit kick)
- SJ - Williams, 24-yard pass from Michna (Pertuit kick)
- JAC - White, 3-yard pass from Archer (Capozzoli kick)
- SJ - Williams, 4-yard pass from Michna (Pertuit kick)
- JAC - Hughley, 20-yard pass from Archer (Capozzoli kick)
- SJ - Willis, 6-yard pass from Michna (Petuit kick)

Team Statistics

	SJ	JAC
First Downs	17	21
Total Net Yds	294	252
Rush Net Yds	21	4
Pass Net Yds	273	248
Comp-Att-Int	16-23-0	29-46-2
KO Returns-Yds-TD	3-37-0	8-118-0
MFG Returns-Yds-TD	0-0-0	0-0-0
Ints for-Yds-TD	2-23-0	0-0-0
Penalties-Yds	13-93	6-38
Fumbles-Lost	2-0	1-1

Individual Statistical Leaders

Passing						
Team	Player	Comp.-Att.-Int	Yds	TD	Sack	
SJ	Michna	16-23-0	277	5	2	
JAC	Archer	29-46-2	264	5	3	
Rushing						
Team	Player	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	
SJ	Michna	4	15	3.8	2	
JAC	Archer	2	6	3.0	0	
Receiving						
Team	Player	Rec.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	
SJ	Williams	8	155	19.4	2	
JAC	Harvey	11	108	9.8	2	

2013 GAME RECAPS



35

SATURDAY MAY 25, 2013
HP PAVILION
SAN JOSE SABERCATS VS. UTAH BLAZE
ATTENDANCE: 8,438



34

The San Jose SaberCats (7-2) won their fifth consecutive game, defeating the Utah Blaze (4-5) 35-34 in front of 8,438 fans at HP Pavilion on Saturday night. Quarterback Russ Michna delivered once again, completing 22-of-38 passes for 246 yards and four touchdowns, though he also threw a pair of interceptions. Defensively, San Jose clamped down on the Arena Football League's reigning Most Valuable Player, Blaze quarterback Tommy Grady, holding Utah to just 34 points.

The Blaze got off to a hot start in this divisional contest. After forcing an interception on San Jose's opening possession, Grady found wide receiver Anthony Jackson on fourth down from nine yards out to give Utah an early 7-0 lead. San Jose quickly answered back, as Michna shook off the interception to find wide receiver Huey Whittaker open in the back corner for the end zone for the score, tying the game at seven.

On their next possession, one that spanned five minutes across the first and second quarters, Utah methodically marched down the field to untie the ball game. Grady spotted wide receiver and Russell Athletic Offensive Player of the Game Aaron Lesue cutting across the middle for an eleven-yard connection, pushing the Blaze lead to seven with 12 minutes remaining in the second quarter. The SaberCats responded quickly, with Michna finding wide receiver and JLS Playmaker of the Game Fred Williams for a scintillating 28-yard pitch and catch to bring the score back to even at 14. San Jose's defense joined the fun on the next possession, as a big run stuff from Whittaker set up a Clevan Thomas interception on fourth down in the SaberCats' end zone. The San Jose offense would put the newfound possession to good use, as Michna hit wide receiver Jason Willis with a 41-yard bomb to give the SaberCats their first lead of the night just before halftime, 21-14. After two running plays forced the SaberCats to burn their final timeouts, Utah unconventionally took to their air. Taking a pitch from Grady, Lesue ran to his left. The San Jose defense converged on the runner, leaving wide receiver Chase Deadder open in the end zone for the easy completion. Utah would miss the point after attempt, making the score 21-20 SaberCats going into halftime.

After winning the opening toss and deferring to the second half, Utah would start the second half with the ball. That didn't last long, as Thomas intercepted his second pass of the night and took it 50-yards to the house, extending the SaberCats lead to 28-20. Following a spectacular 28-yard catch from wide receiver Mario Urrutia, Grady escaped heavy fourth down pressure to once again hook up with Lesue, this time from 14-yards out to bring the Blaze within a point. Michna then found Willis for the second time on a beautiful touch throw over a defender to bring the lead back to eight at 35-27 in favor of San Jose after three quarters of play.

Opening the scoring in the final frame, Grady connected with Lesue from 17-yards out, their third hook-up on the night, to cut the SaberCats lead to 35-34. Surprisingly, this would be the only scoring for either side in the fourth quarter. After a tipped Michna pass resulted in an interception, the San Jose defense stepped up big once again, forcing a hard fought turnover on downs with just under four minutes to play. With a chance to put the game away, the SaberCats offense stalled, turning the ball over on downs with 32 seconds remaining. After incompletions on the first three downs, SaberCats defensive back Ken Fontenette broke up a Grady fourth down attempt to Lesue with 11 seconds remaining, sealing the 35-34 SaberCats victory.

Score By Quarter	1	2	3	4	Score
Utah Blaze	7	13	7	7	34
SaberCats	7	14	14	0	35

Scoring Summary

- UTAH - Jackson, 9-yard pass from Grady (Brotzman kick)
- SJ - Whittaker, 5-yard pass from Michna (Pertuit kick)
- UTAH - Lesue, 11-yard pass from Grady (Brotzman kick)
- SJ - Williams, 28-yard pass from Michna (Pertuit kick)
- SJ - Willis, 41-yard pass from Michna (Pertuit kick)
- UTAH - Deadder, 7-yard pass from Lesue (Brotzman kick failed)
- SJ - Thomas, 50-yard interception return (Pertuit kick)
- UTAH - Lesue, 14-yard pass from Grady (Brotzman kick)
- SJ - Willis, 7-yard pass from Michna (Pertuit kick)
- UTAH - Lesue, 17-yard pass from Grady (Brotzman kick)

Team Statistics

	UTAH	SJ
First Downs	22	17
Total Net Yds	281	238
Rush Net Yds	-4	-2
Pass Net Yds	285	240
Comp-Att-Int	25-49-2	22-38-2
KO Returns-Yds-TD	4-63-0	4-78-0
MFG Returns-Yds-TD	0-0-0	0-0-0
Ints for-Yds-TD	2-6-0	2-50-1
Penalties-Yds	11-73	9-59
Fumbles-Lost	1-1	0-0

Individual Statistical Leaders

Passing

Team	Player	Comp.-Att.-Int	Yds	TD	Sack
UTAH	Grady	24-48-2	291	4	2
SJ	Michna	22-38-2	246	4	1

Rushing

Team	Player	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	TD
UTAH	Stallings	1	1	1.0	0
SJ	Simmons	1	-2	-2.0	0

Receiving

Team	Player	Rec.	Yds.	Avg.	TD
UTAH	Lesue	10	117	11.7	2
SJ	Williams	10	124	12.4	1

2013 GAME RECAPS



SATURDAY JUNE 1, 2013
SPOKANE VETERANS MEMORIAL ARENA
SAN JOSE SABERCATS AT SPOKANE SHOCK
ATTENDANCE: 8,641



The San Jose SaberCats (7-3) fell to the Spokane Shock (8-3) 75-45 in front of 9,138 fans at Spokane Veterans Memorial Arena on Saturday night. The loss ended the SaberCats' five game winning streak, and was brought on largely in part by three first half turnovers. Quarterback Mitch Mustain, who came on in relief of Russ Michna, finished 14-of-25 for 173 yards with three touchdowns and one interception.

The Shock opened the scoring immediately, scoring on their first play from scrimmage as quarterback Erik Meyer connected with wide receiver Brandon Thompkins on a 20-yard scoring toss to gain the early 7-0 advantage. San Jose responded quickly, as wide receiver Fred Williams found his way into the end zone on a two-yard run, marking his seventh consecutive game with a touchdown, and tied the game at seven. Meyer and Thompkins hooked up once again, this time from 34-yards giving the Shock a 14-7 lead.

Following a defensive stop, Spokane extended their lead to 21-7, with a one-yard touchdown run by Meyer to open the second quarter. The Shock's defense came up with another big play, as defensive back Terrance Sanders wrestled the ball away from the SaberCats' receiver and returned the interception 42-yards for the touchdown. The ensuing extra point was blocked by Francis Maka, and returned for two points by defensive back Clevan Thomas, bringing the score to 27-9. After San Jose's second turnover of the half, the Shock capitalized with a three-yard scoring run by the league leader in touchdowns, Adron Tennell, pushing their advantage to 34-9. San Jose quarterback Russ Michna then scored on the ground from three yards out to trim the lead to 34-16, but after a failed onside kick, Tennell bulled his way in from a yard out to give Spokane a 41-16 halftime lead.

Mustain came on at the end of the second quarter, and continued on in the second half, but San Jose's first drive came up empty, as they turned the ball over on downs. Spokane would score again, as Meyer tossed his third touchdown of the night, picking out a crossing Jeffrey Solomon for a nine-yard strike. The SaberCats found the end zone on a four-yard run by fullback TJ Watkins that was set up by a long return by defensive lineman Jabari Fletcher, who scooped up a loose ball off the bar and took it the Shock four yard line. Tennell scored his third rushing touchdown on the evening, bursting up the middle for a three-yard touchdown, pushing the lead to 55-23 late in the third quarter.

Mustain threw his second career touchdown pass on fourth down, as he picked out wide receiver Jason Willis for a 16-yard score, bringing San Jose closer, 55-29. Meyer responded with a seven-yard strike to Thompkins, their third scoring connection on the night and Spokane stretched its lead to 61-29 early in the fourth quarter. After another Shock score, Mustain threw his second touchdown pass of the game, again to Willis for a three-yard score, cutting the deficit to 68-37. After another Shock touchdown, Mustain found his favorite target, Willis once more, on a deep 36-yard touchdown pass. After the San Jose two point conversion, things finished up at 75-45.

Score By Quarter	1	2	3	4	Score
SaberCats	7	9	7	22	45
Spokane Shock	14	27	14	20	75

Scoring Summary

- SPO - Thompkins, 20-yard pass from Meyer (Rowan kick)
- SJ - Williams, 2-yard run (Pertuit kick)
- SPO - Thompkins, 34-yard pass from Meyer (Rowan kick)
- SPO - Meyer, 1-yard run (Rowan kick)
- SPO - Sanders, 42-yard interception (Rowan kick blocked)
- SJ - Thomas PAT return
- SPO - Tennell, 3-yard run (Rowan kick)
- SJ - Michna, 3-yard run (Pertuit kick)
- SPO - Tennell, 1-yard run (Rowan kick)
- SPO - Solomon 9-yard run (Rowan kick)
- SJ - Watkins, 4-yard run (Pertuit kick)
- SPO - Tennell, 3-yard run (Rowan kick)
- SJ - Willis, 3-yard pass from Mustain (Mustain pass failed)
- SPO - Thompkins, 8-yard pass from Meyer (Rowan kick failed)
- SPO - Jordan, 5-yard pass from Nelson (Rowan kick)
- SJ - Willis, 3-yard pass from Mustain (Whittaker pass from Mustain)
- SPO - Thompkins, 13-yard pass from Meyer (Rowan kick)

Team Statistics

	SJ	SPO
First Downs	19	17
Total Net Yds	300	165
Rush Net Yds	0	1
Pass Net Yds	300	164
Comp-Att-Int	26-46-2	12-23-0
KO Returns-Yds-TD	10-99-0	2-49-0
MFG Returns-Yds-TD	0-0-0	0-0-0
Ints for-Yds-TD	0-0-0	2-36-1
Penalties-Yds	15-70	5-25
Fumbles-Lost	1-1	0-0

Individual Statistical Leaders

Passing						
Team	Player	Comp.-Att.-Int	Yds	TD	Sack	
SJ	Mustain	14-25-1	173	3	2	
SPO	Meyer	9-18-0	145	4	0	
Rushing						
Team	Player	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	
SJ	Watkins	1	4	4.0	1	
SPO	Tennell	5	6	1.2	3	
Receiving						
Team	Player	Rec.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	
SJ	Willis	10	152	15.2	3	
SPO	Thompkins	5	86	17.2	4	

2013 GAME RECAPS



SATURDAY JUNE 8, 2013
HP PAVILION
SAN JOSE SABERCATS VS. PITTSBURGH POWER
ATTENDANCE: 8,263



The San Jose SaberCats (8-3) got back on the winning track Saturday night, defeating the Pittsburgh Power (3-8) 68-54 in front of 8,263 fans at HP Pavilion in a game of many firsts. Quarterback Mitch Mustain, making his first career start, completed 21-of-37 passes for 250 yards and six touchdowns with just one interception.

San Jose's own and the JLS Playmaker of the Game Fred Williams opened the night bringing back the kickoff to the Power's six-yard line, which then set up Jabari Fletcher's first rushing touchdown of his career. Williams would end the game with season-high 269 all-purpose yards and continuously gave the SaberCats great field position all night. Following a missed extra point, Pittsburgh answered back with seven of their own on a 22-yard pass from Derek Cassidy to Russell Athletic Offensive Player of the Game Mike Washington, giving Cassidy his first touchdown pass of the season. On the ensuing drive, Fletcher logged his second rushing score of the game from seven yards out to put the SaberCats back on top 13-7. Once again, the Power marched down the field and Cassidy found receiver Oderick Turner in the end zone to take back the lead and make it 14-13.

In his first career start, 'Cats quarterback Mitch Mustain connected with Williams to start the scoring in the second quarter. This 15-yard touchdown marked the eighth consecutive contest in which Williams has found end zone glory and more importantly, put the SaberCats back up 20-14. Cassidy and Washington connected yet again, this time on a 35-yard pass along the wall, and the see-saw battle continued with San Jose's Jason Willis high-stepping into the end zone to make it 27-21 in favor of San Jose. Cassidy's first rushing touchdown of the year put the Power in front by one on the following drive. Wide receiver Amarri Jackson joined the touchdown party and logged his first touchdown as a member of the SaberCats from 30-yards out, putting San Jose on top 33-28, which was the score after 30 minutes of play.

After a defensive stop to start the second half, the SaberCats to extend their lead to 40-28 on Fletcher's third rushing score of the game. Washington responded with his third receiving touchdown of the night, this time from 32 yards out and cut the lead to 40-34. San Jose kept their momentum going and answered the Power's score with a 35-yard touchdown pass of their own from Mustain to Williams on the first play of the drive, extending the lead to 47-34. Offensive lineman Jason Thomas powered his way to the end zone on the next Pittsburgh possession, giving him his first career reception and touchdown, yet again cutting into the San Jose lead to make it 47-41.

Williams surpassed his previous season high for touchdown receptions on his third score of the night and 12th this season to begin the fourth quarter, stretching the SaberCats' lead to 54-41. The dynamic San Jose defense responded on the following drive and refused to allow the Power to move the chains, forcing a second turnover on downs on the evening. The first offensive miscue for San Jose came on a fumble by Fletcher in the red zone, and the Power made that mistake count, as Cassidy's touchdown strike to Julian Talley trimmed the lead to 54-48.

The Power's Sergio Gilliam made the AFL Highlight of the Game when it mattered most, as he returned a Mustain pass 46 yards to the house, notching his fourth interception of the year. Rauch had a chance to give the Power the lead yet again, however he missed the extra point wide right that left the score tied 54-54 with under one minute to play. The resilient Mustain shook off the turnover and was able to lead the 'Cats down the field quickly and connected with Willis for a six-yard touchdown to put the SaberCats ahead 61-54 with only 12 seconds left in regulation. Huey Whittaker showed why he was named the Riddell Defensive Player of the Game when he picked off Cassidy and strolled into the end zone from five yards away, ending all hopes of a Power comeback and making the score 68-54, which would be the final.

Score By Quarter	1	2	3	4	Score
Pittsburgh Power	14	14	13	13	54
SaberCats	13	20	14	21	68

Scoring Summary

SJ - Fletcher, 6-yard run (Pertuit kick failed)
 PIT - Washington, 22-yard pass from Cassidy (Rauch kick)
 SJ - Fletcher, 7-yard run (Pertuit kick)
 PIT - Turner, 17-yard pass from Cassidy (Rauch kick)
 SJ - Williams, 15-yard pass from Mustain (Pertuit kick)
 PIT - Washington, 35-yard pass from Cassidy (Rauch kick)
 SJ - Willis, 23-yard pass from Mustain (Pertuit kick)
 PIT - Cassidy, 9-yard run (Rauch kick)
 SJ - Jackson, 30-yard pass from Mustain (Pertuit kick failed)
 SJ - Fletcher, 3-yard run (Rauch kick)
 PIT - Washington, 32-yard pass from Cassidy (Rauch kick failed)
 SJ - Williams, 35-yard pass from Mustain (Pertuit kick)
 PIT - Thomas, 11-yard pass from Cassidy (Rauch kick)
 SJ - Williams, 9-yard pass from Mustain (Pertuit kick)
 PIT - Talley, 14-yard pass from Cassidy (Rauch kick)
 PIT - Gilliam, 46-yard interception return (Rauch kick failed)
 SJ - Willis, 6-yard pass from Mustain (Pertuit kick)
 SJ - Whittaker, 5-yard interception return (Pertuit kick)

Team Statistics

	PIT	SJ
First Downs	15	20
Total Net Yds	276	270
Rush Net Yds	22	20
Pass Net Yds	254	250
Comp-Att-Int	19-41-1	21-37-1
KO Returns-Yds-TD	9-178-0	7-183-0
MFG Returns-Yds-TD	0-0-0	0-0-0
Ints for-Yds-TD	1-46-1	1-5-1
Penalties-Yds	7-40	4-28
Fumbles-Lost	1-0	1-1

Individual Statistical Leaders

Passing

Team	Player	Comp.-Att.-Int	Yds	TD	Sack
PIT	Cassidy	19-41-1	261	6	3
SJ	Mustain	21-37-1	250	6	0

Rushing

Team	Player	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	TD
PIT	Cassidy	3	22	7.3	1
SJ	Fletcher	4	16	4.0	3

Receiving

Team	Player	Rec.	Yds.	Avg.	TD
PIT	Washington	7	109	15.6	3
SJ	Williams	8	86	10.8	3

2013 GAME RECAPS



SATURDAY JUNE 15, 2013
WELLS FARGO ARENA
SAN JOSE SABERCATS AT IOWA BARNSTORMERS
ATTENDANCE: 9,072



The San Jose SaberCats (8-4) late comeback fell short, as they were defeated by the Iowa Barnstormers (6-7) 73-68 at the Wells Fargo Arena in Des Moines on Saturday night. Quarterback Russ Michna returned to action as the SaberCats starter after missing last week's game due to injury. The former Western Illinois Leatherneck completed 28-of-39 passes for 392 yards with nine touchdowns and no interceptions. Wide receiver Jason Willis hauled in a team-high nine passes for 116 yards and five touchdowns in the losing effort. San Jose had an opportunity to win the game late, but four consecutive passes fell incomplete, and Iowa came out with the victory.

Iowa forced a turnover on the opening kickoff and cashed in immediately, as quarterback J.J. Raterink picked out a well-covered Jesse Schmidt for a 12-yard score to give the Barnstormers the early 7-0 advantage. San Jose responded quickly, as Michna found Willis for a 17-yard strike, making a very difficult catch against the boards to tie things at seven. The teams then traded scores, as Raterink hit former SaberCats wide receiver Marco Thomas for six, and then Michna found Willis for the second time on the evening to bring the score level at 14. The Barnstormers took a 21-14 lead into the second quarter following Raterink's third touchdown pass, picking out Marcus Harris for the 27-yard score.

San Jose opened the second quarter with a bang, as Michna found Huey Whittaker for a 31-yard touchdown to tie things at 21. The Barnstormers took the lead back on a three-yard touchdown pass by Raterink to Thomas, pushing the Iowa advantage to 28-21 midway through the second quarter. San Jose answered right back, as Michna found his favorite target on the night, Willis again for an easy five-yard scoring toss to knot things at 28. The teams swapped scores again within the final minute, but a 27-yard field goal by Iowa kicker Fabrizio Scaccia gave the Barnstormers the 38-35 lead at the half.

The Barnstormers opened their largest lead of the game on their opening drive of the second half, as Raterink and Thomas connected for the third time tonight, on a 23-yard pass over the middle to give Iowa a 45-35 lead. The SaberCats responded again, as wide receiver Amarr Jackson made an incredible over-the-wall catch for a nine-yard touchdown to cut the lead to 45-41. Thomas flexed his muscles again for Iowa, as he hauled in a deep 45-yard touchdown to give him five total scores on the evening (four receiving) and pushed the Barnstormers lead to 52-41 midway through the third. San Jose fought back within four points yet again, as Willis hauled in another touchdown reception, this from nine-yards out, to cut the lead to 52-48. Harris extended the Iowa lead yet again, catching a short pass on the right sideline from Raterink and taking it 39 yards for the touchdown for a 59-48 lead late in the third quarter. Willis struck once more to clip the Iowa lead to 59-55 as Michna spotted him from 21-yards out.

Thomas struck again with his sixth touchdown of the game (fifth receiving), as he brought in an 11-yard scoring toss from Raterink to push the lead to 66-55 midway through the fourth quarter. Whittaker made a diving six-yard touchdown catch, Michna's eighth scoring toss on the night, pulling within five at 66-61 with under four minutes to play in the game. Raterink and Schmidt stretched the lead to 12, as they connected for the second time on the evening, from 13-yards out and with 2:01 to play in the fourth, it was 73-61. San Jose would not go away though, as Michna picked out a wide open Fred Williams for a 35-yard touchdown to pull back to 73-68 with 1:20 remaining. Following an unsuccessful onside kick attempt, San Jose's defense came up with their first stop of the game, as Clevan Thomas made his league-leading ninth interception of the season to give the SaberCats an opportunity for the win. The SaberCats were unable to score, as Michna's fourth and goal pass fell incomplete to turn the ball over, and Iowa escaped with the win.

Score By Quarter	1	2	3	4	Score
SaberCats	14	21	20	13	68
Iowa Barnstormers	21	17	21	14	73

Scoring Summary

IOWA - Schmidt, 12-yard pass from Raterink (Scaccia kick)
 SJ - Willis, 17-yard pass from Michna (Pertuit kick)
 IOWA - Thomas, 18-yard pass from Raterink (Scaccia kick)
 SJ - Willis, 8-yard pass from Michna (Pertuit kick)
 IOWA - Harris, 27-yard pass from Raterink (Scaccia kick)
 SJ - Whittaker, 31-yard pass from Michna (Pertuit kick)
 IOWA - Thomas, 2-yard pass from Raterink (Scaccia kick)
 SJ - Willis, 5-yard pass from Michna (Pertuit kick)
 IOWA - Thomas, 3-yard run (Scaccia kick)
 SJ - Fletcher, 1-yard run (Pertuit kick)
 IOWA - Scaccia, 27-yard field goal
 IOWA - Thomas 23-yard pass from Raterink (Scaccia kick)
 SJ - Whittaker, 9-yard pass from Michna (Pertuit kick failed)
 IOWA - Thomas, 45-yard pass from Raterink (Scaccia kick)
 SJ - Willis, 9-yard pass from Michna (Pertuit kick)
 IOWA - Harris, 39-yard pass from Raterink (Scaccia kick)
 SJ - Willis, 21-yard pass from Michna (Pertuit kick)
 IOWA - Thomas, 11-yard pass from Raterink (Scaccia kick)
 SJ - Whittaker, 6-yard pass from Michna (Pertuit kick failed)
 IOWA - Schmidt, 12-yard pass from Raterink (Scaccia kick)
 SJ - Williams, 35-yard pass from Michna (Pertuit kick)

Team Statistics

	SJ	IOWA
First Downs	26	24
Total Net Yds	398	385
Rush Net Yds	12	9
Pass Net Yds	386	376
Comp-Att-Int	28-39-0	33-45-1
KO Returns-Yds-TD	5-74-0	5-80-0
MFG Returns-Yds-TD	0-0-0	0-0-0
Ints for-Yds-TD	1-0-0	0-0-0
Penalties-Yds	9-38	7-42
Fumbles-Lost	3-2	1-1

Individual Statistical Leaders

Passing

Team	Player	Comp.-Att.-Int	Yds	TD	Sack
SJ	Michna	29-38-0	392	9	1
IOWA	Raterink	33-44-1	376	9	0

Rushing

Team	Player	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	TD
SJ	Fletcher	5	13	2.6	1
IOWA	Thomas	2	6	3.0	1

Receiving

Team	Player	Rec.	Yds.	Avg.	TD
SJ	Willis	9	116	12.9	5
IOWA	Thomas	15	165	11.0	5

2013 GAME RECAPS



SATURDAY JUNE 22, 2013
HP PAVILION
SAN JOSE SABERCATS VS. ARIZONA RATTLERS
ATTENDANCE: 9,296



The San Jose SaberCats (9-4) got back on the winning track on Saturday night against their division rivals, the Arizona Rattlers (12-2) 72-42 in front of 9,296 fans at HP Pavilion in San Jose on Military Appreciation Night. San Jose quarterback Russ Michna was marvelous in the win, completing 24-of-37 passes for 313 yards and nine touchdowns, giving him two consecutive games with as many touchdown passes. The SaberCats defense also was a big part of the story tonight as they forced a pair of turnovers and posted two more stops, limiting Arizona to a season-low 42 points and held Rattlers' signal caller Nick Davila to only 238 yards on 22-of-41 passing with a season-low four scores and one interception.

Davila and the Rattlers opened the scoring with a one-yard rushing touchdown on a keeper to put Arizona on top early, his fourth score on the ground this season. San Jose answered on their first drive with a 30-yard bullet from Michna to Russell Athletic Player of the Game Fred Williams to tie things at seven apiece, marking Williams' tenth consecutive game with a score. The J. Lewis Small Playmaker of the Game would end the night with ten catches for 121 and a career-high five touchdown receptions. The first quarter concluded after both offenses traded another pair of touchdowns; with Davila finding receiver Kerry Reed from six yards out and Michna connecting with Amarri Jackson on a 19-yard equalizer to make it 14-14.

Arizona opened up the second quarter with seven more, after Tysson Poots reeled in the Davila pass in the back of the end zone to once again pull ahead. The Rattlers nearly forced the first defensive stop of the game during the SaberCats next possession, however a clutch 17-yard catch by receiver Jason Willis on fourth-and-13 kept the drive going and allowed San Jose to tie it at 21 after Willis made the Cutters Catch of the Game on a seven-yard grab over the boards in the end zone. The momentum instantly swung San Jose's way and the defensive front was able to pressure Davila enough to force a key turnover on downs on the eleven yard line. The 'Cats made the defensive stop count on the first play from scrimmage with Michna finding Williams streaking across the middle of the end zone to make the score 28-21 and give San Jose their first lead of the evening. Arizona tried to bounce back on their next possession, however for the second time in a row the defense was able to stop Davila from moving the chains and forced another turnover on downs. Yet again, Michna capitalized on the turnover and found Williams alone in the end zone for their third touchdown connection of the half to extend the San Jose lead to 35-21, which would be all the scoring for the first 30 minutes.

Williams' dominance carried into the second half when he logged his career-high fourth receiving score of the night on a two-yard pass from Michna to give the SaberCats a 42-21 lead, handing Arizona their largest deficit of the season. The Rattlers were able to respond and cut the 'Cats lead to 42-28 on Davila's second rushing touchdown of the game, however Williams put a damper on the Rattler's comeback when he reeled in a ten-yard Michna gem to put San Jose back on top 49-28 on their next drive. Riddell Defensive Player of the Game Ken Fontenette, who ended the night with a game-high eight-and-a-half tackles, hauled in a wayward Davila pass and brought the interception back 20-yards to the house on the following Rattlers possession, making the score 56-28. Arizona's offensive woes continued when Davila was forced to intentionally ground the ball in the end zone; which resulted in the fourth safety forced on the year for the SaberCats. That gave San Jose the ball where they once again made the miscue count, with a one-yard Huey Whittaker reception, widening the lead to 65-28.

Both Arizona and San Jose traded scores on their first possessions of the fourth quarter as Davila found Reed six yards out and Michna connected with Willis from the 15-yard line, making the score 72-35 midway through the final 15 minutes of regulation. Poots would get another six-yard touchdown reception to bring the score to 72-42 and the Rattler's attempted to wrangle seven more in the closing minute, but San Jose forced the fumble in the end zone to seal the 72-42 victory.

Score By Quarter	1	2	3	4	Score
Arizona Rattlers	14	7	7	14	42
SaberCats	14	21	30	7	72

Scoring Summary

- ARI - Davila, 1-yard run (Lindholm kick)
- SJ - Williams, 30-yard pass from Michna (Pertuit kick)
- ARI - Reed, 6-yard pass from Davila (Lindholm kick)
- SJ - Jackson, 19-yard pass from Michna (Pertuit kick)
- ARI - Poots, 6-yard pass from Davila (Lindholm kick)
- SJ - Willis, 7-yard pass from Michna (Pertuit kick)
- SJ - Williams, 11-yard pass from Michna (Pertuit kick)
- SJ - Williams, 7-yard pass from Michna (Pertuit kick)
- SJ - Williams, 2-yard pass from Michna (Pertuit kick)
- ARI - Davila, 1-yard run (Lindholm kick)
- SJ - Williams, 10-yard pass from Michna (Pertuit kick)
- SJ - Fontenette, 20-yard interception return (Pertuit kick)
- SJ - Carter, Safety
- SJ - Whittaker, 1-yard pass from Michna (Pertuit kick)
- ARI - Reed, 6-yard pass from Davila (Lindholm kick)
- SJ - Willis, 15-yard pass from Michna (Pertuit kick)
- ARI - Poots, 6-yard pass from Davila (Lindholm kick)

Team Statistics

	ARI	SJ
First Downs	17	20
Total Net Yds	237	323
Rush Net Yds	2	8
Pass Net Yds	235	315
Comp-Att-Int	22-41-1	25-42-0
KO Returns-Yds-TD	7-142-0	2-24-0
MFG Returns-Yds-TD	1-29-0	0-0-0
Ints for-Yds-TD	0-0-0	1-20-1
Penalties-Yds	6-21	9-37
Fumbles-Lost	1-1	0-0

Individual Statistical Leaders

Passing

Team	Player	Comp.-Att.-Int	Yds	TD	Sack
ARI	Davila	22-41-1	238	4	1
SJ	Michna	24-37-0	313	9	0

Rushing

Team	Player	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	TD
ARI	Davila	2	2	1.0	2
SJ	Mudge	1	5	5.0	0

Receiving

Team	Player	Rec.	Yds.	Avg.	TD
ARI	Purify	8	114	14.3	0
SJ	Williams	10	121	12.1	5

2013 GAME RECAPS



SATURDAY JUNE 29, 2013
ENERGYSOLUTIONS ARENA
SAN JOSE SABERCATS AT UTAH BLAZE
ATTENDANCE: 6,393



The San Jose SaberCats (10-4) knocked off the Utah Blaze (5-9) 57-49 in front of 6,393 fans at EnergySolutions Arena in Salt Lake City on Saturday night. Quarterback Russ Michna completed 26-of-40 passes for 269 yards and six touchdowns with a pair of interceptions. He also scrambled for a six-yard score in the second quarter. San Jose's defense came up big in this one, recovering two fumbles (one of which sealed the game) and forced three turnovers on downs.

San Jose opened the scoring, as Michna picked out wide receiver Huey Whittaker for a 17-yard scoring strike, providing the SaberCats an early 6-0 advantage after the extra point attempt was blocked. Each team traded defensive stops, before Blaze quarterback Jason Boltus picked out Mario Urrutia near the boards for a six-yard touchdown pass on third and goal to give Utah the 7-6 lead late in the first quarter.

Following a SaberCats turnover, Boltus picked out Urrutia for a second time early in the second quarter, as he got behind the SaberCats defense for a 27-yard touchdown, stretching their lead to 14-6. San Jose responded quickly, as Jabari Fletcher powered his way into the end zone from one-yard out to pull the SaberCats within a point at 14-13 with 10:40 to play in the half. Boltus then threw his third touchdown of the half, as wide receiver Anthony Jackson made a difficult one-handed grab in the back of the end zone midway through the second quarter, pushing the Utah lead to 21-13. Michna exhibited his elusiveness, as he shook a pair of Blaze defenders on his way into the end zone from six yards out to pull the SaberCats closer, at 21-20 with just two minutes to play in the half. After both teams traded scores, San Jose picked up a huge onside kick recovery and immediately made the Blaze pay. Michna found a wide open Jason Willis for a ten-yard touchdown, his 30th scoring reception on the season, and the SaberCats took a 34-28 lead into the halftime break.

The defenses stood tall in the third quarter, as San Jose forced a pair of turnovers on downs inside the red zone, and Blaze linebacker Antwan Marsh picked off his second pass of the game. The SaberCats broke through late in the quarter, however, as Michna found a wide open Amarri Jackson for a 14-yard score to give San Jose their largest lead of the game at 41-28.

The Blaze fought back early in the fourth quarter and pulled within six points at 41-35 when Boltus threw a jump ball for (Anthony) Jackson that he hauled in over a defender in the back of the end zone. Michna connected with Whittaker again, this time from nine yards out to extend the San Jose advantage to 48-35. The Boltus-Urrutia combination proved deadly once more, as the former Louisville receiver scored on a 34-yard catch and run to slice into the SaberCats' lead, making it 48-42 with eight minutes remaining in the fourth. San Jose marched down the field, but were forced into a fourth and goal situation. Kicker Nich Pertuit stepped up and calmly knocked through the 24-yard field goal to push the SaberCats lead to two scores, at 51-42. Boltus then connected with (Anthony) Jackson, who went over-the-wall, inside of one minute to play to draw the Blaze within two at 51-49. Michna and Willis hooked up for the third time on the night with 44.1 seconds to play in the fourth, this time from 12-yards out, but an unsuccessful extra point attempt kept it a one-score game at 57-49. San Jose's defense came up large once again, when it mattered most. Utah was threatening to move in for the potential tying score, and after a botched snap, defensive lineman Jason Stewart came up with the fumble recovery to seal the victory.

Score By Quarter	1	2	3	4	Score
SaberCats	6	28	7	16	57
Utah Blaze	7	21	0	21	49

Scoring Summary

- SJ - Whittaker, 17-yard pass from Michna (Pertuit kick blocked)
- UTAH - Urrutia, 6-yard pass from Boltus (Brotzman kick)
- UTAH - Urrutia, 27-yard pass from Boltus (Brotzman kick)
- SJ - Fletcher, 1-yard run (Pertuit kick)
- UTAH - Jackson, 16-yard pass from Boltus (Brotzman kick)
- SJ - Michna, 6-yard run (Pertuit kick)
- UTAH - Deadder, 6-yard pass from Boltus (Brotzman kick)
- SJ - Willis, 8-yard pass from Michna (Pertuit kick)
- SJ - Willis, 10-yard pass from Michna (Pertuit kick)
- SJ - Jackson, 14-yard pass from Michna (Pertuit kick)
- UTAH - Jackson, 19-yard pass from Boltus (Brotzman kick)
- SJ - Whittaker, 9-yard pass from Michna (Pertuit kick)
- UTAH - Urrutia, 34-yard pass from Boltus (Brotzman kick)
- SJ - Pertuit, 24-yard field goal
- UTAH - Jackson, 12-yard pass from Boltus (Brotzman kick)
- SJ - Willis, 12-yard pass from Michna (Pertuit kick blocked)

Team Statistics

	SJ	UTAH
First Downs	23	20
Total Net Yds	287	348
Rush Net Yds	18	46
Pass Net Yds	269	302
Comp-Att-Int	26-40-2	25-39-0
KO Returns-Yds-TD	4-66-0	6-83-0
MFG Returns-Yds-TD	0-0-0	0-0-0
Ints for-Yds-TD	0-0-0	2-12-0
Penalties-Yds	7-40	9-60
Fumbles-Lost	0-0	3-2

Individual Statistical Leaders

Passing

Team	Player	Comp.-Att-Int	Yds	TD	Sack
SJ	Michna	26-40-2	269	6	0
UTAH	Boltus	25-39-0	306	7	1

Rushing

Team	Player	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	TD
SJ	Michna	2	12	6.0	1
UTAH	Boltus	8	44	5.5	0

Receiving

Team	Player	Rec.	Yds.	Avg.	TD
SJ	Willis	7	80	11.4	3
UTAH	Urrutia	10	116	11.6	3

2013 GAME RECAPS



SATURDAY JULY 6, 2013
HP PAVILION
SAN JOSE SABERCATS VS. SAN ANTONIO TALONS
ATTENDANCE: 8,976



The San Jose SaberCats (11-4) clinched a playoff berth on Saturday night against the San Antonio Talons (8-7) with a 62-35 win in front of 8,976 fans at HP Pavilion. San Jose quarterback Russ Michna was efficient in the win, completing 15-of-28 passes for 182 yards and 5 touchdowns with zero interceptions. Defense definitely told the story, as the SaberCats held San Antonio to 13 points through the first three quarters and forced three turnovers on downs and intercepted three passes.

San Antonio opened up the scoring with a three-yard touchdown pass on fourth down from quarterback Rohan Davey to wide receiver Brent Holmes, giving the Talons an early 7-0 lead. The SaberCats would answer back with a three-yard touchdown completion of their own, as Michna found wide receiver Huey Whittaker for his 19th receiving score this season. However, a missed extra point kept San Antonio in the lead 7-6. After the San Jose defense held strong to force a turnover on downs, thanks to a clutch tackle by defensive back Clevan Thomas, the offense put the SaberCats ahead for the first time on the night. Michna connected with wide receiver Fred Williams on a short pass in the flat that turned into a 37-yard touchdown, giving San Jose the lead 13-7 after one quarter of play.

After a penalty on fourth down initially cost the SaberCats defense a stop, defensive end Jabari Fletcher intercepted Davey off of a deflection on the very next play. San Jose would extend their lead to 20-7, as wide receiver Jamarko Simmons, returning from a five game absence, took a Michna handoff and flipped into the end zone from four-yards out. On the Talons' next possession, the SaberCats thought they had forced their third turnover on the night as a sack and forced fumble by linebacker Francis Maka turned into a Whittaker recovery for a touchdown. However, it was ruled that Davey's arm was moving forward and therefore, an incomplete pass. Not to be dissuaded, on the same drive, defensive back JC Neal broke up a Davey fourth down attempt to officially give the San Jose defense their third stop of the game. Two plays later, Williams broke free and made a brilliant one-handed catch in the end zone on a 28-yard pass from Michna, giving the SaberCats a 27-7 lead with just under one minute in the half. After wide receiver Jason Willis successfully recovered an onside kick, San Jose couldn't quite connect for some last second points, and took the 20-point lead into halftime.

By virtue of winning the coin toss, the SaberCats received to open the second half and struck immediately. After Williams returned the kickoff to the Talons one-yard line, Fletcher powered his way into the end zone, extending the San Jose lead to 34-7. The SaberCats defense once again turned up the heat on San Antonio, as heavy pressure forced Davey into a hurried throw that the Hall-of-Fame selection Thomas intercepted and took 27-yards to the house. The Talons would answer with their first points since the 12:32 mark of the first quarter, as Davey connected with wide receiver Jomo Wilson from 14 yards out, trimming the San Jose lead back to 28 and ending a 41-0 San Jose run. An onside kick recovery by Simmons gave the SaberCats offense a short field, and Michna took advantage by finding Whittaker on fourth down from four-yards out, pushing the margin to 48-13 with under four minutes left in the third quarter. San Jose's defense continued its onslaught of the San Antonio offense, taking away time and space to force their third turnover on downs at the end the third quarter.

Opening up the final frame, the SaberCats offense couldn't deliver on the short field, turning the ball over on downs. The Talons would instantly take advantage, as Davey was able to find Holmes wide open for 47-yards, and a successful two-point conversion brought the score to 48-21 in favor on San Jose. After yet another San Antonio failed onside kick attempt, Michna hooked up with Whittaker for the third time, this one on a screen pass, putting San Jose back on top by 34. The SaberCats defense once again held strong, as Thomas intercepted Davey in the end zone with a great diving catch and danced around the entire San Antonio offensive unit for the 53-yard touchdown return, his second on the night. The Talons, still playing hard, marched down the field as Davey found offensive lineman Moqut Ruffins on a screen pass to close the gap to 62-27. After the SaberCats offense stalled, Talons defensive back Carlton Brown returned a missed field goal 56-yards for a touchdown and a successful two-point conversion brought the score to 62-35 with one minute remaining. San Jose would run out the clock to secure the 27-point victory over San Antonio and clinch a playoff berth for the second consecutive season.

Score By Quarter	1	2	3	4	Score
San Antonio Talons	7	0	6	22	35
SaberCats	13	14	21	14	62

Scoring Summary

- SA - Holmes, 3-yard pass from Davey (Demos kick)
- SJ - Whittaker, 3-yard pass from Michna (Pertuit kick failed)
- SJ - Williams, 37-yard pass from Michna (Pertuit kick)
- SJ - Simmons, 3-yard run (Pertuit kick)
- SJ - Williams, 28-yard pass from Michna (Pertuit kick)
- SJ - Fletcher, 1-yard run (Pertuit kick)
- SJ - Thomas, 27-yard interception return (Pertuit kick)
- SA - Wilson, 14-yard pass from Davey (Davey pass failed)
- SJ - Whittaker, 4-yard pass from Michna (Pertuit kick)
- SA - Holmes, 47-yard pass from Davey (Cook rush)
- SJ - Thomas, 53-yard interception return (Pertuit kick)
- SA - Ruffins, 11-yard pass from Davey (Davey pass failed)
- SA - Brown, 56-yard missed field goal return (Toler pass from Davey)

Team Statistics

	SA	SJ
First Downs	16	14
Total Net Yds	245	228
Rush Net Yds	18	9
Pass Net Yds	227	219
Comp-Att-Int	18-38-3	17-32-0
KO Returns-Yds-TD	8-85-0	3-73-0
MFG Returns-Yds-TD	1-56-1	0-0-0
Ints for-Yds-TD	0-0-0	3-81-2
Penalties-Yds	3-13	11-67
Fumbles-Lost	2-1	0-0

Individual Statistical Leaders

Passing

Team	Player	Comp.-Att.-Int	Yds	TD	Sack
SA	Davey	18-38-3	227	4	0
SJ	Michna	15-28-0	182	5	0

Rushing

Team	Player	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	TD
SA	Cook	3	12	4.0	0
SJ	Simmons	2	7	3.5	1

Receiving

Team	Player	Rec.	Yds.	Avg.	TD
SA	Holmes	4	60	15.0	2
SJ	Williams	7	107	10.7	2

2013 GAME RECAPS



78

SATURDAY JULY 13, 2013
CONSOL ENERGY ARENA
SAN JOSE SABERCATS AT PITTSBURGH POWER
ATTENDANCE: 7,132



20

The San Jose SaberCats (12-4) knocked off the Pittsburgh Power (3-13) 78-20 in front of 7,132 fans at the Consol Energy Center in downtown Pittsburgh on Saturday night. Quarterback Russ Michna completed 15-of-17 passes for 156 yards with five touchdowns and no interceptions before being relieved by Mitch Mustain after the half, with San Jose on top 48-7. San Jose's defense was absolutely dominant, holding the Power to 20 points, sacking the quarterback an eye-popping eight times and forcing five turnovers in the win. The 58-point win for San Jose was the largest in franchise history, surpassing a 73-17 win over the Oklahoma Wranglers on May 5, 2001.

San Jose opened the scoring, taking a quick 7-0 lead after a defensive stop, as Michna picked out a wide open Huey Whittaker for a five-yard touchdown. Following a successful onside kick, which was recovered by kicker Nich Pertuit, Michna found wide receiver Fred Williams on a nine-yard touchdown pass to push the lead to 13-0. San Jose forced a turnover deep in Pittsburgh territory and took advantage quickly when Michna connected with Whittaker for the second time in the quarter, pushing the lead to 20-0.

The Power got on the board early in the second quarter, as quarterback Shane Austin found wide receiver Mike Washington in the back of the end zone to pull within 13, at 20-7. Wide receiver Jamarko Simmons and the SaberCats responded quickly, as he forced his way in from a yard out, losing control initially, but recovered his own fumble for the score and pushed the San Jose advantage to 27-7. San Jose's defense forced another turnover on downs and struck on the first play as Michna and Whittaker connected for the third time in the half, and San Jose led 34-7. San Jose tacked on another pair of touchdowns to take a commanding 48-7 lead into the break.

The second half began the same way the first ended, as San Jose marched down the field and capped off the drive with an eight-yard Fred Williams touchdown run to extend the SaberCats lead to 55-7 early in the third. Austin and Washington connected for the second time on the night, this time from six yards out to cut the San Jose lead to 55-13. Pertuit hit a 34-yard field goal late in the third to bring the score to 58-13 in favor of the SaberCats, which is how the third quarter concluded.

Whittaker scored his fourth touchdown of the game when Mustain found him near the goal line for an 11-yard scoring strike and extended the SaberCats advantage to 65-13 early in the fourth quarter. SaberCats defensive back and Hall of Fame selection Clevan Thomas intercepted his second pass of the game and brought it back 49-yards for the score, pushing the lead to 71-13. That also marked the 13th interception of the season for Thomas, which tied his career single-season best from 2003. The two teams traded scores late in the quarter and San Jose came out with the 78-20 win.

Score By Quarter	1	2	3	4	Score
SaberCats	20	28	10	20	78
Pittsburgh Power	0	7	6	7	20

Scoring Summary

- SJ - Whittaker, 5-yard pass from Michna (Pertuit kick)
- SJ - Williams, 9-yard pass from Michna (Pertuit kick failed)
- SJ - Whittaker, 10-yard pass from Michna (Pertuit kick)
- PIT - Washington, 10-yard pass from Austin (Rauch kick)
- SJ - Simmons, 0-yard fumble recovery (Pertuit kick)
- SJ - Whittaker, 9-yard pass from Michna (Pertuit kick)
- SJ - Willis, 11-yard pass from Michna (Pertuit kick)
- SJ - Fletcher, 1-yard run (Pertuit kick)
- SJ - Williams, 8-yard run (Pertuit kick)
- PIT - Washington, 6-yard pass from Austin (Rauch kick failed)
- SJ - Pertuit, 34-yard field goal
- SJ - Whittaker, 11-yard pass from Mustain (Pertuit kick)
- SJ - Thomas, 49-yard interception return (Pertuit rush failed)
- PIT - Washington, 28-yard pass from Cassidy (Rauch kick)
- SJ - Fletcher, 4-yard run (Pertuit kick)

Team Statistics

	SJ	PIT
First Downs	20	19
Total Net Yds	283	206
Rush Net Yds	28	23
Pass Net Yds	255	183
Comp-Att-Int	23-31-0	24-50-4
KO Returns-Yds-TD	2-19-0	11-123-0
MFG Returns-Yds-TD	1-22-0	0-0-0
Ints for-Yds-TD	4-70-1	0-0-0
Penalties-Yds	5-35	3-8
Fumbles-Lost	1-0	3-1

Individual Statistical Leaders

Passing						
Team	Player	Comp.-Att-Int	Yds	TD	Sack	
SJ	Michna	15-17-0	156	5	0	
PIT	Austin	21-42-3	188	2	6	
Rushing						
Team	Player	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	
SJ	Fletcher	2	13	6.5	1	
PIT	Cassidy	1	8	8.0	0	
Receiving						
Team	Player	Rec.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	
SJ	Willis	9	150	16.7	1	
PIT	Washington	5	57	11.4	3	

2013 GAME RECAPS



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SATURDAY JULY 20, 2013
SAP CENTER
SAN JOSE SABERCATS VS. PHILADELPHIA SOUL
ATTENDANCE: 9,163



65

The San Jose SaberCats (12-5) fell to the Philadelphia Soul (12-5) 65-43 in front of 9,163 fans at the newly renamed SAP Center on Saturday night. San Jose quarterback Russ Michna completed 15-of-37 passes for 206 yards and five touchdowns with one interception and Soul quarterback and Russell Athletic Offensive Player of the Game Dan Raudabaugh completed 20-of-33 passes for 187 yards and five touchdowns with no interceptions. San Jose wide receiver James Roe proved he hadn't lost a step in his first game of 2013, reeling in three touchdowns on six catches for 70 yards, giving him 280 receiving touchdowns in his career.

The Soul started the evening with a big defensive stand that forced the SaberCats to turn the ball over on downs, which then set up the Soul offense to march down the field and score first on an eight-yard pass from Raudabaugh to receiver Andrae Thurman in the corner of the end zone. The San Jose offense failed to move the chains once again, which resulted in another turnover on downs and another touchdown by Philadelphia; a one-yard rushing score by fullback Derrick Ross, his 34th on the ground this year, to put the Soul up 14-0. It was déjà vu for both teams as the first quarter came to an end with the SaberCats failing to convert on fourth down once more and gave the ball to the Soul in the red zone. Philadelphia put seven more on the board on a two-yard Raudabaugh to Anthony Jones connection, extending their lead to 21-0.

San Jose carried their first quarter offensive struggles into the second, as the SaberCats turned the ball over to the Soul on downs for the fourth time in the game. Raudabaugh continued to keep the Soul momentum going with his third touchdown pass of the night and second to Jones to make the score 27-0. The SaberCats finally got on the board with Roe reeling in his first touchdown of the season on his first reception of 2013 to cut the Soul lead to 20. The 'Cats defense got into the action on the next drive by pressuring Raudabaugh and were able force the Soul to turn the ball over on fourth down, and the San Jose offense capitalized as Michna connected with Roe from 27 yards out to make it 27-14. After a successful onside kick by Nich Pertuit, that was recovered by Clevan Thomas, San Jose kept their rhythm going as Michna led San Jose down the field 43 yards and found Roe for the third time of the game for the touchdown on the Cutters Catch of the Game, which was Roe's 280th receiving touchdown of his historic career and also narrowed the deficit to 27-21. The Soul would add three more on a 47-yard field goal by Martinez as time expired to send the Soul into the locker room up 30-21.

Raudabaugh connected with receiver Larry Brackins midway through the third quarter for his 90th touchdown pass of the season to start the second half's scoring, which extended the Soul lead to 37-21. On the ensuing San Jose possession, Michna's pass attempt to Jason Willis would be tracked down by the Soul's Rayshaun Kizer, his ninth interception of the year, which then set up a six-yard Thurman rushing touchdown making it 44-21 in favor of the Soul.

Jason Willis reeled in his first touchdown of the game (33rd of the season) on a 12-yard pass from Michna to begin the fourth quarter, which cut the Soul lead to 44-27 after a failed two-point conversion attempt. Philadelphia would find pay dirt once again on a six-yard Raudabaugh to Jones pass to make it 51-27 with just under nine minutes left in regulation. Two subsequent fumbles, one on the following kickoff and another on the ensuing offensive possession would set up two more Soul touchdowns: with the J. Lewis Small Playmaker of the Game LaRico Stevenson recovering the fumble for the score and Ross getting another rushing touchdown. San Jose would find the end zone twice more as Whittaker's 31-yard touchdown reception and pick-six would bring the score to 65-43, which would be the final at the SAP Center.

Score By Quarter	1	2	3	4	Score
Philadelphia Soul	21	9	14	21	65
SaberCats	0	21	0	22	43

Scoring Summary

PHI - Thurman, 8-yard pass from Raudabaugh (Martinez kick)
 PHI - Ross, 1-yard run (Martinez kick)
 PHI - Jones, 2-yard pass from Raudabaugh (Martinez kick)
 PHI - Jones, 7-yard pass from Raudabaugh (Martinez kick failed)
 SJ - Roe, 8-yard pass from Michna (Pertuit kick)
 SJ - Roe, 27-yard pass from Michna (Pertuit kick)
 SJ - Roe, 2-yard pass from Michna (Pertuit kick)
 PHI - Martinez, 47-yard field goal
 PHI - Brackins, 4-yard pass from Raudabaugh (Martinez kick)
 PHI - Thurman, 6-yard pass from Raudabaugh (Martinez kick)
 SJ - Willis, 12-yard pass from Michna (Michna pass failed)
 PHI - Jones, 3-yard pass from Raudabaugh (Martinez kick)
 PHI - Stevenson, 3-yard fumble return (Martinez kick)
 PHI - Ross, 3-yard run (Martinez kick)
 SJ - Whittaker, 31-yard pass from Michna (Michna pass to Roe)
 SJ - Whittaker, 25-yard interception return (Michna pass to Jackson)

Team Statistics

	PHI	SJ
First Downs	18	15
Total Net Yds	215	198
Rush Net Yds	21	2
Pass Net Yds	194	196
Comp-Att-Int	22-36-1	15-37-1
KO Returns-Yds-TD	2-11-0	7-111-0
MFG Returns-Yds-TD	0-0-0	0-0-0
Ints for-Yds-TD	1-0-0	1-25-1
Penalties-Yds	7-47	7-31
Fumbles-Lost	1-1	2-2

Individual Statistical Leaders

Passing

Team	Player	Comp.-Att.-Int	Yds	TD	Sack
PHI	Raudabaugh	21-31-0	187	6	0
SJ	Michna	15-37-1	206	5	2

Rushing

Team	Player	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	TD
PHI	Ross	11	21	1.9	2
SJ	Jackson	1	4	4.0	0

Receiving

Team	Player	Rec.	Yds.	Avg.	TD
PHI	Thurman	10	100	10.0	2
SJ	Roe	6	70	11.7	3

2013 GAME RECAPS



SATURDAY JULY 27, 2013
SAP CENTER
SAN JOSE SABERCATS VS. CHICAGO RUSH
ATTENDANCE: 8,864



The San Jose SaberCats (13-5) concluded their regular season on Saturday night by defeating the Chicago Rush (10-8) 65-40 in front of 8,874 fans at the SAP Center in San Jose. SaberCats quarterback Russ Michna completed 19-of-24 passes for 257 yards with five touchdowns and no interceptions in the win.

Chicago wide receiver Reggie Gray silenced the crowd early as he returned the opening kickoff 57-yards for a touchdown to open the scoring. However, San Jose linebacker Francis Maka got a hand on the ensuing point after attempt and Steve Octavien picked up the blocked kick and took it to the house to cut the Rush lead to 6-2. On the SaberCats opening offensive possession, Michna connected with wide receiver Jason Willis on a 16-yard score to give San Jose their first lead of the night at 9-6. It didn't last long however, as Rush quarterback Carson Coffman placed a perfect pass 32-yards down field right in stride with the streaking Gray. After another failed extra point attempt, Chicago's lead was 12-9. San Jose would answer back again, as defensive end/fullback Jabari Fletcher broke a tackle to reach the end zone from five yards out, putting the SaberCats back on top 16-12. On Chicago's next possession, another deep pass to Gray set up the Rush deep in SaberCats territory. However, defensive back Clevan Thomas denied the threat, picking off his 14th pass of the season and taking it 51 yards for the score, extending the San Jose lead to 23-12.

Returning on offense to open the second quarter, Coffman composed himself and manufactured a five minute drive; wide receiver Taurus Johnson got the Rush back on track with four yard run, cutting San Jose's advantage down to four at 23-19. The SaberCats would push the lead back to double digits at 30-19, as Michna connected with a sprawling James Roe in the back corner of the end zone from 20 yards out. Following another Rush turnover, Michna connected with Willis for a second time on the night, as a diving effort by #7 capped off the 24-yard hookup and put San Jose up 18 with 25 seconds left in the half. A final attempt at points before the half by Chicago failed to gain any traction up field, and the SaberCats took the 37-19 lead into halftime.

After forcing a San Jose turnover, a key fourth down conversion from Coffman to wide out Landon Cox preserved the Chicago drive, and a second fourth down conversion found the end zone, as Coffman found Johnson on the quick slant for six to open the second half scoring and the San Jose lead was back down to 37-26. Not to be denied of points twice in a row, Michna dissected his way down the field to put the SaberCats back up 18. He ended the drive with a touchdown pass to Roe who hauled it in with a spectacular one-handed grab as he sprinted across the goal line.

Following a fumble recovery by Co-Riddell Defensive Player of the Game Jason Stewart, wide receiver Huey Whittaker bulldozed his way through two Rush players into the end zone from 18 yards out to extend San Jose's lead to 25 at 51-26. On the next Chicago possession, not to be outdone, the other Co-Riddell Defensive Player of the Game Thomas picked off his second pass of the night and brought it back for his AFL record-setting sixth interception return for touchdown of the season, putting the SaberCats up by 32. That interception ended starting quarterback Coffman's night, as backup Luke Drone entered the game midway through the fourth quarter. On his first drive, he engineered a seven-play drive ending with a fourth down touchdown pass to Johnson, his second of the night, cutting the deficit to 58-33. After recovering a Rush onside kick attempt, fullback Dennis Godfrey spun, shed a would-be tackler and with a different player draped all over him, dove into the end zone for his first SaberCats touchdown from 11 yards out. Following another kick return for a score by Chicago, the SaberCats offense proceeded to run out the clock, and seal the 65-40 win over the Rush.

Score By Quarter	1	2	3	4	Score
Chicago Rush	12	7	7	14	40
SaberCats	23	14	7	21	65

Scoring Summary

CHI - Gray, 57-yard kick return (Martinez kick blocked)
 SJ - Octavien, PAT return
 SJ - Willis, 16-yard pass from Michna (Pertuit kick)
 CHI - Gray, 32-yard pass from Coffman (Martinez kick failed)
 SJ - Fletcher, 5-yard run (Pertuit kick)
 SJ - Thomas, 51-yard interception return (Pertuit kick)
 CHI - Johnson, 4-yard run (Martinez kick)
 SJ - Roe, 20-yard pass from Michna (Pertuit kick)
 SJ - Willis, 24-yard pass from Michna (Pertuit kick)
 CHI - Johnson, 4-yard pass from Coffman (Martinez kick)
 SJ - Roe, 8-yard pass from Michna (Pertuit kick)
 SJ - Whittaker, 18-yard pass from Michna (Pertuit kick)
 SJ - Thomas, 38-yard interception return (Pertuit kick)
 CHI - Johnson, 12-yard pass from Drone (Martinez kick)
 SJ - Godfrey, 11-yard run (Pertuit kick)
 CHI - Norton, 56-yard kick return (Martinez kick)

Team Statistics

	CHI	SJ
First Downs	19	21
Total Net Yds	237	286
Rush Net Yds	10	24
Pass Net Yds	227	262
Comp-Att-Int	23-41-3	20-25-0
KO Returns-Yds-TD	8-212-2	6-73-0
MFG Returns-Yds-TD	0-0-0	0-0-0
Ints for-Yds-TD	0-0-0	3-105-2
Penalties-Yds	4-19	5-59
Fumbles-Lost	2-1	1-1

Individual Statistical Leaders

Passing		Comp.-Att.-Int	Yds	TD	Sack
Team	Player				
CHI	Coffman	20-36-3	223	2	4
SJ	Michna	19-24-0	257	5	2
Rushing		Att.	Yds.	Avg.	TD
Team	Player				
CHI	Payne	2	6	3.0	0
SJ	Godfrey	5	19	3.8	1
Receiving		Rec.	Yds.	Avg.	TD
Team	Player				
CHI	Gray	7	96	13.7	1
SJ	Willis	8	134	16.8	2

2013 SaberCats Clips





Vote for Godfrey: Former Yellow Jacket excelling as San Jose rookie in AFL Andrew Giermak, Sanford Herald Posted July 24, 2013

SAN JOSE, Calif. — No matter the position, even no matter the continent, Dennis Godfrey knows what he's doing on a football field. A little more than a month after finishing a season with the Saint Ouen l'Aumone Cougars in France's Elite Football Conference, Godfrey is in the running, and up for election, to be in the Arena Football League All-Star Game as an offensive lineman/fullback with the San Jose SaberCats.

A ballot, which can be submitted once per voter per day, can be found at allstar.afl-global.com. Godfrey is vying to make the National Conference All-Star Team and play in Honolulu on Nov. 16 and, potentially as the AFL is still trying to make a second all-star game happen, in the first-ever arena football game in Beijing, China.

Godfrey, who was a tight end and defensive lineman, along with star basketball player, at Lee County High School, then a defensive lineman turned offensive tackle at Wake Forest, was a two-way lineman and player/coach with Saint Ouen l'Aumone.

"It was a great experience," Godfrey said. "We played in front of really great fans and it was great being an ambassador for the game." Godfrey, age 25, said trying to see everything as a coach, while being in the trenches himself, was certainly a new challenge. Making European players, some young, some veterans, better thanks to his knowledge of the game was worth it.

"It was unbelievable experience, knowing I can put teammates in the best position for us to win," he said, "and the experience on my resume, it'll help a great deal if I want to go into coaching after my football career."

The Cougar season ended on June 1. Godfrey left Paris on June 3 and after 17 hours of flying, was in San Jose signing paperwork at 6:30 a.m. June 4. He hit the field for a tryout, with the SaberCats looking at him for guard, center or tight end, then accepted a contract. After a few games on the bench, injuries to the line and at fullback gave Godfrey his chance - as a 6-foot-3, 335-pound fullback.

In arena football, even more so than any other level of football, fullback is a blocking position. Protecting the quarterback, whether that's helping versus a nose guard or picking up a blitzing linebacker, is Godfrey's main job.

A game at Pittsburgh on July 13 was Godfrey's first game seeing lots of playing time. It worked perfectly as it was the first time his family had seen him since he went to France.

"My family drove eight-and-a-half hours to see me," Godfrey said.

Godfrey got one carry for one yard. More importantly, San Jose beat Pittsburgh 78-20 with SaberCat quarterbacks going 23-for-31 with 258 yards, six touchdowns, no interceptions and one sack.

Following a loss on Saturday to Philadelphia, San Jose is 12-5 with one regular season game left and in position for a wild card spot into the eight-team AFL playoffs which culminate in ArenaBowl XXVI in Orlando Aug. 17.

The All-Star nomination surprised Godfrey. At the same time, he says it can't be a focus of his now.

"Honestly, it's still a shock," Godfrey said. "I was at my locker (after practice on Tuesday) and a player came up and said, 'how does it feel to be an all-star?' and I had no idea what he was talking about."

"For the time I've been here (San Jose), this team is successful because it's really family-oriented. We're brothers. There's great chemistry and a good work ethic. The players push each other to be great," Godfrey said.

While Hawaii, China and, as with any AFL player, future career possibilities, can be distractions, everything is geared toward Saturday's game against Chicago, still just Godfrey's fourth in action as a SaberCat, and the playoffs.

"I've got to be focused to play to the best of my ability, to give my team it's best opportunity to win," Godfrey said.

The all-star nomination, no matter how the vote goes, is added motivation to keep working, Godfrey said.

"It lets me know hard work and determination pays off. If you work and believe, doors will open for a kid from Sanford."

- Send former Lee County football star Dennis Godfrey, now a San Jose SaberCat offensive lineman/fullback to the 2013 AFL All-Star Game. One game is confirmed for Nov. 16 in Honolulu, Hawaii. A second all-star game is to be determined for Beijing, China.
- Vote at allstar.afl-global.com

AFL Exchange: The Power of the Offensive Defense By Brian Beaudry, ArenaFan Posted July 24, 2013

Chicago managed to effectively clinch the Central Division last weekend; by doing so in such an impressive fashion, the Rush also opened up the No. 1 ranking for Spokane to step in and take to the house.

In fact, the reason the Shock are in that No. 1 seat right now is because of their ability to "take it to the house" - to get defensive points. When I decided to track defensive points early in the season, Arizona was dominating opposing offenses - they scored six defensive touchdowns in the first three weeks of the season. Through three weeks of the season, they posted a 36-point lead on the Shock in defensive points.



2013 SABERCATS CLIPS

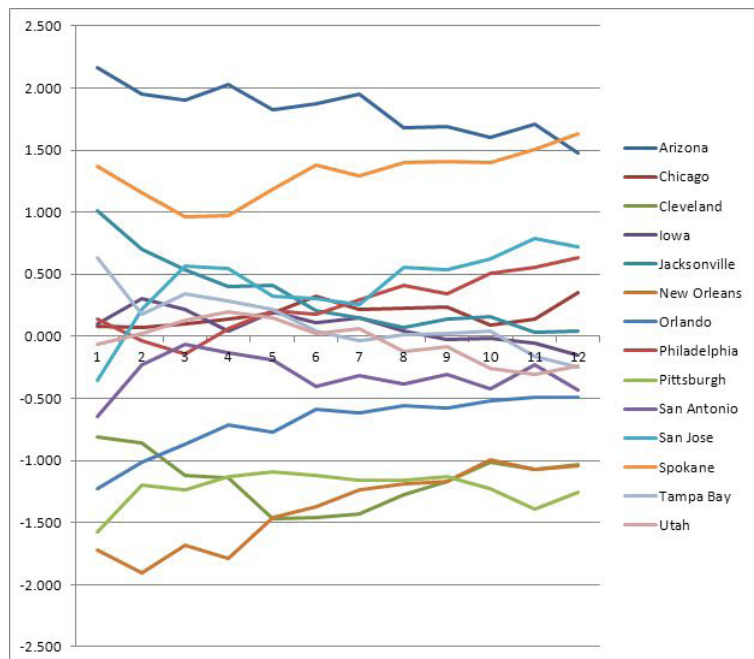
Apparently in Week 4, when Arizona and Spokane played each other, they had a Freaky Friday-type switch. The Shock defense has scored 80 defensive points, the most in the league this season (San Jose is second with 74). Arizona has only managed two defensive scores in the past 13 games. More troubling for Rattlers fans, the offense has started to give points away to opposing defenses - they've given away 26 points in the past 7 games after surrendering zero in their first 10 bouts.

Arizona is still the top team in the league per the TOT+ rankings, which only take into account offensive and defensive output relative to expected outputs against a team's schedule, however, so all is not lost. But the seemingly unassailable Rattlers from earlier in the season are gone - they're now 1-1 against each of the other National Conference playoff teams, injecting some intrigue into that half of the draw.

Rank	LW	Team	OFF+	DEF+	TOT+	TurnOVA	EXCH+
1	2	Spokane	1.042	-0.215	1.257	0.377	1.634
2	1	Arizona	0.730	-0.645	1.375	0.102	1.477
3	3	San Jose	0.308	-0.208	0.516	0.201	0.717
4	4	Philadelphia	0.457	-0.164	0.622	0.012	0.634
5	5	Chicago	0.368	0.098	0.270	0.085	0.355
6	6	Jacksonville	0.094	-0.027	0.121	-0.075	0.046
7	7	Iowa	-0.290	-0.099	-0.191	0.040	-0.150
8	10	Utah	-0.094	-0.058	-0.036	-0.201	-0.238
9	8	Tampa Bay	0.185	0.459	-0.274	0.029	-0.245
10	9	San Antonio	-0.782	-0.438	-0.344	-0.091	-0.435
11	11	Orlando	-0.071	0.310	-0.381	-0.112	-0.493
12	13	Cleveland	-0.425	0.487	-0.912	-0.121	-1.033
13	12	New Orleans	-0.525	0.430	-0.954	-0.089	-1.044
14	14	Pittsburgh	-1.017	0.088	-1.105	-0.149	-1.254

Speaking of intrigue, the American Conference holds all of Week 19's excitement - the National Conference playoffs are set, thanks to the league's re-writing its rules after realizing they screwed up in announcing Arizona's division title.

Nearly anything can happen in the American Conference, though - no one has clinched any seed, and Week 19 features a play-in game between the VooDoo and the Predators (more on that in the predictions). The Storm will be first-round fodder this year thanks to earlier wins with Adrian McPher-son - the team is currently one of the worst in the league, as evidenced by Saturday's embarrassing loss to the Power.



Recurring theme numbers:

After the Rattlers and SaberCats each took dumps on their home turf, the American Conference clinched the "Our 7 Teams Won More Games than Your 4" trophy for this season.

American Conference: 49 wins (4-3 this week, 1-0 against the National Conference; 70 losses)

Western Division: 45 wins (2-2 this week, 2-2 outside their division; 23 losses)

The in-division, out-of-division disparity theory took a hit, too, as three out-of-division matchups were won by the team that lost the first game.



2013 SABERCATS CLIPS

In-division: 5 sweeps, 11 splits (Jacksonville sweeps New Orleans)

Out-of-division: 17 sweeps, 6 splits (Spokane, Utah sweep; Arizona/Chicago, Tampa Bay/Pittsburgh, and Orlando/Cleveland split)

Week 18 Top OFF+: Spokane	Bottom OFF+: Tampa Bay
Week 18 Top DEF+: Chicago	Bottom DEF+: Orlando
Week 18 Top TOT+: Spokane	Bottom TOT+: San Antonio

Well, last week's picks hurt. San Jose and Arizona let me down despite having two of the best home-field advantages and playing against teams they're better than (though not by much). Cleveland looked frisky and Tampa Bay managed to be worse than Pittsburgh, which I didn't think was possible. No time to lament an off-week! Let's close this season with a good week.

Pittsburgh at Spokane: How much effort will Chicago and Spokane be putting in this week, especially with their first-round matchup taking place on a Thursday? Despite Pittsburgh's win last week, I don't think Spokane can play poorly enough to lose to the Power. Shock win, and by enough that they maintain their No. 1 ranking.

Chicago at San Jose: In a game that's meaningless for both teams, San Jose at least wants to get back on track before their playoff tilt in Arizona. Chicago plays this game Saturday and then has to play Spokane in Washington on Thursday? San Jose's no Pittsburgh - Chicago's not going to try too hard, but San Jose will be capable of beating a team that isn't putting its best out there.

Arizona at Iowa: The only reason Arizona would lose this game is to successfully troll ArenaFan and Spokane, making what seemed to be a moot point relevant by failing to earn the No. 1 seed they were handed by the league. Iowa isn't very good. They lost to Utah in a game for all of the bacon last week - if that doesn't motivate you to play better than they did, I don't see how they're going to be motivated to beat the Rattlers.

Philadelphia at San Antonio: Last week's events diminished the importance of this game - unless San Antonio can win by roughly 100 or so, they have no shot of making the playoffs. (Chicago also has to lose by 70 if the Talons win by that much). Philadelphia, meanwhile, is playing in order to keep the No. 1 seed in the American Conference. Remember, Jacksonville beat the Soul earlier in the season, so if the teams end up tied, the Sharks take the No. 1 seed. . .

Tampa Bay at Jacksonville: . . . and let's be honest, now that Bernard Morris is back (and Adrian McPherson won't be), the Sharks aren't messing around anymore. They don't want to have to leave the state on their way to the ArenaBowl. They're the better team, they're at home, Tampa Bay is awful. . . Sharks win.

Cleveland at Utah: Apparently this game is still going to be played for some reason. Let's say Utah wins it and earns the imaginary tiebreaker for the imaginary playoff spot as the American Conference B seed.

New Orleans at Orlando: I feel pretty good about the rankings: The top four teams in the National Conference are the four teams in the playoffs. The top three teams in the American Conference are the teams that are in. New Orleans and Orlando are the breaking point - which is more important? Points produced by your offense and stopped by your defense (TOT+)? Or points scored by your defense and prevented by the offense (TurnOVA)?

If TurnOVA is the most important thing, then New Orleans has the edge in this game. If TOT+ is, then Orlando should win. The Predators have a much bigger lead in the category they lead (which is why they have such a large gap in EXCH+), so I'm going to take Orlando. . . but we might have to consider that Pat O'Hara has hit the New Orleans streets and put a hex on his former squad - he is 3-0 against the Predators since being fired after an 11-7 season. The Predators have also yet to make the playoffs since O'Hara's departure, and just blew a game against one of the league's worst teams last week that would have rendered this game meaningless.

You know what? I'm switching my pick to the VooDoo. DONT PUT A CURSE ON ME, COACH O'HARA!

Stay tuned next week for season-long stats, a whole mess of charts, and full playoff predictions.

With playoff spot set, goal is to continue momentum

By Jim Meehan, The Spokesman-Review
Posted July 24 2013

The rust versus rest debate isn't as applicable to the Arena Football League as some other sports. Teams don't have much depth to begin with and can only suit 20 players on game day.

Still, Spokane is in a position where it could rest certain players this week. The Shock (13-4) clinched the No. 3 seed in the National Conference and a home playoff game against Chicago, but they have one more regular-season assignment Friday against visiting Pittsburgh (4-13).

"I'm not planning on resting a bunch of guys," coach Andy Olson said. "There might be one or two that are beat up, but it will be more to see who we want to play in the playoffs. We'll make those decisions toward the end of the week."

Spokane has injury concerns at defensive back, receiver, linebacker and offensive line. Offensive lineman Chris Pino (knee) and Mac linebacker Beau Bell (ankle) were shaken up in Friday's rout of San Antonio. Bell and Pino spent a good portion of Tuesday's practice conditioning.

Former Washington Husky Ben Ossai, who started on the offensive line for Spokane in 2011 before stints in the UFL and CFL, worked with the first team Tuesday. Ossai was released six days before the B.C. Lions' season opener.



Olson said he's fearful of losing the momentum that Spokane has built in a four-game winning streak.

"I want us to come in and play our best game of the season," he said. "Whether the starters are in or the quote-unquote 'backups' are in, I want to win and make sure our confidence is as high as it can be going in to the playoffs."

Quarterback Erik Meyer was removed in the third quarter against the Talons with the game in hand.

"I want (Arvell Nelson) to play," Olson said, "but we're going to try to win the game."

Weird week

A largely predictable AFL season offered a few surprises last week.

Not in Spokane, where the Shock pounded San Antonio 77-30 to improve to 13-4 - all 13 wins by double digits, an AFL record, and 10 of those by at least 15 points.

In Phoenix, however, top-ranked Arizona was blasted by visiting Chicago 63-42 in front of 11,353, its largest crowd of the season. The Rattlers had been ranked No. 1 for 11 weeks. Chicago clinched a playoff berth.

"I was amazed, but Chicago is a good team," Shock nose guard Terrance Taylor said. "When you put someone's back against the wall, things can happen."

In San Jose, the second-ranked SaberCats fell behind 27-0 and lost to Philadelphia 65-43. Those results suggest No. 3 Spokane could return to the top spot, but the coaches' poll sometimes defies logic. Two weeks ago Spokane beat No. 4 Jacksonville on the road by 22 points and dropped from second to third. San Jose moved up to second by thumping Pittsburgh (3-13).

The playoff matchups set top-seeded Arizona facing No. 4 San Jose and No. 3 Spokane entertaining No. 2 Chicago. The AFL has informed the Shock that's the case but it hasn't made an official announcement.

"I'm happy to get a home game and hopefully we can take advantage of it," Olson said.

Philadelphia Soul earn convincing win over San Jose SaberCats, 65-43

By Vaughn Johnson, Philly Sports

Posted July 21, 2013

The Soul used an early lead to defeat the San Jose SaberCats in convincing fashion, 65-43, at the SAP Center in San Jose, Calif. The win was the Soul's seventh in a row and pushed them to 12-5. It also helped maintain their one-game lead over the Jacksonville Sharks (11-6) for the top spot in the American Conference. "You are always happy anytime you come to San Jose and leave with a victory," Soul head coach Clint Dolezel said after the game. "We started strong and finished strong, but there were definitely elements that we will need to work on as we get ready for the playoffs. We are happy to be playing well during this part of the season."

A matchup between the Soul and the SaberCats (12-5) was expected to be a quality contest between two of the best teams in the Arena Football League. The Soul dispelled that early and often Saturday as they raced out to a 27-0 lead early in the second quarter. Leading that early charge was wide receiver Tiger Jones who caught the final two of the four-touchdown barrage. Jones finished the game with seven receptions for only 60 yards, but those were 60 history-making yards. Jones now has 2,028 receiving yards on the season and became the only player in league history to record three 2,000-yard seasons. He's the only man to reach the plateau multiple times. Even more impressive is that he's done it in each of the last three seasons.

The SaberCats showed pride, however, and scored 21-unanswered points to make the score 27-21 with seven seconds remaining in the first half. The Soul used the remaining time wisely and set up a 47-yard field goal by kicker Carlos Martinez to make the score 30-21 at the half. The second half was all Philadelphia. The Soul got back to their scoring ways on the first possession of the second half when quarterback Dan Raudabaugh capped off an eight-play, 46-yard drive with a four-yard touchdown pass to receiver Larry Brackins to make the score 37-21. On the first play of the ensuing San Jose possession, the Soul defense recorded one of its seven stops after defensive back Rayshaun Kizer intercepted San Jose quarterback Russ Michna. The Soul used another eight-play drive to capitalize on the San Jose mistake after receiver Andrae Thurman took a carry six yards into the end zone to make the score 44-21. Kizer and the defense managed to keep the potent San Jose offense off the scoreboard during the third quarter.

The unit gave up three touchdowns during the fourth quarter, but forced two fumbles, which helped the Soul pull away and gain a win over a very quality opponent. Raudabaugh continued his hot streak against the SaberCats Saturday as he completed 20 of 33 passes for 181 yards and five touchdowns. He didn't throw an interception for the seventh game in a row - all of which have resulted in Soul victories. Fullback Derrick Ross carried the ball 11 times (a lot by Arena Football standards) for 21 yards and scored two touchdowns on the ground. Although Jones made history, Thurman led the Soul in receiving with nine catches for 94 yards and a touchdown.

The Soul have been downright dominant defensively as they entered the game tops in the league in scoring defense (47.1 points per game). That continued Saturday as they recorded more than five stops for the second game in a row. Calvin Fance led the way with two sacks and 2.5 tackles overall. Defensive back LaRico Stevenson recovered two fumbles with resulting in a score. During the seven-game win streak, the Soul defense has only allowed more than 50 points twice and haven't surrendered more than 60 since June 1 to the Arizona Rattlers.

Soul stays hot, rout SaberCats

John McMullen, Panatic Mag

Posted July 21, 2013

SAN JOSE - The Philadelphia Soul (12-5), jumped out to a 27-0 lead thanks to four straight defensive stops to start the game and pulled away from the San Jose SaberCats (12-5) with a 65-43 victory in front of 9,163 fans on Saturday night.



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The victory keeps the Soul as the top seed in the American Conference heading into the final week of the regular season.

"You are always happy anytime you come to San Jose and leave with a victory," said Soul head coach Clint Dolezel. "We started strong and finished strong, but there were definitely elements that we will need to work on as we get ready for the playoffs. We are happy to be playing well during this part of the season."

Russell Athletic Offensive Player of the Game Dan Raudabaugh finished his night by connecting on 20-of-33 passes for 181 yards and five touchdowns with no interceptions.

Andrae Thurman led Soul receivers with nine receptions for 94 yards and one receiving touchdown and one rushing touchdown, while Tiger Jones had seven catches for 60 yards and three touchdowns. Larry Brackins added three receptions for 21 yards and a touchdown and Emery Sammons added two catches for 13 yards.

Derrick Ross recorded 21 rushing yards on 11 carries and two rushing touchdowns.

Defensively, Riddell Defensive Player of the Game Calvin Fance tallied 2.5 total tackles and two sacks, J Lewis Small Playmaker of the Game LaRico Stevenson recorded 5.0 total tackles, a forced fumble, two fumble recoveries and a fumble return for a touchdown. Rayshaun Kizer added 3.0 total tackles and an interception.

San Jose was led by QB Russ Michna, who finished 15-of-37 for 206 yards, five touchdowns and one interception. James Roe led the SaberCat receivers with six receptions for 70 yards and three touchdowns.

The Soul started the scoring after the first of four straight defensive stops on downs when Raudabaugh found Thurman on an 8-yard touchdown strike to cap a five-play, 32-yard drive to give the Soul a 7-0 lead. Ross added a 1-yard touchdown and Tiger Jones added a 2-yard receiving touchdown to finish the first quarter with the Soul leading 21-0.

Raudabaugh found Jones again to begin the second quarter on a 7-yard strike that capped a four-play, 16-yard drive and gave the Soul a 27-0 advantage. The SaberCats woke up when Michna found Roe on an 8-yard touchdown to narrow the score to 27-7 with 6:28 remaining in the first half. The San Jose defense got a stop and recovered an onside kick, while Roe collected two more scores to bring the score to 27-21. The Soul's Carlos Martinez nailed a 48-yard field goal with no time remaining to give Philadelphia a 30-21 halftime lead.

Raudabaugh led the Soul on an 8-play, 46-yard first drive that was capped with a Brackins touchdown that pushed the lead to 37-21 with 8:09 left in the third quarter. Kizer stopped the SaberCats' next drive with an interception that led to a Thurman touchdown to make the score 44-21 at the end of the third quarter.

Highlighted by Stevenson's fumble return for a touchdown, Philadelphia held off San Jose in the fourth quarter to take the 65-43 victory. The Soul will finish the regular season next weekend when they travel to play the San Antonio Talons on Saturday, July 27 at 9 p.m. ET and can be seen on CBS Sports Network.

Russell Athletic Offensive Player: Philadelphia's Dan Raudabaugh

Riddell Defensive Player: Philadelphia's Calvin Fance

J Lewis Small AFL Playmaker: Philadelphia's LaRico Stevenson

Cutter's Catch of the Game: San Jose's James Roe third touchdown in the second quarter.

Spalding Highlight of the Game: Philadelphia's LaRico Stevenson's fumble recovery returned for a touchdown in the fourth quarter.

San Jose SaberCats no match for Philadelphia Soul

By Rick Eymer, San Jose Mercury News

Posted July 20, 2013

SAN JOSE -- A poor start led to a bad result Saturday night, leaving the SaberCats to wonder if they are ready for the Arena Football League playoffs.

The Philadelphia Soul scored the game's first 27 points and held off the SaberCats 65-43 at SAP Center.

The SaberCats (12-5), who clinched a spot in the postseason two weeks ago, have one game remaining; a surprise extra home contest against the Chicago Rush next Saturday at 7:30 p.m.

The defending American Conference champion Soul (12-5) won its seventh straight game and improved to 7-1 on the road. San Jose saw its four-game winning streak snapped and lost at home for the first time in seven games.

SaberCats quarterback Russ Michna completed just two of his first 15 passes for 23 yards before getting things straightened out.

"We didn't get into a rhythm, and when that happens, you're not going to win many football games," SaberCats coach Darren Arbet said. "We all had a slow start."

Michna was 7-of-12 passing for 104 yards and three touchdowns during a comeback second quarter.

SaberCats veteran receiver James Roe, signed on Monday, caught all three TD passes in the quarter as San Jose drew within 27-21 with seven seconds left in the first half.



Carlos Martinez's 48-yard field goal at the end of the half kicked off another Soul scoring spree, leaving the SaberCats shaking their heads.

Only a touchdown pass to Jason Willis interrupted Philadelphia's onslaught after the intermission. The Soul outscored San Jose 35-6 through the first 20 minutes of the second half.

"We'll watch the film, see why things happened and get them corrected," Arbet said.

Michna finished with 206 yards on 15-of-37 passing and five touchdowns.

Huey Whittaker, who caught a TD pass for San Jose, also returned an interception 25 yards for a score with a minute left.

The SaberCats played without receivers Jamarko Simmons and Fred Williams and defensive lineman Terrance Carter, all on injured reserve or inactive reserve.

Soul fullback Derrick Ross scored his 105th and 106th rushing touchdowns, second all-time to Barry Wagner's 127. Ross is the AFL's all-time leading rusher, gaining over 1,200 yards in the past two years alone.

Soul Go Cross Country To Battle San Jose

By Matt Leon, CBS Philadelphia

Posted July 19, 2013

PHILADELPHIA (CBS) - Just two games left in the regular season for the Philadelphia Soul. The first of those two will be Saturday night in San Jose against the SaberCats.

Philadelphia is 11-5 and on a six-game winning streak. They have clinched the East Division and are now positioned to earn the top seed in the American Conference for the playoffs.

"We're playing well, no question about it," Soul head coach Clint Dolezel tells KYW Newsradio. "It's nice to have that division under our belts and now we're just trying to hold serve on the conference. We took the one-game lead over Jacksonville from last week from them losing and us winning. So now it's on our shoulders just to hold serve. That's what we're trying to do."

This match-up with San Jose will be a tough one for the Soul. San Jose is 12-4 on the season and 7-1 at home.

"It's almost like looking in the mirror, right now," Dolezel says of matching up with the SaberCats. "Their quarterback is really efficient with the football, doesn't turn it over much. Their defense is causing a lot of turnovers, they put a lot of pressure on the quarterback as well as we do. Two teams coming in really hot, really it's going to come down to who makes the least amount of mistakes. I think we're both evenly matched, it's going to be a fun one."

After this game, Philadelphia winds up the regular season on Saturday, July 27th at San Antonio.

Former SCSU All-American carving out a solid career with Arena Football League

By Andy Rennecke, St. Cloud Times.

Posted July 17, 2013

SAN JOSE, CALIF. — Life is good for Fred Williams these days.

He's established himself as a go-to receiver for the San Jose SaberCats in the Arena Football League in his second season. He signed a two-year contract with the team last fall.

Still, the former St. Cloud State All-American receiver yearns for a chance with an NFL team. It seemed like Williams would eventually get that chance, but it's never materialized.

"I always have the NFL on my mind," said Williams, who helped guide the Huskies to the second round of the Division II playoffs in 2010. "Whatever I have to do to continue to make progress toward that, I'm going to do."

"I want to have success in this league and then hopefully get a chance in the NFL."

Added Williams: "As of right now, San Jose is home for me. They want me here and that's a nice feeling."

Williams has 96 catches for 1,207 yards and 21 touchdowns this season for San Jose, which is 12-4 and has qualified for the Arena

League playoffs. The 6-foot, 195-pound Williams said a couple of NFL teams have shown interest in him this year, but he hasn't been signed with training camps coming up in the next 10 days for most teams.

"The only thing I can worry about is staying healthy and have faith in myself and my abilities," he said. "I have to keep making plays and see if an opportunity comes up for me."

It's not easy to stay healthy in the Arena League, especially since old artificial turf that feels like concrete is still used in the league. Williams missed time in his rookie season with a foot injury, but eventually came back and finished with 41 catches for 491 yards and 11 TDs.

"I'm healthy this year and I'm getting more of an opportunity to play," Williams said. "The turf is rough, but it's fast. It can be fun to play on, but you get some bad carpet burns when you get tackled. I like the fast environment and I like playing on it other than that."



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Williams is still returning kicks for the SaberCats. He's averaging 19.9 yards per return and has returned two kicks for TDs. You can catch the ball off the field goal net in the Arena League. That's something that Williams has had to adjust to.

"You can be successful doing that, but it's hard," he said. "It's different, a lot different, but I'm having fun with it."

Williams' goal this year is to try and help San Jose to the Arena Bowl on Aug. 17 in Orlando, Fla. San Jose lost in the first round of the playoffs last year, something that Williams doesn't want to see happen again.

"That's our goal this year and I think we can do it," Williams said. "We fell short last year and lost to the eventual Arena Bowl champs. A lot of people don't know how tough it is to play 18 games on this turf and getting banged into walls.

"It's hard on the body and you have to make sure you're doing things right off the field as far as stretching, working out and eating right. You definitely learn from your mistakes."

Williams is part of a strong San Jose passing attack led by quarterback Russ Michna. Michna's thrown for 2,653 yards and 58 TDs this season in 11 games. San Jose's leading receiver is Jason Willis, with 112 catches for 1,442 yards and 32 TDs.

"I'm blessed to be around a group of guys who have been in the league a lot longer than me," Williams said. "They took me under their wing and embraced me like a brother. I've learned a lot from the receivers, especially Jason. He's great at route running and catching the ball. I pick his brain all the time.

"Huey Whitaker is another guy I go to about reading defenses while running routes. They've all helped me become a better player."

Former St. Cloud State All-American wide receiver Ben Nelson played with Williams for a time last year in San Jose before having his season ended with an injury. Nelson carved out quite the career for himself in the AFL, but retired after last season. He still comes around to help coach the receivers on occasion.

"He helps out whenever he can," Williams said of Nelson. "He took me under his wing ever since last year and he makes sure I stay serious about the game."

San Jose closes out its regular season with two home games beginning Saturday against the Philadelphia Soul. Williams says the San Jose fans are very supportive of the franchise and the team always plays better at home.

"They are very supportive and they're like an extra player out there at home," he said. "They've embraced me. I love San Jose and the SaberCats."

East Bay local digest: Chris Wondolowski of the San Jose Earthquakes named to MLS All-Star team **By Bay Area News Group, San Jose Mercury News** **Posted July 15, 2013**

Forward Chris Wondolowski was named to the Major League Soccer All-Star team Monday, the only Earthquakes player selected by coach Peter Vermes.

Wondolowski, 30, leads the Earthquakes with five goals, three of them game-winners, and is second on the team with three assists. Wondolowski currently is playing for the U.S. national team in the Gold Cup, where he has scored five goals in two games, becoming the first men's national team player to score five goals in the tournament.

The All-Star game, July 31 in Kansas City, Kan., against AS Roma, will mark Wondolowski's third consecutive All-Star appearance. The complete roster is on the scoreboard.

Jordan Stewart scored in his Earthquakes debut, helping the club rout Antigua Barracuda FC 6-0 in a Reserve League match at Kezar Stadium in San Francisco. Stewart, a 15-year pro from Birmingham, England, was signed July 9. Rookie Adam Jahn scored twice against outmanned Antigua Barracuda FC, which is at the bottom of the USL Pro Division at 0-19-0. The Quakes will host English Premier League team Norwich City in a friendly on Saturday night at Buck Shaw Stadium.

NBA
Draymond Green scored 18 points and Kent Bazemore added 15 as the Warriors beat the Sacramento Kings 80-66 in the NBA Summer League in Las Vegas.

Arena football
James Roe, the SaberCats' all-time leading receiver, is returning to the team for the remainder of the 2013 season.

Power dealt historic loss in televised game **By Jerry DiPaola, TribLive** **Posted July 13, 2013**

Neither the lure of national television nor co-owner Lynn Swann's pre-game assertion to season-ticket holders that the team is here to stay could motivate the Power on Saturday night.

The Power, playing in front of the second-largest crowd of the season at [Consol Energy Center](#) (7,132) and a cable TV audience, stretched their losing streak to seven and fell to 3-13 in a historic 78-20 loss to the San Jose SaberCats.

The margin of victory was an Arena Football League record for a road team and the third-largest in history.



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"We could have lost by one, and it would have been bad," coach Derek Stingley said.

Sloppy, inattentive play plagued the Power in their final home game of the season, allowing the SaberCats (12-4) to score touchdowns on their first eight possessions.

San Jose kicker Nick Pertuit recovered his own onside kick after the first score. An errant pitchout by Power quarterback Shane Austin led to the third.

Austin also threw interceptions on consecutive possessions, and the SaberCats quickly turned them into two more scores. And that was only in the first half.

Stingley insisted his players didn't quit, but he admitted the loss was "somewhat embarrassing."

"We can't allow just the play call to make the play successful," he said. "As a player, you have to make the play successful."

During the game, Swann said in an interview with CBS Sports Network that he hopes Stingley remains with the team for "a long time."

The Power is 6-18 since Stingley replaced fired coach Chris Siegfried last season.

Austin started his first game this season in place of Steven Sheffield, who suffered a concussion June 29 and aggravated it last week in Cleveland. Doctors didn't clear him to play Saturday.

Meanwhile, Austin and backup Derek Cassidy were sacked eight times. Austin often was out of sync with his receivers, throwing behind or too far for Mike Washington three times in the first half. On another attempt, the football simply slipped out of Austin's hands while he dropped back to pass.

Overall, Austin, the team's 12th starting quarterback in three seasons, completed 21 of 42 passes for 188 yards and two touchdowns, both to Washington, who was double-teamed throughout the game.

When Austin's third interception was returned 49 yards for a touchdown by Clevan Thomas in the fourth quarter, he was benched.

San Jose SaberCats roll with record-setting AFL win By Bay Area News Group, San Jose Mercury News Posted July 13, 2013

PITTSBURGH -- The SaberCats continued to roll toward the Arena Football League playoffs, producing the most lopsided victory in franchise history with a 78-20 rout of the Pittsburgh Power 78-20 on Saturday night at the Consol Energy Center.

San Jose (12-4) showed no signs of slowing down after clinching a playoff berth a week earlier, scoring the first 20 points of the game and leading the Power (3-13) by as much as 55-7 early in the second half.

"I thought the guys played hard for four quarters tonight and they played very well," SaberCats coach Darren Arbet said. The SaberCats have won four in a row and conclude the regular season with successive home games.

SaberCats quarterback Russ Michna threw touchdown passes with three of his first eight attempts. He was 15-of-17 for 156 yards with five TDs and no interceptions when he came out with San Jose leading 48-7.

San Jose's 58-point victory eclipsed a 71-17 win over Oklahoma in 2001 as the largest margin in franchise history. The SaberCats had eight sacks and forced four turnovers against Pittsburgh.

Leading the defense was defensive back Clevan Thomas, who had two interceptions and has a league-leading 13 for the season.

SATURDAY'S GAME

Philadelphia at (11-5) at SaberCats (12-4), 7:30 p.m. No TV

Soul extinguish the Blaze, win sixth in a row By Vaughn Johnson, Philly.com Posted July 12, 2013

The Soul extended their winning streak to six games after a dominant 69-39 victory over the Utah Blaze Friday at the Wells Fargo Center. The win moves the Soul to 11-5 and a temporary half game lead in the race for the top spot in the American Conference. While the Soul offense deserves credit for scoring more than 60 points for the seventh time this season, the defense deserved most of the accolades Friday. The team went into Friday's game with the AFL's top scoring defense, surrendering a mere 47.7 points per game. The unit flexed its muscles against the Blaze. Although it forced only one official turnover (a Utah fumble), the Soul defense stopped the Blaze (5-11) offense a total of six times with five of them coming on downs. The Blaze took a gamble and went for it on fourth down five times and came up short on every single one of them. "We played a lot of man tonight," Soul head coach Clint Dolezel said. "We trusted [Rayshaun] Kizer to cover the motion man." Leading the way was defensive lineman Bryan Robinson who recorded seven tackles (two for loss) and a sack. "We just been hot as a defense lately," Robinson said. "We've been playing well together. The defensive back and defensive line are just connecting and the linebackers are in there with us."

The Soul offense got off to a good start by capping off a seven-play, 25-yard drive with two-yard touchdown run from wide receiver Andrae Thurman, who took an end around into the end zone and give the Soul a 7-0 lead. Things were going wrong for the Blaze offensively on their very first possession. On fourth-and-three from the Soul 22-yard line, starting quarterback Jason Bollus took off a ran for a first down, but was hit hard on the play and knocked out of the game.



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Adding insult to literal injury, the play did not count as the Blaze were penalized of holding from offensive lineman Shannon Tevaga. The Blaze were forced to turn to their backup quarterback, but this wasn't any ordinary second-string signal caller. This guy was a former league MVP. Tommy Grady threw more than 140 touchdown passes last season, shattering the old league record. But he started this season injured and inconsistent and threw 25 interceptions. He was benched as a result. He and the Blaze offense failed to convert on fourth down, which gave the Soul defense its first stop.

The Soul quickly capitalized on the opportunity with a three-play drive that culminated with a touchdown run by fullback Derrick Ross from three yards out. The Blaze finally got on the scoreboard with 27 seconds left in the first quarter when wide receiver Chase Deadder took carry into the end zone from one yard out. Blaze kicker Kyle Brotzman missed the extra point and left the score at 14-6 at the end of the first quarter.

The Soul made one of their few mistakes on the next possession when Thurman fumbled after a catch and run, which was recovered by Utah. The Soul defense bailed the offense out as the unit stifled the Blaze offense for the second time of the game. The Soul extended their advantage with a six-play, 36-yard drive that was capped off by an eight-yard touchdown pass from quarterback Dan Raudabaugh to Thurman to make the score 21-6. The Blaze pulled their deficit back to within one possession after fullback Ben Stallings scored a rushing touchdown from one yard out and make the score 21-13 with 2:49 left in the second quarter. This was essentially the end of the competitive phase of this game. From there, the Soul used 21-unanswered points to hold a 42-13 lead with 11:05 left in the third quarter.

During the run, the defense stopped the Blaze on downs twice and forced a fumble. The Blaze finally got back on the scoreboard with 8:33 left in the third quarter when Grady found Deadder for a six-yard touchdown. Brotzman missed another extra point and left the score at 42-19. After the Blaze made the score 21-13 in the second quarter, the Soul out-scored them 48-20 the rest of the game. Raudabaugh posted another efficient game as he completed 16 of 23 passes for 174 yards and five touchdowns. Perhaps the most important number is his zero interceptions. Raudabaugh has only thrown nine all season and hasn't thrown one since June 1. It just so happens that was the last time the Soul lost a game. Thurman posted a big day receiving with nine receptions for 97 yards and four total touchdowns (three receiving, one rushing). Ross carried the ball nine times for 34 yards and punched the ball across the goal line three times.

The Soul are the hottest team in the Arena Football League as they are riding the league's longest active winning streak. "Right now we're just rolling and keep it going into the playoffs and hopefully make another run at this," Robinson said. They entered the game tied with the Jacksonville Sharks for the top spot with the Sharks holding the tiebreaker. The Sharks will have a tough task in trying to keep pace with the Soul as they host the Spokane Shock (11-4) at 7 p.m. Saturday. The Shock defeated the Sharks earlier in the season, 76-41, back on June 8. Dolezel said he will be keeping tabs on the Sharks Saturday night. "I feel good about chances right now," Dolezel said. "We're playing solid. We just got to keep healthy and doing the right things." The Soul have a tough road as well, however. Friday night marked their final regular-season home game and they will be on the road for the final two games. Neither of those games is against easy opponents.

The Soul must travel to the SAP Center in San Jose, Calif. to play the San Jose SaberCats (11-4) next week in a rematch of Arena Bowl XXII. The SaberCats have a lot to play for as their playoff positioning in the National Conference has yet to be decided. The following week, the Soul must travel to the Alamodome to play the San Antonio Talons (8-7). The Talons are currently tied for first place in the Central Division with the Chicago Rush and are in a feast or famine situation. Either they win the division title or they will not qualify for the postseason. They are almost assured to be fighting for their playoff lives in the final week of the regular season. "We got to play solid football teams," Dolezel said. "It's going to be a battle and we're going to try to win them." Notes Bryan Robinson broke his own franchise record for sacks in a single season when sacked Tommy Grady during the second quarter. The sack was his 11th of the season, which tops his mark of 10 last season. Robinson also owns the franchise record for sacks in a Soul uniform with 21 in only two seasons with the team. "It's a good feeling," Robinson said. "It's a tribute to the rest of my defensive line and a great coaching staff once again coming through this year and helping me achieve my goals."

SaberCats Prepared to Shut Off Power in Pittsburgh

By Leanne Cozart, ArenaFan

Posted July 12, 2013

The 11-4 [San Jose SaberCats](#) are coming off of a playoff-clinching victory against the 8-7 [San Antonio Talons](#) in Week 16 with a final score of 62-35. The win was largely due to a stellar defensive performance where the 'Cats held the Talons to 13 points throughout the first three quarters of the game. With three interceptions and three turnovers on downs, the SaberCats defense capitalized on every opportunity which made all the difference when it came down to securing the victory.

Impact player Clevan Thomas earned Week 16 Defensive Player of the Game, Cutters Catch of the Game, and AFL Highlight of the Game honors following last week's big game where he took two interceptions to the house. The intensity this defensive unit plays with shows that it is comfortable playing fast, physical and they know how to consistently finish plays.

With this high level defensive performance week to week added to all cylinders on the offense running well along with special teams consistently making big plays, this San Jose team will continue to stride through the regular season. It's just a matter of fine tuning every element of the game and staying healthy for the post season.

This week the SaberCats will be going on the road to take on the 3-12 [Pittsburgh Power](#). In Week 12 these two teams met in the 'Cats Lair where the game was tied with less than a minute to play and the SaberCats pulled away with two quick touchdowns to seal a victory. Week 16 Russell Athletic Offensive Player of the Game and J. Lewis Small Playmaker of the Game, Fred Williams, knows from their last matchup that this Power team is going to play aggressive for four quarters.

"We don't take any teams for granted. We're going to go play like it's a playoff game, we're just going to continue to execute and play SaberCat football," said Williams.

Head Coach [Darren Arbet](#) shares his thoughts on facing the Power this week, "We've got some great film for us to watch and we've got a great challenge in front of us. Our guys understand that. It's a game on the road, a long way. We got to go there ready to play."

Despite the SaberCats building a lot of momentum following the big win in Week 14 against the reigning Arena Bowl Champions, the Power isn't a team



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to sleep on in their quest to make it to August 17th.

This week as well as the concluding two regular season games will be an extremely crucial time for getting every phase of the game ready for post-season action. This team has one goal in mind and that's being Arena Bowl Champion, but it knows that in order to make it there, it comes down to taking it one game at a time.

"We need to get better as a football team, we've got a lot of new guys here this year. I think we only brought four guys back from last year so, we're going to use all 18 games to get to know each other and get better every week," said Arbet.

After moving up two spots in the AFL Power Rankings this past week, the SaberCats will look to continue riding their momentum. In this week's matchup the 'Cats and Power are both starting different quarterbacks than when they last played each other which will make for an interesting game.

A Glimpse Ahead

While getting a playoff clinch was big for the team, it's really all about going all the way. It's time to bring that championship game to the front of every player's mind this time of year to get their focus zeroed in on what they need to do to accomplish the mission.

"We have one of our goals accomplished. We're not done yet, we're not settling. Our main focus is continue to win and get to August 17th, the Arena Bowl," said Williams.

"It means a lot because it solidifies all the hard work we put in. That's part of obtaining our goal and that's attaining our goal which is the Arena Bowl, so that's one step. Now we got to come out and just keep competing and sticking to the process," said Thomas.

SAP takes over naming rights for home of the San Jose Sharks

By Rick Eymer, The Associated Press

Posted July 10, 2013

SAN JOSE, Calif. - Welcome to the SAP Center at San Jose.

Representatives from SAP, a software company, and the San Jose Sharks were on hand Tuesday for the official renaming of the building the NHL team calls home.

SAP also sponsored the men's tennis tournament in San Jose that moved out of the country following its last event in February. Previously known as HP Pavilion, and nicknamed the Shark Tank for its main residents, SAP bought out the final two years and added three more years to its commitment, with a five-year option.

SAP representatives promised an enhanced fan experience at hockey games, though it's not yet clear how that will work.

"We're going to co-operate with SAP and the fans to see what the fans want," Sharks Sports and Entertainment COO John Tortola said. "The long range plan is to enhance the fan's enjoyment of being here for an event."

SAP Chief Marketing and Communications Officer Jonathan Becher called the renaming "an expression of SAP's growing presence here in Silicon Valley. We're a force to be reckoned with."

San Jose Mayor Chuck Reed was on hand amid loud music and lighting effects, and, yes, team mascot SJ Sharkie made an appearance.

Thunder sticks — called "Bam Bams" — were plentiful and used often. Prizes were given away to some of the more than 2,000 SAP employees invited to the event.

"It means we've got a sponsor that is tremendously involved in the team and the community," Sharks GM Doug Wilson said. "You have a guy who loves the sport and having a successful team is paramount."

SAP co-founder and chairman Dr. Hasso Plattner is also the Sharks' majority owner.

"It's not just a renaming ceremony," Becker said. "It's the beginning of a journey between the community, the sport and technology. We make this place our home and what to showcase what an unbelievable experience it can be for a fan."

In addition to the Sharks, the Arena Football League's San Jose SaberCats play at the venue, built in 1993, which has also hosted NCAA basketball, USA gymnastics, figure skating events, WWE, UFC and concerts ranging from Taylor Swift to the Rolling Stones.

San Jose's 'Shark Tank' Gets New Name

By Associated Press, USA Today

Posted July 10, 2013

SAN JOSE, Calif. (AP) — Welcome to the SAP Center at San Jose.

Representatives from SAP, a software company, and the San Jose Sharks were on hand Tuesday for the official renaming of the building the NHL team calls home.

SAP also sponsored the men's tennis tournament in San Jose that moved out of the country following its last event in February. Previously known as HP Pavilion, and nicknamed the Shark Tank for its main residents, SAP bought out the final two years and added three more years to its commitment, with a five-year option.

SAP representatives promised an enhanced fan experience at hockey games, though it's not yet clear how that will work.



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"We're going to cooperate with SAP and the fans to see what the fans want," Sharks Sports and Entertainment COO John Tortola said. "The long range plan is to enhance the fan's enjoyment of being here for an event."

SAP Chief Marketing and Communications Officer Jonathan Becher called the renaming "an expression of SAP's growing presence here in Silicon Valley. We're a force to be reckoned with."

San Jose Mayor Chuck Reed was on hand amid loud music and lighting effects, and, yes, team mascot SJ Sharkie made an appearance.

Thunder sticks — called "Bam Bams" — were plentiful and used often. Prizes were given away to some of the more than 2,000 SAP employees invited to the event.

"It means we've got a sponsor that is tremendously involved in the team and the community," Sharks GM Doug Wilson said. "You have a guy who loves the sport and having a successful team is paramount."

SAP co-founder and chairman Dr. Hasso Plattner is also the Sharks' majority owner.

"It's not just a renaming ceremony," Becker said. "It's the beginning of a journey between the community, the sport and technology. We make this place our home and what to showcase what an unbelievable experience it can be for a fan."

In addition to the Sharks, the Arena Football League's San Jose SaberCats play at the venue, built in 1993, which has also hosted NCAA basketball, USA gymnastics, figure skating events, WWE, UFC and concerts ranging from Taylor Swift to the Rolling Stones.

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Brits relish Murray's triumph By Bob Highfill, Stockton Record Posted July 09, 2013

The waiting is the hardest part in this week's random thoughts for a Tuesday:

» Great Britain hadn't had one of its own win the Wimbledon men's singles title since Fred Perry in 1936. Andy Murray exhilarated his countrymen and helped heal residents of his hometown of Dunblane, Scotland, a small hamlet that experienced a school shooting in 1996 similar to what happened in 1989 at Stockton's Cleveland Elementary and last year at Sandy Hook Elementary in Newtown, Conn. Murray was 8 years old when a gunman took 17 lives before shooting himself. A triumph for Murray out of tragedy.

» Patriots owner Robert Kraft said his organization doesn't put "private eyes" on people outside the team building. Guess he forgot about "spygate" in 2007, when the Patriots were caught filming the Jets' defensive signals during a game and were disciplined by the league. Kraft said he didn't know former tight end Aaron Hernandez as anything but polite and had no idea what his life was like off the field. Fair enough. The Pats released the tight end when he was charged with the murder of Odin Lloyd last month.

» Anna Benson was arrested in Georgia after raiding her estranged husband's apartment wearing a bullet proof vest with a gun and metal baton. Kris Benson, who pitched for the Pirates and Mets among other teams, filed for divorce last year. Think his parents are saying, "We told you so."

» Rasheed Wallace will be an assistant coach next season for one of his former teams, the Pistons. Detroit's young bigs will benefit from Wallace's experience. We'll see if they adopt his penchant for drawing technical fouls.

» Speaking of technicals, Jason Kidd was T'd up during a summer league game on Sunday. The Nets' new coach didn't receive one technical foul among the more than 800 that were called last season, his 19th and last as a player in the NBA. But it took only 37 minutes and 37 seconds for the 40-year-old to get his first T as a coach.

» Homer Bailey's no-hitter for the Reds last Tuesday against the Giants meant free pizza to the first 10,000 fans who redeemed an online promotion. It took only 2 hours for the pizzas to be spoken for.

» The A's only have pitcher Bartolo Colon on the American League All-Star team. Small-market team with a low payroll leading the AL West by a half-game after beating Pittsburgh 2-1 on Monday and still no respect. At least reliever Grant Balfour, who is 23 for 23 in saves, should have made it.

» Edison alum Darren Arbet and his 11-4 San Jose SaberCats clinched a playoff berth Saturday with one game remaining in the regular season. San Jose is second in the Arena Football League power rankings. Arbet, the head coach and partial owner, has won three Arena Bowl titles and is a two-time AFL coach of the year.

SAP takes over naming rights for home of the San Jose Sharks By Associated Press, Washington Post Posted July 9, 2013

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New Menlo College football coach on the job By Rick Eymer, Palo Alto Online Sports Posted July 8, 2013

Mark Grieb made a career out of throwing touchdown passes for the San Jose SaberCats. His next job will entail finding players who can help the Menlo College football team score a lot of touchdowns.

Grieb, who prepped at Oak Grove High in San Jose and played at UC Davis, knows a little something about being the underdog and being overlooked. That could work in his favor as he delivers his first full recruiting class for the Oaks. The 20 players who were announced last Tuesday join four previously announced spring transfers.

"Our coaching staff has done an excellent job identifying young men who exemplify what it means to be an Oak," said Grieb, in his first year at Menlo. "We are excited about this class of recruits as athletes, students, and people. We look forward to the opportunity of working with each one of them and beginning our 2013 journey."

Grieb made the most of his Arena Football League experience, throwing for 47,896 yards and 922 touchdowns during a career that lasted 16 years and included stops in NFL Europe and the short-lived XFL.

His first recruiting class shows an ability to recruit for need and to find hidden gems. A few of the incoming players appear to have been overlooked by Division I schools.

For the most part, Menlo stayed close to home, nabbing 15 players from California and two each from Nevada and Arizona. Freshman wide receiver Evan Bell comes from Illinois, where his older brother Dylan is a member of Eureka College's football team and, also, the track and field team.

Freshman linebacker Corey Inman, out of Novato, is one of those athletes who were overlooked. Inman, a first team all-Marin County defensive pick may be undersized at 5-11, 200 pounds, but he's shown football intelligence as a middle linebacker.

Junior college transfer Ray Roach, who played defensive back at Diablo Valley College the past two years, may also prove to be a hidden gem. He produced a solid season with the Vikings, recording 33 tackles, two for a loss, with an interception and three pass break ups.

Diablo Valley ranked fifth in Northern California in total defense, seventh in pass defense. The Vikings won seven of their final eight games after starting the season 0-3.

De Anza transfer Jeremy Imlach is the only other JC player among the 20 players announced. He appeared in a handful of games as a defensive back for the Northern California Conference champion Dons.

The Oaks are loaded with returning running backs and quarterbacks, so Grieb and his staff concentrated on areas of need. Michael Alexander was Menlo's top receiver last year, but there's not a lot of returning experience after him.

The recruiting class includes five wide receivers, including Shane Talbot, an all-Nevada pick as both a receiver and defender. Joseph Cortez, out of Arizona, was an all-section pick as a kick returner. Alwater's Cody McWilliams was a receiver for two-time undefeated Buhach Colony. Austin Kindle was named Rodriguez High's (Fairfield) Offensive Player of the Year.

Menlo also loaded up on seven defensive linemen. The Oaks graduated their top three tacklers from a year ago, so there's a chance for someone to make an immediate impact.

Dylan Power, also a tight end out of North Las Vegas, and Austin Holt, a defensive end out of Modesto, are the two most likely to fill open spots.

Power recorded 13 1/2 sacks in his senior year at Cheyenne High en route to being named an all-state pick and Holt was a first team all-Area pick, a



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team captain, and also helped coach a youth football team.

Joe Alvarez, who can also play on the offensive line, John Vis, named Huntington Beach High's Most Inspirational Player, Nathan Breall, a first team all-city pick in Los Angeles, Rancho Cucamonga's Ty Lauderdale is a two-time scholar-athlete, and Del Oro High's Billy Musgrave also have a chance to play.

In addition to Inman, three other linebackers were recruited. Returning linebacker James Yoder gives the Oaks a solid base. Adding Inman and Nick Gordon, another undersized but potent force, will only add to what may become Menlo's strength.

Yoder returns as Menlo's top tackler, with 49, including six for a loss. Not bad for a 5-10, 210 pound player. Gordon is 6-1, 195 and ranked third in California in tackles, averaging nearly 15 a game for Oak Ridge High in El Dorado Hills. Antioch High's Larry Larsen and Brophy College Prep's (Arizona) Connor Martinez bolster the linebacking corp.

The Oaks also added fullback Sayer Paboojian, who averaged eight yards a carry for Sanger High last season, and running back Kenneth Marley out of San Diego.

Menlo signed three offensive linemen and a quarterback last spring, all of whom attended the school this past semester. Signal caller Reid Soliman transferred from Graceland University in Iowa, where he used his redshirt season.

Mitchell Young (6-3, 260) transferred from San Joaquin Delta JC, Ali Nouri was Breall's teammate at Palisades Charter School in the fall and Marshall Houston (6-1, 285) transferred in from Cabrillo College.

Talons steamrolled in San Jose, remain tied for division lead **By Jason Minnix, San Antonio Express** **Posted July 7, 2013**

Heading into Saturday night's game at San Jose, the San Antonio Talons had a chance to take over sole possession of first place in the Arena Football League's Central Division. Instead, the Talons were steamrolled by the SaberCats 62-35 at the HP Pavilion.

With Chicago losing to Philadelphia 58-26 on Saturday, the Talons and Rush remain tied for the division lead with three games to play. Chicago owns the tiebreaker.

San Antonio scored on the opening possession when Rohan Davey connected with Brent Holmes on a 3 yard scoring pass, but it was all downhill after that as San Jose (11-4) reeled off 41 unanswered points.

The Talons (8-7) turned it over on downs twice and Davey was picked off once in the first half as San Jose led 27-7 at halftime. It didn't get any better in the second half.

San Jose, who clinched a playoff spot with the win, returned the second half kickoff to the Talons 1 yard line and easily scored on the next play as they snapped the Talons three game winning streak. San Antonio had won five straight road games.

Davey, who is playing through a rib injury, never found a rhythm. The former LSU star completed just 18 of 38 passes for 227 yards with four touchdowns and three interceptions. SaberCats defensive back Clevan Thomas returned two of those interceptions for touchdowns in the second half.

San Antonio actually outgained San Jose in total yards 245 to 228, but the Talons turned it over four times and were only 1 of 8 on third down conversions and 1 of 4 on fourth down conversions.

San Jose SaberCats clinch AFL playoff spot **By Rick Eymer, San Jose Mercury News** **Posted July 6, 2013**

SAN JOSE -- Clevan Thomas returned two interceptions for touchdowns, Huey Whittaker scored three times, and the SaberCats clinched a spot in the AFL playoffs with a convincing 62-35 victory over the San Antonio Talons on Saturday night at HP Pavilion.

"Coach put me in position and I just made the plays," said Thomas, 34, an eight-year veteran who is tied for the league with 11 interceptions and has 61 in his career. "It's really a mindset, whether you're tired or not, to suck it up and focus on that play in front of you."

Fred Williams also scored twice as the SaberCats (11-4) won their sixth straight at home and third consecutive overall.

"We're starting to gel and guys can see what is in front of us," SaberCats coach Darren Arbet said. "Everyone has to be great for us. It's never about the other team. It's about us."

The Talons (8-7) had a three-game winning snapped.

Thomas' first interception, early in the second half, likely sealed the victory. It was the final of six consecutive touchdowns San Jose scored after the Talons opened with a 7-0 edge after two minutes, 28 seconds of play.

"He is playing well right now," Arbet said. "He's got his legs under him now and he made huge plays. That's what he does." Jamarko Simmons and Jabari Fletcher each rushed for a touchdown. Russ Michna threw for 182 yards on 15 of 28 passing and five touchdowns. Williams finished with seven catches for 107 yards.

SaberCats defensive lineman Terrance Carter was placed on inactive reserve on Monday when San Jose acquired DL Luis Vasquez. Three days



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later, the transaction went the other way, with Vasquez going on IR and Carter activated.

Willis caught a 17-yard pass early in the first quarter, his 100th reception of the season. Fred Williams entered the game with 84 receptions. San Jose recovered its league-leading fourth on-side kick near the end of the second quarter. It was the first one allowed by the Talons.

Local sports digest: Bellarmine Prep quarterback K.J. Carta-Samuels excels at elite football camp By Bay Area News Group, San Jose Mercury News Posted July 5, 2013

Quarterback K.J. Carta-Samuels of Bellarmine Prep secured a spot in the final Elite 11 rankings at The Opening, a high-level football camp this week at Beaverton, Ore.

Carta-Samuels, who is orally committed to play at Vanderbilt, wound up fifth on the Elite 11 ladder. He's the 19th-rated quarterback by [Scout.com](#).

The camp is run by ESPN NFL analyst Trent Dilfer and his Elite 11 staff.

"Coming into the event there wasn't much hype surrounding Carta-Samuels," [ESPN.com](#) wrote. "The Vanderbilt commit scored well above average on some of the off-the-field tests, and he looked excellent on the field, as well."

Two top Bay Area prospects at the camp -- Stanford-bound Keller Chryst of Palo Alto and Oregon-bound Morgan Mahalic of Marin Catholic-Kentfield -- failed to earn positions among the final Elite 11.

Cal commitment Luke Rubenzer of Saguaro High-Scottsdale (Ariz.) also earned a spot in the final Elite 11 rankings.

Dave Flemming has resigned as play-by-play voice for Stanford football after six seasons. Flemming, 37, who had added college and pro basketball to a schedule that already included Giants baseball, said he no longer could commit fully to Stanford football.

Basketball

Arizona-bound Aaron Gordon of San Jose had 12 points on 6-for-6 shooting, and Team USA routed Canada 109-67 in the quarterfinals of the FIBA under-19 world championships in Prague, Czech Republic. The U.S. faces Lithuania on Saturday, while Australia plays Serbia after posting an 87-76 win over Spain. Saint Mary's signee Dane Pineau had 13 points and 13 rebounds for the Aussies.

Former Cal guard Jorge Gutierrez will play for the Sacramento Kings' summer league team in Las Vegas. Also on the roster is San Jose's Drew Gordon.

Cal League

Clayton Blackburn allowed just one earned run and three hits in six innings, helping the San Jose Giants to a 6-3 win over Visalia at Municipal Stadium. Devin Harris' RBI doubled keyed a two-run fifth, and Travius Relaford's double started a three-run sixth.

AFL

The SaberCats (10-4) will host San Antonio (8-6) on Saturday at 7:30 p.m. at HP Pavilion. San Jose is coming off back-to-back road wins and looking to clinch a playoff berth.

Heavy Playoff Implications Set the Tone for SaberCats vs. Talons Game By Leanne Cozart, ArenaFan Posted Friday July 5, 2013

The [San Antonio Talons](#) (8-6) are looking for their third consecutive road win this week as they head to San Jose to take on the SaberCats (10-4). These two teams have transformed since facing each other in week one's 47-42 'Cats victory in San Antonio.

Both the Talons and SaberCats have different quarterbacks since last playing in San Antonio as Russ Michna has stepped in to take over the starting duties and Rohan Davey has done the same for the Talons. Each quarterback will be facing an aggressive defensive line this week as each team is tied for second in the AFL with 28 sacks.

Head Coach [Darren Arbet](#) shares a little insight into what he's seen as far as strengths that the Talons possess and he emphasized the defenses ability to, "Rush the passer, they can really do that." Arbet went on to say, "Tim McGill is playing great right now and Joe Sykes, there's a reason why he's the Defensive Player of the Year in the league. Their defensive backs are ball hawks, Jomo Wilson is an All-League guy in my mind, and Rohan is getting better and better every week."

While Michna has been very careful with the ball only having thrown seven interceptions in the nine games he's played, he's going to have to continue to play it safe as he's facing a secondary full of ball hawks having posted 24 interceptions for the season. With help from the defensive line applying constant pressure and disrupting the opposing quarterback, the Talons' secondary sits second in the league for interceptions.

Michna shares his thoughts on what the Talons have been doing well, "They're one of the better defensive lines in the league and they do a great job of getting after the passer. The guys in the back end do a real good job of disguising what they're trying to do and making you think about where the ball has to go. So when you put those two combinations together, it makes for a really good defense."

To intensify an already tough matchup, the SaberCats will be facing a number of standout former players like defensive back Andre Jones as well as the aforementioned McGill, who are both coming off of big games last week. McGill was just voted as Week 15 AFL MVP. Another former SaberCat is Sykes who posted 16 sacks last season in San Jose, and this season he's currently leading the Talons with ten sacks and 12 tackles for loss.

The SaberCats have some former Talons on their roster, one of which is their top receiver, veteran Jason Willis. Willis' preparation for this week has been focused on getting the game plan perfected so that the disguised coverages the Talons secondary will present won't mess with his mental



game.

"Being that they're my ex-team, I know that they play physical. They're going to try and disguise a lot of coverage's and just try to mess with us mentally. So we have to come out there and just really stick to our game plan and I think we'll come through," said Willis.

While the Talons' record doesn't sound too threatening to a team that recently downed the [Arizona Rattlers](#), their recent three-game winning streak has moved them up to the top of the Central Division. The SaberCats have a streak of their own having taken down two tough division rivals these past two weeks with the most recent victory being on the road in a challenging Utah atmosphere.

Michna reflects on these two recent division victories. "They were very big, we have the mindset that we want to win every game but some of them end up being more important than others, no doubt. It's good that we've gotten ourselves on track and that we were able to get a couple of wins and the win on the road is big too, against a pretty good team."

Going into this game against the Talons, the 'Cats offense has an arsenal of weapons with two receivers having met the 1,000-yard mark for the season. Willis, one of the 1,000-yard men, shared a little insight on how he feels about the offense at this point in the season. "I think we're clicking now and we're still fine tuning. I think we still have minor details that we need to figure out but at the end of the day we get the ball rolling, we just need to come out strong."

The 'Cats defense is coming off of a standout game forcing three turnovers on downs and recovering two fumbles that greatly contributed to the big win in Utah. These momentum-impacting plays on defense combined with the consistency amongst receivers on offense will be the platform for success for this hungry San Jose team.

With post-season around the corner and the ArenaBowl in sight, both the Talons and SaberCats know what they must do to get a shot at making it there. For the SaberCats, they're currently tied with the [Spokane Shock](#) and will be looking to clinch a playoff berth with a victory against the Talons. San Antonio is hoping to earn a win so that it can stay in the playoff hunt. Expect to see a high level of play from each team as playoff implications are in the air for any ones taking. The key for a SaberCat victory will be getting a quick start, and as Willis said, to come out strong.

Quotes of the Week:

Coach's Take

Coach Arbet shares his feelings towards his team's performance at this point in the season. "They're getting better and better every week. The guys are starting to step up and their starting to understand the urgency that's coming at this part of the season."

Michna on Playing at Home

"I love it here in San Jose. We've had much better games here for sure and they're a great fan base. I haven't spent much time around them in the right colors, but you know in the wrong colors I hated coming here and that's held true so far. They've done a great job at supporting us and we appreciate it."

SaberCats improve to 10-4 with win over Blaze By Staff Report, CSN BayArea Posted June 30, 2013

SALT LAKE CITY - The San Jose SaberCats (10-4) knocked off the Utah Blaze (5-9) 57-49 in front of 6,393 fans at EnergySolutions Arena in Salt Lake City on Saturday night. Quarterback Russ Michna completed 26-of-40 passes for 269 yards and six touchdowns with a pair of interceptions. He also scrambled for a six-yard score in the second quarter. San Jose's defense came up big in this one, recovering two fumbles (one of which sealed the game) and forced three turnovers on downs.

San Jose opened the scoring, as Michna picked out wide receiver Huey Whittaker for a 17-yard scoring strike, providing the SaberCats an early 6-0 advantage after the extra point attempt was blocked. Each team traded defensive stops, before Blaze quarterback Jason Boltus picked out Mario Urrutia near the boards for a six-yard touchdown pass on third and goal to give Utah the 7-6 lead late in the first quarter.

Following a SaberCats turnover, Boltus picked out Urrutia for a second time early in the second quarter, as he got behind the SaberCats defense for a 27-yard touchdown, stretching their lead to 14-6. San Jose responded quickly, as Jabari Fletcher powered his way into the end zone from one-yard out to pull the SaberCats within a point at 14-13 with 10:40 to play in the half. Boltus then threw his third touchdown of the half, as wide receiver Anthony Jackson made a difficult one-handed grab in the back of the end zone midway through the second quarter, pushing the Utah lead to 21-13. Michna exhibited his elusiveness, as he shook a pair of Blaze defenders on his way into the end zone from six yards out to pull the SaberCats closer, at 21-20 with just two minutes to play in the half. After both teams traded scores, San Jose picked up a huge onside kick recovery and immediately made the Blaze pay. Michna found a wide open Jason Willis for a ten-yard touchdown, his 30th scoring reception on the season, and the SaberCats took a 34-28 lead into the halftime break.

The defenses stood tall in the third quarter, as San Jose forced a pair of turnovers on downs inside the red zone, and Blaze linebacker Antwan Marsh picked off his second pass of the game. The SaberCats broke through late in the quarter, however, as Michna found a wide open Amarri Jackson for a 14-yard score to give San Jose their largest lead of the game at 41-28.

The Blaze fought back early in the fourth quarter and pulled within six points at 41-35 when Boltus threw a jump ball for (Anthony) Jackson that he hauled in over a defender in the back of the end zone. Michna connected with Whittaker again, this time from nine yards out to extend the San Jose advantage to 48-35. The Boltus-Urrutia combination proved deadly once more, as the former Louisville receiver scored on a 34-yard catch and run to slice into the SaberCats' lead, making it 48-42 with eight minutes remaining in the fourth. San Jose marched down the field, but were forced into a fourth and goal situation. Kicker Nich Pertuit stepped up and calmly knocked through the 24-yard field goal to push the SaberCats lead to two scores, at 51-42. Boltus then connected with (Anthony) Jackson, who went over-the-wall, inside of one minute to play to draw the Blaze within two at 51-49.



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Michna and Willis hooked up for the third time on the night with 44.1 seconds to play in the fourth, this time from 12-yards out, but an unsuccessful extra point attempt kept it a one-score game at 57-49. San Jose's defense came up large once again, when it mattered most. Utah was threatening to move in for the potential tying score, and after a botched snap, defensive lineman Jason Stewart came up with the fumble recovery to seal the victory.

San Jose returns home next week to host the San Antonio Talons (8-6) at HP Pavilion on Saturday, July 6. The game will be broadcast live on KNBR 1050.

Utah Blaze: Blaze officially eliminated from postseason contention with loss to San Jose **By Trevor Phibbs, Deseret News** **Posted June 29, 2013**

SALT LAKE CITY — Trailing by eight points late in the fourth quarter, the Utah Blaze had an opportunity to potentially force overtime. Deep into scoring position, Blaze quarterback Jason Boltus mishandled the exchange on third down, setting up fourth-and-difficult. With 11 seconds remaining, Boltus once again lost possession under center and within a glimpse the Blaze had lost to San Jose, 57-49, and lost any hopes of advancing to the AFL playoffs.

"On the last fumble, clearly the nose guard jumped the snap count," Utah coach Ron James explained. "He hit the center before the ball even arrived. We've had that in other games. It happened to us at Arizona. It wasn't called. End of game."

With the loss, Utah is officially eliminated from postseason contention.

The turning point occurred late in the second quarter. The Blaze maintained a one-possession lead throughout the majority of the first half and were in position to take that advantage into the locker room with 40 seconds left. However, San Jose successfully gambled with an onside kick and ultimately secured a 34-28 lead at the break when Jason Willis scampered into the end zone.

"It's right up there," James said when asked where the loss ranks among Utah's difficult setbacks this season. "What we preach all the time is having an opportunity to win and we had the opportunity to at least tie the game and possibly win the football game. The fact that we weren't able to do that in scoring position is systematic of where we've been offensively all year long."

Utah had an opportunity to flip the clock in its favor in the third quarter once again when Antwan Marsh picked off a deflected pass at midfield, but an illegal block in the back negated his pick-six. The Blaze then sputtered on four straight downs, allowing San Jose to extend its cushion to 41-28 with 48 seconds remaining in the third.

"The defense answered and we've got to convert it into points. We came up empty in the third quarter," James said. "We lose the third quarter 7-0. The end of the game actually played out pretty well for us. We were in control of the clock and we had all of our timeouts left. We managed it well getting ourselves to tie the game and we would have gone for two to force overtime."

Utah eventually pulled within two, 51-49, on AJ Jackson's touchdown before the SaberCats responded with a Willis score.

"We got a little better because we had a more opportunities to score, but we still didn't put points up on the board," James said. "There's not a great sense of urgency when we're in a scoring position for some reason. We don't focus enough. We try and simulate that in practice, but practice is a fraction of what it is in the game. It's been an Achilles' heel for sure."

San Jose SaberCats singe Blaze, 57-49 **By John Coon, San Jose Mercury News** **Posted June 29, 2013**

SALT LAKE CITY -- Defense set the tone for San Jose away from home.

The SaberCats found ways to make stops at the right times and limit possessions to turn a close game in their favor in a 57-49 victory over the Utah Blaze before 6,393 fans at Energy Solutions Arena on Saturday night.

San Jose ended three potential Blaze scoring drives with fourth-down stops. The SaberCats also held Utah without a touchdown in the third quarter and recovered a fumble in the closing seconds.

"Our defense has been outstanding," San Jose quarterback Russ Michna said. "Week after week they continue to play well. We owe them a victory today."

Michna did just enough on the offensive end to make that effort count. He threw for 269 yards and six touchdowns on 26-of-40 passing to help the San Jose (10-4) win its second straight game.

Jason Boltus threw for 306 yards and seven touchdowns on 25-of-39 passing, but it was not enough to keep Utah (5-9) from losing for the fifth time in six games.

"The guys were scrapping and fighting," SaberCats coach Darren Arbet said. "It's tough to win a road game. Utah came out and played hard. Our guys just kept fighting and came up with the win."

San Jose took a 6-0 lead on a 17-yard catch by Huey Whittaker. Adding to that lead looked to be a formality when San Jose stopped the Blaze at midfield on fourth down to end Utah's opening drive.

It did not work out that way. Utah forced San Jose to go four-and-out on the ensuing series. When the Blaze got the ball back, it went ahead on a 6-yard pass from Boltus to Mario Urrutia.



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Antwan Marsh then intercepted Michna on the final play of the first quarter, and Utah extended its lead to 14-6 when Boltus found Urrutia for a 27-yard strike less than a minute into the second quarter.

"One thing we need to work on is to come out and start fast," wide receiver Jason Willis said. "Sometimes we come out slow, and we end up playing catch-up. The consistency is the big thing for us."

San Jose cut the lead to one three times during the quarter -- the final time on a sliding 8-yard catch by Willis with 41.2 seconds left before halftime.

The SaberCats earned a chance to retake the lead when Nich Perfuit recovered his own onside kick moments later. Michna then hooked up with Willis again for an 11-yard strike with 8.1 seconds remaining to give the SaberCats a 34-28 advantage.

"This game is so much about momentum," Michna said. "We struggled a little bit in the first half and made some mistakes we haven't made in a few weeks. That was a huge play getting us back into what you would call the regular flow of the game."

Utah threatened to change momentum again when Marsh picked off Michna for a second time in the third quarter. Marsh returned the midfield interception for a touchdown, but it was called back on an illegal block. The Blaze could not turn the turnover into points. Utah marched down to the 6-yard line but failed to score when Whittaker knocked down a fourth-down pass.

Utah did not find the end zone again until scoring on a 19-yard pass from Boltus to Anthony Jackson in the fourth quarter. The Blaze twice cut San Jose's lead to six and finally made it 51-49 on a 12-yard catch by Jackson with 55.8 seconds remaining.

The SaberCats recovered a subsequent onside kick and tacked on a 12-yard touchdown from pass Michna to Willis with 44.1 seconds left. San Jose then recovered a fumble with 7.7 seconds left to clinch the victory.

Arena football: Utah Blaze fall to San Jose SaberCats By Christopher Kamrani, the Salt Lake Tribune Posted June 29, 2013

It was there for the taking, but the Utah Blaze, a franchise struggling with the recent influx of new players and starters, couldn't give itself a chance in the waning seconds.

Playing in their first home game since being temporarily evicted from EnergySolutions Arena last week, the Blaze had an opportunity to tie the game with less than a minute remaining, but back-to-back botched snaps on third- and fourth-down situations let the air out of a rowdy arena.

SaberCats 57, Blaze 49

Back-to-back botched snaps doom the Blaze's potential game-tying drive in the final minute.

The Blaze fell 57-49 Saturday night at home to the San Jose SaberCats, a tough way to end an emotional week for the franchise that turned the drama of the last week into a raucous atmosphere.

Utah coach Ron James said the last fumble is something the team dealt with earlier this season, where the opposing defensive line jumps the snap count, implementing pressure before the ball is hiked.

"Clearly the noseguard jumped the snap count," he said. "He hit the center before the ball even arrived. We've had that in other games . . . wasn't called. End of game."

The loss also eliminated Utah, now at 5-9, from playoff contention for the 2013 AFL season.

"We've been inefficient in crunch time," James said.

It was a disappointing ending for a game in which the Blaze offense avoided turnovers, a problem that has plagued the quarterback position throughout the season. Quarterback Jason Boltus, making his third career AFL start, threw for 306 yards and seven touchdowns. Rookie wideout Mario Urrutia had another dominant outing with 116 yards and three touchdowns while Anthony Jackson had three sensational end-zone snags.

But the game will be remembered for the two fumbled snaps, a game that cemented the tumultuous season for the Utah Blaze as the franchise will not be playing playoff football once the final week of the regular season ends.

When asked if this was the most disheartening loss in a season full of last-second losses, James shrugged his shoulders.

Arena football: Week of drama behind, Utah Blaze shift focus to San Jose . By Christopher Kamrani, The Salt Lake Tribune Posted June 28 2013

With the drama of the last week now put aside, the Utah Blaze sprinted around the Arena Football League turf Friday afternoon, walking through the game plan for Saturday night's division rivalry showdown with the San Jose SaberCats. It was quite a relief.

Following the team's eviction on June 20, the front office worked tirelessly to reach an agreement with the Larry H. Miller Group to pay back owed rent through the first six games.



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Now, back in their home, the Blaze will try to turn around a difficult season, one in which they've lost linchpins Caesar Rayford and Aaron Lesue and have gone to backup quarterback Jason Boltus after last season's AFL MVP Tommy Grady struggled through the first 10 weeks of the season. Kickoff is at 7 p.m.

"We've got a job to do," said Utah coach Ron James. "You're professionals and you've got to make sure you do your jobs week in and week out; distractions aside, anything that happens outside the field, you've just got to march through it."

On to the SaberCats, a team that snatched away a road win from the Blaze 35-34 on May 25 in San Jose, Calif. More importantly, the 5-8 Blaze are still in the postseason picture, so James said the revolving door of players due to various injuries and departures must shut.

And the new guys must step up.

"Mathematically we aren't eliminated from anything at this point," James said. "We have to cling to that hope until it's gone."

Boltus is likely to make his third career AFL start. His thrust into the starting quarterback position has been a mixed bag. He's 1-1 and has shown flashes of ability to run the ball, but has struggled with turnovers.

But the new quarterback is ready to lead the team to a home win that could hold more weight in the long term following the turmoil of the last week.

Everybody that's here is meant to be here and everybody can make plays," Boltus said. "Basically, we're young and we're trying to get experience and see things before they happen"

SaberCats Rattle Davila in Big Win Against Reigning Champs By Leanne Cozart, ArenaFan Posted June 23, 2013

The [San Jose SaberCats](#) improved their record to 9-4 after taking down West division rivals the 12-2 [Arizona Rattlers](#), bringing their nine-game winning streak to an end. In a matchup between two very talented teams it ultimately came down to an efficient offensive performance and four defensive stops by the 'Cats, giving them the edge in the 72-42 victory against the reigning ArenaBowl Champs.

Following last week's disappointing loss to the [Iowa Barnstormers](#) (6-8), the SaberCats did everything in their power to get a win against an all-around talented team. It was this focus on being "great" that led San Jose to get the best of the previously ranked number one team in both scoring offense and scoring defense. The SaberCats ability to capitalize on every mistake and shift of momentum throughout the game was the story of the night.

Offensive Take

San Jose's quarterback Russ Michna had a stellar performance completing 24-of-37 passes for 313 yards and nine touchdowns in nine possessions. Michna tied his career high with the nine touchdowns on the night. Wide receiver Fred Williams contributed consistently throughout the game bringing in ten catches for 121 yards and set a career-high of five touchdown receptions. This dynamic receiver earned the Russell Athletic Player of the Game award and the J. Lewis Small Playmaker of the Game award for his outstanding efforts. Michna also connected with receiver Jason Willis twice for scores as well as with receivers Amarri Jackson and Huey Whittaker for a touchdown each.

Aside from the SaberCats receiving corps having a total of five dropped passes throughout the game, they were able to get off to a quick start and finish on a high note, which is complete opposite of what we saw in last week's final minutes.

San Jose Mercury News reported that in a post-game interview with quarterback Russ Michna he stated, "This is a talented team no doubt, and the most disappointing thing about last week was we had a chance to win and we didn't pull it out. That resonated a little bit. We didn't want to let that happen again."

Defensive Take

On the other side of the ball, the 'Cats defense had several game changing plays, forcing two turnovers on downs, a stop in the end zone resulting in a safety and they came up with a pick-six. Defensive back Ken Fontenette earned Riddell Defensive Player of the Game with a game-high eight-and-a-half tackles, and the play of the game with his 20 yard interception returned for a touchdown.

Previously the Rattlers have not faced a deficit larger than 21 points all season and after this defeat the SaberCats put an end to that with their aggressive defensive efforts allowing their offense to pull away early on.

SaberCats Defensive lineman Terrance Carter had a physical performance putting pressure on Arizona's quarterback Nick Davila throughout the night. With constant pressure from the 'Cats defense, Davila was only able to complete 12 of 23 passes and two touchdowns in the first half allowing the efficient SaberCats offense to pull away with 28 unanswered points. This pressure continued as Carter forced Davila out of the endzone for a safety, helping the SaberCats in the possession battle late in the game. With the help of Carter and the rest of his aggressive teammates cohesively working to throw off the Rattlers offensive rhythm, Davila finished the night completing only 22-of-40 passes and four passing touchdowns along with two rushing.

Final Thoughts

This week fourteen win against a the top team in the league bodes well for the SaberCats in terms of what is to come as we inch closer towards playoffs. With the offense running well on all cylinders and the defense getting stops up front and in the secondary, this San Jose team can be unstoppable. Special teams wasn't able to shine as they have been in the past because SaberCats kick returner Fred Williams was neutralized by the Rattlers giving him only one chance to return a kick, but he made up for that on offense.

Overall this game was a milestone for the SaberCats as it's evident that they have what it takes to defeat the toughest opponent in the West and arguably the toughest opponent throughout the entire league. With five season games remaining and three of those at home, the SaberCats have momentum on their side but still have some tough games ahead. Next week will be another division game for the SaberCats as they travel to Utah to take on the 5-8 Blaze.



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SaberCats top Rattlers 72-42, improve to 9-4

By Staff Report, CSN BayArea

Posted June 22, 2013

SAN JOSE, Calif. – The San Jose SaberCats (9-4) got back on the winning track on Saturday night against their division rivals, the Arizona Rattlers (12-2) 72-42 in front of 9,296 fans at HP Pavilion in San Jose on Military Appreciation Night.

San Jose quarterback Russ Michna was marvelous in the win, completing 24-of-37 passes for 313 yards and nine touchdowns, giving him two consecutive games with as many touchdown passes. The SaberCats defense also was a big part of the story tonight as they forced a pair of turnovers and posted two more stops, limiting Arizona to a season-low 42 points and held Rattlers' signal caller Nick Davila to only 238 yards on 22-of-41 passing with a season-low four scores and one interception.

"We've got a lot of leaders on this team," said Owner/Head Coach Darren Arbet following the key divisional win. "The guys were disappointed with what happened last week (in Iowa) and they said they were going to be great tonight. We all said that's what it's going to take to beat the Champions. The guys played great and it was our night."

Davila and the Rattlers opened the scoring with a one-yard rushing touchdown on a keeper to put Arizona on top early, his fourth score on the ground this season. San Jose answered on their first drive with a 30-yard bullet from Michna to Russell Athletic Player of the Game Fred Williams to tie things at seven apiece, marking Williams' tenth consecutive game with a score. The J. Lewis Small Playmaker of the Game would end the night with ten catches for 121 and a career-high five touchdown receptions. The first quarter concluded after both offenses traded another pair of touchdowns; with Davila finding receiver Kerry Reed from six yards out and Michna connecting with Amarri Jackson on a 19-yard equalizer to make it 14-14.

Arizona opened up the second quarter with seven more, after Tysson Poots reeled in the Davila pass in the back of the end zone to once again pull ahead. The Rattlers nearly forced the first defensive stop of the game during the SaberCats next possession, however a clutch 17-yard catch by receiver Jason Willis on fourth-and-13 kept the drive going and allowed San Jose to tie it at 21 after Willis made the Cutters Catch of the Game on a seven-yard grab over the boards in the end zone.

The momentum instantly swung San Jose's way and the defensive front was able to pressure Davila enough to force a key turnover on downs on the eleven yard line. The 'Cats made the defensive stop count on the first play from scrimmage with Michna finding Williams streaking across the middle of the end zone to make the score 28-21 and give San Jose their first lead of the evening.

Arizona tried to bounce back on their next possession, however for the second time in a row the defense was able to stop Davila from moving the chains and forced another turnover on downs. Yet again, Michna capitalized on the turnover and found Williams alone in the end zone for their third touchdown connection of the half to extend the San Jose lead to 35-21, which would be all the scoring for the first 30 minutes.

Williams' dominance carried into the second half when he logged his career-high fourth receiving score of the night on a two-yard pass from Michna to give the SaberCats a 42-21 lead, handing Arizona their largest deficit of the season.

The Rattlers were able to respond and cut the 'Cats lead to 42-28 on Davila's second rushing touchdown of the game, however Williams put a damper on the Rattler's comeback when he reeled in a ten-yard Michna gem to put San Jose back on top 49-28 on their next drive. Riddell Defensive player of the Game Ken Fontenette, who ended the night with a game-high eight-and-a-half tackles, hauled in a wayward Davila pass and brought the interception back 20-yards to the house on the following Rattlers possession, making the score 56-28. Arizona's offensive woes continued when Davila was forced to intentionally ground the ball in the end zone; which resulted in the third safety forced on the year for the SaberCats. That gave San Jose the ball where they once again made the miscue count, with a one-yard Huey Whittaker reception, widening the lead to 65-28.

Both Arizona and San Jose traded scores on their first possessions of the fourth quarter as Davila found Reed six yards out and Michna connected with Willis from the 15-yard line, making the score 72-35 midway through the final 15 minutes of regulation. Poots would get another six-yard touchdown reception to bring the score to 72-42 and the Rattler's attempted to wrangle seven more in the closing minute, but San Jose forced the fumble in the end zone to seal the 72-42 victory.

San Jose next travels to Salt Lake City to battle the Utah Blaze (5-8) on Saturday, June 29 at EnergySolutions Arena in Week 15, and look for the season sweep. The game will be broadcast live on Comcast SportsNet Bay Area and KNBR 1050 at 6:00 p.m. PT

San Jose SaberCats trounce Arizona Rattlers

By Rick Eymer, San Jose Mercury News

Posted June 22, 2013

SAN JOSE -- One week after their biggest disappointment, the SaberCats played their best overall game of the season against one of the best teams in the AFL.

Fred Williams caught five of Russ Michna's nine touchdown passes, and San Jose rolled over the West Division rival Arizona Rattlers 72-42 Saturday night in front of 9,296 fans at HP Pavilion.

The SaberCats (9-4) responded to last week's upset loss at the Iowa Barnstormers by holding a team meeting and clarifying their goals. "We talked about what direction we wanted to go," Michna said. "This is a talented team no doubt, and the most disappointing thing about last week was we had a chance to win and we didn't pull it out. That resonated a little bit. We didn't want to let that happen again."

Jason Willis caught two touchdown passes and Amarri Jackson and Huey Whittaker each caught one as the SaberCats won their fifth straight at home.

The SaberCats scored on all but their final possession, adding an interception and safety for good measure. The Rattlers (12-2) were ranked No. 1 in both scoring offense and scoring defense, but San Jose had all the answers in ending Arizona's nine-game winning streak.



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"The crazy thing about this game is how fast momentum can change and how hard it is to regroup," Michna said. "Arizona is a top team and they had a rough night. A few bounces went our way."

After the teams matched touchdowns through their first three possessions, the San Jose defense rose to the occasion and stopped Arizona on downs late in the second quarter, with J.C. Neal knocking away a long pass.

Terrance Carter was a menace all night for the SaberCats. He consistently interrupted the offense and made life miserable for Arizona quarterback Nick Davila. Carter also recorded a safety in the third quarter that all but finished off the Rattlers.

Ken Fontenette returned an interception 20 yards for a touchdown with 3:40 remaining in the third quarter to put the SaberCats ahead 56-28. San Jose scored 30 points in the third quarter, easily its best offensive period of the year.

Carter's safety was the SaberCats' fourth of the season. Jabari Fletcher and Justin Warren, who was placed on injured reserve Monday, previously were credited with safeties, along with a team safety.

With his five touchdowns, Williams became the third SaberCat to score at least 20 touchdowns this year.

Michna has 42 touchdowns passes and five interceptions in eight games. Aaron Garcia had 24 TD passes and 13 interceptions in his four games with San Jose before being traded to Orlando for Jackson in April.

The SaberCats led by 37 points after the third quarter, their biggest margin of the season.

Spain to be honored by SaberCats **By Horace Hinshaw, Pacifica Tribune** **Posted June 18, 2013**

Terra Nova's K'ren Spain will be honored for leading the school to the Peninsula Athletic League Bay Division 2012 championship by the Arena Football San Jose SaberCats.

Spain, who was named Terra Nova and PAL Player of the year, will be honored at halftime of the SaberCats's game against Arizona Rattlers at this Saturday HP Pavilion in San Jose. The night has been designated as Terra Nova High School Night. The game starts at 7:30 p.m.

Discount tickets can be purchased by visiting the Terra Nova sports website, www.terranovasports.com. Tickets will be available for \$10.

In a Battle to the End the SaberCats Fall to the Barnstormers 73-68 **By Leanne Cozart, ArenaFan** **Posted Sunday June 16, 2013**

The [Iowa Barnstormers](#) (6-7) came away from this tough matchup against the [San Jose SaberCats](#) (8-4) with a 73-68 victory after playing well in every phase of the game. The SaberCats got off to a rough start against the Barnstormers on Saturday as they began the game with a crucial fumble by kick returner Fred Williams on the opening kickoff forced by Barnstormers fullback Kai Brown. Then Iowa recovered the ball and quickly responded with a drive downfield to take a hold of their first lead of the night. From then on throughout the first half of the game each team traded scores. The Barnstormers closed the half with a field goal to gain a three point advantage heading into the third quarter.

Opening the second half, the Barnstormers punched the ball in for a score in to gain a bigger lead and then the two teams continued to trade touchdowns. The SaberCats had a glimmer of hope in the final seconds of fourth quarter to take the lead after veteran defensive back Clevan Thomas got his ninth interception of the season following an unsuccessful onside kick. Despite having a brief momentum swing and their first defensive stop of the night, the SaberCats quarterback Russ Michna couldn't convert on the fourth-and-goal. A Barnstormer defensive back deflected Michna's pass in the closing seconds of the game, sealing the SaberCat's fate with a loss.

The two missed extra point attempts by Pertuit earlier on and a Barnstormers successful 27-yard field goal to close the half is what put the 'Cats five points back in this otherwise pretty evenly matched game.

In his return from being injured, Michna put up a great battle throughout the night completing 28-of-39 passes for 392 yards and nine touchdowns. Wide receiver Jason Willis was Michna's favorite target bringing in nine passes for 116 yards and five touchdowns. Huey Whittaker brought in eight catches for 85 yards and three touchdowns for the night and another top target was Fred Williams who had nine catches for 112 yards and a score.

The 'Cats defense didn't have much of an impressive game as they only had one stop and couldn't bring Barnstormers receiver Marco Thomas's high production to a halt. Thomas finished the night with 15 catches for 165 yards and six total touchdowns. His high level of play combined with the two touchdowns a piece his teammates Marcus Harris and Jesse Schmidt contributed to the Barnstormers victory, is what gave them the juice they needed to get their second straight win against a tough West Division team. Barnstormers quarterback J.J. Raterink was 33-of-44 passing for 376 yards and nine touchdowns, which is a career high of touchdowns scored in a game for him.

The SaberCats never had the lead in this game and couldn't get the defensive stops they needed until late in the fourth quarter and the offence couldn't capitalize on the opportunity. In Arena Football, each team has to cash in a score for every mistake the opposing offense makes in order to gain an edge. The Barnstormers did this well when in the first minute of the game they capitalized on Williams fumble and quickly went down field and got upper hand right away. The 'Cats had their chance and couldn't make the plays that could've won them the game. In a San Jose SaberCats press release Head Coach [Darren Arbet](#) stated, "Iowa played well, but we had opportunities. We just didn't make the plays when we needed to."

San Jose SaberCats fall 73-68 to Iowa Barnstormers **Bay Area News Group, San Jose Mercury News** **Posted June 15, 2013**



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The Iowa Barnstormers held off the San Jose SaberCats 73-68 on Saturday in an Arena Football League game in Des Moines, Iowa. Clevan Thomas' league-leading ninth interception of the season gave the SaberCats a chance to pull out a win in the final seconds, but Russ Michna's fourth-and-goal pass fell incomplete.

Michna, who missed the SaberCats' previous game because of injury, was 28-of-39 passing for 392 yards and nine touchdowns. He did not throw an interception. Jason Willis had nine receptions for 116 yards and five touchdowns.

Fred Williams added nine catches for 112 yards and a touchdown for the SaberCats (8-4), and Huey Whittaker had eight catches for 85 yards and three touchdowns.

J.J. Raterink was 33-of-44 passing for 376 yards and nine touchdowns for Iowa (6-7). Marco Thomas had 15 receptions for 165 yards and five touchdowns and also rushed for a score.

Marco Thomas' final touchdown gave the Barnstormers a 66-55 lead midway through the fourth quarter. Whittaker made a diving catch on a 6-yard TD play to make it 66-61.

Raterink's ninth TD pass with 2:01 left gave Iowa a 73-61 lead. Michna then found Williams on a 35-yard scoring play to pull the SaberCats within 73-68.

Clevan Thomas' interception set up the SaberCats at their 5-yard line. Michna completed three passes, giving San Jose a first-and-goal at the Iowa 8, but his next four passes all fell incomplete.

The SaberCats return home Saturday to face division-leading Arizona (12-1), which won its ninth straight Saturday. The SaberCats will be seeking to avenge a 73-47 defeat in Arizona on April 6.

SaberCats drop heartbreaker to Barnstormers, 73-68 **By Staff Report, CSN BayArea** **Posted June 15, 2013**

The San Jose SaberCats (8-4) late comeback fell short, as they were defeated by the Iowa Barnstormers (6-7) 73-68 at the Wells Fargo Arena in Des Moines on Saturday night.

Quarterback Russ Michna returned to action as the SaberCats starter after missing last week's game due to injury. The former Western Illinois Leatherneck completed 28-of-39 passes for 392 yards with nine touchdowns and no interceptions.

Wide receiver Jason Willis hauled in a team-high nine passes for 116 yards and five touchdowns in the losing effort. San Jose had an opportunity to win the game late, but four consecutive passes fell incomplete, and Iowa came out with the victory.

Iowa forced a turnover on the opening kickoff and cashed in immediately, as quarterback J.J. Raterink picked out a well-covered Jesse Schmidt for a 12-yard score to give the Barnstormers the early 7-0 advantage.

San Jose responded quickly, as Michna found Willis for a 17-yard strike, making a very difficult catch against the boards to tie things at seven. The teams then traded scores, as Raterink hit former SaberCats wide receiver Marco Thomas for six, and then Michna found Willis for the second time on the evening to bring the score level at 14. The Barnstormers took a 21-14 lead into the second quarter following Raterink's third touchdown pass, picking out Marcus Harris for the 27-yard score.

San Jose opened the second quarter with a bang, as Michna found Huey Whittaker for a 31-yard touchdown to tie things at 21. The Barnstormers took the lead back on a three-yard touchdown pass by Raterink to Thomas, pushing the Iowa advantage to 28-21 midway through the second quarter. San Jose answered right back, as Michna found his favorite target on the night, Willis again for an easy five-yard scoring toss to knot things at 28.

The teams swapped scores again within the final minute, but a 27-yard field goal by Iowa kicker Fabrizio Scaccia gave the Barnstormers the 38-35 lead at the half.

The Barnstormers opened their largest lead of the game on their opening drive of the second half, as Raterink and Thomas connected for the third time tonight, on a 23-yard pass over the middle to give Iowa a 45-35 lead. The SaberCats responded again, as wide receiver Amarri Jackson made an incredible over-the-wall catch for a nine-yard touchdown to cut the lead to 45-41. Thomas flexed his muscles again for Iowa, as he hauled in a deep 45-yard touchdown to give him five total scores on the evening (four receiving) and pushed the Barnstormers lead to 52-41 midway through the third.

San Jose fought back within four points yet again, as Willis hauled in another touchdown reception, this from nine-yards out, to cut the lead to 52-48. Harris extended the Iowa lead yet again, catching a short pass on the right sideline from Raterink and taking it 39 yards for the touchdown for a 59-48 lead late in the third quarter. Willis struck once more to clip the Iowa lead to 59-55 as Michna spotted him from 21-yards out.

Thomas struck again with his sixth touchdown of the game (fifth receiving), as he brought in an 11-yard scoring toss from Raterink to push the lead to 66-55 midway through the fourth quarter. Whittaker made a diving six-yard touchdown catch, Michna's eighth scoring toss on the night, pulling within five at 66-61 with under four minutes to play in the game. Raterink and Schmidt stretched the lead to 12, as they connected for the second time on the evening, from 13-yards out and with 2:01 to play in the fourth, it was 73-61.

San Jose would not go away though, as Michna picked out a wide open Fred Williams for a 35-yard touchdown to pull back to 73-68 with 1:20 remaining. Following an unsuccessful onside kick attempt, San Jose's defense came up with their first stop of the game, as Clevan Thomas made his league-leading ninth interception of the season to give the SaberCats an opportunity for the win. The SaberCats were unable to score, as Michna's



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fourth and goal pass fell incomplete to turn the ball over, and Iowa escaped with the win.

Next week, the SaberCats return home to HP Pavilion in San Jose to host their bitter divisional rivals, the Arizona Rattlers (11-1) in the Net 10 Wireless Arena Football League Game of the Week on CBS Sports Network. Saturday, June 22 is also Military Appreciation Night at HP Pavilion and the game kicks off at 7:30 p.m. PT.

San Jose SaberCats beat Pittsburgh Power 68-54 **By Rick Eymer, San Jose Mercury News** **Posted June 8, 2013**

SAN JOSE -- Fred Williams was giving the San Jose SaberCats good field position all game long. There was no need for him to slow down in the final minute.

Williams, who also caught three touchdown passes, averaged over 26 yards on his kickoff returns, and Mitch Mustain threw six touchdown passes in his first career start to lead San Jose to a 68-54 victory over the Pittsburgh Power on Saturday.

Jabari Fletcher ran for three touchdowns as the SaberCats (8-3) rebounded from a loss at the Spokane Shock last weekend. Jason Willis caught two touchdown passes and Amarri Jackson caught one.

Willis caught the winning touchdown with 12 seconds remaining after the Power rallied to tie the score with 46 seconds left. The SaberCats' score was set up when Williams returned a kickoff 31 yards to the Power 23-yard line.

"I felt like there was no need to panic," Williams said. "I just had to catch the ball off the net and get what I could get."

Mustain became the third quarterback to start for the SaberCats this season, following Aaron Garcia and Russ Michna, who was injured in the loss to the Shock.

"A lot of good things happen when you win," SaberCats coach Darren Arbet said. "I'm proud of him. He was thrown into it last week, and this time he had a full week to prepare. He did a great job."

Sergio Gilliam picked off a Mustain pass at the Power 5-yard line and returned it for a score to make it 54-54. Julian Rauch missed the Huey Whittaker, who had a touchdown pass called back earlier in the game, intercepted a Derek Cassidy pass and returned it for a touchdown with six seconds left to secure the win.

The SaberCats were assigned journeyman quarterback Zack Eskridge on Thursday. Eskridge has played for the Kansas City Command and New Orleans VooDoo, his first team this season. He's also been in the Canadian Football League and in the Dallas Cowboys training camp.

Defensive lineman Malcolm Sheppard was activated from recallable assignment on Thursday as Michna and offensive lineman TJ Watkins were placed on inactive reserve and wide receivers Jamarko Simmons and Armand Robinson were placed on injured reserve.

SaberCats surge past Power 68-54 **By Staff Report, CSN BayArea** **Posted June 8, 2013**

SAN JOSE, Calif. -- The San Jose SaberCats (8-3) got back on the winning track Saturday night, defeating the Pittsburgh Power (3-8) 68-54 in front of 8,263 fans at HP Pavilion in a game of many firsts.

Quarterback Mitch Mustain, making his first career start, completed 21-of-37 passes for 250 yards and six touchdowns with just one interception. Pittsburgh's David Cassidy, also in his first start of the season, threw for six touchdowns and 261 yards with one interception, while completing 19-of-41 passes. The win marked San Jose's sixth in their last seven games, and improved their home record to 5-1 on the season.

San Jose's own and the JLS Playmaker of the Game Fred Williams opened the night bringing back the kickoff to the Power's six-yard line, which then set up Jabari Fletcher's first rushing touchdown of his career. Williams would end the game with season-high 269 all-purpose yards and continuously gave the SaberCats great field position all night.

Following a missed extra point, Pittsburgh answered back with seven of their own on a 22-yard pass from Cassidy to Russell Athletic Offensive Player of the Game Mike Washington, giving Cassidy his first touchdown pass of the season.

On the ensuing drive, Fletcher logged his second rushing score of the game from seven yards out to put the SaberCats back on top 13-7. Once again, the Power marched down the field and Cassidy found receiver Oderick Turner in the end zone to take back the lead and make it 14-13.

In his first career start, Cats quarterback Mitch Mustain connected with Williams to start the scoring in the second quarter. This 15-yard touchdown marked the eighth consecutive contest in which Williams has found end zone glory and more importantly, put the SaberCats back up 20-14.

Cassidy and Washington connected yet again, this time on a 35-yard pass along the wall, and the see-saw battle continued with San Jose's Jason Willis high-stepping into the end zone to make it 27-21 in favor of San Jose. Cassidy's first rushing touchdown of the year put the Power in front by one on the following drive.

Wide receiver Amarri Jackson joined the touchdown party and logged his first touchdown as a member of the SaberCats from 30-yards out, putting San Jose on top 33-28, which was the score after 30 minutes of play.

San Jose's defense finally got that coveted fourth down stop and forced the Power to turn the ball over on downs to start the second half, which allowed the SaberCats to extend their lead to 40-28 on Fletcher's third rushing score of the game.



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Washington responded with his third receiving touchdown of the night, this time from 32 yards out and cut the lead to 40-34. San Jose kept their momentum going and answered the Power's score with a 35-yard touchdown pass of their own from Mustain to Williams on the first play of the drive, extending the lead to 47-34.

Offensive lineman Jason Thomas powered his way to the end zone on the next Pittsburgh possession, giving him his first career reception and touchdown, yet again cutting into the San Jose lead to make it 47-41.

Williams surpassed his previous season high for touchdown receptions on his third score of the night and 12th this season to begin the fourth quarter, stretching the SaberCats' lead to 54-41.

The dynamic San Jose defense responded on the following drive and refused to allow the Power to move the chains, forcing a second turnover on downs on the evening. The first offensive miscue for San Jose came on a fumble by Fletcher in the red zone, and the Power made that mistake count, as Cassidy's touchdown strike to Julian Talley trimmed the lead to 54-48.

The Power's Sergio Gilliam made the AFL Highlight of the Game when it mattered most, as he returned a Mustain pass 46 yards to the house, notching his fourth interception of the year.

Rauch had a chance to give the Power the lead yet again, however he missed the extra point wide right that left the score tied 54-54 with under one minute to play. The resilient Mustain shook off the turnover and was able to lead the 'Cats down the field quickly and connected with Willis for a six-yard touchdown to put the SaberCats ahead 61-54 with only 12 seconds left in regulation.

Huey Whittaker showed why he was named the Riddell Defensive Player of the Game when he picked off Cassidy and strolled into the end zone from five yards away, ending all hopes of a Power comeback and making the score 68-54, which would be the final.

San Jose hits the road next week, as they are set to do battle with the Iowa Barnstormers (5-7) in Des Moines. The game will be broadcast live on Comcast SportsNet Bay Area and KNBR 1050 at 5:05 p.m. PT.

San Jose SaberCats gain an extra home game **By Steve Corkran, San Jose Mercury News** **Posted June 7, 2013**

The San Jose SaberCats have little room for error in their final eight games. But they may have gained an unexpected boost when the league awarded them an extra home game for their regular-season finale against the Chicago Rush on July 27.

The change came as a result of the Rush experiencing overall financial hardship and debt issues at their home venue. Adding to Chicago problems was the recent removal of the franchise's ownership.

Naturally, the SaberCats are thrilled at the prospect of one fewer road trip and a bonus game in front of their home crowd at HP Pavilion.

"We love playing at home. Anytime a team plays at home they have an advantage," SaberCats owner/coach Darren Arbet said. "That said, Chicago is a good football team and it is a long ways away, but I am definitely happy to get an extra home game."

Of more immediate concern is the SaberCats' home game against the Pittsburgh Power (3-7) on Saturday night. A victory would allow San Jose (7-3) to put behind the bad taste left from a 75-45 loss to the Spokane Shock last week.

Still, the decision to give the SaberCats an extra game at HP Pavilion likely doesn't please teams such as the Shock (8-3) and division-leading Arizona Rattlers (9-1).

"It is what it is, there is nothing that we can do about it here, so we are not going to spend any time worrying about it," Shock coach Andy Olson said. "We still control our own destiny and will continue to push on toward our post-season goals."

Chicago, which is controlled by the league for now, is 1-4 at home and 5-1 on the road, so it might not mind losing a home game. The SaberCats are 4-1 at home and 3-2 on the road. They are in the thick of the playoff hunt, and the regular-season could easily factor into whether the SaberCats make the postseason.

Coincidentally, this isn't an unprecedented move in the AFL. Last season, the Jacksonville Sharks received an extra home game.

Local sports digest: San Jose SaberCats expected to debut Mitch Mustain at QB against Pittsburgh Power **By Bay Area News Group, Inside BayArea** **Posted June 7, 2013**

Teams heading in opposite directions meet Saturday night, when the SaberCats host the Pittsburgh Power at HP Pavilion.

The SaberCats (7-3) are in the thick of the playoff race despite a 75-45 loss to the Spokane Shock last Saturday.

That snapped San Jose's five-game win streak. The Power are fresh from a lopsided loss to the Jacksonville Sharks.

Quarterback Mitch Mustain is expected to make his first AFL start in relief of injured regular Russ Michna, who got knocked out of the Spokane game as a result of blow to the head.

Mustain has completed 17 of 32 passes for four touchdowns and had two passes intercepted in six games. The SaberCats signed Zack Eskridge as



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added insurance during Michna's absence.

The Power are led by quarterback Steven Sheffield — 21 touchdown passes and 267.2 yards per game — and wide receiver Mike Washington, who has turned 17 of his 85 receptions into touchdowns.

[Raudabaugh, Thomas and Stephens Earn Weekly Honors](#)

By Sports Network, Kansas City

Posted May 28, 2013

Philadelphia Soul QB Dan Raudabaugh has been awarded Russell Athletic Offensive Player of the Week, while San Jose SaberCats DB Clevan Thomas has been named the Riddell Defensive Player of the Week and San Antonio Talons WR D.J. Stephens has been named J. Lewis Small Playmaker of the Week for Week 10 of the 2013 NET10 Wireless Arena Football League season. In addition to these awards, the AFL is also awarding the Cutters Catch of the Week and AFL Highlight of the Week. Philadelphia Soul WR Ryan McDaniel earned the Cutters Catch of the Week, while Chicago Rush WR Reggie Gray was awarded the AFL Highlight of the Week.

RUSSELL ATHLETIC OFFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE WEEK

Raudabaugh (6-3, 225, Miami Ohio) completed 20-of-23 passes for 297 yards and seven touchdowns in Philadelphia's 73-55 victory over the Tampa Bay Storm in Week 10. His 87 percent completion mark represents a season-high, while he tied another season-high with seven scoring strikes on the night.

RIDDELL DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE WEEK

Thomas (5-10, 195, Florida State) recorded a pair of interceptions, including one returned 50 yards for a score, in San Jose's 35-34 win over the Utah Blaze in Week 10. Thomas is tied for the League lead with eight interceptions on the season. He now has 58 for his career, the second-highest total in AFL history.

J. LEWIS SMALL PLAYMAKER OF THE WEEK

Stephens (5-11, 180, Arkansas-Monticello) returned two kickoffs 56 yards for touchdowns in San Antonio's 48-6 loss to the Spokane Shock in Week 10. He finished the night with 289 all-purpose yards, with 190 coming in the return game and recording another 99 as a receiver. He will receive a time-piece crafted by J. Lewis Small for his efforts.

CUTTERS CATCH OF THE WEEK

McDaniel (6-3, 200, Samford) made a diving one-handed touchdown reception midway through the fourth quarter of Philadelphia's 73-55 road victory over the Tampa Bay Storm in Week 10. It was McDaniel's third of three receiving scores on the night. He will receive a Cutters hat and shirt in recognition of the catch.

AFL HIGHLIGHT OF THE WEEK

Gray (5-10, 185, Western Illinois) returned a kickoff 57 yards for a touchdown in the second quarter to put the Rush up for good in their 84-48 win over the New Orleans Voodoo in Week 10. Gray tallied 127 all-purpose yards in the game, with 75 coming as a return man. He also scored one touchdown as a receiver.

Russell Athletic Offensive Player of the Week candidates included: Arizona QB Nick Davila, New Orleans WR Donovan Morgan, Orlando WR Prechae Rodriguez, Pittsburgh QB Steven Sheffield, Spokane QB Erik Meyer and Utah WR Aaron Lesue.

Riddell Defensive Player of the Week candidates included: Arizona DL Marcus Pittman, Chicago DB Jorrick Calvin, Cleveland DB Joe Phinisee, Orlando DB Dominic Jones, Philadelphia DL Bryan Robinson and Spokane DL Diyral Briggs.

J. Lewis Small Playmaker of the Week candidates included: Arizona WR Trandon Harvey, Jacksonville DB Jamaal Fudge, New Orleans WR Quorey Payne, Philadelphia FB Derrick Ross, Pittsburgh DB Chris LeFlore and San Jose WR Fred Williams.

[San Jose SaberCats defeat Utah Blaze 35-34](#)

By Rick Eymer, San Jose Mercury News

Posted May 25, 2013

SAN JOSE -- Ken Fontenette enjoys flying under the radar. That may be a little harder to do after the SaberCats held their fifth consecutive opponent to under 40 points.

Clevan Thomas had two interceptions, returning one for a touchdown, and the SaberCats beat the Utah Blaze 35-34 Saturday night in an Arena Football League game at HP Pavilion.

Fontenette, who had 10 tackles, nine solo, knocked down a fourth-down pass with 11 seconds remaining to secure the victory. "That was the only play I made all game," Fontenette said. "I really didn't see anything. I was just in the right place."

He's in the right place a lot, which is why coach Darren Arbet has him playing in the middle and keeping tabs on the motion.

"We feel he's one of the best in the league," Arbet said. "He showed it on the last play."

Russ Michna threw four touchdown passes, two to Jason Willis, as the SaberCats won their fifth straight. Huey Whittaker and Fred Williams also caught TD passes.

Michna threw for 246 yards on 22-of-38 passing. He completed just three of his final 12 attempts. Williams finished with 10 catches for 124 yards.

San Jose remains in second place in the West Division, 1 1/2 games back of Arizona and a half-game ahead of Spokane.

The SaberCats have a chance to avenge one of their early losses when they travel to Spokane to take on the Shock at 7 p.m. Saturday.



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Against Utah, the SaberCats scored one offensive touchdown in the second half.

"I don't want to jinx it because no one talks about it," Fontenette said of the defense. "The last time I checked, there was no story on us. This team knows to keep on an even keel."

Thomas' 50-yard interception return early in the third quarter provided the winning points.

Defense kept the SaberCats in the game during a relatively low-scoring first half. Only a missed PAT allowed San Jose to carry a 21-20 edge into half-time.

Michna's second pass of the game was intercepted by Josh Ferguson, and that led to a Blaze touchdown. The SaberCats responded with a 5-yard scoring toss from Michna to Huey Whittaker.

P San Jose State alum Ron McBride is Utah's offensive line coach. McBride coached at Piedmont Hills High and Gavilan College before moving on to the college ranks.

P The SaberCats activated wide receiver Jamarko Simmons from inactive reserve Thursday, placing fullback Sifa Etu on league suspension to make room.

P San Jose linebacker Francis Maka recorded his first fumble recovery of the season and the seventh of his career. J.C. Neal forced his second fumble on the play.

SATURDAY'S game

SaberCats (7-2) at Spokane (7-3), 7 p.m. CBSSP

Blaze lose to San Jose, 35-34

By ABC 4 Sports

Posted May 25, 2013

SAN JOSE (ABC 4 Sports) -The Utah Blaze (4-5) dropped a 35-34 decision to the San Jose SaberCats (7-2) in a dramatic defensive battle on Saturday night. Utah's defense came up with five stops in the game, holding SaberCats quarterback Russ Michna to just 72 yards on 7-of-19 passing in the second half.

On the second play from scrimmage, Michna lofted a pass to the end zone into the waiting arms of Blaze defensive back Josh Ferguson. Facing fourth-and-goal on the resulting drive, Grady promptly silenced the crowd with a nine-yard touchdown pass to wide receiver AJ Jackson. San Jose would tie the game off a five-yard scoring completion from Michna to wide receiver Huey Whittaker.

On the ensuing possession, Grady fired a pass over the middle to wide receiver Aaron Lesué, who cut up field and barreled through two defenders before crossing the goal line for the score. The SaberCats evened things up as Michna found wide receiver Fred Williams for a touchdown.

San Jose took a 21-14 lead late in the second quarter after Michna hit wide receiver Jason Willis on a 41-yard touchdown pass. Utah quickly answered as offensive coordinator Matthew Sauk dove into the depths of his playbook to catch the SaberCats off guard. On third-and-goal, Grady tossed the ball to Lesué, who faked the run before lofting a touchdown pass to a wide open Chase Deadder. The SaberCats would take a 21-20 lead into the locker room at the midway point due to a missed point after attempt.

Utah looked poised to score after two long completions to open the third quarter, but Grady's third pass attempt was intercepted by defensive back Clevan Thomas, who returned it the length of the field for a touchdown. However, the Blaze signal caller quickly shook off the turnover and led his team to a score on the following drive. Facing fourth-and-goal, Grady slid to his right and shed a defender before rocketing a 14-yard touchdown pass to Lesué to cut San Jose's lead, 28-27.

Following a seven-yard touchdown pass from Michna to Willis, the reigning MVP executed another gutsy play to lead the Blaze to the end zone. With the pocket collapsing around him, Grady stepped up to avoid pressure - shaking off arm tackles - and fired a 17-yard score to Lesué.

Trailing 35-34 midway through the final frame, the Blaze defense came up with two stops on consecutive series. David Hyland halted the ensuing San Jose drive and Maurice Leggett broke up a fourth-down pass a possession later to give the ball back to Utah with 32 seconds remaining. However, the Blaze offense was unable to find the end zone on four plays and San Jose would run out the clock to seal the game.

Utah travels to Texas for its second consecutive road game in Week 10.

SaberCats vs. Blaze Western Division Matchup Preview

By Leanne Cozart, ArenaFan

Posted May 25, 2013

The 6-2 [San Jose SaberCats](#) are hosting thier division rivals the 4-4 [Utah Blaze](#) this weekend at the HP Pavilion. In Western Division play, the SaberCats own a record of 0-2 and Utah sits at 1-2. San Jose will be going up against the Blaze with a lot of momentum backing them as they're coming into this matchup with a four-game winning streak.

SaberCats Take

San Jose's Head Coach [Darren Arbet](#) talks about his approach going into this week's divisional game, "Just be consistent with the ball and do what we do, take what the defense has given us. Defensively, we just got to keep putting our hands on receivers. If we're off make the tackle, make them work for everything and get pressure on the quarterback."



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San Jose's quarterback Russ Michna has a 68.9 completion percentage for pass attempts with 949 yards and 20 touchdowns. This smart and mobile quarterback has been very careful with the ball as he's only had two interceptions in his four games with the team. Michna's successful game performances come down to the diligent work he and his receivers put in at practice communicating about routes and game situations together along with their coaches. San Jose's offensive line has done a great job at protecting week to week, allowing Michna to consistently connect with his talented receiving corps.

Michna talks about his experience in San Jose since arriving in week six, "This is a great group of guys, it really is. I'm having a blast so far. You know I keep on telling everyone, I've been really impressed with the maturity and professionalism of this organization and this group of guys and I'm really excited about where we're going to be able to take it to."

Coach Arbet couldn't be more pleased with Michna's impact on the team, "He's a leader. He understands this offense, he understands the game and he's getting better every week."

Game to game the SaberCats have played at a high-level, executing well in every phase and coming out on top. The team's bond and work-ethic seems to be what shapes them as they approach the half way mark of the season sitting tied for second in their division. Aside from the offense's consistent performances week to week, the 'Cats defense have proven that they can change a game's outcome despite what type of talent they're going up against.

Coach Arbet has been very happy with San Jose's defensive performance, "They've been doing great. They're improving every week, coming to work, working hard and they're starting to really understand each other. It's showing in the games."

San Jose's defense has held their opponents to under 40 points in the past four games. The SaberCats have registered 20 sacks this season and 10.5 are a combined total of linebacker Francis Maka and defensive lineman Jason Stewart. The battle in the trenches will be interesting to watch as the 'Cats defense will be going up against a Utah pass protection that has only given up seven sacks all year.

Defensive back JC Neal attributes the defense's surge of success to every man on the team playing his part efficiently to help the defense perform as a unit. "We're just buying in, you know everybody is doing their job, doing it the right way and we're just working as a unit out there instead of a lot of the individual stuff. We just want to get better as a defense. We want to shut people down but we also want to be the best we can be out there," said Neal.

What to Expect from the Blaze

Coach Arbet discusses his respect for the Blaze's offense saying, "It's a big game, reigning MVP of the league in Tommy Grady, Urrutia is having a great year and Lesue one of the best in the league. It's going to be a tough football game and our guys know it and we know it."

Neal points out what he's seen on the Blaze's offense after studying film, "They've got a lot of big receivers, you know 6'5", 230-pounds or whatever and that's the biggest part I've seen. Most teams don't have all big receivers but they have a majority of big receivers."

In a game set up for offenses to light up the score board, this game might just come down to these two dominant defense's and their ability to make game changing stops. The Blaze's defense has forced 19 turnovers in the past four games. Michna describes the defensive style of play as, "Physical and athletic." Michna's focus this week is to, "Be smart with the ball because they're going to come up, they're going to hit you, they're going to be close most of the time and you know it's mostly about us executing and making the right decision every single time."

The SaberCats are looking forward to playing back at home in front of their fans at the HP Pavilion on Saturday at 7:30 PM PT. Expect to see two talented and physical teams battle it out as every divisional game counts.

Neal describes how it feels to play at home in the 'Cats Lair, "It's a lot of energy in there and the fans are loud and crazy, they're screaming in there the whole time. It's fun to play at home."

Blaze 'D' will soldier on without Rayford

By Standard-Examiner Staff

Posted May 24, 2013

The Utah Blaze travel west tonight for an AFL West divisional matchup with the San Jose SaberCats.

The late-night battle starts at 8:30 p.m. at HP Pavilion Arena.

Utah evened its record to 4-4 last week following a dominant defensive effort against the Iowa Barnstormers that resulted in a 43-34 victory. On the same night, San Jose toppled the Jacksonville Sharks in an out-of-conference matchup, 57-36. Each team will be looking to gain ground in the division, as Utah holds a 1-2 record inside the West while San Jose sits at 0-2.

Following a 2-2 start the season, the San Jose SaberCats jettisoned veteran quarterback Aaron Garcia in favor of Russ Michna. Since making the switch, Michna has led San Jose to four straight victories while completing 68.9 percent of his pass attempts for 949 yards with 20 touchdowns and just two interceptions.

The SaberCats have become a more efficient group with Michna under center. Last week against the Sharks, San Jose scored on every offensive possession, with exception to the game's final drive, when the team elected to run out the clock. Michna has spread the wealth since his arrival, most often hooking up with wideouts Jason Willis, Huey Whittaker and Fred Williams.

The Blaze defense has come on strong in recent weeks, holding opponents to an average of just 223.3 total offensive yards per game. The unit has put the clamps down on opposing offenses, forcing 19 turnovers over the past four games, including eight turnovers on downs, four interceptions and three fumbles.

Maurice Leggett logged two more interceptions last week against the Barnstormers and now leads the Blaze with five on the season. David Hyland has provided strong coverage in the middle and set a franchise record with six pass breakups in Week 9. Up front, Caesar Rayford has been Utah's



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most successful pass rusher off the edge, logging six sacks and four forced fumbles on the year. However, Rayford signed a contract with the Indianapolis Colts Friday.

"Caesar has played an intricate role in this franchise," said Blaze coach Ron James. He is the sixth member of the Blaze to ink an NFL contract during the 2013 season.

Through eight games in 2013, Rayford registered 13.5 tackles with six sacks and seven tackles for loss while adding four forced fumbles, three blocked kicks, three quarterback hurries, two pass breakups and one safety.

Over a four-year career with the Blaze, Rayford set franchise records for sacks (28.5) and tackles for loss (33.5). He is tied for third in Arena Football history with nine blocked kicks and ranks 20th in sacks. Rayford's most successful season came in 2011, when he earned All-Arena honors after posting a career-high with 10 sacks.

Chicago Rush won't play final games at Allstate Arena By Danny Ecker, Chicago Business Posted May 24, 2013

The final two [Chicago Rush](#) home games scheduled to be played at Allstate Arena this season will be moved to other locations, according to arena General Manager Pat Nagle.

The Rush game on July 13 against the Cleveland Gladiators will be held at the [BMO Harris Bank Center](#) in Rockford — where the team's two June home games will take place due to Allstate Arena scheduling conflicts — and its final home game on July 27 against the San Jose SaberCats likely will be played in San Jose.

The moves come nearly three weeks after the Arena Football League [reclaimed control of the Rush franchise](#) after owner David Staral Jr. was sent a notice of default on a payment due to Allstate Arena.

A source close to the team also confirmed that the games will be moved and a BMO Harris Bank Center official says they are expecting to host the Rush on the July 13 date.

Neither league officials nor San Jose SaberCats representatives immediately responded to requests for comment.

The past two Rush home games in Rosemont have been played without a working video board, instant replay and other amenities that are farmed out to third-party vendors that the league did not retain after taking over the team.

Funding the team's operations requires the league's other owners to chip in thousands of dollars each per game to use Allstate Arena, among other game-day expenses, but league Commissioner Jerry Kurz said earlier this month that the rest of the Rush season would still be played.

Questions about the team's future arose after a [Chicago Sun-Times report](#) highlighted Mr. Staral's history of legal issues, including that he had been found guilty of fraud and pleaded guilty to embezzlement on separate occasions.

Allstate Arena's Mr. Nagle said the team's future at the venue is still to be determined. The Rush have played there since the team's inception in 2001.

Utah Blaze looking to snap San Jose's four-game win streak By Trevor Phibbs, Deseret News Posted May 24 2013

SAN JOSE, Calif. — The Utah Blaze have yet to find an identity. One up, one down has been the trend of the season that is starting to grow older with each passing week.

Now, with another chance to establish ground in the division race, the Blaze (4-4) head to San Jose in a must-win game Saturday at 8:30 p.m. at the HP Pavilion Arena.

The SaberCats benched veteran quarterback Aaron Garcia after a 2-2 start and have since won four straight games behind Russ Michna's play under center. During that time span, Michna is completing 68.9 percent of his passing attempts for 949 yards and 20 touchdowns.

The Blaze will need an added defensive presence in favor of Caesar Rayford who signed with the Indianapolis Colts Thursday. Rayford was the team-leader in sacks (6) and forced fumbles (4).

BREAKING NEWS: Chicago Rush Home Games to be Moved By Jeff Sims, ArenaFan Posted May 24, 2013

After last Sunday's game against the [Arizona Rattlers](#), there were a number of questions about the rest of the season for the [Chicago Rush](#) and its players.

After the Arena Football League terminated its relationship with previous owner David Staral Jr. due to multiple criminal concerns, the fate of the team and its players has been in limbo.

Would the rest of the team's home games be played in Rockford?

Was the team going to play its last two home games as scheduled at Allstate Arena?



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How will all of this affect the die-hard passionate fans of this once highly successful Arena Football League franchise?

As of today, Ivan Soto, Executive Director of the Arena Football League Players Union (AFLPU) has confirmed that the players will be staying in their housing facility and continuing to practice out of the same Soccer City facility in Palatine that the team has practiced in for years for the remainder of the season. This will not be changed as it is a part of the current Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA).

According to Soto, the league notified the AFLPU today that the last two home games will indeed be moved. The game against the [Cleveland Gladiators](#) scheduled for July 13th is slated to be moved to the BMO Harris Center in Rockford. The game against the [San Jose SaberCats](#) scheduled for July 27th has been bought out by the SaberCats and is tentatively scheduled to be played in San Jose.

Soto declared that the AFLPU is not agreeable to these changes as per the CBA as any game changes have to be bargained with the AFLPU. This is why that there has not been an official announcement regarding these last two home games for the Rush.

"We will be pursuing it as we don't agree with it and they have a duty under our CBA to bargain over it," Soto stated in a message directly to ArenaFan. "We think that moving the games to Rockford solely because of cost is unreasonable."

Soto claims that since the dates were already booked at the Allstate Arena, the league cannot back away from the current situation with the Rush as it contradicts the league's "single entity" model.

"The league can't pick and chose which issues serve them and claim single entity for those matters yet on the other hand when the issues do not serve them they act as if the teams/owners are to blame," Soto continued in the statement. "Our official position is that the league is claiming they are a single entity and they will be held accountable as the single entity employer for these issues. The league certainly could have enforced the provisions of our CBA in any licensing agreements they have with the teams/owners. They could have and should have modified their license agreements to coincide with the terms of the CBA as those same owners voted and agreed to the CBA. To claim ignorance and that the league is not responsible for the actions of the (previous) Rush owner is absurd. If an employer enters into an agreement and then knowingly does not provide agreements that contain the provisions of our CBA in those agreements they certainly can't claim that the 3rd party agreement absolves them from liability."

According to a league source, there is no official word on game changes and that once details are finalized, a communication will be sent out for confirmation.

It is believed that once a confirmation from the league is sent regarding the game dates and locations, fans will receive a directive on how to resolve any ticket concerns.

In all communication with the AFLPU to this point, all they want is for the league to abide by the terms of the CBA that was signed last year and will pursue all legal angles to ensure that it is met.

"This is all pretty basic contract structure and application of the law with respect to contracts and we will not allow the league to devalue our CBA by claiming they aren't ultimately responsible," Soto claimed. "What would stop the league from entering into all kinds of agreements that would circumvent our CBA if this were the case?"

A request was made to the league for a comment regarding the situation and was declined.

We will continue to keep you updated here at ArenaFan as this situation continues to develop.

San Jose SaberCats' switch to Russ Michna paying off **By Steve Corkran, San Jose Mercury News** **Posted May 24, 2013**

SUNNYVALE -- It wasn't long ago that Russ Michna was mapping out a new phase of his life, one that centered on financial planning. An unexpected phone call from the SaberCats thrust Michna right back into game-planning mode as a quarterback.

It is a move that is paying huge dividends for Michna and the SaberCats, based on the team's 4-0 record since he replaced Aaron Garcia after a 2-2 start. Michna has passed for 20 touchdowns with only two interceptions.

Michna, 32, hopes to ride the wave as long as he can, with a game against the Utah Blaze on Saturday night next on the horizon. SaberCats coach Darren Arbet traded for Michna after Garcia struggled from the outset. Garcia passed for 24 touchdowns the first four games, but he also threw 13 interceptions.

"I always tell people, 'You make a decision, but you can't control the outcome,'" Arbet said. "So far, it's been a good outcome."

The SaberCats are 6-2, 11/2 games behind the division-leading Arizona Rattlers.

Arbet said it was difficult parting ways with Garcia, the Arena Football League's all-time passing leader. However, it is a move he felt needed to be made, in part because Michna is a better fit for the SaberCats' offense.

Center Raymond McNeil said it didn't take long for the team to warm to the switch.

"I saw it the first game," McNeil said. "(Michna) throws a great touch ball. (There's not many) people that can lay the ball in there like he does. So, seeing that the first game, I knew we had a good thing going on."

Michna, who played four seasons with the Chicago Rush, joined the SaberCats on April 22, the day Garcia was placed on recallable waivers (Garcia was traded to the Orlando Predators three days later). Until that call came, Michna said he thought his football days were done.



Five days later, he was guiding the SaberCats to a victory over the New Orleans VooDoo. These days, Michna feels much more at ease.

"Anytime you're coming into any situation where a team is intact, it's going to be a little awkward, especially when you're talking about a guy that's a Hall of Famer and a legend like (Garcia)," Michna said. "It's nice to be in a situation where you're comfortable. And San Jose has definitely provided that."

Saturday's game

Utah (4-4) at SaberCats (6-2) 7:30 p.m. No TV

SaberCats top Gladiators, 56-36, in San Jose By Staff Report, CSN BayArea Posted May 5, 2013

SAN JOSE, Calif. - The San Jose SaberCats (4-2) won their second consecutive game, defeating the Cleveland Gladiators (1-5) 56-36 in front of 8,563 fans at HP Pavilion on Saturday night. On a night when SaberCats legend, quarterback Mark Grieb was honored by the retiring of his jersey at halftime, current San Jose quarterback Russ Michna made his home debut, completing 18-of-25 passes for 197 yards and 4 touchdowns with zero interceptions.

"He's getting better," said Coach Darren Arbet on new quarterback Russ Michna, "it's tough in a week and a half to get to know all the guys. He is starting to understand all the little things that the receivers do, and it's showing out there on the field."

The SaberCats got off to a much-needed fast start against the Gladiators. Michna, looking to immediately impress his new home crowd, showed his skills during the opening 45-yard march down the field that ended with a six-yard toss to Russell Athletic Offensive Player of the Game, wide receiver Jason Willis for the score. After the defense forced a turnover on downs, buoyed by a Terrance Carter sack on fourth down, Michna found wide receiver Jamariko Simmons for the 50th touchdown of his Arena Football League career and a 14-0 lead for the 'Cats.

After being held scoreless through the first 15 minutes, the Gladiators got on the board early in the second quarter with a one-yard keeper from quarterback Brian Zbydniewski. After Carter blocked the point after attempt, JLS Playmaker of the Game Fred Williams took the ensuing kickoff 57-yards to the house to extend the lead back to double digits at 21-6, in favor of San Jose. Following an impressive defensive stand led by defensive back Clevan Thomas, the offense kept the [momentum](#) rolling for the SaberCats. Michna completed all five of his pass attempts and Simmons found the end zone with a one-yard bull rush to push the San Jose lead up to 28-6. Cleveland answered back with a touchdown in the final minute to close the gap to 16 points; however, Williams wasn't quite ready to be done with the first half. He took the next kickoff 55-yards, his second kickoff return for a touchdown of the night, to prop the San Jose lead back up to 35-12. A last second 42-yard field goal from Cleveland brought the halftime lead to 35-15 in favor of San Jose.

Coming out for the third quarter, Cleveland's halftime adjustments paid off early, as wide receiver Dominick Goodman found the end zone from 17 yards out, making the Cutters Catch of the Game over the boards to close San Jose's lead to 13. The subsequent kickoff bounced off the bar and directly into the hands of Gladiators defensive back Lenny Wicks, who walked into the end zone for a net recovery touchdown to bring Cleveland within six. Getting on the field for the first time in the second half, the offense extended the lead back to 13 when Michna found Willis from 18 yards out, their second touchdown connection on the evening.

Following an interception by Riddell Defensive Player of the Game, defensive lineman Jason Stewart off of a tipped pass late in the third quarter, the offense quickly struck to open the scoring in the final frame. Simmons once again bullied his way into the end zone for his second rushing, and third overall touchdown on the night, to drive the SaberCats lead back up the halftime margin of 20 points.

Cleveland wouldn't go away just yet, as Zbydniewski connected with wide receiver Jamar Howard for a 6-yard score, bringing the count to 49-36 SaberCats with just over seven minutes remaining. Michna continued his efficient play, answering the Cleveland score by once again finding Willis for a 20-yard touchdown and ending all thoughts of a Gladiators comeback. After the defense forced its fourth turnover on downs, the offense ran out the clock to seal the 56-36 victory for the SaberCats.

Offensively, Willis led the way for the SaberCats, totaling eight catches for 85 yards and a trio of touchdowns. Simmons finished his night with three scores as well, while Williams finished with three catches and the two touchdown return scores. Wide receiver/jack linebacker Huey Whittaker made his presence felt all over the field, as he compiled three catches and six total tackles. Defensive back Ken Fontenette led all players with ten tackles, while fellow defensive backs JC Neal (six-and-a-half tackles) and Clevan Thomas (six pass breakups) helped to minimize the Gladiators passing attack. Carter and Stewart each recorded a sack, with Stewart also hauling in the only interception of the game.

During a tough night on offense for Cleveland, Zbydniewski finished 24-of-47 passing for 231 yards with two scores through the air and one on the ground. Goodman led the Gladiators receiving corps with ten catches, while both he and Howard each hauled in a touchdown pass. Defensively, La-Roche Jackson totaled seven tackles and defensive lineman Randy Colling forced a fumble. Cleveland also got a net recovery touchdown from Wicks to round out the Gladiators scoring.

With the win, the SaberCats improved to 2-1 at home on the season. Next week, San Jose plays at home again as they welcome the Tampa Bay Storm (5-2) to HP Pavilion. That game, originally scheduled for Saturday, May 11 has been moved to Friday, May 10 at 7:30 p.m. PT, and will be broadcast live on the radio at KNBR 1050.

San Jose SaberCats roll over Cleveland Gladiators By Rick Eymer, San Jose Mercury News Posted May 4, 2013

SAN JOSE -- Fred Williams was nearly caught from behind the first time that he ran a kickoff back for a touchdown Saturday night. Given a second op-



portunity, he went untouched.

Williams ran back two kickoffs for scores, Jason Willis and Jamark Simmons each scored three times, and the SaberCats beat the Cleveland Gladiators 56-36 in front of a crowd of 8,563 at HP Pavilion.

Russ Michna threw for 197 yards and four TDs on 18-of-25 passing as the left-handed quarterback was a success in his first home game with the SaberCats, who won their second straight.

San Jose's next game, with Tampa Bay, was changed to Friday at 7:30 p.m. to accommodate a possible San Jose Sharks-Vancouver Canucks NHL playoff game next Saturday.

Williams' first return came in response to Cleveland's first touchdown. He burst through a hole and followed Huey Whittaker along the left board. Whittaker got in the way of a defender just enough for Williams to flip acrobatically, into the end zone.

"I had to get it and go," Williams said. "I try to set my blockers up, and the hole was there. I just ran for my life."

San Jose (4-2) didn't commit a turnover for the first time all season.

"That's the whole game," Michna said. "We played much cleaner this week."

San Jose took a 14-0 lead after one quarter and opened a 35-15 advantage by halftime.

The Gladiators (1-5) pulled to within 35-29 late in the third quarter on Lenny Wicks' 2-yard net recovery, but San Jose responded with a 47-yard drive, ending on an 18-yard scoring toss to Willis from Michna.

Terrance Carter and Jason Stewart each recorded a sack, Clevan Thomas knock down two passes at the goal line, and Stewart had an interception when Justin Warren tipped a Brian Zbydniewski pass.

Willis caught eight passes for 85 yards and continues to lead the SaberCats with 50 catches.

Simmons broke a tie with Whittaker for the team lead in scoring. Simmons has 78 points, while Whittaker, who did not score for the first time this season, remained at 60.

📅 The SaberCats officially retired Mark Grieb's No. 16 during a halftime ceremony. White '16' jerseys were handed out to fans, and the Mt. Pleasant High School band, which performed the national anthem, wore their jerseys on the field. Grieb, the head coach at Menlo College, becomes the third SaberCats player to have their number retired, joining Sam Hernandez '55' and Barry Wagner '2.'

📅 Earlier last week, the SaberCats acquired receiver Amarri Jackson from Orlando for quarterback Aaron Garcia and offensive lineman Devin Clark. They were also assigned receiver Armand Robinson and sent receiver Samora Goodson to New Orleans for future considerations.

FRIDAY'S GAME

Tampa Bay (5-2) at SaberCats (4-2), 7:30 p.m. No TV

Local sports digest: San Jose SaberCats reschedule home game to avoid potential conflict with Sharks playoff game By Bay Area News Group, San Jose Mercury News Posted May 2, 2013

The SaberCats have rescheduled next week's home game against the Tampa Bay Storm to Friday, May 10, to avoid a potential conflict with the Sharks at HP Pavilion.

The SaberCats' game was originally scheduled for Saturday, May 11, the same date a potential Game 6 of the Sharks' first-round NHL playoff series against Vancouver.

Kickoff will be at 7:30 p.m. The team said all tickets purchased for May 11 will be valid for the rescheduled game.

The SaberCats' game this Saturday night at HP Pavilion is unchanged.

SaberCats Ready for Battle Against Gladiators in the 'Cats Lair By Leanne Cozart, ArenaFan Posted May 2, 2013

After a win against the [New Orleans VooDoo](#) in week six, the [San Jose SaberCats](#) (3-2) have developed some momentum under the leadership of quarterback Russ Michna. Following two consecutive division losses for the 'Cats, Michna was able to fly into San Jose for practices last week and lead his team to a 57-38 road victory. Now with a game and two weeks of practice spent acclimating to his new teammates, Michna is looking forward to playing the [Cleveland Gladiators](#) at the HP Pavilion for the first time as a SaberCat.

"I'm excited. I know I've had some tough games here on the road. I know it's a great fan base and I'm excited to do it in green," said Michna about the upcoming game.

This past week of preparation for Michna has been focused on finding a rhythm with new group of offensive weapons.

"I think more than anything else we're just trying to figure each other out. We've got four good receivers here and everyone does everything just a little



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bit differently. So we're all still trying to get on the same page and make sure we're thinking the same thing out there in every situation," said Michna.

Last week, Michna spread the ball around to three different receivers for scores and only had two offensive turnovers, one fumbled snap and an interception. Going into this week's game against the Gladiators, he's looking to keep the momentum up and continue to gel with his offense. Expect to see the chemistry between Michna and receiver Jason Willis continue to grow this week. Willis helped the SaberCats move downfield last week with eight catches and he averages 94.2 receiving yards per game, leading the team with 471-yards and 42 catches in only five games.

There's no doubt about the fact that Michna has a stacked group of receivers to connect with, it's all a matter of how quickly he'll be able to establish synergy with them. On any team, a change in the quarterback position presents its challenges however; it's how the team responds to these challenges that will prove what potential they have.

"I said it from day one when I got here, this is a really talented group of receivers. I'm really excited about what we can do and they all have their own traits and their own skills. I'm still trying to figure them out exactly, as well as how we can use them best but I'm definitely excited about the potential."

While the Gladiators 1-4 record doesn't say much about the team's performances, Michna knows better than to underestimate their defense.

"They're aggressive, they're physical, they come up and hit, and they're the kind of team that you respect as soon as you see them on film. They're going to be in the right place almost all the time and they're going to come up and make tackles. Offensively, it makes you be a little sharper because you know they're not going to make any big mistakes. So you have to be on your game," said Michna.

Just last week against the Blaze, the Gladiators defense had some big plays leading to defensive stops. Defensive back Lenny Wicks had an over-the-wall interception on reigning AFL MVP Tommy Grady's fourth-down attempt in the end zone for the Cutters Catch of the Week and posted a team-high of 9.5 tackles putting him at 33 for the season. Another defensive threat is linemen Todd Storm who wreaked havoc on the Blaze's offensive line last week, consistently being physical up front and registering a sack.

On the other side of the ball, the SaberCats defense will be facing a Gladiators receiving corps that has had some inconsistency week to week.

Gladiator's coach [Steve Thonn](#) expressed last week in a post-game interview with the media that the team's offense was off. Thonn went on to say that Zbydnievski tried to force too many passes, causing two interceptions against the Blaze and the receivers routes weren't ran well which contributed to the two stops the Blaze defense had on them. This disappointing offensive performance in week six followed a big game for the Gladiators where they beat the Soul 64-57 in overtime and Zbydnievski threw for eight touchdowns receiving the AFL Offensive Player of the Week award.

Some popular targets for Gladiator's quarterback Zbydnievski have been receivers Jonathan Wilson who has had touchdowns in four straight games for Cleveland and Iron Man Thyrone Lewis who has had at least six catches in four consecutive games.

On the ground, Gladiator fullback Derik Steiner has posted five rushing touchdowns and Zbydnievski has had a rushing touchdown in all but one game of the season. It's hard to say what to expect from the Gladiators going up against the SaberCats as they seem to vary week to week.

The SaberCats defense will play a big part in this game as both the Cats and Gladiators have very similar statistics in most offensive categories. The SaberCats defense will have to get off to a fast start just as they came out strong last week against the VooDoo, allowing only a field goal in the first quarter. Impact defensive players will be Clevan Thomas who leads the team with five interceptions and 20 tackles and defensive linemen Jason Stewart who leads the team with 2.5 sacks.

The SaberCats defensive line has been emphasizing technique and fundamental sound. As veteran and dominant linemen Stewart explains his focus is, "Just staying on sides. That's a critical situation for us as defensive linemen to stay on sides because you know, we get two and then we're out the game."

Stewart goes on to express what he's seen of the Gladiator's offensive line on film, "They're physical and their technique is sound. They pretty much try to get after the defensive linemen, so we got to do the same thing to them."

While the SaberCats have undergone quite a bit of change throughout these seven weeks, they've still managed to keep a tight brotherhood on the field as they keep one goal in mind and that's to pursue the ArenaBowl Championship.

"We've got a lot of enthusiastic people out here, we've got great characters, some warriors, people that love the game of football and we've got veterans," said Stewart.

VooDoo Acquire WR Samora Goodson in Trade with SaberCats **By Haley Asaro, Sports nola** **Posted May 1, 2013**

NEW ORLEANS - The New Orleans VooDoo have acquired wide receiver Samora Goodson in a trade with the San Jose SaberCats for future considerations, announced the VooDoo front office on Wednesday, May 1.

So far this season, Goodson has recorded 11 receptions for 134 yards and one touchdown while with the San Jose SaberCats. In 2012, Goodson led the SaberCats in receiving with 114 catches for 1,471 yards and 27 touchdowns. In 2011, as a rookie with the SaberCats, Goodson caught 46 passes for 630 yards and 30 touchdowns. In 2008, Goodson was a member of the SaberCat practice squad before joining the active roster in the post season.

During his collegiate career at Southeast Missouri State, Goodson tallied 37 receptions for 439 yards and four touchdowns in 22 games. He earned All-Western State Conference and All-State honors at Citrus Community College prior to transferring to Southeast Missouri State.

TRANSACTION - The New Orleans VooDoo have acquired WR Samora Goodson in a trade with the San Jose SaberCats for future considerations.



SaberCats Impact Players Make All the Difference in Victory Against VooDoo

By Leanne Cozart, ArenaFan

Posted April 28, 2013

With a third of the 2013 Arena Football Season in the books, the SaberCats are happy to get back to their winning ways as they defeated the [New Orleans VooDoo](#) with a score of 57-38 in Saturday's matchup. In this road game, there were quite a few SaberCats that stepped up on both sides of the ball and made all the difference to ensure this week six victory that improved their record to 3-2.

Impact Offensive Player: Russ Michna

Quarterback Russ Michna made a statement to his team and San Jose fans as he executed at a high level completing 23-35 passes for 312 yards and six touchdowns. Michna only had one interception for the night which is a vast improvement from the SaberCats previous game average of three interceptions under the leadership of Aaron Garcia. Three of Michna's touchdowns were impressive bombs for more than 30-yards, proving that he's still got his accurate arm and downfield vision. Not bad for a quarterback who came to San Jose to practice with his new teammates for only a week after not being active since the 2012 season.

Impact Defensive Player: Clevan Thomas

The SaberCats defense was flying around on Saturday night and making game changing stops to give their offense a big hand in sealing the win. Ball hawk Clevan Thomas ended his two game interception drought when he picked off VooDoo quarterback Zack Eskridge for his fifth pick of the season. Clevan did a great job disrupting the VooDoo's offensive momentum throughout the night.

All-Around Impact Player: Huey Whitaker

Huey Whitaker stepped up as an Ironman posting two offensive touchdowns as well as a pick-six on the VooDoo's first drive while playing linebacker. Whitaker proved that he's gelling well right away with the newly acquired quarterback Michna, which is a great sign for the future of the SaberCats.

The SaberCats will be returning to San Jose's HP Pavilion to take on the 1-4 [Cleveland Gladiators](#) next week. With another week of practice under his belt, Russ Michna said in the Comcast SportsNet post-game interview, "We're going to be better next week, I promise."

San Jose SaberCats smack New Orleans VooDoo, 57-38

By Rachel Whittaker, NOLA.com

Posted April 27, 2013

The [New Orleans VooDoo](#) moved to the "Mausoleum across the street" Saturday night against the San Jose SaberCats - the Mercedes-Benz Superdome - but the change in venue didn't help the VooDoo snap its losing streak.

Accumulating just 186 yards of offense and surrendering three touchdowns of more than 30 yards set the tone for New Orleans, and an abysmal start to the second half put the game out of reach as the VooDoo lost its fourth straight game, 57-38.

It was the first of six games in the Superdome because of renovations to its usual home in the New Orleans Arena.

VooDoo quarterback Zack Eskridge earned his first start of the season because of an MCL injury to starter Kurt Rocco, and he was rattled for two interceptions and a third-quarter safety on an intentional grounding penalty in the end zone.

He was relieved by Bill Stull, who was signed Thursday, after going 7-for-18 for 67 yards. Stull completed eight of 14 passes for 97 yards and a 1-yard rushing touchdown in garbage time in the fourth quarter.

O'Hara said the VooDoo's lack of rhythm on offense is most discouraging.

"Consistency and timing at quarterback is important," O'Hara said. "We've struggled in that area and continue to struggle with that. I know we have some people here we can win with. It's disappointing when you're struggling in certain areas due to injury and some inconsistency."

One glimmer of success for Eskridge came on a touchdown pass to Chris Duval that gave the VooDoo its only lead of the game, 17-14, to capitalize on an Eddie Moten 33-yard interception return with 3:18 left in the first half.

That was part of a string of 14 unanswered points by New Orleans, but the VooDoo surrendered 40 points the rest of the way in defeat.

"Defensively we had our moments where we got some stops," O'Hara said. "We got a safety (by Demarcus Robinson in the second quarter) and special teams we had a return for a touchdown (57-yarder by Quorey Payne) that was promising. But with your inability to move the ball and put points on the board with offense, you're not gonna win."

Just 29 seconds into the second half, [San Jose quarterback Russ Michna](#) found a wide-open Fred Williams for a 45-yard touchdown strike and later a 35-yarder to Whittaker, who finished with three offensive scores along with his pick-six.

"Michna had a lot of time back there making some five-step drops," said VooDoo defensive tackle Marlon Favorite. "He did very well, and there it goes. I'm frustrated, but we have to remain positive and keep the faith. Keep on chopping the wood, and the tree will fall down."

The game started promising for the home team when Efe Osawemwenze recovered a fumbled snap by San Jose quarterback Russ Michna on the opening drive. But a pick-six by Huey Whitaker on the very next play put the SaberCats ahead, and they only relinquished the lead for 38 seconds.

Right away though, Michna (23-for-35 for 312 yards and six touchdowns) atoned for the error with a 47-yard touchdown to Jamarko Simmons.

The VooDoo return to action Saturday at Tampa Bay, the first of a three-game road trip, with 13 games to go in the season.



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"A lot can happen in 13 games, it's honestly six inches here and there, a block here and a block there," Eskridge said. "We've got talent galore; we just have to reduce those inches and make it happen."

Russ Michna leads San Jose SaberCats to win in debut **By Bay Area News Group, San Jose Mercury News** **Posted April 27, 2013**

NEW ORLEANS -- Russ Michna made a winning debut as the SaberCats' new quarterback, completing 23 of 35 attempts for 312 yards and six touchdowns in a 57-38 win over the New Orleans VooDoo on Saturday night at the Mercedes Benz Superdome.

Michna was brought in to replace Aaron Garcia, who was traded after an inconsistent start to San Jose's post-Mark Grieb era. The SaberCats (3-2) gave Michna a welcoming gift midway through the first quarter when Huey Whittaker intercepted a pass and returned it for a score. From there, the veteran QB took over against the VooDoo (1-4)

Michna threw the first touchdown early in the second, as he hooked up with Jamarko Simmons on a six-yard strike. After an interception, his only one in the game, Michna found Simmons on a 47-yard TD to give San Jose a 21-17 advantage. It was 28-17 at the half when Michna hit Whittaker for a 10-yard score as time expired. By early in the third quarter it was 37-17 and the SaberCats never looked back.

New SaberCats quarterback ready for debut **By Rick Eymer, San Jose Mercury News** **Posted April 26, 2013**

Russ Michna, was at home in Chicago last weekend, putting together a life after football. Two days later, he was in San Jose and back in uniform.

"It all happened pretty quickly," Michna said Thursday after his second full day of practice with the SaberCats.

"I received a phone call, told my wife I was leaving and got on a plane. We've been together for five years, and she knows this is part of the deal."

Michna, acquired after a five-interception debacle by Aaron Garcia last week in San Jose's loss to Spokane, is expected to make his SaberCats debut Saturday night in New Orleans.

Michna, 32, is no stranger to the AFL, having spent the past five seasons with the Chicago Rush. He's no stranger to moving around either. San Jose is his sixth stop as a professional quarterback.

"I'm excited to be here," Michna said. "This is an unbelievably talented team. There are four or five receivers who I think are high quality, and I'm excited to see the progression. There might be some growing pains, since I am essentially seven or eight weeks behind, but I can't wait to get started."

A two-time Gateway Conference Offensive Player of the Year at Western Illinois, Michna led the Leathernecks into the I-AA playoffs in 2002 and 2003, each time getting upset in the quarterfinals.

He went undrafted and was signed by the St. Louis Rams and played for their practice squad. He made his pro debut with the Winnipeg Blue Bombers of the Canadian Football League in 2005 before signing with the Rush.

Michna also has played for the Chicago Slaughterhouse of the Continental Indoor Football League (where he was MVP) and the Las Vegas Locomotives of the United Football League.

He also has experience in San Jose. In 2007, Michna took over from Chicago starter Matt D'Orazio in the conference championship game and completed 22 of 30 passes for 247 yards and five touchdowns in a 61-49 loss.

"The thing about San Jose is that from Day 1 I heard they are one of the best organizations," Michna said. "Going into that game, San Jose was new to me. They have a great fan base and make it fun to play there. Signing here was a no-brainer."

His first order of business was getting to know the receivers and offensive linemen.

"Other than that I'm trying to understand the playbook and the terminology," Michna said. "The game is conceptually the same, it's a matter of how we communicate."

Will he be ready Saturday?

"I hope so," he said. "We're going to find out."

SATURDAY'S GAME

SaberCats (2-2) at New Orleans (1-3), 5 p.m. CSN Plus

Predators trade for quarterback Aaron Garcia **By Orlando Sentinel** **Posted April 25, 2013**

The Orlando Predators completed a trade for quarterback Aaron Garcia on Thursday evening, sending wide receiver Amarri Jackson to the San Jose SaberCats for Garcia and offensive lineman Devin Clark, Preds managing partner Brett Bouchy said.

The move comes after a tumultuous week where the Preds (0-4) lost signal-caller Chris Dixon for 2-4 weeks with a shoulder injury. The team's other



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quarterback, Kyle Rowley, was arrested on Monday after being charged with resisting arrest without violence and driving under the influence, according to police reports.

San Jose SaberCats trade away veteran quarterback Aaron Garcia By Wire services, San Jose Mercury News Posted April 25, 2013

The SaberCats sent veteran quarterback Aaron Garcia to Orlando for wide receiver Amarri Jackson on Thursday. The Predators also acquired offensive lineman Devin Clark in the deal.

Garcia had a six-touchdown, five-interception performance in Friday's 69-47 loss to Seattle. Afterward, he was placed on recallable assignment.

"Amarri brings a great deal of size and athleticism to our receiving corps," SaberCats coach Darren Arbet said.

A three-year AFL veteran, Jackson has 21 catches for 291 yards and six touchdowns in three games this season.

Also, Russ Michna, who was home in Chicago last weekend, practiced again with the SaberCats. The former Chicago Rush quarterback will be on the field when San Jose plays at New Orleans on Saturday at 5 p.m.

"It all happened pretty quickly," said Michna, who has been assigned to San Jose on a two-year contract. "I received a phone call, told my wife I was leaving and got on a plane."

New Orleans VooDoo and San Jose SaberCats both sporting new starting quarterbacks for Saturday Matchup By Rachel Whittaker, NOLA.com Posted April 25, 2013

[New Orleans VooDoo](#) second-year quarterback Kurt Rocco said it was foreign territory and "heartbreaking" to leave a game injured after [Rocco tore his left MCL 25-50 percent](#) in Friday's loss to Pittsburgh. He's now wearing a temporary knee brace, and second-string quarterback [Zack Eskridge](#) will make his third AFL start and first in a VooDoo uniform Saturday.

"My dad always told me, 'If you're not nervous, you're not human,'" Eskridge said. "You just can't let the nerves concern you; you have to turn them into a positive nervous energy. I try to channel that into playing well ... I've usually been able to extend plays pretty well, and that's worked out for me my whole career."

VooDoo coach [Pat O'Hara](#) agreed that a strength of Eskridge's is his elusiveness. He's also got three games of starting experience with the now-defunct Kansas City Command last year, so Rocco didn't hesitate to show confidence in his backup.

Eskridge came into the Pittsburgh game at the New Orleans Arena in the second half and scored two touchdowns, one passing to Derek Lee and one rushing himself. But a fumble on the VooDoo's final drive left a sour taste to end the game after the offense had shown some signs of life.

"It was pretty hard (to be on the sideline Friday), especially since our offense was starting to mesh a little bit, get things rolling, and the pocket protection was great," Rocco said. "Maybe (Eskridge) just is not getting the ball out of his hands fast enough sometimes, but I think he'll do fine; he's been practicing with the first team all week."

Pulling out close games is something the VooDoo also struggled with last season, Rocco said, so there is a glimmer of hope that could improve with 13 more games to go in this season as long as the offense complements the defense's effective pass rush and injuries heal. Wide receiver Donovan Morgan is doubtful for Saturday, O'Hara said, with a groin/abdominal injury.

As for Saturday's opponent, San Jose is also bringing in a new quarterback after signing Russ Michna this week. The SaberCats placed former starter Aaron Garcia on recallable reassignment after he threw five interceptions in the SaberCats' 69-47 home loss to Spokane. Michna played his previous five seasons with the AFL's Chicago Rush, leading Chicago to a 10-8 season in 2012 with a 69.8 percent completion rate, 4,470 yards, 89 touchdowns and only 10 interceptions.

VooDoo middle linebacker [James Bryant](#), who tackled Pittsburgh quarterback [Jordan Jefferson](#) for a safety Friday, said the VooDoo plans to rattle Michna.

"It's just what we do," Bryant said. "It's not like you have to build up something to get a quarterback; we get after it every week, and we get after each other every day."

Bryant added that the VooDoo isn't waiting to earn respect from the AFL. The players are confident with a little time they will get and turn some heads in their temporary home in the Superdome.

"Championships are won on defense, and we know that," Bryant said. "After last week's performance, everybody in the league knows what we can do and what we're capable of doing even despite the loss. The first time you really start to disrespect somebody would be the first time you start getting your tail handed to you."

Shock Tame Sabercats, Improve to 5-0 By Jeffrey Giuliani, ArenaFan Posted April 23, 2013

The [Spokane Shock](#) rolled to another victory on Friday evening, easily toppling the San Jose Sabercats by a score of 69-47. The game was never particularly close. San Jose struggled with turnovers and Spokane's offense was far too powerful to be given extra chances to score.



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Speaking of turnovers, SaberCats' quarterback Aaron Garcia's third leading receiver of the evening wasn't wearing green and gold; he was wearing white and blue. Spokane Shock DB Paul Stephens made life a nightmare for the arena football legend, picking off five Aaron Garcia passes in the contest. That is AFL single game record. Stephens started early, picking off an underthrown pass on the SaberCats opening drive. Early in the second quarter, Stephens would be caught stealing again. On 4th down in the red zone, Garcia's pass rebounded off the net and was caught by Stephens. Later in the 3rd quarter, Paul Stephens would put the nail in the coffin by picking off Garcia and taking it back for six.

The Shock defense has been outstanding all season. The win over San Jose marked the fourth time Spokane has held their opponent to under 50 points in five tries. With how electric Spokane's offense is, they only need to manage a couple stops per game to pull out a win. They managed to contain the AFL's all-time leading passer in Aaron Garcia this week, and kept the proficient Nick Davila from doing too much damage the week before. The Shock have definitely found a winning formula this season.

Part of that formula is just how deep their roster is. It's a different player that makes the game defining play from week to week. Last week, it was a timely interception by Beau Bell that ended Arizona's hopes. This week, it was Paul Stephens having a historic day. There are a slew of players that can be called upon to make big plays that could turn the tide. [Andy Olson](#) has this team believing they can top anyone. He has completely changed the culture. This has not been an easy stretch of games for Spokane. Four of their first five games were on the road. They had to face early hurdles by facing the defending Arenabowl champion [Arizona Rattlers](#), and a well-coached [Iowa Barnstormers](#) squad. Yet, they've persevered and now sit atop the National Conference with a 5-0 record.

As with every Shock win in this young AFL season, quarterback Erik Meyer was on top of his game. San Jose had no answer for the powerful Shock offense, managing only one stop on the evening. Meyer chalked up another eight touchdowns, giving him 40 on the season. Meyer has yet to throw an interception in 2013, and is easily the frontrunner thus far to win the AFL MVP award.

The Spokane Shock bested a good San Jose SaberCats squad last Friday evening. Andy Olson had to be proud of what his team has accomplished thus far. They have taken the AFL by surprise, being one of only two undefeated squads remaining. But a storm is brewing in Spokane- the [Tampa Bay Storm](#) that is. They roll into Eastern Washington with their own prolific offense, led by the former FSU Seminole, Adrian McPherson. Kickoff is set for Saturday, April 27th at 7:00 PST.

Local sports digest: San Jose SaberCats waive quarterback Aaron Garcia By Bay Area News Group, San Jose Mercury News Posted April 22, 2013

The SaberCats announced a shake-up at quarterback, signing free agent Russ Michna and putting Aaron Garcia on recallable waivers. Garcia, 42, an Arena Football League legend, was signed in the offseason after Mark Grieb retired.

In four games, Garcia threw 13 interceptions, including five Saturday in a loss that dropped the SaberCats' record to 2-2. Michna, 32, spent his previous five AFL seasons with Chicago, finishing second in the league in passer rating in 2011.

Shock race away from SaberCats to improve to 5-0 By KREM.com Posted April 20, 2013

SAN JOSE, CA -- The Shock improved to 5-0 with a 69-47 road win over division rival San Jose Friday night.

After battling to a 14-14 tie, Spokane took control in the second quarter. Erik Meyer hooked up with Kamar Jordan for the 15-yard touchdown giving them the 21-14 lead. San Jose would only score once in the second quarter while Spokane would score two more time and have one more interception right before halftime to lead 34-21.

Again the Shock outscored the SaberCats three touchdowns to one in the third quarter as San Jose quarterback Aaron Garcia threw another interception. At the end of the third the Shock led the SaberCats 55-27.

In the final quarter of play, the SaberCats came out strong scoring a quick touchdown and then forcing a fumble and scoring on a three-yard touchdown rush cutting the lead to 14. This would be the first quarter that the SaberCats outscored the Shock but Spokane's defense, namely Paul Stephens, who had an AFL record 5 interceptions, would shut San Jose down. The Spokane Shock defeat the San Jose SaberCats 69-47.

Next week the Shock are back at home taking on the Tampa Bay Storm in only their second home game of the season. Kickoff is scheduled for Saturday, April 27th at 7:00 pm.

Aaron Garcia throws five interceptions in SaberCats loss By Staff Report, CSN BayArea Posted April 20, 2013

SAN JOSE, Calif. - The San Jose SaberCats (2-2) fell to the visiting Spokane Shock (5-0) 69-47 in front of 10,123 strong at HP Pavilion on Friday night. The Shock handled a divisional foe for the second straight week behind Paul Stephen's record-setting five-interception performance and quarterback Erik Meyer's eight-touchdown night. Key penalties and costly interceptions along with Meyer's aerial attack led to San Jose's demise, as they lost their second straight game and their first at home since they lost to the Shock last season 90-63 in June. Meyer ended the night completing 26-of-37 for 242 yards and threw his 40th touchdown pass on the season. Aaron Garcia completed 28-of-45 passes for 309 yards and six touchdowns, but also threw the five interceptions.

Garcia struggled on the first drive, throwing his ninth interception on the year to Paul Stephens, his first of the season. Spokane capitalized on the turnover with a one-handed touchdown catch from 19 yards out by Adron Tennell, his 15th on the year. San Jose was able to answer back with a touchdown of their own, a 28-yard pass from Garcia to Jamarko Simmons. Meyer and Tennell would find paydirt one more time, and Garcia found Samora Goodson in the end zone to once again tie it at 14 as the first quarter came to an end.



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Meyer opened the second quarter with his 35th touchdown on the young season, this time finding Kamar Jordan. The SaberCats marched down the field in an attempt to tie things up once again, however an unfortunate bounce off the crossbar resulted in Stephens' second interception on the night. Meyer took advantage of the costly turnover and found Jordan again, this time with an 18-yard score. Garcia was able to shake off that last ill-fated drive to find his partner in crime Jason Willis in the corner of the end zone to cut the Shock lead to six. This was Garcia's third score on the night and his 78th career touchdown pass to Willis. After Meyer led the Shock down the field for seven more, the turnover bug bit the 'Cats once again with Stephens' third interception of the half. Meyer's first half performance proved why he leads the league in most passing categories, by completing 16-of-22 passes for 159 yards and five scores.

The SaberCats would start the third quarter down 34-21 and saw their deficit increase to 27 points after Meyer found Jordan for the third time in the end zone and Stephens brought back an interception 27-yards to the house; his fourth on the night. The resilient Garcia once again found Willis for a 41-yard score to make it 48-27 halfway through the third quarter. Shock receiver Jackie Chambers joined the party with a ten-yard touchdown of his own to raise the Shock lead to 28 points.

San Jose would not go down just yet as a Garcia found Willis again from four yards out to narrow the deficit to 21. The 'Cats immediately got the ball back after defensive back JC Neal forced a fumble, which set up a three-yard Brian Folkerts rushing touchdown. The [momentum](#) seemed to take a sudden shift San Jose's way after the turnover; however masterful Meyer threw his 40th touchdown on the year with a six-yard reception to Tennell. Recently acquired offensive lineman Rich Ranglin reeled in his first career touchdown on a nine-yard screen pass from Garcia to answer for the SaberCats but Tennell added another touchdown, this time on the ground from two-yards out, to end all hopes of a comeback. The game ended just like it started as Stephens picked off Garcia for the fifth time (an AFL single-game record) in the game with 39 seconds left in regulation to seal the 69-47 victory for the Shock.

With this win, the Shock get their fourth road victory for the season and they travel back to Spokane next week to host the Tampa Bay Storm. The SaberCats hope to avoid two losses in a row when they visit the Big Easy to face the New Orleans VooDoo next week. The game can be seen on Comcast SportsNet Plus and heard live on KNBR 1050.

Stephens' 5 picks help Shock move to 5-0 **By Spokesman Review** **Posted April 20, 2013**

SAN JOSE, Calif. - Paul Stephens set an Arena Football League record with five interceptions and Erik Meyer tossed eight touchdown passes to lead Spokane past San Jose 69-47 Friday at HP Pavilion.

The top-ranked Shock (5-0) built a 28-point lead late in the third quarter en route to their fourth road win of the season. No. 5 San Jose dropped to 2-2.

"I just told these guys, 'We're just getting started,'" coach Andy Olson said in a postgame radio interview. "I truly think we're scratching the surface of what we're capable of doing."

Stephens gave Spokane early momentum by intercepting an Aaron Garcia pass on the SaberCats' first possession.

It was tied at 14 after one quarter but the Shock put up three touchdowns in the second to take command, 34-21, at halftime. Stephens' second interception led to a Kamar Jordan touchdown reception.

With less than a minute remaining, Meyer scrambled for 14 yards on fourth-and-12 and he capped the drive with a 4-yard touchdown pass to Duane Brooks. Stephens' third pick ended a San Jose threat in the closing seconds of the half.

"I did what I was coached to do," Stephens said. "(Teammate) Terrance Sanders put a lot of words in my ears game after game and I took it in."

Meyer connected with Jordan for a touchdown on the Shock's first possession of the third quarter. Stephens snagged his fourth interception and returned it 26 yards for the score, boosting Spokane's lead to 48-21.

Garcia rallied San Jose within 55-41 early in the fourth quarter. Meyer found Adron Tennell for a 6-yard touchdown to restore a 21-point advantage.

Stephens made his fifth interception in the closing seconds. The previous record was four held by three players, the last Portland's Mark Ricks in 1999. Stephens appeared to have another interception, but San Jose challenged and the call was overturned.

Tennell finished with three touchdown receptions, his 10th consecutive game dating back to last season with at least two TD catches. He also ran for one touchdown. Jordan added three touchdown catches and Brooks and Jackie Chambers each had one TD.

Meyer completed 26 of 37 for 242 yards. In five games, he has 40 TD passes and zero interceptions. Garcia has been picked off 13 times in four games.

San Jose SaberCats fall to Spokane Shock **By Rick Eymer, San Jose Mercury News** **Posted April 19, 2013**

SAN JOSE -- The San Jose SaberCats' Aaron Garcia helped set an AFL record, and it's not one he's happy about it, throwing five interceptions Friday night.

The Spokane Shock's Paul Stephens recorded all five interceptions, a league record, and had a possible sixth reversed following a challenge. He returned one for a touchdown.

Garcia threw almost as many interceptions as he did touchdown passes (six), and the SaberCats dropped a 69-47 decision to the Shock in a division



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contest.

Jamarko Simmons caught 11 passes for 126 yards and a touchdown and Jason Willis caught nine passes for 123 yards and three touchdowns, but San Jose lost its second straight to fall two games off the pace in the loss column of the Shock (5-0), which is off to the best start in team history.

"We just made mistakes that be can be fixed," Simmons said. "We have to go back to the drawing board, take our time and trust each other."

A member of the SaberCats chain gang was carried off the field on a stretcher with a separated shoulder after being run over near the end zone barrier on an incomplete pass with just over seven minutes remaining.

The SaberCats (2-2) never held a lead as the Shock took advantage of three first-half interceptions to build a 34-21 halftime advantage. Stephens took over the AFL interception lead with his performance, surpassing the SaberCats' Clevan Thomas.

"The guy just made a lot of plays," Simmons said. "We scouted them very well. They have a good defense."

San Jose also hurt itself with penalties, including penalties on each of its first two kickoff returns. The SaberCats were called for seven penalties for 43 yards.

"It's early in the season. No worries," Simmons said. "We'll get it right."

Garcia threw his first pick on the second play of the game as he slightly under threw Willis, who got behind Stephens, who also made six tackles.

Stephens, who intercepted a pass with 39 seconds left, recorded three interceptions in his rookie season last year.

Garcia finished with 309 yards on 28 of 45 passing. Spokane's Eric Meyer was 16 of 37 for 242 yards and eight touchdowns.

"We didn't play well, and we didn't coach well," San Jose coach Darren Arbet said. "They got their hands on a lot of balls."

Samora Goodson and Rich Ranglin also caught touchdown passes for the SaberCats, while Brian Folkerts rushed for a touchdown. Adron Tennell caught nine passes for 117 yards and three touchdowns for Spokane. He also rushed for a touchdown. Kamar Jorden also had three TD receptions. Duane Brooks and Jacki Chambers each had one.

- 📌 San Jose recovered a fumble in the fourth quarter, the Shock's first turnover of the season.
- 📌 The Shock were the last team to beat the Sabercats at home, winning 90-63 last June 23.
- 📌 Meyer's 14-yard scramble was the longest run allowed by San Jose this season.
- 📌 The SaberCats ranked first in opponents third down conversions at 15 percent entering the game.

April 27
SaberCats (2-2) at New Orleans (1-3) 5 p.m. CSNPlus

Shock, Sharks remain undefeated after AFL Week 5 wins By Mike Delrio, ArenaFan Posted April 25, 2013

The [Jacksonville Sharks](#) and [Spokane Shock](#) both remained undefeated after Week 5 of Arena Football League action after Jacksonville won a close defensive battle at home against the [Iowa Barnstormers](#), 40-34, and Spokane won on the road against the [San Jose SaberCats](#) by a 69-47 final.

The Shock (5-0) benefitted from five **Aaron Garcia** interceptions that gave league leading quarterback **Erik Meyer** more than enough extra scoring opportunities to put San Jose (2-2) away by the end of the third quarter. The Shock held a commanding 56-27 lead as the final quarter started.

Meyer had another outstanding game in the win. He was 26-of-37 passing for 242 yards and eight touchdowns without an interception. Meyer now has 40 passing TDs with no interceptions in 190 pass attempts. **Duane Brooks** (10 R, 63 yards, 1 TD) and **Adron Tennell** (9 R, 117 yards, 3 TDs) were Meyer's main targets.

Garcia continues to struggle in his first season with the SabreCats. While Garcia did throw six touchdowns and had more than 300 yards in passing yardage, he also had the five picks. His TD/Int (24/13) ratio is the worst in the league and Garcia, at 87.4, is one of only four QBs with a rating below 90.0.

Jamarko Simmons (11 R, 126 yards, 1 TD) and **Jason Willis** (9 R, 123 yards, 3 TDs) led the San Jose receiving corps. While Spokane was never seriously in danger of suffering their first loss of the season, Jacksonville (5-0) faced a serious challenge from the Barnstormers (2-3) as Iowa tried to snap a two-game losing streak.

Bernard Morris led the Sharks with a 25-of-36 passing night for 237 yards, five TDs and one interception.

This game was a defensive battle as both teams played smothering D. Jacksonville was led by **Tracy Belton** as the former [Georgia Force](#) player made nine tackles, had three assists and four pass deflections.

Iowa's defensive was anchored by **Ter'Ran Benton** (5 T/6 A) and **Jason Simpson** (5 T/4 A). Simpson also had the lone interception Morris threw in



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leading the Sharks to 5-0.

AFL League Leaders

Passing

Having retaken the completion percentage lead he lost briefly last week to Morris, **Meyer** once again leads AFL quarterbacks in ALL passing categories. The California native is 135-of-190 this season; good for a 71.1 percent completion rate (Morris is second with 71.0). He has racked up 1,521 yards passing, 40 TDs, 0 INTs and has a rating of 134.23-all of which are the best in the league.

Receiving

Joe Hills of the [Tampa Bay Storm](#) leads the league in receiving yardage (592) and is second in touchdown catches (14), while **Tennell** (Shock) leads in receptions (46) and TDs (17). **Reggie Gray** (40 R, 499 yards, 12 TDs) of the [Chicago Rush](#) and **Jeff Hughley** (40 R, 418 yards, 8 TDs) of the Sharks join Tennell as the only three receivers with 40 or more catches. Hills has 38 grabs.

The Sharks **Jerry Turner**, also a formerly of the Force, leads in sacks with five, is followed by teammate **Aaron Robbins** with four, and **Rashaad Duncan**, another Shark, is tied for fourth with three. **Paul Stephens** has the lead in interceptions with five. Jacksonville and Spokane both look to win their match ups and should remain undefeated. The Sharks will take on the [Philadelphia Soul](#) (2-2) on the road, while The Shock are home against the Tampa Bay Storm (3-2).

The last two remaining undefeated teams in the AFL will cruise to three touchdown wins and will continue on their collision course. The teams will play in Week 12 when Jacksonville travels to Spokane for a Friday, June 7th meeting.

Shock Take SaberCats, Improve to 5-0

By Jeffrey Giuliani, ArenaFan

Posted April 23, 2013

The [Spokane Shock](#) rolled to another victory on Friday evening, easily toppling the San Jose SaberCats by a score of 69-47. The game was never particularly close. San Jose struggled with turnovers and Spokane's offense was far too powerful to be given extra chances to score.

Speaking of turnovers, SaberCats' quarterback Aaron Garcia's third leading receiver of the evening wasn't wearing green and gold; he was wearing white and blue. Spokane Shock DB Paul Stephens made life a nightmare for the arena football legend, picking off five Aaron Garcia passes in the contest. That is AFL single game record. Stephens started early, picking off an underthrown pass on the SaberCats opening drive. Early in the second quarter, Stephens would be caught stealing again. On 4th down in the red zone, Garcia's pass rebounded off the net and was caught by Stephens. Later in the 3rd quarter, Paul Stephens would put the nail in the coffin by picking off Garcia and taking it back for six.

The Shock defense has been outstanding all season. The win over San Jose marked the fourth time Spokane has held their opponent to under 50 points in five tries. With how electric Spokane's offense is, they only need to manage a couple stops per game to pull out a win. They managed to contain the AFL's all-time leading passer in Aaron Garcia this week, and kept the proficient Nick Davila from doing too much damage the week before. The Shock have definitely found a winning formula this season.

Part of that formula is just how deep their roster is. It's a different player that makes the game defining play from week to week. Last week, it was a timely interception by Beau Bell that ended Arizona's hopes. This week, it was Paul Stephens having a historic day. There are a slew of players that can be called upon to make big plays that could turn the tide. [Andy Olson](#) has this team believing they can top anyone. He has completely changed the culture. This has not been an easy stretch of games for Spokane. Four of their first five games were on the road. They had to face early hurdles by facing the defending Arenabowl champion [Arizona Rattlers](#), and a well-coached [Iowa Barnstormers](#) squad. Yet, they've persevered and now sit atop the National Conference with a 5-0 record.

As with every Shock win in this young AFL season, quarterback Erik Meyer was on top of his game. San Jose had no answer for the powerful Shock offense, managing only one stop on the evening. Meyer chalked up another eight touchdowns, giving him 40 on the season. Meyer has yet to throw an interception in 2013, and is easily the frontrunner thus far to win the AFL MVP award.

The Spokane Shock bested a good San Jose SaberCats squad last Friday evening. Andy Olson had to be proud of what his team has accomplished thus far. They have taken the AFL by surprise, being one of only two undefeated squads remaining. But a storm is brewing in Spokane- the [Tampa Bay Storm](#) that is. They roll into Eastern Washington with their own prolific offense, led by the former FSU Seminole, Adrian McPherson. Kickoff is set for Saturday, April 27th at 7:00 PST.

Local sports digest: San Jose SaberCats waive quarterback Aaron Garcia

By Bay Area News Group, San Jose Mercury News

Posted April 22, 2013

SAN JOSE -- The SaberCats announced a shake-up at quarterback, signing free agent Russ Michna and putting Aaron Garcia on recallable waivers. Garcia, 42, an Arena Football League legend, was signed in the offseason after Mark Grieb retired.

In four games, Garcia threw 13 interceptions, including five Saturday in a loss that dropped the SaberCats' record to 2-2.

Michna, 32, spent his previous five AFL seasons with Chicago, finishing second in the league in passer rating in 2011.

Aaron Garcia throws five interceptions in SaberCats loss

By Staff Report, CSN BayArea

Posted April 20, 2013

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The Shock handed a divisional foe for the second straight week behind Paul Stephen's record-setting five-interception performance and quarterback



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Erik Meyer's eight-touchdown night. Key penalties and costly interceptions along with Meyer's aerial attack led to San Jose's demise, as they lost their second straight game and their first at home since they lost to the Shock last season 90-63 in June. Meyer ended the night completing 26-of-37 for 242 yards and threw his 40th touchdown pass on the season. Aaron Garcia completed 28-of-45 passes for 309 yards and six touchdowns, but also threw the five interceptions.

Garcia struggled on the first drive, throwing his ninth interception on the year to Paul Stephens, his first of the season. Spokane capitalized on the turnover with a one-handed touchdown catch from 19 yards out by Adron Tennell, his 15th on the year. San Jose was able to answer back with a touchdown of their own, a 28-yard pass from Garcia to Jamarko Simmons. Meyer and Tennell would find paydirt one more time, and Garcia found Samora Goodson in the end zone to once again tie it at 14 as the first quarter came to an end.

Meyer opened the second quarter with his 35th touchdown on the young season, this time finding Kamar Jordan. The SaberCats marched down the field in an attempt to tie things up once again, however an unfortunate bounce off the crossbar resulted in Stephens' second interception on the night. Meyer took advantage of the costly turnover and found Jordan again, this time with an 18-yard score. Garcia was able to shake off that last ill-fated drive to find his partner in crime Jason Willis in the corner of the end zone to cut the Shock lead to six. This was Garcia's third score on the night and his 78th career touchdown pass to Willis. After Meyer led the Shock down the field for seven more, the turnover bug bit the 'Cats once again with Stephens' third interception of the half. Meyer's first half performance proved why he leads the league in most passing categories, by completing 16-of-22 passes for 159 yards and five scores.

The SaberCats would start the third quarter down 34-21 and saw their deficit increase to 27 points after Meyer found Jordan for the third time in the end zone and Stephens brought back an interception 27-yards to the house: his fourth on the night. The resilient Garcia once again found Willis for a 41-yard score to make it 48-27 halfway through the third quarter. Shock receiver Jackie Chambers joined the party with a ten-yard touchdown of his own to raise the Shock lead to 28 points.

San Jose would not go down just yet as a Garcia found Willis again from four yards out to narrow the deficit to 21. The 'Cats immediately got the ball back after defensive back JC Neal forced a fumble, which set up a three-yard Brian Folkerts rushing touchdown. The [momentum](#) seemed to take a sudden shift San Jose's way after the turnover; however masterful Meyer threw his 40th touchdown on the year with a six-yard reception to Tennell. Recently acquired offensive lineman Rich Ranglin reeled in his first career touchdown on a nine-yard screen pass from Garcia to answer for the SaberCats but Tennell added another touchdown, this time on the ground from two-yards out, to end all hopes of a comeback. The game ended just like it started as Stephens picked off Garcia for the fifth time (an AFL single-game record) in the game with 39 seconds left in regulation to seal the 69-47 victory for the Shock.

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A member of the SaberCats chain gang was carried off the field on a stretcher with a separated shoulder after being run over near the end zone barrier on an incomplete pass with just over seven minutes remaining.

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"It early in the season. No worries," Simmons said. "We'll get it right."

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"We didn't play well, and we didn't coach well," San Jose coach Darren Arbet said. "They got their hands on a lot of balls."

Samora Goodson and Rich Ranglin also caught touchdown passes for the SaberCats, while Brian Folkerts rushed for a touchdown.

Adron Tennell caught nine passes for 117 yards and three touchdowns for Spokane. He also rushed for a touchdown. Kamar Jordan also had three TD receptions. Duane Brooks and Jacki Chambers each had one.

San Jose recovered a fumble in the fourth quarter, the Shock's first turnover of the season.

The Shock were the last team to beat the SaberCats at home, winning 90-63 last June 23.

Meyer's 14-yard scramble was the longest run allowed by San Jose this season.

The SaberCats ranked first in opponents third down conversions at 15 percent entering the game.

Former Kansas City Chiefs OL Rich Ranglin Returns to San Jose

By ArenaFan

Posted April 18, 2013

SAN JOSE, Calif. - The SaberCats today announced that they have been assigned former Kansas City Chiefs offensive lineman and the Arena Football League's 2011 Spalding Offensive Lineman of the Year Rich Ranglin on a two-year contract.

"Rich is and has proven to be one of the best linemen in this league," said Owner/Head Coach [Darren Arbet](#). "With the addition of Rich to our current group, we should have a versatile, talented unit on the offensive line that should provide us with more flexibility going forward."

Ranglin (6-3, 315, Central Connecticut State) returns to San Jose after spending last season as a member of the National Football

League's Kansas City Chiefs. He saw action in all four preseason games for the Chiefs. Ranglin started the first nine games of the 2012 season for the SaberCats. In those games, he hauled in a total of four catches for 48 yards and was a major component of an offensive line that protected the quarterback very well in the first half of the season, allowing just nine sacks and ranking fifth in the league at that time.

In 2011, his second season in the league, Ranglin was one of the few offensive linemen in the AFL to play in all 18 games. He was a constant force on the offensive line, helping the [Kansas City Command](#) rank in the top half of the league in total (300.4 yards/game) and passing offense (276.7 yards/game). A threat in the receiving game, Ranglin also ranked in the top ten among offensive linemen in the AFL in receiving yards with 67 in 2011 on four receptions.

The Yonkers, N.Y. native joined the Command after spending his rookie season in the league with the [Milwaukee Iron](#), who finished the 2010 season with an 11-5 record en route to winning the Midwest Division. Playing in ten games for the Iron, Ranglin helped the team rank first in the league in sacks allowed with only one on the year, while the Milwaukee offense led the league in numerous offensive categories including scoring offense (65.4 points/game), total offense (349.3 yards/game) and pass efficiency (126.7).

A four-year letterman at Central Connecticut State from 2003-07, Ranglin was a Preseason All-American selection as a senior in 2006, eventually earning second-team All-Northeast Conference honors. Ranglin attended Saunders Trades and Technical (N.Y.) High School, where he earned all-league and all-county honors as a senior playing on both offense and defense.

Rich Ranglin #64

Height: 6-3

Weight: 315 lbs

Born: Sept. 27, 1985 in Yonkers, N.Y.

Hometown: Yonkers, N.Y.

Last Team: Kansas City Command (AFL)

College: Central Connecticut State

AFL Experience: 3 years

Twitter: @Double_R64

Transaction: SaberCats are assigned OL Rich Ranglin on a two-year contract.

Week 5 Preview - Spokane at San Jose

By ArenaFan

Posted April 17, 2013

SPOKANE, WA (April 16, 2013) -The [Spokane Shock](#) (4-0) take on the [San Jose SaberCats](#) (2-1) for their second West Division matchup in a row on April 19th at the HP Pavillion in San Jose, CA. Kickoff is scheduled for Friday, April 19th at 7:30 PM PST and will be available on 700 AM ESPN Radio and for viewing online at shock.arenafootball.com/allaccess.

Last week, Spokane came home after a three game road trip to start off the season, they defeated the defending Arena-Bowl Champions and West Division rival the [Arizona Rattlers](#) 66-49.

Once again Erik Meyer continued his league leading season throwing for 351 yards, 8 touchdowns and no interceptions. Meyer has 32 total touchdowns on the season with a passing efficiency of 135.9 and has yet to throw an interception.



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Last Friday's game against Arizona was an offensive shootout with quarterbacks Meyer and Davila going touchdown for touchdown. The Shock defense came up with the first defensive stop of the game when they forced the Rattlers into a huge 4-and-out stop with 3:45 left in the fourth quarter. Adron Tennell and Karmar Jordan lead the Shock receivers on the season with 774 yards and 23 touchdowns, combining for 7 against the Rattlers.

Last season the Shock and SaberCats split the season series with both teams winning on the road. During the first meeting in Spokane, San Jose's quarterback Mark Grieb threw for 315 yards and 7 touchdowns while the SaberCats led for the entire game winning 69-35. In San Jose, the Shock came out looking for revenge and found it in a big way scoring 90 points led by quarterback Kyle Rowley's 12 touchdown passes (AFL single game record) and 392 yards.

"San Jose is a very good football team with a very good roster that is coming off the bye week which gave them a chance to get healthy and prepare."

Before their bye week, San Jose traveled to Arizona and fell 47-73. Veteran quarterback Aaron Garcia threw for 293 yards, 6 touchdowns but also had 3 costly interceptions while spreading the ball around nicely, throwing at least one touchdown pass to four different receivers.

"San Jose is a tough place to play and they'll be ready for us, but we're going to come out and play football the way we know how. We have a long way to go and we're going to keep our heads down and continue to work hard, it's a long season and even though we're 4-0, we are still looking to improve and get better every week the rest of the year."

SaberCats Announce Breast Cancer Awareness Night for May 11

By ArenaFan

Posted April 17, 2013

SAN JOSE, Calif. - The SaberCats announced today that they will be hosting Breast Cancer Awareness Night on Saturday, May 11 when they host the [Tampa Bay Storm](#) at the HP Pavilion at 7:30 p.m. PT.

"Partnering with the American Cancer Society to aid in the fight against cancer is something we are very passionate about," said SaberCats Managing Partner Dave Fry. "Last year we raised a substantial amount of funds for this significant cause."

Fans can participate by purchasing a special edition pink Arena Football League official game football signed by either the entire SaberCats team, or the entire SaberKittens squad for \$125. 70% of these proceeds will go directly to the American Cancer Society to aid in the fight against cancer. Included with the football are eight tickets for the game. The deadline to guarantee yours is set for noon PT on Wednesday, May 8, or while supplies last.

"One-hundred years ago, the word 'cancer' was rarely spoken, and we lost almost all patients to the disease," said Tulin Melton, American Cancer Society Regional Vice President. "Today the progress we have made is remarkable. Partnering with the SaberCats gives us an opportunity to encourage people to join together, make noise and take action to finish the fight against cancer."

The special edition pink footballs will be available to be picked up at the game on May 11 at the SaberCats marketing table located near Section 117 of HP Pavilion. Fans can purchase this package by going to <http://www.thesanjosesebercats.com/pink.php>

ABOUT THE AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY

As we mark our 100th birthday in 2013, we're determined to finish the fight against cancer. We're finding cures as the nation's largest private, not-for-profit investor in cancer research, ensuring people facing cancer have the help they need and continuing the fight for access to quality health care, lifesaving screenings, clean air, and more. For more information, to get help, or to join the fight, call us anytime, day or night, at 1-800-227-2345 or visit cancer.org.

SaberCats Acquire DL Terrance Carter From Orlando

By ArenaFan

Posted April 15, 2013

SAN JOSE, Calif. - The SaberCats announced today that they have acquired defensive lineman Terrance Carter from the [Orlando Predators](#) in exchange for offensive lineman Terrence Campbell and defensive lineman Mike Landry. Additionally, San Jose activated fullback Brian Folkerts from recallable reassignment to bring their active roster to 24 players.

"Being able to acquire a big-time player like Terrance in this way is something you don't typically get the opportunity to do in this league," said Owner/Head Coach [Darren Arbet](#). "When we had the chance, we had to make the move. He brings a tremendous skillset in rushing the passer that will help us toward our goals in 2013."

Carter (6-4, 275, Colorado State) has appeared in all three games for the Predators in 2013 thus far and has recorded three total tackles and one sack, which occurred against the SaberCats back on March 29. The three year Arena Football League veteran spent 2012 in Orlando and totaled 14 tackles, six-and-a-half sacks, three forced fumbles and one recovery in 17 appearances. As a member of the [Pittsburgh Power](#) in 2011, Carter posted 26.5 total tackles with five sacks and two forced fumbles in 18 games played. As a rookie with the [Tulsa Talons](#) in 2010, the former Colorado State Ram made 14.5 tackles adding four-and-a-half sacks, three forced fumbles and one fumble recovery in 11 appearances. In addition to his time in the AFL, he also played for the Talons from 2007-09 in af2.

The Topeka, Kan. native attended Colorado State and was a three-year starter along their defensive line. Throughout his collegiate career, Carter posted 46 total tackles and six sacks in 34 appearances for the Rams. As a senior in 2005, he finished with 23 total tackles (13 solo) with two sacks and one forced fumble.

Terrance Carter #23

Position: DL

Height: 6-4



2013 SABERCATS CLIPS

Weight: 275 lbs
Born: Sept. 8, 1982
Hometown: Topeka, Kan.
Last Team: Orlando Predators (AFL)
College: Colorado State
AFL Experience: Three Years

Transaction: SaberCats acquire DL Terrance Carter from the Orlando Predators in exchange for OL Terrence Campbell and DL Mike Landry

SaberCats Bit by the Rattlers in Phoenix **By ArenaFan** **Posted April 7, 2013**

Tonight in Phoenix the defending ArenaBowl Champions took down the [San Jose SaberCats](#) (2-1) in the snake pit with a final score of 73-47. The ball hawks on the Rattlers (3-0) secondary had three interceptions on Garcia and two were returned for touchdowns in the first half.

The SaberCats weren't able to secure a single game lead because their four turnovers dug them into a hole they couldn't get out of. On the other side of the ball, San Jose's defense didn't make enough game impacting stops to capture any momentum.

In week three, the [Arizona Rattlers](#) looked just like the well-oiled machine they were when they were named ArenaBowl champions last season, but with some newly acquired weapons. The Rattlers had an outstanding night on both sides of the ball with numerous big plays and the SaberCats never could quite respond with their own big time plays.

Going into week four of the season, the SaberCats have a bye that they'll surely use to work out the kinks they experienced in the snake pit. Garcia's interceptions need to be cleaned up, team penalties need to go down and the defense needs to work on rising to the occasion.

In week five the SaberCats will be facing another National West division rival the [Spokane Shock](#) (3-0) in front of their home crowd at the HP Pavillion.

SaberCats fall to Rattlers, 73-47 **By Staff Report, CSN Bay Area** **Posted April 6, 2013**

PHOENIX, Ariz. - The San Jose SaberCats (2-1) fell to the Arizona Rattlers (3-0) 73-47 on Saturday night at US Airways Center in front of 7,156 fans in Phoenix. Quarterback Aaron Garcia completed 25-of-42 passes for 279 yards and six touchdowns for San Jose.

Turnovers told the story in this one, as Garcia was intercepted three times, two of which were brought back for scores and San Jose was stopped once more on downs.

Arizona got on the scoreboard first, as former SaberCats defensive back Marquis Floyd returned a deflected Garcia pass 40 yards for the opening score. San Jose responded quickly, however, as Garcia hooked up with wide receiver Fred Williams from 18 yards out to knot the score at seven mid-way through the first quarter. The teams traded scores once more to tie things at 14 after one quarter of play.

The Rattlers scored quickly into the second quarter as quarterback Nick Davila picked out wide receiver Tysson Poots for the second time on the night, this time from 12-yards out, to put Arizona in front, 21-14. After Garcia threw his second interception of the first half, Arizona capitalized as Davila connected with Kerry Reed on a 24-yard strike to put the Rattlers on top 28-14 with 7:56 to play in the second quarter. Reed struck again on the next drive, intercepting Garcia from his jack linebacker position and returning it 43-yards for the score, extending Arizona's advantage to 35-14.

Following a 42-yard kick return by defensive back Mervin Brookins, Garcia rebounded with a 12-yard touchdown toss to wide receiver Jason Willis to pull within two scores. Arizona benefited from a pair of rushing touchdowns by fullback Odie Armstrong sandwiched around a 24-yard touchdown pass from Garcia to Huey Whittaker and Arizona led 49-28 at the half.

The teams traded scores to open the second half, and Arizona pushed the lead to 59-35 on a 24-yard field goal by kicker Garrett Lindholm with just under four minutes remaining in the third quarter. The SaberCats were unable to score on a key fourth down inside the red zone and trailed by the same score heading into the fourth quarter.

Reed found the endzone for the third time on the night, his second offensively as he caught a nine-yard strike from Davila in early in the fourth quarter. San Jose pulled another score back when Garcia threw for his sixth score of the evening, connecting with wide receiver Jamarko Simmons, cutting Arizona's lead to 66-41. After another Arizona score, quarterback Mitch Mustain threw his first career touchdown pass, finding Williams for a 31-yard touchdown, his second score of the night. It wasn't enough however, as San Jose dropped their first game in 2013, 73-47.

San Jose SaberCats fall 73-47 to Arizona Rattlers **By Rick Eymer, San Jose Mercury News** **Posted April 6, 2013**

PHOENIX -- The SaberCats were handed their first loss in a big way Saturday.

A strong defensive effort by the Arizona Rattlers led to a 73-47 rout in front of an announced crowd of 7,156 at US Airways Center. The Rattlers (3-0) intercepted three passes by Aaron Garcia and made a fourth-down stop in the red zone in handing the SaberCats their worst loss since a 90-63 drubbing against Spokane last season.

SaberCats coach Darren Arbet was confident his team will rebound.



"There's a lot of football to be played," Arbet said. "We're going to go back and watch the tape. We have a bye week, and when we come back, we have to get after it and get better."

Arizona's defense set the tone on the first series when Marquis Floyd snagged a deflected pass and returned it 40 yards for a touchdown.

After catching a touchdown pass with 8:40 left in the first half, Kerry Reed -- playing defensive back -- intercepted a Garcia pass in the ensuing series and returned it 43 yards for a score.

The SaberCats (2-1) trailed by 21 points at halftime.

"I felt like our defensive line set the tone early by putting pressure on the quarterback," Arizona coach Kevin Guy said. "Anytime you have defensive plays like that, you have a chance."

Garcia passed for 296 yards and six touchdowns. Fred Williams, filling in for an injured Samora Goodson at wide receiver, led the SaberCats with 108 yards receiving and two touchdowns.

Jason Willis and Jamark Simmons also caught two touchdown passes apiece. Huey Whittaker had one scoring reception, an acrobatic 24-yard catch that he juggled and pulled in before slamming into the barrier.

Rattlers quarterback Nick Davila passed for 231 yards and six touchdowns, with no interceptions. Arizona scored touchdowns on its first eight possessions before settling for a field goal with 3:51 left in the third quarter.

"They're a good football team," Arbet said. "That's why they're No. 1, and that's why they're the champions."

APRIL 19

Spokane (3-0) at SaberCats (2-1), 7:30 p.m. No TV

Clevan Thomas provides SaberCats leadership, experience

By Rick Eymer, San Jose Mercury News

Posted April 5, 2013

Any kind of adversity defensive back Clevan Thomas faces on the arena football field would likely seem childish compared with some of the things he faced as a corrections officer in Florida.

He spent time helping inmates, stopping fights and generally keeping things safe in his job.

Having returned to the San Jose SaberCats this season after a four-year absence, Thomas imparts wisdom easily and earns respect of his teammates merely by his approach to the game.

"The leadership," SaberCats coach Darren Arbet said of Thomas' greatest strength. "He has a great presence and is a leader on the field, in the locker room, in the weight room and off the field. He's a winner and a Hall of Famer. He's the best to ever play that position."

The SaberCats go for their third straight win Saturday when they take on archrival and defending arena football champion Arizona Rattlers in Phoenix at 5:30 p.m.

Thomas, who turns 34 Saturday, has showed he still can play defensive back despite being away from the game so long.

He intercepted one pass in the SaberCats' 47-42 opening-night win at the San Antonio Talons and then picked off three passes, including on the final play, in last Friday night's 65-62 home-opening win over the Orlando Predators.

After the AFL shut down operations following the 2008 season, Thomas worked at several places, including as a high school football coach, before landing a job at the correction facility.

"I was in shock and disbelief at the time," Thomas recalled. "But I was also out of work and was married, with three kids. I was applying all over."

Working the graveyard shift, he dealt with violence on a daily basis, and also looked out for inmates' well-being. He also encountered former high school friends who had become inmates.

Last year, he was elected to the AFL Hall of Fame. He also started doing some soul-searching and discovered he could best help his family if he returned to work as a football player. So far, it's worked out for everybody.

📌 San Jose leads the all-time series with Arizona 20-18 and beat the Rattlers twice during the regular season last year. Arizona came back to knock the SaberCats out of the playoffs en route to the title.

"They're a good football team," Arbet said. "You get ready for every game, but this is a division game and the big thing about it is they won the title last year and it's an opportunity for us to play the best."

📌 Thomas calls his 14-year-old son, Clevan Jr., "my toughest critic. He was on me for giving up five touchdowns."

📌 Arizona coach Kevin Guy was the SaberCats defensive coordinator from 2005-07, and Rattlers defensive coordinator Omarr Smith is San Jose's all-time tackles leader.

📌 SaberCats quarterback Aaron Garcia began his career with the Rattlers.



SaberCats Head to Arizona to Take on the Defending AFL Champions

By Leanne Cozart, ArenaFan
Posted April 5, 2013

In the 2012 season the [San Jose SaberCats](#) faced the [Arizona Rattlers](#) three times and had two victorious campaigns. While the SaberCats were able to defeat the Rattlers twice in the regular season, they weren't able to get the job done when it counted the most in the first round of playoffs where they lost 51-48 in the snake pit. The Rattlers went on to take the title of ArenaBowl Champions leaving the SaberCats with a bitter taste in their mouths.

It's a fresh new year and the time has arrived for these two rival teams face each other once again. Both are 2-0 heading into week three of the season and only one team can come out on top. The SaberCats will be traveling to a hostile environment where the crowd will be hyped up and the Rattlers will be fighting to remain the best in the West.

Coach [Darren Arbet](#) spoke on Comcast SportsNet SaberCats Weekly about the upcoming game against the Rattlers stating, "Their fans are crazy, they're going to be on us. It's an Arizona team that's number one in the coach's poll, number one in the power poll and then (2012) Champions."

In quarterback Aaron Garcia's first season with the 'Cats he's accumulated 552 yards and 12 touchdowns. Some of Garcia's top targets have been Jason Willis, Huey Whitaker and Jamarko Simmons. Last season as a Talon, Garcia put the Rattlers defense to the test when he posted 594 yards and 12 touchdowns in only two games against them.

On the other side of the ball, veteran defensive back Clevan Thomas is not only a leader to his teammates, he also leads the defense in tackles and interceptions for the 2013 season and the SaberCats defense is currently second in the league for takeaways.

The Rattlers are the League's number one ranked scoring offense led by the 2012 ArenaBowl MVP and quarterback Nick Davila who has 589 yards and 14 touchdowns heading into week three. Davila has been frequently and successfully connecting with Jared Perry, Tysson Poots, Kerry Reed and Maurice Purify so far this season. On the defensive side of the ball, in the secondary Virgil Gray leads the Rattlers defense in tackles and is also a threat to opposing special teams when he's returning kicks.

Both the SaberCats and the Rattlers coaching staffs' have a lot of ties to each other, making everything that goes into the game plan and preparation that much more intense. Rattlers head coach [Kevin Guy](#) was previously an ArenaBowl winning defensive coordinator in San Jose and Coach Arbet thinks, "He's the best coach in this league right now, and they're the best team in the league, they're champions. They've been to two strait ArenaBowls" as he stated on Comcast SportsNet SaberCats Weekly. The SaberCats will also be going up against former defensive specialist and current Rattler defensive coordinator Omar Smith. 'Cats defensive coordinator Cedric Walker also spent time on the other side when he was a defensive specialist for three seasons with the Rattlers.

While this is going to be an intense battle between two top tier teams that would love more than anything to kill one another on the field, it still is just week three. This early in the season there really isn't too much on the line because it's just the start of the long journey to ArenaBowl XXVI. Winning this game will however set the tone for the remaining weeks of the season. If the SaberCats can get a road win in a hostile atmosphere against the defending ArenaBowl Champions, it could give them the momentum they need to propel them through season ahead.

"We all play this game because of the challenge that it brings, the other reason we play this game is to be the best and if you want to be the best you have to beat the best and we have an opportunity this weekend to play the best team in Arena Football," said Coach Arbet on Comcast SportsNet SaberCats Weekly.

The game will be broadcasted on CBS Sports Network on Saturday, April 6 at 5:30 PM PT.

Grieb's resume earns him football gig with Oaks By Rick Eymer, San Jose Mercury News Posted April 4, 2013

Mark Grieb doesn't have to pad his resume. During his days as a quarterback in the Arena Football League, the 38-year-old led the San Jose SaberCats to three championships and was recognized as the league's top player in 2004. In 12 seasons, he threw for 47,896 yards and 922 touchdowns with 140 interceptions.

Grieb was announced Tuesday as the head coach at Menlo College in Atherton after two brief stints with the Oaks as an assistant coach in 2003 and 2011. But will his AFL resume help in the recruiting trail?

"It won't be something that you can exactly measure," Grieb said. "But hopefully it opens a door or two, that people have heard of me so they are maybe a little more willing to listen. Or I'm able to attract a player that might have gone to another school. But I think recruiting is about having a plan and executing it. This plan just requires a different set of skills."

Menlo Director of Athletics Keith Spataro shared the same opinion.

"We've had other pro athletes coach here, and I'm not saying that it's not going to help, but I don't know that it's going to be the determining factor in the end," Spataro said. "I think what's going to make the difference is his ability to coach, relate to young men and really be a character-driven coach. But certainly when you're on the recruiting world, everything helps."

Grieb fills the void left by Mark Speckman, who after one season at his alma mater left to join the Montreal Alouettes of the Canadian Football League as its running backs coach.

"Certainly when we hired Coach Speckman, we didn't think he was going to leave in one year," Spataro said. "But every loss has new opportunity."



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After hearing the job was available, Grieb believes he was one of the first people who called to express interest. Spataro said he had more than 100 applicants from all over the country, but "we felt that Coach Greib fits our vision of what college athletics should be about."

A 1996 graduate of UC Davis, Grieb has strong roots in the area as a San Jose native who was a three-sport star at Oak Grove and began his tenure at Leland as a chemistry teacher in September.

"I think that my ties in the area helped solidify me as a person who is going to stay there for a while and help build this thing," Grieb said.

"The toughest in any program is trying to maintain continuity. That's certainly my intent, is to help build the program and make it a successful one."

Grieb, who lives in San Carlos, told his students Thursday that he will be unable to finish the school year. Spring practices begin April 15, and his commitment to the classroom is getting in the way of putting together a coaching staff with the Oaks.

"I'm trying to meet with people as much as possible to get to meet them, to get to know their strengths and weaknesses," Grieb said. "And then I can figure out what it is exactly that is the best direction for the program."

Exposure to a myriad of programs has helped Grieb implement concepts of the West Coast offense into the popular spread offense. Including a year as mentor to the quarterbacks at UC Davis, a couple of other stops include time at Foothill College and at Stanford, where Grieb oversaw the offensive scout team as a graduate assistant under Tyrone Willingham while working on his Master's degree in Science Education from 2000-01.

"I think it just gives you perspective," Grieb said. "Certainly having been around and coached with so many teams, I've gotten to see how it's done on successful teams, and also some of the mistakes that are made on teams that aren't successful."

Menlo College hires former AFL star Grieb as new football coach

By Julio Lara

Posted April 04, 2013

The hunt to fill the Menlo College football head coaching void has concluded and a face familiar to the Bay Area and Menlo community will take the helm as the school's newest head coach.

Menlo Director of Athletics Keith Spataro announced Tuesday that former San Jose SaberCats quarterback Mark Grieb has been named the newest Menlo head football coach.

Grieb, a 1996 graduate of the University of California at Davis, makes his return to the Oaks football program following two brief stints as an assistant coach. In 2003 he served as the team's offensive coordinator and in 2011 he headed up the receiving corps as a position coach.

From 1999 to 2012, Grieb spent 12 successful seasons as the quarterback of the San Jose SaberCats of the Arena Football League where he led the squad to three Arena Bowl championships, earning Most Valuable Player honors in 2004 and 2007. He earned Maxwell Club Arena Football Player of the Year honors in 2004.

"We pride ourselves in being a program with champions of character," Spataro said. "Above all, we wanted to find a head coach that was in line with those character traits. And secondary to that, we wanted to find someone who had a true passion for teaching — especially the sport of football. It's a daunting task to get out there with 105 men every day and try to get them in go in the same direction. There's got to be a calmness to you. But at the same time, there has to be a presence to you. And I think Mark reflects those things."

"It was a long process," Grieb said. "I think the athletic director and the athletic staff did a great job in being thorough with the process. I know they a bunch of applications so I didn't know how it was going to go, to be honest. So, when I got the call, I was extremely excited about this opportunity to be a head football coach at Menlo College. I really look forward to going to back. It should be a great experience."

Aside from playing professionally, Grieb has spent the last 10 years coaching in various capacities. He spent a pair of seasons as an assistant coach at his alma mater, U.C. Davis.

While receiving his master's of arts degree in science education from Stanford University in 2001, Grieb was a graduate assistant under Tyrone Willingham.

Aside from his two stints with Menlo, Grieb has also spent time as an assistant coach at Monterey Peninsula College and Foothill College.

"[Being a head coach] is something that I've thought about ... I guess, it's something that I thought would come further down the line. I didn't think it was something that would happen so quickly. But it has and I'm excited. I think it's a great fit for me, being from this area."

During his time in the AFL, Grieb launched an assault on the AFL's career record books, inking his name in the top-three in six career offensive categories including: Most passes completed in a career, completion percentage, passing yards, touchdown passes, most passes attempted and most seasons as the league leader in passing yards.

He was the first player in AFL history to throw for more than 4,000 yards in seven-straight seasons and the only player in league history to throw for 70-plus scores in nine straight seasons.

During his last two seasons with the team, Grieb rolled into a role as both a player and coordinator, running offensive meetings and practices and leading offseason workouts for teammates under head coach Darren Arbet and offensive coordinator Terry Malley. Grieb takes over for Mark Speckman, who accepted a job with the Montreal Alouettes of the Canadian Football League after a 4-6 season with the Oaks.

"It was a good process," Spataro said. "Our staff worked really hard to get the process done fast. We were able to turn in over in fair amount of time."



Menlo has not had a winning season since 2003 when the Oaks went 7-3. Since then, the Oaks are 24-61.

"I didn't expect it," Grieb said. "But I'm ready for the challenge. Being a head coach is a huge responsibility. I think that Menlo College really has everything it need to be successful. I think if we can trust one another and work together and we treat each other well, that the football is going to come, the winning is going to come."

A San Jose native, Grieb was a three-sport standout at San Jose's Oak Grove High School. He went on to receive a bachelor of science degree in biochemistry from U.C. Davis. He has spent the last year teaching chemistry at Leland High School in San Jose and currently resides in San Carlos with his wife, Erin and twin daughters.

San Jose SaberCats Top Plays in Week Two **By Leanne Cozart, ArenaFan** **Posted March 31, 2013**

The [San Jose SaberCats](#) improved their record to 2-0 against the [Orlando Predators](#) in Friday night's exciting 65-62 victory at the HP Pavilion in front of a rowdy home crowd. In an intense matchup between two teams that desperately wanted to get the win, there were a total of 16 touchdowns for 661 yards, however the game ultimately came down to momentum shifting defensive stops.

Jabari Fletcher- Game Impacting Sack

Defensive lineman Jabari Fletcher saw an opportunity and took advantage of it as he sacked the stumbling Rowley in the Predators end zone resulting in a safety which cut the deficit as the SaberCats approached the final minutes of the game.

Jamarko Simmons - Catch of the Game

Jamarko Simmons' 4th quarter touchdown catch against the wall with 54 seconds left was a great offensive highlight for the SaberCats as it put them three points ahead of the Predators with less than a minute left in the game. Simmons connected with Garcia throughout the night finishing with four catches for 35 yards and three touchdowns.

Mervin Brookins- Game Changing Kick Return

Mervin Brookins faced a lot of adversity throughout this game of ups and downs but he made a game changing impact when he had a 58- yard kickoff return for a touchdown with 27 seconds remaining to give the SaberCats the game winning lead.

Clevan Thomas- Game Winning Interception

On the SaberCats 2-yard line with 4 seconds remaining in the game, a back shoulder fade ball thrown to the end zone by Predators quarterback Kyle Rowley to seal the win was intercepted by two time defensive player of the year and hall of famer Clevan Thomas. Clevan greatly contributed to the SaberCats victory as he led the team with seven tackles and three interceptions for the night and despite frequently being targeted by Rowley, his efforts didn't waver as Clevan continued to play at a high level. He proved that he's returned in even better shape than when he left the game over a year ago and also that he's able to step up and respond to being challenged.

Next week the San Jose SaberCats will go on the road to take on their National West division rivals the 2-0 [Arizona Rattlers](#).

Onside Kicking Plank Nearly Saves Preds **By Adam Markowitz, ArenaFan** **Posted March 30, 2013**

For those of you that have listened to my various rants throughout the last few years, you know that I'm a big fan of the onside kick. In fact, I'd only ever boot onside kicks. Ever. Apparently, someone listened to me. Head Coach [Doug Plank](#) of the [Orlando Predators](#) onside kicked six times on Friday night. The [San Jose SaberCats](#) recovered all six of the onside kicks, but the fact that Plank had the fortitude to try all those onsides changed the game and really was the only reason the Predators were even remotely in a game that turned out to be a 65-62 defeat at HP Pavilion.

The truth of the matter is that Orlando had no business being on the same field as San Jose. The defense managed virtually zero pass rush on QB Aaron Garcia, and the secondary allowed six passes of at least 20 yards for the game. QB Kyle Rowley was only sacked twice, but it felt like he was hit about 30 times over the course of the game. Though he did throw for 373 yards and nine touchdowns, Rowley's numbers were awfully deceiving. The first touchdown of the game covered 49 yards on 4th and 12, and that was the first of five touchdowns passes that were thrown on fourth down.

Of course, Rowley also threw three interceptions and essentially sacked himself in the end zone for the safety that turned the tide of the game. The veteran signal caller literally tripped over his own player, falling into the end zone, and making a 55-49 game that should have been in hand and made it a 55-51 game that San Jose was able to go on and win.

With all of the marbles on the line, Rowley folded for the second straight week, throwing a pick in the end zone on the pass that would have won the game. Now, instead of being 2-0, the Preds are 0-2 with the [Philadelphia Soul](#) coming to the Jungle next week for the home opener.

In fairness to Orlando, this was a horrid scheduling spot early in the season. The team played on Sunday in New Orleans, had to fly back to Orlando, and then out to San Jose for a Friday game. I'm exhausted just thinking about that type of a travel schedule. So why, in spite of everything that went wrong, were the Predators still in a position to win this game?

Because Doug Plank is a freaking genius.

In the second half, Orlando's newest head coach only kicked deep twice. The first San Jose drive on a full field covered 40 yards in six plays and put a TD on the board. The second deep kickoff was returned for a touchdown with less than a minute left in the game. Six kickoffs. Two deep. Four on-sides.



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Alas, this is why it makes so much darn sense to just onside kick every single time! When Garcia was stuck in the pocket trying to pick apart a smaller field, he had all sorts of problems. On drives that started following Orlando onside kicks, Garcia went 8-for-17 for 72 yards with three touchdowns and two picks. Three of the six drives ended in touchdowns, two ended in interceptions, and one ended on downs. For the rest of the game, Garcia went 14-of-19 for 216 yards with four scores and no picks, and every single drive ended in a touchdown.

Dear Coaches: Why haven't you figured out that this strategy really does work? It is a zillion times more difficult to try to score from 15 yards away from the end zone than it is from 45 yards away from the end zone. It's tougher to throw the ball into tighter windows, the back line of the end zone acts as another defender, and the jack linebacker legitimately becomes a part of the coverage without leaving his box. Are you going to get stops all the time? Of course not. But can you get those one or two key plays to ultimately turn the tide of a game? You betcha.

In the stat sheet, it is going to say that Orlando went 0-for-6 on onside kicks, and that's going to make Plank look like he did a lousy job. However, he managed to take a team that had no business competing in a game and put it in a position to win. Typical "coach speak" suggests that a team can win something from every defeat.

In this case, maybe the coaches should learn a lesson or two from what Doug Plank was smart enough to figure out on Friday night.

San Jose SaberCats rally to win wild home opener **By Rick Eymer, San Jose Mercury News** **Posted March 30, 2012**

SAN JOSE -- Mervin Brookins knew he had a chance to score when he made the first guy miss. After that, all he had to do was follow his blocking.

Brookins returned a kickoff 58 yards for a touchdown with 27 seconds remaining, giving the San Jose SaberCats a dramatic 65-62 victory over the Orlando Predators in their home opener Friday night at HP Pavilion.

"As soon as I turned around I saw a guy flying at me," Brookins said. "The rest stayed back. If I made him miss, I knew I would have a better chance to score."

Clevan Thomas, playing his first home game with the SaberCats in five years, made his third interception in the end zone as time ran out to secure the victory for the SaberCats, who are 2-0 heading into a crucial matchup with the Arizona Rattlers next week.

"They were coming at my guy all night, and I had to suck it up," Thomas said. "I was playing the fade route and when he threw it, the ball was right there."

The teams combined for three touchdowns in the final minute.

"I just told the guys to stay the course," San Jose coach Darren Arbet said. "All we needed to do was make one play and to keep looking to the next play."

Amarri Jackson caught a touchdown pass from Kyle Rowley with 35 seconds left for the Predators, and Jamarko Simmons made an acrobatic catch in the back of the end zone with just under a minute to play for the SaberCats.

Rowley stepped on the foot on his own offensive lineman and stumbled into the end zone with 2:11 remaining, giving the SaberCats a safety and new life.

Orlando scored on three fourth-down plays and was 5 for 6 on fourth downs overall, to put itself in line for a victory. The SaberCats helped the Predators with two pass interference penalties.

Aaron Garcia already had a year of NCAA football experience under his belt by the time his SaberCats teammate Brian Folkerts made his entrance into the world. The gap in age made no difference.

Garcia threw seven touchdowns, and Folkerts recorded San Jose's first rushing TD of the season.

Simmons and Jason Willis each caught three touchdown passes, while Huey Whittaker also had a TD catch.

SaberCats take down Predators, 65-62 **By Staff Report, CSN Bay Area** **Posted March 29, 2013**

SAN JOSE, Calif. – The San Jose SaberCats (2-0) opened their 2013 home slate by defeating the visiting Orlando Predators (0-2) 65-62 in thrilling fashion on Friday night at HP Pavilion in front of 11,263 fans. Quarterback Aaron Garcia completed 22-of-36 passes for 288 yards and seven touchdowns in his home debut for San Jose. Riddell Defensive Player of the Game, defensive back Clevan Thomas led the team in tackles with seven, and posted an eye-popping three interceptions, including one that sealed the game in the endzone as time expired.

"I'm proud of the guys, I told them let's stay the course, whatever happens forget about that play and let's look forward to the next one," said Owner/Head Coach Darren Arbet. "No one was in doubt, even when they took the lead late, everyone was still focused until we won that football game."

A chippy first quarter didn't stop these two prolific offenses from putting up explosive numbers. The SaberCats reached the endzone on all three of their first quarter possessions, led by two touchdown grabs from wide receiver Jason Willis. The Predators found paydirt on both of their first quarter possessions with Russell Athletic Offensive Player of the Game, wide receiver Amarri Jackson scoring both touchdowns, but still trailed 21-14 after one quarter.



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After Thomas' second interception in as many games, Garcia and Willis hooked up for a third time, pushing the SaberCats lead to 14. However, Orlando stayed in the game with two touchdowns from quarterback Kyle Rowley to wide receiver Prechae Rodriguez, sandwiched around San Jose wide receiver Jamarko Simmons' second touchdown of the game, which brought the half time score to 35-28, in favor of the SaberCats.

Opening the second half with possession of the football, the Predators struck quickly, with Rowley finding Jackson for his third score to tie the game at 35. The teams then traded touchdowns as well as interceptions before Garcia fired a bullet to wide receiver Huey Whittaker for a 35-yard scoring strike to take the 49-42 lead into the final quarter.

The Predators again countered San Jose's attempts to put them away, starting the fourth quarter with two touchdowns and a pair of defensive stops to take the lead for the first time, 55-49. After a sack by San Jose defensive lineman Jabari Fletcher that resulted in a safety made the score 55-51, the teams traded touchdowns in the final minute. With just 27 seconds left on the clock, defensive back Mervin Brookins took the ensuing kickoff 58-yards for the score, putting the SaberCats ahead for good. Thomas intercepted a last-ditch attempt by Rowley in the endzone, his third interception of the game, to seal the 65-62 victory for San Jose.

For the SaberCats, their deep and dangerous receiving corps lived up to its name in the win. In the balanced attack, Willis led the way with eight catches for 98 yards and three touchdowns. Whittaker finished with six catches for 75 yards and a score while Simmons came through in the clutch with four catches, three for touchdowns and 35 yards. On defense, Thomas, the Hall of Fame selection put his ball-hawking skills on display once again, finishing with the three interceptions.

For Orlando, whose losing streak on the road stretched to 11 games, their gaudy offensive statistics weren't enough to deliver a victory. Rowley finished his impressive night 26-of-46 passing for 373 yards and nine touchdowns. On the outside, Jackson snagged 12 catches for 209 yards and five scores, while running mate Rodriguez ended with eight catches for 98 yards and three touchdowns. On defense, cornerbacks Simeon Castillo and Marcus Everett each registered one interception and fellow defensive back Dominic Jones led the team with five tackles on the night.

With the win, the SaberCats improved to 2-0 on the young season. Next week, San Jose takes its perfect start on the road in a matchup with their bitter rivals, the Arizona Rattlers (2-0), who knocked the SaberCats out of the playoffs en route to winning the 2012 ArenaBowl Championship.

SaberCats' home opener a homecoming for Aaron Garcia

By Rick Eymer, San Jose Mercury News

Posted March 28, 2013

SUNNYVALE -- Aaron Garcia, the 42-year-old quarterback of the San Jose SaberCats, is likely in the twilight of his career.

He has specks of gray hair on his face that speak of a career that's lasted so long. The man who once replaced him as quarterback at Washington State -- Drew Bledsoe -- retired six years ago following 14 seasons in the NFL.

Garcia has accomplished it all as he enjoys his 18th season in the Arena Football League. The future AFL hall of famer has thrown more touchdown passes than anybody in professional football history and surpassed the 1,200 mark in his SaberCats debut, a 47-42 win over the San Antonio Talons on Saturday.

The SaberCats' home opener is Friday at 7:30 p.m. at HP Pavilion against the Orlando Predators, giving Garcia a long-awaited opportunity to play in his first home game in the Bay Area. If this is the final stop of his career -- one that's included time with seven AFL franchises and a brief stint with the 49ers -- San Jose seems to be a perfect fit for the Sacramento native.

"I tried to start my career here and it didn't work out that way," said Garcia, who played at Grant High in Sacramento and finished his college career at Sacramento State.

"I've been doing this for a long time, always away from my family, hoping they maybe get a chance to see me on TV or when we come play here in San Jose. Now to be able to do this on a regular basis in front of them would be a great way just to spend this season, and then who knows what will happen after this."

Garcia said he can't wait for his children and the rest of his friends and family to experience seeing him play.

"Every time they've ever come to San Jose, they've been rooting against the SaberCats and people are yelling at them and talking to them crazy," Garcia said. "For them to be able to come in here and wear the green and root for the 'Cats, I think it'll be a great start for us on our journey, trying to win this championship this year."

Garcia is adjusting to a new team, something with which he's familiar. At least this time he's joining an established team.

In 2010, Garcia was a part of the inaugural season for the expansion Jacksonville Sharks. A season later, he helped lead them to an ArenaBowl title, the first of his career.

Last season, Garcia was a part of the Talons' first season in San Antonio after relocating from Tulsa. Early in his career, he was a member of the Iowa Barnstormers (where he took over after Kurt Warner left for the NFL) when they moved to New York.

"I've been in situations where I'm starting new organizations," Garcia said. "Here now, I'm coming in and almost trying to fit in to something that's more established."

SaberCats coach Darren Arbet said Garcia was a great fit after 13-year veteran Mark Grieb retired after last season.

"It's great having Aaron here," Arbet said. "He's competitive, he's a winner. Hall of famer. He's done it all. To have him here, leading this team, it's a good thing."

📌 Huey Whittaker was named the AFL's J. Lewis Small Playmaker of the Week for his performance in the win over San Antonio. The two-way star caught eight passes for 89 yards and four touchdowns and also forced a fumble and returned an interception 45 yards for a touchdown.



"I'm excited about just having the opportunity to be on both sides and have that chance to prove I can do both," Whittaker said.

What to Expect in SaberCats Home Opener against the Predators

By Leanne Cozart, ArenaFan

Posted March 27, 2013

After a road victory against the [San Antonio Talons](#) (0-1) the [San Jose SaberCats](#) (1-0) have been preparing for their home opener against the [Orlando Predators](#). In their first battle as a team, the SaberCats proved that their veteran roster can execute and respond to adversity as they played hard until the last seconds of the game to take home a team win (47-42).

There were several impact players that made all the difference in securing the victory against the Talons that are expected to do big things against the Predators in the HP Pavilion on Friday night.

A big time playmaker to watch out for is Huey Whitaker who earned AFL honors as he was named the J. Lewis Small Playmaker of the Week and he's a candidate for the AFL MVP of the week based off of last week's dominant performance. Whitaker played in every phase of the game and even spent time as a cornerback which was a new position for him. Whitaker's ability to adjust and excel in any position makes him one of the SaberCats' most dangerous weapons moving forward and a true Iron Man.

Hall of Famer Clevan Thomas stepped up as a shutdown corner threatening the Talons' offensive game plan repeatedly and intercepted a pass from quarterback John Dutton. I wouldn't expect the Predators to throw at him often as he's one of the few cornerbacks in the game capable of completely shutting down a receiver.

Veteran quarterback Aaron Garcia showed out completing 23-of-36 of his passes for 264 yards and five touchdowns. Garcia also improved his Hall of Fame numbers as he surpassed the 1,200 career touchdown point. However, Garcia had three interceptions which is something he plans on cleaning up moving forward into week two.

The Orlando Predators didn't have a successful campaign against the [New Orleans VooDoo](#) in their season opener as they lost 45-51 in overtime. [Doug Plank](#) made his debut as the Predators' Head Coach and he couldn't quite get the job done with his team despite their great defensive efforts.

One Predators playmaker is aggressive linebacker Tim Cheatwood who had two sacks and one resulting in a safety. Predator defensive backs to watch out for are Dominic Jones who led the team with six tackles and Simeon Castille who posted an interception and returned it for 16 yards. A familiar face on the Predators' defense will be former SaberCats' linebacker Dexter Jackson.

On the offensive side of the ball a threat to the SaberCats' defense is wide receiver Jason Geathers who posted 12 catches for 110 yards and two touchdowns. Also, wide receiver Prechae Rodriguez had 9 catches for 176 yards and three touchdowns and will be a much anticipated target by quarterback Kyle Rowley.

Week one of the season gave us a pretty good idea of what each team is capable of and for the SaberCats, a big team goal will be to have consistency week to week and cut down on turnovers. With a bitter taste in their mouths from last week's overtime loss, the Predators will attempt to take down a top tier team in front of a rowdy and excited San Jose crowd which isn't any easy thing to do.

SaberCats Ready to Face Talons in the Season Opener

By Leanne Cozart, ArenaFan

Posted March 22, 2013

After a long off season and an extensive training camp, the [San Jose SaberCats](#) will begin their hunt for the ArenaBowl Championship on Saturday at the season opener. The 2012 Central Division Champions, the [San Antonio Talons](#), will be hosting the SaberCats in the Alamodome at 5:30 p.m. PT.

The SaberCats have had a long and productive week of preparation so far and feel good about their transition out of training camp and into the week one of the 2013 season.

"I think our team is starting to bond and gel. I'm excited about the game this weekend," said Head Coach and Owner [Darren Arbet](#).

After cutting the training camp roster down to the final 24-man roster last week, the SaberCats' coaching staff is very confident with the product they're putting out on the field. With only seven players returning from last season's roster, there are a lot of new faces wearing green and gold.

Perhaps one of the most notable changes is the arrival of veteran quarterback Aaron Garcia upon the departure of 12-year SaberCats' quarterback Mark Grieb. Entering his 18th season in the league, Garcia has held all-time records in numerous quarterback categories and last season he led the Talons to a 14-4 record. Garcia is accompanied by receiver Jason Willis who also spent last season in San Antonio as one of his go-to receivers.

On the Talons' roster is former SaberCats' defensive playmakers DL Joe Sykes, DL Tim McGill and DB Andre Jones. In their time spent in San Jose last season, Joe Sykes led the league in sacks and tackles for loss, Tim McGill often called for a double team against opposing offensive lines, and Andre Jones led the team in interceptions.

Coach Arbet discusses his thoughts on going up against his former players. "They're great players and they're going to make plays, we just have to limit how many plays they make. We brought them here last year because they were good players and Joe Sykes, Player of the Year, I mean you don't get Player of the Year for no reason. He's the best in the league right now."

The SaberCats have their own set of weapons on the defense this season, with the return of Hall of Famer Clevan Thomas in the back field and all-AFL linebacker Francis Mako's consistent and aggressive playing style back for another season. The defensive line is a little bit on the younger side but veteran Jason Stewart brings some experience along with him.



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To prepare for the Talons, Jason and the defense have been, "Focusing on technique, staying hydrated, and watching a lot of film on what we do have."

A few qualities this SaberCats defense has is "Speed, a lot of youth and great talent," said Jason. Going up against the offensive line in every practice, Jason can share, "The SaberCats have a great offensive line, they're clicking together."

With a great offensive line protecting a Hall of Fame quarterback, it's left up to the receivers to execute and put up points. Receiver Jamarko Simmons is confident that the SaberCats receiving corps will perform well on Saturday as he feels they've got a lot of diverse talent.

"I think we just have a variety, so you really can't game plan us so well because any given moment we can put 6'5 Huey out there, me at 6'2, or fast Fred, or Samora who's quick, or J Will who's a track guy."

"So I mean you just can't really game plan for us and I think that's our strength because we can just come out and play as hard as we can knowing we have an advantage," said Jamarko.

Looking at the Talons defense, Jamarko thinks they're going to be a competitive group.

"They have a great defensive line, they have a good secondary and a good mack. So we've got to come out with high intensity. We definitely have to be efficient and we have to execute each and every play and if we do that, I think we'll be successful," said Jamarko.

This past week was an opportunity for the team to get on the same page before entering their first battle together. Apart from winning, Coach Arbet would like to accomplish a few things in the Alamodome this weekend, he wants his team to "Play hard, respect the game, respect each other and then see where we end up at."

San Jose SaberCats begin anew with quarterback Aaron Garcia

**By P.J. Brown, San Jose Mercury News
Posted March 22, 2013**

The time has arrived. A quarterback other than Mark Grieb is calling signals for the SaberCats.

It is Aaron Garcia, veteran of 17 Arena Football League seasons. He is one of few quarterbacks who rank in the AFL record book ahead of Grieb, who retired after the 2012 season to end a 12-year run with the SaberCats. Garcia is the AFL career leader in passing yards (55,032), touchdown passes (1,996), pass attempts (6,845) and completions (4,436).

His first turn running the offense comes Saturday, when the SaberCats open the season in San Antonio, where Garcia played last season.

Garcia, 42, led the Talons to a Central Division title in 2012, passing for 4,985 yards and 118 touchdowns. He brought an ArenaBowl championship to Jacksonville in 2011, earning game MVP honors.

A Sacramento native, Garcia broke John Elway's state high school career passing yardage and touchdown records in two years at Grant High. He played college football at Washington State and Sacramento State.

Grieb retired after passing for 47,901 yards on 3,885 completions. Both marks rank second in league history to Garcia. Grieb, who won three ArenaBowl championships, brought the SaberCats to the first round of the playoffs last year, losing to Arizona.

Garcia was assigned in November to the SaberCats, his eighth AFL stop.

"I'm trying to learn the SaberCats system and adding things I like to do and feel comfortable with, and we'll meet in the middle," Garcia said. "We won't know the outcome of this until Saturday."

SaberCats coach Darren Arbet has confidence in his new quarterback.

"Aaron has a great feel for the offense," Arbet said. "I've known Aaron for a long time. In my mind, he is a Hall of Famer and will bring a lot to the team."

Garcia does have one familiar target -- wide receiver Jason Willis, who had 101 receptions for 1,179 yards and 25 touchdowns for San Antonio last season. The two also played together in Jacksonville and New York.

"It's nice walking out onto the field in a new system with someone I've thrown to that long," Garcia said.

The SaberCats have brought back defensive back Clevan Thomas. Out of the league for four years, he is the SaberCats' career leader with 50 interceptions, the season leader with 13 interceptions, and he was voted into the league's Hall of Fame in 2012.

"Cle is the best defensive back to ever play this game," Arbet said. "He is a big-time leader in the locker room. He sees things as a player that a coach doesn't see, and he pulls young guys aside and takes care of it before things happen."

SaberCats Conclude Training Camp and Set Sights on the Talons

**By Leanne Cozart, ArenaFan
Posted March 14, 2013**

The [San Jose SaberCats](#) are finishing up a very tough and competitive training camp as they approach final cuts and week one of the 2013 Arena Football season.



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"There's a couple of positions where we don't know what decision we're going to make, so we have a couple of days here for players to step it up and show us what they can do if they want to make this football team," said Coach Arbet.

Opening the season against the [San Antonio Talons](#) in the Alamo Dome, the SaberCats will be facing a longtime rival and a lot of familiar faces.

Among the former SaberCats who are currently on the Talons roster is last season's AFL sack leader Joe Sykes, as well as last season's team leader in interceptions, Andre Jones. Some other familiar faces to the SaberCats are defensive back Kelvin Rogers and defensive lineman Tim McGill.

The SaberCats have also picked up their share of former Talons as they have acquired veteran quarterback Aaron Garcia, receiver Jason Willis, and defensive back Ken Fontenette.

Entering his 18th season as a quarterback, Garcia will be taking over Mark Grieb's role on the SaberCats. After 12 very successful seasons and three ArenaBowl Championships, Grieb set a lot of high standards for Garcia.

When asked about the acclimation to his new team, Garcia stated, "It's always tough, as far as making that transition. Especially here a place that has been so established, they've had a great quarterback for years and they've had a great offense. So I'm coming in, trying to bring my personality and the things that I do well to add to what they've done here and hopefully it'll be a good combination."

Coach Arbet and Garcia have a lot of familiarity with each other as their time at Sacramento State University overlapped in the early 90's.

"I've known Aaron a long time, he's a pro, he's a future hall of famer, guys respect him, and he's a big time leader," said Coach Arbet.

Garcia is looking forward to playing in front of his home crowd. "I have a big family that would love to come down here and actually not be rooting against the SaberCats for the first time, but instead having everyone be in green and cheering for the 'Cats," said Garcia.

Garcia's go-to receiver from the San Antonio Talons, Jason Willis, will also be making his SaberCats debut this season.

"The SaberCats have a lot of history and everything is really organized, it's definitely a professional team. I like the way Arbet is running things and it's going smooth. We're ready to get this show on the road," said Willis about his transition to his new team.

This will be the fourth team that the dynamic duo of Garcia and Willis have played for together over their time spent in the AFL as they've both been on the [New York Dragons](#), [Jacksonville Sharks](#), and San Antonio Talons.

"Jason and I have a good relationship; it's kind of a fun relationship. We mess with each other a lot, but on the field I know where he's going to be, what he's going to do. His talents are incredible," said Garcia.

"I think the coaches here and the organization have been really impressed with not only his talent but his work ethic. He's a veteran, he's been playing for a long time too, so for him to keep doing this and come with me is something I really appreciate."

Willis feels the exact same about Garcia stating, "He knows before I even break where to throw the ball, for the most part he always knows where I'm going to be. It's just a great chemistry. It's coming along and we expect that when we get on the field, it'll be the same as always."

Garcia is looking forward to playing with many talented players acquired on the SaberCats offense.

"The receivers are very dynamic. We've got some big, tall, fast receivers. So really a lot of weapons and on the offensive line we've got a lot of great guys. It's just really a matter of all of us gelling together, learning how to work with each other. But we have all the tools, so there are really no excuses for us," said Garcia.

With a lot of weapons and experience on offense, it's just a matter of finding a rhythm early in the season. Playing the Talons week one in the Alamo Dome will be a great test for Garcia to overcome.

The SaberCats defense also have a lot of talent that Coach Arbet is excited about. "Francis Maka made second team all-league last year, I think he's starting to come into his own. This is his third year in the league and I think he really understands that position now. Jason Stewart at nose guard is an old vet who's going to be starting this year. I really like what he can do."

"With Clevan Thomas coming back we feel good about our defensive backs, we're young on the defensive line, but they're very talented. So it'll be interesting to see how they play that first game," said Arbet.

Checking each other out: Fans, SaberCats' owners take look at possible match

By Kevin Niendorf, Stockton Record

Posted March 8, 2013

STOCKTON - An estimated 2,000 fans got a sneak peek of possible things to come as the San Jose SaberCats battled the Chicago Rush to a 28-28 tie in an Arena Football League exhibition game Thursday night at Stockton Arena.

While the fans witnessed a tie, few likely realized Stockton is being scouted by AFL executives as a possible location for a developmental team. SaberCats owner David Fry attended the game and said Stockton would be a prime location if a developmental league is created.

"It could be as early as next February, but realistically it would not happen until 2015," Fry said. "We're talking to various people, and the mayor (Anthony Silva) wants another meeting. Coach (Darren) Arbet is working the hardest because he understands Stockton needs it."

Arbet, an Edison High graduate, said AFL commissioner Jerry Kurz was in attendance Thursday and he left with a good first impression.



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"He was very impressed with what we had here," Arbet said. "It's a good crowd and it's a beautiful arena. I love Stockton, I wanted to bring my team here."

For a \$5 general admission ticket, fans were able to see AFL legend Aaron Garcia, the league's all-time passing leader with 55,013 yards, along with quarterback prospect Mitch Mustain. The former USC backup to Matt Barkley is one of 35 players trying to make the SaberCats' 24-man roster by March 23.

"It's a very important step, especially for my long-term goals," said Mustain, who was 11 of 18 for 108 yards, two touchdowns and an interception. "Certainly the smaller field (of arena football) ups the speed, and I enjoy that part of it. You have to play smart and quick because there's not a lot of room for error."

Arbet said seven players who were "on the bubble" will be cut today. Thursday's exhibition was the only one on the SaberCats' schedule after opening camp on March 1.

"You have to make the plays and be fundamentally sound," Arbet said. "I was glad we came out healthy and got to see all the guys we wanted to see play. They were really focused and the guys came out and played hard."

Pertuit to return to SaberCats **By Billings Gazette** **Posted March 07, 2013**

SAN JOSE, Calif. -- Billings native Nich Pertuit will return to the San Jose SaberCats of the Arena Football League. Pertuit's two-year contract with the team was announced on Wednesday. Last season Pertuit played in 13 contests for the SaberCats as the team's kicker, connecting on 103 of 114 extra-point attempts.

"Nich proved to be extremely accurate for us last season," said Darren Arbet, owner and head coach of San Jose, on the team's website. "He is an asset in the kicking game and with his experience in this league, we expect good things from him again in 2013." Pertuit has played two seasons in the AFL, spending the 2011 season with the Iowa Barnstormers. Before that Pertuit was in the Indoor Football League with the Abilene Ruff Riders.

Pertuit is a 2001 Billings Senior graduate. While at Senior, he was on the Broncs team in 1999 that went a perfect 14-0 and captured the state AA boys soccer championship. During that season as a center/midfielder, he led the state in scoring with 16 goals and 15 assists. After high school, Pertuit went on to play college soccer at the University of the Incarnate Word (Texas).

The SaberCats first game is in San Antonio against the Talons at the Alamo Dome March 23.

A football life: From Europe to Mexico, Stockton native Carlos Franco goes great lengths for game he loves **By Dana Nichols, Stockton Record** **Posted February 28, 2013**

STOCKTON - If football were a religion, you could call Carlos Franco a missionary. If football were a country, you could call Franco an ambassador.

Franco, 40, has done almost everything possible in the world of passes, punts, tackles and kicks. He played football from Pop Warner to the pros. He went to college on a football scholarship, he answered the call to coach the Franklin High team when it needed him most, and he's even done a little coaching for professional arena football teams.

"For me, it's everything," Franco said of the years he's spent involved in football. "I got an education out of it and a career."

COMING UP

San Jose vs. Chicago

Kickoff: 6 p.m., March 7 (Stockton Arena)

Tickets: \$5 available at ticketmaster.com or the arena box office

Website: thesanjosesabercats.com

His career, to be clear, is as a driver's education instructor at Franklin and part-time employee at Cassidy's pawn shop in downtown Stockton. Franco played professional football for two years in a European league. He last was on the field as a player 15 years ago in Dortmund, Germany.

Franco keeps his hand in the game. He's about to spend his spring break and some of his vacation time working as a coaching intern for the San Jose SaberCats, an Arena Football League team whose head coach, Darren Arbet, is an Edison High graduate. On March 7, Franco will be with the SaberCats when they play the Chicago Rush in a preseason game at Stockton Arena.

Every summer, Franco spends a month in Tepalitan, Mexico, teaching a football clinic in a nation where soccer is king is nothing short of a miracle.

Franco admits that growing up a working class Latino in Stockton created some extra obstacles for him. In fact, the first two years that he played Pop Warner football, he concealed that fact from his parents. He said an older neighbor, a white kid named Benjamin Pippenger, invited Franco along to the East Side Lions Pop Warner team practice.

"I was 10," Franco said.

At the time, Franco said his parents expressed concern that football was dangerous. However, Franco said he saw it as a prejudice against the sport and noted that his parents would have supported other dangerous activities.

"My dad would say, 'You can't play football, but my son will ride that horse,'" Franco said. "They didn't even know I played for a while. I had to hide it



from them."

Franco became a running back and played at Franklin. He earned a football scholarship to Trinity College in Illinois and transferred to Cal State Hayward, where he became an all-conference player and team captain.

During his college years, Franco's parents never came to a game.

"It's just because they were never around it," Franco said of their distance from the sport he loves.

Franco said he's met many Latinos who have similar feelings. Often, he was the only Latino on a team or at a tryout.

"I never, ever beat out a Mexican guy for a position," Franco said.

Now, he is doing what he can to change that. In addition to teaching the clinic each year in Tepatitlan, Franco said he urges young Latinos whose build or skills are right for football to consider the sport. He sees it as an avenue for many Latino athletes who may not have the physique for soccer.

One of the greatest challenges in his career came in 2008, when Franklin officials asked him to coach the team. The school's program was in disarray. The year before, longtime coach Tom Verner had resigned in the wake of a recruiting scandal.

In his first season, Franco found himself on the field with new players, as many players from Verner's Franklin teams transferred to other schools.

"That was tough," Franco said. "There were times where, at practice, believe it or not, I had eight guys."

Because of the scandal, players on the team had to endure a high level of scrutiny, including frequent grade checks. Eventually, Franco and the new players turned things around. By his second season, the Yellowjackets began winning again. After three seasons, with the Franklin program back on its feet, Franco resigned so he could pursue other interests.

Franco's toughness and work ethic are well known to others in the world of football.

Businessman David Mairs, the former coach of the now-defunct California Eagles indoor football team, is now working with Franco and others to find a way to permanently bring some level of arena football to Stockton.

"He's a good guy," Mairs said of Franco. "He's good for the community."

Clevan Thomas Returns to SaberCats: Five-time All-Arena selection, three-time ArenaBowl champion back in San Jose

By Arenafootball.com
Posted February 27, 2013

SAN JOSE, Calif. - The [San Jose SaberCats](http://SanJoseSaberCats.com) announced today that they have been assigned 2012 Arena Football League Hall of Fame selection and SaberCats legend, defensive back Clevan Thomas on a two-year contract.

"Being able to add a game-changer like Clevan is huge for us heading into this season," said Owner/Head Coach Darren Arbet. "He is the best defensive player I have ever had the pleasure of coaching and mixing him in with our very talented secondary is something we are very excited about."

Thomas (5-10, 195, Florida State), a five-time All-Arena selection, 2002 Rookie of the Year and two-time Defensive Player of the Year (2002-03) will soon join former teammates Barry Wagner, Sam Hernandez and SaberCats Owner/Head Coach Darren Arbet in the AFL Hall of Fame.

Voted as the 24th Greatest Player in AFL history by the Silver Anniversary Committee in 2012, Thomas previously played with the SaberCats from 2002-08 and is the franchise leader in interceptions (50), which is tied for second all-time in AFL history with former [Orlando Predators](http://OrlandoPredators.com) great Durwood Roquemore. Thomas also is the single-season franchise leader in interceptions (13 in 2003), which is the fourth highest total in AFL history, as well as the franchise leader in passes defended (108) and is second in franchise history in total tackles (460).

A three-time ArenaBowl champion (2002, 2003 and 2007), the former Florida State Seminole was a game-changer for San Jose. His famed defensive style predicated on press coverage is a key factor in what has made Thomas one of the greatest defensive backs to ever play the game.

KNBR to Broadcast SaberCats Games in 2013

By [Our Sports Central](http://OurSportsCentral.com)
Posted February 26, 2013

SAN JOSE, Calif. - The San Jose SaberCats and KNBR announced today that KNBR 1050 will be the radio home for all SaberCats football games during the 2013 season. The SaberCats open the 2013 slate on the road on Saturday, March 23 against the defending Central Division champion San Antonio Talons at the Alamodome at 5:30 p.m. PT. San Jose's home opener is in Week 2 against the Orlando Predators on Friday, March 29 at 7:30 p.m. PT at the HP Pavilion. Season ticket packages start as low as \$85 and are on sale now. Contact (408) 673-3400 or info@thesanjosesabercats.com for more information.

"We are very proud to partner with KNBR again this season, as they are the home for Bay Area sports on the radio," said Owner/Head Coach Darren Arbet. "As an [organization](http://organization.com), we are looking forward to our fans being able to listen to all of our games throughout the season as we make our run at ArenaBowl XXVI."

The partnership also includes a wide range of weekly SaberCats programming, including a weekly coach's show with Arbet, Bob Fitzgerald and Rod Brooks on the Fitz and Brooks show on KNBR 680 (weekdays from 12:00 - 3:00 p.m. PT), as well as 15-minute pregame and postgame shows on game



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days.

2013 Preview: San Jose SaberCats

With training camp right around the corner, AFNation takes a look at how the San Jose SaberCats are shaping up in 2013.

By ArenaFootball.com

Posted February 26, 2013

AFNation Report

2012 RECORD: 12-6 (2nd, National Conference West)

LAST PLAYOFF APPEARANCE: 2012 (Lost to [Arizona Rattlers](#) in Quarterfinal Playoff Game)

COACH (RECORD): Darren Arbet (128-62 overall, 128-62 with San Jose)

OFFENSIVE STAR: Aaron Garcia, QB (4985 passing yards, 118 touchdowns, 16 interceptions)

DEFENSIVE STAR: Francis Maka, MLB (31.5 tackles, 10.5 tackles for loss, nine sacks)

2012 OFFENSIVE TEAM RANKS: 1st overall (9th rushing, 1-1st passing) 2nd scoring (63.5 ppg)

2012 DEFENSIVE TEAM RANKS: 9th overall (10th rushing, 9th passing) 11th scoring (57.1 ppg)

KEY ADDITIONS: QB Aaron Garcia (San Antonio), WR Jason Willis (San Antonio), WR Jamarko Simmons (Jacksonville), OL TJ Watkins (Chicago), OL George Bussey (Tampa Bay), OL Michael Diaz (Milwaukee), C Raymond McNeil (Milwaukee), DL Cedric McKinley (Chicago), MLB Justin Warren (Philadelphia), DB J.C. Neal (Kansas City), DB Ken Fontenette (San Antonio)

KEY DEPARTURES: QB Mark Grieb (retired), QB Danny Southwick (San Antonio), WR Rodney Wright (Chicago), DL Joe Sykes (San Antonio), DL Tim McGill (San Antonio), DB Andre Jones (San Antonio), DB Tanner Varner (Jacksonville)

KEY FREE AGENTS: FB Tommy Taggart, WR James Roe, WR Ben Nelson, OL Mark Lewis, DL Gabe Nyenhuis, DL Jermaine Smith, DB Vince Hill, K Nich Pertuit

MARQUEE MATCHUPS: at San Antonio (Week 1), at Arizona (Week 3)

PROGNOSIS: For the first time in 12 seasons, the [San Jose SaberCats](#) roster will not feature Mark Grieb. When the future first ballot Hall of Fame quarterback announced his intentions to retire on November 8, 2012, the SaberCats were quick to find a suitable replacement. They did just that with the addition of another future first ballot Hall of Famer, Aaron Garcia. Garcia will enter his AFL-record 18th season in 2013, but is still playing some of the best football of his career, passing for 4,985 yards and a career-high 118 touchdowns with the [San Antonio Talons](#) last year. Those numbers came while working with a rotating receiving corps that was plagued by injuries last season. Assuming the SaberCats stay healthy, Garcia should have as talented a lineup as he ever has in the League. Huey Whittaker, Hank Edwards, Samora Goodson and Fred Williams all return from last year's San Jose roster, while the team has also added former [Jacksonville Sharks](#) utility back Jamarko Simmons, versatile rookie Corbin Louks and one of Garcia's all-time favorite targets, Jason Willis. A pair of longtime San Jose standouts, James Roe and Ben Nelson, remain free agents. The offensive line will also be a strength of the team, where the club will be aided by the additions of four free agents - TJ Watkins, George Bussey, Michael Diaz and Raymond McNeil. If they can keep Garcia upright, there should not be any dropoff for the League's top-ranked offense from a year ago. On the defensive side of the ball, the team will have to deal with some significant losses. Losing the reigning Defensive Player of the Year, Joe Sykes, and massive nose guard Tim McGill to San Antonio will no doubt hurt. The team is also currently without fellow defensive linemen Gabe Nyenhuis and Jermaine Smith, both of whom remain unassigned. To fill the void, the team brought back four-year veteran Jason Stewart and added former Golden Gophers standout Cedric McKinley. Rookies Terrell Turner, Christian Tupou and Michael Ebbitt will also compete for playing time. The linebacker position will see some interesting competition as well, as All-Arena Mac backer Francis Maka is joined by Justin Lawrence and Justin Warren for 2013. The squad should be set with starters in the secondary, as incumbent playmaker Mervin Brookins is joined by veteran Ken Fontenette and former All-Arena selection J.C. Neal. That trio will be pushed by second-year man Jameel Dowling and rookies Andre Freeman and Will Billingsley. The team has yet to be assigned a kicker for 2013.

SaberCats, Comcast SportsNet Bay Area Announce 2013 Television Schedule

By [Our Sports Central](#)

Posted February 21, 2013

SAN JOSE, Calif. - The San Jose SaberCats and Comcast SportsNet Bay Area announced today that the [network](#) will be the television home for seven SaberCats football games during the 2013 season. The majority of telecasts will be broadcast by the voice of the SaberCats, Bob Fitzgerald and former SaberCats wide receiver Steve Papin.

"Comcast SportsNet is the premier home for all Bay Area sports on television and we look forward to our renewed partnership this season," said Owner/Head Coach Darren Arbet. "We are focused as an [organization](#) in providing our fans with the best broadcasts of our games possible as we continue our quest for our fourth ArenaBowl championship."

The SaberCats open the 2013 slate on the road on Saturday, March 23 against the defending Central Division champion San Antonio Talons at the AlamoDome at 5:30 p.m. PT. San Jose's home opener is in Week 2 against the Orlando Predators on Friday, March 29 at 7:30 p.m. PT at the HP Pavilion. Season ticket packages start as low as \$85 and are on sale now. Contact (408) 673-3400 or info@thesanjosesebercats.com for more information.

The partnership also includes a wide range of SaberCats programming separate from the televised games, including a 30-minute show, SaberCats Weekly. The show will delve into the latest action in SaberCats football both on and off the field, including game recaps, previews, interviews with



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Owner/Head Coach Darren Arbet as well as a number of key players throughout the season.

Comcast SportsNet Bay Area President Ted Griggs added, "Comcast SportsNet is committed to providing the region's most comprehensive coverage of one of the Arena Football League's most illustrious franchises. As the SaberCats make a run at their fourth Arena Bowl Championship, we are pleased to provide our viewers a robust telecast schedule along with season-long news and analysis on SportsNet Central and Chronicle Live."

2013 San Jose SaberCats on Comcast SportsNet:

Date Opponent Time Network

Saturday, March 23 @ San Antonio Talons 5:30 p.m. PT CSN Plus

Friday, March 29 Orlando Predators 7:30 p.m. PT CSN Bay Area

Saturday, April 27 @ New Orleans VooDoo 5:00 p.m. PT CSN Plus

Saturday, May 18 @ Jacksonville Sharks 4:00 p.m. PT CSN Plus

Saturday, June 15 @ Iowa Barnstormers 5:05 p.m. PT CSN Bay Area

Saturday, June 29 @ Utah Blaze 6:00 p.m. PT CSN Bay Area

Saturday, July 27 @ Chicago Rush 5:00 p.m. PT CSN Bay Area

*All dates and times are subject to change, check local listings for channel information

SaberCats Single Game Tickets On Sale Friday

By ArenaFootball.com

Posted February 14, 2013

San Jose SaberCats Press Release

SAN JOSE, Calif. - The SaberCats announced today that single game tickets for the 2013 Net 10 Wireless Arena Football League season are going on sale tomorrow, Friday, Feb. 15 at 10:00 a.m. PT. Individual tickets can be purchased for as low as \$12 per ticket. The SaberCats open their season on the road against the [San Antonio Talons](#) on Saturday, March 23 and the home opener is slated for Friday, March 29 against the [Orlando Predators](#) at HP Pavilion at 7:30 p.m. PT. The first 5,000 fans in attendance at the home opener will receive a free Logitech rally towel.

"With the 2013 season quickly approaching, we are very happy to provide our fans with a variety of ticketing options," said Owner/Head Coach Darren Arbet. "This is going to be a very exciting year for our organization and we look forward to seeing our fans at HP Pavilion beginning on March 29."

Individual tickets can be purchased by visiting ticketmaster.com, through the HP Pavilion box office, by phone at 1-800-745-3000, or at any Ticketmaster outlet location, including those at Walmart.

Season tickets are currently on sale as well, and packages are available for as low as \$85. Season ticket or group packages (discounts are available for groups of 12 or more) can be purchased on thesanjosesabercats.com or by calling the SaberCats front office at 408-673-3400.

Johnie Kirton's cause of death ruled acute methadone intoxication; Former Washington football player Johnie Kirton died at the age of 26 in May, two days after scoring the winning touchdown in an Arena Football League game.

By Bob Condotta, *Seattle Times*

Posted February 8, 2013

Former Washington Huskies football player Johnie Kirton died of acute methadone intoxication, according to a recently released report from the Santa Clara (Calif.) County Medical Examiner's office.

Kirton was found dead May 28 in a hotel room in Santa Clara, where he was playing for the San Jose SaberCats of the Arena Football League. He was 26.

No other details of the report were made available. Jesse Montano, an administrative support officer for the Santa Clara County Medical Examiner's office, said the death was ruled an accident. The cause of death had not been released previously due to toxicology tests and a backlog of cases.

Kirton was a record-setting running back at Jackson High in Mill Creek, where he led the state in rushing as a senior in 2003 with 2,675 yards and was named the Gatorade and Associated Press state player of the year.

He played four seasons at Washington as a fullback, tight end and defensive tackle, voted by teammates as one of four team captains in 2008.

Kirton played for the Spokane Shock of the defunct af2 indoor league in 2009 and played from 2010-12 in the Arena Football League with Arizona, Chicago and San Jose.

He scored the winning touchdown in his final game, two days before his death.

SaberCats Tickets for Stockton Event On Sale Now: San Jose and Chicago will square off in preseason action at the Stockton Arena in March

By ArenaFootball.com

Posted February 5, 2013

San Jose SaberCats Press Release

SAN JOSE, Calif. - The SaberCats announced today that tickets for their preseason event with the [Chicago Rush](#) on Thursday, March 7 at 6 p.m. PT at the Stockton Arena are on sale now. All tickets are \$5 and can be purchased through ticketmaster.com, by calling 1-800-745-3000, or at the Stockton Arena Box Office (from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday on non-event days and on days with events, from 10 a.m. until approximately one hour after the event begins).



"Bringing this type of event to the city of Stockton is something we have been looking forward to for a while," said Owner/Head Coach Darren Arbet. "Our goal is to provide an exciting game at an affordable price in a new market as we continue to grow as an organization."

The SaberCats open their 2013 season on the road against the [San Antonio Talons](#) on Saturday, March 23 and the home opener is Friday, March 29 against the [Orlando Predators](#) at HP Pavilion at 7:30 p.m. PT. The complete 2013 schedule is available [here](#).

5 places where football is foremost

By Spud Hilton: SF Gate
Posted February 1, 2013

Born before the Civil War, refined by Walter Camp, elevated by [Knute Rockne](#) and Pop Warner and raised to an art form by the likes of Lombardi, Landry and Walsh, American football is the love child of strategy and chaos. Brute force meets ballet's grace in hopes that a game of inches will turn to yards. And as the [49ers](#) face off Sunday against the [Ravens](#) in the sport's top game, here are a few arenas in the West where gridiron is still sacred ground.

1. [Ricky's Sports Theatre and Grill, San Leandro](#)

This Raider Nation outpost "was a sports bar before there was anything called a sports bar," says co-owner [Ricky Ricardo](#). Proof? The restaurant has more than 90 televisions and a host of satellite dishes (and free Wi-Fi for checking the scores you can't find on all those TVs). Don't be surprised to see former [Raiders](#) walking by. 15028 Hesperian Blvd., (510) 317-0200, [www.rickys.com](#).

2. "The Football Players," UC Berkeley

Created in Paris by artist [Douglas Tilden](#), in 1898 this bronze sculpture became a prize awarded by then-S.F. Mayor [James Phelan](#) to either Stanford or Cal, based on which team won two Big Games in a row. Berkeley shut out Stanford the next two meetings, and the sculpture was installed on the campus in 1900. (Tilden also sculpted the Mechanics Monument at Market and Bush streets in San Francisco.) Location: Off Campanile Way, between Strawberry Creek and the [Valley Life Sciences Building](#).

3. [Tony Morabito Bench, Candlestick Park](#)

During a game against the Bears at Kezar Stadium, the 49ers' first owner died of a heart attack in the stands. The 49ers rallied from a 17-7 deficit after hearing of Morabito's death and won, 21-17. The bench, a memorial to Morabito that sat on the sidelines in Kezar, was finally moved to Candlestick in the 1980s, where it sits near the St. Francis of Assisi statue in front of Candlestick Park, 490 Jamestown Ave. (the knoll is outside the southern end of the stadium). [www.49ers.com/team/history/founder.html](#).

4. [San Jose SaberCats, San Jose](#)

If you can get past the padded walls, the rebound nets and a field just 50 yards long between end zones, the [Arena Football League](#) is perfectly legitimate. If nothing else, it moves faster and the players are, in general, hungrier than their big-budget NFL brethren. HP Pavilion, 525 W. Santa Clara St., (408) 673-3400, [www.thesanjosesabercats.com](#).

5. [University of Phoenix Stadium, Glendale, Ariz.](#)

Plenty of stadiums have retractable roofs, but this is the first one that also has a retractable field. The natural-grass surface slides out a back door, where it sits in the sunshine. Home to the NFL's [Arizona Cardinals](#) (the college the stadium is named for doesn't have a football team), the 63,400-seat stadium offers a host of high-tech features and oddities of convenience - most of which you'll hear about on the 75-minute walking tour. Tours go year-round (and often sell out). Admission: \$7-\$9. 1 Cardinals Drive, (623) 433-7165, [www.universityofphoenixstadium.com/tour](#).

WR Jamarko Simmons and OL Matt Spanos Join SaberCats

By Arenafootball.com
Posted January 26, 2013

[San Jose SaberCats](#) Press Release

SAN JOSE, Calif. - The SaberCats announced today that they have been assigned former [Jacksonville Sharks](#) wide receiver Jamarko Simmons on a two-year contract and former USC Trojan offensive lineman Matt Spanos on a one-year deal.

"We are excited about bringing both Jamarko and Matt into the fold this season," said Owner/Head Coach Darren Arbet. "Jamarko's familiarity with Aaron (Garcia) and Matt's high level of experience should prove to be very significant as we head into camp."

Simmons (6-3, 245, Western Michigan) spent his last two seasons with the [Jacksonville Sharks](#). In 2012 he hauled in 72 passes for 751 yards and 16 touchdowns and also carried the ball for 31 yards and six scores for the Sharks. The Flint, Michigan native also caught eight passes for 78 yards and a touchdown in the postseason last year as well. Simmons was part of the 2011 ArenaBowl Champion Sharks and caught 27 passes for 265 yards and ten scores from current SaberCats quarterback Aaron Garcia. In addition, he also scored on seven occasions on the ground. In the postseason, he accounted for eight total touchdowns (four receiving and four rushing), including three in the ArenaBowl.

Prior to joining the Sharks, Simmons spent time in 2011 with the New York Jets on their practice squad and signed as an undrafted free agent by the Green Bay Packers of the National Football League. He attended Western Michigan University and in 47 appearances posted 260 career catches for 3,019 yards and 17 touchdowns, including a team-leading 104 receptions for 1276 yards and seven scores as a senior for the Broncos.

Spanos (6-5, 305, USC) was a member of the Canadian Football League's Hamilton Tiger-Cats (2010), was in camp with the San Francisco 49ers (2009), signed a futures contract with the Dallas Cowboys (2009) and signed as an undrafted free agent by the Miami Dolphins (2008). Prior to his professional experience, the Corona, Calif. native attended the University of Southern California. He spent time at every offensive line position for the Trojans throughout his collegiate career, appearing in 32 games.



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SaberCats Add WR Corbin Louks: Former Nevada Wolfpack receiver Corbin Louks has been assigned to San Jose.

By Arenafootball.com

Posted January 22, 2013

San Jose SaberCats Press Release

SAN JOSE, Calif. - The SaberCats announced today that they have been assigned Danville native and former Nevada Wolfpack wide receiver Corbin Louks on a one-year contract.

"Corbin is someone we think will be able to come in right away and compete during camp," said Owner/Head Coach Darren Arbet. "He's a fantastic athlete and we look forward to seeing him out on the practice field."

Louks (6-0, 200, Nevada) most recently spent time on the practice squad of the National Football League's Seattle Seahawks. He played for two seasons at Nevada, appearing in 21 games, both as a safety during his junior season and as a wide receiver during his final collegiate season. As a senior for the Wolfpack, Louks caught 26 passes for 303 yards and one touchdown. He transferred from the University of Utah, where he appeared in 19 games as a running back, posting 385 yards and four touchdowns for the Utes. He also completed nine passes for 145 yards and two more scores.

The Danville native attended San Ramon Valley High School and earned multiple honors for the Wolves as a quarterback. He was named First Team All-East Bay Athletic League, San Francisco Chronicle's Regional Player of the Year and North Coast Section Offensive Player of the Year, amongst other notable accomplishments. Louks was also the team's captain and most valuable player, throwing for 2,489 yards and 28 touchdowns

SaberCats Add QB Mitch Mustain: The SaberCats have been assigned former Arkansas and USC signal-caller Mitch Mustain.

By Arenafootball.com

January 8, 2013

San Jose SaberCats Press Release

SAN JOSE, Calif. - The SaberCats announced today that they have been assigned former USC Trojan quarterback Mitch Mustain and San Mateo native Andres Vargas on one-year contracts.

"Both Mitch and Andres are very talented and we are excited to bring them in to the mix to add depth at quarterback as well as along our offensive line," said Owner/Head Coach Darren Arbet. "As the 2013 season continues to approach, it is important that we are able to add these types of players to our roster."

Mustain (6-3, 220, USC) had been assigned to the Georgia Force of the Arena Football League in the 2011 offseason, but eventually decided to agree to a minor league baseball deal with the Chicago White Sox in February of 2012. Professionally, Mustain was also a member of the Canadian Football League's Hamilton Tiger-Cats. He attended the University of Southern California from 2007-10 following his transfer after his freshman season at the University of Arkansas. As a Trojan, Mustain appeared in 11 games, mostly in relief, making one start and threw for 340 yards with two touchdowns. This followed his freshman campaign at Arkansas, where he made eight starts for the Razorbacks and threw for 894 yards with ten touchdowns. As a starter in college, the Fayetteville native finished with an 8-1 record for his career.

Vargas (6-4, 315, San Jose State), a Bay Area native, attended San Jose State for the past five seasons, and throughout his collegiate career with the Spartans, appeared in 42 games, starting 30 along their offensive line. As a redshirt freshman, Vargas played in five games, followed by 12 appearances as a sophomore, 13 as a junior and 12 in his senior campaign at right tackle. Vargas attended St. Francis High School in Mountain View and earned first-team all-league honors as a senior and also participated in wrestling as well as track and field.