

# Bomb Squad breaks through

### BOMB SQUAD 46, SANDY'S TIGHT ENDS 43

1996

In the league's tenth anniversary season, the remaining charter franchise that had previously been denied finally put their (new, fifth) name in the ring of honor. The Bomb Squad (formerly Bray's Bombers, Doc's Miracle Workers, the Ballbusters, the

Dittoheads) reunited original owner Andy Bray with long-time owner Dan Sloan. Their thrilling three-point victory denied Sandy Adzgery's Tight Ends, who had hoped that their third Fantasy Bowl apperance might finally be the charm.



It was a season of the good, the bad, the ugly, the ugly, the bad and the good. It came full circle for the Bomb Squad in Fantasy Bowl X. They became the AWFFL's tenth champion in their tenth season in the league, surviving two straight weeks of Monday-night nail-biting to claim the football world's most coveted prize - the missing AWFFL traveling trophy that has not been seen in public since 1993. Oh, and first place was good for over \$1,500 from the playoff pot, plus bonuses for a divison title, a weekly high score and a player of the week. The total take: over \$1,700.

The Bomb Squad entered Fantasy Bowl X weekend as a decided underdog to Sandy's Tight Ends. The Tight Ends finished the regular season as the #4 team in scoring (525/37.5), while the Bombers finished #8 (487/34.8). The Tight Ends had not been outscored by the Bombers for five consecutive weeks leading up to FB-X.

When the Tight Ends scored 29 points in a Week #15 wild card win, the Bombers scored a league-low 17 points (on their bye week, resting their regulars). When the Tight Ends smashed the then-favored Death Campers, 45-17, in the semifinals, the Bomb Squad squeaked to a 20-18 win over the Chiefs, getting just enough points to make their way to the big game.

The Bomb Squad entered FB-X with a 5-0-1 record over its previous six contests, but their last loss had come at the hands of the Tight Ends, 35-22, in week #9.

Experts pointed to the fact that the Tight Ends would be in their third Fantasy Bowl, a game in which they had the second-highest losing score ever (31 in 1991). The Bombers would be in their first Fantasy Bowl, in only their third playoff appearance in ten seasons. Trends... recent performance... experience... the Vegas odds





were overwhelming. Four out of five experts agreed: the Bomb Squad would be shot down.

But as the smoke of the most competitive, high scoring Fantasy Bowl game began to clear on Sunday night, the Bomb Squad had defied the odds and held a precarious 46-40 lead. The flip side was that their lineup was spent. The Tight Ends still had Brent Jones and the 49ers Defense going on Monday night, needing six points to win the title. (The Tight Ends had a 14-4 lead on the bench should overtime have been necessary.)

It looked like the Tight Ends might carry the day when the 49ers sacked Detroit's Scott Mitchell on both of the first two plays of the game. Four points to go. The game was barely one minute old.

Still quite early in the game, Brent Jones took in a pass and headed for the end zone where it would be all over ... but he was pushed out of bounds at the one yard line. The TD came a play later, and yes, it was a pass to the tight end ... Ted Popson. Popson was hurt on the play, which turned out to be his last play of the year. Jones never got closer to the end zone, and the defense could muster just one more sack and no turnovers the remainder of the night.

Bomb Squad co-owners
Dan Sloan and Andy Bray
sucked Chivas and Maalox on
the rocks while waiting for the
axe to fall for three grueling
hours. They passed the time by
calling Tight Ends' owner Sandy
Adzgery and baiting her with
questions like, "how's the game
going?" as if they were too
busy to watch. (The Bomb
Squad's Sloan later complained
to the commissioners' office
about Adzgery's surly
demeanor and "bad attitude"

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during the game. The twinkle in Sloan's eye was gleaming through the phone.)

### **Full Circle**

The Bomb Squad had indeed come full circle in one season. They streaked to a league-record-tying 5-0 start, and looked like the odds-on favorite to win the title.

Then, a Week #6 loss to the Chiefs, and the Chiefs became the darlings of the oddsmakers as they won nine of their first ten. When the Chiefs began to run out of gas, K.C.'s Rough Writers looked like the frontrunner when they culminated an eight-game winning streak with a league-record-tying, 77-point game. That game was their last hurrah, and the Roughies flunked out with two straight losses.

Meanwhile, the Death Campers closed the season with five of six, earning the #1 seed by sweeeping their division, and scoring a ton of points over the season's final

weeks and the first week of the playoffs (when they were on their bye). But, as all previous frontrunners before them, the Campers also faltered. They were smoked by the Tight Ends, whose steady rise to the Fantasy Bowl captured the fancy of the oddsmakers, who installed them as the team to beat.

But who was left standing when the final gun sounded? None other than the team that most experts



agreed back in September would win it all — the Bomb Squad. Once again, the experts were right — and wrong.

The 89 points scored in FB-X makes it the second-highest scoring Fantasy Bowl game ever. Ironically, the Tight Ends also lost the highest-scoring championship game, 63-31, to the Cowboys in 1991.

The 46 points scored by the Bomb Squad is the second-highest score ever in Fantasy Bowl competition. Unfor-tunately for the Tight Ends, their 43 is the third highest Fantasy Bowl score ever, and ranks as the highest losing score ever. Other Fantasy Bowl record book entries include:

Most FB losses: 3, Sandy's Tight Ends, ties McRockers; Most FB appearances, 3, Sandy's Tight Ends tieds Death Campers for second (McRockers with 4). Most FB appearances without a win, 3, Sandy's Tight Ends; Most total FB points, 94, Sandy's Tight Ends (second to McRockers, 96); Highest FB scoring average: 46 ppg, Bomb Squad; Closest championship game: 3 pts (second to 2-point game in 1992);

All-AWFFL QB Brett Favre led the Bomb Squad to the league championship.

### **PLAYERS OF THE WEEK** PLAYER PTS TEAM PRIZE SAN DIEGO KICKER ....19 ....Bomb Squad ......20.00 2 S.F. 49ers DEFENSE......19 ....Sandy's Tight Ends .. 20.00 CURTIS MARTIN.....20 ....K.C.'s Rough Writers 10.00 3 PACKER DEFENSE ......20 ....Chiefs (bench) .............5.00 SCOTT MITCHELL ......21 ....Chiefs ......12.50 4 TONY MARTIN......21 ....Chiefs ......12.50 5 49ers KICKER .....21 .... Stu Bruisers ......20.00 6 SHANNON SHARPE ......21 ....Jalapeños ...................10.00 6 JAMAL ANDERSON .....21 ....Rough Writers (bench) 5.00 7 CAROLINA DEFENSE....20 ....Stu Bruisers .......25.00 8 IRVING FRYAR .....27 ....Sandy's Tight Ends ....20.00 9 N.Y. GIANTS DEFENSE 22 ....Free Agent 10 DARICK HOLMES .....21 .... Free Agent 11 BOOMER ESIASON .....21 ....Free Agent 12 TERRELL DAVIS .....21 ....Sandy's Tight Ends ....26.66 12 DALLAS KICKER ......21 ....Sandy's Tight Ends ....26.66 12 JEFF GRAHAM ......21 .... Stu Bruisers ......26.66 13 CARL PICKENS ......21 ....Death Campers .......20.00 14 NEW ENGLAND DEF. ..24 ....Jalapeños .......20.00 15 ANTONIO FREEMAN ....21 .... Death Campers .........20.00 EDDIE KENNISON ......24 ....Chiefs (bench) ......10.00 MICHAEL JACKSON ....21 ....Rough Writers ......30.00

| 1996 Weekly Winners        |
|----------------------------|
| 1. Bomb Squad54            |
| 2. Sandy's Tight Ends55    |
| 3. K.C.'s Rough Writers45  |
| 4. Chiefs69                |
| 5. Stu Bruisers68          |
| 6. Jalapeños53             |
| 7. McRockers68             |
| 8. Sandy's Tight Ends67    |
| 9. Melba Toast55           |
| 10. McRockers54            |
| 11. Melba Toast70          |
| 12. Stu Bruisers60         |
| 13. K.C.'s Rough Writers77 |
| 14. Death Campers53        |
| 15. Death Campers46        |
| 16. Sandy's Tight Ends45   |
| 17. K.C.'s Rough Writers65 |



### 1996 ALL-AWFFL

### **FIRST TEAM**

| Bret FavreBomb Squad137   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Terry AllenMelba Toast141   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Terrell DavisSandy's Tight Ends111  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Michael JacksonK.C.'s Rough Writers100  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Tony MartinChiefs96   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Carl PickensDeath Campers83   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Carolina (Kasay)Melba Toast148  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Carolina DefenseStu Bruisers136   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| SECOND TEAM   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| SECOND TEAM   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| SECOND TEAM Vinny TestaverdeSandy's Tight Ends134   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Vinny TestaverdeSandy's Tight Ends134   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Vinny TestaverdeSandy's Tight Ends134 Curtis MartinK.C.'s Rough Writers110  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Vinny TestaverdeSandy's Tight Ends134 Curtis MartinK.C.'s Rough Writers110 Emmitt SmithMcRockers102   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Vinny TestaverdeSandy's Tight Ends134 Curtis MartinK.C.'s Rough Writers10 Emmitt SmithMcRockers102 Irving FryarSandy's Tight Ends78                       |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Vinny TestaverdeSandy's Tight Ends134 Curtis MartinK.C.'s Rough Writers110 Emmitt SmithMcRockers102 Irving FryarSandy's Tight Ends78 Eddie KennisonChiefs |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Vinny TestaverdeSandy's Tight Ends134 Curtis MartinK.C.'s Rough Writers110 Emmitt SmithMcRockers102 Irving FryarSandy's Tight Ends78 Eddie KennisonChiefs |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

#### 1996 FIRST ROUND PICKS

| 1  | Curtis Martin  | K.C's Rough Writers |
|----|----------------|---------------------|
| 2  | Emmitt Smith   | McRockers           |
| 3  | Jerry Rice     | Cowboys             |
| 4  | Chris Warren   | Stu Bruisers        |
| 5  | Brett Favre    | Bomb Squad          |
| 6  | Herman Moore   | Tim's Raiders       |
| 7  | Barry Sanders  | Melba Toast         |
| 8  | Steve Young    | Averitt's Favorites |
| 9  | Marshall Faulk | Chiefs              |
| 10 | Ricky Watters  | Death Campers       |
| 11 | KiJana Carter  | Jalapeños           |
| 12 | Robert Brooks  | Sandy's Tight Ends  |
| 13 | Terrell Davis  | Sandy's Tight Ends  |

Team 2 (Raiders) and Team 6 (McRockers) traded first and second round picks.

August 29, 1996

Scoreboard O.T. Sports Bar

## 1996 FANTASY BOWL X

|                      | 7   | ор то | Pass | Aush | RCV | ХP | ΡĞ | Im | Pum | Sk . | SM | PHs. |
|----------------------|-----|-------|------|------|-----|----|----|----|-----|------|----|------|
| BOMB SQUAD           |     |       |      |      |     |    |    |    |     |      |    |      |
| QB FAVRE, BRET       | GB  | 3     | 202  | 10   |     |    |    |    |     |      |    | 9    |
| RB HOARD, LEROY      | MIN |       |      | 41   | 46  |    |    |    |     |      |    |      |
| RB JABBAR, KARIM     | MIA | 1     |      | 192  | 06  |    |    |    |     |      |    | 9    |
| WR BROWN, TIM        | OAK |       |      |      | 65  |    |    |    |     |      |    | 0    |
| WR EARLY, QUINN      | BUF | 1     |      | 29   | 35  |    |    |    |     |      |    | 6    |
| WR GLENN, TERRI      | NE  | 1     |      | -2   | 124 |    |    |    |     |      |    | 9    |
| K SAN DIEGO KICKER   | SD  |       |      |      |     | 2  | 3  |    |     |      |    | [11] |
| DE ST. LOUIS DEFENSE | STL |       |      |      |     |    |    | a  | 1   | 1    | a  | 2    |
|                      |     |       |      |      |     | _  |    |    | 5   | Sco  | re | 46   |
| QB HOSTETLER, JEFF   | OAK |       |      |      |     |    |    |    |     |      |    |      |
| RB CENTERS, LARRY    | AZ  |       |      | 28   | 43  |    |    |    |     |      |    | 0    |
| RB HAMPTON, RODNEY   | NYG |       |      | 00   |     |    |    |    |     |      |    | 0    |
| RB SALAMI RASH       | CHI |       |      | 35   | 08  |    |    |    |     |      |    | 0    |
| WR JEFFERSON, SH     | NE  |       |      |      | 22  |    |    |    |     |      |    | 0    |
| DE BUFFALO DEF       | BUF |       |      |      |     |    |    | 2  | 1   | 1    | a  | 4    |
|                      |     |       |      |      |     |    |    |    | 5   | Sco  | re | 4    |







