

TRASH TALK - THURSDAY THROW DOWN SPECIAL EDITION

It's here baybee!!

Marcy's Pats are hooking horns with bmaz's New York Bretts. Tonight!!

Unfortunately, it is on the craptastic NFL Network (cable or sat); but get thee to a TeeVee!

There is always something special about a NY versus Beantown sporting match, and it is not just when the Yanks take on the Sawx. In week two of the season, a still reined in Matt Cassell led the Pats to a 19-10 win, although the game felt a little closer than that most of the way. Since that time, Cassell has come into his own a bit. Tom Brady he ain't; but he does look to be getting to be at least comfortable and competent. The Pat's defense is a little depleted since then though. Roidney Harrison is out, maybe career over; and last week, Audalius Thomas was lost. Considering the age of Bruschi and some of the others, the loss of Thomas, a big time defender, hurts.

The Jets have come into their own too. While not at the comfort level he was in GB, Favre looks to have settled in to the Jets offense. Somehow, I think his shoulder is hurt just a tad though, the old zip isn't quite there, although he is still better than most. More importantly, Thomas Jones is untracked and the jets offense is balanced and not relying as much on Brett. On the downside, both key receivers, Cotchery and Coles are slightly dinged, but will play. The Jets defense is really coming together now and Kris Jenkins is a wrecking crew all by himself. The Jets also just signed Ty Law to help the secondary, and with his knowledge of the Pats passing game, he should be a plus.

Okay, none of you mopes on the sidelines! Pick a

side and let's get it on!

emptywheel here. First off, where does bmaz get off, with a mid-week Trash Talk? No sooner do the Democrats get in office, I guess, and they're mandating mid-week recess and whatnot. Mostly I think bmaz did it so he could boast that Eric Mangini bought himself some expertise on the Pats with Ty Law; one might ask, of course, why Mangini's **own** experience with the Pats does him no more good than allow him to tattle once or twice to the teacher.

Which is really what bmaz is about here. He'd like to pitch this as a battle between BillBel and Favre. When of course, it's really a battle between BillBel's Video Cheats and the Mangy Manginis. Besides, as goofy and infectious as Favre's smiles are, bmaz neglected to mention that someone else has been smiling on the Pats in the last week or so—and that's got to be good luck. Doesn't it?

Whatever. This game is going to be decided by the defenses—and the Jets are improving wildly there. But I'm not sure that means Mangini is ready yet to beat his hated mentor.