

Records:

Winningest Teams:

- 1.) Houston 66% (0 titles/ 0 Conference Titles)
- 2.) Inland Empire 60% (3 Titles/ 6 Conference Titles)
- 3.) Louisville 57% (1 Title/ 2 Conference Titles)
- 4.) Indiana 56% (2 Titles/ 4 Conference Titles)
- 5.) Las Vegas 56% (2 Titles/ 3 Conference Titles)
- 6.) Wichita 55% (2 playoff appearances)
- 7.) Cleveland 54% (2 Titles/ 3 Conference Titles)
- 8.) Minnesota 54% (2 Titles/ 2 Conference Titles)
- 9.) Vancouver 54% (2 Campbell Cup appearances)
- 10.) Austin 54% (1 Campbell Cup appearance)

Worst Winning Percentages:

- 1.) San Jose 42% (8 playoff appearances/ 1 Campbell Cup appearance)
- 2.) Savannah 42% (1 Campbell Cup appearance)
- 3.) Boise 42% (2 Campbell Cup appearances)
- 4.) Las Cruces 43% (1 playoff appearance)
- 5.) Mississippi 43% (3 playoff appearances)
- 6.) Birmingham 43% (2 Campbell Cup appearances)

Hall of Fame:

Beginning with season 11:

- 1.) Guard #74- Portland Seals
- 2.) Running Back #48- Denver
- 3.) Defensive End #92- Virginia Beach
- 4.) Kevin Mack #34- Cleveland
- 5.) DE/TE#9- Boise Celts (Big Sexy)
- 6.) Running Back #25 Inland Empire

Other potentials - #5 Tight End Portland Seals, #87 Beavers, #4 Savannah, #3 Charlotte, #15 Inland Empire, #44 Vegas, QB #19 San Diego, RB #20 Charleston, Rocket #25 Quebec, Vegas DE #91, #87 Orange County, #9 Florida, #3 Las Vegas, #37 Indiana, # 5 Minnesota,

Divisional Campbell Cup Rankings:

- 1.) Inland Division: 6 titles
- 2.) Atlantic Division: 6 titles
- 3.) Central Division: 5 titles
- 4.) Pacific Division: 5 titles
- 5.) Northwest Division: 4 titles
- 6.) Confederate Division: 4 titles
- 7.) Frontier Division: 4 titles
- 8.) Bayou Division: 0 titles

Most Appearances:

- 1.) Pacific Division: 12 appearances (5-7)
- 2.) Inland Division: 11 appearances (6-5)
- 3.) Confederate Division: 11 appearances (4-7)
- 4.) Northwest Division: 10 appearances (4-6)
- 5.) Atlantic Division: 9 appearances (6-3)
- 6.) Central Division: 6 appearances (5-1)
- 7.) Frontier Division: 6 appearances (4-2)
- 8.) Bayou Division: 3 appearances (0-3)

Longest Playoff Droughts:**Historical:**

Orange County 19 years

Denver: 15 years

San Jose 12 years

Ithaca: 12 Years

Charleston: 12 years

Rochester: 11 years

Milwaukee: 10 years

Boise: 10 years

Current:

Savannah: 12 years

Salt Lake City: 10 years

Vancouver: 10 years

Toledo: 7 years

Quebec: 6 years

Longest run without a playoff win:

San Jose: 29 years

Montana: 28 years (active)

Nova Scotia: 24 years

Rochester: 19 years

Orange County: 19 years

Denver: 18 years

Ithaca: 18 years

Charleston: 15 years

Omaha: 14 years

Atlanta: 14 years

Portland Beavers: 13 years

Milwaukee: 13 years

Savannah: 12 years (active)

Salt Lake City: 12 years (active)

Campbell Cups:

Campbell Cup Overall Records:

-Inland Empire Jackrabbits: 3-3

-San Antonio Missions: 2-0

Minnesota Panthers: 2-0
Quebec Wildcats: 2-0
-Cleveland Browns: 2-1
Nova Scotia Voyagers: 2-1
Charlotte Rum Runners: 2-1
Las Vegas Gamblers: 2-1
-Portland Seals: 2-2
Indiana Cobras: 2-2
-Milwaukee Monarchs 1-0
El Paso Outlaws 1-0
Ithaca Warriors: 1-0
Atlanta Tomahawks: 1-0
Montana Grizzlies: 1-0
Portland Beavers: 1-0
Winnipeg Wolf Pack: 1-0
Santa Fe: 1-0
-Denver Miners: 1-1
Virginia Beach Sharks: 1-1
Rochester T- Birds: 1-1
Tucson Scorpions: 1-1
Louisville Hornets 1-1
-Reno 59ers 0-1
Shreveport Swamp Dragons 0-1
Savannah Southerners: 0-1
Hartford Whalers: 0-1
Toronto Thunder Cats: 0-1
Austin Knights: 0-1
Knoxville Bulldogs: 0-1
-Vancouver Ports: 0-2
Boise Celts: 0-2
Birmingham Barons: 0-2
San Diego Condors: 0-2
Charleston Colonials: 0-2

Teams that have never played in a Campbell Cup: 14 total

Orange County: 35 years
Toledo: 29 years
Salt Lake City: 29 years
New Jersey: 25 years
Baton Rouge: 25 years
Florida: 25 years
Omaha: 25 years
St Louis: 10 years
Mississippi: 10 years
Galveston: 7 years
Wichita: 7 years
Calgary: 7 years
Houston: 4 years

Las Cruces: 4 years

Campbell Cup Favorites and Outcomes:

Favorites are (As of I.E.s win over Knoxville):

22-7 with 5 even matchups.

Decade Notes Season 1-5

Team of the Decade: **Nova Scotia**

Other great teams: San Diego, Montana, Inland Empire, Tucson

Worst Teams: Las Vegas, Shreveport,

Player of the Decade: QB #19 San Diego In the first few years of their existence SD was a power and their passing attack was the core of that. He ran straight and lit up opposing defenses. His original base from this era was damaged and lost sometime around season 8.

Interesting Notes:

-San Diego and Montana came in and dominated the league right away.

-Vegas was probably the worst team in this era but they had so many draft picks that worked out that it built their great team in later years.

-Atlanta was one of the worst teams for the first few years but in season four they debuted a new style of stack option offense and rode it to a championship in Campbell Cup IV. It was so dominant that the offense was outlawed after one season. Atlanta stayed with a variation of the option but was never as dominant as that one season.

-The fifth season was the first and to date only tournament style season in league history, ending with Denver lifting their first Campbell Cup.

-Only five years are represented here as this was a building era for the league, rules were changed and set, styles were developed and teams entered. Season six was the first year where everything seemed settled.

DECADE NOTES 1st Decade Seasons 6- 15:

Team of the decade: **Inland Empire** (3 CC trips, 1 title and a 60% winning percentage)

Other great teams: Charleston, Las Vegas, Indiana

Worst Teams: Orange Country, Milwaukee, Reno, Austin

Player of the Decade: Guard #74 Portland Seals (Incredibly reliable, very strong, corner stone of both Seal Championship teams).

Interesting Notes:

-Portland Seals had a great two year run, winning back to back titles during the decade but spent the rest of the decade as an average team overall... the 22 man expansion hit them hard on defense and they struggled to rebuild to a title caliber team.

-Charleston ended the decade as the second winningest team in the league but spent the decade mired in playoff losses.

-Montana, Denver and Nova Scotia all started the decade dominant, and all three ended it mediocre at best. Louisville went through the decade with a .500 winning percentage in both regular season and playoffs, the perfect picture of mediocrity.

-Portland Beavers went from expansion team to one of the best teams in the league and possibly on the cusp of something special as the decade ended.

DECADE NOTES: 2nd Decade, Seasons 16-25

Team of the decade: **Minnesota** (2 CC titles and 5 division titles, 60 plus percent winning percentage)

Other great teams: Inland Empire, Austin, Vancouver, New Jersey, Virginia Beach, Louisville, Shreveport, Baton Rouge

Worst Teams: Denver and Ithaca (zero playoff appearances), Rochester, Nova Scotia, Atlanta, Montana, Portland Beavers

Player of the Decade: #9 Boise (Big Sexy) DT/TE. Entered the league as Boise's utility guy, instantly turned them from bottom dweller to respectable almost on his own. Took them to two Campbell Cups and although they lost both he was by far the biggest reason they were there. Huge Impact.

Interesting Notes:

-Omaha ended the decade with one of the best winning percentages in league history but in an odd twist they didn't manage to win a division title once all decade.

-Las Vegas saw their defense start the decade as one of the best units in the league but by the end of it they needed a lot of work on that end.

-Numerous teams received utility men as help for poor play, (San Jose, Boise, Charlotte, San Diego and others) but only a few of them seemed to actually help. Charlotte and Boise being the big two.

-Winnipeg made the playoffs as much as anyone but only won one division title and ended the decade in frustration having still never even made a Campbell Cup.

-Austin ended the decade on a run of 6 straight playoff berths, on the cusp on being one of the best teams in the entire league.

DECADE NOTES: 3rd Decade, Seasons 26-35

Team of the decade: **Santa Fe Apache**

Other great teams: Louisville, Austin, Quebec, Nova Scotia, Baton Rouge, Tucson

Worst Teams: Savannah, Toledo, Vancouver, Salt Lake City, Boise

Player of the Decade: N/A

Interesting Notes:

- Nova Scotia only made the playoffs twice during this decade but got to the Campbell Cup both times.
- Houston and Las Cruces joined the league mid-decade, both making the playoffs in their first season but The Crusades fell from there while Houston maintained a playoff presence as the decade ended.
- As the decade progressed it appeared Nova Scotia or Tucson were on their way to team of the decade but Santa Fe owned the last five years to steal the crown.
- A fifty team league showed itself as only one team played in multiple Campbell Cups all year.
- Milwaukee ending two straight decades in the title game.

Campbell Cup I- (mild upset)



Vancouver came in slightly favored to win the first Campbell Cup but Rochester controlled the game from the start. Vancouver never threatened in the second half and Rochester became the first champion in league history.

Campbell Cup II



Nova Scotia came in favored over Tucson. Voyagers controlled the game from the on set and won in a game that is mostly remembered for being so average and largely uneventful.

Campbell Cup III- (Huge Upset)



In one of the biggest upsets in Campbell Cup history the high flying passing attack of San Diego was heavily favored to win the title in their first season. San Diego's passing attack was considered borderline unstoppable and their QB#19 seemed on the verge of taking the league over. Ithaca's defense surprisingly dominated the entire game and San Diego was never really in it. Just like the Super Bowl, the third edition of the Campbell Cup provided a historic upset.

Campbell Cup IV (CLASSIC)



In yet another seemingly mismatched Campbell Cup, Inland Empire rode a wave of playoff upsets to become the biggest underdog yet in CC history. Atlanta ran an option attack so unstoppable that it was outlawed after the season but IE was able to handle it for a large portion of the game. The game was back and forth the entire time. The Jackrabbits scored with just under three minutes left in the game to take a 31-30 lead. Atlanta then had a third and long from their own 48 yard line when season MVP #44 broke a long TD run ala John Riggins to secure the lead. IE completed a long pass to the Atlanta 15 yard line on their next possession just as time expired and they were not able to get another play off. Atlanta won their first Campbell Cup in their first playoff appearance but the offensive 'stack option' that got them there was immediately outlawed (Only five men on the line of scrimmage and it was basically unstoppable) after the season.

Campbell Cup V



In a shortened, tournament style, season the Indiana Cobras made a miracle run, underdogs in every single game, and made the Campbell Cup. They were heavy under dogs to the Denver Miners who finally broke through with their great rushing attack. The game was never that close as Denver built a three score lead early and never looked back. Indiana made a push late to make the score looked better but this game was never really in doubt. Denver and their “old man” number 48 (One of the very first super star bases I found or tweaked) got his championship.

Campbell Cup VI (CLASSIC)



First year of the Modern Era, New Decade: After years of under dog stories and Campbell Cup mismatches, we finally got a heavy weight bout in the Championship. Two of the best teams all year, Montana and their power option attack vs Savannah and their unstoppable threat of super base number 4 (My original super tweaked base that worked). Montana built a huge first half 24-3 lead, dominating on defense and scoring on every first half possession until their last. Savannah was able to score a late touch down in the first half to make it 24-10. This looked to be a massive turning point as Savannah got the ball to start the half but they weren’t able to do anything with it. Going into the fourth quarter, the game looked all but over with Montana leading 30-10 when Savannah’s wide receiver #84 took the game on his back. On three straight possessions #84 got wide open and scored on three deep passes in a row. The last one with only one minute left to take a 31-30 lead. Montana got the ball and it seemed like Savannah’s defense was going to hold them for the miracle comeback win. Then with just ten seconds left from their own 35 yard line Montana bombed one deep to WR # 82 who caught it at the Savannah 19. Montana then hit a field goal to win it as time expired. Great game.

Campbell Cup VII



Rochester became the first team to appear in multiple Campbell Cups, but this game belonged entirely to the Portland Seals. Season MVP #5 took too much attention from Rochester and other weapons took the game over. The game was never that close and even included a 99 yard punt return for a score by eventual game MVP #39 of Portland.

Campbell Cup VIII (CLASSIC)



Virginia Beach had a miracle run just to get into the playoffs, and won a coin flip over Cleveland for the last spot. They then continued their hot hand and dominant play of DE #92 (dominated the entire playoffs). They still came into the game as massive under dogs in the Campbell Cup to the defending champion Portland Seals. The game was very tight throughout as Va. Beach's defense did just enough to keep them right there. Va. Beach's defense had multiple INT's but the offense was never able to capitalize with anything more than field goals on any of them. This would come back to haunt them as they took the lead with one minute to play with a TD pass. Then Portland took the ball and, just like Montana a couple years before, hit a deep bomb with seconds left to get into field goal range, this one from 45 yards out, and they completed their back to back title run despite Va. Beach's amazing underdog run and very stout defense.

Campbell Cup IX-



After years of losing in the the playoffs The Cleveland Browns finally broke through with their high powered offense and made it to a Campbell Cup. The Inland Empire Jackrabbits made their second CC apperence on the backs of their grimey, ball control offense and stiff defense. This marked a meeting of two numer 2 seeds in either conference and the Browns came in as slight favorites.

The Browns opened up the game, billed as Cleveland's offense vs I.E.s defense by driving right down the field and scoring on a long TD drive capped by Kevin Mack's 24 yard TD run. The Jackrabbits then fumbled the ensuing kickoff and Cleveland got the ball right back. On the first play following the turnover, Kevin Mack then broke free for another TD run, this one for 41 yards. This was the quickest any one player had scored two TDs in CC history to this point.

A major theme of the game would be I.E.s defense doing all it could to make up for the offense's turnovers. QB #15 of IE would throw four INTs in one of the worst games of his career and I.E.s defense would be strechted to the max. Cleveland would not capitalize on many of these and just before the half IE blocked a punt and got a field goal out of it to make the game close.

In the second half IE never moved the ball at all and Cleveland ran out most of the 4th quarter to secure the win. Kevin mack won game MVP honors. IE's total offensive output was easily the worst in CC history to this point as they were completely dominated on that side of the ball.

Campbell Cup X (CLASSIC)



In the last season of 11v11 football before the transition to 22v22 in the Campbell Electric Football League, El Paso and Quebec dominated their perspective conferences during the season and two new comers to the playoffs emerged in The Portland Beavers and Austin Knights. In the playoffs the Inland Empire Jackrabbits stormed through the west, beating El Paso in the conference championship to earn their second straight Campbell Cup berth. In the east Quebec's new wishbone option proved too much for their competitors and they moved on with an overtime win over Louisville in the conference title game. Their win set the record for quickest team to reach the Campbell Cup after their expansion season with just five years since entering the league (This record excludes the 3rd season of the league when half the league expanded at once).

The game was billed as Quebec's option attack vs Inland Empire's gritty defense. I.E. was trying to atone for last year's collapse in this game. Both offenses took command early with number #15 of I.E. completely reversing his fortunes from last year's title game. #15 and #4 of Quebec went back and forth all game. Both playing nearly perfect. It looked like I.E. was about to lay their C.C. demons to rest late in the fourth after #15 burst off for a 65 yard TD run and then followed that up with a TD pass with minutes left to take a 14 point lead.

Quebec then scored quickly and went for the onside kick. Inland Empire recovered it and that looked like the end of Quebec's dream season. Inland Empire then went three and out and punted with 30 seconds left. The Rocket returned the punt to the 15 of IE for a dramatic finish. After a couple of blown plays Quebec had 2 seconds left from the 15. They loaded the left side of the field with receivers and #4 took the ball right, surprising IE, as he scampered into the end zone. Rather than tie the game and take it to over time Quebec decided to go for the win, on the two point attempt IE crushed the Quebec line but just missed sacking #4, who then hit #18 in between two IE defenders in the end zone for the game winning two point conversion. Quebec capped the best season any team has had in CEFL history with an 18-1 total mark. Inland Empire was forced to think what they let slip away as they lost a third Campbell Cup and second in consecutive years.

Thus ended the era of iron-man football in the Campbell Electric Football League.

Campbell Cup XI



The first season of 22v22 football saw the Las Vegas Gamblers, Denver Miners, and the Charleston Colonials all fare very well in the regular season. The playoffs also saw two first time entrants when Toronto won their first division title and The Boise Celts (In only their second year, making them the first team of the last great expansion to make the playoffs) earned a wildcard spot.

In the playoffs Rochester upset Charlotte and Toronto to make it to the conference finals before being defeated by the Charleston Colonials, who finally got the playoff monkey off their backs. Charleston, having been one of the most successful teams in the league's first ten years only had one playoff win ever coming into the season and had suffered five straight playoff loses prior to this season. This was their first Conference Championship. In the West, The Las Vegas Gamblers dominated both of their games, blowing out Tucson in the conference championship to seal their first trip to the Campbell Cup as well. Vegas became a wonderful story as they were easily one of the worst teams in the early days of the league but a slew of top draft picks turned the team around and they headed into Campbell Cup XI as the solid favorite.

The game started off hot with Vegas taking the opening kickoff and scoring in three plays, all carries by eventual game MVP RB #28. Charleston evened things up quick as their first play from scrimmage went for 50 yards to the Vegas 10 yard line, The Colonials later punched it in. The game was all Las Vegas after that. The Vegas defense never allowed Charleston to threaten again and the Vegas running attack dominated. The play of the game occurred in the third quarter as RB #44 took the ball and #28 went on the lead block on a sweep play. 28 blew a Charleston defender up just before the tackle was made, blew through him and ran side by side down the field as he and #44 walked into the end zone together. A fitting summation of the game as Vegas' running game completely controlled the game on offense as

their defense dominated the other side of the ball. Charleston would add a kick return from their star running back but that was all the scoring they would get.

Campbell Cup XII



The second full season of full 22v22 football came with some surprises. The New Jersey Titans and San Antonio Missions, both expected to finish near the bottom of their conferences, won their respective divisions and locked up home field advantage for their conference playoffs. Although neither of these teams provided the biggest surprises. The Reno 59ers, easily the worst team in the league to this point shocked everyone and earned a playoff bid for the first time in team history and the Portland Seals, coming of a disappointing season, were expected to once again compete for a Campbell Cup and completely feel apart and finished near the bottom of the league. The El Paso Outlaws established themselves as one of the better regular season teams of this era by once again making the playoffs, joining the likes of Inland Empire, Cleveland, Charleston and others as regular playoff participants. The Las Vegas Gamblers, fresh off their domination of season 11 failed to live up to their championship level of play on defense and just missed out on the playoffs, the Colonials, also saw a slight dip in play and also just missed a chance to defend their conference title. On a side note, the Denver Miners and Inland Empire Jackrabbits shared a milestone by becoming the first teams to 100 wins all time during the season.

In the playoffs the surprises kept coming as the Reno 59ers destroyed the heavily favored Jackrabbits and Toledo picked up their first ever playoff win over their heavily favored state rival the Cleveland Browns both in the wild card round. When the dust settled a highly unlikely (at the beginning of the season) matchup presented itself in the Campbell Cup. Two teams favored more to finish last in their conferences than to win it: The San Antonio Missions and the Hartford Whalers, met in the title game. San Antonio, after a great season, came in the easy favorite on the wave of their great defense and highly effective pass-happy offense.

The Campbell Cup started fast, with San Antonio taking the opening kickoff past midfield, then on the first play from scrimmage The Missions scored a touchdown on a draw play. Hartford matched it when their QB took off on a 65 yard scramble on third down to tie the game. San Antonio answered with a FG, but Hartford responded by hitting WR #89 on a bubble screen that went for a 70 yard touchdown.

Later in the first half San Antonio's QB fumbled the ball and it was picked up by #71 of Hartford who took it all the way for a scope and score. San Antonio would hit a 25 yard field goal as the half ended to make the score 21-13 Hartford, the underdogs led.

In the second half it became apparent that Hartford had rode a wave of big plays in the first half. Season MVP, Linebacker #9 and the San Antonio defense dominated the second half. DE #95 had two sacks and CB #23 had a critical INT at Hartford's own 20 yard line as San Antonio took control in the second half.

The decisive moment came when QB #16 hit TE #37 on the edge of the sideline and #37 tight roped the whole way for a 45 yard touchdown to cap the scoring. The final score was San Antonio 30, Hartford 21, as The Missions won their first ever Campbell Cup and became one of the biggest one season wonder teams in league history.

Campbell Cup XIII – Mild Upset **(Classic)**



The 13th season is CFL history provided a nice mix of newcomers as along with some established favorites. Minnesota, Baton Rouge and Florida all made the playoffs for the very first time, with the Minnesota Panthers winning their first division crown. They were joined by playoff regulars, Inland Empire, Charleston, Las Vegas, El Paso and Rochester. Virginia Beach showed the defensive dominance that nearly won them a Campbell Cup four years back and won a division title, coming into the eastern conference playoffs as favorites, along with New Jersey who proved that last year was no fluke. Among flukes, San Antonio completely fell apart after their championship season, finishing near the bottom of the league. Santa Fe and the Portland Beavers rounded off the playoff competitors. The expected match up in the Campbell Cup heading into the playoffs was Las Vegas, who resumed their dominant ways, and Virginia Beach, both teams wearing black, red and white and both teams riding the two most dominant defenses in the league.

-A little side: Charleston became only the third team to make the playoffs in a year when they hosted the Campbell Cup, joining Vancouver in season six and Austin in season ten. They attempted to become the first team to actually play in the Campbell Cup on their home field.

In the playoffs the Florida Gators won their first two playoffs games ever to get to the conference title game, thus becoming the reverse of San Antonio, being one of the worst teams in the league last year and making a huge winning impact this season. New Jersey, for the second straight year, were one of the favorites in the East but were knocked out during their first playoff game. The Titans built a 17-7 lead and looked to be in control when back to back turnovers gave the Gators 14 unanswered points and the Titans never recovered.

In the West, the usually strong Jackrabbits lost their wild card game for the second straight year to the Santa Fe Apache who secured their first ever playoff win in the game. Minnesota earned a spot in the Western Conference Championship where they faced off against Las Vegas and their almost other worldly defense that only allowed one first down all game against Santa Fe in the divisional round (The Apache's only points coming off a pick six by their defense).

In the Eastern Conference Title game the Gators jumped out to a 7-0 on a couple of fluke big plays back to back... and... that was it. The Sharks completely dominated the show from there on. Allowing just a

hand full of first downs all game and scoring touchdowns on the majority of their drives the Sharks won their second conference championship 39-10... In the Western Conference Title game the Gamblers absolutely smothered The Minnesota Panthers, who only managed 6 points against Las Vegas defense and the Gamblers rolled 44-6. This presented a highly anticipated matchup between Virginia Beach and Las Vegas, the two best defenses in the league.

Coming into the game, it was thought that Virginia Beach receivers, especially #86, who had a great playoff run and season, had to make big plays to keep Va. Beach in it. Las Vegas came in as solid, but not overwhelming... favorites not just because of their defense, but because it was thought the Gamblers' offense had more fire power than that of the Sharks'.

The game started off with Va Beach's defensive star #92 bursting through the line on the very first play and sacking Las Vegas' QB. After a three and out Vegas' DE star, and league MVP, #91 burst through the line on Va Beach's first play from scrimmage and also got a sack. A couple plays later The Sharks threw an INT and it was returned into the red zone and Vegas scored a couple plays later to make it 7-0. Va Beach answered with a 70 yard run by QB #19. Va Beach had some early success moving the ball by spreading The Gamblers' defense out with a four wide spread look... Vegas completely dominated the second quarter as #91 had another sack and a big pass break up, and #55 had two sacks. The Gamblers also hit on two big plays, a run by #44 and a 50 yard TD pass to #7 to break the game open. 21-7 at halftime.

In the second half a key play happened when Las Vegas seemed to be in control. #26 took the ball, was blasted down, fumbled and Va Beach's star, #92 picked up the fumble and ran it all the way back to make it a game, 21-14.

In the fourth Virginia Beach's defense took total control of the game. They never allowed a first down in the final quarter and kept the Sharks in it. After a couple of field goals the Gamblers were once again three and outed at their own 15 with little time left. The punt was blocked by Va Beach O linemen #69 who returned it for a touchdown, the two point conversion failed and the Sharks led 26-21. On the first play from scrimmage on the Gamblers last possession, with just a minute to play DB #2 intercepted the pass from Las Vegas' #2 and the game was over. Virginia Beach ran out the clock for their first ever Campbell Cup Championship. WR #86 was named game MVP as he provided most of Virginia Beach's offense and made a number of big catches to get key first downs or to get the Sharks into field goal range.

Campbell Cup XIV (Classic)



The 14th season of the Campbell Electric Football League saw a major breakthrough. The Indiana Cobras marched through an unbeaten regular season and came into the playoffs as favorites to win it all. The Cobras had been consistently good but not elite prior to this season, but a reworked offense opened

things up and Indiana dominated. Winnipeg, Ithaca, Atlanta (trying to become the first team to host a Campbell Cup) and Portland (Beavers) also did well, all winning division titles. The San Diego Condors re-emerged with their pass happy offense and Nova Scotia re-entered the playoffs after some years away. The Vancouver Ports also made the playoffs and ended years of decent records without a playoff spot, they then tried to win their first playoff game in 13 seasons. Defending Champs Virginia Beach had to win a play in game with the Toledo Tigers to move on to the wild card weekend.

Another somewhat rare event occurred during these playoffs, all four favorites made it through the divisional rounds and the top two seeds in either conference faced off in the conference finals. Winnipeg met San Diego in the West and unbeaten Indiana, who had throttled the defending champions in the divisional round, met Atlanta in the East with Atlanta trying to become the first team to play a Campbell Cup on their home field.

The East saw a classic final as the Indiana Cobras won their second conference title by just holding off the Atlanta Tomahawks' late attempt by intercepting a pass with little time left. For the Western title Winnipeg and San Diego went back and forth and into OT. Winnipeg threw and INT on their first play in OT and SD ran one play then kicked the winning field goal.

The Campbell Cup matchup marked the highest combined win total of two teams. It was also one of the most anticipated CC's to date as both teams had previously lost a Campbell Cup and Indiana was attempting to become the first undefeated team in CEFL history. Despite their great season, Indiana came in just a slight favorite.

The game was a wild back and forth affair with both teams scoring with ease to start the game. The defenses settled in after that and the game saw three lead changes. San Diego took the lead with a late field goal. Indiana then came through with a long drive capped by a 35 yard run by RB #21. With just seconds left San Diego tried to mount a late rally but after two completions brought them to mid field the clock ran out and Indiana capped a perfect season with their first Championship. #79 DE was named MVP as he had the greatest single game performance in league history marking seven sacks and multiple hurries of star QB #19. San Diego joined Inland Empire as the only teams to have lost multiple Campbell Cups. The Indiana Cobras had a heck of a year, topping Inland Empire for best ever winning percentage, going unbeaten and winning their first title.

Campbell Cup XV-



The fifteenth season of The Campbell Electric Football League showed a return to form for many teams. The Cleveland Browns (hosting the Campbell Cup) won the top seed in the East, they were joined in the playoffs by Atlanta, Ithaca, Savannah, Charleston and first time playoff team, The Birmingham Barons (This left Milwaukee, Omaha and Orange County as the only teams to have never earned a playoff spot...

Omaha and Milwaukee both barely missed a spot this year). In the West, Vancouver and Inland Empire secured the top seeds and were joined by Tucson, Las Vegas, Winnipeg and the Portland Seals in what looked to be the best overall playoff pool to date. On a disappointment note the defending champion Cobras went from unbeaten to very beatable and finished the season at 4-12 while their Campbell Cup 14 counterparts, the San Diego Condors, also finished below the .500 mark. The Vancouver Ports overtook the Cobras as the winningest team in league history with a 61% winning percentage.

In the playoffs the Birmingham Barons dominated the Southerners to win their first ever playoff game and followed that up by upsetting top seeded Cleveland to reach the conference title game where they faced off against, and beat, Ithaca in the conference title game. In the west Inland Empire faced off against Tucson, who handed Vancouver yet another first game playoff loss, in their conference title game. One theme that emerged during the playoffs was dominate O Lines... Inland Empire, Birmingham, and Tucson all dominated games or beat teams they were expected to lose to all on the backs of dominate O Lines. This spurred a movement by many teams to rebuild and add strength up front.

Inland Empire held off Tucson to win their fourth conference title. They would be looking for their first ever Campbell Cup, having lost in all three previous trips. Both teams scored on their first possessions, but Birmingham would never score again and IE would go on to score 31 points before their first punt. Inland Empire QB #15, who registered one of the worst Campbell Cup's ever against Cleveland in CC IX, now dropped one of the best ever in Cleveland's home stadium. He hit TE # 9 on a pair of deep TD passes and RB #25 scored on a long punt return for a touchdown, all in the first half. The Jackrabbits then ran out much of the second half and easily won the most lopsided Campbell Cup to date.

DECADE NOTES:

Team of the decade: Inland Empire (3 CC trips, 1 title and a 60% winning percentage)

Other great teams: Charleston, Las Vegas, Indiana

Worst Teams: Orange Country, Milwaukee, Reno, Austin

Player of the Decade: Guard #74 Portland Seals (Incredibly reliable, very strong, corner stone of both Seal Championship teams).

Interesting Notes:

-Portland Seals had a great two year run, winning back to back titles during the decade but spent the rest of the decade as an average team overall... the 22 man expansion hit them hard on defense and they struggled to rebuild to a title caliber team.

-Charleston ended the decade as the second winningest team in the league but spent the decade mired in playoff losses.

-Montana, Denver and Nova Scotia all started the decade dominant, and all three ended it mediocre at best. Louisville went through the decade with a .500 winning percentage in both regular season and playoffs, the perfect picture of mediocrity.

-Portland Beavers went from expansion team to one of the best teams in the league and possibly on the cusp of something special as the decade ended.

Campbell Cup XVI- * Two First Time Campbell Cup Entrants*****



The 16th season of Campbell Electric Football mirrored the 12th in many ways. It saw a mix of playoff teams that was odd when compared to other recent seasons. A lot of new comers and on the rise teams compared to previous years. Savannah built on the previous year and dominated the East, winning the conference's top seed behind their rebuilt defense and their dynamic two back threat of former MVP #4 and new MVP #29. Milwaukee won their first division title and finally made the playoffs (leaving only Omaha and Orange County as the only two teams to have never been). Hartford, Charlotte Birmingham and Florida joined them. In the West, the Portland Beavers showed that they may be building something with another division title, while Tucson also showed last year was no fluke. Minnesota, Salt Lake City and Las Vegas joined them in the playoffs. Savannah's RB #29 won his first MVP. Campbell Cup favorites coming into the playoffs were Birmingham and Savannah in the East and Inland Empire, Portland and Tucson in the West. One trend that has come to pass is it seems the West has more top level teams that the East at the moment.

In the end Birmingham once again ran through the eastern conference to become just the second team ever to make it to back to back Campbell Cups (joining The Seals); In the west Minnesota hold off a very strong looking Scorpions team to win their first ever conference title. This would mark the first ever Campbell Cup between two teams from the last great expansion. Expected to be one of the closer Campbell Cups, Birmingham was a very slight favorite coming in, with most predictions being a push.

The first half saw both offenses struggle but Minnesota was able to make plays with other units. Super Star #10 had a kickoff return for a touchdown after Birmingham opened the scoring with a field goal. Then later in the second quarter Birmingham's quarterback threw back to back pick sixes on consecutive plays. Minnesota went into the half with a 20-6 lead. Interestingly this marked six straight Campbell Cup quarters Birmingham had played in without scoring a single touchdown.

Birmingham dominated much of the second half, taking the lead late. Minnesota answered with their first TD of the game to come within one point. They decided to go for two and failed, having a potential TD to star #10 intercepted by Birmingham. Minnesota then went for an onside kick and recovered it, the second ever in Campbell Cup history. They then scored on a scramble by QB #5 to take the lead. Birmingham had one last drive but on a desperation pass Minnesota's linebackers #52 intercepted his second pass of the day. Minnesota held on to win a high scoring affair that was oddly dominated by the defenses of either team. Birmingham became the second team ever to lose back to back Campbell Cups and Minnesota became the first team of the last great expansion to win a championship.

Campbell Cup XVII- * Two First Time Campbell Cup Entrants*****



Season 17 saw the Southwest do very well. Vegas, Santa Fe, El Paso and San Antonio all made the playoffs. Rivals El Paso and Santa Fe met in the playoffs for the first time with El Paso winning. Another key rivalry matchup happened on the last day of the season. The Beavers had held the best record in the division all season and played their cross town rivals the Seals on the final day; both teams knowing that only the division champion would make the playoffs. The two time champion Seals defeated their fellow Portland rivals and took the division crown on the final day. In the East the Confederate division dominated again, sending four teams to the playoffs for the second straight season. The New Jersey Titans won another division crown and looked poised to make a Campbell Cup run, where many expected them to face Las Vegas, who happened to be hosting the game this year.

Things didn't work out that way though as three of the top four seeds lost their first game, Shreveport being the only top seed to advance to the conference championship. El Paso faced off against Winnipeg in a snow storm where only two touchdowns were scored all game, with El Paso holding on at the end. In the East a classic game between Charleston and Shreveport took place. The Colonials took a small lead with a late field goal and with just over a minute left Shreveport marched down the field and scored a touchdown with only seconds left ala Montana and Clark in the early 1980s. This marked the first Campbell Cup for both Shreveport and El Paso and first time in five years that two first time combatants faced each other in the title game. Despite Shreveport being the higher seed, El Paso was the favorite coming in.

The game itself was very wild in the first half. Both teams had multiple TD plays of over 60 yards. Both teams struggled to do much of anything on defense. The score at the half was 24-21 after the Swamp Dragons missed a tying field goal at the end of the half. The second half saw El Paso take control of the game. #15 was brilliant all game and had a total of four touch passes and one touchdown run. Shreveport scored a late touchdown but time had already gone against them and El Paso held on for a 45-34 win. This win cemented El Paso as one of the league's better squad, they had built a winning tradition but really feel off just a few season ago having finished last in back to back seasons.

Campbell Cup XVIII-



Back when Virginia Beach made their miracle run to a Campbell Cup (Before losing to Portland) they beat the Cleveland Browns on a coin flip for the last playoff spot. This season Cleveland won a coin over Savannah for the final playoff spot and rode the momentum to a conference title, beating top seeded Louisville in the title game. Baton Rouge won their first ever playoff game, and Omaha made the

playoffs for the first time, leaving Orange County as the only team to have never played in the playoffs. This season saw two teams; Louisville and Reno, make a giant leap in terms of quality, both having earned top spots in their conference. Reno would host the conference title game as well but lost to San Antonio. The Campbell Cup matchup ensured that someone would join the Portland Seals as the only teams to have won multiple championships as both Cleveland and San Antonio had already won the game before. The Missions came in as favorites to win the Western Conference's fourth straight Campbell Cup. Inland Empire once again made the playoffs, attempting to become the first team to play a Campbell Cup on their home field

Both teams scored on their opening drives for the second straight Campbell Cup in a row. San Antonio took control late on the almost perfect first half play of QB# 16. He had two passing TDs and one long run for a TD. The halftime score was 24-10.

The second half saw history. The opening kickoff was returned for a TD by San Antonio to make it 31-10. Kevin Mack then took the next kickoff and returned that (back to back KO returns) to make it 31-17. Then history, a third straight KO return as HB #8 took the kickoff and made numerous jukes to get into the end zone... three in a row. Cleveland later cut the lead to 14 and the play of the game came in the fourth quarter with Cleveland trying to cut the lead to seven. On a 3rd and goal from the 4 Bernie Kosar threw a pass into the end zone for Webster Slaughter than was intercepted by San Antonio Safety # 43, denying Cleveland the chance to make it a one score game. San Antonio then went on a long, time consuming drive that ended in a field goal. Cleveland answered with a field goal drive as well but that was it. Kevin Mack, who was bottled up in the first half had an amazing second half of almost 200 all-purpose yards and two touchdowns but it wasn't enough. San Antonio's QB #16 won his second Campbell Cup MVP (becoming the first player ever to do so) and the San Antonio Missions joined the Portland Seals as the only teams to have won multiple championships.

Campbell Cup XIX –(Mild Upset) *** Two First Time Campbell Cup Entrants***



The 19th season of The Campbell Electric Football League saw Louisville and Reno continue their turnaround ways, both winning back to back divisions, as well as Minnesota and Shreveport making their claim to the best of the league. The real surprise of the season came in the Eastern division. The Quebec Wildcats had just won a Campbell Cup when the league format expanded from 11 to 22 players. This decimated the Wildcats as their new defensive unit never held up and the Wildcats went from one of the best teams in the league to mediocre overnight. Well they finally put it together on defense this season and shocked the league by going 15-1, the best record in a number of years. Another surprise in that division came from Rochester who went from last place, to division champs to last place again. They finished 1-15. The worst record came from Toronto who recorded the first winless season in nine years (New Jersey) and only the second ever.

In the playoffs the Monarchs recorded their first ever playoff win by beating Virginia Beach. New Jersey lost their fourth straight playoff game, pushing their record to 0-4 all time. Louisville defeated Quebec

and Reno scored a last second touchdown to give the 59ers their first ever conference title, defeating Tucson who lost their fourth conference title game of the decade.

In the Campbell Cup Reno came in slightly favored but the game was expected to be close. Louisville's defense dominated the game. Reno kept it close by forcing Louisville into 3 field goal attempts in the first quarter but Louisville still lead 9-0. League MVP #7 of Reno was sacked numerous times by numerous players from Louisville, the front four had one of the best unit performances ever. #7 did live up to MVP hype shortly before the half when he broke a long TD run to cut the lead to 2. After a scoreless third quarter Reno hit a pass play to take the lead. Louisville followed it up with a pass play of their own on a screen play, the only Reno defender in the area fell over and Louisville's WR walked into the end zone for the lead. The play of the game happened on the next series as Reno went for a fourth down at mid field with just minutes to play, #7 was stopped short by DE #9 all while a Reno WR had broken free. Louisville added another field goal and the claimed their first Campbell Cup.

Campbell Cup XX-



It took 20 years but Orange County finally made the playoffs... winning their first division crown by beating the Inland Empire Jackrabbits on the final day of the season. I.E. had their own great run in the middle of the season and looked like they would walk away with another title. The Jackrabbits would stumble into the playoffs though, losing four of their last five games. Virginia Beach dominated the east and were favorites to represent their conference for a third time. Vancouver, trying to be the first team to play a Campbell Cup on their home field were the top seeds in the West but many expected their poor playoff history to continue. Charleston and Winnipeg also made the playoffs but saw yet another one and done, continuing their own histories of playoff failures. Defending Champions Louisville made the playoff as a wildcard team. The western conference saw a number of great games as Inland Empire beat Omaha in an all-time great overtime thriller only to get beat on the final play of the game the following week by Vancouver. The western conference title game went back and forth with OC scoring a touchdown with seconds left to pull within one. They decided to go for two, flooded the far half of the field with receivers but Vancouver held, breakout star QB #6 had to scramble to the opposite field with a hope of running in but he was stopped by Vancouver's D-line and the game ended with a one point Ports win. Vancouver became the first team to host a Campbell Cup.

In the East Cleveland and Virginia Beach dominated and met in the conference championship. At the start of the fourth Va. Beach led 21-10 and had the ball. Cleveland stopped them, and then scored on their next 3 possessions (all Kevin Mack TD runs) to take a 31-28 lead with a couple minutes to play. The Sharks drove down and kicked a field goal as time expired to tie the score. Virginia Beach then won the coin toss for overtime and got the ball knowing any score meant they were returning to the Campbell Cup. ON the first play of that possession Cleveland intercepted the ball and ran it back to the Va. Beach 4 yard line. Kevin Mack then scored his fourth touchdown in as many Cleveland possessions and the Browns secured their second conference title in three years. Even with home field advantage Vancouver were not considered favorites and the game was seen as a push.

The Ports came out and got three points on their first drive. On the first play from scrimmage for the Browns League MVP Kevin Mack took a pass and went 68 yards for the opening touchdown. The Ports moved the ball right back down the field and into Browns territory but QB #4 was intercepted by Safety #45 and he took it 85 yards for a pick six. The Browns had run only one offensive play and found themselves up 14-3. #45 intercepted another pass later in the first half and Bernie Kosar found #50 wide open in the end zone to make the game 21-3. On the verge of blowing the game open on their next possession the Browns were intercepted themselves in the end zone and Vancouver took the ball on a long time consuming touchdown drive to make the game 21-10. Cleveland then missed a 47 yard field goal as time expired in the first half. They led at the half but could have easily put the game away already.

The third quarter saw Cleveland go ahead 28-10 and looking to close out the game. Vancouver then threw caution to the wind and went five wide, moving the ball on the stretched Browns' defense. A successful two point conversion made it 28-18 and the ports were in reasonable striking distance. The Vancouver defense still had to make stops and on the next drive Bernie Kosar was stripped and star DE #95 picked up the ball and went all the way for the second defensive touchdown of the game. Vancouver had now cut Cleveland's once huge lead to just 3 points. Cleveland then got the ball with 10 minutes to play in the game.

Cleveland owned the fourth quarter. Moving the ball down the field in a long time consuming drive Kevin Mack scored yet another Campbell Cup touchdown from eight yards out. Vancouver then went wide again but the first pass attempt was picked off by Cleveland essentially ending the competitive phase of the game. The Browns then just needed to run out the clock with four minutes remaining but on the first play of the next drive game MVP Kevin Mack went around the mass at the line of scrimmage, righted himself and ran down the sidelines ala Marcus Allen to seal Cleveland's second championship. Vancouver moved the ball down the field as best they could on their next drive but the clock hit zero inside the Cleveland 20 yard line. The Ports lost the first ever Campbell Cup played on home field and Kevin Mack secured his place in history as one of the best performers in both league and especially Campbell Cup history.

Campbell Cup XXI-



A very interesting season indeed: Season 21 saw Florida and Baton Rouge switching positions from a year ago with the Blazers winning their first ever division crown going worst to first while Florida had a string of close losses to fall all the way to last in the Confederate. Boise, on the heels of rookie of the year and league MVP, all-purpose power back and d lineman #9, won their first division crown. Another all-time first involved two flag ship franchises, the Inland Empire Jackrabbits and the Vancouver Ports, both of whom had terrible years by their high standards. For the first time in league history both IE and Vancouver finished below .500 in the same season. A record number of teams came into the final weekend with playoff hopes with numerous teams being left out on tie breakers. Indiana showed, for the first time since going unbeaten years ago, what made them such a beast in season 14, winning the Inland division. Minnesota and Tucson also won division crowns. With Boise and Baton Rouge raising division title banners this left only San Jose, Birmingham and Omaha as the only teams left to have never

won a division crown. Another oddity saw Winnipeg overtake Inland Empire as the winningest team in history, making them the only team in the top 8 to have not appeared in a Campbell Cup.... Sitting at the top spot.

Playoffs opened with a classic between Winnipeg and Austin. Austin had the ball in their own end with time running down, score tied at 14. Austin looked to be driving for a game winning field goal when their QB fumbled the ball, Winnipeg defender #69 picked up the loose ball and ran down to the 5 yard line. Winnipeg downed the ball twice to run the clock down and hit a chip shot as the clock ran out to advance. The Wolf Pack then got past their arch rival Minnesota in the next round before losing the conference title game to Boise as #9 (Big Sexy) had yet another dominating performance. In the East Indiana and Virginia Beach faced off. The Cobras dominated the league's top defense and easily won their third Eastern Conference title. The Campbell Cup was an exciting matchup, with Indiana looking to reestablish themselves as the league's top team and Boise, traditionally one of the league's worst teams, looking to shake off years of disappointment.

The game started with a 'defense need not apply' feel to it. Both teams went down the field on their first two drives. While all four drives lacked any big plays each ended in touchdown after long time consuming efforts. The team's mirrored each other as well in extra points, both banging one off the right upright... 13-13. Prior to the half Indiana scored on a big pass play to RB #37. They then got the ball to start the half and drove down field for a field goal. Boise played catch up from there and got to within 3 points after Big Sexy caught a TD pass with just over 3 minutes to play to bring the game to within 3 points. The ensuing kickoff was then returned by 37, game MVP and the clock ran out on Boise during the next possession. Indiana became the fourth team to win multiple Championships and the third straight team from the Inland division to win it all.

Campbell Cup XXII- (Classic)



The 22nd season of CFL action saw a third straight season with a worst to first story as both San Diego and Salt Lake City both won their divisions after finishing last the year before. Nova Scotia ended their 8 year playoff drought. The Frontier and Atlantic divisions dominated the standings both sending four teams to the playoffs and Toronto completed their long trek back to contention after going 0-16 some years back and won their second ever division crown. It would take a championship by them to continue the Frontier division's run of consecutive titles as they were the only team from the division to make the playoffs. Louisville, Orange County and Reno continued hard luck runs of having good records but missing the playoffs and Savannah won the Confederate with only a 9-7 record. One of the stories of the season was Vancouver, who just two years ago hosted the Campbell Cup but now fell completely apart and finished tied with the worst record in the league. Tucson also had a dreadful year in a year they not only hosted the Campbell Cup but were also among early season favorites to make a title run. Minnesota and Winnipeg's continuing rivalry saw them tie for the Frontier title with Minnesota

winning the tie breaker. The two also topped the list of winningest teams ever this season with Winnipeg a mere percentage point ahead of Minnesota for the top spot. This seemed to be one of the more wide open playoffs coming in with Minnesota considered a favorite and everyone else just grouped together.

In the playoffs Virginia Beach suffered a historically bad loss to Quebec as their vaunted defense was ripped to shreds by the Wildcat option. Toronto won their first ever playoff game and Winnipeg and Minnesota's intense rivalry heated up again as the two met in the playoffs for the second straight year after Winnipeg beat Austin for the second consecutive year as well. The Panthers avenged their loss from last season, beating Winnipeg. Toronto upset New Jersey, capitalizing on a huge swing play fumble recovery on a kickoff return, to win their first conference title. Minnesota won a hard fought battle over San Diego on a last minute touchdown drive to earn their second ever conference title. The matchup between Toronto and Minnesota was viewed as fairly one sided despite Toronto's season record. Only four teams had ever come into the game bigger underdogs (Ithaca CC3, IE CC4, VB CC8 and Birmingham CC 15). Most expected a coronation of Minnesota as one of the teams of the decade.

The game started with Minnesota going up early by 10. Toronto then took total control of the second quarter, as their big play makers all showed up big. I deep pass play and a long run and Toronto had taken the lead. Shortly before the half the Panthers regained the lead on a short touchdown pass.

In the second half Minnesota regained control in the second half on the heels of a great defensive effort lead by eventual game MVP #74 who would rush Toronto's QB numerous times and recorded 3 total sacks. The Panthers looked to have the game wrapped up late after converting on a fourth quarter INT to score a late touchdown, making it a two score game with just over 3 minutes to play. Then Toronto drove down field, spurred by numerous great plays by their QB. On a fourth and long from inside the Minnesota red zone Toronto's rolled out, broke a tackle by #74 and found his wide receiver on a great throw, keeping the game alive in one of the better single plays in CC history. Toronto scored shortly after on a TD pass. The Thundercats then recovered the onside kick (turning the tables on Minnesota from Campbell Cup 16). With just seconds left Toronto's QB was heavily pressured and forced to throw the ball short of the end zone. His receiver was tackled in bounds at the 2 yard line and Toronto then had to rush to the line just to get the hike off in time. The Thundercats hiked the ball with 1 second left, their QB rolled out again, threw to a wide open #84 in the end zone, only to have the pass deflected at the line by #64 of Minnesota, securing the win for the Panthers.

Toronto showed that they had what it took to play with the very best, while Minnesota became the fourth team to win multiple Campbell Cups.

CAMPBELL CUP XXIII-(Classic) * Two First Time Campbell Cup Entrants***** (Huge Upset)



Season 23 brought some surprises. San Jose completely rebuilt their team through free agency and the draft and was expected to be much better, but they still recorded one of the worst seasons in the league. Charlotte did the same thing but wasn't expected to make the jump San Jose was, and they won their division with a 13-3 record. Birmingham also won their first division title, leaving Omaha and San Jose and the only teams to have never done so. San Jose and Denver extended their league leading playoff droughts while Inland Empire ended their longest playoff drought in team history, a whole two years... Vancouver secured a place among the 'who knows?' teams after making a Campbell Cup, then falling completely apart for a few years, only to turn back around and finish with the best record in the league this season. Louisville, Boise, New Jersey, Shreveport, Toledo, defending champions Minnesota and Orange County also made playoff appearances.

In the playoffs Austin lost in the wild card round for the third straight year. Minnesota survived an overtime scare against Orange County in a game that saw the Waves miss three opportunities to win the game including a wide open receiver in the end zone in OT as well as a missed chip shot field goal that would have ended the game. Birmingham squared off against Charlotte in the east in a game that was looked at as 'who will lose to the western champ?' more than, "Who will win the east?" Minnesota looked to establish a dynasty with another CC win as they faced off against Boise. The first CC rematch in history was a real possibility as Minnesota and Birmingham looked to meet each other again in the big game, but Charlotte overcame multiple turnovers and won their first conference title with an overtime field goal. They were set to face Boise who held off defending champion Minnesota to win their second conference title. This game saw the worst historical match up in Campbell Cup history as both Charlotte and Boise held spots in the bottom five winningest teams ever at the time of the game. Boise, accepted now as a top team despite their historical insignificance came in very heavy favorites. A win by Charlotte would be topped only by the upset Ithaca pulled off in CC 3.

Boise started the game by going right down and scoring a field goal. Later in the first half Charlotte scored on a TD run, surprising many by relying on their running game rather than the one aspect of their team that WAS seen as elite, the passing game. Boise regained the lead on a long TD pass to WR #3 and just before the half Charlotte was in field goal range with a chance to tie the game when Boise came up with three straight sacks. Ending the half at 17-14 Boise.

The second half saw both teams step up defensively in key spots. Charlotte scored to take the lead on the third TD pass of #15's day. Boise answered with a long pass to Big Sexy to regain the lead. Late in the third Charlotte hit another pass pass to #2 to retake the lead for good. Boise missed FG with a minute left and then were forced to come up with a big defensive stand, which they did. The Celts then with just 33 seconds left hit two big pass plays to get themselves to the 22 yard line with 4 seconds left. It was then that one of the most famous plays in league history occurred. QB#15 rolled out and found WR #2 at the goal line for what looked like the winning TD, but he was stopped mere inches short by Charlotte LB#57 as time expired, Charlotte pulling off the huge upset by the slimmest of margins in one of the greatest Campbell Cups ever played.

Campbell Cup XXIV-



The 24th season of Campbell EL action saw San Jose finally end years of suffering and earn a playoff spot. This left Denver, a once proud franchise as the team with the longest playoff drought. Inland Empire dominated the regular season and came in heavy favorites to win their second ever Campbell Cup. Charlotte proved that last season was indeed no fluke as they won a second straight division title. Boise, who came within inches of a Championship last season did not recover, having a dreadful year. For the first time in years neither Winnipeg or Minnesota made the playoffs, both having had average years. Baton Rouge, Virginia Beach and Austin also won division titles, while Salt Lake City won their division while finishing just 9-7. Numerous teams finished 9-7 in the east, tying for the last playoff spot. A natural tie breaker eliminated most teams but left a dead lock between Quebec and Louisville for the final spot with the Hornets winning a rare play-in game for the final spot.

In the playoffs Charlotte once again rose to the occasion dominating Baton Rouge in another matchup of top seeds in the East. The Rum Runners never allowed Baton Rouge into the red zone, beating them 17-0 to capture their second straight conference crown, becoming the fourth team ever to do so. While Inland Empire and Austin faced off for the Western crown in a back and forth game that went to overtime. The Knights tied the game late with a field goal and the Jackrabbits won the coin toss and got the ball first. On their second play of overtime Inland Empire hit a deep bomb down the sideline for the winning touchdown, sending the Jackrabbits to their record fifth Campbell Cup.

The game had an odd feel coming in. Charlotte were the defending champions, looking to become only the second team ever to win back to back championships, but they were still viewed as underdogs. Inland Empire was viewed as simply too strong on both sides of the ball for a Charlotte team that still failed to garner the respect one would assume they had earned at this point. The first half saw Charlotte survive a number of mistakes. They fell on two of their own fumbles and converted on a couple of long third downs after what seemed like drive killing errors. Inland Empire couldn't capitalize and instead went into halftime trailing 17-14 in a game they largely outplayed Charlotte in.

The Jackrabbits did indeed completely dominate the second half as they outscored the Rum Runners 21-0 to deny Charlotte's back to back bid. IE closed the game out on a red zone interception, the only turnover of the game, by number #4. IE then took the ball and methodically drove down the field for the final touchdown. 38-14 was the final score as Inland Empire joined Portland, Indiana, Cleveland, San Antonio and Minnesota as teams that have won multiple Campbell Cups. The race for first to 3 was officially on....

Campbell Cup XXV-



The last season in Campbell Electric Football League history that saw the old, classic division was the 25th. As the second full decade came to an end, the league was ready for expansion of two new teams, Mississippi and St. Louis, the following year, which was forcing a re-division of many teams. The season saw Austin, Omaha, Charlotte, Louisville, Virginia Beach and Inland Empire all continue their playoff level play. A real surprise came from Milwaukee who went from worst to first in the Inland and had their best season ever, recording the league's second best record. Austin finished with their best ever record of 15-1 and were favorites to finally break through in the western conference after years of coming up short. Baton Rouge also followed up a fine season with another division title while Indiana Las Vegas and Vancouver finished off the playoff bracket. With the close of a decade, "Team of the Decade" was all but decided with Minnesota having missed the playoffs but having already secured a tie or better in Championships and division titles on the decade. Las Vegas made a decent underdog run upsetting both Omaha and Austin in the playoffs before falling to Portland in the Western Conference title game. The Seals looked to become the first team with three Campbell Cup trophies. In the East top seeds Baton Rouge and Milwaukee played a classic in the title game. Baton Rouge scored with seconds left to tie the game but Milwaukee won the toss in overtime and took the ball right down the field for the winning field goal. The Monarchs going worst to first and all the way to their first Campbell Cup. They also accounted for the Inland Division's eighth straight conference title.

The game was seen as a fair match-up, neither team having been seen as contender to start the year, but both now viewed as deserving and well matched opponents. The old saying used to be, "Inland Division, the division of champions,... and Milwaukee." With the Monarchs breaking through and continuing the Inland division's dominance of the Eastern Conference, Portland played on this by saying, "Portland, the City of Champions,... and the Beavers." The game opened up with Portland taking the opening kickoff and attempting a field goal. The kick was ruled, 'good' despite many thinking it went wide right. The drive seemed to establish Portland's ability to run the ball on Milwaukee. The next drive Milwaukee broke a 3 and 5 for a long touchdown behind a power set to make it 7-3. Portland then went 3 and out and Milwaukee again scored on a big play, this time a pass play. Milwaukee's O line seemed to totally dominate the game in the first half, protecting their QB and creating huge holes for their running game. Portland's QB #7 was sacked three times in the first half and Milwaukee added another late TD to make the halftime score 21-3 in what proved to be one of the more lopsided halves in Campbell Cup history (It could have been worse but Portland actually held the ball quite a bit). Milwaukee scored on three out of four drives and Portland, despite holding the ball for a large amount of time, proved to waste the possessions and ended the half with only a field goal.

The second half began with the game feeling under control for Milwaukee. The Seals stormed and made a game of it anyway. The Seals forced a punt then marched down field in a long drive and scored, then converted the two point conversion to cut the lead to ten. The Monarchs were able to move the ball in the second half but The Seals were able to play a bend but don't break style that continually forced Milwaukee into punts. Portland nailed a field goal as the fourth began to cut the

game to a one score lead. After the Seals once again forced a punt they marched down field on a long touchdown drive to tie the game up with just over a minute remaining. The game looked destined for overtime. The ensuing kickoff was returned by #23 to the 40 yard line of Milwaukee, putting the Monarchs one big play away from field goal range. They got that big play on the very first play as their QB scrambled 30 yards to get them in field goal range, and couple dives later and the Monarchs hit the game winning field goal as time expired. Center #71 won game MVP as he consistently blew up the Portland defensive line and even recovered a fourth quarter fumble that could have flipped the game to Portland.

DECADE NOTES:

Team of the decade: Minnesota (2 CC titles and 5 division titles, 60 plus percent winning percentage)

Other great teams: Inland Empire, Austin, Vancouver, New Jersey, Virginia Beach, Louisville, Shreveport, Baton Rouge

Worst Teams: Denver and Ithaca (zero playoff appearances), Rochester, Nova Scotia, Atlanta, Montana, Portland Beavers

Player of the Decade: #9 Boise (Big Sexy) DT/TE. Entered the league as Boise's utility guy, instantly turned them from bottom dweller to respectful almost on his own. Took them to two Campbell Cups and although they lost both he was by far the biggest reason they were there. Huge Impact.

Interesting Notes:

-The Beavers ended the last decade seemingly on the verge of a nice winning run but instead went the completely opposite route, becoming one of the worst teams in the league over the course of the decade.

-Omaha ended the decade with one of the best winning percentages in league history but in an odd twist they didn't manage to win a division title once all decade.

-Las Vegas saw their defense start the decade as one of the best units in the league but by the end of it they needed a lot of work on that end.

-Numerous teams received utility men as help for poor play, (San Jose, Boise, Charlotte, San Diego and others) but only a few of them seemed to actually help. Charlotte and Boise being the big two.

-Winnipeg made the playoffs as much as anyone but only won one division title and ended the decade in frustration having still never even made a Campbell Cup.

-Austin ended the decade on a run of 6 straight playoff berths, on the cusp on being one of the best teams in the entire league.

Campbell Cup XXVI- (Mild Upset)



The 26th season of Campbell Electric Football League action saw a new beginning. The expansion to four divisions per conference as well as two new teams, The St Louis Archers and the Mississippi River Bandits. Another change was that moving forward there would be only one MVP for both CC and reg season, a combination of the two. Prior to the start of the new decade a major draft was held with all of the struggling teams, St. Louis and Mississippi. It was believed this would help Ithaca, Denver and others end their long playoff droughts. The result was Nova Scotia and both Portland teams hitting home runs in the draft while the aforementioned teams pulled what seemed to be a net neutral. Nova Scotia had their best season in years, The Seals had their best season ever, and the Beavers ended their playoff drought and pulled off a huge rivalry win in giving the Seals their only loss of the season when the Seals seemed destined to equal Indiana as the only unbeaten regular season team ever. Cleveland, Inland Empire, Minnesota and Charlotte (becoming a mini dynasty) all continued their winning ways and secured a playoff berth while Santa Fe also secured one of their best seasons ever and won a first round bye.

This playoff saw some of the most interesting match-ups ever, Minnesota and Inland Empire, Quebec and Virginia Beach, and especially the first ever all Portland match-up in the playoffs as the Seals looked to get revenge for their only loss of the season. Multiple teams (Cleveland, Inland Empire, Portland Seals, Minnesota all looked to become the first team ever to win 3 Campbell Cups while Quebec, Virginia Beach, and Las Vegas all looked to join the ranks of two- time champions). Cleveland lost a wild opening round home game in the snow to Florida. Cleveland turned it over multiple times and Florida capitalized on enough of them to steal the win. This loss ensured that for the first time in nine seasons a team from outside the Inland Division would represent the eastern conference in the Campbell Cup (Although Charlotte was still alive and used to represent the Inland, they moved this season to the Confederate Division in the expansion shuffle). Another streak of note also came to an end as the Nova Scotia Voyagers won their first playoff game in 24 years (First since winning it all in season 2) by shutting out the Gators at home. This marked the end of the longest such streak in league history.

In the east, Charlotte's attempt at three Campbell Cup births in four years fell short as they lost to Nova Scotia in the conference title game. The Voyagers would face off against the Portland Seals who were making their second straight CC appearance after beating Santa Fe in the Western Conference Championship.

Portland was seen as the moderate favorite despite Nova Scotia's great season. It was felt the Seals were simply on a road to destiny. The game started evenly enough but early in the second quarter Nova Scotia scored and secured an interception on the next Portland possession and again punched in a touchdown. They also hit on a big pass play late in the half to secure a 24-14 lead. For the second straight year The Seals found themselves playing catchup, now trying to avoid becoming the third team to lose back to back Campbell Cups (Inland Empire and Birmingham).

The second half saw a number of long drives by either team and midway through the fourth the score had been cut to 27-24. Nova Scotia needed a big drive to close the game out when Nova Scotia

quarter back #7 found both of his wide receivers on back to back plays to find the end zone, the second pass to #82. Portland then found themselves down by ten points for the third time in the game with their only saving grace being that The Voyagers scored so quickly. The Seals then moved downfield and were threatening to score when DB #23 intercepted the third Portland pass of the day and returned it all the way to the Portland 10 yard line. The Voyagers then ran three basic run plays, ran the clock down to the final minute and kicked a field goal. The clock then ran out on the next Portland possession as Nova Scotia took the crown. With an odd note Nova Scotia had only won playoffs games twice ever, both years they happened to win the title. Portland came up short on a second straight attempt to become the 'first to three' and found more company among teams vying for that title,... the Nova Scotia Voyagers.

Campbell Cup XXVII-



The Denver miners made the playoffs!! This was the biggest story of the regular season and thus ended the second longest playoff drought in league history. The longest active streak now belonged to the Ithaca Warriors. The Mississippi River Bandits made the playoffs in just their second season in the league. The Seals broke the Beavers hearts again, continuing a streak of winning big games over their cross town rivals by winning a late season match-ups that decided the division. The Seals then took on Santa Fe for the second straight year in the playoffs and won before falling finally to Austin in overtime. Charlotte and Austin both looked like early favorites for team of the decade as they both won another division title and looked like the favorites in their respective conferences as the playoffs began. The Rum Runners took care of Quebec for the second straight year in the playoffs, this time to win their third conference title in five years. Their opponents would indeed be the Austin Knights who finally got the playoff monkey off their backs by surviving Portland in overtime then beating Denver to win the conference title. The matchup was seen as two top teams with Charlotte being favored to win their second Campbell Cup.

The game opened with wide open passing, Charlotte moving to mid field before punting and then Austin moving on an 8 play drive to open the scoring with a touchdown pass. Charlotte's super star #3 then returned the following kickoff 94 yards for a kick return. Austin tried to answer back but their passing game fizzled and Charlotte moved down field on their first drive of the second quarter and took the lead with a topuchdown drive of their own. After another touchdown drive Charlotte lead 21-7 at the half. It was a dominating proformance by their MVP #3 who had a kick return, a couple key catches and three sacks in the first half. While only up 14 Charlotte felt like they were in total control at halftime.

In the second half Austin scored on their first possession to make it a one score game. The Knights needed a defenseeive stand to have a chance to tie. Charlotte continued to hit on important pass

plays, #3 had two more second half sacks (five total on the day) and the game came down to a fourth and 11 from Austin's own red zone down by 14. The Knights QB mis fired on a wide open receiver and the Rum Runners took possession, ran down the clock and kicked a field goal to cap the scoring. The final score Rum Runners 31, Knights 14. Charlotte became the latest team to join the 'first to three' chase and Austin got their first taste of Campbell Cup action.

Campbell Cup XXVIII-(Classic)



The 28th season saw the final season before the last great expansion. Four new teams were set to join the league the following season. Ithaca ended their playoff drought, as did Montana and for the first time in 28 tried San Jose won a division title, winning it on the last day. Rochester now held the lowly spot of longest playoff drought, and Omaha now stood as the longest run without a division title. Quebec came off their second straight playoff loss to Charlotte and had their best season in years. They were joined by Winnipeg, Atlanta, Shreveport and Denver as the top teams heading into the playoffs. In the playoffs Baton Rouge overcame a 21 point deficit to Atlanta to win on the road in overtime. San Jose jumped up on San Antonio and looked like they were on course to win their first playoff game in decades when the Missions dropped 35 unanswered to shock the Cyclones. Winnipeg and Austin played an all-time classic in the snow up in Winnipeg as the defending conference champs and the Wolf Pack played a scoreless four quarters filled with missed kicks and red zone blunders on both sides. The game went to overtime with Winnipeg finally scoring on a busted run. It felt like Winnipeg may have finally gotten the playoff boogeyman off their shoulders but a week later in the conference title game they again failed to score a touchdown in regulation and lost to Denver, who lost last year's conference title game. In fact BOTH teams that lost the previous year's title game, Denver and Quebec, won their respective conference's this year. The matchup between the Miners and Wildcats was seen as a game of destiny for Quebec and they came in as heavy favorites. One thing was certain, for the fourth time in five years a team was going to join the 'first to three' race as both Denver and Quebec had won it all once before.

The first half was a low scoring, 'three yards and a cloud of dust' affair for both teams. There were only a handful of passes the entire first quarter. Things really opened up in the second quarter with Quebec scoring on a long TD run by FB #39. Denver followed that with a long TD pass to MVP candidate TE #9. The next play from scrimmage for Quebec was a long run by 'the rocket' that got Quebec in the red zone. Rocket then took it in on a similar option on the very next play. The action tapered off from there and Denver was able to score late in the fourth quarter to potentially tie the score and send the game to overtime. Instead they did what Quebec did in Campbell Cup 10 and went for the two point conversion and the win. #44 was stopped by a Quebec DB at the 1 and Denver was forced to go for the on-side kick down by one point. They recovered the kick and got the ball at mid field with enough time to get into field goal range. Quebec's defense held strong though and forced a fourth down at mid field. Too far to kick the game winning field goal Denver decided to go for it on fourth down with less than a minute

remaining. They got #9 wide open but the pressure made #5 force the throw and it fell incomplete and Quebec secured their second Campbell Cup title, both in classic games.

Campbell Cup XXIX-



The 29th season of CEFL action saw the last great expansion era as four new teams entered play, Wichita, Calgary, Galveston and Knoxville. The race for, 'first to three' was a major focal point. Indiana, Nova Scotia and Charlotte all did well and went into divisional playoff week looking to become 'first to three'. In the west Omaha finally won a division title and were joined by Orange County, Austin and the Portland Beavers as the top teams in the west. Nova Scotia and Indiana faced off in the East with The Voyagers pulling off the mild upset in a closely fought affair. In the West Orange County traveled to Portland but forgot to bring their offense with them and the Beavers won their first ever conference title game. Nova Scotia was looking to become the first to three while Portland was looking to add pressure to their cross town rival Seals with their first ever crown.

The game opened up with Portland scoring on a long run from MVP #28 on their first drive, then after a nice special teams play and a sack Nova Scotia's star QB was sacked again for a safety. 9-0 Beavers right out of the block. Portland carried a multi score lead into the second half and for the third straight time a team trying to become first to three had to make up a lot of ground in the second half. The Voyagers came out gunning in the second half and did trim the deficit. Portland's # 28 broke another long TD run after a long standing stack at the line for what would prove to be the deciding score. Nova Scotia scored with seconds left to cut the lead to one point but failed to get the onside kick and Portland ran out the clock for their first ever title.

Campbell Cup XXX- (Mild Upset)



The 30th season of CEFL action brought about a number of changes and big surprises. This was the first season involving ITZ bases and passing sticks. This season also brought about a number of surprises in the standings. The biggest being Indiana, who was one drive from a conference title last year, finishing

1-15. This marked their worst season ever. The Beavers, fresh off their Championship season also fall far in the standings, where they were joined by Orange County, Inland Empire, Omaha, Hartford and Charlotte as teams that underperformed this season. On the flip, San Antonio (looking to become the first team to win a CC on their home field), Ithaca, Mississippi, El Paso and San Jose all won surprising division titles. The Cyclones especially surprised and put together their best team ever behind two strong rookie D linemen. Rochester ended their long playoff drought, claiming the final spot in the East. In the quest for "First to Three" only the Portland Seals and San Antonio earned a playoff spot among teams with multiple titles. The wild card round saw a number of great games as Louisville, San Antonio, and Wichita each won their opening round game on the final drive. San Jose, looking for only their second ever playoff win lost to San Antonio in a classic decided on the final play. This loss extended their playoff win drought to the longest in league history. Wichita made an impact by winning a playoff game in their second season in the league before falling in a defensive thriller to Tucson. The Scorpions faced off against The Seals for the Western title while Atlanta traveled to Louisville to face the Hornets for the Eastern crown. In the East the Tomahawks strolled into Louisville and pushed the Killer Bees all over the field on offense. Four 10 plus play drives needing in touchdowns shortened the game and left the respected defensive front of the Hornets decimated. Atlanta claimed their second conference title in a classic hardnosed beat down. In the West the Seals looked once again to take a shot at 'first to three' but stumbled completely out of the blocks against Tucson. The Scorpions returned the opening kickoff to the Seals 2 yard line and converted a third down for the opening score. The ensuing kickoff was fumbled and the Scorpions recovered, again starting a drive inside the Portland 10 yard line. They again scored to make it 14-0 before Portland even ran a play from scrimmage. Tucson rode this to their second conference title in team history.

The game was viewed as Atlanta being slight favorites and some wondered if Tucson's 3-4 could hold up against the power option of Atlanta. The Tomahawks jumped out to a 14-0 lead and it looked like they were ready to roll, and then everything flipped. Tucson scored on a number of big plays, passes and runs... Their defense only allowed a field goal the rest of the game as league MVP #39 and the rest of the Atlanta offense was bottled up. Tucson had a great second half and ended up coasting through the fourth having the game in hand. Final score: 35-17. The Scorpions won their first ever Campbell Cup.

Campbell Cup XXXI-(Classic)



Year 31: Tucson followed up their championship season with one of their best regular seasons ever, winning a division title and coming into the playoffs as one of the favorites. Virginia Beach, Ithaca, Mississippi, Louisville and Reno all joined them among the best records in the league. Galveston made the playoffs for the first time. Of note was the fact that three classic power houses all found themselves among the league's longest playoff draughts, Inland Empire, Cleveland and Vancouver all found

themselves out of the playoffs yet again and Charleston, also a historical power, held onto the league's longest playoff draught with 11 straight years of missing out.

The divisional round saw three of four home teams lose, with Louisville winning as the home team in the last game of the week on the last play of the game. Beating Mississippi in a classic defensive battle with a last second corner touchdown catch. With the other favorites knocked off they rose as the clear favorite to win the Campbell Cup coming into conference title week. Winnipeg found themselves in the conference title game for the fifth time, looking for their first ever win. They hosted their bitter rivals the Minnesota Panthers, who were looking to become the first ever three time CC champions. Rochester rounded off the final four after beating the heavily favored Sharks in overtime.

Both conference titles were won at the very last on long touchdowns by the home teams. Winnipeg finally won a conference title, beating their bitter rivals 35-28 as their QB scrambled 45 yards with seconds left to win the game. Louisville joined them beating Rochester on a 90 yard TD pass in the final minute of play by the exact same score. The game itself was seen as even in terms of odds.

Winnipeg jumped out early to a 17-0 halftime lead but the Hornets came back in the second half with two long TDs to cut the lead to 3. The killer bees clamped down in the second half and all Winnipeg could muster was a field goal. With minutes left in the game Louisville got the ball and looked like they were going to break Winnipeg heart right at the end. After a couple first downs Louisville had the ball on the 30 yard line of Winnipeg. #69 if Winnipeg made the play of the game by sacking the Hornets QB to bring up a long 4th down. Louisville managed to get a play open on the play but the pass attempt was batted down by the Wolf Pack linemen and the game ended 20-14 Wolf pack. Winnipeg finally had their Campbell Cup.

Campbell Cup XXXII-



Season 32 saw two new teams, The Houston Oilers and The Las Cruces Crusaders, enter the league. Both teams had immediate success as Houston posted the league's best record at 15-1 and the Crusaders made the playoffs with an 11-5 record. Houston came in the playoffs as the fav to win it all. Louisville and Virginian beach both surpassed the Inland Empire Jack Rabbits for most division titles, both winning a record 8th this season. Milwaukee, Florida, Indiana, Vegas, Austin, Wichita, Tucson and Santa Fe joined them in the playoffs. The Apache posted the best record in the west, hoping to qualify for their first ever Campbell Cup.

In the playoffs Calgary upset Las Cruces and then took Santa Fe right down to the wire before their Cinderella run was ended by a late Apache touchdown. Vegas dominated both Austin and Tucson to earn a trip to Santa Fe for the Western Conference title game. In the East Houston held serve and hosted the Eastern Conference title game in just their first season. They faced off against Indiana who was looking to earn "First to Three" after blowing Virginia Beach out of the water in the divisional round.

The Apache cored on their first possession and then Vegas controlled the game from there, winning their third conference title. In the East Houston and Indiana played a barn burner. Indiana held the lead throughout but Houston continuously kept pace. Indiana WR 84 had two 80 yard plus touchdown grabs and Houston was forced to drive down by eight in the final minute. They got the score and had to go for two. Warren Moon held the pocket for a while and finally found a wide open receiver in the corner of the end zone but the pass was batted down at the line, winning the game and the conference title for Indiana.

In the Campbell Cup Las Vegas came in as slim favorites (almost even), with the main story being would Indiana become the first to three as the first three attempts (two by Portland and one by Nova Scotia) all failed. The two teams played to a scoreless beginning trading three and outs for the first four possessions. Then #44 of Vegas broke the first big play and scored the game's first touchdown on a 60 yard TD run. Indiana answered right back with a #37 kick off return for a touchdown. Vegas' defense dominated the game from there. #2 and #28 would add long scoring runs and #91 would secure an INT return for a touchdown just before the half. Vegas rode these four big plays to their second Campbell Cup championship as the Cobras offense could never get going. Indiana becoming the fourth team to fail an attempt at winning a third title and the quest for first to three would continue as Vegas now joined the hunt.

Campbell Cup XXXIII-



Season 33 saw a playoff that had only previously been held in the fifth season of the CEFL. Instead of a league wide tournament each division would play a one and done playoff to crown a division title, with each division winner earning a spot in the final Campbell Cup playoff. Inland Empire and Cleveland disappointed once again going out early while Las Vegas, Minnesota and Quebec were the only teams left in the 'first to three' conversation as the division title games came around. The Houston Oilers looked strong again and were the base favorites coming into the division championships but were upset by Baton Rouge in the division title game. Charleston ended the league's longest playoff drought by winning the Confederate division, handing that title over to division rival Savannah for now. The Beavers prevented Calgary from winning a second straight division crown. Winnipeg and Minnesota once again matched up with the division on the line with Winnipeg taking the crown. Santa Fe and Louisville won division titles again. By time the dust settled an interesting final four presented itself, Santa Fe and Orange County ensured that one of the three longest tenured teams without a Campbell Cup appearance would finally break through. The Apache made their second straight conference title game appearance, this time hosting. The game came down to a two point conversion with Santa Fe finding TE #45 in between two defenders for the win. It was eerie to OC's two point try against Vancouver years

back that failed, OC being the victim both times. While in the East Baton Rouge and Charleston ensured that a first time champion would happen this season. The Colonials made a game altering play by pick sixing B.R.'s quarterback in the first quarter and Baton Rouge never fully recovered while Charleston completed one of the best turnaround years in recent memory by winning the conference title after suffering through the longest playoff drought in the league before this season. The game was seen as Santa Fe being a moderate favorite to win their first Campbell Cup.

The game started with Santa Fe asserting dominance right away. Their defense allowed one yard while getting a three and out and then on their first offensive play from scrimmage their running back #20 took an off tackle run 80 yards for the initial score. Charleston then faced another 3rd and long right off the bat on their next drive and it felt as though Santa Fe was on the verge of taking total control when QB #4 found WR #84 on a fifteen yard completion to keep The Colonials moving. This started a long drive the ultimately ended with another completion to 83 for Charleston's first score. This started a run of multiple matching drives, Santa Fe punted, Charleston punted, Santa Fe scored on another long run, and Charleston drove down and tied the game again followed again by matching punts. Santa Fe then kicked a field goal and Charleston took the ball on their own 20 with a chance to flip the game with a scoring drive but a pass attempt was batted at the line and picked off by DB # 2 of Santa Fe. The Apache scored on a QB sneak a few plays later to make the score 24-14. Charleston never again threatened and the Apache added a later field goal to secure their first ever Campbell Cup.

Campbell Cup XXXIV-



The logo for Campbell Cup 34 happened to have 3 stars atop it, and the conversation coming in was when will a team break through and finally become first to three?? Inland Empire, Las Vegas, San Antonio, Minnesota, Portland Beavers, Indiana, Cleveland, Charlotte, Quebec and Nova Scotia all found themselves racing for that third title. Tucson, Houston, Louisville and Santa Fe all also came into the season among the early title favorites. As it turned out only Santa Fe, Inland Empire and Cleveland (both ending 7 year playoff droughts) even made the playoffs among those teams. Instead what the season brought was a wild new-blood dynamic as Knoxville and St. Louis won their first division titles and Milwaukee, Birmingham, Calgary and Boise all made the playoffs. The Boise Celts earning the league's best overall record coming into the playoffs. The Bulldogs won their first two playoff games and held off Virginia Beach to earn their first ever trip to the Campbell Cup while Boise hosted Inland Empire in the Western Conference title game. IE dominated defensively in the first half, shutting out the Celts until the fourth quarter. Boise tied the game up at 14 with just a few minutes remaining only for the Jackrabbits to mount their only scoring drive of the second half. WR 87 finding the end zone with just seconds reaming. While Big Sexy reestablished himself as one of the league's best players during Boise's' run, IE won their record sixth conference title and earned a chance to become first to three, with each of the

previous four attempts failing. Despite having the stronger record Knoxville came in the underdog to Inland Empire who was seen as peaking and more experienced.

The Jackrabbits controlled the first half. They completely dominated the Bulldogs defensively and put up 14 points on two touchdown runs by #25. Both teams missed a field goal in the first half. The Knoxville defense was able to get some key stops in the first three quarters but their offense just never got going. I.E. made it 21-0 going into the fourth (once again a TD run by #25). The Bulldogs finally figured out the Jackrabbit defense in the 4th quarter, leaning heavily on tight end #8 to move the ball. Knoxville scored 14 points in the fourth quarter but by time they scored their second TD the game was all but over. The Jackrabbits added a field goal in the midst of the Bulldogs come back attempt and the final score needed in a fairly low key Campbell Cup Jackrabbits 24, Bulldogs 14. Inland Empire claimed first to three and the undisputed top spot in league history. The Bulldogs came up just short in a franchise defining season and seemed close to becoming one of the league's best.

Campbell Cup XXXV-



The last season of the decade saw Milwaukee once again gain the top spot in the East, looking to avoid the playoff failures from the year before and to both start and end the decade as champions. Santa Fe made the playoffs again with a chance at 'team of the decade'. Montana and San Jose both made the playoffs with a chance to end the two longest running playoff win droughts. I.E. and San Diego made the playoffs again along with O.C., making the west Pacific division heavy. The East saw Houston (becoming a post season regular right off the bat for their franchise), Charleston, Florida, Shreveport, Ithaca and Toronto join Milwaukee in the hunt for the eastern crown. Montana and San Jose came in with the longest running streaks without a playoff win. St >louis spoiled Montana's attempt by blowing out the Grizzlies on the road, but came up just short of doing the same to The Cyclones as San Jose came from behind late to win in overtime. San Jose won their first playoff game in decades while Montana was left still searching. Santa Fe and Inland Empire faced off for the second straight year, with the Apache avenging last year's loss and the conference finals saw San Jose hosting Santa Fe and Milwaukee hosting upstart Florida who blew out both Charleston and Shreveport on the road to reach the conference title game for just the second time in team history. The prospect of San Jose and Florida being one of the most unlikely Campbell Cup matchups coming into the season.

In the title games Milwaukee scored a late touchdown as tight end #45 caught a pass and headed out of bounds with just over a minute to play. His teammate touched the back of his base just before he went out of bounds and straightened him out. He then went all the way for one of the most memorable touchdowns in league history as Milwaukee barely edged out the surprisingly game Gators. In the West San Jose kicked a last second field goal to hold off the Apache, thus securing their first trip

to the Campbell Cup, leaving Orange County as the only original team to have never played in the big game. Milwaukee came into the game as moderate favorites to win the Campbell Cup (odd note, this would be the second decade in a row ending with a Milwaukee championship if they were to pull it off).

DECADE NOTES: 3rd Decade, Seasons 26-35

Team of the decade: Santa Fe Apache

Other great teams: Louisville, Austin, Quebec, Nova Scotia, Baton Rouge, Tucson

Worst Teams: Savannah, Toledo, Vancouver, Salt Lake City, Boise

Player of the Decade: N/A

Interesting Notes:

-Nova Scotia only made the playoffs twice during this decade but got to the Campbell Cup both times.

-Houston and Las Cruces joined the league mid-decade, both making the playoffs in their first season but The Crusades fell from there while Houston maintained a playoff presence as the decade ended.

-As the decade progressed it appeared Nova Scotia or Tucson were on their way to team of the decade but Santa Fe owned the last five years to steal the crown.

-A fifty team league showed itself as only one team played in multiple Campbell Cups all decade.

-Milwaukee ending two straight decades in the title game.

-Inland Empire suffered through their worst decade but still won a Campbell Cup and ended the decade well atop the all-time team rankings as the league's most successful team.

Campbell Cup XXXVI-





























Tucson, Arizona





Best Rivalries

1.) Cleveland v Louisville-

-These two original franchises headline the rivalry list for a couple of reasons. They have always been at each other, have always been rivals, and unlike others, have met numerous times in the playoffs. There were a number of years where the two didn't share the same division but they were always rivals from the start. In season 8 Cleveland beat Louisville on the final day of the season to keep them out of the playoffs. They have met 3 times in the playoffs with Cleveland winning twice. There are a total of three championships between them: Classic Rivalry.

2.) Inland Empire v Orange County-

-Demographics and proximity made this a heated rivalry from the start. I.E. being the more working class, blue collar area of Southern California with Orange County being the ocean side villa. The Jackrabbits completely dominated this rivalry for the first couple decades of the league

and let their neighbors know it. It wasn't until the 20th season that Orange County got the better of their rivals by besting IE on the final day of the season to win their first division crown. The two teams have never met in the playoffs but it's still easily one of the more deep seeded rivalries in the league.

3.) Portland-

-The Seals had already won two Campbell Cups by time The Beavers entered the league. This rivalry had an odd feel to it early as the fans and teams seemed to respectfully share the city as the Seals were a flagship franchise and the Beavers were the city's lovable losers. Then the Beavers started winning. The Beavers knocked the Seals out of a playoff spot in season 13 and the Seals (after having trailed the first place Beavers all season long) returned the favor in a very famous game to end the 17th season. It's been rare that both teams are good at the same time but this is the only rivalry from the same city and has had a number of memorable games. It's become much more heated in since season 17. In season 26 they finally met in the playoffs after The Beavers had given The Seals their only blemish of the regular season with the Seals getting revenge in the playoffs.

4.) Winnipeg v Minnesota-

-The newest of the big time rivalries Minnesota and Winnipeg didn't become hot until years after Minnesota's expansion. The rivalry became among the league's most fierce after Minnesota won Campbell Cup 16. With Winnipeg being one of the league's best teams never to win a Championship, seeing their fiercest rival raise a trophy set things into overdrive. During this era the two teams won 8 of 12 division titles and met in the playoffs twice. Easily among the league's most hated rivalries. In season 31 they met in the conference title game with Winnipeg finally getting the best of their rivals on a famous QB scramble with less than thirty seconds left to earn the Pack's first CC trip.

5.) Quebec v Nova Scotia

-The Eastern portion of Canada is all over this one. Quebec representing the old world, French Canadian, upper class portion of the country while Nova Scotia represents the new world, working class portion. These two teams hate each other.

6.) Baton Rouge v Shreveport

- Not a rivalry with much glory behind it but it's a heated one none the less. The battle of Louisiana slowly heated up over the years and while it doesn't account for any titles at the time of this writing either team's fan base tends to judge each season in part on how they faced against the other.

7.) Houston and Baton Rouge

Met in the division title game during Houston's second year. Teams were looked at as the cream of the division. Would Baton Rouge secure their throne or would new comer Houston take it from them. Rivals ever since.

8.) Houston and Shreveport

9.) Las Cruces v El Paso

-Regional rivals.

10.) El Paso v Santa Fe

-Regional rivals.

11.) Inland Empire v Las Vegas

-Maybe the league's first big time rivalry. The two teams both date back to the original Joe Campbell league and both were consistently at the bottom of the standings with either season highlighted by beating the other. Once in the CFL both teams rose to new heights and consistently competed with each other in both regular season and playoffs with both getting the other from time to time. Historic and Contemporary rivalry.

Old Helmets not in use anymore:





