

A glorious day greeted the teams and fans for the Angus Blood Bowl Conference match between the Howse ov Flyin Goblinz and the human newcomers, the Crazy Claws. The Goblinz were looking forward to the match as the Crazy Claws' previous game had ended badly with the deaths of their star quarterback and two linemen. Pre-fixture the Goblinz head coach Tark hired an additional goblin and took the decision to sack the hopeless looney after his poor last performance...and the fact he now had a pegleg! Only time would tell if his replacement looney would prove any better.

The coin toss was won by the away team who chose to kick to the Goblinz. As the defending team lined up in a tight defensive formation, nervous faces around the pitch watched the two trolls scratch themselves on the touchline before the fanatic nestled between them grinning sadistically. The Goblinz began play by smashing their way down the centre of the field with the trolls and fanatic at the spearhead, while forming a loose screen to either side. The ball was scooped up from the centre of the Goblinz half and ran to the safety of the troll wall on the line of scrimmage.

The Goblinz continued to push down the centre, forming a tight cage which was constantly harassed from all sides by the peskie humies. A break came for the wee men when a troll decapitated one of Claws linemen and the fanatic sent another to the knocked out box with a rather large dent in his skull. From that turn in fortune greenskins began tearing forward in seemingly random directions in order to keep the defenders guessing.

By the midpoint of the first half the Goblinz broke for the line. A troll whacked Claws' blitzer from his path, a little'un skipped up to support the forwardmost goblin on the right and another broke from the cage to pounce on the lineman marking the potential scorer. Luck wasn't on his side and both ended up face first in the dirt, leaving a gaping hole for the humans to exploit.

The opportunity wasn't wasted by the Claws. A blitzer broke free and sprinted for the gap in the Goblinz' defence, shoulder charging the ballcarrier and knocking him hard onto his back. The force of the impact fired the ball high into the air which eventually landed in the open. A Claws catcher spotted the chance to make a name for himself but in his haste, fumbled the ball, which fell badly for both teams, in the centre of a four man punch-up.

The Goblinz sensed a touchdown was still on the cards but needed to clear a gap for one of their players to make a dash for it. The humans suddenly proved extremely resilient, and didn't budge from their defensive position, much to the Goblinz fan's annoyance. The Claws also realised a second chance to steal, having two players waiting in the Goblinz half. A human blitzer seriously injured a goblin in his attempt to clear a space, but the play was ruined as a goblin stuck out a foot and tripped the Claws' catcher as he attempted to dodge away for the ball, knocking him out. To make matters worse, he fell onto the ball, which spun away from the scrum, much to the delight of the Goblinz coach.

With the ball in the open, the Goblinz found themselves with a clear run to the line. A wee man expertly picked up the ball and danced away from the Claws players who were grappling with his team mates. Only yards from the line he got a stitch and collapsed, but luckily was able to hand off the ball to a nearby goblin who ran the it in for a touchdown. The Goblinz' fans sighed heavily, after such comical start to the match.

The shinanigins of the previous play had eaten up three quarters of the half, and to rub salt into the wound, the Claws were forced to lineup with only eight players.

Much to the surprise of the Goblinz' player, the Claws were reeling from the beating they suffered worse than expected. For the remainder of the first half they retreated back to their line and chose to wait out the clock. Knowing their tiny legs wouldn't carry them that far, the Goblinz simply shouted abuse and pulled faces while it was safe to do so. Half time.

The teams lined out for the second half, with the Claws much relieved to see the fanatic sent to the sin bin. Their relief was only short lived as the newboy looney strolled onto the pitch to a suprisingly mixed reception...especially after his predecessor's foot amputation in the previous match.

With the Claws receiving the kick in the second half, and the recovery of one of their players, they were clearly in the mood to crack some tiny skulls. The two human blitzers smashed their way down the right flank, sending little guys flying in all directions, but with no lasting damage. The hole in the line allowed a catcher to jinx his way through into the open to potentially receive a pass, while the second catcher moved to the line of scrimmage over on the left where a blizer and lineman were fighting it out with their greenskin rivals.

The Goblinz on the deck sprung to their feet and pressured the blitzers on the right, supported by a troll who mustered enough intelligence to realise he was needed for the job. Claws' fans were stunned into silence as they could only watch the Goblinz looney skip over to the advancing catcher and hack him down with his chainsaw. Another wee man ran from the line of scrimmage putting serious pressure on the remaining human catcher who had to act fast...

With what was possibly a rush of blood to the head, the Claws made their play. A hole was blitzed down the left allowing the ballcarrier to dodge away from his marker and rush through supported by a lineman. The blitzers on the left, however, were finding life considerably harder work, and were stuck fast by the hordes of greenskins tying them down.

It was only then that the Claws' star catcher realised his mistake. Despite the distance, the Goblinz looney somehow closed the gap and swiped at the ballcarrier, cutting him down and stunning him, sending blood (and the ball) flying. The other four goblins on the left managed to gang up on the human blitzer and bring him down while another was able to pick up the ball and run it to safety away from the ensuing scrum. It appeared the Claws were helpless as the wee men ran the ball down the human left flank, supported by a loose screen around the ballcarrier. Human players dodged away from their markers in a desperate attempt to get backfield but couldn't stop the inevitable second touchdown.

With the midpoint of the second half just past, the Claws realised they had to resort to aggressive tactics. The human coach could only shake his head as his doctors failed to patch up enough players to field more than seven for the final period. Fast reactions from the Claws took the defenders by surprise, and after a quick catch from the kick, they were blitzing down the left side of the pitch. A human blitzer created enough space for himself to dodge to the mid way point of the Goblinz half, and the human catcher closed to the line on the left flank.

The trolls in the centre were tied up leaving only unmarked goblins on both flanks to retreat to defend their line. It was then that the humans showed their hand. The Claws catcher was forced to dodge the flying tackles of two goblins to make a short pass to the advanced human blitzer. The pass was good and the catch was expertly taken despite such tight marking. Luck simply wasn't with the human as his stern shoulder charge at the nearest marker failed to shift the goblin enough to forge a path to the line.

With only seconds remaining, the Goblinz sensed a move that would make them live up to their name and be talked about by fans for weeks...the flying goblin!! Covering little'uns dashed over to the human blitzer hugging the ball, with the wee man throwing a diving headbutt which sent the Claws player skidding across the dirt. An unmarked goblin retrieved the ball and dashed to line of scrimmage where another little'un was stood next to a waiting troll. Goblinz fan threw Croakacola bottles onto the pitch in disgust as the goblin refused to take the handoff ending the match.

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