

# Losing players      Losing games

Cowboys try to find ways to deal with loss of star players

**Nick McFarland**  
*Staff Writer*

Banged up but still fighting strong! After just four games into the 2015 season, the Cowboys have lost their star quarterback, wide receiver, linebacker, backup runningback, and backup wide receiver. However, they have become 2-2 with wins against the New York Giants, the Philadelphia Eagles, but losing to the Atlanta Falcons and New Orleans Saints. The first game of the season, wide receiver Dez Bryant, injured his foot taking him out for about 4-6 weeks. However, the young prodigy, Cole Beasley, has become the new number one wide receiver and replacing Bryant. Though it won't be the same, as Bryant has been known for his strength



injury that will likely keep him out for the season. Though he was a backup he still was quite effective to the run game by allowing Darren McFadden and Joseph Randle rest in drives. Butler, who was brought up to help replace Bryant, stayed on the sidelines for the remainder of the game due to tightness in his hamstring after a 67 yard catch. Although many Cowboy fans don't believe in "America's team" right now, I fully expect them to go back to winning games once they gain their stars back, especially Romo and Bryant. Until then, if the Cowboys stick with the run game by substituting McFadden and Randle with their elite offensive line they could lead the team to victory.





















































by breaking off tackles and pushing up the field for extra yards. In comparison, at just 5'8 175 pounds Beasley doesn't quite have the same capability compared to Bryant's 6'2 220 pounds. Besides the point, Beasley will need to step up with the help of Terrance Williams and Jason Witten if the Cowboys want to win games without their dual threat. Sadly, Bryant wasn't the only one that was injured for the Cowboys. Quarterback, Tony Romo, was taken out of the

Philadelphia Eagles game after suffering a repeated fractured left clavicle, from 2010. Brandon Weeden, the new starter quarterback, started against the Atlanta Falcons with a 5-15 record but added onto a 5-16 record with his loss. With that being said, he actually had a good start in the first half but could not finish the job after halftime. Though, if he could play like he did in the first half with the run game being affectable and the offensive line executing well, Weeden will be

able to fill in Romo's role with ease. The New Orleans Saints game was the worse of all, with the amount of injuries that piled up. Linebacker Sean Lee, runningback Lance Dunbar, wide receiver Brice Butler all went down at some point in the game. Lee suffered a concussion in the first half and will most likely be out for next week against the New England Patriots. In opening kickoff, Dunbar was helped off the field with a serious knee



	 Austin Iske	 Cade Palmer	 Nick McFarland	 Jeremy Patak	 Brandon Cook	 Kason Kienzle	 Wyatt Smith
White Oak (4-1) vs. Mineola (5-0)							
Longview (4-1) vs. Marshall (4-0)							
Texas (1-4) vs. Oklahoma (4-0)							
Texas A&M (5-0) vs. Alabama (4-1)							
Texans (1-3) vs. Colts (2-2)							
Cowboys (2-2) vs. Patriots (3-0)							

## Best in the AL West

Texas Rangers stage comeback to clinch playoff berth in last game of season

**Brandon Cook**  
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The Texas Rangers like to keep their fans on their toes. Coming off a last place finish just one season ago and losing a manager in the process was not a recipe for success. Then with the loss of ace pitcher Yu Darvish and young infielder Jurickson Profar, the team was seemingly doomed for disaster. On July 31, the Rangers, who were sitting 8 games out of 1st place and 4 games below 500, made a puzzling decision to trade for Phillies pitcher, Cole Hamels. Usually a struggling team doesn't trade away prospects for one good player. None the less, Cole Hamels has done a great job for the Rangers, he has a record of 7-1. Maybe

he was just what the Rangers needed. On September 15, the Rangers played the second of a four game series against the division leading Houston Astros. With Derek Holland on the mound, Texas edged out Houston in a 6-5 win. With the win, the Rangers took the AL West lead for the first time all season. It's the latest in a season that a team has taken 1st place in the division for the first time all season since 2008. But understandably so, Texas' bullpen has, out of 15 teams, the 15th highest ERA in the AL. In fact, the Rangers have had more runs scored against them throughout the whole season than they have scored all season. A very rare occasion.

for a 1st place team. Ranger fans all over Texas now have something to cheer for. It's felt like an eternity since the 2011 World Series run. Many fans were beginning to doubt them and wonder if they will ever be at the top again. But here the Rangers are, back to their winning ways. They finally clinched the AL West on the very last day of the regular season against the Angels. To get the win for the Rangers was none other than Cole Hamels. This is the first time since 2012 the Rangers reached and the fans have missed that excitement. The Rangers will face off against the Blue Jays on Thursday, October 8 for the first of a best of five series.

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