Well that football season was certainly interesting, one that was the very definition of a roller coaster for the 2020 New York Football Giants. The first low end was getting off to a winless start five weeks into the season and being 1-7 in early November. Despite that ugly start Big Blue was only two games out of first place in a historically bad NFC East. The strange thing was in all of those losses except for one (36-9 loss in Week 3 to the San Francisco 49ers) they seemed to hang around and have a chance to pull one out of the fire, but just could not do it.

Next came the peak, a four game win streak sandwiched around the bye week where it looked like the Giants were coming in hot to take the division by the horns. This streak culminated in what was their biggest win in years, a 17-12 upset of the Seattle Seahawks on the road with Colt McCoy serving as Quarterback with Daniel Jones being held out due to a lower body injury. This was one game where everything went according to plan and had us as fans on cloud nine with hope of returning to January football at the Meadowlands.

After that game in the Pacific Northwest, Big Blue was in first place for the first time in years and in the driver's seat controlling their own destiny. But, in the blink of an eye it all came tumbling down with three straight losses all against playoff caliber opponents with none of them being very close games. The offense was stuck in rush hour traffic on the turnpike with either McCoy or a less than healthy Jones at the helm and while the defense largely did its part it was nowhere near enough. This stretch also showcased how talent deficient this roster is and if it wasn’t for the lackluster division the G-Men wouldn’t even be sniffing the postseason.

Despite all of that the Giants at 5-10 still had a chance at taking home a division title in Week 17, all it took was a win against the rival Dallas Cowboys and a win by the hated Philadelphia Eagles in primetime over the division leading Washington ~~Redskins~~ No Names. Big Blue did their part by securing the win, but unfortunately it wasn’t meant to be, in the strangest way imaginable with something that could only happen in a division like the NFC East in a season that started in 2020. I know Eagle coach Doug Pederson hinted at using Nate Sudfeld at Quarterback at some point. But, you’re really going to put him in when it's a one score game in the 4th Quarter? I’m not even saying this as a salty Giant fan, I’m saying this as a fan of the game that it’s fishy and just not right. I agree that the Giants had their chances and squandered them, when you want something done do it yourself when you have the chance and don’t rely on your hated rival.

There is a ton to take away from this season, the first thing is that for the first time in a while I am relatively optimistic about the future of the franchise. This is in large part due to the coaching job of Joe Judge. In his rookie season as a head coach he’s already proven that he can get the most out of his players and that they will leave everything out on the field for him. I’ll admit I was skeptical at first given the swings and misses in recent history, but Big Blue finally has a legitimate coach and it’s obvious that he’s changing the culture for the better.

While Judge seems to be the right guy for his job, the situation around his boss is a little merkier. Mention the name Dave Gettleman to most Giant fans and their nose may wrinkle, largely because his record in three seasons as GM is 15-33 with all three seasons having losses in the double digits. The flip side of that coin is that this past offseason was a huge step in the right direction as his draft class was decent in addition to the additions of James Bradberry and Blake Martinez who both had phenomenal seasons. Knowing that this year was a step in the right direction John Mara stood by Gettleman so only time will tell if this team can keep improving because there are a ton of holes to fill and this division is ripe for the taking.

The one part of the roster that will always be associated with Gettleman for better or for worse will be Quarterback Daniel Jones and his development. In his second year Jones really didn’t fare any better in selling the fanbase on the fact that he is indeed the QB of the future. It's frustrating because the raw tools are there, whether he unleashes a cannon of a throw or he uses his legs for a big gain. However, the next play he could unleash a brain fart and turn the ball over. Even though he did improve on the turnover problem, he still wasn’t the Giants won a game based on his performance. Additionally, he does need some help and it's something I feel a healthy Saquon Barkley could give him in addition to a legitimate top Wide Receiver target and maybe have a Tight End who doesn’t have hands made of cinder blocks.

This season at the Meadowlands was one of the strangest I can remember, which is par for the course in 2020. All in all though I am finally somewhat optimistic about the direction of the team which is refreshing. My hope is that this season proves to be a learning experience and when opportunity knocks, you’d better answer.