Modern Day Arete and Agon: The Rollercoaster History of the Cleveland Browns

Sean Collins
Advisor: Dr. George DeMarco

1960's: The Last Championship
- In 1963, Art Modell purchased the Browns for $4 million.
- Paul Brown was fired in 1963 and replaced by Blanton Collier. Browns finished with a record of 13–2–1, won AFL Championship and 1 NFL Championship in 16 years.
- Under Collier, the Browns won the 1964 NFL Championship 15–7 vs the Baltimore Colts.
- 1965 Jim Brown retired to pursue an acting career.
- 92-41-5

1970's: The Average Decade
- In 1970, the Browns and three other teams switched to the AFC to balance out the two conferences.
- Hosted the first ever Monday Night Football game, Beat the Jets 31–21.
- 1971 hired Forrest Gregg as head coach.
- 1978 hired Sam Rutigliano, 84–70–2.
- Key players: Brian Spence, Crisie Newsome, Don Cockroft

1980’s: The Cursed Decade
- Earned the name “Cardiac Kids” during the 1980 season because they were always getting back in the game in the last few moments of the game, and were used to give Ian Carradine problems.
- “Red Right 88” 1984 AFC Playoff. Down 14–12 to Oakland with 1 minute to play, a field goal would give the Browns a victory. Rutigliano calls a passing play, Red Right 88, and it is intercepted. Brown lost.

1990’s: The End of an Era
- Bill Belichick became head coach in 1991.
- Belichick sidelined fan favorite and Browns great Bernie Kosar and the Browns released him in favor of Vinnie Testaverde at QB.
- In 1994 the Browns looked to be getting back to their old winning ways finishing 11–3 but losing in second round of playoffs.
- In 1995, Owner Art Modell decided to move the team to Baltimore

2000’s: Since the Return
- Since the return, the Browns have struggled.
- Since 1999: 21–123–1
- 3 playoff berths
- 17–17
- 12 first round draft picks. 4 of these have been Top 10 picks.
- Combined record of 72–140–4 (68.0%)
- Have had 11 Pro-Bowlers including 4 in 2008
- 2012 Johnny Hakens bought the Browns for just over 1 billion