Written by Bob Suggs
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Adam Rose / FOX

What you thought of this episode likely depends on what kind of 'Glee' fan you are. If you're one of those who are entertained by the musical numbers and see silly plotting as just a part of what's pretty much a fantasy world to begin with, then you were probably delighted by tonight's Super Bowl spectacular.

Nearly two months after " A Very *Glee* Christmas ," the show returned last night with a special Super Bowl episode, "The Sue Sylvester Shuffle." In an attempt to end the football team's bullying of the glee club, Mr. Schuester and Coach Bieste force their groups to unite for a week, while Sue conjures up drama (her schemes to "make things interesting again" involve wanting to shoot Brittany out of an oversize cannon).

"California Gurls"

In the opening number, blue-wigged Cheerios dance to the Katy Perry track while boys on bikes scale giant ramps with strategically placed flames. "I'm bored," Sue says. We'd have to agree — and we're not even sure if a *Glee* version of the track would have helped make the over-the-top choreography seem more inspired.

"Need You Now"

In the first joint meeting of the football team and glee club, Schuester asks Rachel to demonstrate what the New Directions do. "As offended as I am by their presence here, I won't let anything get in the way of a performance," she says, before pulling Puck up to perform Lady Antebellum's chart-topper (a duet orchestrated to make Finn jealous). Their vocals hit the mark — which means they're as sleepy as ever. It seems like Puck and Rachel are lulling the football team into appreciating them — until an all-out brawl breaks out. And somehow the line "I'm a little drunk" slipped by the Fox censors? Wonder what the parents crying outrage at Lea Michele's low-necklined *Cosmo* cover will think.

"She's Not There"

Sue is on the war path when Figgins nixes her cannon-shooting idea, and gets the cheerleading regionals moved to the same day as the football championship, leaving the game with no cheerleaders or half-time show. But it's Mr. Schuester (and Coach Bieste) to the rescue, with a plan to set up their newly formed supergroup as midgame entertainment.

Inspired by the decrease in violence experienced at a Filipino prison when the inmates rehearsed for their viral video of "Thriller" (obviously), the half-time show will pair the "Super Bowl of pop anthems" with "Yeah Yeah Yeahs' equally spooky single, 'Heads Will Roll,'" explains Schue.

Though Sue demands the Cheerio glee girls (Quinn, Santana and Brittany) pick cheerleading or glee — surprise! They pick cheerleading — the football team is coming around to the idea of performing. So much so that lead bully and Kurt-kisser Karovsky asks for a warm-up number. Cue a cleverly placed rendition of the Zombies' "She's Not There" with the boys in ... *zombie* gear. We approve. Finn's vocals are a perfect fit for the 1964 hit, and everyone else does jerky zombie dances, singing backup that at first seems odd but in the end makes the number more interesting.

"Bills, Bills, Bills"

Meanwhile, over at Dalton Academy, things are going swimmingly for the Warblers and their badass (if totally irrelevant) version of "Bills, Bills, Bills" as they rehearse for regionals in the common room. It's great to see Kurt channeling his diva into a song from Top 40 radio (as opposed to old-school Broadway), and Darren Criss continues to bring the frontman swagger as Blaine. It only fell short insofar as it had nothing to do with the rest of the show.

"Thriller/Heads Will Roll"

Follow us here: The football team can't handle the bullying they get from the mullet-sporting hockey team, so they ditch glee club, and Bieste kicks them off the team. Blaine informs the glee girls only four more players are needed to qualify for the championship, so the girls rally and get in the game. But at half-time they realize they don't stand a chance, so Finn and Puck convince the defected Cheerios and footballers to come back for their megasized show.

The show ends with a cliffhanger: Quinn kisses Finn! The suspense will be short-lived, because

on Tuesday, romance will be in the air, as Rachel Berry sings Katy Perry while walking through a hallway and *Glee* tackles Valentine's Day in "Silly Love Songs."

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