



JAIL HOUSE JOCKS

By Kerry Schmidt and Elvis Presley 03-23-2006

Searching on several sites on the web, I can guesstimate that over 1400 athletes in the six major sports have a criminal background.

As Gomer Pyle would say, GOLLLLLLLLLLEEEEE.

Or as I will say, what a surprise. Right!

According to a book soon to come out by Jeff Benedict, an investigative reporter, says that 40% of all NBA players have been arrested. That's 192 of the 480 players. He says that he only dealt with the police records involving a serious crime.

He says the list is like a "who's Who in the NBA," and he says, they involve everyone from Shaquille O'Neal (who know is a certified deputy police officer in Miami), Patrick Ewing, Penny Hardaway, Allen Iverson, Bonzi Wells, Ruben Patterson, Kobe and many others.

Approximately 42% of them have served jail time.

Note: Oddly enough, 57% of the above 192 have gone to college for four years.

I guess that means they can study up and practice their criminal activity before they turn pro – at criminal activity, sports being a sideline

In the NFL, the percentage is "ONLY" 21%.

Of that percentage 69.6% have served some time, which is understandable because football is a collision sport wherein pro basketball is merely a contact sport.

And the numbers above are only for currently active players. I printed out a list from the net that shows over 1,100 names of athletes in the six major sports (5, if you don't count NHL as a major sport), going back 20 years.

And in addition, another 203 players were arrested for something, but the cases were either dropped or dismissed.

Many of the NFL players are the younger ones.

Vikings' TE Jermaine Wiggins (not on the CURRENT blotter) said, "If you're an NFL player and go out in public, you're a target. People know who you are, how much you make. Women come on to you, guys want to challenge you to show how tough they are. If you're going to be out there, you must learn to walk away from all situations.

He added, "Too many young players haven't learned how to do that yet."

It would take a book to tell all the who's and what's, but we'll look at some of the fun stuff.

There is far too many to list them all, but the research I did on these fine, upstanding citizens showed you do not have to be very bright to play in the NFL. Or the NBA. Or any sport at all.

The Cincinnati Bengals are the tops in the NFL.

They had a record nine players arrested last season, including Chris Henry, who was inked up five times! That boy knows his way around the ole cell block.

Number 9 on the bad cats list was Johnathan Joseph, who, just three weeks after Coach Marvin Lewis announced he would get tougher on players for indiscretions, got nailed.

Police in Union, KY, where Joseph lives, stopped a vehicle weaving and driving erratically.

Joseph was not the driver, but in the car they found a "Super Bowl" bag which contained marijuana. Super stuff, I guess.

Joseph was the 24th overall pick in the previous year's draft and played in every game. Get this.

He started the final seven in place of Deltha O'Neal, who was suspended for a DUI.

Can we find # 10, anyone wanna give me 10?

The Bengals' arrests have been over a period of 13 months.



OFF THE WALL SPORTS

Henry and Odell Thurman were suspended by the NFL, for the entire season (remember, Henry was the 5-timer).

Thurman's latest escapade was for DUI and skipping a mandatory drug test.

Six of the Bengals' 2005-06 draft choices have been arrested.

Boy, nothing like doing background checks on your draftees. Were did they find them, in jail?

Those stalwarts included Reggie McNeal, resisting arrest; Matthias Askew, ditto; Frostee Rucker (how did he miss my all-name team?), Spousal battery, and my favorite, Eric Steinbach, for BOATING under the influence.

Many of the charges in some cases were dismissed for various reasons (like they paid off the alleged victim?).

Then we have the Vikings' infamous "Love Boat" incident, where four players were charged with misdemeanors (does that mean they missed de meaning of the sex parts) for "Lewd, indecent and illegal sexual behavior." Coach Mike Tice was fired shortly after this incident.

The Vikings were the Butt of jokes nationwide.

Yet, they kept it up. WR Koren Robinson was released from training camp after being arrested for DUI and fleeing from police.

My Viking favorite. Safety Dwight Smith and a woman were cited for indecent behavior in a stairwell outside a nightclub.

Geeze, the money these guys make, you think they could afford a room.

The Chargers had numerous goodies, but three stand out.

Safety Terrence Kiel was arrested by DEA agents after he had illegal substances shipped to him...at the team's locker room, where he then put the stuff in his locker with the door open.

But my man Kiel was a biddness man. He was caught shipping codeine based cough syrup to Texas.

Then, the DEA learned that several Chargers players were sending large sums of money to China. The DEA officers suspected some type of large drug operation.

Instead, it turned out that they were buying knockoff athletic shoes and selling them as originals at a handsome profit in the US. Again, geeze. When you make millions, why in hell.....oh never mind. See "not to bright" above.

And teammate Steve Foley, after being stopped in a cul-de-sac near his home after a long chase re DUI, went after the cop and promptly got his ass shot three times. He missed the season.

A few of the biggies and goodies.

Rae Carruth of the Panthers got 24 years for conspiracy to commit murder.

Cecil Williams of the Dolphins got 15 for burglary, Dwayne Goodrich of "dem Cowboys" got 12 ½ for criminally negligent homicide.

Old timer Eugene "Mercury" Morris of the Dolphins got 20 years for drug trafficking.

Darryl Henly, Rams, got 40 years for drug trafficking and attempted conspiracy to commit murder.

Robert Rozier, an ex-Cardinal (he also used other names) got life for multiple murders.

Remember the sad case of former Ohio State great, QB Art Schlichter of the old Baltimore Colts. His gambling addiction forced him into forgery, theft, etc and got him 16 years.

And then we have good ole doggie boy, Michael Vick.

Steve Janokowski of the Raiders, got 90 days and probation for 3 DUI's. I only mention this because he is just a damn kicker.

I've just scratched the surface but I will comment on one final NFL player, only because I knew him

Dexter Manley of the Redskins was jailed 4 years for drug possession and evidence tampering.



OFF THE WALL SPORTS

I met him through a good friend, Mel Kaufman, who was a teammate, a LB on three of the Skins SB winning teams.

Mel told me the story of how he and his wife went to dinner with Manley and his wife, and Manley repeatedly told his with to “order for me, honey, you know what I want.”

Mel, who had known Manley for years, was surprised, but he then found out that Manley, who graduated from Oklahoma State, could not read or write!!

What does that say about big time college ball.

He was a super nice guy, obviously not to bright, and thus the 4 years.

Again, listing all the criminal’s names is not possible due to space.

A quick look at the No. 1 f...ups in the NBA since 2000

2000. Olden Polynice, Utah Jazz. Repeatedly flashed a police badge on several occasions, claiming he was a cop.

2001: L.A. Clippers center Michael Olowakandi was attacked by his wife and ends up slamming her against a wall and down some stairs. His response. “That’s pathetic that they’re investigating me. I’d never commit domestic violence.” Nah, never.

2002: You gotta love this one. Allen Iverson throws his wife out of the house, naked! There was some other minor stuff like breaking into an apartment looking for his wife, with a gun in his hand, of course. Good stuff.

2003: Darrell Armstrong. He beat up a female cop outside a nightclub in Orlando.

2004: Carmelo Anthony. He appeared in a movie made by a drug dealer. The movie was entitled, “Stop (F...n) Snitchin. Anthony tells “his fans?”) that he would take care of snitches by “putting a hole in their head.”

Also in 2004, my favorite!! The Chicago Bulls Mascot was busted for selling marijuana! It was reported that when he went to court, he did not have his bull costume on.

2004 was a good year, as I have to enter into evidence one Qyntel Woods of the Portland Trail Blazers. He was pulled over for DUI and speeding.

When stopped, the cop said he smelled marijuana in the car, and that when he asked Woods for identification, Woods smiled and showed him his basketball trading card. True story! Seems he had not license or insurance. Smart guy.

2005: Former NBA player Brad Lohaus received \$1,700 on eBay for selling fishing rods, which he never delivered.

2006: This one shows real intelligence. Lonny Baxter, Charlotte Bobcats forward, was arrested by Secret Service for shooting a gun numerous times while driving around the White House. Now if Hillary was there, well, that would be fine, but....

Just to note, there were over 30 NHL players in the criminal lineups, but nobody knew because they were hockey players.

Roscoe Tanner was the lone tennis criminal I could find. He got 2 years for theft and fraud.

In boxing, former lightweight champ Tony Ayala Jr. got 35 years for rape and burglary. He was paroled after 16 years, but promptly sent back for parole violations.

There were 14 other boxers. (Not briefs)

Two figure skaters got time. Remember the Tanya Harding bat-to-the-knee caps thing. Then Wolfgang Schwarz got 8 years for kidnapping.

So, it just goes to show that athletes of all shapes and sizes can join other jail house jocks. All that is required is a lot of stupid!