



2008 IS OVER: THANK GOD: IT SUCKED! 2009, HOPEFULLY FINE.

By Kerry Schmidt 01-04-2009

Thank God 2008 is over!

One of the worst years since the 30's depression. Actually, we started the recession in 2007, but it took the government over a year to figure that out.

President-elect Barak Obama currently has an "approval rating" of 72%

But then, so did George Bush, right after the Iraq invasion.

An awful lot is expected of Obama, and he inherits a frickin ton of problems.

Wish him luck.

But he has already said he wants college football to have a playoff. "We need a playoff. The current system is not working."

AMEN. Maybe he can get a law passed to force same. We can still call it the BCS Championship: The Barak Championship System!

Let's take a quick look at the end of the regular college and NFL stats.

Eighteen NFL teams had a chance to make the post-season on the final week end. Only 12 did.

The Patriots finished at 11-5, but did not make the playoffs, while San Diego, at 8-8 did; as a division winner. Thus, they will host their first (and only) playoff game against the red-hot Colts, who have won 9 straight.

Speaking of Colts, Peyton Manning won his 3rd MVP award, tying him with a guy named Favre. He won by a big margin, earning 32, 1st place votes.

The "wild card" weekend started Saturday.

And to show how screwed up this is, all four home teams are the underdogs!

The odds makers have Colts and Pittsburgh as the top two teams. The Giants of the NFC likewise.

And, with Miami, 1-5 last year, winning their division this year at 11-5 (Parcells does it again), the irony is that the Jets ousted QB Chad Pennington for Brett Favre. Favre caved in, losing 4 of their last five. And, his teammates are not real happy with him. (See below).

And the Falcons, also 11-5, with rookie QB Matt Ryan VS. old man river, Kurt Warner.

Vick who?

Anyway, after this weekend, the playoffs really get serious.

Great times! Except that all this means is the end of the season is only 3 weekends away. DARK TIMES are a commin'.

In college ball, well, the BCS is, as always, screwed up again. (Hurry up, Obama!)

Oklahoma, whose only loss was to Texas, but the computers make them .23 one hundredth of a point better than Texas, so they play Florida.

A quick tally of coaches and sports writers say USC may just be the best of all.

The announcers of all the games played Thursday and Friday, said likewise.

Joe Paterno, whose 6th ranked Penn State was routed by USC, said, "I can't see a better team anywhere. I don't see any team that can beat them."

The commentators in the Georgia/Michigan State game, said, "Computers should NEVER be involved." They added, USC looks like the best team, but since many writers think the Pac 10 is a weak conference, the Trojans were only ranked 5th.

Weak conference? The Pac 10 finished 5-0 in their bowl games. The SEC? Eight SEC teams were in bowl games, and were 5-2 going into the Florida/OK BCS Bowl for the championship.

But, what about Utah? See below.

Thus, the only conference perfect in bowl games is...Pac 10.



I would love to see USC play the winner of the OK – Florida game. Odds makers said USC would be a 3 ½ point favorite. But, we will never know.

And, you had another major f---up. UTAH, of the Mountain West Conference, finished a perfect 13-0. Their biggest win was trouncing Alabama in the Sugar Bowl. Alabama was the NO. 1 ranked team for six weeks, before losing to Florida in the SEC Championship game.

Some may say the conference was weak, but five MAC teams went to the playoffs. They were 3-2 in their Bowl games.

Again, I don't know who would beat USC, and with Utah's thumping of the NO. 4 team in the nation, how can you NOT say they should be in the BCS.

So, again, the BCS is truly a BS setup!

You had the same scenario in 2003, with Auburn going 12-0 but did not get The title game. Two 1-loss teams did!

So, for the 6th straight season, the title game should have a huge asterisk next to it! OBAMA, where are you?!

But enough of 2008. As I said, it was a real suck-a.. deal!!

Let's look ahead at some stuff that might be interesting in '09.

In absolutely no correct order.

Caroline Kennedy does not get the empty NY Senate seat. (As of now, the fine, upstanding governor of Illinois, Rod Blagovjich, appointed some fossilized African-American, but the Senate says they will not seat him). Who the F cares.

But the Yankees hired her as the Asst. GM of Finance. Hey, her family has zillions, so that makes her qualified?!

I think they definitely need someone to keep on top of their reckless spending.

Bob Brown, a college professor who has a PhD in statistics, took a look at a breakdown of the players the Yankees signed.

Using all the relevant numbers, here are his findings.

A-Rod will make \$42,000 per plate appearance. And teammates Derek Jeter and Mark Teixeira will make \$29,000 and \$35,000 respectively.

And newly signed pitcher, CC Sabathia will earn \$34,000 for every out he gets! Insane.

The Yankees also will sign Oakland QB JaMarcus Russell to a \$150 million contract. He was an all-sport star in HS, and a great pitcher. They figure that anyone who can throw a football 85 yards and is 6'5", 265 pounds, will have great potential in MLB.

The Yankees were just about to sign Manny Ramirez, but a furious Al Davis, Raiders owner, signed him to a \$180 million contract. They figure that since he is up to around 300 pounds, he will make a great lineman.

Put Jerry Jones, Al Davis and the Steinfuchs in a group, and you would get a combined ego bigger than the Yankees new stadium.

Guessing that Bago-Shitz will soon be unemployed, the Bears signed him as Asst GM in charge of ethics and behavior.

Put Jerry Jones, Al Davis and the Steinfuchs in a group, and you would get more pomposity than Iran's president.

Keeping us in Chicago, the Cubs found a secret chemistry company that could inject steroids ...into their bats! Their record is 159-3. The airlines lost their bats for one series.

However, they lost the WS to the Angles. Seems they have some heavenly connection,

With all the NFL coaches vacancies, the Lions name Richard Simmons their head coach.

Watching him in poka-dot shorts and purple tank top on the sidelines is worth the ticket price.

He leads them to a 0-15-1 record and is named Coach of the Year.



Speaking of the chemistry companies above, one such has, they say, developed a test that WILL detect GHG 100%.

Only difference is that players must poop in a large cup, not pee in same.

But both the NFL and MLB pay them mega-bucks.

However, the players associations of both leagues secretly pay said company huge bucks for a way to pass detection. This company must have a connection to Gov. Blago-bitch.

The NHL comes up with a colorful puck so that it will show on TV.

But by mid-season, no one even knew that.

Back to the crazy Big Apple again. The N.Y. Knicks of the NBA, have suspended forward Stephan Marbury for, it appears, the remainder of the season for behavior, including refusing to play and verbally accosting the coach.

But, under the NBAPA, they have to pay him his full salary, which is \$22 million this year.

Man, why can't I get a job where they pay me – hell, I'd take just one mill – to not work!

NASCAR. With the Big 3 automakers going belly-up, their sponsorships of the race cars are very up in the air.

Thus, NASCAR has decided to have only one MEGA-RACE for the year.

They will call it the cannon-ball run. Each team must carry at least 25 gallons of moonshine in their cars. But they will be allowed to lighten the load a bit by using some of same for fuel.

Burt Reynolds will head the whole thing up.

The NBA's Oklahoma City – they moved from Seattle this year – are 3-24 at press time, on their way to a 5-67 season. Their coach gets a 5-year extension. Note: I wonder how happy OK is with this team now.

Major Trouble in Big D.

'Dem Cowboys, for the 4th consecutive year, like a tent in December, losing 4 of their last 5 games and, again, miss the playoffs. They are like the Yankees. Pay huge money to any good free agent, and, get s—t out of them.

TO is, of course, behaving like, well, TO. He is as bad a force for the team as possible.

And QB Tony Romo, touted a few years ago as the next Joe Montana, has sucked in December.

TO is PO'ed with everyone, especially Romo. Says he does not get the ball enough. When I watch them, TO drops more passes than the catches. He seems to have what DB's call "short arms." That is when they go over the middle, knowing they will get blasted, so they do not reach for the ball because it leaves them open to get hammered.

But he and Romo have made up. They will appear together on "Dancing with the Stars." But, they're fighting over who will lead.

TO said he had caught a bad cold for the last two weeks of the regular season.

Hell, at least he finally caught something!

Dallas opens their \$1.2 billion new stadium for next year. For the inauguration of same, Romo and TO will get into the UF cage and duke it out. TO loses, of course, since he short arms all his punches.

However, Romo tears the finger nail on his pinky, thus putting him out for most of the 2009-10 season.

LeBron James has reportedly agreed to a \$1.1 BILLION contract for 2010 with Spain's top team, the bars-a- loner Madrid Dineros. Reports say he is taking the Rosetta Spanish courses.

The NFL has at least four coaching openings right now. It's possible that some of the fired ones will get offers from other teams. Denver's Mike Shannon will surely get at least one offer. Two SB wins and 9 winning seasons, but, as they say, it's "what have you done for us lately."

Al Davis will hire, and fire, at least 3 coaches during the season.



OFF THE WALL SPORTS

Brett Favre! The retired, not retired QB who is quickly damaging his reputation as an all-time great.

According to sources, the Jets' players are not "at all" happy with Bret.

Apparently, he does not partake in team workouts/ weight lifting with the rest of the team. They say he "keeps to himself," working out on his own and has his own office wherein he can "escape to."

He led the Jets to a 7-3 record to start, but then lost 5 of his last 6 to miss the playoffs. Note: reports say he has a torn bicep muscle.

What will he do in the off-season? Retire, un-retire 1,3,5,7 times, all odd numbers, since this thing is very odd. Brett: RETIRE, dammit!!!!

Several unnamed players have openly said they only want Favre back if he attends all the off-season workouts with the team, et al.

My man, Charles Barkley! He told all on TV that he needed" quit gambling, and, by all reports, he has.

But with a gap to fill, just maybe he took up drinking. He was arrested for DUI last week. Hey, he's still the funniest guy on sports TV!

Speaking of drinking, I reported earlier on John Daley's arrest for being drunk outside a Hooters. For that, the PGA has suspended him for 6 months.

It would be funny, but it's not. Tragic. Here is a guy with a ton of talent who has wasted it all away.

If the Yankees do not WIN the WS this year, their new \$1.2 billion stadium will melt.

Break out the excuses. Players, coaches, ump's, whatever. All except the.....owners. The Steinfuchers.

The worst that money can buy.

Enough crapola. Enjoy the next two weekends and then the SB. After that, we get the "Dark Times."

Well, off to watch the first two games with my ever beloved Single Malt.

Happy New Year!