



ODDS & ENDS: BITS & PIECES.

By Kerry Schmidt February 15, 2009

HAPPY TRESCADECAPHOBIE DAY!

For those of you on steroids, or better, sailing high of weed or mushrooms, it is the fear of Friday the 13th. Well, I could end the column right here, as the above is the most interesting thing going on today.

Thus, the headline above pretty much sums up a sports column today.

Meaning, there is really nothing going on that can generate any semblance of real interest.

But first, unfortunately, I am forced to re-hash a juiced-upper occurrence that has been so old news that it should have been worth only a single short paragraph, bad ass deal that has been shot so many times that the juice leaks out of some athletes..

One more time. **STEROIDS!**

I am so frickin sick and tired of the subject. Once again, a player is guilty of shooting up, and the frickin media, hell, you'd a thought that Babe Ruth was reborn and was partaking in the juice.

How many times can press idiots write s..t about this?

I spent all my "who cares" with Bonds, McGwire, Sosa, or someone else.

USA TODAY, Monday through Friday, had 31 different articles that needled A-Rod and steroids.

I googled the A-Rod debacle, and the headline read, "1 of 103, 680 stories on (A-Rod), steroids.

What in hell takes over 100,000 stories to tell?!

So, Selig's poster boy, Alex Rodriguez, is now a member of the "Shoot em up gang."

He admitted to taking it in the ass from 2001 – 2003. Note: Steroids were not banned back then.

Well, you'd a thought that he raped a kid and killed Jesus when his second coming occurred.

Ok. Let me try to do this politely. Diplomatically.

I DON'T CARE!

PLAY BALL AND SHUT THE F UP!

Fans, owners, union chiefs all the way down to the bat boy, are "guilty" of this latest whatever.

Note: The bat boy also tested positive, but since he was 15, his name was not released.

How many times do we, A. Act surprised; B. Rant and rave about it; C. Pretend we did not know, or D, all/none of the above.

I chose E. I don't give a stinking damn!

The owners, GM's, media, the worthless Selig, his front office yo-yo's and all the way down to the towel boys in the locker room knew about players shooting themselves. Or having someone else shoot them. Hell, shoot 'em all.

Heil Selig and his band of idiots are the worst. Selig said, "I (we) had no idea this was taking place. It was a shock when we learned of it. Note: This statement was dated back to 2005!

The fans: A majority said they were shocked and that it was a horrible thing.

The same fans that get drunk at the game and wish for 500-foot home runs.

The owners/management and front office F-offs, they also gasped at the horrors of it, then smiled like a Cheshire cat at the wonderful black ink dotting their bank accounts.

Hypocrites all.

The media? Simply get the old story from the computer, fill in the new name(s) and head for the free bar.

So, if you could get a real truthful situation, I bet over 80% of fans really do not care.



OFF THE WALL SPORTS

ESPN said that over 200 media whores are descending on Yankees training camp. WHY? How many times do you have to write/say “A-Rod took steroids?”

A hundred reasons are used as to why players shot up. A-Rod said he took them because “I felt I had to live up to my (\$257 million) contract. Ah, OK.

Why does not matter.

Estimates from former players, media, locker room attendants and umpires, add up to the belief that “at least” 75% are users!

A shot in the ass makes the wallet next to said ass full of green stuff.

Make no mistake. Something akin to steroids have been with major league sports since Babe Ruth’s days.

They did not have the magical stuff of today, but they had several types of “uppers,” and a biography on Ruth noted that many a time he used whatever available to make him perform better.

Mickey Mantle: He was able to play through many a hangover – some days he was still drunk, by taking the magical potions of that era.

Pete Rose and many of his era lived on amphetamines. Gaylord Perry won 314 games with spit and slippery elm. Pick a substance.

Argue as you wish, but there really was little difference between today and way back to the 1920’s. The only difference is the advanced science.

As columnist Paul Dougherty said in USA TODAY, “...re the records. (sic). Baseball’s unbreakable link to the past? Doesn’t exist. I’ll see you a steroid era and raise you a dead ball era. The unbroken chain? Both eras used a round ball.”

Many of the pompous media say they will never vote a ‘roid cheater to the Hall of Fame. Well guess what.

If that is the current criteria, you could count on one hand the new inductees.

Look! The great majority used/uses what is available. Get used to it.

Me? Let them take whatever they want. Everyone. I’d rather watch a .330 hitter with 50 HR’s and 100 RBI’s than someone hitting .225.

As the saying goes, “if you can’t beat ‘em, join ‘em.”

Selig has said he may suspend A-Rod. Dumber than elephant shit. If a player fesses up on his transgressions and still gets suspended, no other player will ever come forward.

Hey, Selig is about as wimpy and skinny as an ugly man can get. Maybe he should get buffed up on steroids.

Miguel Tejada allegedly lied to a Congressional committee.

“It’s a crime to mislead Congress,” said Rep –D Henry Waxman.

Talk about a double standard. Congress lies like a \$75,000 Merrill Lynch rug to the American people, but that’s OK, I guess.

So, most of spring training will be an obsession, again, on steroids.

At least it will take away some of the heat for the Yankees signing 3 more stars for a total of \$453,000, added to the nearly one million they spent last year. I won’t use the word “bonus,” as that has a very negative connotation.

Screw steroids. I’m finished talking about this crap. Until the next few players are outed and the media goes berserk again.

Finally some odds and ends, bits and pieces.

Don’t know if the Westminster Kennel Club Dog show is a sport, but this piece is epic

PETA was outside Madison Square Garden protesting. And, they were dressed up in...KU KLUX KALN outfits.



PETA spokesman Michael McGraw said, "The AKC is trying to create a 'master race' of purebred dogs. It's a very apt comparison." Their pamphlets they passed out stated that "The AKC and the KLAN have the goal of 'pure bloodlines' in common." These are PEOPLE who should be put to sleep.

I wonder if the dogs are on steroids.

Selig said that MLB will be cutting some costs this year due to the economy.

Of course, however, there will be no cuts in his \$17.5 million salary.

Roger Goodell makes \$11 million for running the NFL, which, under Selig's watch, has become America's game. And he's also more than 40% above David Stern of the NBA, which is gaining on MLB.

Neither of these two leagues have any real problems.

In fact, Goodell will cut his \$11 million salary by 20% to 25% this year and not take the salary increase he is entitled to, as well as his bonuses.

I'm quite sure most of you have either seen or heard of the picture of Michael Phelps French-kissing a bong.

Media went nuts on this too. The USOC suspended him from competitive swimming for three months.

But you always have to have some ass hole really try to get publicity out of an incident. A District Attorney in South Carolina says he will charge Phelps with a felony. He has already arrested people who were present at the party as witnesses.

Does anyone remember the Duke Lacrosse debacle? The DA was running for re-election and falsified all sorts of evidence and withheld others. Was disbarred.

Sounds like another lawyer dick trying to get PR. Given Phelps' celebrity and status, I think Mr. DA is in for a bad time.

OK, time to really shock you!

I'm actually going to write an odd bit on the NHL. HOOOOOCKEEEEEEY.

With their TV ratings in the toilet and attendance way down, they are trying to get people interested in the game.

The answer? Lots of good fights. The NHL says that "major" fights are up 24% from last season. If you went back to the 70's virtually every team had their "goon," or "enforcer." These were guys whose overall hockey skills were a bit limited, but whenever an opposing player needed to be "taken out," the goon entered the ice.

They are simply aiming for America's lust for violence.

It's estimated that nearly 50% of fans attending a NASCAR race want to see a couple of good wrecks.

In MLB, a bench-emptying brawl works well.

There have been a few in the NBA, especially that one in Detroit a couple of years ago.

The only team in the NBA that did not have a fight for the last 3 years was Miami. Perhaps that's because a poll of NBA players were asked, "who is the last person you would want to mess with?" 74% of players said Shaq!

Hey, at 7'2", around 350 pounds, DUH. Imagine him on steroids!

Next one was near 5%.

Speaking of the NBA.

The NBA All-Star game, (aka, super street game) is this weekend.



OFF THE WALL SPORTS

Besides the game itself – lots of fancy, show off plays and trick shots, et al, it can be fun to watch. But if you like defense, pass. They don't play D in this game. Not uncommon to see a score like, say, 135-126.

But there is something, actually, someone lacking in the NBA these days.

Charles Barkley. You may remember he was arrested for DUI in Phoenix a few weeks back. TNT suspended him and he remains out.

Put Bark-man back in, TNT! Besides being extremely knowledgeable about the game, he is very, very funny! He is not afraid to say when a player screws up, or he many even say something like, "so and so sucks. He can't shoot, he can't pass and he can't even dunk. If you can't dunk, you don't belong here."

Wake up, TNT. Several of your supervisors, cameramen and others have had DUI's.

Bottom line: TNT needs Barkley back MUCH more that Charles needs TNT.

Without Barkley, their ratings are down 26%.

Geeze, it's not like he did cocaine or killed someone.

Tiny bit. A level II-A college was forced to forfeit 10 wins for their 2007 season. Seems some players got a lot of help with some correspondent courses they were taking.

So, you say. Helping football geniuses in the academic side is not new.

Well, the college herein is Abilene Christian College. A very strict, fundamental Christian school.

Wonder what God would say.

Did they use steroids?

This one is an "ends"

Jennifer Figge became the first woman to swim the Atlantic. She swam 2,500 miles, from Cape Verde Islands to Trinidad and Tobago. She made it in 25 days. She swam in a shark cage, and on several days, she swam in 30 foot seas.

Figge is 56 years old.

Finish up with some pieces, as in lost pieces.

All know of Bernard Madoff's Ponzi scheme. He bilked investors out of roughly \$50 Billion.

A few in the sports world were affected.

Fred Wilpon, owner of the NY Mets, lost \$300 million! He was a childhood friend of Madoff.

Key word here is "was."

The International Olympic Committee lost \$4.8 million.

Norman Braman, NFL's Eagles owner. He is a self-made Billionaire and was listed as the 281st richest man in the world. He said "I lost a 'considerable amount.'"

Ray Floyd, senior PGA golfer, was in a group of 250 investors who lost \$213 million.

I am really in need of odds and ends that involve single malt.