



## A WEE ON BIT ON THREE SPORTS: MLB, NFL, MARCH MADNESS.

By Kerry Schmidt March 8, 2009

OK, Again, since not much is really going on, I will come up with some worthless dribble on three sports. Sorry NHL, you don't qualify. Are they playing this year?

Let's start with baseball.

Since no other team would make Manny Ramirez an offer, the 36-year old with the big bat and bigger belly, signed with the Dodgers for a 2-year deal worth 45 million!

My prediction. If you look at the stats of all players that were in the final year of their contracts, they played hard and put up big numbers. Then once they get the big bucks, 78% of said players did not come close to matching the previous year's production.

Why? Where is the motivation? They got their money, so.....

Speaking of money. The cost of a single game ticket in the plush, choicest seats in the new Yankees' stadium is.....\$2,500! God Almighty.

I'll get to injectable A-Rod in a minute, because his story will be followed by other roids goodies. Players get traded all the time.

But how about this one. John Odom, a former very low minor leaguer was traded by the Calgary Vipers to the Laredo Broncos of something called the Independent United League.

So, who did they get in return?

Not who, but what. They traded Odom for.....ta da...10 bats! Man, you can't get much lower than that!

Instantly, he was "Bat Man," of "Bat Boy," et al. At first, he loved the publicity, and went along for the ride. He was a pitcher, and had a few good games.

But soon it began to get to him.

To make it short, he OD'd on November 5 of last year, a combination of meth, heroin, some other drug and alcohol.

"He just never could get past that," said Dan Swan, who was his coach at Laredo. "Sad, very sad," he added. Yea, I guess bad times can really make you batty. Ohhhh, bat, I mean bad.

A-Rod may be out for as long as four months due to a cyst on his hip that may require surgery.

The cyst was likely caused by the multiple injections of steroids to said area, which caused them to build up and form a "lump." He he.

Anyway, they say he may need surgery, thus the long time frame.

Let's see: Say a 6-month season. 25 million per year, that's 4.1 mil a month, so 16 1/2 million for a steroid caused bump. Guess he will really worry now about "being able to live up to his big contract."

Hell, I've had 26 major surgeries. I'll damn sure take another one for 16 million!

The other option is for him to just "re-hab," and hope it cures itself up.

Hey, I heard that steroids help athletes recover quickly, so, shoot him up. Just do it on the other side of the hip, so maybe he can have matching bumps. Keep him in balance.

Which bring us, again, to the biggest name in steroids. Allegedly. Barry Bonds.

SI again had a story of his upcoming perjury trial.

Attorneys said with most all of the alleged tests and other reports being thrown out as evidence, based on time lapse and outright irregularities therein, one attorney said, "Their case against (Bonds) is very shaky."

Most of the evidence the prosecutors want to use, calendars and records seized from BALCO that allegedly show Bonds tested positive 3 times in 2000 and 2001, were thrown out.

And without his trainer's testimony, they have little or no chance of conviction.



The Feds thus have asked for another lengthy delay.

This delay, many say, “just reinforced the belief held by many that the BALCO investigation was less an earnest effort to expose and shut down a large steroid ring than a Melvillean quest to nail Bonds and expose the taint on his baseball accomplishments,” quotes SI.

Further, the delay shows a case that has cost the government (see taxpayers) many thousands of dollars.

Government officials have even threatened Bonds’ mother-in-law with criminal matters relating to nebulous tax issues.

Ironically, by strong-arming people and spending all this time and tax money, they have started to turn Bonds into a victim in some circles. Amazing. Only our government could F... up that much. Maybe Obama can Bail (him) Out.

SI’s Dan Patrick did an interview with Hall-of-Fame pitcher Dennis Eckersley.

His first spring training, he was teamed with Gaylord Perry, he of the famous “spit ball.” He was asked why they all were OK with Perry doctoring the ball?

“I don’t know,” said Eck (as he was called). “People say if you ain’t cheating you ain’t trying, but...”

Next Q was how did you get away with it.

“I’ve heard all kinds of stories,” said Eck. “The catcher would cut it with his gear, or the 3<sup>rd</sup> baseman would rub dirt on it. Sandpaper. You saw a lot of that. And guys would swallow it so as not to get caught!” Swallow it?! “Sandpaper makes the medicine go down...”

He was then questioned on the cheating of then and the steroids now. “I don’t know. Selig would just look the other way, and the players union, they kept testing out for a long time.”

Asked if steroids vs. cutting, sanding, putting grease on the ball, etc, was different he said, “I guess not. Cheating is cheating.”

Christine Brennan writes a weekly column for USA TODAY. They mostly suck. She wrote her 14<sup>th</sup> on steroids last week. Her point was that baseball points out individual players, whereas the NFL has “entire groups.”

27 NFL players have been suspended and fined. Only 9 MLB players.

Give it up, bitch.

Perhaps the ultimate Steroid example of damage done to an NFL player would be former Michigan State all world OL, Tony Mandarich.

He was on the cover of SI with the sub-title, The greatest offensive line prospect ever! Three years later, he was again on the cover, with the sub-title, The NFL Incredible BUST. At Michigan State, he was so dominant that he is the only college player to make the “All-Madden Team.”

He was the No. 2 overall pick by the Packers in the ’89 draft, ahead of players like Troy Aikman, Barry Sanders, Derrick Thomas and Deion Sanders, all Hall-Of-Famers.

Mand-man says he started shooting up steroids in this sophomore year.

And he says, “I took just about anything and everything, even (at the time, new), HGH.” He was nicknamed “the Doctor,” as he injected other workout freaks.

He was in love...with his body. With 22 inch biceps and a torso like a Greek God, he was physically awesome.

Just before the ’89 draft, he moved to Southern California to train. When he complained one day about how sore he was, a trainer (Mand-man would not give his name), came up to him and gave him a shot directly into a vein on his arm. It was a prescription narcotic, Ntadol.

“In 15 seconds,” he told SI’s Rick Telander, “I was flodded with pleasure and peace. That first one, that’s the one you chase.”

Thus lead him to addiction to pain pills, which he ate “like candy.”



He states that for the '88 Rose Bowl, he “came up with a way to hide a tube between my butt cheeks, run it down to my penis, and squeeze the water he had in the tube out. They stood behind me, so I simply took a tiny bottle of someone else’s urine.” He passed.

He repeated this several times.

With his chemically enhanced strength and rage, he dominated defensive linemen.

But as he began his pro career, he had to pretty much lay off the juice.

Sans that, he was a total bust! He lasted 3 years, then went to the Colts for 3 more, and did “a little better,” but then he was gone.

A physically wasted man, but still addicted to pain killers. And alcohol.

He would do anything to obtain them, He had 10 different doctors in 4 states prescribing them to him. His lowest point was when he drove 16 hours to get the pain pills, knowing that his brother was lying near death from cancer. By the time he got back with the pills, his brother was dead.

“The pain killers were more important to me that holding my brother’s hand as he died,” he now confesses.

He as since become totally clean, married to his second wife who has a 14-year old daughter and has written a book, “My Dirty Little Secrets – Steroids, Alcohol and God.”

Yet he reamains THE ultimate tragedy of steroids.

Billionaire Dan Snyder shelled out a \$100 million to former Titans DT, Albert Haynesworth. That is the biggest contract ever given to a non QB or WR.

What bad economy?

The NE Pats. They cut Matt Cassel (11-5 last year) lose, betting that Tom Brady’s knee will be fine. They tossed in LB Mike Vrable, and for that, they only got a 3<sup>rd</sup> round pick from KC.

And, Brady got married to super model Gisele Bundchen. Likely the first time the new wife of a super rich QB actually makes more money than he does. She allegedly makes \$25 million a year. I wonder if SHE made him sign a pre-nup.?

As one NFL coach said, “that may be the worst trade, value wise, ever.”

Finish with MY MAN, TO!

Apparently, Dallas had finally had enough of his “crap,” and cut him loose. Owner Jerry Jones is noted for taking most any good player, regardless of his trouble tag. But TO even PO’d Jones.

At 35, and with his problems with 4 teams, ESPN analyst Trent Dilfer said, “It’s going to take a coach who feels he can handle any personality.

Translation: As big of an ass hole he is, can he produce enough to put up with his s..t?

Having been suspended and let loose by four teams, leaving many enemies, scars and his 500 pound ego behind, his future is not bright. Couldn’t happen to a nicer guy.

Hey, this important bit. Browns’ Shaun Rogers reportedly wants to be traded, he says, because new coach Eric Mangini didn’t say hello to him at the team’s practice facility in January.

March Madness is coming up soon. I will get into that after the teams have been picked. This year, there is no dominant team or teams, as in previous years. Thus, is could be a wide open, interesting tournament.

The NBA may need a bailout? The League has already borrowed \$200 million from banks (banks are lending?) And, 12 NBA teams have expressed interest in receiving assistant funds – AKA, Bailout.

Finish with a girls basketball bit.

Seems some high school girl went far beyond the 17-year old Massachusetts scoring record (2,710) formerly held by Rebecca Lobo. (She was on the US gold medal winning Olympic team this year.)

The new record is now 3,106, making her the first player, male or female, to score over 3000 points in MASS.



# OFF THE WALL SPORTS

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So? The new points champ is named Bilqis Amdul-Qadir.

Yes, she is Muslim. Again you say, so?

Since she reached puberty at 13, under Islamic law, she must wear full Muslim dress, meaning her arms, legs and head, except for her face, must be covered at all times.

Thus, she plays in what amounts to a full on body suit. Imagine what she could do if she could wear just shorts and T-shirt. She averages 42 points a game.

Yes, she says, she does hear the occasional taunts; terrorist, is that a towel on your head, but soon her talent overcomes even that.

She is a straight A student at New Leadership Charter School in Springfield.

Bilqis will become the first Islamic player in NCAA Division I history to take the court in full dress when she starts her college career next fall at Memphis, where she will major in pre-med.

She is aware that instead of the hundred of so in her high school gym, she will be in front of thousands. In her full length dress (hijab), you won't miss her.

She says she is ready for whatever they throw at her.

I don't think she can join me in a wee dram of single malt. So, like George Thurgood says, "I drink alone..."