



MAKE IT SHORT. YOU GOTTA HAVE HEART

By Kerry Schmidt

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Yea, you gotta have heart. Or, gotta have A heart – that works.

Was not even going to do a column today, as the last two days I have been attacked by heart arrhythmia.

For people that are as dumb as I am, (good ole web-WEB MD) that means your heart takes some time off, i.e. it skips beats whenever it wants to. Try sleeping with that. Whenever it skips, it feels like an air vacuum taking place in your chest.

Does not (heart), I mean (hurt) that much, but is sure gets your attention.

Combine that with some chest pains and sweats, and you have a damn good party.

It comes and goes. Daytimes, I seem to be OK, although very tired. But it comes back early evening. Seems like as soon as I lay down. So, should just sleep standing up, I guess.

I'm trying to ride it out until Monday, because if you go in the hospital on the weekend, your heart doc is not available, along with most other cardiologists, so you pretty much are on stand by until Monday. Thus, I may as well be comfortable in my own home, and luxury bed, rather than lie in a hard-as-wood hospital bed, with everyone from nurse to cleaning people coming into your room about every hour, it seems.

Love it when they come in to check your blood pressure FOUR times a night, and then as they leave your room, they say, "have a good night."

Right.

As I am writing this, I'm normal – yes, I know, I've never been normal, but I'm talking about my heart beating normally, albeit weak.

AHHHH, like they say in sports, "you gotta play through the pain."

Yea, I know, who gives a F.

Some quick sports, so I can take a good pain pill. Actually, I already have.

The NBA Championships.

ABC/ESPN are still cussing out Cleveland for losing, thus the multi-million dollar match-up between Kobe and King James is kaput!

First, the analysts who wrote about a zillion words re this Disneyland vs. Disney World match-up. Most of them really have no friggin clue as to what they are talking about.

Example: Virtually all of them were positive that Orlando's Dwight Howard would completely dominate the middle, score a bunch and block any Laker that tries to enter his private domain.

Many echoed each other, saying the Lakers would just concede Howard his points but stop everyone else.

Well, you saw how right on these wizards were.

The Lakers have 3, 7-footers (actually 2, other is only 6'11"), and they traded off/double teamed Howard and he bombed out.

No way anyone predicted a 25-point blow out in game one.

Kobe is on a mission. Having lived in Malibu for 20 years, I have followed him from day one, when he signed with the Lakers (actually, since he was only 17, his parents signed for him), and he is so focused, so driven that he would give up just about anything to win this one.

Yea, the story re how he wants to show he can win one without Shaq, but just watching his expressions, he never cracks a smile. Even after they won, he grimaced with what had to pass for a smile.

Right after the game, he was stoic and, well, mad, because one teammate wanted to rave on the game.



Cavs' coach Stan Van Gundy has said they must figure out a way to control "those 3 giants," so that they can get Howard going. He says Howard was not "hard" enough. He could have added Bryant into that mix.

The Lakers did out-muscle Orlando. Of course, Kobe and Lakers coach Phil Jackson both were adamant on how Boston just "pushed them around" last year. Kobe, with the scowl on his finals face, said, "they just flat out knocked us around. Beat us up! We will not let that happen this time."

I said that if Kobe takes 35-40 shots, the Lakers may lose, because he needs to do what he has done this season; draw the double team and then hit the open man.

Well, he got 40 Thursday. He was simply in a zone. I look for him to draw the double, even triple team, thus passing off and creating open shots, like he did in game 6 vs. Denver.

This Orlando has never come this far, so this is a whole new stage for them.

Not the Lakers. See comments above. They are ready.

Tonight will give us a good idea of what type of series we will have. If LA dominates again, it will be quite short.

Fact: this is the Lakers' 30th appearance in the NBA finals! Most by any team. (there have been 64).

Boston has won 15 titles. This would be the lakers' 14th.

I cannot see why Jeff Van Gundy is one of the main game announcers.

First off, he has sucked all season. Now, with his brother coaching the Cavs, he admitted that "No, I will not be able to be neutral. That's my brother."

Good choice, ABC

King James' halo took a hit after the Orlando series. He refused to go shake hands with any of the Magic's players. I've never seen that in the NBA.

He was fined \$25,000 – about 1/100th of a penny to us.

But the media was all over him. He said, "That's just me. I'm competitive. When someone just beats up on you, I won't shake his hand. That's not me."

He says he wants to be the first billionaire athlete. Have to believe his image took a Madison Avenue hit.

Then in his only media interview 3 days later, he kept telling them he was born/raised in Cleveland, blah, blah, blah. Note: He was wearing a NY hat while saying this.

Sticking with basketball:

The NBA rule that says players cannot be drafted before they are 19 and one year out from their graduating HS class.

This is not only stupid as hell, it's as worthless as titts on a boar.

First off, not that many really are going to go directly anymore. They get plenty of advice, from the NBA scouts, et al, giving them a good idea of where they would be drafted.

Plus, here a college "wastes" a scholarship on a kid who could not care less about going to class. All he cares about is taking basket weaving until the season is over, then he, pretty much, just quits going to class.

Also, with a kid knowing he will only be there one year, he is not concerned about "abiding by all the NCAA rules" re taking money, et al.

Case in point.

Memphis played in the NCAA Championships in 2008. Their star player was Derrick Rose. The Chicago Bulls made him the No.1 overall choice in the NBA draft in 2008 and he was rookie of the year.

Well, there is a report that "a Memphis player" did not really take, and get the minimum score, on his SAT.



OFF THE WALL SPORTS

Allegedly, someone else took it for said player. Note: According to some media reports, Rose had been given a similar test twice before, and did not come close to passing.

Memphis is saying that “The person in question is not Rose,” and that “Rose did take his own test, and passed. That was based on their own internal investigation.

Is he dumb? Well, the Bulls rarely let him give interviews. When he does, there is usually a coach or other player with him. Why? The guy cannot even talk! He at least sounds dumber than a friggin door knob!

If the NCAA should decide that Rose did not qualify, then immediately Memphis’ season record of 38-2, and their 2nd place in the title game, would be vacated. Their record would be either be simply 0-1, or 0-40, I have not been able to find out, but who cares.

Plus, it’s quite likely that Memphis could receive some pretty severe penalties for a couple of years.

Now if a real “student athlete” were going to spend 2 or 3 years at the college, he would be forced to pass all classes, and may well want to finish college if he has only 1 or 1 ½ years left during the off season for the NBA.

Even if not, the college would have gotten their money’s worth.

Thus, this one and done crap is about as dumb as many of the athletes who are in that category.

If the league really wants this situation to be meaningful, they should make it at least 2 years.

Problem is that the lawyers would get involved, and likely that “rule” would not stand up.

Again, there are really only a selected few that would be high draft picks, and they would know roughly where they would be taken (see above).

Do you think the likes of Kevin Garnett, Dwight Howard, Kobe Bryant and LeBron James would have “benefited” by one year in college?

If you are truly good enough, let them go.

Now the NCAA refers to the NFL and MLB for this ruling. In the NFL, the players cannot come out until after their sophomore year of college.

This is a horrible comparison, because a player coming out after 2 years is good enough to make it.

But there is no way ANY kid could go directly from HS to the NFL. That’s a totally different world.

MLB? They have a 2-tiered system. If a kid wants to come out directly out of HS, he can. But if he does not, then he cannot be eligible until after his junior year of college.

The NBA, along with the NFL are very well run businesses. Thus it stands out that the NBA is so wrong in this policy. Now, MLB? They are so f...d up they don’t know their pee pee from a bat.

Bud Selig is about as smart as Derrick Rose.

Speaking of the NFL. I am one of many individuals who think – know, the old (pre-70’s) players are being ignored in pension and health coverage.

So, with a possible lock out/strike in the 2011 season, new NFLPA executive director DeMaurice Smith says the league may CUT those “benefits” by 20%! Talk about the number one sport in America. The NFL is revered. But when it comes to the old guys, who made the league what it is today, well, their mindset towards them is, basically, FU! GO AWAY.

HEY! NBC says the NHL ratings are UP! this year. They went from a whopping 0.9% to 1.15%. WOW!

For comparison, the 5th game, Lakers/Denver, had a 7.2 rating.

The NHL playoffs so far? Way up. 1.25%.

NBC is so excited that they have said they don’t know if they will carry the NHL next season.

If they do not, well, I don’t think anyone will even know they dropped out.



OFF THE WALL SPORTS

Good ole National Haha League.

Given yesterday was a bad day for me, I'm writing this Saturday afternoon.

Just watched the Belmont. Mine That Bird took the lead in the stretch, but faded at the end for 3rd.

There has never been a "Jockey" triple crown winner. And now, there still isn't

Calvin Borel, a good ole Cajun boy from the swamps of Looooozeanna, could have become the first. He won the Derby on 50-1 shot, Mine That Bird, switched to Philly Rachael Alexander to win the Preakness and now will re-mount (no, this is not a sex instruction story) Mine That Bird. Mine That Bird was no 50-1 shot this time. Just glanced at the TV coverage, and "it" is even money! Borel is so confident he will win, he "guaranteed" that his horse would win. Hope he did not bet a lot on that.

Some were down on Borel for leaving Mine That Bird in the Preakness, because he had no Derby horse to ride until half owner Mark Allen gave him an opportunity.

Rachael Alexander is not entered in the Belmont, thus Borel must mount a gelding again.

Transvestite jockey? Hey, that's just my oxycontin cutting in.

These midget types are athletes of a different breed. Obviously, they could not play in the major sports.

But imagine a 5'4", 124 pound guy getting atop a thousand pound powerhouse animal and virtually stand up and manage such a raging beast. These little guys not only are great athletes, they, some say, actually can communicate with their horses. Borel said after the Derby, that "I just knew" this horse, so when we rounded the final turn, I knew this horse would not be bothered by being jammed between the crowd and the rail."

Very different "athletes," but know that they truly are athletes. And, the injury rate among jockeys is higher than the NFL! No NFL player has ever been killed in a game. 27 jockeys have died. And twice as many have been paralyzed than NFL players.

And, the top jockeys have ridden over 5,000 times!

Well, I'm done. I played through the injury. You gotta have heart!

Hopefully, this thing will run its course and I won't have to go to the hospital.

Just to make sure, I think I'll take another pain pill (only percocet this time), but wash it down with a wee dram.

Good Night!