

Where is the game really played?



Caught in the Grasp
Douglas Smith
sports editor

Trash talking has long been a part of sports. Do you think Jack Lambert intimidated opposing players simply because he took his partial out of his mouth? Funny thing is that the press seems to highlight anything that may be said that could possibly upset anyone nowadays. Should trash talking be highlighted in the news? Why do certain players always seem to be the ones on the news for trash talking?

This topic is raised again because of Keyshawn Johnson's few choice words for the New York Jets prior to their match up this past Sunday. Johnson put down his ex-teammate Wayne Chrebet despite Chrebet's constant contribution the past three years. Many of the New York Jets simply tried to avoid commenting on the statements simply because they know Johnson's personality. Football fans may recall Johnson's famous statement, "Give me the damn ball." It has come to be second nature for Johnson to open his mouth without thinking anymore, and with that it has become second nature for football fans to disregard anything he says.

There is a long list of players who use words to either upset other players or just to get into the spotlight again. John Randle, Warren Sapp, and Troy Edwards seem to be among these players. However, it is not just football players. Some say that the famous "your-momma" jokes originated at the foul line in NBA games. John Starks has been known to talk a mean game, and of course Michael Jordan would chat to his defender everytime he stuck a jumper in his face.

Should the public think anything of these stupid statements? The professional players should not need aggressive words from the other team to get pumped up for any game. They are professionals and are

getting a lot of money to play for a national audience. Saying that this past weekend's match up between the Jets and Bucs was "Keyshawn Bowl I" is a little excessive. Johnson knows he is in the spotlight, so that is why he continues to open his mouth. His production has not been very good this season, so he finds other means of being kept in the limelight.

John Randle is one who seems to use comedy in his trash talking. NFL Films often keeps a microphone near Randle simply because he says phrases that mean nothing and make no sense. Screams and bellows will often come from his mouth to keep things lively.

Michael Jordan was good enough to keep chatting in his defender's ear every time down the court. When the Chicago Bulls squared off with the New York Knicks in the year Jordan came back from retirement, he scored 55 points and had two strong opponents in the trash-talking arena. He was being guarded by John Starks and ran past Spike Lee every time down the court. Lee succumbed to Jordan's amazing athletic feat, but Starks kept on jawing as Starks scored 33 in that same game. In the end Jordan would win the battle, but Starks would not give up. Despite his travels through many cities, Starks continues to talk up his game, learning from the best in the game mentioned above. However, Jordan was consistent, averaging 30 points a game. He was entitled to opening his mouth simply because he was the best.

That is not to say that those who know they are good will be the trash talkers.

Barry Sanders was possibly the best running back of all-time in the NFL, but always gave the ball to the referee after scoring a touchdown and never celebrated his achievements. Of course football fans see the best of both worlds as Warren Sapp talks up a storm on the field, but plays just as well, as he might be the best defensive lineman in the game today.

Trash talkers have to be inventive now. It must be worthy of being posted on the opponent's locker room wall. The jokes about somebody's mother have been relegated to middle school. Johnson used the personal attack method saying Chrebet could never be as good as him. Chrebet played it off very coolly. However, Keyshawn just becomes stupid as a interview on Sunday showed Johnson saying he would play for the Jets again if the money was right. Here there is a case of arrogance. It is too bad because Johnson really could be a good wide receiver.

What does this all mean? Well it seems as though the interpretation is in the eye of the beholder. Trash talking can be funny, and most of the time it is. However, many sports fans realize that it can be very stupid also, as those that choose to trash talk continue to run their mouth right up until gameday. On the other hand, teams will often get in battles through interviews, as is often the case in baseball rivalries. This can be very entertaining.

Trash talking is a big part of sport today, but it seems to be the same players year in and year out doing the talking. Obviously they are good enough to stay in their respective league, so why do they feel the need to jaw. We do not need to glamorize it anymore by giving separate titles to the game involving the trash talker.

Smith's sports column appears every two weeks.

Bad performance does not mean end of the world for men's water polo

By Douglas Smith
sports editor

The men's water polo team struggled in their first ever games. The team lost to California Institute of Technology, Coach Josh Heynes' old team, Washington and Jefferson, Grove City, Salem-Teikyo, and Slippery Rock all in one weekend, but finally getting the season underway is a big relief. The scores may look bad, but considering the opposition had all played water polo before, Behrend's chances were already low.

The first water polo game in Behrend's history was a 21-0 loss to Cal Tech. Behrend then faced Washington and Jefferson. Mark Ostrzeniec scored the first goal ever in Behrend Lions history, while

and Allen Haywood had one goal apiece. Despite not winning a game, the team improved with every game, which is exactly what Coach Heynes asked for. Remember this was the team's first tournament ever.

Mark Ostrzeniec leads the team with nine goals and twenty-one attempts. Brian Vallor had eight steals over the tournament to lead the squad. Allen Haywood also played well.

"This is a very very physical game under water, and the other teams had fast swimmers. Also, every team went through the rough years like we are doing this year," said Coach Heynes.

The team is going through some growing pains much as what was expected. In any sport new teams should expect trouble in the first year.

"The biggest problem was setting up an



Behrend lost 16-1. Allen Haywood had fourteen saves. Adam Demarco had one assist, four steals, and three turnovers.

Behrend then faced Grove City and lost 22-2. Demarco had two goals, three attempts, four steals, and six turnovers. The game against Salem-Teikyo was the closest of this past weekend as Behrend scored eight goals to Salem-Teikyo's ten. Ostrzeniec had six goals, eight attempts, and one steal. Demarco added a goal, as did Brian Vallor. The last game of the weekend against Slippery Rock ended in a 14-4 loss. Ostrzeniec had two goals and Jon Harding

offense and getting back to cover for defense when the other team was on a fast break. Other than that, all other problems were expected with such a young team. But with game experience will come the knowledge on how to play the game better," states Coach Heynes.

The team will travel to Johns Hopkins for a match on September 30. They will then have a chance for revenge against Grove City, Salem-Teikyo, Slippery Rock, and Washington and Jefferson on October 7 and 8 at the Washington and Jefferson Tournament.

THE SCOREBOARD

Behrend Scores

Women's Soccer	Sept. 23 at La Roche W 4-3
Men's Soccer	Sept 23 at La Roche L 2-0
Volleyball	Sept. 21 at Lake Erie W 3-0
Cross Country	Behrend did not participate in any meets this past week.
Women's Tennis	Sept. 23 at Frostburg W 9-0 Sept. 24 at Penn State Altoona W 7-2
Men's Golf	Sept. 21 at Riverside finished 8th Sept. 23 at Lake Erie finished 7th
Men's Water Polo	Grove City Tournament vs. California Institute of Technology L 21-0 vs. Washington and Jefferson L 16-1 vs. Salem-Teikyo L 10-8 vs. Grove City L 22-2 Sept. 24 at Slippery Rock L 14-4

AMCC STANDINGS

(Standings as of September 25, 2000)

WOMEN'S SOCCER

School	Conference record	Overall
Penn State Behrend	2-0	7-2
Frostburg	2-0	4-3
Lake Erie	1-1	2-7
La Roche	1-2	5-3
Pitt-Greensburg	0-1	0-5
Pitt-Bradford	0-2	1-7

MEN'S SOCCER

School	Conference record	Overall
Frostburg	2-0	3-3
La Roche	2-1	3-5
Pitt-Greensburg	1-0	3-3-2
Penn State Behrend	1-1	3-4-1
Lake Erie	0-2	0-7
Pitt-Bradford	0-2	2-6

WOMEN'S TENNIS

School	Conference Record	Overall
Penn State Behrend	4-0	9-2
Penn State Altoona	2-1	3-2
Frostburg	1-2	3-4
La Roche	0-1	0-1
Pitt-Greensburg	0-1	0-5

WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL

School	Conference Record	Overall
Frostburg	1-0	10-1
Penn State Behrend	1-0	5-7
Pitt-Greensburg	1-0	1-6
Penn State Altoona	0-1	6-6
La Roche	0-1	0-10
Lake Erie	0-1	0-1

Major League

Baseball

(As of 9/20)

American League East		
Team	W	L GB
New York	87	69 -
Boston	82	75 55
Toronto	82	75 55
Baltimore	70	87 17.5
Tampa Bay	65	91 22
American League Central		
Team	W	L GB
x-Chicago	93	64 -
Cleveland	86	71 7
Detroit	76	80 16.5
Kansas City	73	83 19.5
Minnesota	68	89 25
American League West		
Team	W	L GB
Seattle	87	69 -
Oakland	86	69 0.5
Anaheim	80	76 7
Texas	70	86 17
American League Wild Card		
Team	W	L GB
Oakland	86	69 -
Cleveland	86	71 1
Boston	82	75 5
Toronto	82	75 5
National League East		
Team	W	L GB
x-Atlanta	94	63 -
New York	89	68 5
Florida	74	82 19.5
Montreal	67	90 27
Philadelphia	64	93 30

National League Wild Card

Team	W	L GB
y-New York	89	68 -
Los Angeles	83	73 5.5
Arizona	83	73 5.5

x-clinched division
y-clinched a tie for wild card

League Leaders

(as of 9/18)

American League--Batting		
Batting Average	Player	Team
.371	Garcia parra, BOS	BOS
.353	Delgado, TOR	TOR
.353	Erstad, ANA	ANA
.352	M. Ramirez,, CLE	CLE
.338	Sweeney, KC	KC
Home Runs		
44	Glaus, ANA	ANA
42	Thomas, CHI	CHI
41	Delgado, TOR	TOR
41	Justice, CLE-NY	CLE-NY
40	J. Giambi, OAK	OAK
American League--Pitching		
Victories	Player	Team
20	Wells, TOR	TOR
19	Pettite, NY	NY
18	Hudson, OAK	OAK
17	P.Martinez, BOS	BOS
16	Burba, CLE	CLE

Strikeouts

278	P.Martinez, BOS
203	Mussina, BAL
202	Colon, CLE
184	Clemens, NY
180	Burba, CLE

National League--Batting

Batting Average	Player	Team
.376	Helton, COL	COL
.356	Alou, HOU	HOU
.349	V. Guerrero, MT	MT
.338	Castillo, FLA	FLA

Home Runs

50	Sosa, CHI
48	Bonds, SF
45	Bagwell, HOU
44	Hidalgo, HOU
43	V. Guerrero

National League--Pitching

Victories	Player	Team
20	Glavine, ATL	ATL
19	Kile, StL	StL

Strikeouts

342	Johnson, ARI
208	Brown, LA
204	Park, LA
199	Dempster, FLA



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