

## 5 Reasons Why...

# Christmas presents edition

Five Reasons Why will be a little bit different this week to reflect the holiday season. I've chosen five athletes or teams that deserve a particular Christmas present this year. Some presents are long overdue, and some will be early surprises.

1. For Larry Johnson: The Heisman Memorial Trophy - I've outlined in a previous article why he deserves it and all of the points still stand. He has had the ninth best season of any running back in NCAA history. He ranked ninth all time in single season rushing yards with 2,015 and ninth in single season all purpose yardage with 2,575. He averaged 214.58 yards per game.

Furthermore, he is the ONLY player in the historic 107 years of Big Ten football to rush for 2,000 yards in the regular season. Don't underestimate this statistic; some great Big Ten running backs won the Heisman. Twelve running backs from the Big Ten to win the Heisman.

Johnson is better than all of the previous 12 and so he deserves to get an early Christmas present this Saturday in New York.

2. For Pete Rose: An induction into the Major League Baseball Hall of Fame - This is a present that is long overdue. Pete Rose is arguably the best hitter in baseball, but he is not in the hall. After being accused of gambling on his own teams as a manager of the Cincinnati Reds, Rose received a lifetime ban from baseball.

Rose, MLB's all-time hits leader, probably did gamble on baseball but an induction into the Hall of Fame is based on merit, not personality flaws. Ty Cobb, the all time leader in career batting average, was the meanest player in the

game, sharpening his spikes before baseball games in order to hurt other players. He was overwhelmingly inducted into the hall. Babe Ruth was also inducted into the hall without a complaint even though he reportedly was an alcoholic and a womanizer.

Personality flaws shouldn't keep you out of the Hall of Fame, Pete Rose should get a letter of reinstatement from MLB commissioner Bud Selig slid under his door on Dec 25.

3. For Tiger Woods and Everyone Associated with Augusta National: Have Certain Women's Rights Organizations Get Off Their Backs - In case you don't know about this controversy, Tiger was asked in a New York Times editorial to boycott the Masters.

The major woman attacking Augusta National (where the annual Masters tournament is held) is Martha Burk, who is head of the National Council of Women's Organizations. She has not attacked players as voraciously as other members of Augusta and sponsors of the Masters.

This organization represents more than 100 women's groups including the National Organization for Women, the Fund for a Feminist Majority, and many others.

Augusta has an all-male membership, and has had one for as long as there has been a course. But all of a sudden in 2002, there must be a change. There is not a doubt in my mind that someday down the road there will be female members at Augusta, which is only fair. Burk has done the right thing in stepping

down from attacking players. Now it is time that she does not use one of the most prestigious golf tournaments in the world as her soap box. I will watch the Masters and support their sponsors to go against her Jesse Jackson-like shakedown tactics. It is a great golf event, that could be improved, but it must be done the right way.

Burk should have a holiday change of heart in her tactics for the sake of Tiger and golf lovers everywhere.

4. For Steve McNair: A Super Bowl Ring - Steve McNair, quarterback of the Tennessee Titans, is one of the grittiest players in the game. He has been with the Oilers/Titans franchise since he arrived in the league as the third overall pick in 1995. He is one of the hardest working players in the NFL, always springing back from injuries and often playing through them.

Some of his best performances this year have come in games where he was listed as either questionable or doubtful. Against the second-ranked pass defense in the NFL last week, McNair threw for

237 yards with one touchdown, and ran for 47 yards. He did this while missing practice all week with sore ribs and turf toe.

McNair has been to the Super Bowl once before, in 1999, where his team literally lost by a yard to the Rams. That was easily one of the most exciting Super Bowls I have ever seen and if Kevin Dyson had just been able to stretch those few extra feet, it would have gone into overtime. With the momentum that his team would have had going into the overtime, McNair probably would have had his ring.

Hopefully Santa, will remember McNair a few months after Christmas has come and gone.

5. For Anna Kournikova: A Tournament Title - People in the sports world, and everywhere else for that matter, love to tear down Anna Kournikova's tennis ability. True, she has never won a tournament. Also, it is a fact that if she were an ugly, bad tennis player, she wouldn't have nearly so many endorsements. But even a bad player on the WTA is better than most great players in the world.

In fact, Kournikova is ranked 35 out

of the top 100 netters on the tour. So, she is more than just another pretty face, she's actually a pretty good tennis player. People like to discredit her abilities because she is so, so good looking, and that's just not fair. Sooner or later she will win a tournament. As long as the Williams' sisters are around it will be pretty hard for anyone else to win a tournament. When you think of who she has to play, the fact she hasn't won seems less surprising.

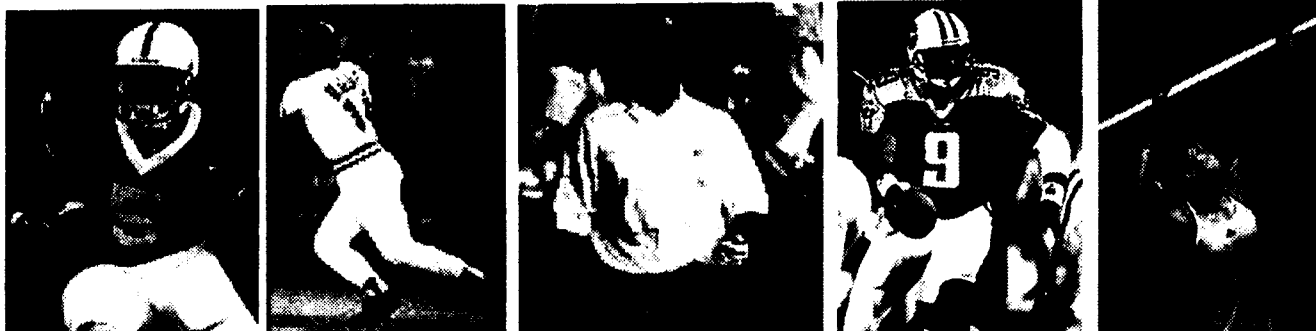
So, Santa, Jesus, Superman, whoever's up there, the Uncle Tobys Hardcourt and ASB Classic Tournaments are both Dec 30 and that would be a great present for a deserving athlete.

Now, in all of these cases there are Grinches that might steal these Christmas presents. Hopefully, Ken Dorsey, Bud Selig, Martha Burk, the Buccaneers, and those darn Williams sisters will not be Grinches this time around and everyone can have a happy holiday season.



Scott Soltis

sports editor



All of these athletes deserve a little something for Christmas this year. From merely recognition, to awards, to just getting left alone for awhile all of these stars should have something coming to them this holiday season. From left to right, Larry Johnson, Pete Rose, Tiger Woods, Steve McNair, and Anna Kournikova.

## Fall Intramural Wrap-Up

### Billiards

Men's Singles "A" Flight  
Jesse Matola

Men's Singles "B" Flight  
Paul Castillo

Men's Doubles "A" Flight  
Pat Burns/Jim Morrehead

Men's Doubles "B" Flight  
Jason Redick/Bernie Scranta

### Women's Singles

Tabitha Sorenson

### Coed Doubles

Curt Klugh/Cheryl Peterson

### Bowling

#### Men's Team

No Shame Soldiers

#### Men's Singles

Marc Weindorf

#### Women's Team

Theta Phi Alpha

#### Women's Singles

Kristin Ardillo

#### Coed Team

Almy

#### 3v3 Basketball

Men's "A" Flight

Has Beens

Men's "B" Flight

Fockers 3

#### Women's

Three Wack's

## ERIE

Limited Time Offer!  
Pickup or Delivery

### CAMPUS SPECIAL

Large, One Topping

**\$6.99** Pizza  
&  
2 Liter Bottle of  
Pepsi, Diet Pepsi or Mt. Dew

Plus applicable tax.  
No other discounts apply.

No substitutions, please.  
TRADITIONAL & THIN CRUST ONLY.  
Offer available at below stores only.



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OUTLET  
Delivering Great Taste

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Mercyhurst- 866-6622

Penn State- 897-1818

Gannon- 838-8884

1 FREE Garlic Dipping Sauce with every pizza purchased.

now accepting participating stores only

\*A valid phone number is required for delivery.  
Please state your phone number before ordering.

## PIZZA OUTLET

2823 W. 26th St. .... (814) 838-8884  
4801 Peach St. .... (814) 866-6622  
4055 Buffalo Rd. .... (814) 897-1818

Open 7 Days • Sunday - Thursday 11 am - 11 pm  
Friday & Saturday 11 am - 1 am

### Pizza

LARGE 14" (8 cuts) cheese \$9.99 extras \$1.49  
SMALL 10" (6 cuts) \$5.99 \$ .89

#### SELECT YOUR FAVORITE TOPPING:

• pepperoni • mushrooms • green peppers • sausage • ham  
• onions • tomatoes • black olives • pineapple • bacon  
• hot peppers • anchovies • extra cheese • capicola

#### SELECT YOUR FAVORITE CRUST:

Traditional Crust  
hand-tossed dough mixed with extra virgin olive oil  
Thin Crust (available in large only)  
rolled thin... it's crisp and delicious

Pan Pizza (available in large only, add \$2 to regular pizza price)  
baked to golden perfection... it's thick and delicious

#### SELECT YOUR FAVORITE SAUCE:

Traditional Red Sauce  
signature sauce made from freshly packed, vine-ripened tomatoes  
White Pizza Sauce  
a seasoned homestyle garlic butter sauce



FREE Garlic Dipping Sauce  
One free with every pizza purchased

### COMBO SPECIALS

**HUNGER BUSTER** • Two Large 1-Topping Pizzas \$16.99  
**TWO PIZZA SPECIAL** • Two Large 1-Topping Pizzas \$13.99  
**PIZZA & BUFFALO BASH** • Two Large 1-Topping Pizzas & 30 Buffalo Wings \$29.99

ADDITIONAL TOPPING EXTRA • NO COUPON NECESSARY • LIMITED TIME OFFER  
MAKE IT A PAN PIZZA FOR ONLY \$2 MORE PER PIZZA

### Gourmet Pizza

LARGE \$13.99 SMALL \$9.99

Deluxe: pepperoni, mushrooms, green peppers, onions, black olives & sausage  
BBQ Chicken: grilled chicken, onions, green peppers & tangy barbecue sauce  
Meat Madness: pepperoni, ham, capicola, bacon & sausage  
Garden Veggie: mushrooms, green peppers, black olives, tomatoes & onions  
Garlic Spinach: spinach, onions, mushrooms, tomatoes, feta cheese, with garlic butter sauce  
Seasoned Steak: steak, mushrooms, green peppers, onions, with garlic butter sauce  
Pepperoni Blast: triple pepperoni and extra cheese  
Hawaiian: pineapple, ham, bacon and extra cheese

Hot Subs ..... \$5.99  
CHOOSE FROM: ITALIAN • VEGETARIAN • STEAK • TURKEY • HAM

Stromboli ..... \$6.99  
CHOOSE FROM: SPICY ITALIAN • STEAK • PEPPERONI • 3-TOPPING

Buffalo Wings  
CHOOSE FROM THREE DELICIOUS SAUCES: BUFFALO • BARBECUE • GARLIC

12 Wings ..... \$5.99 36 Wings ..... \$16.99  
24 Wings ..... \$11.49 50 Wings ..... \$26.99

Includes ranch dipping sauce (count may vary according to size)

Salads  
Garden Salad ..... \$2.99  
Chef Salad ..... \$3.99  
Antipasta Salad ..... \$4.99  
Chicken Salad ..... \$4.99

Side Orders  
Breadsticks with pizza dipping sauce ..... \$2.99  
Pepperoni Sticks with pizza dipping sauce ..... \$4.99  
Additional pizza dipping sauce and salad dressing extra

Soft Drinks   
20 oz. Bottles Pepsi, Diet Pepsi, Mt. Dew, Iced Tea, Pink Lemonade ..... \$1.25  
2 Liter Bottles Pepsi, Diet Pepsi, Mt. Dew ..... \$1.99  
\$6.00 MINIMUM DELIVERY • MENU & PRICES MAY VARY BY LOCATION AND ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE • LIMITED DELIVERY AREA

FREE DELIVERY