

SPORTS

Terrell Owens hospitalized after ingesting pain killers

By Nick Underhill
assistant sports editor

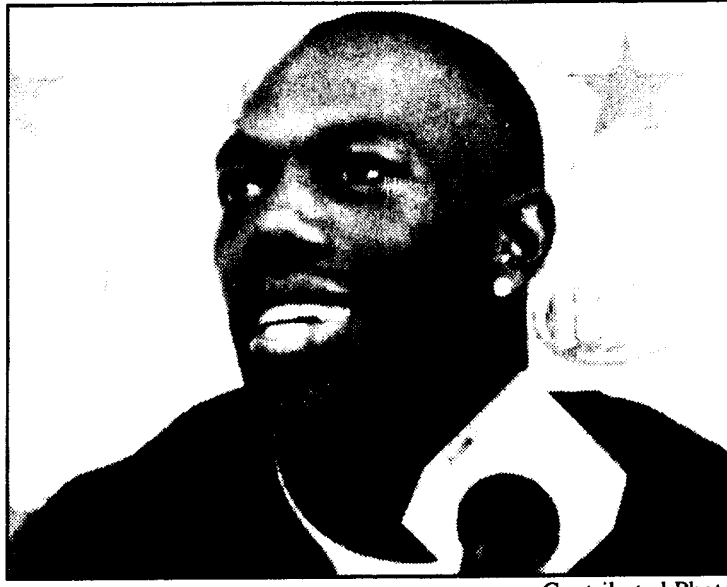
Suicide attempt or allergic reaction, the issue was highly debated throughout America on Wednesday after reports broke that Terrell Owens was hospitalized after an alleged suicide attempt.

During a press conference Owens denied a police report that stated that he attempted suicide, and said that he was feeling adverse effects from mixing the pain killer vicodin with supplements.

A police report leaked Wednesday morning stating that Owens told paramedics that he had ingested 35 pills, and when asked if he was trying to harm himself he replied "yes". During the press conference he stated that he had emptied out the bottle into a drawer, and the confusion occurred when his publicist had found the empty bottle of pills. "I was non-responsive," Owens explained. "She made that call out of her judgment for my well being."

Owens was rushed to the hospital Tuesday night, and his publicist Kim Etheredge announced that it was due to an allergic reaction.

But the story changed when the original police report, released by WFAA-TV, described the incident as "attempting suicide by prescription pain medication" and went as far as to describe a situation in which Etheredge had to stick her fingers in Owens' mouth to stop him



Contributed Photo

Terrell Owens was recently hospitalized after an incident with drugs from ingesting two more pills. It goes on to say that she was un-

successful and rescue workers had to pry his mouth open to remove the additional pills. The story took another twist when Lt. Rick Watson released the report officially certain sections were blacked out, including the above mentioned phrase and also key elements such as the words "drug overdose," as well as the details about the situation when rescue workers arrived.

Owens' claims that he can not recall much about the incident. "I can barely even remember the doctors, much less the police officers asking me questions," Owens stated. He then went on to say that he has nothing to be depressed about and that he will be back on the practice field Thursday, and might even play Sunday despite breaking his hand in last week's game.

Those close to Owens feel that the media is being unfair and state that he has no reason to try and harm himself. "Terrell has 25 million reasons why he should be alive," said Etheredge in a reference to the \$25 million, three-year contract he signed with the Cowboys during the off season.

The details of this case may never come to light. Attempting suicide is not a crime in the state of Texas, so the police are bound to silence due to privacy laws. The tape of the 911 call placed by Etheredge would help bring things to light, and The Associated Press have filed a request under the Texas Information Act to get access it.

NHL about to hit the ice

By Matthew Cosgrove
staff writer

As the 2006-2007 NHL season commences, everyone is looking to a favorite player to put up big numbers and hopefully bring a Stanley Cup to their team's hometown. The preseason started out with a bang as new faces appeared on the ice. One of the biggest controversies in the NHL, the Russian delay of Evgeni Malkin coming to play in America, was resolved when Malkin left Russia, under contract, to come to Pittsburgh where he was drafted two years ago. However, Pittsburgh's triumph in getting their number one draft pick of 2004 was short lived when John LeClaire, also of the Penguins, upended Malkin in the September 20, 2006 win over the Philadelphia Flyers. Malkin is expected to miss four to six weeks with a dislocated shoulder.

When Malkin returns to the Pens lineup, he joins last year's number one draft pick overall, Sidney Crosby, and this year's number one pick Jordan Staal and should be able to make a run for the playoffs. Mark Recchi joins the Penguins again this year after being traded to the Stanley Cup winning Carolina Hurricanes last season, and returning veterans Sergei Gonchar and LeClaire also bring an essence of hockey sense to this young Penguins team. With Mark-Andre Fleury splitting the bill with Jocelyn Thibault, goaltending looks solid, with the assumption that both stay healthy. Although a young team, the Pittsburgh Penguins look like a team that just might slip into the playoffs. They have the talent this season, now they just need to put it to good use.

The Philadelphia Flyers are a team with incredible potential. Although haunted by the injury of Forsberg last season, the Flyers look like a team on a mission with a healthy Simon Gagne up front, Derian Hatcher in the defense position, and Robert Esche between the pipes. Another benefit and exciting addition to this new Flyers team is a healthy Peter Forsberg, who is expected to be playing at 100 percent, and putting up his usual forty to fifty goals. Mike Knuble and Randy Robitaille along with Sami Kapanen, Joni Pitkanen and seasoned veteran Petr Nedved all come to the party, and come to win, and with that kind of talent, who can argue? Head coach Ken Hitchcock was resigned to a three year contract starting this season. This will give him time to work with the very talented and seasoned team, making them very lethal in the regular and post season, and a possible contender for the Stanley Cup.

Sergei Fedorov returns with the Blue Jackets to their delight although he is on the injured reserve for four to six weeks with a strained shoulder. Rick Nash returns this season as well. Even though Columbus has great talent this season, it is unlikely they will slip into the playoffs, possible but unlikely. The Blue Jackets are currently 3-3 in the preseason with a win over last year's Stanley Cup champions, the Carolina Hurricane with a score of 4-2. The Blue Jackets do in fact look like a different team than we saw last year, mainly because of the addition of a few new recognizable names to their

roster this season. These are names such as Anson Carter who came to Columbus from Vancouver, and Fredrik Modin, coming from the Tampa Bay Lightning.

Though a playoff spot might not be in the future for a few seasons, a few years down the road, don't put it past the Blue Jackets to make a run. Three or four years down the road, look for Columbus in the 7th or 8th position, but they need to get a goalie first. Hopefully next year, they will use one of their big names as trade bait to bring in some fresh goalie talent, not until then will they be a playoff contender.

Not much going on with the Islanders this season, regardless of their unbelievable talent. So many good players on this team, and yet they can never get anything going. Alexei Yashin returns, as well as Mike York and Alexei Zhintnik. Rick DePietro remains in the net. However backup goalie Garth Snow retired and became the new General Manager of the Islanders. Maybe this has something to do with why they can't manage to get a winning season out of such a ridiculously impressive roster.

The Buffalo Sabres return with a solid team. Definitely a playoff contender, and perhaps, depending on what we see in the future, a contender for the cup as well. Daniel Briere and Chris Drury stay with the Sabers as the captains of the team. Also the impressive Ryan Miller takes his place in the goal. The Sabers are pretty much the same team that we saw last year, talent wise; however they don new uniforms. Like a blast from the past the Sabers unveil their new uniforms with feature of both the original uniform (1971-1996) and from the second jersey (1996-2005) and feature the original blue and gold colors. The Sabers look like they're on the road to another playoff trip this season. Hopefully for them, Maxim Afinogenov, Drury and Briere will combine for some big numbers again this year. Their number one draft choice came twenty-fourth overall in the NHL. Many talented players reside in Buffalo and after having reached the semifinals in last years playoffs, the Sabers are looking good to make it there again, if not to the Cup Finals.

Finally the New York Rangers could be on their way to a good season. Jaromir Jagr returns after having surgery on his shoulder, and Henrik Lundqvist is the netminder again this season. Even with all the talented skaters from last year such as Darius Kasparaitis, Martin Straka, Sandis Ozolinsh and Michael Nylander, who all remain with the team this season, Lundqvist remains the key to success for the Rangers. Even with the addition of Brendan Shanahan this season, with the rule changes in hockey last year, there are many more goals being scored making a fantastic goaltender such a Lundqvist an invaluable part of this Rangers club, and again, the key to success. The Rangers did indeed make the playoffs last season, only to lose the series 4-0 to the New Jersey Devils. Don't look for the Rangers to perform much better than that this season, even with the addition of Shanahan.



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Men's soccer team optimistic despite rocky start, inexperience

By Scott Muska
staff writer

The Behrend Lions men's soccer team has fallen on some difficult times after several successful seasons in AMCC competition. The Lions opened their season by dropping four games in a row. Despite their current record of two wins, six losses, and one tie, the Lions have reason to be optimistic: they are one and one in their conference.

Behrend head coach Dan Perritano believes that "eight out of ten teams could make the playoffs."

Perritano says that the main difference that he sees in this year's team as opposed to his previous year as a head coach is the lack of experience. "We have a significant number of freshmen this year. Seventeen out of our twenty-six roster spots are

filled by them."

This youth movement is not necessarily a bad thing, as Behrend has a chance to play these young and talented players and give them the necessary experience early so that they can make a late-season push that could carry over into their conference tournament. Perritano says that the team's goal for this season is to "make the league playoffs and make a run at it."

"I think that we have a bull's-eye on our backs because of the success we've had in previous years."

-Coach Perritano

In order to reach this goal he will be looking to the three seniors, forwards D.J. Craven and Sean Ruhlman, and defender Josh Serafini, to lead and mentor the vast amount of freshmen.

The men hope to compile enough momentum and experience to carry them through the meat of their schedule, where they will face teams from their conference such as Frostburg State, Altoona and La Roche. "I think

that we have a bull's-eye on our backs because of the success we've had in previous years," said Perritano.

The Lions face non-conference opponent Thiel before hitting the road for games against La Roche and Lake Erie on September 30th and October 4.

The Lady Lions are enjoying more immediate success on the pitch than the men, posting a 5-3-1 record with one game remaining in the month of September. They are currently undefeated in conference play with two wins and zero losses, having beaten both Mount Aloysius and Medaille earlier this week. They will finish out the month on the road against La Roche, and then they will face Lake Erie on October 4 before returning home to face Pitt Greensburg.