

NFL selfish in suggesting 18-game league schedule

By Jared Shanker

You won't ever hear me argue that the NFL isn't all about the almighty dollar. The NFL, after all, is a business.

But I didn't know it was heartless.

The NFL already is known for throwing its retired players to the wolves without sufficient health care, and now NFL commissioner Roger Goodell wants to



MY OPINION

extend the regular season from 16 games to 18. The season would still be 20 games overall (two preseason games instead of four), but let's not even begin to compare the intensity of the regular season and preseason.

And what has been a major NFL headline for the last few years? Concussions.

Now, I'm not the sharpest knife in the drawer, but won't more real games equal more potentially career- and life-threatening concussions?

"We want to do it the right way for everyone, including the players, the fans and the game in general," Goodell said in an interview

with the Associated Press. "There's a tremendous amount of momentum for it. We think it's the right step."

All that momentum, however, is from NFL owners and fans, ya know, the ones that don't play the game.

I can't find one good reason for the NFL to extend its regular season. The only reason for the push to an 18-game schedule is increased revenue.

Like I said, not one good reason. The NFL is anything but financially strapped — revenues for the league's 32 teams topped \$7.5 billion.

I can think of a lot of reasons for why this is a bad move, though.

First and foremost, it is going to result in more injuries. The NFL wants to get rid of meaningless injuries that occur in the preseason, but for the most part the league's stars make it out unscathed.

Not the case in the regular season. All of those fringe roster players who barely make the team out of camp or are on the practice squad will be inserted into the lineup for late-season games, games that will have play-off implications.

Does anyone want Curtis Painter deciding the Colts' playoff future? (The answer is a resounding no, by the way, especially if you watched Painter guide the Colts' offense late in 2009.)

"Sixteen games are enough," Baltimore Ravens linebacker Ray Lewis told reporters in August. "I mean, you're talking to someone who has been in this business for 15 years. We're not automobiles. We're not machines. We're humans.

"Eighteen games, you got to ask yourself, how many people are truly healthy for 18 games, so will you get your true football, will you get your real football?"

Penn State offensive lineman Stefen Wisniewski, an All-Big Ten performer with a possible future in the NFL, can only imagine what an 18-game schedule would do to his body. The Nittany Lions play 12 regular-season games and will most likely play a bowl game for a total of 13 games. Some teams play as many as 14 regular-season games or as little as 12. The possibility of an additional six games for NFL rookies is a daunting task.

"It doesn't feel good," Wisniewski said of his body following the college football season. "You're really sore. You really need a break. Everything adds up (over the course of a season). Your joints hurt, muscles are sore. Bodies aren't made to play football.

"(Eighteen games) is a lot of games, a lot of mental grind also, just getting yourself ready to play 18 games."

The NFL's advocacy of an 18-game schedule comes at a puzzling time, as well. Owners and players are at odds about a new collective bargaining agreement, and there's a very good chance owners will lock out the players in 2011, meaning fans better enjoy their football while it lasts.

The owners caved into the players in 2006, giving the players 60 percent of all league revenue. Realizing how horrible of a move that was, the owners want the players to take a cut, all the while playing more games.

If owners think there's any chance of that happening, then I'd

like to introduce them to Antoine Dodson: "You are so dumb. You are really dumb. For real."

Not to mention, owners will have to pay more players. It seems impossible to play 18 games and keep rosters at 53 and just 45 "active" players on game-days.

And you can forget about hearing stories of players going undrafted, fight for a roster spot and then become the next great player in team history (see: Tony Romo, Kurt Warner). Preseason games are the proving grounds for those bottom-of-the-roster players doing all they can to make an impression on the head coach and hopefully survive roster cuts for one more week. Cut the preseason to two games and one of the two will be the equivalent of the current third preseason game — when starters usually go into the third quarter at least. That's one game for those players to earn their way onto the team.

"If it was a two-game preseason, then the starters are going to see most of that time because they've got to get ready for the season, so if you're third string, good luck." Colts linebacker Gary Brackett told the AP. "When I was a rookie, I needed every bit of those four games."

So it's pretty obvious what the owners want. It's pretty obvious what the players want. And it's pretty obvious which one is going to win out.

Get ready for an 18-game season, folks.

Jared Shanker is a senior majoring in journalism and history and is the Collegian's sports columnist. His e-mail address is jps5226@psu.edu.



Nick Wass/Associated Press

Baltimore Ravens linebacker Ray Lewis walks off the field after a preseason game this August. The 15-year veteran is opposed to the NFL moving to an 18-game schedule, calling 16 games "enough."

Collegian Classifieds

Number of words	1 issue	2 issues	3 issues	4 issues	5 issues	Each add'l issue
15	\$6.50	\$9.50	\$12.50	\$15.50	\$18.50	\$3.00
20	8.00	12.15	16.30	20.45	24.60	4.15
25	9.50	14.80	20.10	25.40	30.70	5.30
30	11.00	17.45	23.90	30.35	36.80	6.45
35	12.50	20.10	27.70	35.30	42.90	7.60
Each add'l 5 words add	1.50	2.65	3.80	4.95	6.10	1.15

Advertising in Collegian Classifieds:

- Classified Word Ads must be PREPAID, unless the advertiser has established credit.
- We accept Visa and MasterCard.
- Words, numbers, telephone numbers and abbreviations count as one word.
- Only the most common abbreviations may be used.
- Complete Name, Address and Phone Number of advertiser is required.

View Ads and Policies at:

DEADLINES:

- 1 p.m. One business day before publication.
- Cancellations, Changes/Corrections must be handled by 1 p.m. before the next day's publication.

Make checks payable to: Collegian Inc.

Send payment and ad copy to: Collegian Inc., Dept. C 123 S. Burrows St. State College, PA 16801

Collegian Inc. reserves the right to reject, reclassify or revise any ad to conform to established policies. Only the publication of an ad signifies acceptance by Collegian Inc. Advertiser assumes liability for the content of his/her ad. The Daily Collegian will not be responsible for errors beyond the first day's insertion. Complete advertising policies are found in the Collegian's Local Rate Book, available at the Collegian office and online.

ATTENTION

AUDITION FOR UPCOMING thriller movie! Wednesday 9/10 at Schwab Auditorium 4 - 8 PM. Email jgc5060@psu.edu for info.

FOR RENT

FOURTEEN MILES FROM State College, luxury home with rooms and whole house access. High-speed internet, full cable TV, central air, gym, discounts on baseball services. Fully stocked stream. \$600/mo or best offer, including utilities. 1-866-608-0830.

FOR SALE

HUGE SCOOTER SALE. Starting at \$1,499. Kissellmotorsports.com 861-7890.

MATTRESS SALE. TWIN \$69.00. Full \$99.00, Queen \$115.00. Sold in sets. Only Swope's 238-0188.

HELP WANTED

BABYSITTING WORK: LOCALLY-OWNED web site helps connect Penn State student babysitters with local families in need of assistance. Please visit www.CollegeSitter.com to create your free student profile.

BARTENDING. UP TO \$250/day. No experience necessary. Training provided. 800-965-6520 ext. 284.

CHANGE YOUR LIFE! Free helpline training in return for volunteer commitment. Training topics include active listening, feeling awareness, and problem solving. Deliver appropriate support regarding issues related to emotional well-being, mental health, drug and alcohol, and referrals and connection to community resources. Great on-the-job experience for HDFS, psychology, rehab ed, sociology, business administration or any career in which experience working with varied customer/client population will be critical for employment and success. Volunteer work may lead to part-time paid positions. Applications due Wednesday, September 15th. Call Community Help Center: 237-5855.

FOOTBALL FRIENDLY SCHEDULES! Need a job where you can earn top-dollar with a minimal commitment of time? How would you like to make \$9-15/hr and beyond with commissions? Easy work & prized experience calling current customers to offer an upgrade to their service. No cold calls! Our schedules are designed to work around your classes. And football! Make your own schedule from any 3 shifts M-F from 5:30 to 10:30pm. No experience necessary, pleasantly persistent personality & great phone voice required. Call Steve @ 814-231-8721 to request a personal interview.

LOCAL DAYCARE NEEDS caregiver Monday through Friday, 1:00-5:30. Must be dependable and have transportation. Call 308-8742.

NO NIGHTS/NO weekends apply now! Build your resume and earn \$\$\$'s. School age child care, State College Schools. Choose your days to work. 2:30-5:30. El Ed & HDFS or related field preferred. E-mail resume to: jbarth@cdcc.org or call Jody @ 814-238-5105 phone x-1 EOE.

NOW HIRING - LOCAL retailer w/ mail order business seeking FT/PT retail sales and telephone sales representatives. Hunting / dog training knowledge helpful. Apply at Lion Country Supply or email resume to jobs@lionsupply.com

PART-TIME AFTER SCHOOL care. Boalsburg House location. Boy (5 yrs.) and Girl (7 yrs.). Tuesday 3 PM- 5 PM and Wednesday 3 PM- 5:30 PM. Must have reliable car and references. Contact Debra. Cell: 574-4007. Email: rdhdebra@hotmail.com

SCYMCA LOOKING FOR swim coaches. Contact Steve 231-0340 or spower@ymcaofcentrecounty.org

TACO BELL IS now hiring full or part time. Flexible schedules. Apply in person.

PARKING SPACES

ONE BLOCK FROM Old Main Gate- last few spots! Call 814-234-7446 or jeramarplaza@gmail.com for info.

PARKING SPACES FOR rent, downtown parking, location and prices vary, contact Associated Realty Property Management 814-231-3333 www.arpm.com

SERVICES

CAR INSURANCE. MONTHLY payments, local agent, three blocks from campus. 238-6038.

COMPUTER SLOW? ALL software/virus problems fixed. In/out-calls, great rates. 814-222-0082

WANT TO RENT

LOOKING TO RENT three bedroom house or apartment close to campus Michigan football weekend. Contact Jeff jsammon77@yahoo.com



5 Star Day? Show your PSU pride!

LION Line

... LION LINE is now accepting applications!

By Jacqueline Bigar

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Wednesday, Sept. 8, 2010:

This year, you open up to new possibilities; you can manifest much of what you desire. Creativity marks your days, actions and words. Others simply enjoy working with you. Those in your personal life enjoy you more than ever. If you're single, your charm and energy could attract an exotic personality. Take your time getting to know this person. You will relish being with him or her a lot. If you are attached, defer to your sweetie and remain sensitive to him or her. You could become quite memorized. A fellow VIRGO can be like you used to be — nit-picky and critical.

The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-Sad; 1-Difficult

ARIES (March 21-April 19) New beginnings involving diet, health and work become possible. A resolution made this morning could work. Your positive attitude and optimistic approach draw others closer. A partner opens up. Tonight: Relax at home.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) A new beginning becomes possible for single and married Bulls. Your instincts come into play and mix with an innate ingenuity. You might wonder what a boss really means. This person is routinely vague. Tonight: Be naughty and nice.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Anchor in, knowing what it is you want. Whether at home or at work makes no difference — you make a decision. Others support you in the process, though there could be a holdout. A boss,

once new, becomes aware of you.

Tonight: Kick back at home.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) Keep conversations flowing. You have a question or inquiry that could impact a decision. You might want to check in with an older friend or boss who generally has plenty of good advice. Scurry for an expert if need be. Tonight: Off to a favorite haunt.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Be aware of how much you have to offer. Often, you give away too much, be it time, effort or even money. You forget just how much you bring to the table. Having a good sense of self-worth is important. Reach out for those at a distance. Tonight: Invite a friend over.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) A New Moon in your sign allows a new beginning wherever you would like it. Charm, ingenuity and energy all mix to help you along. A partner who doesn't always get you wants to be helpful and tries at any cost. Tonight: Others respond to your wishes.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) Know when to pull back and make better decisions for you and for others. Something that has been nagging at you in quiet moments needs resolving. Trust a partner who might be overly nurturing at times but cares. Tonight: Take some much-needed personal time.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) A meeting points out the path to success or a long-desired goal. You have the energy to make this idea work, though others will pitch in. You could be uncomfortable with a family member who often confuses matters. Let this person be. Tonight: Where the action is.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

A boss can be demanding, but you see a new beginning occurring. You don't want to mess this up, as your imagination goes haywire. Prioritize, trying to stay centered. Tonight: Burning the candle at both ends.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) You want to break past restrictive thinking, most likely yours. Can you understand where someone else is coming from? Open up to an unusual solution that you would have deemed impossible a year ago. Tonight: Let your mind relax to a favorite piece of music.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) A key partner in your life makes it his or her pleasure to tune in and get closer. At first, you might not know how to handle this situation, even if it is professional. You are smart enough to know what is appropriate. Tonight: Go with another's suggestion.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) Others appear to be empowered. You might wonder what you need to do in order to change a difficult situation. As you open up, what was originally your goal might no longer be. Good will flows between you and several associates. Turn the situation into a better working relationship. Tonight: Sort through suggestions, and choose one.

BORN TODAY Actor Peter Sellers (1925), singer Pink (1979), blues guitarist Guitar Shorty (1939)

Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at www.jacquelinebigar.com.

© 2010 by King Features Syndicate Inc.

Smile!

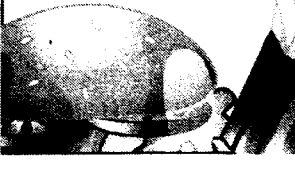


Now Hiring Delivery Drivers & all other staff positions

CUSTOM PRINTED T-SHIRTS SAME DAY NO MINIMUMS PEOPLES NATION 126 E COLLEGE - 861 2626 WWW.PEOPLESNATION.NET

Sell it Fast! in Collegian Classifieds

PSUCOLLEGIAN.COM



THE PAPER PLATE Dining Guide powered by StateCollege.com

Today's su | do | ku | WINGS Over Happy Valley 814-237-5700 wingsoverhappyvalley.com

			6	9	5	
6		1				
9			3			7
		3		8	2	
		7		6		5
				9	7	3
2					1	
						5
						8
		9	3	5		

© Puzzles by Pappocom