

TRASH TALK: HERE FOR 'THE BIG GAME'

Okay, I promised I'd put up a Trash Talk post for The Big Game. Here it is, have at it.

What Big Game, you might ask. Yeah, I made that mistake last week.

I must be slipping a cog because a Michigander like myself should have remembered University of Michigan Wolverines plays its Big Ten rival Ohio State University Buckeyes today.

Most of the hardware stores in this state are probably rather quiet right now. Their usual denizens are likely parked in front of the tube in their favorite sports bar if not their den, if not out in the woods watching on their mobile device while choking out the final weekend of firearm deer season.

They've just kicked off. If you want to watch the number 3 ranked team U-M meeting the number two team OSU, you'll find them on Fox.

Big question going into this game – at least for Michiganders: is running back Blake Corum recovered from last weekend's injury to his left knee?

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Let's switch gears to the NFL –

– You Green Bay Packers haters must be tickled at the season-ending suspension of rookie lineman Sean Ryan for performance enhancing drugs. Personally, I can't understand why someone with so much going for them would fuck up like this so early into their career with a professional team. He's played only one game for the Packers.

– Dallas Cowboys owner Jerry Jones just happened to be watching an effort to harass Black students to prevent them from entering the North Little Rock High School they attended with

Jones. A photo surfaced this week in which Jones appears within arm's length of the harassed students. He was just 14 or 15 years old and it was just a coincidence he was there in that photo watching the harassment Jones expects us to believe. We're also supposed to give him some credit for having been punished by his high school team for being anywhere near this conflict in which he just stood there.

ESPN's Stephen A. Smith expects to likewise cut Jones, who has profited immensely from so many Black bodies working for him for years, some slack because Jones hasn't deserved the heat he's received this week.

Yeah, well those six Black students didn't deserve the harassment in that 60-odd-year-old photo, the harassment they surely received before that photo, or the discrimination they've endured because of structural racism since then.

Smith will continue to benefit from his access journalism and Jones, who has never hired a Black coach, will continue to enjoy his billions.

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Fucking FIFA. I will be so glad when this atrocity is over.

– "Bonesaw" bin Salman gifted each of Saudi Arabia's players a Rolls Royce Phantom after their win over Argentina this past Tuesday. Seems on brand awarding a fossil-fueled fossil to a team representing a fossil fuel-producing fossil in a fossil fuel-producer's futbol series.

– U.S. Men's National Team tied England 0-0 in yesterday's Group B match. We're supposed to be amazed by this. Should we be? I don't know; I thought the U.S. had a better team but what do I know being a failed soccer mom (failed meaning my youngest played soccer but didn't enjoy it enough to stay with OR I didn't nag them enough to stay with it).

– So far World Cup hasn't crashed the bird app –
so far.

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I don't really understand Mixed Martial Arts
(MMA) let alone the appeal.

Isn't this just a use-whatever-works-to-bash-
your-opponents, a kind of free-for-all ball-free
contact sport?

Whatever it is, apparently women can do it, too,
and this week's big women in MMA match saw an
undefeated fighter brought down for the first
time in the four years the Professional
Fighters' League has been in existence.

Former judo Olympian Kayla Harrison lost to
Laura Pacheco in a unanimous decision. This was
the third time the pair have met with Harrison
coming out on top the first two times.

I wonder how much Harrison's insta-family has
affected her training along with the pandemic
having cut into the PFL's schedule. Harrison's
stepfather died suddenly in 2020 leaving behind
an 8-year-old and a 2-year-old, for both of whom
Harrison took custody. It's a lot to add to a
person's plate.

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Okay, that's enough from me. There's roughly
nine minutes left in The Big Game and the teams
are fairly well matched. The score now is 31-20
with Michigan leading; I wouldn't bet against
Ohio coming from behind.

Tell us what other sportsing you're watching
this weekend.