

MOST UNDERRATED TRASH TALK

We had a bit of a detour on Marcy's Absolute Immunity post. To get it out of the way here, yes I think the absolute immunity claim is ludicrous. But that is what Trump does.

But the detour started with Adrian Belew being underrated. He was, and still is. What about other legendary, yet still underrated guitarists? I'll throw out a few names off the top of my head, and let the discussion begin.

Frank Zappa. If you did not see him live, you may not understand how freakishly good of a guitar player he was.

Bill Nelson. Of Be Bop Deluxe. Just spectacular.

Earl Slick. Probably best known for his Bowie collaborations, starting with Diamond Dogs.

Ariel Bender of Mott The Hoople. Real name is Luther Grosvenor. He was great.

Steve Hunter and Dick Wagner. Probably best known for their work with Lou Reed, but also with Alice Cooper. They come as a pair.

The list is endless, so have at it!

The MLB playoffs are underway. Houston still seems very alive and Verlander still clutch. The DBacks somehow or another clobbered the Dodgers in game one. Not sure they can keep it up, but that was fun.

In what I can only term a tragedy, Verstappen won his second drivers' championship yesterday in a stupid sprint race in Qatar. No, still not going to give Max the first one, because that was simply, and wrongfully, stolen by the FIA from Lewis Hamilton.

If you have not been watching the WNBA playoffs, you are missing out. The NY Liberty and Las Vegas Aces are the real deal.

Alright, hoop it up and let loose.

FRONTMAN

Who is the best frontman in rock and roll history?

I don't think it is even close. It is Mick. Here is some early Stones from 1971.

Okay, there are later things. From Copacabana Beach in front of an intimate crowd of nearly 1.5 million.

The Glimmer Twins did that again in Havana and lit up Cuba.

The power of rock and roll can bring the world together, if only even a little closer.

That is a really good thing.

So, if not Mick Jagger, who is the best RnR frontman ever?

There are not that many possibilities. Daltrey? Mercury? Morrison? Bono? Robert Plant? Michael Hutchence? (If you never saw INXS with Hutchence, don't count him out of this discussion). Then who?

Since it is a weekend, and that of the Austrian Grand Prix, a short note about that. The Austrian has never been the same for a long time, but it is currently a fast track. The grid is mostly as expected, though don't know how Alonso let the two Ferraris ahead of him.

THE MASTERS OF FASTER TALK OF TRASH

It is Trash talk time! For the doldrums of summer, there are a lot of sports to talk about and space needed for all things “not” January 6 related.

MONZA, US OPEN, NFL AND OTHER SPORTS TRASH TALK

I've
been
tempte
d to
effect
ively
repost
the
entire



piece on the ten year anniversary of my 2011 50 year anniversary post on the 1961 Italian Grand Prix, first American Champion in history (there have only ever been two), on the weekend of the 60th anniversary of the same. But we often scold people for wasting electrons and column inches needlessly. So, here is a link to my September 10, 2011 post “Italian Grand Prix 1961-2011: Monza, Death of von Trips & A Yankee Champion”. Everything is there. If you like F1 and have not seen it before, think you will like it. Tomorrow may be the 12th of September, but it is truly the 60th anniversary for the Italian GP at Monza. Qualifying was lackluster, but Monza truly is the Temple Of Speed on the F1 circus.

The NFL kicked off Thursday night with a fantastic game between the ‘Boys and Bucs. Both

teams played really well, but never give the ball back to Brady with 1:20 left on the clock. Lot of great games on tap for Sunday.

Talk about anything and everything, sports or not. The relentless 9/11 hagiography is mind numbing. Thanks goodness for college football and the absolutely amazing Women's Final at the US Open that is about to, in minutes, come off between two amazing and captivating teenagers, Leyla Fernandez, a 19 year old (only by less than a week!) takes on former Canadian and current Brit, Emma Raducanu. They are truly amazing players and young personalities. Captivating is actually an understatement. Take a look at them, you will not be sorry.

THE SHOCKING BLUE STREETS OF MONACO

Monaco is part boring as a procession, and part the most special race on the calendar.

THE NFL DRAFT 2021 AND PORTUGUESE GP

Down to the stretch in the NBA, and a week from now the order will be pretty fascinating. Some fun stuff in MLB, what with the Cubs Rizzo striking out MVP Frederick Freeman. Both were incredible sports about the encounter, and it was great. But MLB is early still.

So, to the NFL Draft. One seems sure to the Jags with Trevor Lawrence, and two, seemingly so to the Jets Jets Jets. Three, however, seemed to be either Mac Jones or Trey Lance to the Niners.

But Mr. Discount Doublecheck threw a monkey wrench into the equation by saying he wants out of the Packers. That is a real monkey wrench. The Patriots still need a future at QB; might it be Jimmy G, might they move up for a rook? Nobody knows what Bill Bel will do. Suffice it to say that tonight's first round will be pretty exciting. After that, the draft far less so.

As to the Portuguese Grand Prix, well, it should be interesting. I honestly thought Lewis Hamilton was done at the Emilia-Romagna GP at Imola when he went off into the kitty litter for what seemed like an interminable amount of time. But Lewis is Lewis, and he covered to not only place in the points, but finish in P2. Insane, but that is quintessential Lewis. So, despite all that, Hamilton still leads the Drivers Championship by a point over Verstappen, 44 to 43, with McLaren's Norris an admirable, but yet distant, third at 27.

So, on to Portugal, what will happen? The weather looks okay at Potimao for the maiden cruise of the F1 "sprint qualifying". As you might guess, I am not crazy about "sprint qualifying" for F1. The problem with F1 has been with lack of field competitiveness as to equipment, not drivers or qualification stunts. This TV stunt bullshit is not the F1 I grew up with. And it sucks.

So, let's get it started with the NFL Draft, the Portuguese GP and any and everything else.

THE F1 CIRCUS BEGINS AGAIN, AND RIP TO A FRIEND

F1 ought not be in the homes of authoritarian despots in places like Bahrain, Saudi Arabia and Abu Dhabi. They are there on the 2021 calendar

nevertheless. And away we go with the 2021 season starting in Bahrain.

STARS, GUITARS AND GEAR TRASH TALK

Now two weekends post Super Bowl. F1 is quietly gearing up, though there is nothin overly interesting until March 26-28, and it is now somehow in the authoritarian hellhole of Bahrain, where F1 should not even be, instead of Australia. So there is not much in the Trash Talk world right now. But it seems a talk thread might be useful for decompression.

There is one thing of note, the wonderful Naomi Osaka has just won her fourth slam at the Australian. Next to Serena and Venus, Osaka already has more Slams than any other woman currently playing. Doubt she will really catch up Serena (23), much less Margaret Smith Court (24), but a hell of a start on her career, and she can really play. Some real competition in that rarified air though, with Fraulein Forehand Steffi Graff at 22, Helen Wills Moody at 19, and Martina and Chrissy both at 18. Osaka is a real breath of fresh air.

A while back, somebody mentioned guitars in the middle of one of Rayne's threads and I, wrongfully, responded and helped hijack her post's comment section. My bad. So, since we do do music here too, and in lieu of nothing else, a real post for such discussion.

So,
withou
t
furthe
r
adieu,
here
is
what
is in
the
comfy



confines of Casa de Bmaz. The main axe is a black Fender Strat. It plugs into a Crate Twin Twelve mostly tube amp. No, the Crate was not my choice, it literally got thrown in for \$100 or something by the guy I bought the pristine (seriously, the thing had the original price tag on it and came in a hard Gator case) Stratocaster. That was impossible to turn down, but since I don't play much, has been sufficient to keep me from procuring the Marshall half stack I have always wanted. So, yay and ugh at the same time.

Also have an acoustic, it is an Olympia, which is made by Fender. It could use some new strings about now, but it is really pretty nice. It is a hand me down from when Mrs. Bmaz decided she wanted to learn to play guitar and bought it. I told her bar chords were necessary, and hard, especially on an acoustic. That foray didn't last too long, and while not what I would have bought on my own, it is now mine, and, again, it is not bad at all. Don't play it much either.

But
wait,
there
are
more
instru
ments
here!.
We
also
have a
handma
de
beauti
ful



harp. No, not the huge variety, but the thing is really sweet. Another Mrs. Bmaz acquisition. Thing is, Lady Bmaz is, by a light year, the only real musician here. She has played piano since was a small child, and was at one point a real bonafide prodigy. She can not play for a year and still whip off concert level stuff.

Which brings up what got me going on this music equipment thing. A piano. A friend is aging and cleaning up some stuff and has just given us a Steinway baby grand. Have not even gotten it yet, and it will cost a small fortune to get professionally moved. We already had a Kawai baby, but this is too good to pass up.

Am sure Rosalind will drop in, and so must mention the ukulele here. Think it may have come across on the Lusitania or something, and at some point got a fraternity tattoo on by an in-law. It was rescued from said in-law's basement when they were moving on out. Think Rosalind looked at it, if not tried to play it. That is more than I have ever done.

Music today is Bite The Bullet by Neil Young and Crazy Horse, from American Stars and Bars, and it is spectacular. So, what gear you have, and why? Chat it up.

LAST TRASH TALK BEFORE THE ELECTION

The long national nightmare is hitting the home stretch, Sean Connery has passed, and there is some great football and F1 on tap this weekend.

TEN DAYS TO GO TRASH TALK

There are ten days left to insure the Trump Train leaves the station forever. Let Mr. Springsteen tell you to drive that train on out of town.