

THE EBONY-AMERICAN SPORTS DIGEST



THE BEST & MOST VARIETY IN SPORTS NEWS ABOUT & FOR EBONY AMERICANS



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THIS WEEK'S SPORTS SHORTS

FOR THE RECORD

IOC: Not until being pressed by athletes, sponsors, broadcasters, national Olympic committees and international sports federations, who were to play a role in the 2020 Summer Olympic Games, which were to be held in Tokyo, JP, a S.E. Asia city about 1,500 miles from Wuhan, China, where the Chinese flu (COVID-19) pandemic began, did the International Olympic Committee, whose president is **Thomas Bach** (IOC photo), push the 2020 Summer Olympic Games back to next year, due to the Chinese flu pandemic. It's the first time in history that Summer Olympic games have been postpone, although Olympic games were canceled in war-time, with the last such instances happening in 1944 during World War II.



DOLLARS & SENSE
XFL: The XFL's parent company, Alpha Entertainment, owned by **Vince McMahon**, filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy, Mon., Apr. 13, the first business day after the league suspended operations and laid off near all of its employees, due to the Chinese flu (COVID-19) pandemic. The filing lists the XFL with assets and liabilities each in the range of \$10M-\$50M. Fri., Apr. 10, in a conference call with employees, XFL chief operating officer **Jeffery Pollack** stopped short of saying the XFL is folding, but many staffers left the call believing the XFL will fold. A source close to the bankruptcy filing said the XFL could be sold during the process.

HBCU NEWS

CFB: According to Kentucky St.'s head



football coach **Charlie Jackson** (KSU photo), the HBCU school's football field is currently getting an upgrade, a change from national grass to synthetic turf. The Motz Group, a Cincinnati-based synthetic turf builder, is the company responsible for installing the synthetic turf before the football program's fall camp starts in July.

QUITE FRANKLY

NBA: The NBA suspended all operations on Thu., Mar. 12, due to the Chinese flu (COVID-19) pandemic. But, earlier this month, Mavs owner **Mark Cuban** signed off on the idea of the NBA creating "bubble cities," randomly chosen neutral sites where, as of Mon., Jun. 1 at the earliest, NBA teams are to house its players, conduct its operations and play to finish the season. During an appearance on ESPN, Cuban suggested the league has a civic obligation to return to action once health experts deem that it is safe to do so. "*America needs sports. We need something to root for,*" said Cuban. "*We need something to be excited about.*"

IN MEMORIAM

NFL: For losing his life in a single-car crash in AL, **Tarvaris Jackson** was laid to rest at age 36. Jackson was a college QB at Arkansas, before transferring to Alabama St. (ASU). After playing at ASU, Jackson was taken by the Vikings in round two (64th overall) of 2006's NFL Draft. After playing for the Vikings (2006-10), Jackson played for the Seahawks (2011 and 2013-15) and Bills (2012), before retiring from the NFL, after the 2015 season. Later, Jackson was the quality control & QB coach at ASU for a season (2018), before joining Tennessee St. where, since last season, he was their QB coach. ... **CFB:** For losing his bout with myeloma bone cancer, when hospitalized in Columbia. S.C., **Samuel "Herc" Goodwin, Sr.** (SCSU photo) was laid to



rest at age 76. Goodwin was a football and basketball player (1961-65) and an assistant coach for both sports (1973-78) at South Carolina St. He was also an assistant football coach for four seasons at Wichita St., where he made history in becoming the first African-American coach at a major university, spending five total seasons (1979-83) on its football coaching staff. He was then an assistant football coach for a season at South Carolina (1984), before devoting his life to the ministry.

The Native News Narrative:

Chinese Flu Pandemic Causes Porky's Open To Move To This Summer
By Oscar C. Woodall, Jr. – HayWood Media
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The 2020 Porky's Open Golf Tournament, presented by BlueCross BlueShield of Tennessee, has been rescheduled to Tuesday, August 25, by the organizing committee, due to the Chinese flu (COVID-19) pandemic.

UTC athletics department's largest fundraiser of the year, first slated for Tuesday, April 28, will still take place at the Council Fire Golf Club, in Chattanooga, TN, with slated events and registration and shotgun start times remaining the same.

Hosted by the Mocs Club, this 21st

annual tourney is a premier golf event in Chattanooga, raising well over \$1M for student-athlete scholarships at UTC. This year, \$10K of the proceeds will go to the Frank Kinser Porky's Open Endowed Scholarship.

If you already made payment for this tourney, but cannot participate in the new date, contact J.J. Eftink at jude-eflink@utc.edu or at 662-816-3440, to discuss refund options, or if wanting to take part in the event or be a sponsor.

Stay tuned, more details about the event will be announced this summer.

Photo provided by Council Fire Golf Club, in Chattanooga, TN.



Oscar's Observation:

Naming The G.O.A.T. In Any Sport, In Any Era Is Ridiculously Foolish
By Oscar C. Woodall, Jr. – HayWood Media
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Have you noticed; I have never said who I believe the G.O.A.T. (Greatest Of All Time) is in any given sport? Why? Because it creates a ridiculously foolish argument.

It's very hard to prove who the G.O.A.T. is in any given sport, for many reasons. This is why I agree with former NBA and UCLA basketball player Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, who laughed at the notion of former NBA and North Carolina basketball player Michael Jordan being named college basketball's G.O.A.T., according to the results of ESPN's SportsCenter's (extremely informal) social media basketball bracket. It makes more sense to name the

G.O.A.T. in a given player's era. But I will still not name a G.O.A.T. in any sport, regardless of any era. Why? Because it's hard to do and it starts an argument.

Championships trophies and/or rings aside, is Jordan or Abdul-Jabbar (who was Lew Alcindor when he played at UCLA) college basketball's G.O.A.T.?

Is Jordan or Bill Russell the NBA's G.O.A.T.?

Heck, is anybody the G.O.A.T. in any sport, in any era?

So, now you know just how ridiculously foolish it is to name a G.O.A.T., unless naming the G.O.A.T. in a given era, which again is better to do, but still ridiculously foolish to do. Stay tuned.

SPORTOON

By Mark Anderson

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"My therapist says it's a defense mechanism."

Encore TV Pics For This Weekend (Unless Noted Otherwise, All Times Are Eastern PM)

SPORT						
	FOOTBALL (2019)	BASEBALL (2002)	BASEBALL (2004)	HOCKEY (2013)	SOCCER (2015)	FOOTBALL (2005)
DATE	FRIDAY APRIL 17	SATURDAY APRIL 18	SATURDAY APRIL 18	SUNDAY APRIL 19	SUNDAY APRIL 19	MONDAY APRIL 20
TIME	9:00	5:00	10:00	3:00	9:30	8:00
NETWORK	ESPNU	ESPN CLASSIC	FS1	NBC	FS1	ESPN
OPPONENTS						
	OREGON @	TWINS @	YANKEES @	BLACKHAWKS @	MEXICO @	COLTS @
	WASHINGTON	ATHLETICS	RED SOX	BRUINS	USA	PATRIOTS

PHOTO OF THE WEEK

Courtesy of Miami Heat



HOLLOW GROUND – Shown, the inside of Miami, FL's AmericanAirlines Arena, and some who work at the Miami Heat's home. The arena has been closed to public and private use since Thursday, March 12, due to the Chinese flu (COVID-19) pandemic.

