

NFL Extra

Week 14

SEGMENT	TRT
Obscure Trivia	5:19
Dr Z	9:00

2:30:46:01 - OBSCURE TRIVIA

LOOK CLOSELY AT THE NFL AND YOU JUST MAY UNCOVER OBSCURE GEMS OF TRIVIA.

IS THIS PIERCING KIND OF OBSCURE?

FOR EXAMPLE, BILLS RECEIVER STEVIE JOHNSON WAS ONCE A 7TH ROUND DRAFT PICK MAKING HIM A DIAMOND IN THE RUFF WITH A DIAMOND IN HIS FACE.

IT'S A DIAMOND AND I'VE BEEN PLAYING WITH IT FOR 2 YRS. LUCKILY IT'S STILL THERE. RAY LEWIS ALMOST KNOCKED IT OUT ONCE THOUGH. I HAD TO CHECK AND SEE IF I WAS GOOD, AND I WAS GOOD SO I FINISHED THE GAME OFF.

I WAS RAY LEWIS'S FIRST SACK.

RADIO - RAY LEWIS BRINGS HIM DOWN IN THE BACKFIELD.

I WAS DERRICK THOMAS' ONLY INTERCEPTION.

RADIO - IT'S THE FIRST INTERCEPTION IN DERRICK THOMAS' CAREER!

I'M SOMEWHAT OF A NERD. I WAS A WORLD GEOGRAPHY OLYMPIAD TEAM KID IN HIGH SCHOOL. (YOU WERE WHAT?) A WORLD GEOGRAPHY OLYMPIAD TEAM!

SO WHEN GEOGRAPHY POPS UP ON JEOPARDY, YOU'RE ...

I'M DANGEROUS. I KILL THEM!

OBSURE I DON'T HAVE AN OPIATE IN MY RIGHT EAR. I HAVE A 95% HEARING LOSS IN MY RIGHT EAR. YOU DIDN'T KNOW THAT DID YOU? (I DID NOT.) YEA, IT WAS A BIRTH DEFECT. HEY! HEY! HEY! YOU WATCH THERE'LL BE TIMES WHEN I PULL MY HEADSET AWAY FROM MY EARS....SO I CAN HEAR WHO I'M TALKING TO. HE'S WHAT?!

I COME FROM A FAMILY OF 8. WE'RE ALL 1 YEAR APART AND OUR FIRST NAMES ALL BEGIN WITH J. HOW ABOUT THAT? THAT'S A GOOD ONE.

I CAN JUGGLE.

AHH, ELI, DON'T DO THAT THOUGH. DON'T DO THAT NOW.

LET'S SEE WHAT YOU GOT. SAY WHEN. WHEN. WHAT IS PEYTON'S MIDDLE NAME? WILLIAMS. WHAT IS THE SPEED LIMIT ON THE OLD MISS CAMPUS? 18. WHY'S THAT? MY DAD'S NUMBER.

THAT WAS LIKE A CIRCUS.

BIGGEST THING MOST PEOPLE DON'T KNOW ABOUT ME IS THAT I GREW UP PLAYING THE VIOLIN SINCE AGE 5. IT WAS KIND OF FORCED UPON ME. FOR MY MOM IT WAS, "IF YOU WANT TO PLAY A SPORT, YOU GOTTA PLAY A MUSICAL INSTRUMENT." VIOLIN STUCK WITH ME AND ALL THOSE DAYS OF FIGHTING THROUGH AND HATING IT, YOUR BUDDIES ARE OUTSIDE PLAYING. IT PAYS OFF IN THE END. YOU'RE GRATEFUL FOR IT AS AN ADULT TO HAVE THAT TALENT.

THERE ARE 3 QBS IN YOUR FAMILY. WHO'S THE TALLEST? WHO'S THE SHORTEST? PEYTON'S THE TALLEST. MY DAD IS THE SHORTEST. I'M IN THE MIDDLE.

MY 3RD YEAR IN THE LEAGUE, SITTING AT HOME IN N.O. WATCHING ACE VENTURA. I'M JUST SITTING THERE WATCHING, "MAN, I'M GONNA GET A MONKEY." ABOUT A WEEK LATER I HAD A MONKEY.

DO YOU REMEMBER THE DATE THAT YOU AND PEYTON FIRST PLAYED EACH OTHER?
SEPT. 9TH...2006? AWESOME. YOU'RE A DAY OFF. THAT'S AMAZING.

ANY LITTLE TIDBIT ABOUT YOU OR YOUR LIFE. MAN, THE ONLY THING I CAN REALLY
SAY WOULD COME TO MY HEAD IS, I'M SO AWESOME. I'M SO AWESOME. THAT SUMS
IT UP! ALRIGHT, I DON'T THINK WE DO HAVE THAT ONE YET. SO..

LET'S SEE, WHEN WAS THE FIRST TIME YOU BEAT PEYTON IN ONE-ON-ONE
BASKETBALL? WHEN I WAS PROBABLY 17 YRS. OLD.

I'M THE WEATHER GUY IN THE NFL. I THINK I'M THE ONLY GUY THAT HAS A DEGREE IN
METEOROLOGY. I WILL TELL YOU HOW IT'S GONNA BE THIS MEMORIAL DAY
WEEKEND. THAT AND I REALLY LIKE PING-PONG.

WHAT'S THE MOTTO OF YOUR COLLEGE FRATERNITY? WHAT'S THE MOTTO? YEA, IS
THERE ONE? SIGMA .. .WITH SNAKES.

I CANNOT JUGGLE. I CAN GLEEK. IS THAT A TALENT? IT'S PROBABLY, IT'S REALLY
DISGUSTING. IT'S BASICALLY SPITTING. I'M SURE 10 TO 15 YR. OLDS KNOW WHAT
GLEEKING IS BUT I STILL DO IT FROM TIME TO TIME. I STILL GLEEK ON ELI WHICH HE
THINKS YOU NEED TO GROW UP.

THAT WAS DISGUSTING. THAT WAS DISGUSTING.

THAT'S TRIVIA. PEE DOWN MY LEG DURING ANY GAME. I NEVER WENT TO THE
BATHROOM IN A TOILET. EVERY GAME? EVERY GAME I PEE ON MYSELF. 6 YRS.
STRAIGHT I PEED DOWN MY LEG.// I WOULD JUST BE IN THE HUDDLE. JUST PEE LIKE
YOU WOULDN'T EVEN, NOBODY IN THE SANDS WOULD KNOW UNLESS YOU LOOK
DOWN LIKE, "THAT'S NOT WATER MAN." MY TEAMMATES DIDN'T ENJOY IT AS MUCH AS
I DID.

OH DON'T DO THAT. DON'T DO THAT. DON'T DO THAT. DON'T DO THAT.

MAN, CROWDER, YOU'RE SO NASTY MAN. GOD!

OH THAT'S SO NASTY BRO. THAT'S A PRETTY GOOD FACT. YEA, IT'S COOL. OBSCURE?
THAT'S PRETTY OBSCURE.

THOUGH SOME BITS OF INFORMATION SHOULD PROBABLY REMAIN OBSCURE.

THAT'S SMART FOOTBALL.

IN THE END, THE NFL TRULY IS A WONDERFUL WORLD OF HIDDEN TRIVIA AND
TALENTS.

I SEE TREES OF GREEN...RED ROSES TOO...I SEE THEM BLOOM FOR ME AND YOU,
AND I THINK TO MYSELF WHAT A WONDERFUL WORLD. THERE YOU GO. THAT WAS
AWESOME. THANK YOU. THANK YOU.

2:36:16:06 - DR. Z

A LETTER TO MY READERS BY PAUL ZIMMERMAN. MY WIFE SAYS THE BEST WAY TO
UNDERSTAND MY CURRENT SITUATION IS TO TAKE A LOOK AT MY LIBRARY. LIKE MY
BRAIN, IT'S FILLED TO THE RAFTERS WITH INFORMATION. SOME VALUABLE. SOME
WORTHLESS. BUT ALL OF IT A MYSTERY TO ANYONE BUT ME. IN THIS ROOM AND
OTHERS LIKE IT I COVERED PROFESSIONAL FOOTBALL FOR 55 YRS. FRIENDS TELL
ME I'LL BE REMEMBERED AS THE AUTHOR OF THE DEFINITIVE BOOK ON FOOTBALL.
OR, AS THE WRITER WHO POPULARIZED WEEKLY NFL PICKS; OR ONE OF THE EARLY
CROSSOVERS INTO 24 HR. SPORTS TELEVISION.

ACTION.

OUR SPECIAL GUEST THIS WEEK, PAUL ZIMMERMAN FROM SPORTS ILLUSTRATED.

TO ME, NONE OF THAT MATTERS. RIGHT NOW I'M JUST A GUY WHOSE LIBRARY WENT
DARK ON NOV. 22ND, 2008. THAT'S THE DAY I SUFFERED THE FIRST OF 3 STROKES. I
HAVEN'T WRITTEN IN WORD IN THE 5 YRS. SINCE. IT'S CALLED APHASIA. MY BRAIN
STILL WORKS PERFECTLY. I'M JUST UNABLE TO COMMUNICATE MY THOUGHTS TO

OTHERS. I CAN'T READ. I CAN'T WRITE. AND THE SPOKEN WORD, ONCE THE PLAYGROUND OF MY SOUL, HAS BECOME A TEDIOUS ONE-WAY STREET. 3 WORDS COMPRISE MOST OF MY VOCABULARY. THE FIRST ONE IS YEA. YEA. AND THE 2ND ONE IS... NEW NEW. IT'S TAKEN ME 4 YRS. OF SPEECH THERAPY TO GET THOSE BASTARDS OUT. MOST EVERYTHING ELSE COMES OUT AS THE WORD WHEN. THOUGH IT SOUNDS A BIT LIKE ONE WHEN IT COMES FLYING OUT OF MY MOUTH LIKE THE HOWITZERS I SAW IN THE ARMY.

THAT WAS ME BRAGGING THAT IN MY PLAYING DAYS I WAS AN ALL EUROPE TACKLE FOR THE 1956 WESTERN AREA COMMAND IN GERMANY. ALRIGHT, I WAS HONORABLE MENTION. IN MY HEAD, THOSE ARE ALL DIFFERENT WORDS ASSEMBLED TOGETHER IN MASTERFUL WITTY SENTENCES. BUT ALL THAT COMES OUT IS WHEN. WHICH MAY BE FITTING SINCE MUCH OF MY TIMES THESE DAYS IS SPENT RELIVING THE WHEN; LIKE WHEN I WAS A TEENAGER AND CAME FACE-TO-FACE WITH 2 LEGENDS. THE FIRST WAS ON THE FOOTBALL FIELD.

WHEN I WIN HIGH SCHOOL WE SCRIMMAGED AGAINST ST. CECELIA'S COACHED BY LOMBARDI; AND BEFORE THAT, I REMEMBER IT VERY CLOSELY. BEFORE THAT THEY SAID, "WATCH THAT POWER SWEEP. IT'S LIKE THE OLD JOCK SUTHERLAND SWEEPS AT PITT, AND WE WERE SCARED TO DEATH OF IT BECAUSE HE HAD EVERYBODY OUT THERE AND IT WAS KIND OF BRUTAL, AND THAT WAS LOMBARDI'S POWER SWEEP AT ST. CECELIA'S HIGH SCHOOL IN 1948.

THE 2ND WAS AT BROWNS GYM IN MANHATTAN WHEN I WAS 15. THE TRAINERS TOLD ME I WAS GOING TO SPAR WITH A VERY IMPORTANT VISITOR BUT I HAD TO HAVE MY RIGHT ARM TIED TO MY SIDE BECAUSE PAPA HEMINGWAY DIDN'T LIKE LOSING.

WHEN PEOPLE ASK ME WHAT HE WAS LIKE AS A BOXER, AND I ALWAYS TELL THE TRUTH. HE HIT BELOW THE BELT MORE OFTEN THAN HE HIT ABOVE IT.

THESE DAYS, I FEEL LIKE I'M BACK IN THAT RING. THE STROKE HAS LEFT ME WEAK AND LIMITED ON MY RIGHT SIDE. I JUST TURNED 81. HEMINGWAY WAS 61 WHEN HE LOST HIS WILL OVER A BAD CASE OF WRITER'S BLOCK. I WONDER HOW HE WOULD'VE HANDLED THIS?

MAYBE HE'D WRITE WITH THE HELP OF AN ACTOR DOING VOICEOVER LIKE I'M DOING RIGHT NOW? SOMETIMES I WISH I HAD A GUY LIKE THAT TO FOLLOW ME AROUND ON A DAILY BASIS SO I COULD HAVE A VOICE AGAIN.

LIKE AT BREAKFAST THIS MORNING. SIR, WOULD YOU LIKE SOME BUTTER WITH YOUR TOAST? I HAD A STROKE. I'M NOT DEAF. YEA, BUTTER WOULD BE NICE.

OR AT THE COUNTLESS DOCTORS VISITS. HOW'S PAUL DOING TODAY? HEY, FIRST OF ALL, I'M SITTING RIGHT HERE. SECOND OF ALL, YOU'RE 17 MINS. LATE.

SHARING MY OPINIONS WAS NEVER DIFFICULT ONLY NOW I CAN BARELY STAND TO HEAR THEM. I HATE THOSE PROMOS THAT SAY... SEE THE JETS TAKE ON THE RAIDERS NEXT WEEK! WITH THAT VOICE, WITH THAT NASTY VOICE. I HATE THAT. MAKES ME SICK. I MEAN IT'S ALL TO SELL T-SHIRTS. PEOPLE WHO CARRY OTHER PEOPLE OFF THE FIELD ARE NOT MY FAVORITE TYPE OF PEOPLE. I'D RATHER BE ONE OF THOSE WHO'S CARRIED.

I'VE SPOUTED SOME NONSENSE AND SOME WISDOM. BUT THERE'S ONE THING I'VE LEARNED ABOVE ALL. THE GAME OF FOOTBALL IS CYCLICAL. I'VE HEARD THAT PEOPLE ARE FASCINATED BY PETE CARROLL'S NEW AGE COACHING STYLE. BUT I REMEMBER 40 YRS. AGO WHEN THE COWBOYS WERE CHARTING THEIR PLAYER'S EMOTIONAL BIORHYTHMS. ARE YOU IMPRESSED BY PEYTON MANNING'S EXPLOITS AT AGE 37? YOU SHOULD BE. BUT DON'T FORGET, AT 50 YRS. AGO, 37 YR. OLD Y.A. TITTLE SET THE NFL RECORD FOR PASSING TOUCHDOWNS. A RECORD THAT STOOD FOR 21 YRS. TILL MARINO BROKE IT IN '84. I GUESS THAT WAS MY FAVORITE THING ABOUT SPORTS WRITING. PUTTING EVERY SUNDAY INTO HISTORICAL CONTEXT. BUT, LIKE I SAID, THE NFL IS CYCLICAL. MY AUDIENCE HAS MOVED ON. I DON'T BLAME THEM BECAUSE SO HAVE I.

IT'S A VERY SAD THING ABOUT SPORTS IN GENERAL. WHEN YOU'RE OUT OF IT YOU SEEM TO BE MORE OUT OF IT THAN ANYWHERE ELSE, AND PEOPLE JUST DON'T CALL YOU AS MUCH. IT HAPPENS WITH PLAYERS A LOT TOO. IT'S A VERY SAD THING THAT WHEN YOU'RE CUT OFF YOU'RE REALLY FAR AWAY.

EVEN IF I COULD WRITE AGAIN I PROBABLY WOULDN'T. I'D RATHER SPEND THE TIME WITH THE ONE PERSON WHO NEVER LEFT MY SIDE. MY WIFE LINDA. THE FLAMING REDHEAD.

IT'S AMAZING THAT EVEN THOUGH PAUL CAN'T TALK, I STILL KNOW WITH HIS FACIAL EXPRESSIONS, AND I KNOW WITH ALL THE HISTORY THAT THERE'S THIS INCREDIBLY FASCINATING HUMAN BEING, AND I CAN BE WITH OTHER PEOPLE THAT ARE VERY NICE; AND I THINK, BOY, I'D STILL RATHER GO HOME WITH PAUL.

SO, THE FILM CREW PACKS UP. THE VOICEOVER GUY GOES BACK TO THE CITY. YOU CHANGE THE CHANNEL AND I ENTER MY 6TH YEAR OF SILENCE. BUT PLEASE, FEEL NO PITY. SEND NO CONSOLING LETTERS. I'M VERY HAPPY WITH THE LIBRARY OF WHEN'S FROM MY LIFE. WHEN I PLAYED AGAINST LOMBARDI AND BOXED WITH HEMINGWAY. WHEN I COULD THROW AND CATCH AND READ AND WRITE. WHEN I SIP THE SWEET WINE OF CONVERSATION UNTIL IT STAINED MY SMILE. WHEN I WAS FRONT AND CENTER FOR THE GAME I LOVED.

I REMEMBER A FEW YEARS AGO WAS SPEAKING TO A KID'S GROUP AND I SAID, "WELL, HE'S NOT ANOTHER JOE NAMATH." AND A FEW OF THEM ARE LOOKING AT ME. ONE DIDN'T REMEMBER. DIDN'T KNOW WHAT I WAS TALKING ABOUT. IT BOTHERED ME BECAUSE OF THE PASSAGE OF TIME AND THE WHOLE MYSTICAL FEELING ABOUT TIME AND WHAT IT DOES AND HOW LONG IT TAKES BEFORE IMAGES FADE. TIME MARCHES ON YOU KNOW. TIME MARCHES ON. DON'T WASTE IT. YOURS TRULY, DR. Z.

(END)