

SEPTEMBER, 2007

MUSINGS FROM A 75 YEAR OLD SPORTS ENTHUSIAST, AN OVERALL OBSERVER AND A MAN WITH A LOT OF TIME ON HIS HANDS, NOT IN ANY PARTICULAR ORDER.

WHY DO MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL TEAM OWNERS AND CITIES BUILD SUCH GOD AWFUL BALLPARKS AND INCOMPETENT BUD SELIG AND ASSOCIATES ALLOW THEM TO BE BUILT? (HOUSTON, CLEVELAND, SAN FRANCISCO, PHOENIX, ETC)

WHY DID CHICAGO SPEND 600 MILLION DOLLARS TO RENOVATE SOLDIER FIELD AND NOT PUT A RETRACTABLE ROOF ON IT?

GREEN BAY SHOULD BE INCLUDED IN THAT LAST COMMENT.

SOMEONE SHOULD BUY DENNIS HASTERT A PAIR OF GLASSES THAT FIT.

WHEN CHICAGO T.V. STATIONS HIRE SOMEONE FROM OUT OF TOWN THEY SHOULD TEACH THEN HOW TO PRONOUNCE CHICAGO LIKE CHICAGOANS DO. GARY THORNE AND JON MILLER OF E.S.P.N. ARE THE TWO BIGGEST OFFENDERS.

TOM NEGA(VAN) COULDN'T PRONOUNCE DELA(VAN), WISCONSIN PROPERLY. THEY BUTCHER STREET NAMES (HONORE) AND ADDRESSES.

WHY DO WE SPEND BILLIONS ON THE USELESS SPACE PROGRAM WHEN HUMANS ARE HOMELESS AND HUNGRY IN OUR SOCIETY? NEIL ARMSTRONG PROVED THAT THE MOON WAS NO PLACE TO LIVE OR PLAY GOLF. I DOUBT THAT SOFTBALL FIELDS COULD BE BUILT ON THE MOON, MARS, ETC.

WHY DOESN'T WAL-MART PAY LIVEABLE WAGES?

WHY DO WE HAVE SUCH A MESS IN SPRINGFIELD? LOBBYISTS?

IT WILL BE A GREAT DAY WHEN THE INCOMPETENT TRIBUNE COMPANY IS SOLD AND THE CUBS CAN GET SOME PRIVATE OWNERSHIP LIKE REINSDORF AND ASSOCIATES OF THE WHITE SOX. HOPEFULLY, JERRY COANGELO AND STEVE STONE.

WHY DO SOME OF THE MEDIA OUTLETS USE SENSATIONALISM ON UNIMPORTANT PEOPLE AND EVENTS? BRITISH MONARCHY INCLUDED.

WHY ARE SOME PROFESSIONAL ATHLETES CALLED "HEROES" INSTEAD OF SPORTS STAR? HEROES ARE MILITARY PEOPLE, POLICEMEN, FIREMEN, ETC.

WHY IS CAL RIPKEN'S CONSECUTIVE GAME STREAK SUCH A BIG DEAL WHEN HE WAS USED AS A D.H. DURING THE STREAK?

IF PERFORMANCE ENHANCING PILLS, CREAMS, ETC. ARE SUCH A BIG DEAL THEN ALL HEALTH STORES WITH IRON PILLS, VITAMIN PILLS, ETC. SHOULD BE CLOSED. A BASEBALL PLAYER STILL HAS TO MAKE PROPER CONTACT WITH THE BAT ON THE BALL. MOST OF US HAVE "BULKED UP" SINCE OUR EARLIER YEARS.

DAN JIGGETS AND HIS "TRIBUNE LIVE" SPORTS SHOW IS FAR SUPERIOR TO ANYTHING ON E.S.P.N. NO GOOFY SHOUTING, ETC.

I BELIEVE CAROL MARIN MUST TAKE "CUTE PILLS" TO BE AS CUTE AS SHE IS. CAROL IS ALSO THE BEST IN HER PROFESSION.

WHY DO THE CUBS HAVE A STATUE OF HARRY CARAY OUTSIDE OF WRIGLEY FIELD INSTEAD OF SOME FORMER PLAYERS? (STAN HACK, HARTNETT, WILLIAMS, SANTO, BANKS, ETC.) HARRY WAS VERY UNKNOWLEDGEABLE ABOUT BASEBALL AND WAS NEVER AN ATHLETE.

WHY DO THE CUBS HAVE SOME SCREWBALL SING "TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALLGAME?" OZZIE OSBOURNE AND BOB UECKER ARE BUFFOONS IN MY OPINION. WHY NOT STICK TO LOCAL CELEBRITIES AND FORMER BALL PLAYERS, ETC? ALSO, NO BOOK SELLING OR PERSONAL APPEARANCE SCHEDULES.

MY FAVORITE WEATHER PEOPLE:
TRACY BUTLER AND PAUL KONRAD - MORNING
TIM MCGILL - MIDDAY
AMY FREEZE AND JERRY TAFT - NIGHTS
ACCURATE AND NO SENSATIONALISM

ALL CHICAGO NEWS PROGRAMS ARE FAR SUPERIOR TO THE NETWORK NEWS.

THE WEATHER CHANNEL HAS BY FAR THE BEST COVERAGE ON HURRICANES, SEVERE STORMS, AND TORNADOES.

VERY THANKFUL I DON'T LIVE IN A FLOOD ZONE.

I STILL LOVE HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE FOOTBALL AND BASKETBALL MORE THAN PROFESSIONAL LEAGUES, ESPECIALLY HIGH SCHOOL FRIDAY NIGHTS.

WHY CAN'T WE HAVE AMERICAN T.V. ANNOUNCERS FOR AMERICAN GOLF TOURNAMENTS?

GOD BLESS MY TWO ALMA MATERS, ST. MARGARET OF SCOTLAND AND LEO HIGH SCHOOL.

MAYOR JIMMY WALKER WAS ASKED BY A REPORTER, "WHY DO IRISHMAN ALWAYS ANSWER A QUESTION WITH A QUESTION?" JIMMY REPLIED, "DO WE NOW?"

IT WOULD BE NICE IF THE N.C.A.A. HAD AN EIGHT TEAM FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES. THE 1ST ROUND COULD BE PLAYED ON THE ORIGINAL FOUR BOWL GAME SITES ON NEW YEAR'S DAY. IT WOULD BE THE ONLY LEGITIMATE WAY TO HAVE A NATIONAL CHAMPION. THEY DO IT IN BASEBALL AND BASKETBALL.

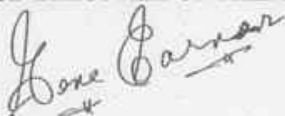
IN MY OPINION, BOXING, HORSERACING, AND CAR RACING ARE EVENTS, DEFINITELY NOT SPORTS.

FIRST RULE OF BASEBALL STATES THAT A GAME SHALL BE COMPRISED OF TWO TEAMS THAT HAVE NINE PLAYERS ON EACH TEAM. THE AMERICAN LEAGUE TEAMS HAVE TEN PLAYERS ON EACH TEAM.

I'VE BEEN A WIDOWER SINCE MAY 27, 2006. IT'S A VERY DIFFERENT AND LONELY LIFE, MISS DONNA VERY MUCH!!!!

VERY THANKFUL FOR MY 12 CHILDREN, 16 GRANDCHILDREN, 2 GREAT-GRANDCHILDREN, DAUGHTERS-IN-LAW, AND SONS-IN-LAW.

GOD BLESS ALL OF THEM.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gene Earner". The signature is written in dark ink and includes a small flourish at the end.

GENE EARNER