MUSING X111 JANUARY-FEBRUARY 2010

I READ IN THE SUN-TIMES THAT PRESIDENT OBAMA BOWED TO JAP EMPEROR AKI HITO. NIXON TO HIROHITO. DID GENERAL MACARTHUR BOW TO HIROHITO OR ANYONE ELSE AT THE SURRENDER ON THE BATTLESHIP MISSOURI?

I'VE NEVER HAD A PROBLEM WITH MY AMERICAN MADE 19 YEAR OLD (1991) CADALLAC. NO GAS PEDAL STICKING, BRAKE FAILURE, ETC. CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS SHOULD BE HELD TO THROW THOSE JAP TOYOTAS IN THE PACIFIC OCEAN. BUY AMERICAN!!!!

NO ALCOHOL AT HIGH SCHOOL OR COLLEGE GAMES PERMITTED IN THE STADIUMS. A BIG BREATH OF FRESH AIR.

WHY DO THE SPORTS MEDIA PEOPLE PUT AN EMPHASIS ON A NEW NOTRE DAME COACH BEING OF IRISH DECENT WOULD HELP? NOTRE DAME DULAC IS FRENCH FOR "OUR LADY OF THE LAKE." NOTRE DAME WAS FOUNDED BY FATHER SORIN AND 3 OTHER FRENCH PRIESTS WHO WERE SENT TO THE U.S.A. BY THE BISHOP OF PARIS, FRANCE DIOCESE. "FIGHTING IRISH" WAS THE BRAINCHILD OF A SPORTS WRITER. KNUTE ROCKNE WAS NORWEGIAN.

2 PRECIOUS ITEMS YOU CAN'T BUY ARE LOVE AND MEMORIES. YOU CAN ONLY ACQUIRE THEM.

LEO, ST. LAURENCE, MARIST, AND ST. XAVIER BASKETBALL GAMES ARE MY 4 FAVORITE WINTER PLACES TO GO. ST. XAVIER GAMES ARE ALMOST LIKE MINI SOUTHSIDE REUNIONS. LEO PEOPLE HAVING THE MOST IN ATTENDANCE. GREAT TIME AND FUN FOR THE ELDERY. I SAW THE MERRY PLOUGH BOYS SHOW AT GAELIC PARK ON FEBRUARY 6TH. THEY ARE FROM THE SOUTHSIDE OF DUBLIN. I HIGHLY RECOMMEND THEM.

SOMETHING I ALWAYS WANTED TO DO: I HAD A CALENDAR MADE AT WALGREEN'S OF 13 OF MY FAVORITE PERSONAL PHOTOS. 12 MONTHS AND A COVER PHOTO. LAST YEAR WERE PHOTOS OF OUR 2008 IRELAND TRIP. WHAT NEXT?

IT IS PROBABLY MORE DIFFICULT TO GET A JOB AS A LOBBYIST THAN ELECTIVE OFFICE.

SOMEONE SHOULD SEND A JAR OF BRILLCREME TO THE DICTATOR OF NORTH KOREA. IT SEEMS THAT EVERYDAY IS A "BAD HAIR DAY" FOR HIM.

KUDOS TO SUN-TIMES COLUMNIST CAROLE SLEZAK ON HER RECENT COLUMN, "FITZ ISN'T GOING ANYWHERE SOON (OR LATER)." HER STORY ON PAT FITZGERALD'S LOVE FOR NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY. AFTER ALL, HE HAS SPENT NEARLY HALF OF HIS LIFE THERE WITH A LARGE AMOUNT OF SUCCESS. MY VOTE FOR BIG TEN COACH OF THE YEAR. WRITER JIM O'DONNELL OF THE SUN-TIMES SHOULD EAT HIS WORDS ON HIS NEGATIVE COLUMNS ON FITZ AND N.U. I'LL SEND HIM SOME CATSUP. WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN CATSUP AND KETCHUP?

GOOD TO SEE HERB GOULD IS NOW ON THE NORTHWESTERN BEAT.

NOTRE DAME BUYS OUT CHARLEY WEIS' CONTRACT FOR A REPORTED 18 MILLION DOLLARS. IN MY OPINION THAT IS FISCAL INSTABILITY AT IT'S WORST IF ANYBODY SHOULD BELIEVE IN SANTA CLAUS IT'S CHARLEY WEIS.

ONE OF TIGER WOODS' BIGGEST SPONSORS WAS BUICK. WHY WAS HE DRIVING A CADILLAC?

HOW COME YOUR FINGER NAILS GROW FASTER THAN YOUR TOE NAILS?

ONE GOOD THING ABOUT WRITING THESE MUSINGS IS THAT THERE ARE NO DEADLINES

DAN, BRIAN, AND I WENT TO COMISKEY PARK AND BOUGHT 4 WHITE SOX HOODED SWEATSHIRTS FOR CHRISTMAS GIFTS (ALL MADE IN CHINA). IT WAS DIFFERENT THAN GOING TO A SHOPPING MALL, ALL OF THE APPAREL WAS IN THE WHITE SOX CLUBHOUSE. AFTER A PURCHASE WE GOT TO GO IN THE DUGOUT. THE PHONES TO THE BULLPEN WERE WORKING.

PARKING IS FREE IN EVERGREEN PARK. NO METERS ANYWHERE. RICHIE DALEY SHOULD VISIT MAYOR JIM SEXTON.

PEOPLE THAT I LIVED WITH IN FLORIDA HAD NEVER HEARD OF CITY STICKERS FOR YOUR AUTOMOBILES. ILLINOIS LEADS THE WAY IN ALMOST EVERYTHING MONETARY.

AS I DRIVE MY CAR DAILY AND WALK THROUGH PARKING LOTS DAILY I NOTICE THAT I MUST BE THE ONLY ONE IN COOK COUNTY WHO HAS WHITEWALL TIRES ON HIS AUTOMOBILE. THAT'S PROBABLY AS BACKWARD AS NOT HAVING A CELL PHONE OR COMPUTER. I HAVE NEITHER. HOWEVER, I LIKE MY TIRES.

JUST RECEIVED A NOTICE FROM NATIONAL VEHICLE PROTECTION SERVICES. THE FACTORY WARRANTY ON MY 19 YEAR OLD CADILLAC IS GOING TO EXPIRE SOON. I MUST SHOW THIS TO MY MECHANIC (RICH VOS AND FAMILY OF EVERGREEN SERVICE IN EVERGREEN PARK.)

I WISH SOMEBODY WOULD MAKE A DEODORANT SPRAY CAN THAT DOESN'T SPRAY ICE COLD.

TOO BAD WE CAN'T HAVE 5 OR 6 GOVERNORS. ALL OF THEIR CAMPAIGN ADS ON TELEVISION SEEM LIKE WE ARE HEADED FOR UTOPIA OR CAMELOT.

DURING LEAP YEAR DO THE SWALLOWS COME BACK TO CAPISTRANO A DAY EARLY?

WHAT HAPPENED TO THE "E" IN CAROL MARIN (E)?

3 MORE CHEERS FOR EVERGREEN PARK ON THEIR GREAT JOB OF SNOW AND ICE REMOVAL.

200 ALUMNI AT THE LEO-BROTHER RICE GAME AT LEO ON JANUARY 22, 2010. A LOT OF FUN, VERY FEW EMPTY SEATS, AND VERY GRATIFYING! SOME NICE PHOTOS ON WWW.THOSELEOMEN.COM

WOULD GEORGE HALAS LIKE THE HOOPLA OF TODAY'S N.F.L. 3 MEN IN A T.V. BOOTH? HALF TIME AT SUPER BOWL? SIDELINE T.V. PEOPLE? COACHES INTERVIEWS COMING OFF OF THE FIELD AT HALFTIME?

BAD LUCK!!! I MISSED THE ROSIE O'DONNELL-OPRAH WINFREY SHOW. HOW DID A SLOB LIKE THAT GET AN IRISH NAME?

TICKETS ARE FREE FOR OPRAH BUT PARKING COSTS \$30. SOUNDS LIKE A RICHIE DALEY ITEM.

DID YOU EVER HEAR ANYTHING AS SILLY AS JOHN EDWARDS PAYING \$400 FOR A HAIRCUT? IF I EVER DO ANYTHING THAT SILLY, PLEASE, TAKE ME AWAY!!

I SAW JOHNNY CHAPPETTO AT A SUBWAY SANDWICH SHOP LAST WEEK. I FORGOT TO ASK HIM IF HE WOULD LIKE TO BE MY PARTNER IN A NEW SUBWAY SHOP PROVIDING I AM THE ONE WHO ASK THE CUSTOMER- CHIPS? DRINK?

EVERY CAMPAIGN HERE LATELY TALKED ABOUT CREATING JOBS. SIMPLE SOLUTION IS TO BRING HOME ALL THE INDUSTRY LOST TO CHINA, ETC. SOMETHING LIKE THE CATHOLICS COME HOME CAMPAIGN IN NORTHERN ILLINOIS. A GOOD START WOULD BE TO TELL ARNOLD PALMER AND JACK NICKLAUS TO TAKE THEIR NAMES OFF OF ALL THE CHINESE GOLF SHIRTS.

ALSO, TELL GEORGE STEINBRENNER TO QUIT SELLING CHINESE MERCHANDISE IN AN AMERICAN BALLPARK BUILT FOR HIM IN TAMPA, FLORIDA. ESPECIALLY, THE \$72 GOLF SHIRTS. LIKEWISE



FOR JERRY REINSDORF AND EDDIE EINHORN IN THEIR STATE OF ILLINOIS OWNED BALL PARK. CUSTOMERS ARE AT ALL PRO TEAMS MERCY IF THEY WANT THEIR TEAMS LOGOS.

TODAY IS FEBRUARY 6TH. WHILE DRIVING MY CAR TODAY I NOTICED A LOT OF CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS ARE STILL UP. PERHAPS SANTA DID NOT SHOW AND THEY ARE STILL WAITING.

HOW TIME FLIES. MY YOUNGEST NIECE JUDY IS CELEBRATING HER SOCIAL SECURITY BIRTHDAY (62) ON APRIL 11TH.

RECENTLY, I HAD A WILL MADE, 1ST OF A KIND. I'M TAKING EVERYTHING WITH ME.

WITH EVERYTHING ABOVE BEING SAID I WILL CLOSE WITH THE HOPE THAT YOU WILL MEMORIZE "A NATION ONCE AGAIN" AND PERHAPS SOMEDAY WE WILL MEET AND BE ABLE TO SING TOGETHER "A NATION ONCE AGAIN."

GOD BLESS,

GENE EARNER (708) 636-8827

(4)

"A NATION ONCE AGAIN"

WHEN BOYHOOD FIRE WAS IN MY BLOOD
I READ OF ANCIENT FREE MEN
FOR GREECE AND ROME WHO BRAVELY STOOD
THREE HUNDRED MEN AND THREE MEN
AND THEN I PRAYED I YET MIGHT SEE
OUR FETTERS RENT IN TWAIN
AND IRELAND LONG A PROVINCE BE
A NATION ONCE AGAIN

A NATION ONCE AGAIN A NATION ONCE AGAIN AND IRELAND LONG A PROVINCE BE A NATION ONCE AGAIN