

Sports becoming very complicated

By ROBERT CESSNA
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Do you consider yourself a sports freak, an avid sports fan or an average sports fan?

With the recent expansion of pro sports, it's just too hard for some people to keep up with sports. If you wonder what you are classified as, here are the definitions:

A sports freak is someone who studies sports like a daily religion. He reads at least one major newspaper daily, the sports section only. He gets at least two weekly magazines. He also gets more than four monthly magazines. Add to this total special sports magazines and you have a walking encyclopedia on sports. About one per cent of the population falls into this category.

The avid sports fan is one who knows his local college teams and pro teams only. He reads at least one column every two days, but usually only something related with one of his teams. He knows most of the players from his teams but that's about the extent of it. He usually realizes his limitations and relies on sports writers for his information. About 15% of the population falls into this category.

Last we have the average sports fan. He follows his local college team or pro team and thinks they are the greatest. But only when he talks to anyone outside of the area. With his fellow home team fans he is constantly complaining and griping about his teams' play.

He always knows more than the coach and for a ten buck ticket he owns the team. When discussing sports he overcomes his lack of knowledge by telling you everything he knows in two minutes. He likes to impress you with his "professionalism".

In which category do you think you fall?

Let's test your general knowledge of sports. In baseball the National and American League make up 24 teams. In the NFL and WFL (at its inception) there are 38 franchises. The NBA and ABA add 28 franchises. The NHL and WHA total 32 entries. This means the Big Four of pro sports total 122 franchises.

A sports freak can name at least 120 allowing for only two mental lapses. The avid sports fan should be able to name at least 80. The average sports fan will be less than 61.

Knowing franchises is minor to a sports freak. He would know at least 1,500 players in the Big Four. He studies pro box scores of every game to gain a complete thoroughness.

Then consider all the major college football teams there are and you can see the problem for the fans.

First TCU frosh to start this week

FORT WORTH (AP)—Defensive tackle Marshall Harris will be the first freshman to start for Texas Christian University this season when the Horned Frogs close out their season Saturday in Houston against Rice.

Harris, a 6 foot 6, 220-pounder from Fort Worth Southwest, will replace J. G. Crouch, a sophomore from Killeen, at left tackle.

If you have waded this far and still think you're a sports freak try the following five questions:

1. Rick Barry is currently back for his second go around in the NBA, but in his ABA tenure what team did he lead to the ABA championship?
2. What NHL goaltender played for the Philadelphia Atoms Lacrosse team this summer?
3. Denny McClain came to fame with the Detroit Tigers but on the way down made three more stops. Name them.
4. Joe Namath was also an exceptional baseball player in high school turning down pro offers from two clubs. Name them.
5. What quarterback is the only player to be a first round draft choice by the AFL, NFL and WFL?

If you come up with the answers turn them into the Batt notice box in the Reed McDonald Services Building Room 216. We will publish your name if you give the correct answer. This will become a daily feature of the Batt with one question per day.

Aggie game near sellout

AUSTIN, Tex. (AP)—It appears the Texas-Texas A&M Southwest Conference football clash the day after Thanksgiving will be a sellout.

Ticket manager Richard Boldt said Wednesday Texas is down to its last 1,000 tickets and "if the Aggies sell all of theirs it will be sold out."

The game will be nationally televised. Memorial Stadium seats 77,500 without bleachers.

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