

The puck stops here for many local sports fans

By Travis Hudson
Sports Junkie

The other day, I noticed one of my daily rituals had lost a bit of its luster, and had taken on a bitter aftertaste.

Twenty-four hours of sport coverage does not stop me from daily SportsCenter viewing, often a morning and evening screening. However, recently, a disturbance in my Sports Force, a disorder in my

Fanatic atmosphere, has me feeling uneasy.

I've pretty much narrowed my television viewing to football all weekend, Jeopardy and SportsCenter, and until recently I had really been enjoying endless sports highlights. An exciting NBA Finals, a great NCAA Tournament, Tiger getting back in the swing of things (apologies for the bad pun, and any to follow), football, baseball. I've enjoyed the past sports year greatly.

Then it dawned on me, smacked me right in the face. The disturbance actually happened a few weeks ago when hockey made its

ugly reappearance on all of my sports highlights. The NHL had been gone so long I had forgotten its existence, and carried along with a new zest for the world of sports around me. Very happily I might add. Then out of their frozen caves, the stick wielding criminals made their way back onto ice rinks around the nation. At least I get my bathroom breaks back during the down period of SportsCenter, which I like to call "hockey highlights."

Before I get too many emails, let me explain. I am from San Diego, born, raised, haven't left. The closest to hockey I've been is having the San Diego Gulls dance team in the back of my truck for a great photo opportunity. Other than that, hockey has about as much meaning to me as trigonometry. San Diego isn't exactly a city with rich sports tradition, and hockey just might rank last on the list.

My argument with hockey fans is simple: violence is a huge factor in your viewing of the sport. Its NASCAR on ice, everyone watches to see the wrecks, known here as fights. There is a reason, hockey fan, that the fights are allowed to continue, unlike in every other sport this side of boxing. Without the fights, people leave at half-time of the the lopsided 1-0 victory for whichever team is skilled enough to shoot a tiny puck past a guy protecting a goal with more padding on than a underdeveloped high school girl. Oh wait, there isn't a half-time. I meant the

interlude of time between the 5 or 7 periods for each game. Whatever happened to even numbers, eh?

I am no different. It humors me to catch a glimpse of a "highlight" of two grown men on ice skates, attempting to throw fists at each other's face, while trying to pull the other guy's sweater over his head. I am watching if women in the audience are being severely injured by a stray puck, I'm not looking to see who scored the only goal in a typical 1-0 game. When it comes to hockey, I am the rubber-necker that I am when I watch NASCAR segments.

And stop pimping the new shoot-out gimmick added to the league. The reason there is a shoot-out to begin with is because there is a need for one when all of the games end in a 0-0 tie. Now hockey is not the only game guilty of this. I dream of a day where tie is not a word used to describe any sporting event. Leave it all on the field takes on a whole new meaning.

I predict that anyone reading this article can name more NFL, MLB or badminton players than hockey players (other than the retired guys). Name the first African-American in the NHL. I'm sure Lord Stanley could. By the way, he's the man the players dishonor each year by filling his trophy with alcohol and urine, while taking it on a tour each year so every degenerate fan can put their grubby paws on it. Kick save, and a beauty!

S
T
R
E
E
T
S

Lonnie Ludevigson Massage Therapy

Enjoy the path to health!

I specialize in deep Swedish massage and have 14 years experience.

www.SanDiegoMasseur.com

2
for the price of
1

When you receive a massage from Lonnie. (\$150 Value)
The massages must be given to both people at the same location.

OR

Receive **\$50** off your first appointment.
(New clients only.)

Call (619) 298-2863

FREE massage class, with your 1st massage (Value \$40),

when you receive a massage from one of our therapists.

We can have someone at your door, with short notice.

(New clients only.)

Call (619) 298-2863

We are always hiring quality Massage Therapists

Graphic Design Web Design/Hosting

LAST MINUTE PRODUCTIONS

Logos/Corporate Imaging New Ideas

Our experience and effort give you the same great results every time, whether a well planned affair, or, as the name says, a Last Minute Production. Let our network of knowledge go to work for you!



Travis Hudson
619.384.8048
digihead@digihead.biz

in association with:
www.tkdd.com

TK DESIGN & DEVELOPMENT

info@tk-dd.com

Sun-Times graphix/artwork provided by Last Minute Productions

VIVRON
COMPUTER
CONSULTING

Your Technology Department

Virus/spyware
removal

Service
Contracts

Wired/Wireless
Networking

New computer
installs

Consulting

Troubleshooting

Service for ALL computer makes/models

Call **619-398-8393** For Service