

TRASH TALK: DEAD ON THE FIELD

I didn't think anyone would miss *my* Trash Talk, but lo and behold, someone actually did.

Yeah, I'm surprised, too, because I'm not a sportser whether on a field or in the woods or on the water.

I do take some sick pleasure in sportsers' pain, though.

Don't tell my kid but I laughed my butt off when they complained in all caps it was COLD in the woods during their week of deer hunting.

You wanted this, kid. You knew going into the woods it's cold, the hours are long, and venison is not a sure thing. You really have to enjoy nature and solitude.

The stories that come out of these hunting trips will last for years, though, and they'll be buffed up and hauled out over every family gathering. They'll last far longer than the venison sausage exchanged for a week's worth of dogsitting.

Can't wait to hear the tales during our next family gathering during the holiday season.

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Today was the first Fédération Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) World Cup match. Ecuador met host Qatar and kicked their asses 2-0.

It's the least that could happen after so many workers died building Qatar's field, stadium, and other amenities for its participation in and hosting of FIFA's World Cup.

Someone calculated the estimated number of hours of play expected in this World Cup series against the total number of workers' deaths since Qatar was awarded this series in 2010, arriving at a figure of one dead worker for

every 64 minutes of play.

Nobody needs futbol that badly.

FIFA's president also set the tone for this series with an hour-long rant:

FIFA President Gianni Infantino's extraordinary tirade against Western critics of the controversial tournament in an explosive hour-long monologue is still making headlines around the world. Human rights groups described it as "crass" and an "insult" to migrant workers.

Infantino, the boss of world soccer's governing body, looked on glumly as he addressed hundreds of journalists in Doha, Qatar, Saturday, and started the news conference with a near hour-long speech, during which he accused Western critics of hypocrisy and racism.

Sure, sure...just because the colonialist west built itself on the backs of enslaved people and occupied indigenous lands, they're not entitled to grow the fuck up and demand better especially from a sport which has been ridiculously corrupt?

The topper: no beer allowed because it's a Muslim country and alcohol is forbidden.

I get it, your country, your rules, but those dead workers deserved better. The least they merit is a memorial toast if you're in reach of alcohol while committing to a global standard for workers' safety.

It wasn't just alcohol but kosher food which was banned. Not exactly welcoming to all the people of the Middle East.

I'm not looking forward to the rest of this series.

Wonder how Twitter handled the match; I have no idea because I haven't been over there. Probably

not badly given the largest number of Twitter users are in the U.S. and Japan.

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Speaking of Twitter, was Kyrie Irving ever suspended or banned from social media platforms?

I see he's apologizing now for his bullshit anti-Semitic speech. Wonder if that's about the National Basketball Association's 8-game suspension alone, or if it's about Irving's access to media.

The Brooklyn Nets guard has been cleared to play and will start Sunday night against the Memphis Grizzlies. It will mark his first game since he was suspended Nov. 3 for "harmful impact of his conduct" relating to social media posts around a book and movie that contained antisemitic ideas.

With Twitter's Musk relying on a poll outcome manufactured by the trolls/bots he derided, Twitter's allowed both Trump and Kanye West back on and both committed their share of hate speech.

And look, there he is on Twitter, no mention of his hate speech, though.

Which means it's not Twitter access spurring Irving to offer his questionable mea culpa.

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What the actual. Detroit's kitties won their third straight game today, this time over the New York Giants with a final score of 31-18 at the Giants' field.

Jamaal Williams scored three touchdowns for the Lions.

Anything is possible, huh?

Bmaz wondered earlier in the week where Buffalo was going to play if at all given the record-breaking snow storm expected which was supposed

to drop six feet of snow.

Since the Lions were in Giants' Meadowlands MetLife stadium in New Jersey, the Buffalo Bills played in Detroit's covered Ford Field stadium, located less than a three-hour drive from Cleveland.

Detroit was on the wrong side of a Great Lake for the weather system which dropped snow on the west side of Michigan and New York state – conveniently for Buffalo, since the team won 31-23 over the Cleveland Browns.

Looks like it was a good time even if it wasn't at home.

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This post's title "Dead on the Field" is derived from a riddle:

Dead on the field lie ten soldiers in white, felled by three eyes, black as night.

Offer your solution to this riddle below in comments.

Treat this as an open thread.