

TRASH TALK: HOT JANUARY IN THE D

[NB: note the byline, thanks. /~Rayne]

Though 25F and cloudy in the D, it's hot today where Detroit Lions' fans are stoked out of their gourds because their beloved Kitties won their first NFL's playoff game last week and are scheduled to play their second at 3:00 p.m. this afternoon on their own turf.

Michigan newspapers are loaded with helpful pointers about where to eat and drink with one paper in particular offering the recipe for a Honolulu Blue Kool-Aid cocktail, matching the color of the Lions' uniform. Absolut Citron and blue curacao? I'm game, I'd try it.

Of course there's the usual bad mouthing about Detroit. Can't let the Motor City and the Arsenal of Democracy have anything good without a healthy slap, right, WaPo? Let's not allow Detroiters to have a rare moment of unbridled happiness without picking at all the wounds.

At least WaPo had to get a lot closer to ensure there was a forced both-sides. Ruin porn on which major newspapers have feasted for the last 10-20 years is a lot more difficult to come by these days in the D. One only needs to look at the Michigan Central Station as an example of restoration and innovation replacing one of media's favorite ruins.

Tampa Bay Buccaneers meet the Detroit Lions at 3:00 p.m. in the D.

Kansas City Chiefs meet the Bills at 6:30 p.m. in Buffalo.

Yesterday the San Francisco 49ers won at home over the Green Bay Packers 24-21.

The Baltimore Ravens likewise won at home over the Texas Longhorns, 34-10.

Let's see if home field advantage likewise helps

the Kitties today.

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Speaking of the KC Chiefs, some stalkery dude tried to break into Taylor Swift's place in TriBeca; he'd been skulking around her place for weeks trying to see her. Swift is still dating the Chief's tight end Travis Kelce which should make the Chiefs' game in Buffalo more amusing due to the extra star power in the audience.

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In football – the other football – racist fans have gotten completely out of hand. FIFA's president Gianni Infantino wants to crack down on the abusive behavior asking teams to forfeit if their fans are disruptively racist.

“The events that took place in Udine and Sheffield on Saturday are totally abhorrent and completely unacceptable,” Infantino added. “The players affected by Saturday's events have my undivided support. Fifa and football shows full solidarity to victims of racism and any form of discrimination.

“Once and for all: No to racism! No to any form of discrimination!” the head of world football's governing body added. “We need ALL the relevant stakeholders to take action, starting with education in schools so that future generations understand that this is not part of football or society.”

Yeah. That. Ditto.

Infantino's demand comes after racist incidents during Coventry City FC at Sheffield FC on January 17 and AC Milan FC at Udinese FC on January 20. Both incidents were aimed at Black players – Coventry's midfielder Kasey Palmer and AC Milan's goalkeeper Mike Maignan – with the latter walking off the pitch at one point in protest.

It's not a good look for FIFA when these incidents happened within days of each other and in different countries in and out of the EU.

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Damn it. I just realized I made a mistake. My spouse and I agreed I'd cook dinner yesterday and he'd bring home fried chicken for dinner today.

Betting with the Lions' game he's ensconced at his favorite watering hole with his friends right now after a couple hours in the office, and getting fried chicken tonight will be a nightmare since so many Michiganders will be ordering takeout to watch the game.

Looks like it's leftovers tonight.

Treat this like an open thread.