

STEEL CITY CONNECTION

1999 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWAL

Membership Benefits

- All Steeler games and many Pirate and Penguin games on large screen TV.
- 8-10 issues of **The Black and Gold News** each year.
- Weekly and monthly raffle prizes during the NFL season.
- Guest appearances by current and former Steeler, Pirate and Penguin players.
- Socialize with other Black and Gold fans.
- Other surprise benefits throughout the year.

Information

East Henrico
West Henrico

Viewing Location

MULLIGAN'S SPORTS GRILLE
8006 W. Broad St.
346-8686
Contact: Matt Hurley

Mailing Address

STEEL CITY CONNECTION
8300 RECREATION ROAD
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA 23231

Annual Membership Fees

New Memberships.....\$30.00

Family Renewals.....\$20.00

Single Member Renewals.....\$15.00

-----DETACH HERE-----

Name(s) _____

Mailing Address _____

Home Telephone _____ Children's Name(s) _____

Hobbies _____ Hometown _____ Occupation _____

Check One: ☐ New Member ☐ Family Membership Renewal ☐ Single Membership Renewal

Birthday(s) _____ Other Special Dates _____

BLACK & GOLD NEWS

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE STEEL CITY CONNECTION

RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

APRIL, 1999

Smurf And Turf

Steelers' Draft At A Glance

The Steelers had eleven picks in this year's NFL draft. The only team with more were the Cleveland Browns. In one respect, they went from one extreme to the other. They used their first round pick to take Troy Edwards, at 5' 9," 192 lbs., the smallest receiver available in the draft. A *smurf*. He is, as one cynic observed, "Only an inch or two taller than Myron Cope." Then, with their second pick in the third round, they grabbed *the turf*. All of it. At almost 6' 8" and 322 lbs., offensive tackle Kris Farris is probably the tallest player in team history. Did they fill some needs with their picks? Probably. Did they get the players who will help them improve over last year's 7-9 disappointment? Maybe.

Troy Edwards (First round, 13th overall) 5-9½, 192. WR, Louisiana Tech. Set NCAA career record with 50 TD's, second with 280 receptions and third with 4,352 yards. Caught 140 passes last year including 21 against *Nebraska*.

Scott Shields (Second round, 59th overall) 6-4, 225. Safety from Weber State. Runs a 4.5 40, which is as fast as Troy Edwards. Big and fast. Hard hitter and powerful.

Joey Porter (Third round, 73rd overall) 6-2½, 240. OLB, Colorado State. Played defensive end his last two years in college but will return to OLB for the Steelers. Ranked third in NCAA with 15 sacks last season.

Kris Farris (Third round, 74th overall) 6-7 ¾, 322, OT, UCLA. Won Outland Trophy as the NCAA's best lineman. Started 35 games at UCLA.

Amos Zereoue (Third round, 95th overall) 5-7½, 203. RB, West Virginia. Rushed for 1,430 yards and 13 TD's last year. Bench-presses almost 500 pounds, squats 645 and jumps 40 inches off the floor standing still.

Aaron Smith (Fourth round, 109th overall) 6-5½, 280. DE, Northern Colorado. Set school record with 44 career sacks.

Jerame Tuman (Fifth round, 136th overall) 6-3½, 240. TE, Michigan. Caught 27 passes for 247 yards last year.

Malcolm Johnson (Fifth round, 166th overall) 6-4½, 218. WR, Notre Dame. Runs a 4.7 40. Caught 43 last year.

Antonio Dingle (Seventh round, 214th overall) 6-1½, 315. DT, Virginia. Can he replace Oliver Gibson?

Chad Kelsay (Seventh round, 219th overall) 6-2½, 252. LB, Nebraska. Had five sacks last season.

Kris Brown (Seventh round, 228th overall) 5-11, 204. PK, Nebraska. Norm Johnson's heir apparent.

Golf Tournament Rolling

We are very excited that plans for the inaugural Steel City Connection/Childrens' Hospital Golf Classic are well under way. We set a goal of signing up a minimum of 72 golfers and, only a few weeks after the initial wave of mailings went out, six Richmond-area organizations totaling 24 golfers and four individuals so far have responded positively and have made reservations for the event. Those organizations and the number of golfers they are sending are as follows:

Strickland Machine Corporation (4)

Elliot Investors Group (4)

Ernst and Young (4)

Mulligan's Sports Grille (4)

Richmond Childrens' Hospital (4)

Lowe, Brockenbrough & Company, Inc. (4)

Former Pittsburgh Steelers (4)

The SCC-CH Golf Classic will take place on Monday, June 14th at the Crossings Golf Club. Even though plans are going very well and we still have six weeks, we still need 44 more golfers. Companies and individual golfers are being offered five different package options. Teams will be in foresomes and will play "Captain's Choice." Extra activities will include a Gambling Hole; Closest to the Pin; Hole-in-One Prize; Longest Drive; Straightest Drive; Pro Challenge; Mulligan Sales and a raffle.

Tournament Director Walt Vinoski and his committee have all worked diligently to get the Golf Classic this far. Any SCC member who wants to play or who can assist Walt in obtaining corporate sponsorships can do so by contacting him at _____ or Paul & Rosemary Mary at _____

Baltimore Trip

Those of you who went with us last year to Baltimore for the Steelers/Ravens game remember what a great weekend we had! Even though game tickets aren't officially available yet, we've made arrangements with the same tour company for another trip this year, Saturday, Sept. 18th and Sunday, Sept. 19th. Cost is \$149 per person. For early reservations, call Paul & Rosemary at _____

Member News

April Birthdays: Linda Garren (4/2); Eileen Verostic (4/3); Chris Castanet (4/4); Jeff Wenzig (4/4); Daniel Rothrock (4/7); Billy Mayo (4/8); Samantha Castanet (4/18); Chris Looker (4/19); Jim Woodside (4/21); Dave Snyder (4/23).

Penguins Corner

NHL ATLANTIC DIVISION (Final Standings - April 19, 1999)

| | <u>W</u> | <u>L</u> | <u>T</u> | <u>Pts</u> | <u>GF</u> | <u>GA</u> |
|-------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|------------|------------|
| New Jersey | 47 | 24 | 11 | 105 | 248 | 197 |
| Philadelphia | 37 | 26 | 19 | 93 | 231 | 196 |
| Pittsburgh | 38 | 30 | 14 | 90 | 242 | 225 |
| N.Y. Rangers | 33 | 38 | 11 | 77 | 217 | 227 |
| N.Y. Islanders | 24 | 48 | 10 | 58 | 194 | 244 |

PENGUINS SCORING (Final Stats - Through April 18, 1999)

| <u>Player</u> | <u>GP</u> | <u>G</u> | <u>A</u> | <u>Pts</u> | <u>+/-</u> | <u>PIM</u> | <u>PP</u> |
|-----------------|-----------|----------|----------|------------|------------|------------|-----------|
| Jagr | 81 | 44 | 83 | 127 | 17 | 66 | 9 |
| Straka | 80 | 35 | 47 | 82 | 12 | 26 | 5 |
| Titov | 72 | 11 | 45 | 56 | 18 | 34 | 3 |
| Kovalev (Pitt.) | 63 | 20 | 26 | 46 | 8 | 35 | 5 |
| (NYR) | 14 | 3 | 4 | 7 | -6 | 12 | 1 |
| Lang | 72 | 21 | 23 | 44 | -10 | 24 | 7 |
| Miller | 77 | 19 | 23 | 42 | -1 | 20 | 1 |
| Hrdina | 82 | 13 | 29 | 42 | -2 | 40 | 3 |
| Hatcher | 66 | 11 | 27 | 38 | 11 | 24 | 4 |
| Brown | 58 | 13 | 11 | 24 | -16 | 16 | 9 |
| Werenka | 81 | 6 | 18 | 24 | 18 | 98 | 1 |
| Slegr | 63 | 3 | 21 | 24 | 17 | 88 | 1 |
| Barnaby (Pitt.) | 18 | 2 | 2 | 4 | -10 | 34 | 1 |
| (Buff) | 44 | 4 | 14 | 18 | -2 | 148 | 0 |
| Morozov | 67 | 9 | 10 | 19 | 5 | 14 | 0 |
| Dollas | 71 | 2 | 8 | 10 | -4 | 60 | 0 |
| Kesa | 67 | 2 | 8 | 10 | -9 | 27 | 0 |
| Moran | 62 | 4 | 5 | 9 | 3 | 37 | 0 |
| Galanov | 51 | 4 | 3 | 7 | -8 | 14 | 2 |
| Serowik | 27 | 0 | 6 | 6 | -4 | 16 | 0 |
| Kasparitis | 48 | 1 | 4 | 5 | 11 | 70 | 0 |
| Barrasso | 43 | 0 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 20 | 0 |
| Sonnenberg | 44 | 1 | 1 | 2 | -2 | 19 | 0 |
| Lebeau | 9 | 1 | 0 | 1 | -2 | 2 | 0 |
| Andrusak | 7 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 4 | 0 |
| Ignatjev | 12 | 0 | 1 | 1 | -2 | 6 | 0 |
| Bonin | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | -2 | 0 | 0 |
| Butenschon | 17 | 0 | 0 | 0 | -8 | 6 | 0 |
| Aubin | 17 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Savoia | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | -1 | 0 | 0 |
| Skrbek (Pitt.) | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| (Buff) | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Skudra | 37 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 |
| Wilkinson | 24 | 0 | 0 | 0 | -3 | 22 | 0 |
| Wright | 63 | 0 | 0 | 0 | -2 | 90 | 0 |

PENGUINS GOAL-TENDING

| <u>Player</u> | <u>Min</u> | <u>GAA</u> | <u>W-L-T</u> | <u>SHO</u> | <u>SA</u> | <u>SV%</u> |
|---------------|------------|------------|--------------|------------|-----------|------------|
| Aubin | 775 | 2.82 | 2-4-3 | 0 | 830 | .940 |
| Barrasso | 2,307 | 2.55 | 19-16-3 | 4 | 993 | .901 |
| Skudra | 1,899 | 2.81 | 15-11-5 | 3 | 822 | .892 |

Congratulations must go out to Pens' captain Jaromir Jagr, who won his third NHL scoring title in five seasons, and second straight. Jagr is the best player in the NHL and has made his linemates better players. Kip Miller's 19 goals and 42 points; rookie Jan Hrdina's 13 goals and 42 points; and Martin Straka's career year 35 goals and 83 points.

Steeler Moves

The Steelers solved a big problem on the offensive line by signing tackle Wayne Gandy to a four-year, \$14 million contract, including a signing bonus of \$3.5 million. They spent weeks courting Gandy, who will replace Will Wolford at left tackle. Gandy started the Rams' last 64 games but has never played in the playoffs, one reason he signed with the Steelers.

But the Boyz developed another problem when right tackle Justin Strzelczyk underwent his second knee operation in less than a year after he reinjured the right knee ligament he tore last October. Strzelczyk is likely out for the year and the Steelers could have a tough decision to make. Their choices include (1) cutting him outright, (2) agreeing on an injury settlement with him and then releasing him, (3) keeping him on the physically unable to perform list and paying him his full salary of \$1.5 million or (4) signing him to an extended contract and reducing his salary cap number this year.

University of South Carolina standout Anthony Wright joined the Steelers as their fourth quarterback. Wright signed a free agent contract. He was not drafted, partly because of a traumatic knee injury that ruined his junior season in 1997 and also because the Gamecocks suffered through a 1-10 season in 1998. Wright, 6-2 but only 195, had thrown 18 TD's and only five interceptions by the seventh game of 1997 when he was cut down and snapped knee ligaments. He returned for his senior season and showed no problems with his knee. The Steelers believe he has enough talent to compete for a spot on the roster and insist they didn't sign him only to serve as an extra throwing arm in training camp.

Veteran long-snapper Mark Rodenhauser has been released. Rodenhauser, an 11-year NFL veteran, signed as a free agent with the Steelers prior to the 1998 season.

Anthony Brown, who was a backup with the Bengals the past four seasons, signed a two-year contract that will pay him the minimum wage of \$400,000 in 1999. With Strzelczyk probably out for the year, Brown, 6-5 and 315, will get every opportunity to start at right tackle and will compete for the job with Chris Conrad and rookie Kris Farris. His signing will also allow the Steelers to cut Jamain Stephens after June 1st.

The Steelers plugged one hole when they signed free agent safety Travis Davis to a three-year contract. Davis, who was a starter at Jacksonville until he lost that role to Donovan Darius, will replace the departed Darren Perry. Davis is 6 feet, 208 pounds and runs the 40 in 4.45 seconds.

When the Steelers drafted Nebraska kicker Kris Brown with their final pick in the seventh round, they also said goodbye to Norm Johnson. Director of football operations Tom Donahoe said it's "very unlikely" they will re-sign Johnson. The Steelers apparently offered Johnson a contract of the NFL \$400,000 minimum plus incentives but he wanted \$450,000 and turned them down. After the draft, they signed a second college kicker as a free agent — Matt Davenport of Wisconsin. Johnson acknowledged that his time with the Steelers is over. "They paid me at the bottom of any veteran kicker the past few years," Johnson said. "For them to snub me when we were \$50,000 apart, that hurts."

Paul Mary

Time on Penguins' Side?

The biggest obstacle the Penguins face in the coming weeks is not the New Jersey Devils and the NHL playoffs. It is, in fact, Father Time himself and time may be running out. The Penguins' bankruptcy case has been dragging on at a snail's pace since last October. The slow proceedings have made, not only the National Hockey League but also U.S. Bankruptcy Judge Bernard Markovitz, a tad weary. As a result, the NHL said on April 23rd that the franchise is in danger of being dissolved if a reorganization plan is not in place by May 31st and Markovitz is siding with the league. The NHL did not formally ask the court for permission to fold the Pens and is apparently supporting the reorganization plan submitted by Mario Lemieux.

The NHL wants the Pens' situation settled soon so it can begin formulating the 1999-2000 schedule and, if a reorganization plan is accepted, so the Pens can make payroll decisions and begin selling tickets. The NHL likes Mario's ownership bid but has concerns about potentially optimistic revenue projections (\$8 million profit next year when the Penguins expect to lose \$10 million this year) and provisions that call for Lemieux to be repaid most of the \$32 million he is owed in deferred payments. Full repayment is unusual in bankruptcy cases. Another stumbling block to the settlement is renegotiating a more favorable lease to replace the \$7 million annual rent (the NHL's highest) the Pens currently pay for the Civic Arena (the NHL's oldest)

Lemieux has raised \$50 million to operate the team and pay off creditors. Current Penguins' co-owner Roger Marino has said he will not contest Mario's reorganization plan and is apparently unwilling to devote any more time or money into the Pens since investing \$42 million two years ago.

Pittsburgh is a great hockey town and deserves better than this. Let's hope for the best between now and May 31st.

+ + +

Daniel Mauser was a 15-year-old sophomore at Columbine High School and was one of the 13 killed by the two teenage assassins. Daniel's father, Tom Mauser, is a native of Finleyville, Pa. and a graduate of Ringgold High School. Tom later earned a graduate degree from Pitt. He landed a job in Colorado, where he got married and where Daniel was born. Daniel was described as a "quiet gentleman" and straight-A student. He also ran cross-country, was a member of the debate team and had recently returned from a two-week trip to Paris with his French club.

+ + +

Having lived in both Pittsburgh and Tampa before coming to Richmond, I have yet to fully appreciate the efforts of our traffic reporters. Do they know what *real traffic* is? Consider what motorists in Pittsburgh are preparing to go through. On April 29, PennDOT will close the connector between the Fort Pitt Bridge and the Fort Duquesne Bridge. The work will last three months and is expected to cause huge traffic disruptions. Adding to the mess are other major projects at Routes 8 and 28; Route 51 South; and the Parkway East. After this, there will be four more years of similar work, highlighted in 2002 and 2003, when one side of the Fort Pitt Tunnels and one deck of the Fort Pitt Bridge will be closed each year.

A Poem for Moms & Dads

Now I lay me down to sleep,
I pray my sanity to keep.
For if some peace I do not find,
I'm pretty sure I'll lose my mind.

I pray I'll find a little quiet,
Far from the daily family riot.
May I lay back....not have to think
About what they're stuffing down the sink,
Or who they're with or where they're at,
And what they're doing to the cat.

I pray for time all to myself,
(Did something just fall off a shelf?)

To cuddle in my nice soft bed,
(Oh, no, another goldfish....dead!)

Some silent moments, for goodness sake.
(Did I just hear a window break?)

And that I need not cook or clean....
(Well heck, I've got the right to dream.)

Yes, now I lay me down to sleep,
I pray my wits about me keep.
But as I look around I know,
I must have lost them long ago!

Rooney Wants to Give Ex-Steelers Retirements

Do you remember when Joe Montana went back to San Francisco to retire a '49er after finishing his career in Kansas City? Well, Dan Rooney wants to give former Steeler greats a chance to retire as Steelers. Because of free agency, players rarely play for only one team for their entire careers. Terry Bradshaw-Joe Greene-Jack Ham-John Stallworth-Lynn Swann-Rocky Bleier-type retirements just aren't seen that much anymore. In fact, just a bit of trivia if you will....the last long-time Steeler who actually retired a Steeler was Bryan Hinkle in 1994.

Even though most of his long-time modern players are finishing their careers elsewhere, Rooney stated he would welcome many of them to return to Pittsburgh to make their retirement announcements. He specifically mentioned he would be willing to re-sign Greg Lloyd and Rod Woodson for a day at the end of their careers so they could retire in a Steeler uniform. Woodson has said that he would like to retire as a Steeler the way Montana retired a '49er. Woodson left the Steelers as a free agent after the 1996 season, played for a year in San Francisco and is currently a starting cornerback for the Baltimore Ravens. (By the way, Woodson is included with Steeler greats from the past in a brochure that is helping the Steelers sell personal seat licenses for in their new stadium.) Lloyd is currently unemployed. After the Steelers released him last June, he signed with the Carolina Panthers. He's currently a free agent who's not attracting much interest among NFL teams. "I look upon those guys as Steelers and good people," Rooney said. It was also mentioned that Jerry Olsavsky could be another candidate to be honored in this way.

The Steel City Connection

CELEBRATING ITS TENTH ANNIVERSARY

OFFICERS

| | |
|--------------------|------------------------------|
| Paul Mary | President, Newsletter Editor |
| Richard Golob | Vice President |
| Carole Mitas | Secretary |
| Rosemary Mary | Interim Treasurer |
| Dale Jordan | Merchandizing |
| Michele Andolina | Marketing and Advertising |
| Todd McCandless | Game Official |
| Rosemary Mary | Game Official |
| Daniel Isbell, Jr. | Game Official |

MAILING ADDRESS AND INFORMATION

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VISIT OUR WEB SITE VIA THIS URL:

pc-wagner.syrres.com/s155.htm

VIEWING LOCATION

Mulligan's Sports Grille
8006 W. Broad Street
Richmond, Virginia
Phone: (804) 346-8686
Contact: Matt Hurley

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES

- \$30 - New Membership (family or single)
- \$20 - Family Membership Renewal
- \$15 - Single Membership Renewal

LET US HEAR FROM YOU

The Steel City Connection welcomes anyone who wants to write an editorial for *The Black & Gold News*, place an ad or make an announcement for the general interest of the membership. To do so, mail or fax your editorial, announcement, letter or ad to Paul Mary at the above mailing address or send him an e-mail at PaulPirate@AOL.com.

The Steel City Connection is a member of:
The Pittsburgh Steelers Fan Club
300 Stadium Circle
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15212
(800) 334-4005

The Steel City Connection is a non-profit organization of Pittsburgh Steeler, Pirate and Penguin fans living in the Richmond area. We gather for game telecasts and sponsor bus trips for fun and fellowship. In addition, we make annual donations to:

Richmond Children's Hospital
2924 Brook Road
Richmond, Virginia 23220
(804) 228-5826 Contact: Ashley Ermer

News and Views

Trivia question: Scientists say *these what* are traveling at an average speed of 22 mph when they hit the ground? (Blue's clue.....the answer is *not* rednecks falling off of bar stools.)
Answer below......Former Steeler WR **JEFF GRAHAM** has signed a one-year deal with the San Diego Chargers.....The Pirates sold RHP **ELMER DESSENS** to an undisclosed Japanese League team.....The Colorado Rockies are starting the season with a \$60 million payroll, which should please new manager **JIM LEYLAND**.....A couple of Pirates traded away over the winter began the season on the disabled list with their new teams: **TONY WOMACK** (Diamondbacks) and **RICARDO RINCON** (Indians).....When the New York Yankees distributed their world championship rings on April 9th, among the recipients was **ROBERTO CLEMENTE, JR.** Roberto, Jr., now 33, works as a play-by-play announcer on Yankees' Spanish broadcasts on Fox Sports New York and Telemundo.....The Steelers have not drafted a Pro Bowl player since 1992.....Where's the "hill" at Strawberry Hill?.....Let's see if we can get this one right: the late **BOB PRINCE** just won the "Pride of the Pirates Award," and Pirates announcer **LANNY FRATTARE** just won the "Bob Prince Award" from the Catholic Youth Association of Pittsburgh.....The Steelers and Cleveland Browns will hold their first "Grudge Lunch" on May 10th at the Doubletree Hotel in downtown Pittsburgh. The other will be held May 17th in Cleveland. The new Browns proposed the luncheons with the Steelers to kick off their renewed rivalry.....The Steelers were really eyeballing WR's **DAVID BOSTON** of Ohio State and **TORRY HOLT** of North Carolina State but both were long gone by the 13th pick of the first round.....The New York Yankees sold two million tickets before their 1999 home opener.....When the Yankees evened their record at 1-1 with a win over Oakland in game two of the '99 season, Manager **DON ZIMMER** told reporters, "We needed this game bad.".....It looks like **Monday Night Football** is going back to its old 9:00 P.M. slot next fall.....The demotion of Pirate OF **JOSE GUILLEN** to AAA Nashville came only as a mild surprise.....The K-Mart store at **Century III Mall** recently burned to the ground in a spectacular fire.....With all the money the Steelers were putting on the table, we have to wonder why it took **WAYNE GANDY** all that time to sign. The Steelers courted him for weeks. Now that Gandy is *finally* on board, left tackle **WILL WOLFORD** has made his retirement official.....When the Bucs put RHP **FRANCISCO CORDOVA** on the disabled list, he joined an incredibly long list of major leaguers already there, a list that includes some high-powered names, most notably iron man **CAL RIPKEN**.....After Saints' coach **MIKE DITKA** traded all his draft picks to Washington to draft **RICKY WILLIAMS**, he packed up for the day and headed for the golf course. This reportedly miffed the Steelers' **TOM DONAHUE**. "Bill [Cowher] and I don't have tee times," snorted Donahue. "We figured we'd stay and make a couple more choices.".....It was justice that **JAROMIR JAGR** scored the game-winning goal in the Pen's 2-1 season finale win against the Rangers.....As ineffective as **JAMAIN STEPHENS** was at right tackle last year, **JASON STRZELCZCK**'s second knee surgery (he won't play in '99) could be another major problem for the Steelers' offensive line..... *Trivia answer:* Rain drops.

Steelers' Aptitude Test

Mark Madden is a sports writer for *The Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*. He wrote a column in the August 28th edition titled *Madden: Test your aptitude with the Steelers' SAT*. Excerpts from Mark's column are reprinted here because we thought you might enjoy it.

School days are upon us and local kids are busy studying for the SAT. I'm speaking, of course, about the Steelers' Aptitude Test. I certainly hope you didn't think I meant the Scholastic Aptitude Test, that silly thing that gets you into college and helps you plot your future. Scholastics over the Steelers? Please.

The Scholastic Aptitude Test, as noted, gets you admitted to a university. Big deal. The Steelers Aptitude Test, however, gets you admitted to the Three Rivers Stadium parking lot 12 hours before a big game. Now, that's Pittsburgh. Just ask Bill Cowher.

Here are several questions from the Steelers' Aptitude Test:

- (1) *According to Bill Cowher, what's the most fearsome sight an opponent can see at Three Rivers Stadium?*
 - (A) Jason Gildon standing over an injured quarterback after a sack.
 - (B) Troy Edwards standing over a beaten defensive back after a touchdown.
 - (C) Levon Kirkland standing over an unconscious running back after a big hit.
 - (D) Some drunk kneeling over a port-a-potty in the parking lot.
- (2) *Today's NFL has established itself as a high-scoring, big play-oriented brand of football. Given that, the Steelers should:*
 - (A) Grind it out on the ground and play tough Steelers defense.
 - (B) Grind it out on the ground and play tough Steelers defense.
 - (C) Grind it out on the ground and play tough Steelers defense.
 - (D) Can't you read? Grind it out on the ground and play tough Steelers defense, for God's sake.
- (3) *Last year, an irate fan threw beer in Kordell Stewart's face after a bad performance at Three Rivers Stadium. What would Terry Bradshaw have done under the same circumstances?*
 - (A) Left town and never come back.
 - (B) This is a trick question because Bradshaw never, ever had a bad game.
 - (C) Accepted responsibility for playing poorly, unlike Stewart last season.
 - (D) Opened his mouth.
- (4) *The NFL has a salary cap that mandates that each team pretty much has the same payroll. The Steelers have always spent right up to the limit of the salary cap. Given that, we can conclude that:*
 - (A) The Rooneys are cheap and I can't believe we're building them a new stadium.
 - (B) The Rooneys should have kept Leon Searcy, Chad Brown, Yancey Thigpen, Rod Woodson and every

other free agent the Steelers let go.

(C) The Steelers should sign Carl Pickens right this second.

(D) All of the above.

- (5) Math Question: *If a train leaves Pittsburgh for Philadelphia traveling 50 mph at precisely the same time Jamain Stephens begins a series of 40-yard sprints on the opening day of training camp, what/who will reach the intended destination first? Note: The train and Stephens will make an equal number of stops.*
- (6) *Offensive Coordinator Kevin Gilbride calls an 8-yard sideline pass on first down. Hines Ward runs the pattern short. Kordell Stewart is pressured because of poor pass blocking by Wayne Gandy. Stewart throws the ball so far over Ward's head, however, that Ward couldn't have caught it even if he had run the route properly. The ball is intercepted and returned for a touchdown. Bill Cowher yells at:*
 - (A) Gilbride, for not running on first down.
 - (B) Hines Ward.
 - (C) Kordell Stewart.
 - (D) Wayne Gandy.
 - (E) Josh Miller
- (7) *Select the most important person in Steelers' history:*
 - (A) Art Rooney, the loveable founder of the Steelers and one of the classiest men in the history of sports.
 - (B) Chuck Noll, the Hall-of-Fame coach who led the Steelers to four Super Bowl Titles.
 - (C) Terry Bradshaw, two-time Super Bowl MVP>
 - (D) Joe Greene, who redefined defensive line play and made that great Coke commercial.
 - (E) This year's third string quarterback.
- (8) *Select the most important moment in Steelers' history:*
 - (A) Franco Harris' Immaculate Reception (12/23/72).
 - (B) The Steelers' first Super Bowl win (1/12/75).
 - (C) The Steelers draft Joe Greene (1969).
 - (D) Art Rooney founds the franchise (7/8/33).
 - (E) This year's season opener in Cleveland (9/12/99).
- (9) Special Essay Section: *After Neil O'Donnell blew Super Bowl XXX singlehandedly for the Steelers, was subsequently playing for the lowly New York Jets and Cincinnati Bengals punishment enough for his sins? Or should he have been struck dead by a bolt of lightning immediately after the game? Keep answers to 100 words or less, footnoting religious and philosophical references as needed.*

- Answers:**
- (1) D
 - (2) D
 - (3) D (at the moment), C (in the locker room), A (later).
 - (4) E
 - (5) Stephens, providing his destination is the waiver wire.
 - (6) E
 - (7) E
 - (8) E
 - (9) Essay: O'Donnell should have been killed. Sources cited should be the biblical books of Myron, Bill and Tunch.

3) Last year, an irate fan threw a beer in Kordell Stewart's face after a bad performance at Three Rivers Stadium. What would Terry Bradshaw have done under the same circumstances? A) Left town and never come back. B) This is a trick question, because Bradshaw never, ever had a bad game. C) Accepted responsibility for playing poorly, unlike Stewart last season. D) Opened his mouth.

4) The NFL has a salary cap that mandates that each team pretty much has the same payroll. The Steelers have always spent right up to the limit of the salary cap. Given that, we can conclude that: A) The Rooneys are cheap, and I can't believe we're building them a new stadium. B) The Rooneys should have kept Leon Searcy, Chad Brown, Yancey Thigpen, Rod Woodson and every other free agent the Steelers let go. C) The Rooneys should sign Carl Pickens right this second. D) All of the above.

5) If all the Steelers died in a plane crash, but the replacement players were taught the Steelers' way of doing things by ex-Coach Chuck Noll and Hall-of-Famers like Franco Harris and Jack Ham, the Steelers would be Super Bowl contenders by: A) Next decade. B) Next season. C) Next Sunday. D) Lunchtime.

6) Select the most important person in Steelers' history: A) Art Rooney, the lovable founder of the Steelers and one of the classicst men in the history of sports. B) Chuck Noll, the Hall-of-Fame coach who led the Steelers to four Super Bowl titles. C) Terry Bradshaw, the two-time Super Bowl MVP. D) Joe Greene, who redefined defensive line play and made that great Coke commercial. E) This year's third-string quarterback.

7) Select the most important moment in Steelers history: A) Franco Harris' Immaculate Reception (Dec. 23, 1972). B) The Steelers' first Super Bowl win (Jan. 12, 1975). C) The Steelers draft Joe Greene in 1969. D) Art Rooney founds the franchise (July 8, 1933). E) This year's season opener at Cleveland.

8) If a train leaves Pittsburgh for Philadelphia traveling 50 mph at precisely the same time Jamain Stephens begins a series of 40 yard sprints on the opening day of training camp, what/who will reach the intended destination first? (Note: The train and Stephens will make an equal number of stops.)

9) Offensive coordinator Kevin Gilbride calls an 8-yard sideline pass on first down. Hines Ward runs the pattern short. Kordell Stewart is pressured because of poor pass blocking by Wayne Gandy. Stewart throws the ball so far over Ward's head, however, that Ward couldn't have caught it even if he'd run the route properly. The ball is intercepted and returned for a touchdown. Bill Cowher yells at: A) Gilbride for not running on first down. B) Ward. C) Stewart. D) Gandy. E) Josh Miller

and Kris Brown.

Special essay section: After Neil O'Donnell blew Super Bowl XXX singlehandedly for the Steelers, was subsequently playing for the lowly New York Jets and Cincinnati Bengals punishment enough for his sins? Or should he have been struck dead by a bolt of lightning immediately after the game? Keep answers to 100 words or less, footnoting religious and philosophical references as needed.

Answers: 1) D. 2) D. 3) D at the moment, C in the locker room, A later. 4) D. 5) D. 6) E. 7) E. 8) Stephens, providing his destination is the waiver wire. 9) E. Essay: O'Donnell should have been killed. Sources cited should be the biblical books of Myron, Bill and Tunch.

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08/28/99
08/28/99

PG News

08/28/99

Madden: Test your aptitude with the Steelers' SAT

Saturday, August 28, 1999

By Mark Madden

School days are upon us, and local kids are busy studying for the SAT. I'm speaking, of course, about the Steelers Aptitude Test. I certainly hope you didn't think I meant the Scholastic Aptitude Test, that silly thing that gets you into college and helps you plot your future. Scholastics over the Steelers? Please.

The Scholastic Aptitude Test, as noted, gets you admitted to a university. Big deal.

The Steelers Aptitude Test, however, gets you admitted to the Three Rivers Stadium parking lot 12 hours before a big game. Now that's Pittsburgh. Just ask Bill Cowher.

Even though the Steelers Aptitude Test is a secret document, one of my neighbor kids who secretly likes the Cleveland Browns stole a page from his and gave it to me. Despite this favor, I immediately called the Steelers Police. The kid was bound, gagged and blindfolded with Terrible Towels, then taken to Jack Lambert for re-education.

Here are several questions from the Steelers Aptitude Test:

1) According to Bill Cowher, what's the most fearsome sight an opponent can see at Three Rivers Stadium? A) Jason Gilden standing over an injured quarterback after a sack. B) Troy Edwards standing over a beaten defensive back after a touchdown. C) Levon Kirkland standing over an unconscious running back after a big hit. D) Some drunk kneeling over a port-a-potty in the parking lot.

2) Today's NFL has established itself as a high-scoring, big play-oriented brand of football. Given that, the Steelers should: A) Grind it out on the ground and play tough Steelers defense. B) Grind it out on the ground and play tough Steelers defense. C) Grind it out on the ground and play tough Steelers defense. D) Can't you read? Grind it out on the ground and play tough Steelers defense, for God's sake.

Steelers' Aptitude Test

Mark Madden is a sports writer for *The Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*. He wrote a column in the August 28th edition titled *Madden: Test your aptitude with the Steelers' SAT*. Excerpts from Mark's column are reprinted here because we thought you might enjoy it.

School days are upon us and local kids are busy studying for the SAT. I'm speaking, of course, about the Steelers' Aptitude Test.

Here are several questions from the Steelers' Aptitude Test:

- (1) *According to Bill Cowher, what's the most fearsome sight an opponent can see at Three Rivers Stadium?*
 - (A) Jason Gildon standing over an injured quarterback after a sack.
 - (B) Troy Edwards standing over a beaten defensive back after a touchdown.
 - (C) Levon Kirkland standing over an unconscious running back after a big hit.
 - (D) Some drunk kneeling over a port-a-potty in the parking lot.
- (2) *Today's NFL has established itself as a high-scoring, big play-oriented brand of football. Given that, the Steelers should:*
 - (A) Grind it out on the ground and play tough Steelers defense.
 - (B) Grind it out on the ground and play tough Steelers defense.
 - (C) Grind it out on the ground and play tough Steelers defense.
 - (D) Can't you read? Grind it out on the ground and play tough Steelers defense, for God's sake.
- (3) *Last year, an irate fan threw beer in Kordell Stewart's face after a bad performance at Three Rivers Stadium. What would Terry Bradshaw have done under the same circumstances?*
 - (A) Left town and never come back.
 - (B) This is a trick question because Bradshaw never, ever had a bad game.
 - (C) Accepted responsibility for playing poorly, unlike Stewart last season.
 - (D) Opened his mouth.
- (4) *The NFL has a salary cap that mandates that each team pretty much has the same payroll. The Steelers have always spent right up to the limit of the salary cap. Given that, we can conclude that:*
 - (A) The Rooneys are cheap and I can't believe we're building them a new stadium.
 - (B) The Rooneys should have kept Leon Searcy, Chad Brown, Yancey Thigpen, Rod Woodson and every other free agent the Steelers let go.
 - (C) The Steelers should sign Carl Pickens right this second.
 - (D) All of the above.
- (5) Math Question: *If a train leaves Pittsburgh for Philadelphia traveling 50 mph at precisely the same time Jamain Stephens begins a series of 40-yard sprints on the opening day of training camp, what/who will reach the intended destination first? Note: The train and Stephens will make an equal number of stops.*

- (6) *Offensive Coordinator Kevin Gilbride calls an 8-yard sideline pass on first down. Hines Ward runs the pattern short. Kordell Stewart is pressured because of poor pass blocking by Wayne Gandy. Stewart throws the ball so far over Ward's head, however, that Ward couldn't have caught it even if he had run the route properly. The ball is intercepted and returned for a touchdown. Bill Cowher yells at:*
 - (A) Gilbride, for not running on first down.
 - (B) Hines Ward.
 - (C) Kordell Stewart.
 - (D) Wayne Gandy.
 - (E) Josh Miller
- (7) *Select the most important person in Steelers' history:*
 - (A) Art Rooney, the loveable founder of the Steelers and one of the classiest men in the history of sports.
 - (B) Chuck Noll, the Hall-of-Fame coach who led the Steelers to four Super Bowl Titles.
 - (C) Terry Bradshaw, two-time Super Bowl MVP
 - (D) Joe Greene, who redefined defensive line play and made that great Coke commercial.
 - (E) This year's third string quarterback.
- (8) *Select the most important moment in Steelers' history:*
 - (A) Franco Harris' Immaculate Reception (12/23/72).
 - (B) The Steelers' first Super Bowl win (1/12/75).
 - (C) The Steelers draft Joe Greene (1969).
 - (D) Art Rooney founds the franchise (7/8/33).
 - (E) This year's season opener in Cleveland (9/12/99).
- (9) Special Essay Section: *After Neil O'Donnell blew Super Bowl XXX singlehandedly for the Steelers, was subsequently playing for the lowly New York Jets and Cincinnati Bengals punishment enough for his sins? Or should he have been struck dead by a bolt of lightning immediately after the game? Keep answers to 100 words or less, footnoting religious and philosophical references as needed.*

Answers: (1) D. (2) D. (3) D (at the moment), C (in the locker room), A (later). (4) E. (5) Stephens, providing his destination is the waiver wire. (6) E. (7) E. (8) E. (9) Essay: O'Donnell should have been killed. Sources cited should be the biblical books of Myron, Bill and Tunch.