

Kudos to grapplers

Written by Jim Metcalfe

Thursday, March 07, 2013 1:29 PM -

The 2012-13 OHSAW Wrestling State Tournament is come and gone.

Every year, it amazes me at how quickly and smoothly it seems to run and how much more competitive it seems to get year after year.

I know, the usual suspects: Lakewood St. Edward's in Division I and St. Paris Graham — with the Jordan legacy in full force — in Division II; always seem to do pretty well. But it seems as if more and more schools are sending athletes down to participate, especially in the smaller schools.

Just to even get there is an incredible achievement. Let's fact it; with the way these bodies get contorted — I am surprised more shoulders, elbows and other parts of the human body that weren't made to go THAT way don't get ripped out of their sockets — wrestling is not for the faint of heart and it takes a lot of guts to even be out there.

Kudos to Jefferson's trio of seniors that got there: Colin McConnahea, who finished seventh, Geoff Ketcham and Quinten Wessell; and St. John's senior Will Buettner.

They were all disappointed they couldn't do better and finish higher — unless you win, I'd imagine EVERY wrestler is somewhat disappointed — but you have to be at your ultimate best mentally AND physically; if you are even slightly off, those guys down there will make you pay.

Now that Baltimore Ravens QB Joe Flacco signed the NFL's richest contract, he will really feel the pressure.

After all, he will be paid more than the acknowledged top quarterbacks of this time: Aaron Rodgers, Tom Brady, Drew Brees, etc.

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Hey, Brady even took an extension less than the “market” in order to allow the Patriots to keep his personal “security blanket” in Wes Welker and make sure he has enough weapons to vie for Super Bowls until he’s 40.

There’s the rub: public perception is what this is all about: Brady will still get his moolah at some point.

The same thing with Flacco: he is an elite quarterback but he isn’t perceived that way.

He has had his moments where he would be fantastic and then have games where you scratch your head and wonder what was going through his thick head.

However, those are fewer and farther between.

This contract will mean that they can’t happen at all. If they don’t keep some of the other key parts of that offense, like Anquan Boldin, that may not be as easy as he thinks.

Fans aren’t going to cut him any slack: the potential argument that he doesn’t have the weapons around him won’t cut it because part of the reason is his big, fat contract.

“He should have done a “Tom Brady” and sacrificed his wallet for the team,” fans will utter in disgust.

There’s perception again.

Or imagine if he gets hurt — Ouch! The you-know-what will really hit the fan!

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For your own sake, Joe, don't get hurt! Or at least don't tell anyone about it, even if you have to tape it up and go back in there!

Say it ain't so, Joe(y).

Reds first baseman Joey Votto decided to play for Team Canada at the World Baseball Classic.

The traitor! I hope the Reds trade him for a 12-pack of beer, the bum!

Just kidding.

He played for them in 2009. How many other major-leaguers are playing for other countries, proving once again that baseball is a global sport?

Hey, International Olympic Committee — hint, hint, wink, nod — It belongs in the Olympics!!

The only thing that you do NOT want to see — especially as a Reds' fan — is for him to get hurt. Remember, he is coming off an injury and surgery to his left knee.
Go USA!!