

Brett Favre

Any questions?

After another game in which Brett Favre made the Packers again look foolish for opting to go with Aaron Rodgers at quarterback instead of the greybeard who wanted to continue to lead the team he built in the city that had become hapless before Favre arrived in 1993, the numbers four and zero were huge.

And, yes, Brett Favre (with Mike Holmgren) "made" Green Bay Tittletown once again and "made" them relevant in the eyes of the NFL once again.

Six days after this very critical Vikings-Packers game, the guy the Packers felt was dispensable after the 2007 season reached the age of four zero.

The Vikings victory improved their record to four and zero.

Brett Favre continues to play football because he's capable of still playing well at the NFL level and because he loves the game. He brings an enthusiasm to the game that has never been shown by a quarterback of his calibre. He does not embarrass the NFL with end zone celebrations intended for self-promotion.

Brett Favre is, and has for 17 seasons been, one of a kind.

Anyone who watched the Vikings-Packers matchup on Monday Night Football recently saw that he can still pass the ball with velocity and accuracy. That game was the most watched of any NFL game broadcast on ESPN. Or anything on cable.

Favre does not have veteran world class receivers but he has rookie Percy Harvin who is exceptional and Favre plays on the offensive side of the ball with the incomparable Adrian Peterson and his relief Chester Taylor - and has defensive stalwarts Jared Allen, Pat Williams, Kevin Williams and Antoine Winfield. Ryan Longwell is the reliable placement kicker.

When Adrian Peterson, the consensus best running back in the NFL, can rush for 55 yards on 25 carries and the Vikes still win, imagine how good the Vikings will be when both Peterson and Favre are "on" in the same game. Of the five remaining undefeated teams, only two compare favorably with the Vikings - the Indianapolis Colts and New Orleans Saints. The Broncos and Giants do not.

Not much of an endorsement for an education at LCCC

Remember now, it's not paranoia if they're really chasing you. So, maybe the president of LCCC is not paranoid. Maybe he is being chased.

The recent announcement that an LCCC board of trustees member had to resign so he could move to Laramie to find a job isn't a very good recruiting message for LCCC, is it? Laramie is less than half the population of Cheyenne and the guy couldn't find a job here? But could there?

What kind of recruiting message does that generate? "Come to Cheyenne. Attend LCCC. However, even our trustees can't find jobs in this town."

"Vini, Vedi, Vici." I came. I saw. I conquered, would be changed to "Vini, vedi, adii." I came, I saw, I went away.

What should students think? If one could convince voters he was capable enough to be a board of trustees member but can't find a job here, how will they?

As if Darrel Hammon isn't doing enough damage to the reputation of LCCC, having a trustee leave because he can't find work in the city of the community college has to be damaging to the school.

It's not like he's a dropout student.

What kind of job exists in smaller Laramie that can't be found in Cheyenne? The only thing over there that isn't here is the University. Oh, wait, Cheyenne has a miniature version of a real university. It's called LCCC.

Wyo Tech? Laramie has Iverson but Cheyenne has both the VA Hospital and that other one - what's its name - Cheyenne Regional Medical Center. Cheyenne has a military base with hundreds of civilian employees. The mill in Laramie has shut down so it can't be that. Both places have car dealers - maybe he didn't want to work for one in Cheyenne and trusts one in Laramie. Go figure. Whatever the reason, faith in LCCC is shaken.

Santa Fe wants your business

As I dutifully trailed along with my wife on San Francisco St. in Santa Fe, New Mexico, I began to pick up on a common theme as we passed (or she went into) store after store after store.

Consumers have become so accustomed to seeing "Keep Out" signs in retail store windows and on their doors and it took awhile to notice that the exclusive and expensive shops of Santa Fe were lacking something you see in most store windows in malls and stores around the nation.

Those Santa Fe stores offer expensive and delicate vases, pottery, rugs, sculptures, figurines, etc. Yet, virtually none of the stores (I saw but one in the 50-100 stores we passed or went into) had the offensive "NO FOOD, NO DRINKS ALLOWED IN OUR STORE."

Nothing says "Keep Out" like those signs.

Merchants in Santa Fe know that there is a trade-off between the occasional customer who might spill something in the store and the countless ones who don't.

To say that I am a poor shopper is like saying the Titanic hit a little ice. I hate shopping. I hate browsing. I hate looking. I hate having to tell salespeople I don't need their help. Sometimes I think the best "leave me alone" line would be "I have no money or credit cards."

When stores tell potential customers to choose between their food or drink and coming in the store, most will just walk past. It's like telling mothers with young children, "No children allowed." Kids will break more than adults will ever damage with food or drink.

So, Santa Fe merchants, selling products having values far in excess of anything you could find in Frontier Mall, encourage everyone to come into their store and they do it by not telling them to stay out.

One store did have a sign in their front window. That sign read: "SPARKLING FRESH RESTROOM INSIDE." Imagine that positive invitation instead of the typical "NO PUBLIC RESTROOM!" We went in and bought a gift for a friend.

Amtrak

To consider running Amtrak service through or near Cheyenne again must mean the federal government just can't find enough ways to burn through that stimulus money.



gallery out of the magnificent depot and use that space as though it were again a railroad depot. The gallery could be placed in a less valuable location - closer to the real Nelson Museum, say.

We've been there, done that. And Amtrak through Cheyenne will never be profitable.

Unless there's a federal subsidy for train service as there is for commercial airline service (Essential Air Service) that Cheyenne could somehow qualify for, as nice as it would be to have passenger train service even as close as Borie is not going to happen. Or, when pigs fly.

But, if the passenger service has to stand on its own, the only way to do that would be to charge \$1,500 for a ticket from Cheyenne to Salt Lake City.

We certainly could accommodate rail service ticketing and waiting at the old UP depot downtown. Move that picture

To argue with a straight face that Cheyenne could now support Amtrak service because northern Colorado has grown so much is insulting. To both Cheyenne and northern Colorado.

Colorado residents only come to Wyoming to use our parks, hunt our animals and fish our streams. They won't shop here for automobiles or furniture and they won't come up here to catch an Amtrak passenger train. They didn't when it was available not that long ago - a dozen or so years ago. Why would they now?

Amtrak would be nice. But the service has to be conditioned on not expecting it to be profitable through Wyoming. We just don't have the numbers.

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