

## Payroll cost per victory

Alex Rodriguez of the New York Yankees makes more per season than the entire 25 man roster of the Florida Marlins.

The Yankees had 89 victories during the 2008 MLB season, the Marlins had 84. Five more victories with nearly ten times the payroll. Not a good return.

Of the ten teams with the highest payrolls (\$102 - \$209 million), five made the play-offs. Of the ten teams with the lowest payrolls (\$22 - \$68 million), only the Devil Rays made the play-offs (the Twins tied with the White Sox at the end of the regular season but lost the play-in game). In the middle ten \*\*, two made the playoffs.

Team	Total Payroll ('08 victories)	Cost per victory
<del>Tampa Bay Devil Rays</del>	\$ 43,820,598 (97)	\$ 451,759
<del>Minnesota Twins</del>	\$ 62,182,767 (84)	\$ 740,271 *
<del>Los Angeles Angels</del>	\$119,216,333 (100)	\$1,192,163
Boston Red Sox	\$133,440,037 (95)	\$1,404,632
<del>Chicago White Sox</del>	\$121,152,667 (84)	\$1,442,294 *
* Played one extra "play-in" game, which the White Sox won		
<del>Milwaukee Brewers **</del>	\$ 81,004,167 (92)	\$ 880,480
Philadelphia Phillies **	\$ 98,269,881 (92)	\$1,068,151
<del>Chicago Cubs</del>	\$118,595,833 (97)	\$1,222,637
<del>Los Angeles Dodgers</del>	\$118,536,038 (84)	\$1,411,143
Colorado Rockies	\$ 66,655,500 (74)	\$ 900,750
New York Yankees	\$209,081,579 (89)	\$2,349,231
Florida Marlins	\$ 21,836,500 (84)	\$ 259,958

~~Line through~~ - gone by the end of the first round

Of the four teams playing in the League Championship Series, Tampa Bay has the next to lowest payroll, Boston has fourth highest payroll, Philadelphia has the 13th highest, and the Los Angeles Dodgers (before Manny Ramirez) had the eighth highest.

The three highest payroll teams (Yankees, Tigers and Mets) did not make the playoffs.

## UW football



There's no other way to put it: The UW 2008 football season is over.

The team has simply disintegrated.

Why? What happened?

Did Joe Glenn throwing one of "his team" of coaches over the side after a poor ending to 2007 destroy the unity of the remaining coaches? Did that action show "his guys" that the head coach was just another coach whose self-interest and self-preservation meant more than the cohesiveness of the coaches who had brought him such success at the University of Northern Colorado and Montana?

Two years ago, Bill Cockhill's offense was good. Last year, all of a sudden, it wasn't. Did Joe Glenn, in order to hold onto his own job for another year, dump a loyal coach who had made the move with Joe from Missoula to save himself?

How could Joe Glenn be so successful at smaller programs and appear headed to success at UW, then suddenly become so ineffective?

Certainly, the abandonment of his chosen quarterback didn't help. Karsten Sween had been at the helm for over a season when he found out that Joe was out looking for another quarterback. And after a season of the "double cadence" set, Sween shouldn't have had to learn anything new to retain his job. Joe's new hire to be offensive coordinator was from a failed program at Florida A&M. Doesn't UW have enough money in the athletic budget to hire winning assistants?

What now?

This is being written before the Utah game and no one gives UW a chance to defeat the No. 13 Utes. Then, former Top 25 team TCU hosts the Cowboys. The only game UW may go into as an even bet could be against San Diego State or UNLV. CSU is likely to be a favorite.

How can a team that has scored but 3 points in three conference games and 56 in their first six games, three against non-conference opponents and one against a lower division team, be a favorite against anyone? The wins have come by a one point margin over Ohio and three points over North Dakota State. North Dakota State is a terrific team in their class but they are not a D-1 program.

UW has another shellacking scheduled against Tennessee on November 8th.

After that game, they finish at UNLV and CSU (in Laramie). It is not inconceivable they will not win another game in 2008.

If the Cowboys finish 2-10 or 3-9, the lousy AD will have no choice but to make a change. UW has had Randy Welniak doing sideline reporting work this year. Why not give him a chance? The team cannot get much worse.

This is a shame. A successful coach like Joe Glenn just has not developed a consistently winning program at UW. Is it the fact that no player from UW can make it as a pro - or almost none so it's not attractive to play here? Or is it the program? Whatever, it has to change.

## City attorney

The recent walkout of the city attorney caused a bit of a stir, at least on the pages of the Wyoming Tribune-Eagle.

The local daily, aided and abetted by the local television station, attributed her abandonment of duties to a testy relationship with city councilman Pete Laybourn.

Blame was placed on Laybourn and neither questioned the professionalism of an attorney who had been on the city payroll for too long, suddenly and without notice walking off the job.

First, let's set the record straight: This attorney should never have been hired as assistant city attorney. Her private practice was in family law and her only attribute to become an attorney with the city was a personal and professional relationship with the then city attorney. When that boss left, she should never have been elevated into his job. She had demonstrated no ability, and had no prior legal experience, to qualify her for either job.

Second, everyone in the city building knew the city attorney was resigning - the date set was for the end of November. She did not leave under duress from a city councilman or the suggestion in the last Cheyenne Herald that she not be re-appointed by the next mayor.

Unlike her predecessor, she had a private practice she can return to - or resurrect. Her predecessor had always fed at the public trough and he had no client list. Also, perhaps unknown to the mayor, this recently defecting attorney continued to practice on the side while serving as the full-time city attorney.

Even the daily newspaper, always eager to assess fault to Pete Laybourn, suggested that the city attorney left after no real confrontation. She had provoked such confrontations in the past by refusing to refer to Robert's Rules of Order, which is the official guide the city is to use to conduct their business per City Code. She openly lied to members of the governing body by stating she had no copy in her possession at a meeting, then when told it was right in front of her, telling the gathered committee members that she "chose not to go there."

So, she was going to quit in late November but decided to walk off the job in early October. Why? What advantage might there be to her to storm out - the type behavior the WT-E and mayor have tried to link to Pete Laybourn, not the city attorney - rather than leave when she announced she intended to depart? And why "quit" in the middle of a meeting?

And, why couldn't the mayor, a person who has done so much for this unqualified and marginally competent attorney, talk her into staying until pending legal matters could be turned over to a successor in a professional manner?

Why, indeed.

It has the appearance of setting up litigation against the hand that fed her for too long. By quitting without notice, after so much has been written about Pete Laybourn's "harassment" of city employees, she can claim that she was driven away and that would enhance her chances for a successful harassment lawsuit. And, just as the mayor tried to help a former city employee who admitted to multiple felonies against the city, he will likely aid her cause, too.

If she had waited until her widely known date of separation, such a claim would have been much more dicey. If she left under her own terms, at her own pre-announced date, she could not then argue that she left because she just couldn't take it anymore and that the mayor offered her no protection so the City is liable.

An attorney who can not handle pointed questions on subjects that she should be familiar with and who can not hold up to the toughest scrutiny or criticism will not be able to make it in the legal profession, where they are known to eat their young - where it is said sharks don't eat attorneys out of professional courtesy.

Who will retain an attorney who might storm out of court because the judge challenged her knowledge of the case or criticized her for not being prepared? Would you? This departure without notice and without briefing a successor on legal matters in the system is without precedent in the city and is intolerable.

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