

KEARNEY

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banning boxing will not even solve the problem. Did prohibition stop drinking? No, because alcohol gave certain people too much money. So what makes boxing opponents think that a simple ban will make people forget about one of the highest paying and most popular betting sports in the world?

Well, it won't. If boxing is banned, people will find a way to box and promote boxing, and without a structured group to govern the sport, boxing-related injuries will only get worse and happen more often.

I do agree that some fights get out of hand. Hitting below the belt and in the back of the head often leads to serious tragedies like the McClellan incident. But hasn't an official boxing governing body been set up to avoid such tragedies? Don't we have referees and rules to protect the athletes from getting hurt?

If boxing-related deaths and injuries are to be avoided, these guidelines need to be enforced to the utmost. Officials need to be in more control of fights and boxers need to be in the proper condition to fight. For example, if a boxer has a health condition that threatens his life, he should not box. Period.

Case in point, Evander Holyfield should not be allowed to box. No reinstatement, no evaluation. Since there is a chance for him to be seriously injured, he is not qualified to do the job.

In that respect, if a person does not qualify for any particular job, they should not get it, and there should be no difference whether the job is boxing, running a company or flipping burgers at a fast food restaurant.

If the rules and regulations are enforced, and stricter health guidelines for the boxers are designated, these problems would all disappear.

Possibly the most bizarre note in sports history comes from former New York Giant and football icon Lawrence Taylor, who, according to the *New York Daily News*, has agreed to be part of *Wrestlemania XI*.

I really felt like crying when I heard that Taylor, once considered the man of all men, was going to dawn tights and step inside the squared circle to face Bam Bam Bigelow for half a million bucks.

What is next? Is Joe Montana going to retire to work at Disneyland as Goofy? Will Pete Rose become a professional Elvis impersonator?

Instead of just basking in the glow of a great career while nursing his poor Achilles tendon back to full strength, LT is risking putting a shadow at the end of an incredible career. What a shame.

Trevor Kearney is a sports reporter for the Emerald.

Kansas City safety says Montana probably done

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — Safety David Whitmore, who came to the Kansas City Chiefs from San Francisco in the Joe Montana trade, said Monday he thinks the four-time Super Bowl winner is through.

"He's probably done, that's all I can say. I have to be careful what I say," Whitmore told WIBW-TV in Topeka, Kan.

"I talked to him last night. There's a lot of things he's real unhappy about with the organization and things of that nature."

Montana, 38, has been the subject of several reports quoting unidentified sources saying he intends to retire. He has one year left on the three-year contract he signed in 1993 after two years of inactivity in

San Francisco, where he'd lost his job to Steve Young.

The *San Jose Mercury News* on Sunday said Montana is calling it quits because he knows Kansas City isn't going to the Super Bowl.

"There's probably a lot of truth to that," Whitmore said. "I hate to see Joe go. I think it will be something he should announce."

A Chiefs spokesman said team president Carl Peterson talked to Montana a few days ago "and he never made any comments regarding the organization. None whatsoever."

"I would dispute David Whitmore on that," Bob Moore told The Associated Press. "Joe's never made any indication he's upset with the organization."

Oregon Daily Emerald

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