

# Don't bother me! SportsCenter is on!



From the Bleachers

Nick Barron  
Staff Writer

SportsCenter, English for the realm of all that is all in sports. It's catchy jingle, *da-na-na, da-na-na*, has replaced the dinner bell as the single greatest way to get American males in from the fields and into the farmhouse.

ESPN's daily showcase of the world of sports, the gem of this cable networks programming, is

a gift to all sports fans in the world. Thanks to SportsCenter, Eskimos in Alaska can know what the walls of Yankee Stadium looks like, while never leaving the comfort of their igloos.

And the "This is SportsCenter" commercials that air on ESPN has revolutionized the manner in which many Americans flip through the channels. During SportsCenter, you don't want to change the channel during a commercial break, for fear of missing one of those ads, which feature a variety of highly paid athletes promoting the show in hilarious fashion.

One such advertisement begins with anchor Linda Cohn speaking of how "Bring Your Children To Work Day" causes everyone at ESPN to pitch in to make the kids' day at the SportsCenter studios a grand experience. Then we see Evander Holyfield, shirtless in boxing shorts, with his hands taped up, reading a children's

book to the little varmints.

Never mind that most of those kids are probably Holyfield's, he just doesn't know about it. The spot concludes with the Heavyweight Champion instructing the children to put on their gloves because it's cold out. The gloves he hands them? Miniature boxing gloves.

An avid SportsCenter viewer even begins to feel that he or she knows the anchors personally, and people can even root for their personal favorite to make the primetime SportsCenter. I remember when Trey Wingo was just an ordinary sportscaster on KSDK in St. Louis, which can be considered the Double A of sports broadcasting.

Then Wingo moved onto ESPNNews, or Triple A, and now he is giving me sports at the big time, in the big leagues. I could never be more proud of this hometown boy, always full of promise, making it to the show.

The American version of

English has benefited from SportsCenter, with the show's personalities tossing out creative one-liners and phrases such as, "He must be butter, 'cause he's on a roll!"

Rich Eisen, a man who has been with ESPN since I was a wee teenager, spouts this famous phrase from *A Few Good Men* when an outfielder makes a leaping grab at the fence to rob some poor hitter of a home run. "You want me on that wall! You need me on that wall!"

SportsCenter has been there when no one else could be, such as at 3:32 a.m., when I forgot to study for Chemistry and couldn't find anyone at that ungodly hour to aid me in my quest for quick memory retention. But who were my study partners, but Stuart Scott and Dan Patrick, both SportsCenter anchors.

Even an episode of *Spin City*, back in the Michael J. Fox days, centered around Fox's charac-

ter's addiction to SportsCenter. The last straw for his girlfriend came when at a very intimate moment, Fox heard the SportsCenter jingle and couldn't keep his eyes from wandering to the nearby television set.

Which brings me to yet another great use for SportsCenter: birth control. Think about it, what is the one thing that would keep a man away from a wanting female? You guessed it, SportsCenter.

One of the most intense moments of my life was when SportsCenter got a new studio, with a new look to boot. Those were tough times, but we pulled through. Me and SportsCenter, that is.

SportsCenter. The name just flows from the soul, surfacing emotions that I never knew I could feel. As much as things may change throughout my life, I know I have one thing that remains the same. Yes, thank you God, for SportsCenter.

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## Softball: Six Cougars named all-tournament

### Softball continued from page 1

lead in the fourth and fifth innings, scoring twice in each inning, and Clackamas could not muster any more offense the rest of the way. Lower Columbia finished off a 40-1 season with a 7-1 victory and the NWAACC championship.

"We told the girls before the tournament to go out and make a memory, to play like every play would be the last," Fiskum said.

"You get to hang a banner on the gym wall for first or second place in the tournament, and everyone on the team talked about seeing that banner hung in the Randall gym. Well, we get to hang that banner, and these girls know that they are part of something really special, something they will

remember the rest of their lives."

Staley, Huffstetter, Murphy, Holm and Gillaspie were named to the all-tournament first team

*"You get to hang a banner on the gym wall for first or second place in the tournament, and everyone on the team talked about seeing that banner hung in the Randall gym."*

Paul Fiskum  
Head Coach

and Comstock was named to the second team. Every player on the first team was from Clackamas, Lower Columbia or Mt. Hood.

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The softball team represented Clackamas at the NWAACCs held at Delta Park May 17-19. They ended the weekend with second place, behind champion Lower Columbia College.

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