FRIDAY

FOOTBALL	Time	TV
College, Peach Bowl, Georgia vs. Cincinnati	9 a.m.	ESPN
College, Citrus Bowl, Auburn vs. Northwestern	10 a.m.	ABC
CFP Semifinal at the Rose Bowl,		
Notre Dame vs. Alabama	1 p.m.	ESPN
CFP Semifinal at Sugar Bowl, Ohio St. vs. Clemson	5 p.m.	ESPN
SOCCER		
Premier League, Everton vs. West Ham United	9:25 a.m.	NBCSN
Premier League, Manchester United vs. Aston Villa	11:55 a.m.	NBCSN
Premier League,		
Tottenham Hotspur vs. Leeds United	4:25 a.m. (Sat) NBCSN
BASKETBALL		
Women's college, California at Arizona St.	2 p.m.	Pac-12
Men's college, Kent St. at Akron	4 p.m.	CBSSN
Women's college, Stanford at Arizona	4 p.m.	Pac-12
Women's college, USC at Oregon	6 p.m.	Pac-12
NBA, Portland at Golden State	7:30 p.m.	NBCSNW
HOCKEY		
College, Colorado College at Denver	6 p.m.	CBSSN
SATURDAY		

SOCCER		
Premier League, Crystal Palace vs. Sheffield United	6:55 a.m.	NBCSN
Premier League, Brighton & Hove Albion vs.		
Wolverhampton Wanderers	9:30 a.m.	NBC
Italian Serie A, Inter Milan vs. Crotone	3:25 a.m. (Sun)	ESPN2
Premier League, Burnley vs. Fulham	4 a.m. (Sun)	NBCSN
FOOTBALL		
College, Gator Bowl, NC State vs. Kentucky	9 a.m.	ESPN
College, Outback Bowl, Indiana vs. Ole Miss	9:30 a.m.	ABC
College, Fiesta Bowl, Oregon vs. Iowa St.	1 p.m.	ESPN
College, Orange Bowl,	_	====
Texas A&M vs. North Carolina	5 p.m.	ESPN
BASKETBALL		60.6
Men's college, Missouri at Arkansas	9 a.m.	CBS
Men's college, Creighton at Providence	9 a.m.	FOX
Men's college, Texas at Kansas	9 a.m.	ESPN2
Men's college, Memphis at Temple	9 a.m.	ESPNU
Men's college, Louisville at Boston College	9 a.m.	Root
Men's college, DePaul at St. John's	9 a.m.	FS1
Men's college, Duquesne at George Washington	9:30 a.m.	NBCSN
Men's college, LSU at Florida	11 a.m.	CBS
Men's college, Iowa at Rutgers	11 a.m.	ESPN2
Men's college, TCU at Kansas St.	11 a.m.	ESPNU
Men's college, Clemson at Miami	11 a.m.	Root
Men's college, Davidson at VCU	11:30 a.m.	NBCSN
Men's college, Ohio at Ball St.	noon	CBSSN
Men's college, Auburn at Texas A&M	12:30 p.m.	SEC
Men's college, Colorado St. at San Diego St.	1 p.m.	CBS
Men's college, West Virginia at Oklahoma	1 p.m.	ESPN2
Men's college, Utah at USC	1 p.m.	Pac-12
Men's college, Butler at Seton Hall	1:30 p.m.	FS1
Men's college, George Mason at Dayton	1:30 p.m.	NBCSN
Men's college, St. Bonaventure at Richmond	2 p.m.	CBSSN
Men's college, Purdue at Illinois	3 p.m.	Big Ten
Men's college, Alabama at Tennessee	3 p.m.	ESPN2
Men's college, Wichita St. at Ole Miss	3 p.m.	ESPNU
Men's college, California at Oregon St.	3 p.m.	Pac-12
Men's college, Kentucky at Mississippi St.	3 p.m.	SEC
Men's college, Arizona St. at Washington	3:30 p.m.	FS1
Men's college, Marquette at Georgetown	4:30 p.m.	CBSSN
Men's college, Michigan St. at Nebraska	5 p.m.	Big Ten
Men's college, Duke at Florida St.	5 p.m.	ESPN2
Men's college, Colorado at UCLA	5 p.m.	Pac-12
Men's college, Boise St. at San Jose St.	5:30 p.m.	FS1
Men's college, Nevada at New Mexico	7 p.m.	CBSSN
Men's college, San Francisco at Gonzaga	7 p.m.	ESPN2
Men's college, Stanford at Oregon	7 p.m.	ESPNU
AA / II A :	7.00	D 40

Listings are the most accurate available. The Bulletin

Men's college, Arizona at Washington St.

SPORTS BRIEFING

BASKETBALL

Clippers shred Blazers by 23 points on Wednesday **night** — Kawhi Leonard scored 28 points in his return from a two-game absence, Paul George added 23 points, and the Los Angeles Clippers breezed past the Portland Trail Blazers 128-105 on Wednesday night. It was the Clippers' second straight blowout win to close out the year. They beat Minnesota by 23 points a night earlier after bouncing back from an ugly 51-point defeat against Dallas last weekend. Leonard wore a clear plastic mask held in place by two white straps around his head to protect his mouth, where he had eight stitches after getting elbowed by teammate Serge Ibaka a week ago. Six Clippers scored in double figures. C.J. McCollum scored 25 points, making seven 3-pointers, to lead the Blazers, whose two-game winning streak ended. Damian Lillard made 14 of 15 free throws to finish with 20 points after missing 11 of 14 shots from the field. He was 0 of 8 from 3-point range. Carmelo Anthony pitched in 15 points and five rebounds off the bench.

FOOTBALL

Ducks DE Thibodeaux voted 2nd team All-American **by FWAA** — Oregon defensive end Kayvon Thibodeaux earned his second All-America honors. The Ducks sophomore was voted a second-team All-American by the Football Writers Association of America. Thibodeaux and Colorado linebacker Nate Landman were the only Pac-12 players recognized, both as second-team honorees. Thibodeaux, who has 32 tackles with 7.5 for loss including three sacks and three pass breakups this season, earned third-team honors from the AP last week.

Dolphins place QB Fitzpatrick on reserve/COVID-19 list

— Any debate about who should start for the Miami Dolphins this week at quarterback ended Thursday with backup Ryan Fitzpatrick's positive test for COVID-19. Fitzpatrick, who came off the bench to rescue his team last week, is expected to miss Sunday's regular-season finale at Buffalo as Miami tries to clinch an AFC wild-card berth. The Dolphins placed Fitzpatrick on the reserve-COVID-19 list. Coach Brian Flores had already said rookie Tua Tagovailoa will start his ninth game in a row Sunday, to the consternation of many Miami fans who prefer Fitzpatrick. The 38-year-old veteran replaced Tagovailoa last week in the fourth quarter and orchestrated an improbable comeback win at Las Vegas that allowed the Dolphins (10-5) to retain control of their playoff chances. Miami signed Jake Rudock as Tagovailoa's new backup. Rudock has thrown five passes in the NFL, all in 2017.

- Bulletin wire reports

SCOREBOARD

BASKETBALL EASTERN CONFERENCE GB Orlando .800 Atlanta .750 .600 Brooklyn Cleveland .600 1½ 1½ 2 Charlotte .500 .500 .400 New York Chicago Milwauke .400 Toronto .250 21/2 Washington .000 4 3½ .000 WESTERN CONFERENCE GB L.A. Clippers .800 .750 .667 Utah New Orleans .600 .600 L.A. Lakers .500 .500 1½ 1½ 1½ 1½ 2 2½ 2½ San Antonio .500 .500 .333 Golden State Houston Dallas .250 Denver 2½ 2½ Wednesday's Late Game L.A. Clippers 128, Portland 105

	Wedr	esday	's Late Box	score
Clippers	128,	Trail	Blazers	105

-PP	, -			••	
	Pi	ORTI A	ND (10	15)	
vington 3					6, Nı

4, Lillard 3-14 14-15 20, McCollum 8-17 2-2 25, Anthony 3-5 9-10 15, Giles III 3-4 1-2 7, Elleby 1-3 0-1 2, Hood 1-3 0-0 3, Kanter 4-9 2-2 10, Blevins 1-3 0-0 2, Simons 1-4

0-0 3. **Totals 32-76 29-34 105. L.A. CLIPPERS (128)**Batum 4-6 1-2 11, Leonard 9-17 7-8 28, Ibaka 4-11 0-0
11, Beverley 3-6 0-9 7, George 8-15 3-4 23, Coffey 2-4 1-1 6, Mann 0-1 0-0 0, Patterson 1-5 0-0 2, Kabengele 0-2 0-0 0, Oturu 1-2 0-0 2, Zubac 2-2 3-4 7, Jackson 4-6 1-3 11, Kennard 2-5 0-0 5, Williams 7-13 0-0 15. **Totals** 47-95 16-22 128.

26 31 28 20 - 105 Portland 37 39 31 21 — 128 L.A. Clippers 3-Point Goals—Portland 12-38 (McCollum 7-11, Covington 2-3, Hood 1-2, Jones Jr. 1-3, Simons 1-4, Anthony 0-2, Blevins 0-2, Elleby 0-2, Lillard 0-8), L.A. Clippers 18-38 (George 4-9, Ibaka 3-5, Leonard 3-5, Batum 2-2, Jackson 2-4, Beverley 1-2, Coffey 1-2, Williams 1-4, Patterson 0-3). Fouled Out—None. Rebounds—Portland 41 (Kanter 10), L.A. Clippers 47 (George 10). Assists—Portland 14 (Lillard 4), L.A. Clippers 30 (George, Leonard 7). Total Fouls—Portland 17, L.A. Clippers 25.

Thursday's Games Indiana 119, Cleveland 99

Chicago 133, Washington 130 Phila. 116, Orlando 92 Houston 122, Sacramento 119 Toronto 100, New York 83 New Orleans 113, Oklahoma City 80 Phoenix at Utah, late Friday's Games

Boston at Detroit, 4 p.m. Memphis at Charlotte, 4 p.m. Miami at Dallas, 4 p.m. Atlanta at Brooklyn, 4:30 p.m. Chicago at Milwaukee, 5 p.m. L.A. Lakers at San Antonio, 5 p.m Washington at Minnesota, 5 p.m. L.A. Clippers at Utah, 6 p.m. Portland at Golden State, 7:30 p.m

	Mer	i's c	olleg	9		
F			NFERENC rence	-	II Ga	mes
	w	L	Pct	w	L	Pc
UCLA	2	0	1.000	6	2	.75
Washington St.	1	0	1.000	8	0	1.00
Oregon	1	0	1.000	6	1	.85
Stanford	1	0	1.000	5	2	.71
Arizona St.	1	0	1.000	4	3	.57
Arizona	2	1	.667	8	1	.88
Utah	1	1	.500	4	2	.66
Southern Cal	0	0	.000	5	1	.83
Colorado	0	1	.000	6	2	.75
Oregon St.	0	1	.000	4	3	.57
California	0	2	.000	5	4	.55
Washington	0	3	.000	1	7	.12
Thursday's Games						
Arizona St. at Wa			t., ppd.			
Stanford at Orga	on St	nnd				

UCLA 72, Utah 70 Arizona 80, Washington 53 California at No. 21 Oregon, late Colorado at Southern Cal, late Saturday's Games

Utah at Southern Cal, 1 p.m. California at Oregon St., 3 p.m. Arizona St. at Washington, 3:30 p.m. Colorado at UCLA, 5 p.m. Stanford at No. 21 Oregon, 7 p.m Arizona at Washington St., 7:30 p.m

Thursday's Top 25 Games No. 6 Wisconsin 71, No. 21 Minnesota 59

No. 16 Michigan 84, Maryland 73							
Women's college							
PAC-12 CONFERENCE							
	_		rence		II Ga		
	W	L	Pct	W	L	Pct	
Arizona	5	0	1.000	7	0	1.000	
Oregon	5	0	1.000	7	0	1.000	
Stanford	4	0	1.000	7	0	1.000	
Washington St.	2	1	.667	4	1	.800	
UCLA	3	2	.600	5	2	.714	
Arizona St.	2	2	.500	6	2	.750	
Washington	1	3	.250	4	3	.571	
Oregon St.	1	3	.250	3	3	.500	
Colorado	1	3	.250	3	4	.429	
Southern Cal	1	4	.200	3	4	.429	
Utah	1	4	.200	2	4	.333	
California	0	4	.000	0	7	.000	
Friday's Games							
Washington St. at Utah, 11 a.m.							
California at Arizona St., 2 p.m.							
Washington at Colorado, 2 p.m.							

No. 1 Stanford at No. 6 Arizona, 4 p.m. Southern Cal at No. 8 Oregon, 6 p.m. No. 11 UCLA at Oregon St., ppd.

Thursday's Top 25 Games No. 2 Louisville at Duke, ccd. No. 3 NC State 84, Georgia Tech 75 No. 5 South Carolina 75, Florida 59 No. 9 Texas A&M vs. Tennessee, ppd. No. 13 Kentucky 75, No. 10 Arkansas 64 No. 12 Mississippi St. 69, Georgia 62 No. 14 Maryland 96, Penn St. 82 Nebraska 65, No. 15 Northwestern 63 No. 16 Michigan 92, Wisconsin 49 No. 17 Ohio St. vs. No. 25 Michigan St., ppd No. 22 Syracuse vs. North Carolina, ppd.

FOOTBALL

College **BOWL SCHEDULE** THURSDAY'S GAMES

Armed Forces Bowl — Fort Worth, Texas Mississippi St. 28, No. 24 Tulsa 26 Arizona Bowl — Tucson, Ariz.

Ball St. 34, No. 22 San Jose St. 13 Liberty Bowl — Memphis, Tenn.
West Va. 24, Army 21
Texas Bowl — Houston

TCU vs. Arkansas, ccd

Peach Bowl — Atlanta No. 8 Cincinnati vs. No. 9 Georgia, 9 a.m. (ESPN) Citrus Bowl — Orlando, Fla. No. 14 Northwestern vs. Auburn, 10 a.m. (ABC)

Rose Bowl — Arlington, Texas No. 1 Alabama vs. No. 4 Notre Dame, 1 p.m. (ESPN) Sugar Bowl — New Orleans
No. 2 Clemson vs. No. 3 Ohio St., 5 p.m. (ESPN) SATURDAY'S GAMES
Gator Bowl — Jacksonville, Fla. No. 23 NC State vs. Kentucky, 9 a.m. (ESPN)

Outback Bowl — Tampa, Fla. No. 11 Indiana vs. Mississippi, 9:30 a.m. (ABC)
Fiesta Bowl — Glendale, Ariz.
No. 10 Iowa St. vs. No. 25 Oregon, 1 p.m. (ESPN)
Orange Bowl — Miami Gardens, Fla.
No. 5 Texas A&M vs. No. 13 North Carolina, 5 p.m. (ESPN)
MONDAY, JAN. 11

College	e Foot		ham	pionsh	ip	
Alabama-Notre [winner, 5 p.m.		winn			son-Oh	io St.
		NFI	L			
AM	ERICA	N CO	NFEF	RENCE		
East	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
yx-Buffalo	12	3	0	.800	445	349
Miami	10	5	0	.667	378	282
New England	6	9	0	.400	298	339
N.Y. Jets	2	13	0	.133	229	429
South	W	Ĺ	T	Pct	PF	PA
Indianapolis	10	5 5	0	.667	423	348
Tennessee Houston	10 4	כ 11	0	.667 .267	450 346	401 423
Jacksonville	1	14	0	.067	292	464
North	w	L	Ť	Pct	PF	PA
yx-Pittsburgh	12	3	0	.800	394	288
Baltimore	10	5	0	.667	430	300
Cleveland	10	5	0	.667	384	397
Cincinnati	4	10	1	.300	308	386
West	W	L	Т	Pct	PF	PA
*zyx-Kansas City	14	1	0	.933	452	324
Las Vegas	7	8	0	.467	402	447
L.A. Chargers	6	9	0	.400	346	405
Denver	5	10	0	.333	292	414
				ENCE		
East	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Dallas	6 6	9	0	.400 .400	376 315	450 315
Washington N.Y. Giants	5	10	0	.333	257	338
Phila.	4	10	1	.300	320	398
South	W	L	Ť	Pct	PF	PA
yx-New Orleans	11	4	0	.733	449	330
x-Tampa Bay	10	5	0	.667	448	328
Carolina	5	10	0	.333	343	369
Atlanta	4	11	0	.267	369	370
North	W	L	Т	Pct	PF	PA
yx-Green Bay	12	3	0	.800	474	353
Chicago	8	7	0	.533	356	335
Minnesota	6	9	0	.400	393	440
Detroit	5	10	0	.333	342	482
West	W	L	Ţ	Pct	PF	PA
yx-Seattle	11	4	0	.733	433	348
L.A. Rams	9 8	6 7	0	.600	354	289 349
Arizona San Francisco	8 6	9	0	.533 .400	403	349 364
x-clinched playoff		9	U	.400	353	304
y-clinched division						
z-clinched first ro		/P				
*-clinched home-			age			

-clinched home-field advantage Sunday's Games

Atlanta at Tampa Bay, 10 a.m. Baltimore at Cincinnati, 10 a.m. Dallas at N.Y. Giants, 10 a.m. Miami at Buffalo, 10 a.m. Minnesota at Detroit, 10 a.m. N.Y. Jets at New England, 10 a.m. Pittsburgh at Cleveland, 10 a.m. Arizona at L.A. Rams, 1:25 p.m. Green Bay at Chicago, 1:25 p.m. Jacksonville at Indianapolis, 1:25 p.m. L.A. Chargers at Kansas City, 1:25 p.m. Las Vegas at Denver, 1:25 p.m. New Orleans at Carolina, 1:25 p.m. Seattle at San Francisco, 1:25 p.m. Tennessee at Houston, 1:25 p.m. Washington at Phila., 5:20 p.m.

America's Line (Home team in CAPS)

	-			
Favorite		NFL Current unday	O/U	Underdog
Washington	+1	2	431/2	EAGLES
COLTS	131/2	14	50	Jaguars
Packers	51/2	51/2	511/2	BEARS
Cowboys	2	11/2	441/2	GIANTS
BROWNS	6	9	421/2	Steelers
Titans	71/2	71/2	561/2	TEXANS
Saints	5	61/2	471/2	PANTHERS
PATRIOTS	3	3	391/2	Jets
Vikings	6	61/2	541/2	LIONS
BUCS	51/2	7	501/2	Falcons
Ravens	111/2	12	441/2	BENGALS
BILLS	41/2	3	43	Dolphins
Chargers	11/2	31/2	44	CHIEFS
g-Seahawks	4	61/2	461/2	49ERS
Raiders	+1	21/2	501/2	BRONCOS
Cards	+41/2	3	401/2	RAMS
g-Game to be	played in (lendale	, Ariz.	

Favorite		COLLEGE Current	0/11	Underdog	
ravonte	Open	FRIDAY	0/0	onderdog	
	Peach Bo	owl — Atla	nta, G	A	
Georgia	6	7	51½	Cincinnati	
(Citrus Bo	owl — Orla	ando, F	L	
Northwestern		4		Auburn	
F	Rose Bov	vl — Arlin	gton, T	Χ	
Alabama				Notre Dame	
Su	gar Bow	I — New C	rleans	, LA	
Clemson				Ohio State	
		ATURDAY			
		l — Jacks			
Kentucky		21/2			
(Outback	Bowl — Ta	ımpa, l	-L	
Indiana		8			
Fiesta Bowl — Glendale, AZ					
Iowa St		4		Oregon	
Orange Bowl — Miami Gardens, FL					
Texas A&M	6	71/2	651/2	N Carolina	

DEALS

Transactions FOOTBALL

National Football League ARIZONA CARDINALS — Placed S Chris Banjo on the reserve/COVID-19 list. ATLANTA FALCONS — Placed C Alex Mack on the re-

serve/COVID-19 list.
BALTIMORE RAVENS — Agreed to terms to a one-year contract extension with CB Jimmy Smith.
CINCINNATI BENGALS — Placed C B.J. Finney on the

reserve/non-injury list. CLEVELAND BROWNS — Activated WRs Donovan Peoples-Jones, Jarvis Landry, Rashard Higgins, KhaDarel Hodge and LB Jacob Philips from the reserve/COVID-19 list. Placed LB Malcolm Smith and CB Denzel Ward on the reserve/COVID-19 list.

DENVER BRONCOS — Placed DE Shelby Harris on in-GREEN BAY PACKERS — Claimed DL Damon Harri-

son off waivers from Seattle. Released DL Anthony Rush.
HOUSTON TEXANS — Activated S Geno Stone from the exempt/commissioner list.
INDIANAPOLIS COLTS — Signed T Jared Veldheer to

the practice squad. Released TE Andrew Vollert from the

practice squad.
MIAMI DOLPHINS — Signed QB Jake Rudock and WR Isaiah Ford to the active roster from the practice squad.
Placed QB Ryan Fitzpatrick on the reserve/COVID-19 list. Placed LB Elandon Roberts on injured reserve. Activated WR Kirk Merritt as a COVID-19 replacement for

Sunday's game. NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS — Placed T Tashawn Bov and LB Josh Uche on injured reserve.
TAMPA BAY BUCCANEERS — Signed P Matt Wile to

practice squad. SAN FRANCISCO 49ers — Activated QB Josh Johnson and WR Kevin White from the COVID 19 list.
WASHINGTON FOOTBALL TEAM — Signed RB Jona-

than Williams to practice squad, Released RB Javon Leake from practice squad.

Women

Pac-12

Continued from B3

"Becky Hammon is an enormously talented coach and it was outstanding to see her reach such a truly significant milestone," NBA Commissioner Adam Silver said. "She continues to be an inspiration to so many people, especiall countless young women and

Fuller was the goalkeeper on Vanderbilt's Southeastern Conference championship soccer team before she rose to national prominence in November when she became the first woman to play in a Power Five conference football game. She was on the field once that day, driving a low kickoff to open the second half as the Commodores got shut out at Missouri.

Two weeks later, Fuller kicked two extra points in a loss to Tennessee, with the second ball she put through the uprights sent to the College Football Hall of Fame.

In November, the Miami Marlins made Ng the first female GM in baseball, a feat accomplished after she was turned down for a similar job



Seattle Storm forward Breanna Stewart (30) moves between Las Vegas Aces center A'ja Wilson (22) and forward Cierra Burdick (11) during Game 3 of the WNBA Finals in Bradenton, Florida, in October. The WNBA and its union announced a tentative eight-year labor deal allowing top players to earn more than \$500,000 and raising the average annual salary to \$130,000 a year.

by at least five other teams over the past 15 years.

staff when she was named an

assistant for the San Francisco

Ng started her baseball career as a Chicago White Sox intern in 1990 and for the past nine years was a senior vice president for MLB. Her hiring came 10 months after Alyssa Nakken became the first female coach on a major league

Giants.

On the business side, there were several notable strides made in 2020.

The WNBA and its union announced an eight-year labor deal allowing top players to earn more than \$500,000 and raising the average annual salary to \$130,000 a year. The agreement also guarantees full salaries for players who are on

maternity leave and provides enhanced family benefits. National Women's Hockey League games will be televised

live in the United States for the first time when NBC Sports Network airs playoff games in early February. In international soccer, Chelsea signed Denmark capain Pernille Harder from Wolfsburg after paying what

the German club said was "a record transfer fee for the women's game." The clubs did not disclose the fee — the amount paid when a team sells a player to another team, with a portion typically going to the player — but media reports said it was about \$355,000.

In the United States, the women's national team players and the U.S. Soccer Federation settled their long-running lawsuit over inequitable working conditions compared with the men's team. The deal with the world champion American women calls for charter flights, hotel accommodations, venue selection and professional staff support equitable to that of the men's team.

The women's dispute over pay remains unsettled.

Olympian

Continued from B3 The followers soared when

Tank brought his message to Twitter.

Tank posts daily messages of love, hope and inspiration that have attracted the attention of celebrities like Mark Hamill, Marlee Matlin, Maureen Mc-Cormick, Rachel Maddow, former NBA player Rex Chapman — a social media juggernaut in his own right — and NFL player J.J. Watt

He's thanked doctors and nurses, comforted those who have suffered losses, offered {a}congratulations for accomplishments{/a} and encouragement to others with disabilities.

"I love to spread love and hope for our country and our world," Tank said. "We should all love one another and bring hope and inspiration to other

It's turned him into a celeb-



Derek "Tank" Schottle competes in the shot put as part of the Pentathlon at a Special Olympics track meet in Rosenburg, Texas, in 2017.

rity.

Tank has been featured on

1: newspaper st local TV and in newspaper stories, and is regularly asked to serve as the announcer on the first tee at golf tournaments.

"I love to spread love and hope for our country and our world. We should all love one another and bring hope and inspiration to other people."

— Derek "Tank" Schottle

Tank was such a popular batboy for the Sugarland Skeeters, the minor league baseball team honored him with a bobblehead night. Fans lined up to take pictures with him after

the game. The mayors of Charlotte, North Carolina, and Concord, Massachusetts, declared Dec. 12 and 13 Derek "Tank" Schottle Day when he received awards there.

"It's interesting because you never know what the next day is going to bring," Gary Schottle said.

The exposure does occasion-

ally make him a target. Twitter can be a vitriolic

place, and keyboard bullies have tried to attack Tank and his message. Sometimes he gets down or

doesn't understand when people say mean things to him. Most of the time, he overwhelms them with love and quickly dissolves the situation.

He's also armed with a legion of defenders.

Anyone who dares to take a virtual shot at Tank faces the wrath of his 101,800 followers. The haters almost always back down.

"There's always negative people on Twitter and a lot of people do protect me," Tank said. "I'm just an athlete who wants to spread love on social media who wants to make this a better world someplace down the line."

A protector being protected. The perfect message.