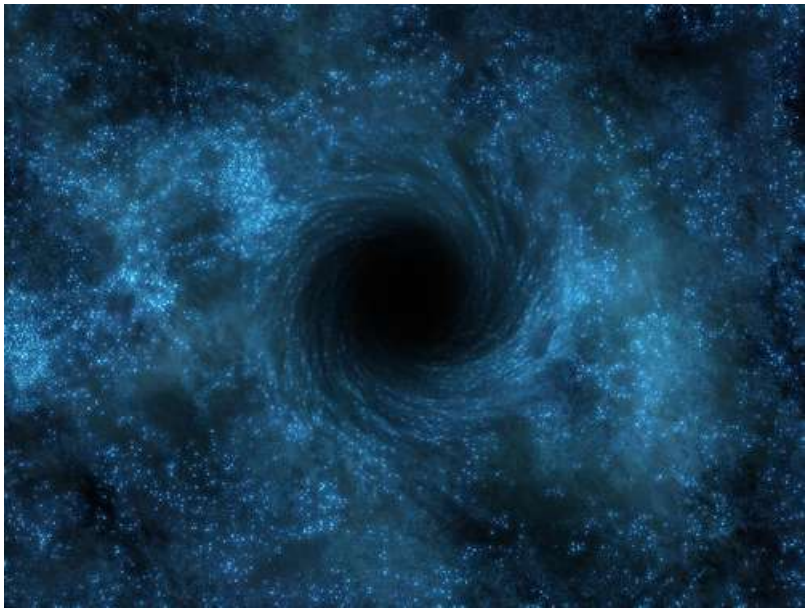


This past Sunday, I found myself wandering from room to room. I'd enter one, then stop, confused - staring around, trying to remember why I had come there, what I was doing.

Was I looking for something?

No, I don't think that was it.

Was there some task I was to perform in that room?

No, that couldn't be it either.

So I'd walk into another room and stand there, clueless.

Something was... missing...

"*Honey*?" my girlfriend asked. "*What are you doing*?"

"*Huh*?" Even the question she asked was confusing... and who the hell was she anyway? She looked familiar, as did those children who kept calling me "Daddy", but as if from another life or a weird dream.

"*You keep wandering around. Is something wrong*?"

I finally looked at the strange woman, one of my eyes blinking spasmodically.

"*I... I don't know...*"

It wasn't until later, sometime around 3 pm, when we figured it out. She found me in my office, turning the TV on, flipping through channels, turning it off, looking at my computer, turning the TV back on, repeat, repeat, repeat...

"*It's not on*," she told me.

"*What isn't*?" I asked desperately. She knew!

"*Football. It's done. The season's over. There are no more games on*."

And that's when it hit me. The finality of it all... The season was... over. Done. Gone.

"*It's... gone...*" I whispered, a single tear cascading down my cheek. My girlfriend walked over and held me tight as the reality of it washed over me in agonizing waves.

No more football.

Just a vast empty space in my life where football had been, a void deeper and more terrifying than a black hole or the national deficit.

Gone. Gone forever.

Or at least until the CBA bullshit can be unraveled.

I just ordered some Don't Kill Yourself books.

_____

Regarding the CBA Bullshit

If the CBA bullshit hits the fan (and you can bet it will), it will mean the delay of Free Agency and the cancellation of OTA's, minicamps, and possibly even Training Camp and the Preseason. T his will inevitably affect every team, but it will undoubtedly hurt teams like the Browns the most.

Why? New Head Coach. New Defensive Coordinator. New Offensive Coordinator (er, oh, that's the Head Coach still). New

Offensive System.

New Defensive System.

Unproven QB.

Lots of new players.

Zero time to put that all together.

Teams like, say, Green Bay will be least affected - it's not like they're gonna change a ton during the offseason anyway, and they've all played together long enough to pick it back up after a couple slightly rusty weeks. But teams that have completely new coaching staffs like Cleveland, Carolina, San Francisco, and Denver will have more growing pains than a couple rusty weeks. More like a rusty season.

(I did not include Oakland, Minnesota, Dallas, or Tennessee since those teams promoted from within and will likely have a lot less change to deal with.)

In fact, if no deal is reached until September or beyond, the Browns could very well be vying for the #1 overall pick in the 2012 draft - and it won't be the fault of the players, front office, or coaching staff at all. In a perfect world, it's still difficult to implement all the changes they have in store. Trying to fit 6 months of system installation into 2 weeks? Yeah, good luck with that.

So, unless you're a big fan of tanking the 2011 season in an effort to get Andrew Luck, you'd better hope that the powers that be can get this thing fixed pronto. And I'm here to help them with my handy-dandy suggestions:

1. Fix the Revenue Sharing

This from an informative USA Today article : *Of the approximately $9 billion in revenue the NFL generated in 2010, 59.5% of that goes to players after the owners receive $1 billion off the top in "cost credits."*

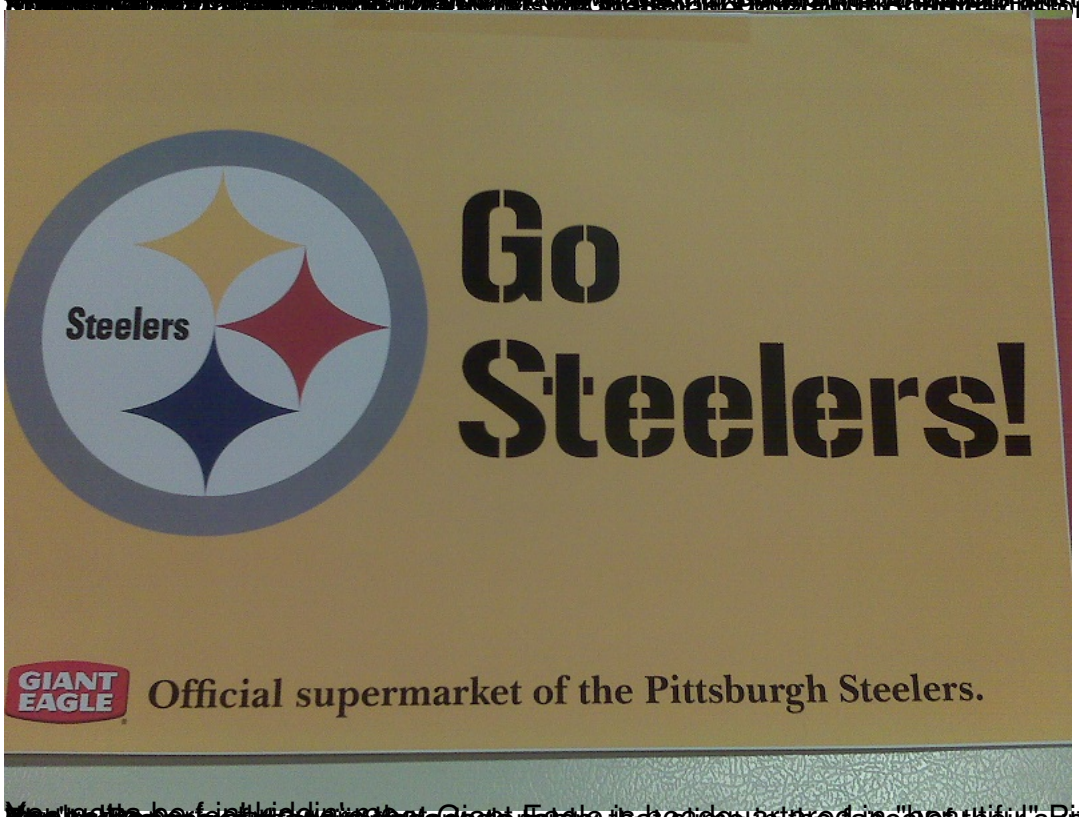
[redacted]

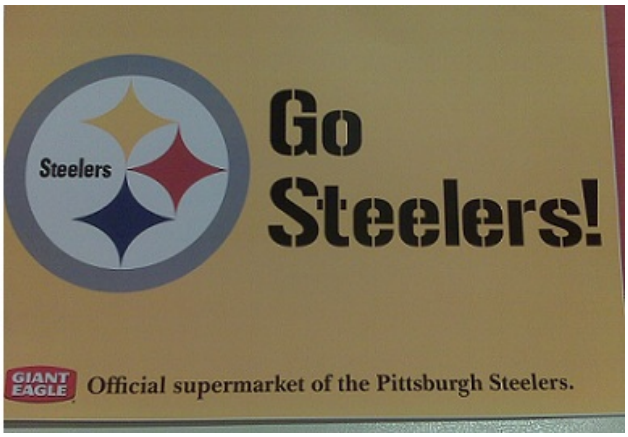
[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

02.06.11
SUPER BOWL
XLV
CHAMPIONS
GREEN BAY PACKERS
GREEN BAY
PACKERS


Steelers
Go
Steelers!
GIANT EAGLE
Official supermarket of the Pittsburgh Steelers.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