

SPORTS OF ALL SORTS

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Bryan Mercer and ring announcer/Original Geeks Podcast star Ian Daddybones. Daddybones, who was the featured cover story in our November 2011 *Police Gazette* issue, was hit so hard by Gacy he looked like a tissue being hit by a sudden gust of wind.

Now local wrestling fans can get their Xcite Wrestling on TV as well. One of the reasons for Bryan Mercer's presence at the event was to announce Xcite's shows can be seen on WBNG-TV 12 Saturday night/Sunday mornings at 12:30AM, with replays on the CW Network Sunday mornings at 10:30 and Friday mornings at 5:30. The next live show for Xcite will be July 21st at Post 80 and feature former WWE star Matt Hardy.

NYS Assembly Stalls MMA Bill Again

On May 7th, a bill that would legalize and regulate professional mixed martial arts bouts in New York State was indefinitely tabled by the New York Assembly. A State Senate version of the bill had passed overwhelmingly by a vote of 43 to 14 before being referred to the Assembly. Locally, Senator Tom Libous voted for the Senate version, as did Senator Thomas O'Mara. In the Assembly, Donna Lupardo told the *Police Gazette* this about her role in that chamber: "I am a sponsor of the Assembly bill that would legalize mixed martial arts in NYS (A09879). Support is building in the State Assembly, but many of my colleagues still think that the sport glorifies violence. Many are also not aware of regulations that have been put in place in recent years making the sport safer." Assemblyman Clifford Crouch is also on record as supporting the bill. Assemblywoman Barbara Lipton is not on record as an official supporter of the bill, but her personal opinion was not known at press time.

Strangely, amateur MMA events are technically legal in the state, though legal wrangling and other pressures prevented organizers from staging events in New York for years until one was finally mounted on May 19th in Tonawanda, NY. This event was professional quality, drew a large audience, and went off without a hitch, showing that the state's organizers are capable of putting on well-run and supervised shows.

With so much support and with New York and Connecticut the only states left that have not legalized pro MMA, what could be the reason for the hold up? It's whispered among some insiders that a legalization bill is not being allowed to move forward in the State Assembly because of a dispute between the UFC and the Culinary Workers Union. It's conjectured that Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver is in the pocket of the union and for that reason will not let a bill pass that would benefit the UFC. If this is true, such grossly unethical behavior not only perverts the democratic system, it produces significant collateral damage as well. The economic toll to local communities aside, if hurting the UFC is the goal, it should be remembered that the UFC does not constitute the entirety of the pro MMA world. There are many smaller organizations around the country that mount pro MMA events, and these are being squeezed out of New York right along with the UFC. In addition, the smaller outfits are not as capable of withstanding the financial damage as the UFC. So if UFC is the target, others are actually getting hurt more.

Corruption, of course, is nothing new in New York State politics. Senator Tom

Libous himself is currently under investigation, though any charges have yet to be proven. But the tradition of state corruption and sports goes all the way back to State Senator John Morrissey, a former champion boxer who owned casinos and established Saratoga Race Track as the major racing venue it is today. Morrissey seemed to have been connected to every American sports scandal of the mid 19th century. Whether it was boxing, baseball, horse racing, or casinos, if something scandalous or illegal occurred it seemed Morrissey was never very far away. Today, let's get the unethical shenanigans out of the MMA debate and move a bill to a vote. Let democracy do what it was meant to do.

Tiger Cats Suffer Some Knocks

The Binghamton Tiger Cats, the area's only all-female full-tackle football team, fell to two wins and two losses for the season to date. After a forfeit win versus Three Rivers Xplosion on May 5th, the Cats suffered defeats against New England Nightmare, 34-0 on May 12th, and New Jersey Titans, 59-0 on May 19th. Coach Don Dunbar told the *Police Gazette* the women suffered some injuries during the game with Nightmare, and a couple still weren't ready for the game versus Titans. Plus, two of the better players were absent due to graduations. "We were depleted for that game," said Coach Dunbar. The Cats face yet another test when they host current national champs Baltimore Burn at home in Towanda, PA, on June 2nd.

Limerick of the Month

There once was a man named Sweeney,
Who somehow spilled gin on his weenie.
Just to be couth
He added vermouth,
And then slipped his date a martini.

ANOTHER UNIVERSE

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at the door and allow for a silent reading period, or contact potential viewers the night before. As the play was ultimately a group of actors sitting in a circle reading a play, I deemed *Hamlet* it was not, and the story never saw the stage.

I've seen this poor BU student slandered with every insult imaginable, and repeatedly told to go back to her home downstate. Is she from Westchester? Long Island? Don't know, don't care. I do agree that the sense of entitlement this girl and many students display is disturbing, as is the fact that Binghamton is Long Island's used condom. But the late-night date-rape scene is far from our only problem. Without pulling any punches, this girl has told us how outsiders see our city. Don't blame the audience, blame the writer. When they see a shirtless man buying drugs on a busy downtown street in broad daylight, what opinion should be expected? How about when they find out he is on city council? We shouldn't be angry for the students that judge us by our actions, we should be angry with the rednecks spewing racism behind the anonymity of the internet, angry at parents feeding Mountain Dew to infants, angry with the politicians with bigger drug problems than even the welfare crowd is accused of. A promise was made to restore the city's pride, and as term limits will soon push that administration out of office, I don't see where that promise was fulfilled. If we are going to be angry about this student's opinions, we should be angry with ourselves because she hit the nail on the head.

If you like Paul Juser, you should let him know in a strongly worded email to letters@policegazette.us. If you don't like Paul Juser, you should visit www.printisbetter.com.

LEONARD MELFI

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2:00PM.

Over the next four hours, Leonard lies in the emergency room, is moved into a hallway, and then moved back to the emergency room. During that time he is undoubtedly experiencing pain and distress. He also is not being treated. At 5:50PM, approximately four hours after arriving at the hospital, Leonard Melfi dies. At 6:20PM, a death certificate is made out. Even though the hospital has a complete report from EMS on the patient in their care, they totally ignore it when filling out the death certificate. The correct name is put on the certificate; everything else is listed as unknown. Leonard's address, date of birth, social security number, etc., all left unknown. Then the physician signing the death certificate uses a false address. Without trying to notify a next of kin, they move Leonard's body to the hospital morgue. No invoice is ever sent to the insurance company or Medicare for payment. There are also no medical records. Medical records are only generated when treatment is given. Leonard is never treated. He's brought in by EMS, lays in the hospital for four hours, is never looked at, and then dies. Now the staff of Mount Sinai Hospital want to cover up their mistakes.

Leonard's body stayed in the hospital morgue until November 20, 2001. On that date, he was given or sold to an embalming school for experimental treatments and for students to practice on. During the autopsy performed by our physician, Dr. Baden, he pointed out that Leonard's body showed many various incisions and puncture wounds. Then, on December 20th, Leonard was taken to Hart Island—New York City's graveyard for indigents. He was put in a pine box nude and buried in a mass grave for the unknown.

As recounted in the last part of this series, we had Leonard's body exhumed, brought back home to Binghamton, NY, and buried in Calvary Cemetery on April 18, 2002. During the autopsies performed by Dr. Baden we found out that Leonard died of congestive heart failure. Dr. Baden stated Leonard should never have died from this condition. He said if a little medical attention had been given to him in that emergency room he would have survived. That's what hurts the most. Yet, since day one, Mount Sinai Hospital has never come forward to accept responsibility for their wrongdoing. In 2002, a lawsuit was begun in this matter. After 10 years and 43 court appearances, we are still trying to get the justice Leonard deserves.

DRUG KINGPIN

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stuffing his pockets full of millions before fleeing.

We here are of the opinion that a medical doctor who's gone through the training necessary to practice his craft need not be bribed and pressured into prescribing more of any particular drug. At the same time, if the general public wants, on their own, to have any drug they should be able to get what they want. If someone is a loser, who are we to tell them they can't act like one? This is supposedly a free country. But there's something particularly gauche about someone pushing something in our faces saying it's for our own good when we know full well they're only doing it to make money. So we recommend Henry McKinnell, Jeffrey Kindler, and their ilk take about 200 Tylenol and call it a day.