

Developments Deserving Discussion

Given our unpredictable year, it seems that current happenings need comment.

Weather: Our April has once again proven that, in spite of auspicious beginnings, it is indeed still “the cruelest month.” It seems to be written into its DNA to prove the truth of an old song: “You only build me up/ Just to let me down.”

True, we’ve had some amazingly warm days, but most are spoiled with relentless, evil winds. Walking into Wal Mart is like entering the gates of Hell, gusts coming from all directions, carts and hats flying about like UFO’s and shoppers hunched and hurried like figures in a Bruegel painting. I’m truly looking forward to singing “along comes pretty little May.”

Golf: Amazing things are happening on the links lately, because of two amazing champions, Scotty Scheffler and Nellie Korda. Nellie has won 4 out of her last 5 major meets, and Scotty has just won, back to back, two of the most prestigious tournaments in the PGA, “The Masters” and “The Heritage.” Such dominance has not happened since the glory days of Tiger Woods, Arnold Palmer and Jack Nicklaus.

What I love about Scotty’s play aside from his great shot-making, is that in his interviews he humbly ties his success to his Christianity. That tells me that his millions in winnings will not just be squandered on personal excess, but that he’ll likely be giving generously to the many areas of need desperate for help.

I was astonished, watching The Masters, how many of the biggest names on the circuit missed the cut, but Scotty thrived in that crazy wind- driven,

unpredictable climate – never seeming ruffled, never angry, just making fine shot after fine shot with that sweet smile on his face that told me he was walking in the Spirit all the way. No gloating either, just calm, bogey- free golf.

I didn't get a chance to see Nellie Korda play very much, but according to Scotty, she's one of the greats. I'm looking forward to seeing her play.

The Timber Wolves: Few basketball fan can deny the amazing success of the Wolves, owed largely to an imaginative coach and perhaps the most charismatic and fun to watch player since Steph Curry. Who else, Antony Edwards. He's rewriting the record books with one amazing performance after another. In their first play-off game, they obliterated the Phoenix Suns, a team that had beaten the wolves thrice in the regular season. I'll leave it to you to look up the highlights, but in Edwards, we have some of that Mohamed Ali bravado without Ali's excessive self promotion.

Edwards performs with a confident, joyous style that inspires his teammates and ignites the fans. Thirty point games are common and he amazes with steals, blocks, assists and hugs for any teammate playing well. I don't know if he's a Jesus guy or not, but I'll bet Jesus is watching with great pleasure.

Finally, Coach Finch deserves huge credit for his team's amazing success. He's developed perhaps the best and deepest bench out there and doesn't hesitate to quickly sit any starter having a bad night. It's obvious his players love to play for him. I think the days of fan's feeling sad about the Wolves are over.

Gene Pinkney for The Daily News 24-04-24-