



**SQUAWK** THE WIDE WORDS OF SPORTS

# THE NEXT ROUND



SCOOP JACKSON, **CARL BANKS** AND **TONY DORSETT** DISCUSS ACCOUNTABILITY IN THE PRO RANKS.

**SJ:** Is it parity or mediocrity right now in the NFL? Any Sunday, you never know who's going to win.

**CB:** I keep hearing it's parity, but no—it's all mediocrity. Look at the play. It tells you everything you need to know.

**TD:** These guys are being paid to do a job, and at this level, you're supposed to be the best in the world at what you do. So all the silly mistakes and turnovers you see on a continuous basis ...

**SJ:** ... from every team ...

**TD:** ... it's ridiculous.

**CB:** Case in point: Brett Favre. Your team is in a game, and you make mistakes, then people apologize for you: "Oh, this is what comes with Brett Favre." No, it isn't! Make a good decision with



the football! We've reduced ourselves to thinking you have to take the bad with the good when it comes to Favre. You don't.

**SJ:** To play devil's advocate, can you blame Brett for that? The system has allowed that to happen.

**TD:** Brett knows better. He's been to the mountaintop. He knows what it takes and what he shouldn't be doing. It's almost like he's a little spoiled brat. It's the team, and it's Brett Favre. That's not good.

**SJ:** Is he worth it?

**CB:** At this point, no. He has been a great player, but when you have dozens of guys depending on your decision-making, and they're giving their all, you've got to make better decisions. It's not okay to say, "It's Brett being Brett."



## ROY-AL FLUSH

YOU ARE ENTERING INDIANA'S AREA 55. HATE ON HIBBERT AT YOUR OWN RISK.

You are not the go-to guy on a team that is not the Heat. How do you get the love? Recruit it! (Well, play hard and recruit it, but stay with us.) Like Bucks big Andrew Bogut did in Milwaukee, Pacers center Roy Hibbert set up Area 55, a handpicked rooting section high in Consecro Fieldhouse. An *American Idol*-ish audition found the 55 most boisterous boosters, who, in trade for season tickets, had to do only three things. Lists Hibbert, who wears No. 55: "Wear Pacers attire, stay on your feet and get into opponents' heads." While faring well on that front, 55ers had less luck keeping rivals out of their own heads. Area 55 took offense to Bogut's Squad 6 invasion of Consecro in a recent Bucks win. A Dec. 8 revenge trip to Milwaukee is now on the radar. Leading the charge will be these Area ambassadors.

### CHRIS GOFF, SECRETARY OF CHANTS

Goff, who crafts cheers for each home game, has conceived such instant classics as "ROOOOOOYYYYYYYY" (for whenever Hibbert has the ball on the block) and "HIB HIB HA-ROY" (for whenever he scores).

### EL PACERO

The former luchador conceals his identity behind a Mexican wrestling mask, but there's no hiding his passion. "Pacers fans must refer to me as El Pacero," insists the caped ... guy, who drives (on occasion) a '76 Pacer. "Fans of the opposing team, especially females, shouldn't look at me." Yeah, that's probably not an issue. —KYLE STACK

OH, HEY, YOU CAN CONTACT US: E-MAIL [POST@ESPNTHEMAG.COM](mailto:POST@ESPNTHEMAG.COM), OR TWITTER [@ESPNMAG](https://twitter.com/ESPNMAG).

FROM LEFT: LORENZO BEVILACQUA/ESPN; FOCUS ON SPORT/GETTY IMAGES; ROBERT BECK/ICON SM; FRANK P. MCGRATH, JR./INDIANA PACERS

THE NEXT ROUND



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