

Sports Funnies

Double entendres in sport:

Sitting still for hours on end, spouting cliché after cliché. It's no wonder commentators' minds can occasionally wander onto other subjects. In these cases, it's not too hard to guess what they were thinking about...

"Some weeks Nick likes to use Fanny, other weeks he prefers to do it by himself."

Ken Brown commentating on golfer Nick Faldo and his caddie Fanny Sunneson lining-up shots at the Scottish Open

"Stephen Hendry jumps on Steve Davis's misses every chance he gets."

Mike Hallett discussing missed snooker shots on Sky Sports

"Colin had a hard on in practice earlier, and I bet he wished he had a hard on now."

Jack Burnicle muses over Colin Edwards' tyre choice on World Superbike racing

"Tony has a quick look between his legs and likes what he sees."

Winning Post's Stewart Machin on jockey Tony McCoy's formidable lead

"Well Phil, tell us about your amazing third leg."

Ross King discussing relays with champion runner Phil Redmond

"With his lovely soft hands he just tossed it off."

Cricketer Neil Fairbrother hits a single during a Durham v Lancashire, inspiring Bobby Simpson to lose himself briefly

"What does it feel like being rammed up the backside by Rubens Barrichello?"

James Allen asks intimate questions of Ralf Schumacher

"Ballesteros felt much better today after a 69."

Steve Ryder gets dirty at the US Masters

"They usually have four or five dreams a night about coming from different positions."

Willie Carson shed light on how jockeys prepare for a big race

"One of the reasons Arnie (Arnold Palmer) is playing so well is that, before each tee shot, his wife takes out his balls and kisses them... Oh my God!!!!!! What have I just said?!"

A landmark in television history when a golf commentator realises he is probably about to be sacked

"And there goes Juantorena down the back straight, opening his legs and showing his class."

David Coleman heaps praise at the Montreal Olympics

"Julian Dicks is everywhere. It's like they've got eleven Dicks on the field"

Metro Radio's reporter struggles to hide his contempt for West Ham

"Ah, isn't that nice. The wife of the Cambridge President is kissing the Cox of the Oxford crew."

Harry Carpenter encourages rival interaction at the 1977 Oxford-Cambridge boat race

"This is really a lovely horse. I once rode her mother."

Racing Commentator Ted Walsh gets all nostalgic

"Andrew Mehrtens loves it when Daryl Gibson comes inside of him."

A New Zealand Rugby Commentator horrifies the television audience

"And this is Gregoriava from Bulgaria. I saw her snatch this morning and it was amazing."

Weightlifting commentator Pat Glenn offers unexpected personal praise to the Bulgarian

The best football commentating gaffes from the past year or so.

"There's plenty to get your mouth round on the Burnley bench; Michopoulos, Papadopoulos, Moore, Little, Cox." The mother of all Carry-On commentating moments from Peter Morris on BBC Berks.

"There could be fatalities. Or even worse, injuries." Phil Neal warns England fans not to travel to Turkey.

"And the Cyprus team are wearing squad numbers tonight, their goalie is wearing number one but their number eleven is wearing thirty-two!!" Highland Radio's Martin Holmes spotted Apoel Nicosia's crafty ruse against Derry in the UEFA Cup.

"Phil Thompson is shouting down there. I don't know if he's shouting at Steven Gerrard or at the referee. Perhaps he's just shouting." Tom Tyrrel puts a finger on Thompson's tactical contribution.

And some classics commentaries and interview quotes:

"I would not say he [David Ginola] is the best left winger in the Premiership, but there are none better." (Ron Atkinson in a TV interview)

Hagi is a brilliant player, but we're not going to get psychedelic over him. (Andy Roxborough)

"Julian Dicks has been everywhere ... it's like West Ham have got eleven Dicks out there." (Anonymous -Metro city radio)

"Argentina won't be at Euro 2000 because they're from South America." Kevin Keegan discovers yet another ridiculous FIFA ruling

"Anything from 1-0 to 2-0 would be a nice result." Bobby Robson had his standards. 3-0 was probably totally unacceptable.

"If you count your chickens before they've hatched, they won't lay an egg". (Bobby Robson)

"Alan Shearer has done very well for us, considering his age. We have introduced some movement into his game because he has got two good legs now. Last season he played with one leg." (Bobby Robson, again)

"And Ireland have got to contain the brothers Baggio." George Hamilton surely was the only one not to know.

"The Baggio brothers, of course, are not related". But at least he cleared it up. Or did he?

"Sergen Yalcin is called simply Sergen because Turks like to be known by their Christian names". George Hamilton, again.

And last but certainly not least...

"For those of you watching in black and white, Spurs are in the all-yellow strip." (John Motson - BBC TV).

Bring back Claudio!

At least we can feel happy hating Chelsea again...

Jose Mourinho may be a European Champions Cup and UEFA Cup winning manager and may have many opposition fans fearing for the worst- Chelsea have all the money after all, and now they have a manager who's won the lot. But, like Abramovich, Ken Bates, former players Vinnie Jones and Dennis Wise and the majority of Chelsea's Stamford Bridge faithful, he isn't likely to win over many neutrals:

"We have top players and, sorry if I'm arrogant, we have a top manager. I am the European champion. I think I am a special one"
Mourinho on his club and himself.

Oh for the days of Claudio Ranieri. Here are some choice morsels:

It is good for carrots and potatoes."
Complaining about the state of pitch.

"Two years ago I watched Carlton play for the reserves and I saw two animals in him - one was a rabbit and the other a lion. I want to see that lion come out in him more often"
Ranieri on Carlton Cole.

"He is my new little lion. And I like lions"
Ranieri on Hernan Crespo.

"He is like a shark, like Jimmy Floyd Hasselbaink"
Ranieri on Mutu. But then...

"I once said Jimmy Floyd Hasselbaink is like a shark and Carlton Cole like a lion. Well, Adrian Mutu is another born predator. In fact, Mutu is like a snake"
Ranieri changes his mind and completes his menagerie.

"One beautiful day, a radiant day, Mr Abramovich introduced himself to me and said I should put a shopping list together"
Claudio Ranieri, poet.

"I am happy when our fans are happy, when our players are happy and our chairman is on the moon."
Freudian slip?

"Damien is Damien. When I don't put him in the squad my mother, who's 84, asks 'why isn't Damien playing?' She kills me about it and that's true"
Mrs Ranieri has a thing for little Irish men.

"My only technical adviser is my mother. When I told her that Damien had injured his shoulder again, she said 'oh no!' Who should replace him? I will call her before the game to ask."
Claudio reveals a worrying dependency on his mother.

"They showed good stamina and good vitamins"
The Arsenal win explained.

"Hello my sharks, welcome to the funeral."
Claudio Ranieri unleashes the best opening line ever heard at a press conference.

"Before you kill me, you call me the 'dead man walking'. I must buy you an espresso. But only a little one - I am Scottish!"
Claudio Ranieri proceeds to entertain and bemuse the assembled Press once again.

"People have said I am a dead man walking but I am not - I am still moving. It is difficult to kill me".

Not difficult enough, unfortunately.

"No, I will be sacked in May!"

Responding to Charlton fans' taunts of "You're being sacked in the summer"

"I still have my old Valencia ID card, because I knew I'd be back."

Caudio Ranieri returns to Valencia.

"He's a crazy man"

Ranieri on Ranieri.

And finally, a quote from 85 year old Mrs Renata Ranieri,

"Every time they are on television I make sure Mario (92, Claudio's dad) and I are sitting down to watch the game together. I like to see what Claudio has been up to and who he has picked for the team."

"I keep telling him he should play Damien Duff, he's my favourite player and I think one of Chelsea's best. Claudio's a good son but sometimes he doesn't listen to his mama and so I have to tell him off especially when Duff doesn't play."

If only he'd listened.