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**NFL 2016 SA Washington Redskins**

The issues before the Washington Redskins are

1. Potential targets for expansion of the NFL

2. Concussions and head safety

3. Players and criminal offences

I. 1. Potential targets for expansion of the NFL

In the next few years the NFL is looking to expand from 32, to 34 teams many locations in the United States and outside are prime candidates for new NFL teams. These locations include; Salt Lake City, Oklahoma city, Portland, Las Vegas, San Antonio, Toronto, Mexico City, and London (England). Of these possibilities Washington is reluctant to agree with London, Oklahoma, and Toronto. In regards to London Washington does not want to see expansion there because of the travel time as well as the recovery time that must be allotted to players due to the travel time. We think that Toronto is not a good option either due to the state of the Canadian Dollar, and that there is already an existing team there. Because the low ticket prices for CFL games (as low as $14 C) we do not believe that we can easily compete with the already established CFL team in Toronto. In the case of Oklahoma Washington simple does not think that the fan base is large enough to compete with other possible locations. Locations Washington does support for expansion includes; Mexico City, Portland and San Antonio. These already have strong NFL fan bases that could easily support NFL teams. In the case Mexico City there would be a few difficulties such as language barrier and of course that it is international, however the potential is definitely there. Another possibility is Salt Lake City which has a strong economy and high population; it also has the advantage of being relatively far from other NFL cities.

Therefore Washington

1. Supports expansion to Salt Lake City, Mexico City, Portland and San Antonio

2. Does not support expansion to Oklahoma, Toronto, or London

II. 2. Concussions and head safety

Throughout the history of the NFL concussions and how to deal with them have been a serious problem for the league and the teams in it. The rules and regulations regarding concussions and head safety have changed many times in the past. The Washington Redskins think that the rules regarding hitting and the protocols surrounding recovery from concussions should be altered. Concerning the rules on hitting Washington think a few changes should be made. First off hitting players in a “defenseless position” should have a larger penalty attached to it. Second in a fumble less players should be able to pile upon the players at the bottom, this would reduce the chance of players getting accidently getting struck in the head, and thus reduce concussions. Regarding protocols for recovery we believe an additional number of days ( 2-5) be required to ensure the full recovery of players. Also the NFL should encourage similar protocols in lower levels of play to ensure that plays less of a factor toward the brain health of NFL players. Additionally thorough testing should be conducted on all players, regardless of concussion history, throughout the season to ensure the brain health of players.

Therefore Washington

1. Request more extensive and safer rules regarding contact of defenseless players
2. Requests stricter protocols regarding healing from brain trauma
3. Requests mandatory tests on players to ensure brain health of players

III. Players and criminal offences

The NFL has in recent years especially had a number of cases of players breaking laws, both those set by the league and by the government. The two major categories this can be separated into are violence, domestic and otherwise, and substance abuse. On domestic violence Washington condones it and supports suspensions and expulsions from the NFL. In recent years they have been cooperative with the NFL in any accusations of assault against their players. Regarding substance abuse, the Redskins have a similar stance they believe lots of education is needed, but that it is ultimately up to the players to decide if they break the rules. For performance enhancers Washington thinks Expulsions are necessary. For recreational drug use it is a similar case, however many players in the NFL are asking for more lenient regulations. This being said Washington proposes the regulations be based on the strictest law of the location of any of the teams. For example if all of the states were to legalize marijuana then its use would be allowed. However Washington believes players should not be allowed to play while under the influence of drugs.

Therefore Washington

1. Agrees with current regulations regarding domestic violence but wishes for them to be more strictly enforced.

2. Proposes that the regulations on recreational drugs be implemented based on the laws implemented in all locations in the states.

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