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Tony Pape's NFL Europe Diary

April 7, 2005
NFL Europe



Berlin Thunder tackle Tony Pape will write a weekly diary through the NFL Europe season to give fans an insight into the life of a player in Europe. This week, the Miami Dolphins allocated tackle's journal looks back over the team's week one victory, and some of the practical jokes being played by the team.

Hello there,

30-7 was the final score of Saturday's game against Frankfurt Galaxy. Due to a dominating performance by the Berlin defense it gave our offense plenty of opportunity to put points on the board. Some of the defense's stellar performances came from our core linebacker crew: Rich Scanlon, Jamal Brooks, and Michael Brown. Scanlon even had an interception which was returned for a 49-yard gain (a team record).

Tony Pape and the Thunder emerged victorious from their clash with Frankfurt. ([waynepaulo.com](#))

Some of our offensive players had a good game as well. One pleasant surprise came from the man with the "gold fronts" (that's gold teeth), Michael Jennings. Jennings had four receptions for 74 yards and one touchdown.

One key number that was a determining factor in Saturday's game was 85-36. That's the number of offensive plays the Thunder had compared to the number the Galaxy had. Yet the most important stat is 1-0, because that's they way we wanted to start the season.

My new favorite custom that I really enjoyed was the post game appreciation ceremony. Apparently it is custom that the two teams after a well fought game to go into the audience and thank them for coming. They play all sorts of fun party music and all the players go around and wave and sign autographs. It looked like the fans really loved having players take the time out and give something back. I really enjoyed that.

Apparently the new thing now around the hotel is to play practical jokes on each other. The best joke so far was pulled on Dave Ragone by Aaron Boone. Boone just got a new video camera and thought it would be a good idea to catch everything on film. The plan was for Boone to get into Dave's room while he was out at the movie theater. Boone had set up the video camera and hid underneath his bed till Ragone got home. When Dave returned to his room after watching the The Ring 2 (a pretty scary movie) he was greeted by Boone grabbing his legs from underneath the bed. Let me tell you I have never seen something so funny in my entire life. That grown man screamed and jumped like a little girl. I'm warning you if anybody tries anything funny like that on me I will not be as nice as Dave was.

My friend -- and Berlin Thunder media darling -- Masakazu Goda dyed his hair red this week with fullback Brian Johnson (who actually dyed his blonde). Unfortunately it did not seem to work as well as planned because his hair turned out to be more orange that anything. I asked Goda why he tried to dye his hair. and he replied "I thought Brian was taking me to get my hair cut and I came back like this."

Don't worry Goda it looks really good. I promise.