

A Few Minutes with the Boss

By: Joseph Andalina

The aftermath

- Well, Shark Week is over. Evenings where I did nothing but watch a variety of shark shows. Not as much of big fish eating a variety of humans that ventured into the sea. More science related stuff this time around but still contributed to the “happiest week of the year.”

And telling us repeatedly sharks don’t want to eat us does not motivate me to go into the water. Ain’t happening.

- And while hockey is over, the Blackhawks have traded some of our best players, including my favorite, Patrick Sharp. Going to be hard to see our boys on the ice without the “Sharpshooter.”

We also lost many players to free agency and other trades. New faces will abound and it will be interesting to see once again if the guys can play their way into the Cup finals once again. Stay tuned.

- And while the Illinois Supreme Court recently voted down the legislation that would diminish our pensions as being unconstitutional because the Illinois Constitution says the pensions cannot be diminished, Governor Rauner and his ilk are pushing new legislation to...diminish our pensions. Geez Louise, they just will not stop. Republican leadership just must hate labor.

In a pension overhaul plan prepared by the aforementioned, our out of whack Governor released a 400 plus page proposal he claims is fair to workers. You be the judge.

This abomination would prohibit public employees and labor unions from collective bargaining on issues like wages. It would offer some employees (gee, I wonder who these employees might be) a choice of receiving raises, more vacation or overtime, but only if they agree to a less generous pension plan. Here lies the definition of a Hobson’s Choice if I ever saw one!

While it hasn’t been filed as legislation yet, they will be discussing it in the coming weeks for a possible bill in the next general assembly.

They will not rest until you are eating dog food next to the Chicago River in tin huts.

Vita é bella