

A Few Minutes with the Boss

By: Joseph Andalina

Spring has sprung

Couldn't get here too quickly as far as I am concerned. Baseball is upon us and the hockey season winds up to full gear as the second season of playoffs is upon us. Exciting if you are a sports fan.

Trees are budding out and the greenery bringing renewal to a stark landscape is very near. And next month the Illinois General Assembly will be taking its long summer vacation while Governor "Right to Work Zone" Rauner will be returning for more hyperbole for pensions, fair share, and collective bargaining.

In all, his efforts to shove RTW zones and his desire to eliminate fair share dues makes me hope he takes a vacation too — far, far away.

With all his caterwauling that he is not anti-union why doesn't he just admit that he is? Well, we know he is simply by his actions. You can't espouse RTW safe zones and attempts to destroy fair share and not be anti-union.

But like most politicians he tries the old bait and switch routine to say he is doing this for the workers and the people so they can vote on whether they want public workers to pay dues. Like that's ever been a problem before.

Yes, some folks never want to pay dues. But in this case it's not the worker he is concerned with. Rather, he wants "the people" to have a say on whether another person who actually benefits from a union should pay dues. He thinks we are all dumb.

Politicians just do what they want. In his case, what does he care — he's a multi-millionaire. But he is losing in court so far, and the Attorney General, Lisa Madigan, has ruled in favor of the unions on the dues issue.

But really, "Rauner the Bruce's" whole idea to have taxpayers vote on whether a worker can join a union or have a RTW area strikes me as a quixotic endeavor or maybe just hopelessly stupid.

I'd like to expect better but I don't see that coming. Nevertheless, enjoy the beginning of your spring.

Vita é bella