

Tollin

PRODUCTIONS

October 13, 2009

Mr. Donald Trump
Trump Tower
725 Fifth St.
New York, NY 10022

Dear Donald:

I was always taught to return people's phone calls and respond to people's letters. Although I admit this is the first time I've had to reply to a note that someone scribbled ON my original letter. Also the first time I've had to respond to both professional ("third rate documentary") and personal ("p.s. you are a loser!") insults in the same missive. But at least the sincerity and warmth in your valediction ("best wishes") was comforting.

Rather than dwell on our petty differences and the cooling of our relationship (remember those days when you sought me out because I produced a TV show which offered you ample screen time?), it might be more fruitful to examine what stirred your recent ire. I wonder if it was some of the comments people made about you in the aforementioned documentary, "Who Killed The USFL"? Such as Burt Reynolds saying, "You know I hold onto my wallet when I shake hands (with him)" ...or Jim Byrne, a veteran press agent, saying, "Donald Trump was everybody's mother-in-law rolled into one." Or Chet Simmons, who remarked that you "couldn't care less about these other guys...he'd kill them all, leave them in blood on the street."

Nah, these people are all "small potatoes" to you and their comments wouldn't penetrate that thick Trumpian skin.

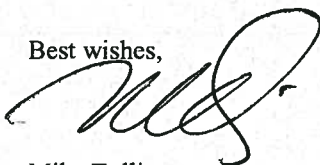
So maybe it was some of the opinions expressed about who, in fact, did kill the USFL, an early-80's football league that expired after three years in a sea of red ink. After you bought the New Jersey Generals franchise, you spearheaded a vote to move league play from spring to fall. Two Hall of Fame quarterbacks chimed in on the wisdom of that effort. Said Steve Young, "the declaration to move to the fall was a hard thing to swallow. I think everyone sensed that was not going to go well." Jim Kelly said, "Whether he admits it or not, I'm sure (Donald) knows that was one of the mistakes we did make." Your own quarterback, Doug Flutie, said, "I think Donald rushed it a little bit." Judge Peter Leisure, who presided over your ill-fated and last-ditch anti-trust suit against the NFL, said "Donald Trump... may have been the reason why the USFL deteriorated and why they didn't win this case." And again Burt Reynolds had an opinion: "I still feel and will always feel his personal ambitions were what sunk the league."

But again, I can't imagine that any of this is responsible for your fury because frankly Donald, I don't think you've even taken the time to watch the film. As you said dismissively, "I don't even think about the USFL any more. It was a nice experience. It was fun. We had a great lawsuit."

So what's got you worked up then? My guess is nothing at all. You just saw another chance to go into attack mode, your favorite posture, and see that Trump name in print. Which is just fine with me, by the way. Even my mom enjoyed seeing her son insulted publicly, "considering the source", as she said.

Maybe you'll eventually get around to watching that DVD I sent you or watch the film when it's on ESPN this week. When you do, don't miss the compliment from Dom Camera, the league's marketing director, who chooses two words to describe you: "Great hair!"

Best wishes,



Mike Tollin