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WWW.STARTRIBUNE.COM/LOCAL • THURSDAY, AUGUST 20, 2009 • SECTION B

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Our new Favre-ite wasn't here earlier looking for a place to stay

No less an authority than **Brett Favre** shot down the rampant gossip that he had sneaked into the metro to secure a residence long before Tuesday.

Know what that means? All you e-mailers and radio show callers pumping stories about Favre looking at properties in Bearpath and elsewhere WERE MAKING THINGS UP!

Asked about these rumors that he was securing condos and properties all over the metro since this courtship with the Vikings started, Favre said: "I'd hate to think there [are] other people [who] look like me. I feel sorry for them, but this is the first time. This is the first time."

Because of the number of lies that might have gone into the consummation of this deal, I'm conflicted. I can only quote people; I can't make them tell the truth.

Until my most ardent e-mailer ChevBlaz Steve of Richfield can produce a document with a date on it, I guess I have to believe Favre.



C.J.
the dish

Wildfire fed Favre feast

Chili's is one of coach **Brad Childress'** favorite restaurants, but the celebration of the Brett Favre Era took place at Wildfire in Eden Prairie. Wildfire's "Minnesota Vikings Room" was too small for the party of 12, so they dined in the "Rascal Room."

Werder would trade

ESPN's **Ed Werder** would rather have been playing golf.

He was at his Flower Mound, Texas, home when he got the assignment that would derail his Tuesday afternoon golf plans. The call came at 11 a.m. and by 3 p.m. "I was here," Werder said, smiling. "Many thanks to American Airlines."

After Favre's news conference I asked Werder whether this wasn't more fun than be-

ing on a golf course. "Favre's hat looks like he just came off the golf course," Werder said, smiling again. "No, I'd rather be at the golf course."

Sports and comedy mix

The Favre news conference, clearly scheduled for 5 p.m. to accommodate sports media big shots like Ed Werder, started about 45 minutes late.

That provided lots of time for some first-rate stand-up comedy from the gathered sports reporters and producers. There were jokes that the delay was being caused by the uncontrollable quarterback telling the control freak coach what the playbook and roster would look like. There were jokes about indecisive Favre's **Hamlet** routine.

My favorite was from a guy who put his shoulders into a sing-songy performance of: "Someone's back-in' out."

Good quips and bad

"Favre is the most popular guy wearing purple in Minnesota since **Prince**," said ESPN's **Stan Verrett**. Good one.

Now a bad one. ESPN NFL analyst and former Viking **Cris Carter** has been on a tear about how the other Vikings QBs got "lied to" regarding the Favre deal. While Carter conceded the team is better with Favre, he's not sure it's a Super Bowl-caliber product: "I don't know if they have the glue, the meshugeneh ..." Meshugeneh is Yiddish for crazy (which Carter demonstrated aplenty when he was around me in the Vikings locker room).

TMZ.com said Carter looked like "a total shmendrick" for this Yiddish gone wrong. www.tinyurl.com/obs9gb.

Faldo discovers Galaxy

Word has it that **Nick Faldo** spun his way over to St. Louis Park's Galaxy Drive-In after **Tiger Woods'** PGA collapse at Hazeltine.

Betsy Pfeifer of Edina said her husband, **Kevin Pfeifer**, a first-class celebrity spotter and avid golfer, pointed out Faldo at Galaxy on Sunday night. Betsy casually told Galaxy owner **Steve Schussler**, "You've got celebrities coming," and the next thing she knew he was passing her a phone saying, *Here's my friend C.J., you've got to tell her.*

Betsy later looked at pictures on the Internet and decided that Faldo was the man she heard speaking with a British accent. Kevin told me he didn't have to consult anything to know it was **Sir Nick**.

Faldo and a woman were

eating hamburgers when the Pfeifers arrived. "Then she took a couple of pictures of him," Betsy said, "one eating his hamburger and a picture of him with the [Good Humor] ice cream truck [on the property] and then they got into a car and drove away. We don't know who the woman was. Don't want to get him in any trouble. I don't think he's married at this point."

The British tabloids dubbed him **Faldo** after his collapses in tournaments, but they could call him that because of how he folds around women. Faldo's got at least three ex-wives, most as a result of having affairs, according to Wikipedia. It doesn't say he's currently married, although with Faldo's talent as a professional groom, how could you keep track?

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FAVRE'S PURPLE REIGN? Cris Carter is upset that the Vikings lied about closing the book on King Favre, who undoubtedly has heard of Minnesota's other royalty, Prince.