NYC 9/11 Public Portal Document

THE NEW YORK POST, MONDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2001



PREVENT DEFENSE: Cops use bomb-sniffing dogs to search cars yesterday at Giants Stadium — where some pols want to see the 2002 Super Bowl played. N.Y. Post: Francis Specker

NFL: CITY HAS SHOT AT SUPER BOWL BID

By ROOSEVELT JOSEPH, DAVID SEIFMAN and TRACY CONNOR

The NFL is kicking around a proposal to move the Super Bowl *from* New Orleans to the New York area this winter — but cautioned the switch could create as many problems as it would solve.

"It's one of many ideas under consideration," NFL Commissioner Paul Tagliabue said yesterday after Sen. Charles Schumer (D-N.Y.) floated the idea of holding the title game at Giants Stadium.

The league is still trying to resolve a scheduling mess so the Super Bowl can be held in the Big Easy, but it's also eyeing Los Angeles, Tampa and Miami.

New York is now "one of the options," Tagliabue said as the Giants defeated the New Orleans Saints at their home opener in East Rutherford, N.J.

"It would be one way to help rebuild the city. But there would also be logistical problems and security problems. It's one of many ideas under consideration."

The championship was originally scheduled for Jan. 27 at the Superdome, but the NFL wants to delay it until Feb. 3 because of the weeklong hiatus forced by the Sept. 11 terror attacks.

The problem is, the National Association of Auto Dealers had already booked its convention for the Superdome on Feb. 3, and New Orleans officials haven't come up with a plan to switch that date.

But as Schumer pointed out at a press conference yesterday, Giants Stadium is available on Feb. 3 — and holding the Super Bowl here would be a spirit-booster.

"Playing this year's Super Bowl at Giants Stadium will be an ideal symbol of our triumph over terrorism. It will show the world that New York continues to go on. It will show the world that America is not afraid," he said.

Schumer, who was joined by former New York gridiron stars Ottis Anderson and Marty Lyons, said the 2002 Super Bowl would reap *$400 million* for the local tourist economy, which has been battered by the World Trade Center attack.

Mayor Giuliani quickly embraced the concept.

"I think that'd be great," he said at his daily briefing, adding jokingly: "They should just decree that the Giants and Jets are going to be in it and stop all this nonsense with all these other teams."

The NFL typically picks a warm-weather location, but Giuliani said New York's frigid February temps have an advantage.

"I'd actually like to see the Super Bowl played in the snow, like the old Green Bay-Giant games that used to be on frozen fields. That's real football ... Then you find out who the best team really is."

The idea got a chilly reception in the Crescent City, where one local leader ripped Schumer's end run.

"I'm disappointed in him. I thought he was a man of integrity," said state Sen. John Hainkel.

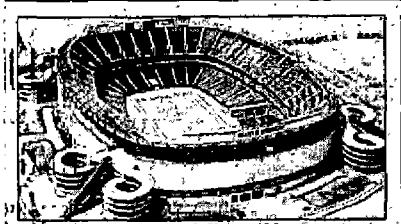
"I don't know why he'd try to take advantage of someone else, especially when our state has been extraordinarily supportive of New York City.

"I know the man is under a lot of stress, but I really thought more of him."

Schumer spokesman Bradley Tusk said the senator isn't trying to rain on New Orleans' parade — he just wants New York to be part of the contingency plan.

"Pasadena and Miami are making their pitches," he said. "There's nothing different or wrong about New York making that pitch, especially now."

Tale of the tape



GIANTS STADIUM



SUPERDOME

New York		New Orleans
Big Apple	Nickname	Big Easy
8 million	Population	484,674
80,242	Stadium Capacity	76,791
32 degrees	Average Feb. Temperature	57 degrees
Filet mignon at '21' Club	Haute Cuisine	Oysters at Commander's Palace
Dirty-water dog	Low Cuisine	Lucky Dog
Manhattan	Signature Cocktail	Hurricane
Subway	Transportation	Streetcar
Woody Allen, Robert De Niro, Paul Simon	Local Talent	Anne Rice, Neville Brothers, Harry Connick Jr.
"Taxi!"	Heard on the Street	"Stella!"

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